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MAY 2009


BRISTOL
LAW SOCIETY

BRISTOL LAW SOCIETY'S

bristol briefing

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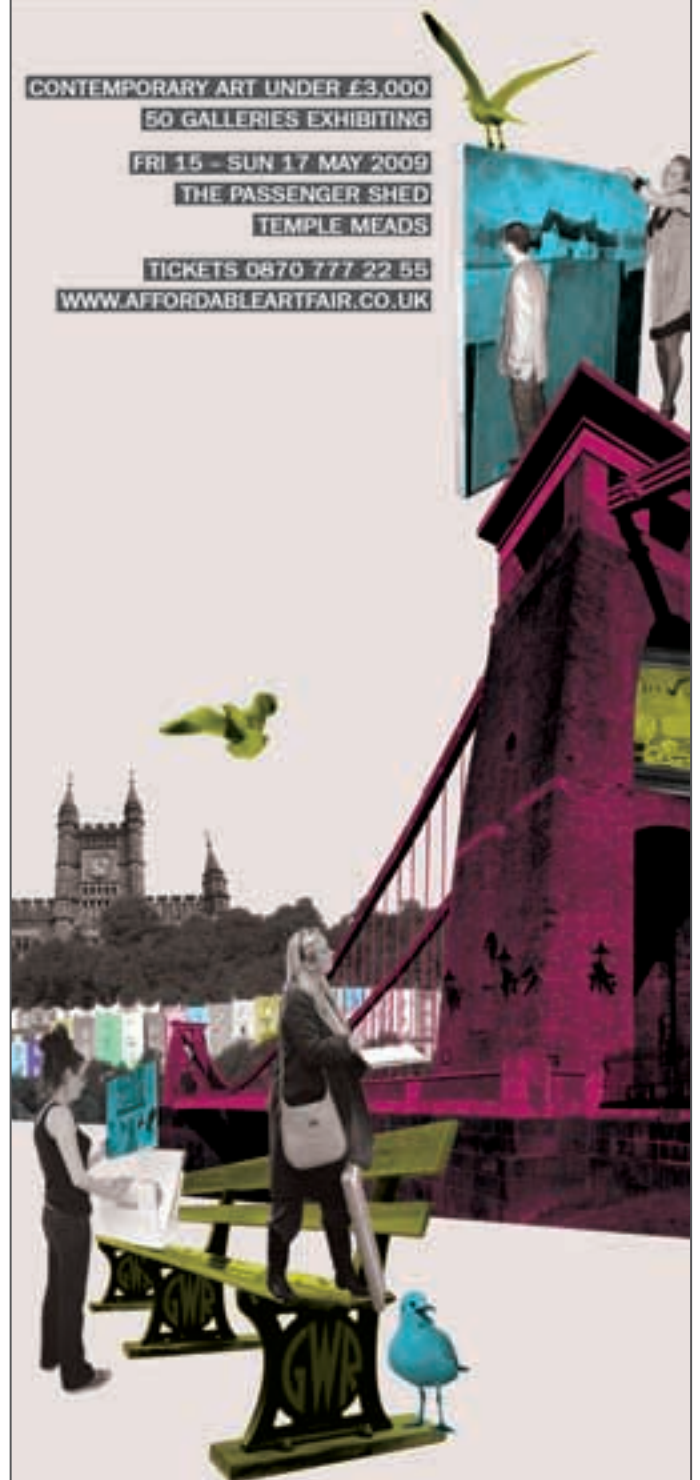
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**BRISTOL
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the editor or of the Bristol Law Society.

Cover Henrietta Park in Bath.
See 'Hidden gems' on page 11.
Pic: James at The Group of Seven.

**A ray of sunshine...**

Hooray! Finally, the sunshine has arrived to lift our spirits and top up our tans. Why not enjoy the great weather by exploring some of our hidden gems on page 11?

Also in this issue we've got good news from local firms who are still managing to expand, a whole page dedicated to those raising funds for charity, together with the lowdown on forthcoming Courses and an essential guide from our own Rosie Torre on getting that job! You will find more unmissable news that we couldn't squeeze into this issue on our website www.bristolbriefing.com.

Congratulations go to lucky Tom Baker and Rosalyn Savage who have each won a pair of tickets to see Vanessa Mae in concert and to Richard Vann Jones who has won the bottle of Barolo. Due to the overwhelming response to our competitions, we have 2 bubbly bottles of Lanson Black Label Brut champagne to win. All you have to do is find the one we've hidden. It's not as easy as last issue, so happy hunting and send a brief description of where you found it to me at info@bristollawsociety.com.

