



THE INSTITUTE
OF CHARTERED
ACCOUNTANTS
IN ENGLAND AND WALES

VITAL

ISSUE 32 | SPRING 2007 THE MAGAZINE FOR ICAEW STUDENTS

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

WORKING YOUR WAY TO THE TOP

Successful careers rarely happen by chance

SPOTLIGHT ON

Hiranya de Alwis Jayasinghe, Fast Track to
becoming an ACA by the age of 21

NEW! EXAM SURGERY

Essential advice, hints and tips from
examiners and tutors



WELCOME

Spring marks an important milestone for many of you in your ACA calendar. Whilst some of you will be eagerly awaiting your Professional Stage results, others will be busily preparing for your exams in June and July. Well the good news is we are now starting a new feature called Exam Surgery which provides solid, practical and key advice from examiners and tutors on how to approach and answer the exams. Each issue will provide feedback on past papers and performances with hints and tips on improvements. This month we focus on Financial Analysis (page 4).

Why not let your hair down this spring and make use of the great discounts on offer from the Tussauds Group. If exciting rides and thrills are more your thing, get up to £12 off Alton Towers, Thorpe Park and Chessington World of Adventures & Zoo tickets or why not mingle with the stars at Madame Tussauds on page 5.

Did you know as a student you can gain provisional membership to one of the Special Interest Groups (SIGs). Better still on page 10 we are giving one lucky reader the chance to win a free annual conference place to their chosen SIG.

We hope you enjoy this issue.

CHANGES TO THE STUDENT HELPLINE

Individual Client Services (ICS) is here to help with advice and guidance on a range of issues from initial registrations, training contract matters, exam related enquiries or even a change of contact details or requests for literature whilst you are training for the ACA. The helpline is available to enable you to sort issues out quickly and easily.

As of 2 April the Student Support helpline opening hours are changing. We will be open

Monday to Friday 8:30am until 5:30pm.

All enquiries received by the team are totally confidential, so please do not hesitate to contact us regardless of the nature of your enquiry.

Whenever you contact us you will be asked for your registration number. This helps us deal with your enquiry more efficiently. You can also contact the ICS on +44 (0)1908 248 040, via fax on +44 (0)1908 248 069 or by emailing

studentsupport@icaew.com

THE ICAEW BROADENS ITS HORIZONS

Did you know that almost 10% of new ACA students registering in 2006 were located outside of the UK? With tuition and exam centres established across China, Cyprus, Malaysia and Russia, the opportunities for students at home and abroad are growing.

Developing an international footprint is high up on our agenda, as we continue to set the standard with employers, students and in industry across the world on integrity, ethics, technical rigour and professional excellence in the workplace.

Our China ACA programme commenced in 2006 and is unique in that it works in conjunction with the Chinese institute, CICPA. Through a 24-month intensive programme, accountants who are qualified with CICPA can extend their CPA into

a globally recognised professional qualification, the ACA. This has been such a success that the ICAEW plans to roll out a full ACA programme for graduates in China during 2007.

Cyprus continues to be a popular place to study with over 330 ACA trainees in total, 129 of which were new students last year. Malaysia is also growing, with 78 out of the 126 total students registering in 2006. However Russia is our newest market, with Ernst & Young and Deloitte currently supporting over 60 students through the ACA.

With more and more students and employers internationally recognising the benefits of the Institute's professional qualifications, the ACA really does give you a career to take you everywhere.

VITAL DETAILS

Write to:
Erica Nash, VITAL magazine,
ICAEW, Gloucester House,
399 Silbury Boulevard,
Central Milton Keynes
MK9 2HL

Email: VITAL@icaew.com
Call: +44 (0)1908 248 040

In partnership with

Michael Page
FINANCE

MAGAZINES FOR ACCOUNTANTS

PQ magazine has been around for quite sometime and is aimed at all part qualified accountants, looking at life from the view point of students, whichever their institute, including feedback on their exams. NQ magazine is a new magazine for newly qualified's and offers a bit of

depth in its articles, which covers subjects such as salary checker or career development.

