

Pupillage and Tenancy

WILBERFORCE
CHAMBERS



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Leaders in the Commercial Chancery field

Leaders



'...has set the pace at the Chancery Bar for high-level commercial disputes...'

Legal 500

Welcome to Wilberforce Chambers

Wilberforce Chambers is a set of 50 barristers, including 22 QCs, based in Lincoln's Inn. We are well established as one of the pre-eminent Commercial Chancery sets but our expertise is by no means confined to cases which will be heard in the Chancery Division of the High Court. We pride ourselves on providing a comprehensive service to our clients in relation to litigation and advisory work across the broad spectrum of cases within the Commercial Chancery field.

Members of Chambers regularly appear in the Appellate Courts, the Chancery and Queen's Bench Divisions of the High Court, the Commercial Court, the Administrative Court, the Lands Tribunal, various Pensions Tribunals, the Leasehold Valuation Tribunal and the County Courts. Some members of Chambers also have experience dealing with public inquiries and handling criminal cases.

Diversity and Innovation

Wilberforce has an innovative approach to recruitment which has drawn established practitioners to join us from leading Commercial and Common Law sets, from leading Property and Planning sets and from the Intellectual Property departments of major City firms.

Areas of expertise...

Wilberforce Chambers offers above all expertise in commercial work. Most of our work can be described as being of a commercial nature even if it also falls within a narrower practice area. We are leaders in the fields of property, pensions, private client, trusts & taxation and professional liability. The following are examples of the type of work undertaken by members of Chambers.

Arbitration & Alternative Dispute Resolution

We are able to call on a wide range of expertise and experience both in providing first-class advice and representation in arbitrations and mediations and in acting as arbitrator/mediator/expert.

Banking & Finance

Loan agreements, mortgages and charges, guarantees, other forms of security, retail banking, consumer credit, syndicated lending, asset/project finance, asset tracing, preservation and recovery, insolvency issues, professional negligence claims against those advising lenders.

Commercial

Including agency, civil/commercial fraud, confidentiality, construction, contract, energy, joint ventures, partnerships, telecommunications.

Company

Shareholder disputes, section 994 petitions, derivative actions, share and business sale agreements, breach of warranty disputes, shareholder agreements, financial assistance, directors' duties, disqualification of directors, conduct of meetings, restoration of companies to the register, OEICs, corporate insolvency, accounting/auditing negligence.

Financial Services

Financial Service and Markets Act 2000, FSA enforcement and disciplinary proceedings, Unit trusts, OEICs and other collective investment schemes, with profits, mis-selling claims, Financial Ombudsman Service cases, professional negligence claims in the financial services field, insolvency of investment firms.

Intellectual Property & Information Technology

Brand protection and enforcement, designs and copyright, patents and trade secrets, computer contracts and other commercial agreements, databases, data protection, privacy law, EU competition and International law.

Insolvency

Liquidation, administration, receiverships, CVAs, bankruptcy, IVAs, asset tracing, preservation and recovery, avoidance of transactions defrauding creditors, disclaimer of onerous property.

International & Offshore

The nature of the work conducted overseas is varied and often high profile, reflecting the broad spectrum of work which members of Chambers undertake - including trust litigation, company and commercial law, property and intellectual property.

Pensions

Trust law, regulatory and tax issues arising in connection with occupational pension schemes and other employment-related trusts.

Private Client, Trusts & Taxation

Contentious and non-contentious litigation involving both private trusts and trusts in the wider commercial context, both in the UK and worldwide; drafting, advice on administration and construction; taxation of trusts, personal tax and estate planning (including offshore tax planning) and tax litigation.

Professional Liability

Of accountants, actuaries, auditors, company directors, financial advisors, insurance brokers, investment managers, barristers, solicitors, surveyors and trustees and construction-related professional negligence.

Property

Commercial and residential landlord and tenant law, property-related insolvency, proprietary estoppel, property finance and mortgages, restrictive covenants, easements and profits, property-related torts and questions of title, and the sale and registration of land.

Regulatory & Associated Law

Financial services (banking and financial advisors), professionals (barristers, solicitors, accountants, architects and doctors), sport (football, Formula 1, greyhounds and horse racing), utilities (electricity, telecoms), transport (freight transport, coaches and railways), environmental and planning (waste licences and planning enquiries).

Excellence in legal creativity

Innovative



' Absolutely first class in the area, its members are chosen for their dazzling intellectual firepower, strong advocacy and unparalleled experience.'

Chambers UK

General Information About Pupillage

We look to offer **two 12-month pupillages** each year to pupils with high intellectual ability, good communication skills and an interest in Commercial Chancery work, who are mature and confident, have the ability to work with others and who can analyse legal problems well, demonstrating good practical and commercial sense.

Our policy is to offer pupillage only to those candidates we think possess real potential to join Chambers as tenants at the end of their time with us. This means that we set high selection standards, take great care in our selection process and put effort into providing an excellent pupillage. We assess pupils for their suitability as tenants throughout their time in Chambers by means of a process of continual assessment, rather than by a separate, formal assessment procedure at the end of pupillage.

