



CARLISLE

CUMBRIA

LAND OF MYTHS AND LEGENDS



Why practise law in the back of beyond?

?? Exploding the Myths

The majority of Carlisle's living is made from service industries. The largest employer within the service sector are public services (national and local government, education and health) and distribution, hotels and catering. The manufacturing sector is broadly based with emphasis on food and drink industry, textiles, metal goods and engineering.

Since the Lanes Shopping Centre was voted "Best in Britain" in 1985 Carlisle's standing as a shopping centre has increased to a point where it is now functioning with a catchment area that extends 35-50 miles. Steeped in history but now a modern thriving regional centre, Carlisle is easily accessible by road (the M6 turns into the Scottish A74 just north of the City) and by rail (on the main line to Scotland).



MYTH TWO - The firm has no foundation in the community

- BURNETTS -

History

James Burnett started the firm towards the end of the 19th century, practising under his own name.

His son, Edward, joined him as an Articled Clerk but his father died in 1932 one year before Edward qualified as a solicitor. Edward joined in Partnership with Sam Yelloly and the practice began to expand. The firm was then known as Yelloly & Burnett and became Burnetts in the late 1960's after Sam Yelloly retired.

As an interesting historical aside, in 1937 Edward Burnett was appointed vice consul in Cumberland to the Netherlands for two reasons:

- ?? First, to assist Dutch shipping that came into Whitehaven;
- ?? Secondly, much less prosaically, to protect the interests of those involved in runaway marriages to Gretna, then the nearest point to Holland for such adventures.

Burnetts' period of expansion really started in the late 1960's with the development of specialisms within the firm.

Edward Burnett retired in 1975 and his son, David Burnett, who had joined the practice in the early 1960's retired in 1995.

By that time Burnetts had developed specialist departments dealing with both commercial and private client work.

MYTH THREE - There are only small firms in Carlisle

Burnetts is the largest law firm in Cumbria and one of the largest in the Northern region. The firm is based in Carlisle, where it has offices in the City Centre and at Rosehill.

The firm has 15 Partners, with 44 fee earners in all, and 86 non-Partner employees. Our growth over the years has been fuelled almost entirely by internal expansion, rather than by merger or takeover. The size of the firm and the fact that we have been based at a single location has enabled us to develop significant strengths, one of which is the creation of a departmental structure.

That structure has allowed fee earners to develop specialisms and provides a depth of cover suitable to meet the needs of all our clients; this, in turn, has helped in our continuing expansion. It also enables us to ensure that work is carried out at an appropriate level and in an efficient and cost-effective manner.



STRUCTURE

Burnetts is comprised of five departments

Civil Litigation - Construction
Professional Negligence
Defamation
Intellectual Property
Contract Disputes
Property Disputes

Commercial - Company/Commercial
Commercial Property
Employment
Agriculture
Corporate Finance

Personal Injury

Family/Matrimonial

Residential Conveyancing & Probate

MYTH FOUR - There cannot be the quality of work at Burnetts.
A move there would harm future prospects.

The leading independent directory, The Legal 500 records Burnetts as ? the pre-eminent single office company and commercial firm in Cumbria. The firm has focussed successfully on its core strengths in corporate, employment, agriculture, insurance and public sector matters?.

Further examples -

The firm has a strong reputation acting for educational establishments and has clients in Cumbria, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire. Based on the number of Higher Education clients the firm is in the top five in the country.

Douglas Claxton is a specialist planning law advocate and his expertise in wind farm enquiries has gained him a reputation for this work throughout the North of England.

John Morris, the firms Senior Partner, is now a part-time Chairman of the Employment Tribunal and he heads a sub-section of five Employment lawyers who have fought cases from Devon to Inverness.

The aforementioned Legal 500 recommends Michael Cousins and Patricia Hall for commercial litigation and Michael Cousins again for his contentious construction work. Richard Bain is recommended for Personal Injury and John Priddle is mentioned as being highly regarded for commercial work.

The firm has a 30 year plus record of organic growth, through good and bad economic conditions. The firm services a client base in and beyond Cumbria/North Lakes through the Borders to Edinburgh and East to Tyneside. The quality of the work reflects that.

Although the firm is now more commercially focussed all its departments remain strong in work quality and reputation.

MYTH FIVE

Carlisle and the surrounding area offer a high quality of life including:

- ?? affordable housing
- ?? good schools
- ?? a healthy lifestyle, coupled with areas of outstanding natural beauty.

THAT'S NOT A MYTH, IT'S TRUE



WHAT ARE BURNETTS LOOKING FOR IN A TRAINEE?

The firm continues to expand and when selecting Trainee Solicitors the firm is looking to recruit Partners of the future.

Burnetts require candidates who are practical as well as having academic ability and who are motivated, dedicated and ambitious.

Apply to: Mr T S Leach, Managing Partner
Burnetts, 6 Victoria Place, Carlisle CA1 1ES

or E-mail: info@burnetts.co.uk

Website: www.burnetts.co.uk

Method of Application: CV and letter

Selection Criteria:

Class of Degree 2(i) with some work experience
2(ii) with significant amount of work experience

Trainees will, during the period of training be involved with three of the firm's departments depending largely on the Trainee's preference.

Sponsorship during LPC is available, subject to conditions.