



# SUSSEX LAW SOCIETY

## NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2025

### PRESIDENTS REPORT

Welcome to the October edition of the Sussex Law Society newsletter.

The new legal year is now underway, with the Michaelmas Term officially beginning on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2025. In recognition of this, I look forward to attending the West Sussex Annual Judges' Service on 10<sup>th</sup> October. The East Sussex Annual Judges' Service is being held on 31<sup>st</sup> October and will be attended by our Immediate Past President, Manjinder Nagra. The events are held to mark the start of the legal year and are an opportunity to recognise all those who help administer justice.

I also look forward to seeing many of you at the Sussex Law Society's quiz night on 23<sup>rd</sup> October. Good luck to all the firms who are participating and to our defending champions; DMH Stallard. Our quiz night is a great opportunity to engage with other members of the local legal community. We also get to enjoy fish and chips on the Palace Pier – it doesn't get more 'Brighton' than that!

The quiz night provides a further opportunity to support the President's chosen charity; in my case, Rockinghorse Children's Charity who provide such vital support to children and families across Sussex. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Finally, my thanks to X-Press Legal Services for kindly sponsoring this newsletter. X-Press Legal Services provide property searches and reports to conveyancing professionals, and you can read more about the services that they offer on their website: <https://xpresslegal.co.uk/>.

Daniel Dickson  
Sussex Law Society President



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Your professional property partner

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### Phishing Is Getting Smarter and It's Targeting Law Firms

Phishing might once have seemed like a distant or obvious threat, but in 2024/25, it has become more sophisticated, more personal and a far greater threat to law firms.

Phishing is the act of tricking individuals into revealing sensitive information such as passwords, payment details, or login credentials by posing as a trustworthy source. It often comes in the form of emails, texts or even phone calls that appear genuine but are designed to deceive.

No industry is immune including the legal sector, where reputational risk, regulatory consequences, and client confidentiality make phishing a particularly high-stakes threat. As phishing grows more targeted and harder to spot, it's never been more important to raise awareness and equip employees with the knowledge to stay safe. To read the article in full and find out how you can protect your firm, please click below.



[Read full article here](#)

## LOCAL NEWS

Jo O’Sullivan of the eponymous O’Sullivan Family Law (Accredited mediator and pioneer of the One Solicitor: One Couple process in family law) won Resolution’s 2025 Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Champion. After years of trying to make family law accessible for professionals and clients alike she is very proud of this recognition.

Many congratulations to West Sussex family lawyer Justin Lees, the winner of the Resolution Lifetime Achievement Award – in memory of John Cornwell, at last week’s Resolution Awards 2025. A family lawyer, family mediator and collaborative lawyer, Justin has long championed the Resolution Code of Practice and has served as Chairman of both Kent and West Sussex Resolution.

Congratulations to our immediate past President Manjinder Nagra for receiving her Honorary Master of Law from University of Chichester.

Manjinder has 25 years’ experience as a lawyer and served as President of the Sussex Law Society in 2023/24; being the first person of colour to do so since the society’s inception in 1860.



[Read more here](#)

We are delighted to announce that Emily Jennett has been offered tenancy at Becket Chambers from 1st October 2025. Since joining as a pupil, Emily has impressed clients and colleagues with her professionalism, skill, and dedication. We are pleased to welcome her as a full tenant and look forward to her continued contribution to Chambers.

[Read more here](#)

Loch is delighted to announce the promotion of Caroline Denbow and Alice Aldridge to Partners. Caroline brings extensive expertise in change management, restructuring, contracts, data protection, and dispute resolution. Alice specialises in employment law, advising on senior exits, contracts, restrictive covenants, incentive plans, shareholder agreements, and director/shareholder disputes. Learn more about Caroline, Alice, and the Loch team.

[Read more here](#)

## LOCAL NEWS

### RIP Aviva Le Prevost

1 Crown Office Row, Brighton is deeply saddened by the passing of our beloved member, Aviva Le Prevost on Monday 1 September. Aviva had fought a brave and long battle through illness, over the last few years.

Aviva was not only a member of Chambers, but a friend to so many people. Her reputation as a family advocate was fierce. However, she always had time for people and loved to make people laugh. Due to her warmth and generosity, she was very much loved and will be sadly missed.

Chambers' condolences go out to her husband Nick, her sons Reuban and Freddie, and the rest of her family.

