



LEGAL*matters*

THE NEWSLETTER OF ASKEWS SOLICITORS



Dream NEW OFFICE!



Askews' new office in central Middlesbrough is a dream come true for the firm's Managing Partner Simon Askew.

He remembers, as a boy, travelling along Borough Road and admiring the gold and tinted windows of number 92-94.

"I was so impressed by them and used to ask my father who the offices belonged to," he recalls.

That very same building (which then was then the base for Doberman Horsman solicitors) is now one that Simon, now aged 35, can call his own, following two years of negotiations and renovation to transform the 125-year-old premises into offices fit for 21st century solicitors.

"Given the choice of any office in Middlesbrough, this is the one I would have gone for - every time," said Simon.

"Here I am, nearly 30 years on from first noticing the building, actually now working from it. It's fantastic."

The new, three-storey office is now the third home to Askews' growing team of lawyers and support staff. The opening of the Borough Road premises actually marks a return by Askews to the town for the first time since 1997. It was an easy decision to open a Middlesbrough office again for the convenience of existing clients in this part of Teesside and, hopefully, to attract new customers too.

Added Simon "We look forward to welcoming them all!"

Askews will continue to operate from its offices in Thornaby and in Redcar where Simon's grandfather, Arthur Askew, started the practice in 1933.

Inside this issue find out about:

New Office Opening

Askews' Local Advertising

Continued Recruitment

Charity Run





Simon Askew

Simon Askew
Managing Partner

SIMON ASKEW SAYS...

“The opening of our new office means that Askews once more has a presence in Middlesbrough and I am absolutely delighted.

Although the planning and building work have made the last two years hard work, I am convinced that the decision to have a base again in Teesside's largest town after a 12 year absence was definitely the right thing to do.

Our plan is not just to make it more convenient for existing clients to call in but hopefully to attract new clients too.

Our ambition is to be the first point of contact for people seeking high street legal services on Teesside and I think the new centrally located office at the heart of Middlesbrough will put us well on the way to achieving that.

We look forward to welcoming all our clients - old and new.”

NEW OFFICE PROJECT

Great teamwork from START... TO FINISH!

The opening of Askews' new office in Middlesbrough is the culmination of more than two years' hard work - all driven by the firm's Managing Partner, Simon Askew.

After more than two years of negotiations and planning, Askews opened its new offices at 92-94 Borough Road, Middlesbrough on 22nd June.

The premises had been empty for around four years and its '70s décor was evidence that, internally, it had been neglected for much longer.

A seven-figure investment has seen the building fully refurbished in advance of Askews' occupation. The work has included a three-storey extension, new windows, roof and external rendering to provide 7,500 sq ft of bespoke office space for Askews' team.

All the refurbishment has been carried out by local companies, including Stainton architects Stringer and Jones, Yarm-based quantity surveyors Teigh and Co, and S4 Developments from Kirkclevington.

Askews was involved in decisions on all the internal fittings, from the customised air conditioning system and telecoms to door design and wall paint colours.

“I am really pleased with the end results. It is just as I envisaged,” Simon said.

“It's an exciting building and I am really looking forward to making it work for us and our clients.”

The layout incorporates all the best aspects of modern open plan offices together with 15 meeting rooms. The building is fully air-conditioned and DDA compliant, including a lift to the upper floors.

Initially, 22 staff will be based in Middlesbrough but, with Askews' growth, Simon envisages up to 60 being based there eventually.



The team behind the renovation - from left Tony Stringer (Stringer @ Jones), Stuart Coleman (Director, S4 Developments), Simon Askew (Managing Partner, Askews), Mark Teigh (Teigh @ Co), Mike Wood (Director, S4 Developments).

Quotes from some of renovation team

“The interior of the Borough Road offices looked as if it had been in a time-warp and we had a significant amount of work to do to bring it up to date. Everything inside is now brand new.”

Mike Wood - Director, S4 Developments

“It is a transformation of what, both internally and externally, was a tired looking building.”

Tony Stringer - Stringer and Jones Architects

“The teamwork was great on this job.”

Mark Teigh - Teigh and Co.



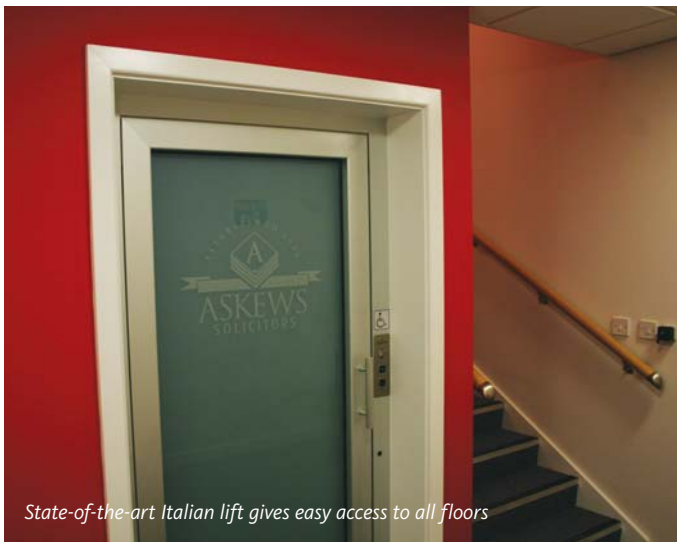
NEW OFFICE PROJECT



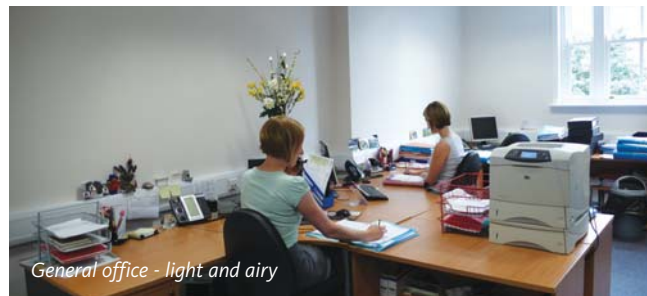
The new reception desk



The previous old tired reception area



State-of-the-art Italian lift gives easy access to all floors



General office - light and airy



Stylish reception



Private offices

HAVE YOU SPOTTED any of Askews' new ads?

