

19 October 2011

btss



Alex Wild  
Chair

Congratulations to Higgs & Sons, the winners of this year's Inter-Firm Trophy. It's been a well fought competition this year and I hope you've all enjoyed the fun and games over the last six months. For those of you not entirely worn out, we look forward to facing you on a netball or football field in the near future.

The time is nearly upon us for the 173<sup>rd</sup> Annual Dinner so I hope you all have your dancing shoes ready. To those of you who haven't managed to confirm your tickets yet, I'm afraid your time is nearly up. We are happy to provide more details of this year's event for your information including the menu and a few of the raffle prizes up for grabs. We would also like to take a moment to thank St. Philips and Wesleyan for Lawyers once again for their support.

We are also excited to give you the details of a few more upcoming events including the BTSS Comedy Night (details enclosed), our seminar on Effective Networking Skills (28 November) and our Top Tips for Junior Lawyers event (6 December).

As a final side note, best of luck to any and all who will be running the Birmingham Half Marathon this weekend!

2

## BTSS ANNUAL DINNER

After-dinner tickets are now available!

3

## BTSS COMEDY NIGHT

There's definitely something funny going on here

4

## ANTON BALL

A moment of your time could help save a life

5

## SPORTS ROOM

Congratulations to Higgs & Sons as IFT Champions!

8

## YOUR BOARD

IFT results and information on the after-dinner tickets

## KEY DATES

**BTSS Annual Dinner**  
28 October 2011  
**BTSS Comedy Night**  
11 November 2011  
**Effective Networking**  
28 November 2011

## INTER-FIRM TOURNAMENT

# HIGGS & SONS

**2011-2012  
CHAMPIONS!**

## CONTACT US

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



173<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL DINNER  
OF THE  
BIRMINGHAM TRAINEE  
SOLICITORS' SOCIETY

**FIRE**  
& **ICE**

**FRIDAY 28 OCTOBER**  
**ICC BIRMINGHAM 7PM - 1AM**

**BLACK TIE | COCKTAIL RECEPTION | 3-COURSE MEAL | 1AM AFTER PARTY**  
**£75 FOR MEMBERS | £80 FOR NON-MEMBERS**

**RSVP: TAMMY PALEARI [TPALEARI@GATELEYUK.COM](mailto:TPALEARI@GATELEYUK.COM)**



entertainment  
**highlight**

friday 11 november, 7pm  
above bar risa, broad street

**BTSS comedy night**

The BTSS would like to invite you to chuckle the night away  
listening to Britain's best comics  
for a night of drinks, food and laughter!

For the price stated below you will receive your ticket to a night of comedy, a meal and a drink, as well as first come first served wine on the tables.

Please arrive from 7pm – the doors close at 8pm and the show starts 8.15pm.

Tickets are £7.50 each. Please send payment in cash or cheque made payable to Birmingham Trainee Solicitors' Society to Ruth Stead at Cobbetts by 7 November.

Alternatively, we are offering tickets for comedy and a drink (without a meal) for the bargain price of £5!

If you'd like to attend and/or would like further details of the menu, please RSVP to Magdalena Konig at [magdalena.konig@informa.com](mailto:magdalena.konig@informa.com).



# SPORTS ROOM



## INTER-FIRM TROPHY POINTS



- 64 Higgs & Sons
- 44 Wragge & Co
- 38 Pinsents
- 28 Mills & Reeve
- 28 Shoosmiths
- 27 Gateley
- 27 Misfits
- 25 Anthony Collins
- 20 DBS Law
- 16 Cobbetts
- 16 St Philips
- 13 Irwin Mitchell
- 13 Shakespeares
- 12 Weightmans
- 11 Squire Sanders  
Hammonds
- 8 Wilkes Partnership
- 7 Martineau  
DLA Piper  
Eversheds



## INTER-FIRM TROPHY

Congratulations to **HIGGS & SONS**, the Inter Firm Trophy Champions 2011-12  
We thank every firm who participated this year, and hope you all enjoyed taking part!



## FOOTBALL AND NETBALL LEAGUES

The new leagues have begun! If you have any queries on the new rules, or have any other queries, please contact **Kay Patel** at [kay\\_patel@wragge.com](mailto:kay_patel@wragge.com).

## 11-A-SIDE FOOTBALL GOALKEEPER URGENTLY REQUIRED!!!

The BTSS 11-a-side football team plays in the Birmingham Office Football League. The League consists of a number of teams from offices around Birmingham, including Wragge & Co, Ernst & Young and KPMG, and involves 11 a side matches played at Hadley Stadium (on Astroturf) on Tuesdays or Wednesdays.

The team is always looking for new players from all firms, and is open to all. The captain of the BTSS team is **David Curtis**, and he would be interested in hearing from you if you would like to play.

Any interested players should please contact **David Curtis**, Senior Crown Prosecutor at CPS Birmingham, [david.curtis@cps.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:david.curtis@cps.gsi.gov.uk).



# Anton Ball

## A plea from Julian Ball

Anton, my 7 year old son, needs a bone marrow transplant.

Unfortunately none of the family members are matches so we are relying on the National and International databases for a possible match. So far they have identified 3 possible matches in the UK and 40 worldwide. These people have matched the 6 criteria they are able to test via the database. There are 4 other criteria they look at so they ask those people to have blood tests to see if they are compatible.

Obviously we are very grateful to those people who have put themselves forward. Clearly the bigger the database, the better the chance of a match. It is very easy to add yourself to the register – you can either:

- Click on the link <http://www.anthonynolan.org/What-you-can-do/save-a-life.aspx>, fill in a simple questionnaire and they will send you a kit to take a saliva swab. You simply put some saliva in a test tube and send it back to them.
- Give Blood – when you give blood next you can ask to be added to the National Bone Marrow Register.

