
NEWS UPDATE

A MAGAZINE FOR CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS IN THE SOUTH WEST



IN THIS ISSUE

MYTHS BUSTED TO HELP YOU DECIDE

When it comes to deciding which finance and accounting qualification to offer within your organisation, there are many factors to consider.



BENJAMIN MEE

BENJAMIN MEE, OWNER OF DARTMOOR ZOO ANNOUNCED AS ANNUAL DINNER GUEST SPEAKER

Why not take the opportunity to entertain your staff, clients or other business professionals at our annual dinner this year?

The black-tie event will be held on Friday 29 April 2022 at Sandy Park, Exeter from 18:45 to midnight and will include a champagne reception, four-course meal plus coffee, an excellent after dinner speaker and dancing to local band; One Foot in the Groove.

Benjamin Mee is a writer, presenter and the owner of Dartmoor Zoo, who released the 2008 book *We Bought A Zoo*, which documented his discovery of a dilapidated country house with numerous wild animals roaming the grounds and his determination to save them from being destroyed. In the midst of chasing escaping Jaguars and adolescent vervet monkeys, his wife's brain tumour returned. The prognosis was poor, and so Ben found himself juggling the complexities of managing a zoo and getting it ready for re-opening while facing the consequences of his wife's terminal illness and caring for their two young children. In 2012 his story was made into a film starring Matt Damon and Scarlett Johansson. The zoo and Benjamin have also featured in the BBC Two documentary *Ben's Zoo* as well as the CBBC series *My Life*.

Tickets are priced at £70 + VAT. Round tables of between 8 and 12 guests are available but individuals and smaller groups are equally welcome.

For more details and to book tickets please contact Trudi on +44 (0)117 370 1463 or trudi.coles@icaew.com



ROSAURO AALA

PRESIDENT'S ARTICLE

As I write this, the media are speculating about potential restrictions to help reduce the spread of Covid. Covid continues to cause disruption for your district society as I am sure it does for you and your business. While we plan events for members we never really know if we'll be allowed to deliver them. But on the plus side, as we are all more familiar with virtual meetings, we have been able to host events virtually and connect people who might otherwise not meet as easily. In November, 34 members attended the tourism and hospitality panel session to discuss the post(?)-pandemic situation. It's unlikely that so many people would have been able to attend had we organised this as a face-to-face event. Similarly, 30 members attended the rural and farming discussion too.

Our business member breakfasts now alternate between face-to-face and virtual – there has been a lot to catch up on since these groups met in person. For members in practice, town groups have also met with much sharing of problems and solutions. As well as providing

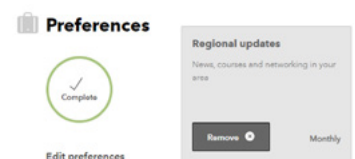
an opportunity for members to connect and provide support for each other, it has also been really useful to find out what our members are struggling with and feeding this up to ICAEW centrally.

I was proud to host the award ceremony for the people who passed their final exams in 2020. Celebrants and their family endured the appalling weather to travel to Exeter and receive their scrolls from national president, Will Brooks, and the top scorers in the advanced level exams received their prizes. We are a membership organisation so it's always great to welcome new members who can add something of value to us all.

By now you will have renewed your membership of ICAEW. One of the difficulties your local district faces is the inability to tell you about the events that we put on for you. When you renewed your membership you will have been asked to update your communication preferences. Sadly, many South West members do not elect to receive communication about what is going on in the South West – possibly because it's not particularly clear given that local updates is just one of a plethora of options. If you'd like to find out about local events please go to your dashboard on the ICAEW website, select 'Preferences' and opt in to receiving regional updates

Rosauro Aala

President ICAEW South West



EXAM QUALIFIED MEMBERS CELEBRATE AT AWARDS CEREMONY

We were finally able to get back to an in-person event last October to celebrate those who had exam qualified in 2020. Despite the very wet and windy weather attendees travelled to Exeter from across the Devon, Cornwall & Somerset with their family & friends to enjoy this wonderful occasion.

ICAEW SW President, Ros Aala, and ICAEW President, Will Brooks both congratulated everyone on their excellent achievement and encouraged them to make the most of their membership and enjoy the exciting career that lay ahead.