Both magazines are light-weight and are available for free from the publisher or log on to www.pqmagazine.com to see what's on offer. They're there, but they're not VITAL!

INDUSTRY NEWS

IFRS FOR SMES

The International Accounting Standards Board has finally released the eagerly anticipated International Financial Reporting Standard (IFRS) draft for small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), which is open for comments until October 1. Compared to listed companies, the IASB has said that the draft paper will substantially reduce the amount of accounting guidance for SMEs but insists the goal of greater comparability and transparency remains. According to the ACCA's chief executive, Allen Blewitt, it is not viable for really small companies to follow IFRS requirements. According to the ICAEW Outstanding achievement award winner for 2007, Teresa Graham, who chairs the administrative burdens advisory board of HMRC, the new IFRS accounts will make no more sense to SMEs than the present accounts prepared under current standards.

Financial Times 26 February 2007

BOOM TIME IN FINANCE

Companies in the UK have cited serious concerns about the number of skilled finance workers in the workpool, who are available to fulfil their businesses' headcount requirements for the year ahead. A survey by financial recruiter ECMH revealed that 80.6 per cent of commerce and accountancy firms expected it would be either 'difficult' or 'very difficult' to find people with suitable skills.

Evening Standard 2 February 2007

BAD NEWS FOR ACCA STUDENTS

The latest set of exam results have just been released and they've added to student's woes – this time it is the ACCA pass rates that have taken a bit of a battering. Out of 16 papers, 11 saw the pass rate fall, only four

improved and one stayed the same. Students really struggled with paper 1.3 Managing People, the pass rate dropped 12 points to 47 per cent. Only 31 per cent of students sitting paper 2.6 passed, and papers 2.3 and 3.6 also saw big drops in their pass rates.

PQ Magazine 26 February 2007

ACA STUDENTS SHINE ON

ICAEW students have much to cheer about with the latest exam results. Nearly all students sitting the Accounting paper passed. The 97.2 per cent pass rate was the highest ever since the new style Accountancy paper was introduced in 2001 and coincides with the largest exam sitting in 25 years – over 5,500 students sat papers in December 2006. Four out of the six papers recorded higher pass rates compared to the same sitting a year ago. The Business Finance paper jumped to an 87.6 per cent pass rate, compared with 79.6 per cent in December 2005.

PQ Magazine 29 January 2007

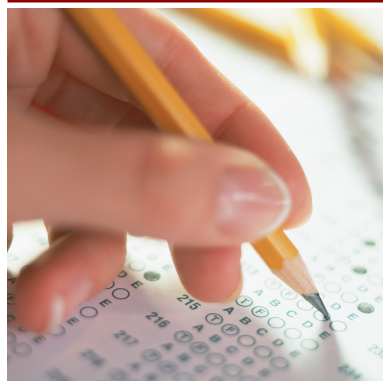
SALARY WATCH

Accountancy recruitment is booming and the West Midlands is no exception. With many candidates very happy in their current positions, the salaries in the West Midlands area are being driven higher and higher to attract the best employees, according to a new salary survey.

Most sectors in commerce and industry have been fairly strong – with the service sector and construction showing particular growth locally. With the larger salaries being witnessed in industry sectors, accountants who are looking to move from practice organisations will have a pleasant surprise in the rise of expected salary.

PQ Magazine 19 February 2007

EXAM DATES



PROFESSIONAL STAGE

Closing date

10 May 2007

Admission letter

25 May 2007

Exam dates

11, 12, 13 June 2007

Results available from 5pm GMT

20 July 2007

ADVANCED STAGE

Closing date

21 June 2007

Admission letter

6 July 2007

Exam dates

23, 24, 25 July 2007

Results available from 5pm GMT

31 August 2007

RESULTS SERVICE

March examination results available from 5pm GMT

27 April 2007

ACA results published in the FT

Pass and credit lists for the Professional Stage exams (March sitting) will be published in the Companies and Markets section (section 2) of The Financial Times on 30 April. Future dates of results listings will be advertised on the student website.

