

Student Law Office

Annual Report 2014–2015



Welcome to the Student Law Office



I am extremely proud of the work and achievements of the Student Law Office, and this report illustrates the wide range of activity undertaken, from representing clients to disseminating best practice through research and scholarly activity.

At the heart of the Student Law Office are our students, and the opportunity for a transformative learning experience. But we also hope to expose students to the real need for access to justice, and this combination is what makes the Student Law Office a model of university community engagement, where students learn through serving others. This year saw the development of an exciting new project, Gateshead Advice Project (GAP) providing an advice clinic in partnership with Gateshead Citizens Advice Bureau. These projects help to expand the availability of legal advice to groups who may otherwise struggle to access this.

Last year we were delighted to receive the ultimate accolade through being awarded the Queens Anniversary Prize for the exceptional work of the Student Law Office to add to the panoply of other awards achieved. This year, the Student Law Office was shortlisted for the Northern Law Awards as well as the Namati Justice Prize. These awards reflect the efforts of staff and students in offering a legal service to the community. I was also delighted to support SLO students in running a student –led conference on pro bono and clinic. This attracted guests from all over the country, and was a highly successful event.

We have continued to be active on the international stage. Our 13th IJCLE conference this year was in Turkey, partnering with Global Alliance for Justice Education, and was a great success. The move to the IJCLE becoming an open access journal has provided a focal point for the dissemination of research on clinic, and the new Legal Education and Professional Skills Research Group (LEAPS) has been led by clinic staff, and has hosted some excellent sessions.

My heartfelt thanks to staff, students and our legal partners for their support of the Student Law Office, and I look forward to another successful year.

[Carol Boothby](#)

Director of the Student Law Office

About the Student Law Office

What is the Student Law Office?

The Student Law Office (SLO) is Northumbria Law School's multi award-winning pro bono law clinic where students, under the supervision of qualified staff, offer a full legal service to members of the public. We are proud of the contribution made by the SLO to the local community, offering free advice and assistance to many who could not otherwise afford this. The clinic is a key part of our innovative four year MLaw degree course which integrates the professional skills of the Legal Practice Course into the new Masters level degree. Students take on real cases and provide a full legal service, conducting interviews, researching, advising, drafting and, in suitable cases, providing representation. Their work is closely supervised, but normally all client contact is through the students.

What preparation do students have before entering the Student Law Office?

Students take part in an SLO program in Year 3, where they practice interviewing clients and develop an awareness of the office systems and their own professional responsibilities. In Year 4, they join the live client program, and this accounts for around 40% of their final year mark. Assessment is by means of a personal file, which is a portfolio of the work they have completed during the year, in addition to two reflective pieces, looking back at their own development during the year.

What about Legal Practice Course skills?

Students are assessed for competence in writing and interviewing as part of the Legal Practice Course during their time in the SLO.

Who else can take part in the Student Law Office?

The SLO experience is also available as an option on the full time Legal Practice Course and the Bar Professional Training Course, although places are limited.

How do I contact the Student Law Office?

For further information please e-mail us at la.studentlawoffice@northumbria.ac.uk

Do you have a twitter account?

Yes, you can follow us [@NU_CLE_SLO](https://twitter.com/NU_CLE_SLO), but please note all enquiries must be directed to the Student Law Office directly using the details above.

Facts and figures 2014-2015



Students involved in the Student Law Office:

Year 3 – **217**

Year 4 – **174**

Elective students – **24**

Cases:

New enquiries – **853**

New and existing cases conducted – **306**



Compensation recovered for clients:

£92,299.90

Staff involved in the Student Law Office

21 supervisors

2 administrative support staff

and 1 trainee solicitor



Areas of Law:

- Civil litigation including consumer and CICA appeals
- Crime and criminal appeals
- Employment
- Housing
- Welfare benefits
- Planning
- Family
- Business and Commercial

Our community partners:

- Shelter
- Ben Hoare Bell Solicitors
- Newcastle Library
- Newcastle and Gateshead Citizens Advice Bureaux
- Newcastle Personal Support Unit



News

Legal Advice Byker shortlisted for inaugural Namati Justice Prize

Our Legal Advice Byker project was shortlisted for the inaugural Namati Justice Prize, a prestigious legal empowerment honour.

