The Law Society

Council Member's Directory

28 April 2013

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The Council in 2012 - 2013

The Council is the governing body of the Law Society. It has 100 seats, all held by solicitors. Sixty-one members are elected from geographical constituencies; the remaining 39 seats represent particular areas of law or specific groups of solicitors. The President chairs the Council, and along with the Vice-President and Deputy Vice-President, is elected by the Council and holds office for one year.

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Office holders

Lucy Scott-Moncrieff –President

Since qualifying in 1978 I have worked as a legal aid lawyer, first in crime and, since 1987, in mental health. I am now partner in a firm which specialises in representing detained patients, life sentence prisoners and children. I was elected to the Council in the summer of 2002, but have had a long connection with the Law Society through my membership of the Mental Health and Disability Committee over the last 20 years.

I am a Mental Health Tribunal judge and an Associate with Verita.

I have also been a member of the QC Appointments panel; a Commissioner with Ofcomm and a Mental Health Act Commissioner.

Personal factfile

Constituency: West London
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Contact address: 113 Chancery Lane, London, WC2A 1PL. LDE 56
Committees/boards served on: Chair of Access to Justice Committee; Mental Health and Disability Committee; Regulatory Affairs Board's Education & Training Committee.
Date elected to Council: 2002

Nicholas Fluck – Vice-President

I qualified in 1982 and am one of two partners at Stapleton & Son, an ISO 9001 certified High Street firm. I am in general legal practice and specialise in Commercial Property Law matters.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Lincolnshire
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Contact address: Stapleton & Son, 1 Broad Street, Stamford, Lincolnshire PE9 1PD | DX 26003 STAMFORD / 113 Chancery Lane, London, WC2A 1PL. LDE 56.
Committees/boards served on: Conveyancing and Land Law Committee, Council Members Conduct Committee, Chair of Technology and Law Reference Group, Property Section Executive, Management Board.
Date elected to Council: 2005

Andrew Caplen – Deputy Vice-President

Qualified in 1982. Originally dealt primarily with general litigation, including some somewhat interesting advocacy. Have appeared as an Advocate in the European Court of Justice. Am still a Duty Solicitor, but deal primarily nowadays with commercial property transactions and large-scale commercial mortgaging. President of Hampshire Incorporated Law Society in 2001. Former chair of Southampton YMCA. Board Member of Shaftesbury Housing Society. Have travelled extensively, including working in South India. Also Treasurer of a climbing expedition to the Himalayas in 1992!

Personal factfile

Constituency: Hampshire and the Isle of Wight
Contact number: 01590 689500 \ 020 7320 5602
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Contact address: Heppenstalls Solicitors Limited, 75 High Street, Lymington, Hampshire, SO41 9YY | DX 34053 Lymington and 113 Chancery Lane, London, WC2A 1PL. LDE 56.
Committees/boards served on: Management Board; Support Services Resolution Board; Access to Justice Committee; Corporate Governance Board; Finance and Resources Board (until 30.11.05); Retirement Benefit Scheme Working Party.
Date elected to Council: 2000

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Past Presidents

John Wotton

I was a partner at Allen & Overy LLP for 23 years, heading the Antitrust Practice in London and the public procurement law group. I became a consultant to the firm in 2007. I practise chiefly in the field of UK, EC and international competition law. I have a particular interest in media regulation, having advised broadcasters and regulators throughout my career. I have chaired The Law Society's European Group. I am a member of the Co-operation and Competition Panel for NHS-funded Services, a council member of a biodiversity NGO and a school governor.

I was President at the Law Society from 2011-2012.

Personal factfile

Constituency: EU Matters
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Fax: 020 3088 0088
E-mail: jpwotton@gmail.com
Contact address: Allen & Overy, One Bishops Square, London, E1 6AD.
Committees/boards served on: Business Oversight Board (as President), Regulatory Affairs Board, Support Services Resolution Board (Chair) and EU Committee (Chair), Legal Affairs and Policy Board, Membership Board and Management Board (as Office Holder), Joint Board (Chair)
Date elected to Council: Sept 2007

Linda Lee

Linda Lee is a past President of the Law Society. She was inaugurated as President on 15 July 2010 and completed her term in office on 14 July 2011, having served as Vice President and Deputy Vice President from 2008. She was also the Chair of the Law Society's Legal Affairs and Policy Board from 2007-2010.

Working as a specialist in clinical negligence and coronial law Linda was an in-house consultant for Action against Medical Accidents (AvMA), a charity promoting better patient safety and justice for people affected by medical accidents.

As well as being a full time solicitor, Linda lectures in clinical negligence and coronial law across the country, was editor of the AvMA section of Clinical Risk a specialist medico-legal publication, and undertakes pro bono work for the Road Victim's Trust in Bedford. Linda trained in a trade union firm, Hopkins based in Mansfield, before moving to Shoosmiths in Northampton.

Linda is passionate about promoting the profession and ensuring every solicitor can achieve their potential so that they can thrive in the new legal services market. Linda has three daughters.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Rutland
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Contact address: First Floor Flat, 26 East Park Parade, Northhampton, NN1 4LB.
Committees/boards served on: Chair of LAPB, Representation Board
Date elected to Council: 2003

Robert Heslett

Consultant Beachcroft LLP, Managing/Senior Partner Wansbroughs 1989/99, Managing Partner Beachcroft Wansbroughs 1999/2005. President Leeds Law Society 1988. Deputy Stipendiary Magistrate Hull 1988/1994. Regional Chairman West Yorkshire Duty Solicitor Scheme 1997-1985. Legal Specialisms include negligence and fraud of Professionals including Solicitors, Accountants and Surveyors, personal injury litigation, transport licensing crime.

He was president of the Law Society from 2009–2010.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Leeds
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Committees/boards served on: Management Board, Corporate Governance Board; Finance and Resources Board; Indemnity Insurance Committee; Scrutiny Committee 2002–2004.
Date elected to Council: 2001

Kevin Martin

After admission in 1970 I became an assistant Solicitor and then partner in the Birmingham firm of Mackintosh & Co. I set up my own practice in Balsall Common in 1979.

In 2001 I became a consultant to Lodders of Stratford-upon-Avon, specialising in private client and property work. I was President of the Law Society from 2005–2006.

I am Chairman of Will Certainty Limited, a company which has set up a national wills register.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Coventry and Warwickshire
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Boards/committees served on: I was on the Main Board/CGB from July 2001 to July 2006. I was Chair of the Compliance and Supervision Committee from 1999 to 2001 and of the Compliance Board from 2001 to 2003. Membership Board 2007 to date, Chair 2007-2010.
Date elected to Council: 1996

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Carolyn Kirby

I qualified in 1979 and spent more than twenty years in high street private practice dealing with the full spectrum of non-contentious work from probate to commercial. Since 1999 I have been Chairman of the Mental Health Review Tribunal for Wales. I spent six years as a non-executive director of West Glamorgan Health Authority. I also set up the management structure of a charity supporting cancer sufferers and their families which I still chair. I was President of the Law Society in 2002.

Personal factfile

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Committees/boards served on: Member of Wales Committee and Mental Health and Disability; Past chair of Council Membership Committee, Mental Health & Disability Committee and Wales Committee; past member of Main Board, Equality & Diversity Sub-Group.
Date elected to Council: 1999

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Council Members

Peter Adams

Director, A4 Consulting Ltd, an energy consultancy.

