



## Presidents Welcome

Welcome to the Spring 2020 edition of Livewire. With a new decade just started and the refrain to Auld Lang Syne now a distant memory, I had been hoping that the new tune for the decade would be "I can see clearly now" .... If only that were the case.

Brexit has been done. However, now the question is what kind of Brexit? How do we plan for what we do not fully comprehend? The Brexit Hub on the ICAEW website is worth revisiting and signposting to our clients where relevant.

Slipped in to the pre-Christmas in-tray was the Brydon Review. I sense that for accountants in practice at least, no longer when we hear "AGA" will it evoke thoughts of the smell of freshly baked bread, a permanently warm kitchen with green wellie boots in the utility room alongside a muddy dog.

Actually the report landed with a thud. Instead we will worry about the Audit Regulatory and Governance Authority, and the regulation of a separate audit profession. The only common thread is that the auditor must become a bloodhound, something that generations of auditors have until now resisted and forensic accounting and fraud detection will be on the syllabus.

Sir Donald Brydon is very clear that not only is the current framework no longer supporting the expectations of users, so we have a GAP (with one "A"), but also that it is wrong to solely blame auditors for the high profile reporting failures. So the ARGA will include both audit and Governance as it states on the label.

This will dominate ICAEW business in the coming months and our Council member, Simon Cobbin, will be reporting on developments to the SESCO Committee. It will also be on the agenda for District Societies Office Holders, so Simon Medcalf and I will be taking the SESCO views to the Institute through that channel.

The implications for audit firms both large and small are significant. Where will separation be demanded? Where does public interest stop? What about very large private companies? How will small charities get a cost effective audit and accounts solution? Will these changes restore trust in our profession? (audit and non-audit).

This is my last Livewire as president. Simon Medcalf will be taking up the baton passed to me by Eric Williams almost two years ago at our AGM on 21 May when we will also have a "State of the Nation" review over breakfast at Greenwoods Hotel. Most of the time is reserved for our speakers and networking, with the last few years having proved very thought provoking and all those attending enjoying the event.

I have tried to seek greater member engagement and hopefully involvement. This is difficult in a district bordering London where many of the residents in the area defined by our current boundary work in the City and look to the LSCA for some of their professional input. I have sought to address our identity crisis as our label does not define our boundary, and there is no North, or West Essex Societies (East Essex is a windfarm). There is now a national debate about the Society Boundaries and whether they are fit for purpose, having been established before the motorway network was built. The M25 was not built or even conceived when SESCO came into being. We will hear the recommendations from the consultation process and where new boundaries may be drawn in the spring. The indications received are that we will be able to represent more of Essex which is my sincere hope.

These discussions will definitely still be a Work in Progress by the time my term of office ends. The ICAEW is also revamping how it communicates to its members and the two exercises are meant to be completed at the end of this year. There is joined up thinking at the ICAEW on these issues and so I look forward to seeing the fruits of that work.

Finally, may I say that it has been a privilege to serve and to represent SESCO (or ICAEW South Essex) over the last two years. I have seen some significant improvements in how the ICAEW communicates with Government and outside of the profession following the appointment of Iain Wright, a former Government minister who leads our industrial strategy team. District Societies' influence on ICAEW workings has grown as we have become more collaborative than confrontational with the common goal of increasing member engagement.

All that remains for me to do is to wish you well for this brave new decade, to wish Simon Medcalf all the very best for his term of office and to Colin Corrigan who will step up to the Deputy Presidency. However, my greatest thanks go to Claire Eve, our Regional Executive, without whom this district would not work as it does. Claire has been so supportive, yet firm with me to get things done when they need to be - talking of which there is a deadline for this copy and I made a promise.....

**David Belbin**  
President

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### FEEDBACK

For all feedback on this publication or South Essex Society matters, email: [claire.eve@icaew.com](mailto:claire.eve@icaew.com)

or phone Claire on: +44 (0)1223 654 684.

To feedback to the ICAEW on Institute matters: [feedback@icaew.com](mailto:feedback@icaew.com)

[icaew.com/southessex](http://icaew.com/southessex)

# South Essex BCM & Economic Seminar 2020

## A business breakfast with the Bank of England

Join us to hear the latest views on what's happening in the economy and what this could mean for your business. We'll also reveal the latest findings of the ICAEW UK Business Confidence Monitor, one of the largest and most comprehensive quarterly reviews of UK business confidence and discuss what is happening to businesses in our area.

