

Issue 64

July 2018

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Administrator

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Whatever you do this summer I hope it is a good one!





Richard Murray President

Dear members.

Here we are in the middle of one of the nicest summers on record....I do hope you have managed to find the time to enjoy the sun for a bit and re-charge the batteries.

Its been a quiet year thus far on the SOLAS front and therefore I don't have too much to say in terms of this report.....you will be pleased to note!

I mentioned before that the Law Society would like to see SOLAS members represented on their various committees. I think this is a positive step and will enhance the already excellent relationship that the Law Society has with SOLAS. The Law Society are now happy to consider committee applications and I would therefore encourage members to apply as and when vacancies arise. Check out the position at:

<https://www.lawscot.org.uk/about-us/work-with-us/current-vacancies/committee-vacancies/>

I continue to represent SOLAS on the Legal Wellbeing Scotland committee chaired by the Law Society and am pleased to report that the meetings that we have had are productive. The purpose of the committee is to raise and discuss the issue of mental health well being within the profession and what steps might be taken to tackle root causes such as bullying. Policies and procedures are being worked on - hopefully sometime soon these will be circulated to firms for discussion. In time, I would like to consider our profession to be one that is more caring than its is perceived to be. I hope that's not a pipe dream. It should not be. Depression for example can affect us all, partner down to office junior. I don't see it as being too much to ask that we take care of our own when we can.

It would be remiss of me not to mention once again the thorny subject of Brexit. As I write this report there has been a number of high profile resignations from the Westminster Parliament with talk of a reshuffle in the wind. If it's not one thing it's another. What all of this nonsense does of course is to create an air of uncertainty - people are looking over their shoulders more so than before wondering if what is going on could perhaps in time lead them to losing their job. That's a natural concern. For me, its too early to tell what the UK's strategy for leaving the European Union actually will do to the profession but for sure it will do something. Are the firm's we work for best placed to deal with what is to come? The answer I guess to that question is no as nobody knows for sure. The Law Society is closely monitoring the situation but in the meantime all we can do is sit and hope for the best!

SOLAS is here to assist its members in the best way that it can. If you have problems or concerns that are getting to you and for whatever reason you don't wish to speak with your firm please contact me or a General Council Member to see if we can help. Remember a problem shared is a problem halved. Have a splendid holiday and I look forward to catching up with you again in the autumn.

Regards
Richard

Administrator's Report

Since the December newsletter I have been extremely busy with quite a few changes for me as Administrator.

I had to chase those who were late in submitting their CPD and Subs by the required deadline. Those who did not make it received a 14 day letter and thereafter if still outstanding their name was removed from the current membership list and they were advised that they were no longer able to use the SLA designation. I am happy to say that there were fewer than in previous years.

As usual there was the national seminar in March which was well attended. I now have to set my mind to arranging the autumn seminar which will be held on Wednesday 19th September, and will be an update from The Law Society of Scotland. I am sure we can look forward to a very informative and interesting seminar as usual. The flyer will be sent out in early August so look out for it in your in box.

As you will all be aware with the changes to data protection and the introduction of new rules for GDPR it is even more important than ever that you keep me informed of any changes to your contact details. Please take time to read the Privacy Policy which is on the SOLAS web page.

As well as dealing with all the normal stuff, I have had to handle the transferring of all our records from a laptop to an iMac which has been quite time consuming. However I am pleased to say that the migration has now been successfully completed. The iMac should make things a bit easier in the long run.

Can I take this opportunity to remind all members that 5 hours of structured and 5 hours of unstructured CPD must be completed by 31st October each year. By just attending one of the two national seminars each year, gives the required hours for structured, if it so happens you are able to attend both national seminars I am pleased to say that your annual CPD requirements will be met in full. If you are unable to attend the national seminars, please remember that your branch will have at least five one hour seminars throughout the winter months. These seminars are held in the evening after work and are free to attend. For more information regarding your own branch seminars, please contact your local secretary or visit the SOLAS web site, which has a page for local branch news.