To ensure you receive your admission letter and exam results remember to tell us of any changes to your postal or email address by calling us on **+44 (0)1908 248 040** or emailing studentsupport@icaew.com

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

Chartered accountants have many unique selling points. One of these USPs is the use of financial analysis to assess and explain business performance to clients and non-financial managers. As you progress through your training contract, financial analysis is a recurring skill that you need to demonstrate.

The ACA qualification requires students to develop their financial analysis skills throughout the Professional and Advanced Stage examinations. Examiners' reports regularly comment on the correlation

between poor examination performance and poor financial analysis skills. Strong financial analysis skills are core to your examination performance and key to your long-term career development.

Financial analysis has two principal aspects – financial data analysis and financial statement analysis. Financial data analysis involves using analytical techniques to assess the results of individual transactions, measure a particular performance indicator or quantify the impact of changes in underlying assumptions. It can include 'flexing the numbers' or performing financial calculations such as break-even analysis. Financial statement analysis involves analysing the financial statements of an organisation, being both the individual elements and the statements in their entirety, and using a variety of techniques in order to understand the story behind them.

Financial analysis is included throughout the ACA examination structure. The skills you develop at Professional Stage will have a direct effect on your Advanced Stage performance.

There are two examinations where examiners' reports regularly comment on poor student performance relating to financial analysis.

- 20% of the marks available in the **Financial Reporting (FR)** examination are awarded for financial statement analysis skills using simple scenarios. Your performance in this examination can be enhanced by improving your financial statement analysis skills.
- One third of the marks available in the **Advanced Case Study (ACS)** are awarded for financial analysis. You will not be able to pass this examination without adequate financial analysis skills.

Recent answers to financial statement analysis questions in the FR exam have been poor. The examiners, when commenting on the December 2006 examination, wrote "The question was poorly answered and only a small minority of candidates provided an answer that warranted a pass mark. Candidates continue to repeat

common failings from previous sittings. Many poor candidates provide long answers that simply state that ratios or absolute amounts have increased or decreased".

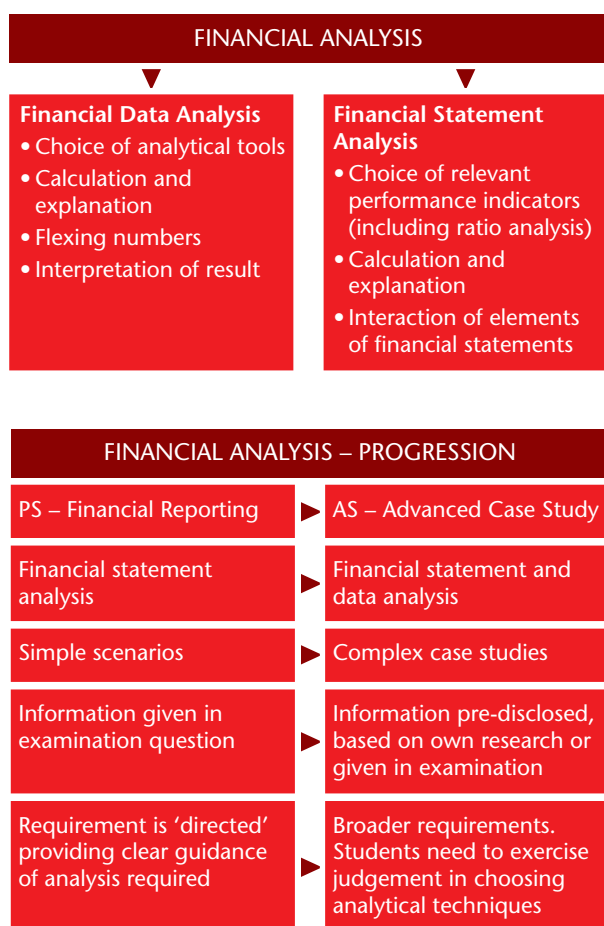
The examiners' report on the November 2006 sitting of the ACS stated that "Weaker candidates fell into the usual habit of preparing random/standard ratios which were not appropriate and which in some cases provided no indication of basic understanding of either income statements or balance sheets".