Amy Chapman, who works for Old Mill, gave an excellent speech outlining her journey and the importance of the support given by family and friends whilst studying. It had been a particularly challenging time having to quickly adapt to online learning for the advanced stage when the pandemic hit in March 2020.

The annual district society student awards were then presented with the winners receiving £150 cheques kindly sponsored by KPMG, Mercia and Accountancy Learning.

Corporate Reporting:

August 2020 Samuel Fotheringham
November 2020 Antonia Broad

Strategic Business Management:

August 2020 Isaac Patch
November 2020 Jack Wickett

Case Study:

August 2020 Samuel Fotheringham
November 2020 Molly Furness



Will Brooks President ICAEW and Ros Aala President ICAEW SW.



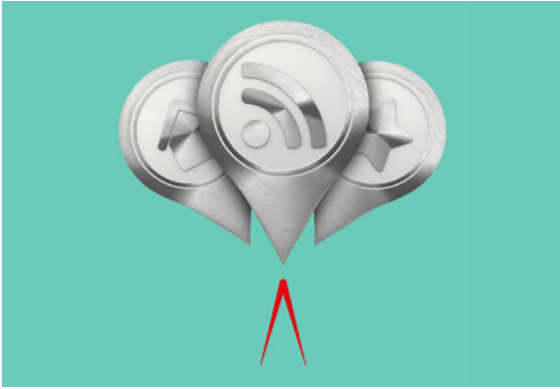
Amy Chapman, new member, making her speech.



Left to right: Andy Gordon (KPMG), Sam Fotheringham, Simon Deane (Accountancy Learning), Will Brooks (ICAEW), Isaac Patch and Antonia Broad.



Group photo of all exam qualified members.



ICAEW ESSENTIALS IS NOW OUR OFFICIAL CPD PROVIDER

Designed, written and delivered by leading subject matter experts, the *Essentials CPD programme* will provide you and your team with technical know-how, and meet your individual annual CPD requirement.

The 2022 programme consists of 37 individual courses, devised around technical core topics and updates covering titles across Audit & Assurance, Accounting & Financial Reporting, Charity, Legal, Practice and Tax. Please see enclosed flyer for a complete list.

All the courses in the Essentials programme are delivered by live webinar, with dedicated Q&A sessions, providing the opportunity to interact with the speaker and to discuss real-life scenarios.

All the webinars are recorded and made available to view via on-demand, providing the convenient CPD solution for the busy finance professional, in practice, industry and the charity sector.

The programme content is suitable for all finance teams and is equally relevant to ICAEW ACA members and members of other accounting and professional bodies, providing the perfect training programme across all areas of your team.

The per delegate rate for live and on-demand sessions is £55 with discounts available for 5-19 bookings - 5% discount and 20+ bookings - 10% discount.

The discounts are automatically applied at the time of booking and are valid for individuals booking more than one course at a time or corporate bookings where more than one delegate from the same organisation is booked onto the same course. For larger team bookings or for corporate accounts please email amy.read@icaew.com



CAROLINE SMALE

ICAEW COUNCIL MEMBER UPDATE

In November last year we were able to hold a council conference in person and I was able to join my fellow council members to hear updates and partake in discussions on issues affecting the profession. The discussions are always a brilliant way to represent what members are hearing. I am grateful for the excellent conversations I am able to have with members in the South West so that I can represent you as your council member. I have met so many of you online over the last two years at town groups, business breakfasts (bring your own!), female forums, new member ceremony, FCA celebrations, Chairty sector member group, South West Strategy group and of course committee meetings and I look forward to seeing you again in person in the not too distant future.

If you are not part of the groups above but would like to talk to me as your council member, please do get in touch. Our members have such diverse roles, and I am always commenting on the number of potential career paths, our members can take. It is great to hear from many different walks of life.

One of the conversations, I recently had was with a member who was considering whether she should renew her membership and what was in it for her. We chatted over a virtual coffee whilst looking at the ICAEW website and I was able to help her find resources that were of benefit to her.

I therefore encourage you to take a look at the website icaew.com. A few areas to look at:

ICAEW Communities

Many are free and give access to articles and advice and information on events and training. There are communities for industries and sectors as well as life stage and workplace.

Practice Members

A new community for small practices was launched last year and has bespoke content for those in small practices, all in one place.

