

AIM AMPUTATION
INSPIRATION
MOTIVATION

Welcome to
AIM's bi-monthly
newsletter
Directors pictured left to right
Andy Reid,
Jackie Palmer &
Stephen Cruse



Newsletter

8th EDITION • DECEMBER 2015

Proudly sponsored by

burdward.

Merry Christmas
from AIM



Advertising

AIM would like to offer advertising space to corporate businesses that provide specific services for amputees, rates will vary depending on the size, nature of business and the frequency of using the advertising space, please contact marketing@weareaim.org for more information.

The Newsletter

If you would like to receive your own copy every other month then please contact our office with your name and address or email address and you will be placed on our mailing list. Phone: **01744 808 100** or email: info@weareaim.org

Past newsletters and all future editions can be found on our website www.weareaim.org. This newsletter is created for your benefit, your comments and ideas will always be welcomed.

Coffee Mornings: *Free Coffee, Cakes and Information!!*

Sponsored by Kevin Edwards Costs until May 2016

There will be no coffee morning in December, see below for drinks and mince pies.



Friday 29th January 10.30am

Yes You Can! Event.

Friday 26th February 10:30am

Still to be arranged.

Great chance to come and meet some new friends, inspire others and be inspired. Everyone is welcome to attend for a coffee and a chat.

If you are a business that has services to offer amputees please email info@weareaim.org if you would like to make a presentation at one of our coffee mornings. All our coffee mornings will now be held in the Pavilion Bar at Ruskin Leisure from 10:30 until 13:00

Christmas Drink and Mince Pies:

As there is no coffee morning in December, we would like to invite you all for a Christmas drink(s) and Mince Pie(s) on Thursday December 17th from 12-4pm, just to have some fun in the office and get in the Christmas spirit.

Beers, Wine, Tea, Coffee, Mince Pies and Soft Drinks to be supplied by AIM.



Next Event: Saturday 12th December 2015 14:00

Still a few places available!



Cinderella.

This year we will be taking our members to the Theatre Royal in St Helens for the Cinderella Panto.

Places are limited to this event, so if you would like to come and have lots of fun and get in the Christmas spirit please do get in touch with the AIM office and put your name on the list.

There is some wheelchair places available so if you require a wheelchair space please do let us know immediately to avoid disappointment.

This event is completely free to all of our members.

Chocolate Orange Appeal:

The Chocolate Orange story started when Chris Lamb's son Elliott was poorly in hospital. Chris bought one to say thank you to a physiotherapist who had done an amazing job on his son Elliott's chest and managed to get his Oxygen Sat to 100% which was like a miracle.

Unfortunately Elliot passed away on 15/12/2010, however the chocolate orange idea lives on in memory of Chris' son Elliot (Max and Naimh's big brother). 7907 chocolate oranges were distributed to Nurses, Doctors, Physio's, Teachers and classroom assistants last year This year at AIM we are helping again, we will collect as many as we can and pass them onto Chris as he then delivers these personally to the hospitals, hospices, etc.

There is still time to get your last few oranges to AIM for Chris to distribute so please do help us out and pass them in to our office by December 17th.

Thank you for support. Let's make this year another great year for the chocolate orange challenge.



Superhero Calendar 2016:

As some of you may be aware, we are creating a superhero calendar for 2016 with amputees in superhero costumes.

These will be available to buy from our office mid December 2015, the cost of these will be £7 for the first one and £5 for each consecutive calendar purchased.

You will be able to contact our office via phone or email to place your order and you will be able to pay via our website or pay cash at our office, There will be a £1 charge per calendar for postage, or you can collect for free.

Here are two of our youngest superhero's.



Coronation Street Tour: by Kerry Cowan

On Wednesday 7th October a group of amputees and their carers had a great day in Manchester on the tour of Coronation Street organised by AIM. This was somewhere I had always wanted to go, so when I read in the newsletter about the trip my name was down straight away. We all met at Aim's office where a coach was waiting to whisk us off. The coach driver was so helpful and patient, helping us all on and putting wheelchairs safely away. The coach was fully accessible for wheelchair users who were unable to transfer from wheelchairs.



Once we settled on the coach we were off. The traffic was terrible however but Jackie kept us entertained on the journey. We had a Coronation Street quiz to get us all in the mood for the day, which Sarah and her mum won. We also had guess the celebrity masks, we had fun and laughter all the way.

Once we arrived at the tour all the staff were helpful and friendly, the actual tour and the street was wheelchair friendly and accessible for all to see and enjoy. Everybody got on really well and it was a joy to meet so many amputees and so many new friends.

