
advocate



Advocate Monthly Top Ten

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Looking back and moving forward: Our caseworkers reflect before starting pupillage



Advocate is delighted to share that four of our caseworkers – Emily, Stephen, Beth and Evie - will be starting pupillage this Autumn. Whilst we are sad to bid them farewell, we are very proud of them for reaching this important next step for their careers in the profession, and for all they have done for Advocate during their time here.

Emily, our General Common Law caseworker, will be joining Four Brick Court in October:

“Advocate has been such a wonderful place to work between my offer and starting pupillage – meeting so many brilliant barristers and assisting some extremely worthy cases obtain the justice they deserve. The lacuna of people lost between scarce legal aid funding and those who can afford legal representation is ever-growing, and Advocate does its best to plug that gap. I will be very sad to leave a fantastic charity, but I know that my work with Advocate will continue long into my career at the Bar.”

Stephen has worked at Advocate for three years as our dedicated caseworker for the Wales and Chester Circuit. He will be starting pupillage at Iscoed Chambers in Swansea.

Reflecting on his role on Circuit with Advocate:

"I have met some amazing Welsh Barristers willing to surrender their time to people with no access to justice. I credit my time at Advocate as one of the reasons I was able to secure pupillage at a set with a strong pro bono ethos. Although it is goodbye for now, I hope to carry on my work with Advocate in practice, working directly with litigants in persons based in Wales and beyond".

Beth is our Head of Casework who will be starting her pupillage in family practice at 4PB:

"I will be forever grateful to have worked with passionate colleagues who work tirelessly to give applicants the best chance at securing pro bono assistance and the endlessly generous barristers and clerks who help them thereafter. I am thrilled to join 4PB next year, a set with a long-standing reputation for pro bono work who I have been fortunate enough to work with whilst at Advocate."

Evie, who will be pursuing a career at the criminal Bar, has reflected on the skills that working as a caseworker at Advocate has equipped her with for her pupillage:

"I think working at Advocate has given me an ability to quickly get up to speed on a case, something I frequently spoke about in pupillage interviews and which will stand me in great stead for a busy practice as a criminal pupil. I'm delighted to be starting pupillage at Crucible, a chambers whose values echo both my own and those of Advocate."

We are incredibly pleased for our Advocate caseworkers joining our alumni at the Bar and look forward to working with them in their new roles.

If you know anyone looking to start pupillage next year, send them the Top Ten Tips For Pupillage Applications below from Advocate panel member and former caseworker, Markus Findlay of Doughty Street Chambers.

[Pupillage Applications: Top Ten Tips](#)



Racing for justice: Saucony London 10K 2025

On Sunday 13th July, two of our staff members laced up their running shoes to take part in the [Saucony London 10K](#). They were joined by a team of 10 from Gatehouse Chambers and 6 from 39 Essex Chambers.

Despite the soaring temperatures, they all powered through the race to raise an incredible £2,485 all in support of our work.

We are so grateful for their determination and energy – especially in such challenging weather. A huge thank you to all who ran, supported, and donated.

[Take on a challenge for Advocate](#)



Exploring innovation at LawWorks' 2025 Pro Bono Conference

At the start of the month, Advocate attended the annual [LawWorks Pro Bono Conference](#). Sarah Sackman KC MP gave the keynote address on the importance of pro bono work to empowering people to exercise their rights and “realise the promise of access to justice”.

This year’s conference was centred on the theme of innovation and delivery. Speakers included Legal Tech experts and service providers including Citizens Advice who have already started harnessing technology including AI to help make legal help more readily accessible.

[Read more about the conference](#)

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Advocate Statistics



Fulfilling multiple goals through a single action: Adam Al-Attar

KC's barrister story



Advocate panel member and reviewer [Adam Al-Attar KC](#) of South Square reflects this month on how a simple recommendation from a senior colleague led to a rewarding journey volunteering with Advocate.

