

ICAN@UK Newsletter

Volume 1 Issue 4

October 2021

Welcome to the October edition of the ICAN UK E-Newsletter

In this month's newsletter we spotlight our first ever Members Only Weekend Away (MOWA) event which took place between 15th-17th October, 2021 at the Roffey Park Institute, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 4TB.

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We hope you enjoy reading and we welcome any suggestions for improvements.

From the Media Committee

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Members Only Weekend Away (MOWA) & Appreciation Night



Members Only Weekend Away (MOWA) & Appreciation Night Event Report



The Members Only Weekend Away (MOWA) and Appreciation Night which was held from 15th – 17th October 2021, is a new initiative brought on by the current ICAN UK District Exco under the leadership of Mr Segun Omorayewa. This event was a fulfilment of two of the strategic objectives of the ExCo year.

The event was aimed at serving as a post-Covid getaway to celebrate members' health and well-being. The event also doubled as an *Appreciation Night* in recognition of some members who had served the District in various capacities. Furthermore, the event provided the opportunities for team bonding, networking, and a short but valuable break away from the pressures of normal daily life.

A total of 27 members (referred to as MOWAnS- for fun and in the spirit of the event) registered and paid for the event, however due to unforeseen circumstances only 26 were in attendance. The planning committee (MOWA team) had Mrs Tayo Animashaun (the District's Social Secretary) as the Director of Operations, and Mr Tayo Ojo (the District's Asst. General Secretary) as the Director of Programmes. Other members of the team were the District Chair, Vice-Chair, Deputy Vice Chair, and the General Secretary.

These were supported by the MOWA Ambassadors - Funso Ajayi, Doyin Adebayo, Tope Imevbore, Lola Oke, Bimpe Kudelinbu, and Tayo Ojo – who were engaged to reach out to members and promote the event. All the planning and organising was detailed and painstaking.

The venue was very serene, clean and safe. It had a lot of very good facilities including a gym, swimming pool, sauna and lots of green space, which delegates took full advantage of.

Day One (15th October)

Guests started arriving from 2pm to a warm reception by the MOWA Director of Operations, MOWAn Tayo Animashaun, and the Welcome team (Ibukunoluwa Bello, and George Odocha). They were signed in and handed packs with goodies, and the lovely event T-Shirt. The hotel's reception then checked them into their rooms.



Dinner consisting of a three-course meal and drinks was served from 7.30pm. After which MOWAnS retreated to the lounge for the first activity, and enjoyed some music and dancing. At about 10pm, the District Chair, Mr Segun Omorayewa, formally declared open the weekend event.

He reiterated the vision and the purpose of MOWA and noted that being the first of it's kind in the district, there was no set template to follow in the planning. The MOWA team had only thought of giving the best to members and worked on that idea. He appreciated members that registered to attend and urged them to make good use of the time and enjoy all the activities set out.



This was followed by an ice-breaker session anchored by the District's General Secretary, Marian Adekoya. Two questions were set before the delegates to create an opportunity to discuss and brainstorm. First was: "You have just won a million pounds from the lottery. What will you do in the first 1 week?" Second was: "You have been given an opportunity to go to space and have been allowed to take two things excluding your phone and electronic gadgets. What will your two things be?". Both questions generated lots of discussions and engagement among delegates This session was followed by jokes and stories.

The evening ended at 00:47hrs with prayers.

Day Two (16th October)

The day began with an optional session of exercise, some chose to go it solo, others joined the session led by the DoP. This was followed by hearty breakfast, with an array of breakfast choices- including the full English breakfast option.

The delegates then went on to the allocated meeting room where the District Chair once again welcomed members, and asked everyone to fasten their seat belts and enjoy every moment of the day.

The first activity of the day was an ice-breaker session, with the question: "You have been nominated a minister of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and you have been given the opportunity to choose the ministry you want. What ministry will you chose and why? What will be your priority project in the first 2 years"?

The session brought out the passion members had to see effective change in Nigeria. From Tomi Fagbuyi (Mines & Power), Mrs Abiola James (Agriculture), Funso Ajayi (Ministry of National Planning), Mr Julius Adetoro (Women Affairs), Segun Omorayewa (Defence), Omusa Baba Ohyoma (Ministry of Works and Transport), Mr George Odocha (Health), amongst others.

