



CATHERINE NEWMAN KC

CALL: 1979 KC: 1995

OVERVIEW

Catherine Newman KC is not currently accepting instructions.

Catherine is a leading silk at the chancery and commercial bar. Clients rate her as, *'a standout figure'*, *'fantastically clever, intellectually very agile and someone who really adds value as a silk.'*, *'Technically perfect'* and *'takes a robust, calm and measured approach.'*

She is one of the best cross examiners in practice today: *'A fine exponent of trial advocacy and cross-examination'* and *'Extremely clever and excellent at cross-examination.'*

Her *'formidable intellect' 'grasps complex financial situations easily.'* She relishes getting a deep understanding of the client's business, and couples that with an astute understanding of human nature which enables her to get to the bottom of issues quickly. She is *'great with clients, reliable, and very confident in her advice.'* *'She can make complicated principles understandable to a lay party. She's also extremely impressive in terms of the volume that she can get on top of in a short space of time.'* *'She really thinks very deeply. Her judgement and identification of the issues in a case really make a difference.'*

She has never lost her commitment to being on top of the evidence and issues in a case herself: *'A class act and a pleasure to work with, she displays great attention to detail and is extremely knowledgeable.'* *'She's extremely responsive, gets to grip with the issues in minutes'*

Well regarded by the judiciary, *'Catherine's a superstar in the courtroom. She's incredibly well prepared.'* *'Catherine has the ability to take the temperature of the situation and read the court. She is well regarded by the judiciary and easy to get on with. Clients really like her. She really is a tour de force.'* She is not *'arrogant. She also takes an inclusive approach and feels like part of the team.'*

She has considerable experience of business disputes particularly those which may have equity aspects (contracts, warranties, tort, agency, fiduciary duties, restitution etc), civil fraud, insolvency, asset tracing, trusts, JVs, partnership, LLPs, corporate and shareholder and investor disputes in many fields (including commodities, mining and many types of chemical and industrial processes), banking, hedge fund and private equity fund investments, foreign exchange and derivatives. Her work has included: acting for the successful Appellants in *Smith and Others v Molyneux* [2016] UKPC; acting for Shell Pension Fund in BVI litigation (ending in the Privy Council) brought by the Liquidators of a Madoff feeder, advising the UK arm of a US monoline insurer on its rights in relation to a suite of lending and bonds issued by a state owned utility in a failing Eurozone jurisdiction; litigation on behalf of an investor in Russian assets purchased from a Dutch bank alleged to be part of the insolvent estate of Mr Abylazov; acting for an Italian commune claiming to have been mis-sold derivatives by

international banks; the first reported case on the duties of partners in a LLP; disputes concerning trading in metals and the ownership of residues, and their quality, from the smelting of copper ores; litigation by a group of siblings in relation to the dividend policy of an investment company holding assets for charitable trusts and numerous disputes concerning the conduct of trustees and the construction of trusts and contracts.

She has acted in many well-known disputes including the UK local authority swaps litigation, BCCI, Maxwell and Madoff. She was Leading Counsel advising the Inspectors inquiring into the flotation of Mirror Group Newspapers. In November 2005 she led the team acting for the English Creditors' Committee of BCCI SA in the private application to the Chancellor which immediately preceded the discontinuance of the Liquidators' litigation against the Bank of England.

She has appeared in all the divisions and levels of the UK courts, and is a member of the BVI bar. She has appeared in the courts of the Cayman Islands on several occasions.

Catherine has appeared as an advocate in several arbitrations, including those governed by ICC and LCIA rules, and is currently appointed as an ICC co-arbitrator in a Latin American dispute.

Catherine also takes appropriate pro bono work and is a Trustee of a major development charity.

She graduated from University College London with First Class Honours in Law, winning the Andrews Medal and Prize for the most outstanding performance in the final Law examinations in 1978. A former scholar of the Middle Temple, she has chaired their Scholarship Fund Appeal.

Catherine is ranked as a Leading Silk in several categories in both the Chambers Directory and the Legal 500.

DIRECTORY QUOTES

"She is a very effective advocate."

Chambers UK Offshore (2023)

"Excellent, very thorough and very highly thought of."

Chambers UK Chancery: Commercial (2023)

"So experienced and so authoritative, she knows exactly what she's talking about."

