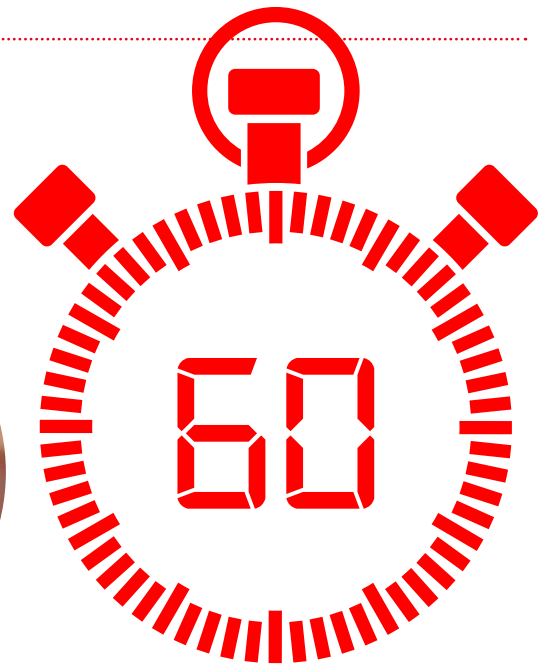


60-SECONDS WITH:



BOBBY FRIEDMAN BARRISTER WILBERFORCE CHAMBERS



Q What do you like most about your job?

A Winning a case is always a great feeling, and I find that the most satisfying part of the job. On a day-to-day basis, though, it's the people I work with. I've been lucky to work alongside many great solicitor teams over the years – and particularly on longer running cases, you really get the chance to know each other and share the joys of the ups and downs of litigation.

Q What motivated you to pursue this specialisation?

A I specialise in fraud, commercial, insolvency and shareholder disputes. I really enjoy the fast-moving pace, the interesting facts, and getting to apply the law to those facts. I enjoy being intellectually challenged whilst also needing to think pragmatically and tactically.

Q What is the most rewarding thing about your work?

A Getting the right result for your client. Obviously that will often involve winning a contested hearing, but in other cases it will be setting the client up for a good settlement – or even managing to stave off a claim being pursued at all.

Q Do you have any career aspirations, and have you achieved any of them so far?

A I just want to be the best at my job I can be. I'm lucky to have worked on some great cases with some great people, and I want to continue doing that. To paraphrase a footballer on social media, it's about taking each case as it comes. There is always more to learn and I want to keep getting better.

Q What do you see as being the biggest trends of 2023 in your practice area?

A Fraud work will continue to be busy, and I think we are at last seeing the increase in insolvency-related disputes that has been talked about since Covid. There are still ongoing ramifications from the war in Ukraine, although the impact on the legal market obviously pales in significance compared to the situation in Ukraine itself.

Q What has been your most memorable experience during your career so far?

A On a personal note, acting for the Fans' Trust of my football club, Leyton Orient, when the club almost went out of business due to appalling mismanagement by the then owner. As anyone who has seen me play football can attest, this was by far the closest I would ever get to lining up for a professional football club.

Q How do you deal with stress in your work life?

A I use exercise as a way of letting off steam and am a regular at (fully signed up cult member of) Barry's Bootcamp.

Q What is your ideal holiday?

A Somewhere hot, with a beach, and hopefully something interesting to see. My Caribbean practice is obviously entirely unrelated to this.

Q What was the last book you read?

A Traitor King, by my friend Andrew Lownie – a very engaging book about Edward VIII and Wallis Simpson.

Q Do you have a favourite food?

A I permanently lost my senses of smell and taste when I first had Covid three years ago, so the answer is, not anymore. I try to eat foods with plenty of texture – things like a crunchy salad. I still dream of the taste of a Domino's pizza - If the research scientists could get a shift on, so that I could go back to eating unhealthily, that would be much appreciated.

Q What cause are you passionate about?

A I am particularly invested in improving social mobility at the bar, where there is still a lot to be done.

Q Do you have a New Year's Resolution, and if so, how do you plan to keep it?

A Every year I say that I should work less hard. Every year I do not work less hard.

Q What are you looking forward to in 2023?

A I've a busy year with a trial in Abu Dhabi, a long arbitration and then a Commercial Court trial, so there is plenty to keep me on my toes.

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where barristers are involved in some of the most intellectually challenging and legally significant matters undertaken by the Bar today. Our specialists have been involved in many of the most high-profile fraud, insolvency and asset recovery cases of recent times, both in the UK and across numerous international jurisdictions, and we also offer a range of advisory services to our clients.

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