1991–2002 Director, Elf Gas and Power Ltd

1972–1991 Legal Dept, Esso Petroleum Co Ltd

Admitted 1971

Personal factfile

Constituency: City of Westminster
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Committees/boards served on: Serves on the Membership Board
Date elected to Council: 2007

Robin ap Cynan

Practising Family Law since admission in 1983, and a Children Panel Member from 1989 until 2003, I was sometime Chief Assessor, and am still Assessor for the Society's Family Mediation Panel. Now settled in niche as a full-time Family Mediator in Wolverhampton, Birmingham, Worcester and Shropshire, I also work in Collaborative Law and in civil/commercial Mediation, and represent the Society at BAILII, and at the Family Mediation Council

Chairing the Anglo-Welsh Poetry Society, other interests include music (from Arvo Part to Pet Shop Boys, from Portishead to Pérotin), wine (from Ausone to Zinfandel), fast cars and motorcycles (from 0–60mph in as few seconds as possible).

Personal factfile

Constituency: Welsh Marches
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E-mail: rmapc@aol.com / apcynan@gmail.com
Contact address: Lupus Mediation, 57 Victoria Street, Wolverhampton WV1 3NX | DX 10427 Wolverhampton
Committees/boards **Past:** Chair to Wales Committee 2007-2011, Chair to ADR Committee 2006-2008, Practice Development 1995-1997 and Wine Committee 2000-2002.
Present: Member of Family Law since 1991, Law Society Pension Fund Trustees Board since 2002 and Membership Board since 2007.
Date elected to Council: 1990

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Sarah Austin

Sarah was admitted to the Roll in 1996; after a career in investment banking. She was awarded a Bachelors in Business Administration before studying law at Guildhall University, London. She represents the AWS on Council after several years serving on their national committee. Sarah is the principal of Austins in Chiswick. She is a qualified Trust and Estate Practitioner (STEP), with wide ranging interests which include, small business, probate and caring for the elderly.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Association of Women's Solicitors
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Committees/boards served on: Currently serving on Equality and Diversity Committee.
Date elected to Council: July 2010

Paul Barnes

Having worked in the City for 14 years, I am now an Associate in the residential property department at Mayfair firm Gordon Dadds advising on all areas of residential property transactions for domestic and international clients, including acquisitions, disposals and inward investment. I also deal with some commercial real estate. I am on the Committee for the City of London Law Society, its Whittington Committee, and am a Liveryman of the City of London Solicitor's Company. I am also a musician for the Band of the Royal Yeomanry (TA).

Personal factfile

Constituency: City of London
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Committees/boards served on: Management Board, Company Law Committee, Planning and Environmental Law Committee, Regulatory Processes Committee.
Date elected to Council: June 2008

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Richard Barnett

I was admitted in 1974 and founded my own practice in 1980. We have grown substantially since then, and are best known for being a 'volume conveyancer', but we also undertake commercial and litigation work. I am a past president of the Southport and Ormskirk Law Society.

I am the Law Society Representative on the Land Registration Rule Committee.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Merseyside and District
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Committees/boards served on: Member of Conveyancing and Land Law Committee (Chair 2007-2011); member of the E-Conveyancing Task Force, and Home Buying Review Project Board, and serve on the Council Members' Conduct Committee. HIPS Task Force and Law Society Trustees.
Date elected to Council: 2005

Richard Barr

I was admitted as a solicitor in 1971. I am half American, though for virtually all my working life I have lived and worked in Norfolk. I specialise in clinical negligence cases. I am now a consultant with Scott-Moncrieff & Associates LLP working from an office in my home in Norfolk. As light relief from the pressures of work I write a regular back page column in Solicitors Journal. I also broadcast regularly on BBC Radio Norfolk on legal and other matters

Personal factfile

Constituency: Norfolk
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Committees/boards served on: N/A
Date elected to Council: June 2008

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Sapna Bedi Fitzgerald

Sapna Bedi FitzGerald Past Chair of the C&I Group (2008-2010) and has been a member of the C&I Executive and the North East C&I Group since 1998. She completed her LLB and LPC at the University of Wales, Cardiff College, and qualified in 1998 with the Government Legal Service at the Welsh Office. After two years with Kelda, Sapna worked at the Consumer Credit Trade Association and Aviva (formerly Norwich Union Life), joining LSL Property Services plc in 2004 where she is now Company Secretary and Head of Legal. LSL listed on the London Stock Exchange in November 2006.

Sapna is 37, married to Richard, who is also a lawyer. They live in York with their daughter Maya and cat Monty, named after Monty Panesar. She has completed the Loch Ness and London marathons and is a keen runner.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Commerce & Industry
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Committees/boards served on:
Date elected to Council: 23 June 2010

Sundeep Bhatia

Sundeep qualified in 1992 and from 1994-1999 he worked in criminal defence at Gupta and Partners Harrow. From 1999-2006 he ran the criminal defence firm Brent Law Practice. In 2004 Sundeep obtained his higher court advocates rights in criminal litigation. In 2005 Sundeep qualified as an accredited mediator. From 2007 to date Sundeep has been sole practitioner of Beaumonde Law Practice specializing in Employment law and civil litigation whilst performing criminal defence work as a consultant to Harrow solicitors and advocates. Sundeep has been chairman of the Society of Asian Lawyers since July 2008.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Ethnic Minorities
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Committees/boards served on:
Date elected to Council: March 2010

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Christina Blacklaws

Director of Family Law at the Co-operative Legal Services. I am the Chief Assessor of the Children Panel, Higher Rights Advocate and Accredited Mediator and PPC. Professional trainer with CLT and others. Regular contributor to conferences, journals and publications. Involved in advising Government on family law and legal aid issues and consultation exercises.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Child Care Law
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Contact address: The Co-operative Legal Services, The Co-operative Strand Office, 459 Strand, Westminster, London, WC2 0RG.
Committees/boards served on: Currently serving as Chair of Legal Affairs and Policy Board, Member of Joint Law Society/SRA Resources Board; former chair of the Family Law Committee, former member of Children Law Sub-Committee.
Date elected to Council: 2002

Robert Bourns

Employment and Regulatory Law. Admitted 1980. Managing Partner 1996 to 2002. Senior Partner TLT, reappointed May 2011. Member CLLS. Past Hon Secretary to Association of South West Law Societies. President, Bristol Law Society (2005). Chairman St Peter's Hospice (from 2011), Trustee of educational charity.

Married. Skis, walks, gardens. Incompetent sailor!

Personal factfile

Constituency: City of London
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Contact address: TLT LLP, 20 Gresham Street, London, EC2V 7JE. | DX 431 Chancery Lane.
Committees/boards served on:
Date elected to Council: June 2011

Grace Brass

I was elected as National Representative for my local Trainee Solicitors Group, and then as the Trainee Solicitor Group Council Member in July 2007. Since then I have enjoyed attending meetings and representing the constituency of the Junior Lawyers Division. I aim to promote and safe-guard the interests of those entering the legal profession.

I obtained my LLB in Law with Politics from University of Durham in 2005 and I studied for my law practising certificate at the College of Law in York. I completed my training contract at Adlams Solicitors and was there from September 2006 until October 2011.

