



This scheme is open to students studying a law related degree from second year upwards only.

Through this scheme, you can be matched with a mentor who can answer your career-related questions and guide you through your next steps as you explore placements, different law firms, and think about how your career journey will evolve. The mentors on this scheme are ready to support you through their own learnings and experience, to make your next steps easier.

Choosing Your Mentor

- Review **all** the mentor profiles in this document (click on the names to view the full profile)
- You will be asked to select your **top 5** mentor choices, and to give detailed reasoning for your **top 2** choices.
- Applications are processed on a first come first serve basis. Where your first and second choices are not available, the team will match you with the next available mentor from your top 5 choices and will contact you for an updated answer to why you have chosen them.
- If none of your top 5 choices are available, we will try to match you with the next best fit.
- Complete the [Application Form here](#). Ensure you answer the questions fully and provide a good amount of detail. If successful, the information you provide will be shared with your mentor and it's therefore important that you make a good first impression.
- **Applications will close at 23:30pm on 18th October 2026** or earlier if all mentors have been matched. Therefore we highly recommend an early application
- If you are successfully matched, your mentoring partnership will start from **November 2026 and run until February 2026**.
- If you have any questions, feel free to contact the team at careermentorscheme@exeter.ac.uk

This document is intended for the email recipient only and should not be shared with others. The individual mentors have given permission for their details to be shared internally at the University of Exeter only and none of the details should be shared online.

Table of Contents

<i>Charlie Johansen, Solicitor at Tozers LLP</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Codie Jenkins, Paralegal at SBMB Legal Ltd</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Eloise Hall, Paralegal at Stephens Scown</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Emma Roberts, Trainee Solicitor at Ashfords LLP.....</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>George Hatchman, Trainee Solicitor at Ashfords LLP</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Harry Cooke, Trainee Solicitor at Stephens Scown</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>Jasmine Davey, Trainee Solicitor at Stephens Scown</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>Lexie Williams, Apprentice Solicitor at Stephens Scown LLP.....</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Molly Disney, Trainee Solicitor at Wolferstans Solicitors.....</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>Neve McLennan, Trainee Solicitor at Stephens Scown</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Nicola Hall, Associate Solicitor at Stephens Scown LLP</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>Olivia Warren-Nicholls, Paralegal at Stephens Scown.....</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>Rio Tucker, Real Estate Paralegal at Ashfords LLP</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>Steph Crowle-Conner, Paralegal at Stephens Scown</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>Tegan Forwood, Paralegal at Stephens Scown LLP</i>	<i>22</i>
<i>Thomas Phillips, Solicitor at Rowan & Sproull Limited (Previous role – currently changing jobs) ...</i>	<i>24</i>
<i>Vicky Martyn, Chartered Legal Executive at Tozers.....</i>	<i>25</i>

Charlie Johansen, Solicitor at Tozers LLP

Work Location: Exeter

Main responsibilities:

I am a Commercial Property solicitor who qualified in September 2025. I am responsible for my caseload whilst working alongside support staff and other qualified members of the Real Estate teams at Tozers. I deal with a wide variety of commercial property matters for both public clients like Town Councils and Housing Authorities and private clients as either companies or individuals. I deal with sales and purchases along with Lease arrangements and often work in conjunction with our Corporate team to deal with the Property element of different Corporate acquisitions or sales.

Qualifications:

Undergraduate degree in Law from Southampton University - graduated June 2020.
Postgraduate LPC and Masters from University of Law at Exeter University - graduated June 2021.

Previous employment:

September 2023 - September 2025 - Trainee Solicitor at Kitson Boyce
September 2022 - September 2023 Paralegal at Boyce Hatton.

How would you describe yourself as a mentor?