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**DMH Stallard are proud to retain 100% of their trainee solicitors as qualified NQs for the second year in a row.** We consider trainees to be the future of the firm. Our policy is to select and develop trainees who will have, at the end of their training contract, the skills and enthusiasm to continue their career with the firm. This year, we are proud to announce that all seven of our trainees have qualified as solicitors within the firm. Well done to [Hannah Boxall](#), [Megan Compton](#), [Taylor Church](#), [Courtney Cummins](#), [Jessica Da Silva](#), [Rebecca Martin](#) and [Georgia Smith](#).

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### SAVE THE DATE!

Please join us for the Sussex Law Societies annual AGM on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November 6pm - 9pm at The Grand Central pub by Brighton Station.

The evening will start with drinks and the AGM followed by an optional meal and socialising. We will be thanking current President, Daniel Dickson for his year in office and welcoming in our new President for 2025-2026, Angela Arnold.

If you are interested in attending the AGM and the optional meal, please email [Alice.wylie@sussex-law.co.uk](mailto:Alice.wylie@sussex-law.co.uk)

All members welcome!

## UPCOMING WEBINARS

**Challenging Expert Evidence with DNA Legal**  
16th September 2025. Live webinar. 1pm - 2pm  
FREE for Members



DNA Legal will be offering a free course for Sussex Law Society members to explain more about how DNA testing works, the process and how it could make a difference to cases.

[Click here for Challenging Expert Evidence](#)

**IHT planning in Will drafting, estate administration and lifetime planning**



8th October 2025. Live Webinar.  
09.30am - 12.30pm

£110 + VAT for members / £125 + VAT for non-members

John Bunker will be back with us to deliver a 3hr CPD course on IHT/ Will Planning, pensions, estate administration, business and agricultural relief and much more. This will take into account the draft legislation issued on 21 July 2025 and will identify some areas of greater clarity and some of uncertainty that still need attention.

[Click here for IHT planning in Will drafting](#)

**Civil Litigation 2025 Autumn Update**

15th October 2025. Live Webinar. 9.30am - 11.30am  
£110 + VAT members, £130 + VAT non members



Professor Dominic Regan, legal speaker and visiting Professor at City University, London; and an advisor to Sir Rupert Jackson, is one of the UK's foremost speakers on civil litigation. He will be back to give us his autumn update on Civil Litigation. Never one to miss!

[Click here for Civil Litigation 2025 Update](#)

**Standish Vs Standish:**

**Supreme Court's Take on Non-Matrimonial Assets**

21st October 2025. Live Webinar. 1pm - 2pm

In this FREE 1 hour lunchtime webinar Pegah Sharghy from 1 Crown Office Row will talk us through Key topics such as; context of this this landmark ruling,

proper application of the Sharing Principle, clarification of the concept of "matrimonialisation", transformative power of intention and practical takeaways.



[Click here for Standish Vs Standish Update](#)

## UPCOMING WEBINARS

### The Landlord and Tenant Act 1954: When it Applies, Including Upwards Only Rent Review Clauses



**Groundsure**  
LOCATION INTELLIGENCE



Sponsored by [Groundsure](#)

22nd October 2025 | Live Webinar | 10am-11am

£30+ VAT for members. £45+ VAT for non-members

The Landlord and Tenant Act 1954 is the bed rock of commercial leases and is essential for any property professional. The course aims to look at various situations where the Act applies as well as much more

[Click here for the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954](#)

### Becoming a Notary

22nd October 2025 | Live Webinar | 1pm - 2pm

FREE for Members



Sussex Law Society is joined by Law Training Centre to discuss all things notary in an informative online session. Join us and learn more about what a notary is, how becoming a notary can boost your legal career and what it takes to qualify. Plus, we'll be announcing an exciting scholarship opportunity for Sussex Law Society members considering this route – helping one member to achieve their career dreams for less.

[Click here for Becoming a Notary](#)

### LinkedIn For Lawyers

5th November 2025 | Live Webinar

1pm - 2pm

£10+VAT for members £25+VAT for Non-Members

**consortium**  
more than marketing

In this LinkedIn training session Lara Squires will inform us why we should engage with social media, discuss what makes a great profile, share some hints and tips to make the most of the platform and answer any burning LI questions you may have. This training session is for all levels, whether you are a trainee starting out or a partner, every attendee will go away with some actions.

