Brachers
With you all the way

Private wealth and succession planning

Tailored legal advice to protect your private wealth and help you prepare for the future

www.brachers.co.uk/privatewealth

> Professional, organised and efficient. Personal touch in terms of phone calls as opposed to letters.

Client feedback

About us

Our comprehensive team of private wealth legal professionals can help you protect your assets and safeguard your family and business interests, whatever happens in life.

Whether you want to leave a legacy for the next generation, protect your wealth during marriage, or access specialist business or property advice, we have the expertise to support you.

Why choose our Private Wealth team?

Our large, multi-disciplinary team have a wealth of experience and will provide you with a seamless service, covering a wide range of personal and business law matters.

We have strong relationships with financial wealth advisors and can work closely with your existing professional advisors.

Through working collaboratively, we can provide an integrated service to protect your wealth and assets across all areas of your life.

Our approach

Although we are a big team, we know that the personal touch is important. If you choose to work with us at Brachers, you will always have a dedicated contact who will get to know you and understand your needs.

We strive to provide the best added value service possible, whether that is out-of-hours phone calls when you need support, or legal guidance and updates through our legal Q&As or webinar programme.

Heritage and experience

Founded in 1895, Brachers has a long and rich history. From the very start we have put clients at the heart of our business, which has always sat alongside our promise to the local community and ability to offer excellence.

Over the last 125 years, we've become experts at building long-term relationships with our clients across Kent, the South East, and beyond, and have worked with many families for generations.

In March 2020 we opened our new office in Canterbury, and this greater presence has helped us support our East Kent client base further, including agricultural businesses and farming families.

We are also part of the Marcalliance global network of international lawyers, connecting us to legal experts around the world. This means we can support you even if your legal affairs cross international borders.

Expertise

At Brachers, you can be assured that you will receive first-class guidance and support. Our teams and individual solicitors consistently receive top rankings in The Legal 500 and global directory Chambers and Partners – the leading guides to law firms.

What's more, our Private Client team is also consistently highly ranked in the Chambers High Net Worth Guide, which ranks the top law firms and solicitors supporting high net worth individuals.