Chambers UK Chancery: Traditional (2022)

"A solid operator who knows how the courts works really well."

Chambers UK Fraud: Civil (2022)

"A fine advocate with a really good, measured style."

Chambers UK Chancery: Traditional (2021)

"She works relentlessly hard for her clients and is really determined."

Chambers UK Chancery: Commercial (2021)

"She's incredibly quick, with a first-class mind." "She gets on top of huge volumes of documents and gives very measured advice. In terms of advice to clients, how she prepared the case, and on her feet, she's a force to be reckoned with."

Chambers UK Chancery: Traditional (2020)

"I think she is a very clever, tactical lawyer who's very experienced. Her ability is to cut through a case, right down to the nub of the facts, and she's really great with clients."

Chambers UK Chancery: Commercial (2020)

"Everyone knows her. She is a punchy and tenacious litigator who is brilliant on the bigger dispute." "She has considerable presence and the ear of the judge."

Chambers UK Chancery: Traditional (2019)

"Has considerable presence, knows her stuff and is more than comfortable handling big cases." "She is just fantastically reliable and confident in her advice, without being arrogant. She also takes an inclusive approach and feels like part of the team."

Chambers UK Chancery: Commercial (2019)

"She is very immersed in the world of both offshore and onshore trusts. She is extremely good in court and I've seen her make some very impressive and able arguments." "She is a very punchy advocate; she is very efficient and really on the ball. She really knows how to fight a case and you are wary of being against her as an opponent."

Chambers UK Chancery: Traditional (2018)

"One of the first women at the Chancery Bar to take silk, she's clever, she's tough and judges listen to her." "Extremely affable and great with clients, she's got a lot of experience, and it shows."

Chambers UK Chancery: Commercial (2018)

"Catherine is incredibly sharp. She's very good with clients and can make complicated principles understandable to a lay party. She's also extremely impressive in terms of the volume that she can get on top of in a short space of time - in a document-heavy case, she's able to understand and absorb information very quickly." "I always think that for a difficult case she's very good."

Chambers UK Chancery: Commercial (2017)

"She is a highly credible leader and a very dedicated barrister."

Chambers UK Fraud: Civil (2021)

"A formidable force in court." "She's a clear thinker and is incredibly quick at getting on top of complex cases."

Chambers UK Fraud: Civil (2020)

"She has got very good judgement."

Chambers UK Fraud: Civil (2019)

"Fights very hard for her clients."

Chambers UK Fraud: Civil (2018)

"Catherine's a superstar in the courtroom. She's incredibly well prepared." "Catherine has the ability to take the temperature of the situation and read the court. She is well regarded by the judiciary and easy to get on with. Clients really like her and she's extremely bright. She really is a tour de force."

Chambers UK Fraud: Civil (2017)

"A preferred choice of City and offshore firms for a range of commercial chancery matters."

Chambers UK Fraud: Civil (2017)

"Catherine is very easy to work with and inspires confidence. She is smart and has great attention to detail."

Chambers UK Company (2022)

"She is very easy to work with and extremely smart. What is good about Catherine is that she does not just advise on the law but will also give you a strong steer on strategy without prompting. She makes you feel that you are in very safe hands."

Chambers UK Company (2021)

"She really thinks very deeply. Her judgement and identification of the issues in a case really make a difference."

Chambers UK Company (2018)

"She's as bright as a button and an effective strategist. A very effective advocate who's like a steel hand in a velvet glove."

Chambers UK Company (2018)

"I was very impressed with her ability to get on top of the details quickly." "Totally on top of the material and very good at cross-examining."

Chambers UK Company (2017)

"She is an extremely robust litigator, well known for her determination. She grabs the case and pursues it right through."

Chambers UK Company (2017)

"She is excellent - an outstanding advocate who is very calm and collected."

Chambers UK Offshore (2021)

"She's extremely approachable, very thorough, very good at strategy and very commercially minded."

Chambers UK Offshore (2020)

"Responsive, accessible, commercial and someone who knows how to put up a fight."

Chambers UK Offshore (2019)

"A class act and a pleasure to work with, she displays great attention to detail and is extremely knowledgeable."

"She's extremely responsive, gets to grip with the issues in minutes, and is extremely good on her feet and in cross-examinations."

Chambers UK Offshore (2018)

"A great cross-examiner and an absolute delight."

