

# PRESS RELEASE

## STEPHENS & SON

### SOLICITORS

#### **MERGER MEANS WORK IS JUST A STEP AWAY AS MEDWAY LEGAL FIRMS JOIN FORCES**

Two of North Kent's leading legal firms have joined forces, offering a more streamlined and effective service to both business and private clients in the county.



Medway solicitors Stephens & Son LLP, based in Chatham, have merged with neighbouring firm Redfern Stigant.

The merger is a homecoming for Stephens & Son's Managing Partner Jacqueline Shicluna, who trained at Redfern Stigant before qualifying as a solicitor in 1988.

Jacqueline, who specialises in personal injury, was educated at Rochester Grammar School and Somerville College, Oxford, before studying at the College of Law, London.

She joined Stephens & Son from Redfern Stigant in 1995.

Stephens & Son, founded in 1793, is one of the oldest legal practices in the Medway towns, while Redfern Stigant goes back more than a century to the 1890s when Adam Stigant started a legal practice in Chatham.

Kenneth Redfern & Co commenced practice in Gillingham in 1932 and the two firms amalgamated in 1976.

Charles Fuchter, a partner with Redfern Stigant for more than 30 years, said: "This is a great opportunity for both firms to improve upon the level of service we already offer to our clients."

Jacqueline Shicluna said: "Both firms have operated virtually side by side for many years, offering similar services, assistance and representation to individuals and businesses.

"It is our aim to continue to provide a friendly, efficient and professional service, using our combined strengths and expertise to better serve our clients' individual needs."

The merger, formalised on August 1, 2011, was marked with a celebratory lunch reception for staff, who will in future all be based at the Stephens & Son's offices at No. 41 Railway Street.

Miss Shicluna said: "Both firms are looking forward to a progressive and fruitful future following the merger."

For further information contact Jacqueline Shicluna on 01634 811444 or email [jas@stephens-son.co.uk](mailto:jas@stephens-son.co.uk)

**Photo: from top of the steps:**

Charles Fuchter, Caroline Brooks Johnson, Michael Bailey, Jacqueline Shicluna