BRICK COURT
CHAMBERS

Brick Court Chambers
7-8 Essex Street, London WC2R 3LD
DX 302 London Chancery Lane

Tom Pascoe

YEAR OF CALL: 2013

"Tom stands out as one of the very brightest … He is already a superb advocate and can be trusted to go head to head against the silk on the other side" (Chambers & Partners 2026)

Chambers & Partners 2023

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Practice Overview

Tom practices in the fields of commercial, fraud, arbitration and competition law. He has been described as "a star in the making", "sharp as a tack", and "a dream barrister" who "is so good he makes it look easy". Solicitors have praised him for being "super clever", "speedy, decisive and polished", having "strategic acumen beyond his year of call", and being "in high demand for a reason". He is ranked in the directories as a leading barrister in no fewer than six areas: commercial litigation, civil fraud, competition law, energy, international arbitration and professional negligence.

Tom regularly appears in the High Court unled, including in multi-billion dollar disputes. His solicitors have said that "he is already a superb advocate and can be trusted to go head to head against the silk on the other side".

Tom has worked on many of the most significant cases in his fields in recent years, such as Federal Republic of Nigeria v P&ID, a Commercial Court trial worth US$11 billion described as one of the "world's largest lawsuits", and NMC v Ernst & Young, a multi-billion dollar audit negligence and fraud claim arising out of the collapse of a private healthcare group in the UAE. Tom is also a regular member of the counsel team on large competition cases, such as the decade-long Trucks cartel litigation, the ongoing litigation about the pricing of the anti-epilepsy medicine Phenytoin to the NHS, and acting for Apple in the first class action that was successfully resisted at the certification stage. He currently acts for Shein in its litigation against Temu, named as one of The Lawyer's Top 20 Cases for 2026.

Tom has a first-class law degree from Robinson College, University of Cambridge and a distinction BCL degree from Trinity College, University of Oxford.

Commercial

Tom has acted in numerous leading commercial cases, including in the Commercial Court, Chancery Division, Court of Appeal and before various arbitral tribunals both in London and abroad. His recent cases include:

- *Federal Republic of Nigeria v P&ID* (2023) – acting for Nigeria in applying to set aside one of the "world's largest lawsuits" – a London arbitration award worth US$10 billion – on grounds of fraud. See press coverage e.g. here (led by Mark Howard KC, instructed by Mishcon de Reya).

- *NMC plc v Ernst & Young* (2023) – an audit negligence claim for around US$4 billion arising out of the global collapse of the NMC group, one of the world's largest private healthcare providers (led by Simon Salzedo KC, instructed by Quinn Emanuel).

- *URS v BDW*: A week-long appeal before a 7-member panel of the Supreme Court on issues of duty of care, causation, limitation and retrospectivity arising out of the Grenfell fire tragedy (instructed by Osborne Clarke).

- *Uconinvest v Jysan* : Acting for the defendant in an unfair prejudice petition involving allegations of fraud, corruption and breaches of directors' duty in connection with a university endowment fund in Kazakhstan (instructed by Willkie Farr & Gallagher).

- *Chowgule v Shirke* : Acting for the claimants in a hard-fought application for a freezing injunction relating to an alleged fraudulent scheme by members of the well-known Chowgule family (instructed by Milbank).

- *Mining dispute (arbitration)* – an ongoing multi-billion dollar arbitration between two companies involved in a joint-venture mining project (led by Vernon Flynn KC, instructed by Linklaters).

- *Raga v SCM Financial Overseas Limited* [2018] EWHC 1008 (Comm) - LCIA arbitration worth approximately $1 billion between two Ukrainian oligarchs, involving parallel arbitration and High Court proceedings (led by Neil Calver KC, instructed by Quinn Emanuel);

- *British Gas Trading v Shell; Esso* [2018] EWHC 3943 – representing British Gas in a dispute worth in excess of £75 million concerning a long-term gas supply contract (led by Michael Bools KC, instructed by Herbert Smith Freehills);

- *Gazprom v Overgas* [2018] EWHC 3724 (Comm) - representing Overgas in energy-related claim for over $100 million concerning gas supply arrangements with Gazprom in Bulgaria, alleged breaches of directors' duties, and counterclaims for alleged breaches of competition law (led by Neil Calver KC, instructed by Squire Patton Boggs);

- *AssetCo Plc v Grant Thornton LLP* [2019] EWHC 150 (Comm) and [2020] EWCA Civ 1151 - acting for the successful claimant in recovering over £25 million from Grant Thornton as a result of auditor's failure to detect widespread management fraud (led by Michael Swainston KC and Mark Templeman KC, instructed by Mishcon de Reya);