My favorite part of the day was the visit to the Rovers Return. We could go behind the bar and get our photo taken pulling a pint and we had a chance to buy the photo from the shop. I am really enjoying being part of AIM and get involved as much as possible with the events they hold.

I am a regular at the monthly coffee morning on the last Friday of every month and as I struggle with transport the guys at AIM offer to pick me up from home and drop me off again. Coffee mornings are a chance for me to talk to other amputees, hear their stories and also to pick up tips. This has really helped me



out and I hope I have passed on some useful tips to fellow amputees too. There are mixed ages at these mornings and often go longer than supposed to as we are all chatting away.

Without the fantastic work they do at AIM, I wouldn't have met all these new friends, as I just wouldn't have had the chance. I am looking forward to the Christmas party in Larkin's Restaurant on Saturday 28th November and also the Christmas Pantomime to see Cinderella on 12th December.

I would like to say from all of us a BIG THANK YOU for putting on these events, which we thoroughly enjoy.



These trips are put on for you the amputee, and your carer. Please let us know any trips that you would like to go on and we will do our best to accommodate all of your ideas over the next 12 months.

Christmas Party:



This year we decided to hold our Christmas party at Larkins' restaurant St Helens following the success of last years event, and we were not disappointed once again, the venue was immaculate, the food was excellent and the entertainment provided by comedian Bill Woolland was absolutely fantastic.

With over 90 people attending for this event, all funded by AIM, the atmosphere was fantastic, and everybody was getting into the Christmas spirit.

We had a "Secret Santa" on the night that went down really well, plenty of fun presents being shared around the room. We also had a raffle on the night, which raised an amazing £280 for AIM funds.

Finally we had a young man Matthew Johnston performing magic tricks to our guests at the tables which also raised over £80.

AIM would like to thank everybody that donated raffle prizes for this event and would also like to thank Renaissance for their continued support at all of our functions.

As we do each year, we give out four awards for the following categories:

- The Harrison Ledsham Inspirational Child award of 2015
- The Inspirational Adult award of 2015
- The Inspirational Carer award of 2015
- The AIM Ambassador award for 2016



The first award "The Harrison Ledsham Inspirational Child award of 2015" was presented by Karen and Paul Ledsham, the parents of last years winner Harrison, who sadly passed away on May 14th 2015 following his battle with Cancer.

The proud winner of this year's award is Sofia Crockatt.

Sofia is a massive inspiration to many other amputee's, she developed meningitis at a young age and has grown up wearing a prosthetic limb, also her other leg was effected by the deadly disease and she also wears an orthotic splint. Sofia has learnt how to run at a competitive level and has been training in various places over the past 12 months including America and Doha. Sofia has dedicated her life to raising money for Meningitis Research Foundation and has raised tens of thousands of pounds to help MRF develop treatments and cures for this deadly disease. Sofia has now decided to share all her fundraising with MRF and AIM.

The Second award "The Inspirational Adult award of 2015" was presented by last years award winner Paul Chisholm who won this award for his strong determination to rapidly pick up his life and move forward following the amputation of his right leg above knee.

The proud winner of this year's award is Sharon Stone.

Sharon injured both legs in a motor vehicle accident many year's ago, and struggled for year's in pain, following many trips to surgery to improve the mobility of her effected limbs, she decided to take the plunge into amputation, this has been a massive life changing amputation for Sharon as she was able to get back to doing the things she really loved doing, including body building. Since the amputation Sharon has performed in body building shows and has inspired many other ladies with disabilities that anything is possible.

Sharon is now a regular at AIM events and inspires so many of our amputee's, she is also competing at a body building competition in 2016 and raising funds for AIM.



The third award "The Inspirational Carer award of 2015" was not presented on the night due to the winner sadly not being able to attend the evening. That didn't stop AIM from telling the room full of people about the amazing lengths this person has gone to in the past twelve months caring for his wife, who is a single above knee amputee that has had many other health conditions.

The proud winner of this year's award is Alan Bibby.

Alan is also a single above knee amputee, that runs his own business in Churchtown Southport, Alan and Sue met as amputees and became really close friends following having so much in common, this relationship then blossomed and the soul mates married in 2013, since then Alan's wife Sue has had personal difficulties following complications resulting from an operation, this leaving her needing one on one care at many times, Alan is a man that has taken his marriage vows extremely seriously and has been by Sue's side throughout her times of hardship, not only through her own health problems but also there for Sue when her mum passes away earlier this year.



