

UK REGION

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



I trust you've had a good start to 2012 and that the winter conditions in this part of the world haven't been too trying for you. The business environment in which we work continues to be a challenging one with low economic growth, continued government austerity measures and increasing unemployment.

Some of these factors affect us directly as business people or employees. In addition, some of us have unique challenges as kiwi accountants in terms of getting appropriate immigration status to continue working life in the UK or for those not already here to actually get here. If you are having any such issues I would encourage you to use the extensive networking opportunities we have within the UK Leadership Team to share the problem and get some helpful advice on finding a solution.

TRANSITION TO LOCAL LEADERSHIP TEAMS (LLT)

As you will know from the consultation on Fit for the Future 3 last year, a number of changes have now been adopted, one of the most significant for us is the transition from the Branch Committee to a Local Leadership Team. This does not fundamentally change what we deliver- member engagement through the provision of relevant CPD/networking and other opportunities is at the heart of what we do- but somewhat changes the look of the delivery vehicle.

Under the new rules the Branch Committee became the UK Leadership Team from 1 December 2011, until a new LLT is elected to take office from 1 April 2012. The process involves a call for applications for the LLT from the UK membership, selection of the recommended team by the appointments panel and a vote by the UK membership on the recommended team. The appointments panel comprises of our councillor, the alternate councillor, the Director of member engagement (advisory capacity) and myself as Chair.

The size of the team is limited to a maximum of eight members per the rules, however we propose that the team will be aided by two subgroups to support the continuing work on provision of local CPD and social/networking events.

By the time you read this article it is likely that the appointments panel will have selected and recommended the new team for vote by members. I hope a number of you, including those who have served UK members well over recent years, will have put your name forward for a role with the new governance team. We need dedicated and committed people to help deliver what's required and such service can be very rewarding.

CPD AND OTHER EVENTS

As you will have seen in the various communications over the past couple of months we have had a variety of CPD and other events on offer. These have covered a diverse range of topics including entrepreneurship, memory skills, promotion of brand ME, fraud issues and the NZ property market. We have also promoted some collaborative events, notably an event organised in conjunction with ICAA called 'It is Rocket science' presented by Tim Bean which covered the importance of having the correct fuel for high business performance and a course on the topic of bribery and corruption being run by ICAEW.

On the 10th of March we had the seventh annual Joint Conference being hosted by NZICA, ICAA & SAICA at the Grange St Pauls. NZICA took the lead organisation role this year and Michelle Bryant and her team organised a great line up of speakers

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and social/networking opportunities, it was a great event once again. For other events coming up during the next few months please see details later in this newsletter.

As mentioned in my December report we are also collaborating with CIPFA and I would encourage you to take advantage of the CPD opportunities they have to offer.

THANKS TO BRANCH/LLT COMMITTEE

In closing, I would like to acknowledge the work undertaken by the current committee and co-opted members who have, as mentioned earlier, become the transitional LLT. A great deal has been achieved over the past few years and this is down to a number of dedicated volunteers giving up their

time to further the interests of the UK membership. I would, on behalf of the membership, like to express sincere appreciation and thanks for this.

John Nilson
Branch Chairman

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COUNCILLOR'S REPORT



Your LLT needs you – ‘climb aboard – it’s about to leave’

“The Local Leadership Team (LLT) is about to arrive to serve the UK members.”

Gosh, it sounds like some sort of transportation service – and I suppose it is. The LLT is the replacement of the Branch Committee and is designed to deliver to our UK members timely and relevant services.

You will be receiving from the Institute a voting form for the appointment to the LLT of the recommended list of Members. It is a great pleasure to report that the number of applications the appointment committee received was very encouraging. The appointment panel found it difficult to prepare the shortlist. There are people who have put their names forward who are worthy, impressive and highly motivated - and I hope will have an opportunity to serve on future LLT's. I assure you that the selection of applicants represents the diversity of members in the United Kingdom region, in respect of gender, sector and ethnicity, the group is also well balanced in terms of age: an indicator of career stage.

