



serle court

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Emma Hargreaves

Year of Call: 2012

“Emma is an absolute superstar. She is intellectually bright, confident beyond her years and able to hold her own in complex cases against leading counsel. Emma is wonderful with clients and a real team player.”

Legal 500

ehargreaves@serlecourt.co.uk

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Practice Overview

Emma has a broad commercial chancery practice, with a particular focus on domestic and offshore trust/probate litigation, civil fraud, and company disputes. She also advises and appears as specialist Chancery counsel in financial remedy proceedings. Emma is often instructed to act as sole counsel, often appearing against more senior practitioners. She is also regularly instructed as junior counsel in large-scale commercial and chancery litigation, both onshore and offshore, and has previously appeared (ad hoc) as junior counsel in the Supreme Court of Bermuda.

Emma is ranked in Legal 500, Who's Who Legal, Chambers UK Bar, Chambers Global and Chambers High Net Worth. She was named Chancery Junior of the Year at the Chambers UK Bar Awards 2020 and appeared in The Lawyer's Hot 100 2019, which described her reputation as "superb".

Areas of Expertise

Company

Offshore

Emma has experience of a range of company disputes, including petitions under section 994-996 of the Companies Act 2006.

Cases of note include:

Re G&G Properties Ltd / Re Bankside Hotels Ltd [2020] 1 BCLC 1 - acted (with Daniel Lightman KC and Adil Mohamedbhai) for the respondents to three unfair prejudice petitions relating to substantial property development companies and a related proposed derivative claim.

Re Edwardian Group Limited [2019] 1 BCLC 171, [2019] EWHC 873 (Ch) & [2019] STC 1814 - acted (with Ian Croxford KC and Daniel Lightman KC) for the first respondent to a substantial unfair prejudice petition raising issues over two trials of quasi partnership, breach of fiduciary duty, minority discount and date of valuation.

DAS UK Holdings v Paul John Aspin & Ors - acted for four of the defendants to claims based on breach of director/fiduciary duties by former directors of the claimant companies and consequent claims in knowing receipt and dishonest assistance.

Re Fi Call Ltd [2014] EWHC 779 (Ch) - acted with Daniel Lightman KC in this hotly contested shareholder dispute, successfully opposing an application for security for costs before Newey J on the basis that the costs associated with a section 994 petition and a cross-petition could not satisfactorily be disentangled.

Commercial Litigation

Emma acts and advises, both led and unled, on a wide range of commercial disputes. She has experience of a range of interim applications, including freezing injunctions and search orders.

Cases of note include:

Morina v McAleavey [2023] EWHC 1234 (Ch) - appeared unled at the hearing of a strike out application, application for permission to appeal and amendment application (arising in the context of a dispute as to beneficial ownership of BVI shares), each of which concerned the proper interpretation of s.423 of the Insolvency Act 1986, including whether

the "claim" within the meaning of s.423(3) has to have a realistic prospect of success.

Kuwait Ports Authority & Anor v Port Link GP Ltd, Cayman Islands Court of Appeal No.2 & 3 of 2022, 20 January 2023
- assisted Clare Stanley KC and Kobre & Kim in proceedings alleging fraudulent breaches of trust and trust in relation to the management of the assets of an Exempted Partnership.

St John's Trust Company (Pvt) Ltd v Tamine [2018] EWHC 3629 (Ch) – appeared (with Dakis Hagen KC) for the corporate applicant in successful injunction proceedings against a former director which sought to freeze property subject to proprietary claims and the summary delivery up of company documents. The applicant was granted costs in most part on the indemnity basis.

Superior Composite Structures LLC v Parrish [2015] EWHC 3688 (QB) - appeared unled for the defendant in a claim for the enforcement of a US\$2 million judgment obtained in South Dakota.

DAS UK Holdings v Paul Aspin & Ors - acted for four of the defendants to claims based on breach of director/fiduciary duties by former directors of the claimaint companies and consequent claims in knowing receipt and dishonest assistance.

Civil Fraud

Emma has acted on a range of fraud disputes, including cases giving rise to issues of dishonest assistance, unconscionable receipt and conspiracy. She has experience of a range of interim applications commonly arising in fraud claims, including freezing injunctions and search orders.

