

Refreshed
2011

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Solicitors
Ellisons

www.ellisonssolicitors.com

January 2012

Ellisons Solicitors | Review of 2011

We are proud
of our past...

Graeme Wallington

...and excited
about our future.

Guy Longhurst



**“People are
our business.”**

Kevin Wilsher

Read more about our
refreshing new brand identity
and website on page 8 »

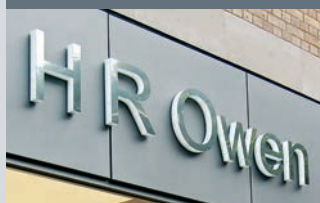
P2. firstsite is a golden sight

Read more about how
Ellisons advised firstsite »



P3. Prancing horse power

Ellisons advised upmarket
car dealership H.R. Owen »



P5. Good sports

Ellisons sponsored the
Tendring Hundred Show
through the Sports area »



P8. New book

Ellisons and its partners
once again highlighted in
Chambers and Legal 500 »



More news >

firstsite is a golden sight



Seamus Clifford, Ellisons' Partner and Head of Corporate Commercial outside firstsite

In September the Iconic new visual arts centre firstsite opened to record a massive 10,354 visitors in its first week, marking the beginning of a new era for the organisation.

We have advised Firstsite Limited since 2007, upon all the legal matters associated with the opening of this new arts facility.

Firstsite Limited is the tenant of the new building, which is owned by Colchester Borough Council. Our involvement has included advising upon the agreement for lease and lease, security documentation with some funding partners, planning and licensing issues, employment and contractual issues, catering contract, facilities and management contract, registration of a business name.

The Rafael Viñoly-designed building has attracted its fair share of controversy but Ellisons was happy to party and pledge its continued support to the "Golden Banana" and other projects which ensure a bright future for Colchester and its residents.

Banking on Essex Property

For the third year running, The Bank of England's Phil Eckersley addressed over 200 delegates at a property seminar organised by accountants & business advisers PKF, Ellisons Solicitors and Chartered Surveyors Fenn Wright. Guest speaker, Mr Eckersley is Agent for East Anglia and the South East and he engaged the audience with an insight into the current state of the UK economy whilst the other speakers updated the regional property professionals on the status of the commercial and residential property market, legal issues and tax planning.



L to R – Guy Longhurst; Peter Harrup PKF; Lewis Chambers, Fenn Wright; Phil Eckersley

Wall wars

We acted for Shirley and Roy Rawlinson, who were sued by their next door neighbours six years after a leaning boundary wall between their respective properties in Mistley fell down in a gale.

When the Judge at Colchester County Court in 2009 decided that the Rawlinsons had not caused the wall to collapse, the neighbours took their claim to the Court of Appeal. However, their appeal failed and they were ordered to pay the Rawlinsons' costs of the appeal, as well as the Rawlinsons' costs ordered in earlier hearings.

During the hearing at the Court of Appeal in London, Lord Justice Tomlinson stated that the appeal brought to his court by was "quite hopeless" and commented that the wall could have been rebuilt six times over with the money which had been spent on fighting the case.

Prancing Horse Power

Property Partner Andrew Tilsley has been advising upmarket car dealership H.R. Owen for 15 years.

In July this year Andrew's client most certainly went up a gear when together with Ferrari, H R Owen opened the latest Ferrari Atelier in the famous Berkeley Hotel on Knightsbridge.



Catering for VIP clients both from the UK and internationally, the Atelier will enable customers to spend time with a specialist building the car of their dreams. With the latest state of the art touch screen configurator it will be possible to really see how your car will look when finished. The Atelier will house an array of bespoke colours, leathers, seats, wheels and other materials to fully demonstrate the level to which you can personalise your Ferrari.

CAA – New Claims – New Client

Robert Jones's Insurance Litigation team is growing.

Developed originally to service the specific needs of one large client, the specialist group of litigation claims lawyers now works with a number of insurance claims teams.

One new win is Ipswich-based CAA, claims experts and an outsource solution provider. The successful introduction was made by a mutual London insurance client and the close working relationship of all teams really does support the CAA mantra "our people are your people"!



Matt Morling CAA with Robert Jones

Deals Done

This year's corporate deals also include:

Ansor, a London based group of investors and senior management consultants, in the acquisition of Belstane Marketing Limited.

Colchester-based **Whybrow** chartered surveyors on the acquisition of McLeod Wright.

Colchester printer **Palladian Press** and its owner Paul Douglas on the sale of the business to Redlin Print.

EAFI and its shareholders on the disposal of its business and assets to Frutarom (UK) Limited, a subsidiary of an Israeli listed food production company.

Palace Pictures, a film distribution company, carried out a public fund raising to raise £15,000,000 to become the UK's largest independent distributor.

