

NOTARY WORLD



SEPTEMBER 2025



WELCOME TO - NOTARY WORLD

Notary World is C.L.A.N.'s flagship publication for members and is full of articles and news designed to continually inform and educate.

Please do not hesitate to send in your feedback and if you want to contribute to Notary World, contact Ken Lord, Editor.

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EDITORIAL

NOTARIAL COLLEGIALLY

English writer Charles Dickens must have met at least one pleasant notary because in his stage play *No Thoroughfare* at Act IV, *The Clock-Lock*, released in December 1867, he writes:

The pleasant scene was Neuchatel; the pleasant month was April; the pleasant place was a notary's office; the pleasant person in it was the notary; a rosy, hearty, handsome old man, chief notary of Neuchatel, known far and wide in the canton as Maitre Voigt ... there was another person in the notary's office, not so pleasant as the notary. (Retrieved from <https://ebooks.adelaide.edu.au/d/dickens/charles/d45nt/chapter11.html>).

Appearers are usually pleasant as well as notaries. Not so Mr Thorne, the wealthy client of taciturn solicitor Mr Donner. Having arranged a notary, Mr Donner awaits Mr Thorne's appearance. Having exhausted his efforts at hospitality he glanced at his clock ..."What's holding your father up, Alda?" "Oh ... Dad's not coming. He's going to the races at Belmont this afternoon". Mr. Donner retracted his head in shocked surprise. "How about his affidavit of debts and taxes? We can't close without it." "Oh, that must be what he told me to give you." Alda took from her purse a sadly crumpled paper and handed it to him. "Is this it?" Mr. Donner, frowning at its state, glanced over it. "This is it, all right, but it's not notarized." "I think he said someone in your office could take care of that." Mr. Donner shook his head emphatically. "Your father should know I don't permit that. He's got to swear to it in the notary's presence" ..."all hell will break loose if he misses even one race." "I can't help that. I'll call him." ...

"I know you're on the way to the races, Simeon, but you'll have to take care of this first. If you want this deal to close, that is. -No, it can't be postponed, not safely anyway. -Because the buyer put a time-is-of-the-essence clause in the contract, and he's looking for any excuse to get out of the deal ... -No, Simeon, I won't ask a notary to do that; he could lose his license. -I don't care that you'll make it up to him; you can't make it up to me. It's my office, and that's the way I do things. I'm afraid that's final. -I mean it, Simeon! ... -Oh, you're coming right down? -Good."

By the time Thorne got here, we had been ... [waiting] ... for half an hour. I doubt that I've ever seen an angrier man ... he burst into the room ... shouting ... to his offending lawyer: "This is the worst goddam outrage I've ever known! Making me come down here to swear before some two-bit notary! There isn't a law firm in this city that wouldn't perform so minor a service for an important client. What the hell sort of crazy kick do you get, Donner, out of humiliating me this way

in public?"

Mr. Donner was imperturbable. He turned to the notary. "I think Mr. Thorne is ready to attest. Will you kindly act as his notary?" He turned back to his irate client. "Do you swear, Mr. Thorne, that the contents of this affidavit are true and do you acknowledge this signature to be yours?" Thorne was silent for a moment, as if stunned by such coolness. "I swear," he said at last. Mr. Donner nodded. "Then we need not detain you further. I hope you will be on time for at least one race at Belmont."

Thorne strode to the door ... "And don't think I shan't be looking for a more obliging lawyer! He shouldn't be hard to find".

After the closing the notary invited ... [us] ... to lunch ... he ordered a cocktail and raised his glass to toast Mr. Donner ... "He's marvelous! Would any other lawyer treat an important client that way?" "Most firms have obliging notaries, I guess. ... The episode of the notarization was not followed by the firing of Arnold & Degener (Auchincloss, 7-8).

The story emphasises the importance of personal appearance as well as the need to elevate the integrity of a notarial act over convenience. Mr Thorne may have preferred a remote notary service so as not to interrupt his races, but convenience ought not to prevail over soundness. To use methods that do away with the need for personal appearances may be possible, but the question should not be whether they are possible but whether they are appropriate in any given circumstance. Whatever technologies they choose to use, notaries must always be mindful of their special relationship to the truth. For centuries, the profession has been expected to witness noteworthy acts, from the spectacular – like Columbus's seizure of Guanahani - to the humble and mundane: the promise of a dowry, an apprenticeship, or a loan. It then fell to notaries to shape the messy specifics of each event into the proper form to be committed truthfully to the page ... Notaries were thus truth's alchemists, mixing the singular into the formulaic in accordance with prescribed recipes to produce the written, duly witnessed, and certified truth (Burns 352).

Articles for this September 2025 edition of *Notary World* are kindly supplied by **Kate Roome**, President of C.L.A.N. (Common Law Association of Notaries), **Neil Turpin** Chief Clerk of The Faculty Office of the Archbishop of Canterbury, **Stewart Germann**, President of the New Zealand Society of Notaries and international franchise law expert and Past President of C.L.A.N, **Anthony Northey** C.L.A.N. Vice-President, **Suzanne Marriott** President of the Notaries Society of England and Wales, **Dr Ricky Lee**, Senior Lecturer of Law at the University of Canterbury, New Zealand, Professor **Peter**

Zablud, Author, Notary, and Director of Notarial Studies at Victoria University, Melbourne, who has given permission to publish a long, important and interesting article on identity, concluding with some amusement and wisdom from **Dr John Kirkhope** and **Leo Mangan**.

Finally, I urge you all to consider attending the Australian and New Zealand College of Notaries Adelaide Conference to be held at Adelaide's elegant Five-Star Playford Hotel on 9, 10 and 11 October 2025. The College is greatly honoured that Her Excellency, the Honourable Frances Adamson, AC, Governor of South Australia will formally open the Conference. The Special Guest of Honour will be The Archbishop of Canterbury's Master of the Faculties, Ms Morag Ellis, KC. The Master will deliver the Conference Oration at the Opening Ceremony which will take place at the Conference venue, commencing at 4pm on Thursday 9 October 2025.



