

STEWART STRETTON-HILL
Address: 10 Sherrard Mead, Newbury, Berkshire, RG14 2DF
Telephone: 07989 593713 / 01635 600443
Email: stewart.stretton-hill@ntlworld.com
LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/stewartstrettonhill/>
Online CV available at: <https://shilldon.github.io/CV>

PERSONAL STATEMENT

I am a successful solicitor looking for a brand new technical challenge in a new career.
I have always had a passion for programming and recently completed a Diploma in Full Stack Web Development with the Code Institute with a view to turning a lifelong hobby into a rewarding career.

As a solicitor I have developed talents for innovative problem solving, accuracy, project management and team work. I have and continue to work on all manner of projects with a wide range of clients from individuals to multinational companies.

My communication and presentation skills have been honed over the years for a role that requires the essential ability to present technical and complex issues in language that is easily understood by the lay person.

TECHNICAL EXPERIENCE SUMMARY

Frontend	Backend	Runtime Environments	Frameworks
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• HTML5• CSS3• Jinja 2.0• Javascript/jQuery	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Python 3• Django	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nodejs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bootstrap 3 and 4• Materialize 1.0• Flask 2.0• Express js
UX/UI Design	Source and Version Control	Database creation and design	Deployment
Wireframes using MarvelApp	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Git	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MongoDB• SQLite 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Github• Heroku

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION

Technical:

- Code Institute – Diploma in Full Stack Web Development Second Class Honours

Soft Skills (internal courses with employers):

- Project and team management
- Presentation and communication skills
- Time management
- Financial accounting and budget management

Legal:

- Solicitors for the Elderly Accreditation - pass
- Society of Trusts and Estates Practitioners – Diploma in Trusts and Estates with Distinction
- College of Law Guildford - Postgraduate Diploma in Legal Practice with Distinction
- College of Law Guildford – Diploma in Law with Commendation

Education:

- University of Reading - BSc(Hons) Chemistry 2(ii)
- Charterhouse School – A-Level Maths, Physics and Chemistry
- Charterhouse School – GCSEs grades A-C including Maths, English and Computing

PROJECTS

I refer to my Github portfolio where you will find examples of the projects I have undertaken:

- **Frontend and backend data centric website for a 'community cookbook' – Diploma Project Result 89%**
HTML5, CSS3, jQuery, Python3, Flask, Jinja2.0, Materialize, MongoDB
<https://github.com/Shilldon/cookbook>
 - Brief – create an online community cookbook.
 - I designed and created a database structure using MongoDB for backend provision.
 - Users are able to create an ID and browse, search for, upload, delete and edit recipes on the site.
 - jQuery for frontend functionality and Python for backend processing.
- **Frontend website for a rock band – Diploma Project Result 87%**
HTML5, CSS3, Javascript and Bootstrap
<https://github.com/Shilldon/band-site>
 - Brief - Create a web presence for a rock band to showcase examples of their music and upcoming events.
 - I created a simple eye-catching, responsive site immediately demonstrating their 60s genre.
- **Frontend website for a start up pet sitting company**
HTML5, CSS3, jQuery and Bootstrap3
<https://github.com/Shilldon/priority-pets>
 - Brief – create a web presence for a pet-sitting/dog walking business.
 - This work in progress website provides an obvious overview the business, setting out working practice, area covered, contact details and prices.
 - I worked the manage making recommendations for logo design, colour scheme and website design.
- **Frontend 'scavenger hunt' website involving interaction with Google Maps API**
HTML5, CSS3, jQuery and Google Maps API
<https://github.com/Shilldon/scavengerhunt>
 - Brief – create a fun evening entertainment for an office summer social
 - I created this frontend website using Google Maps API to pin interactive 'clues' in the local area.
 - By tracking user location the text of clues is not displayed until the user is close enough to the location.
 - The scavenger hunt was particularly successful and highly praised in the firm.
- **Interactive frontend website for a Special Educational Needs Consultant – Diploma Project Result 78%**
HTML5, CSS3, jQuery, Google Maps API, Postcode API, d3 (dimension charting) and Bootstrap3
<https://github.com/Shilldon/SENSite>
 - Brief – create an interactive web presence for a Special Educational Needs consultant.
 - I created this front end site using:
 - jQuery to enable users to engage in interactive tests;
 - d3 dimensional charting to display data about local schools to users
 - Google Maps API and local database to enable users to search for local schools catering to their particular educational needs.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Solicitor:

Private Client Specialism (Tax, Trusts, Estates and Probate)