Cases of note include:

Morina v McAleavey [2023] EWHC 1234 (Ch) - appeared unled at the hearing of a strike out application, application for permission to appeal and amendment application (arising in the context of a dispute as to beneficial ownership of BVI shares), each of which concerned the proper interpretation of s.423 of the Insolvency Act 1986, including whether the "claim" within the meaning of s.423(3) has to have a realistic prospect of success.

Kuwait Ports Authority & Anor v Port Link GP Ltd, Cayman Islands Court of Appeal No.2 & 3 of 2022, 20 January 2023
- assisted Clare Stanley KC and Kobre & Kim in proceedings alleging fraudulent breaches of trust and trust in relation to the management of the assets of an Exempted Partnership.

St John's Trust Company (Pvt) Ltd v Tamine [2018] EWHC 3629 (Ch) – appeared (with Dakis Hagen KC) for the corporate applicant in successful injunction proceedings against a former director which sought to freeze property subject to proprietary claims and the summary delivery up of company documents. The applicant was granted costs in most part on the indemnity basis.

Superior Composite Structures LLC v Parrish [2015] EWHC 3688 (QB) - acted unled for the defendant in a claim for the enforcement of a US\$2 million judgment obtained in South Dakota.

In re Gizmondo [2014] EWHC 4640 (Ch) - acted (with Hugh Norbury KC) in a claim by liquidators of the company relating to allegedly fraudulent transactions at an undervalue.

Constantin Medien AG v Ecclestone & Ors [2014] EWHC 387 (Ch) - appeared (with Philip Marshall KC, David Blayney KC and James Mather) for the claimant in a fraud claim that arose from the payment of \$44m for Formula One cheif executive Bernie Ecclestone and his family trust to a senior executive of the German bank Bayerische Landesbank, which then owned a controlling stake in Formula One.

Insolvency

Emma has previously advised on, and appeared in, a number of insolvency and bankruptcy proceedings in the High Court and County Court.

Cases of note include:

Morina v McAleavey [2023] EWHC 1234 (Ch) - appeared unled at the hearing of a strike out application, application for permission to appeal and amendment application (arising in the context of a dispute as to beneficial ownership of BVI shares), each of which concerned the proper interpretation of s.423 of the Insolvency Act 1986, including whether the "claim" within the meaning of s.423(3) has to have a realistic prospect of success.

S P Holding Tractor Hire Limited v CVS (Commercial Valuers & Surveyors) Limited [2015] EWHC 3838 (Ch) - successfully opposed an application for an injunction to restrain presentation of a winding up petition and obtained an indemnity costs order against the applicant.

In re Gizmondo Europe Limited [2014] EWHC 4640 (Ch) - acted (with Hugh Norbury KC) in section 238 proceedings arising out of the liquidation of the makers of handheld computer gaming consoles.

Private Client Trusts and Probate

Emma regularly advises and acts in trusts litigation, both in England and in offshore jurisdictions, including Bermuda, the Caribbean and the Channel Islands. Emma also has experience of a range of probate matters, including contentious probate proceedings and applications for grants of administration, including discretionary grants under section 116 of the Administration of Estates Act 1925 and grants of administration where the deceased died domiciled abroad.

Cases of note include:

Re the estate of Scherbakov (Deceased) – acted (with Dakis Hagen KC) for certain beneficiaries in complex high value international probate litigation in London and BVI. Emma appeared unled at a number of hearings in 2022-2023, including (1) *Re Scherbakov (Deceased)* [2023] EWHC 440 in which Emma successfully opposed an appeal concerning the proper approach to disclosure of non-contemporaneous documents under PD57AD; and (2) *Morina v McAleavey* [2023] EWHC 1234 (Ch) concerning the proper interpretation of s.423 of the Insolvency Act 1986.