Ken Lord, Editor

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The Australian and New Zealand College of Notaries

To register see <https://anzcn.org/conference-2025/#:~:text=We%20invite%20you%20to%20attend%20the%20College%E2%80%99s%202025,of%20South%20Australia%20will%20formally%20open%20the%20Conference.>

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Ken joined Parry Field Lawyers in 1980 and became a partner that same year. Fully retired from the law he remains a Notary Public. Ken's focus while in practice was on Property and Personal law including trusts and asset planning with strong interests in issues relating to the charitable sector, assisting the elderly and charitable trusts. He is a Notary Public and one of the authors of the LexisNexis Law of Trusts, having written and reviewed the chapter devoted to charity law, as well as chapters in the LexisNexis publication The Law and Practice of Charities in New Zealand.

Ken has served, or is still serving, on many boards including YMCA Christchurch, Christian Resource Centre International, CRY For the World Foundation, Hagar New Zealand, Living Springs Trust, Garden City Rotary Charitable Trust, La Vida Youth Trust and Parry Field Charitable Foundation. He is an active member of the Rotary Club of Garden City (President in 2002) as well as a keen musician and road cycling racer, chairing The Papanui Cycling Club Incorporated.

Graduating LLB from the University of Canterbury in 1977, Ken has completed both a BA and BAHons in English and Russian literature and is now completing a master's degree on The Legal Language of Shakespeare in The Merchant of Venice and Measure for Measure. He took an active part in the New Zealand Law Society, having spoken at Law Society Conferences, been a member of property law committees, seminar/conference organisation and committees, and has served as Convenor for the Trusts and Wills Committee and member of the Canterbury Westland NZLS Standards Committee, as well as a Mediator

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hello Fellow Notaries!

Your Council has recently held a productive and enjoyable AGM and in person board meeting at the beautiful Royal Marine Hotel in Dun Laoghaire, Ireland. Thank you to Brian O'Brian for his hard work putting together this outstanding weekend for us.

In addition to conducting our AGM and regular Council meetings we also enjoyed a beautiful dinner at the Royal George Yacht Club. We were pleased to be joined by several local guests including Dean of the Irish Faculty of Notaries, Nigel Allen, our delightful host, Justin McKenna and former Council member Leo Mangan.

Our AGM confirmed that our financial position remains sustainable and our legal requirements remain met. Thank you to Anthony Northey for your continued diligence on this front.

I would also like to personally thank Andrew Johnson as he leaves the Council for all his hard work, especially in the areas of member recruitment. May your future endeavours be fruitful and fun.

We're looking forward to bringing you more excellent webinars and exciting content in the near future.



Kate Roome President

Kate is a Notary Public in and for the Province of BC, running a small but mighty practice, Heartwood Notary Group, in Duncan.

Formerly an award winning Realtor she now provides her community with non-contentious legal services. Kate also enjoys participating in not for profit work, sitting on many local boards over the years.

She currently sits on the boards of the BC Notaries Association and Common Law Association of Notaries.

Pathologically curious, Kate loves to learn about and participate in anything novel.

She is an avowed intersectional feminist who loves to read, hike, ski, make pottery and spend time on the water. She also has an interminable addiction to equestrian sports.

NOTARIAL APPOINTMENTS WHEN THERE IS NO ABC!



Depending upon which Country or legal jurisdiction you are based in (or, for some of you, when you were appointed and/or qualified as a Notary Public) you may be surprised to learn that Notaries in England & Wales, the Channel Islands, Gibraltar, New Zealand, Norfolk Island, Papua New Guinea and the State of Queensland are still appointed by – or in the name of at least – the Archbishop of Canterbury acting through the Faculty Office (or the Court of Faculties). It may not have escaped your notice, however, that the 105th Archbishop of Canterbury, The Most Reverend and Right Honourable Justin Welby had his resignation as Archbishop graciously accepted by His Majesty Charles III about a year earlier than we had anticipated his retirement (on reaching his 70th birthday in January 2026) and he ceased to be the Archbishop of Canterbury (or the “ABC”) at 11:59 pm on the Feast of the Epiphany, ie 6th January 2025.

I know, from visiting a number of notaries’ offices in our European Jurisdictions, that many of you proudly display your Notarial Faculty beautifully framed on the wall of your office evidencing your appointment by Justin Portal(1), Rowan Douglas, George Leonard, Robert Alexander Kennedy, Frederick Donald, Arthur Michael or perhaps even Geoffrey Francis being “by Divine Providence LORD ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY Primate of All England and Metropolitan” at the time of your admission – and may well have had any number of conversations with clients explaining how you come to be appointed by the Archbishop of Canterbury! But what happens when there is no ABC in post between the resignation, retirement or (on occasion) death/execution of one Archbishop and the often lengthy and convoluted process of appointing his (up to now at least!) successor?

Those of you based in jurisdictions where this remains relevant will, I am sure, be pleased to hear that the work of the Faculty Office does not follow the UK Civil Service model, following a dissolution of the UK Parliament, and go into some form of ‘purdah’ (or period of pre-election ‘heightened sensitivity’ as it is now known) during the period between ABCs – referred to as a “Vacancy in See”. Rather the work continues more or less as normal.

The Faculty Office’s founding Statute, the Ecclesiastical Licences Act 1533, provides, at Section X, that the powers

of the Archbishop under the Act may be (and in practice are) exercised by the Guardian of the Spiritualities of the See of Canterbury during a Vacancy in See; the Canons (or Statutes) of the Church of England (Canon C19) provide that the “Guardianship of the Spiritualities” during a Vacancy in See belongs to the Metropolitan Church of the Province of Canterbury. From our perspective, this means that the Master can continue to admit new notaries (alongside our other functions).

The only noticeable difference, as any Notary that has been appointed during a previous Vacancy in See will know, is that Notarial Faculties will be issued not in the name of the former Archbishop, nor by the Archbishop of York (who hath no authority in this Court of Faculties!) but in the name of “The Chapter of the Cathedral and Metropolitan Church of Christ at Canterbury as Guardian of the Spiritualities” – which may well take even more explaining to a curious client than having been appointed by the Archbishop!

1. By convention, Archbishops and Bishops of the Church of England do not use their surnames in legal documents – ie Welby, Williams, Carey, Runcie, Coggan, Ramsey or Fisher etc.



**Neil Turpin, Chief Clerk
Faculty Office of the Archbishop of Canterbury**

Neil previously worked for 22 years as a residential property lawyer. He was admitted as a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Legal Executives in 1999. Neil joined the Faculty Office in 2011, and became Chief Clerk in 2018.

