



# YOUR MONTHLY E-BULLETIN

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**Issue 52; March 2017**

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## LATEST CONSORTIUM NEWS

### Consortium Survey

In this month's bulletin we promised a special feature on the things the survey has told us and how these messages are influencing the work of the Consortium going forward.

The table below provides a snapshot of the main findings that came out of the survey responses. If you or your organisation want a separate discussion or briefing on the results please contact Beryl Heath on [bh\\_nwlconsortium@btinternet.com](mailto:bh_nwlconsortium@btinternet.com)

One of the major things coming out of the survey was the apparent lack of awareness amongst member organisations of the added value offer from our 4 Partner Firms. We make no apology then for repeating the information below about the added value offers available to you.

### Are you getting the most from your Consortium Added Value Offers?

#### What are added value offers?

Added Value offers are provided to all Consortium member organisations by the partner firms appointed to the Solicitors Framework irrespective of whether or not your organisation is currently or has been a client of that firm.

The offer is in addition to the support that the partner firms provide to the Consortium training programme, the Annual Training Event, the PR and Website and Practice Management Groups and running and organisation of the Consortium generally.

#### What sort of things are offered by the partner firms by way of added value?

The four partner firms, DACBeachcroft, Geldards, Hill Dickinson and Weightmans all provide specific offers to Consortium members by way of added value.

However their offers generally cover or include:

- use of the firms office facilities
- free helpline service
- use of library, research facilities and precedent bank
- assistance with secondments, work shadowing or placements, coaching and mentoring

#### Where can I find full details of what is on offer from each of the partner firms?

You can access the details of all the offers from the partner firms under each of the firm's names in the secure area of the website- left hand menu.

You will need to be logged into the website of course.



What the survey told us- main messages	Our Responses/What we plan to do about this
<b>Good response overall – particularly strong feedback from Merseyside authorities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Thank you to all those who responded</li></ul>
<b>Training area of the website accessed on an ad hoc basis</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We have refocused our alerts on the training sessions.</li><li>• Reminders will now be issued 3 months and 1 month before a course is to run in addition to any reminders in E-Bulletins.</li></ul>
<b>At least half of responders say they use the commissioning tool on the website</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The commissioning area of the website is there for your use and is an immediate way to place work/run a mini-competition with providers with a clear audit trail.</li><li>• This is something we will continue to remind users about.</li><li>• We are also working on improving the commissioning tool further and in providing commissioning guidelines to assist you with getting the best responses and fee structures for your organisations.</li></ul>
<b>The website is not that well used as a networking /collaboration tool</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The website Directory provides the email addresses of colleagues across the member organisations. It also holds a note of an individual's specialisms – ideal if you want to approach a colleague about a particular issue you might both be facing, a problem shared and all that!</li><li>• Why not make sure that you and your colleagues have all registered your specialisms – it could be really useful one day soon.</li></ul>
<b>The use of the forums on the website is not widespread</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The website forums have not been well used – so there must be better ones out there.</li><li>• That's fine and what is more if you regularly use a particular forum to assist you in your work why not share the details with others via the Consortium website? We'd be happy to advertise the Forum you use on the Consortium website - contact Beryl Heath if you want to do so.</li></ul>
<b>The jobs area is popular with organisations who can advertise for free and with staff in member organisations to check for opportunities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• This is a feature we will continue to provide.</li></ul>
<b>Over 80% of responders see the –E-Bulletin</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We will continue to publish the E-Bulletin</li></ul>



Knowledge of benefits of the Consortium and the website functionality in particular is patchy

- We will try to spread the word about the benefits of membership and the website. To make this easier within organisations we are going to ask Heads of Service to nominate their NWLC Champion who will be our point of contact for all things 'Consortium' within member organisations.

Over 90% of responders said that the website was easy to use

- This is great news – thanks!

Over 55% of responders are not aware of the added value offer from our 4 partner firms

- This was as we suspected and the reason why in last month's edition we published an article on the added value offer- see below for a repeat!

The rates information is not widely used as a comparison tool.

- This is something we will continue to remind users about.

## REMINDERS

### Course Materials

If you or your colleagues have missed out on one or more of our Consortium training sessions you might find it helpful to see the slides/presentation from the session.

These are all available in the documents area of the website at [www.nwlegalconsortium.com](http://www.nwlegalconsortium.com)

### Website Authorised Users - Are all your colleagues signed up to use the Consortium website?

There is no limit on the number of users that each member organisation can register.

Some organisations have registered all their legal staff, others have been selective.

If on reflection and so that all staff can appreciate the benefits of using the Consortium website you want to add new users we will need the approval of the Head of Service but from there we will sort it out for you!

Website Log In If you are an authorised user and you do not think you have received your new website log in details then do get in touch with either Brian Gibson on [briangibson2@msn.com](mailto:briangibson2@msn.com) or Beryl Heath at [bh\\_nwlconsortium@btinternet.com](mailto:bh_nwlconsortium@btinternet.com) and we'll do all we can to assist you.



## FREE CONSORTIUM TRAINING

The Consortium Annual Training Programme is available and loaded to the website – courses page.

You can book yourselves colleagues or clients on to the courses available through the website.

### Coming up we've got:

Don't forget that all this training is **free**, and is open to legal staff at member organisations as well as to client department staff.