The fourth award, last but certainly not least "The AIM Ambassador award for 2016" was presented by last years winner Liam Burbridge. Liam done an amazing job in throughout 2015, he was on the phone straight away in January asking how he can help, he then helped run a course at Preston SMRC, brought new amputee's to AIM, helped other amputee's come to terms with the loss of their limb(s) and much, much more, in fact he done more than what was required, he has actually shown all the amputees around him that it is possible to do whatever you want to do, Liam has a lovely girlfriend and three beautiful children, living on benefits was a struggle and Liam decided to take the plunge and head back to work now that he is mobile and safe on his prosthetic leg. We are very proud of Liam at AIM and wish him and his family all the best for their future and wish Liam well in his new career.

The proud winner of this award is Lyndon Longhorne.

Lyndon lost multiple limbs at 8 months old when he contracted meningitis, until 16 years of age Lyndon had never used prosthetic limbs to aid him in his daily life, following meeting with Andy Reid he soon stepped up to the mark and trialed prosthetics for the first time, just before his 18th birthday he was up walking unaided for the first time, he then went on to pass his driving test, he's swimming and hopefully be part of team GB in Rio in 2016, he has also completed a personal trainer course that was part funded by AIM and has now set up his own business "unparalleled fitness" which will be releasing branded sports clothing. AIM will be supporting Lyndon in all his future events and I'm sure Lyndon will be doing the same for AIM.

AIM would like to thank everybody for coming to the AIM Christmas party and would also like to thank Larkins' Restaurant for the amazing efforts in making this night special for us all.

We would also like to thank BurdWard solicitors for their continued support and sponsorship over the past 18 months.

AIM has gone from strength to strength since it opened its doors in August 2013 and with the help of you as amputee's, your families and carers, partnerships with companies that can offer our amputee's the best services possible, we will be able to grow further and further afield, helping more amputee's throughout the UK and hopefully creating employment for the people that will be well enough to go back in to employment.

If you have any inspirational stories yourself, or of an amputee you are connected with, AIM would be delighted to share these stories within future editions of this newsletter.

Pride of St Helens Awards 2015

Nominated this year is AIM's very own Managing Director- Stephen Cruse for "Mentor of the year 2015"

The Pride of St Helens Awards were held at Langtree Park (home to the mighty Saints) in St Helens on Friday November 11th 2015. Stephen found out just 2 weeks prior to the event that he had been nominated and also that he had been shortlisted to the final three, this was AMAZING!!!!

AIM have supported the Pride of St Helens Awards for the previous two years sponsoring specific awards, and last year AIM actually sponsored the "Mentor of the year 2014" award, and quite rightfully presented the award to the winner Samantha Thompson.



Stephen was nominated this year for the first time for this award, for all the work he does for AIM, mentoring amputees throughout the country and also mentoring students throughout the country, sharing his story of overcoming adversity following the amputation of both legs below the knee in a horrific road traffic accident in 2008 whilst working and travelling around Australia.

The Night!

On the night we arrived for 19:00 for a drinks reception before being seated for 19:30 for dinner being served, the atmosphere was electric with excitement and a huge sense of pride in the room, there were so many people with amazing stories of fantastic work and achievements throughout the borough of St Helens, and not forgetting what the night is all in aid of, the legend of Steve Prescott via the Steve Prescott Foundation, who sadly passed away 2 years ago after defying doctors and battling terminal cancer for 7 years.



After being served an amazing 4 course meal and half a bottle of wine to wash it down with, the awards commenced, listening to some of the work all nominees that had been shortlisted, had been doing in and around the St Helens area over the past 12 months. It was so very hard for there to be one winner for each award as all nominees that made it to the final three were all much deserved winners, and the team behind the scenes on the voting panel must have really found it tough to come up with just one winner in each award category.

And the winners of the Pride of St Helens Awards 2015 are

Solarking Pride of St Helens: - **Paul Wellens**

Runners up: Mike Parr, St Helens Young Carers.

OD's Community Hero - **Terry Maguire**

Runners up: David Pope, Darren Rigby.

Saints Sportsperson of the Year: **Rachael Letsche**

Runners up: Tony Griffiths, Martin Murray.

St Helens Council Young Sportsperson: **Olivia Hussey**

Runners up: Lauren Bate Lowe, Ben Walkden.

McDonalds Mentor of the Year - **Stephen Cruse**

Runners up: Anne Brian, Jenny Leyland.

