

“As we celebrate our recent QC appointments, we are also fortunate at 3VB to have a wealth of talented female members at the junior end, some of whom are profiled below. It is clear, from the cases they describe, they already have hugely successful practices. They are the future of 3VB, and we are both excited by and proud of what they have already achieved and what they will go on to achieve. They are the great silks of tomorrow.”

Ewan McQuater QC and Adrian Beltrami QC
Joint Heads of 3VB

THE
FUTURE

Ivana Daskalova

Year of Call: 2018

"I have a particular interest in fraud and in my first year of tenancy I completed a five-month secondment at one of the leading law firms for civil fraud, during which I worked on numerous committal applications and freezing injunctions."



I dislike routine and have always sought to challenge myself through my studies and work. After living in five countries, I decided to embark on a career at the English Bar, which has provided me with a surprisingly diverse practice and daily intellectual stimulation.

My caseload is a mixture of led and unled work, and domestic and international cases. I am currently instructed in the following matters:

- A group action against a finance broker and finance providers involving allegations of misrepresentation, negligent misstatement and breaches of the Consumer Credit Act 1974 and FSMA.
- Stokoe Partnership Solicitors v Robinson & Ors: a claim for breach of confidence raising accusations of covert surveillance in the Middle East and hacking.
- A potential group action by 161 investors for professional negligence against several firms of solicitors in relation to failed property investments.
- The appeals process set up by Lloyds to review compensation offers made to customers impacted by the fraud at the Impaired Assets Office at HBOS Reading.

I have a particular interest in fraud and in my first year of tenancy I completed a five-month secondment at one of the leading law firms for civil fraud, during which I worked on numerous committal applications and freezing injunctions (including against the fugitive art dealer Inigo Philbrick, who defrauded investors out of more than \$20 million). As a pupil, I assisted on a number of high-profile fraud cases, including Avonwick Holdings Ltd v Azitio Holdings & Ors, a \$2 billion fraud dispute involving Ukrainian oligarchs.

Thanks to the generosity of my Inn of Court (Middle Temple), I also had the opportunity, before commencing pupillage, to undertake a placement at a top-tier Israeli law firm and shadow judges in the Shalom Court in Tel Aviv and the Supreme Court in Jerusalem.

Judy Fu

Year of Call: 2019 (Solicitor: 2014)

"Alongside practice, last year I co-authored a research paper with Sir William Blair, Professor Eva Lein, and Professor Louise Gullifer QC examining the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on commercial contracts and disputes."



I studied law at LSE and Cambridge, then worked for the Law Commission. I qualified as a solicitor and worked at Freshfields and Skadden Arps.

It did not occur to me to consider moving to the Bar until I cross-examined a witness for the first time in an arbitration. I caught the 'advocacy bug'. Looking back, I learned a lot that was invaluable in the City and it gave me the foundation I needed to work for myself. Perhaps because of my background, I try to be an integrated part of the solicitor teams I work with.

My practice spans a broad range of commercial disputes. There is a lot of variety. I have just finished a secondment as a Judicial Assistant in the High Court (with HHJ Pelling QC and Zacaroli J) – a highlight was assisting with creditors' challenges to the Regis and New Look CVAs under s.6 of the Insolvency Act 1986. I recently advised a litigation funder in a real estate dispute in the London Circuit Commercial Court as sole counsel.

I am about to begin a two-week LCIA arbitration as junior counsel in a \$600 million claim against a promoter of a listed company in India. That will be followed by a preliminary issues hearing as junior counsel in a dispute concerning the energy sector in Angola. Later this year, I will be sitting as an arbitrator for the first time.

Alongside practice, last year I co-authored a research paper with Sir William Blair, Professor Eva Lein, and Professor Louise Gullifer QC examining the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on commercial contracts and disputes. I am also involved with 3VB's International Advisory and Dispute Unit, where Members have recently been working on a project arising out of the G20's Debt Service Suspension Initiative.