Anna Webb Editor

**Coming up
in June...**

Watch out for an exclusive reader offer and competition in June at Myristica Cookery School

**New BLS members**

Elected to the Society at March's Council Meeting.
Full Members: Carolyn Allsop Lyons Davidson; Iain McColl Gregg Latchams WRH; Basil Robert Platt retired; Roger Seaton Clarke Willmott; Robert Pope & Ian Peacock both of Bond Pearce; Matthew Starling of Meade King.
Associate Members: Vanessa Lambourne & Louise Joyce both of John A Neil; Mark Heath 3PB; Hamish Munroe Guildhall Chambers; Lauren Hartigan Meade King; Polly Maggs Withy King.

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PLUS Don't miss more news, archives and extra features every month at www.bristolbriefing.com

AROUND THE FIRMS

MOVERS & SHAKERS

We tell you who's going where and when...

FOSTER & PARTNERS are pleased to announce the expansion of their specialist team of family lawyers at their office in Kingswood with the arrival of Tracey Walker, a specialist in divorce and family law for over 17 years.

Tracey joins the firm as an associate. She has specialised as a family lawyer since qualifying as a solicitor in 1991. She was previously a partner in a firm in South Devon where she was head of the family law department before relocating to Bristol where she joined Foster and Partners in February 2009.

Tracey is a member and an accredited specialist of Resolution. Her accountancy background enables her to unravel the complex financial issues that may result from relationship breakdown. She has a depth and wealth of experience in assisting clients with drafting pre-marital and cohabitation agreements and resolving disputes about children.

Tracey is pictured on the left with Jenna Eldret (both below, left), who joined as an assistant solicitor only a few months earlier. Jenna is also a member of Resolution and specialises in all areas of family with a particular interest and expertise in cases involving disputes about children, including those involving Social Services.

TLT HAS APPOINTED Neil Franklin as an associate in its Banking & Financial Services Litigation team.

Neil (pictured far right) joins from Bond Pearce in Bristol where he was a Senior Associate. He has ten years' experience advising professional firms and their insurer clients on professional indemnity matters. Neil has advised on complex professional negligence cases that have gone to trial at the High Court and also on those settled by mediation. He has recently settled a £6 million multiparty negligence claim. He is an advocate of mediation, and seeks

to settle all his cases outside litigation.

Jonathan Hoey, head of the banking litigation practice said "Following a significant increase in client demand for our services we are further strengthening our already hugely experienced team. We're delighted that Neil is joining us."

VEALE WASBROUGH LAWYERS have appointed Jos Moule as partner to expand its Professional Partnerships and LLP Practice.

Jos (pictured top right) joins from Osborne Clarke where he had worked for over 17 years. Jos will be using his extensive partnership law experience to advise on a wide range of matters for both professional and trading partnerships and LLPs and individual partners including solicitors, accountants, doctors, dentists, actuaries, surveyors and stockbrokers.

Jos spent several years working as a medical scientist with the Public Health Laboratory Service in Bristol before retraining in law. He has used his scientific training to develop a niche legal service in the medical and biotechnology sectors.

Jos is also heavily involved with the voluntary sector in Bristol and is a trustee of a number of



charities including the Bristol Old Vic and Wallace and Gromit's Children's Foundation.

Jos said, "I am delighted to have joined Veale Wasbrough which has a strong reputation for supporting businesses in the region. My corporate focus has principally been in relation to the local Bristol market and South West and I have good links with many key business individuals who operate in the city. I look forward to supporting the team in developing Veale Wasbrough's corporate client base further."

WILTSHIRE-BASED LAW firm Goughs has expanded its presence in Calne by moving to larger premises. The firm, which also has offices in Chippenham, Devizes, Corsham, Trowbridge and Melksham, moved into the new Calne offices earlier in March.

From these offices the firm is better able to serve its commercial and private clients and offer more benefits including a free family law drop-in clinic every Monday afternoon.

The new offices were opened by the Mayor of Calne to a reception of guests including staff, clients and friends of the firm.

Stephen Cave, Partner-in-Charge of the Calne office said "Moving to larger premises is a real achievement in this period of economic downturn and represents a major investment for the firm which will bring real benefits for our clients."

Pictured above left at the official opening are Stephen Cave and the Mayor of Calne.



NEWS IN BRIEF Osborne Clarke advises Haynes on sale of UK Book Production business; Beachcroft Health team develop new framework; Burges Salmon advises on largest waste contract in Europe...
Go to www.bristolbriefing.com for the full stories





Solicitors launch fund raising year

Kirby Simcox Solicitors in Bristol has launched a year of fund raising activity for Survive, the South Gloucestershire and Bristol charity which provides services for women and children suffering from domestic violence and abuse.