As a reviewer, Adam describes the experience as intellectually stimulating and professionally worthwhile due to the diverse range of cases that come through, even within specific practice areas.

Adam also highlights the professional value of pro bono work, particularly for commercial

practitioners and those looking to apply for silk: "For commercial practitioners, pro bono is an opportunity to evidence excellence, diversity, and as the range of circumstances and cases encountered through pro bono work is often much broader than that through paid clients".

He encourages other barristers to get involved, either by reviewing or taking cases, and points to [schemes such as the Chancery Litigant in Person Support Scheme](#) as rewarding ways to give back while developing professionally.

[Read Adam's story](#)



Film premiere proceeds donated to Advocate

On 17th July, Advocate were delighted to attend the premiere of *The Art of Architecture*, a documentary film by Academy Award-winning director Jon Blair. The film showcases the development of the new judicial quarter at Salisbury Square for the City of London, designed by [Eric Parry Architects](#).

We were honoured to be selected by Eric Parry Architects as the chosen charity for the proceeds of this special event and we are thrilled to share that over £1,000 was raised.

Thank you to everyone who attended and contributed so generously. A special thanks in particular to Eric Parry Architects for organising this evening and for supporting us in continuing our work.

[Read more](#)

Shout out to Panel Members...

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Katie Stephens
St Philips Chambers

Our thanks to Katie Stephens of St Philips Chambers for assisting our applicant, a husband who was in long-running family financial proceedings. The husband had approached Advocate after separating from his wife and being left in a dire financial position. He sought a new equitable consent order due to inaccuracies in what had initially been agreed, including over the pension order. Katie assisted him at their final hearing, in which she successfully argued against a Pensions on Divorce Export report. Her advice and representation resulted in the court making a pension sharing order in favour of the husband, making a significant difference to his financial position.

Thank you, Katie

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Will Baylis-Allen
MILS Legal Ltd

Many thanks to Will Baylis-Allen of MILS Legal Ltd for assisting our applicant in the Employment Appeal Tribunal. Our applicant had been dismissed as a Sales Associate from a luxury designer brand, and claimed unfair dismissal, racial discrimination and whistleblowing against the company. Her claim form was initially dismissed by the Employment Tribunal for supposed procedural inaccuracies. Will represented her at the Employment Appeal Tribunal and was successful in appealing the Tribunal's rejection. The Judge upheld the appeal in full and substituted the previous Judge's decision, allowing the applicant's claim form to be accepted so she can proceed with her full claim to the Employment Tribunal.

Thank you, Will

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Dr Niaz Shah
Nexus Chambers

Thank you to Dr Niaz Shah of Nexus Chambers for assisting our applicant, a mother from Pakistan, in her case concerning her application for an EEA family permit. Her application had been refused, with the First-tier Tribunal and the Upper Tribunal failing to fully consider the full grounds of her application. Niaz Shah assisted her with drafting her skeleton argument and represented her at the hearing in the Court of Appeal to address her permission to appeal.

Thanks to Niaz's assistance, the appeal was allowed, with the matter now remitted to the First-tier Tribunal so that her application for an EEA permit to join her family can be reconsidered.

Thank you, Niaz



Pro Bono Week 2025: Save the date!

Advocate are excited to be making plans for this year's national Pro Bono Week taking place from 3rd - 7th November!

This year's theme is "Pro Bono in Action" - celebrating the real-world impact of pro bono work.

If you would like to find out more about getting involved and tips on hosting an event, sharing inspiring stories, or seeing the latest resources and events calendar, see the

[Pro Bono Week website](#) and email f.pauffley@weareadvocate.org.uk if you have any questions.

[More on Pro Bono Week](#)

Have a lovely summer break!

Finally, Advocate want to wish a lovely summer to all those taking a break. Although this is our last newsletter until September, the Advocate team will still be available to [get in touch](#) with if you have any questions about working with us. If you are able to do so, please do consider continuing to browse our [weekly case list](#) to see if there is a piece of work you can help with

- we would love to hear from you.

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