He is a member of the Association of Diocesan Registry Clerks and the Ecclesiastical Law Society.

NOTARIES AND FRANCHISING: MARKETING FUNDS



From New Zealand: Past President Stewart Germann's article Notaries and Franchising.

I am writing this article for Notary World because I specialise in franchise law and I act for many franchisors in New Zealand.

New Zealand is the most franchised country in the world on a per capita basis with 546 business format franchises. All franchisors will be interested in marketing their brands. How is this done? Normally by way of national marketing where the franchisees pay a percentage of turnover; and also by local marketing where a franchisee markets in a particular territory or area.

The national marketing fund can total a considerable sum of money so where is that money held? In New Zealand there is no mandatory requirement to keep the marketing funds in a separate bank account except if a franchise agreement prescribes the requirement to do just that.

There is no franchise-specific legislation in New Zealand but the Franchise Association of New Zealand (FANZ) has a Code of Practice and Ethics. However, both are silent on marketing. FANZ has advised that it will be amending the Code in due course in relation to marketing funds.

Where marketing funds are held is a hot topic and, in my opinion, there should be a mandatory requirement for all franchisors to keep the marketing fund in a separate bank account which is tantamount to a trust account.

After all, the franchisees pay the marketing levies and the franchisor uses those funds to market the brand to benefit all franchisees.

When I draft a franchise agreement I include a clause along the following lines:

"The National Marketing Amount paid by the Franchisee to the Franchisor shall be held by the Franchisor in a separate bank account which shall be deemed to be a trust account along with all other marketing levies received from other franchisees and the Franchisor shall use such funds solely for the purpose of marketing as determined by the Franchisor."

In Australia the ACCC (Australian Competition & Consumer Commission) administers franchising pursuant to the Franchising Code of Conduct which is a federal code. If a franchisor collects a marketing fee from franchisees, then it must give franchisees a marketing fund statement each year. The franchisor must follow the rules set out in the Code of Conduct about how marketing money can be used, who pays into the fund, and reporting to franchisees. Information given to franchisees about the operation or use of the marketing fund must be truthful and accurate. In the franchisor's disclosure document the following details must be included:

- Who controls or administers the marketing fund?
- Who contributes to the fund?

- The kind of expenses that the fund can be used for
- How much must the franchisee contribute to the fund and do some franchisees contribute more or less?
- Does the franchisor or master franchisor have to spend part of the fund on marketing or promoting the franchisee's business?

The disclosure document must also include further information about how the fund was spent the previous year, including the percentage spent on production, marketing, administration and other stated expenses. It must also say whether the fund is audited and, if so, by whom and when.

It is important to note that a marketing fund can only be used to pay for costs that the franchisor has told franchisees about in the disclosure document and there must be legitimate marketing expenses.

Over recent years I have acted for separate groups of franchisees who have become unhappy with the respective franchisors' handling of the marketing fund and the financial reconciliation. All franchisors should provide an income and expenditure statement in relation to the marketing fund which must be transparent and available to all franchisees in a particular system, in my opinion.

In conclusion, most franchise systems contemplate payments of marketing expenses by franchisees to be held in the marketing fund. The key aspect is how the fund will be administered and the legitimate expenses which can be paid out of the fund.



Stewart Germann
Notary Public
Auckland, New Zealand

Stewart Germann is a Barrister and Solicitor of the High Court of New Zealand and he attended the University of Auckland. He has the qualifications of B.Com, LLB, FCIS, CFInstD, CFE and Notary Public and he specialises in franchising, licensing, sale and purchase of businesses and commercial law.

Stewart has over 40 years' experience in franchising law and has acted for many franchisors in New Zealand and overseas.

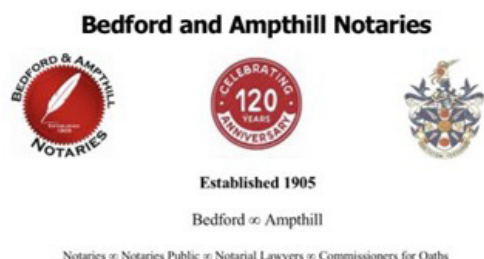
He also acts for franchisees advising them about a particular franchise and commenting on the form of franchise documents.

From 1997 to 1999 Stewart was the Chairman of the Franchise Association of New Zealand. He has spoken at franchising conferences in New Zealand, Australia and USA and is very interested in international franchising.

He has also written numerous articles on franchising for New Zealand and international publications. He is Adjunct Professor of Law at Auckland University Law School teaching Franchise Law and is the only lawyer in NZ to hold the CFE (Certified Franchise Executive) qualification following an accreditation ceremony in Florida 2020. Stewart is a member of the International Franchise Association (IFA) based at Washington DC and of the International Bar Association (IBA). Stewart is a qualified mediator and is a member of AMINZ.

He is also on the Panel of Mediators of the Franchise Association of New Zealand.

B.A.N. CELEBRATES THE 120TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ITS NOTARIAL PRACTICE.



It is believed that no other Notarial business in England and Wales, except a few firms of Scrivener Notaries in London can trace their establishment back so far.

B.A.N. is a fast-expanding Notarial Practice and acts for both many commercial clients and private individuals catering for their Notarial needs throughout the world. Anthony has been on the Council of the Notaries Society (of England and Wales) for many years and was President of that Society in 2009-11. After 28 years on the Council, he is now standing down from it. He is also a Past President of the Bedfordshire Law Society.

He was a founding director of the World Organisation of Notaries (W.O.N.), which was established in 2013 and after the name of W.O.N. was changed, he has continued as a Director and is now a Vice-President of C.L.A.N.

During his free time, Anthony is actively involved with many organisations including the Ampthill and District Rotary Club and the Ampthill Business Chamber. He also enjoys gardening, fine food, fine wine and travel.

On the subject of travel, when he was on a trip to China in May, hosted by a professor at the Central University of Finance and Economics in Beijing (English name Jimmy Johnson), he was talked into giving a talk to the Law Students at the Central University of Economics and Finance in Beijing.

He was told that there would be roughly 25 attending, but in fact nearly 100 attended!