- Irwin Mitchell – Senior Associate Solicitor – May 2016 to date
- Thomas Eggar – Senior Associate Solicitor – March 2014 to May 2016
- Thomas Eggar – Associate Solicitor – 2010 to March 2014
- Thomas Eggar – Senior Solicitor – 2007 to 2010
- Penningtons – Senior Solicitor – June 2007 - December 2007
- Personal Injury Specialism (High value Clinical Negligence claims)
- Penningtons – Senior Solicitor - 2004 – 2007
- Penningtons – Solicitor September 2000 - 2004

As a solicitor and senior associate I:

- provide peace of mind as a trusted advisor for clients ensuring that documents are accurate and tested. Attention to detail in drafting Wills, and trust deeds, is vital. The effect of a mistake may not be immediately evident but many years down the line it could give a result that is completely opposed to the client's instructions.
- ensure clients understand the impact of various taxes on their estates which requires detailed understanding of extremely complex issues and the ability to explain those issues to the lay client in easily understandable language.
- manage a caseload of between 30 and 40 clients ranging from single transactions to ongoing cases can last many years during. I ensure these cases are run efficiently by liaising with and overseeing all levels of team members from juniors dealing with basic day to day tasks to senior management who require project updates.
- develop relationships of trust with referrers through networking and technical presentations to generate more work for the business.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Chairman of Irwin Mitchell's 'Elderly and Vulnerable Client' Technical Committee**
In this role I have overhauled the systems and precedents used across our offices nationally to ensure a consistent approach and style of advice provided to clients. It has been recognised by the firm as that this has reduced risk and improved efficiency.
- **Co-Author Law Society Elderly And Vulnerable Client Handbook**
Through my technical lead, above, I was invited to write chapters in the Law Society's technical manual for Elderly and Vulnerable clients, achieving recognition as a technical expert in this area and improving the firm's national profile in this particular area of work which is generating more revenue.
- **Later Life Training Supervisor**
By ensuring that our national team of Later Life advisors is possesses up to date knowledge of the law in this field I have helped to establish my firm's position as a leading provider of later life legal services across the country. The national team is made up of 7 team heads, each managing between 2 and 10 advisors. This role involves presenting to individuals and groups of up to 50 people either face to face or across video-conferencing.
- **Later Life Advisor**
I have achieved recognition across the firm as the 'go to' person on technical later life issues. Working with others I have developed 'packaged' technical legal advice products. These packages have:
 - Increased national fee income by reducing the amount of advice given away for free;
 - Provided a clear, easy to understand solution for clients;

- Streamlined processes and improved efficiency by reducing the time spent on files by qualified advisors; and
- Reduced the risk of claims by ensuring advice provided nationally is clear and consistent.
- **Vulnerable Client Policy National Lead**
By being recognised as an expert in this area I have been invited to take the lead on developing, marketing and delivering a new service to existing and new contacts in the financial advice market. This advice product will generate new revenue for the firm
- **Chairman of the office Sports and Social Committee**
Aside from the management of budgets, arranging events and dealing with logistics of providing entertainment for an office of 30 people I strive to ensure events are different from the 'usual office party' or quiz.
With only hobby programming experience at the time I have written six webpage 'quiz/gameshow' events. I hosted these events within the office asking a variety of general knowledge questions on which the players needed to 'buzz in' using handheld buzzers which I made. The webpages are designed to be fun and interactive taking styling and inspiration from University Challenge, Monopoly and Dungeons and Dragons.
These annual quiz nights have become the highlight of our sports and social events and have helped networking and team-building across departments.
Due to their popularity I am now hosting these events to third parties and referrers to help raise profile, engage with our contacts and raise money for our nominated office charity.
The wild popularity of these events coupled with my enjoyment of successfully programming the underlying code with no formal training fuelled my desire to pursue this career change.

INTERESTS

- Programming webpages for personal use and office entertainment and customising games – involving writing and hosting 'gameshow' quizzes and writing custom code for role-playing games such as Neverwinter Nights/Skyrim.
- Running a Live Action Role-Playing Club for five years - involving arranging events including booking venues, taking bookings and payment, and logistics of taking props and equipment to and from venues.
- Karate – achieved 1st Dan grade.
- Fatherhood – my most challenging hobby! Raising and entertaining two young boys (under 6) which mostly involves building models, playing interactive games and engaging in interactive play.
- Training at the gym - up until the arrival of our second child I regularly attended the gym with a personal trainer working on strength training. With time now dedicated to studying and fatherhood my attendance has reduced somewhat but I was delighted with a personal best leg press of 450kg!

REFERENCES

Available upon request.