

## Tom Asquith

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*Very diligent and focused on achieving the client's commercial objectives.*

- Legal 500

Tom Asquith specialises in commercial litigation and arbitration. He is an experienced trial advocate whose caseload includes issues of jurisdiction and foreign law (e.g. Caribbean, Italian, Middle Eastern, Swiss and US) across his areas of expertise.

Chambers & Partners says that Tom “commands a lethal mix of being on top of the detail and great at strategy. He's very good in court and his cross-examination was particularly good.” “He's a tenacious advocate and is exceptionally easy to work with.”

Legal 500 characterises Tom as “Extremely bright, has a charming manner with clients and is a strong advocate.” “Technically strong and applies his advice in a practical manner.” “He gets involved in the detail yet retains the ability to work on strategic issues taking a commercial view.”

### Privacy Policy

Click here for a [Privacy Policy](#) for Tom Asquith.

## Areas of Expertise

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### Professional Liability

*“An enviably talented junior barrister. He is exceptionally good on his feet. He has good analytical skills and is able to draw together threads to formulate sound and reasoned arguments and advice.” – Legal 500, 2021: Professional Negligence*

**“He commands a lethal mix of being on top of the detail and great at strategy. He’s very good in court and his cross-examination was particularly good.” “He’s a tenacious advocate and is exceptionally easy to work with.” – Chambers & Partners 2020: Professional Negligence**

Tom is instructed by both claimants and defendants across a wide range of professions. He has particular experience in claims relating to accountants/financial advisers, construction professionals and lawyers. Cases include:

- *Trainer v Cramer Pelmont (a firm)* [2020] PNLR 3 (limitation appeal – s.14A).
- *Zagora and ors v Zurich Insurance Plc and ors* [2019] EWHC 140 (TCC) (sole counsel in a four week trial against a Building Regulations approved inspector).
- *Rumfitt v Burgess Hodgson (a firm)* [2018] EWHC 4000 (QB) (strike out of accountants’ negligence claim – tax advice issues).



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- *Godfrey Morgan Solicitors (a firm) v Mr Michael Armes* [2017] PNLR 30 (limitation – CPR 19).
- *Pietro Gatto (T/A AG Avvocati Gatto) v Allianz SPA* [2017] EWHC 955 (Comm) (application to amend in Italian lawyer's coverage claim).
- *Seery v Leathes Prior* [2017] PNLR 14 (trial of claim against solicitor's firm – underlying unfair prejudice petition).
- *Rahim v Arch Insurance Co (Europe) Ltd* [2016] EWHC 2967 (Comm) (trial of solicitor's claim for coverage – dishonesty issues).
- *Makar v Russell Jones & Walker* [2012] EWHC 3681 (Comm) (strike out application).

Tom is a member of the PNBA.

## Qualifications & Memberships

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BA (Oxon.) (Classics); Lord Mansfield, Lord Brougham, Hardwicke and Hubert Greenland scholarships from Lincoln's Inn.

## Insights

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### **Information v advice: inadequate labels but important principles**

31 May 2019

Matthew Bradley and Tom Asquith consider the recent Court of Appeal decision in *Manchester Building Society v Grant Thornton UK LLP* in the context of financial advice, providing points of note for practitioners looking to draw a line between taking responsibility for a decision and merely providing information which feeds into that decision.

### **Duty of care: Jones and Environcom Ltd [2011] EWCA Civ 1152**

30 November 2012

### **Marine insurance: losses, claims and defences: Clothing Management Technology Ltd v Beazley Solutions Ltd [2012] EWHC 727 (QB)**

30 March 2012