

*We don't believe in law as usual
For us, law is inspiring...*

Our story

A number of years ago, we decided that we could change the way legal services are delivered. That we could do them better. At gunnercooke, we believe the potential of our clients and our people rests with our ability to free the law and make it work as it should. Today, we attract passionate lawyers and advise with authority: every gunnercooke lawyer has a minimum 10,000 hours practising experience.

Flexibility, transparency and freedom guide everything we do. Flexibility for our people to work how they want. Transparency of cost for our clients because we removed time recordings and billable hours. Freedom for our people and clients to achieve their personal and professional aspirations.

We work with clients that believe tradition is there to be tested, not obeyed. Working together, we help them seek opportunities and push the boundaries of what's possible.

Providing a suite of corporate and commercial legal services, gunnercooke is one of the UK's fastest-growing challenger brands. Proud of what we have achieved, committed to doing more.



Matthew Searle

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Overview

What he's best at

Matthew is a vastly experienced corporate and commercial solicitor, having practiced for over 25 years. He is a trusted advisor to successful corporates, with extensive experience in advising on company sales and acquisitions, including private equity and venture capital investments and management buyouts. He also advises on corporate structures, shareholder and LLP agreements. Matthew acts for businesses across a wide range of sectors, though he has a specialist interest in M&A in the technology and motor retail sectors.

Matthew is renowned for his 'user-friendly' and flexible style, with Chambers UK independent directory 2012 describing him as 'a calm, organised and confident corporate lawyer whose experience inspires trust in his clients'.

Who he works for

- Corporates
- Entrepreneurs
- A wide range of owner-managed businesses

Testimonials

"Matthew did a great job for us on the Viva deal; he was responsive, thorough and efficient. It was very much appreciated and I look forward to working with Matthew again." - Business Angel investor in regional magazine publishing group

"On behalf of the board which met earlier today, I am writing to formally thank you for all the work you carried out for us in our acquisition of Webbers. The timescale was very tight but it all got done on time and in good humour." - Paul Suter, Finance Director, Harwoods Limited, Top 50 regional car dealership group

Experience Highlights

- Acting for the Shareholders in the sale of Gamesman Limited to Esterline Technologies inc, a US \$2 billion company listed on the New York Stock Exchange.
- Acting on the sale of Elektromotive Limited to Chargemaster plc including negotiations with Elektromotive Group, a company listed on the Singapore Stock Exchange.
- Numerous acquisitions for Harwoods Limited, one of the largest motor dealership groups in the South East and a number of other M&A transactions in the motor retail sector.
- Sale of part of a leading marine insurance broker and financial services group to Sunderland Marine.
- Management buy-out of Manor Creative Limited, the Sussex based print business.
- Sale of Patisserie Valerie London restaurant group to Luke Johnson (Risk Capital Partners).
- Venture capital investment in Connect Mortgages Group by MMC Ventures.
- Acquisition of Lewes Football Club.
- Sale of Platinum Portfolios Limited to PFM Group Limited.

Things he's written

[Planning the Sale of Your Business](#)