

NotaryNEWS

The Seasonal Newsletter of the Notary.Co.Uk Team

Autumn/Winter 2010

Country Focus: Argentina

Notary Co UK's trainee notary Guy Mathers has recently returned from a visit to Argentina, where he had the chance to work alongside Dr. Marcelo Román Rosas, notary public (escribano) for the town of Puerto Deseado.

If you've dealt with us before here at Notary Co UK, you might know that many UK documents need to be legalised with an apostille in order to be valid abroad. But a document in Argentina also needs to be legalised by the notary authority (Colegio de Escribanos) in order to be valid in a neighbouring

town! You can imagine the paperwork. Proper document verification is a serious business in Argentina.

Going to live in Argentina?

If you are planning to live in Argentina for an extended period of time, it is important to register with the Embassy of your country when you arrive in Argentina. The Embassy can help when you need to find out how to register a marriage, a birth or a death, what happens when you retire, or simply how to apply for a passport or legalise a document.

More info at:

www.notary.co.uk/NotaryNewsArgentina.html



Left: Guy Mathers, Trainee Notary.

The *escribano* in Argentina is a well-respected public figure. Just like over here, there's often only one notary in every small town, and a few more in big cities – but they have a much higher profile. Everyone knows their local notary, and everyone needs him, too – the notary has to witness every sale of property, whether in Argentina or abroad.

Do you or your company need to operate an off-shore company?

Do you need a British Virgin Islands* ("BVI") International Business Company? This is typically used by clients wishing to operate internationally from a secure, tax exempt and confidential location.

The key features of a BVI Offshore Company are:

- **Privacy** - The names of director(s) and shareholders do not appear on any public document;
- **Tax exemption** - BVI Offshore companies are exempt from all local taxes;
- The company needs only one

director and one shareholder;

- There is no requirement for resident directors or shareholders;
- There is no minimum capital requirement;
- The company does not need to keep accounts;
- The names of directors and shareholders are not held on public record;
- There is no requirement for directors or shareholders to attend meetings in the BV.

We can incorporate a company in the British Virgin Islands within a week. ■

* The British Virgin Islands (BVI), is a British overseas territory located in the Caribbean.

About Notary Co UK

We provide a fast, efficient, flexible and friendly notarisation and legalisation service. We are usually available at short notice, however we do recommend that you phone **020 7630 1777** in advance to save your time.

Company Accounts Welcome

We are experts in dealing with the more complex legalisation processes; for example documents for China, UAE and India.

We are easy to find; our centrally located, pleasant and sunny offices overlook Grosvenor Gardens. We are just two minutes from both overground and underground Victoria Stations. Come to us by rail, bus, car, taxi or bicycle see below. ■

Company visits possible; please enquire.

Off Duty Notary

The long and warm summer evenings were ideal for wandering around London.



The team enjoyed the Legal Walk – an annual event that raises funds for access to justice – joined a formal walk organised by London Walks www.walks.com and an after work meal in Chinatown. More at: http://notary.co.uk/off_duty_notary.html
See overleaf for Daylight Robbery and more...

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Daylight Robbery

The thing about fraud is that often you want it to be true. Who wouldn't like to have been selected for a multi-million pound payout or to find that you are "suddenly entitled to a tax rebate – just enter your personal details here...."

Sometimes fraud is more subtle; for example in connection with time shares. At Notary Co UK we are frequently instructed to notarise documents in connection with buying and selling time-shares. However sometimes time-share owners are sought out by firms claiming to have buyers lined up – all they need is £900 or some other reasonable sounding sum of money and they will have it sold in a jiffy. Check with Notary CO UK before parting with any money. We can check to make sure you are not throwing good money after bad. ■

Here's a Novel Idea

Amongst the many interesting people we meet, we meet a lot of authors. Why do they need a notary?

The thing is, when you write a novel, and get it published, the first thing that all the film moguls in Hollywood will do is to beat a path to your door to buy the film rights. The agreement has to be notarised. You should not immediately assume that your book is now going to be made into a blockbuster or television series – it is simply that the film industry bosses buy up many books in order to ensure that the opposition don't get them.

Writing can be lucrative business you could receive up to \$250,000 as a down payment and hundreds of thousands of dollars if they decide to make a film out of your book. Perhaps it's time to think again if you have a good book in you? A number of authors who have come to see us to notarise licence agreements think so. ■

On Yer Bike!

We love the new London cycle hire scheme; there is a docking station just around the corner from Notary Co UK's office; ideal if you work nearby and need to see the notary or drop off papers!



At the time of writing you must have signed up as a member to get hold of a bike. Members get the first half hour free. Notary Basil has joined the scheme as a member and will soon be requesting extra keys for of the rest of the team – *they can't wait!*

See our web page: www.notary.co.uk/bike.html for more info and useful links in connection with the cycle hire scheme. ■

All in a Day's work

In recent years, concern about parental abductions -- where one divorced parent steals the child away from the other one-- has prompted border officials to be more vigilant when they encounter a child travelling with just one birth parent.

If you're travelling as a solo parent with your child – or if the child is travelling with a grandparent or guardian-- at a minimum, the travelling adult should carry a letter of authorisation from the absent parent, giving permission for the travel. It's quite likely that, for most countries, you won't be asked to show any travel consent letter -- but better safe than sorry, right? If you are likely to be in this situation, call Notary Co UK for advice. ■

There's More...

NEW... NEW...NEW... Additional resources for notarial clients. **Translation Service:** if you have a foreign language document to be notarised and legalised, we can help. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office will not apply an Apostille stamp to documents that are not in English or do not have a notarial cover sheet attached. Nor do they legalise any certificates not in English from a foreign college or University. Contact us for a fast, first class, security cleared international language translation service - or send us a file for language translation; we will give you a written fixed price quotation without obligation. Full details on-line at: <http://notary.co.uk/translation.html>

Currency Zone

Notary Co UK have teamed up with Moneycorp to provide up-to-date currency exchange rates on-line at <http://notary.co.uk/money.html> View this page for top tips to protect your spending power overseas, how to automate your regular overseas payments and to find out more about the benefits of using a foreign exchange broker. Or contact us to be put in direct contact with Notary Co UK's personal money-matters advisor.

NotaryNEWS Magazine Pages Now On-line

More details... on-line at: www.notary.co.uk/notarypublicnews.html

Just posted: Country Focus Bulgaria: Changes to Bulgarian legislation. How this has affected real estate investors * The role of the notary in (usually buying!) real estate transactions * The value of real estate * The role of the Notary in the UK * Property owners' obligations. * Conclusion; the property boom in Bulgaria is, at best, on hold, for many, it is over. Our advice can be found at: www.notary.co.uk/NotaryNewsBulgaria.html

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