Kirby Simcox asks its staff to nominate a charity for the firm to support every year. This year the unanimous winner was Survive which has been based in Kingswood for over 34 years and which helped over 400 women and children in 2007/8. The law firm has worked closely with Survive for many years. Partner and Head of the Family Team, Jim Gridley (pictured) helped launch the

firm's year of support. He said, "Domestic violence accounts for up to a quarter of all violent crimes and it has more repeat victims than any other crime. Survive is not a huge national charity and consequently our staff across our three offices, felt it is a very worthy local cause. We will aim to raise over £800 through a range of fund raising activities and fun events throughout the year."

Pictured From left to right, Survive Refuge and Outreach Service's Manager Terry Jones, Kirby Simcox's Partner and Head of the Family Team Jim Gridley and family lawyers Kirsten Hale and Victoria Williams.

Will Aid beats past records

DESPITE THE CREDIT CRUNCH and severe economic downturn, local solicitors Wards, based in Bristol were amongst those all over the UK who volunteered their time and skill during November 2008 to write fee free Wills to raise money for the 9 Will Aid charities. Their generosity, hard work and dedication has certainly paid off.

Early indications show that the recent Will Aid campaign was the most successful ever. To date, more than £870,000 (including Gift Aid) has been received. This is already higher than the previous campaign's total of £732,000 and money is still coming in.

The Wills & Probate team at Wards, who carried out the work, are absolutely delighted at this achievement. Partner Jenny Pierce, says:

"We have taken part in Will Aid for the last 3 campaigns and have raised over £3500 in total. This year we raised £2725, making this our most successful year yet"

This money will be put to work by the Will Aid charities to make a real and immediate difference to the lives of people in need in the UK and around the world.



Rowathon raises funds

ON 18TH MARCH Captains and players from three of the West Country's leading rugby teams took part in a rowing machine challenge in aid of The Prostate Cancer Charity at the offices of law firm Osborne Clarke.

The rowathon saw around 50 OC people, as well as 6 professional rugby players row for 20 minute sessions, keeping each of three machines going for 8 hours reaching the 24 hour target. The event raised £2,500 for The Prostate Cancer Charity and drew onlookers throughout the day - especially when the rugby players did their bit! Out of the rugby teams Bristol RFC clocked up the longest distance. The evening quiz raised £1,000 for The Bristol Children's Help Society.

Pictured above are some of the participants hard at work.



Solicitor runs for charity

IAN TOMLINSON, Solicitor at Swindon based Lemon&Co Solicitors, has raised money for the Parkinson's Disease Society (PDS) by completing the Bath Half Marathon.

Ian (pictured on the right) joined thousands of runners and completed the 13-mile course in just over two hours.

Ian comments: "My father suffered with Parkinson's Disease so I was pleased that I was able to raise some funds for the Society to help with their research".

AROUND THE FIRMS

TLT welcomes new trainees

LAW FIRM TLT has welcomed five new trainee solicitors to the firm's training scheme. Emily Dunford, Yanna Ekaterinis, Rosa Pettifer, Tobias Price and Jennifer Tugman started their two-year training contract at the firm in March.

Each of the new trainees will spend six months in a different 'seat' or specialist team, getting first hand experience of legal practice and advising and dealing with TLT's clients under expert supervision. All TLT trainees benefit from a designated trainee supervisor, regular partner contact and comprehensive technical and skills training. The training is broad-ranging and includes professional skills courses and the firm's T to 2 scheme, where trainees and other lawyers of up to two year post-qualification receive training



on key legal practice areas, which can involve direct contact with referrers and key clients.

TLT currently has 28 trainee solicitors participating in the training scheme, which is heavily oversubscribed and enjoys a high retention rate.

TLT's Training Principal and Partner Maria Connolly says, "TLT looks for talented people,

distinguished by technical excellence, willingness to embrace team working and a passion for client service. I'm delighted to welcome Emily, Yanna, Rosa, Tobias and Jennifer to TLT."

Pictured: TLT's Training Principal and Partner Maria Connolly (front centre) with new trainees (left to right) Jennifer Tugman, Tobias Price, Rosa Pettifer, Emily Dunford and Yanna Ekaterinis.

BLS & JLD talk careers

LAST MONTH, BRISTOL LAW SOCIETY welcomed members of Bristol's Junior Lawyers' Division to the Law Library for a series of talks introducing trainees and newly qualified solicitors to various areas of legal practice which lie beyond the scope of the career path usually pursued by most aspiring lawyers.

