

# Summer Newsletter 2020



## A warm welcome to the Summer Edition of the Bargate Murray newsletter.

A few months has passed since our last edition, and of course, a lot has changed in that time. We have all been adjusting to a new "normal". The director's made the difficult decision not to proceed with our usual Monaco Yacht Show party this year, the right thing to do because the yacht show itself was subsequently cancelled. We will return in 2021, bigger and better than ever.

The latest version of the Chambers and Partners High Net Worth (HNW) Guide was released early July, and this is the 5th year running that both I and the Firm have been ranked for our work with yachts and superyachts. It is humbling to read the kind comments left by clients.

And the good news continues, as I am delighted to announce that Senior Associate Dominic Bulfin, will be promoted to Associate Director with effect from 01 August 2020. You can read more about Dom's well-deserved promotion by clicking [here](#). Congratulations are also in order as Hannah Faulkner completed her training contract and qualified in May and is now an Associate at the Firm. Congratulations to both Dom and Hannah!

Also in this Summer Newsletter, Head of Property, Nick Maestri, leaves his stamp on property, I write about wasting money, Dom Bulfin looks at the challenges of crew management over the last few months, Hannah discusses how Covid-19 has changed dispute resolution, and we round off by hearing from our non-executive Director, Graham Agass and his thoughts on the new "normal".

After over 4 months of successful home working, our London offices will be reopening for business from 03 August 2020. We have been working hard to make sure our premises are Covid-secure and look forward to welcoming you by to say hello soon!

**Quentin Bargate**  
**CEO and Founder**



Bargate Murray is an award-winning luxury asset law firm that acts for clients throughout the world. As well as being one of the world's leading specialist superyacht law firms, we also advise in relation to other luxury assets such as private jets, residential property, and fine art.



### How to waste money by getting your yacht newbuild contract horribly wrong

Most owners appreciate that yacht ownership is an expensive business, yet where newbuilds are concerned, there are a few common and easily made "mistakes" that could catch out the unwary.

[Read more >](#)

Quentin Bargate

### Changes to Stamp Duty Land Tax (SDLT)

As had been rumoured for a while now, the Chancellor Rishi Sunak announced in his financial statement of the 8th July 2020 to temporarily reduce the amount of SDLT due on the acquisition of residential property, by increasing the nil rate band from £125,000 to £500,000 with immediate effect until 31 March 2021. Our Head of Property, Nicholas Maestri, provides an update.

[Read more >](#)

Nicholas Maestri





## Crew Employment and the COVID Curveball

There has been no one-size-fits-all approach during this time, and in this article we consider crew-related issues which we have seen over the last four months and look at the issues yacht managers have faced, how they have dealt with them, and how well their seafarer employment agreements (SEAs) have held up during this time.

[Read more >](#)

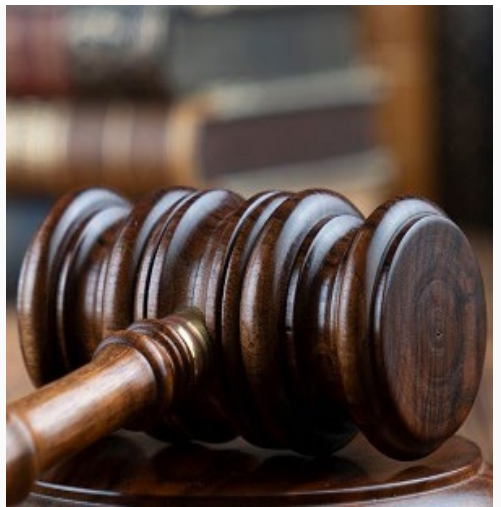
Dominic Bulfin

## Bargate Murray Disputes Update – the move towards ADR?

During the Covid-19 pandemic, the methods in which disputes are managed and resolved has needed to adapt. With the closure of courtrooms, private dispute resolution facilities, and law firm offices, the forum for hearing disputes has switched to online videoconferencing, with both positive and negative consequences.

[Read more >](#)

Hannah Faulkner



## The Times They Are A 'Changin (Bob Dylan)

No challenge could have been greater for business than the COVID-19 pandemic. Businesses have always evolved over time in response to changes in technology / financial constraints / society and markets once local/countrywide now global.

[Read more >](#)

Graham Agass





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