We won't be able to have all the applicants appointed to the first LLT, but we would like to, and will endeavour to, encourage all those who have previously served the Branch, and those who would now like to serve the LLT, to be involved in delivering service to the Members here in the UK. I will be discussing with the LLT Chair (John Nilson) how this can be achieved.

We need drivers of the LLTto ensure that it delivers timely and relevant services. With the set up of the new Local Leadership Teams (LLTs) we believe that we can help ensure the Institute delivers relevant and valued services to its UK members. . Fit for the Future 3 identified the need for NZICA to improve its responsiveness to its members, and the new LLTs will be a core part of this improvement.

THE IMMIGRATION ISSUE WILL NOT LEAVE THE PLATFORM – OUR INSTITUTE MUST STAND UP AND LISTEN!

Overseas work experience is an important part of the kiwi accountant's make-up. We have to continue the challenge and ensure that the wonderful experiences which have broadened our own knowledge are also given to others – so they too have the opportunity to return to New Zealand in the future with their new skills. This is an extremely difficult issue for the management of the Institute to approach and I believe requires clear guidance from the NZICA Council.

I have recently requested that your NZICA Council should challenge, discuss and investigate what NZICA management is doing to support, advise and engage with the appropriate government representatives regarding the changes in immigration policy that enables this valuable Member development opportunity to take place. One of the biggest impacts on the future of our profession in New Zealand is the risks of marginalising our qualification.

Our membership's heritage has been enriched by a system where we as individuals, as members, as an Institute and as a nation benefited by our ability to travel, learn and experience in the international financial environment. We need to do whatever is possible to ensure that we offer young New Zealand accountants of the future the chance to have the overseas experience. Contribute to those countries where they reside temporarily, and then to return, with their experience and knowledge to contribute to the future prosperity of New Zealand.

I can assure you as your Councillor this is the most important issue facing our current members and those who follow us. I will keep the Branch and then the LLT informed of what is being done to protect our heritage.

Best wishes

Ian Leggett
Councillor UK Branch



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BRANCH SECRETARY'S UPDATE

PAST NETWORKING EVENTS

Over the last quarter we have had a number of very successful joint events with the Australian Institute. Starting with the Presidential visit in November at Australia House where NZICA UK chair John Nilsen and ICAA Chair Suranie Alwis welcomed the Presidents, Vice President's, CEO's and certificate recipients from each Institute as well as invited guests from other organisations in the UK, and 200 UK members from both Institutes. Thank you to everyone on the organising team who made this such a success.

In December we had our first joint Christmas party with ICAA. It was held at the Penthouse, New Zealand House and was a sell out. The event was organised by ICAA committee members Kristy McIntyre, Jessica Dixon NZICA networking team leader Liz'e Marett and I. The organising team worked extremely well together and I look forward to working together with them again in the future.

In February we organised a table at the New Zealand Society Waitangi Day black tie dinner. This was held at the Plasterers Hall and was an excellent evening.

PAST CPD COURSES

Over the last month we have had a number of events. Some received mixed reviews, but on the whole people said they would recommend the courses. Three in particular received excellent feedback from attendees.



Adele McLay, Jackie Callaway and Elizabeth Welch at the NZ Society Waitangi day black tie dinner



President Ross Jackson, UK Councillor Ian Leggett and ICAA Chair Rachel Grimes at the Joint Presidential



NZICA Chair John Nilsen and Nick White Chairman CIPFA South East at the Joint Presidential



ICAI Chair Gerry Nicholas, NZICA committee Kent Beasley and CIMA, President, North London David Melvill at the Joint Presidential



Xmas party organising team Jessica Dixon, Kristy McIntyre, Liz'e Marett and Elizabeth Welch



David Hayde and Adele McLay at the Waitangi day black tie dinner

Feb: CFO & FD breakfast meeting on setting up your own entrepreneurial business. Feedback was so good for this event that we may ask the speaker to do an evening course in the future. Thank you to Ian Leggett who organises outstanding speakers for these meetings.

Feb: The Fraud in the 21st century (7.5 hour CPD) course by regular speaker Dr Stephen Hill was another that had excellent feedback for both the speaker and topic. In particular attendees liked the corporate fraud update section.

