



Annika Tolmay

My name is Annika Tolmay and I have been working in conveyancing since 2021. My journey started after right after I graduated from the Northwest-University (South Africa) in 2020. It was here that I obtained my Bachelor of Laws, something that I am very proud of. The Northwest-University was established in 2004 by merging with the Potchefstroom University for Christian Higher Education and the Sebokeng Campus of Vista, whose staff and students were also incorporated. This was done as a strong symbolic act of reconciliation and nation building and till this very day the transition to the NWU has been praised as one of the most successful higher education mergers in South Africa.

After graduating from university, I was offered the opportunity to undertake my articles of clerkship at a well-known property law firm in Centurion (SA), called MC van der Berg. Working at MC van der Berg gave me a solid foundational knowledge of South African property law and it was here that I had the opportunity to work closely with clients, getting a real feel for what it is like working in the legal profession.

In 2022, I had the opportunity to branch out further and moved to London where I started working as a conveyancing paralegal while completing the practical legal training course with the Law Society of South Africa. This enabled me to gain a better understanding of the differences between two legal systems while allowing me to study carefully, the residential conveyancing process in the United Kingdom under wonderful mentors at a well-established law firm called Knipe Woodhouse-Smith in the heart of South Buckinghamshire

I thoroughly enjoy working at Oliver Fisher Solicitors, a firm whose values and foundations are very much in line with my own. My hope is to complete the academic leg of my journey soon in order to become a dual qualified attorney/solicitor. The reason being that I have always been very proud of my heritage and the constitutional values embodied by the South African legal system since the country became a democracy in 1994.

My enjoyment of conveyancing stems from my interest in property law and love of working with people and it is a privilege to work for a firm that is known for putting their clients first and doing so with diligent, quality conveyancing. Not only am I able to work in residential conveyancing, but I also get to gain valuable experience in commercial matters.

Working in conveyancing, I feel like you really get to delve into various other areas of law and an array of interesting topics, one of the topics we are researching at the moment is the Building Safety Act and its on-going effect on the new matters we take on. To me conveyancing represents a way to connect with people from all stretches of life and to make their home ownership dreams a reality through sound legal advice and guidance. Every transaction is different, and every new matter is accompanied by a new set of challenges but there are few things that can be as fulfilling as getting a transaction over the completion line!