Technology

The technology section of resources has a wealth of information on subjects from Cyber Security to AI and some excellent modules in Finance in a Digital world.

Finally, if you would like to receive the excellent ICAEW Daily, Weekly or Quarterly, sign up in the preference centre on the website. The updates are packed with links to interesting articles as well as important updates.

As always, if you have any feedback on the website or other matters please get in touch. I would love to hear from you

Caroline Smale

ICAEW Council member

SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE

The Regional Sustainability Group for the South West, Southern and Wales districts has launched a set of New Year's resolutions aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Looking for ways in which we can take action against each of the goals to improve the Environmental, Social and Governance of our businesses here in the South West, each New Year's resolution suggests a practical way of changing the way we do business.

The UN Sustainable Development Goals are part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and are described as a 'blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all':

Further information about each of the UN Goals can be found on the website, including targets, publications, events and progress toward the Goals.

The Regional Sustainability Group calls on you to consider the ways that you can contribute in each of the 17 areas.

Jenny Hill

ICAEW SW Sustainability Representative



FEMALE FORUM HELPING YOU WITH THOSE UNCOMFORTABLE CONVERSATIONS

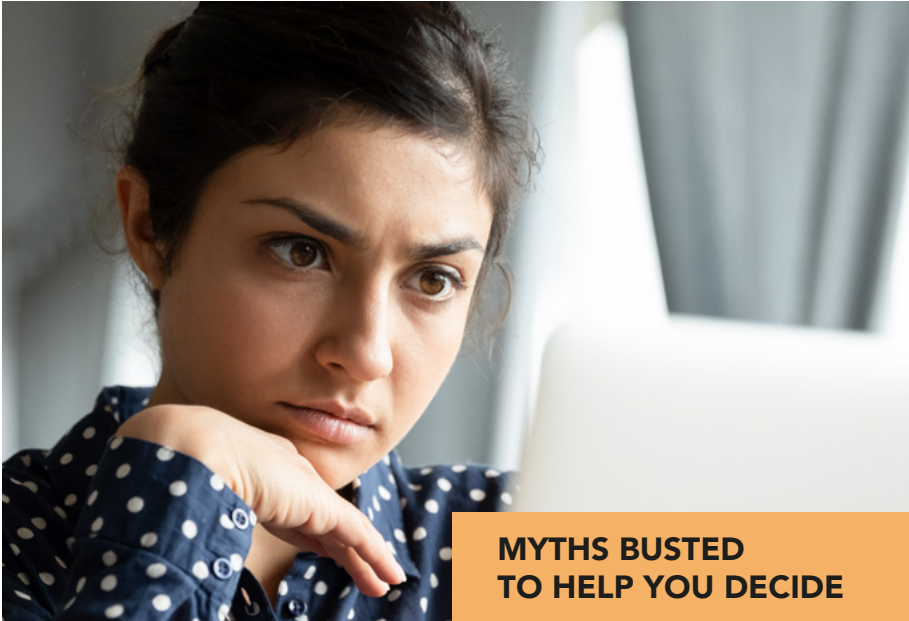
**Tuesday 29 March, 17:30 to 19:30
at The Devon Hotel, Exeter**

Do you dread certain conversations because of a fear about some aspect of talking with someone, or what might need to be said, or what has been said before or do you just find conversation quite hard? In this workshop we will look at what a good conversation can feel like and what we can do to make it pleasurable for those listening to us and ourselves!!! In this workshop Judy Salmon will be looking at the following points:-

- What is a conversation?
- What makes a conversation uncomfortable?
- What types of situations do you find difficult – is it with a friend, a performance issue with a team member or you have to make someone redundant?
- Some tips on how to prepare and stay in control of an uncomfortable conversation.

Judy specialises in helping individuals at all levels to be more personally effective, confident and aware of their strengths and weaknesses. She uses her experience to offer alternative solutions when people need help refining their thinking or presentations, preparing for difficult conversations and having a positive impact in meetings, especially in the new virtual world.

If the above sounds interesting then please do join us by booking online on Tuesday 29 March at The Devon Hotel, Exeter, 17:30 to 19:30. Please book your place online events.icaew.com or email Trudi (trudi.coles@icaew.com).



