

# The IFT Newsletter

## Your Monthly Update from the IFT

### QUICK LINKS

#### CORPORATE PARTNER NEWS

We are pleased to announce that **Gateley Plc** and **RBS** will be continuing at IFT Corporate Partners. We look forward to working with them further in the coming years and are grateful for their continued support.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

[Click on an event for more information, or to book](#)

##### Midlands Webinar

Tuesday 6th November 2018

##### Midlands FE Webinar

Monday 19th November 2018

#### IFT AWARDS CEREMONY

Thursday 22nd November 2018

##### North Members Event

Monday 26th November 2018

##### Midlands Members Meeting

Tuesday 4th December 2018

[\*\*VIEW PREVIOUS IFT & GATELEY WEBINARS ONLINE HERE\*\*](#)

For more information about events or membership queries email: [info@the-ift.com](mailto:info@the-ift.com)

### CEO UPDATE - ROB CLIFT

My first few weeks in the IFT has, at times, felt like putting on a pair of old slippers – welcoming and reassuring – and on other occasions, like lacing up a pair of new playing boots getting ready for a new season in a new team – exciting and full of opportunities.

I have attended a number of members events around the UK - networking with independent members and reacquainting myself with various topics on the turnaround agenda. All were informative and offered an excellent opportunity to meet up with a broad range of turnaround experts. I am grateful for the hard work that our committee members put into organising these events which have proved an ideal opportunity for me to meet members.

I have also enjoyed being able to attend two IFT Corporate Partner dinners in London and Birmingham, meeting friends, both old and new, from across the turnaround market. Conversation has been animated and insightful. I have heard how many of the challenges I faced before stepping away temporarily in 2016 remain. The importance of managing regulatory and reputational risk has certainly stayed centre stage. There also seem to be signs of increased activity against the backdrop of greater economic uncertainty and debate was lively about what this may offer us in both turnaround and transformational environments. Both events left me in no doubt that we have an active and engaged roster of Corporate Partners underpinning our efforts to maintain and develop a vibrant IFT community.

In addition to joining events, the executive team and I are also reaching out to as many members as we can over the next month or so. We want your views to help shape our efforts for 2019 and beyond, to develop and improve membership

---

## QUICK LINKS

---

For more information please contact [info@the-ift.com](mailto:info@the-ift.com).

If you would like more specific information, please contact the following:

**CEO: Rob Clift**

[Rclift@the-ift.com](mailto:Rclift@the-ift.com)

**Corporate Partnership**

[Jmistry@the-ift.com](mailto:Jmistry@the-ift.com)

**Membership**

[Rfitzpatrick@the-ift.com](mailto:Rfitzpatrick@the-ift.com)

**Communications,  
Events & Marketing**

[Osavage@the-ift.com](mailto:Osavage@the-ift.com)

**Professional Development &  
the IFT Academy**

[Tduffield@the-ift.com](mailto:Tduffield@the-ift.com)

---

**We are sorry to announce the passing of IFT Fellow and founding member Bob Chase. Who died earlier this month. Our condolences to all those who knew and worked with him.**



Please contact us for details regarding Bob's funeral arrangements.

---

## CEO UPDATE - CONTINUED

---

engagement and add value wherever possible. They will also help us as we seek out and encourage like-minded turnaround and transformation professionals to join us.

We may not get around to talking to everyone so don't be shy if you've got an opinion (turnaround people generally aren't and usually do!). Please feel free to give me or one of the team a call or email. Our contact details are listed below.

Finally, and importantly, I must thank Graham Rusling and Duncan Parkes for their legacies. I am grateful that both will continue to support the IFT. Graham will remain on the board and continue to work with the Corporate Partners while Duncan will support on our professional development activities. This will allow me to focus on what we offer our individual members and bringing new members into the fold.

My intention is to update you through this monthly newsletter on the feedback from members and how we plan to respond. As I mentioned I'm excited about the future. The IFT community shows its best side in times of uncertainty and I am looking forward to working with you all to ensure that we champion excellence in turnaround.

---

### A TRIBUTE TO BOB CHASE - BY BILL REEVES

---

I have known Bob since we both worked at GEC in the early 1980s, and had the privilege of working with him when we were partners in Regenesys 20 years later. Bob held senior positions in GEC and was Finance Director of GEC Hong Kong before moving to another company to oversee a US\$ 1.5 billion debt restructuring. His later career in turnaround involved far too many companies to name but one of his early successes was as Group Managing Director of the Automobile Association where he was responsible for a transformation in the organisation's performance.

The over used phrase "he didn't suffer fools gladly" comes to mind when thinking of Bob, though the reality was that he didn't suffer them at all. Bob would always speak his mind, even if his views were sometimes unpopular; but you did know where you stood with him.

I enjoyed working with Bob, and I was proud to call him a friend. I will miss him.