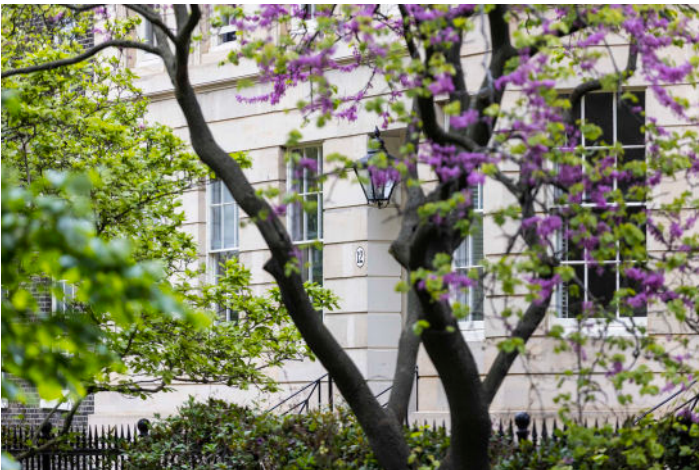




Annual Review 2025

A look back at the highlights and
achievements of the year

12
King's Bench Walk



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A message from our Head of chambers



It is my very great pleasure as Head of Chambers to introduce our Annual Review 2025.

John-Paul Swoboda KC and Angela Frost continue to work alongside me as our Deputy Heads of Chambers, providing indispensable support as the three of us lead Chambers together. Their exceptional dedication to Chambers is pivotal to our continued success.

We were delighted to celebrate John-Paul's appointment as King's Counsel in March - an outstanding professional milestone recognising excellence across multiple practice areas.

Chambers' success rests not only on our members but on the outstanding professionalism of our clerking and staff teams. Day in, day out, they deliver outstanding service, enabling clients and members to experience the highest calibre of support at every stage.

Industry awards recognised Chambers' success this year, with 12KBW shortlisted for Personal Injury Set of the Year and Client Service Set of the Year, alongside several individual accolades. These honours, grounded in client feedback, reflect the trust placed in our advocacy and legal skills, and in the exceptional practice management from our clerking team led by Oliver Parkhouse. We thank you, our clients, for the confidence you place in our work and for the recommendations you give.

Our rankings continue to confirm our position at the forefront of complex, high value litigation for claimants and defendants alike. This year we achieved 76 barrister rankings in Chambers & Partners across 12 areas of law, alongside continued Band 1 status in Personal Injury, Industrial Disease and International Personal Injury. We saw recognition once again as one of the leading sets at the Bar for Clinical Negligence, and new set rankings in Motor Insurance Fraud and Costs Litigation.

To our clients and partners: we are grateful for your continued trust in the service we provide. As you read through our Annual Review, you will get a sense of just some of the notable cases that exemplify what we do and the impact we have.

Wishing you all a happy Christmas, a good New Year, and looking forward to working with you again in 2026.

Steven Snowden KC
Head of Chambers



Personal Injury

Our Personal Injury Team enjoyed a hugely successful 2025.

Reaffirming our leading position at the Bar in personal injury law, we retained Band 1/Tier 1 rankings across both major legal directories. We secured seven barrister promotions in the rankings this year for PI including Steven Snowden KC, Head of Chambers, moving up to Star Individual. We have the highest number of ranked barristers for personal injury at the Bar (51).

We were delighted to be awarded a new set ranking for Motor Insurance Fraud by Chambers & Partners in recognition of our expertise in motor indemnity issues and personal injury claims involving elements of dishonesty.

12KBW was shortlisted for Personal Injury Set of the Year at both the Chambers UK Bar Awards and the Legal 500 Bar Awards. 12KBW has won Personal Injury Set of the Year six times in recent years at the Chambers Bar Awards.

[Pankaj Madan](#), a member of both 12KBW and Exchange Chambers, won Personal Injury Junior of the Year at the Legal 500 Awards. William Audland KC was shortlisted for Personal Injury Silk of the Year and Gemma Scott was shortlisted for Personal Injury Junior of the Year. All of us at 12KBW warmly congratulate Pankaj, William and Gemma for their recognition at the Legal 500 Bar Awards.

In-person knowledge sharing remains at the heart of what we do, through our CPD accredited training events. In July, our fully booked [12KBW Annual Conference](#) featured a wide choice of talks including motor indemnity arguments to run post-Brexit, deploying and negating adverse inferences, calculating loss of earnings, and negotiating tactics for settling claims.

Our cases span the full spectrum of personal injury law.

Steven Snowden KC and Charley Turton acted for one of the defendants in *Verdin v Hunter*, where a mountain biking accident had left the claimant paraplegic. The case was successfully settled on liability and quantum at mediation.

Long-running, maximum-severity brain injury claim [Clarke v Poole](#) was successfully settled. Steven Snowden KC represented the defendant in a JSM, which resulted in the claimant abandoning an appeal of a High Court judgment in favour of the defendant.

William Audland KC continues to lead Niall Maclean, Gemma Scott, Charley Turton, Spencer Turner and Jessica Muurman in defence of the Rugby Football League on over

100 claims brought by former professional players who allege they suffered various neurological conditions from repeated concussions during their careers.

Representing the Football Association of Wales, Steven Snowden KC leads Vanessa Cashman in respect of footballers and former footballers claiming damages for alleged neurological injury resulting from concussions. 80+ claimants are seeking damages against the FA, the English Football League and the Football Association of Wales.