The accolade recognises 'grassroots' justice and legal empowerment projects, and great deeds in legal empowerment, which give people the power to understand and use the law to secure justice and meet basic needs.

Legal Advice Byker provides legal advice and guidance to disadvantaged individuals and families across the Byker area. Since its inception in 2012, it has offered its support to almost 100 vulnerable members of the community – a large number of whom would not normally have access to legal advice elsewhere.

Namati Justice Prize judges looked for projects that have had an extraordinary impact on people's lives, that have the potential to grow in scale, and that deliver justice in the face of great difficulties.

Carol Boothby, our director, said:

"Legal Advice Byker has really captured the imagination of the community – it's a service for people who believe they have no power or means to address their legal issue and who feel they have nowhere else to go.

Northern Law Awards 2015: Pro bono/Community Initiative and Law Teacher of the Year

We were delighted to be shortlisted alongside some of the biggest legal names in the North East in the Pro Bono/Community Initiative category at The Northern Law Awards 2015. These awards celebrate the legal talent and success within the region.

Our director, Carol Boothby, said: "To be shortlisted in the Northern Law Awards 2015 is a tremendous achievement for the Student Law Office here at Northumbria University.

"The awards recognise the best of the best in the North East's legal sector and to be considered alongside top firms is a huge boost for all involved, and is testament to the invaluable service being offered to the public by our students."

Carol added: "The students provide a lifeline for many people in Newcastle who simply can't afford legal representation. To have this work recognised yet again demonstrates how important the work of the Student Law Office is to the local community."

Carol was also nominated for the prestigious Law Teacher of the Year Award, which recognises innovative teaching practices and an ability to enhance the student learning experience through scholarly activities. Many congratulations to Carol, and likewise fellow Northumbria Law School lecturer Richard Glancey who was also nominated.



Supervisors Chris Simmonds, Elaine Campbell and Victoria Gleason at the Northern Law Awards

SLO students commended by Assistant Coroner

We are one of only a handful of pro bono clinics which assist with inquests. This specialist area of law requires particular sensitivity. We were therefore thrilled to receive a letter from Assistant Coroner James Newman praising our students.

Mr Newman said:

"I would like to take this opportunity to record my appreciation for (the students') professionalism and the manner in which they have conducted themselves in correspondence and in person at the various hearings that have taken place to date. I have found (the students) to have consistently acted not only in the best interests of the family in what can only be distressing circumstances, but with maturity and professionalism that exceeds their current status."

We thank the Assistant Coroner for taking the time to write to us and for his very kind words.

Launch of SLO Business & Commercial Blog



left to right – Blog contributors James Warnock, Connor Cartledge and Dawid Stramski

This year we launched a brand new blog which features pieces written by students who work in our Business & Commercial firms.

The blog is designed to tell prospective clients about our free legal work for businesses and provide the public with information on issues that may be of interest. To date the blog has included pieces on alternative business structures, being an in-house lawyer, scam business registers, the impact of the new consumer rights bill on businesses and what it's like to work in the SLO.

The blog has been a resounding success. It has been visited over 1500 times, by people in the UK, USA, Russia, Slovenia, Ireland, Australia, Bangladesh, Italy, Belgium, Nigeria, South Africa, and South Korea.

Student Led Conference



Ana Speed and Victoria Pridmore welcoming delegates

This year, a group of students from the Student Law Office organised and hosted the Northumbria University Student Led Law Conference. The conference revolved around two streams; clinical legal education and legal skills. A series of interactive workshops were held throughout the day, which looked at networking skills, interviewing skills and legal volunteering opportunities. Students were also invited to take part in a debate and a poster competition.

The sessions were designed to provide practical support to students, raise awareness of clinical legal education and promote the benefits of pro bono activities. Our own students were joined for the conference by law students and tutors from the University of Sunderland, Teesside University, University of York, Sheffield Hallam University and Kent Law School.

