

Trainee Statistics

Key Practice Area	Contact
Commercial Property	Guy Longhurst
Family	Patsy Phillips
Litigation	Graeme Wallington
Residential Property	Stephen Lansley
Personal Injury	Robert Jones
Company Commercial	Seamus Clifford
Employment	Jayne Scott
Licensing	Louise Bland
Wills & Probate	Jeanette Hollington



Headgate Court

- 85% of trainees have converted to full time employment contracts with the Firm in the last 5 years
- Over 50% - 8 of the Firm's existing 15 partners- started as trainees with the Firm. They are: Jon Armstrong; Louise Bland; Stephen Lansley; Guy Longhurst; Graeme Wallington; Jeanette Hollington; Seamus Clifford; Sally Hudson
- The Firm recruits both at graduate entry and those who have turned to law following other careers. Within the Firm we have a former professional footballer, a dancer and a newspaper journalist, to name but a few former careers.

PARTNERS	15
SOLICITORS	23
LEGAL EXECUTIVES	14
TRAINEES	4
TRAINEE LEGAL EXECS	2
TOTAL STAFF	93

Our Building - Is Sir Charles Lucas haunting Headgate Court?

Headgate Court used to be the King's Head Inn and it was here on 27 August 1648, that the Siege of Colchester came to an end with the Royalists assembled at Headgate Court (the former King's Head Inn) surrendering and on Fairfax's orders, Sir Charles Lucas and Sir George Lisle being taken to the castle and executed.

But this was not the last we were to hear of Lucas as a number of sightings or unexplained events suggest that spirits from the civil war are still not at peace. Mr J B Harvey, three times Mayor of Colchester, who died in 1890, is reported to have told of an apparition of a cavalier or a trooper seen marching up and down the cobbled courtyard. Could this be the same soldier, seen by a number of Ellisons solicitors, guarding the entrance to Headgate Court or the blue glowing figure hovering at the top of the staircase as witnessed by another terrified employee?

If not Sir Charles, other possible identities for the Ellisons' spectre, who has been known to flick tea at unsuspecting solicitors at work, is the grieving Sir Bernard Gascoigne. He too had been destined for execution with Lucas and Lisle, only to be reprieved at the last minute because he was a foreigner. Or was the mysterious face observed peering out of the window on what should have been an empty building, the sentry who allowed Colonel Henry Farr, a former Parliamentarian officer, who had joined the Royalist forces, to escape?

But Sir Charles is still perhaps the favourite phantom, with the Craske family, who lived in the house in the 1850's, reporting that a portrait of Lucas in one of the rooms would fall to the ground when a death occurred in the family. Could it be the same portrait still hanging in Ellisons Solicitors client waiting room?

Contact Details

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