[Click here for LinkedIn for Lawyers](#)

### Conveyancing Law Update

11th November 2025 | Live Webinar

09.30am - 12.30pm

£110 + VAT for members

£125 + VAT for non-members



**Groundsure**  
LOCATION INTELLIGENCE



Conveyancing continues to undergo major changes. The course aims to keep the busy practitioner up to date.

[Click here for Conveyancing Law Update](#)

## UPCOMING WEBINARS

### Commercial Leases Update

3rd December 2025 | Live Webinar

13.30pm - 16.30pm

£110 + VAT for members

£125 + VAT for non-members

Commercial property is undergoing major changes, and this 3-hour CPD course with Richard Snape will look at recent developments including the proposed ban on upwards only rent review clauses.



Topics we will cover include:

- Recent cases on the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954;
- Recent cases on service charges;
- The latest on energy performance of buildings;
- The Building Safety Act 2022 and commercial leases;
- Changes to planning law;
- High-Street Rental Auctions; and
- The English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill and the banning of upwards only rent review courses.

[Click here for Commercial Leases Update](#)

### Brighton Legal Walk:

On the 10<sup>th</sup> September, Brighton saw nearly 100 people from across the legal sector come together in support of fair access to justice in their community. The Walk was led by HHJ Christine Henson KC.

We're delighted to say that, despite the dreary weather, we were able to raise £5,000 to support the important work of [BHT Sussex](#), [Citizens Advice Brighton & Hove](#), [Possability People](#) and [Money Advice Plus](#).



We'd also like to say a special thank you to Citizens Advice Brighton & Hove for hosting the end reception for the Walk this year, where attendees could enjoy food and drink away from the wind and rain.

It was incredible to see so many people collectively showing support for frontline advice in their local community. We can't wait to do it all again next year, with a date to be announced in due course.

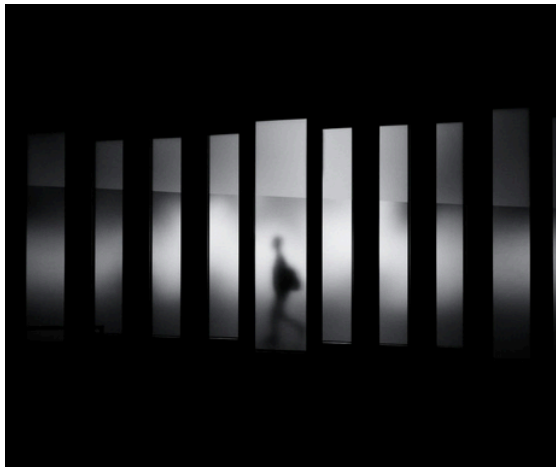
By Katie Isherwood - Events and Fundraising Officer. [London Legal Support Trust](#)

## What is Shadow AI?

Shadow AI is the use of generative AI tools like ChatGPT within a law firm without approval from IT or compliance teams.

# extech cloud

Law firms are increasingly using generative AI for tasks like drafting contracts and client communications. Tools like ChatGPT offer speed and efficiency, but when used without approval, they can expose sensitive data to third-party platforms. This is the risk of Shadow AI, where unapproved AI use threatens confidentiality and compliance. If your firm hasn't addressed it, now's the time to act.



## Why Shadow AI is a Legal Risk?

You don't need to be a cybersecurity expert to see the risks. Shadow AI can expose client data, breach confidentiality, and violate GDPR or SRA rules.

Without oversight, there's no audit trail, making it hard to track or respond to breaches. Sensitive legal data may even end up training public AI models, posing serious legal and reputational risks.

Planning a wider digital shift? Explore our [cloud migration](#) and [AI strategy](#) guides. Need support? [Contact Extech Cloud](#) to secure your firm's AI journey.

[Click here to read the full article](#)

## How can you help those in need get access to justice?

Every year across the UK, millions of people will need legal advice, from families at risk of eviction and homelessness, to workers challenging discrimination from an employer. However, they won't get the support they need – because they can't afford it or they don't know where to turn. At the Access to Justice Foundation, we are working to change this.

The Sussex legal community can make a real difference by:

- Applying for a Pro Bono Cost Orders
- Donating your firm's Residual Client Balances
- Organising a fundraising event

To read the full article on how to get involved, click below or contact Ruby Luter at [rbyluter@atjf.org.uk](mailto:rbyluter@atjf.org.uk).

[Click here to read full article](#)



## Championing the profession

Back home, the Law Society has released a snapshot report examining the current state of the legal profession, highlighting its role as a driver of economic growth and force for good. Engagement with policymakers has also been front and centre, with a parliamentary reception in March attended by the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, and a London celebration in June which welcomed the Solicitor General as a keynote speaker.

