



# Women in Business

Advertising Feature



## Ann heading a fantastic family

ANN Miller is the Head of the Family Team at Lupton Fawcett LLP in Sheffield.

Originally from Cumbria she first came to Sheffield to study for her Law degree at Sheffield University. She qualified as a solicitor in 1994 having completed her training working in Carlisle.

Whilst training it became clear that it was Family Law and helping people through difficult times in their private lives which inspired her. Ann moved back to Sheffield in 1997 and worked as an Assistant Solicitor for a commercial firm in Leeds.

Eighteen months later she started work for a large Sheffield firm and stayed for twelve years working her way up to being a partner and Head of the Family Department there.

Ann joined Lupton Fawcett LLP in December 2010 as Head of the Family Team in the Sheffield office. She is a trained Collaborative Lawyer and advises on all aspects of matrimonial and family issues specialising in financial matters.

Ann lives in Broomhill in Sheffield. She is outnumbered at home by her husband who is a School Sports Co-ordinator and her sport mad six year old son. She has always worked full-time and has had to juggle running a busy and successful department with home life which is not always easy. It can mean sacrifices and pangs of guilt. Ann manages to get to the gym but not as often as her husband would like and she missed her son's last Christmas play as it coincided with her starting a new job.



**Fantastic opportunity:** Ann Miller

Ann has been given a fantastic opportunity at Lupton Fawcett LLP to head the Family Partners service they offer in Sheffield.

The aim of Family Partners is to work with clients so that they can resolve their family problems in the best way possible and achieve the most positive outcome for them and their family whether they choose to do that through traditional routes or using collaborative law or mediation.

Ann has always done Legal Aid work alongside her privately paid work and so her career in the Law has not been motivated by money.

An exciting part of her current role is to help establish and head the family team of Absolute Family which is a new specialist publicly-funded family division within Lupton Fawcett LLP.

It is important to Ann that people who may not be able to afford to pay privately can still access the best advice and representation in all areas of family law.



## Making a difference

A PARTNER at Howells LLP since 1993, Pam Kenworthy is one of South Yorkshire's best known solicitors, not only for providing top quality legal advice in her specialist area of employment law, but also in making a major contribution to the successful growth and development of Howells over almost two decades.

Her contribution to the firm and the wider legal sector won her national recognition recently when she scooped a top prize in the national Association of Women Solicitors (AWS) awards.

Pam was named "best woman solicitor managing a legal aid practice" in the 2010 awards, which aim to recognise outstanding women solicitors and to send out a message to the wider business community that women solicitors are successful business women managing their legal practices.

Described by the AWS as being 'at the vanguard of legal service provision,' Pam was recognised for her entrepreneurial spirit and the development of the success-



**Quality advice:** Pam Kenworthy from Howells LLP  
ful Community Legal Advice (CLA) telephone service delivered in conjunction with A4e.

CLA is a legal advice service funded by the Legal Services Commission. Howells now employs over 120 staff to deliver the service, providing advice on debt, employment, housing, welfare benefits and family law to 30,000 people across the country every year.

"I was absolutely delighted to receive this award," said Pam. "As a firm specialising in public law and providing legal advice to those most in need, we've worked hard to develop our services and to make it easier for



people to get the help they're entitled to.

"The Community Legal Advice service helps thousands of people every year and it's great to get recognition for our part in that - not just for me, but for all the staff who work so hard to ensure that people have access to professional, friendly and timely legal advice at times of crisis."

That's not the only recognition that Pam and her team have received - they were recently given a seal of approval for their inclusive approach by the National Centre for Diversity.

The Investors in Diversity initiative is supported locally by Sheffield City Council, Opportunity Sheffield and Yorkshire Forward and assesses organisations for their attitudes and practical actions on promoting diversity within the workforce and within the services they offer.

"Equality and diversity are central to our approach - not just with our own workforce, but also in terms of the services we offer," said Pam. "It's very rewarding to find that the efforts we make are being recognised and delivering results."

## Highly recommended Michelle

MICHELLE Cooper qualified as a solicitor in 1998 and has since built a formidable reputation, being recognised as one of the leading financial divorce lawyers in the area.