In a complex brain injury case [Hemingway v Robena Contract Furnishings Ltd.](#), the claimant sought over £2.4m, but the judge awarded £723,916 following representations from Nigel Lewers for the defendant. This case demonstrated the importance of using specialists aligned with the core issues and the Court's preference for reasonable opinion from experts over speculative theories which undermine a claim.

James Candlin co-represented the former CEO of the Channel Islands Co-operative Society. Following a 17 day trial, the Jersey Royal Court found the Society breached its duty of care to its former Chief Executive, causing him a psychiatric injury through a sustained campaign to remove him from office. He was awarded £3.5m in damages.

Arun Katyar represented the Defendant in [Mrs Zakia Din v Aviva Insurance Ltd.](#), securing both dismissal of the claimant's personal injury claim and a finding of fundamental dishonesty.

Andrew McLaughlin appeared for the Lord Byron Hotel in [Danny Malone v Eastern Counties Linen and the Lord Byron Hotel](#), which saw the court reject a claim in its entirety by a delivery driver who fell on the hotel stairs. After a 3-day trial, the judge held the Claimant had failed to prove that the staircase was dangerous and ruled the hotel was not negligent.

Daniel Tobin successfully represented the defendants in *Bali v I-I Couriers & Walsingham Insurance*. The Court of Appeal confirmed that the date for service of proceedings runs from the date of issue stamped on the claim form and declined to exercise its discretion by extending the time for service in the claimant's favour.

Catherine Peck successfully represented defendants at three separate high-value liability trials involving pedestrians and arguments relating to 'lines of sight'. *Pashamov v Taylor and Edward Vinson* is thought to be the first case in which a claimant's qualified one-way costs shifting protection

(cont.)



was taken into consideration by the court when making a Sanderson costs order against an unsuccessful co-defendant.

She also appeared on behalf of third party AR Richards Ltd in a [three-day liability trial](#), where the claim against the company arising out of a fatal accident at a racetrack was dismissed.

William Audland KC and David White secured a substantial seven-figure settlement for a police officer who suffered a life-changing brain injury following a collision with an HGV.

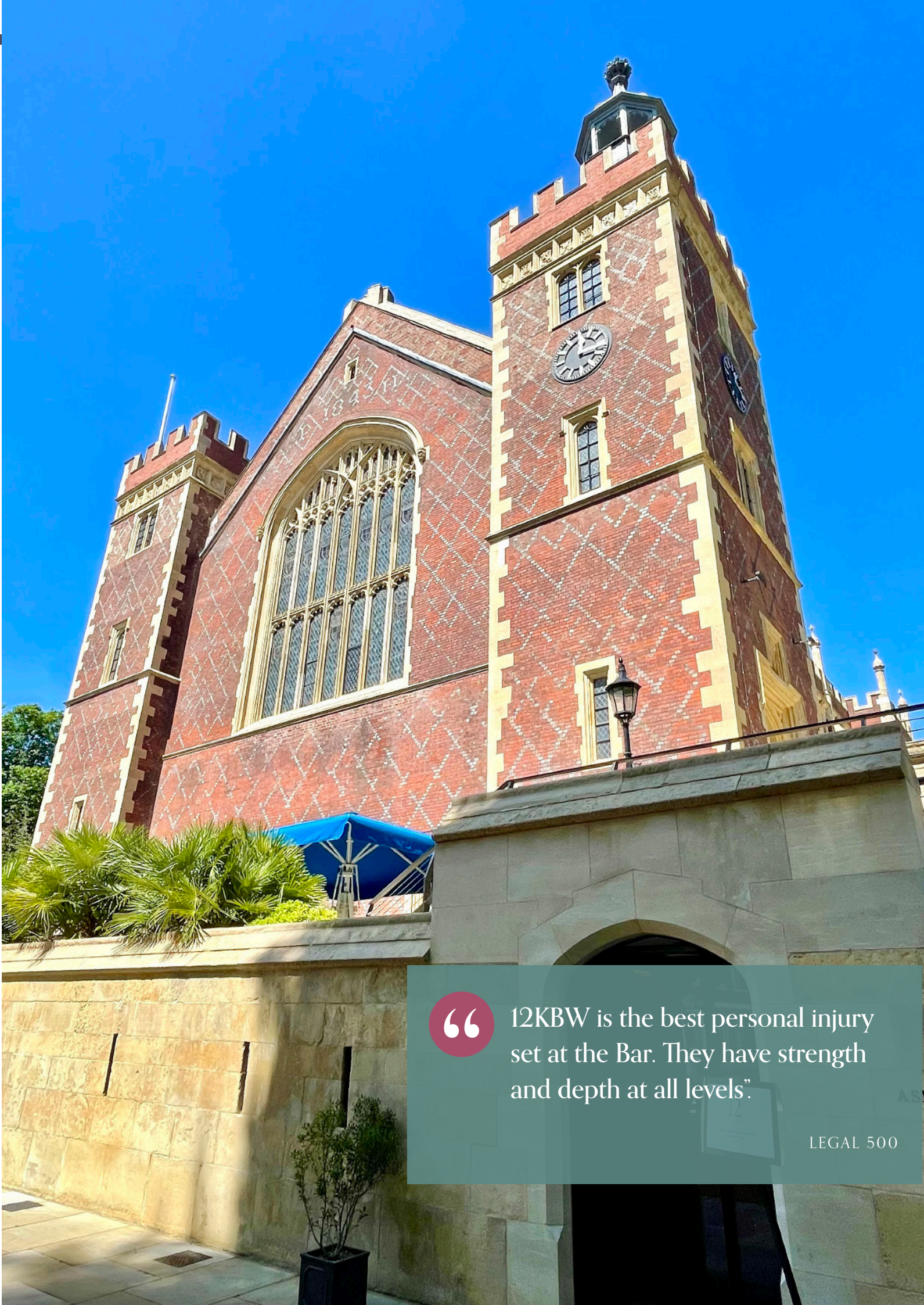
Isaac Hogarth appeared for insurer Aviva in a successful strike-out application in the High Court - [Keating v Abdisalan and Aviva Insurance Ltd](#) - involving a fatal RTA and the question of whether an Estate inherits a claim for diminution in value of lost services.