- *Single Buoy Mooring Inc v Zurich Insurance plc & ors* - $1.5 billion insurance dispute raising questions of coverage and causation in connection with the abandonment of an oil platform in the North Sea (led by Mark Howard KC, Neil Calver KC and Steven Midwinter KC, instructed by Herbert Smith Freehills);

- *Sinocore International Co Ltd v RBRG Trading (UK) Limited* [2018] EWCA Civ 838 – Court of Appeal judgment concerning circumstances in which an English court may refuse to enforce an arbitral award on public policy grounds where the award is based on fraud (led by Neil Calver KC)

Competition

Tom's practice covers all areas of EU and competition law, including competition appeals before the CAT, follow-on damages claims, mergers, commercial cases involving competition infringements and other areas of EU law such as sanctions. Notable cases includes:

- *Premier League v Manchester City* – acting for the Premier League against Manchester City's highly-publicised challenge to the League's new rules on related party deals (instructed by Slaughter and May).

- *Shein v Temu* - acting for Shein in a multi-jurisdictional competition dispute between the well-known ultra-fast fashion suppliers, involving both IP and competition law issues (instructed by Freshfields). Named as one of *The Lawyer's* top cases for 2026.

- *Riefa v Apple* : Acting for Apple in a collective action relating to restrictions on who is permitted to sell iPhones on the Amazon marketplace. The first case in which a proposed collective proceeding has been dismissed at the certification stage (instructed by Freshfields).

- *Facebook v CMA* – acting for Facebook in respect of its acquisition of GIPHY Inc (led by Robert O'Donoghue KC, instructed by Latham & Watkins);

- *FX litigation* – acting for RBS in a follow-on claim and class action brought by a number of large financial institutions (led by Joshua Holmes KC, instructed by Macfarlanes);

- *Pfizer; Flynn v CMA* – Ongoing CAT appeal against CMA decision imposing largest ever fine for breach of competition law for alleged excessive pricing of an epilepsy drug sold to the NHS (led by Daniel Jowell KC, instructed by Macfarlanes). The proceedings have been ongoing for more than a decade, and Tom has been acting for almost eight years;

- *Trucks cartel litigation* - acting for MAN Trucks in follow-on claims, including two class actions, with estimated claim value in excess of £1 billion (led by Daniel Jowell KC, instructed by Slaughter and May);

- *Associated Lead Mills Limited v CMA* – representing lead manufacturer in CMA investigation into alleged cartel activity in the construction sector (led by David Scannell KC);

- *PHS Limited v CMA* – acted for the CMA defending a challenge to a merger remedy in the washrooms sector;

- *Ping v CMA* – representing a golf club manufacturer fined by the CMA for online sales restrictions (led by Robert O'Donoghue KC).

- *Gazprom v Overgas* – representing Overgas in a Commercial Court claim for over $100

million involving alleged price-fixing, collusion and refusal to supply on Eastern European natural gas markets by Gazprom (led by Neil Calver KC, instructed by Squire Patton Boggs);

- *iiyama v Samsung* – acting for Samsung in a follow-on claim concerning LCD panels (led by Robert O'Donoghue QC, instructed by Covington & Burling);

- Advising the IP Federation and IP Law Association on the implications of Brexit for the Unified Patent Court (with Richard Gordon QC). The advice has been widely disseminated and reported. See e.g. the *Legal Week* report here.

Public Law

Tom has experience of a broad range of public law work. He is happy to act *pro bono*, and has previously done so for organisations such as Amnesty, Liberty, the European Human Rights Advocacy Centre ("EHRAC") and the Human Dignity Trust. He has particular experience working for UNHCR in the field of refugee law. Notable cases include:

- *R (Miller) v Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union* [2017] UKSC 5 - representing the Welsh Counsel General in landmark constitutional case concerning the government's power to give notice to leave the European Union under Article 50 TEU (led by Richard Gordon KC).

- *R (Forge Care Homes) v Cardiff & Vale University Health Boards & ors* [2016] EWCA Civ 26 – judicial review concerning the division of responsibility between the NHS and local authorities for care home funding. Appeal heard by the Supreme Court in April 2017 (led by Richard Gordon KC).

- *R (States of Guernsey) v DEFRA* - judicial review against the suspension of Guernsey fishing licences, concerning the scope of the EU Common Fisheries Policy and A1P1 (led by Marie Demetriou KC).

- *Sophocleus v Foreign and Commonwealth Office* – historic claims for torture and ill treatment of Cypriot insurgents by colonial security forces during the 1950s (led by Marie Demetriou KC).

- *MM (Somalia) v Home Secretary* [2016] EWCA Civ 715 – intervening in Court of Appeal for UNHCR on whether an asylum seeker can be expected to give up his profession as a journalist in order to avoid the risk of death and violence from a terrorist organisation (led by Marie Demetriou KC).