Not Half Bad Guy for Headway

Ellisons partner Guy Longhurst was amongst 1000 runners, setting off from the Weston Homes Community Stadium, on Sunday 27 March for the Colchester Half Marathon.



Photograph by Sussex Sport Photography.com

Guy finished the race in a very credible position of 269, a time of 1 hour 47 minutes and over £300 raised for Headway. The event was organised by Colchester Colne Round Table in association with RunnersWorld with Ellisons as a key sponsor.

Calvors Lager – Not “probably” but most definitely The One



Ellisons joined forces with several of the region's most successful businesses to provide one lucky start-up business with a whopping £50,000 worth of business support (legal, finance, PR, design and marketing, as well as £10,000 worth of advertising).

The judges decided that the cream of the entrepreneurial crop in East Anglia and the winner of THE ONE competition 2011 was Alec Williamson of Coddham based Calvors. Established in 2008, with the aim of creating real English lagers, Calvors currently produces four varieties of lager: 3Point8, Premium, Amber and Dark.



Photograph by East Anglian Daily Times

BBC's Crane Talks the Walk

This year client Essex Wildlife Trust combined their AGM with a massive celebration on Saturday 25 June, when Nick Crane from BBC Coast officially opened the educational and public viewing platform for the Crag Walk.



The Crag Walk is a major £1.2million access scheme which allows people to walk along the new rock structure at the base of the cliffs and to learn about the history, the fossils and the wildlife and is the culmination of a 25 year campaign by the Naze Protection Society to “Save the Naze”.

With offices along the same coastline at Clacton on Sea, Dovercourt and Frinton-on-Sea, it seemed only natural for us to sponsor the event.

Nick Crane BBC

Board for Business

In December, Corporate Commercial Head Seamus Clifford was appointed to the Board of Colbea joining twelve other local business leaders from the Colchester business community, whose expertise is essential to the smooth running of the region's premier advice and business incubation centre.

All the directors provide their services free of charge on a voluntary basis, serving the community in which they work. Their skills range from human resources through to legal, financial and marketing, providing Colbea with a wealth of resource and guidance.

The board is led by Chairman, Dr Malcolm Braithwaite and Chief Executive, Mr Bob Baggalley.



Ellisons prove ‘good sports’ at the Tendring Show

Ellisons Solicitors, long-term supporters of the annual Tendring Hundred Show, stepped up the energy this year by sponsoring not only the car stickers but also the popular Sports area.

Manning the “Have a go” Basketball stand, the team from Ellisons attracted literally hundreds of the Show's visitors to take the basketball challenge.

Jayne Scott, the partner heading up the Ellisons team at the Show, was delighted with the day:

“We had a great day with thankfully fantastic weather right up to just the end which is just as well in that the Sports Area in not under cover. I think we have done our bit to encourage young people to be active and try something new, collected some well-deserved funding for Headway Essex and had some great fun doing so.”

The high scorers were put into a draw and one lucky basketball player won a £50 voucher for a leisure retailer. Others donated to Headway Essex, the firm's annual charity and were rewarded for their generosity with an Ellisons Frisbee!



Frinton Summer Fun

The Frinton office were busy supporting summer fun once again this year.

A team entered the Daniel Connal Partnership sandcastle competition to build a 20th century sandcastle fit for the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. Sadly no prizes for Ellisons – but lots of fun!



Frinton Summer Theatre, just across the road from the office at the McGrigor Hall, once again enjoyed Ellisons' sponsorship of the Box Office. In addition this year, partner Nicky Coates treated the team to an evening watching the thriller “Dangerous Obsessions”.

Ellisons golfers were out to play on Wednesday 10th August, the firm's sponsored day at Frinton Golf Week.

Tidal Raves

We only produced one set of Tide Tables last year to cover the times for West Mersea. This year, due to popular demand, we are producing two: one for Mersea and the other for Harwich. If you haven't received a copy of the tide tables most relevant to you, and you would like to do so, just contact our Marketing department based in Colchester or email marketing@ellisonssolicitors.com



Partners not playing but paying

The firm has added its support to local hockey with the sponsorship of Colchester Hockey club and two of Ellisons' partners, Tim Logan and Kevin Wilsher, were at the Colchester Hockey Club on the 19th November to see the sponsored teams in action.



Bryan Patterson (Club President), Tim Logan (Ellisons), Kevin Wilsher (Ellisons), Gordon How (Club Captain)



Mens First team



Ladies First Team

Tim and Kevin can actually claim a little more than a community attachment to the club. Both have played hockey for Colchester but and are very happy to provide a little more support than just cheering from the side-lines.

Bryan Patterson, the club's President appreciates Ellisons' sponsorship:

"It means a great deal to the players to know that they have such support from local businesses – not just financial but significant involvement and interest in how they perform."