The feedback from the conference was resoundingly positive and we look forward to welcoming delegates next year.

FIRST class advice



Charlotte Windebank, James Warnock, Caroline Theobald, Jamie Hill and Victoria Gleason

FIRST is the brainchild of founder Charlotte Windebank and was set up in 2014 with the aim of establishing a network of business, industry and academia to promote young people's future employment and enterprise opportunities.

The company has been going from strength to strength and Charlotte's entrepreneurial spark has recently been recognised as she was listed in the Maserati 100 – a list of the most successful business leaders actively supporting the next generation of entrepreneurs (<http://www.themaserati100.co.uk/>).

With FIRST going through an important stage of growth and development, Charlotte thought the company would benefit from obtaining some legal advice and a contact recommended that she get in touch with the Student Law Office at Northumbria University.

Charlotte said of the service: "The Student Law Office was engaged to provide FIRST with advice about branding and intellectual property, its website terms and conditions and its ongoing filing and administrative requirements. Given the strong social media and networking focus of the business it was great that the students were able to work closely with FIRST to ensure the website terms were robust whilst fitting with the overall ethos of the company. I was really impressed with the service the Student Law Office provided".

SLO Charity Quiz in Reds Bar

The Student Law Office, in partnership with The Grey Society, hosted the Just(ice) quiz at Reds Bar in the Student Union. The quiz raised funds to support the important work of the North East Legal Support Trust who provide financial and practical assistance to free legal advice services. The quiz was well attended by students, academics and legal professionals from the region. Of course, there was a friendly sense of competition as the teams vied to receive the highest scores in the legal round! The event raised a total of £182.90. We extend thanks to Chris Rogers who did a fantastic job as the quiz master.

Four years of "Inspiring Entrepreneurs"

For the fourth year running the Business & Commercial firms attended "Inspiring Entrepreneurs" at Newcastle Business and IP Centre. This event is a live webcast from the British Library to celebrate Global Entrepreneurship Week. For one night only, a panel of some of Britain's finest entrepreneurial minds share their expert business knowledge. This year, panel members were Sir Charles Dunstone, founder of TalkTalk and Chairman of Carphone Warehouse, Kanya King MBE, founder of the MOBO awards, designer Anya Hindmarch MBE and Apprentice winner Tom Pellereau.

Emergency Food for People in Crisis



SLO students with just some of the food collected

As Christmas approached, students and staff from the SLO rallied to collect food for the Newcastle East food bank. In the first delivery, we sent 281.5kg of food to the food bank, providing 253 meals to people in need.

Student prizes

The David Gray prize for the student scoring the highest overall mark for the Student Law Office was awarded to Natalie Richards. The Philip Plowden scholarship for the student in a crime firm who scores the highest overall mark was also awarded to Ellen Walker. Congratulations to Natalie and Ellen. We also thank Irwin Mitchell for their continuing support of an educational scholarship, which enables one third year student to undertake a 4 week work placement in a law clinic at one of America's top universities. Once again this was at City University New York (CUNY). In 2014 the scholarship was awarded to Joseph Muir.

Christmas decoration competition



SLO Director Carol Boothby welcomes Santa and his elf to the SLO

Santa and his elf also took time out from their work to visit the SLO to congratulate the winners of the Christmas Decoration competition in December.

New faces in the Student Law Office

We extend a warm welcome to our new trainee solicitor, Ana Speed who joined us in September 2014. Ana completed the Legal Practice Course at Northumbria University and will spend two years in the SLO gaining practical experience before qualifying as a solicitor.

Since joining the SLO, the majority of Ana's case work has been in relation to civil litigation, employment and business law under the supervision of SLO Solicitor Tutors. Ana has also gained advocacy experience representing clients in the small claims court, the employment tribunal and the First-Tier Tribunal. Ana said: 'I have thoroughly enjoyed my time so far with the Student Law Office. The office places real value on learning through first-hand experience which means I am responsible for managing my client relationships and the day-to-day conduct of my files. I have no doubt that this will provide me with solid foundations for my career as a qualified solicitor'.