We are not members of OLPAS, choosing to manage the application and selection process ourselves.

We have a minimum requirement of a 2:1 degree in law or another subject.

Chambers funds attendance at the compulsory courses which pupils are required by the Bar Council to undertake.

We offer a **generous pupillage award**. This is reviewed annually and is intended to be in line with the highest awards available. The award for a 12-month pupillage commencing in 2011 will be **£48,000** and will be paid monthly. A proportion of the pupillage award (currently up to £16,000) can be drawn down during the BVC year.

Pupils can expect:

- a well-structured pupillage
- to sit with at least four different pupil supervisors during their 12 months with us
- to share the daily professional life of their pupil supervisor
- to produce pleadings and opinions in their pupil supervisor's cases
- to attend conferences with their pupil supervisor, the solicitor and the lay client
- to attend Court with their pupil supervisor and other members of Chambers
- to receive regular feedback on their work from their pupil supervisor
- to have their work-load monitored by their pupil supervisor
- to have an opportunity to work with a variety of junior tenants and silks
- to get to know our clerks and begin to learn what skills and approaches will assist in building a successful practice
- to have an opportunity to contribute to life in Chambers.

Mini-Pupillages

Although a mini-pupillage with us is not a formal requirement in the pupillage selection process, interested students are encouraged to meet our members in order to learn how we operate and to see the sort of work we do.

General information about the structure of our mini-pupillages

Each mini-pupil will be assigned to a member of Chambers who will act as mini-pupil supervisor. There will be plenty of opportunities to discuss with that person and with other members of Chambers practice both at the Bar generally and in Chambers in particular.

Mini-pupils are invited to visit Chambers for 3 days. Inevitably the content of each mini-pupillage will vary, but a week with us will usually include visiting Court with members of Chambers, attending conferences with clients, reading and discussing paperwork and participating in various talks and discussions with members of Chambers and staff.

Our mini-pupillages are not assessed but you may be asked to consider a problem question with a mini-pupil supervisor.

The programme for mini-pupillages for the year 2009/2010 will be:

| | Session 1 | Session 2 | Session 3 |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Maximum number of places | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| Primarily aimed at | Final year law and CPE students | Final year law and CPE students | Second and Final year law students |
| Applications by | 2 November 2009 | 2 November 2009 | 1 June 2010 |
| Notification by | 13 November 2009 | 13 November 2009 | 18 June 2010 |
| Start date | 1 December 2009 | 8 December 2009 | 5 July 2010 |
| Finish date | 3 December 2009 | 10 December 2009 | 7 July 2010 |

Excellence



'Those looking for supreme quality advice in the field of Commercial Chancery turn to the absolutely first-class members of Wilberforce Chambers'

Chambers UK

Applications

Applications for pupillage and mini-pupillage are made using the application form which is available on-line. Please visit our website at www.wilberforce.co.uk for further information.

Applicants for mini-pupillage are not required to attend an interview.

Following consideration of your pupillage application we may invite you to attend a long-list interview. This will be a general interview with 2 members of Chambers involving discussion of matters of topical and legal interest. You may then be asked back for a short-list interview which will include analysis and discussion of a legal problem with up to 4 members of Chambers.

Please consult the table opposite for relevant dates regarding applications for pupillage commencing October 2011.

It is our policy not to consider repeat applications for pupillage save in exceptional circumstances.

We aim to make offers in the week following short-list interviews.

| | October 2011 |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Number of pupillages available | 2 |
| Closing date for applications | 1 February 2010 |
| Notification for interviews | 10 February 2010 |
| Long-list interviews w/c | 15 February 2010 |
| Short-list interviews w/c | 22 February 2010 |
| Pupillage award | £48,000 |
| Max. draw down in BVC year | £16,000 |
| Offers made | Before 31 March 2010 |

Tenancy

Tenancy Offers

We aim to reach a decision about tenancy after approximately 9-10 months of pupillage. All pupils, whether or not they are offered a tenancy, are entitled to remain with us for the remainder of their pupillage on a full pupillage award. Any money earned by pupils during their second 6 months will be in addition to the pupillage award and expense-free.

We regard the recruitment of exceptional pupils and junior tenants as crucial to our continuing success and have a policy of selecting tenants from among our pupils.

New Tenants

Members of Chambers share the expense of administering Chambers. Contributions are based in part upon the rent of the room occupied and in part upon income received. The senior members of Chambers pay the greater part of the costs. In the first year of practice tenants are not required to pay any contribution to Chambers expenses.

To assist with the financial constraints at the start of practice, junior tenants are able to draw funds in their first year against fee notes issued (up to a maximum amount of £15,000). They then have a maximum of two years to repay this loan to Chambers.

Equal Opportunities

Wilberforce Chambers is committed to the promotion of equal opportunities.

Equality of opportunity is essential for the maintenance of high standards and the provision of a quality service to clients. It also ensures a harmonious working environment for members of Chambers and staff.

