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# Advocate Monthly Top Ten!



## Advocate launches Young Bar Advocate!

Advocate's 25th year is an opportunity to build for the future. For the past 25 years, the Bar has been a pillar of the access to justice sector, with barristers taking on pro bono. However, the legal need for barristers to step forward only continues to grow. Many young barristers recognise the necessity of access to justice and want to help. However, after what has been a hard year for them, Advocate wants to ensure they feel supported to provide access to justice to those in need, but also build on their own careers as successful barristers.

The first of many YBA initiatives is a new case-based mentoring scheme, Collaborate.

Junior barristers with an interest in being on the executive committee of YBA can find out more and register their interest. Senior barristers interested in offering their skills as a mentor can also find out more below!

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



### QC application form updated to include pro bono cases!

The Guidance for Applicants for the QC appointment process has recently been updated to include the option of using pro bono case examples in the list of competencies. Pro bono cases can offer useful exposure to higher courts and complex matters. We encourage you to sign up today to view our case list.

[Read More](#)



### Essex Court Chambers went the extra mile for access to justice!

Barristers and staff collectively travelled 3000 miles by either running, walking, or cycling. They raised an incredible £5,268.75 (incl. Gift Aid) to be split between Advocate and Cure EB. We are so grateful they decided to take on this huge challenge to help us provide much needed access to justice.

[Support Us](#)



## Advocate Statistics



### Single mother accused of fraud has student loan withdrawn: Ruby's story

Ruby, a single mother studying for a law degree in the hope of a better life, was falsely accused of fraud and had her funding withdrawn. It began a three-year long battle to clear her name and challenge a decision that threatened to ruin her studies and her future.



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## Taking on Pro Bono

To celebrate our brand new mentoring initiative, launched as part of Young Bar Advocate, read how Joint Head of Chambers at Spire Barristers in Leeds, Sarah Blackmore embeds pro bono into the culture of her chambers by taking cases, mentoring and inspiring others as well as being an Advocate reviewer. A true pro bono hero!

[READ MORE](#)

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## Our volunteer barrister success stories

<p><b>7</b></p> <p><b>Mary Cowe</b> Guildhall Chambers</p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p><b>Ben Norton</b> Henderson Chambers</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p><b>Wendy Frempong</b> 12 Old Square</p>
<p>Although it might not be what people expect to do when they take on a case, providing advice on why it isn't a good idea to pursue something in the courts is as valuable as any other work. Mary provided advice to an applicant that his appeal had very little chance of succeeding on its merits</p>	<p>Ben signed up to Advocate as a second six pupil and worked on a case for over a year, spending more than 30 days on it! He teamed up with a solicitor from Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner through Pro Bono Connect and they secured a pro bono costs order at the end of the case. This is a truly</p>	<p>Wendy took on an incredible 21 pieces of pro bono in 2020 and has already taken on another five pieces of work so far in 2021, none of which are related to her previous cases and four of which include representation! While Wendy is always saying she doesn't do pro bono for the</p>

**and he was very grateful to her, deciding instead to focus on his mental health tribunal.**

Thank you, Mary

**remarkable time commitment and we are very grateful to Ben.**

Thank you, Ben

**recognition, we would like to celebrate her committed to access to justice all the same.**

Thank you, Wendy



### Share your story!

There is a huge amount of pro bono work going on, often behind the scenes and in unsung ways. To help us celebrate this, our 25th year, as fully as possible, and for us all to better understand the full extent of the Bar's commitment to pro bono, please consider submitting a few lines on the work you have done. We have created a [short form](#) to make it possible for you to tell us your story.

We would love to hear about the impact that you have seen pro bono work have on either the people and communities you have worked with, or on your own career.

Thank you for your continuing support.