James Pickering secured a £900,000 [settlement for a former Royal Navy chef](#) who suffered a non-freezing cold injury while on an exercise in Norway.

Robert Oldham acted as junior counsel for the appellant in [PMC v A Local Health Board](#). The Court of Appeal clarified the High Court's inherent jurisdiction to make anonymity orders to give protection to vulnerable claimants. The judgment has far-reaching consequences for personal injury litigation and it affirms the importance of the proper administration of justice in cases involving vulnerable individuals, balancing this with the open justice principle.

12KBW's PI Blog continues to thrive under our Editor, Dr Achas Burin. Blog posts have covered a wide range of issues of interest to practitioners including the Assisted Dying Bill, civil claims for abuse, thresholds of recklessness and negligence in competitive sport, and e-scooter claims. The full range of topics can be found on our [PI Blog site](#).

We are incredibly grateful to our clients and hugely thankful to Nigel Lewers and Gemma Scott for their dedicated support across the year as Joint Heads of the PI Team.



“12KBW is the best personal injury set at the Bar. They have strength and depth at all levels.”

LEGAL 500

Industrial Disease

The [Court of Appeal judgment in *Johnstone v Fawcett's Garage*](#) loomed large for asbestos lawyers in 2025 with far-reaching consequences for mesothelioma claims. Steven Snowden KC, John-Paul Swoboda KC and Helen Waller of our Industrial Disease Team, acted for the appellants.

At the heart of the appeal was the judge's assessment of the increase in risk of mesothelioma caused by the low dose of exposure.

Judges ruled that direct risk assessment, and reliance on Hodgson & Darnton, is a permissible method of evaluating material increase in risk of mesothelioma in low exposure cases. Nevertheless, the judgment allows for claimants to challenge the use of Hodgson & Darnton. The Court of Appeal did, however, rule out use of the absolute risk approach.

Michael Rawlinson KC leads the group claim for c.4,000 cancer victims against Johnson and Johnson alleging their condition was caused in law by using cosmetic talcum powder. Rebecca Henshaw-Keene and Corinne Novell are also instructed for the claimants.

Patrick Kerr, Head of 12KBW's Industrial Disease Team, settled a secondary exposure, product liability case against Cape Building Products Ltd and Cape Intermediate Holdings Ltd, following a disclosure application.

Rachit Buch secured judgment on liability in *Harris v Cwm Taf Health Board*; a secondary exposure claim arising from Mrs Harris's washing of her then boyfriend's overalls. The parties agreed to adjourn services in the last years.

John-Paul Swoboda KC - a preeminent specialist in asbestos litigation - joined the ranks of our expert silks in this area, following his appointment as King's Counsel in March.

Our Industrial Disease Team hosted three major events for our clients and partners over the course of the year.

In February, we hosted a packed social event in London for our friends at Mesothelioma UK. We were joined by solicitors from London and many other regions. All funds raised on the night went to Meso UK, together with further match funding from our team.

In May and September we hosted our Asbestos Seminars in London and Manchester respectively, with speakers from across the team. We delved into the latest updates and strategic considerations across a range of asbestos-related issues from employment status and the implications of Johnstone to product liability insights and the Assisted Dying Bill.

In June, we sponsored the Asbestos & the Law Conference hosted by the Merseyside Asbestos Victims Support Group. Patrick Kerr chaired the conference. Michael Rawlinson KC spoke on 'Cuthbert & White related issues'. Michael Brace addressed what the Johnstone case will mean for future cases.

In October, we returned to Manchester as the headline sponsor at APIL's Asbestos Conference. John-Paul Swoboda KC spoke on the use of epidemiology. Gemma Scott, chaired the afternoon sessions on low exposure issues, product liability and American claims.

Look out for a new programme of CPD accredited events in 2026 on our website, social media and mail outs. As always, we're hugely grateful to our clients for their continued support and we look forward to working with you again in 2026.



12 King's Bench Walk is widely acclaimed as "a leading set in asbestos disease litigation" with "unparalleled depth and breadth" across the practice area.

CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS

International & Travel

James Pickering continues to head our International & Travel Team in a year marked by improved rankings, high profile cases and training for our clients, both here and abroad.

We maintained our Band 1 Chambers & Partners ranking and further increased the number of ranked barristers. 10 members of the team are now ranked as leading practitioners for International Personal Injury in the Chambers UK Bar Guide. John-Paul Swoboda KC, a specialist in private international law, joined the ranks of our silks specialising in this area following his appointment as King's Counsel in March.