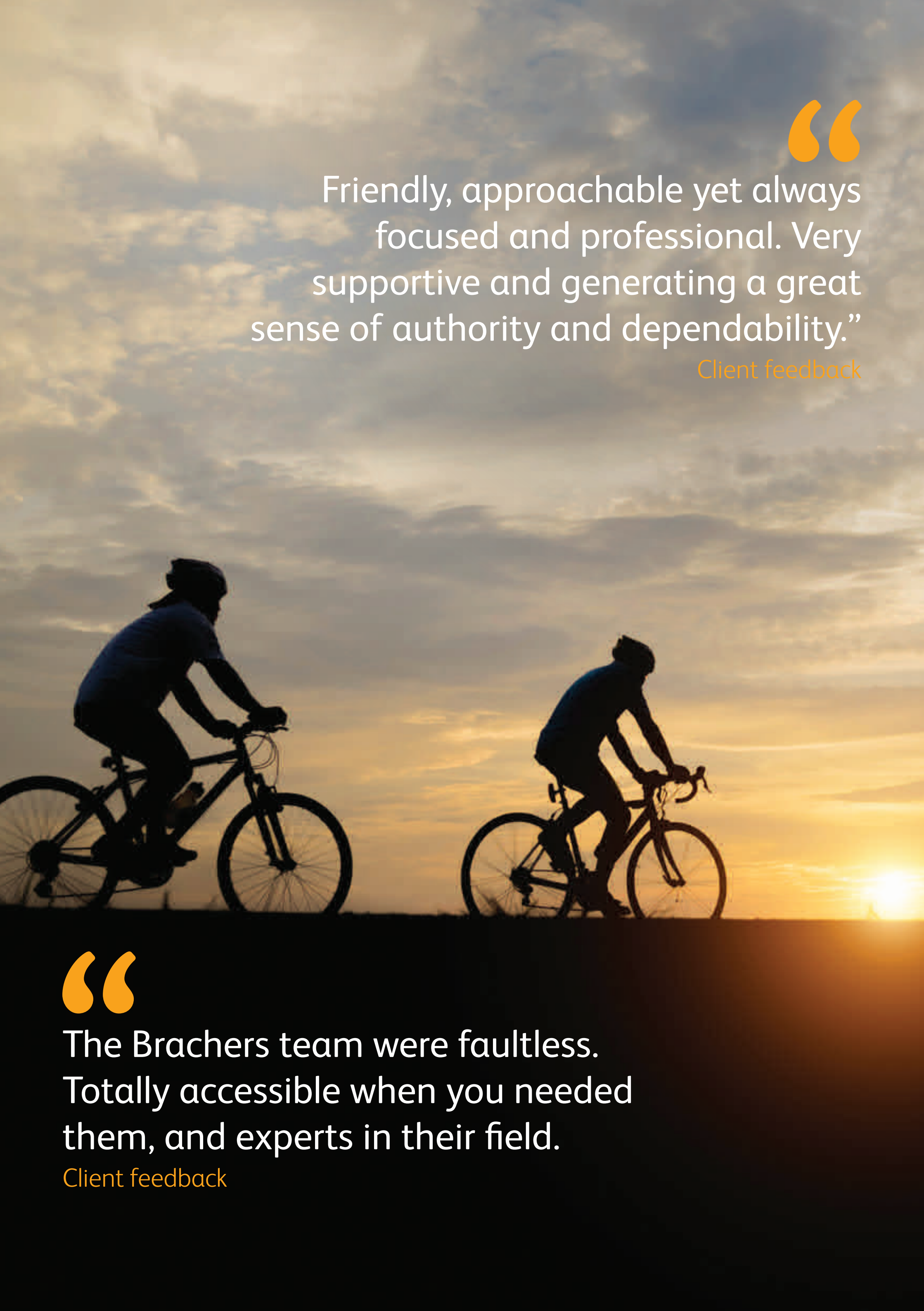
Partner and Head of Private Client Christopher Eriksson-Lee is also individually ranked Band 1, the highest ranking, in this guide. As part of the process, Chambers interviews clients and business associates of the lawyers, with Christopher described as: "*calm and knowledgeable... well recognised [at] dealing with business owners and landed estates*". Another said: "*he understands the family and is attentive to all family members of varying generations*".

If you instruct us to help with the purchase or sale of property, you will be in safe hands. Our Residential Conveyancing team are accredited by the Law Society of England and Wales' Conveyancing Quality Scheme, a recognised industry quality standard for handling property transactions.

Recognition

Our teams are regularly recognised in numerous prestigious industry awards. Recent highlights include:

- Winning 'Private Client Team of the Year' at the British Wills and Probate Awards 2020
- Winning 'Best Probate Law Firm – London and the South East' at the UK Probate Research Awards 2021
- Three members of the firm were winners at Kent Law Society's COVID Heroes Awards 2021
- Second place in the 'Best operational continuity category' at the prestigious Managing Partners' Forum Awards 2021
- Being shortlisted for two consecutive years at the Family Law Awards 2019/2020
- Being shortlisted in the 'Excellence in Marketing and Communications' category at the Law Society Excellence Awards 2020
- Being shortlisted in the 'Excellence in Practice Management' category at the Law Society Awards 2021



"Friendly, approachable yet always focused and professional. Very supportive and generating a great sense of authority and dependability."

Client feedback

"The Brachers team were faultless. Totally accessible when you needed them, and experts in their field.

Client feedback

“Put us at ease… and kept us very well informed at all times.

Client feedback

How we can help

Wills, trusts and probate

Our award-winning team can advise you on drawing up Wills and handling probate matters.

We can provide bespoke, practical advice on the best way to plan for your future and leave your assets to your chosen beneficiaries.

Unlike many regional firms, we also have a specialist Trust team who advise on trusts and estate planning for high net worth clients.

Power of Attorney

We also have a dedicated team who are experts in helping elderly and vulnerable clients, and ensuring legal protections such as Power of Attorney and deputyships are in place if you become more vulnerable in later life. Head of the team, Partner Mary Rimmer, is a 'Dementia Friends Champion' for the Alzheimer's Society's Dementia Friends campaign, and has created over 1,150 Dementia Friends to date.