You can now download the relative CPD & Subs forms from the SOLAS web site.

Finally I hope you all have a nice summer be it at home or in some exotic location throughout the world.

Dorothy Nicholson

Administrator

SOLAS Annual Dinner & AGM

On Friday 9th & Saturday 10th November 2018

 Glasgow Branch 60th Anniversary  Grand
Central Hotel, Gordon Street, Glasgow G1 3SF

Dinner - Friday 9 November 2018. 7pm for 7.30pm

DJ Tam Ward

**Annual General Meeting - Saturday 10th November 2018 at
10.30am**

General Council is pleased to announce that the dinner cost has
been subsidised.

Dinner only: £20 per person

Dinner, Bed & Breakfast: £140 per person

Dinner, Bed & Breakfast: £160 per couple (Double/Twin Room
£80pp sharing)

SOLAS members are welcome to bring a guest along to the event

I do/do not require accommodation:-

Please indicate - Single/Double/Twin occupancy

Name.....

Address

.....

BranchTelephoneNo.....

Email

Guest'sName

PLEASE CONTINUE OVERLEAF

SOLAS Annual Dinner & AGM (continued)

Menu Choice - Please indicate your choice from each course.

STARTERS

Tomato, red pepper, fresh basil soup, pesto oil drizzle

Prosciutto ham lined parfait of Perthshire chicken livers, raisin bread, taste of Arran hot beetroot chutney

Warm cherry tomato & roasted vegetable focaccia, balsamic, rocket & Parmesan shavings

MAIN COURSES

*Baked fillet of Hebridean salmon,
leaf spinach, crushed citrus potatoes & tarragon hollandaise*

*Perthshire chicken breast,
filled with Campbell's of Broxburn haggis, clapshot potato, Famous Grouse whisky sauce*

Baked filo & sesame seed vegetable parcel, Lightly spiced chilli & herb cream

DESSERTS

*Layered strawberry meringue,
fruits of the forest compote, Chantilly cream*

Salted chocolate & caramel tart, caramel truffle

Crisp wafer basket filled with cranachan, fresh raspberries, handmade shortbread

Special Dietary Requirements

Please indicate one choice per person for drinks during dinner:

Prosecco / White wine / Red wine / Beer / Soft drink

Payment Method

Bank Transfer

RBS Sort Code: 83-52-00, Account No: 10071018

Society of Law Accountants in Scotland

Cheque

Cheque for the full amount payable to SOLAS

Tina Hunter, General Treasurer, SOLAS

Tigh Na Shian, 24 Alma Avenue, Aberfeldy, PH15 2BW Telephone 07538155811 with any queries.

(NB: Cheques will be cashed prior to the event as the Hotel requires full payment by 11th October)

Please reply as soon as possible in order to secure accommodation in the Hotel but **no later than 2nd October 2018.**



THE SOCIETY OF LAW ACCOUNTANTS IN SCOTLAND

(10 hours of **structured** will be eligible for CPD requirement)

- 2 -

B) UNSTRUCTURED - Group Meetings; Discussion Groups – In-house or within other offices.

Reading – Textbooks, Financial or Business papers, Seminar Notes etc.

Date	Activity	Details	Hours

BASIC REQUIREMENT

	Requirement	Actual
CPD Hours		
Structured	5	
Unstructured	5	
Total	10	

I certify the above to be a complete CPD record

Signed

Date

If for any reason you have difficulty meeting the CPD requirements please indicate on the form and return it to the administrator with a written explanation of your reasons. Thereafter the form will be forwarded to General Council who will consider each case on its own merits and you will be informed of Council's decision in due course.



BACS Payment Advice

Payment Date

Firms Name

Total Amount Paid £.....

Address.....

.....

.....

Name

SOLAS Number

Amount

Total Amount of Payment

£

Please complete the above form for multiple payments and email to both the treasurer and administrator

Tina Hunter:- tinaheywood@hotmail.com

Dorothy Nicholson:- dorothy.nicholson@solas.org.uk

Please do not send in post.