12KBW's International & Travel Team held its annual seminar in October. Speakers from our team covered the latest updates on Recital 33 of Rome II (John-Paul Swoboda KC), package travel (James Candlin, Alex Carington), jurisdiction (Peter Hale), expert evidence in cross-border cases (David White, Cressida Mawdesley-Thomas) and aviation (Charley Turton, Peter Hale).

We continue to be well represented at key cross-border events in the UK and overseas. We co-sponsored a number of PEOPIL Conferences this year including their Annual Conference (Brussels), New Lawyers Group Conference and RTA Conference (Kraków).

Philip Mead spoke on the pitfalls and challenges of foreign RTA claims at the RTA Conference. Corinne Novell spoke on applying foreign law in local courts at the NLG Conference. Our team delegation to Kraków included Spencer Turner, Peter Hale, Rebecca Henshaw-Keene and Jake Loomes. Our delegation to Brussels included John-Paul Swoboda KC, Patrick Vincent KC, Philip Mead and Peter Hale.

Our team co-sponsored the APIL International Injuries Conference, where David White spoke on yachting and pleasure boat incidents and disasters. Charley Turton spoke on navigating the complexities of aviation claims.

Members continue to support the Travel and Tourism Lawyers Association (TATLA). We co-sponsored and attended two of their training and networking events in Birmingham and Manchester. Alex Carington of 12KBW is our TATLA Committee member.

[12KBW's International & Travel Law Blog](#) continues to be the first port of call for updates on key developments in English private international law and the law of international travel. Topics this year have included FNC challenges,

Package Travel Regulations reform and recognition and enforcement of foreign judgments.

Our barristers continue to be instructed in many of the most important cross-border and travel cases. [Patrick Vincent KC and James Pickering secured damages for a brain injured client following a 14-day High Court cross-border personal injury claim](#). Spanish penalty interest was also awarded. The 103-page judgment deals with many issues which are essential reading for cross-border personal injury lawyers, such as apportionment of liability under Spanish law and application of the Baremo.

Nina Ross was instructed in claims brought by Sri Lankan children and adults who allege that they were detained in prison-like conditions in Diego Garcia between 2021 and 2024. Their claims for false imprisonment and in negligence have been brought in the Supreme Court of the British Indian Ocean Territory against the General Counsel for the British Indian Ocean Territory and G4S Risk Consulting Limited.

[William Audland KC and David White were instructed in a catastrophic injury case where the client suffered an above knee amputation and brain injury following a construction site accident in Jersey](#). The case proceeded to a five day contested liability trial in Jersey. The Court granted judgment against both defendants, held that they were jointly and severally liable, and apportioned liability between both defendants.

Charley Turton is instructed in a high-value claim arising from an aviation disaster which claimed 71 lives. She co-represents survivors of the accident, and family members of persons killed, when LaMia Flight 2933 crashed near Medellín in Colombia. Jessica Muurman is a member of the counsel team to plead losses arising under Colombian, Brazilian and English law.

We're hugely grateful to our clients for their support in 2025 and we look forward to working with you over the coming year.

“12 King's Bench Walk is a highly regarded personal injury set with a strong reputation in the travel sector”.

CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS

Clinical Negligence

After fifteen years of distinguished leadership, Henry Charles stepped down as Head of 12KBW's Clinical Negligence Team in July. We pay tribute to Henry's impressive legacy. He remains an integral member of the team.

Vanessa Cashman and Isaac Hogarth were appointed as Joint Heads in his place. Vanessa is described as "a superstar in the field of clinical negligence" by the Chambers Bar Guide. Isaac, likewise ranked as a leading junior in Chambers & Partners, is praised as "an excellent barrister and a calm presence on the most testing of medical negligence cases". We are in safe hands as they lead the team onwards and upwards.

In another significant landmark for the team, John-Paul Swoboda was appointed King's Counsel. He specialises in high value clinical negligence work. We warmly congratulate John-Paul on this well-deserved appointment.

We were recognised once again by Chambers & Partners and the Legal 500 as one of the leading chambers in the UK for clinical negligence law. 14 members of the team are now ranked across the legal directories.

We hosted a packed house at Inner Temple, London for our [Clinical Negligence Seminar](#) in October. Talks focused on two critical areas. John-Paul Swoboda KC and Vanessa Cashman of 12KBW tackled cerebral palsy (addressing breach of duty). They were joined by guest speaker Roobin Jokhi, Consultant in Obstetrics, Maternal & Fetal Medicine.

Dr David Sharpe KC and Isaac Hogarth of 12KBW covered sepsis (focusing on causation) alongside Dr Chris Danbury, Consultant in Intensive Care Medicine. Our seminar concluded with a panel discussion on legal and procedural issues including anonymity orders post PMC. Andrew Roy KC chaired the discussion with our 12KBW panellists, Thea Wilson, Elizabeth Boulden, Charley Turton and Robert Oldham.

We were strongly represented at industry events, in particular the AvMA Clinical Negligence Conference in March attended by John-Paul Swoboda KC, Henry Charles, Vanessa Cashman, Gareth McAloon, Isaac Hogarth, Cressida Mawdesley-Thomas, Elizabeth Boulden and Charley Turton.