The evening was opened by Bristol Law Society's very own Rosie Torre before each of the guest speakers, District Judge Julie Exton, in-house counsel Kate Anthony-Wilkinson and Juliet Hagley from Avon and Somerset Constabulary gave lively accounts of their own moves from private practice into

other fields of legal work within the judiciary, constabulary and in commerce. With qualification fast approaching for many of the region's trainee solicitors, the event was well attended by those reconsidering their future careers or simply interested to see what other options are available. The full report appears on the BB website.

Any trainee solicitors approaching qualification (or qualified solicitors looking to evaluate their career options) are invited to call Rosie or Charlotte on 0117 976 3085/6 for friendly and totally confidential advice on the recruitment services



available through Bristol Law Society. *Leon Smith (Beachcroft/JLD)*

Pictured left to right are Charlotte Dixon (BLS), Juliet Hagley (Avon and Somerset Constabulary), and Rosie Torre (BLS).

BRISTOL COUNTY COURT NEWS Annual increase in insolvency petition deposits 2009.

The Insolvency Proceedings (Fees) (Amendment) Order 2009, comes into force on 6 April 2009, increases insolvency petition deposits as follows:

- Company winding up petition deposit** increased from £690 to £715
- Bankruptcy (debtor's petition) deposit** increased from £345 to £360
- Bankruptcy (creditor's petition) deposit** increased from £415 to £430



Don't forget! Lord Hunt visit

● Don't forget that the national Law Society are inviting you to an open meeting on the Legal Regulation Review chaired by Lord Hunt in Bristol on 15 May 2.00-4.00pm at the offices of Beachcroft, Portwall Place, Portwall Lane. Book your place online at www.lawsociety.org.uk/events or e-mail events@lawsociety.org.uk confirming which event you wish to attend, along with your name, job title and organisation. Spaces are limited so please book early.

Missing Wills

BERTHA NORA CUMMING, Deceased. Date of death: 22 January 2009. If anyone holds a Will for BERTHA NORA CUMMING deceased, (known as PAT CUMMING and also known as NORA BERTHA CUMMING), late of 14 Millier Road, Clevee, Bristol please could they contact Laurence Holmes, Solicitor of 33 Pauls Causeway, Congresbury, North Somerset BS49 5DQ Tel. Yatton 01934 838445 or email email@laurenceholmes.co.uk

ANNE VALERIE

BRETHERICK died 17th March 2009. Late of Smokey Lodge, 56 High Street, Nailsea, Bristol, BS48 1AU. Anyone knowing of a Will please contact Thatcher & Hallam Solicitors, Ref: 20444-1, 01761 414646.

SHEILA ISAAC

late of 8 Wayside Close, Frampton Cotterell BS17 2JL. Anyone knowing of a Will please contact Clutton Cox Solicitors on 01454-312125 or email janem@cluttoncox.co.uk

Courses Programme Spring 2009

5 May 1.00 – 2.00 pm

Retirement Planning

Lunchtime seminar (lunch included)

Speaker: *Jon Parker* CPD: 1 hr

Cost: £10 + VAT (£11.50) Members and Concessions; £15 + VAT (£17.25) for Non-members

6 May 9.30 – 5.00 pm (includes lunch)

Management Stage 1

Compulsory course for all solicitors in the first three years post admission

Speaker: *Keith Harper* CPD: 6 hrs

Cost: £150 + VAT (£172.50) for Members £185 + VAT (£212.75) for Non-members £92 + VAT (£105.80) for Trainees, Locums and unemployed solicitors

11 May 9.45 – 1.00 pm

Commercial Leases Update

Speaker: *Richard Snape* CPD: 3 hrs

Cost: £100 + VAT (£115) for Members £132 + VAT (£151.80) for Non-members £66 + VAT (£75.90) for Trainees, Locums and unemployed solicitors

11 May 2.00 – 5.15 pm

Negotiating Commercial Leases in a Downward Market

Speaker: *Richard Snape* CPD: 3 hrs

Cost: £100 + VAT (£115) for Members £132 + VAT (£151.80) for Non-members £66 + VAT (£75.90) for Trainees, Locums and unemployed solicitors

12 May 9.45 – 1.00 pm

Practitioners Guide to Corporate Insolvency

Speaker: *Stephen Broomhall* CPD: 3 hrs

Cost: £100 + VAT (£115) for Members; £132 + VAT (£151.80) for Non-members; £66 + VAT (£75.90) for Trainees, Locums and unemployed solicitors