One of the keys to your long-term exam performance is to build up your financial analysis skills as you progress through the examinations. Note how both sets of examiners refer to student failings that are common from sitting to sitting.

To help develop your financial analysis skills, examiners have developed new materials to assist your preparation for the forthcoming FR and ACS examinations. These materials will be available on the website www.icaew.com/students and are complimentary to the existing learning materials.

The FR examining team have written an article covering their expectations of students, including common problems and how students can improve their examination performance. The materials include a suggested process for answering financial statement analysis questions, worked example questions with enhanced examiners' commentaries and illustrative sample solutions. The materials will be available on the website from 16 April and are invaluable for students attempting the FR exam at the June 2007 and future sittings.

The ACS examining team have also prepared a detailed article covering financial data and financial statement analysis. This article and supporting materials, which will include examples of good and inadequate analysis, will be available on the website from 1 May. It is recommended that students preparing for future ACS examinations study its contents carefully. Visit www.icaew.com/students for more information.



FANTASTIC SAVINGS ON TUSSAUDS GROUP ATTRACTIONS

ALTON TOWERS UP TO £12 OFF GATE PRICE

Escape to the extraordinary world of Alton Towers. Scream your way to Oblivion, all in the name of unadulterated fun. Speed freaks are outmatched on **Rita** – Queen of Speed; **Air** brings windswept exhilaration; **Oblivion's** death defying plunge is the choice of adrenaline junkies and **Nemesis'** leaves everyone wanting more!

Visit www.icaew.co.uk/altontowers for ticket bookings and prices.

THORPE PARK UP TO £12 OFF GATE PRICE

Dare to experience the tantalising twists of **Colossus** – the world's only ten looping roller coaster; or **Nemesis Inferno** – which takes the body through an unbelievable experience of a 4.5 G-Force. **Stealth** is Europe's fastest launch coaster, with a super acceleration of 0–80mph in under 2 seconds.

Visit www.icaew.co.uk/thorpepark for ticket bookings and prices.

CHESSINGTON WORLD OF ADVENTURES & ZOO UP TO £9 OFF GATE PRICE

Chessington is *THE* theme park for families looking to share an



adventure! With over 90% of rides and attractions for under 12s, Chessington promises a hassle free, action packed family day out everyone will want to share.

Visit www.icaew.co.uk/chessington for ticket bookings and prices.

WARWICK CASTLE UP TO £5 OFF GATE PRICE

You don't just visit Britain's Greatest Mediaeval Experience, you live it! Bursting to the towers with tales of treachery and torture, passion and power and above all fascinating people, times and events, Warwick Castle is so much more than simply a castle.

Visit www.icaew.co.uk/warwickcastle for ticket bookings and prices.

MADAME TUSSAUDS UP TO £5 OFF GATE PRICE

London's most famous tourist attraction has come alive! Why not get up close to your favourite celebrities at this amazing day out. Stars such as Brad Pitt, Wayne Rooney, Robbie Williams, Jennifer Lopez, Kylie Minogue and many more are all under one roof at the tourist attraction everyone is talking about.

Visit www.icaew.co.uk/madametussauds for ticket bookings and prices.

CAPTION COMPETITION!



WIN TWO TICKETS TO THE ATTRACTION OF YOUR CHOICE!

The Tussauds Group is offering one lucky reader two tickets to the attraction of their choice; Alton Towers, Chessington World of Adventures & Zoo, Thorpe Park, Warwick Castle or Madame Tussauds London.

To participate please login to www.icaew.co.uk/studentoffers and submit a humorous caption for Davina!

Please note that captions deemed to be of an offensive nature will not be entered into the competition. Full terms and conditions apply, these can be viewed by visiting: www.icaew.co.uk/studentoffers

OUR CONGRATULATIONS GO TO: Claire Hodsman, Karen Adams and Lee Harris
Prize winners of our MagScriber competition that was run in VITAL issue 31

STUDENT OFFERS



WORKING YOUR WAY TO THE TOP!