I am a person who is very invested in helping the next generation of potential solicitors to get a better understanding of the legal world, so they are best prepared to enter the workplace upon graduation. I am always happy to assist with questions from my mentee and will ensure that I am contactable for them. The legal world is a very serious world and can at times be stressful and time consuming but I hope to be able to show my mentee that law offices are supportive environments full of colleagues who are more than happy to answer any questions you may have and help you if you are struggling or cannot find an answer to a problem or client request. I am also a member of the committee for the Devon and Somerset Junior Lawyers Division, so I am able to assist with networking opportunities with other junior professionals to help build professional contacts and network.

Indicate the areas of career development that you can offer.

- Insight into a specific sector and/or organisation
- Advice regarding recruitment activities (interview techniques, application forms, CV advice)
- Personal development (e.g. confidence building)
- Help to access networking opportunities

Why would you like to mentor a University of Exeter student?

- It is a good opportunity to give back to the University
- To use and develop my information, advice and guidance skills
- To help the next generation of solicitors understand the day-to-day life in a Law office

Any additional comments? I welcome applications from mentees who are neurodiverse.

Codie Jenkins, Paralegal at SBMB Legal Ltd

Work Location: Taunton

Main responsibilities: My job is quite varied but my day to day includes emailing clients and providing advice and guidance, liaising with opponents and counsel, drafting instructions to counsel, drafting Letters of Claim / Letters of Responses to opponents, preparing for and attending mediations or hearings, attending conferences with clients and counsel, and general progression of files!

Qualifications: I'm currently studying CILEX CPQ Foundation, almost finished!

Previous employment: Clarke Willmott

How would you describe yourself as a mentor? I am so passionate about providing guidance to those starting out in the legal field. It can be daunting and hard to know where to start. I would describe myself as understanding, empathetic, passionate and committed to helping those trying to find themselves in the legal field.

Indicate the areas of career development that you can offer.

- Insight into a specific sector and/or organisation
- Advice regarding recruitment activities (interview techniques, application forms, CV advice)

Why would you like to mentor a University of Exeter student?

- To gain an insight into current student life
- To use and develop my information, advice and guidance skills
- To work with someone with a fresh perspective

Eloise Hall, Paralegal at Stephens Scown

Work Location: Truro

Main responsibilities: Rural and Energy (Property) Paralegal at Stephens Scown - Providing legal support at all stages of the transaction, communicating with clients and drafting documents.

Qualifications:

- 2.1 - LLB Law from the University of Reading

Previous employment:

- Paralegal - Corporate

How would you describe yourself as a mentor? I'm a friendly and relaxed mentor who is happy to connect either in person or online. This is a great opportunity to ask questions, gain insight into the legal profession, and discuss topics relating to property law or work in general in a supportive and informal setting. As someone who is also in the early stages of my legal career, I understand the challenges of navigating the profession and can share recent, practical insights from my own experience.

Indicate the areas of career development that you can offer.

- Insight into a specific sector and/or organisation
- Personal development (e.g. confidence building)

Why would you like to mentor a University of Exeter student?

- Voluntary experience for my CV
- To develop my communication skills by working with someone I wouldn't usually be in regular contact with
- To use and develop my information, advice and guidance skills
- To work with someone with a fresh perspective
- To reflect upon my own achievements and career path

Any additional comments? I welcome applications from mentees who are neurodiverse.

Emma Roberts, Trainee Solicitor at Ashfords LLP

Work Location: Exeter

Main responsibilities: Assisting fee earners. I currently work in the employment team, so I do a range of contentious and non-contentious work. This can include making the bundles for the tribunal, interviewing witnesses for our investigations and drafting contract documents. I previously worked in residential and rural conveyancing so I also have experience in property.

Qualifications:

- 2024-2025 - Masters of Law
- 2021-2024 - LLB Law Undergraduate
- 2021 - A levels in French, English Literature and Biology

Previous employment: N/A

How would you describe yourself as a mentor? Friendly and approachable. I came from a family with no history working in law, so I am passionate about helping individuals enter the profession, especially those without personal connections. I am happy to be led by the mentee and be guided as to the kind of advice they are seeking.

Indicate the areas of career development that you can offer.