[Read 'Snapshot of the Solicitor profession' here](#)

**Struggling with review collection?  
Here are six tips to help you gather  
feedback with ReviewSolicitors**



Collecting client feedback isn't always easy, especially when your focus is on delivering specialist legal work. That's why we've put together six practical tips tailored specifically for UK law firms, brought to you by ReviewSolicitors – the UK's leading legal review platform.

Ready to improve your review collection? To read the full article with 6 top tips please click below. We'd love to hear how your law firm currently gathers client feedback and to show you how we can help enhance your review collection process.. Get started today at: [www.reviewsolicitors.co.uk/joinup](http://www.reviewsolicitors.co.uk/joinup) Or reach out directly to Adam Hall: [adam.hall@reviewsolicitors.com](mailto:adam.hall@reviewsolicitors.com)

[Click here to read full article](#)

## Changes to lasting power of attorney fees: 2025

Subject to parliamentary approval, the Ministry of Justice will increase the lasting power of attorney (LPA) application fee later this year. The fee will increase from £82 per LPA application to £92. The new fee will be payable for LPA applications received by the Office of the Public Guardian (OPG) from 17 November 2025. The new fee will make sure that income from LPA applications better meets the cost of delivering the services provided by OPG. LPA applicants may be entitled to an exemption (no fee) or remission (fee reduction) based on their financial circumstances. [More information on the scheme can be found here.](#) Fees are reviewed in line with His Majesty's Treasury guidance [Managing Public Money.](#)

## **The State of Family Mediation 2025**

As the Family Mediation Council marks its tenth anniversary, it's a good opportunity to reflect on the state of family mediation in England and Wales and to look to the future

This first 'state of family mediation' report provides a valuable benchmark and shows how far the profession has come awareness of family mediation is higher amongst our key stakeholders as well as the general public. Access to family mediation is easier for many separating couples, but funding for those who cannot afford to pay is at risk.

[Read 'The State of Family Mediation 2025' here](#)

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## **Law Society wades in on Mazur - but SRA still silent**

Please follow the link below to read the full article from the *Law Society Gazette* as the profession continues to grapple with the fallout from last month's High Court ruling in [Mazur](#).

The Sussex Law Society committee meet yesterday to discuss the idea of hosting a round table discussion in the coming weeks for members to discuss. If you would like to join this event, please email [Alice.wylie@sussex-law.co.uk](mailto:Alice.wylie@sussex-law.co.uk) to express interest. The committee will be keeping the topic of Mazur on the agenda for future meetings and update members as we hear more.

[Click here to read full article](#)

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## **Family court sitting days to be cancelled in 2026 reshuffle**

The president of the family division, Sir Andrew McFarlane, informed representative bodies this week that 13% of family court sitting days for 2025/26 was allocated to the London Financial Remedies Court under a concordat agreed between the lord chancellor and lady chief justice, but this has not proved enough. As a result, planned financial remedies sitting days will have to be cancelled. Read the full Law Society Gazette article below.

[Click here to read full article](#)

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## **Landmark mediation report highlights legal aid crisis**

Low-income families eligible could soon struggle to find a mediator to help resolve their dispute away from court unless legal aid fees – which have remained unchanged for 25 years – are raised, a landmark benchmarking report has suggested.

[Click here to read full article](#)

## SOCIALS

### SLS AUTUMN QUIZ! SOLD OUT!

Our Autumn quiz night kindly sponsored by [1 Crown Office Row](#) SOLD OUT in just 8 days!

For those attending, the lead contact will be asked for dietary requirements by Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October.

To those who missed out this time, there will be more social events coming up so please keep your eyes peeled on our [instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#) for updates.

As always, the event is supporting the President's chosen Charity which this year is [Rockinghorse Children's Charity](#).



### SLS X SJLD CHRISTMAS SOCIAL



Join members of the Sussex Law Society and the [Sussex Junior Lawyers Division](#) for an evening of pottery painting, socialising and festivities.

Ahead of Christmas our two societies are planning on coming together from 6pm-8pm at [The Painting Pottery Cafe](#) in the North Lines on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November.

Tickets are £20pp and include any paints used on the night and decoration of 1 x large Christmas bauble. There are options to paint additional items such as mugs, plates etc for an additional cost.

