



# ICAEW OFFICE HOLDERS AND EXECUTIVES

## **President – Hilary Lindsay**

Hilary Lindsay is the President of ICAEW for 2016-17; in that role she chairs its board and has been a member of its Council for over a decade. As President she also is Patron of CABA, the ICAEW wellbeing arm, and chair of the CCAB Board. In 2011-12 she was President of AAT (the Association of Accounting Technicians).

Hilary is passionate about personal development and in 2013 completed doctoral research with The Open University into the roles of continuing professional development and lifelong learning in the accountancy profession. She has since published academic articles and a book in this area. She is an award-winning lecturer in finance and management for their Business School and a researcher and supervisor on the OU Doctorate in Education programme.

Hilary is chair of Axiom Housing Association and recently completed a nine year term as a trustee of CABA. She has been involved with Northampton Samaritans for twenty years and has run several marathons to raise funds for them.

She is the first academic and second woman to become President of ICAEW. Hilary lives in Northampton with her husband Colin. Their joint interests include their allotment, art appreciation and walking.

## **The Deputy-President – Nick Parker**

Nick Parker is Deputy President of ICAEW, and he is a tax partner with RSM UK. He has had a wide portfolio of clients including professional partnerships and UK subsidiaries of overseas parent companies, but he has mainly specialised in the SME sector.

During his time on Council he has chaired a variety of committees including the Members Board, the Committee of Council and the Audit Committee. He was Chairman of Council for three years.

During his career, Nick has lived in Hampshire and has worked in London, Edinburgh, Southampton and Basingstoke. He is married with two grown up sons, one who is an equine surgeon and the other who is an equine yard manager.

In his spare time he likes to undertake adventures – he trekked to the base camp of Everest, trekked in Patagonia, sailed from Sydney to Cape Town across the Southern Ocean as part of the Global Challenge Yacht race and most recently attempted to climb Mount Aconcagua in Argentina, the highest mountain in the Western hemisphere. He also held a private pilot's licence which has lapsed due to other commitments.

## **The Vice-President – Paul Aplin**

Paul Aplin, Vice President of ICAEW (elected 2016), joined A C Mole & Sons with an honours degree in biology and chemistry in 1980. He qualified as a Chartered Accountant in 1985; a member of the Chartered Institute of Taxation in 1989 and became the firm's first tax partner in 1992.

He has served as Chairman ICAEW Tax Faculty and until May 2016 chaired its Technical Committee. He writes for various tax and accountancy journals and is regularly quoted on tax issues in the national press. He is a member of the Tax Journal editorial board. Paul acts for a wide range of personal and company tax clients.

Paul was named Tax Personality of the Year in the 2007 UK Tax Awards for the part he played in persuading the government to reverse its decision to shorten the tax return filing deadline. He received the Outstanding Industry Contribution award in the 2013 British Accountancy Awards and was listed as 7th in the Accountancy Age 2014 "Financial Power List" of people who influence tax and financial policy in the UK. He was appointed OBE in The Queen's Birthday Honours List 2009 for public service and services to the accountancy profession

Away from the office he is a keen hill walker and climber, with a 21,000' Himalayan and many high Alpine peaks to his credit; his other interests include photography (he is a licentiate of the Royal Photographic Society), keeping ducks and walking his border collie.

### **Michael Izza - Chief Executive Officer**

Michael has been ICAEW Chief Executive since 2006. Under his leadership, ICAEW has started to transform itself into an international professional accountancy body, headquartered in the UK. A key part of his role is to promote the contribution made by members and the profession as a driver of business and economic confidence and growth across the world.

As a leader of the profession, Michael regularly meets ministers and regulators globally to facilitate ICAEW's activity and is a regular media commentator on issues facing the profession and business community internationally.

Prior to becoming Chief Executive, Michael was ICAEW's Executive Director of Finance and Operations and Chief Operating Officer.

In 2008 – 2009 he chaired three Treasury working groups tasked with identifying valuers for state-owned financial services companies. He was also chair of an international taskforce set up by the Leading Group to examine the relative merits of an international financial transactions tax. He has also been a member of the UK government-convened Small Business Economic Forum.

Prior to joining ICAEW, Michael worked at Spring Group Plc from 1997 to 2001 where he was managing director of several businesses and group finance director. From 1989 to 1996 he worked for Canadian company, John Labatt Ltd., latterly as managing director of the retail arm of the business with responsibility for public houses in the UK.

He qualified as a chartered accountant in 1986 with Coopers & Lybrand after graduating in law from Durham University, where he was also president of the student union. Michael has acted as a school governor for eleven years and as a trustee of several charities.

### **Vernon Soare - Chief Operating officer**

Vernon is an ICAEW board member and as Chief Operating Officer & Executive Director he is responsible for Finance Management, Information Technology, Communications, the Consultative Committee of Accountancy Bodies (CCAB), Public Sector, Marketing, Property Services and the Executive Office.

