how to instruct us

We aim to provide responsive, flexible and timely advice of the highest quality, tailored to the needs of our clients.

Our clerks are always willing to advise on the suitability and availability of counsel and to discuss fee structures.

We believe that our continued success is down to our high quality legal expertise and competitive rates, combined with our down-to-earth and supportive approach to dealing with clients. This reflects the overriding ethos of Devereux – providing a first class service to all our clients.

If you would like further information about our expertise in insurance and reinsurance, or about the way we work in general, or to arrange a meeting, please contact:

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'Devereux Chambers from top to bottom is just a great set and very easy to use; you get responsive clerking, effective time management from counsel, and fantastic work feedback.' Chambers UK

our members

Colin Edelman QC Silk 1995 Call 1977 Colin Wynter QC Silk 2006 Call 1984 Robert Weir QC Silk 2010 Call 1992

Nicholas Bard Call 1979

Thomas Keith Call 1983

Oliver Hyams Call 1989

Richard Harrison Call 1991

Alison Padfield Call 1992

Andrew Burns Call 1993

Stephen Cottrell Call 1998

Sophie Belgrove Call 2001

Ben Lynch

Jonathan Butters Call 2003

Lucinda Harris Call 2004

Tom Vonberg

Talia Barsam Call 2006

Thomas Cordrey Call 2006

Sam Nicholls Call 2006

Adam Baradon Call 2006

Christopher Stone Call 2007

Alice Carse Call 2008

Jesse Crozier Call 2009

Ryan Hawthorne Call 2008

Sebastian Purnell

Call 2010
David Peter
Call 2012

Georgia Hicks Call 2012

what they say

'At Devereux, the "fantastically clever" Colin Edelman QC was instructed in the Rolls-Royce Mermaid Pods litigation, and is leading "the exceptionally bright" Alison Padfield in Teal v WR Berkley. Colin Wynter QC led in a Court of Appeal case concerning the issue of freedom to instruct a lawyer of choice. Also recommended are "rising star" Ben Lynch; the "very intelligent", "hardworking" Richard Harrison; and the "solution-driven" Andrew Burns, who attacks a case with "real intellectual vigour".' Legal 500

'Colin Edelman QC. Hailed as the foremost premier insurance silk in the market, he commands respect and admiration for his vast experience in insurance and reinsurance law. "He's just everything you'd want in a silk – authoritative, exceptionally bright, user-friendly, and a man with no airs and graces". "He has an incredibly sharp mind ... could not be recommended more highly".' Chambers UK

'Colin Wynter QC. Held in high regard for his insurance practice. He has acted on some of the most high-profile cases in the market in recent years. "A great strategist, who is a real pleasure to work with. He holds true to his convictions". "Very approachable and very bright ... He has a work ethic that's second to none".' Chambers UK

'Richard Harrison. Praised for his ability to handle an extensive range of insurance and reinsurance matters. "He has an incisive mind and often manages to bring a different view to issues he is asked to advise on". "Very intelligent, and has a wealth of knowledge on insurance-related matters. He is very approachable, which makes for excellent collaboration".' Chambers UK

'Andrew Burns. Wins acclaim for his broad insurance practice and is enjoying a swiftly growing profile. He is described as "an excellent junior who will go far". "He provides unfussy, concise advice and always gives a firm opinion in a no-nonsense manner. He is an absolute pleasure to deal with, as he does not stand on ceremony and is highly personable".' Chambers UK

'Alison Padfield. Known for her deep knowledge of insurance and reinsurance law, she is commended for her experience in professional indemnity and business interruptions claims. "Very user-friendly, very responsive and easy to get on with".' Chambers UK

'Ben Lynch. Has forged a reputation of advising on high-value, high-profile insurance and reinsurance matters. He is particularly expert in disputes relating to solicitors. "He's very helpful, and provides useful and insightful advice".' Chambers UK



extensive experience dedicated complex matters specialists international arbitration award winning financial linesteading commentators Insurance & Reinsurance jurisdictional disputes strong team professional indemnity directors' and officers' construction and engineering energysatellite and space captive insurance liability property business interruption property claims commercial sensitivity exceptional insight utmost efficiency expert strength

about devereux

We are a modern, dynamic and approachable set of barristers, with a reputation for an outstanding level of service. As one of the UK's top civil and commercial sets we take pride in our reputation for excellence in all our fields of work.