Written by Chris McCann
Manager, Specialist Advisory Services
Michael Page Finance

It seems every article written on career planning contains some useful tips, wise maxims and unquestionably good general advice, but somehow these articles seem to fall short of the mark, leaving as many questions as answers.

This is not surprising – each career is unique, highly personal and subject to changing markets and other forces. Successful careers rarely happen by chance; they have to be positively managed. Passively reading a couple of articles is no substitute for interactive dialogue with family, friends, colleagues, mentors, recruitment consultants and, above all, yourself! Recent research (in the USA admittedly, but no doubt equally true in the UK) suggests that the average ‘professional’ spends more time planning one summer

holiday than their entire career. How sad and how stupid – but what a fantastic opportunity for those who take their career seriously! Now – here come the ‘useful tips, wise maxims and unquestionably good general advice’.

SELF AWARENESS

Too often the momentum (or tedium?) of work, studies, exams, results, parties, hangovers, work, studies, and so on, leaves little time for any of the ‘Big Questions’: What is it all for? Why am I doing this? Where am I going?

So, first, devote some time for a quick chat with yourself – what are your short, medium and long-term aims? What do you enjoy and dislike about work? What really motivates

you (prestige, authority, security, leisure time, money, etc?) What do you want to be at 35 – finance director, tax partner, lecturer? If you have a definite goal, gain experience that will get you there the quickest; if not, then choose a route that broadens your experience and skills, thereby keeping your options open.

CHOICE OF POSITION

No matter what your long-term goals, early roles should include as many of the following as possible:

- Responsibility for specific tasks, projects and (ideally) people
- Broad technical experience – as many different facets of accountancy and finance as possible
- System skills – the most sought after is Microsoft Excel. Employers see this as vital to view and manipulate large quantities of data quickly and efficiently.
- Involvement with non-financial personnel, both internal and external
- An international element
- Exposure to good management and sound decision-making processes – people who demonstrate how to apply their theory in practical situations are much sought after
- The time (and financial aid) for gaining theoretical knowledge and passing exams

Remember, your track record begins with your first job.

CHOICE OF ORGANISATION

Before joining any company, good research is essential, and has never been easier since the internet leapt into all of our lives. Find out as much as you can about an organisation's size, functions, markets, locations and reputation well before interview stage. Consider its market as a whole – what are the growth opportunities, what are the drivers, what are the limitations, where is it positioned against competitors?

The fundamental questions to consider are:

- Is it secure (liquid, profitable, government funded)?
- How contemporary is its management and its processes?
- Does it use the finance team in a constructive, integrated and creative (but not that sort of creative!) way?
- How will it invest in your training and development?

SIZE OF ORGANISATION

Large organisations are still regarded as safe career moves, leaving medium-term options more flexible. They provide a recognised name for the CV, tried-and-tested training programmes and exposure to sophisticated management, systems, markets and processes. Larger organisations can offer the opportunity to develop technical and managerial capabilities by learning from talented and experienced people, in both line management roles and specialist positions. There may be options to move between different areas, which can aid 'self discovery' and help formulate a career development plan. Although there are small dynamic organisations where all-round involvement and greater commercial experience is possible, the range of technical problems may be limited, requiring a further move in a short space of time to sustain impetus. Another disadvantage is that you may develop a small company track record, reducing future marketability with larger organisations. Smaller companies have a higher risk factor but may provide good returns if you choose the right one –

and at the right time in your career. Gaining all the facts and researching the options thoroughly and objectively is essential.

CHOICE OF SECTOR

Different sectors will offer different experiences, challenges and technical requirements. These should be matched against your career goals and current market forces, and not just your empathy (or otherwise) to the product or service. A good example of this might be the public sector, still regarded by many as being intrinsically 'less sexy' than the private sector, but it will always offer opportunities for learning and advancement equal to those within many 'blue-chip' companies, regardless of the prevailing economic climate. Geographical locations will have an influence here, with many sectors tending to form regional clusters. There are not many merchant banks in Bolton, for example, or petrochemical plants in Guildford, or distribution centres in John O'Groats. Obviously, the more mobile you are, or willing to consider relocation, the more choices become available.