MYTHS BUSTED TO HELP YOU DECIDE

**Make way ...
... for the ACA! ICAEW's high-level
qualification ticks all the right boxes,
but some organisations are unsure
whether to offer it. We bust the
myths to help you decide.**

When it comes to deciding which finance and accounting qualification to offer within your organisation, there are many factors to consider, particularly around balancing the needs of your staff and the business overall.

ICAEW's highly regarded ACA qualification has been designed to suit management accountants and those in commercial finance roles, as well as those in regulatory and compliance positions.

Its syllabus ensures that it is one of the leading professional qualifications globally, encompasses commercial and technical accounting, and develops the essential analytical, business partnering and problem-solving skills that are required to be a well-rounded finance professional.

If you've ever wondered if the ACA is right for your business, then read on as we bust some of the myths around ACA training.

Together with flexible work experience, modular-style learning and exams, and a globally connected membership body, why choose any other qualification?

To find out more about offering ICAEW training within your organisation and the benefits, visit [icaew.com/answerisaca](https://www.icaew.com/answerisaca) and register your interest to speak to one of our regional managers.

MYTH: ACA students must be graduates

BUSTED: There are five main routes to the ACA qualification. Students can be school-leavers, career changers, apprentices or graduates. Graduates do not need to have a relevant degree to study the ACA. There is also a fast-track route for those progressing from the Association of Accounting Technicians, meaning they can qualify in as little as two years.

MYTH: I trained in practice and my business doesn't have the breadth of work to support an ACA trainee

BUSTED: ICAEW training is the qualification of choice for organisations of all sizes, across all sectors. Work experience can be in one or more areas of finance and doesn't need to include audit.

MYTH: It's expensive to offer training for the ACA qualification in my organisation

BUSTED: ACA training is competitive, delivers value for money and can be funded by the government through the Level 7 Accountancy Professional Apprenticeship programme. Whether you are a levy or non-levy paying organisation, there are funding options available to you.

MYTH: The trainees in our business are in the management accounting team, so I'm not sure they need the ACA qualification

BUSTED: The qualification has a well-rounded syllabus that equips management accountants with skills in analytics, forecasting, performance management and so much more. They will also be able to consider internal controls and regulatory accounting requirements to really add value to your business.

MYTH: Training is only available in blocks, requiring lots of time out of the office

BUSTED: Training is flexible and can be adapted to both the student's and organisation's needs. Tuition is available in the classroom, online or as a blend of the two.

MYTH: We can't train because there is no qualified ACA in our business

BUSTED: Qualified accountants with other professional bodies and Chartered Tax Advisers can support ACA students throughout their training.

If you would like to find out more about how you can support ACA training in your organisation, please contact our Regional Business Development Manager: rowena.hawkes@icaew.com +44 (0)7901 006 898

Rowena Hawkes
Regional Business
Development Manager

RETIRED MEMBER REQUIRED FOR ICAEW SW COMMITTEE

The ICAEW South West committee is looking for a retired member to represent this member sector. The role will include attending five committee meetings each year, two face to face and three virtual as well as supporting Trudi in the organisation of local events.

This is a great opportunity to meet other members based within Devon, Cornwall & Somerset.

Please contact Trudi at trudi.coles@icaew.com or +44 (0)7876 035 925 to discuss further or express your interest.



ALL TOO FAMILIAR – ICAEW ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING TRAINING FILM

All Too Familiar is launching next month and a link to the film along with copies of supporting materials will be emailed to regulatory contacts (eg, the money laundering reporting officer or compliance principal) at ICAEW supervised firms.

The film has been created by ICAEW in collaboration with HMRC. It explores the degree of trust still placed in personal and professional relationships and whether enough scepticism

is being used in the fight against economic crime.

As well as professional scepticism, *All Too Familiar* draws out many themes for discussion, such as whether familiarity has clouded the firm's judgement, how and when to disengage from a client and a firm's professional responsibilities when engaging with law enforcement. It also examines the appropriate levels of Customer Due Diligence (CDD) and risk assessments for client relationships.

