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IWIRC London Network Newsletter Winter 2023

We are pleased to send you the IWIRC London Network newsletter.

In this edition, we report on:

- Co-chairs update
- UNCITRAL update
- Member news
- Articles and papers
- Upcoming and past events

Happy reading!

The IWIRC London Network Communications Team:

- [Hannah Aynsley](#) (Interpath Advisory) Communications Co-Chair
- [Courtney Clelland](#) (Addleshaw Goddard), Communications Co-Chair
- [Louise Jennings](#) (Taylor Wessing), Communications Co-Chair
- [Maeve Brady](#) (Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP), Committee Member
- [Lynette Ebo](#) (Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer), Committee Member
- [Jennifer Yamada](#), (Alvarez & Marsal) Committee Member

Co-chairs' Update

Happy new year!

Welcome to the first 2023 newsletter. First off we want to wish you all a healthy and happy new year.

As we start the new year we have reflected on 2022. In our last newsletter, we set out our aims and ambitions and with delight, we have made huge progress with thanks to you all.

Growth of the network: last time we were over 200 members in the London network - we are just under 300 now. It will be an amazing achievement to welcome our 300th member soon and we are considering how to celebrate this.

IWIRC itself turned 30 this year - and we have a T-shirt for everyone in the network to celebrate. Look out for them at our events.

New crew: our new crew has formally launched and held their first event. We have a dedicated new crew committee so watch out for more events coming up.

Mentoring: we have launched! A fantastic initiative to provide mentoring in our network launched despite train strike adversities in November. We have already had extremely positive feedback on the programme and hope that if you are part of it you continue to enjoy it and that it will benefit you and your career. For all those who missed out on our class of 2022, we are already thinking of future rollouts.

D&I and allies: we are looking forward with huge excitement to our [event](#) in March celebrating International Women's Day where we broaden our horizon with a talk by Karen Carney MBE, one of the lionesses covering her path to success as a footballer and broadcaster, equality and issues facing women in football.

to showcase the success of our network internationally.

Conference: despite tube strikes our conference in November in collaboration with Reorg was a tremendous success and sell out. Read more [here](#).

So, what's coming up in 2023:

- Be Connected: Thursday fizz - 16th February
- Be Informed: The FTX snowstorm: Will crypto Spring ever arrive? - 27th February
- International Women's Day: An evening with Karen Carney MBE - 15th March
- Be Connected: Pizza, pucks and prosecco - 11th May
- Mentoring Plenary Session - 5th June
- New Crew: How to work a room - 22 or 29 June
- Anniversary Party - 6th July
- Leadership Summit - 2-4 August

As ever - if you wish to be involved get in touch. You can support the network by being on one of our committees to help bring new ideas and implement existing ones or by simply attending and showing support for our network and women in the restructuring community.

The restructuring community is expecting it to be a busy year so look after yourselves.

Best wishes

Katharina and Kris

[Katharina Crinson](#) (Freshfields) & [Kristina Kicks](#) (Interpath Advisory), Co-Chairs of IWIRC London Network

SteerCo Dinner



IWIRC has turned 30! IWIRC Committee members in their T-shirts at the annual Steerco Dinner held in January.

UNCITRAL Update



IWIRC participated in the 61st Session of Working Group V (Insolvency), which met in Vienna from 12-16 December. IWIRC is a long standing observer and sent five delegates to participate in the meetings in person: Kathlene Burke, Katharina Crinson (both London network), Karen Fellowes KC (Canada), Debra Grassgreen (USA) and Debby Lim (Singapore).

The current topics for Working Group V are twofold: asset tracing and recovery tools and applicable law. For both these, there are several working documents which are the subject for debate and refinement at each of the Working Group sessions. IWIRC participates in all official sessions, which take place twice a year (Vienna and New York) at the UN with simultaneous translations into all official UN languages. In addition to the formal sessions, IWIRC participates in expert working groups throughout the year to assist the UNCITRAL Secretariat with drafting and understanding the topics at issue.

