



Chris Richards

Call 2016



Clerks

 Megan Hawke
 0113 203 1985

Memberships

- Personal Injury Bar Association
- Northern Circuit
- Attorney General's Regional Panel (Panel C; March 2023 onwards)

Education

2009-2012: BA degree in Geography; Emmanuel College, Cambridge [Class 2:1]

2012-2013: MSc degree in Quaternary Science; Royal Holloway, University of London [Merit]

2014-2015: Graduate Diploma in Law; City Law School, City University, London [Commendation]

2015-2016: Bar Professional Training Course, City Law School, City University, London [Very Competent]

2010: Hooper Senior Scholarship; Emmanuel College, Cambridge

2012: Geography Department Scholarship; Royal Holloway, University of London

2014: Winner of the CEPLER (University of Birmingham) national essay writing competition

2015: Exhibition Award, Inner Temple

Personal Injury: Defence

Chris frequently assists with defending claims brought against insurers and local authorities.

Chris has an excellent understanding of the areas of personal injury law which are most important for insurers and local authorities, including (but not limited to) the areas mentioned below.

Chris regularly acts in cases involving accidents on the public highway. Chris has extensive experience of defending Highways Act claims for several local authorities with a large number of successful defences at trial. Chris has written a well-received article about the identification of highways maintainable at public expense ('Highways maintainable at public expense: what are they, and how do you identify them?').

Chris regularly acts in cases involving employer's liability. Chris has experience of defending employer's liability trials again with considerable success. Chris most recently represented a hotel who were being pursued by one of their chefs after an accident in the kitchen and secured the full dismissal of the claim.

Chris regularly acts in cases involving claims against landlords. Chris has an excellent understanding of the Defective Premises Act 1972 and the case law which has developed from it. Chris recently dealt with a complex trial which turned on the interpretation of authorities including *Dodd v Raebarn Estates Ltd* [2017] EWCA Civ 439, *Sternbaum v Dhesi* [2016] EWCA Civ 155, and others.

Chris regularly acts in cases involving industrial disease. Chris has an excellent understanding of the law concerning noise-induced hearing loss (NIHL), hand-arm vibration syndrome (HAVS), and other repetitive strain conditions. Chris mostly acts for Claimants in his disease practice, but welcomes instructions from Defendants as well. Chris believes that a good poacher often makes a good gamekeeper.

Recommendations

“Just a quick email to again say a BIG thank you from myself and my wife for your professional help in getting the excellent result in court for us [...], it was such a pleasure to meet you, and your advice on the day put me at ease in the court room, and we both thought you were very thorough in your cross examining [...] and presenting the evidence and your summing up at the end, enabling the judge to make the correct decision, Justice for me was truly achieved on that day.”

Publications

“Assessment of Mental Capacity: a Practical Guide for Doctors and Lawyers.” *Journal of Mental Health*, 25(6), p. 563

Beyond the Bar

Rowing, mountain biking, nature conservation