CONGRATULATIONS

To all our friends and colleagues who have reached the milestone of 50 years membership (August 2021 to December 2021):

Graham Adnitt,
David Andrews, John Carveley,
Myles Chance, Peter Clark,
Michael Cook, Geoffrey Dart,
Owen Davies, Andrew Evans,
Nicholas Fry, Leslie Greaves,
Christopher Green,
Nicholas James, Peter Kelsall,
Timothy Luddington,
Barry Luscombe, Michael Myatt,
Keith Robinson, David Smith,
William Tanner, John Wilson,
Geoffrey Witcher,

OBITUARIES

It is with sadness that we mark the passing of our friends and colleagues:

Richard Jackson
Robert Rider
Noreen Todd
Peter Williams

ICAEW SOUTH WEST GOLF DAY

Thursday 30 June 2022 - Dainton Park Golf Club, Newton Abbot, Devon

A great opportunity to entertain your clients, staff or guests.

There is the magnificent Harvey Frost Memorial Trophy to play for so the format will be a two-ball better ball, full handicap stableford pairs competition.

Entry of £60 per person will include:

- Bacon sandwich & coffee on arrival
- 18 holes of golf (tee offs from 12:30)
- Two-course dinner in the evening
- Individual and pairs competitions and all prizes

Entries are invited in pairs or (ideally) groups of four (i.e. two pairs). If individual members wish to play please contact Tony who will try and match you up with other single players.

Tee-off times will be advised nearer the time but are likely to commence from approximately 12:30. Dinner will be around 18:30 (in tables of four with those you play golf with).

Please email Tony Jopson, Golf Secretary for an entry form or for more details: tony@tonyjopson.co.uk



DAWN MILLS

SWECASS – WHAT DO YOU GET OUT OF IT?

I'm writing this in my final few months as SWECASS President, I have been involved in SWECASS for many years now and I can't believe after the upcoming AGM (May 2022), I will no longer be directly involved.

I initially joined the committee as a firm rep back in 2016, whilst I was still studying for my ACA exams, purely to be social and get to know other individuals in the same position as I was. Being a firm rep means you are the point of contact between SWECASS and your firm's ACA students and young members (those who are five years post qualified). I assisted with event ideas and organisation, attended the committee meetings and after a while took on the social media responsibilities. As this is a crucial part of student engagement and getting our events known across the student community the media representative position was created! Please see: [facebook.com/ICAESW](https://www.facebook.com/ICAESW)



The few years I spent involved in SWECASS undertaking these roles were

great. I attended annual dinners ahead of qualifying, and got to meet a vast array of speakers, from the likes of Matt Dawson(!) to our very own ICAEW presidents each year, fully satisfying my initial reason for getting involved in the first place. However, as this is a student society, when I became a qualified member in 2018 my time here was running out!



Because of my enthusiasm and involvement within the committee I was asked to replace the current SW newsletter editor, which I was delighted to accept. The role of editor also came with a seat on the main district society committee, and so my journey continued in what I thought would be my final year involved with SWECASS.

I can tell you're all doing the math here, it's what we do after all, and yes you're right, I should have left SWECASS in 2019. The SWECASS President at the time, and previous chair, had decided to relocate out of the district, the role was therefore available, and again I was asked if I would like to take this on. I jumped at the chance to remain involved! The President and Deputy President roles are the only positions within the committee that require a qualified member. These roles are designed to guide and assist the rest of the committee, but it provides an opportunity to sit on the main district committee as the point of contact between the two committees. This is a great segway into a post qualified network.

Looking back over the past eight years, SWECASS has helped me so much with my confidence by attending a variety of different events and networking with other young individuals, across various

professions, all going through the same process and growing themselves with little pressure. As a result my professional network has grown, and it has helped my career by opening doors within ICAEW which I never knew about or imagined could happen! I'm now also Deputy President of the SW District committee, soon to be President, and people higher up in ICAEW know my name!

I appreciate the qualification requirements have changed during my involvement with SWECASS, I often hear 'I don't have time to be involved' but honestly, it's such a fantastic thing to do. If you are unsure how much time you can commit, become a firm rep, or just get involved and attend the amazing events we have lined up. If you'd like to be more involved, there are office holder positions available and a great team to pass on their knowledge of the role and be there to support you. Not only does SWECASS give you the opportunity to learn, grow and progress in your career, have your say on topics such as exam reviews via our student council representative, you create a fantastic network of people who can assist with any struggles through your exams, and I personally have also made some great connections and long term friends.