- Insight into a specific sector and/or organisation
- Advice regarding recruitment activities (interview techniques, application forms, CV advice)
- Personal development (e.g. confidence building)

Why would you like to mentor a University of Exeter student?

- To use and develop my information, advice and guidance skills
- It is a good opportunity to give back to the University
- To reflect upon my own achievements and career path

Any additional comments? I welcome applications from mentees who are neurodiverse.

George Hatchman, Trainee Solicitor at Ashfords LLP

Work Location: Exeter

Main responsibilities:

As a trainee solicitor, I spend most of my time supporting lawyers with progressing their work. My first seat was in rural property, where an average day in the life included drafting contracts for the sale of land, working on transfers of part as plots were cut up and passed around, and chatting with clients to update them and explain different elements of transactions. My second seat was in Real Estate, where things took on a more commercial slant. A typical day for me involved reviewing and summarising leases, drafting property documents and reporting on various elements of different commercial assets. I have just (at time of writing, today) started my third seat in Dispute Resolution.

Qualifications:

- SQE (2025)
- MA Law (PGDL + SQE1) (distinction, 2025)
- BA English Literature (University of Warwick, first class, 2025)

Previous employment:

- Internship at DRC Savills Investment Management
- Vacation Scheme at Ashfords LLP
- Work Experience at Trowers & Hamlins LLP
- Work Experience at New Square Chambers
- Work Experience at Bond Adams LLP
- Internship at Tenders-UK

How would you describe yourself as a mentor?

I am passionate about mentoring young lawyers and am keen to share what I've learned about the process of becoming a solicitor. I have been there and know how daunting the training contract application process is. As someone who didn't read law at university, I understand that it can feel like an almost impossible industry to break into and am happy to do my bit to help demystify the process.

Indicate the areas of career development that you can offer.

- Insight into a specific sector and/or organisation
- Advice regarding recruitment activities (interview techniques, application forms, CV advice)
- Personal development (e.g. confidence building)
- Help to access networking opportunities

Why would you like to mentor a University of Exeter student?

- To use and develop my information, advice and guidance skills
- To work with someone with a fresh perspective
- I am just keen to help someone who needs it, I enjoy teaching.

Meetings later in the evening work better for me if possible

Harry Cooke, Trainee Solicitor at Stephens Scown

Work Location: Exeter

Main responsibilities: Assisting on a broad range of contentious and transactional matters, undertaking legal research, drafting, client communication and matter management, whilst developing commercial awareness, professional judgement and practical legal skills as a trainee solicitor.

Qualifications:

- LLB Law (2024)
- LPC (2025)
- LLM (2025)

Previous employment: N/A

How would you describe yourself as a mentor? As a trainee solicitor, I can offer university students practical insight into the legal profession, the realities of a training contract, and the transition from study to practice, providing approachable guidance and support as they explore a career in law.

Indicate the areas of career development that you can offer.

- Insight into a specific sector and/or organisation
- Advice regarding recruitment activities (interview techniques, application forms, CV advice)
- Personal development (e.g. confidence building)
- Help to access networking opportunities
- Help to access work experience

Why would you like to mentor a University of Exeter student?

- To use and develop my information, advice and guidance skills
- It is a good opportunity to give back to the University
- To work with someone with a fresh perspective
- To learn about a different culture
- To reflect upon my own achievements and career path
- To develop my communication skills by working with someone I wouldn't usually be in regular contact with
- To gain an insight into current student life

Any additional comments? I welcome applications from mentees who are neurodiverse.

Jasmine Davey, Trainee Solicitor at Stephens Scown

Work Location: Truro

Main responsibilities: As a trainee solicitor, my main responsibilities are case management, drafting legal documents, communicating with clients and other legal representatives.

Qualifications:

- Law LLB, Law LLM and LPC

Previous employment:

Paralegal at Stephens Scown

I was a paralegal in the family finance team. My day-to-day role involved assisting legal advisers in drafting court documents, letters and emails to clients, court and other solicitors. I was also involved in ensuring that the court dates were diarised when cases were in court proceedings to help the legal advisers keep track of the case.