Tax planning

Our experienced tax and trust lawyers, including a Chartered Tax Adviser, provide advice on lifetime capital tax planning to a broad range of clients including farmers, professionals and families with complicated financial arrangements.

We apply a tailored approach to your personal requirements, to help you avoid unnecessary inheritance tax, capital gains tax or income tax, and highlight tax exemptions that may apply to your estate.

We have established relationships with a number of leading financial advisors in the South East and can work together with your advisors to cover every angle to protect your assets.

Property portfolios

Our bespoke service for high value property transactions gives you peace of mind that you'll get the support and advice you need.

We can advise you on:

- Buying and selling high value property
- Buying a second home
- Equity release
- Increasing your property portfolio, including investments
- Standalone mortgages to raise funds for investments

Succession planning and gifting

If you want to leave your wealth to the next generation, it is vital that the right structure is in place. We can advise you on inheritance tax reliefs and exemptions, particularly if you own business or agricultural property.

We can advise you on:

- Inheritance tax planning
- Will drafting Lifetime and charitable gifting
- Trusts and trust management
- Arrangements for those living outside of the UK

We aim to pre-empt and prevent family conflict, giving you peace of mind that your family will be provided for as you intended.

Succession planning for landed estates, farms and rural businesses

We have a strong legacy of supporting agricultural clients in the region.

Our agricultural law specialists understand rural life and the challenges that you face. If you want to pass on your estate, farm or rural business to your children, we will make sure the process is as smooth and stress-free as possible. We also understand that future generations may wish to diversify your agricultural offering, and can help you prepare for this.

We will work closely with you and your financial advisors, accountants or agents to protect the needs of all your family.

Business interests and family businesses

We've been working with business owners and entrepreneurs for more than 125 years, so we understand what it takes to make a business succeed. We'll get to know you and your company, and work with you to achieve your goals. We provide high quality services at competitive prices, making sure you get value for money.

Whether you're looking to start a business, grow your company, make investments or sell your business, our Corporate and Commercial team can support you.

Family offices

You may wish to establish a family office to help manage your financial and legal needs and ensure a smooth transition of private wealth between generations.

To find out how this could benefit you, our Private Wealth team can advise you. We work flexibly, and will tailor our services to your family's needs. We'll help you navigate the complex governance issues involved in family offices and plan for your long-term future.