About UNCITRAL and Working Group V

UNCITRAL (United Nations Commission on International Trade Law) is the core legal body of the United Nations system in the field of international trade law. A legal body with universal membership specializing in commercial law reform worldwide for over 50 years, UNCITRAL's business is the modernization and harmonization of rules on international business. To this end, UNCITRAL is divided into different working groups, all of which seek to establish model laws or guidance for countries to adopt.

two legislative guides and four explanatory texts. The Model Law with which members will be most familiar is the “original” one, namely the Model Law on Cross Border Insolvency which was adopted in 1997. The UK has adopted this in the form of the Cross Border Insolvency Regulations and there are current proposals for the UK to adopt the two most recent model laws on the recognition and enforcement of insolvency related judgements and on enterprise groups.

Members' News

Congratulations to [Alissandra Moone](#) who was promoted to Director in Teneo's Financial Advisory team effective 1 January 2023. Her experience primarily covers business reviews, senior debt restructurings and financial advisory, along with contingency planning and formal insolvencies.

Congratulations to [Jennifer Currie](#) who was promoted to Director in Teneo's Value+ team effective 1 January 2023. She supports businesses in stressed / distressed situations by providing hands-on support through performance improvement, turnaround, or crisis management.

[Lisa Rickelton](#), FTI Consulting, chaired a panel discussion at the INSOL International Dubai seminar in association with the American Bankruptcy Institute on 17 January. The full-day event featured topical insights and discussions on the regional and international restructuring and corporate finance landscape. Lisa's panel was titled '*Restructuring – A look through different lenses*'. She gave her own personal experiences and provided her take on what's necessary for a successful restructuring outcome.

FTI Consulting, Inc. (NYSE: FCN) has expanded its restructuring and transformation capabilities in EMEA with the appointment of [Lucy Brocklebank](#) as a Managing Director in the firm's Corporate Finance & Restructuring segment in London. Ms. Brocklebank brings over 15 years of experience in restructuring and transformation matters and has advised clients through a range of stressed and distressed financial situations. She has particular expertise in financial planning and analysis, project management, financial forecasting, transformation implementation, and stakeholder engagement strategies. To learn more about Lucy, visit: <https://ftiemea.to/LucyBrocklebank>

and insolvency, acting on behalf of lenders, directors, PE sponsors, landlords, distressed investors and insolvency practitioners in all aspects of insolvency law. She is ranked as a "Rising Star" in the Legal 500 in 2020, 2021 and 2022.

Akin Gump's financial restructuring partners [Emma Simmonds](#) and [Liz Osborne](#) have been selected by Euromoney Legal Media Group for inclusion in its [Expert Guides: World's Leading Women in Business Law 2022](#). The Women in Business Law recognises the "top female legal practitioners advising on business law" through a selection process of independent research and peer nominations.

Akin Gump's financial restructuring counsel [Emma Butler](#), has been recognised by Euromoney Legal Media Group for inclusion in its [Expert Guides: Rising Stars 2022](#). Expert Guides: Rising Stars recognises "the brightest and most talented practitioners in the area of business law and related practices" through a selection process of independent research and peer nominations.

Articles & Papers

We're delighted to include reports from our members on areas of topical interest.

- [Gemma Freeman](#), Counsel at Dentons Dublin and [Luci Mitchell-Fry](#), Counsel at Dentons London have written an article titled, '[Your restructuring regime or mine?](#)' which was first published in the December 2022 edition of the [South Square Digest](#).
- [Lydia Tsioli](#), King's College London, evaluates rescue financing in the US and the UK from a 'filtering efficiency' standpoint and articulates a proposal for reform for the UK in particular. The full article, published in the Journal of Corporate Law Studies is available [here](#).
- Akin Gump's financial restructuring team, including partners Liz Osborne and Emma Simmonds, and Knowledge Management Counsel [Lauren Pflueger](#) have produced a thought leadership piece, [Restructuring Plans and Chapter 11: A Transatlantic Perspective](#), looking at some of the key features of the English restructuring plan, including the experience from the case law to date,

differences.