The depth and breadth of expertise offered by Devereux is reflected in the leading directories. We secured a double award at the 2012 Chambers Bar Awards, with chambers winning 'Insurance Set of the Year' and Colin Wynter QC winning 'Insurance Silk of the Year'. The Awards are based upon independent research conducted for the 2013 edition of Chambers UK. Colin Edelman QC was recognised as 'Insurance Silk of the Year' by the Chambers Bar Awards in 2010 and 2007.

'Devereux Chambers enjoys a good reputation for handling high-profile, complex insurance and reinsurance matters, and is seen acting for the major companies in the market. The set contains barristers who are experts in property matters, Bermuda Form arbitrations and asbestos-related disease claims. They also have notable expertise in matters relating to the Lloyd's market. Barristers from the set frequently appear in international disputes.' Chambers UK

'Insurance Set of the Year' – 2012 Chambers Bar Awards

'Chambers of the Year' – Winner of The Halsbury Legal Award 2013

who we are

We are a strong team of dedicated specialists. We have extensive experience of the operation of the Lloyd's and companies' markets and are involved in many of the major market disputes and the most significant cases in the field. Recent examples include the Supreme Court decisions in Teal v Berkley Insurance & Aspen Insurance and Employers' Liability ('EL Trigger') litigation. We also act as advocates or arbitrators in insurance and reinsurance arbitrations, including international arbitrations.

We have in-depth experience of insurance and reinsurance across the commercial spectrum, including the full range of financial lines, directors' and officers', professional indemnity, construction and engineering, energy, satellite and space, captive insurance, all forms of liability, property and business interruption.

The academic and professional calibre of barristers at Devereux is outstanding. Our members include leading commentators on the law of insurance and reinsurance. Publications include The Law of Reinsurance (2nd edition 2012) by Colin Edelman QC and Andrew Burns, MacGillivray on Insurance Law (12th edition 2012) co-edited by Ben Lynch and Insurance Claims by Alison Padfield (3rd edition 2012).

what we do

We act for insurers, reinsurers, policyholders, third party claimants, brokers and specialist providers within the insurance and reinsurance industry. The breadth of our practice areas is a key asset. Our experience of complementary areas of work such as professional negligence, employment, personal injury, tax, energy, telecommunications, sport and pensions provides a distinct advantage in disputes involving professional indemnity insurance, all forms of liability insurance, permanent health insurance (PHI), sickness and accident claims and claims under the Third Parties (Rights Against Insurers) Act. Exposure to a broad range of work means that our junior tenants gain extensive experience of all aspects of oral and written advocacy at an early stage.

We undertake work involving all aspects of insurance and reinsurance related disputes including the construction of policy and treaty wordings, breach of warranties, avoidance for non-disclosure and misrepresentation, fraud, aggregation, notification, affirmation, waiver and estoppel, claims co-operation and control clauses, follow settlements clauses, subrogation and contribution.

We also advise on compliance with statutory and other regulatory provisions, such as the FCA's Insurance Conduct of Business Sourcebook and other non-contentious work.

Work with an international dimension includes jurisdictional disputes and Bermuda Form arbitrations. We advise insurers, reinsurers and policyholders in financial centres across the globe.

how we work

Our barristers are perceptive, responsive and unstuffy. A first-rate business services team helps to ensure that our clients' needs are ascertained and fulfilled with utmost efficiency.

We maintain a strong focus on quality control, effective communication and a collaborative approach to working with clients and their professional advisers.

We aim to provide advice and representation of the highest quality with commercial insight, tailored to the needs of our clients. Through partnership with our clients we are able to understand fully the wider implications of the brief and to seek the most effective remedies or resolutions with commercial sensitivity.

We keep ourselves and our clients at the forefront of new developments in the law, writing regularly for legal publications and participating in high profile speaking engagements.

We provide our clients with an ongoing programme of CPD accredited seminars and run thought-provoking round-table events.