Wong v Grand View Private Trust Co & Ors (ongoing) - acting (with Dakis Hagen KC and Stephanie Thompson) for the Plaintiff in Bermudian proceedings concerning very substantial purpose trusts. Decisions to date in the litigation include [2019] SC Bda 1 Com (preliminary issues); [2020] SC (Bda) 33 Com (inquiry exception); [2020] SC (Bda) 52 Civ (purging contempt for breach of the implied undertaking); [2021] CA (Bda) 3 Civ (joint interest privilege); [2021] SC (Bda) 46 Com (hearsay evidence); [2021] SC (Bda) 32 Com (open justice); [2021] SC (Bda) 22 Com (witness preparation and iniquity exception); [2021] SC (Bda) 21 Com (pleading amendments); [2022] SC (Bda) 44 Com (trial judgment); and [2022] SC (Bda) 60 Com (costs). The trial and costs judgment are currently on appeal to the Bermuda Court of Appeal.

Wong & Anor v Grand View Private Trust Co [2023] WTLR 149 - acted (with Dakis Hagen KC and Stephanie Thompson) for the successful appellants in the landmark Privy Council decision on the proper purpose doctrine in the context of powers to add and remove beneficiaries of a discretionary family trust.

Representation of SG Kleinwort Hambros Trust Company (Cl) Ltd [2023] JRC 054 - assisting with parallel proceedings before the Royal Court of Jersey and the Royal Court of Guernsey concerning the potential restructuring of a series of

trusts.

Representation of B & C [2022] JRC 086 - assisted with proceedings before the Jersey Royal Court seeking the removal of the protector of a series of Jersey and Guernsey trusts.

Re XYZ Trusts [2022] SC (Bda) 10 Civ - assisted Dakis Hagen KC in respect of proceedings concerning a very complex restructuring of a series of Bermuda law trusts.

HSBC v Tan Poh Lee, FSD175 of 2019, 7 November 2019 & 22 January 2020 - assisted in respect of an application for directions and Beddoe relief by the trustee of a Cayman Islands trust in respect of Singaporean proceedings, resulting in declarations as to the effect of the firewall legislation in the Cayman Islands.

Re B Trust, FSD0206 of 2017, 20 August 2019 - assisted Dakis Hagen KC in respect of proceedings concerning a very complex restructuring of, and distribution from, a very substantial Cayman Islands trust.

Re Z Trusts - instructed on behalf of Equity Trust (Jersey) Limited in novel proceedings relating to an "insolvent" Jersey trust.

St John's Trust Company (Pvt) Ltd v Tamine [2018] EWHC 3629 (Ch) – appeared (with Dakis Hagen QC) for the corporate applicant in successful injunction proceedings against a former director which sought to freeze property subject to proprietary claims and the summary delivery up of company documents. The applicant was granted costs in most part on the indemnity basis.

St Clair v King [2018] EWHC 682 (Ch) - acted for the defendants to probate proceedings raising issues of testamentary capacity, mutual wills, undue influence and fraud.

HRH Louis Prince of Luxembourg v HRH Tessy Princess of Luxembourg [2018] 2 FLR 480 - acted as Chancery counsel for the wife in respect of financial remedy proceedings raising issues including reporting restrictions and the right to respect for private life.

ND v SD & Ors [2018] 1 FLR 1489 - acted as Chancery counsel for the husband in respect of preliminary issues arising in the context of financial remedy proceedings, including whether a foreign trust was a sham, whether shares had been validly transferred into the trust and whether the transfers should be set aside under section 37 MCA 1973.

Hagen v Hagen - appeared unled for a respondent in the substantial and much publicised divorce involving the family behind Viking River Cruises (settled confidentially).

AF v MF & Ors [2016] EWFC 65 - acted as Chancery counsel for the husband in financial remedy proceedings, involving an offshore foundation and issues of "nuptial settlements", in which the wife alleged the husband was worth over £95 million but was awarded around £2 million following trial.

Trustee L and Others v Attorney General and Others [2016] Bda LR 35 - appeared at the costs hearing of this long running Beddoe application in Bermuda, the first to consider the proper stance of trustees of very substantial non-charitable purpose trusts faced with an adverse proprietary claim to the whole of their funds.

Chancery

International and Offshore

Emma is regularly instructed in international / offshore litigation, including in Bermuda, the Caribbean and the Channel

Islands. She has previously appeared as junior counsel (ad hoc) in the Supreme Court of Bermuda.

