Richard Chapman KC

Year of Silk: **2019** | Year of Call: **1998**

ST JOHN STREET CHAMBERS
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Richard Chapman KC was called in 1998 and took silk in 2019. He also became Head of Chambers in 2019.

Richard specialises in all areas of Business and Property litigation including disputes relating to commercial law, chancery, contracts, company, insolvency, directors' duties, insurance, professional negligence, banking, partnership, landlord and tenant, trusts, succession and probate. He also specialises in tax and VAT litigation and sits as a Fee Paid Judge of the First-Tier Tribunal (Tax Chamber).

Richard has appeared in the European Court of Justice, the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeal. He is consistently highly praised in legal directories. Chambers and Partners has said that, "He is brilliant, down to earth, practical and sensible...Richard is one of the best on the Northern Circuit, he is very bright and articulate and a real standout. In the courtroom, he is unflappable and has a very commanding presence...He's good at dealing with difficult clients and explaining things in easy-to-understand ways...He is experienced, commercial and excellent on his feet...He's incredibly courteous and very approachable." The Legal 500 has said, "A devastatingly effective cross-examiner," and, "His authoritative demeanour impresses in court." He has also been involved in cases listed in "The Lawyer" as the top cases or appeals of 2023, 2024, and 2026.

Richard was the only Business and Property specialist outside London to take silk in 2019.

Richard is a Bencher of The Honourable Society of Gray's Inn. He is also a Director of the Bar Mutual Indemnity Fund.

VIEW PRIVACY POLICY

Education

School: Manchester Grammar School
University: University of Oxford, Brasenose College – BA(Oxon)
School of Law: Inns of Court School of Law
Somerset Iver Exhibition - Brasenose College
Lord Justice Holker Award - Gray's Inn

Professional Memberships

Fee-Paid (Part Time) Judge of the First-tier Tribunal (Tax Chamber)
Northern Business and Property Bar Association Committee (Treasurer)
Past Chair of the Northern Circuit Commercial Bar Association
Circuit Commercial Court Users Group Committee
Manchester Business and Property Courts Forum Committee

Manchester Law Society Civil Litigation Committee
British Irish Commercial Bar Association Committee (Treasurer 2017-2019)
Attorney General's Civil Regional 'A' Panel 2002-2019 (prior to taking silk)
Bencher of The Honourable Society of Gray's Inn

Notable Cases

Kaye v Vision Payroll Ltd (In Liquidation) [2026] BCC 423 (directors' breach of duty).

Secretary of State for the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government v Urban Splash Ltd and others.

Ahmed v White & Co (UK) Ltd [2025] EWHC 2399 (Comm) (insurance notification and aggregation clauses in respect of a professional negligence claim against accountants).

Why Not Bar Ltd v West Bay Insurance plc and QIC Europe Ltd [2025] Lloyds Rep IR 1 (Court of Appeal) (heard with *London International Exhibition Centre plc v Allianz Insurance plc*; also appeared at first instance [2023] Bus LR 1513) (leading authority on "at the premises" business interruption insurance clauses).

Rushby Dance and Fitness Centre v HMRC [2025] UKFTT 594 (TC) (operation of VAT private tuition exemptions).

Complete Care Services (Rossendale) Ltd v Goodwin [2023] EWHC 3139 (Ch) (expulsion from partnership).

RSW International Ltd v Purple Surgical Manufacturing Ltd [2022] EWHC 2258 (Comm) (agency).

Foojit Ltd v HMRC [2021] STC 262 (Upper Tribunal) (requirements for Enterprise Investment Scheme certification).

Brittain v Ferster [2022] BPIR 907 (discharge from bankruptcy).

Roger Preston Group Limited v HMRC [2021] SFTD 543, [2021] UKFTT 38 (TC) (treatment of intangible assets for Corporation Tax purposes).

WT Banks & Co (Farming Ltd) v HMRC [2021] UKFTT 155 (TC) (treatment of loans for Corporation Tax purposes).

MV Promotions Ltd and Michael Vaughan v Telegraph Media Group Ltd [2020] STC 1652 (rectification of contracts).

Lunar Missions Ltd v HMRC [2019] STC 2204 (Upper Tribunal) (VAT treatment of Kickstarter funding for a lunar mission).

Nesbit Law Group LLP v Acasta European Insurance Co Ltd [2018] EWCA Civ 268 (Court of Appeal) (Contractual construction of an insurance contract).

Shields & Sons Partnership v HMRC (Case C-262/16) [2017] STC 2205 (Court of Justice of the European Union) (Agricultural flat rate schemes).

Re: Enterprise Insurance Company plc, *Lawtel*, [2017] EWHC 1595 (Newey J) (Insurer's termination of a solicitor's retainer).

Impact Funding Solutions Ltd v AIG Europe Ltd [2017] AC 73 (Supreme Court) (Scope of cover in a professional indemnity insurance policy)..

Re: Rivelyn, 2016 (professional negligence by solicitors).

Shields & Sons Partnership v HMRC [2016] UKUT 142 (TCC) (Nugee J) (Cancellation of VAT flat-rate scheme certificate).

North of England Zoological Society v HMRC [2015] UKFTT 287 (TC) (direct and immediate link between

inputs and taxable supplies).

Sandher v Pearson [2013] EWCA Civ 1822 (Court of Appeal) (Unjust enrichment).

Wm Morrison Supermarkets Ltd v Revenue and Customs Commissioners [2013] UKUT 247 (TCC) (Upper Tribunal – Vos J) (VAT treatment of disposable barbecues – lead case).

Loughborough Student's Union v Revenue and Customs Commissioners [2013] (Upper Tribunal).

Manchester Building Society v Honeybourne Kenny [2013] EWHC 203 (CH) (Service of a claim form upon a partnership).

1st 4 Report Ltd v HMRC [2012] UKFTT 641 (TC) (MTIC – Successfully upheld HMRC's refusal to repay input tax).

PS Gill & Son (UK) Ltd v HMRC [2012] UKFTT 374 (TC) (MTIC – Successfully upheld HMRC's refusal to repay input tax).

Loughborough Student's Union v Revenue and Customs Commissioners [2012] UKFTT 331 (TC).

3 Cube Real Estate Ltd v Pilkington, 13 January 2012, (Mercantile Court) (Contractual dispute).

Benridge Care Homes Ltd v Revenue and Customs Commissioners [2012] UKUT 132 (TCC) (Upper Tribunal).

In the Matter of Langreen Ltd, 21 October 2011 (wrongful trading proceedings).

Megantic Services Ltd v Revenue and Customs Commissioners [2010] UKFTT 125 (TC).

Friendly Loans Ltd v Revenue and Customs Commissioners [2010] SFTD 96

Broome and Wellington LP v Greenstein [2009] EWCA Civ 589 (guarantees).

Asda Stores Ltd v Revenue and Customs Commissioners [2009] UKFTT 247 (TC), [2010] SFTD 175 (VAT categorisation of flapjack bars).

British Association for Shooting and Conservation Ltd v Revenue and Customs Commissioners [2009] EWHC 300 (Ch), [2009] STC 1421 (first instance at [2008] STI 2380), Lewison J (VAT exemptions for supplies closely linked to sport and for political, philanthropic or civic activities).

Black Horse Ltd v Langford [2007] EWHC 907 (QB), Gray J (Construction of section 56(1) of the Consumer Credit Act 1974).

Ikram v Latif [2006] NPC 32 (constructive trusts and proprietary estoppel).








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