It is easier to gain experience of different sectors at the beginning of a career rather than at a senior level. Times change and so do the prospects for individual areas of the economy. The broader your experience, the more chances you have of taking advantage of any changes. Make sure you take a keen interest in the external factors affecting your organisation – this allows you not only to contribute more, but also helps you assess the future more clearly. As with role specification, unless a predetermined goal is being sought, training carried out within more than one sector is advantageous.

CHANGING ROLES SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN LIGHTLY!

A forced change in circumstances – such as relocation, redundancy or dismissal – are unfortunate but obvious reasons to start looking for a new position. Far too many people wait until boredom and repetition become companions in their working day, as they fail to realise that the best time to move is when things are going well. It requires personal resolve to seek new challenges once existing problems are under control, but it is important to go forward and gain maximum experience.

Staying aware of new trends and market conditions, even when you are satisfied with your current employment, is essential. Exam success is crucial, and we would never advise any steps that may harm this, but it is worth pointing out that the competition for good positions is far less for those who are prepared to interview around exam times.

In partnership with

Michael Page
FINANCE

*If you would like further information, please email
vital@michaelpage.com*

AN ACA AT 21

PROFILE

HIRANYA DE ALWIS
JAYASINGHE

Bird Luckin, Chelmsford

Trainee, AAT-ACA Fast Track
Age: 21




I had always planned to go to university after my A-levels, however circumstances changed and I found myself participating in the AAT-ACA Fast Track route set to become a chartered accountant – I haven't looked back since! Whilst many of my friends and peers are at university accumulating student debts, I have gained real experience, developed key skills and financially benefited from going straight into work. It is pleasing to think that I will be one of the youngest members of the Institute to become a chartered accountant when I qualify later this summer. Whilst my school friends – who subsequently went down the same career path – are in the first year of their training contracts, I will be able to continue developing as an audit senior.

I decided to join Bird Luckin, a medium-sized accountancy practice which is highly regarded in the region. Training and development is a fundamental part of their strategy, and I was impressed as they take study leave very seriously and strive to maintain the highest teaching standards. As a medium-sized firm, Bird Luckin is able to offer me a breadth of work experience, in a variety of different areas which would not be possible at a larger firm.

On completing AAT, it was an easy choice to take the Fast Track route onto ACA. The qualification is highly regarded and internationally recognised, which leaves scope for me to use it overseas if I ever think about emigrating. The structure of the ACA course equips you with a wide range of skills in all areas of business and accountancy – management, business strategy, financial reporting, audit, tax – which are highly relevant to the commercial world. The Advanced Stage Case Study, in particular, is challenging as it gets you to think holistically about all the issues that might affect the company. This mindset can be seen in context, when you witness the panel on Dragon's Den, so it is a privilege to be trained in a manor that is focussed on seeing the big picture!

I've really enjoyed my ACA training particularly the depth and variety of projects I've had to work on. They change so much from week to week – I could be at a client's premises auditing their financial statements, in the office working on an accounts preparation assignment or I could be at college studying. Although the ACA training is rigorous and you need to adopt good time management skills and self-discipline, it is really worth the effort.



"The structure of the ACA course equips you with a wide range of skills in all areas of business and accountancy – management, business strategy, financial reporting, audit, tax – which are highly relevant to the commercial world."

On a day to day basis, I work on preparing financial statements from the records of a business (i.e. invoices, cheque books and bank statements), auditing financial statements and calculating the business tax payable by the client. No two clients are the same. They all sell different products, are different sizes and some, such as FSA registered companies have to be audited under different rules.