So, as I reach the end of my thoroughly enjoyable experience with SWECASS and pass the baton onto Kathryn, who I know will do a fantastic job, I urge you to get involved, no matter where you are within your ACA studies. Even if you only get a fraction of the rewards I have felt, I guarantee it will be worth it.

The next event will be another from our popular insights series. On 2 March, we will be running an insights into industry event. Contact your local firm rep for more information.

Dawn Mills

SWECASS President/
SW Newsletter editor/
SW Deputy President



BEV WATERS

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

If you are anything like me, I am sure that at this time of year we all have a period of reflection on the year that has just gone and looking forward (sometimes with trepidation) to what the new year holds for us. It is a time of refocus and an opportunity to re-energise us.

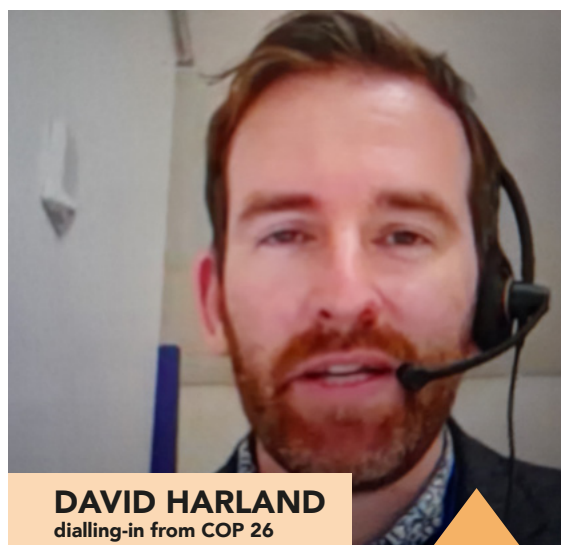
As part of the reflection, I thought I would share some facts and figures from an ICAEW point of view about 2021 – our second year of adapting to Covid. Quite surprisingly it has been a record year for student intake for our qualifications with over 11,000 individuals starting their accountancy journey. In addition, ICAEW membership has increased by over 4200 members – bringing the total membership worldwide to over 161,400! Within the ICAEW South and South West region we have met or talked to nearly 4000 individual members during 2021 which is a significant increase on 2020. The use of virtual meetings and events has really overcome the geography of the area and allowed members to meet more regularly. So actually, a very positive year.

As I write this at the beginning of 2022, announcements around infection rates on the Omicron Covid variant seem to be reducing. Although the pandemic is nowhere near over, it does give us hope of being able to meet more freely face to face. 2022 I can see will be a year of weighing up what is the most appropriate way of meeting or attending an event. If nothing else the pandemic has taught us some lessons – ‘is it a good use of my time’, ‘is it really sustainable for me to get into a car and drive to this event’ and ‘what are the benefits in meeting face to face verses a zoom meeting?’

For 2022 the District Society will continue to follow the key themes coming out of ICAEW; strengthening trust in the ICAEW Chartered Accountant, mastering technology and data, supporting the transformation of trade and the economy, helping to achieve the Sustainability Development Goals, and strengthening the profession by attracting talent and building diversity. To make sure you know how these are being delivered in the ICAEW South West area, please do make sure you update your communication preferences on the ICAEW website against your membership number, telling us what areas you are interested in and want to receive communication on. ICAEW Essentials will continue to provide courses online to ensure your CPD requirements are met.

Looking forward to meeting more of you this year,

Bev Waters
ICAEW Regional Director,
South & South West



DAVID HARLAND
dialling-in from COP 26

TOURISM & HOSPITALITY SECTOR POST-PANDEMIC – WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD

As part of our regional sector group, we were delighted to hold a webinar with five ICAEW members all working within the tourism and hospitality sector.

David Harland, CEO, Eden Project (Chair)
Colin Stratton, FD, St Austell Brewery
Roger Maslin, CEO, The Ocean Conservation Trust (National Marine Aquarium)
Stuart Reid, CEO, Isles of Scilly Steamship Group
Kevin Jutson, CFO, Ilchester Estates (Abbotsbury Swannery & Subtropical Gardens)

Discussions included how the pandemic had affected their businesses, the challenges they faced and the operational changes they had to make. The panellists then discussed their plans for 2022 and beyond to ensure the businesses were as resilient and sustainable as possible whilst still enjoying growth.