Our sponsors, [X-Press Legal Services](#) have kindly offered to supply wine, beer and soft drinks, so why not come along with some colleagues or come by yourself to make new local law connections and get into the festive spirit!

There are only 40 tickets available so act fast if you'd like to attend.

Please email [Alice.wylie@sussex-law.co.uk](mailto:Alice.wylie@sussex-law.co.uk) to attend

## COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORT

There has been no Law Society Council meeting since my September report. The next is scheduled for 7–8 October, followed in the afternoon of 8 October by the Law Society Annual General Meeting. On that day, Mark Evans will become President of the Law Society.

An important theme in Mark's presidency will be mental health and wellbeing in the profession. Solicitors can already seek help from LawCare, the charity that describes itself as "the mental health charity for the legal profession." It offers a confidential helpline and other resources – see [www.lawcare.org.uk](http://www.lawcare.org.uk). Law is a demanding career. It can be rewarding but very few solicitors don't, at some point, go through a period of work related stress. How this is addressed can make a huge difference to their future wellbeing and career prospects.

### Legal Runner

So, what does this have to do with running? Mark – like many of us – finds running a reliable way to decompress. Legal Runner isn't a formal club: there are no fees, no committee and no obligations. It's simply a way to connect with other legal professionals who run or want to run. You can find the website at [Home – Legal Runner](#), join the LinkedIn group [Groups | LinkedIn](#) (over 1,000 members) or the Strava club. There's even a branded T-shirt – profits go directly to LawCare. Red, blue or green options. Some of us have volunteered to help as team leaders. The objectives are inclusivity and a friendly supportive environment in which legal professionals with a common interest can engage online and from time to time meet up and run together.

Mark has dubbed Saturday 11 October "parkrun Super Saturday." Legal Runners will be turning up at park-runs around the country. Anyone can join – run, jog or walk. Parkrun is famously inclusive and now has dedicated park walker marshals who will walk at the pace of the slowest on the course. I will be at Brighton & Hove parkrun (Hove Park) from 8:45am on 11 October, near the briefing station, sporting my Legal Runner vest (please don't let that put you off!). It would be great to see other lawyer-runners there. Don't worry about your speed. You can run at your own pace or in smaller groups. Maybe even coffee and cake after. Feel free to email me at [andrew.bishop@bishopandlight.co.uk](mailto:andrew.bishop@bishopandlight.co.uk) if you have any queries. You can let me know if you will be coming or just turn up.



Otherwise, check out the Legal Runner website, LinkedIn page or Strava club if you'd like to get involved. I will report back on the October Council meeting in the November newsletter.

Andrew Bishop, Council Member for Sussex

### **Retirement of HHJ Jakens**

Her Honour Judge Claire Jakens retired as a Circuit Judge this September. Called to the Bar in 1988, she was a pioneer of a specialist children's work, a mainstay of Westgate Chambers (then in Lewes) and a co-founder of the Kent and Sussex FLBA with Suzanne Coates before being appointed a Circuit Judge in 2010. She had been appointed a Recorder in 2005 and was a Family Course Tutor at the Judicial College from 2012 to 2024 and served as the Designated Family Judge for Brighton from 2013 to 2017. HHJ Jakens originally sat in Kingston and heard criminal as well as family cases before becoming a specialist Judge in the Family Court in Brighton and her beloved Lewes. As a section 9 Judge, she sat in the RCJ in London for a number of weeks of the year as well as on circuit.

At her valedictory on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025, Gemma Taylor KC for the Bar and Shah Amin for the solicitors bench noted, in particular her kindness and compassion to the most vulnerable. Gemma Taylor KC commented that, "her grasp of the law was formidable. Her personality shone through." A talented linguist, her mastery of Italian and knowledge of Russian came in useful on a number of occasions in international cases.

Retirement will enable HHJ Jakens to deepen her studies in art. She will still sit in Sussex part-time – as ever, hearing some of the most complex longer cases.

Martin Downs, 1 Crown Office Row

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### **The Sussex Family Justice Board Annual Training Conference**

This year it is taking place on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October at the Holiday Inn Brighton Seafront (same venue as last year).

Those who have attended previously will know that it is always a good day, with lots of opportunity for learning/CPD, and a chance for us all to come together and socialise outside of a formal work setting. The cost of the tickets includes refreshments throughout the day and a hot lunch, along with the opportunity to hear from some inspirational people who are giving up their time to share their knowledge and experience with us.