BACS Payment should be made to RBS Sort Code 83-52-00 Account No 10071018

Cheques payable to SOLAS and sent to Dorothy Nicholson 17 Raith Gardens, Kirkcaldy, KY2 5NJ, please send at same time as CPD Form.

Branch Reports

Aberdeen

No report

Dundee

Our AGM was held on Friday 18 May at the Queens Hotel in Dundee. We were disappointed with the turn out and response rate - 130 members, 17 attendees, 11 apologies, so over 100 members didn't respond - however a great time was had by those of us who made it.



Nikki Scott was nominated to become a committee member and was happy to accept. That brings our committee back to 10 members.

We are hoping to reschedule the cancelled QLTR talk for later in the year before the deadline for CPD submission and everyone will be updated by email in due course.

By the time the next newsletter comes out, our very own branch secretary will be a married woman, so don't be surprised if you receive an email from Mrs Lynne Alexander after 7 September 2018 (though she is not back to work until October.....J)

Some of our branch members took part in Bagging Munros to raise funds for Alzheimer Scotland on 19 May 2018. Blackadders LLP got together to bag as many Munros as possible in one day and 4 teams tackled this challenge. Dundee SOLAS members Lynne Parks and Jo Todd were part of the team that tackled the Ben Lawers 5 and Natalie Holden, Toni McNicoll and Susan Sandison on the team that tackled the Cairngorm to Cairnwell 3. The team that did the 5 Munroes did 42,222 steps over 25.2km and burned around 3,586 calories!



Thanks
Lynne

Committee Changes!

We are pleased to announce that Natalie Cooke is to become the Edinburgh Branch President. Natalie is a Financial Compliance Manager with the Law Society of Scotland and has been delivering to us the annual Accounts Rules talk for a few years now.

As Natalie takes on the role, it is with sadness, however, to report that Richard Murray has stepped down as President and will also be leaving the branch Committee. For many of us, Richard has been such a mainstay with SOLAS for so many years. There will be some of us that remember him as a SOLAS lecturer and his help getting us through our executry exams! We have been very lucky to have him as part of the Edinburgh Committee and leading the Edinburgh Branch as President. He will be greatly missed and we do wish him our very best as he moves on to his new position as Partner with TC Young.

There is also a change of branch secretary too, with Tracey O'Brien taking over from Mandy Gibb following her decision to step down to concentrate on her studies. Tracey is a paralegal in the Private Client Team at Gillespie Macandrew and joined the Committee in 2017. Tracey has been administering deceased estates in Scotland for more than 12 years and now is also involved in the preparation of Wills and Powers of Attorney, as well as the provision of services to assist frail and elderly clients. Mandy plans to remain on the Committee and has enjoyed her time as secretary, particularly getting to know members better.

If you have branch queries, please now contact Tracey (details below).

New Venue

Following the closure of the Royal Overseas League in January we needed to find a new venue at rather short notice for our evening seminars.

We have found a new home at RICS Meeting rooms, only few doors along from the Overseas League, so it is still handy for buses and trains. We have been using RICS since February and we are pretty pleased with it, but would like to hear your thoughts. For those that haven't been yet, RICS is on 125 Princes Street, between South Charlotte Street and Castle Street.

Don't let the view from our new venue distract you from the talk



Our seminars

That's us come to an end of the current SOLAS 2017/18 term. The Committee work hard to find varied speaker and the talks this year were on:

- Executry and Power of Attorney issues, from Richard Murray
- Differences in Scots & English Law, from Peter Shand
- Money Laundering Regulations 2017, from Graham Mackenzie
- Issues Affecting Firms Today, from Russell Eadie
- Cashroom Procedures, Natalie Cooke
- Interactions of Allowances for IHT, Mark Harris

Richard Murray spoke at our branch AGM in April and as mentioned by him our seminars were well attended by our members. A big thanks go to the Edinburgh members in your support (and continued support) of your SOLAS branch.

The AGM Dinner was at Usquabae Whisky Bar this year and was attended by some new faces. For those that made it, we all agreed it was a lovely meal and a great night. The branch AGM meal is a chance to meet some other members so maybe we will get some of you along next AGM...



