

“Balancing work and study with my rugby commitments is difficult at times, but I just make sure I am as productive and organised as possible with my day and prioritise tasks.”

We are very proud of our Graduate Accountant Heather Cowell; Heather joined us in September 2018 with her motto “do more with your day”. Not only is she working extremely hard for her Isosceles clients and studying for her accountancy exams, but she also plays rugby for Harlequins Ladies and is an active supporter of women in sport.

We asked Heather for her thoughts on why she joined Isosceles.



Q: What did you do before your time at Isosceles?

I went to the University of Birmingham and studied Mathematics and Sport Science. I then took a year out where I worked at Wimbledon and went travelling for six months. Following this, I applied for the graduate Accounting role and attended the assessment day where I was successful in attaining a place on the graduate scheme.

Q: What has it been like as a graduate at Isosceles?

I joined Isosceles not knowing anything about accounting, however, I knew that I enjoyed working with numbers, but the accounting concepts and policies were very foreign to me. Within one month of joining, I started the ICAEW programme and enrolled onto my first accounting course to learn the basic principles. I was then able to pick up more client work and get more involved. It is also great that we get to work with a variety of colleagues, all of who are happy to help with any problems or questions you have; it really is a good learning environment. With the graduate programme, academic studies is a big side of it, because things can get very technical. Since joining, I have managed to complete 7 exams. It is very rewarding to do an exam and be able to apply the academic knowledge to a real-life scenario.

Q: What do you do with your time outside of work?

I play rugby for Harlequins Women which is exciting!, We train twice a week and play on Saturdays, so it can get quite busy with all the studying too! I also go to the gym most days to keep up my physical strength, and this is important for injury prevention! I love the club ethos and the way the game is growing; it is great to be part of that movement. In December, we joined the Men's Harlequins team for the Big Game at Twickenham stadium. We beat Leinster in front of thousands of people which was a really cool experience, especially as I grew up in Twickenham.

Q: How do you balance your work/study and rugby commitments?

It can be difficult at times, I make sure I am as productive and organised as possible with my day, and prioritise things at important times. I normally study or go to the gym before work, and then after work activity will involve either rugby, gym, or study, but I do try and find time to see my friends and relax too.

Q: How have you had to adapt your lifestyle due to COVID-19 lockdown?

We have been working from home for two months now. Luckily we can still do everything from home, but of course, it is much quieter without all my colleagues in the office, and I do miss the tea rounds. At the moment, all my rugby training has stopped, so I am just maintaining fitness with running and the weights I have in my garden. We have been sent quite an extensive programme from Harlequins which gives us lots of variety to keep it exciting. I am still studying for my exams, unfortunately the June sitting was cancelled, however, I am still attending college online to prepare for the September sitting.