This year we are delighted to again be collaborating with FRP Advisory and look forward to welcoming you.

Our first speaker is Director for Business and Industrial Strategy at the ICAEW, Mr Iain Wright. Iain is a former Member of Parliament for Hartlepool from 2004 to 2017 and also served as the Chairman of Business Innovation and Skills Committee. Iain will review the ICAEW Business Confidence Monitor - Q1 findings.

Alex Gollidge joins us from the Bank of England and will discuss the Bank's view of the UK economy. Alex is the Deputy Agent for the South East and East Anglia, and joined the Bank in 1998. He worked in a number of analytical areas in the Bank's Head Office, including roles in Monetary Analysis, Market Services and Statistics. Alex will be providing an off the record look at the UK economy, drawing on the most recent Bank of England Inflation Report.

And finally, we are delighted to welcome Justin Urquhart-Stewart, our headline speaker. Justin was involved in the development of Big Bang in 1986 with BZW. From this he went on to found Broker Services which eventually went to become Barclays Stockbrokers where he was Corporate Development Director. Currently, he is keen on developing reforms for government privatisations as well as the development of regional investment structures for businesses of all sizes.

If you work in business or provide business advice, this event will be of interest to you. Breakfast will be provided before the presentations. There is no fee to attend.

**Date:** 5 March 2020  
**Venue:** Chelmsford Council Civic Centre,  
Duke Street, Chelmsford, CM1 1JE

**Time:** 08:30  
**Event Link:** [bit.ly/2QyYWoJ](https://bit.ly/2QyYWoJ)

## Trust, reform, ethics and sustainability:

### ICAEW Council's focal points for 2020

At ICAEW's Council meeting in October 2019, delegates discussed and debated the many issues that are affecting members today with the purpose of finding solutions to some of these points. This article outlines the content and actions of this meeting.

#### Trust and regulation

It's no secret that in recent years, the Chartered Accountant as a trusted advisor has come under much scrutiny. ICAEW is closely monitoring much information, including the CMA market reform proposals, the implementation of the recommendations from the Kingman review to reform audit regulation and the ongoing Brydon review of the future of audit:

- BEIS is considering the CMA recommendations and the consultation responses received.
- The new chair, Simon Dingemans, and new CEO, Sir Jon Thompson, of the FRC are in post and looking to the changes that need to be made to transform the FRC into ARGAs.
- Sir Donald Brydon has received extensive input to his review and is now writing his report.
- The UK Government's capacity for change is likely to be limited as it focuses on Brexit, and the general election on 12 December 2019.

In addition to changes in the regulation of audit, ICAEW is looking at possible changes that may be required related to legal services and insolvency regulation in the UK:

- The Legal Services Board has created new Internal Governance Requirements for all regulatory bodies.
- The Insolvency Service has consulted on the need for a single regulator for this activity. The number of regulators is reducing and ICAEW and IPA remain the two most significant regulators of insolvency services.

#### Audit reform: the impact on non-PIEs (Public Interest Entities)

Council discussed whether a new definition for a PIE was necessary and whether less complex entities should have the same auditing standards as PIEs. These suggestions will be considered by the Audit & Assurance Faculty and Technical Strategy Board to inform future work in this area.

#### Code of Ethics

Council approved the revised code which is based on the updated international code of ethics (IESBA Code) with some restyling to ensure it is simpler to navigate and use. It will be implemented in early 2020.

#### Sustainability road map

ICAEW is aware of the need to answer this big question "How do we build prosperous societies that are socially and economically just and yet live within our ecological limits?"

As an Institute, we are involved in many sustainability initiatives, both for our members and the profession, and in relation to ICAEW staff and resources. ICAEW's aim is to achieve 'carbon neutrality' and we are looking into what timescale this could be completed in.

Members of council were asked to consider the environmental impact of their choices and attempt to reduce their own carbon footprint as well as sharing this insight with their own networks.

For more information about Council or the matters discussed, please contact Jennifer Smith, Governance Manager ([jennifer.smith@icaew.com](mailto:jennifer.smith@icaew.com)).