On 31 March she will become a partner and head of the family department of the newly formed Graysons with Watson Esam Solicitors (Graysons WE), having led the family department as a partner at Watson Esam for several years. The merger will produce one of the largest family departments in the region, and will serve Derbyshire via its offices in Chesterfield, as well as Sheffield.

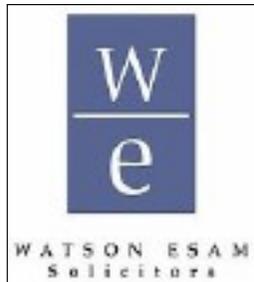
Michelle specialises in complex, high value, high profile and often contentious divorce and finance cases, especially those involving companies and partnerships, pension sharing, and shareholding with assets. She has been an accredited specialist panel member in advanced financial provision and domestic abuse with Resolution for several years, and was Chair of South Yorkshire and District division until the end of 2010. She still sits on the district committee. She has also undertaken an advanced advocacy course.



**Formidable:** Michelle Cooper

Very well known in the area, much of Michelle's work comes from clients who recommend her highly to friends and family, and also from recommendations found on an array of social media. The biggest compliment of all is that she is regularly recommended by people she has acted against and also by her fellow professionals. Michelle is keen to get her teeth into her new challenge at Graysons WE, and to continue to develop divorce packages and innovative and premium services, such as 'Family Services for Professions': a service designed especially to meet the needs of 'time strapped' professional people.

Taking time out of the office, Michelle contributes to the community where she can. She lectures law students at Sheffield Hallam University and is a member of Barnsley/Rotherham



Chamber of Commerce's Representation Council and Women in Business forum.

A busy professional life needs some relaxation, and when she finds time, Michelle likes to go walking in the Lake District with her spaniels - as well as a bit more strenuous walking! She has completed all 3 British peaks and runs in charity events: she is a keen supporter of cancer charities and mountain rescue (her daughter is a member of a local mountain rescue team). She also likes to attend concerts when she can. Michelle can be contacted at Graysons WE from 31 March on 0114 272 9184 or by email at michelle.cooper@graysons.co.uk.

*JULIE Morrissy, head of Engineering & Construction at DLA Piper's Sheffield office.*

I studied English Literature at Sheffield University and then, after some time working in Hong Kong, I came back to Sheffield University to do a PhD.

After teaching in higher education, I decided to go down the legal route and take my professional qualifications at Manchester Metropolitan University. Sheffield always had a pull for me and I knew I wanted to practice in the city - I joined DLA Piper's Engineering & Construction group here ten years ago.

Following four years in the Birmingham office, during which time I reached associate level, I returned to our Sheffield office in 2006, to become a partner in 2007 and to head our Engineering & Construction group in Yorkshire. This has given me the opportunity to work on some fascinating projects alongside some interesting and talented people.

Working with organisations in both the private and public sectors, these projects have adopted a range of forms and a number of them have involved bespoke and innovative approaches which we've had to develop to ensure our clients' objectives are achieved. It makes the work diverse and challenging, no two days are

## Platform for support



**Challenge:** DLA Piper's Julie Morrissy



the same. I act on behalf of a wide range of clients, including local authorities, public corporations, universities, major PLC's and limited companies, developers, contractors, regeneration agencies, banks - the list is varied and offers a depth of exposure across the industry.

Committing to supporting women in the workplace, DLA Piper has offered me some fantastic opportunities to develop professionally through the years. I also believe it's important to use my knowledge and experience to champion causes that benefit others and as a result, am involved in a number of initiatives in the region which fall outside

my professional remit. I'm an executive member of the Business Development Committee for the Prince's Trust's national initiative, Get Into Construction, which is designed to give young disadvantaged people the opportunity to become involved in the Construction Industry - since it started five years ago we have put 900 young people through the programme.

Plus, I am also a Board member of the Construction Sector Network for Yorkshire and the Humber, a scheme which is growing from strength to strength.

Working alongside a number of my female colleagues, I front the Women's Network in our Sheffield office, promoting an empowering and effective environment for women working at DLA Piper. The network offers a platform for women to network, find the support they need to meet their career objectives and socialise. As a woman who herself has climbed the corporate ladder, it's a cause which is particularly important to me, ensuring that others in the firm have access to the opportunities and support they need to achieve the most rewarding careers possible, whatever their role.