How would you describe yourself as a mentor?

I am keen to support and mentor law students by sharing my knowledge and experience, having been through the process myself. I understand the challenges that can arise during a law degree, as well as the uncertainty that often follows when considering the next steps in a legal career. Drawing on my own experiences, I can offer practical advice and insight to students who may be facing similar situations. I appreciate that deciding which route to take can be daunting and, at times, confusing. As a mentor, I would be committed to helping others navigate these challenges, providing guidance, encouragement, and a supportive perspective. I believe my legal experience, strong communication skills, and genuine desire to support others make me well suited to this role. I am passionate about helping aspiring legal professionals build confidence, develop practical skills, and make informed decisions about their future careers.

Indicate the areas of career development that you can offer.

- Insight into a specific sector and/or organisation
- Advice regarding recruitment activities (interview techniques, application forms, CV advice)
- Personal development (e.g. confidence building)
- Help to access work experience
- Help to access networking opportunities

Why would you like to mentor a University of Exeter student?

- To use and develop my information, advice and guidance skills
- It is a good opportunity to give back to the University
- To work with someone with a fresh perspective
- To reflect upon my own achievements and career path

Any other additional information?

I went to state school and I was the first in my family to go to university and obtain a degree.

Lexie Williams, Apprentice Solicitor at Stephens Scown LLP

Work Location: Truro

Main responsibilities:

I currently work in the Commercial Dispute Resolution department at Stephens Scown. Previously, I have worked in the Property Litigation Team, Corporate Team and the Development Team. In these areas I undertook work relating to share purchase agreements, shareholder agreements, option agreement and promotion agreements. I also sold and purchased residential properties and dealt with lease renewals and sales.

I am one of the firm's employee ownership trustees and was elected to this role in June 2021. In this role I represent the views of the firm's employees to the board and regularly meet with the board to discuss ways in which we can improve employee experience at the firm.

Qualifications:

- University of Law (LLB) - started in December 2019, due to complete this year
- University of Exeter (BA Hons - History) - 2015 - 2018, graduating with a 2:1
- Brighton College - A*AA - English Literature, History, Maths A Levels
- Beechwood Sacred Heart - 8A*s, 2 As GCSEs

Previous employment:

- Stephens Scown LLP - Apprentice Solicitor - December 2019 - present day
- England Touch Rugby - Assistant Coach to England Women 27s - variety of coaching roles from December 2020 to present day. Currently involved in coaching the England Women to World Cup in July having won the 2023 European Championships.
- University of Exeter - Graduate Project Assistant, Law School - August 2019 - December 2019. Assisted in setting up the law school in August 2019, worked closely alongside the lecturers and developed law lab each Monday.
- Ski Ami - Chalet Host - November 2018 - April 2019 - ran an 18 bed ski chalet, included cooking breakfast and dinner.
- House of Bruar - Retail Assistant - August 2018 - November 2018 - worked as a retail assistant at the House of Bruar.

How would you describe yourself as a mentor?

As a mentor, I will honestly answer any queries that you might have as to the realities of a career in law. Having been a 'guinea pig' apprentice, I am acutely aware of all the new pathways into law and will be able to help give you genuine advice as to which routes are best to take.

Due to my sporting background, I will be able to challenge you and ask questions of you that you might not expect or anticipate. I will encourage you to think outside of the box in terms of the opportunities available to you, and will endeavour to help you achieve your ambitions. I will also be able to help you understand the different ways in which any extra-curricular interests could be utilised to further a career in law.

When mentoring, I like my mentees to take ownership of sessions and to dictate the formality and tone of the session. This experience is all about helping you develop, so I will be as flexible and adaptable as required to ensure you get the best out of this experience.

Indicate the areas of career development that you can offer.

- Insight into a specific sector and/or organisation
- Advice regarding recruitment activities (interview techniques, application forms, CV advice)
- Personal development (e.g. confidence building)
- Help to access networking opportunities

Why would you like to mentor a University of Exeter student?

