
Advocate Monthly Top Ten!



Advocate's 25th anniversary year

Advocate is grateful to have been part of pro bono at the Bar for the last 25 years. The expert help, advice and countless hours that have been given by so many individuals have achieved truly life changing results.

Our goal is to help even more people to navigate a complex and sometimes overwhelming legal system. We hope you will join us in helping to make our 25th year our best year yet and as we look to develop the next 25 years of pro bono at the Bar. We will also be launching new initiatives this year, with both the senior and the junior ends of the profession in mind.

Read a letter from our Chair Sir Robin Knowles CBE and our CEO Rebecca Wilkie on our 25th Anniversary.

[READ MORE](#)



The Bar Council has established a new Bar Sustainability Network to support chambers, Inns and legal organisations to act on their climate impacts today. The network launch event is at 17:30 on Monday 15 March. Find out more below.

[Find out more](#)



The #ProBono35 campaign encourages barristers to donate £35 to Advocate, if they are able, when renewing their practising certificate. This initiative makes up almost 50% of our funding so please do donate if you can.

[#ProBono35](#)

4

Advocate Statistics

652 Requests for help since January	Top three areas of law Admin and Public: 15% Employment: 16% Family: 24% advocate ^
180 Pieces of work placed since January	
60 New panel members since January	

Pensioner removes illegal shed and is sued for £90,000: Rose's story

When Rose discovered that a developer had built an illegal shed in her garden, she contacted him to request its removal. When he didn't respond, she took it down and he retaliated in a very aggressive way.



[READ MORE](#)



Taking on Pro Bono

Ben Collins QC from Old Square Chambers won the Pro Bono QC of the Year Award in 2020. He has been taking on pro bono since day one! His first court appearance was pro bono. Read more to find out why he continues to work for free and how he has recently helped people on the furlough scheme.

[READ MORE](#)

Our volunteer barrister success stories

7

Liz Andrews

1GC Family Law

Although we only ask our volunteer panel members to commit to one piece of work at a time, Liz recently offered to stay with an applicant until the conclusion of their employment proceedings. The need for assistance with Employment cases is at an all-time high at Advocate, and we are incredibly grateful to Liz for offering to remain with the case.

8

Justin Bates

Landmark Chambers

As one of our Reviewers, Justin examines up to four Advocate files a month and he also regularly takes on cases too. This month Justin accepted a case so that he could work on it with a very junior barrister and mentor them through a High Court case. We are so grateful to Justin for his commitment both to access to justice and to mentoring others in their pro bono work.

9

**Tadhgh Barwell
O'Connor, 1KBW**

Tadhgh gave a huge number of hours over the Christmas period, including representing an applicant a few days before Christmas. The applicant commented how "his service was impeccable and his support and advice was clear and sensitive...If I had been unrepresented I would have most likely not managed the whole ordeal emotionally".

10

In case you missed it...

Advocate's CEO, Rebecca Wilkie, had the honour of speaking at the first of Andrew Hochhauser QC's Treasurer's Lectures for Middle Temple on "Pro Bono - part of being a barrister" alongside Advocate's Chair Sir Robin Knowles CBE. It has lots of great suggestions on how you can get involved in pro bono both through Advocate and other organisations.

[Watch it on YouTube here!](#)

[Sign up](#) to receive this newsletter straight to your inbox