

JACK HARRIS

Call 2006

Get in touch

jharris@2tg.co.uk

+44 (0)20 7822 1200

Practice Overview

Jack is a leading junior in property damage, personal injury, professional negligence, sport and insurance law cases. He regularly appears in the High Court and acts for both claimants and defendants.

Property Damage

Jack is described in Chambers & Partners 2021 as *"an effective advocate on TCC cases"*, who *"knows the law inside out"* and *"possesses enviable expertise in cases arising from subsidence and damage related to tree roots and shrubs, as part of a broader property damage practice."*

Jack is regularly instructed in high value claims relating to fires, floods, noxious spillages, subsidence, falling trees and defective products. He has presented the lead lecture on damage from trees at Damage Day 2022, 2019, 2018 and 2017.

Cases of Note

Anchor Hanover Group v Arcadis Consulting (UK) Ltd [2021] EWHC 543 (TCC) (with Sonia Nolten). Flooding from culvert. Scope of common law duty of care owed by the Environment Agency.

Western Power Distribution (South Wales) Plc v South West Water Limited [2020] EWHC 3747 (TCC). Cable damage claim under **New Roads and Street Works Act 1991**. Permission under CPR r.38.7 to bring second claim where first claim discontinued. Abuse of process.

Oldcorn v Southern Water Services Ltd [2017] EWHC 460 (TCC) (with Neil Moody Q.C.). Flooding of suburb following failure of coastal flood defence system.



"His technical expertise is terrific"
(Chambers UK)

Practice areas

Property Damage
Personal Injury
Professional Negligence
Sport
Insurance
Product Liability

Memberships

LawInSport
British Association for Sport and Law
PIBA

Qualifications

MA (Hons) (Cantab)
GDL, BVC

Education

Downing College, Cambridge University
City University, London
Inns of Court School of Law



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Thakerar v Lloyds TSB Insurance & Others [2012] EWHC 1875 (Comm).
Scope of duty of bank to provide documentation to policyholder on renewal of household insurance policy.

Personal Injury

Jack is described in Chambers & Partners 2021 as "a conscientious advocate", "very much a man for the detail", "good on any kind of complicated catastrophic injury case" and "a very bright barrister who is easy to work with".

Jack has a broad personal injury practice covering catastrophic injury (including complex spinal injuries); brain injury; chronic pain; employer's liability (including occupational disease); occupiers liability and defective premises; Highways Act cases; accidents abroad; RTAs (including fraudulent claims, credit hire issues and acting for the Motor Insurers' Bureau); the Animals Act; and product liability claims.

Cases of Note

Ayannuga v One Shot Products Limited [2022] EWHC 590 (QB) (with Neil Moody Q.C.). Claim under the Consumer Protection Act 1987. Drain cleaner alleged to have given off toxic fumes causing fatal / catastrophic injuries to bystanders. Chemical engineering analysis of actual source of the gas. Definition of "defect" within the meaning of the Act.

Ayannuga v One Shot Products Limited [2021] EWHC 2930 (QB).
Destruction of documents. Scope of reactive disclosure duties.

C v M (High Court, settled), (with Ben Browne Q.C.). Catastrophic injury following fall by worker at a construction site down a riser shaft. Claim advanced against principle contractor and scaffolding and flooring subcontractors. Pleaded at approx. £15 million.

S v I (High Court, ongoing), (with Nina Goolamali Q.C.). Catastrophic spinal injury and suspected brain injury following road traffic accident. Pleaded at approx. £17 million.

S v T (High Court, QBD, settled). Alleged brain injury and chronic pain condition following car on pedestrian collision. Vulnerable claimant. Pleaded at £2.5 million.

T v R (High Court, settled). Living mesothelioma claim following alleged domestic exposure to asbestos.

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Professional Negligence

Jack is regularly instructed in actions for and against professionals including doctors, builders, surveyors and lawyers.

Cases of Note

Claim against solicitor and barrister for allegedly negligent failure to comply with court directions leading to settlement of claim at undervalue (settled pre-action);

Defence of principal contractor on construction project following collapse of adjacent building during demolition works (High Court, TCC, claim struck out before trial);

Claim against loss adjuster in respect of alleged negligent advice as to property underpinning scheme (High Court, TCC, settled);

Defence of asbestos removal professionals following alleged contamination of domestic property during staged asbestos removal works (settled);

Defence of teacher following serious injury to pupil during P.E. lesson (claim dismissed at trial);

Claim against hospital following negligent late referral of stroke patient (settled pre-action).

Sport

Jack has an extensive sports law practice, with particular emphasis on claims in motor sport.

Cases of Note

Claim by leading professional motocross rider following major crash in MAXXIS MX2 championship race (with Nina Goolamali QC and Lucy Wyles QC);

Claim on permanent disablement insurance policy by former Premier League and international professional footballer (with Howard Palmer QC), (High Court);

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Claim arising from negligent tackle during schoolboy rugby union training session causing alleged lifelong injuries (High Court, settled);

Claim against professional judo instructor in respect of alleged negligent instruction leading to student sustaining leg injury;

Claim against indoor ski centre for injury to skier arising from allegedly dangerous design and/or management of indoor ski centre;

Claim by professional jockey who fractured spine in fall as a result of dangerous surface of gallop.

Insurance

Jack regularly acts in insurance disputes including those concerning policy interpretation, coverage and policy defences such as late notification and breach of conditions precedent.

Recent instructions include:

Claim by policyholder arising from suspected subsidence and landslip to residential property; disputes on cause of damage, limitation and policy coverage (TCC, settled at mediation).

Claim by policyholder following tree roots clay shrinkage subsidence to family home; disputes on policy interpretation and proper measure of indemnity (TCC, settled at mediation).

Acting for insurer in claim arising from subsidence and water damage to farm building; disputes on causation, policy interpretation and breach of policy conditions (Commercial Court).

Acting for insurer in claim arising from escape of water in residential house; disputes on cause of damage, policy coverage and proper measure of indemnity (TCC).

Product Liability

Jack has a busy practice acting in high value defective product claims. He has particular experience in claims relating to defective white goods and household products.

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Ayannuga v One Shot Products Limited [2021] EWHC 2930 (QB). Destruction of documents. Scope of reactive disclosure duties.

P v D, D v Y. Fire in hotel arising from allegedly defective dehumidifier. Defence of supplier. Follow up recovery action on contractual indemnity against overseas manufacturer.

H v L & S. Spontaneous fire in motorbike causing lifelong burn injuries. Claim against consumer credit supplier and manufacturer.

B v L. Fire in domestic fridge freezer. Claim against manufacturer for defective recall.

Recommendations

"He is a conscientious advocate and is very much a man for the detail. Clients like him and he is good on any kind of complicated catastrophic injury case." "A very bright barrister who is easy to work with, has a good grasp of the law and works in a user-friendly and collaborative way."

"A savvy operator who is conducive to finding solutions to problems." "He's an effective advocate on TCC cases." "He's sharp and knows the law inside out."

Chambers UK Bar 2022

"His technical expertise in the area is terrific and he's also able to make things understandable."

"He's an excellent, really user-friendly young chap."

"He's very strategic in the way he combats things, and his advice is straight to the point."

Chambers UK Bar 2021

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