



## BACFI QUARTERLY UPDATE: No 15. May 2014

### NEWS UPDATE

#### **Bar Council Elections:**

BACFI is delighted to announce that one of our committee members, Lorinda Long, has been appointed the Treasurer-Elect of the Bar Council. Lorinda will succeed one of the Vice-Presidents of BACFI, Stephen Collier, as the Treasurer in 2015. We congratulate Lorinda on her success and wish her all the best for her coming tenure.

The Vice-Chairman Elect of the Bar Council has also been announced as Chantal-Aimee Doerries QC of Atkin Chambers, who was elected unopposed. Chantal was previously the Chair of TECBar and is the current chair of the International Committee of the Bar Council. Chantal will be the Chairman of the Bar Council in 2016.

The Chairman of the Bar Council for 2015 is Alastair MacDonald QC, previously the Chairman of the North-Eastern Circuit.

As ever, BACFI members are encouraged to run for Bar Council in the annual election round in the autumn – please look out for the nomination sheets!

#### **New BACFI PISC Special Interest Group:**

The BACFI Professional issues sub-committee have formed a Special Interest Group for self-employed barristers working outside Chambers.

Details are available here:

[http://www.bacfi.org/professional\\_issues.htm#SIG](http://www.bacfi.org/professional_issues.htm#SIG)

#### **Authorisation to practice:**

BACFI members are reminded the renewal of practising certificates was due last month. It was reported at the General Management Committee of Bar Council that Employed Barristers, in particular, encountered a number of problems with the Barrister Connect system. If you are still encountering problems logging on to Barrister Connect, please contact the Records Department of the Bar Council on 020 7242 0934 or email [BarristerConnect@BarCouncil.org.uk](mailto:BarristerConnect@BarCouncil.org.uk).

#### **Costs Budgeting in Force for Commercial Court and High Value Chancery Division Cases:**

The former exemption of Commercial Court cases and high value Chancery Division cases from costs budgeting has ended. New Costs Budgeting Rules and a new Practice Direction came into force on 22 April 2014. The amendments are contained in new versions of CPR rules 3.12 and 3.15 and Practice Direction 3E – Costs Management.

**Brooke Reforms:**

Also implemented on 22 April 2014 were six reforms aimed at re-balancing the jurisdiction between the High Court and the County Court. The reforms of most interest are:

- Claims valued at less than £100,000 can no longer be brought in the High Court. The previous limit was £25,000.
- Nominated County Court judges will now be able to grant freezing orders.
- The County Court now has an equity jurisdiction up to £350,000. Previously only equity claims for less than £30,000 could be brought in the County Court.
- The County Court has lost jurisdiction over certain specialist proceedings in relations the trusts and companies.

**Chancery Division Fixed ended Trial Pilot Scheme:**

Statistics for trials in the Chancery Division in 2013 showed that nearly 50% had exceeded their time estimates, on average by almost 50%. Lord Justice Briggs recommended that, in the first instance, there should be a pilot of fixed-end trials. This scheme commenced on 1 May 2014.

**Nomenclature:**

Alison Russell QC, appointed to the Family Division of the High Court in January 2014 has had the title of Ms Justice Russell approved for use by the Lord Chief Justice. The title of "Ms Justice" will now be a styling open to female judges of the High Court

**Keble Advanced Advocacy Course:**

The Advanced Advocacy Course which runs each year in the last week of August, and which carries 45 CPD points, has amended its criteria for applications. Attendees of the course must now be over 3 years Call.

**FORTHCOMING BACFI EVENTS & DATES FOR THE DIARY****Wednesday 11 June 2014: Seminar and supper party. Moral Banks Need Moral Lawyers.**

Location: Middle Temple

Speakers: Sharon Bowles MEP amongst others, chaired by Lord Hoffmann.

Seminar is free for BACFI members. £40 for drinks reception and two course buffet supper with wine and coffee.

Time: 6 pm

**Wednesday 25 June 2014: BACFI Garden Party**

Location: Rose Garden, Middle Temple Garden (if the weather is nice!)

Cost: £30

Tickets available from The Treasury, Ashley Building, Middle Temple Lane, London EC4Y 9BT or via phone: (020) 7427 4800.

A great opportunity to reconnect with your Inn, network and meet friends old and new!

Group bookings of 10 or more receive a £5 discount per ticket!