The title of the talk was "An overview of the Legal Systems around the World and the Notarial Profession."

He managed to include a lot of about C.L.A.N. and also, of course, promoted Notaries in all Common Law Jurisdictions including members of C.L.A.N. and of course,

Notaries in England and Wales.

One must remember that China is a Civil Law Jurisdiction.

He was told that the talk went down very well with the attenders and they much appreciated it.

A photograph taken after the talk appears below (from right): Professor of Economic Defence Economics and Management (Jimmy Johnson), Eddie Lai (Chinese friend), Anthony Northey and the professor of the Law Department at the Central University of Finance and Economics in Beijing, with some of the students, still after the finish of the talk in the Lecture room, in the background



A copy of the flyer/poster that the University put out about the talk appears on the next page



Anthony Northey
Vice President C.L.A.N.

Anthony was appointed as a Notary Public/Notary in England and Wales in 1978.

Anthony was a solicitor, having been a partner in Sharman Trethewey, now known as Sharmans in Bedford and Ampthill and for 10 years the senior partner of that firm.

He has retired from Sharmans and ceased to practice as a Solicitor, but continues to practice as a Notary Public, being now a partner in Bedford and Ampthill Notaries (B.A.N.)

中央财经大学法学院



涉外法治高峰论坛第2期

An Overview of Legal Systems around the World and the Notarial Profession

主讲人/Speaker Anthony William

Notary Public/Notary, Vice President of the Common Law Association of Notaries (C.L.A.N.)

主持人/Host 张旗坤

中央财经大学法学院副教授

时间/TIME

2025年5月26日 (周一) 14:00-15:40
May 26, 2025 14:00 - 15:40

地点/ADDRESS

中央财经大学学院南路校区主教503
Room 503, Main Teaching Building, Central University of Finance and Economics

语言/LANGUAGE

英语
English

—— 欢迎全校师生参加 ——

REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE NOTARIES SOCIETY OF ENGLAND & WALES

We have a new Secretary, Elaine Standish, who also continues as our Education Secretary, and we look forward to welcoming a new Administration Secretary who will join us in September.

We have said fond farewells to our longstanding exemplary Secretarial team of Christopher Vaughan and Rosemary Dunford who have served our Society for so many years. They will be greatly missed. Most sadly Christopher Vaughan has recently died. We wish Rosemary Dunford a long and happy retirement.

Elaine Standish, our Education Secretary has taken over Christopher Vaughan's role.

We look forward to welcoming our new Administration Secretary, who will hopefully start with us in September. This report highlights some of the most significant events in my first year as President.

In October 2024, I joined 18 Australian Notaries (from Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland) on the Institut International des Hautes Etudes Notariales (IHN) study tour to Europe, organised by Michel Merlotti, a Notary from Switzerland.

Each country visited involved presentations from and to the Presidents and Council members of the Chambers of Notaries, followed by generous hospitality from the host country. We visited Austria (Vienna), Croatia (Zagreb), Greece (Athens), Albania (Tirana) and Kosovo (Pristina). This was very important opportunity to raise the profile of the English Notary, educate our civil law cousins about the rigours of our educational system and ongoing training and dispel the myths surrounding the perceived differences between the 38 Scrivener Notaries and the 710 General Notaries practising in England & Wales. They were interested in the history of our profession, the continued connection with the Church, the academic rigour and the amount of Notarial acts coming from England & Wales into their countries for their diaspora living in the UK and those investing in their countries. For some the lack of compulsory membership of our Society surprised them (especially as the Scriveners are required to be a member of their company), again misunderstanding that the general Notaries outside the Society are still subject to the same educational standards and continuing professional development requirements. Membership is more than belonging to something akin to a Chamber and is important

given that we are not actually public officials appointed by the state and with our tariffs not being fixed or our acts not being reported by way of public registers. AI, e-Apostilles and electronic notarisation were hot topics given that none of the countries visited were as advanced as we are.

Whilst the wealth of the Notarial profession varied between the countries that we visited, depending on their economies, the status of their professional roles was very high. Kosovo had to write their Notarial code on the creation of their new country and Michel Merlotti who led our trip had been instrumental in the drafting. I spoke at one the Saturday training sessions for the newly qualified student notaries in Pristina. They desperately need more Notaries to conduct the economic rebuilding of their new state. None of the countries visited have the e-apostille as yet, but many do use digital signatures for certain documents and have online registers for nearly everything. Many are trying to expand their remit to uncontested divorce, to free up valuable Court time.

This profile raising and education continued two weeks later when Council member Alessandro Gaglione, Scrivener Luis Hyde-Vaamonde and I attended the LX National Congress of Italian Civil Law Notaries in Rome - an annual gathering of some 1,100 Notaries from the whole of Italy for 2 days. It made our annual conference seem very small. By comparison, the Italians certainly do things extremely properly with a grand piano on stage and a live opera singer for their national anthem and the European national anthem to open their Congress. The theme was "The certainty of notarial data in the European system". An important guest for me to meet there was Lionel Galliez, the President of the UINL (International Union of Notaries), a Parisien Notary. UINL has always excluded the Notaries Society from membership, despite allowing the Scriveners membership. We used to have "observer status" at their meetings, but that was withdrawn and my aim as President is to re-educate the UINL board to enable us to be accepted into their international community.

I was invited to speak on inheritance law in common law jurisdictions at their 2nd Dialogue between Legal Systems Congress held in Puerto Rico in December 2024 and it was an honour for the Society to be invited. This was the second Congress organised by the UINL on the theme of a dialogue between civil law and common law jurisdictions, the idea of the current President of the UINL, Lionel Galliez. As it is very much his concept it will remain to be seen if

this Congress continues beyond his Presidency (which ends in January 2026.)

In April 2025, Vice President Robert Bond attended the AGM and Development meeting of the Faculty of Notaries Public in Ireland. This was held this year in Galway. A collaboration has now been achieved thanks to Elaine Standish of joint training with our Irish counterparts.

I attended the 3rd Dialogue on the 5th September 2025 in Edinburgh, which is jointly hosted by UINL and the Law Society of Scotland, together with our Secretary Elaine Standish and two other Council members. I was invited to speak on matrimonial property regimes and pre-nuptial agreements made by civil law notaries and their acceptance in common law jurisdictions.

