



NEWSLETTER – FEBRUARY 2014

Membership

Just a brief reminder regarding the annual subscription for CRELA which remains unchanged at £25.00. If you have not already paid, can you please pay your renewal subscription personally or arrange for your firm to pay it for you, perhaps in conjunction with your other colleagues? You will probably have been sent a renewal notice recently, but otherwise if you have not renewed please log on to the website and complete the form or contact Tim Power at TPS (booking@tpsnorfolk.co.uk). Presently there are around 370 members and so our membership continues to grow.

Website

Click here www.crela.org.uk and follow the link through the Members' Area.

You will need to register with the new forum software installed – see details below. Your previous registration with the previous software will no longer allow you access.

You will see that we have added some new items over recent weeks and a list of the events scheduled for 2014 will appear here shortly. We are likely to also be reworking the website further to split it into two main sites, namely updates and a main forum for members to log their views. Our thanks to Peter Williams of Falco Legal Training who is assisting with that process.

As mentioned above, the forum software has just been revamped and re-launched. It's a much simpler platform and we encourage you to register for an account by following these simple instructions:

1. Click on Members' Area.
2. Click on Log In.
3. Go to Register.
4. Enter a Username and Password.
5. Follow the on-line instructions.

An email will be sent to the CRELA Administrator who will approve the application.

Please then leave 24 hours for your account to be activated.

6. You can then log in.
7. Click on 'CRELA Forum' for the list of topics on which you can comment.
8. Click on 'Announcements' to see the CRELA Committee's message to members.

Once you have registered we will be able to bring you more content and seek ways to canvas your own views as members of CRELA.

2014

The Committee have received a number of suggestions for seminars from various members of CRELA and wish to express their thanks for those suggestions. We will be doing our best to accommodate where possible throughout the course of this year.

Any further suggestions of topics for seminars are always welcome.

Next Event

Our next event takes place on 10 March 2014 at Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London EC1. This is kindly being hosted by Hogan Lovells International LLP and our specific thanks to them for volunteering their auditorium facilities to host this seminar.

There will be three main topics covered at this:

1. Capital Allowances

Presented by Derek Hussey of AECOM.

2. Chancel Repair Liability

Presented by Peter Williams of Falco Legal Training.

3. RICS Service Charge Code

Presented by Sue Highmore of Practical Law Company.

Registration will be effective from 1730 with a seminar starting at 1800 and finishing approximately 1930 for drinks and discussion. Tickets are priced £20.00 plus VAT for members and £30.00 VAT for non-members, and this event will attract 1.5 hours of CPD points.

For more details on what is going to be covered by each of our speakers please log onto the website.

Topics separately which are under consideration for later this year are Scottish Independence, The Economy and Commercial Real Estate and changes to EPCs (coming into effect in 2018).

This is just a short selection of some of the topics and we will probably be looking to combine some of these together into the same event thereby making the event/seminar as worthwhile as possible for our members and providing valuable CPD points.

Venue Request

One problem we have had is in relation to selecting suitable venues. The hiring of hotels, functions suites etc is, to the Committee's mind, an expensive cost that can often be avoided if alternative locations are made available, thereby freeing up funds for relevant and topical speakers to satisfy the preferences and requirements of the CRELA members. This is therefore a call to all of you who are either in larger firms, especially within London, or alternatively may know of an appropriate location which can be used for minimal cost.

There are probably three types of venue required:

1. up to 50 persons;
2. 50-100 persons; and
3. 100+ persons.

We are conscious that there may be some suitable auditoria available and, whilst the Committee would be more than happy to cover all catering costs etc, the making available

of these venues would serve the needs of the CRELA members well as demonstrated by Hogan Lovell's volunteering their facilities for the event on 10 March 2014. If you are either within such an organisation or aware of a relevant venue which falls within the criteria suggested, perhaps you could contact our committee member, Richard Smith at richard.smith@brodies.com with your suggestions?

Sponsors

We are pleased to mention that we have had a very helpful response from EGi who, along with our existing sponsors, PLC, are keen to support us throughout the year. We will be looking at working with them both over the coming weeks and information will be posted on the website shortly.

Practice and Procedure Committee

Chaired by Simon Schipper, the Committee meets regularly and promotes discussions with other organisations such as the RICS to bring enhanced benefits to our respective members. If you are interested in getting involved then please let us know. New people are set to join the Committee shortly and we are always interested to hear from those who want to contribute.

On the Agenda for 2014 is a review of the Law Commission's proposed 12th Programme in relation to commercial lease issues (ie authorised guarantee agreements and exclusion of security of tenure procedure), the potential review of the Land Registration Act 2002 and a look at the not too far off possible Green Deal Letting Restrictions to be introduced in 2018.

In the meantime Judith Haworth from Oxfam and Jenny Millinger from the Land Registry have stepped down from the Practice and Procedure Committee. We would specifically like to thank them both for their time and contribution throughout their appointments to the Practice and Procedure Committee.

CRELA Committee's Work

The Committee continues to work hard and is focused on expanding membership numbers and at the same time is striving to improve the variety and content of seminars and promoting the Association beyond London. We have ensured there has been a considerable variety in the seminars and discussions held to date covering all kinds of economic, development and legal based themes. We continue to welcome suggestions, queries, recommendations or requests from all members to fill the diary for the forthcoming 12 months. Please direct any suggestions to those listed on the website who will be delighted to do what they can to assist.

We would also like to welcome two members to the Committee, Arnold Isaacson of Russell-Cooke and Teresa Edmund of Bristons LLP.

This is your Association and so we want to hear from you to make sure we represent your needs and wishes.

Thanks for your continuing support.

**CRELA Committee
February 2014**