## Top Tips For Healthy Lunches To Beat Temptation

Preparing your own lunch can make healthy eating a breeze. A satisfying lunch will curb your cravings and you'll be less likely to reach for sugary snacks to counter a mid-afternoon energy slump. With a little forward planning you can make sure each meal has the right balance of protein, good fats and carbohydrates for sustained energy all afternoon.

### Power of protein

Protein like meat, fish, eggs and cheese are the building blocks of brain cells, muscles and skin. Protein will help you feel fuller for longer, helping to regulate your appetite. Nutritionists suggest that each day you eat 0.75g of protein for each kilogramme you weigh. A chicken breast contains 35g of protein and a tin of tuna 25g of protein.

### Good fat

Healthy fats like avocado, oily fish, olive oil, nuts and seeds enable you to absorb fat-soluble vitamins. Fat will also keep you feeling full for longer. Add a dash of olive oil dressing to your salad or a handful of seeds to a soup or stew.

### Carbohydrates

Carbohydrates, particularly whole grains, vegetables and fruit, are a good source of fibre, essential for gut and bowel health. Aim to make vegetables half of your plate and choose if you need a snack. Carbs are broken down into sugar. You're likely to feel hungry more quickly after eating rice, pasta or bread. Quinoa is a quick to cook grain and it's a protein rather than a carbohydrate. Add to soups, stews and salads.

### HOW CABA CAN HELP

CABA provides lifelong support to past and present ICAEW members, ACA students and their close families. All their services are free, impartial and strictly confidential.

For advice and information call on **+44 (0) 1788 556 366**, email [enquiries@caba.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@caba.org.uk) or visit [caba.org.uk](http://caba.org.uk)

## SYPS Quiz, September 2019

We would also like to say a huge thank you to everyone who attended our SYPS quiz in September, where the raffle raised the fantastic total of £677 for Havens Hospices. We had a record number of attendees at this event, and actually had to extend the capacity twice, which was a lovely problem to have!

Thank you again to all those who attended and helped to make this event such a huge success.



## State of the Nation - A business breakfast

On 21 May at Greenwoods Hotel in Stock - We are collaborating with Strutt & Parker this year, who will be delivering a session on the future of retail and the high street.

We will also be welcoming Tolga Kulahcigil again from Handelsbanken, who will give his view on the economy.

This business breakfast is open to you, your clients and members from all local professional bodies, so do let your contacts know about it. The AGM will follow immediately afterwards.

This event is not yet online, so if you are interested in attending, then please email Claire Eve ([claire.eve@icaew.com](mailto:claire.eve@icaew.com)) to register your interest, and she will be able to send you the link once the event is live.



# Charity Ball raises £1,428

We are delighted to be able to announce that the generous donations of all that attended our Charity Ball in October totalled £1,428. This money was donated to Havens Hospices. Our thanks go to all our guests and to our sponsors, Method IT, First Intuition and Hays. Excellent feedback on the event was received and we hope to see you all at the 2020 Ball, the date and venue for which is yet to be confirmed.

During the course of the Charity Ball 2019, the Society's Learning and Professional Development Sub-Committee were pleased to award prizes from the Bill Croft Memorial Fund to the top students from the South Essex 2018 Order of Merit for both the Professional and Advanced Stage examinations. The Order of Merit identifies those students whose aggregate scores are the highest overall

and who have not previously failed any papers. The prize-winners have all been trained by ICAEW South Essex firms.

We would now like to take this opportunity to congratulate our student winners:-

**Muneeb Nazir, Kingston Smith** - First place in the Advanced stage (unfortunately Muneeb was unable to attend on the night)



**Lucy Glover, Wilkins Kennedy**  
- Second place in the Advanced stage



**Daniel Keys, Group Audit Services Ltd**  
- First place in the Professional stage



**Rachel Birch, FRP Advisory**  
- Second place in the Professional stage

Special congratulations must go to Lucy and Muneeb, as they achieved first and second place respectively in the Professional stage last year, so a huge well done to them.