Internationally, Vernon also holds responsibility for ICAEW's International Capacity Building, the Middle East, Africa and South Asia region (MEASA) as well as ICAEW's presence in the rest of the world not covered by the Institute's international regional offices.

Vernon has been Professional Standards Director since joining ICAEW in 2006 and has considerable experience speaking to media on professional standards, regulation and insolvency.

Prior to joining ICAEW he was Policy and Technical Director at the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) and also worked for the Audit Commission.

Vernon is an ICAEW Chartered Accountant and has an undergraduate degree from Magdalen College, Oxford University and an MBA.

### **Sharron Gunn - Executive Director, Members, Commercial & Shared Services**

Sharron, previously Executive Director Commercial, takes on responsibility for the support of ICAEW's members in the UK and internationally with her role as Executive Director Members, Commercial & Shared Services. She will continue to lead on ICAEW's digital agenda and have responsibility for Greater China.

Sharron has been with ICAEW for nearly 15 years and was appointed Executive Director in 2011. She was previously Director of Member Services, launching a successful jobs website, a leadership development programme, and a range of other support services.

Sharron heads up a large team responsible for a variety of income generating activities including professional development programmes, affinity partnerships and sponsorship, online recruitment and One Moorgate Place. The department also develops new products and is a centre of excellence for digital development, event management and IP and publishing.

In 2009 Sharron transformed the members' facilities at ICAEW headquarters into the Business Centre, which is now a magnet for members. She also rebranded and launched One Moorgate Place – the institute's venue and restaurant – which has grown into a successful independent business.

One of the many services Sharron has launched helps members on a career break – women in particular – return to the accountancy profession. She is an advocate for ICAEW at events and in press on leadership, diversity and commercial operations.

She qualified as a Chartered Accountant in 1989. After leaving practice she worked as a financial accountant for a property developer before joining J Sainsbury plc in 1993. She held a variety of roles at the supermarket giant, including group management accountant, financial analyst, and commercial manager to the trading division.

### **Robert Hodgkinson - Executive Director, Technical**

Robert is responsible for ICAEW's technical strategy department which includes its seven specialist faculties in audit and assurance, corporate finance, finance and management, financial reporting, financial services, IT and tax.

Since joining ICAEW over a decade ago, Robert has been involved in a number of initiatives, including leading ICAEW's thought leadership programmes and its work in corporate governance, professional ethics and liability, sustainability and business law. He has considerable experience speaking to the media as a technical expert on audit, financial services and information technology. He is a board member and past chairman of the Natural Capital Coalition. From 2007 to 2013 he was a member of the board of the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) and has previously represented the UK accounting profession as a vice-president of the European Federation of Accountants (FEE) and as chairman of its Auditing Working Party. Prior to that he chaired ICAEW's Financial Reporting Committee.

Robert was educated at the Manchester Grammar School and Corpus Christi College, Oxford where he studied Philosophy, Politics & Economics. In 1980 he joined Arthur Andersen, qualifying as an ICAEW Chartered Accountant in 1983 and became a partner in 1992.

## **Mark Protherough – Executive Director, Learning and Professional Development**

Mark is Executive Director for Learning and Professional Development for the ICAEW and a member of the ICAEW Board. He is responsible for the strategic development and implementation of the ACA qualification.

Prior to joining ICAEW, Mark was Managing Director of Education, Training and Development at the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants. He is a Trustee of the British Accounting and Finance Association, Vice President Practice of the International Association for Accounting Educators and Research, a member of the Ofqual Vocational Advisory Group, chairs the Access Accounting Steering Group, and is a member the Global Accounting Alliance Education Directors Group, which he chaired 2013 - 2016.

He is also a member of the Common Content Oversight Group, and a member of the University of Hertfordshire Business School Advisory Board.

## **Duncan Wiggetts - Executive Director, Professional Standards**

Duncan is responsible for ICAEW's regulatory activities, ensuring members and firms act with the highest professional and ethical standards working with the new ICAEW Regulatory Board. He will also take forward ICAEW's growth into legal services regulation as well as implementing the changes to audit regulation as a result of the Statutory Audit Regulation and Directive.

He joined ICAEW in January 2014 as Director for Professional Conduct. He is a qualified solicitor and has previously held roles in private practice, specialising initially in commercial litigation and, subsequently, advising companies in relation to regulatory and criminal investigations. He has spent over 8 years working as a senior in-house counsel at PwC, initially as Director of the EMEA Litigation team and, subsequently, as Senior Counsel to PwC Eurofirms Assurance Risk Management team. He has also written and produced five educational films to improve standards of auditor ethics and corporate governance, the most recent of which, False Assurance, was at ICAEW.