If you would like to view the recording of this session or would like more information on one of regional sector groups: travel & tourism, rural & farming or sustainability, please contact Trudi (trudi.coles@icaew.com).

ICAEW BUSINESS COMMITTEE UPDATE

Despite only formally meeting a handful of times a year, I always find myself with interesting updates to share. Firstly, a change in ICAEW structure created the opportunity for chair of the committee, Simon Gray, to join ICAEW as the new Head of Business. A great loss for the committee, but an excellent addition to ICAEW and he will continue to work to improve ICAEW's offering to business members.

The second update is the closure of the Business and Management Faculty. This will be replaced by a new business hub available to all members. The aim is to consolidate the current offering into one location which will be easy to navigate. It is currently still in testing, however when it goes live I strongly recommend spending 10 minutes looking through all the useful information on there.

As I write this, there are current vacancies to sit on the business committee. It is a great way to interact directly with ICAEW. You'll also network with some fantastic people and have a feel for how other sectors and businesses are doing. I would highly recommend it.

Alice Bessell
ICAEW Business Committee member



NEW STARTERS EVENT

SWECASS hosted the second of their virtual 'New starters event' in November 2021. A presentation was given on who SWECASS were and the benefits of being part of the ICAEW student society.

The event was very enjoyable as participants were first split out into breakout rooms to play two truths and a lie, during this event students were able to break the ice and get to know one another.

Later on, everyone participated in a quiz, in which we had two joint winners this year.

At the end of the event participants were informed of future SWECASS events such as the AGM, and the insights events.

The event was a great way introduction to the society and an enjoyable way to inform students about upcoming SWECASS events.

Merlin Thomas
SWECASS Secretary

INSIGHTS TALKS – CHARITIES AND TRUSTS

SWECASS hosted a virtual Insights talks "Insights talks – Charities and Trusts" on 15 September 2021. Five ICAEW members gave short talks about the experiences and challenges they have come across whilst pursuing a career in their different areas of charities and trusts.

The five speakers were Michelle Ferris, Head of Charities and Care, and Partner at Albert Goodman; Craig Sullivan, Audit Partner at Bishop Fleming; Sarah Mudd, Head of Internal Audit at the Donkey Sanctuary; Laura Waycott, Head of Finance at Children's Hospice South West and Claire Quick, Director of Finance & Resources at the Deaf Academy.

The evening finished off with a Q&A session where the ICAEW students were able to ask our speakers various questions. It was lovely to hear from specialists and was great to understand their roles in both industry and practice. It was inspiring to hear from such passionate speakers and to understand how their careers developed.

Andrea Gibbs
SWECASS Treasurer

VOLUNTEERING ROLES WITH LOCAL SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

An Enterprise Adviser works with the Careers Leader within a school to help connect the school with local businesses and also to give a business perspective on the school's careers strategy and annual plan.

An EA is really a critical friend to the school – challenging whilst supporting (much like a governor role). Potentially utilising your business networks will be very welcome as schools are always looking to put on various careers activities to inspire young people and help the school meet the Gatsby Benchmarks.

How much you might also decide to be involved in delivery of some operational activities (for example, mock interview days) is entirely up to you. There is no expectation to do so but some EAs like to do this alongside the strategic element of the role.

Martin Williams, ICAEW SW Past President

'Having spent a few years as an Enterprise Advisor working with UTC Plymouth, I wholeheartedly recommend the opportunity to get involved with the EA Network. I found it a rewarding chance to help schools and colleges to work with employers to ensure their students are developing the right skills for their future careers'

You can find out more about the role of the Enterprise Adviser at enterpriseadvisers.careersandenterprise.co.uk

Alternatively, you could consider volunteering for the 'Give an hour' campaign

Was there someone in your life that made a difference to the career choices you made? Could you open the eyes of a young person to an exciting or fulfilling career that they didn't even know existed?

The Give an hour campaign invites you to change the lives of the young people in your area by giving up as little as one hour of your time. We'd particularly like to hear from you if you own or work in a small or medium sized business.

In an hour, you could change the course of a young person's life by sharing your story or helping them understand more about the world of work. And sometimes that's all that is needed. Could you be that someone?

Register today at giveanhour.co.uk to give an hour and make a difference.