We were also delighted to welcome Jamie Anderson from Trinity Chambers who supervised a number of employment cases. Jamie was called to the Bar in July 2004 and is a barrister at Trinity Chambers.

Farewells

This year, we said farewell to Graduate Tutor Emma Shaw and former SLO student and Ben Hoare Bell solicitor Lee Russell. Lee played a key role in setting up the Legal Advice Byker project alongside Solicitor Tutor Chris Simmonds. We wish him well in his new role in London at Devonshires Solicitors.

A special farewell to Tina Bond

As this academic year draws to a close we say farewell to Tina Bond, a longstanding member of staff and much loved supervisor who is retiring. Tina has been with the University for 37 years. She supervised family cases in the SLO, alongside her own practice and her work as a Judge. All of the staff and students in the SLO would like to express their thanks to Tina for all of her support and guidance over the years.

Our Community Projects

Gateshead Advice Plus (GAP)

The GAP project ran as a pilot this year for a 6 week period from 11th February 2015 until 18th March 2015. It was run in conjunction with Gateshead Advice Centre (CAB) and offered advice in Housing and Benefit issues. The students had an hour with each client split into three 20 minute slots. The first to take instructions, the second to discuss advice with their supervisor and the third to give advice to the client with the supervisor present. This was then followed up with a full advice letter within a three week period. In this short period, we had appointments arranged with 11 Housing clients and 12 Benefit clients.

Legal Advice Byker

Launched in February 2012, the project includes students and staff from Northumbria Law School and staff from leading legal aid law firm Ben Hoare Bell. From February to May each year, students studying on Northumbria's Legal Practice Course offer free one-off advice to members of the public. This is Legal Advice Byker's fourth consecutive year, and the total number of clients seen to date has reached 100. If you are aware of someone who thinks that they might need legal help and who wants some initial advice before going further, then we will start taking enquiries at the end of January 2016.

Thank You!

During the course of the year, a number of local lawyers and professionals very kindly help us with competitions, talks and visits. We would like to thank the following people for taking the time to support the Student Law Office:

Jonathon Stokes (Head Of Dispute Resolution)
Gordon Brown Law Firm LLP
Neville Takiar, TT Law

National Pro Bono week – success again for “Law in the Library”



SLO students ready to help the public at Law in the Library

In November 2014, as part of National Pro Bono Week, the SLO and the LawWorks North East Pro Bono Hub provided a number of drop-in sessions at Newcastle City Library. Members of the public were able to drop into the library and receive advice or referrals from qualified solicitors on a range of legal areas including consumer disputes, housing, family and business. National Pro Bono week activities are led by Solicitor Tutor, Paul McKeown, who said: “Law in the Library continues to be a successful event facilitating access to free legal advice to members the local community on a range of legal issues. The partnership with Newcastle City Library means that the service can be delivered to those who may not ordinarily be able to access legal advice.”

Shelter

For the last 7 years, we have run a joint project with Shelter, with students researching and advising clients on more complex housing queries, whilst gaining invaluable experience in the area of housing law. We dealt with 23 housing enquiries during this year through this scheme.

Visits

We are delighted to host a substantial number of visits from academics, clinicians, Members of Parliament, campaigners, students, schools and other dignitaries each year. In 2014-15, we hosted over 20 visits from individuals and groups. Those listed below are merely a selection of the visits we have hosted this year.

Jude Kirton-Darling MEP



Jude Kirton-Darling, Ana Speed, Elaine Campbell, Matt Watson, Chris Simmonds and SLO students

In October 2014 we welcomed Jude Kirton-Darling MEP along with her Head of Office, Matt Watson. Jude and Matt met staff and students to hear about the work of the SLO. Jude is a Labour MEP for the North East of England. Jude currently directs European trade union work in the areas of energy, industrial policy, environment and health and safety, all key areas for the European Union and the North-East in the years ahead. We thank Jude for personally referring cases to the Student Law Office since her visit.

