

NEW STATUS AND NAME

shipleys LLP
Chartered Accountants & Professional Business Advisors

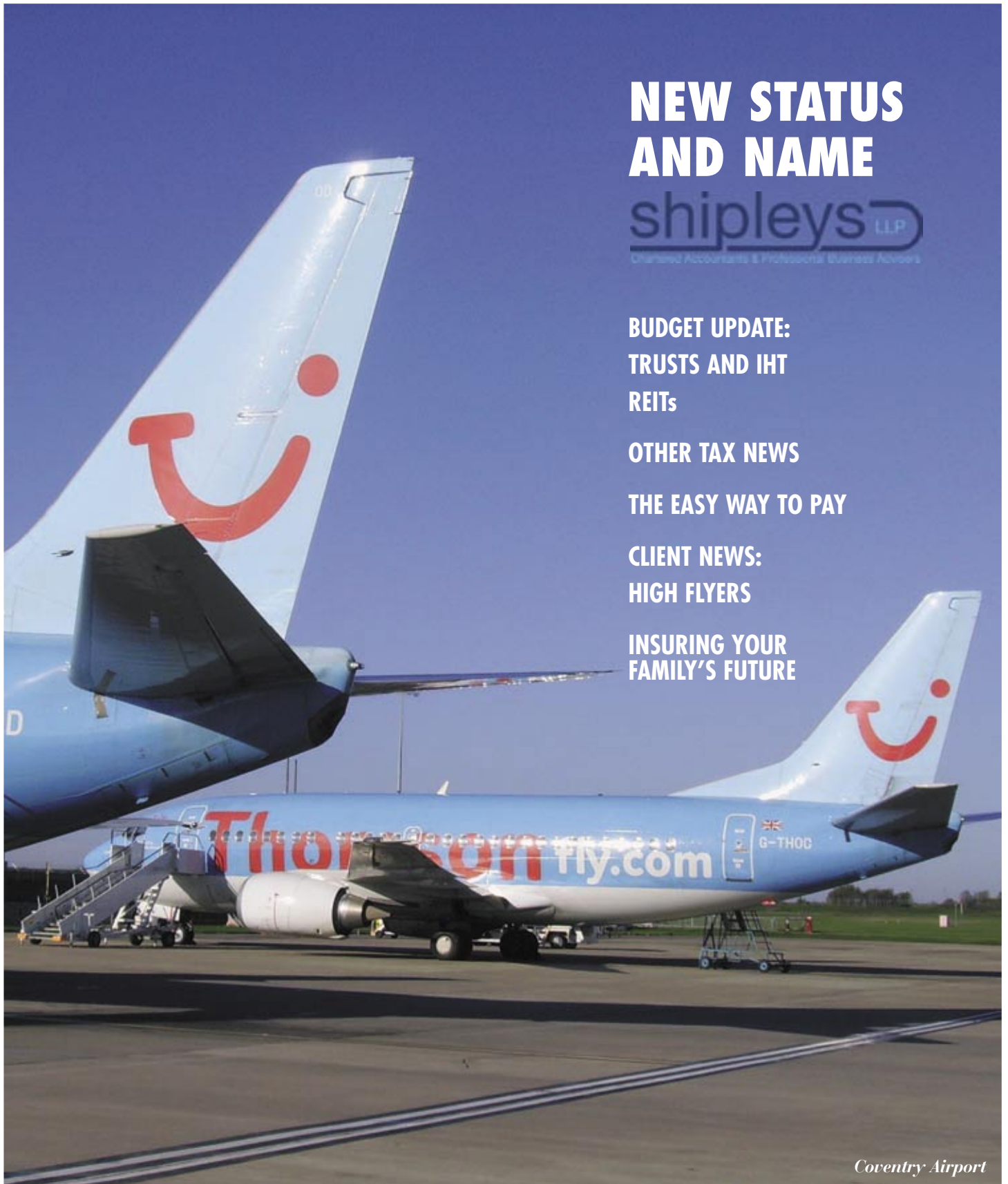
**BUDGET UPDATE:
TRUSTS AND IHT
REITs**

OTHER TAX NEWS

THE EASY WAY TO PAY

**CLIENT NEWS:
HIGH FLYERS**

**INSURING YOUR
FAMILY'S FUTURE**



www.shipleys.com

For further information, please contact one of our offices:

LONDON

10 Orange Street
Haymarket
London
WC2H 7DQ

T +44 (0)20 7312 0000
F +44 (0)20 7312 0022
E advice@shipleys.com

GODALMING

3 Godalming Business Centre
Woolsack Way
Godalming
Surrey
GU7 1XW

T +44 (0)1483 423607
F +44 (0)1483 426079
E godalming@shipleys.com

SAFFRON WALDEN

Market House
10 Market Walk
Saffron Walden
Essex
CB10 1JZ

T +44 (0)1799 521301
F +44 (0)1799 523854
E saffron@shipleys.com

Shipleys LLP is a member of AGN International, a worldwide association of separate and independent accounting and consulting firms.