I will attend the 31st International Congress of Notaries in Berlin in October 2025, which is a major Notarial event for UINL members, and see the election of their new President ,who will be a key figure for our future.

My next stop on the profile-raising stage will be to speak, thanks to Council member Alessandro Gaglione, to a workshop of Italian notaries at the Law Society in London on the 26th September 2025.

A highlight of the year was being invited by the then Foreign Secretary, David Lammy, to his summer party at Lancaster Terrace. The event was attended by all the British Ambassadors posted around the world, who were back in London for an annual conference, and all the foreign Ambassadors posted to London together with their Embassy staff, including legalisation senior officers. It was an interesting opportunity to showcase our Notarial profession and its role in British commerce, so hopefully we should be invited every year.

Our Society's Annual Conference took place in Birmingham on Friday 12th September 2025.

It is a constant battle to acquaint foreign Notaries and lawyers, as to who and precisely what we are, how we are trained and the skills we bring to our role. There are many who still believe we are nothing more than witnesses of signatures, like US notaries, and second class when compared to our Scrivener-Notary colleagues. It is therefore essential that we work constantly to project our competence, independence and integrity, which must come from education and profile raising of our profession to ensure our acts are accepted and can be relied upon, as was evidenced by the German case we were involved in last year.

I expect there will be a continued range of challenges in the year ahead, but we must continue to uphold the integrity of our profession and ensure that there is no drop in the standard of the work we produce and on which the public rely.



Suzanne Marriott
President

Suzanne is a Partner at Charles Russell Speechlys.

She is the Head of Art & Luxury. Suzanne specialises in cross border and UK tax planning, wills, trusts, contentious trusts and probates, Inheritance Act claims, estate and succession planning, international wills and trusts, non domiciliaries, mental incapacity, Court of Protection and Art law. Suzanne is also a Notary Public.

APPOINTMENTS OF NOTARIES PUBLIC BY THE MASTER OF THE FACULTIES UNDER THE ECCLESIASTICAL LICENCES ACT 1533 AND IMPERIAL LAW RECEPTION STATUTES

One can wax lyrical on the intriguing historical tale of the office of the notary, from the hallowed antiquity of classical Egyptian, Hebrew, and Roman times, through the Holy Roman Empire and the Reformation to the present day but, alas, this is not that article. That is not to suggest that this article is not about history – indeed, we shall have to travel back and forth between the times of Henry VIII (1509-1547) and Charles III, with the reigns of a few other Kings and Queens along the journey. The purpose of this adventure of time travel and statutory survey is to consider the exercise of statutory powers in the appointment of notaries public in selected common law jurisdictions, particularly those that still call upon the Master of the Faculties to appoint their notaries.

Master of the Faculties.

The former Court of Faculties, now the Faculty Office, of the Archbishop of Canterbury was established under the Ecclesiastical Licences Act 1533 as one of the ecclesiastical courts to grant licences and faculties in the Church of England (covering not only the Province of Canterbury but also the Province of York and the Church in Wales). Some of the functions of the Faculty Office that survive to the present day include the issue of special marriage licences, conferral of church degrees in theology (Lambeth degrees), and the appointment and regulation of notaries public.⁽¹⁾ The Faculty Office was and is presided over by the Master of the Faculties who, since the 19th Century, is held concurrently by the same person who is also:

- the Dean of the Arches, the presiding judge of the Court of Arches, the ecclesiastical court for the Province of Canterbury of the Church of England;⁽²⁾ and
- the Official Principal and Auditor, the principal judge of the Chancery Court of York, the ecclesiastical court for the Province of York of the Church of England. ⁽³⁾

(1) E. Garth Moore, *AN INTRODUCTION TO ENGLISH CANON LAW* (Oxford, England: Clarendon Press, 1967), at p. 29.

(2) See, generally, R. Brian Outhwaite, *THE RISE AND FALL OF THE ENGLISH ECCLESIASTICAL COURTS, 1500-1860* (Cambridge, England: Cambridge University Press, 2007).

(3) See, generally, John S. Purvis, *The Ecclesiastical Courts of York* (1957) 3 J. BRIT. REC. ASSOC. 18; and Outhwaite, *supra* note 3.

(4) The author is grateful to the assistance of Dr. Isa Alade, Lecturer in Law at the University of Canterbury, New Zealand, in providing him with the relevant Gambian and Nigerian statutes.

(5) *Notaries Public Act (Act no. 12 of 1946) (The Gambia)*.

The Master of the Faculties, presently The Rt. Hon. & Rt. Wpful. Morag Ellis, K.C., retains the power and functions of appointing and regulating the notarial profession not only in England and Wales, but also in the Channel Islands (Guernsey and Jersey), Gibraltar, New Zealand, Queensland, and Papua New Guinea. What follows below is an overview of each of the jurisdictions that have notariat members of the Common Law Association of Notaries, as well as those that continue to have their notaries appointed (and regulated) by the Master of the Faculties.

Australia except Queensland.

In the Commonwealth of Australia, the appointments of notaries in 7 of the 8 States and Territories are made under legislation by their respective Supreme Courts:

- Australian Capital Territory: *Notaries Public Act 1984 (A.C.T.)*, s. 7;
- New South Wales: *Public Notaries Act 1997 (N.S.W.)*, s. 6;
- Northern Territory: *Public Notaries Act 1992 (N.T.)*, s. 4;
- South Australia: *Notaries Public Act 2016 (S.A.)*, s. 5;
- Tasmania: *Notaries Public Act 1990 (Tas.)*, s. 5;
- Victoria: *Public Notaries Act 2001 (Vic.)*, subs. 6(3); and
- Western Australia: *Public Notaries Act 1979 (W.A.)*, s. 6.

Nigeria and The Gambia. (4)

In the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the Chief Justice is empowered to appoint notaries public under s. 23 of the *Notaries Public Act, 2023 (Nigeria)*. Similarly, in the Republic of The Gambia, s. 2 of the *Notaries Public Act (The Gambia)* vests the power and function of appointing notaries public in the Chief Justice as well. (5)

Ireland and Northern Ireland.