12 May 2.00 – 5.15 pm

Asset Sale and Purchases – A Practitioners Guide

Speaker: *Stephen Broomhall* CPD: 3 hrs

Cost: £100 + VAT (£115) for Members; £132 + VAT (£151.80) for Non-members; £66 + VAT (£75.90) for Trainees, Locums and unemployed solicitors



Pictured above, top: The foyer of our Charity Law Conference in the Arnos Manor Hotel's Conservatory, showing sponsors tables and delegates mingling. Pictured above, bottom: Our successful Charity Law Conference with Vicki Bowles from Stone King Sewell speaking and Cecile Gillard as Chair

12 May 6.00 – 7.30 pm

Retirement Planning Drinks and nibbles

included and opportunity to stay on and network

Speaker: *Jon Parker* CPD: 1.5 hrs

Cost: £10 + VAT (£11.50) Members and Concessions; £15 + VAT (£17.25) for Non-members

Partner / Senior Lawyer Development Programme

Speaker: *Keith Harper* CPD: 6 hrs

Venue: *The Thistle Grand, Bristol*

14 May 9.30 – 5.00 pm (includes lunch)

Day 1 of 2 day Seminars, you can attend either day or both

9 July 9.30 – 5.00 pm (includes lunch)

Day 2 of 2 day Seminars, you can attend either day or both

Cost for attending just one of above days: £150 + VAT (£172.50) for all Members and Concessions; £185 + VAT (£212.75) for all Non Members. Cost for attending both days: £250 + VAT (£287.50) for all Members and Concessions; £285 + VAT (£327.75) for all Non Members. Details of material covered on both days is available on our website www.bristollawsociety.com

For further details of these courses or to book online please visit our website at www.bristollawsociety.com. Alternatively you can book direct by contacting Seren Clements on 0117 976 3088 or courses@bristollawsociety.com.



Double Diamond Vic

Burges Salmon LLP is proud to celebrate a remarkable 60 years of service from its longest serving member of staff, Vic Clark.

VIC CLARK JOINED Burges Salmon LLP - then Burges Salmon & Co based in Marsh Street - in January 1949, when the offices were heated by coal fires. Working principally in support of the conveyancing team he was admitted a Fellow of the Institute of Legal Executives in 1963. With technology advances he also held the formal title of Officer in Charge of Dictating Machines. He has seen many changes over his years in the legal field, having commenced his career with a Devon firm of solicitors called T A Goaman & Wright where the office opened at 10.00am and working until 7.00pm entitled staff to a free meal.

Vic (pictured) officially retired in December 1989 but since then has continued to work for Burges Salmon for 3 days a week in a variety of roles, based in Deeds Registration and Archives. One of his major projects has been to track down and catalogue all of the remaining tin boxes originally held by the firm for clients. Vic had conducted the same process with all deed packets stored prior to the introduction of computers, taking 13 years to complete the exercise.

Vic's remarkable achievements will be celebrated with a presentation and a party for the whole firm, in early April. A letter of congratulations from Buckingham Palace will be presented at the same time.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Check out our website...

www.bristolbriefing.com to catch up on

Bill Owen's (Kirby Simcox)

retirement and his views on the

changes he has seen during his 43

years in the legal profession and

budding law student **Laura Williamson**

being crowned top debater.

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CON29DW + Homecheck Professional Flood Report	£89.99
CON29DW + Jordans Personal Search	£145.36
Commercial Drainage and Water Search + Sitecheck Assess	£263.35

For more information on our prices, and the searches we offer, visit www.wessexsearches.co.uk



Food review: Bath River Cottage Canteen

● When it first came to town, the easygoing cabaret/comedy pleasuredome Komedia offered little to smile about in terms of food. But with the introduction of River Cottage Canteen, mop-topped tasty toff Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall has turned the tide.

The collaboration blends Hugh's principles concerning sustainability and responsible sourcing with Komedia's mission to establish itself at the epicentre of Bath's entertainment schedule.

By day, the cafe transforms the venue's foyer into a quirky but welcoming diner, with fresh produce and stylish images of happy lambs scattered artfully throughout. Furniture is either recycled or made from wood from renewable sources, the paintwork is environmentally friendly and even the electricity supplier

is described as 'green'. Meat, poultry and dairy produce are organic and locally sourced, fish is landed by day boats in the West Country and imported 'exotics' are either organic, Fairtrade or both.

While the food couldn't be described as cheap (light lunches start at around £7, more substantial dishes nudge the £16-£17 territory), it is most definitely cheerful. A velvety pork liver pate came with fruity homemade pickles, tangy chutney and a wholesome wedge of granary bread; the deeply mature cheese sauce in the Welsh rarebit teemed with leeks; a Scotch egg with chive and mustard mayonnaise was a miracle to behold – the joy of watching a very fresh yolk ooze into smooth, porky sausage meat and soft, golden breadcrumbs was an unforgettable delight.