## Skills For Growth

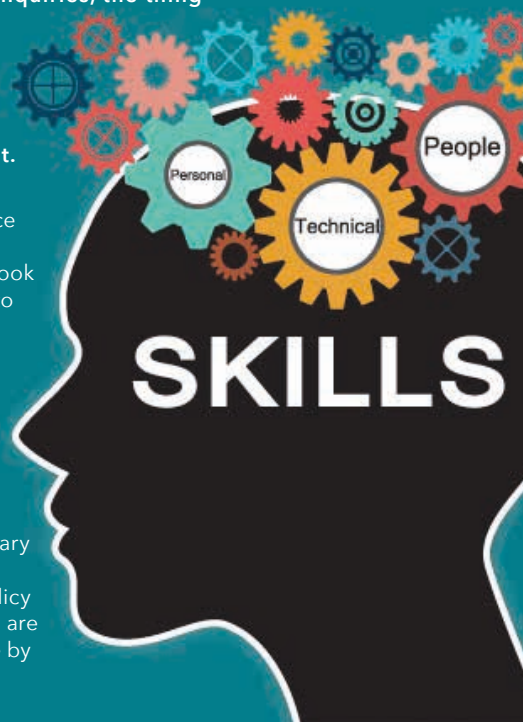


As ICAEW's Regional Industrial Strategy Manager, I am responsible for mobilising Chartered Accountants to help kick-start their local economies. I'm out regularly meeting business members across the country, and whether I'm running consultations on Local Industrial Strategies or taking evidence for Select Committee inquiries, the thing I hear most is that access to skills is a major barrier to business growth. In fact, the last few quarters of ICAEW's Business Confidence Monitor™ has shown that sourcing talent is a major concern for businesses, particularly in London and the South East.

ICAEW believes that our members have the insight to offer real and practical advice into how best to resolve skills shortages across the UK. In February, we will be conducting a series of roundtables across the country to find out what skills gaps look like from region to region and the solutions that our members have come up with to combat them.

With the evidence taken from these roundtable sessions, ICAEW will author a major publication on skills. This will be the first thought piece of its kind to offer pragmatic recommendations to the private sector, business policymakers and central government on how to ensure businesses have a dynamic and thriving talent pipeline. This report will then form part of a lobbying campaign around this topic to central government.

With this in mind, we invite you to attend a roundtable on the morning of 28 February at Chartered Accountants' Hall to contribute directly to this report. This is a great opportunity to feed your considerable expertise into a major piece of ICAEW's policy work and to have your voice heard by the very highest levels of Government. If you are interested in participating or would like to know more, please get in touch with me by e-mail at [Rosalia.wood@icaew.com](mailto:Rosalia.wood@icaew.com).



# Celebrating Icaew's First Female Member – Mary Harris Smith



Mary Harris Smith became ICAEW's first female member, and the first female chartered accountant in the world, in May 1920. During the 1880s, when the notion of a female public accountant was considered fanciful, Harris Smith established her own accounting firm in London. The prospects for a female accountant were not great but she built a successful practice. Among her many clients were organisations devoted to the advancement of women. Her several unsuccessful attempts to become a member of a professional body helped raise the issue of the exclusion of women from accounting and other occupations. Harris Smith's 30-year struggle to enter the male-dominated profession met a turning point in 1919 when Parliament passed the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act, which barred many professions from refusing to admit women. Harris Smith was admitted to ICAEW in 1920, aged 75. She said she had persevered in her quest to gain admission on behalf of all women, not just for herself.

Attitudes to women in the workplace have changed enormously. Mary Harris Smith's talent, tenacity and achievement has inspired ICAEW to lead a campaign to celebrate the success of female members from the first 100 years of women in membership. ICAEW President Fiona Wilkinson leads the campaign throughout her presidential year, which includes events across the globe, the creation of a historical booklet which tells the story of the first 100 years, and a portrait commission of Mary Harris Smith to hang in Chartered Accountants' Hall. For more information on the overall campaign, visit [icaew.com/100years](http://icaew.com/100years)

As part of the campaign, the East of England region (Beds, Bucks & Herts, East Anglia and South Essex) is hosting an event at Hotel Felix in Cambridge on 15 May entitled ICAEW: Sharing an inclusive future for the next 100 years. In addition to President Fiona Wilkinson, guest speakers Ruth Logan of EY and Jack Monroe will share their own experiences.