If you have any suggestions for topics you would like to see covered in *Shipshape*, or have any comment about the content or presentation of the newsletter, please contact Stuart Dey at our London office.

T +44 (0)20 7312 6528
E deys@shipleys.com

Registered Auditors.

Regulated by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales for a range of investment business activities.

©AGN Shipleys 2006

Designed by SHL Communicators, Amersham. P3.6 42006

Managing partner John McCuin announces important internal news and explains its implications.



New Status and Name

As from Monday 1 May, AGN Shipleys will become a Limited Liability Partnership (LLP) and will be known as Shipleys LLP. I want to take this opportunity to explain what this is going to mean for us and for our clients.

When Limited Liability Partnerships were introduced in 2001, I said in *Shipshape* that we would wait to see how they worked in practice before considering LLP status for ourselves. The traditional form of partnership did provide us with some tax and regulatory advantages. But each partner had unlimited liability for all the firm's liabilities, including those arising from the action of any other partner, and this liability extended to our personal assets.

We have now decided, in common with an increasing number of other professional firms, that the time is right for us to become an LLP.

The partners in an LLP do not have individual unlimited liability for any debts of the business, and in this respect an LLP is the partnership equivalent of a limited company. In an increasingly litigious world our legal advisers and insurers have urged us to take advantage of this protection, and it is certainly true that it will become increasingly difficult to expand our business by creating or attracting new partners if we do not make this change.

Business as usual

What will it mean for our clients in the short term? Actually, very little in practice. We shall have a new name and a new logo, as illustrated. We shall have to send out new, very long, engagement letters to clients in the coming months. But our business will continue as before, and clients will

continue to be looked after by the same partners and staff, though the partners will be known as 'principals'.

In addition, we believe that the new structure will allow us greater internal flexibility, and will assist us in planning and delivering the future of the business, to the long-term benefit of ourselves and our clients.

New Name

We have, very regretfully, been forced to drop the 'AGN' prefix from our name. We adopted this in 2000, to demonstrate our support for, and commitment to, our international organisation, AGN International Ltd.

Although AGN International is a worldwide association of separate and independent accounting and consulting firms, we now have to bow to professional advice that the continuing use of 'AGN' in our name could leave us open to claims from clients of other member firms with whom we had had no involvement. It's a mad situation, but we have to recognise the litigation risks involved.

However, our commitment to cooperation among the member firms of AGN International remains unaltered, because we believe that it is important to be able to give our clients access to professional advice whenever and wherever in the world they may need it.

Communication

One last point about the name change: our website and e-mail addresses will also officially change from 1 May, dropping the 'agn' initials. In fact, the new addresses are already in place, so you can start to use them now, though the old addresses will continue to work alongside the new for the time being.



BUDGET UPDATE

The Chancellor's Budget Speech on 22 March 2006 was, as usual, notable in stressing the good news and either only muttering the bad or ignoring it altogether.

Our Budget Summary, produced overnight after the Budget, is available to download from the Publications page of our website at www.agnshipleys.com, or you can request a free printed copy from Sandra Wyton, telephone 020 7312 0000, e-mail wytons@shipleys.com

Below and on the next page we cover some of the topics which have emerged since Budget Day, and also note the issues the Chancellor chose to ignore.

The 2006 Finance Bill (all 489 pages of it!) was published in early April. It is important to remember, when reading these pages of *Shipshape* or our Budget Summary, that changes can be made to the Budget proposals during the passage of the Finance Bill through Parliament, until it receives Royal Assent (probably in mid-summer). This is particularly true of our first item, on trusts, as this proposal has met with clamorous opposition from many directions.

Trusts and inheritance tax

One especially unexpected piece of bad news, which emerged only after the Chancellor had sat down, concerned trusts and inheritance tax. In brief, it was proposed that almost all family trusts set up after 21 March 2006 should be subject to the same inheritance tax regime as discretionary trusts.

