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Advocate Monthly Top Ten

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Mentoring through Collaborate



Collaborate – a case-based mentoring scheme

Advocate's case-based mentoring scheme enables those who feel they would like additional support when taking on pro bono cases to benefit from general advice and support from senior barristers. You might be interested in receiving mentoring if you are a second six pupil, a junior barrister, taking on cases in new areas of law, or even returning from a career break.

We asked Jagoda Klimowicz, of Brick Court Chambers, to share on Collaborate

and her experience of mentoring with Sebastian Naughton, of Serjeants' Inn Chambers. They both found the experience beneficial for their pro bono practice. Jagoda highlighted the benefit of learning from Sebastian's knowledge of the practicalities in the Employment Tribunal and Sebastian emphasised he would recommend becoming a Collaborate mentor, as he found it an easy way to give back and make pro bono work part of his practice.

If you are interesting in receiving mentoring, or becoming a mentor, [find out more here](#), we would love to hear from you.

[Read the full case study here.](#)



BIC and Reach Volunteering

We are excited to announce that Bar in the Community has partnered with Reach Volunteering to offer a wider range of volunteering opportunities for the Bar.

Select opportunities from Reach are now available through Bar in the Community's website. These are carefully chosen based on their relevance to the skillsets of barristers and chambers professionals.



Guide for Chambers Professionals

In partnership with the IBC and the LPMA, Advocate have created a helpful guide full of information on how to encourage pro bono work in Chambers.

Designed for chambers professionals, it highlights the benefits for all staff, chambers, and members of the Bar in undertaking pro bono work and how to make pro bono a part of Chambers' practice alongside fee-paying work.

[Explore all opportunities, and sign up for a fortnightly mailing list here.](#)

[Click here to view and download the guide.](#)

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Advocate Statistics



Law School Challenge

- congratulations!

Teams from universities went head-to-head in our annual Advocate and LawWorks Law School Challenge, which came to a close earlier this month. Each team battled it out to

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Law School Challenge

organise fun and innovative fundraising events to raise funds for both charities to support the facilitation of free legal advice and to raise awareness of the services available.

University of Law (Bloomsbury Campus) were the winners of the Challenge raising an incredible **£5,200**. The team received their award at the LawWorks and Attorney General's Student Pro Bono Awards at the House of Commons on 26th April. The University of Sunderland came in second place and the University of Huddersfield were third.

The Challenge was overall a huge success, with the teams raising a grand total of **£12,000**.

A huge thank you to all the students for their fundraising efforts and looking forward to the next Law School Challenge launching later this year.

[View the Student Pro Bono](#)

[Awards shortlist here](#)

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Duty Schemes

We've been scheming...

The **Chancery Litigant in Person Scheme (CLIPS)** is running successfully in London and Newcastle, and with the help of local chambers, we are also

In January we employed a new member of the team to focus on duty schemes. Over the past few months Jessica has worked on improving the running of our existing pro bono schemes, increasing our involvement in court duty schemes, and setting up new schemes. Most notably, the **Court of Appeal Scheme** is now back up and running. We have seen an increase in applications from litigants in person making permission to appeal applications. This has been met with equal enthusiasm from volunteers who have signed up to assist. Volunteers provide initial merits assessment and, if merit, draft a skeleton argument for litigants in person to submit with their applications. There is also the option to assist with any hearings that might be granted. **A fantastic opportunity for those looking to build on their experience in the Court of Appeal.**

preparing for imminent expansion to both the South West and Leeds.

We have also been working alongside a number of our partner organisations on revitalising more specialised schemes including the **Chancery Bar Association Mediation Scheme** and the **COMBAR/LCCC Pilot Scheme**, to name just a few!

Whether you are seeking to build on experience in higher courts, expand your practice or make up some hours for your pro bono pledge, signing up to take part in one of our schemes is a brilliant way to do this.

More information about these schemes, and many more, is available on our website. To sign up, or ask any specific questions, please contact our Schemes Caseworker, [Jessica](#).

[Find out more here](#)

Shout out to Panel Members...

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Ben Williams
Kings Chambers

A massive thank you to Ben, who kindly accepted four separate cases with Advocate during March 2023. In one of these cases, Ben assisted a pro bono client who had not received any prior legal assistance with their unfair dismissal claim. Within 2 weeks, Ben had secured a £5,000 settlement for the claimant. The pro bono client stated "I am truly grateful for the support."

Thank you, Ben

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Joshua Jackson
Cloisters

Joshua has been assisting our applicant since 2021 on a welfare benefits matter. Joshua has been attentive to our applicant's needs in answering procedural matters to reduce anxieties around proceedings. Thanks to Joshua's assistance at the appeal our applicant has won the appeal meaning she will be entitled to Employment and Support Allowance which has been life changing.

Thank you, Joshua

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Karen Kabweru-Namulemu
1GC Family Law

Karen provided representation to our applicant at urgent hearings in a complex child contact matter. Karen very generously made herself available for a further urgent hearing around other professional commitments with just two days notice. The applicant said how grateful they were and commented that Karen had been exceptional.

Thank you, Karen

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Make your

#ProBonoPledge or #PupilPledge

Seventeen barristers have already completed the #ProBonoPledge, and collectively completed more than 655 hours of #probono work this

year!

139 barristers have pledged 25 hours of work this year and 39 pupils will take on one piece of pro bono work in their second six.

Can you join them and make you
#ProBonoPledge today?

[More information here.](#)

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from **Advocate**

Advocate DX, 50-52 Chancery Lane
London, Greater London WC2A 1HL, United Kingdom