If you are found to be a match you'll be given a medical examination to ensure you're fit enough to proceed. Further blood samples to assess your health and make sure no infection could be passed from you to the patient. The information below is taken from the Anthony Nolan Trust website on how a donor donates through the Trust:

### Practicalities

All stem cell donations take place at a specialist centre in London, and we make all the arrangements for you. You'll have a choice of two methods although you should be willing to donate using either.

### **Peripheral blood stem cell collection – donating through a vein in your arm**

A nurse will come to your home or office to give you injections over three days. These injections help your body produce and release stem cells into your blood. You'll then come to a hospital in London to make the donation but you won't need an overnight hospital stay or a general anaesthetic. Your blood is taken through a tiny tube in your arm, and the cells are donated by passing the blood through a machine.

### **Bone marrow donation – donating stem cells taken from bone marrow in the pelvis**

You'll come to a hospital in London where you'll spend two nights. You'll be given a general anaesthetic and doctors will take some of your bone marrow from your pelvis using a needle and syringe.

### **How will you feel afterwards?**

Donors often tell us that the side effects last a few days, but the pride at having helped save a life stays with them forever. We will reimburse all reasonable out-of-pocket expenses including paying for and arranging all travel and accommodation requirements.

They are ideally looking for those under 40 so it counts a lot of us out but I'm sure you can encourage those young people with whom you work to register.

Thank you, Julian Ball

[julian.ball@paystream.co.uk](mailto:julian.ball@paystream.co.uk)



# Birmingham Law Society

## Birmingham Law Society Pro Bono Committee Launch

**Date:** Monday 31 October 2011

**Time:** 5.00pm onwards

**Venue:** Hotel du Vin, Church Street, Birmingham, B3 2NR

**Ticket price:** Free

The new Birmingham Law Society Pro Bono Committee is holding a launch event on Monday 31 October from 5pm onwards at Hotel du Vin. This will take place just before **National Pro Bono Week (7-11 November 2011)**

Come and find out more about pro bono organisations in Birmingham and how you can get involved.

The event will be attended by the Attorney General who will give a keynote speech.

Come and join us, at no cost, and enjoy some drinks and canapés! All members and non-members are welcome! Places are limited so apply as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

To reserve your place, please email:

[melanie@birminghamlawsociety.co.uk](mailto:melanie@birminghamlawsociety.co.uk)



## College of Law Business Challenge

The College of Law is currently looking for mentors to assist with its 'business challenge', in which students work in teams which form part of a league, sitting as a board of directions of a fictional trading company.

Each team meets for three board meetings, during which they will make decisions on a range of issues including company image, marketing strategy, pricing and a range of financial trading and employment problems.

The Business Challenge evenings will run on [24 November, 5 December and 9 January](#) at the College of Law.

If you wish to volunteer to assist please contact Jane Stimson on [jane.stimson@martineau-uk.com](mailto:jane.stimson@martineau-uk.com)

## College of Law Mentoring

The College of Law is also seeking volunteers, from the level of second year trainee upwards, to assist with the College's mentoring scheme.

The scheme will operated from [December 2011 to the end of May 2012](#) and is open to all GDL, LPC and BPTC students. The aim is to provide students with an ongoing individual contact from within the legal profession whose views, practical experience and wisdom they can benefit from.

The college asks mentors to agree to offer a minimum of four contact points during this period, at which you can discuss CVs, application forms, application strategy, interview preparation as well as wider careers advice.

If you are interested please contact Jane Stimson on [jane.stimson@martineau-uk.com](mailto:jane.stimson@martineau-uk.com) for further information.

## INTER-FIRM TROPHY

### BOWLING RESULTS

<u>Team</u>	<u>Pts</u>	<u>IFT Pts</u>
Higgs & Sons	562	15
Mills & Reeve	531	13
Irwin Mitchell	523	11
DBS Law	518	9
Pinsents	516	6
Wragge & Co	516	6
Wilkes Partnership	511	3
Misfits	484	1
Anthony Collins	474	
Shoosmiths	467	
Martineau	460	
Eversheds	459	
SS Hammonds	453	

### 2011-12 CHAMPIONS

**HIGGS & SONS**

### RUNNERS-UP

**WRAGGE & CO**

 **Thank you to all**   
**of the firms who have**  
**taken part this year!**

## **BTSS ANNUAL DINNER** **AFTER DINNER TICKETS** **28 OCTOBER 2010**

**AFTER DINNER TICKETS ONLY | £20 FOR MEMBERS OR NON-MEMBERS**

THE ANNUAL DINNER IS THE BIRMINGHAM TRAINEE SOLICITORS' SOCIAL AND NETWORKING EVENT OF THE YEAR!

THIS YEAR THE ANNUAL DINNER WILL BE ENCHANTED UNDER A STUNNING FIRE AND ICE THEME. AN ALLOCATION OF AFTER DINNER TICKETS FOR THIS YEAR'S EVENT ARE ON SALE UNTIL FRIDAY THIS WEEK AT £20 EACH TO BOTH MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBERS.

IT'S SIMPLE TO BUY TICKETS. SEND YOUR RSVP TO BTSS COMPANY SECRETARY TAMMY PALEARI AT [TAMMY.PALEARI@GATELEYUK.COM](mailto:TAMMY.PALEARI@GATELEYUK.COM) AND SHE WILL EMAIL YOU YOUR E-TICKET IMMEDIATELY.

WE WILL BE DELIGHTED TO SEE YOU THERE!