During my training I've also become involved with the Institute's Student Careers Advisers Network (SCAN), actively visiting schools and colleges in the area, spreading the word about the accountancy profession and the ACA. I want to make sure students are armed with all the information possible to make an informed career choice and realise the breadth of options open to them in

becoming an accountant. I enjoy meeting potential students, and helping to shatter the myth that accountancy is boring!

The most challenging part of my work is developing the assertiveness, and time management skills to work on a number of clients at the same time. These skills are only learnt by making mistakes, and then identifying how improvements may be made in the future. Moreover, learning to deal with stress is a very personal thing, and cannot be changed overnight.

The best things about the ACA training is that there will be so many options available to me once I qualify and I intend to seriously consider all the possibilities at that time. The world is my oyster!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO WIN £50 WATERSTONE'S VOUCHERS?

Waterstone's vouchers can be redeemed at branches of Waterstone's, HMV and Hatchards in the UK

Would you like to win £50 vouchers? If so, just tell us how you got into chartered accountancy and the ACA. We are looking for students, graduates, and people who have taken AAT-ACA Fast Track route. Tell us about your job, your training and how the ACA has helped you.

Maybe you work in an unusual industry or your route into the ACA was extraordinary? Maybe you previously held a completely different job and got into accountancy after deciding on a career change.

We really want to hear from you. Drop us a line telling us a little about yourself and if we choose you, you could win £50 Waterstone's vouchers and have your profile published in VITAL. Email us at VITAL@icaew.com

FREE PROVISIONAL MEMBERSHIP TO THE SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIGs)

Students studying for the ACA qualification can register free of charge for provisional membership of one of the Special Interest Groups. This will entitle you to all the benefits of subscription including discounts on your chosen SIG events. We are offering the chance for one lucky student to win a free annual conference place to their chosen SIG by quoting "VITAL SIGs Article" upon subscription. Offer ends 23 May 2007.

The Institute's Special Interest Groups were set up to provide practical support, information and representation for chartered accountants working within a range of specialist industry sectors. The nine Special Interest Groups are:

- Charity and Voluntary Sector Group
- Entertainment and Media Group
- Farming and Rural Business Group
- Forensic Group
- Healthcare Group
- Interim Management Group
- Public Sector Group*
- Solicitors Group
- Tourism and Hospitality Group

Membership of the Special Interest Groups offers access to the latest and best industry information and also provides chartered accountants with the tools they need to develop professionally within these fields.

By joining the Special Interest Groups members will gain access to a range of opportunities designed specifically to help them learn about the sector and as their career develops to remain at the forefront of the field.

Benefits for students and newly qualified accountants:

- A quarterly newsletter which contains valuable information to keep you up to date with the latest industry news, views and legislation
- An annual conference which allows members to pick up technical updates and the latest information from industry experts on the issues that affect the sector
- A series of detailed seminars and roadshows across the country on specific areas in the sector
- A dedicated e-library where members can access all the information they need relating to the sector from the Institute's Library and Information service
- A technical support service allowing members to email in questions regarding their work to the Committee for comment and advice.

For more information, see the Special Interest Group website: www.icaew.com/sigs

Or alternatively please contact felicity.nelson@icaew.com

*Unfortunately, though we welcome student members to the Public Sector Group, we can not offer a free student place.



VITAL LIBRARY RESOURCES

Stay on top of your game with our wide range of online journals, books and reports from the library:

eBOOKS

Over 100 full text business and technical e-books are now available to Institute members and students via the website, including:

Technical

- Analysis of financial data by Gary Koop
- Auditing the risk management process by K Pickett
- Financial management: an introduction by Jim McMenamin
- Tax systems and tax reforms in new EU members by Luigi Bernardi

Career / Personal Development

- Balance your life and work: how to get the best from your job and still have a life by A & C Black
- Business and the beautiful game by Theo Theobald and Cary Cooper
- Concise Adair on communication and presentation skills by Neil Thomas
- First time manager: first steps to a brilliant management career by Michael Morris
- First-job survival guide: how to thrive and advance in your new career by Diane Decker, Victoria Hoevemeyer, Marianne Rowe-Dimas
- Give great presentations: how to speak confidently and make point by A & C Black
- Manage your time: how to work more effectively by Kathy Rooney
- Writing at work by Robert Barrass

