

# Newsletter

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Enigma's websites: [homepage](#), [blog](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Flickr](#)

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Welcome to the inaugural issue of Enigma Solicitors' newsletter, the first of a planned monthly series.

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As the dust settles on what's been a very busy first four-months for our firm, we hope this newsletter will keep you up-to-date with the key events in our last 30 days.

**4** Enigma completes 12-mile training run over Dartmoor ahead of South Devon Half Marathon

We'll be aiming to bring you the best of our blog postings each month, together with a profile of one of our Clients, as well as upcoming events of Enigma and our Clients and associates.

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We hope you find the newsletter useful and please feel free to forward it to any colleagues you think it may interest.

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If you no longer wish to receive our newsletter, please [email us](#) with the word "unsubscribe" in the subject line.

**7** Contributions Welcome

## Enigma's Neil Mercer makes his 43rd platelet donation

Neil Mercer, one of the partners of [Enigma Solicitors](#), made his 43rd [platelet donation](#) on Thursday at the [Platelet Donation Centre](#) in Derriford Hospital, Plymouth.

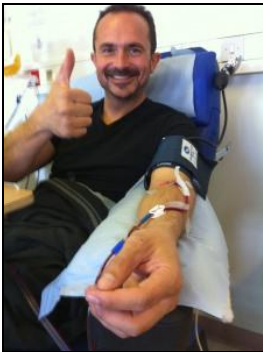
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*"Each year 15,000 units of platelets are used on neonatal units across the UK, according to Bliss"*

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Neil gave enough platelets for three units, which is enough for 18 platelet doses for a baby. [Bliss](#), a charity that provides vital support and care to premature and sick babies, estimates that [each year 15,000 units of platelets are used on neonatal units across the UK](#). Premature babies can have a low platelet count and a baby with a very low platelet count may be at risk of severe bleeding problems, so they can need many transfusions over the course of their recovery period.

Most platelet donations are given to patients who are unable to make enough platelets in their bone marrow, according to the [National Blood Service](#). Patients with leukaemia or other cancers, for example, may have too few platelets as the result of their disease or treatment. Also, after some major surgery or extensive injury, patients may need platelet transfusions to replace those lost through bleeding. Platelets given by donors are often life-saving and each unit can help up to 3 adults or 12 children.



*Neil Mercer during his 43<sup>rd</sup> platelet donation*

Most people can give blood. If you are generally in good health, aged 17 to 65 (if it's your first time) and weigh at least 7st 12lb you can donate. You can give blood every 16 weeks.

For more information on donating platelets or blood, please visit the [National Blood Service](#), the [Welsh Blood Service](#) or the [Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service](#).

## Enigma joins Plymouth Chamber of Commerce and Industry

[Enigma](#) has joined the [Plymouth Chamber of Commerce and Industry](#).

Plymouth Chamber of Commerce and Industry is the third oldest Chamber in the UK and for nearly 200 years it has played a fundamental role in Plymouth business life and provided a forum that its member companies can use to build and develop their businesses.

Rory Smith, one of Enigma's Partners, said: "Enigma is committed to Plymouth's business community. Many of our suppliers are local businesses. Most of our commercial clients run their own businesses. We are always happy to provide free initial advice to our commercial (and private) clients and consider that joining the Chamber will better position us to connect with business clients."

Plymouth Chamber of Commerce and Industry is a non-political, not-for-profit organisation whose aim is putting Plymouth business first. It aims to work in three major spheres of influence from which its members can benefit: in the macro economics and business community of Plymouth and surrounding regions; helping members build their business through networking and business events; and by being the source and conduit of crucial business information and intelligence.

Rory Smith added: "We also think the Chamber plays a vital role in supporting Plymouth and as a Plymothian I am proud to be associated with its cause. I am looking forward to Enigma playing an active part in the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce and Industry over many years to come."



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*"Plymouth Chamber of Commerce and Industry is the third oldest Chamber in the UK and for nearly 200 years it has played a fundamental role in Plymouth business life."*

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## Enigma completes 12-mile training run over Dartmoor ahead of South Devon Half Marathon

The Partners of [Enigma](#) yesterday completed a 12-mile training run over Dartmoor from Tavistock Town Square to Postbridge in clear weather conditions but temperatures close to freezing.