**Wednesday 2 July 2014: Cyber Crime Forum**

Location: Willis Building, 51 Lime Street, London, EC3M 7DQ

Speakers: Jamie Bouloux (AIG), Benedict Hamilton (Kroll); Darryl Brophy (Executive Director, FINEX National) and chaired by Colin Taylor (Executive Director, FINEX Global).

Time: 6pm

**Wednesday 17 September: Dawn Raids Seminar**

Location: Maclay Murray Spens LLP, One London Wall, EC2Y 5AB

Time: 6pm

**Thursday 20 November 2014:** Denning Lecture  
 Location: Parliament Chamber, Inner Temple  
 Speaker: Lady Justice Gloster

**CPD seminars:** BACFI remains an accredited provider of CPD seminars.  
**Our website** [www.bacfi.org](http://www.bacfi.org) contains details of all our events, Responses to and details of BC and BSB consultation papers and we are also on <http://www.linkedin.com>.

### RECRUITMENT

We remain keen to recruit **members for BACFI's own committees**. Please think about contributing to your professional association. Contact [secretary@bacfi.org](mailto:secretary@bacfi.org) if you are interested.

**Corporate Members:** This class of membership is non-voting but will entitle employees of the corporate member to ordinary individual membership of BACFI at a reduced rate. Would any member who thinks his/her firm would be interested in Corporate Membership of BACFI, please contact: [lucindaorr@hotmail.com](mailto:lucindaorr@hotmail.com).

**Membership drive:** if you know someone in your firm who might like to join BACFI, or if your firm would be interested in corporate membership, do point them to our website where the membership forms can be downloaded: [www.bacfi.org](http://www.bacfi.org).

**Reconnection with the Inns:** If you are prepared to serve as an Inn representative, please contact Sandra: [secretary@bacfi.org](mailto:secretary@bacfi.org). We especially need volunteers for Inner and Middle Temple.

Current BACFI Inn representatives are:

Middle Temple	<a href="mailto:Christiane@valansot.com">Christiane@valansot.com</a> ;
Gray's Inn	<a href="mailto:Tricia.Howse@hotmail.co.uk">Tricia.Howse@hotmail.co.uk</a> ; <a href="mailto:hfrogers@bacfi.org">hfrogers@bacfi.org</a> ; <a href="mailto:lucindaorr@hotmail.co.uk">lucindaorr@hotmail.co.uk</a>
Inner Temple	Alexandria Carr <a href="mailto:ACarr@mayerbrown.com">ACarr@mayerbrown.com</a>
Lincoln's Inn	<a href="mailto:William.sprigge@orange.net">William.sprigge@orange.net</a> <a href="mailto:Simon.broomfield@brooksmacdonald.com">Simon.broomfield@brooksmacdonald.com</a> Hussain Khan <a href="mailto:hussain@khan.cc">hussain@khan.cc</a>

**BSB and BC committees: 2014** BACFI members sitting on Bar Council or Bar Standards Board committees and subcommittees:

Bar Council	Lucinda Orr, Kevin McGinty, Stephen Collier (Treasurer) & Lorinda Long (elected), James Kitching (elected) and Alexandria Carr (elected)
General Management Committee	Lucinda Orr (ex officio)
Employed Bar Committee	Lucinda Orr, James Kitching, Tim Reading & Sara George
Professional Practice Committee	Sara George
Policy Advisory Group	Stephen Collier
Finance & Accounts Committee	Stephen Collier
International Committee	Lucinda Orr & Lorinda Long
European Committee	Lorinda Long & Alexandria Carr

International Business Development Working Group	Lorinda Long
Training for the Bar Committee	Sara George & Tim Reading
Bar Conference Committee	Lucinda Orr
Social Mobility Committee	Lucinda Orr
City Working Group	Lorinda Long
BSB Governance, Risk and Audit Committee	Nicholas Dee

### EXTRAS

BACFI has a section on its website for appointments – including student internships and opportunities in Europe for a *stage*. The BACFI office holds further details: [secretary@bacfi.org](mailto:secretary@bacfi.org).

BACFI also publicises **events run by other organizations** that might be of interest to members. To attend, you must book direct with the organizer.

If you would like to have something put on our website, contact Sandra: [secretary@bacfi.org](mailto:secretary@bacfi.org).