Cases of note include:

Wong v Grand View Private Trust Co & Ors (ongoing) - acting (with Dakis Hagen KC and Stephanie Thompson) for the Plaintiff in Bermudian proceedings concerning very substantial purpose trusts. Decisions to date in the litigation include [2019] SC Bda 1 Com (preliminary issues); [2020] SC (Bda) 33 Com (inquiry exception); [2020] SC (Bda) 52 Civ (purging contempt for breach of the implied undertaking); [2021] CA (Bda) 3 Civ (joint interest privilege); [2021] SC (Bda) 46 Com (hearsay evidence); [2021] SC (Bda) 32 Com (open justice); [2021] SC (Bda) 22 Com (witness preparation and inquiry exception); [2021] SC (Bda) 21 Com (pleading amendments); [2022] SC (Bda) 44 Com (trial judgment); and [2022] SC (Bda) 60 Com (costs). The trial and costs judgment are currently on appeal to the Bermuda Court of Appeal.

Wong & Anor v Grand View Private Trust Co [2023] WTLR 149 - acted (with Dakis Hagen KC and Stephanie Thompson) for the successful appellants in the landmark Privy Council decision on the proper purpose doctrine in the context of powers to add and remove beneficiaries of a discretionary family trust.

Representation of SG Kleinwort Hambros Trust Company (CI) Ltd [2023] JRC 054 - assisting with parallel proceedings before the Royal Court of Jersey and the Royal Court of Guernsey concerning the potential restructuring of a series of trusts.

Representation of B & C [2022] JRC 086 - assisted with proceedings before the Jersey Royal Court seeking the removal of the protector of a series of Jersey and Guernsey trusts.

Kuwait Ports Authority & Anor v Port Link GP Ltd, Cayman Islands Court of Appeal No.2 & 3 of 2022, 20 January 2023 - assisted Clare Stanley KC and Kobre & Kim in proceedings alleging fraudulent breaches of trust and trust in relation to the management of the assets of an Exempted Partnership.

Re XYZ Trusts [2022] SC (Bda) 10 Civ - assisted Dakis Hagen KC in respect of proceedings concerning a very complex restructuring of a series of Bermuda law trusts.

HSBC v Tan Poh Lee, FSD175 of 2019, 7 November 2019 & 22 January 2020 - assisted in respect of an application for directions and Beddoe relief by the trustee of a Cayman Islands trust in respect of Singaporean proceedings, resulting in declarations as to the effect of the firewall legislation in the Cayman Islands.

Re B Trust, FSD0206 of 2017, 20 August 2019 - assisted Dakis Hagen KC in respect of proceedings concerning a very complex restructuring of, and distribution from, a very substantial Cayman Islands trust.

Re Z Trusts - instructed on behalf of Equity Trust (Jersey) Limited in novel proceedings relating to an "insolvent" Jersey trust.

Trustee L and Others v Attorney General and Others [2016] Bda LR 35 - appeared at the costs hearing of this long running Beddoe application in Bermuda, the first to consider the proper stance of trustees of very substantial non-charitable purpose trusts faced with an adverse proprietary claim to the whole of their funds.

Court of Protection

Emma has experience in Court of Protection matters and appeared in *Re Z* [2019] EWCOP 55 (an application for access to court documents in Court of Protection proceedings).

Matrimonial Finance: Trusts and Company law

Emma regularly advises and acts in financial remedy proceedings involving trust and company law issues.

Cases of note include:

HRH Louis Prince of Luxembourg v HRH Tessy Princess of Luxembourg [2018] 2 FLR 480 - acted as Chancery counsel for the wife in respect of financial remedy proceedings raising issues including reporting restrictions and the right to respect for private life.

ND v SD & Ors [2018] 1 FLR 1489 - acted as Chancery counsel for the husband in respect of preliminary issues arising in the context of financial remedy proceedings, including whether a foreign trust was a sham, whether shares had been validly transferred into the trust and whether the transfers should be set aside under section 37 MCA 1973.

Hagen v Hagen - appeared unled for a respondent in the substantial and much publicised divorce involving the family behind Viking River Cruises (settled confidentially).

