

# **About EMAG Ltd – Board directors**

## **John A Newman, MA, FCA, Chairman**

Until 1 May 2004 he was a director in Smith & Williamson Corporate Tax Dept. This was his full time occupation after approximately 30 years in professional life. This has necessarily involved advice on strategy, structuring and finance, in addition to taxation, and has required appreciation of home country financial conditions and taxation. Industry experience has ranged over the last 30 years from banking (which started with the National Westminster at Touche Ross) to investment houses, private banks through e-commerce to lighting and construction companies.

Within Smith & Williamson he has assumed responsibility for corporate tax compliance issues. As a result he has been involved in litigation support as an expert witness for cases involving professional negligence. He has also had to deal with the interaction of Taxation with regulatory issues. Outside Smith & Williamson he has played an active role in the profession. This has been useful experience for the conduct of meetings and public presentations.

Born 1946. Educated St Albans School and St Johns College Cambridge University where he read mathematics. Qualified as a Chartered Accountant in 1971 with Cooper Bros and then had a 36 year career in the accountancy profession in the fields of international and corporate taxation. He is now a consultant to Smith & Williamson and various private clients. His industry experience has ranged over banking , investment houses, private banks through to e-commerce, lighting and construction companies.

In the profession he was an elected member of the Council of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales - ICAEW - 1987 to 1993 and 1995 to 1997; member of the Technical Committee of the Faculty of Taxation 1989 to 1997; and member of various ICAEW working parties. He also served on the Council of the Association of Accounting Technicians and was President for 1996-1997.

## **Nicolas Bellord, Deputy Chairman**

Nicolas Bellord - Retired solicitor. Educated Downside, Fribourg and Magdalen College Oxford. Advised on trust tax and charity law mainly to religious charities. Spent far too much time trying to convince his fellow lawyers of the benefits of computers as Secretary to the Society for Computers and Lawyers and UK representative on law and computers to the Council of Europe. Foolishly entrusted his whole pension fund to ELAS but now happily retired, if somewhat short of the readies but enjoying being a thorn in the flesh of the establishment.

## **Paul Braithwaite, General Secretary**

Aged 62, with two grown-up daughters. Lives in London. Hobbies: bicycling and being a local Councillor in Camden, which leaves minimal spare time.

Masters Degree from London Business School (1972). Career in marketing, including M&S, EMI and RCA, prior to becoming a director in Saatchi & Saatchi in the late 1970s, specialising in technology - Sony, Thorn EMI, Racal Vodafone – and the Conservative Party (1979 election).

In 1984 started own marketing consultancy, specialising in leisure. In 1994 started successful childrens educational shops: "Fun Learning". Now non-exec chairman, with six shops in the south east.

Became an ELAS member in 1984. Attended ALL of the last eleven ELAS AGMs. Openly criticised Nash and Sclater in 1999 and 2000. Stood as an independent director candidate for ELAS in 2001 and 2002, unsuccessfully.

Joined EMAG's committee in September 2000. Worked 'pro bono' on EMAG for 20 months, including a year as chairman. Removed my own funds from Equitable in July 2002 and simultaneously stepped down from chairing EMAG. Subsequently, retained by EMAG committee as a consultant general secretary to co-ordinating EMAG's activities on a part-time basis. I do not anticipate receiving any compensation but the fight, for me, is about seeing justice carried out.

Concentrated on political influence, with lobbyists Bell-Pottinger, and media relations, with Paul Weir. Attended all sessions in Court, Select Committees, EQUI meetings in Brussels, Parliament, PO and Penrose meetings, plus the political party conferences. Supervises EMAG's website and acts as board co-ordinator. Maintains an ELAS archive and writing THE book about the scandal.

## **Colin Slater FCA**

Born London 1943. Educated Alleyns School, Dulwich. On leaving school took Articles as Chartered Accountant. Prize-winner intermediate examination 1964. Qualified 1966. Specialised in Tax Planning with City firm. Joined Burgess Hodgson as second partner in 1968. Developed special interest in investment and pension matters. Married Susan 1972.

Burgess Hodgson decentralised to Canterbury 1976. Extended interest into the use of computers especially in tax planning and management accounts. Also interested in litigation. Helped expand firm to current 10-partner size. Equitable Life policyholder from 1973 until 2002.

Leisure interests include tournament water-skiing. National Slalom Champion (age related) 1999-2005. Member of 2001 European Championship-winning British Senior Team. Bronze medallist (Over 55 Men's Slalom) 2004 World Championships.

## **Betty McCann, Treasurer**

On leaving National Westminster Bank I had no pension provision to speak of. I decided to make provision and for the last couple of decades I have restricted my outgoing and instead put all my available income into various Pension Plans.

I was looking forward to retiring with a manageable income but not anymore. Trying to keep up to date with the Equitable debacle I decided to offer my services as Treasurer to EMAG. I was

appointed to the committee in 2001 and I have found the EMAG Board meetings challenging and rewarding.

I am a "jack of all trades master of none". I was employed with the same company for more than 20 years in various roles including Administration Manager, Project Management, Service Delivery and Network Manager.

In 2001 I graduated with a BSc Honours in Technology through the Open University. I live in Sussex and enjoy Bridge, Ski-ing and travelling.

## **Tom Lake**

Tom Lake is a Software Engineer and Consultant with interests in Transport Information and Parallel Computing who was educated in Physics at the Universities of Oxford and Pennsylvania and in Financial Services and Politics by Equitable Life. He is an active member of his local Labour Party. He joined EMAG at the very first meeting in a pub at Victoria in August 2000 and has been a member of the committee and then Board since.

## **Alex Henney**

Alex Henney studied engineering at the Universities of Bristol and Virginia (where he was a Fulbright Scholar) and economics at the London School of Economics. He had a varied career in McKinsey & Company; chief housing officer of the London Borough of Haringey; seconded to the civil service; advisor to P&O Developments and architects DEGW; board member of London Electricity; international adviser on electricity markets and regulation.

Currently has a Leverhulme Fellowship to write a history of the British electricity industry 1990-2010.

## **Chris Carnaghan**

Born 1943. MA from Cambridge University and M Sc from the London Business School. Started pensions saving with Equitable in 1982. Self-employed management consultant since 1987 involved variously in executive search, market research, marketing strategy and trade promotion.