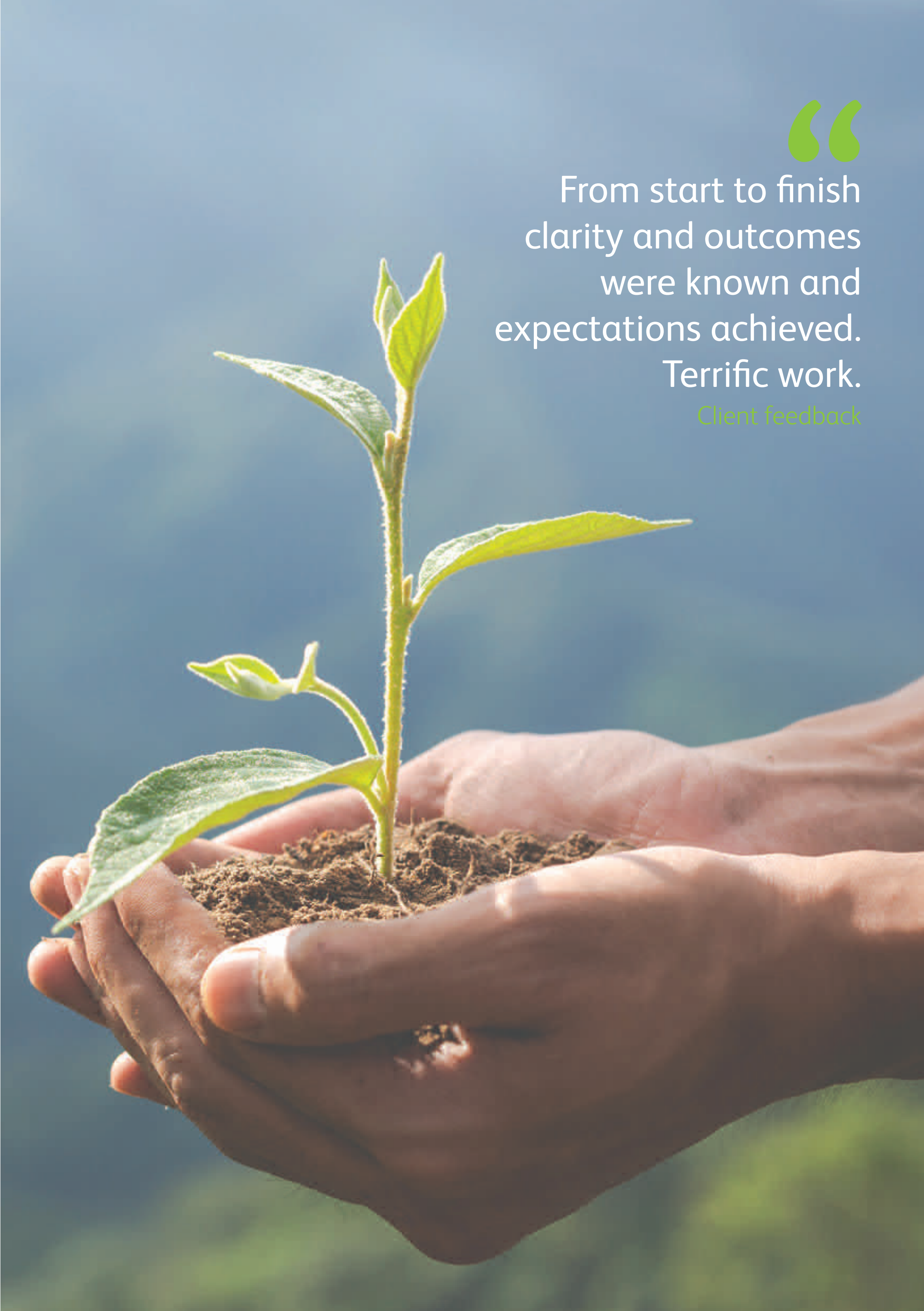
Protecting assets before and after marriage

Pre- and post-nuptial agreements are an important tool to protect your wealth.

Our family lawyers have extensive experience in helping to protect clients' assets and understand what influences the court's decisions.

We can advise on you drawing up agreements to suit your circumstances, including:

- Where there is an imbalance of wealth
- If you want to protect an inheritance for children from a previous relationship
- Where one of you wants to safeguard family wealth



> “From start to finish clarity and outcomes were known and expectations achieved. Terrific work.
>
> Client feedback

“

Helpful and sympathetic and added a human aspect... at the same time were efficient and informative.

Client feedback

Divorce

We have a strong track record of supporting high net worth clients through the painful process of divorce, and understand the complex legal and commercial issues involved. Our experienced and empathetic family lawyers will ensure you get the best representation, and can advise you on:

- Spousal and child maintenance, including payment of school fees and maintaining lifestyle
- Child arrangements after divorce, including if one party lives outside of the UK
- Defining matrimonial and non-matrimonial assets
- Examining family income and wealth, especially inherited wealth and offshore assets
- Complex pension and trust schemes
- Search orders and freezing orders to protect assets

If you, or you partner, own a business, divorce can be particularly difficult and often complicated.

We know that it is necessary to understand how a business is owned, its value, and the income it provides to assess the appropriate level of maintenance.

Our specialist corporate and commercial solicitors have in-depth understanding of business structures and can provide support and guidance to help you get the best outcome.

Contentious Wills, trusts and estates

Disputes over Wills can be complex, difficult and emotionally charged, particularly with high value estates and trusts.

If you want to contest a Will or claim an inheritance if you've been left out of a Will, our highly experienced team can support you.

Our goal is to resolve disputes by negotiation, mediation and other methods of alternative dispute resolution. With our calm and sensitive approach, we aim to help you preserve family relationships.

If court proceedings cannot be avoided, we will ensure they are conducted professionally, skilfully and as cost-effectively as possible.

> Many of the firm's clients are long-term, including families that have worked with Brachers for generations.
>
> The Legal 500

Get in touch today

Brachers
With you all the way

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www.brachers.co.uk/privatewealth

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