

Working Well Together & BHSEA Hit the Headlines:

Members may recall the Mock Trial that the HSE and Working Well Together organised in conjunction with BHSEA and which took place on the 11th September.

The Express and Star Newspaper has a weekly insert/supplement covering local (West Midlands) business news and opportunities. BHSEA agreed to provide a series of articles for them to include in their business advertising. Starting with an article covering the 'Mock Trial' we held in September (which was badged as a WWT Event).

Below is a transcript of that article which was published Tuesday (15/10/13)..

Mock trial gives an insight to H&S risks

A courtroom provided a real-life setting for a mock trial to show companies what they could face if they fail to abide by health and safety regulations.

Birmingham Health, Safety and Environment Association (BHSEA) set up the event at the city's Victoria Law Courts with Christopher Hopkins, specialist Health and Safety Barrister at Pinsent Masons LLP, taking the lead with support from Cairo Nickolls of Irwin Mitchell.



L-R Charles Urbaniak of Charles Safety Consultancy Ltd., BHSEA Member & Magistrate, Cairo Nickolls, Irwin Mitchell LLP & BHSEA Member.

Barrister Naomi Gilchrist, from St Phillips Chambers acted for the defence while Tim Pole was barrister for the prosecution. BHSEA Members took on the roles of Magistrate, members of the jury and the accused - the Managing Director of fictional painting and decorating firm.

The trial centred on a case where an experienced employee fell from a tower scaffold and sustained serious injuries due to failings by the company and its Managing Director.

BHSEA members said later the trial had been 'very realistic' and said they had learned a great deal.

The mock trial was held in support of the Health & Safety Executive's (HSE) Working Well Together campaign which aims to improve standards of health and safety in the construction industry. BHSEA is working closely with the HSE and is holding a series of construction-related events throughout the year. To find out

more about the Working Well Together Campaign contact BHSEA secretary on secretary@bhsea.org.uk

In existence since the 1930's and based in Birmingham but serving the wider West Midlands area, BHSEA provides an advice and support network for 300 members. For more information visit the BHSEA website: www.bhsea.org.uk