In particular we adopt good equal opportunities practice in our recruitment process which involves the use of application forms, a two-tier interview process and the use of objective selection criteria in accordance with the recommendations of the Bar Council's Equality and Diversity Code for the Bar.

Disabled applicants are encouraged to contact Chambers if there are any reasonable adjustments that may be made in relation to their applications.

Continuing Development

Wilberforce Chambers recognises that the need for training and support does not end with the acceptance of the offer of a tenancy and the beginning of practice. We pride ourselves on providing a supportive environment in which all barristers can practice and junior tenants are encouraged to discuss their cases with other members of Chambers and appropriate members of staff. Many of us organise regular meetings with the clerks in order to monitor practice development and work-load.

Strength



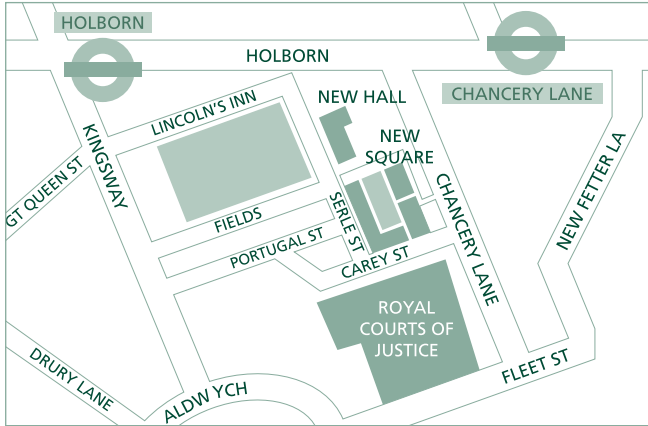
'...highest proportion of QCs at the Chancery Bar, indicating great strength at senior level and a commitment to quality...'

Legal 500

Barristers

| | | | | |
|---|---------|-----------|--|-----------|
| Jules Sher QC Head of Chambers | QC 1981 | Call 1968 | | |
| John Martin QC Deputy Head of Chambers | QC 1991 | Call 1972 | | |
| Edward Nugee QC | QC 1977 | Call 1955 | | |
| Michael Barnes QC | QC 1981 | Call 1965 | | |
| Lawrence Cohen QC | QC 1993 | Call 1974 | | |
| Ian Croxford QC | QC 1993 | Call 1976 | | |
| Robert Ham QC | QC 1994 | Call 1973 | | |
| John Furber QC | QC 1995 | Call 1973 | | |
| Terence Mowschenson QC | QC 1995 | Call 1977 | | |
| David Phillips QC | QC 1997 | Call 1976 | | |
| Brian Green QC | QC 1997 | Call 1980 | | |
| Michael Bloch QC | QC 1998 | Call 1979 | | |
| Christopher Nugee QC | QC 1998 | Call 1983 | | |
| Michael Furness QC | QC 2000 | Call 1982 | | |
| John Wardell QC | QC 2002 | Call 1979 | | |
| Jonathan Seitler QC | QC 2003 | Call 1985 | | |
| Michael Tennet QC | QC 2006 | Call 1985 | | |
| Jonathan Karas QC | QC 2006 | Call 1986 | | |
| Thomas Lowe QC | QC 2008 | Call 1985 | | |
| James Ayliffe QC | QC 2008 | Call 1987 | | |
| Joanna Smith QC | QC 2009 | Call 1990 | | |
| Paul Newman QC | QC 2009 | Call 1991 | | |
| John Child | | Call 1966 | | |
| Thomas Seymour | | Call 1975 | | |
| Mark Studer | | Call 1976 | | |
| Gabriel Hughes | | Call 1978 | | |
| Alan Bryson former solicitor 1980 | | | | Call 2004 |
| Daniel Hochberg | | | | Call 1982 |
| Martin Hutchings | | | | Call 1986 |
| Judith Bryant | | | | Call 1987 |
| Anna Carboni former solicitor 1988 | | | | Call 2003 |
| Joanne Wicks | | | | Call 1990 |
| Gabriel Fadipe | | | | Call 1991 |
| Jonathan Evans | | | | Call 1994 |
| Clare Stanley | | | | Call 1994 |
| Emily Campbell | | | | Call 1995 |
| Rupert Reed | | | | Call 1996 |
| Julian Greenhill | | | | Call 1997 |
| Tiffany Scott | | | | Call 1998 |
| Nikki Singla | | | | Call 2000 |
| Edward Sawyer | | | | Call 2001 |
| Jonathan Davey | | | | Call 2003 |
| Jonathan Hilliard | | | | Call 2003 |
| Andrew Mold | | | | Call 2003 |
| Emily McKechnie | | | | Call 2005 |
| Charlotte Black | | | | Call 2006 |
| Sebastian Allen | | | | Call 2006 |
| James Walmsley | | | | Call 2007 |
| Stephen Davis QC Door Tenant | QC 2000 | | | Call 1983 |
| Caroline Furze Door Tenant | | | | Call 1992 |

Contact Details



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