Steven Snowden KC chaired the AvMA Cerebral Palsy and Brain Injury Cases Conference in February. He also spoke at the conference with Vanessa Cashman of 12KBW on 'Current Issues in Cerebral Palsy Claims'.

William Audland KC and Isaac Hogarth secured a £20m settlement for a severely brain injured claimant in [EAC v Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust](#).

Robert Oldham acted as junior counsel for the appellant in [PMC v A Local Health Board](#). The Court of Appeal clarified the High Court's inherent jurisdiction to make anonymity orders protecting vulnerable claimants. The judgment has far-reaching consequences for clinical negligence litigation and it affirms the importance of the proper administration of justice in cases involving vulnerable individuals, balancing this with the open justice principle.

Andrew Roy KC is acting in high value claims arising from widely reported failings in a midwife-led birth unit; *Charlton and Prudence v Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust*. High Court proceedings are ongoing.

In *CWLX v Aneurin Bevan University Health Board*, Vanessa Cashman acted for an eight-year-old who developed hydrocephalus after birth which was not diagnosed when it should have been. The case settled for £24.5m on an 85% basis.

In *MB v SBL and Dr H*, Isaac Hogarth represented a woman left tetraplegic after a skydiving accident in a claim against both the skydiving company and her GP who certified her fit to jump despite her suffering from a psychological disorder which increased her risk of injury. The claim was compromised days before trial for a multi-million-pound sum.

Daniel Sokol secured a six-figure settlement for a Claimant who woke up during a hysterectomy but, owing to muscle paralysis, was unable to alert the clinicians to her awareness. She went on to develop PTSD.

Daniel also published a series of articles in the *Law Society Gazette* on [lawyers' bedside manner](#), [what to do when clients cry in conference](#), [professional composure in medicine and law](#), and [how to be trusted](#).

We truly appreciate the trust and support of our clients this year and we look forward to working with you again next year.



AvMA Holly Jolly Christmas Celebration – pictured from left to right: George Boggis, Andrew Roy KC, Vanessa Cashman, Isaac Hogarth, Thea Wilson, Finn Selman, Elizabeth Boulden



12KBW Clinical Negligence Seminar | October 2025

Costs & Litigation Funding

- 12KBW recognised by Chambers & Partners as a leading set for Costs Litigation.
- Simon Browne KC joined 12KBW (ranked Band 1 for Costs Litigation and Personal Injury).
- Andrew Roy KC, Head of 12KBW Costs & Litigation Funding Team, keynote speaker at Association of Costs Lawyers London Conference.
- *Attersley v UK Insurance Ltd* [2025] EWHC 884 (KB); appeal on the interplay of fixed costs and Part 36. Second appeal to the Court of Appeal listed for February 2026 (Andrew Roy KC instructed).
- *In the Matter of the Russian Aircraft Operator Policy Claims* (2025) Commercial Court, Simon Browne KC advised upon Security of Costs by way of indemnities, guarantees and application to Court in amounts exceeding £100 million.
- *Pan-NOx Emissions Group Litigation* [2025] EWHC 2307 (KB), [2025] EWHC 3116 (KB). One of the largest Group Actions ever brought in this jurisdiction. Andrew Lyons represented the Peugeot Citroën, Fiat Chrysler and Vauxhall defendants in the costs budget hearing. Andrew Roy KC represented the Peugeot Citroën, Fiat Chrysler and Vauxhall defendants in an application for disclosure in respect of security for costs, and has been retained for the security application itself in January 2026.
- *Duke of Sussex v MGN Limited* (2025) - Assessment of costs following 28-day phone hacking High Court trial with various costs issues being raised including general costs challenges and level of ATE premium (Simon Browne KC instructed).
- *Ruhumatally v The State and another (Mauritius)* (2025); Privy Council decision on the application of UK law on CFAs to Commonwealth countries (Andrew Roy KC instructed).
- *Peters v Attorney General of St Helena (Costs)* [2025] SHSC 525. Andrew Roy KC represented the government of St Helena in its Supreme Court in this hearing on the applicability of UK costs rates on the island.
- Lord Justice Lewison gave permission for a second appeal in *Ward v Rai*. The case concerns when a Court

should interfere with a case management decision (Andrew Lyons instructed in the appeal).

- 12KBW Costs & Litigation Funding Seminar 2025. Topics included applying proportionality in detailed assessments (Andrew Roy KC), Navigating CPR 46.9 (Farhana Mukith), The Enduring Impact of Ainsworth (Jake Loomes), Pan Nox - Costs Budgeting in high value cases (Andrew Lyons), Retainers (Simon Browne KC).
- Andrew Lyons promoted to Tier 2 in the Legal 500 for Costs Litigation.
- 12KBW Webinar on Litigation Funding with Simon Browne KC and Jake Loomes.



Inquests & Inquiries

The inquests and inquiries team has been involved in two significant inquiries this year, the Lampard Inquiry into mental health treatment in Essex and the Infected Blood Inquiry.

The Lampard Inquiry began in 2024, and this year heard four weeks of evidence from bereaved families and friends of those who died receiving inpatient treatment.

The shocking testimonies covered failures to look after the physical health of older adults on mental health wards, use of surveillance technology to monitor patients in their bedrooms, inadequate attempts to resuscitate patients, lack of candour, poor communication with families and friends of patients, abuse of patients, and clinical negligence.