This is also the case in Northern Ireland, where subs. 112(1) of the Judicature (Northern Ireland) Act 1978 (U.K.) empowers the Lord Chief Justice (or Lady Chief Justice, as is the case at present) to appoint notaries public. In 1922, on the founding of the Irish Free State, the power to appoint notaries public in Ireland was “transferred” to the Chief Justice under subs. 19(3) of The Courts of Justice Act, 1924 (Ir.).

British Columbia.

Meanwhile, in British Columbia, s. 15 of the Notaries Act (B.C.) empowers the Lieutenant Governor in Council, being the representative of the King of Canada in the government of the province, to appoint notaries public. (1)

England and Wales.

In England and Wales, the English Reformation Parliament (1529-1536) was called by Henry VIII to consider and enact statutes to separate England from the Papacy (and, retrospectively, one may refer to this now as the “O.G. Brexit”). (2) Among these statutes enacted was the Ecclesiastical Licences Act 1533 (25 Hen. VIII c. 21), also referred to as the Peter’s Pence Act 1533. Although many of the provisions of the Ecclesiastical Licences Act have been amended or repealed, Section III has survived and provides that (underline added):

The seid Archebishope and hys successours, after good and examynacion by theym had of the causes and qualities of the persons procuryng for licences dispensacions composicions faculties delegacies rescriptes instrumentes or other wrytynges, shall have full power and auctoritie by theym selff or by their sufficient and substanciall commissarye or deputye by their discreacions, frome tyme to tyme to graunte and dispose by an instrument under the name and seale of the seid Archebisshope, as well to any of your subjectes as to the Subjectes of your heires and successours, all maner licences

dispensacions faculties composicions delegacies rescriptes instrumentes or other wrytynges for any suche cause or matier wherof heretofore suche licences dispensacions composicions faculties delegacies rescriptes instrumentes or wrytynges have byn accustomed to be had, at the See of Rome or by auctorytie therof or of any prelate of this Realme: ...

The above provision would defy reading aloud, let alone comprehension, by most modern persons and, indeed, anyone found able to do so in 2025 other than scholars of Middle English or Early Modern English ought to be captured and waterboarded without mercy until that Time Lord (even if they are The Doctor) discloses where they have left the TARDIS or other space-time vessel. (3) That said, it is apparent from the underlined parts of the provision that the “seid Archebishope [of Canterbury] and hys successours”, “by theym selff or by their commissarye or deputye”, “have full power and auctoritie” “to graunte and dispose ... faculties ... [that] have byn accustomed to be had, at the See of Rome or by auctorytie therof or of any prelate of this Realme”. Simply put, the section provides that faculties (such as those of notaries public) that were previously granted by the Pope (or his Papal Legate) may be granted by the Archbishop of Canterbury (or their delegate). On this statutory authority, the Court of Faculties (or the Faculty Office) led by the Master of the Faculties was established to exercise this power of appointment delegated by the Archbishop of Canterbury. Further, under the Legal Services Act 2007, the Master of the Faculties is also the sole approved regulator of notaries public in England and Wales.

Guernsey, Jersey, and Isle of Man.

The original wording of the Ecclesiastical Licences Act, addressed to Henry VIII, applied the statute territorially to not only “this your Realme” (i.e., England) but also “other countres and Domynyons being under your obeysaunce”. It has been suggested that such wording has the effect of extending the application of the statute to the Crown Dependencies, namely the Bailiwick of Guernsey, the

(1) Notaries Act [R.S.B.C. 1996] Chapter 334.

(2) See, e.g., Stanford E. Lehberg, *THE REFORMATION PARLIAMENT, 1529-1536* (Cambridge, England: Cambridge University Press, 1970); Christopher Haigh, *ENGLISH REFORMATIONS: RELIGION, POLITICS, AND SOCIETY UNDER THE TUDORS* (Oxford, England: Oxford University Press, 1993); and Peter R. Roberts, *Henry VIII, Francis I, and the Reformation Parliament (2007) 27 PARL., ESTATES, & REPRES. 129*.

(3) Surely a reference to Doctor Who does not require sources but, anyway: Danny Nicol, *Doctor Who, Family, and National Identity* (2020) 18 *ENTERTAINMENT & SPORTS L. J.* 1; and Kevin S. Decker, *Gallifrey Fails No More: Doctor Who’s Ontology of Time* (2019) 2 *J. SC. FICTION & PHIL.* 1. You are welcome.

Bailiwick of Jersey, and the Isle of Man. (1) In the present day, the Master of the Faculties continues to be responsible for the appointment of notaries public in Guernsey and Jersey; however, in the Isle of Man, notaries are appointed by the First Deemster (or Y Chied Vriw), the lead judge of the of the High Court, under s. 29 of the Advocates Act 1995 (Man).

New Zealand.

New Zealand does not have specific legislation concerning the appointment and regulation of notaries. Section 2 of the English Laws Act 1908 (N.Z.), which reflected and consolidated the position under the English Acts Act 1854 (N.Z.), English Laws Act 1858 (N.Z.), and English Acts Act 1860 (N.Z.), stated:

The laws of England as existing on the fourteenth day of January, one thousand eight hundred and forty, so far as applicable to the circumstances of New Zealand, and in so far as the same were in force in New Zealand immediately before the commencement of this Act, shall be deemed to continue in force in New Zealand and shall continue to be applied in the administration of justice accordingly ...

The date of 14 January 1840 was first stipulated as the date of reception of English laws in New Zealand under the English Laws Act 1858. As the Ecclesiastical Licences Act existed on 14 January 1840 and was in force in New Zealand at the time of the English Laws Act 1908, it continued to have force and effect in New Zealand after 1908. However, the English Laws Act 1908 was repealed by the Imperial Laws Application Act 1988 (N.Z.), (2) and excluded any English statute from application in New Zealand other than those listed in its Schedule 1 specifically. (3) As the Ecclesiastical Licences Act is not listed in Schedule 1 of the Imperial Laws Application Act, its applicability to New Zealand ended on 1 January 1989, the commencement date of the latter Act. (4) When the Imperial Laws Application Bill was introduced into the Parliament of New Zealand in October 1986, a specific saving provision was included in

(1) See, e.g., Tim Thornton, *The Isle of Man, Channel Islands, and Statutes of the English Parliament, to 1640: Development and Change in Territorial Extent* [2025] L. & HIST. REV. 1; Michael Burt, *The Power of the U.K. to Legislate for the Crown Dependencies Without Consent – Fact or Fiction?* (2017) 21 THE JERSEY & GUERNSEY L. REV. 152; and Peter Edge, David, Goliath, and Supremacy: The Isle of Man and the Sovereignty of the United Kingdom Parliament (1995) 24 ANGLO-AM. L. REV. 1.

