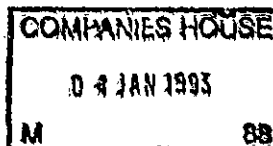


PLYMOUTH LAW SOCIETY

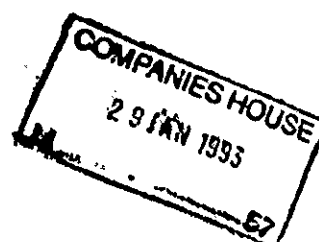
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

for the year ended 30th September, 1992.

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	1992	1991
INCOME		
Subscriptions		
Entrance Fees	9,200	3,463
Profit on Sale of Contract Forms	205	90
Profit on Annual Dinner	179	244
Profit on Polytechnic/Law Society Courses	-	185
Building Society and Bank Interest	1,387	509
A.D.R. Meeting	239	258
Advertising	-	5
	<u>191</u>	<u>-</u>
Income Received on Library Fund	11,401	4,754
Investments	<u>424</u>	<u>219</u>
	11,825	4,973
LESS: EXPENDITURE		
Administrative Expenses		
Administration Secretary	2,439	-
Postage and Stationery Etc.	1,783	3,408
Insurances	35	32
Audit Fees	329	329
Honorary Secretary	750	1,250
Honorary Treasurer	500	400
Filing of Annual Return	32	20
Provincial Law Societies		
Subscriptions	80	60
Delegates Expenses	1,992	903
Donations	8	-
Deficit on Annual General Meeting		
Luncheon	56	58
Loss on Annual Dinner	291	-
Lectures and Meetings	240	-
Functions	50	75
Miscellaneous Expenses	<u>269</u>	<u>53</u>
	8,854	6,588
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) for the Year	2,971	(1,615)
Transferred to Library Fund	<u>424</u>	<u>219</u>
TRANSFERRED TO/(FROM) CAPITAL ACCOUNT	£2,547	(£1,834)



BALANCE SHEETas at 30th September, 1992.

	<u>1992</u>	<u>1991</u>
FIXED ASSETS		
President's Chain of Office at Valuation in 1965	225	225
LIBRARY FUND		
Bristol and West Building Society	5,994	5,570
CURRENT ASSETS		
Contract Forms	-	37
Ties	164	184
Debtors	8	8
Halifax Building Society	3,384	4,767
Cash at Bank	94	2,862
	<u>£3,650</u>	<u>£7,858</u>
LESS: CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Creditors	656	5,591
Monies Held for Annual Dinner	-	1,820
	<u>£656</u>	<u>£7,411</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS	<u>2,994</u>	<u>447</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>£9,213</u>	<u>£6,242</u>
REPRESENTED BY:		
ACCUMULATED FUND		
Balance as at 1st October, 1991	672	2,506
Transfer from Income and Expenditure Account	<u>2,547</u>	<u>(1,834)</u>
	3,219	672
LIBRARY FUND		
Balance as at 1st October, 1991	5,570	5,351
Add: Interest Received on Investments	<u>424</u>	<u>219</u>
	<u>£9,213</u>	<u>£6,242</u>

JEREMY BENNETT ESQ. - HONORARY TREASURER

Neil Geoffrey Major

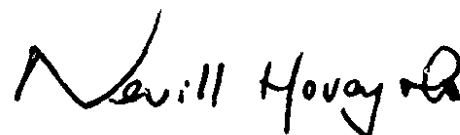
 NEIL GEOFFREY MAJOR - Director

REPORT OF THE AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF

PLYMOUTH LAW SOCIETY

We have audited the financial statements in accordance with Auditing Standards.

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the Society's affairs as at 30th September, 1992, and its surplus for the year then ended.



NEVILL, HOVEY & CO.

Leslie and Godwin House,
Hampton Street,
PLYMOUTH.
PL4 8DB

Chartered Accountants and
Registered Auditor.

20th October, 1992.

Report of the Committee

presented to the

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY SEVENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

of

PLYMOUTH LAW SOCIETY

to be held on the 26th November 1992

The Committee present the 177th Report of the proceedings of the Society.

MEMBERSHIP

The recent death of Mr. R.T. Blaikie is recorded with deep regret.