Breakfast is served from 7.30am and, when the cafe reverts back to foyer status at 5pm, you can tuck in while taking in a show - that's entertainment, indeed.

River Cottage Canteen @ Komedia
22-23 Westgate Street, Bath BA1 1EP.
Visit: www.komedia.co.uk/bath,
www.rivercottage.net

Eat out in Bath for less...

Sign up for money-saving offers, news and gossip at thepigguide.com

The Insiders' Guide to Eating Out in Bath



SIDE ORDERS

● Healthy lunches are the order of the day at the reinvigorated **St Stephen's Cafe**, in St Stephens Street, Bristol. Check out our full review online. Meanwhile, that haven of fine Indian dining, **Myristica**, on Corn Street in Bristol will host a reader event on Monday 29 June. And with two places on their cookery course up for grabs next issue, you'll never have an excuse for ordering take-out again!

“I have served some of the most famous people in the world”

Roberto Durante
Head Waiter

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Hidden gems...

There's more to Bristol and Bath than the Suspension Bridge and the Thermae Bath Spa. If you know where to look, you'll find an abundance of fascinating, fantastic little treasures. We count down 10 of our favourites, from pubs to parks, in no particular order...

1 Nightingale Valley and Paradise

Bottom If the names alone aren't enough to draw you to the southern and northern reaches of Leigh Woods (respectively), then the glorious variety of flora and fauna waiting for you there should be enough to get you reaching for your wellington boots. *Leigh Woods, Bristol*

2 Clifton Observatory Get priceless views of the Avon Gorge via Clifton Observatory's viewing platform, which hangs some 250 feet above the valley floor beneath. You'll need to walk through St Vincent's Cave to reach it. Claustrophobics need not apply. *Near the Suspension Bridge, Bristol*

3 Arnos Vale Cemetery This huge necropolis, opened in 1839, is the final resting place of some of Bristol's most important figures. Undergoing a major restoration that should be finished by autumn, chuck a few quid into the collection box and get lost among its fascinating Victorian memorials. *Bath Road, Bristol*

4 Margaret's Buildings Gorgeous little row of shops (above right) a stone's throw from The Circus (keep your eye out for famous resident Nicolas Cage), the jewel in Margaret's Buildings' crown is the delicious Hansel and Gretel Shop and Strudel Bar. *Off Brock Street, Bath*

5 King William Stylish, snug and cheery little pub (top right) about a 10-minute walk from the centre serving up locally sourced and organic grub in eclectic, bijou surroundings. What's not to like? *36 Thomas Street, Bath*

6 The Cornubia ... and while we're on the subject of smashing little boozers, this is Bristol's own diamond in the rough. One bar, two rooms, simple grub and guest beers from local



microbreweries have given this place a cult-like following. You'll see... *142 Temple Street, Bristol*

7 St Mary Redcliffe Of course, we're not suggesting that Bristol's most famous church is a hidden gem. Rather, the piece of tram-rail stuck in the graveyard courtesy of a WW2 air raid is worth a look, as is the memorial to the church cat. *Redcliffe Way, Bristol*

8 Beese's Riverside Bar and Tea Gardens You'd be hard-pushed to find a nicer spot in the city on a hot summer's day. Bristol Ferry Boat Company runs regular 'cream tea' cruises from Welsh Back or park in Conham Road car park, follow the riverbank round to the steps, ring the bell and wait for the Conham Ferry to transport you across the Avon. *Wyndham Crescent, Bristol*

9 George V memorial garden Grab your book, head over to Henrietta Park in Bath and take a seat in the lovely but virtually deserted George V memorial garden, with its rose-and-wisteria covered pergola and tranquil pond. *Off Laura Place, Bath*

10 Blaise Hamlet This scrumptious little hamlet of nine unique cottages, all set around a small but perfectly formed green, was designed by John Nash in 1809 to house Blaise Estate pensioners. It's like Bristol's version of the Shire in the heart of Henbury. *Henbury, Bristol*

Disagree with our choices? Have we missed your favourite hidden treasure? Pop us an email and let us know at info@bristolawssociety.com

Top tickets

This month's best nights out...

