

Duncan J Barnes MA FCA MAE QDR

Professional qualifications

- 1980 Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (Fellow, 1995)
- 1996 Accredited as a Mediator by the Academy of Experts

Training and Memberships

- 1995 Member of the Academy of Experts

Education

- 1977 Honours degree in Biological Sciences, University of East Anglia
- 1977-80 Training contract with Deloitte Haskins and Sells, Nottingham
- 2000 MA in War and Society, under the supervision of De Montfort University and RMA Sandhurst

Professional experience

Initially upon qualification as a Chartered Accountant, I specialised in the affairs of owner-managed enterprises with a rural accountancy practice in South Devon.

Between 1984 and 1997 I held senior posts with KPMG in the South West. Between 1984 to 1994, I was responsible for the provision of advisory, audit and tax services to the professional practices, owner-managers, entrepreneurs and TV and media personalities for whom KPMG acted in Devon and Cornwall.

From 1994 onwards I specialised in forensic accounting and assumed responsibility for KPMG's forensic practice in the South West. In this role I prepared many reports, attended conferences and gave evidence in Court and at Tribunals.

Whilst with KPMG I also led corporate finance assignments involving business sales, acquisitions, mergers and de-mergers, the privatisation of public transport, and projects involving the Private Finance Initiative. I was closely involved in the development and delivery of KPMG's services to further and higher education. I was the co-author of Practical Business Planning, a KPMG publication that was re-printed several times in the UK and overseas.

In 1997 I became a partner in the independent Exeter practice known as Reynolds where I continued to specialise in the provision of expert witness and litigation support services. My role with Reynolds also involved advisory, compliance and audit services to the firm's general practice clients, and the establishment and development of an independent IT consultancy company.

On 1 December 2005, Reynolds merged with Haines Watts. I am currently a Consultant with Haines Watts with a national involvement in that firm's forensic accounting and litigation support services.

Expert witness and collaborative law experience

Since 1994, I have accepted instructions in hundreds of civil disputes as well as fraud and asset recovery cases. Following the introduction of the Civil Procedure Rules, many of these instructions relating to civil disputes have been on the basis of a single joint appointment.

I have given evidence in Court on many occasions, and I have provided independent financial input to divorce arrangements following a collaborative law approach where business assets are involved.

Mediation experience

As an accredited and experienced mediator in commercial disputes and in disputes involving professional practices, I have accepted mediation appointments directly from the parties and their solicitors, from representative bodies and the National Mediation Helpline. I assisted in the establishment of the Court mediation scheme in Exeter, and I am a member of the Civil Mediation Council.

Areas of experience and expertise

- Personal injury, clinical negligence, dependency and CICA claims
- The evaluation of periodic payments in personal injury, clinical negligence and dependency claims
- Financial remedies (formerly Ancillary Relief), collaborative law and the financial aspects of divorce
- Share and business valuation
- Professional negligence
- Commercial, insurance, intellectual property, sports law and property litigation
- Insolvency and wrongful trading
- Criminal, fraud and asset recovery investigations

In addition to these areas of experience I am a freelance lecturer delivering training material dealing with business valuation in divorce, understanding Form E, understanding accounts, and the financial aspects of periodic payments in personal injury and clinical negligence claims. I am also a trainer with the Academy of Experts.

Other experience

I was appointed a non-executive director of South Devon Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust in December 2007 since when I have been the Chair of that organisation's Audit and Assurance Committee.

I have been accredited and granted Badge 43 by the International Guild of Battlefield Guides.