Please support the event and secure your place as soon as possible – deadline for tickets is 12pm on 6<sup>th</sup> October (the hotel requires final numbers that day). TO BOOK A PLACE, PLEASE EMAIL: [amandasoftly@gmail.com](mailto:amandasoftly@gmail.com) Please advise of any dietary requirements when booking. COST: £90

[Click here to see the full schedule](#)

## SITUATIONS VACANT

Listing job vacancies in the Newsletter & putting more detailed vacancies on the jobs page of the website is FREE for Sussex Law Society member firms and individual members and £100 + VAT for other contributors. Contact [alice.wylie@sussex-law.co.uk](mailto:alice.wylie@sussex-law.co.uk) to place an advert.

### **Medical Negligence Solicitor – CL Medilaw**

CL Medilaw's medical negligence team in Brighton is growing, and we're looking for a Grace C Solicitor/FCILEX (NQ-4PQE) with experience in claimant medical negligence work. ✉ Contact Michael Appleby for a confidential chat: ☎ 07805 819860 | ✉ [michael.appleby@knightsplc.com](mailto:michael.appleby@knightsplc.com)

### **Catastrophic Injury Solicitor – CL Medilaw**

CL Medilaw's catastrophic injury team is growing, and we're looking for a Grace C Solicitor/FCILEX (NQ-4PQE) with experience in claimant catastrophic injury work. ✉ Contact Michael Appleby for a confidential chat: ☎ 07805 819860 | ✉ [michael.appleby@knightsplc.com](mailto:michael.appleby@knightsplc.com)

**Martin Searle Solicitors** are looking to recruit an **experienced Employment Lawyer** to join their Employment Law team. For a full job description and to apply, please [click here](#).

### **Property Lawyer – Eastbourne Borough and Lewes District Councils.**

Salary: £46,498 to £59,145

A fantastic and rare opportunity has arisen for an experienced and qualified Property lawyer to join our well regarded, professional and friendly legal team on a permanent basis. Apply by 5<sup>th</sup> October [here](#).

The teams at **Renaissance Legal and Renaissance Trust** are growing, and there are currently three exciting opportunities for the right people to join the specialist teams.

Renaissance Legal is [looking for two new lawyers](#) to join the team - one specialising in Wills and Trusts (5 years+ PQE) and another Private Client Lawyer (3 years+ PQE). Both roles offer the chance to work with a brilliant, supportive group of people who care deeply about making a difference for the firm's clients, many of whom are vulnerable or in challenging circumstances.

Renaissance Trust is looking for an experienced **Trust Manager/Assistant Trust Manager** to play a key role in managing complex Trusts and supporting families who rely on the team and its expertise. If you or someone you know might be interested, do take a look at the details on the [Renaissance websites](#) for further information.

## SITUATIONS VACANT

### **Property Lawyer - Eastbourne Borough and Lewes District Councils**

A fantastic and rare opportunity for an experienced and qualified Property lawyer to join our well regarded, professional and friendly legal team on a permanent basis. To find out more and apply, please click [here](#).

### **Experienced Conveyancer - Hastings – Cunningtons**

Cunningtons are delighted to announce they have opened a new office in Hastings, right in the heart of the town, and seek an experienced conveyancer to join their expanding team, who can handle both freehold and leasehold transactions. We're looking for someone who is a good communicator and is also happy to support business development activities in the area. This is a full time position and is ideal for any solicitor or conveyancer looking to take the next step in their career. Please send CVs to [jason.bradshaw@cunningtons.co.uk](mailto:jason.bradshaw@cunningtons.co.uk)

### **Bate and Albon are seeking an administrative assistant or legal secretary to support the Property Dispute Resolution department.**

This role is based in our Brighton office. We are open to candidates seeking a part-time arrangement of three or more days per week. Prior experience is desirable. Please send your CV to Debbie Knight, Office Manager at [debbie.knight@batealbonsolicitors.co.uk](mailto:debbie.knight@batealbonsolicitors.co.uk). No agencies please

### **Residential Conveyancer – Bate & Albon (Worthing)**

Karen Arscott is seeking an experienced residential conveyancer to join our friendly team. Candidate must be able to conduct a file from start to finish, be efficient, able to manage a healthy workload, and confident and personable liaising with clients and agents where required. The position is working from home, but must be located within easy reach of our Worthing office. Flexible hours can be discussed. Initially looking for someone who can work part time, but with the potential to increase the hours going forward. For further details please contact [karen.arscott@batealbonsolicitors.co.uk](mailto:karen.arscott@batealbonsolicitors.co.uk)