- On 15 March in Manchester, DACBeachcroft are providing a Housing/Property Update  
Postponed: Please note this training is now to be provided on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2017
- On 22 March in Warrington, Geldards are covering Information Governance Part 2
- On 26 April in Liverpool, Weightmans' session is on Inquests

There's lots in store for everyone!

All the details and for bookings its through the website please, courses page at [www.nwlegalconsortium.com](http://www.nwlegalconsortium.com)

**And don't forget** if you have booked on to a course and can't make it after all there is a facility to cancel your booking.

Simply go the website secure area and click on 'Manage Your Bookings' to see a button to cancel your place or places you have booked for colleagues and clients.

Please either complete the form on the home page of the website or contact Beryl Heath on [bh\\_nwlconsortium@btinternet.com](mailto:bh_nwlconsortium@btinternet.com) to add more authorised users for your organisation

## New Roles up for grabs?

We publish a range of vacancies on the website jobs page at <http://www.nwlegalconsortium.com/jobs/>

Interested? Find out more on the website.

Does your authority want to advertise your vacancies on the website **for free**?

If so contact Beryl Heath on [bh\\_nwlconsortium@btinternet.com](mailto:bh_nwlconsortium@btinternet.com)

## YOU CAN NOW FOLLOW US ON TWITTER



@NWLConsortium



## NWLC NOMINATED CHARITY OF THE YEAR

Please support the North West Air Ambulance Charity

For the Charity's latest events go to: [nwaa.net](http://nwaa.net)



Happy New Year from everyone at the North West Air Ambulance Charity.  
We really appreciate your support throughout 2016 and wish you all the best for 2017.

### 1. And the winner is.....

The Annual Prize Draw results are in! One lucky player has won £5000, and several more winning £100 each. A big thank you to all those who entered, you have helped us raise an amazing £95,000 which will help fund our missions and give the gift of time to those in need across the region.

### The lucky winning ticket numbers are:



<b>Winner</b>	0215903	Lancashire
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### Runner-Up Prizes

Number	Prize	Area
0440026	£100	Greater Manchester
0484715	£100	Lancashire
0243645	£100	Carlisle
1197689	£100	West Lancashire
1080528	£100	Merseyside
1509894	£100	Lancashire
1453081	£100	Cheshire



## 2. Missed your chance in the prize draw? Then sign up to our lift of lotto today for your weekly chance to win £1000!

Did you know that the lottery now funds over 450,000 flight minutes a year?

The lottery is our largest source of income, funding 50% of our missions. Every year we give 52 supporters £1,000 through our weekly lottery. For as little as £1 a week or £4.34 a month, not only will you get the chance to win up to £1,000 in our weekly draw, but you will also help keep our helicopters flying. Every Friday, we give away a cool £1,000 and runners up prizes amounting to £350.

To enter, please visit <http://nwaa.net/lottery/> or contact our lottery team on 0800 587 4570.

Once you become a member, you will be allocated a unique lucky number, which will be entered into each draw that you subscribe to (you can purchase more than one entry per week if you wish). Each Friday our draw takes place with winning numbers being randomly selected by a computer.

## 3. Get Active this 2017 and join NWAA for the Great Manchester Run and brand Great Manchester Half Marathon on 28<sup>th</sup> May!



Join the North West Air Ambulance Charity for the Great Manchester Run in 2017 and help to keep our helicopters flying and saving lives.

Take in some of Manchester's iconic sites in the hugely popular 10k, or challenge yourself in the brand new half marathon. With bands and thousands of spectators lining the routes and creating a terrific atmosphere, this event is a must for all abilities.

How to get involved:

You can apply for one of our limited charity places in the Great Manchester Run. All we ask is that you pledge to raise a minimum sponsorship of £150 for a place in the 10K and £250 for a place in the half marathon.

Apply here: <https://nwaa.net/greater-manchester-run/>

Alternatively, you can sign up directly with the race organisers at [www.greatrun.org](http://www.greatrun.org), don't forget to let us know once you have secured your place!

### Already got a place?

If you've already got a place in either the 10K or Half Marathon, we would love to welcome you to Team NWAA. There's no minimum fundraising target, just have fun and raise as much as you can! Get in touch with our fundraising team to request your fundraising pack by emailing [fundraising@nwaa.net](mailto:fundraising@nwaa.net).



### How we'll support you

As a member of Team NWAA, we promise to give you lots of support and encouragement along the way including:

- A fantastic fundraising pack filled with hints, tips and ideas
- A free NWAA t-shirt to wear with pride on the day
- Team NWAA temporary tattoos and message squares
- Access to on the day cheer packs including cheer sticks, supporter signs and more
- Support from our events team on all aspects of your fundraising

It's your fundraising efforts that help us to remain a North West lifeline, 365 days a year. Find out more here <https://nwaa.net/challenge-events/>

### 4. Did you know?

**Did you know?**

**2,000+**

We attend over **2,000** missions every year. That's around the same flying hours as a plane travelling around the globe more than **32** times!

Our cruising speed is **160mph**. That's **30mph** faster than the average speed of a Formula 1 grand prix race!

When empty our EC135 helicopter weighs the same as **1,455** litres of water. Enough to fill **20** baths of water!

**130 mph**

**1,455**