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Abigail Scott

Year of Call: 2019

Telephone: 0115 947 2581

Overview

Abigail holds a First Class (Honours) degree in Law and was graded Outstanding on the BPTC (1st in year). She joined Ropewalk Chambers as a tenant in 2020.

Abigail has a busy court practice encompassing trials, applications, CMCs and CCMCs. She enjoys a thriving paperwork practice and is regularly instructed in multi-track cases to draft advices, pleadings, schedules and counter-schedules of loss. She is regularly instructed in PI/clinical negligence, inquest and employment matters.

Abigail is a Harmsworth Scholar (Middle Temple) and received the Dean's Scholarship for Academic Excellence, the Richard Bagley Prize for Outstanding Achievement in Pro Bono Activity and the Taylor Prize from Nottingham Law School. In 2022, she was shortlisted for Advocate's Young Pro Bono Barrister of the year.

As an undergraduate, Abigail won four major mooted competitions, each judged by Supreme Court, Court of Appeal and/or High Court judges. Her presentation was described by Lord Hodge as "*particularly impressive*".

Abigail is a member of the Government Legal Department's Junior Junior scheme. She is a member of Chambers' Editorial Committee and an Editor for the Ropewalk Personal Injury Blog.

In her spare time, Abigail enjoys running, cycling, hiking and kayaking. She is a keen horsewoman.

Prior to joining the Bar, Abigail was a senior manager in a motorcycle dealership where she gained varied experience in commercial, employment and business matters.

Expertise

Disease

Having completed pupillage primarily in the field of occupational disease under the supervision of Kam Jaspal, Abigail has knowledge and experience in this area beyond her year of Call.

Recent instructions include defences to alleged asbestos-induced lung cancer and fatal mesothelioma claims.

Abigail is well versed in limitation, breach of duty and causation issues across a breadth of industrial diseases and is regularly instructed on trials and interlocutory hearings.

Abigail drafts robust pleadings, advices, Part 18 requests, and complex schedules and counter-schedules of loss.

Abigail is a contributor to the [Ropewalk Disease Blog](#). She has also delivered webinars on issues of breach of duty (COSHH) and causation in disease cases.

Inquests

Abigail has a growing inquests practice with a particular interest in medically complex cases.

Abigail accepts instructions from all categories of interested persons and understands the importance of thorough preparation and representation on their behalf.

For details of a recent inquest at which Abigail represented a bereaved mother, click [here](#).

Clinical Negligence

Abigail welcomes instructions in this area having previously drafted pleadings and advices in matters concerning delayed diagnosis and negligent treatment. She has experience of dental negligence claims.

Personal Injury

Abigail drafts robust personal injury pleadings and provides practical and comprehensive advice on liability, quantum and strategy. She combines a fast track and multi-track workload, accepting instructions from claimants and defendants alike.

Recent instructions include a claim which settled at JSM, with Abigail's client receiving a sum exceeding £400,000. Abigail represented the Claimant from pleading to settlement.

Abigail receives instructions across the breadth of personal injury disputes including employers' liability, public liability, occupiers' liability, Package Travel claims, defective premises, construction accidents, product liability, sports injury claims, road traffic accidents and Highways Act claims. She is willing to accept instructions on a CFA in appropriate cases.

Abigail has been instructed in cases involving surveillance evidence where there have been disputes as to the extent of any injury and future loss.

Counter Fraud

Abigail welcomes instructions in this area.

For defendants, she has successfully obtained findings of fundamental dishonesty; for claimants, she has averted findings

of fundamental dishonesty notwithstanding problematic witness evidence. She has been instructed in cases involving surveillance evidence where issues of exaggeration and/or dishonesty have been raised.

Abigail's cross-examination is carefully prepared and thorough, and she is abreast of the key authorities in this area.

Credit Hire

Abigail deals with credit hire claims, acting for claimants and defendants in small claims and fast track trials. She is conversant with the key issues around enforceability, need, period, impecuniosity, rate and intervention. She regularly deals with claims for taxi hire.

Employment

Abigail has a developing employment practice and welcomes instructions in this area. Recent instructions include:

- Defending a sexual harassment claim, securing a significant costs order against the claimant following a five-day hearing (see [judgment and reasons](#)).
- Representation at case management/preliminary and costs hearings.
- Advising on merits and remedies.

Prior to joining Ropewalk Chambers, Abigail conducted employment hearings for Free Representation Unit and the Nottingham Law School Legal Advice Centre.

Motor

Abigail is experienced in road traffic accident disputes, appearing regularly on the fast track in both liability and quantum trials. She is proficient with issues relating to credit hire and fundamental dishonesty.

Abigail produces robust pleadings and advice in RTA matters and is familiar with issues arising from indemnity, driver identity and claims involving the MIB.

Commercial Dispute Resolution

Abigail accepts instructions in sales of goods claims, Consumer Rights Act claims and wider breach of contract claims. She has drafted pleadings in breach of contract claims involving the provision of services and defective goods and has successfully defended claims of poor workmanship. She has also successfully represented claimants in consumer goods and services disputes.

Animals & Equine

Abigail welcomes instructions in this area. She is a keen horsewoman and brings her experience to bear in disputes involving equines. She has previously been involved in Animals Act claims and defending claims for breach of contract following a sale of a horse which was described as unfit for purpose.

Abigail is a member of the UK Centre for Animal Law.

Property & Real Estate

Abigail welcomes instructions in this area. She has knowledge of charging orders and orders for sale; enforcement of

Tomlin orders containing provisions for the sale of a property; and claims for nuisance arising from neighbouring properties.

She has recently drafted documentation for a matter relating to an alleged common intention constructive trust which will be heard in the Property Chamber Land Registration First Tier Tribunal.

Planning & Environmental

Abigail has an interest in planning law, having been supervised during pupillage by Jonathan Mitchell and observing planning inquiries.

Appointments

- Member of the Government Legal Department Junior Junior Scheme

Professional Memberships

- Personal Injuries Bar Association
- UK Centre for Animal Law

Qualifications

- BPTC (Outstanding), Nottingham Law School
- LLB (First Class), Open University

Awards

- Finalist in the UK Environmental Law Association Junior Moot 2014 (judged by Lord Carnwath)
- Winner of the UK Environmental Law Association Junior Moot 2015 (judged by Lord Carnwath)
- Winner of the ICLR Open University Moot 2017 (judged by Lady Hale)
- Winner of The Times/2TG Moot 2017 (judged by Lord Hodge, Clarke LJ and Sir Richard Aikens in the presence of then Lord Chief Justice, Lord Thomas of Cwmgiedd)
- Winner of the UK Environmental Law Association Senior Moot 2019 (judged by Dove J)
- Harmsworth Scholarship (The Honourable Society of the Middle Temple)
- Dean's Scholarship for Academic Excellence (Nottingham Law School)
- Richard Bagley Prize for Outstanding Achievement in Pro Bono Activity (Nottingham Law School)
- Taylor Prize (Nottingham Law School)
- Winner of the Nottingham Law School/Ropewalk Chambers Mooting Competition 2019 (judged by Jayne Adams KC)
- Shortlisted for Young Pro Bono Barrister of 2022 (Advocate)

Ropewalk Chambers

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