Chambers UK Offshore (2017)

"She is phenomenally bright and capable."

Chambers UK Offshore (2017)

"A formidable advocate who's ferocious in cross-examination." "She's very effective and a very aggressive advocate."

Chambers UK Partnership (2022)

"Clients find her to be fantastic as she is so practical and pragmatic. " "She is all over the detail of every inch of the case." "Those that instruct her have enormous confidence in her judgement and abilities."

Chambers UK Partnership (2021)

"A very determined and, when the need arises, a very aggressive advocate." "A formidable force in court."

Chambers UK Partnership (2020)

"Charmingly formidable, fun to work with, and a real fighter." "As a top silk, she cuts through the issues. What you get from someone like Catherine is a clear view on issues without prevarication."

Chambers UK Partnership (2019)

"Very knowledgeable in this area of the law. She's clear, authoritative and decisive in her advice on partnership and LLP issues and is a strong trial advocate."

Chambers UK Partnership (2018)

"An excellent, very diligent advocate and cross-examiner who's also able to speak to clients in plain English, which is very helpful in the throes of a trial." "An absolute delight and a great cross-examiner."

Chambers UK Partnership (2017)

"Has considerable presence, knows her stuff and is more than comfortable handling big cases." "She is just fantastically reliable and confident in her advice, without being arrogant. She also takes an inclusive approach and feels like part of the team."

Chambers Global Dispute Resolution: Commercial Chancery (2019)

"Catherine is incredibly sharp. She's very good with clients and can make complicated principles understandable to a lay party. She's also extremely impressive in terms of the volume that she can get on top of in a short space of time - in a document-heavy case, she's able to understand and absorb information very quickly." "I always think that for a difficult case she's very good."

Chambers Global Dispute Resolution: Commercial Chancery (2017)

"Responsive, accessible, commercial and someone who knows how to put up a fight."

Chambers Global Offshore (2019)

"A strong leader and strategist."

Legal 500 UK Banking and Finance (2021)

"She's forthright, hardworking, able, and great fun to work with."

Legal 500 UK Banking and Finance (2020)

"Fierce at cross examination with an ability to destroy expert and factual witnesses alike, sometimes without them even knowing it – a joy to behold."

Legal 500 UK Banking and Finance (2021)

"Incredibly knowledgeable and experienced, and one of the best oral advocates at the Bar."

Legal 500 UK Banking and Finance (2020)

"A go-to silk – great with clients, reliable, and very confident in her advice."

Legal 500 UK Banking and Finance (2019)

"A lovely barrister to instruct, her hunger is as evident as ever."

Legal 500 UK Banking and Finance (2017)

"She gives clear, decisive and authoritative advice."

Legal 500 UK Company & Partnership (2020)

"She excels in Chancery cases."

Legal 500 UK Company (2019)

"A highly respected senior silk."

Legal 500 UK Partnership (2019)

"She is very authoritative and clients really like her."

Legal 500 UK Company (2017)

"She is extremely clever and excellent at cross-examination."

Legal 500 UK Partnership (2017)

"A leader in the insolvency field."

Legal 500 UK Insolvency (2021)

"She is a leader in her field and is very talented."

Legal 500 UK Insolvency (2020)

"A responsive insolvency expert."

Legal 500 UK Insolvency (2019)

"An exceptional lawyer."

Legal 500 UK Offshore (2021)

"Superb on her feet."

Legal 500 UK Offshore (2020)

"She has a track record of offshore company disputes."

Legal 500 UK Offshore (2019)

"A very clever silk."

Legal 500 UK Private Client: Trusts and Probate (2021)

"Not afraid to mix it up, which is important in hard-fought litigation."

Legal 500 UK Private Client: Trusts and Probate (2022)

"A very good cross-examiner with steely nerve in court."

Legal 500 UK Insolvency (2022)

MEMBERSHIPS

- Chancery Bar Association
- COMBAR
- ACTAPS
- Professional Negligence Bar Association

APPOINTMENTS

- Deputy High Court Judge (KB & Chancery Divisions)
- Recorder of the Crown Court (authorised to hear appeals and serious sex cases)
- Lieutenant-Bailiff of the Royal Court of Guernsey (2001-10th June 2014)

QUALIFICATIONS

- LLB Hons (Lond) First Class