The EY UK Board became mostly female after the appointment of Justine Belton in June 2019. Ruth Logan, a partner and Head of Audit at the Cambridge office, has recently returned to Cambridge after leading the creation of a new Audit Centre of Excellence in the Belfast office. Ruth is passionate about helping other women to progress their careers within professional

services, the first partners having been appointed in the late 1970s (see timeline box)

Jack Monroe is a British food writer, journalist and activist. She left the Essex County Fire and Rescue Service in November 2011, unable to work night shifts as a single parent to a then 20-month-old son. In response to a local councillor who claimed that 'druggies, drunks and single mums are ruining the High Street', she started writing her blog, A Girl Called Jack, in February 2012. What started as a local politics blog developed into budget food and recipes, which were picked up with interest by the national press as she detailed living with her son on a food budget of just £10 a week. She describes the Daily Telegraph article by Xanthe Clay, 'My 49p Lunch With A Girl Called Jack', as the moment that changed her life. Having written for publications such as The Echo, The Huffington Post, The Guardian, and The New Yorker, as well as publishing several cookbooks, she won the Women of the Future Award in the media category in 2015.

The event is open to all and includes an opportunity to network over lunch. There is no charge so please do invite your friends and colleagues. To book visit [icaew.com/bbhevents](http://icaew.com/bbhevents) or call Kim Shield on +44 (0)1223 654 682.

## Timeline of female membership

<b>1880</b>	ICAEW set up by Royal Charter	<b>1950</b>	First female partner of a significant firm - Margaret Fox of Howard, Howes & Co (now Baker Tilly) appointed - until now most women partners are sole practitioners
<b>1887</b>	Mary Harris Smith sets up her own accounting firm	<b>1950</b>	Ethel Watts becomes the first female elected onto the executive committee of an ICAEW district society (London)
<b>1891</b>	Mary Harris Smith applies to be fellow at ICAEW - rejected	<b>Late 1970s</b>	First females appointed as partners in Arthur Young McClelland Moore (now EY) and Peat Marwick Mitchell (now KPMG)
<b>1896</b>	Mary Harris Smith asks to be allowed to sit ICAEW's final exams - refused	<b>1978</b>	Fran Harper elected as first female president of a Chartered Accountants' Student Body in Nottingham
<b>1909</b>	Board of Trade insists that women be admitted as part of the Professional Accountants Bill - never passed	<b>1979</b>	First females elected to ICAEW council - Mary Yale and Jane Robinson
<b>1914</b>	Ernst and Whinney employ first female but as a secretary, not an articled clerk	<b>1970</b>	Equal Pay Act (compliance voluntary until 1975)
<b>1919</b>	Sex Disqualification Removal (Act)	<b>1975</b>	Sex Discrimination Act
<b>1920</b>	Mary Harris Smith admitted as an ICAEW fellow	<b>1999</b>	First female president: Baroness Noakes
<b>1921</b>	First women registered for articles	<b>2016</b>	Gender Pay Gap Reporting Regulations introduced
<b>1924</b>	Ethel Watts qualifies and is admitted as an associate	<b>2016</b>	Second female president: Hilary Lindsay
<b>1945</b>	Watts founds the Women Chartered Accountants' Dining Society	<b>2019</b>	Third female president: Fiona Wilkinson
<b>1946</b>	Royal Commission on Equal Pay published: tentatively suggests equal pay for teachers and the civil service only		

# 'Trust tops agenda' says new ICAEW vice-president

Ahead of taking up the responsibilities of ICAEW Vice-President next year, Julia Penny talks to Chartam about the importance of trust, sustainability, diversity and technology to the chartered accountancy profession.



Julia Penny, currently a London member of ICAEW's Council, has been elected to serve as Vice-President in June next year, a move that will mean she becomes ICAEW President for 2022/23.

Penny, an independent audit and accountancy lecturer and consultant, recognises that her period in office will come at a time of great change and challenge for the chartered accountancy profession. Regulatory and market reform is set to radically shake up the profession, while the ongoing debate over the future of audit, what it does and what it could do, continues.

Penny says. 'You have to look and think about whether there is more that we can do to make sure that people understand their responsibilities and act accordingly. I'm particularly concerned about ethical dilemmas - we all come across these, but we need to make sure we make the right decisions.'