The Honourable Mr Justice Norris



The Honourable Mr Justice Norris with SLO students

In November 2014, the Honourable Mr Justice Norris, Vice Chancellor of the County Palatine of Lancaster visited the Faculty and SLO. Topics discussed with students ranged from the growth in the use of Mackenzie Friends following the decline in legal aid, the growth in the demand for Chancery work and opportunities for commercial lawyers, to what was the most fun about being a judge - and the satisfaction of making a judicial decision.

Maddalaine Ansell, University Alliance

Maddalaine Ansell became Chief Executive for the University Alliance on 12th January 2015. Following her appointment, we were delighted to be able to show Maddalaine our facilities and discuss the innovative experiential education that the Student Law Office provides.

Professor George Marston

Northumbria's Pro-Vice Chancellor for Research, Professor George Marston, visited the SLO during an arranged visit to the Faculty building.

Sarah Woodhouse and Christine Ball, Liverpool University Law Clinic



Supervisor Joanne Clough with Sarah Woodhouse and Christine Ball

In December 2014, we were delighted to welcome Sarah Woodhouse and Christine Ball from Liverpool University Law Clinic to the SLO. They attended a crime firm meeting and met other students to discuss what kind of cases they were dealing with. Sarah and Christine also very kindly got involved in the Christmas festivities by judging our Christmas Ornament competition!

Nick Hillman, Higher Education Policy Institute



Nick Hillman and SLO students

Mr Hillman is the Director of the Higher Education Policy Institute. He was attending the University in order to give a presentation on the topic of the impact of the 2015 general election on Higher Education. He requested a visit to see the SLO and we were pleased to show him our facilities.

Frances Ridout, Queen Mary University of London

Frances visited us in order to learn more about compulsory clinical legal education and to discuss the benefits and challenges of assessment in clinic. After her visit she wrote to say:

"Your facilities and the detailed work that you do is undoubtedly a matter of great pride to Northumbria University as well as being inspirational to all in the field of clinical legal education. Learning about your Clinical Legal Education program will help me greatly as I start to figure out how we make our CLE work here at Queen Mary as part of an assessed course rather than just extra-curricular activities for the students."

“ What our students say..

> 'The SLO really helped me settle in at this new job'

> 'Learning how to deal with clients and getting interview experience benefited me no end'

> 'Knowing how to open and operate a file has saved me so much time'

> 'If a client or lawyer asks me about my time at University I always say how great the SLO is'

> 'I have thoroughly enjoyed my experience in the SLO, thank you'

> 'The SLO provided me with such valuable experience'



“ What our clients say..

> The help and support has been second to none and I want you to know how much you're appreciated. Thank you for believing in me and taking my case on. I don't know where I'd be now if you hadn't helped me. Win or lose I can begin to get back to normal in my life, please know that I will be forever grateful to you. There really are angels without wings!

> The Student Law Office was engaged to provide advice about branding and intellectual property, website terms and conditions and ongoing filing and administrative requirements. Given the strong social media and networking focus of the business it was great that the students were able to work closely with us to ensure the website terms were robust whilst fitting with the overall ethos of the company. I was really impressed with the service the Student Law Office provided"

> 'I owe everything to a group of students who believed in me when others didn't and refused to allow a terrible miscarriage of justice go unnoticed'

> The advice I was given was both very informative and definitely helped me win my appeal. I did not know much about law but everything was explained to me so I could understand it properly'



Clinical Research

LEAPS: Legal Education And Professional Skills research group

The group is an inclusive collegiate group intended to provide support, promote and enhance legal education at Northumbria. The group acts as a focus point for research activity surrounding legal education and professional skills.

There is a well-established history of research into clinic with the Law School publishing its own International Journal of Clinical Legal Education and hosting an annual conference. A number of members are on editorial boards of legal education journals. Many SLO supervisors are members of LEAPS.

This year, LEAPS has held a number of successful events. They include guest lectures from Professor Andrew Francis and Professor Fiona Cownie, both of Keele University. The LEAPS group also held "Problematizing Assessment in Clinical Legal Education" in June 2015. This interactive seminar and discussion forum centered on one day conference explored the theme of how experiential learning in law is assessed. Funded by the Association of Law Teachers, this event was a resounding success.