The trusts newly affected are accumulation & maintenance trusts and interest in possession trusts. The first sort is most common as a means to give to children and grandchildren without them having immediate ownership of property at too early an



age. The second is perhaps most used in Wills, to enable the testator to direct his estate more specifically.

The Chancellor seems to view all trusts as inheritance tax avoidance devices. But consider the motivations of those who might use the sorts of trust under attack.

Accumulation & maintenance trust

John wants to make gifts to his grandchildren. He wants to play fair, he has three already, but his daughter might produce a fourth. He is not keen that his grandchildren, all under ten, should get the capital at 18, and is not entirely sure that the capital should be released at any particular pre-ordained time. An accumulation & maintenance trust has been the ideal vehicle. Such a gift was treated as a PET (potentially exempt transfer), with no inheritance tax charge unless John dies within seven years. The grandchildren would become entitled to income at not later than 25, but have access to the capital only when it seems right, with no inheritance tax charge. That mirrors the inheritance tax position if an outright gift had been made. But, although the income tax and capital gains tax liability might actually be increased by using a trust, it gave the protection that John wants – as well as enabling a new grandchild to share in the trust fund.

Under the proposed new regime, inheritance tax at up to 20% would be payable at the outset, increased to 40% if John dies within seven years. Inheritance tax at up to 6% would be payable every ten years and on capital being distributed. So this change might force John to consider outright gifts, losing the advantages that made a trust so attractive – which were not at all to avoid tax.

Interest in possession trust

David has provided for his second wife in his Will by leaving her a life interest in his estate on death, with a succeeding life interest to his daughter by his first wife with the remainder to be shared by his grandchildren. David wants his widow (by whom he has had no children) to be supported adequately, but he wishes to ensure that otherwise his estate goes to his daughter and grandchildren. If he were to leave his estate absolutely to his widow, his child and grandchildren might get nothing.

If David had died before 22 March 2006 there would have been no inheritance tax due on his death (if his widow had the same domicile as him), only on her subsequent death. If he dies now, under the Budget proposals, the trust would be taxed as if it were a discretionary trust. Inheritance tax would be payable on his death and then by the trust every ten years at up to 6%. There would be no inheritance tax on the death of his widow or his daughter, but inheritance tax at up to 6% would be due on the capital distributions that would ensue.

Again, the form of trust suggested was not designed to mitigate inheritance tax but to ensure that the capital went where David wanted. Yet adoption of such terms results in a much worse inheritance tax position.

The Chancellor's proposals may not be enacted as drafted. But, for the time being, although clearly all existing trusts should be reviewed, and the creation of new trusts reconsidered, the more immediate need is to review all Wills and also consider the result of further additions to existing trusts, distinguishing premiums on existing life policies written in trust.

BUDGET UPDATE

continued

Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs)

Transfer charge – Judging by the Stock Market reaction, the property industry was pleased with the terms of the new REITs, to be launched in 2007, and thinks the 2% transfer charge acceptable.

It will be interesting to see the effect on property deals in the latter part of 2006. A company intending to register as a REIT from 1 January 2007 might want to defer purchases into January to save that 2% charge, where commercially acceptable.

Distributions – A REIT must distribute at least 90% of its tax-exempt profits. In this context ‘profits’ excludes capital gains.

Gearing – The position on gearing for a REIT was unclear. On Budget Day the official press release said – “the ratio of interest on loans to fund the tax-exempt business to rental income of that business must be less than 1.25:1”. But the following day a revised note said – “the ratio of taxable rental profits before interest and capital allowances to interest on loans to fund the tax-exempt business must be more than 1.25:1”.

There were major differences between the two wordings. The 1.25:1 ratio is reversed. Under the Budget Day wording, if interest is £100 rental income would need to exceed £80. Under the revised wording, if interest is £100, the rental income would have to exceed £125. A further difference between the two versions is that in the second version the rental income to be compared with interest on loans to fund the tax-exempt business is not that from the tax-exempt business itself but the *taxable* rental income. But it has subsequently emerged that the second version was also wrong, and should have referred to tax-exempt rental profits.

Tax returns

It seems that the Government will accept the Carter Review recommendation that the filing date for tax returns be brought forward to 30 September for paper returns, and 30 November if filing online, from 2008. Also suggested is that the ‘enquiry window’, which currently closes 12 months after the 31 January following the tax year or, if later, 12 months after the return is filed, should be linked to the date the return is filed, to promote earlier filing and give taxpayers certainty sooner.

