



Peter Dilks

Driven in every sense of the word

Newly promoted associate partner, Peter Dilks talks about how he lives life in the fast lane - no matter whether at work or on track on his superbike. Peter goes from 170mph at the weekend to 180 in the office.

Peter gives us an insight into what makes him tick, his progression at Shakespeare Martineau and the recipe for his homemade soup (for special guests only, we may add).

You have quite an extreme hobby; do you think it helps you in the workplace too?

I don't think motor bike racing would be classed as a "normal" hobby, but there are definitely synergies between it and my approach to working. I've always been extremely driven; both at work and on the track. Improvement and progression motivates me, whether this is beating my personal best lap time on track or solving problems for clients in the office. Plus the change of scenery sometimes helps.

Describe yourself in three words...

I would describe myself as focused, fun and driven.

Have you always wanted to be a lawyer?

After the realisation that my ambition outweighed my talent as a downhill skier, law was the obvious choice! I actually had a truly inspiring mentor at university who kick started my career and helped me to realise my potential in the legal world. I'm still in touch with them today.

What else inspires you?

Our partnership with Team England has really been inspiring and hearing from the athletes and coaches has reinvigorated the way many of us approach our clients' challenges and attitudes towards working together. There are many areas within sport and business that are relatable - the drive to succeed, focus, realising ambitions, teamwork and commitment to the firm and our clients. I also take huge inspiration from my family and their achievements.

What do you value most about Shakespeare Martineau?

The firm's investment in its people is like no other firm I've been at. Harnessing talent and ambition at all levels is at the heart of the successful growth of the firm. Shakespeare Martineau's centre for learning and

development, the Academy, is a great example of this. I also believe the fact that we are managed by non-lawyers sets us apart from our competitors, as we are left to focus our time on working with clients, rather than dealing with much of the bureaucracy inherent in any business.

What has helped you progress the most?

Becoming an associate partner has a competitive application process but the Academy has been fantastic. The Academy focuses on all aspects of progression as a lawyer, but particularly on understanding clients and their business needs and how to help both the firm and our clients deliver profitable results. The support doesn't stop when you become a partner - I'm now attending a 12 month leadership development programme.

Who would be your number one dinner party guest and what would you cook for them?

Valentino Rossi and it would have to be my homemade soup... rolled out on special occasions only!

Can we have the recipe?

If you can spell 'gourmet soup recipe', Google will help you find it!



Location: Nottingham



Years of service: 3



Area of law: Real estate