



## NCASS raises £2,224 for Tiny Lives



NCASS Committee at the Newcastle Dinner

NCASS have raised over £2,000 for Tiny Lives, our nominated charity this year and would like to thank all who attended the Quiz and Dinners for their generous contributions.

NCASS Chair Sam Hill and Vice Chair Ele Brown will be presenting the cheque at the Neonatal Unit at the Royal Victoria

Infirmary this month. Look out for pictures of the presentation in the next newsletter.

With over 200 people attending the Newcastle dinner, it was a hugely successful event, and we would like to thank Newcastle Civic Centre for once again providing such a great venue for the evening.

The Teesside Annual dinner saw once again a capacity turnout at the Thistle, Middlesbrough. There was plenty of food, drink and entertainment on offer and a good night was had by all.

The Committee would like to thank the Teesside branch of the Northern Society for their continued support in sponsoring the event..

Photos of the both of the dinners, and details of upcoming events can be found on our Facebook page– see the back page of this newsletter for the address. at

We will soon be deciding on our nominated charity for the forthcoming year, so watch this space for details.

### ICAEW Dates for your diary

- **22 July**  
*June Professional stage exam results dispatched*
- **25-27 July**  
*July sitting for Advanced stage exams*
- **4 August**  
*Deadline for registration for September Professional Stage*
- **16 August**  
*Free online webinar - Ethics*
- **2 September**  
*Advanced Stage Exam Results dispatched*
- **5-7 September**  
*Professional Stage Exams*
- **20 September**  
*Free online webinar— Effective networking*

## Exam success for students in the North



The newly passed and prize giving ceremony was held at King's Hall, University of Newcastle on Saturday 2nd April. The graduation celebrated the success of Northern ICAEW students, of whom two deserve particular commendation.

Edith Brough, who works at Joseph Miller & Co (pictured above left), was top of the International Order of Merit for the Professional Stage 2010, meaning she

achieved the highest average mark for all student completing Professional Stage exams between December 2009 and 2010, and she also won the Plender Prize.

Craig Willis, PWC was 3rd in the Order of Merit for the Advanced Stage, having placed second in the Professional Stage Order of Merit last year. He was also awarded an ICAEW Global Inspiration award last year.

The Congratulations were given by John Hunston, FCA, Northern Society President, who gave an insightful talk into the diverse career path which he has followed. In the 2011 New Year Honours list, John was awarded the OBE for services to business in the North East.

### Your Committee

- Andrew Jackson, President
- Sam Hill, Chair
- Ele Brown, Vice Chair
- John Howarth. Teesside and Student Council Rep
- Sian Nooney, Treasurer
- Lisa Guy, Pan Professional Rep
- Sophie Ward, External Communications
- Ellen Thomson
- Simon Keeling
- Richard Wilkins



## *First cohort graduate from the Dual Award Scheme with ICAEW and Newcastle University*

Newcastle University and the ICAEW are delighted to see the first cohort complete their new Graduate Diploma in Finance, Accounting and Business in July 2011.

This dual award qualification was launched in September 2010 and combines study at Newcastle University with the ICAEW's Certificate in Finance, Accounting and Business qualification. Successful students can come away with credit for 7 of the 15 papers required to qualify as a Chartered Accountant.

As well as gaining credit for 7 ICAEW papers, there is also a strong focus on developing persona and professional skills so that students are equipped to hit the

ground running when they start employment.

Students completing the diploma have been given opportunities to develop time management, networking and presentation skills and have been lucky enough to present to Shaun Robertson, the ICAEW's Head of Learning.

A large number of graduates have found employment in the region and loom forward to starting work in September.

If you would like more information about the programme, please contact Ellen Thomson (Ellen.thomson@ncl.ac.uk) or Lorna Hansell (Lorna.Hansell@icaew.com).

### *A bit of light relief.....*

An accountant is having a hard time sleeping and goes to see his doctor. "Doctor, I just can't get to sleep at night."

**"Have you tried counting sheep?"**

"That's the problem - I make a mistake and then spend three hours trying to find it."

**How many auditors does it take to change a light bulb?**

How many did it take last year?

## *NCASS Committee Plan for the year ahead*

It's all change on the NCASS Committee as our former Chair, Andrew Ferguson from the NAO, stepped down after three years on the Committee and a successful year as Chair, at the recent AGM.

Andrew will be succeeded by Sam Hill (formerly Sam Chaney, congratulations!), who joined NCASS in 2007, and has previously held the Student Council Rep and Vice Chair positions on the Committee. With such an experienced committee member at the helm, we are eagerly anticipating the year ahead and hope to build on our recent success by introducing new events into the calendar.

Upcoming events were discussed at the July meeting. Along with old favourites, our Annual dinners, 5-a-side tournaments and the Quiz night, look out for a Winter pub Crawl and Wine tasting evening in the New Year..

If you have any suggestions for events, or would like to get more involved, contact NCASSadmin@btconnect.com.



*Out with the old, in with the new....*

*Andrew Ferguson hands over the NCASS Medallion to Sam Hill, our new Chair*



## *NCASS and NEYCAG get together for a Night at the Dogs*



*Flying Start students enjoy their Night at the Dogs.*

On 11th May, NCASS combined forces with NEYCAG (North East Young Chartered Accountants' Group) to host a very successful Night at The Dogs (well for some more than others perhaps!).

The event, which took place at Newcastle's Brough Park, was attended by eighty five young chartered accountants including many from the Flying Start degree at Newcastle University.

NCASS would like to give a big thanks to Brough Park who very generously offered free entry (that appealed to all the accountants among us!) and to NRG who helped organize the event.

Reports seem to indicate that there were some very big wins for some plus some epic losses for others but all in all a great night was had by all.

## *Professional Stage Exam Results March 2011*

Well done to all who passed their Professional Stage Exams in March. Overall, 1,541 students sat 2,661 exams at this sitting, with pass rates for all the papers ranging from 78.9% (Financial Reporting) to 93.8% (Financial Accounting top-up).

Special congratulations go out to the following students who gained the highest mark in the Northern region in their respective papers:

**Audit and Assurance** - Lauren French, PWC

**Business Strategy** - Ele Brown, NAO

**Financial Accounting** - Thomas Bramwell, PWC

**Financial Accounting Top-up** - Christine Rayment, Armstrong Watson

**Financial Management** - Alasdair Main, NAO

**Financial Reporting** - Ryan Hand, NAO

**Taxation** - Thomas Bramwell, PWC

NCASS is the official body that represents students under ICAEW training contracts in the Northern region, which covers Tyneside, Teesside and Cumbria.

Find us online:

**Facebook** - [www.facebook.com/pages/Northern-Chartered-Accountant-Students-Society-NCASS/145058285560514/](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Northern-Chartered-Accountant-Students-Society-NCASS/145058285560514/)

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