

15 November 2011

btss



Alex Wild  
Chair

And just like that, it is the middle of November. Before you know it, it will be Christmas and a New Year. But before calling time on 2011 we do have a number of events of interest to you! The Annual Christmas Party will be taking place at Vodka Revolution on 1 December 2011. We also have a number of speakers interested in giving you the wealth of their experience: Peter Wright and his seminar on 'Effective Networking' (28 November 2011) followed swiftly by a collaboration on 6 December 2011 between the Deputy Legal Ombudsman, Gary Garland, Career Coach Iwan Thomas and BCL Legal Recruitment.

It's with regret that we announce the loss of a member of the BTSS Committee as Sarah Popplewell is unable to carry on her role as Philosophus. However, this represents a good opportunity for another enthusiastic member to take her place and assist the Society with its cultural mandate. For further details of the position and application procedure please see below. I look forward to welcoming our new Philosophus in the next couple of weeks and helping them with the arrangements for another BTSS cultural trip abroad. Watch this space.

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## PHILOSOPHUS VACANCY

The deadline for applications is this Wednesday!

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## EFFECTIVE NETWORKING

It's not all about giving out badges with I ♥ AW on them

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## BTSS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Because Santa wouldn't be seen anywhere else

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## ST BASIL'S SLEEPOUT

Go to <http://www.stbasils.org.uk/> for details

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## YOUR BOARD

An array of enticing opportunities for all!

## KEY DATES

**Philosophus Vacancy  
Application Deadline**  
16 November 2011

**Speed  
Networking**  
21 November 2011

**BTSS  
Christmas Party**  
1 December 2011

**Top Tips  
for Junior Lawyers**  
6 December 2011

## CONTACT US

[www.btss.org](http://www.btss.org)



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## **PHILOSOPHUS VACANCY**

Due to personal circumstances a vacancy has arisen on the BTSS Committee for the role of Philosophus. Applications are welcome from any full BTSS member who is currently a Trainee Solicitor or a Newly Qualified Solicitor.

The Philosophus shall be responsible for the organisation of all cultural activities on a month by month basis, which includes preparing a budget of the anticipated income and expenditure of each event for approval by the Committee.

The Philosophus will also be responsible for the upcoming cultural trip abroad, which typically takes place in February. As this is a marquee event in our calendar, the successful candidate will need to hit the ground running in regard to those arrangements but will be able to count on the support of the rest of the committee. The candidate will also support the work and events of other committee members and the Society as a whole.

For those who are interested I would be grateful if you could contact the BTSS Company Secretary Tammy Paleari ([TPaleari@gateleyuk.com](mailto:TPaleari@gateleyuk.com)) by 5.30pm on Wednesday 16th November 2011 stating your interest, explaining a little bit about yourself, why you would be interested in the position and what you would bring to the committee. This should be no longer than 1-2 paragraphs.

The current Committee members will then vote at the next Committee meeting on Monday 21 November to determine who will be appointed in the role.


If you have any queries about the role, please contact Tammy for further information.

**PETER WRIGHT**





**Cobbetts**  
**6pm for 6.30pm start**  
**Monday 28 November**

## **EFFECTIVE NETWORKING**



**Peter Wright is an Associate Solicitor with Howes Percival LLP where he deals with Commercial Disputes via mediation, arbitration and litigation.**



**Peter has spoken at Conferences and events around the Country on a range of subjects from Legal Career development, Business Development skills, CV and Interviewing skills and Alternative Legal Careers. Peter has kindly offered to provide a talk to the BTSS on how to network effectively, which will include useful career-boosting tips to expand your professional network and build a successful legal career.**



**To confirm attendance please contact Jane Stimson**  
**[jane.stimson@martineau-uk.com](mailto:jane.stimson@martineau-uk.com)**



# BTSS CHRISTMAS PARTY

*Join the BTSS to celebrate the festive season  
with fun and frolics from 6pm until late at*

*Vodka Revolution, Broad Street  
on Thursday 1 December*

*Santa has worked exclusively with the BTSS  
to bring tasty fodder and refreshing beverages  
to be supplied on the night for your enjoyment!*

*So come along and join in  
with the Christmas spirit!*



# St Basils Big SleepOut

## Friday 2nd December 2011



**Come and join us!**

[http://www.stbasils.org.uk/Fundraising/fundraising\\_news/sleepout/The+Big+SleepOut.htm](http://www.stbasils.org.uk/Fundraising/fundraising_news/sleepout/The+Big+SleepOut.htm)



# your board

## SPEED NETWORKING

**The College of Law**  
believing in your future

21 November 2011, 6pm to 8pm  
Room E329 at the College of Law  
Drinks and nibbles provided

Jane Stimson is looking for volunteers to assist with speaking to prospective trainees over 3 minute intervals to talk about their experiences and their firm's training contract.

Please contact Jane at  
[jane.stimson@martineau-uk.com](mailto:jane.stimson@martineau-uk.com)  
if you are interested.

## TOP TIPS FOR JUNIOR LAWYERS

Receive valuable tips and advice from highly regarded speakers from 6pm at Gateley LLP on 6 December 2011

Gary Garland – Legal Ombudsman, covering how to avoid complaints in the first place and dealing with complaints after the event.

Iwan Thomas – Iwan Thomas Associates, speaking about career planning in a changing law firm environment, how to climb the ladder and how to be more effective in making transitions.

James Brewster – BCL Legal, covering maximising opportunities during your training contract and making yourself attractive to law firms.

## SCL SOCIAL MEDIA MASTER CLASS

22 November 2011, 5.30 - 7 pm (Registration from 5 pm) **Venue:** Cobbetts LLP, One Colmore Square, Birmingham, B4 6AJ.

Join the SCL Midlands Group for a master class on the use of social media. The class will be led expert David Gilroy, a specialist in advising law firms on their web presence and the use of social media. David will offer advice on developing successful social media strategies for law firms and individual lawyers. He will give insights into ways of maximising opportunities to get new clients and work, and how to enhance and protect your reputation.

### SPECIAL OFFER:

**BIRMINGHAM TRAINEES £5.00 ENTRY**

**WITH AN SCL MEMBER**

**(Ask IT/IP Lawyers at your firm)**

(SCL Members: £36.00, Non-members: £54.00)

**Further information and RSVP details:**

<http://www.scl.org/site.aspx?i=ev22974>

## THE WHISTLEBLOWER

Birmingham Law Society presents a special charity screening & book signing of *The Whistleblower*.

BLS are delighted to invite you to a private early screening of award winning film "The Whistleblower" to be held on Thursday 17th November at the Electric Cinema (a few yards from New Street Station).

The evening will include drinks and a Chinese buffet at Chung Ying Garden restaurant where there will also be a book signing, an opportunity to hear from and talk to some of those involved in the case itself as well as watching an entertaining and thought provoking film.

The cost of a ticket is £30.00 to include food and drinks or £15.00 for just the film viewing. All profits will go to charity.

Please contact Rebecca Lynch at [becky@birminghamlawsociety.co.uk](mailto:becky@birminghamlawsociety.co.uk) to secure your place.