Penny notes that the profession is not just about audit and that there are many ICAEW Chartered Accountants at the very top of business. But above all, she acknowledges that the UK itself is facing significant change: 'We need to be stronger than ever and show that we are a good place to do business.'

Our members can have an important role in helping business to be sustainable. Consumers expect this, and most organisations now recognise it is good for business.'

There is also the impact that rapid technological change will have on the profession and wider business. 'It is key that accountants ensure they stay relevant and look at how we use technology to do our jobs better.'

Finally, there is the ongoing need to improve the diversity of and access to the profession. 'We have made significant progress, but stereotypes can still be reinforced. We get better answers when we have a wider input.'

Like many previous ICAEW office-holders, Penny began her involvement with ICAEW as a volunteer at the district society level

(Thames Valley in her case). She sat on the society's main committee as well as the Technical Advisory Committee (an involvement she continues today). Later, she was elected to the ICAEW Council as a London member. As such, she is a firm believer in the important role that volunteers have to play in the running of ICAEW, alongside its members of staff.

'It should be easy for those that want to, to get involved,' she says. 'We are all contributing, and success lies in bringing everyone with you.'

Of course, it's not lost on Penny that she will be only the fourth female ICAEW president when she assumes the position in 2022, following in the footsteps of Baroness Noakes, Hilary Lindsay and Fiona Wilkinson. 'I look forward to the time when it isn't relevant, perhaps when we have three female office-holders in a row,' she says.

Either way, Penny remains passionate about her profession and about ICAEW, and what it means to its members.

'I want the brand to remain strong, and keep the badge shining.'

## Fifth Anti-Money Laundering Directive (5Mld)

HM Treasury is currently revising the Money Laundering Regulations 2017 to take account of the changes required by the European Fifth Money Laundering Directive (5MLD). The directive must be transposed into UK legislation by 10 January 2020 regardless of the UK's planned exit from the EU. As soon as the legislation is available, we will publish a link to it on the Anti-Money Laundering pages of [icaew.com](http://icaew.com).

At the same time, the Consultative Committee of Accountancy Bodies (CCAB) are working on updating the AML Guidance for the Accountancy Sector. This is guidance that gets approved by HM Treasury as the definitive guidance for the accountancy sector on AML. The existing guidance can be found on the Anti-Money Laundering pages of [icaew.com](http://icaew.com). Once the revised guidance has been drafted and approved by HM Treasury it will be published on the website.

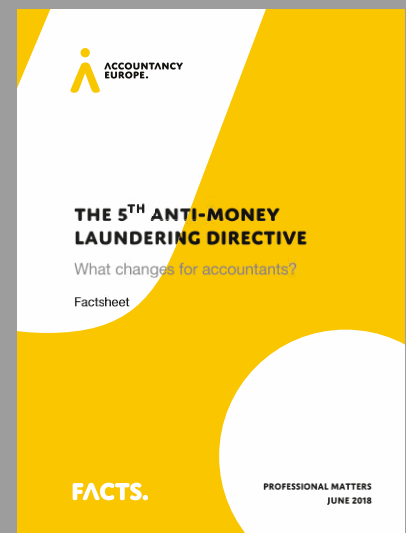
Many of the changes under 5MLD don't affect accountancy firms - as the changes bring letting agents, art dealers and crypto currencies into scope. However, there are a few key areas that firms will need to address in their policies and procedures:

- Firms providing both direct and indirect tax advice are now captured by the rules (e.g. repayment agents who act in the course of business as tax advisers, often referred to as High Volume Repayment Agents)

- When you take on a client, you must check that the client has filed details of the Persons with Significant Control with the registrar (i.e. Companies House) and report any discrepancies you identify; and

- Confirmation that electronic ID verification can be considered as a reliable source of evidence, where the electronic process is free from fraud and provides sufficient assurance of the identity of the individual. There is no intention however that electronic identity verification will be mandatory.

Accountancy Europe have published a fact sheet on the key changes which can be found at [bit.ly/3a1TqT3](https://bit.ly/3a1TqT3)



# New ICAEW Code Of Ethics

All ICAEW members, affiliates, students, BFP holders and member firms have to comply with the Code of Ethics. The ICAEW Code is based on a set of Fundamental Principles of ethical behaviour: Integrity, Objectivity, Professional Competence and Due Care, Confidentiality and Professional Behaviour.