- *MST (Eritrea)* [2016] UKUT 443 - intervening in Upper Tribunal for UNHCR in Country Guidance case concerning conditions in Eritrea.

Education & Qualifications

Employment

2014-15: Pupillage, Brick Court Chambers

2014: Judicial assistant to Lord Dyson MR in the Court of Appeal (Civil Division)

2013-14: Stipendiary Lecturer in Tort Law, Wadham College, University of Oxford

2013-14: Supervisor in Constitutional Law, Robinson College, University of Cambridge

2013-14: Teaching Fellow in Tort Law, UCL

Education

2012: BCL, Trinity College, University of Oxford (Distinction)

2011: BA Law, Robinson College, University of Cambridge (Double First)

Prizes

2013: Stephen Chapman scholarship, Inner Temple

2012: Prize for highest mark in BCL Philosophical Foundations of the Common Law paper

2012: Trinity College, Oxford Prize for BCL results

2009-11: Cambridge Law Faculty Rebecca Flower Squire Scholarship (placed 4th in year), Robinson College Scholarship, Robinson College Prize for Tripos results, Nicola Blakeman Memorial Prize

Directory quotes

"Tom is an absolutely outstanding junior. He is surely a star of the future, combining a razor-sharp mind, fantastic attention to detail and calm, logical advocacy that makes it very difficult for the judge not to agree with him. I particularly admire his thoughtful approach and natural interest and understanding of the commercial drivers underlying the facts, which gives him a great instinct for the correct way to take the case. It is little surprise he comfortably holds his own opposite silks." (Chambers & Partners 2027)

"Tom is an excellent lawyer who is commercial and thinks about the wider picture. He is smart, reliable, responsive and approachable." (Chambers & Partners 2027)

"Tom is a standout junior barrister for any competition or complex commercial litigation. Tom is hugely experienced and gives authoritative and commercial advice." (Chambers & Partners 2027)

"Tom is the ideal barrister for a large commercial case. His written work is excellent, he is more than capable of holding his own against leading KCs in oral advocacy, and he has a remarkable command of even the finest factual detail. Unusually, he also possesses genuine project management skills and is an outstanding team player." (Chambers & Partners 2027)

"Tom has extraordinary ability and presence in court beyond his years of call. He is an excellent advocate who is more than capable of making submissions and cross-examinations in important matters." (Chambers & Partners 2027)

"Tom is very engaged and solicitors love him; he is charming and incredibly effective." (Chambers & Partners 2027)

"Tom is the best senior junior I have worked with. He is always across the detail and is a strategic thinker. He knows the points that will carry the day and gives frank and realistic advice." (Chambers & Partners 2027)

"His written and oral advocacy skills are unparalleled for his year of call. Working with Tom is an absolute pleasure." (Chambers & Partners 2027)

"He stands out in a team in large matters because he's willing to find an answer when often the answer is not clear." (Chambers & Partners 2027)

"He is one of the leading commercial trial barristers for good reason. He gets his teeth into things and is relentless – and a great cross-examiner. He is an effective trial advocate." (Chambers & Partners 2027)

"Very personable, able to see the broader picture, good knowledge, capable, and responsive. An excellent barrister." (Legal 500 2027)

"Tom is really strong in competition litigation. He is smart, decisive, and pragmatic. He understands the client's needs and tailors his approach accordingly. He helps drive the strategy of our matter with a clear vision. I look forward to working with him more." (Legal 500 2027)

"The best junior in the market." (Legal 500 2027)

"The next generation of the best at the bar!" (Legal 500 2027)

"Tom is a fantastic junior. He is super-bright, a strategic thinker and always gets right to the heart of the issue. A star in the making." (Chambers & Partners 2026)

"Tom is a great junior. His written and oral advocacy is excellent - clear, concise and persuasive. He also works really well with instructing solicitors." (Chambers & Partners 2026)

"He's a dream to work with - super clever, organised and a great drafter." (Chambers & Partners 2026)

"A very calm advocate." (Chambers & Partners 2026)

"His advice is astute, and he has great attention to detail." (Chambers & Partners 2026)

"Tom Pascoe has experience in the largest, most complex civil fraud cases of recent times. He has acted for claimant insurers, corporates and governmental bodies in multimillion-pound and cross-border litigation." (Chambers & Partners 2026)

"Tom Pascoe acts predominantly for companies accused of anti-competitive behaviour on appeals of CMA investigations and on high-profile follow-on damages claims, such as the trucks cartel litigation." (Chambers & Partners 2026)

"Tom is sharp, responsive and someone who understands client priorities. He is also a pleasure to work with." (Chambers & Partners 2026)

"Tom is very bright and level-headed, and he performs well beyond his years of call." (Chambers & Partners 2026)

