

An anniversary (almost) forgotten

It is grudgingly understood that as one gets older the months and years appear to get shorter, and no sooner has the last of the holiday sand been washed away than Waitrose have the first shelf of Christmas crackers on sale. In such a whirlwind it is often hard to find the time to sit back and reflect on some of the positives in ones professional life.

It dawned on me recently, whilst getting my hair cut and as the lady commented that this year's summer sun was rapidly, and selectively, bleaching my hair (clearly she being too subtle), that in one form or another BCA has been providing specialist services to clients for more years than I have been keeping track of.

Casting my mind back, the realisation hits me that it has been 20 years since I engaged with my first client. If only I had known what I was letting myself in for!

I don't write this piece seeking praise. I also don't profess to claim I have got everything right, nor naive enough to think, particularly given the contentious nature of some of the matters I have had to attend to over the years, that everyone I have encountered has been grateful for the experience, but after two decades a moment of reflection probably doesn't go amiss.

BCA is quite different today than when as a sole practitioner I engaged that first client. With two offices in Yorkshire and one in London , partners and staff representing three professional accounting bodies and, not least, a portfolio of sophisticated and successful clients from the South Coast to the far North of England it has most certainly come a long way and in doing so I hope it has made a positive difference.

So please forgive my moment of self-indulgence - and please don't mention the silver (!) highlights.

Simon Banks-Cooper