



## January Newsletter

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It's 2012 and we now have a new committee for NJLD! The newsletter has had a bit of a shake up and there's plenty to catch up on on sports and events in the NJLD. Make sure you check out the upcoming events for NJLD and the Law Society, including a special feature on the Hammond Cup - we'll be sending further details on how to apply soon!

We hope you enjoy the NJLD newsletter. Please let us know if you have any suggestions or feedback.

*Rhianne Bennett and Natalie Barnes  
Marketing Secretaries*

### This month's newsletter:

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# Note from the Chair...

A new NJLD year is upon us once again. I'm William Reynolds and I am the newly elected Chair of the Nottinghamshire Junior Lawyers Division for 2011 - 2012. Over the past year the NJLD has gone from strength to strength and so I want to begin by thanking the previous Chair, Victoria Gaskell for all her hard work. She did an amazing job running the committee and strengthening the NJLD's links with sponsors, the Nottinghamshire Law Society and its own members. I would also like to thank the other committee members for all their hard work and commitment over the past year.



**William Reynolds**

We have a great year ahead of us with a new dedicated and enthusiastic committee from a wide range of firms across Nottinghamshire. Our Events Secretaries are already hard at work putting together the year's events and have a lot of great new ideas. We also are looking at creating a range of new sporting teams and setting up tournaments and one off competition days to mark the London 2012 Olympics. Of course, as with every year, we will be hosting the NJLD Ball in November. The NJLD will continue to provide academic schemes such as the Judicial Shadowing Scheme, run in conjunction with Nottingham County Court. We will also continue to support the Law Society's academic competitions including the Hammond Cup and the President's Cup.

The previous committee did a fantastic job in strengthening ties with other professional groups such as the RICS (Surveyors) and NCASS (Accountants). This year I plan to organise more events with these organisations as well as others to make sure that NJLD members get as many opportunities to network with other professionals as possible.

The NJLD membership also consists of LPC and BPTC students and this year I hope as many students join us as possible. NJLD events offer a great opportunity for these budding young lawyers to meet those who have qualified and become involved in Nottinghamshire's vast legal community. By joining the NJLD, LPC and BPTC students are given the opportunity to get advice and guidance on their future careers and also network with those already in the profession. This year I plan on making sure that we offer events that appeal to LPC and BVC students and give them an opportunity to get themselves known by those already in the profession.

The NJLD is a voluntary organisation and we are always in need of sponsors. We have a membership of nearly 300 junior lawyers including trainees, NQs, LPC/BPTC students, pupils and barristers. Working with the NJLD provides a great opportunity for sponsors to get their companies, organisations or products known to our membership and we are always happy to have sponsors on board. If anyone knows of anyone who would be interested in sponsoring the NJLD please pass their details on to me.

I'm really looking forward to meeting you all at our events this year. For those of you who haven't signed up yet don't forget to send your membership forms to Katherine Beggs, (our Membership Secretary) as you don't want to be missing out on everything the NJLD has to offer.

If you have any ideas, suggestions or comments, please feel free to contact me or the relevant committee member by e-mail.

**Thanks for reading and joining the NJLD. It's going to be a fantastic year.**

# Dates for your diary

## January

Friday 27 January 2012 - 5.30pm - NJLD New Year Drinks

## February

February is NJLD Careers Month - look out for further details of seminars on "How to write the perfect CV" and "How to stay financially fit".

Wednesday 1 February 2012 - 5.30pm - 8pm - NLS Legal Employers Evening

Saturday 4 February 2012 - 10am - 4pm - Trainee Solicitor Forum ([more info here](#))

Wednesday 22 February 2012 - Nottingham Hot Property event

## March

Monday 12 March 2012 - 6.30pm - Nottinghamshire Law Society's Annual Quiz ([apply here](#))

Thursday 22 March 2012 - First round of the Hammond Cup

## April

Thursday 19 April 2012 - Final of the Hammond Cup

Saturday 21st April 2012 - NJLD Sailor Boat Party

Monday 23 April 2012 - Law Society's AGM

## May

Thursday 10 May 2012 - Nottingham Legal Walk

# NJLD New Year Drinks

When: Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> January

Time: From 5.30pm

Where: Tonic Bar

(6 Chapel Bar Nottingham)

This event is open to everyone (not just members) and there's no need to book - just turn up on the night!



**2 FREE DRINKS FOR  
ALL NJLD MEMBERS!!**

Don't let the January Blues get you down. Join the NJLD for an informal evening of fun and (more importantly) free drinks!!