On 28 January NZICA and ICAA held a joint CPD course: It is rocket science by Tim Bean. Over 100 members from the Australian, Irish, South African and New Zealand Institutes attended. Feedback for the event was very good.

Tim Bean has sent the following information through for members who were not able to attend:

After decades of trying to unravel the mystery of why people struggle with energy, brain fog, depression, body fat and self esteem, the one crucial element we have always come back to has been the influence exerted upon us all through the food industry's smoke and mirror tactics, and the resulting choices we make to feed our bodies.

It is clear that we are being manipulated on a grand scale, as the food industry pulls and tugs on our ancient primal survival strings in order to trigger us to buy more and more of their products and buy deeper into their brands.

What you eat and drink today is how you will feel, think and look tomorrow, so in order to ensure we retain an impartial and balanced ability to choose the healthiest and best options for our bodily needs, we must constantly investigate, challenge and unravel the information we receive from the marketing, packaging and advertising of our foods.

For protection eat a large variety of coloured vegetables and fruits. Aim for 8 servings of fresh vegetables (a serving is about a teacup size) plus 2-3 servings of fruit daily. Eat only foods that look like foods, as these are brain super-foods. They are high in antioxidants, which counteract atoms that damage brain cells. These also keep your body free from illness.

To reduce inflammation in the body and improve immunity, include regular portions of brassica's: cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower and Brussels sprouts.

With optimum nutrition the mind becomes clearer and the mood brighter, making it easier to learn, to feel more motivated and to have more energy for your day!

(Anne Laing and Tim Bean are Executive Longevity Specialists, who regularly present at corporate events, conferences and offsites in the UK and abroad. www.thehardedge.com)

2012 PAS/PCE IN LONDON

Unfortunately there were insufficient numbers for the 2012 PAS/PCE workshops to go ahead in the UK.

Elizabeth Welch

NZICA UK Secretary



NZICA member Fiona Scott has recently written a book called “Living a Laptop Lifestyle” with husband Greg Scott.

Greg and Fiona specialise in helping individuals who want to establish or enhance their online business to become comfortable with technology and marketing.

They have also produced two online products and have built over 150 websites for themselves and their customers; including GregAndFionaScott.com, M1K1Mo.com and InternetLifestyleStarterKit.com.

WHAT’S YOUR BACKGROUND?

I’ve been a Chartered Accountant since 1987, involving three years working in the Fraud and Financial Investigations Group of PWC in London, then as the Treasury Accountant for the University of Otago in Dunedin, and latterly as the Group Financial Controller for a boutique investment bank in London.

But . . . the recession hit when Greg & I were travelling the world on a well-earned extended sabbatical – we were in Bangkok, on the last leg of our trip, when I received THE call – the don’t come to work on Monday call.

WHAT DO YOU DO NOW?

Greg had given up his job as a Financial Software Developer working for Thomson Reuters in London, so we were both out of work together! I realised that I was tired of the corporate treadmill, so we decided to combine our skills and set up our own online business.

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MEMBER PROFILE

It wasn’t easy as we experienced many pitfalls, but we survived, and mastered marketing and the technology. We now have a significant online presence, and enthusiastically help others to achieve what we have done.

WHAT MADE YOU WRITE A BOOK?

When we started out building our online business, we spent a LOT of money, got majorly ripped off, and really struggled to gain a foothold online.

So we’re adamant that we don’t want anyone else to experience such pitfalls, and go through what we did. We’re not stupid, but we’re not rocket scientists either, so want to get our message out there that anyone can ‘learn’ to be an entrepreneur, plus there’s such freedom from making money online.

WHO IS YOUR BOOK FOR?

Our book is for anyone aged between 35 - 65 who believe they’re not entrepreneurial, maybe they’re stuck in the workforce and want to get out, or are about to be made redundant.

We want to raise awareness that there is another way to earn money and the internet provides a very realistic opportunity to be entrepreneurial; plus there are no barriers to being your own boss!

DOES YOUR ACCOUNTING KNOWLEDGE HELP?

