

## Trainee qualifies into the Commercial Property Department

Leading Stourbridge law firm, Wall James Chappell, are pleased to announce that one of their Trainee Solicitors, Helen Washington has qualified as a Solicitor today. Helen will work alongside Head of Commercial Property, Ruth Latham.

Helen joined the firm as a Trainee Solicitor in January 2016 following the completion of the Legal Practice Course in 2014 at the University of Law (Birmingham). Helen completed her law degree at the University of Chester.

Helen has undertaken seats in Commercial Property, Litigation, Employment and Corporate Law. Helen said

**"I am delighted to qualify as a Solicitor and looking forward to continuing my career path with Wall James Chappell. The firm has been very supportive and the training I have received has been first class with a very supportive training principal".**

Ruth commented

**"I am delighted to welcome Helen into the Commercial Property department and she will be an asset".**





# Christmas Drinks Reception at Dunsley Hall

Wall James Chappell solicitors held their inaugural Christmas drinks reception on the 6th December 2017 at the prestigious Dunsley Hall in Kinver hosting clients and professional contacts from the local business community. The Christmas drinks reception offers invitees the opportunity to network throughout the afternoon in a relaxed and comfortable environment whilst enjoying mulled wine and mince pies.

Partner, James Rousell said "We very much enjoyed entertaining our friends and contacts from the local business community. The event was a huge success with positive feedback received. No doubt we will arrange another event in 2018".

The firm holds a number of events throughout the year including their annual corporate golf day which will be held at the prestigious Blackwell Golf Club on 21st June in aid of the Midlands Air Ambulance and their bimonthly after work drinks club (TAWC).



# WJC named as Charity Champion



Wall James Chappell were highly commended for their charity work at the recent Wolverhampton Law Society Awards evening held on the 24th November 2017.

The practice was specifically recognised for its hard work, dedication and excellent service provided to charities such as Midlands Air Ambulance, Mary Stevens Hospice, McMillan Cancer Research in addition to supporting local family clubs such as Dudley and Kingswinford Rugby Club.

James Rousell, commented

"We are delighted to have been highly commended for our charity work. We are keen to support organisations locally and nationally and plans are already in place to increase our support across various fields. The team enjoyed the awards ceremony and I would like to congratulate all the winners and nominees in their respective award categories."



## Young Business Professional of The Year

WJC are delighted to announce, Vic Younis, our Associate Solicitor in Dispute Resolution has been shortlisted for Young Business Professional of The Year at next month's Signature Awards.

Vic has been shortlisted due to his contribution in the legal industry and community projects.

James Rousell, Partner and Head of Dispute Resolution commented "**We are thrilled that Vic has been nominated and wish him the very best of luck.**"

Vic commented "**I am delighted to have been shortlisted and looking forward to next month's event.**"

The Signature Awards are now in their third year and are due to take place on Friday February 2018 at the ICC, Birmingham. The Signature Awards will celebrate the best in the professions and shine a spotlight on the work of those professionals who have produced cutting edge thinking and have driven the professional market forward.

# Investing in the next generation with new Solicitor Apprenticeship Scheme

Wall James Chappell is one of the first law firms in the region to start its own Solicitor Apprentice programme. The firm has appointed Kate Morris who will undergo a full-time six-year apprenticeship programme that will lead to a full LLB (Hons) degree in Legal Practice and her qualification as a solicitor.

The Apprenticeship programme, operated in conjunction with the University of Law, offers a work-based learning route to qualify as a solicitor.

Philip Chapman, Corporate Partner and mentor, said: "We are delighted to be able to offer this scheme, which is ideal for bright A level students who are motivated to pursue a legal career via an alternative work based path as opposed to the traditional route of university followed by a training contract. The Advanced Apprenticeship programme has been developed to take school leavers right through to qualification as a lawyer. We hope that our investment in the scheme will develop a generation of future lawyers who will help develop and grow the firm."

## Fund Raising Record broken

The staff at Wall James Chappell dug deep this Christmas by raiding their cupboards and donating three Christmas Hampers to Mary Stevens Hospice.



The Hospice were extremely grateful for the efforts and the money raised. Laura Millard, Event organiser, Mary Stevens Hospice said: "Wall James Chappell have been fantastic supporters of our Hospice for many years and we are blown away by their generosity year after year. The three hampers they donated to our Christmas Coffee Morning raffle were absolutely stunning and generated a huge amount of interest & excitement from our guests and the public. As a result, we were able to break all previous fundraising records for our Christmas coffee morning and Wall James Chappell's contribution to making that possible can't be underestimated."

James Rousell commented:

"The Hospice receive limited funding from the Government and we are keen to support them in any way possible to continue providing the excellent service and care they do."



WJC will be hosting their Annual Charity Golf Day at Blackwell Golf Club on Thursday 21st June 2018. Once again, we will be raising money for Midlands Air Ambulance. Last year, 16 teams entered teams and we managed to raise over £1000 for the charity.

This year, cost for a team of 4 players will be £395 including green fees at the prestigious Blackwell Golf Club, lunch and 4 course evening meal. There will also be prizes for longest drive, nearest the pin, first place and runners up.

If you would like to enter a team of 4 please contact Philip Chapman on 01384 371622 or email [p.chapman@wjclaw.co.uk](mailto:p.chapman@wjclaw.co.uk).

# “ VIC YOUNIS ONE YEAR ON ”

“ January 2018 marks my one year work anniversary as an Associate Solicitor at Wall James Chappell. The last 12 months have flown by and I guess the famous saying 'time flies when you are having fun' is true.

Wall James Chappell has a prestigious history and can trace its origins in the Black Country back to 1830. It is a well-established and respected law firm not only amongst corporate and private clients locally but also nationally.

I work alongside the very highly regarded and respected Roger Bishop. Roger, has exposed me to extremely complex and high value litigation matters and has been effective and supportive in passing his knowledge onto me. As a result of Roger's teaching, I now assist clients with litigation, licensing and planning matters. I am always able to refer to Roger for extra guidance and support whenever it is required.

I am able to advise clients more effectively due to the high volume of legal resources and state of the IT facilities available at Wall James Chappell.

The Partners have been extremely supportive and encouraging in allowing me to grow not only professionally but also personally. The Partners encourage networking, entertaining and always encourage staff to have the right "work life balance". They are also open to new ideas on how to grow the firm with plans in place for significant growth in 2018.

My colleagues are like family and were extremely supportive in me settling into my role. They really do possess a "family" mentality and there is no "we are different departments it does not affect us" attitude. There is a strong cross department referral system in place which allows the firm to operate effectively and successfully. It allows everyone to work as a team.

I am extremely grateful for the opportunity Wall James Chappell have given to me with high hopes for 2018 and a plan in place for personal progression. I look forward to being part of its future for many years to come as it looks to build upon its history. ”





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