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## A 21st century businesswoman

WIFE, mother, leading member of the South Yorkshire business community and a keen supporter of several charitable causes... Louise Oliver demonstrates exactly what it means to be a successful business woman in the 21st century.

Louise founded The Taylor Oliver Partnership, along with business partner Steve Taylor, in February 2002.

Since then the company has shown consistent growth – the last year alone saw a 22.4 per cent increase in profit as Taylor Oliver continued to expand nationwide, attracting many new London-based clients to join those closer to the company's Chesterfield head office.

The Taylor Oliver Partnership has also been named one of the top five financial planning firms in the country at the New Model Adviser Awards.

A Sheffielder born and bred, Louise, who is 45 years old and has almost 30 years' experience in the financial services industry, is dedicated to improving standards of financial planning – the company is one of the country's few chartered financial planners – for a high net worth clientele.

She is also a keen supporter of the wider business



**Dedicated:** Louise Oliver

community and an active participant in many social enterprises.

She is on the board of the Sheffield Inspiring Women group and is also vice president of the British Association of Women Entrepreneurs, which is affiliated to the world association of women business owners, Les Femmes Chef d'Enterprises Mondiale.

It was in the latter role that she last year addressed an audience at London's Churchill Hotel on the theme of Women of Steel.

An active member of the business group E3, Louise has an enthusiastic role mentoring businesses throughout the Sheffield City Region, particularly those headed by young businesswomen. She is also the co-founder of the Dirty

Dozen, one of Sheffield's best-known networking organisations.

Looking to the future, Louise has also gone into South Yorkshire's schools, encouraging students to think about their business futures and inspiring them to think entrepreneurially as part of the city's BIG Challenge project.

Louise is an ambassador for Sheffield charity Whirlow Hall Farm Trust and is also a sponsor of Dronfield Town Under 10s Football Team.

The Taylor Oliver Partnership also sponsors a widowed mother in Rwanda through Freespirit, the Sheffield charity that supports families who survived the country's years of civil war and genocide.

A busy mother to two young sons, Thomas and Michael, Louise also finds time to take part in many fund-raising sporting events, including five years of Race for Life, raising money for Breast Cancer Care, and also completing the Great Yorkshire Run in support of Whirlow Hall Farm. She has recently spent a day in Doncaster Prison and with the support of clients and friends raised over £1,500 for her bail in aid of Neurocare!

SALLY Mallinson is a partner at Wosskow Brown Solicitors, one of the leading legal practices in the region.

A true Sheffielder: born, bred and educated here, completing her law degree (LLB Hons) at Sheffield Hallam University and Legal Practice Course at the University of Sheffield.

She is head of Wosskow Brown's highly successful personal injury department, ascending to the role in 2006, only 3 years after qualifying as a solicitor, and 6 years after joining Wosskow Brown on work experience – undertaking office junior duties in the un-insured loss recovery department! She became a partner soon after taking the helm in the department. Under Sally's mantle, the department goes from strength to strength, undoubtedly attributable to her dedication, organisational strengths and willingness to grasp new ideas. However, she is keen to highlight the fantastic opportunity she was given by the founding partners, Michael Wosskow and David Brown in the first instance and that she has been ably assisted by Jeff Knibb, a consultant in her department, whose complementary skills and industry knowledge and experience are exceptional. The pair have built up an amazing following of clients and business associates, and a large team of 25 staff.

## Sally's quick rise up professional ladder



**Busy person:** Sally Mallinson

Before starting her legal career, Sally worked in various retail outlets, giving her an invaluable insight into customer care and client relations. She also undertook varied work experience, including a placement with South Yorkshire's Coroner, whom she credits for setting her on the path of applying for a job at Wosskow Brown with his advice to apply to those firms who featured at the end of the legal section in the Yellow Pages as opposed to the beginning!

Sally now specialises predominantly in high value



injury claims arising from road traffic accidents, but also deals with personal injury work involving low velocity (LVI) claims, allegations of fraud, credit hire, Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority (CICA) claims and infant settlements.

She celebrates 10 years' full service with Wosskow Brown in July 2011, during which time she has become accredited as a senior litigator with the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL), a member of the Solicitors Regulation Authority Personal Injury Panel, and a member of the Motor Accident Solicitors Society (MASS).