AF v MF & Ors [2016] EWFC 65 - acted as Chancery counsel for the husband in financial remedy proceedings, involving an offshore foundation and issues of "nuptial settlements", in which the wife alleged the husband was worth over £95 million but was awarded around £2 million following trial.

Recommendations

Private Client Global Elite Directory (2023)

Company and Partnership (Legal 500)

Family (Legal 500)

Commercial Litigation (Legal 500)

Private Client Trusts and Probate (Legal 500)

Trusts (Chambers UK Bar)

Chancery: Traditional (Chambers UK Bar & Chambers High Net Worth)

Family/Matrimonial: Trusts/Tax Experts (Chambers UK Bar)

Private Wealth: Trusts (Chambers Global)

Offshore (Chambers UK Bar & Chambers Global)

Private Client (Who's Who Legal)

Chambers UK Bar Awards 2020: Chancery Junior of the Year

The Lawyer's Hot 100 2019

Legal Week Private Client Global Elite: Rising Leaders

Highly recommended in Legal Week's Stars at the Bar 2017

Private Client Rising Star at the IBC Transcontinental Trust Conference 2016 in Bermuda.

Quotes

"Emma is an incredibly fierce advocate who's calm and measured even under stressful conditions. She can adapt herself well when she runs into stormy weather on a case." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2026)

"Emma is very, very bright and fast-working. She gets on top of huge amounts of information very quickly." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2026)

"Emma is extremely hard-working, very responsive and always available. She's able to produce a massive amount of work in a short period of time, and nothing fazes her." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2026)

"Emma is thorough, thoroughly knowledgeable and personable." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2026)

"I am really in awe of her brain. She has a brilliant practice." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2026)

"Emma is all over the detail in complicated cases and can distil the tricky issues. She is also very responsive and keeps us up to date." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2026)

"Emma Hargreaves is absolutely at silk level. She is the best chancery junior out there. She is brilliant to work with, gets on top of client objectives and thinks laterally to achieve their aims." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2026)

"Emma Hargreaves is really excellent. She gets up to speed quickly and has a natural instinct for arguments that will work." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2026)

"Emma Hargreaves is amazing and great to work with. She is a very clear oral advocate who has excellent drafting skills." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2026)

"Emma Hargreaves is an incredibly careful barrister who is terrifyingly good." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2026)

"Emma Hargreaves drove the drafting of the defence under tight time pressures. She was good at managing dense amounts of data and being flexible as needed." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2026)

"Emma is at the top of her game and is one of the only names that comes to mind when you're in need of a brilliant counsel for complex, cross-border trust issues in matrimonial proceedings." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2026)

"Utterly amazing - she has the Family Division judges eating out of her hand. She is phenomenal in every way." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2026)

"Emma is very knowledgeable, highly personable and someone who provides high level advice." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2026)

"Emma is a tremendous junior and a pleasure to work with." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2026)

"Emma Hargreaves has very good on judgement and is a very bright, hardworking junior." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2026)

"Emma Hargreaves is thorough, extremely knowledgeable and highly personable." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2026)

"Emma is a silk in junior's clothing, who is great as part of a team. She is brilliant to work with, she gets on top of clients' objectives and she thinks laterally to achieve their aims." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2026)

"Emma is all over the detail in complicated cases and can distil the tricky issues. She is very responsive and client-focused." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2026)

"Emma is an incredibly fierce advocate, who is phenomenal at commercial strategy." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2026)

"Emma is very bright and fast working. She gets on top of huge amounts of information very quickly." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2026)

"Emma is really excellent. She gets up to speed quickly and has a natural instinct for arguments that will

work." (Chambers & Partners HNW, 2025)

"Emma Hargreaves is absolutely at silk level and is the best chancery junior out there. She is brilliant to work with, gets on top of client objectives and thinks laterally to achieve their aims." (Chambers & Partners HNW, 2025)

"Emma is all over the detail in complicated cases and can distil the tricky issues. She is very responsive and keeps us up to date. She is client-focused and they really like her." (Chambers & Partners HNW, 2025)