Since October 2011 I have worked as a solicitor practising family Law for T V Edwards LLP based in their Cambridge office.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Junior Lawyers' Division (Solicitor Member)
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E-mail: grace.brass@tvedwards.com or gracebrass@hotmail.co.uk
Contact address:, .T V Edwards, The Advice Hub Cambridge, 66 Devonshire Road, Cambridge, CB1 2BL
Committees/boards served on: Education & Training Committee (Rep) and JLD Executive Committee.
Date elected to Council: July 2007

Yvonne Brown

(awaiting further details)

Personal factfile

Constituency: Black Solicitors Network
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Committees/boards served on:
Date elected to Council: 18 March 2013

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Roger Buston

Personal factfile

Constituency: Suffolk and North Essex
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Committees/boards served on:
Date elected to Council: July 2009

John Calladine

Formerly partner in an East Midlands High Street Practice. Currently I sit as a Legal Assessor to the GMC; Deputy District Judge (Civil) and part-time Chairman of Employment Tribunals. I lecture on Employment and Medico-Legal subjects.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Derbyshire and East Staffordshire
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Contact address: 11 Oak Road, Thulston, Derby DE72 3EW
Committees/boards served on: Employment Law Committee.
Date elected to Council: 2005

Denis Cameron

Since qualifying as a Solicitor in 1971, I have specialised in residential and commercial conveyancing and Probate and Wills. I am a past President and Secretary of Blackpool and Fylde District Law Society. I am the author of a history of the solicitors profession in the Blackpool area.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Central Lancashire and Northern Greater Manchester
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Contact address: 2 Briarwood Close, Thornton Cleveleys, Blackpool, Lancashire FY5 5ER
Committees/boards served on: Regulatory Affairs Board, Home Information Pack Task Force, Property Section Executive, Lexcel Assessment Panel; *Electronic Law Committee (*now known as Technology & Law Reference Group), E-Conveyancing Task Force.
Date elected to Council: 1999

Sue Carter

I became a sole practitioner in 1997, and concentrate on will drafting, inheritance tax planning, probate and elderly client work. I was Chair of the Sole Practitioners' Group for the year commencing May 2003.

Currently President of Hampshire Law Society.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Sole Practitioners
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Committees/boards served on: Regulatory Affairs Board and Audit Committee.
Date elected to Council: 2004

Professor Sara Chandler

Qualified as a solicitor in 1995. I worked for H.C.L Hanne & Co, Battersea 1995 -1998. From 1998 to 2003 I worked at Plumstead Law Centre. I have worked at the Legal Advice Centre at the College of Law since February 2003, since October 2009 as Professor of Clinical Legal Education. 1999 – 2000. I am a Trustee of the Law Society Charity. Particular interest: legal aid provision globally and have delivered training for the Law Society's International Department in Uganda, Nigeria Antigua and Zambia. I am Past President of South London Law Society and Past President of City of Westminster & Holborn Law Society (CWHLS). I am President of the Federation of European Bars (FBE) Human Rights Commission.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Voluntary Sector
Mobile: 07817 463460
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Committees/boards served on: Trainee Solicitors Group 1993 to 1995; Young Solicitors Group National Committee 1995 to 2001 and Chair 1999-2000; Solicitors European Group; Access to Justice Committee July 2003 to July 2009; Housing Law Committee July 2003 to July 2009; Law Reform Board July 2004 to July 2006; Human Rights Committee July 2004 to date. Recently appointed Chair of Human Rights Committee 2011.
Date elected to Council: 2002

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Chris Clark

After initially training to be a legal executive with Teeside County Borough Council, I was offered five years articles with Cleveland County Council in the 1974 Local Government re-organisation. On qualification, I became a solicitor with Stafford Borough Council dealing mainly with planning matters. From 1982-1984 I was a prosecuting solicitor for the West Midlands Police prior to the inception of the CPS. For the next two years I was a partner in the First Legal Aid Practice in Stafford before leaving to form my own business in 1986 specialising personally in Criminal Law. I am former Chairman of the Regional Duty Solicitor Committee. Past President Stafford and District Law Society.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Wolverhampton and Staffordshire
Contact number: 01785 241842
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Committees/boards served on: Regulatory Affairs Board and Access to Justice Committee.
Date elected to Council: 2004

Helen Clarke

Since qualifying in 1980, I have worked in private practice in Leeds and Harrogate and lectured to students on the LPC and to solicitors and the public on Wills, Probate and Elderly client issues.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Private Client Section
Contact number: 01423 872103
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E-mail: hhodgson@clara.net
Contact address: 36 Almsford Ave, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG2 8HE
Committees/boards served on: Member of Private Client Section Executive committee.
I have served as Chair and as a member of the Wills and Equity committee until August 2011.
Date elected to Council: 2001

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Helen Davies

I qualified in 1989 and practise in the property field at Peters Langsford Davies, Launceston, a high street practice on the Devon/Cornwall border. I have a particular interest in training and education and client care and quality systems. I am a Past President of Cornwall Law Society (and its first lady president) and Plymouth Law Society. I have served as a governor of Plymouth University and for ten years as governor of one of the largest further education colleges in the country.

Personal factfile

Constituency: West Country & Gwent
Contact number: 01566 772451
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Contact address: Peters Langsford Davies LLP, Westgate, Launceston, Cornwall PL15 9AD | DX 82701 Launceston
Committees/boards served on: Chair of Regulatory Affairs Board, Member of Law Society Trustees, Main Board until 31/12/05, Chair LPC Board until 31/12/06
Date elected to Council: 1995

Paul Davies

I was admitted in 1986 becoming a Partner in the firm where I took articles the following year. I am married with three children.

I undertake General Civil Litigation work with a particular emphasis on Employment and Family matters. I am a member of Resolution, APIL and the Employment Lawyers Association.

I am a past President of the Hertfordshire Law Society (2003). I am particularly interested in education serving as a Governor of a Primary School (Vice Chairman 2002-2006). I am also a Governor of a local Secondary School and I am a member of the Law Development Committee for the local University. I sit as a Panel Member for Education Admissions Appeals for the County.

In my spare time I enjoy playing Golf, watching Sport and single malts.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Hertfordshire
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Committees/boards served on: Regulatory Processes Committee.
Date elected to Council: February 2007

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Simon Davis

Commercial Litigation Partner with more than 25 years experience of effective dispute avoidance and resolution. Simon resolves the problems of a range of financial institutions and corporates, whether they be internal, involving directors and shareholders, or external, with regulators or trading partners. Head of Commercial Litigation, former President of the London Solicitors Litigation Association, member of the Council of the Law Society, Committee member of the City of London Law Society, member of the Court of Appeal Mediation Panel, accredited CEDR mediator.