Dr Achas Burin, Annahita Moradi, Jake Loomes and Rebecca Henshaw-Keene are instructed on behalf of the largest cohort of participating families and patients. Steven Snowden KC stepped down from his role leading them in October 2025. Further evidence is expected to be heard in 2026.

Since the publication of the Infected Blood Inquiry's report in 2024, it received submissions to the effect that its recommendations were not progressing as hoped. The Inquiry resumed sitting for two days in May to examine the government's response, an unprecedented step for a public inquiry convened under the Inquiries Act.

An additional report was published and in November new regulations were laid before Parliament and a public consultation opened, inviting views on further changes to the compensation scheme.

An independent review of the body which administers the compensation scheme was also published and the Chancellor, Rachel Reeves, confirmed payments would not be subject to inheritance tax.

Steven Snowden KC led Dr Achas Burin acting on behalf of the largest cohort of the infected and affected.

Our members acted for bereaved families at a number of significant inquests this year.

Michael Rawlinson KC was instructed to represent the family of ex-Manchester United and Leeds United player, Gordon McQueen at the forthcoming inquest into his death. The inquest will consider the role of repeated head trauma acquired during his playing career in contributing to subsequent neurological deficits and his death.

Andrew Roy KC and Charley Turton acted pro bono for [the family of Eddie Cassin at his inquest](#). Eddie suffered from severe learning disabilities and died after an acute aspiration caused by breaches of his feeding plan contributed to pneumonia. The coroner made a prevention of future deaths report and a finding of neglect.

Thea Wilson acted for [the family of seven-month-old Tommy Kneebone at a six-day inquest](#) where the coroner found the child's death was contributed to by neglect. Tommy Kneebone died in January 2023 at Tunbridge Wells Hospital in Pembury. The coroner said that although Tommy had shown "clear red flags" of deterioration, hospital staff did not monitor or observe him properly, while repeated concerns by his parents were not acted on.

[Thomas Banks represented at inquest the family of Adrian Underwood](#), a security guard on the Oil Tanker MV Mercer Street who was killed when the ship was struck by an Iranian-manufactured weaponised drone during a terrorist attack in the Arabian Sea. The Coroner returned a conclusion of unlawful killing.

Ed Ramsay represented the family of Patricia Ann Tomlinson at the inquest into her death. She died of thiamine (vitamin B1) deficiency in December 2019 following a national stoppage - mandated by the MHRA - of bespoke parenteral nutrition bags. The Senior Coroner found the contingency arrangements put in place by the NHS were found wanting and possibly causative in Mrs Tomlinson's case.

Annahita Moradi acted as junior counsel for the Royal Military Police on the Independent Inquiry into Afghanistan.

Gareth McAloon [represented the family of Valerie Hill in a three-week, Article 2 inquest](#). The adequacy of falls risks assessments in residential care homes and the impact of lengthy ambulance delays in South Wales were examined, resulting in the coroner issuing two 'prevention of future death' notices to a local authority and Welsh ministers.

Cressida Mawdesley-Thomas represented the mother of Abby Johnstone-Nutting in an Article 2, jury inquest. Abby had been detained at St Mary's Hospital, London under the Mental Health Act when she escaped whilst being taken to vape by staff, dying by electrocution three hours later. A conclusion of misadventure contributed to by neglect was returned.



Awards 2025

12KBW enjoyed recognition across several award categories at the Chambers Bar Awards and the Legal 500 Bar Awards this year.

Directories select finalists based on feedback from clients, in-house lawyers and directory researchers. The awards recognise sets that continue to set new benchmarks of excellence in advocacy, client service and casework.

Congratulations to all our teams, members and staff recognised at the directory awards. We thank our clients for their continued support and feedback.

Chambers Bar Awards 2025

12KBW
Personal Injury Set of the Year
FINALIST

12KBW
Client Service Set of the Year
FINALIST

Legal 500 Bar Awards 2025

12KBW
Personal Injury Set of the Year
FINALIST

Michael Rawlinson KC
Silk of the Year
FINALIST



William Audland KC
Personal Injury Silk of the Year
FINALIST



Gemma Scott
Personal Injury Junior of the Year
FINALIST



Lily Baker
Clerk of the Year
FINALIST



Pankaj Madan
For Exchange Chambers
Personal Injury Junior of the Year
WINNER



The set is routinely instructed in the most important cases in the market, and its members have significant experience appearing before the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeal.”

CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS

Directory Rankings

12 King’s Bench Walk was proud to be recognised once again as a Top Ranked Set by Chambers and Partners.

This year’s Bar rankings saw 76 barrister rankings for 12KBW across our specialist areas of law, recognising our leading expertise in:

- Personal Injury
- Industrial Disease
- Travel: International Personal Injury
- Motor Insurance Fraud
- Costs Litigation
- Clinical Negligence
- Employment
- Inquests and Public Inquiries
- Personal Injury: Animal Claims
- Aviation
- Civil Liberties & Human Rights
- Group Litigation

According to Chambers and Partners’ personal injury rankings, Band 1 ranked 12KBW is noted for being “routinely instructed in the most important cases in the market, and its members have significant experience appearing before the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeal”.

12KBW’s Band 1 Industrial Disease Team is “widely acclaimed as a leading set in asbestos disease litigation with unparalleled depth and breadth across the practice area”.