- Akin Gump's financial restructuring team, including partner Emma Simmonds and Knowledge Management Counsel Lauren Pflueger, have once again authored the [Q&A article "Restructuring and Insolvency in the UK \(England & Wales\): Overview,"](#) which has been published in this year's Reuters Practical Law Finance Global Guide.
- Akin Gump's international trade and financial restructuring teams, including restructuring partners Liz Osborne and Emma Simmonds produced a thought leadership piece examining the [impacts and experiences of unprecedented sanctions regimes on the restructuring transactions](#)
- Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer's restructuring and insolvency team, including [Caroline Platt](#) and [Eleni Rawson](#), have written an article titled "The Restructuring Plan Two Years On: Lessons Learned", which looks back on the key developments in the UK restructuring framework since the introduction of the restructuring plan over two years ago. The full article, published in International Corporate Rescue, is available [here](#).
- Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer's restructuring and insolvency team produced a thought leadership piece examining the European Commission's [proposal for an EU directive on the harmonisation of certain aspects of insolvency law](#).

Share your news with us!

- Have you **written an article** which you would like us to publish? (If already published you must have permission for republication.)
- Have you recently been, or will you be, **involved in any panels** (speaking or moderating)? Let us know more!
- Do you have any **entries for our Members' News section**? For example, have you won an award, moved jobs, had a promotion?

If you have something to submit, please email us at iwirclondon@yahoo.com with "Newsletter Submission" in the subject matter to be featured in our next newsletter!

Upcoming Events...

with more to come!



Be Connected

IWIRC London Thursday Fizz

**16 February 2023, 18:00 - 23:00, Harry's Bar & Dining Room, 5
Abchurch Yard, London, EC4N 7BA**

IWIRC (London) is looking forward to welcoming ticket-holders to Harry's Bar on Thursday 16 February 2023 for an informal get-together and catch up over a glass of something bubbly. This event is open to IWIRC London members and non-members.

As this event has sold out, please let us know via email to iwirclondon@yahoo.com if your plans have changed and you can no longer make the event, so that we can release your ticket to someone on the waiting list.



Be Informed

IWIRC London The FTX snowstorm: Will Crypto Spring ever arrive?

27 February 2023, 17:00 - 18:30, online

The panel will focus on bankruptcies in the digital assets space following the FTX and BlockFi collapses as well as the other major digital assets bankruptcies. The panellists will look at the practical steps to be taken when a crypto business finds itself in distress, the issues you need to be aware of and how the courts are approaching crypto bankruptcies.

The panel will be moderated by Antonia Mottironi founder and partner with Ardenter Law, Switzerland. Our panellists include Neema Griffin, Teneo Cayman Islands, Justina Milasauskiene, independent consultant and Katie Catanese, Foley & Lardner US.

This is a virtual event open to IWIRC members only. If any IWIRC members wish to invite non-members to the event, please contact IWIRC London (iwirclondon@yahoo.com) or IWIRC Europe for further information.

[More information and registration is available online.](#)



International Women's Day – an evening with Karen Carney MBE



15th March 2023

18:30 - 21:00

Deloitte LLP, 1 New Street Square, London

To celebrate International Women's Day (and the success of the Lionesses in last year's Euros), we are thrilled to host a talk by former Lioness and Chelsea Ladies FC star, Karen Carney MBE about equality and issues facing women in football.

IWIRC London International Women's Day - An evening with Karen Carney MBE

15 March 2023, 18:30 - 21:00, Deloitte LLP, 1 New Street Square, London

To celebrate International Women's Day (and the success of the Lionesses in last year's Euros), we are thrilled to host a talk by former Lioness and Chelsea Ladies FC star, Karen Carney MBE, covering her path to success as a footballer and broadcaster, equality and issues facing women in football.

IWIRC members are warmly encouraged to bring along allies from their own organisations to this event.

[More information and registration is available online.](#)

Past Events...