Home computer schemes

The Chancellor unexpectedly announced an end to the tax exemption for computers provided by employers for private use with effect from 6 April 2006. But employees who have a computer made available for private use before 6 April 2006 will **not** be affected by the change. Furthermore, if an employee entered into an arrangement with the employer before 6 April 2006, under which the employer is committed to provide a computer to the employee, but for reasons beyond their control the employee cannot take physical possession of the computer until after 5 April, HMRC accepts that the exemption will apply to the provision of that computer.

What the Chancellor didn't say

No more detail was made available on the proposed *Planning Gain Supplement* than was published in December as part of the Pre-Budget Report. Nothing was said on *Corporation Tax* reform, which has been the subject of such lengthy consultation. And on *UITF 40*, the Finance Bill fails to address adequately the problems in the way in which partners share the tax on any prior year adjustment resulting from adopting the new valuation basis.

OTHER TAX NEWS

QIS (Qualified Investor Scheme) holdings

The tax treatment of investors with a ‘substantial QIS holding’ in a unit trust or Open-Ended Investment Company changes from 2006/07. A holding is substantial if the person, alone or together with associates or connected persons, owns units which represent 10% or more of the fund’s net asset value. For those who have such a holding on 6 April 2006, or 1 April for a company, (unless they have ceased to own a substantial QIS holding by 30 June 2006), or come to have such a holding later, the effect of the provisions is to charge income tax on any increase in value after that date, or give relief against income for any reduction.

Pension Scheme contributions

Employers’ contributions to approved pensions have been automatically tax-deductible. But those made by traders from 6 April 2006 to registered pension schemes (the new term) have to be wholly and exclusively for the purposes of the trade. Arguably they should be seen as part of a total remuneration package, and the test should be of the whole package. Initially at least, H M Revenue & Customs seem to be concentrating on the pension scheme contributions alone, and looking for comparative situations.

Olympics 2012

It is proposed that non-resident competitors in the Olympics will be relieved from UK tax on income arising from their performance at the Olympics, and that non-UK residents who are only temporarily in the UK for the purpose of the Games will not be charged to income tax on their earnings from the work they perform in relation to the Olympics.

Arctic victory

HM Revenue & Customs have been given leave to appeal to the House of Lords against the decision in this case (Jones v. Garnett – see page 5 of the January issue of *Shipshape*). The case concerns the possible application of the settlement provisions where a company provided IT consultancy largely using the skills of Mr Jones, and the profits were mainly taken as dividends, with half going to Mrs Jones. HMRC sought to tax Mr Jones on his wife's dividends.

Stealth tax

2005/06 is the first year in which you can have an income tax liability because of a loan you made up to 20 years ago, even if it has long since been repaid.

This may seem absurd, but it is a possible result of the often misleadingly named 'pre-owned assets' provisions. For example, they apply from 6 April 2005 if you 'occupy' a property not your own whose acquisition you helped to finance, either by gift after 5 April 1998 or by a loan after 17 March 1986. HM Revenue & Customs' idea of 'occupation' is far short of what most of us mean, including merely storing furniture in a property. Thus, on their reading, if you keep your boat at your son's seaside cottage, whose purchase could be said to have been aided by a loan you made to him in 1990, the 'pre-owned assets' rules apply to you.

The extra income you are deemed to have is whatever proportion of the annual rental value is attributable to your loan. There is a de minimis, of £5,000. If you lent a quarter of the cost of the cottage and the annual rental value is no more than £20,000, the 'benefit' would not exceed £5,000, so you would not be charged. But if the annual rental value is £21,000 you would be chargeable on £5,250 – less any rent you actually paid to him in 2005/06 under a legal obligation. It is possible to elect out of this liability, but the consequences may not be acceptable.

For further details please see the Current Issues pages on our website at www.shipleys.com

VAT

The end of VAT planning?

Previous VAT columns have highlighted the efforts of HM Revenue & Customs to stamp out 'unacceptable VAT avoidance'.

The definition of what is 'unacceptable' is not entirely clear, but almost any form of planning appears to be unacceptable to HMRC. Inevitably this has led to a string of tribunal and court cases as arrangements are discovered by HMRC and attempts are made to defeat them.