Our International Personal Injury Team, ranked in Band 1, is described as “a highly regarded personal injury set with a strong reputation in the travel sector. Members act for claimants and defendants, including insurers, corporations, travel agents, airlines and tour operators, and are noted for their expert handling of high-value catastrophic injury claims arising from foreign RTAs and other accidents abroad”.

Our Clinical Negligence Team is ranked as a set once again: “12 King’s Bench Walk hosts a well-regarded team of silks and juniors who have a personable approach and willingness to go the extra mile. The barristers handle a wide range of clinical negligence cases including catastrophic injuries, fatal matters and delay in diagnosis claims”.

We are newly ranked as a set for Motor Insurance Fraud where our expertise is recognised “across the full spectrum of cases, encompassing phantom passenger claims, high-value claims, staged accidents and low-velocity impacts”.

Our Costs & Litigation Funding Team is newly ranked with Chambers & Partners commenting: “Members of 12 King’s Bench Walk are routinely instructed in a wide range of costs claims, arising out of clinical negligence, government litigation, professional negligence, personal injury and solicitor-client disputes. The costs team has experience appearing in the Senior Courts Costs Office, as well as the High Court and Court of Appeal. The set is praised as a “go-to chambers”.

Our Practice Management Team is highly commended with Chambers & Partners commenting, “12KBW has some of the best clerks around. They are always personable and proactive in developing firm relationships with their instructing solicitors at every level. The clerks are extremely responsive and helpful”.

For further details on our ranked barristers and teams, [visit the Chambers and Partners website](#).



New Silk: John-Paul Swoboda KC

12KBW was proud to celebrate the appointment of John-Paul Swoboda as King’s Counsel.

John-Paul Swoboda KC was appointed King’s Counsel in March at Westminster Hall.

John-Paul was called to the Bar in 2006. He specialises in asbestos litigation, serious injury, international litigation, clinical negligence, sports law, aviation, professional negligence and inquests.

He regularly undertakes high-value work, appearing in the High Court and Appellate Courts. John-Paul was appointed Deputy Head of Chambers in 2024.

He is ranked in Chambers & Partners for Industrial Disease, International Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence. He is also recognised in The Legal 500 for Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence. In 2023, he was awarded Personal Injury Junior of the Year at The Legal 500 Bar Awards.

Appointment to King’s Counsel follows a rigorous and highly demanding selection process and is widely recognised as a mark of professional excellence.

All of us at 12KBW warmly congratulate John-Paul on this well-deserved achievement.



New to Chambers



Simon Browne KC

Simon is consistently recognised by The Legal 500 and Chambers and Partners as a top ranked silk in the fields of commercial costs and litigation funding, catastrophic brain and spinal injury, and related areas of sports law, clinical negligence, insurance, professional negligence and professional regulation.

Simon sits as a barrister costs assessor in the High Court and on the Cost Committee of the Civil Justice Council. He has a formidable reputation for costs in group litigation, acting for both the claimant group and defendants.

Simon represents both claimants and defendants in catastrophic injury cases, mainly involving brain damage and spinal injuries.

Each year he is instructed regularly in cases with a value in excess of £10 million and in cases with unusual or difficult points of law.

In clinical negligence cases, Simon successfully represents claimants in claims against medical practitioners both in hospitals, private practice, and general practice. He advises extensively over disclosure and expert evidence.

Simon’s work has included several sports and sports-related cases over his career. He has sat on various sporting committees and disciplinary tribunals. Simon is knowledgeable on head injuries and dementia arising from contact sport having links with research projects.

Simon is also a qualified arbitrator and mediator. He is on the panel of available mediators for costs disputes at the Costs Alternative Dispute Resolution.



Bébhinn Murphy

Bébhinn specialises in sports disputes and personal injury law.

Bébhinn’s sports disputes practice sees her instructed on behalf of sports governing bodies, athletes and clubs in disciplinary and regulatory hearings, and in selection matters. Bébhinn is also qualified as a barrister in Ireland and has over ten years’ experience in practice.

Due to the nature of sports disputes, her practice involves instructions from overseas. She regularly presents on behalf of the Irish Horseracing Regulatory Board at hearings addressing fitness to be licensed, as well as animal welfare, adverse analytical findings and veterinary matters.

She is trained to accept direct instructions from the public under the Bar’s public access scheme.

New Tenants



Lara Thomas

Lara joined chambers in October 2025 following the successful completion of her pupillage at 12KBW under the supervision of Nina Ross, Rachit Buch, James Sullivan, and David Green.

She has experience in all core areas of Chambers’ practice and has a particular interest in clinical negligence, inquests, abuse and disease work.

Lara has a busy court practice, regularly being instructed in liability and quantum disputes and stage 3 hearings.

She has a growing paperwork practice and accepts instructions for both claimants and defendants in all areas of personal injury.

Prior to commencing pupillage, Lara worked as a Legal Assistant at Medical Protection Society where she developed a predominantly inquest-based caseload, providing legal support to doctors appearing at inquests often spanning a wide range of complex medical issues.

Lara obtained her undergraduate degree in Biological Sciences from Wadham College, Oxford and subsequently achieved a distinction on both the Graduate Diploma in Law (GDL) and the Barrister Training Course (BTC).