My cases often have a cross-border element, and I think I help bring an international perspective to my work. I grew up in Hong Kong, China, and Canada. I speak English, Mandarin, and Cantonese, and I have studied French, Arabic, and Russian.

Clarissa Jones

Year of Call: 2018

"I enjoy anything which requires me to get to grips with difficult financial concepts. Before joining 3VB, I worked as a paralegal in the structured finance group at Linklaters, which was great preparation for a career at the commercial Bar."



Before law, I studied History at Oxford. In my final year, I went to a couple of careers events being hosted by commercial chambers and, from then on, I had my eyes firmly set on a career at the commercial Bar. Four years later, I joined 3VB as a tenant.

As a new tenant at 3VB, my practice has two halves. I spend about half of my time working on large commercial matters in which I am led by silks and/or other juniors. The other half I spend providing advice and undertaking other work in my own right. I have been lucky to have a steady stream of solo hearings in the County Court which have allowed me to keep developing my own advocacy skills and style.

I am keen to take on work in all of 3VB's main areas of practice, including banking, financial services and general commercial matters. So far, a lot of the work that I have done has had an international enforcement angle and/or fraud or professional misconduct element. I am also working on a couple of cases with some connection to the art or luxury goods world.

Otherwise, I enjoy anything which requires me to get to grips with difficult financial concepts. Before joining 3VB, I worked as a paralegal in the structured finance group at Linklaters, which was great preparation for a career at the commercial Bar.

Particular highlights from my first six months in practice include:

- Appearing in the Court of Appeal on behalf of the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of China in an appeal on a point of statutory interpretation (*Strategic Technologies v MND*). I was led by Andrew Onslow QC. We succeeded in our argument that a "judgment on a judgment" is not enforceable under the Administration of Justice Act 1920.
- A one-week trial, in which I was led by Saima Hanif QC, involving allegations of breach of contract arising out of the sale of an accounting and tax compliance business. The judge dismissed the claim against our client.
- Advising the National Crime Agency with regards to civil recovery under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002.
- Acting in relation to two ongoing, high-value commercial arbitration matters, both under the LCIA Rules.

Since joining 3VB, I have also written articles on issues relating to commercial arbitration and finance and banking law for LexisNexis and Butterworths Journal of International Banking and Financial Law.

Sarah Parker

Year of Call: 2016

"Taking the long way round is not a hindrance to a career at the Commercial Bar. It has allowed me to bring together everything I have enjoyed in my previous career into one place."



I did not come directly to a career at the Bar. Before joining 3VB in December 2020 I was co-founder and managing director of a company supplying management software to charities.

At university I studied philosophy with a particular interest in inter-disciplinary philosophy of mind. I spent time working at a university zoology museum and as a law reporter at the Incorporated Council of Law Reporting along the way.

Taking the long way round is not a hindrance to a career at the Commercial Bar. It has allowed me to bring together everything I have enjoyed in my previous career into one place: the intellectual challenge of academia, the commercial judgement in running a business, and the pleasure of untangling a knotty problem with people who find it just as interesting as I do.

During pupillage I saw work across Chambers' areas of expertise. Highlights included:

- The Covid-19 Business Interruption Insurance test case which went to the Supreme Court (assisting Adam Kramer)
- *Broomhead v National Westminster Bank* – resisting a claim that an earlier judgment dismissing a £17m claim made by a customer was tainted by fraud (assisting Charlotte Eborall)
- *Winlink Marketing Ltd v Liverpool Football Club & Athletic Grounds Ltd* – claim for commission against a football club relating to a sponsorship deal (assisting William Day and Andrew Sutcliffe QC).
- *Lombard North Central plc v European SkyJets Limited* – appeal in relation to a first instance refusal to set aside a default judgment concerning the validity of a default notice (assisting Charlotte Eborall)

As a second six pupil I was encouraged to join Advocate and, in the midst of lockdown my first time on my feet was on a pro bono case by telephone in the County Court. I am now building a broad commercial practice with a particular interest in banking law, insurance, insolvency and fraud.



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