



What shall I do next?

Welcome to the treasury professional's equivalent of the beach novel. Picture the scene – you are relaxing in the sun on holiday, but from time to time uncomfortable thoughts creep into your head about your real life back in the office.

Once you've dismissed the idea of giving it all up and opening your own beach bar in the Caribbean, you may find that a bit of distance makes an objective review of your career that much easier. Now is the time to reach for this invaluable Careers Spotlight.

We begin with *The Treasurer's Guide to Changing Your Job* – a source of practical advice on career moves that we hope will be especially helpful to treasury professional in the early years of their careers. The Guide covers moving and leaving, enforced or voluntary, the CV and the recruitment process.

Many treasurers are aspiring finance directors and **Joanna Parker's** piece will help to answer the perennial question "how did they do it?". Joanna has interviewed three former Treasurers who have risen through the ranks and are now Finance Directors. Paul Richardson at WPP, Andrew Shilston at Enterprise Oil and Nigel Robson of Charter are all on hand to offer an insight into their career and provide some useful words of advice.

Alan Sears of the Centre for High Performance Development will help you analyse whether you really have what it takes – the good news is that a number of the skills necessary for

success can be learned, and are not things you are born with.

Gilbert Rosen made an interesting career change when he moved from the treasury department at Ladbrokes to become Group Treasurer of the Portman Building Society. In his article he highlights the differences between the two sectors and describes some of the challenges he faced.

More formal learning and professional development is available to all of us, and from a wide variety of sources. As **Caroline Shuffrey** says in her helpful article "there's no excuse for not learning." That's another inspiring idea when you're on the beach.

Even the youngest treasurers sometimes think about retirement. **Christopher Purser** is one of the most lively, energetic and entertaining retired people I know, so it seemed entirely appropriate to ask him to share his secret recipe for happiness after retirement.

If after your career review you feel that a new job is the only answer, you will no doubt want to read **Lawrence Pengelly's** update on the recruitment market. For those of you wishing to benchmark your salary, **Douglas Austin** has provided a useful summary of the latest edition of TMP's annual Treasurer's Salary Survey. And if things are really too much, how about an overseas posting? **Richard Fisher** outlines the benefits and the pitfalls. ■

VALERIE HAWKES
Valerie Hawkes Limited