Personal factfile

Constituency: The City of London
Contact number: 020 7006 1000
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Contact address: Clifford Chance LLP, 10 Upper Bank Street, London E14 5JJ
Committees/boards served on: Civil Litigation Committee 2003-2006.
Date elected to Council: 2004

Nigel Day

I qualified as a Solicitor in 1979. I have specialised in civil litigation since 1982. At that time I joined Lambert Storey which is now part of Hague Lambert, where I am Head of the Litigation Department. I was a Council member of Manchester Law Society for many years and was president in 1998/1999.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Manchester, Salford, Stockport and District
Contact number: 01565 652411
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Contact address: Hague Lambert, 131 King Street, Knutsford, Cheshire, WA16 6EJ | DX 22951 Knutsford.
Committees/boards served on: Regulatory Affairs Board and Indemnity Insurance Committee.
Date elected to Council: 2000

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Laura Devine

Laura Devine is recognised as the highest nominated UK immigration practitioner by interviewees worldwide in Who's Who Legal 2009, 2010 and 2011. She is head of a large niche immigration firm with an office in London and an associated office in New York which provide UK and US immigration advice to a broad range of clients. The firm is recognised in an all legal directories in the top tier of immigration firms.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Immigration Law
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Contact address: Laura Devine Solicitors, 100 Cannon Street, London, EC4N 6EU.
Committees/boards served on: Immigration Law
Date elected to Council: July 2009

Christopher Digby-Bell

Christopher is Senior General Counsel and Deputy Chairman at real estate venture capital and fund management business, Palmer Capital, based in London with offices in Continental Europe and Hong Kong. During his time in private practice, he was Managing Partner of Taylor Garrett (now Taylor Wessing) and International Managing Partner of Frere Chomley Bischoff (now Eversheds London and Forsters). This is the fourth time he has fought and won a seat on the ruling Council since he first joined the Council in 1999. He is an award winning Pro Bono Lawyer for his work on disabled children's rights. He has three children and lives in Kent. In his spare time, he is a freelance writer for the the 'Times', 'Property Week' and 'Estates Gazette' and is a regular commentator on legal and disability issues.

Personal factfile

Constituency: The City of London
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Committees/boards served on:
Date elected to Council: 5 July 2012

David Dixon

I lived in Canada for several years before returning to Wales in 1977. I trained at Phillips and Buck in Cardiff (now Eversheds) and after qualification worked there and at Gartside, Harding & Davies in Newport (where I became a partner) and Mid Glamorgan County Council before joining Cardiff Law School in 1993. I teach Litigation & Advocacy and Housing Law on the LPC.

Vice-chairman TSG 1983 - 1984; chairman, Newport (South Wales) CAB 1992–1997; chairman, Confederation of South Wales Law Societies 2003–2006; Council Membership Committee, 2000–2006.

Personal factfile

Constituency: South Wales
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Website: www.law.cf.ac.uk/cpls
Contact address: Cardiff University, Centre for Professional Legal Studies, PO Box 294, Cardiff, South Glamorgan CF10 3UX
Committees/boards served on: Chair of Wales Committee, Member of Regulatory Affairs Board's Education & Training Committee, former member of Housing Law Committee.
Date elected to Council: July 2006

Nigel Dodds

Solicitor Advocate Higher Rights all Courts, Regulator and Consultant.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Northumbria
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Committees/boards served on: The Law Society Trustees (Chairman); member of International Issues Committee.
Date elected to Council: 1994

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Joe Egan

Admitted 1982. Higher Rights (Criminal) 1996. Set up own firm in 1986. Now four partner high street firm with 21 employees. Originally specialised in Crime, but now does matrimonial and civil litigation work. Past President of the Association of North Western Law Societies and Bolton Law Society. Joint Honorary Secretary of Bolton Law Society. Chair of Bolton CAB. Board member of the Octagon Theatre. Member of Audit Committee Bolton College and season ticket holder at the Reebok Stadium.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Central Lancashire and Northern Greater Manchester
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Committees/boards served on:
Date elected to Council: July 2006

Keith Etherington

I joined Oldham firm Mellor & Jackson in 1987 as the office junior and began fee earning in 1988 in the litigation department. I qualified as a Legal Executive in November 1996 and as a solicitor in September 2002. I teach law and legal practice for the ILEX qualification. I am a Higher Courts Advocate (Civil), an APIL Senior Litigator and a member of the Lesbian & Gay Lawyers Association. I was Chairman of the Young Solicitors Group in 2005/6 and President of the Oldham Law Association in 2006/7.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Civil Litigation
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Committees/boards served on: Civil Justice Committee, Regulatory Affairs Board's Education and Training Committee, Membership Board, Bursary Scheme Sub-committee, LPC Board, Equality & Diversity Committee, Representation Board (formerly Regulatory Affairs Group), Standards Board.
Date elected to Council: YSG: 2003-2009; Civil Litigation: July 2009

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Tony Fisher

I am a solicitor in private practice and senior partner of Quality Solicitors FJG an 18 partner firm with offices throughout Essex. In practice I undertake corporate work and lead our commercial team but have been engaged in many practice areas since starting the firm in 1983. These include civil and commercial litigation, family law (I was on the Children Panel for 20 years), personal injury and commercial property. I have also undertaken extensive human rights work and appeared in Strasbourg on many occasions. I have an MBA in legal practice and I am a fellow of the Human Rights Centre at Essex University.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Essex
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Committees/boards served on: Human Rights Committee from 2006-present.
Date elected to Council: 5 July 2012

Tom Flanagan

Personal factfile

Constituency: Employment Lawyers' Association
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Committees/boards served on:
Date elected to Council: November 2009

Jeffrey Forrest

I studied law at the London School of Economics and the College of Law. I was admitted in 1975, since when I have been in private practice. Currently I am the principal of a sole practice in Westminster, undertaking a broad range of legal work. I served as President of the City of Westminster and Holborn Law Society (2004-5). I am Honorary Legal Adviser of Pimlico Citizens Advice Bureau and I have a particular interest in pro bono work and matters of corporate social responsibility. I have also been admitted in Ireland.

Personal factfile

Constituency: The City of Westminster
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Committees/boards served on: Law Reform Board
Date elected to Council: 2005

Malcolm Fowler

Criminal Defence Practitioner since 1969; Higher Rights of Audience (Crime) since January 1995; Past Chair: Criminal Law Solicitors Association; Past President: Birmingham Law Society; Past Solicitor member of the Lord Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Legal Education and Conduct; Regular Media Spokesperson for the Law Society.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Birmingham and District
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Committees/boards served on: Law Reform Board and International Human Rights Committee.
Date elected to Council: 1999

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Michael Franks

I qualified in 1978 and became a partner in Chethams in 1986. Chethams merged with William Sturges & Co in 2000. My main area of practice is commercial property. I have given lectures on the Use of the Internet for Legal Research and The Regulatory Reform (Business Tenancies) England and Wales Order 2003.

My hobbies including scuba diving, Geocaching and reading. I was a Council member from 1998 to 2002 representing West London.

Personal factfile

Constituency: West London

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Committees/boards served on: Corporate Governance Board, *Electronic Law Committee *now known as Technology & Law Reference Group, Scrutiny and Performance Review Committee.

Date elected to Council: 2004

Derek French

I am a partner in a three-partner high street practice in Sutton Coldfield. Since qualifying as a solicitor in 1979 I have practised in criminal law, family and housing. In 1986 I started my own firm. I have been a member of the Duty Solicitor scheme, the advanced family law panel and the child care panel. I am a Higher Criminal Court Advocate. I am a Deputy District Judge (Magistrates Court) and Part-time Tribunal Chairman. I am a member of the Criminal Procedure Rules Committee. I am also a member of the investigations Committee of the Institute of Chartered Accountants. I am a tutor for the Open University. I work on a regular basis as an agent from the CPS. I am a season ticket holder at Aston Villa.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Birmingham and District

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Contact address: 28 Blackroot Road, Sutton Coldfield, B74 2QH

Committees/boards served on: Chair of Council Members' Conduct Committee; Finance and Resources Board (until 30/11/2005); Criminal Law Committee; Legal Practice Course Board; Scrutiny Committee

Date elected to Council: 2002

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Emma Garnett

I was admitted as a Solicitor in 2008. I'm a Higher Courts Advocate (all proceedings). I work for the Crown Prosecution Service as a rape and child abuse specialist Senior Crown Prosecutor. I'm the lead Union Learning Rep, Branch Secretary and Section Committee member for the CPS section of the FDA. I have a seat on the Council of Members for Skills for Justice (Justice Sector Skills Council) through my union role.