Selected conference papers and publications

Conference papers

CEPLR Workshop: Re-imagining Clinical Legal Education, Birmingham University (30 March 2015)

Dr Elaine Hall and Cath Sylvester - Beyond theory/ practice turf wars: where theory is considered a practice and practice is theorised.

Association of Law Teachers 50th annual conference, Cardiff (31st March 2015)

Carol Boothby and Elaine Campbell - From rote to realism: the role of clinical legal education in providing best practice in assessment and feedback.

Victoria Murray - Advancing Towards a Vision of Social Justice within Clinical Legal Education Commonwealth Legal Education Conference, Glasgow (8th April 2015)

Cath Sylvester - More Questions than Answers? A review of the effectiveness of inquiry based learning in Higher Education.

Elaine Campbell and Victoria Gleason - Creativity and Commerce: The rise of the experiential business law clinic in the UK.

ENCLE Spring Workshop, Northumbria University (15 - 16th April 2015)

Carol Boothby and Professor Kevin Kerrigan - Why we do Clinic...

Sarah Morse and Rory O'Boyle - Using standardised client to teach and assess interviewing skills.

Jonny Hall and Richard Grimes - Approaches to preparation: Legal knowledge or Problem based learning.

Publications

Campbell, E (2015) "A dangerous method? Defending the rise of business law clinics in the UK", *The Law Teacher*, 49 (2), 165-175.

Campbell, E (2015) "Students as Facilitators: An evaluation of student-led group work", *Practitioner Research in Higher Education*, 9(1), 52.

Lofthouse, R and Hall, E. (2014) "Developing practices in teachers' professional dialogue in England; using Coaching Dimensions as an epistemic tool", *Professional Development in Education*, 40(5), 758-778

McKeown, P. and Morse, S. (2015) "Litigants in person: is there a role for higher education?", *The Law Teacher*, 49(1), 122-129.

Sylvester, C. (2015) "Measuring competence in legal education: a view from the bridge", *The Law Teacher*, 49(2), 242-256.

The European Network for Clinical Legal Education (ENCLE)

We had the pleasure of hosting the ENCLE Spring Workshop on 15 and 16 April 2015. The theme of the workshop was "preparing students for clinic". It generated spirited and useful discussion, through themed sessions, as to how clinicians can prepare their students for a clinical experience. This included topics such as developing ethical sensitivity in clinical students and the impact of clinic in Europe.

International Journal of Clinical Legal Education

As we go to press, we have just returned from the 13th International Journal of Clinical Legal Education Conference, this year held in conjunction with the 8th Worldwide Global Alliance for Justice Education Conference in Eskisehir, Turkey 22nd-28th July 2015.



Chris Simmonds and Elaine Campbell in the beautiful grounds of Anadolu University, Eskisehir

The International Journal of Clinical Legal Education is an international peer-reviewed, open-access journal devoted to the innovative field of clinical legal education. The journal is edited and staffed at Northumbria University. Many of our SLO supervisors gave papers and chaired streams at this year's conference.

A full report of the conference will follow in next year's Annual Report, but you can see photos and commentary about the conference and the papers which were delivered at the IJCLE twitter account @ijcle. Slides are also available on the LEAPS webpage:

<https://www.northumbria.ac.uk/about-us/academic-departments/northumbria-law-school/law-research/legal-education-and-professional-skills/>

Alumni Achievements

We asked former students to tell us what they were up to now. We received an overwhelming number of replies – with news about new jobs, house purchases, travel abroad and fulfilled ambitions. We are incredibly proud of our students' achievements, and delighted that so many remembered their time in the SLO with such fondness.



I now work for a small high street firm called Pinkney Grunwells Lawyers LLP in Bridlington and I absolutely love it. I started in March and time is just flying by. I am again working in Commercial Property as a Paralegal but have been recently offered a Training Contract which I am due to start in January 2016 - very exciting.