Membership has fallen to 293 members in the current year, but this may be as much due to the recession as to the sharp increase in subscription necessary for the employment of our part-time Administration Secretary. Despite this, the activities of the Society has involved members in a wide range of events and the Committee has made strenuous efforts to give value for subscriptions.

MEETINGS

The Committee continues to meet on a monthly basis and has benefited in the current year from an influx of new members, largely due to the soundings taken particularly amongst younger members in the previous year.

In three ways the work of the Committee has been broadened or strengthened, including:-

- (i) representation of specialist local solicitor groups to liaise and provide mutual support.
- (ii) appointing a standing legal education sub-committee to develop the link with our new University and to arrange relevant local and economic courses.
- (iii) appointing a standing social sub-committee which has initiated a varied and popular programme of events from inter-disciplinary meetings to sporting and social events and a most successful Barn Dance.

Apart from committee meetings, there have been two general meetings during the year; one on the Cost of Default to enable members to debate and make representations on the way ahead in the light of unacceptable losses which are falling on the profession due to defalcations; the other general meeting was an informal gathering to hear a report on the National Conference and to air views on the legal aid franchising proposals, alternative dispute resolution, rights of audience, professional indemnity insurance and the future of matrimonial legal aid. As if the pace of change in the practice of the Law were not enough, the report included a description of the latest office technology in the form of voice-activated word processing.

The early part of the year was much taken up with the national debate about fixed fees for legal aid criminal work, and how to thwart such an imposition. Inevitably, it was recognised we could not win, but concerted effort undoubtedly deferred its arrival.

Also during the year representations were made to seek the setting up of a Magistrates' Court Users Group and happily this is now being brought about on the initiative of the new Clerk to the Justices, Mr. Colin Watson, whom we welcome.

Your Committee has also campaigned for speeding up legal aid taxations – a perennial battle.

ADMINISTRATION SECRETARY

Our first employed Administration Secretary was recruited at the beginning of the year, the task of dealing with so much paperwork and correspondence (as well as handling local complaints) having become an unacceptable burden for an Honorary Secretary.

We were fortunate in securing the part-time services of Mrs. Jane Ward, a Solicitor currently not in practice while she raises her family, but whose enthusiasm and loyal support since her appointment on 1st January have led to various innovations in the handling of the secretarial business of the Society and a revolution in the presentation of the monthly circulars, which is a continuing evolution! We thank her warmly for her efforts on our behalf. She has attended all our meetings and is seeking to get to know as many members as possible.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

The Citizens Advice Bureau rota has continued to be offered, in a revised form, thanks to the hard work of Roy Griggs and the Society is indebted to those firms who continue to support him and the Bureau.

In a joint venture with Devon and Exeter Law Society your Committee is sponsoring a Dinner at the House of Commons in December for Plymouth (and East Cornwall) and Devon Members of Parliament in order to familiarise them with the concerns and aspirations of their solicitor constituents and to build a rapport to benefit future relationships as well as to offer ourselves as a source of legal research and soundings on matters of mutual concern.

SOCIAL

The Society's Annual Dinner was less well attended than for many years, and yet was probably the more enjoyable for enabling the organisers to provide a better meal in greater comfort and with live music accompaniment. Mark Sheldon, the President of The Law Society, was principal guest and it was a pleasure to invite Gary Streeter, MP, to speak as our first Plymouth MP from this Society. The Committee is indebted to Peter Sleep for this success in his first year as Dinner Secretary.

Monthly gatherings are held at The China House. Members are urged to support this event which is totally informal and is a pleasant opportunity to meet others in a relaxed environment, and they are assured of a warm welcome. Attendances began high but have been mixed of late.

OFFICERS

Jeremy Bennett after seven years as Hon. Treasurer is stepping down and is to be commended for his most conscientious service to the Society. We are delighted that he may still serve on the Committee.

AND FINALLY

Members of the Committee feel that in spite of the trials that afflict the profession, we have as great an opportunity as ever for presenting the profession's image as it should be presented and for acting together to preserve what is best in private practice and facing up to the challenges.

Undoubtedly that is easier if we do take the opportunities the Law Society offers to meet each other. To that end your Committee will strive to expand and improve the activities of the Society in the coming year, and consult as broad a membership as possible.

P.E. Stevens

Neil Ghajjar

DIRECTOR