My working week is divided between the two roles and I enjoy both Criminal and Employment law.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Crown Prosecution Service
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Committees/boards served on:
Date elected to Council: 21 September 2012

Michael Garson

Michael Garson has been in practice for over 35 years in a small practice offering a wide range of transactional advisory and litigation services. He is a practising solicitor and estate agent offering consultancy services, lecturing on E-Conveyancing Practice and ABS, and training for estate agents surveyors and professional service providers on the development of professional regulation.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Central and South Middlesex
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Committees/boards served on:
Date elected to Council: July 2006

Kat Gibson

Kat is a seven-year PQE employment specialist. Kat is an Associate at DLA Piper UK LLP, working in the Employment, Pensions and Benefits team. Prior to this, Kat worked in-house for Coca-Cola Enterprises Limited from 2009 to 2013 on labour and privacy law issues. She joined Paris Smith LLP as a paralegal and practised there for two years as an assistant solicitor. Kat then worked as in-house counsel for Nortel Networks; a multi-national telecommunications company. Kat was an active volunteer with the Trainee Solicitors Group and was chair of the Junior Lawyers Division for its first two years.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Junior Lawyers' Division (Solicitor Member)
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Committees/boards served on: Currently serving on RAB Education and Training Committee.
Date elected to Council: 15 July 2010

David Greene

Trained and has always worked at Edwin Coe, qualifying in 1980; currently Partner and Head of Litigation. He was a member of the Civil Procedure Rules Committee from 1997 to 2002. He was a member of the Civil Justice Council from 2002 to 2005 and Chair of the Committee specialising in housing law. His practice is in commercial dispute resolution specialising particularly in work in sub-Saharan Africa and in acting domestically for large groups of claimants. He writes and lectures on civil procedure here and abroad. He also undertakes projects on behalf of donors and governments relating to the reform of civil justice and human rights in various jurisdictions.

Personal factfile

Constituency: International Practice
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Committees/boards served on: Currently serving on Legal Affairs and Policy Board, Civil Justice Committee and the International Issues Committee.
Date elected to Council: 2005

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Nicholas Gurney-Champion

I qualified as a solicitor in 1986. I am a partner in a small "High Street" firm with offices in Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight. I am the third generation of my family in the firm. I do mainly property work and business affairs.

I am on the committee of the Hampshire Incorporated Law Society and was its President in 2002. I am currently Secretary of the Southern Area Association of Law Societies. I was a member of the Council Membership Committee from 2006-2009.

Out of the Law I enjoy gardening, cookery and foreign travel.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Residential Conveyancing
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Committees/boards served on: Council Membership Committee 2006-2009. Currently serving on Conveyancing and Land Law Committee.
Date elected to Council: July 2009

Simon Harker

I qualified in the then Lord Chancellor's Department in 1981. Since then I have worked as a departmental advisory lawyer in central government, in particular in the Health and Safety Executive and the Departments of Employment, Transport, Education, Culture, and the Cabinet Office. Since April 2011 I Have been head of the Treasury Solicitor's Employment Group.

I also help administer the Panels of Civil Counsel used by the Government for all its civil litigation.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Government Legal Service
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Committees/boards served on: Employment Law Committee
Date elected to Council: 2 November 2010

Wendy Hewstone

I have worked in the Legal Aid field in Southampton since 1984, and am the Managing Partner of a three partner firm, Access Law LLP, set up two years ago to supply a niche Family Law Practice. We have a case load of about 65% publicly funded work. I now undertake all areas of private client work including family, Domestic Conveyancing and Wills and Probate. Our aim is to provide a holistic service to cover all aspects of law related to our family clients.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Legal Aid Practitioners Group
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Contact address: Access Law LLP, 14-24 Cannon Street, Southampton, Hampshire SO15 5PQ | DX 54856 Southampton 4
Committees/boards served on: Access to Justice Committee
Date elected to Council: November 2007

Clare Johnson

I qualified in 1991 and now specialise in all aspects of licensing law, appearing frequently before Local Authorities and Magistrates Courts. I am a past contributing Editor for Paterson's Licensing Acts and have written articles for the New Law Journal.

I am a past President of the Hull Law Society where I also served as Treasurer**.**

Personal factfile

Constituency: Yorkshire
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Committees/boards served on:
Date elected to Council: 25 January 2011

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Charlie Jones

My interests are sailing, skiing, travelling, music, playing any sport I still can, watching and supporting Irish Rugby and all its component parts.

In my spare time I am Litigation (Defendant work) Partner at Weightmans, where I have been since 1980. I was born in Belfast, and educated in Dublin, Perth, Uxbridge and Bristol.

In the past I have served on the Liverpoool Law Society committee, in successive years being PR Officer, Treasurer x 2, Vice President and in 2008/2009 President.

I am a member of Foil and am a former Chair of the Motor SIG.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Merseyside and District
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E-mail: charlie.jones@weightmans.com
Contact address: Weightmans LLP, India Buildings, Water Street, Liverpool L2 0GA. DX 718100 LIVERPOOL 16.
Committees/boards served on: Serving Member of Scrutiny and Performance Review Committee.
Date elected to Council: December 2009

Ian Kelcey

I qualified in 1980 and now specialise in Criminal Law. I have previous experience of family and child care law. I regularly appear in the Crown Court and contribute on criminal law issues to the media.

My interests include reading, theatre, travel and sport. Over the years I have made a number of charitable contributions including taking part in a sponsored bike ride to Land's End raising over £20,000 for children suffering from cancer and leukaemia.

I am a past president of Bristol Law Society and past chair of the CLSA.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Bristol
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Committees/boards served on: Past: Chair of Criminal Law Committee, Member Employment Law Committee, Law Reform Board, Access to Justice Committee.
Present: Member of Criminal Law Committee, Regulatory Affairs Board.
Date elected to Council: 2003

Angus King

Admitted in 1994 and has practised as a housing and Community Care lawyer in South London since then, acting mainly for tenants and the homeless. Currently a solicitor at Cambridge House Law Centre in Camberwell, South London, specialising in housing, community care and asylum support. Member of Housing Law Practioners Association, Housing and Immigration Group and Haldane Society

Constituency: Housing Law
Contact number: 020 7358 7025
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E-mail: AKing@ch1889.org
Contact address: Cambridge House Law Centre, 137 Camberwell Road, London, SE5 0HF
Committees/boards served on: N/A
Date elected to Council: July 2008

Ian Lithman

I am the Sole Principal of Lithman & Co specializing in Leisure Marine and Business Transfer work, whilst also undertaking Commercial Conveyancing and Civil Litigation. I was admitted in June 1959 and, before opening my offices in 1970 first at Harley Street and then Wimpole Street (where my practice remains), I was in partnership and before that an Assistant Solicitor with Frère Cholmeley of Lincoln's Inn Fields. I have served on the Council Membership Committee and the Representation Board. I am a past Chairman of the Solicitors Sole Practitioners Group of the Law Society. I have represented my Group in numerous Law Society related affairs and I am currently active with Lender Discrimination, Commercial E-Conveyancing and Pastoral Care.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Solicitor Sole Practitioners Group
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Contact address: Lithman & Co, 72 Wimpole Street, London W1G 9RP
Committees/boards served on: Present member of the Scrutiny and Performance Review Committee.
Date elected to Council: 2005

Dr Clare McConnell

Clare is a partner and head of the PPP/PFI projects practice at International law firm Stephenson Harwood. She has worked on many projects in the transport, health and education sectors, building railways, hospitals and schools. Dual qualified, Clare was admitted in England and Wales in1998 and in Scotland in 1994.