- It is a good opportunity to give back to the University
- To use and develop my information, advice and guidance skills
- To work with someone with a fresh perspective

Any additional comments? I welcome applications from mentees who are neurodiverse.

Molly Disney, Trainee Solicitor at Wolferstans Solicitors

Work Location: Plymouth

Main responsibilities:

Client contact, legal drafting, attending Court, preparing papers for Court hearings.

Qualifications:

- SQE1
- LLB (2022)
- A-Levels (2019)
- GCSEs (2016)

Previous employment:

Wolferstans Solicitors Paralegal & Trainee Solicitor

How would you describe yourself as a mentor? Compassionate and understanding, encouraging as well as down to earth.

Indicate the areas of career development that you can offer.

- Insight into a specific sector and/or organisation
- Advice regarding recruitment activities (interview techniques, application forms, CV advice)
- Personal development (e.g. confidence building)
- Help to access networking opportunities
- Help to access work experience;

Why would you like to mentor a University of Exeter student?

- It is a good opportunity to give back to the University
- To work with someone with a fresh perspective
- To reflect upon my own achievements and career path
- Voluntary experience for my CV

Any additional comments? I welcome applications from mentees who are neurodiverse.

Neve McLennan, Trainee Solicitor at Stephens Scown

Work Location: Truro

Main responsibilities: As a trainee solicitor my work involves drafting documents, communicating with clients, attending meetings, and conducting legal research. I have had seats in Corporate and Rural Property, and I am due to start my seat in Commercial Dispute Resolution in September 2026. I have a particular interest in Commercial matters, and much of my work is commercial in nature.

Qualifications:

- LLB from University of Exeter
- LPC and LLM from University of Law

Previous employment: N/A

How would you describe yourself as a mentor? I am an approachable and supportive individual, I enjoy supporting others in their development by sharing experiences, providing practical guidance, and helping them build confidence in their abilities. My goal is to create a supportive environment where mentees feel comfortable discussing challenges, exploring opportunities, and developing the skills needed to succeed in their careers.

Please indicate the areas of career development that you can offer.

- Personal development (e.g. confidence building)
- Insight into a specific sector and/or organisation
- Advice regarding recruitment activities (interview techniques, application forms, CV advice)

Why would you like to mentor a University of Exeter student?

- It is a good opportunity to give back to the University

Any additional comments? I welcome applications from mentees who are neurodiverse.

Nicola Hall, Associate Solicitor at Stephens Scown LLP

Work Location: Exeter

Main responsibilities:

I am a 6 year PQE solicitor working in property litigation. I run my own caseload in addition to assisting more senior colleagues within the team with their cases.

Qualifications:

- June 2016-June 2017 Masters and Postgraduate Diploma in Legal Practice at the University of Law (Distinction)
- February 2010-June 2016 Bachelor of Laws. Grade: 2:2
- This degree covered the seven 'Foundations of Legal Knowledge' as required for a QLD.
- The English Legal System: Pass (64%)
- EU law Grade 2 Pass (74%)
- Public law and Criminal Law Grade 2 Pass (71%)
- Contract law and Tort Law Grade 2 Pass (70%)
- Land law, Equity and Trusts Grade 4 Pass (51%)
- Youth justice module Grade 2 Pass (70%)

Previous employment:

- May 2023-Present. Property Litigation Solicitor at Stephens Scown.
- April 2020-April 2023 Litigation Solicitor at Cartridges Law. I ran my own case load of personal injury, housing and general litigation cases and was the firm's debt recovery go to!
- April 2018-April 2020 Trainee Solicitor at Cartridges Law. I did seats in Housing Law, Personal Injury and Divorce and Finance.
- June 2017-April 2018 Paralegal at Cartridges Law in Personal Injury.

How would you describe yourself as a mentor?

I am friendly and approachable with a good sense of humour which I think is important for anyone contemplating a career in law.

Indicate the areas of career development that you can offer.

- Insight into a specific sector and/or organisation
- Help to access networking opportunities
- Help to access work experience

Why would you like to mentor a University of Exeter student?