NOTTINGHAM HOT PROPERTY

# HOTTEST NIGHT EVER

22ND FEB  
2012  
GATECRASHER  
NIGHTCLUB  
The Elite Building  
Queen Street



## HOW DEEP IS YOUR LOVE

**TELL THAT SPECIAL PERSON IN YOUR LIFE...  
YOU'RE THE FIRST, THE LAST, MY EVERYTHING AND  
WITH A BIT OF LUCK THEY'LL BE CRAZY FOR YOU...  
WELL THAT'S THE POWER OF LOVE!**

For a romantic night where Love will definitely be in the air, smooch down to Nottingham, where Gatecrasher nightclub will be the beating heart of passion.

And for those who just enjoy the food of love, there's live music to party the naughty night away for only £25 per person. So "love Gurus" make a note of the date.

If you want to know what love is, get your tickets now from [nicola@millward.co.uk](mailto:nicola@millward.co.uk) or visit [www.nottinghamhotproperty.com](http://www.nottinghamhotproperty.com)

**ALL PROCEEDS  
TO BE DONATED TO  
LOCAL CHILDREN'S  
CHARITIES**

**SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE**



# Sports Focus

The Nottinghamshire NJLD is particularly active on the sports front, with a number of teams and competitions ongoing throughout the year. In the past few months the NJLD has seen the Touch Rugby team complete the autumn season, and the intra-firm Netball competition get up and running for another season. The NJLD has also formed a new 5-a-side football team which has just finished its first season and is beginning a second. As the weather gets finer, and the daylight longer, the NJLD will be looking to introduce more opportunities for members to get involved in some other sports, so keep an eye on the newsletter and emails from the marketing secretaries!

As we are your regional JLD, we always look for suggestions and feedback from our members. Whilst we have several plans for the coming year (including cricket in the summer, squash and inter-firm competitions amongst other things), don't hesitate to drop me an email if you have any sports/teams you would like to suggest for the NJLD to run. You will get the chance to do this at our first social of the year at Tonic, but you can email any time at [lharris@Gateleyuk.com](mailto:lharris@Gateleyuk.com).

*Lee Harris, NJLD Sports Secretary*



## The Paul Pollett Squash Trophy

The NJLD are assisting the Law Society this year with the organisation and running of the annual Paul Pollett Squash Trophy, held at the Park squash club. The tournament has been going for a number of years and is a well established and respected date in the legal calendar. It is an inter-firm competition, so there is an added sense of significance, and this year is pencilled in for the morning of March 10th. More information will follow in February, but anyone interested may want to start practising!

# Events Update

## NJLD 2011 - 2012 Election Night

On 17th November 2011 the NJLD held its annual Committee Election Night at Minus One in Eschucha. The event gave all our members the opportunity to take part in the democratic process and elect their new representing committee for 2011 - 2012. There were a number of positions up for election including Chair, both Ball Secretary positions and the National JLD Representative.

Those attending the event to vote in the elections were assisted in their decision making by free drinks. Before putting pen to paper, members were given the chance to meet with those running for election and question them on policy, their aims for the coming year, their favourite colour, any questions which sprung to mind really!

Voting was closed at 7:30pm whilst the returning officer, Victoria Gaskell (previous Chair and current Vice-Chair) and her assistants eagerly counted up the votes. After about 15 tense minutes of waiting the results were ready to be announced. The position of Chair went to William Reynolds (a previous NJLD Marketing Secretary) and Laura Richards and Rachel Davey were elected as Ball Secretaries. The position of National JLD Representative went to Emily Daniell.

Free drinks continued to be provided as those elected celebrated their successes and looked forward to the year ahead. All in all it was a great night, with a strong cross-section of our membership attending to vote.

*Sophie Thring, Events Secretary*



# Events Update

## Law Society Annual Christmas Reception

On 6th December 2011 the Nottinghamshire Law Society held a Christmas Drinks Reception at the Old Chemistry Laboratory at Nottingham Trent University. The venue was light and airy which set a lovely ambience for the event.

The evening was very successful and well attended by both Law Society and NJLD members alike. Guests enjoyed an assortment of tasty canapés and drinks whilst listening to the choir sing a number of well known Christmas carols.

Wesleyan for Lawyers very kindly provided a prize draw and the winner of the Kindle was NJLD member and co-Events Secretary Sophie Thring!

We hope you can all make it to the NJLD drinks evening on Friday 27th January 2012. This is the first event in the new NJLD committee's calendar and it's going to be a traditional boozy NJLD night with free drinks for NJLD members! See you there!

*Jenny Barker, Events Secretary*



# The Hammond Cup

**What is the Hammond Cup?** A mooted competition that has been running for over 40 years. It was established up by Mr Michael Hammond, who is still involved with the competition. An email will follow with full details shortly.