"Emma is an exceptionally talented barrister. She works exceptionally hard and drafts beautifully." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2025)

"Emma is able to produce top-quality work in an extraordinarily quick timeframe. Her drafting is excellent and she has a very keen eye for detail, whilst never losing sight of the bigger picture." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2025)

"Emma is one of our go-to juniors, who is incredibly hard-working and really at the top of her profession. She's excellent for written work and oral advocacy." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2025)

"Emma is brilliant with clients, extremely clever and responsive and a hard worker. That's an unbeatable combination." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2025)

"Emma is excellent. Her attention to detail is absolutely phenomenal, as is her knowledge of the law. Undaunted by any situation, she is always all over her papers and extremely good on her feet." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2025)

"Emma is technically brilliant. Her knowledge is well beyond her years and her advice is always clear. She is approachable and always makes herself available to instructing solicitors." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2025)

"Emma is a go-to for any family lawyer who's dealing with complex, high net worth trusts." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2025)

"Emma is outstanding and very user-friendly. She is on top of the detail and the technicalities and has a great manner with clients." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2025)

"Emma is a phenomenal asset to have on your side in complex, international family finance matters involving trusts." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2025)

"Emma is superb, a definite star in the making." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2025)

"Emma is a fierce and tenacious advocate. She is sharp, insightful, and a force to be reckoned with in the courtroom. She has a keen eye for detail and manages matters with grace and sensitivity." (Legal 500, 2025)

"Emma is impeccable. Her preparation, presentation and advocacy are faultless. You want her on your side." (Legal 500, 2025)

"Emma is able to produce top-quality work in an extraordinarily quick timeframe. Her drafting is excellent, and she has a very keen eye for detail without losing sight of the bigger picture." (Chambers & Partners HNW, 2024)

"Emma is one of our go-to juniors. She's incredibly hard-working and really at the top of her profession. She's excellent for written work and oral advocacy." (Chambers & Partners HNW, 2024)

"Emma is brilliant with clients, extremely clever and responsive and a hard worker - an unbeatable combination." (Chambers & Partners HNW, 2024)

"Emma is wise beyond her years. Her standout feature is her ability to process vast quantities of information in short

period of times and produce high-quality work. Her written work is of a very high standard." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2024)

"Emma is a silk in junior's clothing." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2024)

"Emma is very clever and always a pleasure to work with." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2024)

"She's a very good advocate and she's incredibly thorough. She's extremely well prepared, she's always read everything and has a very detailed knowledge of the cases in which she's involved. She's good on her feet and can adjust her manner to the tribunal before which she appears and reads the judge well. She's affable and approachable." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2024)

"She is incredibly diligent and hard-working." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2024)

"Her written work is clear and well structured." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2024)

"She is phenomenally bright and has a tremendous work ethic; Emma never seems to tire from bringing urgency to everything she does. She is cautious yet tough, and doesn't take bad points or go on flights of fantasy. She will take a conservative line and stick to it very strongly, never leaving any stone unturned in terms of her research." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2024)

"Emma is super bright; she works incredibly quickly and always produces work of the highest quality." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2024)

"Her standout feature is her ability to process vast quantities of information in short periods of time, whilst still producing high quality work. Her written work is of a very high standard and she is very much into the details of the case. She works exceptionally well as part of a team and is a very calming and reassuring presence in the room. Emma is wise beyond her years." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2024)

"Emma is a walking encyclopedia of offshore and English trust law and practice." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2024)

"Emma is able to produce long and complex documents in an astonishingly short amount of time, all of which are of high quality. She communicates her written arguments very clearly and, rather than focusing solely on the legal position, she highlights the practical consequences of any proposed move where necessary." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2024)

"She is very clever and always a pleasure to work with." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2024)

"Emma's recall of information and attention to detail are at times unbelievable. She is very very impressive and can tackle the most complex issues in an instant." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2023)

"Emma is superb. She's very intelligent and really gets to grips with complex material very quickly." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2023)

"She punches above her weight in terms of holding her own in and out of the courtroom with people who are considerably more senior." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2023)

"A superstar for quite a while now, she is energetic, hard-working and intellectually powerful. She is very versatile and very much in demand." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2023)