I just want to say, thank you again for everything in the SLO. I honestly do think it is priceless to get us started on the right track for a legal career. The bits I learnt in the SLO have stayed with me and really helped me when starting out in my legal career.



Rebecca Mattinson



I got a training contract at Bell Park Kerridge Solicitors in Carlisle. Really enjoying it, great mix of contentious and non-contentious work. The student law office really helped me settle in here. Just knowing how to open and operate a file saved so much time. If any clients or lawyers ask about my time at uni I always say how great the SLO is.



Ben Crystal



I currently work for Ernst Young as a Trainee Tax Advisor on a Tax Consultancy team. My role involves assisting senior staff advising people on their tax affairs and preparing clients tax returns.



Laura Johnston



I'm currently a fee earner in the industrial disease department at True Solicitors (formerly Gorman Hamilton) in Newcastle city centre. I was hired as a claims assistant in July last year and was promoted in February and now have a case load of approximately 100 clients.



Caitlin Scott



I am currently undertaking a training contract with DWF LLP in Newcastle.



Oliver Lovett



I have just started a part time paralegal role... I am currently doing conveyancing but may also do some crime. My job is at Forrester Solicitors in Jarrow.



Kate Lynch



I am currently with JWP solicitors which is a family and crime firm doing my training contract. I started in March and will qualify next August. I am focusing on family law as that is what I did in the SLO.



Sophie Metcalfe



Since leaving the SLO and graduating in July 2014, I started work as a Family Law Paralegal at small local firm, Forrester Solicitors. I was then offered a training contract which I started in January 2015, and taking into account my paralegal work, I will qualify July 2016.



Rachael Fearon



I am now a HR & Accounts Manager at the Vermont hotel!



Carly Matthews



I have a training contract at a commercial law firm in Gateshead called PG Legal Ltd. I started working here in September and assisted on files etc. and subsequently started my training contract in January this year. I am now into the sixth month of my training contract.



Prabhi Ghura



I started a job from 3rd June 2014 where I am training to become a Chartered Legal Executive (CILEx route). This is a 3 year route so I am only 2/3rds away from qualification! I am also as of this year a member of the CILEx Newcastle branch committee and partake in organising local events for legal execs, students and people who are just wanting to see if law is for them. We recently organised the CILEx law ball at the Royal Station Hotel raising over £1300 for local charities (Cash4Kids and the Medicinema, based at the RVI, which raises funds to show films for patients).



Rebecca Cresswell



I'm starting my training contract at Sintons on 7th September 2015. Sintons is a full service, regional law firm based in Newcastle.



Ria Wilkinson



I have been offered a training contract with Ward Hadaway Solicitors starting in September 2016. I head off to America in August and then on to Australia for the year before I return to Newcastle!



Hannah Chambers



I am moving to El Salvador in October to work on climate change adaption and environmental sustainability programmes.



Reece Gannon



I've spent my summer on legal and commercial placements and I'm now off to America on a tour for 6 weeks



Bethanie Conaboy



I have just been offered a job working in a North Shields firm as a paralegal. I will be working in Personal Injury, Professional Negligence, Road Traffic Accident and Industrial Diseases. I'm really looking forward to starting.



Jamie Record



I now have a job with my local council as a Community and Sustainable Development Officer. My role essentially involves helping to come up with corporate policies on environmental, economic and community development issues, and is really exciting... It has occurred as a result of studying environmental law and working in the student law office definitely helped... particularly as it gave me something interesting to talk about in my interview.



Ellen Walker



I now work as a Commercial Property Paralegal at Bartletts Solicitors in Liverpool, with a view to starting a training contract in the near future.



Daniel Moores



I am currently a Paralegal at Longden Walker & Renney Solicitors with a view to starting a Training Contract. I work within the Clinical Negligence Department.



Connor Cartledge



I was the firm rep for TB1 (Tina Bond's family law firm). I'm now working as a family paralegal at Newcastle Law Centre.



Lauren Gibbon



I am starting work with Baker Tilly as a trainee accountant in September 2015.



Danielle Carr

