

Change

I have recently moved office at Ault Insurance Brokers from a south west facing office on the 2nd floor where I have been for the last 13 years, to a north east facing office on the 1st floor and from my new position I can almost see the Victorian house where Ault Insurance Brokers started back around 1900. The business moved into its current office in the early / mid 1980's due to growth and lack of room.

We all know that change is of course inevitable, but so often these days change is not for the better. Insurance is no exception. I have been at Aults for 21 years and much has changed in insurance since I started in 1989. But one thing that hasn't changed is our desire to give our clients a first class service with the personal touch that is so often lacking elsewhere in other insurance providers. We pride ourselves on being a caring broker who will always strive to do the best for our clients, so that you will get exactly the cover you need at a competitive price.

Change will continue but we hope that we will continue to be your broker providing an answer to your insurance needs in this ever changing commercial world.

Ian P Collett, Finance Director and Newsletter Editor

Environmental Legislation - (What again ?)

Environmental legislation is something that we have covered before in articles in our Newsletter so why are we raising it again now ?

Is it that important ? Does it apply to me ?

It is an even bet that most of us would like to ignore the barrage of new legislation that affects businesses but if the cost of doing that is to jeopardise the very existence of our business then maybe - just maybe - we should think again.

New legislation brings new threats and can we be sure that our business will not be caught out ? We have insurance so we should be OK surely ?

The fact of the matter is that most businesses could be at risk from the new laws, with the threat of the new associated penalties and large pollution claims - and that pollution may not just come from the obvious candidates. Previous and current insurance policies will probably not cover all that is needed to make sure that your business can withstand the impact of such claims. You need to speak to us so we can advise you on what can be done to ensure your business' survival and to protect your profits.

Contact your account executive and find out more so you can understand the risks better.

Private Medical Insurance

In a previous newsletter we mentioned briefly that we can provide private medical insurance and thought that we would follow that up in this edition with a little more information.



In Britain we are fortunate to have the National Health Service which is of course funded out of the taxes we all pay and is available to everyone. The NHS provides free medical service when and where it is needed which includes the services of a GP, surgery, ongoing medical treatment when necessary and more. However we all know that these days there can be and often are long waiting times within the NHS and that there has also been a loss of expertise to the private sector. Many people see private health insurance now as a necessary addition. Many companies offer health insurance as a 'perk' to employees, and a perk that can also be beneficial to the company in aiding the employee to have the minimum amount of time off work at times of illness. We have access to the insurers who offer medical insurance cover. Whether you are a company which wants the cover for several or all employees, or an individual who wants cover just for you and / or your family we can provide the right cover.

If you are interested in finding out more information without any obligation get in touch with your usual contact and we will be happy to advise you.

Staff News

Since our last newsletter in the Spring there have been some changes which we thought you might wish to know about.

Vince Parker has taken over responsibility for our Small Business Unit. He was previously Manager of our Personal Lines section.

Sam Remington-Jones has returned from maternity leave to work two days a week also on the Small Business Unit.

Teresa Callaghan, who was part of our Personal Lines team has retired and we wish her all the very best for the future.

Congratulations to Donna King, one of our Claims Negotiators who has recently passed her Cert CII examination.

Increase in Insurance Premium Tax

Just in case you didn't hear about it or it just didn't register, the Chancellor announced an increase in Insurance Premium Tax (IPT) in the Emergency Budget on 22nd June 2010.

As from 4th January 2011 IPT will rise from 5% to 6% while the higher rate of 17.5% charged on some insurances such as travel insurance will increase to 20%.

Health and Safety Matters !

We like to think that at Ault Insurance Brokers we are caring and responsible employers and to that end we have recently engaged with a firm of Health and Safety Consultants who have carried out an inspection and Risk Assessments.

Much of what is needed is already in place, but it is surprising how much can be further improved and what can easily be missed as legislation changes. We now have a list of recommendations which we are looking to implement over the forthcoming weeks to bring us fully up to the standard.



Apart from the fact that we want our employees to be safe and to work in a comfortable environment which is as risk free as possible we also recognise that the penalties for not adhering to Health and Safety regulations can be very substantial these days.

If you feel that your company needs to carry out a similar Health and Safety check to the one we have just done we can highly recommend our Health and Safety Consultants who are extremely professional, practical and approachable as well as being cost effective!

Just get in touch with your usual contact here at Aults and we will provide you with the company's details.

Important notice for our motor policy holders



The Ministry of Justice is streamlining claims for personal injuries arising from road traffic accidents. The reforms came into force on 20th April 2010 and aim to make personal injury claims quicker and therefore cheaper to administer which, in the long term, will benefit you. Insurers now have a 15 day time limit to comment on liability and to benefit from the reform.

Therefore it is very important that we are notified of any motor incident as early as possible, including the circumstances involved and details of the third party so that we can work together with your insurance company to keep your claims costs down.

So if you, or one of your Company vehicles is involved in an accident - please report it as soon as possible. Our experienced claims team is here to help you.

Puzzle



Corner

A maths puzzle for you

I am thinking of a number which :-

- When it is divided by 3 the remainder is 1
- When it is divided by 4 the remainder is 2
- When it is divided by 5 the remainder is 3
- When it is divided by 6 the remainder is 4

What number am I thinking of ?

Answers as usual only via our web site www.ault.co.uk and we will send the winner some vouchers. Entries to be received by 30th November 2010.