THE CAREERS &
ENTERPRISE
COMPANY

RISE INITIATIVE LAUNCHED: ICAEW LEADS ON SOCIAL MOBILITY PLAN

In December, ICAEW launched a new programme called Rise, which will teach communication skills, problem-solving and teamwork to young people in schools across the country. The programme has been set up to raise the aspirations of young people from low socio-economic backgrounds. Research from the Social Mobility Foundation suggests that a young person is twice as likely to become an accountant if their parents are accountants. Young people with no access to accountants through their parents' networks may not consider our profession as the rewarding career that we all know that it is. Thankfully our profession seems to be doing better than some others – a person is 24 times more likely to become a doctor if one of their parents is a doctor and 17 times for lawyers.

There are lots of talented young people out there and we need make sure that they consider accountancy as a career and this will widen the pool from which we can recruit. Young people don't know what they don't know and will naturally not think about being an accountant if they don't understand what accountants do. They do have aspirations as well as being talented and we can help them. Social mobility cold spots include coastal and rural areas of which we have plenty in the South West.

ICAEW has teamed up with not-for-profit The Talent Foundry to deliver sessions in schools. Their staff will go through seven steps in a one-day session. These include how to use language, working with numbers, decision making and analysis. But we need your help. While The Talent Foundry will provide people to facilitate the learning we need accountants to be in the room to be a voice that is not their teachers' or parents'. While we may not perceive ourselves as being particularly inspiring, having someone give up their time, go to a school and show interest in the young people is inspiring for them. Any of us with children may have experienced how they don't listen to us, just because we're their parents, so having a new role model can be very important.

The Talent Foundry will provide support prior to the session and this can be a great opportunity for a more junior member in your team to develop themselves. To find out more about how you or one of your team can become involved contact Thao Bui thao.bui@icaew.com and have a look at rise-initiative.co.uk



FEBRUARY**16 Wed, 12:00-14:00**

FCA/10-year membership celebratory lunch

Face-to-face

18 Fri, 08:00-09:00

Cornwall business member breakfast

Virtual

24 Thu, 12:00-13:00

A better tax return season starts now

Virtual

MARCH**2 Wed, 18:30-19:30**

Insights: Working in industry

Virtual

4 Fri, 07:30-09:00

Exeter business member breakfast

Face-to-face

8 Tue, 16:00-17:00

Carbon off-setting webinar

Virtual

18 Fri, 07:30-09:00

Plymouth business member breakfast

Face-to-face

24 Thu, 12:00-13:00

Going paperless: better for your business and the environment

Virtual

25 Fri, 08:00-09:00

Somerset business member breakfast

Virtual

29 Tue, 17:30-19:30

Female Forum: the uncomfortable conversation

Face-to-face

APRIL**1 Fri, 07:30-09:00**

Cornwall business member breakfast

Face-to-face

8 Fri, 08:00-09:00

Exeter business member breakfast

Virtual

28 Thu, 12:00-13:00

Ditch the dross: D clients and what to do with them

Virtual

29 Fri, 18:00-19:15

Exam Qualified Reception & Student Awards

Face-to-face

29 Fri, 18:30-00:00

Annual Dinner

Face-to-face

MAY**20 Fri, 11:00-14:00**

Annual General Meeting

Face-to-face

20 Fri, 14:30-16:30

50 year membership celebratory afternoon tea

Face-to-face

24 Tue, 09:30-10:30

Member in Business Update - Financial Reporting

Virtual

24 Tue, 11:30-12:30

Member in Business Update - Tax & VAT

Virtual

We are planning a face-to-face and virtual meeting for each of the town groups - email Trudi at trudi.coles@icaew.com for more details. Full details and online booking can be found at events.icaew.com choose 'South West' in the 'Country/Region' search box or use dates.

CONTACTS

Ros Aala President, ICAEW SW
ros@accountancylearning.ac.uk

Trudi Coles Regional Executive, ICAEW T +44 (0)117 370 1463
trudi.coles@icaew.com

Alice Bessell Editor, ICAEW South West News
alice@brownandbright.co.uk

Dawn Mills Deputy-President, ICAEW SW
dawn.mills@albertgoodman.co.uk

Beverley Waters Regional Director, ICAEW
beverley.waters@icaew.com