

Modern Lawyer

Ideas for Legal Leaders

Editor: Alex Davies

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Featured in this issue

The demystification of legal AI

*The fearful lawyer –
you are not alone*

*Wellbeing and the legal
profession – for life*

*The earth and everything
that's in it – sustainability
and circularity in law*



Shining a
spotlight on
the profession



Welcome to the first Modern Lawyer of 2023.

I am delighted to be writing this introduction to a journal that always serves up interesting ideas and alternative angles, providing a timely and future-reaching outlook on law firm management.

As our outgoing editor, Isabel Parker, mentioned in her last editorial, the legal industry has long been guilty of “otherness” – separating itself from the rest of the world into its own silo that no other profession can reach. With such closeting and secrecy comes mistrust – and a sense that the legal industry is too far-removed from other professions to learn anything new.

Yet if we look at the issues that legal increasingly faces – burnout and stress, squeezed margins and the need to do more with less, a focus on sustainability and CSR, not to mention the realisation that even legal can’t escape those two letters “A” and “I” – we see that actually, it’s not so different after all.

So this issue of *Modern Lawyer* shines a spotlight on some of the more hidden issues in the legal sphere, in an attempt to demonstrate – both within the industry and beyond – that legal is facing, and meeting, the same challenges as the clients it seeks to protect.

From the demystification of legal AI to jargon-busting the terminology surrounding legal tech, and from highlighting the increasing pressures lawyers find themselves under, to the fears that all lawyers face, to the secrets behind a successful boutique law firm, our contributors to this issue are lifting the lid on some of the lesser-talked about aspects of the profession, and seeing what lies beneath.

I hope you enjoy reading this issue as much as I have enjoyed compiling it.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A. Davies." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Alex Davies

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Globe Law and Business contacts

Sian O'Neill, Managing Director

sian@globelawandbusiness.com

Nicola Hornsby, Marketing Manager

nicola@globelawandbusiness.com

To contribute

The Editor and Globe Law and Business welcome new contributions.

Proposals for new articles/
material should be submitted to
Alex Davies at

Alex@globelawandbusiness.com

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To subscribe

Susan Brushwood, Account Manager
sbrushwood@globelawandbusiness.com

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Contact Susan Brushwood on
susan@globelawandbusiness.com
for multi-user options

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Surrey GU21 4DD

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