10 May Rhydian Last year's X Factor finalist hits Bristol with his unique classical style. Tickets from £22.50. *Bristol Hippodrome, St Augustine's Parade, Bristol BS1 4UZ. Box Office 0844 8472325, www.bristolhippodrome.org.uk*

11 May Paddy Ashdown

visits Bristol for the publication of his autobiography, *A Fortunate Life*. It should be fascinating – he was a Royal Marine Commando, a member of the Special Boat Service and an international peacemaker, as well as an MP and party leader. Tickets £4-£6. 6pm start. *Tobacco Factory Theatre, Raleigh Road, Southville, Bristol BS3 1TF. Box office 0117 9020344, www.tickets@tobaccofactory.com*



12-16 May Romeo & Juliet by the Northern Ballet Theatre. One of the most intense ballets set against a backdrop of one of the most famous love stories. Tickets from £18.50. *Bath Theatre Royal, Sawclose, Bath, BA1 1ET. Box Office 01225 448844, www.theatreroyal.org.uk*

25-30 May All the fun of the Fair A new musical starring David Essex. A travelling funfair provides the backdrop to a moving contemporary love story. Featuring hits such as "Hold Me Close", "Gonna Make You a Star". Tickets from £7.50. *Bristol Hippodrome.*

26-30 May Brief Encounter Direct from the West End, don't miss David Lean's classic romantic tale by the world renowned Kneehigh Theatre Company. Tickets from £15.50. *Bath Theatre Royal.*

27 May Leon Jackson / Same Difference

The X factor finalists star in this extra special concert. Tickets £23.50. *Colston Hall, Colston Street, Bristol BS1 5AR. Box Office 0117 9223686, www.colstonhall.org*

Coming up in June...

*Musical fever hits Bristol Hippodrome with **Singing in the Rain** on 9-13 June, **Disney's High School Musical** 15-20 June and **Never Forget** 23-27 June. **Van Morrison** will also be appearing the Colston Hall on 20 June. Book early to avoid disappointment!*

BLS DIARY DATES Social Events & Meetings

MAY Fri 15 Lord Hunt of Wirral visit at Beachcroft;

Weds 20 Council Meeting ... **JUNE Weds 3** BLS Charity Golf Day at Long Ashton Golf Club; **Mon 15** Paul Marsh visits Bristol; **Weds 17** Council Meeting; **Mon 29** Reader Evening at Myristica



Solutions IP



Kirby Simcox were spending around £30k a year on telecoms. As their business continued to grow they needed a telecoms system that would meet the requirements of their three offices...

Their existing NTL Centrex system was simply not working for them. When they wanted additional lines these had to be physically installed and took weeks to procure. When they wanted voicemail set up or changes made – additional costs were incurred, if a member of staff moved they had to change phone numbers and most importantly callers were getting the engaged tone if the receptionist was on the phone.

They needed a modern and efficient means of communicating with their customers and a more streamlined and cost effective means of communicating between the offices.

The solution was an IP system that would allow maximum flexibility with substantial operational cost savings. IP stands for Internet Protocol and by using an IP system it would allow voice calls to travel over a data network infrastructure. Kirby Simcox had spoken to many telecoms companies

who all offered possible solutions although no one system did exactly what they wanted and few companies seemed to have an in depth knowledge of IP. Furthermore, most of these companies were based hundreds of miles from the offices and there were questions over whether they would be able to offer the ongoing support needed.

Solution IP, a Bristol based telecommunications company, recommended the Avaya IP office, "They provided detailed costings and demonstrated how much money could be saved both in terms of cost effective lease purchase and ongoing operational costs" Said Stuart Ashpole, Facilities manager of Kirby Simcox. He went on to say "Solution IP installed the system over one weekend in a seamless operation which caused no disruption to normal business. We were so impressed with Solution IP's professional support that we have now moved our other telecommunication services to them as well allowing us one point of contact for our services".

The benefits of this system are:

1. Reduced line rental costs by using ISDN lines in some office locations and data infrastructure to support other offices, saving an estimated £1,000 per month
2. Ability to add, create or delete telephone numbers and extension numbers easily and add voicemail at a touch of a button,
3. Staff can move between offices, logging into any handset allows them to bring their personal extension number and handset settings with them making hot desking simple and effective.
4. Use of an auto-attendant to route calls to various offices and if that receptionist is on the phone the call transfers to another office to be answered and not lost
5. All staff have Computer software which allows them to control their calls and see what settings they have created on their handsets at a glance
6. Reception staff have onscreen handset applications which eliminated the use of a handset, they can see all staff on their screen and are aware if they are on the phone, away from the office or on divert before transferring the call, reducing the time the caller is left waiting.

For more details on IP systems and cost saving telecoms solutions contact: Solution IP Communications Ltd: 0845 006 1106

Does VoIP and IP seem like a lot of hot air to you?



Get friendly, local advice.

Kirby Simcox Solicitors did just that.