- To use and develop my information, advice and guidance skills
- To reflect upon my own achievements and career path
- To give a better experience than I had with a mentor!

Any additional comments? I welcome applications from mentees who are neurodiverse.

Olivia Warren-Nicholls, Paralegal at Stephens Scown

Work Location: Truro

Main responsibilities: Drafting documents, attending meetings with clients, taking note of employment tribunal hearings, managing diaries, talking directly with clients.

Qualifications: LLB Law degree from Bournemouth University 2024. A-Levels in Law, Psychology and Business 2020.

Previous employment: Lester Aldridge, placement student then Paralegal in Litigation and Recoveries, 2 years, key responsibilities include managing the insolvency workload and leading the small team that did so.

How would you describe yourself as a mentor? I am friendly and approachable. I am passionate about helping others develop confidence, identify opportunities, and achieve their goals with whatever support they may need. I can share practical insights and provide ongoing encouragement throughout.

Indicate the areas of career development that you can offer.

- Insight into a specific sector and/or organisation
- Personal development (e.g. confidence building)

Why would you like to mentor a University of Exeter student?

- To use and develop my information, advice and guidance skills
- To develop my communication skills by working with someone I wouldn't usually be in regular contact with

Any additional comments? I welcome applications from mentees who are neurodiverse.

Rio Tucker, Real Estate Paralegal at Ashfords LLP

Work Location: Exeter

Main responsibilities:

The main responsibilities of my job role include: leading legal matters (under supervision), which has included private sector work, which spans from sales of long leasehold units on an entire commercial development in Wellington, to agreements for leases for single commercial units, licences (both present and retrospective), and advising on commercial investments. My experience also includes supporting local authorities with their acquisitions or disposals of their commercial interests, including drafting and negotiating leases for a large council's shopping centre. I also mainly support a sub-team of 7 fee earners in the commercial investment team. This can range from a multitude of things, but usually relates around Land Registry and SDLT applications, including complex situations such as holdover periods for leases inside the LTA 1954, and so on. A paralegal role is incredibly wide in range, and gives you a great platform to entering your legal training, should you choose to do so!

Qualifications:

- September 2020 - June 2024 - LLB Law with Business (with Placement), University of Exeter (Penryn) - Achieved 2:1 (65)
- September 2017 - June 2019 - BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Business, Richard Huish College (Taunton) - Achieved D*D*D (160 UCAS points)
- September 2012 - June 2017 - 10 GCSEs A* - C, The Castle School (Taunton).

Previous employment:

- Real Estate Paralegal – Ashfords LLP (Dec 24 – Present)
- Legal Assistant - Davitt Jones Bould (Aug 24 - Nov 24)
- Legal & Business Development Assistant (Placement Year) - Davitt Jones Bould

How would you describe yourself as a mentor?

I would describe myself as a friendly and approachable individual, who is able to give insight into the practical experience of working in the legal field, and the associated skillset that comes with it. I am also able to share insights into the application process for law firms, having done this myself and improving on these year on year. I have also attended multiple assessment centres, so can give mentees advice on how to prepare. Having attended the university, I believe I can help a mentee develop their confidence and knowhow in the real estate and wider legal sector, and am happy to provide as much advice as necessary!

Indicate the areas of career development that you can offer.

- Advice regarding recruitment activities (interview techniques, application forms, CV advice)
- Insight into a specific sector and/or organisation
- Insight into roles and responsibilities of working in the legal field, e.g. as an assistant or paralegal

Why would you like to mentor a University of Exeter student?

- It is a good opportunity to give back to the University
- Voluntary experience for my CV

- To develop my communication skills by working with someone I wouldn't usually be in regular contact with
- To use and develop my information, advice and guidance skills

Steph Crowle-Conner, Paralegal at Stephens Scown

Work Location: Truro

Main responsibilities: I provide support to the team, taking on daily tasks such as post, preparing engrossments, emails to clients, reviewing drafts, preparing draft applications, draft agreements etc. for approval. I often take phone calls from clients and deal with the new enquiries within the team as well.