Access the eBook Library from

www.icaew.com/ebooks



SUM IT UP WITH BOOKBYTES

No time to read a whole book? Try Bookbytes – business book summaries that can be read in just 15 minutes. Bookbytes also includes exclusive interviews and best practice articles from some of the leading minds in business including Charles Handy and Jim Collins. Visit Bookbytes at www.icaew.com/bookbytes



TRYING TO TRACE AN ANCESTOR OR RELATIVE WHO WAS AN ACCOUNTANT?

The Library team has developed a new database and Knowledge Guide to help you trace an ancestor who was an accountant or if you are studying the history of an accountancy firm. Access the database and Knowledge Guide from www.icaew.com/accountancyancestors or contact the Library Enquiry Service on +44 (0)20 7920 8620 or library@icaew.com for more information.





STUDENT SOCIETY EVENTS

BBHCASS

26 April – 7pm

Quiz Night

St Albans

20 May – 1pm

Five A Side Football

De Havilland Campus, University of Hertfordshire, Hatfield

Contact deirdre.hyde@icaew.com

or call

+44 (0)1223 462 147

for more information.

BCASS

14 April

Paint balling

Paintball Centre, Hockley Heath, Birmingham

26 April

Networking Seminar

Birmingham Rep

27 July

Medieval Banquet

Coombe Abbey, Nr Coventry

Contact annehipkiss@bcass.co.uk

or call **+44 (0)1212 580 245**.

CASSL

18 April – 6pm

CASSL AGM

Dr Butlers Head, Moorgate

25 April – 6:30pm

How to Network

Training seminar and reception

17 May – 6:30pm

Quiz Night

The Red Herring, Gresham Street, London

30 May – 6pm

Careers Seminar

IOD Hub, New Broad Street, London

Contact www.deborah.hartog@icaew.com

for more information.

LENCASS

19 April – 6:30pm

Quiz

Time Bar, London Road, Leicester

24 May – 6pm

AGM

Grant Thornton, West Walk, Leicester

24 May – 7:30pm

Summer Barbecue

20 June – 7pm

Five a Side Football tournament

27 July – 7pm

Summer Ball at Noseley Hall

Leicestershire

Contact janet.marchand@icaew.com

for more information.

NCASS

18 April

Night @ the dogs

Sunderland Stadium

Late April

Teesside quiz

18 May

Teesside Annual Dinner

Thistle Hotel, Middlesbrough

Contact Pamela Rule on

pmrule@yahoo.com call

+44 (0)1912 577 666 or visit

www.ncass.co.uk for more

information.

SCASS

21 April

Southern Annual Dinner

De Vere Hotel, Southampton

Contact www.scassonline.com

for more information.

S&DCASS

April 2007

Football Tournament

More details coming soon!

May 2007

Race Night!

More details coming soon!

May 2007

Rounders Tournament

More details coming soon!

Contact jennifer.f.walker@uk.pwc.com

for more

information.



THE INSTITUTE
OF CHARTERED
ACCOUNTANTS
IN ENGLAND AND WALES

In partnership with

Michael Page
FINANCE

www.michaelpage.co.uk

VITAL is pleased to be supported by Michael Page Finance, international providers of financial recruitment consultancy across all sectors and at all levels.

REGISTER BY MONDAY 23 APRIL 9AM TO
RECEIVE YOUR MARCH PROFESSIONAL
STAGE EXAM RESULTS BY TEXT OR EMAIL
ON FRIDAY 27 APRIL 5PM.

VISIT WWW.ICAEW.COM/STUDENTS
AND CLICK EXAM APPLICATIONS



The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales,
Learning & Professional Development, Gloucester House, 399 Silbury Boulevard,
Central Milton Keynes, MK9 2HL, Tel +44 (0)1908 248 040 www.icaew.com/students

INSPIRING CONFIDENCE