Most recently there have been landmark judgements from the European Court in relation to three UK taxpayers: Halifax, BUPA, and the University of Huddersfield.

Each of these taxpayers had entered into VAT planning arrangements designed to produce an enhanced level of input VAT recovery, which was unacceptable to HMRC.

In all three cases the taxpayers lost because the European Court decided that the right to reclaim input VAT could not be exercised where the transactions concerned constituted an abusive practice ie an abuse of rights.

This prompted the Paymaster General, Dawn Primarolo, to issue a press release proclaiming these judgements as a great victory that underscored the Government's "determination to tackle artificial VAT avoidance".

However, the impact of these cases may not be as far reaching as the Government would like.

These cases related only to schemes that sought to enhance input VAT recovery, involved transactions designed solely to achieve the VAT advantage, and had no commercial justification other than VAT mitigation.

It is by no means clear that arrangements entered into for commercial reasons that also happen to produce a VAT advantage can be defeated by this new 'abuse of rights' concept.

So it is almost inevitable that there will be more litigation as HMRC, taxpayers, and advisers seek to determine the impact of these judgements.

Budget snippets

The key VAT matters arising from the Budget are covered in our Budget Summary.

However, there are a few other items that may be of interest:

Auctioneers' fees: UK VAT law currently allows auctioneers' fees to be subject to VAT at an effective rate of 5% where they relate to the sale of goods that are subject to temporary importation arrangements.

The European Court has determined that these fees should in fact be subject to VAT at 17.5%, so UK VAT law will be amended accordingly and this will take effect shortly after Royal Assent to the Finance Bill.

Anti-fraud measures: the Government is continuing its efforts to tackle VAT fraud in the mobile phone and computer chip industries.

With effect from Royal Assent to the Finance Bill, HMRC will have the power to require taxpayers to compile and maintain additional records. Although aimed at the trade sectors noted above, these new record keeping powers will not be limited to them.

In addition, but subject to approval from the other EU Member States, it is proposed to change UK VAT law to make the buyer rather than the seller responsible for accounting and paying the VAT on the purchase of certain types of goods, such as mobile phones and computer chips. In effect the buyer will be required to apply a reverse charge.

THE EASY WAY TO PAY

Salary structures, pension schemes, share options, allowances and benefits in kind (including company cars) are essential elements in the strategic planning of any business. For service companies, the costs associated with employing staff may be the largest single cost they have to consider.

AGN Shipleys can help you with this strategic planning, and ensure that the policies you adopt are tax efficient. We can review your Pay As You Earn (PAYE) scheme to ensure that it is being operated correctly, and that you are not building up a big liability which comes to light at a PAYE inspection by HM Revenue & Customs.

We can also take away one of the biggest administrative headaches that any employer has to bear, by taking over your entire payroll operation and the bureaucracy connected with it.

Client Payroll Department

Our Client Payroll Department is based at our Saffron Walden office, with some work also done at Godalming. Most payroll operations do little more than calculate the salaries due and pay them, but ours is a 'full service' operation and can take over all payroll-related obligations, including

assisting with HMRC investigations, communicating with your tax office on your behalf, and even calculating what you owe to HMRC and paying it.

"We are experienced specialists" explains Payroll Manager Sandra Key, "and we understand the rules and keep abreast of the frequent changes. We actually enjoy the technicalities, but we appreciate that it can be a nightmare for employers with no specialist knowledge who have better things to do, such as running their businesses."

The different PAYE codes and categories of national insurance contributions can make it difficult for a non-specialist to get even the basic deductions right. However, real difficulties can arise with added complications such as pension payments, statutory sick pay, maternity and paternity pay, statutory redundancy, student loan repayments, attachment of earnings orders (covering things like Child Support Agency payments) and modified PAYE schemes for expatriates.

Flexible service

Our service is flexible, and can do as much or as little as the client requires, whether there is only one employee or hundreds.

Someone who is employing people for the first time faces a mountainous learning curve and a great deal of form-filling. Sandra Key points out that the P11 deduction 'cards' which have to be completed for each employee, are actually larger than A3, so hardly a 'card' in the usual sense.

As businesses employ more people there are likely to be more payroll complications as individual staff circumstances change.

Electronic filing

From this year employers with more than 50 employees must file their PAYE returns electronically.

Employers with fewer than 50 people on the payroll will not be obliged to file by internet until 2009/10, but those who choose to adopt this method in advance of the deadline will receive incentive payments from HMRC. If they start filing electronically in 2006/07 the incentive payments will total £325.