The new Code of Ethics will be launched in January 2020 and will be based on the latest ethical code of the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants (IESBA). As a member of the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) we are committed to adopting the international IESBA code. It has been some years since the ICAEW Code was changed; the last version came into force in January 2011. Since that time there have been a number of small changes to the international code, including a restructure in 2018. We are now taking the opportunity to catch up with the changes over the past few years, and to adopt this new structure.

The main change in the Code is how it looks – the new structure will make it easier to read and understand, and it will be clearer which parts of the Code are requirements, and which are guidance. There aren't many changes of substance and the Fundamental Principles (detailed above) remain unchanged.

There are some changes to the auditor independence rules, which now sit in part 4 of the Code. However, this won't be relevant to nearly all ICAEW member firms, because they are required to apply the Financial Reporting Council Ethical Standard, rather than the Code of Ethics independence provisions.

The main change of substance that all users of the Code need to be aware of is the introduction of new sections called 'Non-Compliance with Laws and Regulations' or NOCLAR. These guide members on what to do if they discover illegal acts by their client or employer, and when it is permissible under the Code to breach confidentiality and report the wrongdoing to outside authorities. There will be support material for members on this new area.

The new Code has been published on the ethics pages of the ICAEW website along with a range of support material: [icaew.com/ethics](https://www.icaew.com/ethics). We encourage you to familiarise yourself with this new code and make use of the range of support and guidance available.

## Regional director's round up

### The profession is changing... Are you?

With technological advancement, the role of the accountant is moving further away from preparing accounts and becoming closer to being a business advisor. It is important to keep up to date with the developments that are constantly evolving in the AI, Blockchain, Cyber and Data and we have many resources available to make this as easy as ABCD.

### A brave new digital world

We are entering a new Digital Era and in this technological age everything is being impacted, including finance. ICAEW has been working with Deloitte to form the e-learning platform Finance in a Digital World. This catalogue of courses is designed to help you develop an awareness and build an understanding of how the tech world is impacting your own profession. To find out more go to [www.icaew.com/fdw](https://www.icaew.com/fdw)

One of the key elements of ABCD is the D, standing for Data. You will have heard about data in the news, with the Cambridge Analytica and Facebook scandals drawing much tabloid attention. However, analysing data does not need to be intimidating. Data can be used to inform your decision making as well as effectively communicate and provide evidential support for your arguments. This year, ICAEW has launched the Data Analytics Community. By being a member of this Community, you will have access to webinars, e-learning courses, face-to-face training, expert Q&As, plus resources covering all the essential aspects of data analytics. To get guidance on how to use data ethically, effectively and with impact, go to [www.icaew.com/joinda](https://www.icaew.com/joinda)

### Careers without limits

The Women in Finance Community is a network whose vision is to create a profession in which members can lead a career without limits. Its programme provides personal development and networking opportunities to enable women in finance to achieve their potential. Join here [www.icaew.com/wif](https://www.icaew.com/wif)

### They mean business: resources for members across sectors

Whilst technology is driving the constant evolution of the role of the accountant, digital learning is not our only focus at the Institute. We have just launched our Business Member Hub which is to support our some 60,000 members who are representing ICAEW across all sectors and contributing to our vision of a world of strong economies. The Hub includes resources on issues such as learning and professional development, professional networks, events and facilities. To find out more, go to [www.icaew.com/business](https://www.icaew.com/business)

By engaging with members in business, our focus is to maximise business and regional industrial strategy, as well as board effectiveness. One of the ways that this is achieved is through consultations and in February and March 2020 we launching a nationwide skills consultation for ICAEW members. The results of this will form the basis of a publication and a wider political campaign which will contribute to discussions on how best business, government and local business policymakers can address the gap. To get involved, contact [rosalia.wood@icaew.com](mailto:rosalia.wood@icaew.com)

To maximise board effectiveness, the Corporate Governance Community will be free to join for members from January 2020. This will allow you to stay up to date with the latest news and developments in corporate governance helping you in your work as a corporate governance professional, a member of a board or a non-executive director.