(2) Imperial Laws Application Act 1988 (N.Z.), s. 7.

(3) *Ibid.*, s. 4.

(4) *Ibid.*, subs. 1(2).

(5) Imperial Laws Application Bill, introduced in Parliament on 21 October 1986. See also New Zealand Law Commission | Te Aka Matua o te Ture, "Imperial Legislation in Force in New Zealand: A report on the Imperial Laws Application Bill introduced in the Parliament of New Zealand on 21 October 1986", Report no. 1 (1987), pp. 138-161.

(6) Jeremy Finn, *The Imperial Laws Application Act 1988* (1989) 4 CANTERBURY L. REV. 93.

the Bill that did not survive enactment: (5)

(10) Nothing in this Act shall limit or affect –

...

(f) any Imperial enactment or Imperial subordinate legislation relating to notaries public; or the power of the Master of the Faculties of the Archbishop of Canterbury to issue a faculty to any person to practice as a notary public in New Zealand; or the functions and powers of a person to whom such a faculty is issued; or the established rules and practice relating to such a notary public; or to the regulation and conduct, practices, and discipline of notaries public;

...

Soon after the enactment of the Imperial Laws Application Act, in an article on the substance and effects of the statute, Finn noted that the explanatory notes to the earlier drafts of the Bill mentioned that a replacement statute for the appointment and regulation of notaries in New Zealand was in the works, but this never materialised. Finn further commented: (6)

In general, the decisions to repeal any statute which was not obviously obsolete were made as a result of enquiries to interested parties, Government Departments and the like, which ensured, for the most part, retention of only those statutes for which there could be some relevant application. ... It must be presumed that a similar process of consultation resulted in the otherwise puzzling repeal of all statutes relating to Notaries Public – leaving this country with no statutory recognition or regulation of the position.

Cook Islands and Niue.

Cook Islands and Niue are states in free association within the Realm of New Zealand. In Cook Islands, notaries are appointed by the Chief Justice under s. 3 of the Notaries Public Act 1992 (C.I.). However, in Niue, s. 3 of the Public Notaries Act 1998 (Niue) vests the power to appoint

notaries in the Cabinet – which serves to highlight the executive nature of the power for the appointment of notaries.

Queensland.

Of the Australian states and territories, Queensland is the only one that continues to have the Master of the Faculties appoint notaries within the State. Although it may seem as if a similar problem as that in New Zealand arises from the application of the Imperial Acts Application Act 1984 (Qld.), in actuality this is not the case.

At first glance, the effects of that Act are like those of its New Zealand counterpart, in that Imperial laws not listed in the Schedules would no longer apply in Queensland. (1) The Queensland Law Reform Commission considered the Ecclesiastical Licences Act as unnecessary to be retained, and the statute is not included in the Schedules of the Act for retention in Queensland. (2) However, s. 6 of the Imperial Acts Application Act states (underlining added):

Nothing in this Act affects any Imperial enactment specified in Schedule 2 or any other Imperial enactment which independently of the provisions of the Imperial Act 9 George VI Chapter 83 (Australian Courts Act 1828) is made applicable to Queensland by express words or necessary intendment of any Imperial enactment.

As discussed above in the context of the Channel Islands, the Ecclesiastical Licences Act was enacted to apply not only to England but to all other dominions and possessions of the English Crown. While one may argue that s. 6 of the Imperial Acts Application Act 1984 (Qld.) can apply only to Imperial enactments made after the founding of Queensland as a colony, this is countered by the observation that the statutes listed in Schedule 2 were all enacted before 6

June 1859, when the colony of Queensland separated from the colony of New South Wales.

Accordingly, it is apparent that the Ecclesiastical Licences Act continues to apply in Queensland by operation of s. 6 of the Imperial Acts Application Act 1984 (Qld.), which has the effect of preserving the statutory power of the Master of the Faculties to appoint notaries in Queensland.

Papua New Guinea.

Papua New Guinea does not have legislation of its own concerning the admission and regulation of notaries public. When Papua New Guinea achieved independence from Australia on 16 September 1975, (3) the Laws Adoption and Adaptation Act 1975 (P.N.G.) states that the statutes and laws of England as in force in Queensland on 17 September 1888 apply in the Territory of Papua, (4) and those in force on 9 May 1921 apply in the Territory of New Guinea. (5) Regardless of one's interpretation of s. 6 of the Imperial Acts Application Act 1984 (Qld.), the Ecclesiastical Licences Act was a statute of England as in force in Queensland on those relevant dates, with the effect that the Ecclesiastical Licences Act continue to apply in force in Papua New Guinea.

Conclusion re Gibraltar.

Gibraltar is a self-governing British Overseas Territory that has enacted its Commissioners for Oaths and Public Notaries Act 1953 (Gib.), which provides for the annual registration of public notaries with the Registrar of the Supreme Court but does not provide for their qualification or admission. (6) Instead, the Master of the Faculties continues to appoint notaries in Gibraltar; the Notaries (Gibraltar) Admission Order 2012, made by the Master of the Faculties at that time, prescribes the qualification requirements for appointment as: (7)

(1) Imperial Acts Application Act 1984 (Qld.), s. 7.

(2) Queensland Law Reform Commission, *An Examination of the Imperial Statutes in Force in Queensland*, Report no. 31 (1981), annexure C. See also Peter M. McDermott, *Imperial Statutes in Australia and New Zealand* (1990) 2 BOND L. REV. 162.

(3) Papua New Guinea Independence Act 1975 (Cth.). See also Hank Nelson, *Liberation: The End of Australian Rule in Papua New Guinea* (2000) 35 J. PAC. HIST. 269.

(4) Laws Adoption and Adaptation Act 1975 (P.N.G.), s. 2. The Territory of Papua was the southern portion of the eastern half of New Guinea that became a British protectorate in 1884 and was annexed by the U.K. on that date in 1888: see Helen Gardner, Jonathan Ritchie, Brad Underhill, and Keimelo Gima, *Wan Solwara: New Histories of Australia and Papua New Guinea* (2024) 55 AUST. HIST. STUD. 223.