Cinque Port Honour

Retired Ellisons partner Chris Bloor has been invested as the new Deputy of the Cinque Port Liberty of Brightlingsea.

The historic role goes back to before the Norman Conquest, when King Edward the Confessor contracted the five most important Channel ports of that day to provide ships and men "for the service of the monarch" – the Cinque Ports. The Deputy's Choosing takes place each year on the first Monday after Saint Andrew's Day (the first Monday in December) at All Saints Church, Brightlingsea.



Hats on for Headway

Ellisons Solicitors responded to the Headway Essex appeal to local businesses to support the Hats for Headway campaign being run in Action for Brain Injury week, Monday May 9th – Sunday May 15th.

On Friday 13th May, bad luck was spurned and bad taste embraced as members of the firm of solicitors based in Colchester's Head Street donned a variety of headgear which included suspect wigs, peacock festooned sun hats, fascinators, bunny ears, jester's bells, jauntily-angled caps, top hats, Aussie outback fashion, a fez and that British summer staple – the knotted handkerchief.

Hat wearers, colleagues and visitors to the office on the day were asked to make a contribution to Headway Essex which is one of Ellisons' nominated charities for the year.



Luke Rittner RAD with Stephen Lansley

Ellisons Partner Stephen Lansley presents cheque to RAD

The David Blair Memorial Trust has been wound up with Charity Commission consent by Trustees Stephen Lansley and Margaret Barbieri and the remaining funds of £4,400 handed over to the Royal Academy of Dance to continue the Trust's objectives.

In brief...

Ellisons has also continued its support for:

Colchester Rugby Club 1st XV for 2011/12
Corporate Community sponsorship of the Mercury Theatre;
The Colchester Choral Society;
Essex Wildlife Trust;
Essex University;
Felixstowe Regatta;
Harwich Sea Festival;
Clacton Air Show
...and more.

New Look for Ellisons

In May we launched a new website and a refreshed identity with the assistance of local Colchester design agency Zeal.

The revamped image introduced a touch of hot pink to the more traditional blue palette favoured by Ellisons over the years. The partners also had a makeover with Zeal's Darren Gee taking a series of new photographs for the website but also to feature in the firm's advertising and Head Street window displays.



"We believe we now have a visual identity which builds on our strong heritage and past but which has been literally refreshed to reflect the Firm today and its future aspirations."

Guy Longhurst, Managing Partner

"A firm of solicitors is after all about its people," continues Guy. "Branding is important but we know our clients primarily choose to work with us as individuals and not just because of the reputation and values of the collective firm."

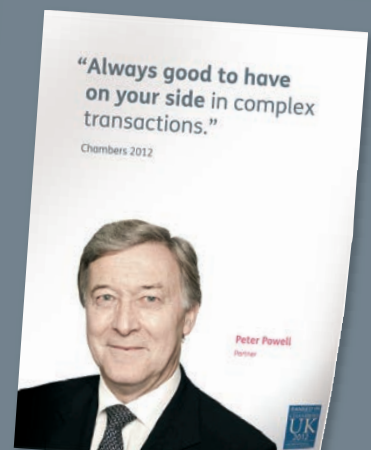
Take a look at our website:
www.ellisonssolicitors.co.uk



Legal 500 research placed the Family practice in the top tier for Essex and praises Tim Logan's Private Client team as 'friendly and sensitive'.

Graeme Wallington is singled out as an **"outstanding lawyer with very strong judgement"** in Dispute Resolution and Jayne Scott is also ranked in the Employment tables.

Seamus Clifford is praised for his **"clarity, responsiveness and business understanding"** and is rewarded by his Corporate Commercial team going up a tier in the rankings.



New Book

The two annual research directories – Legal 500 and Chambers – once again highlighted Ellisons and its partners as leading regional players.

Chambers described Property partners Guy Longhurst as **"experienced and savvy"**; Peter Powell as **"always good to have on your side in complex transactions"** and Andrew Tilsley as **"very commercial, great at solving problems"** with vocabulary that **"doesn't include 'no you can't do that'"**.

Property Litigation practice is described as providing **"a client-friendly approach that offers value for money,"** with practice Head Lee Pearce as **"an easily contactable partner"**. Robert Jones Head of the firm's niche Insurance Litigation practice, received recognition as only one of five **"Notable Practitioners"** specialising in Defendant Personal Injury work for the whole East Anglia region.

Our services:

For Business:

Commercial Property
Corporate Commercial
Dispute Resolution
Employment and HR Support
Licensing
Insurance Litigation
Planning

For Individuals:

Dispute Resolution
Employment and HR Support
Family
Personal Injury
Residential Property
Wills, Trusts and Probate

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