Clare was Chairwoman of the Association of Women Solicitors from March 2009-March 2010. Clare has an academic background in government policy. In 1995 she was awarded a PhD for her research into the effectiveness of advisory committees as conduits for advice to government. Clare is a trustee and non-executive director of Regent's College, London.

Personal factfile

Constituency: The City of London
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Contact address: Stephenson Harwood, 1 Finsbury Circus, London, EC2M 7SH. DX 64 Chancery Lane.
Committees/boards served on: Member of the Equality and Diversity Committee.
Date elected to Council: AWS: 2007-2010; The City of London: July 2010

Maria Memoli

Initial legal training within local government, then private practice. Appointed Solicitor to the Council in 2000, in charge of Legal, Local Land Charges, Democratic/Member services, Elections, Electoral Registration and statutory role as Monitoring Officer overseeing Codes of Conduct for District/Parish Councils. Gained LGMB's Top Manager's Award. Now a consultant for local government solicitors specialising in probity, ethics and corporate governance. Has been an ACSeS member for several years and is a Director of ACSeS. Obtained an MBA from Bath University end 2003. Active in Local Government Group for many years (now incorporated as Solicitors in Local Government Ltd). Is past Chairman of SLG Ltd and currently a director. She is Chairman and Director of LGG Ltd, (training arm of SLG Ltd). Is an Associate of the IDeA (Improvement and Development Agency).Accredited mediator and member of the Civil Mediation Council. Member of BILA (British Italian Lawyers Association)

Personal factfile

Constituency: Solicitors in Local Government
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Contact address: Local Governance Ltd, 25 Grasmere, Bowerhill, Melksham, Wiltshire SN12 6QF
Committees/boards served on: Chair of Council Members' Conduct Committee (until July 2010), Member of the Membership Board (until July 2010), and The Local Government Diploma Board. Previously on the Corporate Governance Group
Date elected to Council: 2005

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David Merkel

I qualified as a solicitor in 1976. I worked in local government until 2000, specialising in statutory enforcement mainly in environmental health. I am now an accredited higher education teacher, running courses in witness training and criminal procedure at universities, for the army and other organisations in the UK.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Lawyers with Disabilities Division
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Committees/boards served on: Regulatory Affairs Board, Director of Law Society Trustees, Representation Board; Training Committee; former member of Equality and Diversity Committee (representation).
Date elected to Council: 2001

Joy Merriam

I was educated in Sheffield and Manchester and came to London in 1978. I did my articles at an east London practice and qualified in 1981. I have always specialised in Crime and worked almost exclusively in the east end of London.

I had my own practice Joy Merriam And Company from 1987 to 2004 and closed it as the days of the high street practice seemed to be numbered.

I am now an employed solicitor working for Mc Cormacks Law a specialist legal aid provider and I have civil and criminal higher rights and thus spend most of my time as a Solicitor Advocate in both the high court and the crown court.

I am a committee member of the LCCSA and the CLSA and between 2007 and 2009 was Chair of the CLSA.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Criminal Defence
Contact number: 020 7791 4821
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Committees/boards served on: Access to Justice and Criminal Law Committee.
Date elected to Council: July 2009

Rod Mole

Personal factfile

Constituency: West Country and Gwent
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Committees/boards served on:
Date elected to Council: July 2006

David Morgan

Born in 1941, articled at Slaughter & May. I became a partner in RA Roberts in 1973, before joining Wright Son & Pepper in 1983, later becoming a sole practitioner in 2000. In December 2006 I joined RadcliffesLeBrasseur as a Consultant specialising in regulatory work. I served as President of Holborn Law Society in 1998/1999 and President of the Federation of European Bars in 2002/ 2003. I am currently the Law Society's representative on the UK CCBE delegation and also Chairman of the Solicitors Assistance Scheme. On the side I am actively involved in heritage railways and traditional ships.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Holborn
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Committees/boards served on: Legal Affairs and Policy Board 2007 to date.
Date elected to Council: 2005

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Tim Mutti

I was admitted in May 1990. I am Managing Partner at Traymans, a 'High Street' firm in Stoke Newington. We are a predominantly legal aid, general practice. We have Legal Services Commission franchises in Crime, Family, and Housing, co-existing with thriving conveyancing and private client departments. In the years immediately after admission as a solicitor, I practised in most areas of 'High Street' law. Since the mid-1990s, I have specialised in litigation, including professional negligence. I am Honorary Secretary of the North East London Law Society.

Personal factfile

Constituency: North East London

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Contact address: Traymans LLP, 189 Stoke Newington High Street, London N16 0LH | DX 58053 Stoke Newington 1

Committees/boards served on: Currently service on Civil Justice Committee.

Date elected to Council: 2005

Sue Nelson

I qualified at the Bar before cross-qualifying as a solicitor. I worked in the criminal department at Kingsley Napley before joining a small firm specialising in clinical negligence work. I then joined Slaughter and May's litigation department. Since the early 1990's I have worked as a trainer and training consultant. I am a CEDR accredited civil mediator and an ADR family mediator having trained with Robin ap Cynan. I am a member of the Editorial Board of Cordery on Solicitors

Personal factfile

Constituency: The City of Westminster

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Contact address: Middle Cottage, Station Approach, Ardingly, Haywards Heath, West Sussex RH17 6SP

Committees/boards served on: Currently serving as Chair of Equality and Diversity Committee, member of RAB Education & Training Committee, RAB Rules & Ethics Committee.

Past: Management Board until 31/08/10, Main Board until 31/12/05, Training Committee, Training Framework Review Group, Higher Courts Qualification Case Work Committee and the Advocacy Committee, Standards Board and Corporate Governance Board.

Date elected to Council: 1998

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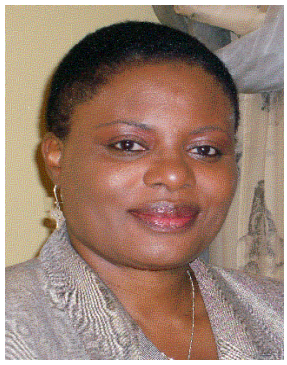
Nwabueze Nwokolo



Solicitor of the Supreme Court of E & W, 1995
Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Nigeria, 1978
Chair, Black Solicitors Network,(National) 2010
Co-Chair, Minority Lawyers Conference, 2010/2011
Certified Mortgage Specialist; Commercial and Mortgage lending (IFS) diploma; Family lawyer / mediator; Resolution member; interested in discrimination, immigration and regulation (conduct and ethics) law. Member of AWS, Black & Minority Ethnic Forum, British Nigerian Legal Forum, Council Member, Methodist Church, Governor, Queens Foundation (Ecumenical College) Edgbaston, All Issues Mediation Services (AIMS); Rhoda Idu Onumonu Jaja Anucha Wachuku Foundation (RIOJAWACH) (pastoral care, education, leadership, support & empowerment). Married to Chuka (1982); two adult daughters.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Ethnic Minorities
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Committees/boards served on: Currently serving on Legal Affairs and Policy Board. Equality and Diversity Committee Chair 2007- 2010, Council Membership Committee 2002 – 2005, Equality & Diversity member 2005 – 2007.
Date elected to Council: 2005

