

# TRAINEE SOLICITOR OF THE YEAR



**Jastinder Samra**  
Mills & Reeve LLP

Jastinder has carved an enviable reputation for excellence very early in her career, spending time at Manchester, London and Birmingham offices as well as being seconded to Jaguar Land Rover. Here, she helped a Global IP Counsel to manage international commercial and IP litigation matters. She has been an innovation champion and worked in high-level construction law. Jastinder has helped disadvantaged young people and mentored an Aston University law student. Other voluntary work has included being BTSS Education Officer.



**Anna Dearden**

In an impressive list of achievements to date, Anna has launched an LGBT+ group which has innovated education and social events. She has also been a champion of an internal cultures and behaviours programme. Anna has also been instrumental in launching a choir. She has held worthwhile positions at Birmingham Law Society and mentored at Aston University student. Many examples of community work have included volunteering for John Taylor Hospice and supporting the education of equality and diversity in schools.



**Mischa Howell**  
Gowling WLG

Mischa's many contributions to her local community has included as a governor at New Hall School and jointly leading a successful community cohesion project in the south of Birmingham. She has gone above and beyond in charity fundraising in aid of access to justice. This included leading trainees in hosting ACS' very own 'Great Legal Bake' and bake-off. A gruelling Wolf Run also saw great results. Mischa has a passion for social mobility which shines through. She has worked with colleague Rachel on a growing social media pro bono network.



**Rachel Sutcliffe**  
Anthony Collins Solicitors  
LLP

Rachel has made a fantastic start to her career. She worked at ACS for three-and-a-half years, starting as a paralegal before starting training in March 2019. She has set up and run a new pro bono initiative, as well as becoming secretary of the Birmingham Law Society Pro Bono Committee. While still working as a paralegal in the corporate litigation team, she worked with a partner to set up a new service for a client with a backlog of arrears recovery cases.



**Demi Hughes**  
Squire Patton Boggs (UK)  
LLP

Demi has completed seats in real estate, pensions, financial services and labour and employment. She has been praised for the high quality of her work and appointed Head Trainee. In her role she manages a trainee budget, co-ordinates relevant training and voluntary and pro bono opportunities. She also helps organise social events and has cultivated great contacts through her expert use of social media as well as giving talks at Birmingham University. Demi has a particular interest in fundraising and diversity.