**Who can apply?** Trainee solicitors and pupil barristers who are members of the NJLD.

**What's involved?** There are two rounds of advocacy. When applying, entrants can choose to present:

- a criminal application (a plea in mitigation); or
- a civil application (advocacy in an interim application)

## **Initial Round (22 March 2012)**

Competitors have **10 minutes** to present their plea in mitigation/application to a panel of three judges at the Magistrates' Court. The panel is made up of a solicitor, a barrister and a magistrate.

Competitors are scored on how well they come across to the judges, clarity of argument, preparation and persuasiveness.

The 4 highest scoring competitors are selected to go into the final.

2 reserves are also chosen, in case any of the finalists pull out.

## **Final (19 April 2012)**

Finalists take part in a **mock criminal trial** at the Magistrates' Court, with one finalist prosecuting and one defending, in two trials. Volunteers role play the parts of witnesses.

Judging is on the same criteria as in the first round and there are three judges. Mr Hammond judges the final along with two professional judges.

**There is an audience** for the final (unlike the first round), made up of members of the finalists' firms, any supporters they wish to invite and first round judges who are able to attend.

**Decisions are made on the night.**

**The Hammond Cup (along with prizes) will be presented at the Nottingham Law Society's Annual General Meeting on 23 April 2012**

**What prizes can be won?** 1<sup>st</sup> place: £250, 2<sup>nd</sup> place: £150, 3<sup>rd</sup> place: £100 and 4<sup>th</sup> place: £50

# Hammond Cup: Last Year's Finalists

Louise Winning, Gillian Lazonby and Natalie Barnes with Michael Hammond and John Britten. Photo taken at the Law Society's AGM and featured in the Nottingham Evening Post.

## 1st Place

Louise Winning, Cartwright King:

'Winning the cup and the money is a bonus. It's really all about the experience! It's excellent practice for the future and once you get over the initial nerves it really is great fun!

## Joint 2nd Place

Marie Cooper, Rothera Dowson:

"It was a great confidence booster and provided invaluable insight into Magistrates' court proceedings. Well worth entering to get the chance to formulate arguments and practice your advocacy in a court setting and in front of magistrates and barristers, plus, looks very good on your CV!"



## Joint 2nd Place

Gillian Lazonby, Shakespeares:

"The Hammond Cup was a great chance to practice both civil and criminal advocacy. The interim application in the first round was very like a lot of the hearings you would typically be asked to attend if you do a civil litigation seat so it was good to get some practice in and receive feedback. Although it might seem daunting the preparation needed was less than you might think and I know that I really enjoyed taking part."

## 4th Place

Natalie Barnes, Fraser Brown:

"The Hammond Cup was a great experience. I learned a lot about preparing and presenting court applications while at the same time raising my profile with people at my own firm and amongst the legal community."

# 60 Second Interview with...

## William Reynolds



### Work

**1. What's your legal job?**

*Trainee Solicitor at Browne Jacobson (currently on Secondment).*

**2. What does your role entail on the NJLD?**

*As Chair it is my role to make sure the NJLD runs smoothly, to liaise with and acquire sponsors and to coordinate the committee.*

**3. What do you hope to achieve with NJLD this year?**

*I want to build on all the successes of last year and ensure we cater for all our members on all fronts, so there's something for everybody. I also want to the NJLD to join in with the Olympic celebrations, and increase our sporting offering. Ultimately I want our members to get the most out of their membership!*

### Play

**1. What is your favourite thing to do in your spare time?**

*I don't get much spare time so just generally chill out and watch a film.*

**2. If you were on death row, what would you choose for your last meal?**

*An all you can eat Chinese buffet...I love Chinese food and the longer I ate the longer I'd have alive!*

**3. If you could have any superpower what would it be?**

*Super speed, would make the commute easier!*

**4. What personal possession could you not live without?**

*iPhone 4 - it literally keeps me organised and connected.*

**5. Which famous person/character would you most compare yourself to and why?**

*Fry from Futurama...ultimately I secretly want to be frozen and wake up in the future too!*

# NJLD Contacts

Chair: Will Reynolds  
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Vice Chair: Vicky Gaskell  
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Secretary: Naomi de Silva  
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LPC Rep: Waqas Tariq  
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Local Law Society Rep: Tom Gibbons  
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National JLD Rep: Emily Daniell  
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## Useful Links

[Junior Lawyers Website](#)

[Notts Law Society NJLD Website](#)

Twitter: @NottinghamJLD

Facebook: NJLD Group