To herald the opening of the new Middlesbrough office, Askews embarked on an advertising campaign in the local media to let both existing and potential new clients know that it now operates out of the centre of Middlesbrough. Ads such as those shown here, ran in the Evening Gazette and on bus sides. There were also adverts on Real Radio.

Need legal help? Talk to Askews... ...now in central Middlesbrough

For outstanding legal advice covering six areas of law - you can now talk to our acclaimed team on Borough Road in central Middlesbrough.
Call 01642 475252 today | OFFICES ALSO IN STOCKTON & REDCAR

FAMILY • PERSONAL INJURY • LITIGATION • PROPERTY • TRUSTS & PROBATE • EMPLOYMENT

ESTABLISHED 1933
ASKEWS SOLICITORS
The solicitors your friends recommend

Evening Gazette - Banner Advert

Ask Askews
 NOW OPEN - IN MIDDLESBROUGH

NEED LEGAL HELP? Call Askews Solicitors on 01642 475252 and receive sound legal advice ...at an affordable price!

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ESTABLISHED 1933
ASKEWS SOLICITORS

Mailshot

Ask Askews **NOW OPEN in Middlesbrough**

FAMILY • PERSONAL INJURY • LITIGATION • PROPERTY • TRUSTS & PROBATE • EMPLOYMENT
 The **solicitors** your friends recommend | **01642 475 252** ALSO IN: STOCKTON & REDCAR

ESTABLISHED 1933
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Bus Streetliner

RECRUITMENT



REVVED UP and raring to go

The newest member of Askews' Personal Injury team is lucky enough to be able to bring her hobby to work with her.

Litigation Executive Shelley Somerville-Woodiwis travels to the firm's Thornaby office on her beloved Yamaha R1 motorbike (pictured) from her North Yorkshire home.

Shelley, who races cars and bikes in her spare time, uses her 1000cc superbike to get her to work whenever the weather permits.

Formerly with a firm of solicitors in York, Shelley spotted information about her new post on the Askews' website.

"I liked the look of the firm and the fact it is family-run," she said.

Adding: "My last job was with a large organisation and I wanted to part of a smaller team where you can offer a more personal service and I am really enjoying working at Askews.

"My commuting time hasn't even changed - it doesn't take me any longer to travel to Teesside than it did to get into the centre of York even when I am not on my motorbike!"

In addition to track racing, in her spare time Shelley is also studying for her Institute of Legal Executive qualifications.

For expert legal help call: 01642 475 252

Fax: 01642 605711 Email: info@askews.com Web: askews.com

Our offices:

92-94 Borough Road, Middlesbrough TS1 2HJ
Dunedin House, Columbia Drive, Thornaby, Stockton TS17 6BJ
4-6 West Terrace, Redcar TS10 3BX

We can help you in the following areas of the law:

FAMILY LAW · PERSONAL INJURY · LITIGATION · PROPERTY LAW · TRUSTS & PROBATE · EMPLOYMENT LAW

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New beginnings



There is also a new face at Askews' recently-opened Middlesbrough office where Lyndsay Toner has joined the administration team.

Having recently completed a Business Administration Apprenticeship Level 2 qualification, Lyndsay has been recruited to support the team that manages the day-to-day running of the new office.

Lyndsay is enthusiastic about her new role. "I always wanted to work in a solicitor's office as the work sounded very interesting," she said.

"It's a lovely new office and the job is great," she added. "I am really pleased to part of the team."

NEWS

Trio races for life



Askews' seasoned charity fundraiser Carla Upton had competition when asking colleagues to sponsor her in this year's Race for Life after two workmates decided to follow in her footsteps.

Litigation Administrator Diane Bond and Legal Secretary Carol Wild also completed one of the region's 5km races in July and are keen to do so again next year.

Carla didn't let the fact that she was six months pregnant stop her jogging all the way round the Ormesby Hall course and she finished in an admirable 33 minutes. She was joined, as in the previous three Races for Life, by her stepdaughter Amber, now 11.

"She thoroughly enjoyed it and wore her medal when we went shopping afterwards," said Carla whose grandad and father's wife both died of cancer. "Apparently, after the baby is born, we are getting in training to 'do it properly' next year!"

As first-timers, Diane, who took part in the Seaton Carew Race for Life, and Carol went at a more sedate (walking!) pace. Like Carla, they had very personal reasons for taking part.

Diane was treated for breast cancer last year and "wanted to give something back in return" while Carol's father died ten years ago from lung cancer. "I have several friends who have also had family members diagnosed with cancer so I really wanted to raise some money for Cancer Research," she added.

Between them, the trio raised a fantastic £320.50 for the cause.



The **solicitors** your friends recommend