Tim O'Sullivan

Articled with Keeble Hawson in Sheffield. Admitted in 1988. Assistant solicitor practising company and commercial law. Since 1990 a senior crown prosecutor with the Crown Prosecution Service. Past Chair of Bournemouth YSG. President of the Dorset Law Society 2004-2005. President of the Bournemouth and District Law Society 2010-2011. A member of the International Association of Prosecutors and sits on the Society's EU criminal justice working party. UK seconded national expert to Eurojust in The Hague, 2006.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Dorset
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Contact address: Bournemouth & District Law Society, Borough Chambers, Fir Vale Road, Bournemouth, Dorset BH1 2JJ | DX 7616 Bournemouth or Crown Prosecution Service, Oxford Road, Bournemouth BH8 8HA. DX 7699 Bournemouth.
Committees/boards served on: Current Chair of Council Members' Conduct Committee; and serving on Management Board, Support Services Resolution Board, Council, Criminal Law Committee, EU Committee and EU Criminal Justice Working Party. Former Chair and member of Council Membership Committee.
Date elected to Council: 2001

Michelle Penn

I qualified in 1993 at a Legal Aid firm carrying out PI work representing claimants. I began to specialise in disease work when I commenced employment for a union firm in 1995. In 2000 I joined Berrymans Lace Mawer in their London office where I have specialised in disease work ever since. A Partner since 2003, I head up the working group to review the Disease and Illness Protocol .FOIL are backing the development of a Mesothelioma Protocol.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Forum of Insurance Lawyers
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Committees/boards served on: Civil Justice Committee.
Date elected to Council: July 2009

John Perry

General Practitioner. Qualified 1978. Originally articled to and now Senior Partner of Palmers a High Street practice in Kingston upon Thames.

Former Secretary and President of Mid-Surrey Law Society and the Surrey Law Society (twice).

Governor of a College of Further Education and a large boys' independent school.

41 playing seasons with Teddington Cricket Club.

I run a deputy Cathedral choir and sing with a number of leading London choirs.

Board member of Kingston Town Centre Management.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Surrey
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Committees/boards served on:
Date elected to Council: 14 July 2011

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John Pickup

Former Senior Partner of Mid-Cheshire firm Mosshaselhurst. Senior Consultant to that firm. Honorary Secretary of Chester and North Wales Law Society from 1990 – to date and Past President of that Society. Appointed in 1995 as Chairman of the Sub-Committee, which was responsible for introducing the Practice Standards Certificate Scheme (Lexcel) in 1998 and Chairman of the Lexcel Panel since that date.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Cheshire and North Wales
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Committees/boards served on: Higher Courts Advocacy Casework Committee, Wales Committee, Lexcel Assessment Panel.
Date elected to Council: 1994

Alan Radford

I was admitted as a solicitor in 1982 and joined Browne Jacobson.

I work principally in the sphere of dispute resolution dealing with claims against solicitors, accountants and other professionals as well as Trust and Probate disputes. I am a member of the Association of Contentious Trusts & Probate Specialists.

I have served on the Council of the Nottinghamshire Law Society for 10 years, latterly as its Secretary and author of its new constitution.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Nottinghamshire
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Committees/boards served on:
Date elected to Council: July 2009

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Patrick Richards

Patrick Richards LL.B (Hons). Admitted 1975, and currently in full time employment with Crosby & Moore, Solicitors in Hove, East Sussex in a general practice/consultancy capacity. Father of four, hectic life but time permitting enjoys sports, languages/ travel and opera. Accredited LTA coach, still playing cricket and veterans football, albeit less often. 28 years service in various capacities on the General Committee of a 600 strong Sussex Law Society.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Inner Sussex
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Committees/boards served on: Scrutiny and Performance Review Committee 2006-2010.
Date elected to Council: 2000

Razi Shah

At college, I was elected Treasurer of the Student Union, President of the Student's Law Society and co-chair of the Business and Finance Committee. From 1993 to 1994 I was an assistant lecturer at London University.

Admitted to the Roll in June 1997 I undertake predominantly civil, criminal and immigration work and am currently a Partner at Appleby Shaw. I was awarded Higher Rights of Audience in All Proceedings in 2004 and regularly conduct trials at the instructions of several firms.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Berkshire and North Hampshire
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Committees/boards served on: Scrutiny and Performance Review Committee.
Date elected to Council: July 2006

Michael Singleton

I qualified as a Fellow of the Institute of Legal Executives in 1972 and was admitted as a solicitor in 1980. Having been a partner in two predecessor firms, I established the firm of Singletons in 1987 and I practise principally in property and business and company sales and purchases.

Personal factfile

Constituency: North Middlesex
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Committees/boards served on: Audit Committee
Date elected to Council: 2002

Jonathan Smithers

I qualified in 1986 and specialise in property work and residential conveyancing. I have been part of the management team of my firm since 1991.

I am currently a member of the Membership Board and the Chair of the Conveyancing and Land Law Committee. I am Past President of both Kent Law Society and Tonbridge & District Law Society.

Outside of work and family my main interest is in music. For the last 25 years I have been a member of the Oriana Singers, a choir that specialises in Cathedral music and have sung in over forty different Cathedrals so far.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Kent
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Committees/boards served on: Currently serving on Membership Board, Chair of Conveyancing and Land Law Committee, Member of Conveyancing Quality Scheme Project Board, Law Society Gazette Editorial Advisory Board.
Date elected to Council: July 2007

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John Spencer

Awaiting further details

Awaiting photograph

Personal factfile

Constituency: Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL)
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Committees/boards served on:
Date elected to Council: March 2013

David Steed

I was admitted in January 1980 after serving articles in a small City of London firm specialising in property and estate development.

I have worked locally in Surrey since then dealing primarily with property work, including licensed premises and secured funding work for large corporations.

I have been a committee member of Surrey Law Society for many years and was President in 2004 – 2005 and again in 2009 – 2010.

I am a keen shooter and my main legal claim to fame is the case which I personally brought against the Home Office following the handgun ban and which ended up in the House of Lords (I won!)

Personal factfile

Constituency: Surrey
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Committees/boards served on:
Date elected to Council: 14 July 2011

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Jonathan Stephens

I was admitted in 1970 and have specialised in Agricultural Law ever since. For the last 20 years I have been a sole practitioner based in central Monmouthshire with clients over a wide geographical area. Member of the Agricultural Law Association and currently (2007/8) President of the Association of South Western Law Societies.

My interests include walking in wild places, sailing, and gardening for wildlife (here and in France)

Personal factfile

Constituency: West Country and Gwent

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Committees/boards served on: Currently serving on Wales Committee.

Date elected to Council: July 2007

David Taylor

I worked for 12 years in Citizens Advice Bureaux in Sheffield & London, ending up as Manager of Battersea CABx for 9 years. I joined my present firm in 1988; was admitted in 1994 and made a partner in 1998. I was Chair of the Community Legal Services Partnership for Wandsworth for 2 years. I was President of South London Law Society from 2003 to 2006. My practice is exclusively in employment law and is predominantly claimant work. I am an accredited mediator. I am also a Notary Public.