It certainly does, as any business must monitor cashflows, profits and tax liabilities, so an online business is no different. However I do miss the opportunity to create complex spreadsheet models.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT ‘LIVING A LAPTOP LIFESTYLE’?

For us it’s the freedom to work when we want, wherever there’s an internet connection, and making online sales while we’re asleep or when we’re in mid-air flying somewhere.

Our main passion is travel, so we choose to take many long breaks away, as we can holiday and work at the same time.

That’s what the freedom of choice means to us, but freedom of choice will most certainly be different for everyone.

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO SOMEONE WHO IS TOO AFRAID TO GET ONLINE?

There are many points in your life where you had to do something for the first time (your first breath, first step, first word, first day of school, first exam, first driving lesson, first job, first date), which is always a bit scary. But after the first time, your confidence and self-belief grow. Learning how to set up an online business is the same.

If you drive a car, do you know how the engine works? When you switch on a light do you need to know how electricity works? When you use a computer, do you need to know how the processor works? Absolutely not! It’s the same with online business – you don’t need to know everything and it’s more straightforward than you might think.

AND WHAT IS THERE TO BE AFRAID OF? FAILING?

Well, we all have to make mistakes to learn. It’s something you need to accept as all successful entrepreneurs learn from their mistakes. Thomas Alva Edison, the inventor of the light bulb, designed 10,000 light bulbs before finding the one that worked. He said: “I have not failed. I’ve just found 10,000 ways that won’t work!”

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO OTHER NZICA MEMBERS WHO WOULD LIKE TO SET UP THEIR OWN BUSINESS?

Network like crazy because you can’t and don’t have to do it all alone. There are many ways of leveraging other people’s time and expertise. Collaborating with others is mutually beneficial to both parties and helps you get results sooner.

Fiona Scott

mail@GregAndFionaScott.com
GregAndFionaScott.com

ARE YOU THINKING OF RETURNING TO NEW ZEALAND?

NZICA SmartMove has exceptional roles available for individuals wanting to move back to New Zealand and be a part of the rebuild of Christchurch, New Zealand.

Working with each of the major employers of chartered accountants in Christchurch, we can ensure that your transition to a city on the rise, and to a new career opportunity, is easy and rewarding. A range of vacancies are available with some offering relocation costs for the ideal candidate:

- > Audit Managers
- > Audit - Intermediate & Seniors
- > Business Advisory Managers
- > Business Advisory Services – Intermediate & Seniors

For more information please contact
marie.august@nzica.com
ph ++64 4 913 9088

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EVENTS

25 APRIL, 23 MAY

NZICA Coffee Course

(repeat courses)

This course is for people who have an interest or a passion for coffee and want to drink quality coffee at home or be better equipped to talk about the flavour of quality coffee.

After covering some introductory coffee making information, our skilled baristas will personally teach you three coffee making methods using a variety of single origin coffees.

As well as making the coffee, we explore how preparation method effects flavour and demonstrate how coffees vary greatly by origin and processing. At the end of the class you'll be able to make quality coffee for yourself and to talk about flavour in a meaningful way.

Venue: Speakeasy Espresso & Brew Bar
3 Lowndes Court,
Carnaby,
London W1F 7HD

Time: 6.45pm for a 7:00pm start

Cost: NZICA, other GAA members
and guests £25

To register: <http://events.nzica.com/wizard.aspx?ID=LLFDPSUK01&D=1&CF=UK>

21 APRIL

Live Fast; Die Old and have a Good Looking Corpse



– Performance, Longevity and Boosting your Potential.

Dr Tom Mulholland gave a well received presentation in 2010. By popular request he has agreed to give another talk. It will be a fun day with a mix of healthy thinking and healthy body tips.

Speaker: Dr Tom Mulholland is the founder of the Healthy Thinking

Institute, a senior medical officer at Auckland City Hospital Emergency Department and an honorary lecturer in the Department of Psychological Medicine at Auckland University.

He has written two international best-selling books on healthy thinking, which have been printed in 12 languages, and hosted his own daily TV talk show, Dr Tom the Attitude Doctor on TV2. He has won numerous business awards in innovation and leadership and given over 500 presentations globally on stress, performance, attitude and behaviour.

