



Lachlan Hopwood

Call 2024

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Lachlan joined Chambers in 2025, having begun practice in 2018 in Australia. He practises across Chambers' core areas.

Before coming to the Bar, Lachlan worked as a NSW-qualified debt capital markets solicitor at A&O Shearman in London and at KWM in Sydney. He focused on sovereign bonds and corporate hybrid securities.

Lachlan graduated with a dual Bachelor of Laws (Hons I) / Bachelor of Actuarial Science degree from Bond University in 2017. He was valedictorian for business and law and the highest-achieving law graduate in his cohort, receiving the John F Kearney Gold Medal in Law.

While working at A&O Shearman, Lachlan read for the BCL at Jesus College, Oxford, graduating with a Distinction and the Law Faculty Prize for Commercial Remedies.

Recent Highlights

Assisting with the defence of certain insurers in multi-billion pound claims brought by aircraft lessors in significant Commercial Court proceedings (during pupillage).

Assisting with research in the defence of a \$100 million+ claim under English and foreign law arising from the alleged breach of a prime brokerage agreement (during pupillage).

Assisting with the defence of an AIM-listed issuer in proceedings relating to the validity of a "drag-along" acquisition transaction and related allegations against the company's founder and CEO (during pupillage).

Assisting with research on sovereign immunity in the defence of a claim against a sovereign for enforcement of an arbitral award against a property in London (during pupillage).

Assisting with research for the defence of a claim for enforcement of parts of a US judgment for \$700 million

(during pupillage).

Expertise

Administrative & Public Law

Notable Administrative & Public Law cases

Assisting with the drafting of summary grounds of defence in support of the responsible licensing authority in a claim seeking judicial review of a decision to revoke various pilot licences following a significant air disaster (during pupillage).

Assisting with the drafting of particulars of a bank's claim for an indemnity under the Land Registration Act 2002 following removal of its interest from the register (during pupillage).

Aviation & Travel

Notable Aviation & Travel cases

Assisting with the drafting of summary grounds of defence in support of the responsible licensing authority in a claim seeking judicial review of a decision to revoke various pilot licences following a significant air disaster (during pupillage).

Assisting with the defence of certain insurers in multi-billion pound claims brought by aircraft lessors in significant Commercial Court proceedings (during pupillage).

Banking & Finance

Notable Banking & Finance cases

Assisting with the drafting of advice on limitation issues in the context of claims alleging the misselling of PPI products (during pupillage).

Assisting with the drafting of a defence in Circuit Commercial Court proceedings arising out of allegedly unauthorised payments made out of a bank account (during pupillage).

London

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Assisting with research in the defence of claims for alleged breaches of the *Quincecare* duty brought in proceedings in Gibraltar (during pupillage).

Assisting with research in the defence of a US\$100 million+ claim under English and foreign law arising from the alleged breach of a prime brokerage agreement (during pupillage).

Civil Fraud

Notable Civil Fraud cases

Assisting with research in the defence of an AIM-listed issuer in proceedings relating to the validity of a "drag-along" acquisition transaction and related allegations against the company's founder and CEO (during pupillage).

Assisting with Commercial Court asset recovery proceedings relating to the alleged misappropriation of shares with a value of €80 million (during pupillage).

Commercial Disputes

Notable Commercial Disputes cases

Assisting with research in complex LCIA arbitration proceedings concerning the enforceability of certain arrangements alleged to constitute damages-based agreements under s 58AA of the Courts and Legal Services Act 1990 (during pupillage).

Assisting with the drafting of a defence in Commercial Court proceedings concerning termination rights under a commercial contract (during pupillage).

Assisting with research on sovereign immunity in the defence of a claim against a sovereign for enforcement of an arbitral award against a property in London (during pupillage).

Assisting with Commercial Court asset recovery proceedings relating to the alleged misappropriation of shares with a value of EUR €80 million (during pupillage).

Assisting with advice in relation to the discharge and release of a personal guarantee following the sale of a principal debtor company (during pupillage).

Assisting with research for the defence of a claim for enforcement of parts of a US judgment for US\$700 million (during pupillage).

Assisting with research in a multi-billion dollar auditors' negligence claim arising from an alleged fraud (during pupillage).

Assisting with the drafting of a defence in Circuit Commercial Court proceedings in relation to sums purportedly due under a contract for the supply of foodstuffs (during pupillage).

Company, Restructuring & Insolvency

Notable Company, Restructuring & Insolvency cases

Assisting with the defence of an AIM-listed issuer in proceedings relating to the validity of a "drag-along" acquisition transaction and related allegations against the company's founder and CEO (during pupillage).

Financial Services

Notable Financial Services cases

Assisting with the drafting of advice on limitation issues in the context of claims alleging the misselling of PPI products (during pupillage).

Insurance & Reinsurance

Notable Insurance & Reinsurance cases

Assisting with the drafting of a statement of defence in confidential LCIA arbitration proceedings concerning a claim under a W&I policy arising from the alleged breach of financial reporting warranties in a share sale agreement (during pupillage).

Assisting with the defence of an application for summary judgment in Commercial Court proceedings arising out of a manufacturer's claim for indemnity under a commercial combined policy (during pupillage).

Assisting with advice to a reinsurer in respect of a claim brought under a terrorism, sabotage, strikes, riots, civil commotion and malicious damage insurance policy (during pupillage).

Assisting with the defence of certain insurers in multi-billion pound claims brought by aircraft lessors in significant Commercial Court proceedings (during pupillage).

International Arbitration

Notable International Arbitration cases

Assisting with the drafting of written submissions in ad-hoc arbitration proceedings concerning the purported discharge of a debt by exercise of a put option (during pupillage).

Assisting with research in complex LCIA arbitration proceedings concerning the enforceability of certain arrangements alleged to constitute damages-based agreements under s 58AA of the Courts and Legal Services Act 1990 (during pupillage).

Assisting with the drafting of a statement of defence in confidential LCIA arbitration proceedings concerning a claim under a W&I policy arising from the alleged breach of financial reporting warranties in a share sale agreement (during pupillage).

Professional Discipline

Notable Professional Discipline cases

Assisting with advice to a statutory professional body on its obligations in connection with the maintenance of the relevant professional register (during pupillage).

Professional Negligence

Notable Professional Negligence cases

Assisting with research in a multi-billion dollar auditors' negligence claim arising from an alleged fraud (during pupillage).

Education

- Bachelor of Civil Law (Dist), Jesus College, University of Oxford (2023)
- Bachelor of Laws (Hons I) / Bachelor of Actuarial Science, Bond University (2017)

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International Bar / Court Appointments

- Admitted in the Supreme Court of New South Wales (2018)
- Admitted as a Solicitor in the High Court of Australia (2019).

Appointments, Memberships and Prizes

- Associate (NSW qualified), A&O Shearman, London (2020 – 2024)
- Law Graduate / Solicitor, King & Wood Mallesons, Sydney (2018 – 2020)
- Law Faculty Prize for Commercial Remedies, University of Oxford (2023)
- John F Kearney Gold Medal in Law and valedictorian for business and law, first in class in 19 subjects, Bond University (2017)
- Neil Kaplan Award for Best Oral Advocate, Willem C Vis (East) International Commercial Arbitration Moot, Hong Kong (2015)
- Vice-Chancellor's Scholarship, Bond University (2014).

Publications

- ICSIDious: The Uneasy Relationship Between Sovereign Bonds and Investment Arbitration (2018, International Trade and Business Law Review).

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