Qualifications:

- Law degree (2:1)

Previous employment:

I was a legal assistant in a conveyancing firm for a few months and I was a receptionist for a leisure centre during education

How would you describe yourself as a mentor? I am very friendly and approachable for a conversation, I would be personal to the individual, as well as supportive and encouraging. I would try my best to be practicable, and realistic.

Indicate the areas of career development that you can offer.

- Advice regarding recruitment activities (interview techniques, application forms, CV advice)

Why would you like to mentor a University of Exeter student?

- To use and develop my information, advice and guidance skills
- To reflect upon my own achievements and career path
- Voluntary experience for my CV
- To develop my communication skills by working with someone I wouldn't usually be in regular contact with

Any other additional information: I am partially deaf, so I would be in a position to support someone who may be hard of hearing or any other disabilities.

Tegan Forwood, Paralegal at Stephens Scown LLP

Work Location: Truro

Main responsibilities:

I worked in the Real Estate team for about two years (as a Paralegal and then Solicitor Apprentice) and then worked in the corporate team as a Solicitor Apprentice as my second seat, and the Employment team as my third seat (and where I am now a Paralegal). My work in Real Estate predominantly involved acting for landlords in the sale of properties, acquisition of land and deed of variations. My work in the corporate team involved drafting and reviewing Articles of Associations, incorporating charities and reviewing commercial documents (such as terms and conditions and equipment hire agreements). My work in the Employment team involves assisting with employment litigation matters; such as helping clients to bring claims against their employers / former employers or helping (employer) clients to defend claims brought by employees / former employees.

Qualifications:

Graduated from LLB Law with Business in 2022. Passed SQE1 and SQE2 in 2025.

Previous employment:

I started at Stephens Scown in 2022 as a Paralegal and begun the Graduate Solicitor Apprenticeship in 2023. Before then, I had worked in various workplaces, including a school, hotel, shop, restaurants and remotely during a business internship (working in business operations). Since passing the SQE exams, I have worked as a Paralegal in the Employment team to develop my knowledge and learning, whilst I work towards a Masters degree.

Indicate the areas of career development that you can offer.

- Advice regarding recruitment activities (interview techniques, application forms, CV advice); and
- Insights into studying and working in law.

Why would you like to mentor a University of Exeter student?

- To gain an insight into current student life
- To use and develop my information, advice and guidance skills
- It's a good opportunity to give back to the University
- To work with someone with a fresh perspective
- To reflect upon my own achievements and career path
- Voluntary experience for my CV
- To develop my communication skills by working with someone I wouldn't usually be in regular contact with

How would you describe yourself as a mentor?

I consider myself a thoughtful person who enjoys helping others where I can. I enjoy having open conversations about career journeys and progression and sharing experiences with others where it may be beneficial to one another. Therefore, I am open to discussing various relevant topics to assist mentees in understanding more about potential careers in law and / or business. I am happy to discuss my career journey so far and share insights and experiences that I think may help mentees with job applications / deciding on a career and I look forward to

having open conversations that will hopefully provide students with a reassuring and positive outlook on their future prospects following university.

Indicate the areas of career development that you can offer.

- Insight into a specific sector and/or organisation
- Advice regarding recruitment activities (interview techniques, application forms, CV advice)
- Personal development (e.g. confidence building)

Why would you like to mentor a University of Exeter student?

- To use and develop my information, advice and guidance skills
- To work with someone with a fresh perspective
- To reflect upon my own achievements and career path
- Voluntary experience for my CV
- To develop my communication skills by working with someone I wouldn't usually be in regular contact with

Any additional comments? I welcome applications from mentees who are neurodiverse.

Thomas Phillips, Solicitor at Rowan & Sproull Limited (Previous role – currently changing jobs)

This mentor will be with a new firm when the scheme starts

Work Location: Cornwall

Main responsibilities:

Managing my own caseload in our Firm's Family and Litigation Department with a wide range of areas covered.