### You can't predict the future but you can certainly prepare for it.

ICAEW is committed to providing you with the guidance that you need to get an insight into what **Tomorrow's Practice** will look like. This platform is about making change work for Chartered Accountants as well as their clients, and it is driven by the fact that the market for practitioners has been altered radically by audit thresholds, regulation, technology and intense competition. Richard Watson, Author, Futurist & Scenario Planner, said to ICAEW that 'the future will belong to the people most interested in it' and that we should be concentrating on 'what we want to happen'. If you want to tell us what you think about the direction of tomorrow's practice today, get in contact at [thamesvalley@icaew.com](mailto:thamesvalley@icaew.com)



**Harpreet Panesar**

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## South Essex District Society Diary February - June 2020

DATE	TITLE	SPEAKER	TIME	VENUE
FEBRUARY				
THURS 13	SYPS Time Management Workshop	First Intuition	18:00	FI
TUES 18	SWEG - Legal Update	Palmers Solicitors	18:30	CH
TUES 25	CP319 Effective Use of Business Tax Losses	Robert Jamieson	14:00	IHH
MARCH				
THURS 5	South Essex BCM & Economic Seminar - A business breakfast with the Bank of England	Alex Golledge & Justin Urquhart-Stewart	08:30	CCC
THURS 12	CP320 Employment Taxes Update	Pat Nown	09:15	IHH
THURS 12	CP321 VAT Update	Neil Owen	14:00	IHH
MON 16	Charity Quiz	N/A	19:00	MABS
MON 16	SOSCAG - Practice Assurance	Dean Neaves	14:00	N/A
TUES 17	SWEG - IHT, Retirement Planning & Care Home Fees	Trinity Wealth Management	18:30	CH
TUES 24	Retired Member visit to Hylands House	N/A	11:00	HH
APRIL				
TUES 7	CP322 Solicitors Accounts Rules Update	Sally Hutchings	14:00	IHH
MON 20	SOSCAG - Topical Tax Tips	Tim Palmer	14:00	N/A
TUES 21	SWEG - Finance Act	Paul Soper	18:00	CH
MAY				
WED 6	CP323 Finance Act Update	Norman Allison	09:15	IHH
WED 6	CP324 Capital Allowances Refresher & Update	Norman Allison	14:00	IHH
THURS 7	Inter-Firm Karting Challenge	N/A	19:00	RK
FRI 15	ICAEW: Sharing an inclusive future for the next 100 years - East of England regional event celebrating 100 years since the first female member was admitted	EY & Jack Monroe	09:30	HF
TUES 19	SWEG SME Tax Update	BDO	18:30	CH
THURS 21	State of the Nation & AGM	Strutt & Parker & Hanselsbanken	08:00	GW
JUNE				
THURS 4	CP325 Advising the Elderly	Jonathan Wilkey	14:00	IHH
THURS 18	Retired Member visit to Layer Marney Tower	N/A	11:00	LMT
THURS 25	CP326 Share Options & Employment Related Securities	David Craddock	14:00	HH
FRI 26	Bank of England Economic Outlook - London & East regional event	Bank of England	08:00	CAH

### VENUE CODES

<b>CAH</b>	<b>Chartered Accountants Hall Auditorium</b>	<b>HH</b>	<b>Hylands House, Chelmsford</b>
<b>CCC</b>	<b>Chelmsford Civic Centre</b>	<b>IHH</b>	<b>Ivy Hill Hotel, Margaretting nr. Chelmsford</b>
<b>CH</b>	<b>Chigwell Hall, Chigwell</b>	<b>LMT</b>	<b>Layer Marney Tower</b>
<b>FI</b>	<b>First Intuition, Chelmsford</b>	<b>MABS</b>	<b>Mount Avenue Banqueting Suite, Hutton</b>
<b>GW</b>	<b>Greenwoods Hotel, Stock</b>	<b>RK</b>	<b>Rayleigh Indoor Karting Stadium</b>
<b>HF</b>	<b>Hotel Felix, Cambridge</b>	<b>SOSCAG</b>	<b>Contact Duncan Sheekey on 01702 470531</b>

For event information contact Claire Eve:

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**FULL DETAILS OF ALL EVENTS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE SOUTH ESSEX WEBSITE:**

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We reserve the right to vary the published programme

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