Enigma Partner Neil Mercer has entered the [South Devon Half Marathon](#) on 19 February 2011. The South Devon Half Marathon is renowned for its challenging course which features [beautiful landscapes but severe changes in terrain and topography](#).

Despite training for months, Neil has decided to increase the length and severity of his pack running training to meet the coming challenge. To experience a different type of challenge from his usual interval training, Enigma Partner Rory Smith joined Neil on the run today, which was mainly uphill.

Rory subsequently commented that [Plymouth Better Together](#) encourages its members to promote a healthy lifestyle, so he was pleased to lead by example.

Neil said: "It was very good of Rory to join me and good training for the South Devon Half."

Photographs of the run have been posted on Enigma's [Flickr](#) page.

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*"The South Devon Half Marathon is renowned for its challenging course which features beautiful landscapes but severe changes in terrain and topography."*

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*Rory Smith running across a clapper bridge at Postbridge, Dartmoor*

## Nightscapes of Enigma's offices

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*"Neil was able to capture the bustle of North Hill, the headlights and taillights of the traffic showing as streaks of colour"*

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[Enigma Solicitors'](#) Neil Mercer recently took some long exposure photographs from North Hill, producing striking nightscapes of the firm's offices with views towards the University of Plymouth and the city centre.

By leaving the shutter of his camera open for an extended period of time, Neil was able to capture the bustle of North Hill, the headlights and taillights of the traffic showing as streaks of colour.

The photographs were taken from the new apartments at the end of Headland Park Road and Neil was grateful to David Holmes—the managing director of [DNH Construction Ltd](#), the company who built the apartments—for granting access.



*Nightscape of Enigma's offices with views towards the University of Plymouth and the city centre*

Selected photographs are currently featured on Enigma's homepage as a quick looping animation that creates the effect of moving lights around their offices. To view the animation, produced by Jake Cattrall of [Mystalia Studios](#), please [click on the "g" in Enigma](#) and then click on the red-and-black dot in the street map.

Some of the photographs [have been collected](#) on Enigma's [Flickr](#) page.

## Fused glass panel triptych on display at Enigma's offices

[Enigma Solicitors'](#) conference room now features a fused glass panel triptych in the firm's signature colours.

The contemporary artwork was designed by Ian Nichols of [Art2Frame](#) at Plymouth's Annexe Gallery.

Neil Mercer, one of Enigma's Partners, said:

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*"When we needed art for our offices, we immediately thought of Art2Frame on the Barbican"*

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"Our offices are smart and modern. When we needed some art to complement the offices, we immediately thought of Art2Frame on the Barbican. Enigma is most grateful to Mr. Ian Nichols for his assistance in the provision of the panels, which reflect the firm's ethos and colours."

Several images of the triptych [have been collected](#) on Enigma's [Flickr](#) page.



*Close-up of fused glass triptych*

## **Profile of an Enigma Associate: Ace Packaging Ltd**



Ace Packaging Ltd. was formed in 1988 by its Managing Director Sue Loffstadt, who has had many years of experience in the packaging industry and was proud to have been a finalist in the Plymouth Women of Achievement awards in 2000.

They initially commenced with a purpose-built plant at Langage Industrial Estate in Plymouth, where they convert corrugated cardboard packaging. They subsequently acquired a second plant in Somerset where they convert twinwall polypropylene board, providing them with a total of 30,000 square feet of factory floor space between the two sites.

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*"Ace Packaging are proud to say that for the past 10 years they have retained over 75% of their valued employees."*

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The majority of their customers are based in the south-west of England and cover many industries, including engineering, food, pharmaceuticals and market gardening.

Since their formation they have continued to invest in new machinery and are now proud to possess the most up-to-date machines to enable them to undertake a variety of different work.

Ace Packaging are proud of their quality management systems which in 2000 enabled them to obtain our ISO 9001 : 2000 qualification. Their systems are constantly monitored to ensure that they maintain their high standards.

They currently employ over twenty staff at their Plymouth site and fifteen at their Somerset site. Ace Packaging are proud to say that for the past ten years they have retained over 75% of their valued employees, helping them to achieve continuing success in the market place.

## **Upcoming events for Enigma and its Clients and Associates**

3rd February: International curry evening at Princetown's The Plume of Feathers Inn – highly recommended!

19<sup>th</sup> February: [South Devon Half Marathon](#)

## **Contributions Welcome**

If you have any news you would like to share with us and our readers, [please submit it to us](#).



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