St Helens Chamber Excellence in Business Award: **ST Group**

Runners up: Paul Griffiths, Steve Counce.

FW Marsh Young Community Star: **Keiran Lynch Thomas**

Runners up: Paisley Kerswell, Callum Webster and Toby Booth

Hattons Solicitors Courage Award: **Andy Potter**

Runners up: Liam Waterworth, Neil Tucker

Imperial Arts Award: **Michael Parr**

Runners up: Stuart Pyke, Watch this Space

Carmel College Education Award: **Holy Cross Primary School**

Runners up: Nicola Thompson, Laura Foster

NGF Champion Fundraiser: **The Nicholas Family**

Runners up: Joan Crank, Kelly Wellens

Haydock Park Racecourse Child of Courage:

Freddie Barker, Isaac Haggerty, Kenzie Appleton,

All three shared the winner award

What Stephen had to say:

Following a horrific motor vehicle accident whilst working and travelling around Australia in 2008, I was in hospital and the pain control medication was starting to be reduced, this is when I started to feel really sorry for myself and my mood dropped and depression started to get the better of me. Before I knew it, there was a guy of similar age to me with very similar amputations, sitting at the side of my bed along with his daughter and we chatted for about 1&1/2 hours about life as an amputee and how he copes. This was a breath of fresh air to me, my mood immediately picked up and I decided that I wasn't going to let these injuries get the better of me. On my return to the UK I took control of my own rehabilitation and pushed myself to be as best as I possibly could with the amputations that I was left with.

Now up and walking and in control, I decided to do more for people who had lost limb(s). Firstly getting involved with a small amputee user group in Liverpool and helping them grow and become charity registered. Then meeting Afghanistan war hero Andy Reid, even more inspired by Andy's endless challenges and level of motivation, we became friends and learning more about each others skills and abilities, we decided to set up AIM, along with Jackie Palmer, the Administrative Director of AIM. The three of us try our best to give other amputees the vision, inspiration and motivation that we have gained ourselves.

This award really was a huge shock. From being told I had been nominated and also shortlisted to the final three, this to me was more than enough recognition than I had ever thought I would receive for the work I do, then on the night hearing my name called out as winner was unbelievably emotional. I have a huge list of people to thank for this award, especially my close family and friends that have been there for me since that day 3rd February 2008 when my life changed forever. But most importantly I want to thank Andy Reid for mentoring me, teaching me how to present my story, how to set goals and achieve, and how to be legless in two different ways at the same time. I would also like to thank Jackie Palmer for being the person that makes AIM possible, doing all the work that myself and Andy really don't have the skills to do, informing me daily of my tasks and always on the end of the phone for our members, she even helps certain members with getting to hospital appointments when they have no other option. Finally I would like to thank my wife Alison, for her support and understanding, letting me spend so much time away from the family helping others and still not bringing home a wage packet while she is out working hard to provide for our family.

Thank you all for everything from a still very shocked and emotional Stephen Cruse.

Kelley's Story:

My name is Kelley Schruyers, I am 36 yrs old; my story starts when I was 10 years old.

It was 4am on the 27th December 1989 when the living room of my house caught fire. It could've been either the Christmas tree lights or the gas fire, the damage was very severe. I went to bed that night with a mum, dad, 3 sisters and 1 brother. Obviously the fire knocked me unconscious and doctors put me into an induced coma for a few weeks until I was stable enough to be woken. Still groggy and out of it I never knew what had happened to me.

I don't remember being told everything as my memories are poor, I suppose it's my brain's way of processing things! I do remember that no one had mentioned my parents and I never saw them, so I guess I just knew! I realized my little brother was on the same ward as me, I could hear him so I knew he was alright. I couldn't talk, I wanted to shout for him but I couldn't. The smoke had damaged my lungs and throat. I needed speech therapy for months, learning to talk again is something I cannot explain. A few weeks after the fire my big sister came in to see me and she told me what I needed to know; my mum, dad, twin sister and older sister had died as their injuries were just too severe.

I had 60% burns and developed gangrene in my left leg and I was told it needed to be amputated to save my life. To be honest I wasn't bothered about it as I had already been through so many horrible things in the last few months. When I came to, I had the smallest stump they could possibly do, 5cm.

Within a few weeks my bandages had been reduced - I went from looking like the "marshmallow man" to looking like an "Egyptian mummy"! It did make it a lot easier to move.

I was allowed Physiotherapy and had my first fitting for my artificial leg, such a scary situation - I had never heard about false limbs, I was only 10.