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## OTHER USEFUL WEBINARS/ COURSES/ ARTICLES/ RESOURCES

### **Jonathan Lea Network Advises on AI in Law**

The Jonathan Lea Network was invited to a Whitehall and Westminster forum advising leading government figures on AI adoption across UK businesses. Senior dispute resolution solicitor, Kent Reynolds, explained how AI is reshaping legal work, summarising communication, improving correspondence and assisting research, while explaining that challenges around confidentiality, GDPR, security and accuracy still remain. He predicted a shift towards specialist tools, accelerated by quantum computing. Kent's key message: AI won't replace lawyers, but it will transform the profession, enabling greater focus on strategy, judgement and client care. To watch Kent's presentation click [here](#).

## **OTHER USEFUL WEBINARS/ COURSES/ ARTICLES/ RESOURCES**

**Most of us think of workplace bullying as something that flows downward, perhaps a manager misusing their authority over a team member.** But, what happens when the power dynamic flips? Loch is seeing more managers report being undermined, isolated, or even verbally attacked by their own teams. It's a growing issue and it's leaving many leaders unsure how to respond. Learn what 'upward bullying' looks like, why it's often difficult to address, and what employers can do to protect both managers and teams. To read more click [here](#).

**Dean Wilson are excited to share that their Trainee Solicitor - Training Contract Programme will be commencing soon.** As a trainee solicitor, you will have the opportunity to train in four seats across the breadth of our business, we will talk to you about your trajectory and plans and work with that in mind. If you have a broad knowledge of the law, a commercial awareness, have all the skills you know we will be looking for, are a true team player and can show us your passion and drive you may be just the person we need to continue to drive our business forward and help our succession plan of the future.

Register your interest: by 31 October 2025. Find out more and register here: [Register your interest for a Trainee Solicitor Application | Dean Wilson LLP](#)

**Throughout October 2025, Martin Searle Solicitors are running their annual campaign, Disability Matters to stamp out disability discrimination in the workplace.** This year they are highlighting challenges around neurodiversity. They are offering a free 30-minute telephone advice line for employers and employees concerned about disability rights and employer duties. As part of the campaign, they are running a virtual seminar for managers at charities and non-profit organisations on 'Managing Ill Health And Disability' at 10.30am on Thursday 23 October, in partnership with Community Works. They also are running a free virtual seminar for employee advisers and trade union reps on 'Disability Discrimination In The Workplace' at 10.30am on Thursday 30 October. For more details [click here](#).

**Acting for Older Clients Conference - Cate Searle from Martin Searle Solicitors will speak at the MBL Acting for Older Clients Conference on Monday 20 October 2025.** Cate joins a number of expert speakers addressing legal and policy developments affecting older clients and those who support them. Cate's session will address Continuing Healthcare challenges and claims, deprivation of assets issues, and key funding reforms. For more information or to book, [click here](#).

## OTHER USEFUL WEBINARS/ COURSES/ ARTICLES/ RESOURCES

In Natalie Alt's article "**An Introduction to Emergency Protection Orders (EPOs)**" she discusses one of the most serious steps a court can take to protect a child at risk of immediate harm. Natalie explains when EPOs can be made, how long they last, and what they mean for parents, children and local authorities. Read the full article [here](#).

In Cara Radford's latest article, she discusses **Mother v Father [2025] EWFC 247 – Court Procedure**. This recent case highlights important guidance for practitioners on Magistrates' Court procedure in child arrangements hearings, including written reasons and how evidence is weighed. Read more [here](#).

This article by Natalie Alt explains the **First Directions Appointment (FDA)** – what it is and whether it's always necessary. The FDA is the first financial hearing in divorce proceedings, designed to make sure both parties have shared the information needed to move towards settlement. Natalie outlines what happens before, during and after an FDA, and when it might be possible to skip it altogether. Read more [here](#).

**Groundsure presents 'The modern approach to environmental due diligence'** 09.10.25 With guest speaker Keith Davidson, Environmental Partner at Irwin Mitchell. Click [here](#) to read more.

**Groundsure presents 'Back to basics: The foundations of commercial environmental risks and searches'** 21.10.25. Click [here](#) to read more.