Alexander Cornelius

Alexander joined Chambers in October 2025 following the successful completion of his pupillage at 12KBW under the supervision of Patrick Vincent KC, Charlotte Reynolds, and Edward Ramsay. He is in court several days a week, appearing in small claims and fast track trials alongside interim applications.

Alexander obtained an Outstanding on the Bar Practice Course, supported by a scholarship from Gray’s Inn, with an overall average of 90% and marks of 98% in Civil Litigation and 97% in Criminal Litigation. He also obtained a distinction in his LLM at University College London obtaining the highest mark in the year in International Commercial Litigation.

He has been a guest lecturer at the University College London International Commercial Litigation summer school.



Finn Selman

Finn joined chambers in October 2025 following the successful completion of his pupillage at 12KBW under the supervision of Catherine Peck, Dan Tobin and Kweku Aggrey-Orleans.

He has experience in all core areas of Chambers’ expertise with a particular interest in personal injury, clinical negligence, employment and indemnity.

Finn has a busy court practice with multiple hearings a week. Of particular note, he has been instructed in hearings involving allegations of fraud, indemnity issues and costs arguments.

He has a growing paperwork practice, having drafted pleadings in personal injury and clinical negligence disputes including misdiagnosis resulting in fatality.

Prior to pupillage, Finn worked as a chef under Tom Kerridge and travelled extensively before becoming a paralegal in the clinical negligence team at Stewarts Law LLP. In this latter role, Finn’s work focused specifically on high value serious injury claims.

In his spare time, Finn can be found tending the wildflower meadow he has established or playing rugby.

New Pupils



Charlotte Buck

Charlotte is interested in all core areas of Chambers’ practice, with a particular interest in personal injury, clinical negligence, sport, and inquests.

Before pupillage, Charlotte worked in international subrogated recoveries, where she negotiated high-value settlements on behalf of insurers. She also worked as a Serious Injury Paralegal at Slater & Gordon Lawyers, where she gained experience on intermediary/multi-track cases often with complex medical and legal issues, including surveillance and fundamental dishonesty.

Charlotte read Law at the University of Leicester before completing an MA in Medical Law at King’s College London whilst working full-time. During university, she furthered her medical knowledge by volunteering at the Royal Derby Hospital as part of a BBC2 documentary. She undertook the BPC supported by scholarships from the Inner Temple.

Charlotte served as President of the Inner Temple Drama Society, co-writing a sold-out show for the Edinburgh Fringe.



Daniel Millar

Daniel is interested in gaining experience in all core areas of Chambers’ practice and has particular interest in personal injury, industrial disease, military claims, and costs.

Before pupillage, Daniel worked as a County Court Advocate, representing clients in over 850 hearings, including a variety of small claims track trials and interim hearings. He also worked as an Advocacy Manager, providing guidance to Advocates and training to clients, and resolving queries and complaints.

Previously, Daniel was a Legal Analyst assisting with a compensation scheme, and managed Intervene Project, a charity supporting prisoners with civil law issues.

Daniel graduated from his undergraduate degree in International Relations with First Class Honours, before obtaining distinctions in the MA Law conversion course and the LLM Bar Practice, the latter supported by a scholarship from Lincoln’s Inn.

In his spare time, Daniel enjoys a wide range of music, long urban walks, and downhill and cross-country skiing. He has completed two ski marathons so far.



Miles McCollum

Miles is interested in gaining experience in all core areas of Chambers’ practice, with a particular focus on personal injury, clinical negligence, insurance, and sport.

Prior to pupillage, Miles worked as a paralegal in the clinical negligence team at Osbornes Law LLP, where he vetted prospective clients on a liability basis. After this he worked at Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan LLP, assisting with case preparation for high-value construction disputes.

Miles obtained First Class Honours in Economics from LSE before switching to the law. He completed the Bar Practice Course supported by a scholarship from Lincoln’s Inn.

In his spare time, Miles enjoys gardening and playing in his band.

Thank you from our Director of Clerking



As 2025 comes to a close, we take this opportunity to reflect on a year of significant progress and achievement at 12KBW. Our success has been built on relationships and friendships with our clients, dedication of our barristers and staff, and our collective commitment to delivering excellence in everything we do.

Thank you to our clients for your trust, collaboration and the opportunities you've given us to contribute to your success. Your confidence in our barristers and staffing teams has underpinned everything we've achieved this year. We're proud of the outcomes we've delivered together and our commitment to exceptional client care, responsiveness and results remains unwavering. We look forward to continuing our partnerships and building on this momentum in 2026.

To our high-performing staff, thank you for your dedication, professionalism and relentless focus on service excellence. To those who consistently go the extra mile - anticipating client needs, solving problems and enabling counsel to perform at their best. Your attention to detail, calm temperament under pressure and amazing team spirit set the standard for our Chambers. Whether in clerking, fees, operations, marketing, or support, your contributions have been invaluable and we wouldn't be where we are without you.

Our outstanding client service earned external recognition this year with Lily Baker shortlisted for Clerk of the Year at the Legal 500 Awards and 12KBW shortlisted for Client Service Set of the Year at the Chambers & Partners Bar Awards.

To our clients and colleagues, thank you for making 2025 exceptional!

Season's Greetings from all at 12KBW - and here's to a healthy, happy and prosperous 2026.

Oliver Parkhouse
Director of Clerking



12KBW has some of the best clerks around. They are always personable and proactive in developing firm relationships with their instructing solicitors at every level.”



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