They turned to Solution IP, a trusted Bristol based company. After careful consultation, in plain English, they had a new system installed in just one weekend. Without any disruption to the business at all.

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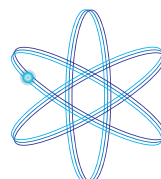
- Make savings of £1000 per month
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- Talk from any desk within their office locations and keep the same number.

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- What is your typical way of dealing with conflict? Give me an example.
- Tell me about a difficult decision you've made in the last year.
- What is the price of a barrel of oil?



WE HAVE YEARS OF EXPERIENCE in helping people find jobs and can offer advice and support at all stages along the way. Here are some of our top tips.

The CV

1. It is a hook to obtain a meeting and should not (ideally) exceed two pages.
2. It should be easy to read – consider font form and size, spacing, boxes, white space, colour. The most relevant information should be on the first page.
3. It should contain anything (positive!) that sets you out from the crowd.
4. It should be adapted for each application
5. Do your homework and research the firm. Keep in mind the advertisement/firm/reader – what do they do, what are they looking for, why do you want to work there and how do you fit the bill?
6. Spend a great deal of time and care on the CV and application form. Check spelling and grammar. Ask a friend/colleague/lawyer to read and comment on it.
7. Keep it updated and safe in IT and paper form.



The Interview

1. Know the firm.
2. Know the role
3. Know the law.
4. Know yourself (and your CV).
5. You can never do enough research on the firm and role – use every resource available.
6. Make sure you are up-to-date with any recent developments in your area of law and know about the commercial and business environment - read the legal press and the broad sheet.s
7. Find out what form the interview will take. Prepare for questions on your CV especially awkward ones - gaps / inconsistencies/poor grades etc.
8. Prepare your own questions for the interviewers e.g. the firm's vision/strategy; supervision/training and development; career progression.

.....
And remember – the interviewers will be looking at basic, simple things like 'Could I share an office with this person?' and 'Could I trust them to have a sensible conversation with an important client?' At the other end of the spectrum, 'Would they be prepared to mend the photocopier if no one else was around?' and 'Would they go and get the teas on an all-nighter?'

Vacancies

Commercial Property Legal Assistant

Central Bristol. Top commercial firm is looking for a legal assistant for busy team to deal with commercial property work. This will include granting leases, deeds of variation, licences, deeds review and other estate management work for national clients. Candidates must have commercial property experience, a good eye for detail, an ability to juggle a busy and varied workload, excellent communication skills and good IT skills. Ref. RT 4480

Personal Injury Legal Assistant

Bristol. A leading commercial law firm seeks a paralegal to join a team which acts for insurers and self-insureds, defending personal injury claims relating to road traffic accidents, employers liability, public liability and some health and safety claims. Candidates must have previous experience of case management and in particular running defendant EL and RTA cases, have a good commercial mind, be a strong communicator and able to work to deadlines. Ref. CD 004481



Civil/Commercial Litigator

Experienced civil/commercial litigator required as part of expansion to undertake broad range of work including legal aid to cover property, l&t, debt, commercial disputes, joint property issues, contracts, professional negligence etc. Must be sensible, practical and be able to deal efficiently with all sorts of cases with little supervision. Interest in and ability to develop business would be an advantage. Ref. RT 4483

For more information please contact...

Rosie Torre (0117 976 3086) or **Charlotte Dixon** (0117 976 3085)
 at Bristol Law Society Legal Recruitment, The Law Library,
 The Law Courts, Small Street, Bristol, BS1 1DA. DX 78111 Bristol.
 Website www.bristollawsociety.com Email jobs@bristollawsociety.com



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Free wine at Harvey Nichols Restaurant

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This offer is valid when you book dinner for two or more in the Second Floor restaurant, Tuesday-Friday evenings from 6pm-10pm until 31st May 2009. To claim your complimentary bottle of wine, simply make a reservation in the restaurant by calling 0117 916 8899 or online at reception.bristol@harveynichols.com and mention 'Bristol Briefing offer'.



POULSE CHARLES HARRISON (DETAIL)

2-4-1 tickets at the Affordable Art Fair...

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Whether you're a seasoned collector or a first-time buyer, don't miss the Affordable Art Fair, which returns to the Passenger Shed, Temple Meads, Bristol on 15-17 May. You'll find a huge range of contemporary paintings, sculpture, photography and original prints to suit all tastes and budgets - from £50 to £3,000.

The Affordable Art Fair runs from 11am-8pm on Friday 15, 11am-6pm on Saturday 16 and 11am-5pm on Sunday 17. Tickets are £5 on the door (concessions £4).



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