(5) Laws Adoption and Adaptation Act, s. 3. The Territory of New Guinea was formerly German New Guinea that was captured by Australian forces during the First World War and was made a League of Nations mandate territory administered by Australia on that date in 1921: see Gardner et al., *supra* note 25.

(6) Commissioner for Oaths and Public Notaries Act 1953 (Gib.).

(7) Charles George Q.C. (2009-2020).

1. practising as a lawyer qualified and admitted to practice in Gibraltar for 5 years;
2. having completed and passed the 2-year notarial practice course provided by University College London; and
3. holding professional indemnity insurance of no less than £1 million.



Ricky J Lee

Ricky J. Lee has been recognised as a leading expert in space law and international business law. He has published over 200 books, chapters, articles, papers, and presentations on various aspects of space law, public international law, cross-border business and trade, private international law, and notarial practice. A frequent conference speaker, he was a speaker at the 2018 United Nations Conference on Space Law and Policy, the 2002 and 2003 U.N. Workshops on Capacity Building in Space Law, along with conferences of the International Astronomical Union, International Bar Association, International Astronautical Federation, International Law Association, International Association for the Advancement of Space Safety, Australian and New Zealand Society of International Law, and LAWASIA.

WISE WORDS FROM LEO MANGAN

1. "I did not come here to put my approval rating on a shelf. I came here to do things" **Barack Obama.**
2. "If any of you cry at my funeral, I will never speak to you again" **Stan Laurel.**
3. "I find that a man who trusts nobody, is apt to be the kind of man nobody trusts" **Harold Macmillan.**
4. "The pure and simple truth is rarely pure and never simple." **Oscar Wilde.**
5. "A bottle of wine contains more philosophy than all the books in the world." **Louis Pasteur.**
6. "Now there sits a man with an open mind. You can feel the draft from here." **Groucho Marx.**
7. "In victory you deserve champagne. In defeat you need it." **Napoleon Bonaparte.**
8. "Never give in to hate because hate is too heavy a burden to carry." **John Lewis US Democrat.**
9. "Don't talk unless you can improve the silence." **Jorge Luis Borges(1899-1986) Argentinian Essayist.**
10. "There is no path to peace. Peace is the path." **Mahatma Gandhi.**



Leo Mangan:
Notary Public,
Dublin,
Ireland

and delightful connoisseur of conversation!

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REMOTE ID PROOFING GOOD PRACTICES

MARCH 2024

SOME ANCIENT OFFICES OF GREAT BRITAIN

From The 7th edition of an "Occasional" Compendium of Legal and other Nonsense

Great Britain is an ancient country and during its long history all sorts of ancient offices have been accrued. Usually hereditary and now largely irrelevant but that adds to the colour and charm of the nation. In addition I just love delving into the past. Thus I offer a small selection of the Ancient Offices which still exist.

Earl Marshal and Hereditary Marshal of England

The obligations fall upon the Dukes of Norfolk. We are presently on the 18th Duke. He is responsible for overseeing the State Opening of Parliament and is responsible for State Funerals and coronations. Recently banned from driving!! He is also head of the College of Arms and Court of Chivalry.

King's Champion, Lord of the Manor of Scivelsby (Standard Bearer of England)

The title of the King's Champion has been in the Dymoke Family since 1350 or so. The present King's Champion is Francis Dymoke who is a chartered accountant and, thus, very good with spread sheets.

Lord Great Chamberlain

He was once entitled to ask for the Sovereign's underwear, bed, furniture and throne. (Why you ask I have no idea.) He was also entitled to demand the clothes worn by the King at the Coronation including underclothes, socks and other personal belongings. (Why. Please this is tedious I have no idea.)

Lord Warden of the Stannaries, Rider and Master Forester of the Forest and Chase of Dartmoor, Keeper of the Prince's Privy Seal

The present owner of this elegant title is Sir Nicholas Bacon. Once with authority to invoke a Stannary Parliament which had extraordinary powers. Responsible for overseeing the tin mining industry in Cornwall and Devon. Sir Walter Raleigh was once Lord Warden as was Prince Albert.

Hereditary Falconer

Now there are those who claim to have an interest in history and those who are dilettantes. How can anyone claim a serious study of our ancient traditions not know Lord Borthwick is the Hereditary Falconer of Scotland while the Duke of St. Albans fulfils a similar role in England.

King's Guide Over Kent Sands over Morecambe Bay

Why on earth the Sovereign would require such a guide I cannot imagine but the present holder is Cedric Robinson. Admiralty Judge of the Cinque Ports For those who struggle the Cinque Ports are: Hastings, New Romney, Hythe, Dover, Sandwich and later Winchelsea and Rye. The recent Judge is Sir Nigel Teare whose powers are now largely academic.

King's Herb Strewer

I am not sure this role still exists but if it does not it should!!

King's Swan Marker

The present holder is David Barber who engages in Swan Upping and marks swans. Cannot think of anything else to say. Except he wears a feather in his cap.

King's Remembrancer

Arguably the oldest Judicial Appointment in the world dating back to 1154. He, or she, gathers a debt of six horseshoes, sixty one nails and two knives in rent for the King.

His Majesty's Botanist

The office was first created in 1699 as a member of the Royal Household of Scotland. The present holder is Professor Stephen Blackmore.

Page of the Backstairs

The senior servant of the Royal Household who personally attends the Sovereign and his or her spouse.

Yeoman Bed Goer/Yeoman Bed Hanger

Once responsible for checking, for security reasons, the Sovereign's sleeping chamber.

Conclusion

There are many hereditary titles which I could not be bothered to examine for example:

- President of Tynwald;
- Lord Lyon King of Arms;
- Seigneur of Sark;
- Captain General of the King's Body Guard in Scotland; and
- Gentiluomo of the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster.



Dr. John Kirkhope

After pursuing a number of careers Dr. John Kirkhope qualified as a Solicitor in 2000, from which he is now retired. He was granted his faculty to practice as a Notary Public in 2004. In addition to his practice as a Notary Public, he also furthers his studies in Constitutional Law.

NOTARY WORLD



SEPTEMBER 2025

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