Needless to say, all our client payroll returns can be filed electronically, and the incentive payments are passed on to our clients.

For further information about our payroll services please talk to your usual Shipleys contact or e-mail payroll@shipleys.com

Happy New (Tax) Year!

If your company handles its own payroll administration you will appreciate our free 2006 Tax Year End Employers' Checklist.

Our Happy New (Tax) Year card (illustrated) opens out to a checklist for your notice board, showing the key deadlines for the coming year for returns in respect of PAYE, NICs and employee benefits. Remember, in most instances there are penalties for late returns, and the possibility of an interest charge on sums paid after the deadlines.

It also provides details of how to order, or download, HM Revenue & Customs forms and PAYE and NIC tables, and the telephone numbers for the relevant HMRC telephone helplines.



If you would like a copy of the Employers' Checklist, please ask your usual Shipleys contact, or request

copies from Sandra Wyton, telephone 020 7312 0000, e-mail wyttons@shipleys.com

CLIENT NEWS

HIGH FLYERS

Air transportation of passengers and freight has increased, is increasing, and will continue to increase. Air passenger traffic has grown by 276% since 1983, and in the UK the current annual passenger traffic of 160 million is predicted to grow to 600 million by 2030.

Across Europe the rapid rise of low cost carriers such as EasyJet and Flybe is contributing to this expansion, and also creating demand for new, vibrant, regional airports. The traditional 'hub' airports such as Heathrow and Gatwick do not suit these airlines, because they are already operating close to capacity, they are expensive, and passenger movement in and out is slow.

The new entrepreneurs

This is where Alan Robinson and Gail Farrin Robinson come in. Through their joint venture company CAFCOHL they have already bought Coventry Airport (in January this year), and they aim to become one of Europe's leading multiple regional airport operators within the next three to five years.

Alan's life-long love affair with aviation, his entrepreneurial skills and experience in financing, combined with Gail's talents and practical expertise in managing major infrastructure projects, make a winning partnership.

In addition, their joint venture partnership with AFCO (Aviation Facilities Company Inc.) gives them access to the know-how of a leading US company in the field of airport property management.

To accelerate their acquisition programme they recently established a £200 million specialist property fund ERRAF (European Regional Regeneration & Aviation Fund), which is a Jersey 'Expert Fund'.

The new opportunities

Alan and Gail have observed and researched the fundamental changes in aviation regarding the needs of both carriers and passengers in Europe, and identified the opportunities to create their own solutions in this market.

Alan Robinson with his DLX 500 Jet Prop.



The success of low cost carriers is creating an increasing demand for region-to-region (rather than region-to-hub, or hub-to-region) services, avoiding the slow and busy changes at the traditional hub airports. This demand is driven by business travellers who want to travel as quickly as possible between points A and B, by the increasing number of second home owners, and by the expansion of the 'short breaks' holiday market, particularly to destinations in Eastern Europe.

An emerging trend is the popularity of air taxis, carrying small numbers of people (usually on business) between locations which do not have regular scheduled services. Alan, who is an experienced pilot himself and currently flies around 200 hours a year, understands perfectly the different needs of such services, which will increasingly change the pattern of local travel, and which are currently not well catered for at many airports.

Above all, the passengers themselves are expecting more. "No-one making a short flight of two or three hours wants to spend twice that time travelling to and from the airports or walking to boarding gates," explains Gail. "All over Europe passengers prefer to use their local airports when they can, and there is huge scope to develop these and provide the services that passengers want."

The new vision

Regional airports have historically been owned and operated by local authorities which do not have the management experience, or the necessary investment capital, to transform their local airports into the flexible and efficient facilities that will be required in the future. Gail explains

how CAFCOHL will meet the demand for safe, fast-turnaround, minimum fuss, maximum throughput airports:

"We appreciate that client demands are changing, and we can meet these demands, from both airlines and passengers, in economic and efficient ways that will keep costs down, while providing safe airports and the services that clients want.

"We are developing generic designs which will enable us to provide infrastructure services, such as accounting and IT systems, which will achieve economies of scale while being customised for local needs. We don't want to develop 'clone' airports across Europe; we intend to develop super-efficient regional airports which reflect local cultures and expectations while benefiting from the management efficiencies we can provide."