Qualifications:

- Legal Practice Course – Distinction
- Masters in Law (University of Exeter) – Distinction
- Bachelor of Laws (University of Exeter) - 2:1

Previous employment:

- July 2023 - February 2024, Solicitor, DF Legal LLP, Litigation and Family Department.
- July 2021 - July 2023, Trainee Solicitor, DF Legal LLP, four 6 month rotations including conveyancing, probate/wills, civil litigation and family law.

How would you describe yourself as a mentor?

I have experience working within different regions of the south west of England, having held positions in Gloucestershire and Cornwall for high street firms, and will therefore be able to advise a mentee regarding a suitable firm to match their skills and interests throughout the region. I am approachable and supportive and can assist a mentee who is interested in pursuing a career in either civil litigation or family law.

Indicate the areas of career development that you can offer.

- Insight into a specific sector and/or organisation
- Personal development (e.g. confidence building)
- Help to access networking opportunities
- Help to access work experience
- Advice regarding recruitment activities (interview techniques, application forms, CV advice)

Why would you like to mentor a University of Exeter student?

- To use and develop my information, advice and guidance skills
- It is a good opportunity to give back to the University
- To develop my communication skills by working with someone I wouldn't usually be in regular contact with

Vicky Martyn, Chartered Legal Executive at Tozers

Work Location: Exeter

Main responsibilities:

I currently work in the Vulnerable Clients team within the Wealth Management/Private Client department at my firm. I run a case load of between 20 - 30 files that are in my name ranging from creating powers of attorney to Court of Protection applications and deputyship & attorneyship management files. I specialise in complex capacity issues and Court of Protection matters. My responsibilities cover all aspects of running and progressing my files, including following up enquiries, quoting, setting up new files and clients, completing compliance tasks, and then carrying out the actual work on the files. My work includes taking client instructions, providing legal advice, completing Court applications, drafting legal forms and documents, client meetings, assessing capacity, liaising with a range of other professionals, legal research and problem solving.

Qualifications:

- CILEX CPQ Advanced and Professional Level with practising rights in Private Client/Probate
- 10 x GCSEs.

Previous employment:

- Wollens Solicitors - Paralegal/Trainee Legal Executive - May 2021 - January 2026
- Tozers Solicitors - Chartered Legal Executive - February 2026 to present

Both roles were in the same area of law specialising in Court of Protection and capacity work, so had similar responsibilities to that described above in my current role. When I was a paralegal and trainee I worked closer with a Partner on files but still ran my own caseload for a number of years before qualifying. I started as a legal secretary for a few months before being promoted to Paralegal and obtaining funding for my CILEX training at Wollens. Whilst at Wollens I was also in charge of the costing process for our professional deputyship files and helped the firm transition into the electronic filing system after COVID.

How would you describe yourself as a mentor?

I have experience in teaching and mentoring even before my legal career. For 7 years I was a teacher in Spain teaching all ages including adults English as a foreign language and running my own language academy. In that business, as well as teaching my students I trained the teachers who we employed and often ran shadow classes with them where they could watch and learn. During my role at Wollens I was also the person who trained our new assistants and junior paralegals in all things Court of Protection. I am always keen to pass on knowledge and I think that I am friendly and patient. No question is a silly question, and I want to bring a human approach to mentoring and the law! I would hope that my mentee would find me easy to talk to, bubbly, and full of life experience - but I certainly don't claim to know it all! I can however always offer to help you find out the answer if we don't know it!

Indicate the areas of career development that you can offer.

- Insight into a specific sector and/or organisation
- Advice regarding recruitment activities (interview techniques, application forms, CV advice)

- Personal development (e.g. confidence building)
- Different routes into the legal sector

Why would you like to mentor a University of Exeter student?

- To use and develop my information, advice and guidance skills
- To work with someone with a fresh perspective
- To develop my communication skills by working with someone I wouldn't usually be in regular contact with
- To give back to the next generation and offer a helping hand/guidance on what they can expect in the future in this sector