

GERAINT WHEATLEY

Year of call: 2001
Year of silk:

Clerked by: Harry Young Luke Heywood

AREAS OF EXPERTISE:
Banking & Finance Commercial Litigation Professional
Negligence Real Estate Litigation



Professional Negligence

Geraint regularly undertakes solicitor and surveyor professional negligence cases, particularly, though not exclusively, in the property and general litigation contexts.

Significant or Reported Cases

Scotinvest v A Firm: Causation and the proper measure of damages in a conveyancing transaction

Bridge v A Firm: Dispute over the identity of the correct defendant in case concerning successor firms/firms holding run-off insurance following original firm's negligence

Carson v A Firm: Conveyancing requirements under the Right to Buy scheme - delayed completion leading to cancellation of transaction

Johnson v A Firm: Requirements for expert evidence in the context of an allegedly negligent mortgage valuation survey.

Profile

Geraint Wheatley is recognised as a leading junior in Chambers UK 2020, and has been ranked as such for a number of years.

His submissions were recently praised by the Court of Appeal as "excellent" in the important case of *Thorpe v Frank [2019] EWCA Civ 150*, in which he successfully appealed a decision of the Upper Tribunal concerning the proper limits of the law of adverse possession.

Geraint is an experienced chancery and commercial practitioner, combining an outstanding academic background with tactical awareness and an eye for detail.

At this time of uncertainty, with cases being adjourned and trials being postponed indefinitely, Geraint is aware of lay clients' concerns over certainty and cashflow. He is keen to assist in the resolution of disputes via ADR. He has the expertise to offer Early Neutral Evaluation, and has experience of providing independent Opinions on disputes (or specific issues within disputes) to help the parties to reach settlement. Opinions/Determinations can be provided on a binding basis (where the parties agree between themselves to adhere to the Determination, for example, on a particular legal issue or point of construction) or an advisory basis, where Geraint's view can be taken away by both parties to assist with their own consideration of the merits and guide their settlement efforts.

His practice covers the full range of property and commercial litigation, as well as professional negligence.

He regularly acts in both the High and County Courts for institutional clients such as developers, banks and national limited companies. He has appeared a number of times before the Court of Appeal and the First Tier Tribunal: Property Chamber (formerly the Adjudicator to HM Land Registry).

Geraint regularly delivers seminars at Chambers events and in-house to solicitors. Areas covered have included:

- Break Clauses
- Commercial Lease Renewals
- Vacant Possession
- Boundaries
- Assured Tenancies
- Authorised Guarantee Agreements
- Break Clauses
- CPR

- Easements
- Mortgages
- Professional Negligence
- Property Litigation
- 'Receivers, Lenders & Possession'

Year of Call: 2001

Areas of Expertise:

Banking & Finance

Commercial Litigation

Professional Negligence

Real Estate Litigation

Memberships

Member of the Chancery Bar Association

Member of the Northern Chancery Bar Association

Member of the Northern Circuit Commercial Bar Association

Member of the Northern & North Eastern Circuits

Qualifications

Oxford University (St Edmund Hall)

1st Class Law Degree

Bar Vocational Course, Manchester

Grade: Very Competent (ranked 1st in year)

Awarded the Edmund-Davies Award by Gray's Inn

Recommendations

Chambers UK 2021

"He has a measured skill as advocate." "He is very thorough, technically strong, pragmatic and also good with clients."

"He is a superb trial advocate. He is a tough negotiator who provides rigorous case analysis and thorough written advice. He is a joy to work with."

"Geraint is very thorough, precise and good with clients."

Legal 500, 2021

"Geraint is incredibly accessible and provides concise commercial advice. His style is user friendly but efficient and concise."

Legal 500, 2020

"Approachable, user-friendly and thinks outside the box."

Chambers UK 2020

"He is very accessible, commercial and he provides clear advice." "Incredibly user-friendly, easy to understand and good with clients."

Chambers UK 2019

"Very approachable." "He has a good understanding of the legal issues and is very methodical." "Very good on his feet and very bright."

Chambers UK 2018

"Very robust but also very friendly with clients." "He's really user-friendly, with no airs and graces, but also incredibly intelligent. I trust his knowledge of the law." "A very good advocate. He is so thorough and gives good, clear advice."

Chambers UK 2017

"Very commercially astute, he gets the job done." "Exceptional property litigator, very commercial, someone I would be happy to put in front of any client."

Chambers UK 2016

"Well respected by clients and peers alike for his strength in a wide variety of property issues, including boundary disputes and restrictive covenants. He is especially highlighted for his representation of lenders, and regularly handles possession claims. "

"Very approachable and user-friendly."

"Very knowledgeable for all matters including insolvency and bank-related litigation and advice."

Chambers UK 2013

'The "extremely bright" Geraint Wheatley offers expertise in all areas of property litigation. Sources praise the fact that he is "technically accurate but also practical, pragmatic and commercial." He is further appreciated for his approachable and user-friendly style.'

Client comments and testimonials

"Thanks again for all your fantastic help yesterday and before. A great result in a hard fought case. [The client] is delighted, as am I! You did an excellent job." Instructing Solicitor in case of Armour v Hindle

"I think you did a great job yesterday. Well prepared, insightful and excellent with the clients. I thought you worked hard and we had the benefit of your great intelligence. At each stage we had [the mediator's] reports, I think [the clients] were really grateful for your immediate, clear and invaluable advice. A top job." Instructing Solicitor in case of CF Corporate Finance Ltd v Hillcrest Animal Health Ltd

"The fact that we won the court arguments by a 'landslide' judgment, and the overall case over 6.5 days in court, is further testimony to the ultimate brilliance of Mr Wheatley in court" Lay client in case of Winfield v Frontline Solutions UK Ltd.



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