**Sherrards Employment Law Solicitors - Employment Law Latest Programme**. Essential for HR and people managers, join the team in Sussex on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November, London on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November and in Surrey on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November to run through critical employment law updates. All of the sessions will run from 9:00 – 13:00 and the cost per delegate is £180 + VAT. To book please visit click [here](#).

**The Partners at Lewis Denley Solicitors have developed a new legal case management system called Yao Technology**. Yao has recently partnered with LawWorks to offer free access to the platform for solicitors running pro bono clinics. This collaboration is designed to help streamline processes, manage matters more efficiently, and provide tools such as document automation, secure digital signatures, and time-saving workflows, all of which make it easier for solicitors to focus on supporting their clients. To read more, click [here](#).

## BOOK YOUR ADMISSION CEREMONY AT THE LAW SOCIETY IN ITS BICENTENNIAL YEAR

Celebrate your success on qualifying to become a solicitor and mark the occasion with friends and family. Whether you qualified recently or are already established, it's never too late to celebrate your success at an admissions ceremony. Mark 200 years of the Law Society and attend an admission ceremony in 2025, its bicentenary year. As part of the celebrations, you will receive a bespoke bicentenary themed admission certificate and will have access to exclusive bicentennial merchandise. See [here](#) for more information and to book a ceremony.

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### SLSGS

The Sussex Law Society Golf Society is open to anyone with connections with the legal profession, whether you are in practice or retired, whatever your standard of play. There is no joining fee. If you have not played with us before, why not give us a try. Golfing events every summer!

Bob Mayfield - Secretary, SLSGS  
[Bobmayfield111@gmail.com](mailto:Bobmayfield111@gmail.com)



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### LAW SOCIETY DIVISIONS/NETWORKS

The Law Society has some really useful divisions/networks full of information and resources which are worth exploring. The links are here:

[Ethnic Solicitors Network](#),

[In House Lawyers](#),

[Junior Solicitors Network](#),

[Disabled Solicitors Network](#),

[LGBT+ Solicitors Network](#),

[Small Firms Network](#),

[Solicitor Judges Network](#),

[Women Solicitors Network](#).

Institute of Risk Management Awards.

## LOCUMS

If you would like to be added to the list of locums published monthly in this Newsletter, please email your details to [alice.wylie@sussex-law.co.uk](mailto:alice.wylie@sussex-law.co.uk) . Listing your details here is free of charge for members:

- Margaret Dowdles 07947 771593 - experienced property locum used to hitting the ground running to get things done. Realistic rates charged for noticeable results.
- Patrick Richards- Un-Notarised legal translations, office and Court interpreter services offered by fluent French and Italian speaking local [Solicitor.Contact patrichards27@hotmail.com](mailto:patrichards27@hotmail.com)
- Manjinder Nagra – Legal Support and Speaking Availability - 20 + years experience specialising in property and contracts & procurement. Available 1-2 days p/wk for legal support. Also available for key note speaking on her unique journey into law and sport. Get in touch: [m74nagra@gmail.com](mailto:m74nagra@gmail.com)

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## LOST AND MISSING WILLS

- COLETTE LOUISE O'REGAN D.O.B. 15/4/1969
- GARY DAVID BATES D.O.B 14/7/1965
- TERENCE BARBER 30/01/1937
- CAROL KANE D.O.B 05/02/1945
- JONATHAN KANE D.O.B 26/01/1967
- JEREMY RAYMOND HARRIS D.O.B 26/06/1958
- MICHAEL DOUGLAS SMITH D.O.B 15TH JULY 1949

Please contact [alice.wylie@sussex-law.co.uk](mailto:alice.wylie@sussex-law.co.uk) if you are looking for a will, know the location of any of the above wills or if you want to be part of our lost/missing wills scheme (free of charge for members)

All wills previously held by Howlett Clarke are now safely held with the Right Legal Group, Wyvern Business Park, 16 Stanier Way, Derby, DE21 6BF. Telephone number 01332 424511.

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## SUBSCRIBE/UNSUBSCRIBE

Following the introduction of the new GDPR laws on 25th May 2018, if you are not an individual or corporate member of the Sussex Law Society and wish to continue to receive this monthly newsletter you will need to opt in. If you are unsure about whether you are/are not a member, please contact [Alice Wylie](mailto:Alice.Wylie@sussex-law.co.uk).

Contact [Alice Wylie](mailto:Alice.Wylie@sussex-law.co.uk) if you no longer wish to receive the monthly Newsletter and put UNSUBSCRIBE in the subject heading