Personal factfile

Constituency: South London

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Committees/boards served on: Employment Law Committee, Regulatory Affairs Board's Education & Training Committee, Remuneration Committee, Chair of Membership Board wef 1/9/10.

Date elected to Council: 2005

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Andrew Tucker

Admitted 1985. Partner - Irwin Mitchell 1988. Specialising in Personal Injury particularly group actions and injuries of the utmost severity. Major cases include: the capsize of 'The Herald Of Free Enterprise', 'Marchioness'/'Bowbelle' collision, Opren Litigation, Dalkon Shield Litigation, Coal Miners Vibration White Finger Litigation, Coal Miners Respiratory Disease Litigation, Human Growth Hormone/CJD Litigation.

Personal factfile

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Committees/boards served on: N/A
Date elected to Council: 2005

Rodney Warren

Having a broad base of experience in different areas of legal practice, I have gravitated towards legal aid work and criminal law in particular. In 1994, I formed my practice in Eastbourne, which has both civil and criminal contracts with the Legal Services Commission. The firm has grown to become one of the biggest criminal law firms on the south coast. I have been a duty solicitor since the creation of the scheme and am keen to promote the interests of legal aid practitioners and their clients wherever possible. I am past Chairman and now Director of the Criminal Law Solicitors Association.

Personal factfile

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Committees/boards served on: Access to Justice Committee, Corporate Governance Board, Criminal Law Committee, Chair of Representation Board; *Electronic Law Committee *now known as Technology & Law Reference Group, Chair of Access to Justice Committee 2002-2004; Main Board until 31/12/05
Date elected to Council: 1999

John Weaver

I have been in private practice in Oxford for the last 25 years. I have always worked in small 'high street' practice initially in litigation. However I now deal with commercial and domestic conveyancing wills and probate.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire
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Committees/boards served on: currently serving on Legal Affairs and Policy Board.
Date elected to Council: July 2007

Chris Welton

Chris is a Consultant with Chafes LLP a six partner practice based in South Manchester, North Cheshire and Derbyshire. The firm is primarily a "high street" practice. He is Assistant Deputy Coroner for Manchester West.

Chris is a former President of Macclesfield Law Society and Association of North Western Law Societies. His main areas of expertise are Employment Law and advising small and medium sized businesses.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Manchester, Salford, Stockport and District
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Committees/boards served on: Regulatory Affairs Board
Date elected to Council: July 2006

Jo Wharton

I qualified as a solicitor in 1997, after completing my training contract with a firm in Belfast. I subsequently practised in the company/commercial departments of law firms in Jersey (Channel Islands) and Perth (Western Australia), before joining the corporate team in Dickinson Dees LLP in the North East of England in 2001.

I was sworn in as a Justice of the Peace in 2007, and on average, I sit one full day a fortnight at Teesside Magistrate's Court.

I was the President of Tees Valley Law Society in 2011/2012.

Personal factfile

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Committees/boards served on:
Date elected to Council: July 2012

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Fraser Whitehead

I am a senior litigation solicitor and Head of Group Litigation and Commercial Services at the London Office of the international law practice Slater & Gordon. As a practitioner I continue to advise Trade Unions and their members on a wide variety of work-related and labour law issues, including collective employment rights and collective Health and Safety and collective Industrial Disease compensation matters. I also represent claimants in group actions across a wide range of market fields involving market abuse and including financial services. I am also involved in dispute resolution funding issues, including Collective Fees arrangement. My practice involves the law and practice both in the EU and wider European context particularly in collective dispute matters. I was a member of the Blackwell Committee appointed by the Lord Chancellor to examine the way Personal Injury and Employment Law cases are handled by non qualified advisors and I am now a member of the Ministry of Justice Costs Advisory Committee as well as Joint Chair of the Law Society Civil Justice Section and Chair of the Law Society Consumer Affairs Working Party.

Personal factfile

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Committees/boards served on: Legal Affairs and Policy Board, EU committee, Civil Justice Committee.
Date elected to Council: 1997

Paul Widdup

Paul Widdup is a Solicitor, consultant, coach and mentor, and former law firm Managing Partner with extensive experience in law firm management at both strategic and operational levels. He holds an MBA in Legal Practice Management and a postgraduate level qualification in business and executive coaching. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the Law Society's Law Management Section and has particular interest in all law practice management and regulatory issues, the promotion of best practice, and the response to, and management of, change within the legal profession.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Law Management Section
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Committees/boards served on: Currently serving on Regulatory Affairs Board, Law Management Section Executive Committee and RAB Rules & Ethics Committee.
Date elected to Council: July 2009

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Michael Williams

My early professional experience was in the City with the forerunner to Hogan Lovells and thereafter several years' international legal work abroad.

The majority of my career however has been with medium-sized provincial firms, for many years as Head of the Litigation department. For seven years I represented this discipline on Council.

My current outside responsibilities include Chair of the Professional Conduct Committee for the Architects Registration Board, membership of the Practice Assurance Committee of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, of the Cambridge City Council Standards Committee and a Trustee of the Nene Park Trust.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire
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Committees/boards served on: Membership Board, Civil Litigation Committee, Governance Review Group
Date elected to Council: 2002

Stanley Williams

I was Director of Legal Affairs at the BSI from 1997 until my retirement in 2005. Prior to joining BSI I was Group Counsel of BTR plc and Deputy Company Solicitor of Rowntree plc for eight and nine years respectively. In addition to the supervision of legal matters, my areas of responsibility included employee share plans, investor relations, pensions, real estate, risk management, insurance, and compliance. At BTR I was extensively involved in M & A activity both at home and overseas. I am currently Chairman of the BSI Pensions Trust, a post I have held for the last eleven years. I am past Chairman of the Commerce & Industry Group of in-house lawyers, a member of the Pensions Management Institute and a JP.

Personal fact file

Constituency: Commerce & Industry
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Committees/boards served on: Currently serving on Audit Committee, and previously: Membership Board and Scrutiny Committee.
Date elected to Council: 2005

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Gaynor Wragg

After training in a large London firm, I have practised in High Street practices in Cumbria since moving here in 1989. I now specialise in commercial property and the legal needs of small- to medium-sized business and also domestic conveyancing and elderly client work. I was honorary secretary of Carlisle and District Law Society from1994 until 2008.

I live in the Cumbrian countryside with my husband and two children. I enjoy fell-walking and music, and am hoping to complete the ascent of all the Birketts (all Cumbrian fells over 1000 feet) in the next year.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Cumbria and Lancaster
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Committees/boards served on: Currently serving on Council Membership Committee.
Date elected to Council: **July 2007**

Peter Wright

Peter is a Consultant at Taylor Bracewell LLP in Sheffield specialising in Digital Law including Data Protection, Data privacy and security issues.He is a member of the Law Society Technology and Law Reference Group, and also advises on Freedom of Information Act matters and Commercial Dispute Resolution.

A previous Chair of the Trainee Solicitors Group, Peter has worked with the Law Society in the creation of the Junior Lawyers Division, and previously represented the JLD on Council.

Peter is an Associate Member of the American Bar Association and was Secretary General of the European Young Bar Association in 2010. Peter speaks widely on a range of technology and law related issues for both the Law Society, the Chambers of Commerce and the National Association of Business Owners.

Personal factfile

Constituency: Yorkshire
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Committees/boards served on: Training Committee, International Committee
Date elected to Council: Junior Lawyers Division 2005-2009; Yorkshire: Sept 2009.

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