His list of clients includes Google, Microsoft, Hewlett Packard, Audi, Hilton, Deloitte and many others.

Hear what 60 Minutes had to say about Dr Tom: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ugw4PmBNwXk>

Venue: 7th Floor, Association British Insurers, 51 Gresham Street, EC2V 7HQ

Time: 9am for a 9.30am start; we aim to finish at 5.00pm.

Cost: Standard: £150
NZICA and other GAA members £120
Long-distance members £75

CPD hours: Up to 7.0

To register: <https://events.nzica.com/wizard.aspx?ID=LNCCOHUK01&D=1&CF=UK>

26 MAY

More career opportunities in less time

– a step by step guide to finding your next role in record time

Many of the members we've been speaking with recently have mentioned their plans to transition into a new role at some point over the next 12 months. Whilst they have very good intentions, a number of factors seem to be getting in the way: A lack of opportunities in the market, a lack of time to get more proactive or simply a lack of knowledge about the most effective ways to make the right career move.

If you came to the CPD day in April you will remember Sital Ruparelia speaking at the end of the day about how to accelerate your career success via networking and also using online tools such as LinkedIn. Based on your feedback, we've asked Sital to come back and deliver a full day workshop to share the ideas and approaches which are having the biggest impact on job seekers and career changers in the current market.

Whether you're struggling to make progress or simply looking for a boost of inspiration, you'll benefit from this fast paced, entertaining and pragmatic session which will include:

- the four key stages of making a career change and reinventing yourself
- how to tap into the 'Hidden Job Market' (the 60-70% of vacancies which never get advertised)
- 13 Ways to ramp up your job search (applying just one of these approaches will speed up your search)
- an overview of what recruiters and hiring managers look for when reviewing CVs
- how to make your CV stand out in a right job market
- LinkedIn for beginners: bring your laptop and Sital will show you how to set up your account before you leave for the day
- 10 LinkedIn tips for career shifters. Once again, if you bring your laptop - you'll have the chance to start putting some of the tips into practice during the workshop
- the best strategies for securing opportunities in a new career without the necessary experience
- no theory and no "fluff". Just practical advice and lessons which can be applied the very next day.

This is a practical session where you'll be invited to bring your laptops so that it becomes a day when you get things accomplished rather than just walking away with a big to-do list.

After the workshop

We've all left workshops and training events with good intentions. But a few weeks after the event, the motivation slides and you find yourself exactly where you were before.

To help maintain the momentum after the workshop and prevent this from happening, we'll be sending you some resources and tools from Sital to help you put many of the ideas from the day into action at your own pace.

Speaker

Unlike many other career experts, Sital has seen the job search cycle from every angle – both in good times and bad.

As a commercial leader during the boom and bust years at Marks & Spencer Plc in the 1990s, as a recruiter during the downturn after 9/11 and as an in-house HR recruiter with global financial institutions. He was also a consultant and speaker to leading business schools and more recently a career coach working with a variety of professionals through the recent recession. Consequently he has a real appreciation of what works and what doesn't work when it comes to helping individuals find opportunities and make career transitions in a challenging market.

Sital is a guest author for several leading online sites (including eFinancial Careers and Career Hub) and his career advice has been featured in the Financial Times and BusinessWeek. He is also the host of the upcoming online TV show "Career Management TV". To learn more, visit: www.SitalRuparelia.com

Cost

To register: FULL DAY <https://events.nzica.com/wizard.aspx?ID=LMCOPSUK02&D=1&CF=UK>

Early bird (if booked on or before 26 April)

Standard: £120

Cost: NZICA and other GAA members: £90

Long-distance members: £60;

If booked after 26 April

Standard: £150

NZICA and other GAA members: £120

HALF DAY MORNING

To register: <https://events.nzica.com/wizard.aspx?ID=LMCOPSUK03&D=1&CF=UK>

Early bird (if booked on or before 26 April)

Standard: £70

Cost: NZICA and other GAA members: £50

If booked after 26 April

Standard: £90

NZICA and other GAA members: Standard: £70

Time:

Half day: 9am for a 9.30am start to 1pm

CPD hours: up to 3.5 hours

Full day 9am for a 9.30am start; we aim to finish at 5.30pm

CPD hours: up to 7.5 hours CPD

Venue: 7th Floor, Association British

SPORTS GROUP

A new initiative the networking team is working on is starting a sports group. Possible activities include dragon boat, indoor netball, basketball, dodgeball or touch rugby to triathlons, MTB Bouldering, Parkour to Three Peaks challenge, Hell runner rider series, London revolution to Eptape events, bike riding and possibly some hiking/walks.

BRIGHTEN BLAST -ANYONE KEEN FOR A RIDE TO BRIGHTON?

Calling on those who have or have access to a road bike and are moderately fit. It's going to be a pretty casual affair, meeting early morning SW London in July and then down to Brighton for a pub lunch and a drink or two before jumping back on the train to London. Open to member and non-members, but numbers will be limited, so please register you interest in this promptly.

Contact Elizabeth.Welch@nzica.com to register your interest in the bike ride and/or joining the sports team

JP MORGAN CHALLENGE WEDNESDAY 11 JULY

We are organising a team again this year to enter the J.P. Morgan Corporate Challenge in London on Wednesday 11 July at Battersea Park. Join us whether you are an experienced racer, jogger or walker. Team NZICA is limited to 30 entrants so be quick to register as places went quickly last year. Please register using the link below:

London Runner Entry Form

http://register.jpmorganchasecc.com/teampub/page.tcl?id=105315&team_id=390811

The UK Branch will cover your entry fee of £24 and provide t shirts as well as post event drinks and food.

Entries close Friday 8 June 2012, or sooner if they are oversubscribed , so don't delay

Congratulations

Bevan and Jacqueline Killick on the birth of Harriet Monica Grace Killick born 28 January at 12.03pm in New Zealand.

Justin and Jenny Ryan on the birth of Christina Ryan born 22 March 2012

Opportunity in the UK

IT Portfolio Manager

Responsibilities include:
Providing portfolio support (demand management & budget management) to IT Leadership Team, portfolio process management and improvement, identifying and monitoring cost/efficiency opportunities, assessing business cases, information analysis and executive reporting

Location: London/Stockley Park

Start Date: 10th April

Duration: 9-10 months

Rate: circa £400 per day depending on experience

Contact gerald.dunn@qedis.com if you're interested

UK REGION UPCOMING 2012 EVENTS CALENDAR

EVENTS CALENDAR

Please note that some of the following events have not been finalised and details may change.

APRIL			
21.04.12	Live fast; die old	7 hour CPD	9am to 5.30pm
25.04.12	Coffee course		6.45pm to 9.00pm
MAY			
23.05.12	Coffee course		6.45pm to 9.00pm
26.05.12	More career opportunities	3.5 hour CPD 7.5 hour CPD	9am to 1pm 9am to 5.30pm

How to register for an event

Book and pay online at www.events.nzica.com

Post a cheque to: NZICA (UK), 1 Winchester Rd, Bromley, Kent, BR2 0PZ.

You need to book for all events. With the exception of CFO & FD breakfast meetings, prepayment is also essential. An additional £5 fee will be charged for late payment of CPD events.

For information about events you can attend with other organisations see contact details below.

Bank Speakers Toastmasters: memberships@bankspeakers.freetoasthost.ws

ICAA: <http://www.icaa.org.uk>

ICAEW: http://www.icaew.com/index.cfm/route/123504/icaew_ga/en/Home/ICAEW_worldwide/UK/ICAEW_UK

SAICA: <https://www.saica.org.uk>

CIPFA <http://www.cipfa.org.uk/regions>

CIPFA South East <http://www.cipfa.org.uk/regions/se/events.cfm>

KEA: <http://www.keanewzealand.com/index.html>

New Zealand Society: <http://nzsociety.co.uk>

Ngati Ranana: www.ngatiranana.co.uk

Business School at Edinburgh University <http://www.business-school.ed.ac.uk/about/school-events>