I was standing upright the following week, everyday for months I was walking using the bars, then with a walking frame, and finally elbow crutches.

The doctors had always said I would never walk, talk or do anything for myself, and the look on the doctors faces when they saw me walk down the ward on crutches, I got a standing ovation and tears flowed everywhere, I felt so proud.

I have got such a strong will power to prove people especially doctors wrong!

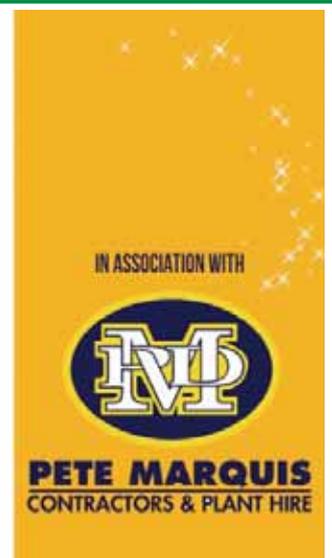
I now walk unaided, have arthritis in my stump, have 2 beautiful children (doctors said I couldn't carry any), a wonderful fiancé, and I am a holistic massage therapist and reflexologist.

I have the strength now to be anything I want to be.



Even though I had been through so much and achieved what I wanted, I never knew anybody who had gone through anything life changing..... I then found a wonderful group of amputees..... I found out the group AIM, it holds coffee mornings once a month and I could just come along to find out who they were. I went along with my partner and son, we were made to feel so welcome, I have found somewhere I belong! I have been asked to attend the AIM Christmas party and also to go to a Cinderella pantomime with both my children..... I am excited to do other projects/days out with this group of great people, and friends for life!

NORTH WEST PRIDE AWARDS 2015



North West Pride Award Winner: Sofia Crockatt



AIM have proudly been invited to the North West Pride Awards on Nov 21st 2015 to see the wonderful Sofia Crockatt receive her award for “Most Outstanding Individual Award” for her outstanding amount of fundraising she has done in the past 12 months for “The Meningitis Research Foundation”, in total for the past 12 months Sofia has managed to raise tens of thousands of pounds, for a young girl of only 11 years of age, living life with only one leg, Sofia has shown the world how “the body will achieve what the mind believes”. (a famous quote from the legend Steve Prescott)

Sofia and her family fully support AIM and what we do, but Sofia’s heart has been fully dedicated to “The Meningitis Research Foundation” which has supported her and her family since she faced amputation following meningitis at such a young age, many years ago.

Sofia has raised this money through various means including running on her blade at several BIG events including “The Great North Run” where she even beat her own personal best.

The Night!

Stephen Cruse along with his wife Alison, met with Sofia and her parents Nick and Karen at the venue along with Sofia’s closest family members and friends, all of whom were bursting with excitement. We all sat down for a lovely meal and then the awards followed.

All the award winners had already been informed of their award but this presentation evening really did make it real for all of the worthy winners.



Holding back the tears all night long as we heard some very moving stories of the award winners throughout the evening, this really was an emotional night, each and every person there receiving awards truly deserved the recognition for the efforts in the work that they do, and we are extra proud of Sofia for receiving her award for the lengths she has gone to raising tens of thousand’s of pounds for the meningitis research foundation.





United Amputees Prosthetics Briefing Latest

Hello AIM Supporters,

Steve and Andy have requested we update you as to the state of play with Prosthetic commissioning in England, we shall attempt to do so without being too technical and too legalistic, hopefully?

On July 2nd 2015 NHS England announced it would no not routinely fund or Commission three separate policies on new types of prosthetic limbs, these being:

- Microprocessor Controlled Prosthetic Componentry
- Multi-Grip Upper Arm Prosthesis
- Silicone Cosmetic Prosthesis

Here is a link to the NHS England, Clinical Commissioning Policy Document:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/commissioning/wp-content/uploads/sites/12/2015/07/d01pb-micro-cntrld-prosthetic-knees.pdf>

And an extract reads:

“Microprocessor controlled prosthetic knees have been considered by NHS England who concluded that there was not sufficient evidence to support the routine commissioning of this treatment. Where an individual’s clinician believes that there may be exceptional clinical circumstances that might warrant consideration of funding outside of this policy, an application can be made under NHS England’s Individual Funding Request (IFR) procedure. This includes cases that may be considered clinically critically urgent”.