Clearly an incredibly busy person, Sally manages to combine her professional life with her role as a mother of two young boys, age five years and 18 months, and whilst she did manage a bungee jump for charity in 2009, there is definitely little time for any other hobbies at the moment!

## Help for fe:males

MARINA Larios is the director of Inova Consultancy Ltd, a Sheffield based consultancy firm which provides a consultancy service for organisations and individuals in the area of diversity, equal opportunities and entrepreneurship.

With a particular focus on supporting career development, Inova provides a range of services to promote and support women entrepreneurs across Sheffield and on an international basis.

Marina is also the President of WiTEC (European Association for Women in Science, Engineering and Technology), an advisor for the Cambridge Centre of Gender Studies, a Co-Founder of the South Yorkshire Female Entrepreneurs Network and a Steering Group member of the BME Forum at the Sheffield Chamber of Commerce. Marina was nominated for the Sheffield Chamber of Commerce "Businesswoman of the Year" Award 2007 and was recognised as an Enterprise Champion by the Small Firms Enterprise Development Initiative in April 2008.



**Range:** Marina Larios

Marina is currently working hard on Inova's latest European project which supports female Entrepreneurs across Europe. Funded by the European Commission, fe:males is working with partners in Italy, Malta, Cyprus and the Netherlands to promote entrepreneurship amongst women facing disadvantage such as being over 50, from a BAME background, disabled or a lone parent. The project will support women in developing their business ideas and the skills they will need to move their plans forward and will begin in April with a series of Mentoring Circles taking place in each partner country.

Fourteen women will take part in Sheffield, meeting regularly for group mentoring sessions, which give the opportunity to meet



with an experienced female entrepreneur and other women in the early stages of becoming self-employed to share experiences and ideas in a supportive environment. April will also see the launch of the fe:males website which will provide networking opportunities for women entrepreneurs across Europe. Members will be able to access a forum, virtual learning tools and a business directory which will support new and developing businesses by providing a platform for sharing experiences, offering support and finding new business contacts, not just within the UK but also in other member countries which include Malta, Cyprus, Italy and The Netherlands. For more information on the fe:males project and to hear the latest news, find us on Facebook.

To find out more about Inova and the services they offer visit [www.inovaconsult.com](http://www.inovaconsult.com) or call on 0114 2207127.

## Local and global opportunities

LUCY Bradwell Tax Manager, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

LUCY joined PwC in September 2003 and qualified as a Chartered Tax Advisor in July 2006 and works on a variety of clients across the UK, specialising in personal tax such as income tax, capital gains tax and inheritance tax for individuals, and business taxation for partnerships of individuals, mainly law firms.

Her clients range from owners of local businesses to entrepreneurs and high net worth individuals. Her work often includes ad hoc projects but Lucy prefers to build longer term relationships, getting to know her clients and understanding their longer term goals and aspirations.

As well as providing ongoing compliance and advisory services to a portfolio of private clients and partnerships, Lucy is currently working on an LLP conversion (transferring a business with unlimited liability to a limited liability business vehicle) and an international restructuring project for a London based law firm. She is advising another international firm on expansion into the Middle East and the restructuring of their existing French operation.

Lucy is also enjoying the challenge of advising on the share structure of a Sheffield based start up business.

She comments "I have really enjoyed working on this project, I find there is real passion involved when you are advising in an owner managed business situ-



**Longer term relationships:** Lucy Bradwell

ation. The fact that it's based in Sheffield, where I grew up, makes it personal to me and it's great that there is local investment. I also find the nature of the business and what they are trying to achieve really exciting. It is great to be involved from the start - you can follow the journey of the company and watch it grow."

Lucy is heavily involved in technical tax training and enjoys the challenge and rewards of passing on the knowledge and experience she has acquired to new PwC employees.

In her spare time Lucy is busy planning her upcoming wedding to Chris Robson – a fellow member of the PwC Sheffield tax team, who specialises in corporate tax.

To contact Lucy Tel: 0114 259 8295 or Email: [lucy.k.bradwell@uk.pwc.com](mailto:lucy.k.bradwell@uk.pwc.com) [www.pwc.co.uk/north](http://www.pwc.co.uk/north)

