

INSTRUCTING COUNSEL SEMINAR



St John's
CHAMBERS

Thursday 21st September 2023 @ 5.30pm - 7.30pm

St John's Chambers, 101 Victoria Street, Bristol, BS1 6PU

Registration @ 5.30pm

The training is CPD accredited (1.5 hours) and FREE.

Aimed primarily at paralegals, trainees and newly qualified solicitors/CILEX.

More senior JLD members are welcome if they would benefit from a refresher.

Topics:

- 6.00 Examples of bad briefs
Ben Harwood, Commercial & Chancery Barrister
- 6.20 Building a relationship with counsel
Georgina Swinglehurst, Family Law Barrister
- 6.40 Booking counsel
Beatrice Baskett, Personal Injury & Clinical Negligence Barrister
- 7.00 Overview of instructing counsel
Hugh Maguire, Practice Team Manager
- 7.20 Questions
- 7.30 Drinks & canapes

Junior Lawyers
Bristol

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SPEAKERS



Hugh Maguire, Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence Practice Team Manager

"Hugh is a first-rate clerk." [LEGAL 500, 2023](#)

Hugh has over 15 years' experience in clerking, he joined St John's in 2012 and is now the joint Practice Manager for our Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence team. He is responsible for the management and business development of the team as well as its continued growth as a market leader on circuit. Hugh is constantly praised for his efficient communication and problem solving skills, this is reflected in the legal directory quotes he receives.



Georgina Swinglehurst, Barrister, Call 2019

Georgina joins our Family & Divorce team and will be under the supervision of Zoë Saunders. Prior to starting pupillage, Georgina worked as a paralegal at Forsters; a leading London law firm, specialising in financial remedies and private children law. Often these cases involved multiple jurisdictions, complicated financial structures, pre-acquired or inherited assets and trusts. In addition to studying and working as a paralegal, Georgina volunteered for a number of charities, including the Personal Support Unit in Bristol, which assisted people facing the legal system alone, as well as for Big Voice London; a social mobility charity, where she assisted young people from disadvantaged backgrounds to engage with the law. Her work with Big Voice culminated in having a Model Law Commission report published by Lexis Nexis which was also presented in Parliament in 2020. Before deciding to pursue a career at the Bar, Georgina was a professional dressage rider, a member of the Junior/Young Rider Great Britain Dressage Squads and was selected for the British Equestrian Federation Talent Squad. She was awarded the Jules Thorn Scholarship from Middle Temple and an Advocacy Scholarship from BPP to undertake the Bar course.



Beatrice Baskett, Barrister Call 2021

Beatrice joins our Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence teams. She is under the supervision of Robert Mills for Clinical Negligence and Benjamin Handy for Personal Injury. Prior to starting pupillage, Beatrice worked at RWK Goodman as a Paralegal in the Clinical Negligence team, where she gained insight and experience into a broad range of claims. Beatrice worked closely with the birth injury, and fatal claims teams, which provided her with exposure to inquests and general case management. Beatrice studied Law at Newcastle University, graduating with First Class Honours. During her time at Newcastle, Beatrice was President of the Bar Society and, as an alumna of the society, she assists with mentoring, events and advocacy competitions. Beatrice won the University Senior Mooting Competition and was awarded 'Best Overall Mooter'. She was a finalist in BPP's national 'Advocate of the Year' competition, having won her regional round. The final took place in the Central Criminal Court, London. Alongside her studies, Beatrice volunteered as an Adviser for the Citizens Advice Bureau. She worked closely on their Mesothelioma Project which provided support to individuals diagnosed with the disease. Most recently, Beatrice has taken on the role as Legal Secretary of the Bristol Medico-Legal Society. She enjoys organising the society talks and meeting professionals based in Bristol.



Ben Harwood, Barrister Call 2022

Ben joins our Commercial & Chancery teams and will be under the supervision of James Pearce-Smith. Prior to taking the Bar, Ben was an Advocacy volunteer for the Legal Advocacy and Support Project at Bristol Law Centre for 2 years alongside his studies. He represented many disabled clients from across Bristol before the First-Tier Tribunal (Social Entitlement Chamber) to overturn the results of Work Capability assessments and reinstate disability benefits. Originally hailing from Nottingham, Ben studied History at the University of Bristol, specialising in medieval Islamic history and writing two dissertations on the Nizari Isma'ili of Alamut; before converting to law and taking the Bar. He maintains a keen amateur interest in many different areas of global history. He has been a keen singer and musician across a range of genres and mediums for many years, from appearing on a BBC singing show in 2017 to once staging a modernised version of Puccini's Gianni Schicci in the upstairs of the Boston Tea Party on Park Street.