This effectively means that no NHS England prosthetic Service Patient will be prescribed any of these prosthesis even if funding has been provided prior to April 2013 when Prosthetics became a part of the Specialised Commissioning Board cohort of conditions.

Individual Requests will no longer be applied to prosthesis as with the development of the above policy means IFR’s would be screened out as “Service Developments” as per the “Interim IFR Policy Document 2013:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/cp-03.pdf>

And so where does that leave many, may hundreds of Amputees who would benefit from this technology which is after all over 20 years old now?

It leaves us out on a limb with NHS England stating they will review the evidence again, however it’s been 3 months now will little communication from the clinical director or the Clinical Reference Group.

I write this just a few short hours before leaving for Westminster Palace and the All Party Parliamentary Disability Grouping where we shall once again be Lobbying our MP’s for some further information and for pressure to be brought to NHS England surrounding the urgency faced by our amputee peer community and individuals who could be facing isolation from society, education, work, education and family due to this terrible decision.

These policy decisions also leave us being discriminated against by NHS England under the Equality Act 2010, The Human Rights Act 1998 and the NHS Constitution itself.

Legal duties require NHS England and each clinical commissioning group to have regard to the need to reduce inequalities in access to health services and the outcomes achieved for patients.

Therefore as these Hi-Technological Prosthesis are available to Former Armed Forces Service Personnel who for the first time are now being funded directly from the NHS England Budget, with no extra funding from any other source, we as a community grouping with long term conditions are being discriminated against and so in an attempt to challenge NHSE with a Judicial Review of these Policy developments we have instructed a Public Law Company to review the issues.

Please allow me to say we fully support all the services accessible to our former Armed Forces Personnel and will continue to do so in the name of equality for all citizens of the UK.

Finally please allow us, the team at United Amputees to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year, when I hope I will be invited to update you all on perhaps another topic close to all our Amputee hearts.

Gordon McFadden
United Amputees Chairman.



At AIM we would like to thank Gordon at United Amputees for this very informative article and hope to here more from United Amputees in future editions of our newsletter, bringing two completely different amputee organisations together to provide more services for the amputee community.

Fundraising Ball: in aid of AIM Saturday 13th February 2016

This is being put on by an outsider who would like to raise money for AIM to continue the work that we do.

Percival Suite, Ruskin Leisure, Ruskin Drive WA10 6RP

Dinner and Dance featuring “STREETLEVEL”

Doors open at 18:30 and Dinner served at 19:30

Formal Dress

Disco till late

Tickets £34 Limited Availability so please be quick.

Contact Ste Flaherty on 01744 611879

THANK YOU:

This month we would like to thank:

- Alisha Butler
- Burd Ward Solicitors
- Kevin Edwards Costs
- Irwin Mitchel
- Print Solutions
- Larkins'
- Kelly Schruyers
- United Amputees
- Richard Zacharzewski
- Hattons Travel
- Mandy Miller (Classy Cuts)
- Jacquie Yates
- Matthew Johnston
- Sue and Alan Bibby
- Paul Chisholm
- Gary Abdullah
- Paul Bolan
- Sarah Welsby
- Sharon Stone
- Barbara Duval
- Mandy Mcspirit-Dazely
- Stephen Cruse
- Romeo Hadley
- Max Lamb
- Kerry Cowan
- Print Solutions



Alisha predominately specialises in Serious and Catastrophic Claims, including Spinal Injuries, Brain Injuries and Amputation claims, often with awards being in excess of £1 million.

Alisha also has experience in:

- Medical Negligence
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Burd Ward Solicitors are also official sponsors of AIM and are offering the following services to our clients with **10% off Fees** – just quote “**ABW10**” – see enclosed flyer.

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Volkswagen Emissions – Are you affected?

£6.5 Million set aside by motor industry to cover cost of fines, recalls, compensation claims and legal costs.
1.5 million cars in the UK affected! Claim NOW!

Nik Ellis MD of Laird Assessors has said “A vehicle bought for its green credentials is suddenly not the environmentally responsible car we once thought. There are also tax implications; lower emission vehicle, meaning many VW’s could see significant hike in their tax band...should the emissions scandal spread to the UK’s Volkswagen...then we are likely to see a diminution of the value of the affected models” and this would be at the very least.

It has been reported in the press that “...drivers are paying an average of £350 more a year than they would if the car had the declared fuel efficiency. The advertised number of miles to the gallon is not a true reflection nor is their actual performance on the road.

Worried British car buyers are cancelling orders – while industry experts say consumers can now ‘name their price’ for VW cars.

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