In case you missed them - read a snapshot from recent events



Be Informed

IWIRC London: UNCITRAL 2 - Implementation and Impact

13 September 2022

In 2018, the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) adopted two new model laws, the Model Law on the Recognition and Enforcement of Insolvency-Related Judgments and The Model Law on Enterprise Group Insolvency. This has been referred to as “UNCITRAL 2” or “UNCITRAL lite” and establishes a framework for recognition and enforcement of foreign insolvency judgments. The Insolvency Service has launched a consultation into whether these model laws should be adopted in the UK

At our IWIRC London Be Informed event, [Sonya Van de Graaff](#) and [Kat Burke](#) – who, as part of the IWIRC delegation to UNCITRAL's Working Group V were both involved in the preparation of the new Model Laws, led a very interesting discussion on how Model Laws are made, the two new Model Laws' aims, the impediments to universalism in the UK (including the controversial rule in Gibbs) and the US position.



Be Connected

IWIRC London New Crew Welcome Party **14 September 2022**

IWIRC London held its inaugural “new crew” event on 14 September 2022 – Those with less than 5 years’ qualification or experience, or still training, or are simply new to the profession were invited to come for a drink and meet some their peers. It was a great opportunity for our junior colleagues across the restructuring & insolvency profession to get to know each other and build networks. Watch out for more events coming up!

If you're interested in joining our New Crew committee, please let us know by email to iwirclondon@yahoo.com.



Be Inspired

IWIRC London: 'Realise Your Potential' Mentoring Programme - **Plenary session 1 and 2**

The IWIRC London Mentoring ‘Realise Your Potential’ Programme was launched on 7 November 2022 with the first plenary session kindly hosted by event sponsors, [Norton Rose Fulbright](#). IWIRC is so excited to be able to support their members’ careers with this fantastic Programme – which is being presented by our incredible career coach, Dr Liz Brown, who has coached at the highest levels around the world. We are very grateful to all our (male and female) mentors who are also playing an invaluable part in the

and an open forum for discussing mentoring and networking. We look forward to the third and last instalment which is taking place in early June!

Thanks go to our Co-Chairs for this initiative, [Susan Moore](#) and [Jo Robinson](#), as well as to those other members of the IWIRC Mentoring Committee, [Bethan Griffith](#), Eibhilín Marron, [Isabelle \(Issy\) Gross](#), [Dominique Hodgson](#) and [Linh Nguyen](#).



IWIRC LONDON CONFERENCE 2022

in collaboration with Reorg

10th November 2022

11:30 - 17:00

One Moorgate Place, London

followed by a drinks reception

17:00 - 23:00



Reorg[®]

IWIRC London held its third annual conference on 10 November 2022 in collaboration with Reorg. It was a tremendous success – despite a tube strike!

Panelists spoke about various topics, including panels on the restructuring landscape, directors' duties, the imposter syndrome and a discussion between judges.

Thank you again to all our sponsors: [Fried Frank](#), [Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer](#), [Alvarez & Marsal](#), [AlixPartners](#), [Gordon Brothers](#), [Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP](#), [Baker McKenzie](#), [Dechert LLP](#), [FTI Consulting](#), [Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP](#) and [South Square](#).



Be Connected

IWIRC London Christmas Party
7 December 2022

Farringdon, complete with live entertainment and drinks and nibbles. It was a brilliant event expertly organised by our wonderful events team. It was lovely to catch up with so many members and friends of IWIRC to celebrate the holiday season. Thank you to our sponsors for the evening [Howden](#) and [BDO](#).



Be Inspired

IWIRC London Charity Quiz 24 January 2023

IWIRC London's Charity Quiz night on 24 January 2023 raised £2,135.50 for [Solace Women's Aid](#) through ticket sales.

We heard from Solace Women's Aid on the evening regarding the fantastic work they are doing. Solace Women's Aid offers free advice and support to women and children in London to build safe and strong lives free from abuse and violence.

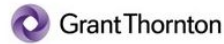
Should you wish to make a donation to Solace, this can be made [here](#).

With thanks to our hosts and sponsors for the evening [PwC](#).

Hosting: Please let us [know](#) if you would like to host or sponsor an event.

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How to Get in Touch

We would love to hear from you on how we can grow the [IWIRC London Network](#), what events you would like to attend and any other ideas for our group. Get in touch using any of the following options:



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