Delegates were allowed a tea/coffee and convenience break after which we all marched back to meeting room in two lines, chanting 'left right, left right' as in the army, we also sang 'I remember when I was a "MOWAn", with Tayo Ojo as the 'Commandant'.

The second session of the day commenced- board games. Ludo, scrabble, cards, chess, draught, ayo etc were all available and played in groups. It also offered the opportunity to learn a new game, was all fun and laughter, some team members were very competitive. We then moved onto group quiz with James Bond as the theme - to state the year the film was released and the Bond actor. As the purpose was not to catch anyone out, groups were given 120 seconds to check the web for answers.

Members then went on to outdoor activities of bike riding in the grounds of the venue, or choosing instead to walk. The venue had a number of bicycles, we took pictures as a group either on or off the bikes, and some individually. Again, a fun-filled session, it brought back memories for some who had not ridden in years, with a delegate deciding that after the event he will be going to get a bike.





Dinner & Appreciation Night (16th October)

Saturday evening was a night to remember; the evening began with having drinks and canapes in the lounge area, and a time for interaction. All the ladies were elegantly dressed, the gentlemen all looked smart in their outfits for the night. This was followed by a three-course dinner. After the main meal was served, then came the highlight of the night, the presentation of awards. Awards in appreciation of contributions made to the District were given to deserving members - presented to those in attendance, and announced for those who were not able to attend the event. The District Chair called on a few delegates to say a few words including Otunba Femi Awojobi, Mr Omusa Baba Ohyoma, and Ms Patricia Balogun

After the dinner and award, it was dance, dance, dance with lovely music from the 70s to date. It was a real night of fun as members moved to the beats of the music. The day's events coming to a close at midnight.

"Wa oh what a weekend! I made new friends, met up with my ICAN family. I also learnt new skills. We thank God for his grace". – Bola Ogundimu



DAY 3 (17th October)

As the saying goes that every good thing must come to an end, MOWA 2021 ended on Sunday morning with an interfaith thanksgiving service. The District Chair who read a bible passage from Psalm 100:4-5 and encouraged members to make thanksgiving a lifestyle. He called on a few delegates to give prayers of thanks.

A special set of awards were given to some delegates, especially following the after-dinner party on Day 2:

Best Female Dancer: Mrs Abiola James

Best Male Dancer: Mr Ibukunoluwa Bello

Young Professional Accountants' Ambassador: Mr George Odocha.

On this note the event drew to a close, with delegates retreating to their rooms to checkout for 11am. In all the weekend was one of a kind, truly enjoyable, and very well-spent.

"What a weekend full of Fun. Thank you to the exco, the organisers and all MOWAns for making it worthwhile. Shalom" - Julius Adetoro

"A big thank you to the MOWA organising committee and the Exco for the fantastic event. I must say that the venue is perfect, the foods are fabulous, the activities are wonderful and the accommodation is superb. I can't wait for the 2022 MOWA" – Tomi Fagbuyi

Save The Date!!

ICAN UK & District Events:

- Annual Dinner Dance: **11th Dec 2021**
- 9th UK International Conference: **9th -14th March, 2022**

Upcoming International Conferences

Annual Accountants' Conference

The **51st Annual Accountant's Conference** will be held from November 29th - December 3rd 2021, at the International Conference Centre, Abuja, Nigeria. Theme: "*Trust in Governance*", it will be a hybrid Conference. <https://www.icanig.org>

ICAN UK 9th International Conference

Theme:

**"Social, Economic and Climate Challenges:
An Opportunity for Re-engineering the
Accountancy Profession"**



Birthday Celebrants:

Happy Birthday to October Celebrants!!!

Adebayo Odusanya, Bim Osunsami,
Chibuzo Okpala, Cosmas Chukwuma,
Emmanuel Oloke, Femi Fayemi,
Funso Martins, Ifeoma Okafor, Kike Fadeyi,
Modinat Olanrewaju, Olusola Akinyemi,
Temi Olugbenga Okutubo, Titus Abayomi,
Tolulola Lawal

Adverts

Promote your business or event

Please support our members events and businesses which are advertised below. If you would like to advertise your business or event to the ICAN_UK members please contact the general secretary. It costs only £10 and all artwork must be submitted by the 14th October to be included in the October newsletter.

Contact:generalsecretary@ican-uk.org