"Tom Pascoe's written advocacy is on point, and he knows how to convince the court. He is is very measured and calm, and you trust him to deliver what needs to be delivered." (Chambers & Partners 2026)

"Tom exercises incredibly good judgement, way above his year. Impeccable notes. An excellent lawyer. Tom's skills are recognised, he is very busy. A standout junior in a set full of excellent juniors." (Legal 500 2026)

"Tom stands out as one of the very brightest; he is always ahead of everybody in the team in his knowledge of the case and his work rate cannot be beaten. He is already a superb advocate and can be trusted to go head to head against the silk on the other side." (Legal 500 2026)

"He is very measured and has an elegant delivery style. He has the ear of the court." (Legal 500 2026)

"He is a very clear thinker and is able to cut through issues, provides excellent strategic advice and is extremely proactive and happy to lend support. He is very down to earth and easy to work with." (Legal 500 2026)

"Tom is truly exceptional. Calm under pressure, a smooth advocate and very clever and insightful. A dream barrister. So good he makes it look easy." (Legal 500 2026)

"Tom is a great all-rounder and has a great head for numbers and figures. He can bring about effective litigation easily and makes arguments look easy." (Chambers & Partners 2025)

"Tom has a calm and considered manner and is often able to cut through information to get to the crux of the problem. His advocacy comes across as very considered." (Chambers & Partners 2025)

"He is bright, user-friendly and a great team player." (Chambers & Partners 2025)

"Calm, sensible and measured, Tom takes good points and makes them well." (Chambers & Partners 2025)

"Tom Pascoe is one of the best junior competition counsel available. He is extremely clever, sees the bigger picture, can isolate the key issues very quickly and has an incredible work ethic." (Chambers & Partners 2025)

"Tom is an excellent junior. He is intelligent, commercial, responsive and pleasant to work with." (Chambers & Partners 2025)

"A truly exceptional barrister, who has the advantage of also being a great team player and is a pleasure to work with. He is dedicated to his cases and has great insight and legal ability." (Legal 500 2025)

"Tom is a clever, motivated and persuasive advocate. He is a future leader in the making and the intellectual powerhouse of any team that he joins." (Legal 500 2025)

"A future silk. With a great strategic mind, incredible intellect and considered analysis, he is the junior you want in complex litigation." (Legal 500 2025)

"A composed advocate who takes sensible positions and defends them ." (Legal 500 2025)

"His mind is sharper than anyone’s. His ability to present a complex point succinctly is, at his level of call, unparalleled and, frankly, he is better than many who are many years ahead of him." (Legal 500 2025)

"Tom is a very calm and collected individual, who seemingly effortlessly turns out immaculately researched, but also commercial and concise, advice in very short time frames. He is also a

pleasure to work with on a personal level." (Chambers & Partners 2024)

"Tom has good drafting skills and identifies points very succinctly. He puts these forward and he expresses himself very well." (Chambers & Partners 2024)

"Tom Pascoe provides really high quality analysis." (Chambers & Partners 2024)

"Tom is a future star. His analytical skills are well beyond his years, his legal advice is measured, commercial, and generally spot on for what is required in any given situation." (Legal 500 2024)

"Tom strikes the valuable balance between being highly personable and able to give firm and robust advice. His standout quality is his impeccable attention to detail." (Legal 500 2024)

"Tom is very effective in drafting pleadings that are water-tight on the most complex issues of substance whilst remaining clear and easy to understand by readers unfamiliar with the law or the case." (Legal 500 2024)

"Tom is a star in the making." "He is incredibly pragmatic and commercially minded; the advice he gives is in the context of what the client is driving towards commercially." (Chambers & Partners 2023)

"His drafting is excellent, and he is very quick to grasp the issues and open to discussing them. He is someone to watch." (Chambers & Partners 2023)

"Tom is as sharp as a tack and has commercial and strategic acumen beyond his year of call. His drafting and responsiveness are both excellent." (Legal 500 2023)

"He grapples with the technical and legal issues, tackling each task with enthusiasm and consistently delivering work of the highest standard." (Legal 500 2023)

"A smart and strategic thinker." "He writes really well and is clever and nice to deal with." (Chambers & Partners 2022)

"Tom is in high demand for a reason, he is extremely detailed-orientated and brings a positive attitude to even the most serious of cases." (Legal 500 2022)

"Very responsive to clients. Excellent engagement with the substantive issues. Very good drafting in tight time frames." (Legal 500 2022)

"He is very responsive, extremely user-friendly and clearly super clever." "He is a very bright, keen, hard-working and intelligent junior." (Chambers & Partners 2021)

"Tom is an absolute pleasure to work with – he is strong on the law but also incredibly practical. He works very well in a team, is quick to respond and is very client-friendly.' (Legal 500 2021)

"Decisive, speedy and polished." (Legal 500 2020)