The partnership

Alan and Gail have been in business together since 1989, having met while working in the Cable TV industry (Alan founded Croydon Cable/Telewest UK and Eurobell). They have three children, and divide their time between a flat in Reigate, a farm in Devon, and Jumbolair, a private airport in Florida, where they are building a house and hanger on a three acre plot, near to John Travolta's home where he keeps his Boeing 707.

"We bought the farm in Devon for relaxation," says Gail, "and we love it. No-one in their right senses buys a farm, keeps water buffalo and deer, and hopes to make a profit nowadays!"

For further information please see www.cafcohl.com or contact Gail Farrin Robinson by telephone at 01647 24901 or e-mail Gail.FarrinRobinson@cafcohl.com

MONEY MATTERS



Insuring your family's future

If you already have life assurance, or insurance, you should review your cover regularly to ensure that it still meets your needs. If you do not have any life cover, you probably should.

A whole life *assurance* policy pays out a lump sum when you die, whenever that may be. A life *insurance* policy is taken out for a fixed term, ie as long as you need it, and is cheaper than assurance because the policy provider may not have to pay out the sum insured during the period of cover.

Term insurance has no investment value; it simply pays out if you die during a specified term. There is no payout if you survive the term of the policy, and no redemption value if you cancel the policy before it expires.

Insurance policies can be used in conjunction with life assurance for the periods in your life when you need additional cover, for example when you have dependent children or a mortgage to repay. They can also be useful in inheritance tax planning (see below).

Existing cover

If you are an employee you may already have some form of life cover as part of your salary package. This is usually called 'death in service' provision, and you should check the extent and value of this before deciding what additional cover you need.

Protecting your family

Policies can be taken out on a single life or joint life basis, eg for a husband and wife, in which case the policy would pay out either on the first or the second death. The latter is especially useful to provide cash to meet an inheritance tax liability on that second death. Even if one of the partners is not employed it may be sensible to consider

a joint life policy; current estimates from insurers for the cost of providing basic childcare and housekeeping if a non-working mother dies range from £20,000 to £30,000 a year.

Life assurance can be used to cover a range of needs including:

- repayment of your mortgage
- the cost of childcare, including school fees
- critical or terminal illness cover.

You can also obtain payment protection, which covers payment of the premiums if you are unable to do so, eg because of illness.

How long, how much?

This is the difficult bit, and one of the main reasons you should review your insurance arrangements regularly.

How long your term insurance should last depends on your personal circumstances, eg how long your mortgage has to run, or how much longer your children are likely to be dependent on you.

How much cover you should buy will probably depend, in reality, on the level of premium you can afford to pay.

Inheritance tax

Life policies can also be used to fund inheritance tax. For example, death within seven years of a gift could result in extra inheritance tax. A life insurance policy could provide cover on death within that period, written in favour of those beneficiaries who have to meet the tax.

Protecting your business

If you have your own business you should also consider 'key man' insurance, to cover the lives of directors or essential employees.

Detailed advice should be obtained before taking action, or refraining from taking action, as a result of information in this newsletter.

This firm (AGN Shipleys) is not authorised by the Financial Services Authority but we are able in certain circumstances to offer a limited range of investment services because we are licensed by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales. We can provide these investment services if they are an incidental part of the professional services we have been engaged to provide.

Up from Under

One of the many advantages of our membership of AGN International Ltd is the opportunities it provides for staff to take secondments at other member firms and learn about doing business in other cultures.

At present we are delighted to be hosting our latest secondment from member firm William Buck in Australia. Yohan Pereira (below) joined the Melbourne office of William Buck in 2002, qualified as a chartered accountant in 2005, and promptly applied for an exchange position with us.



Yohan explains: "A colleague of mine came to AGN Shipleys on secondment last year, and he learned a lot and had a great time, so I applied for the same posting. It's turning out very well for me too. The adjustment to UK auditing standards hasn't been very hard, and I've been able to do some sightseeing as well as living it up a bit."

In typical Aussie fashion Yohan is combining his secondment with a world tour. He came to London via stop-overs in Thailand and Dubai, and on his return journey he plans to visit Italy, Spain, the USA and Mexico.

Breakfast Club

The next three meetings of the monthly Breakfast Club at our Godalming office will be on 19 May, 16 June and 21 July, all on Fridays and all starting at 7.30am.

If you would like an invitation to join in the lively and useful debates among members, and take advantage of the networking opportunities our meetings provide, please contact Jane Whalley for further information, telephone 01483 423607, e-mail whalleyj@shipleys.com