



## Welcome to the Q1 2019 issue of our newsletter.

We are pleased to share with you the latest issue of our quarterly newsletter, keeping you up to date with all the latest news from Crowe.

Recently the firm launched our local [China Desk](#) – a dedicated resource to help Chinese companies wishing to set up or expand in Ireland or Irish companies looking to invest or set up operations in China. With the uncertainty of Brexit continuing, the practice continues to work on a number of international inquiries from China, North America and elsewhere, exploring Ireland as a suitable investment destination.

In an environment where all organisations face far greater scrutiny for stakeholders, we are increasingly being asked for advice in relation to governance and risk management. To support clients in this area we are continuing to invest in our team and have recently appointed Alan Davidson as an Associate Director. [Our Governance and Risk team](#) provides a broad range of services including governance reviews, governance framework design and implementation, fraud prevention and investigation, cyber-security, internal audit and SoX reviews.



As we continue to strengthen and grow the practice, a number of additional promotions across Corporate Finance, Restructuring & Insolvency and Marketing were announced and we recently welcomed [Beccy Cameron](#) as Director of HR.

In 2018 the firm ran a very successful [CSR programme](#), spearheaded by our staff. A local Depaul homeless shelter was chosen as our charity partner and a busy programme of volunteering and fundraising was undertaken throughout the year.

Finally, our network was proud to sponsor the Davis Cup final between France and Croatia last November. Many of you may know that the firm has a long association with UCD Rugby, where we have been club sponsors since 2013.

Wishing you all a successful 2019.

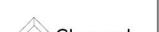
**Andrew Whitty, Partner, Tax**

## Corporate finance deals of the year 2018

2018 proved to be an exceptionally strong year of [corporate finance](#) activity for the firm with a number of milestone deals.

The practice acted in a number of high-profile domestic and international M&A deals as well as assisting clients with financing arrangements, enabling them to achieve their corporate and strategic goals in for 2019 and beyond.

This broad range of transactions completed in 2018 highlights Crowe's strong credentials in the M&A sector, which is seeing a significant uplift in activity over the last twelve months compared to previous years. Our corporate finance team has a wealth of experience advising clients on M&A transactions across a broad range of sectors both domestically and internationally, and are available to assist with any projects you may be considering.

 <b>ISI ICELAND SEAFOOD INTERNATIONAL</b> Acquisition of  Advisor to the Purchaser	 <b>DONNYBROOK FAIR</b> Sale to  Advisor to the Vendor	 <b>KINGS LAUNDRY</b> Sale to  Advisor to the Vendor	 <b>CAUSEWAY CAPITAL PARTNERS</b> Acquisition of  Advisor to the Purchaser
 <b>EARLSFORT CAPITAL PARTNERS</b> Financing of  Funder Due Diligence	 <b>Locabot Holidays</b> Acquisition of  Advisor to the Purchaser	 <b>TERRA SOLAR II</b> Private Fund Raising  Advisor to the Company	 <b>Glenveagh</b> Acquisition of  Advisor to the Purchaser



## Partner profile – Chris Magill

Chris, who grew up in Co. Armagh in the early 1970s, discusses his approach to working with clients and his service delivery ethos. He outlines his results-driven management style and the influence of early mentors from his first job in a Belfast accountancy firm. While he followed in his father's footsteps, Chris chose accountancy more from a process of elimination than anything else. However, he quickly realised that accountancy was less about numbers and more about advising clients – a role he both suits and enjoys. After qualifying, Chris emigrated to the Middle East for four years, where he met his wife and saw the birth of their first child before returning to Ireland in 2003, joining Crowe in 2004 and becoming a partner in 2011. [Read more.](#)

## Returning to Ireland in 2019 – Special tax series

Our [tax department](#) received a record number of inquiries in 2018 from expats looking to return home to Ireland. With the strength of the domestic economy and the buoyant employment market, it has never been a better time for professionals to think about returning. In a special tax series we share some of the common questions our tax team are frequently asked.

We answer eight of the most frequently asked questions and provide information on the tax implications related to a range of issues such as foreign pensions, income from abroad, selling your house abroad, foreign social insurance contributions and relocation expenses.

[Read more.](#)



## Achieve personal financial success – 9 tips for 2019

January is the time of year when we all pledge new year's resolutions to make changes to improve our future. One way to make an especially meaningful change, both short- and long-term, is to be savvy around your personal finances.

Head of Private Client Services, [Maeve Corr](#), advises that by implementing some simple good habits, we can help ensure personal financial success. [Read her 9 tips for 2019.](#)



## VAT compensation scheme for charities

Our [Not-for-Profit](#) team outline the detail behind the much-welcomed Value Added Tax (VAT) compensation scheme for charities. The scheme, which aims to reduce the VAT burden on charities and to partially compensate for VAT paid by the charity, applies to VAT paid on expenditure on or after 1 January 2018. Charities are entitled to claim a refund of a proportion of their VAT costs based on the level of non-public funding they receive.

[Find out more.](#)





## Film financing – updates to Section 481 film relief from Finance Bill 2018

Under Section 481, a company which produces a film can claim a payable tax credit of 32% of eligible expenditure, subject to certain limits. Our [Film, Media & Creative Industries team](#) outline a number of anticipated changes to the Section 481 scheme set out in Finance Bill 2018.

The scheme, which is to be extended from end-2020 to end-2024, is a valuable support to aid film financing in Ireland. These positive changes are good news for the Irish film and television industry as it continues to compete with other locations offering similar incentives to international film and television producers. [Read more.](#)

## News Roundup

Quick links to a range of recent news stories and web posts



-  [Five steps to Brexit protection](#)
-  [Tips to personal financial success](#)
-  [Strategic vs financial buyers - which is best?](#)

-  [M&A notification thresholds increased](#)
-  [Tax and the self-employed](#)
-  [Charities regulator new governance code](#)

## Firm updates



### Staff volunteer with NCBI

As part of Crowe's 2018 [CSR programme](#), Crowe staff volunteered with the National Council for the Blind of Ireland to provide their support for people experiencing sight loss in Ireland. In the weeks running up to Christmas a range of children's short stories by Oscar Wilde and stories from "Enchanted Journeys," an anthology of fifty years of Irish writing for children, were recorded.



### New promotions announced

Speaking at the announcement of a number of new promotions in December, Naoise Cosgrove, Managing Partner said, "These promotions reflect the exceptional contribution each has had in developing the practice across areas such as client and people leadership, practice management and innovation. We are delighted to see each of them advance their career with Crowe and look forward to their continued development in the months and years ahead."

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