*This years Branch AGM:
enjoying the buffet and wine.*

Next Years Seminars and events!

Do you know of someone whose work would be of interest to members? Would they be happy to give a talk? Maybe *you* would like to give a talk?

We are in the process of arranging seminars for 2018/19 and would also welcome any suggestions for future seminars, so please contact Tracey with details

We Want You!

Would you like to join the Committee?

We hold Committee meetings after the branch evening seminars. We run six seminars a year being in February, March, April, May, September and November and these end about 7pm and our Committee meeting last about 15-30 minutes.

We also try to have Committee members attend the new student reception held in August and at the Graduate Ceremony in October.

If you are interested in joining, please contact Tracey.

CONTACT EMAIL: tracey.obrien@gillespiemacandrew.co.uk

Margaret Irving a previous Glasgow Branch member died in December 2017. Her daughter contacted Dorothy to advise us of Margaret's passing. Advising, her mum spoke highly of Peter McMenemy and Tom McCafferty. Margaret worked in a Solicitors Firm in Renfrew and was a student when the classes first started when Peter and Tom were lecturing in Glasgow.

Anna Robertson a previous Glasgow Branch President and General Council member, died on 8th May 2018.

She worked with Buchanan Dickson Frame in Paisley

Anna was a lovely lady, very eloquent and she had such a nice manner.

She was a great servant to SOLAS.

Shirley Green, Glasgow Branch President attended Anna's funeral to represent SOLAS.

I remember Anna well and especially her lovely smile.

PLEASE NOTE

GLASGOW BRANCH CHANGE OF DATE

SEPTEMBER 2018 CPD MEETING (ROYAL FACULTY OF PROCURATORS)

RE: Toni McNicoll, Blackadders - Income and Capital Gains Tax in an Executry

ORIGINAL MEETING DATE: Wednesday 5th September 2018

AMENDED TO NEW MEETING DATE: Tuesday 4th September 2018

Happy 60th Birthday
To
Janette Cooley



Janette Cooley a Glasgow branch committee member recently celebrated her 60th birthday at a joint celebration with her daughter Yvonne who was celebrating her 30th birthday. Liz Brawley, Noreen Hope and myself had a great night celebrating the mock '90th birthday.....smashing food and delicious birthday cake ...it was a great night :)



Inverness

No report

SOLAS Office Bearers

Richard Murray - President
T C Young
Edinburgh
Tel: 0131 220 7660

Shirley Green - Vice President
Blackadders LLP
Tel: 0141 248 1888

Lindsay Murray - General Secretary
Brodiess LLP
15 Atholl Crescent
Edinburgh, EH3 8HA
Tel: 0131 656 0018

Tina Hunter - General Treasurer
Tel: 07538155811

General Council Members

Aberdeen

Carol Ann Baxter	The Law Practice
Joyce Forbes	The Law Practice

Dundee

Heather Davidson	Rollos Law LLP
Lynne Parks	Blackadders LLP

Edinburgh

Natalie Cooke	The Law Society
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Glasgow

Gillian Gray	The Law Society
Carrie McQueen	
Noreen Hope	Milne Craig

Inverness

Lisa McIntyre	Macleod & MacCallum
Irene Yule	South Forrest

Branch Secretaries

Aberdeen	June Payne, Ledingham Chalmers, DX AB15 Aberdeen, Tel: 01224 408408
Dundee	Lynne Parks, Blackadders, LP6 Dundee, Tel: 01382 229222
Edinburgh	Tracey O'Brien, Gillespie Macandrew, Broxden House, Lamberkine Drive, Perth Tel: 01738 231012
Glasgow	Kirsteen Conway, McClure Solicitors, 3 Cadogan Street, Glasgow, G2 6QE Tel: 0141 227 7817
Inverness	Shirley Sargent, Middleton Ross & Arnot, Mansefield House, 7 High Street, Dingwall, Tel : 01349 862214

Solas Administrator

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