"Emma Hargreaves is amazing. She is a real backbone of the team and her ability to digest information, store it and access it when it is needed is incredibly impressive." (Chambers and Partners UK Bar, 2023)

"Emma never seems to tire from bringing urgency to everything she does. She is cautious, she is tough, but she does not take bad points and she won't go on flights of fantasy. She will take a conservative line and stick to it very strongly and never leaves any stone unturned in terms of her research. She is a huge star in the rising." (Chambers HNW, 2023)

"Emma is super bright, works incredibly quickly and always produces work of the highest quality." (Chambers HNW, 2023)

"The standout feature is her ability to process vast quantities of information in short periods of time and produce high-quality work. Her written work is very high standard and she is very much into the details of the case. She works exceptionally well in the team and these cases are very large and busy and she is a very calming reassuring presence in that environment. Emma is wise beyond her years." (Chambers HNW, 2023)

"Emma has an impressive attention to detail and seems to work all the time. She is able to research the most complex points in minute detail and form a holistic view incredibly quickly. She is also able to hold her own in the courtroom, even against significantly more senior opponents." (Legal 500, 2023)

"Emma is an absolute superstar. She is intellectually bright, confident beyond her years and able to hold her own in complex cases against leading counsel. Emma is wonderful with clients and a real team player." (Legal 500, 2023)

"Emma has no weaknesses. She will find the correct answer to the most difficult legal issues." (Legal 500, 2023)

"Emma is truly outstanding in all areas. She is a brilliant advocate, incredibly bright, commercially astute, and very pragmatic." (Legal 500, 2023)

"A tremendous junior. She's hard-working, smart and easy to work with. She is brilliant. She comes across as more senior than she is" (Chambers Global, 2022)

"A dynamo with an incredible work ethic, who displays exemplary attention to detail. She's a barrister going places" (Chambers Global, 2022)

"The standout junior in the market" she has "brilliant judgement" (Chambers HNW, 2021)

"Her drafting is brilliant, and she is super bright." (Chambers HNW, 2021)

"There's not a solicitor in London who doesn't think she's brilliant." (Chambers HNW, 2021)

"Someone you completely trust." (Chambers HNW, 2021)

"Incredibly smart and highly enthusiastic." "She is first-rate and works incredibly hard." (Chambers UK Bar, 2021)

"Beyond intelligent and unbelievably detailed in her approach. She rolls up her sleeves, works incredibly hard, and always gets back to the instructing solicitor straight away." "So terrifyingly bright she can destroy most opponents in about five sentences." "A rising star who really punches above her weight, she will continue to rise in credibility." (Chambers UK Bar, 2021)

"Every time you see her, she's surrounded by people who desperately need her help - she is just that outstanding." "Emma is outstandingly intelligent. She is very, very responsive and she puts her heart and soul into everything she does." (Chambers UK Bar, 2021)

"She is very bright, ferociously hard-working and tactically very savvy." (Legal 500, 2021)

"A super star who punches well above her weight. She has not just a formidable intellect but also is a first-class advocate whose trust/family practice has honed her skill set." (Legal 500, 2021)

"Emma is one to watch. Her incredible tactical nous and technical ability belie the fact that she is still relatively junior. She is meticulous in her approach and provides clear advice." (Legal 500, 2021)

"She has excellent insight and in-depth knowledge of trusts law." (Legal 500, 2021)

"Every time you see her, she's surrounded by people who desperately need her help - she is just that outstanding," (Chambers HNW, 2020)

"Emma is outstandingly intelligent. She is very, very responsive and she puts her heart and soul into everything she does." (Chambers HNW, 2020)

"She's brilliant - very responsive and good on her feet, with a good way with judges." "Frighteningly clever and brilliant with clients." (Chambers UK Bar, 2020)

"Scarily bright and has an ability to interact with clients really well. As well as academic intelligence she has the emotional intelligence to know how things will work in family division." "She punches considerably above her weight for her year of call and she's incredibly focused." (Chambers UK Bar, 2020)

"Has all the details at her fingertips and is very quick thinking on her feet." (Legal 500, 2020)

Publications

Contributor to Whittaker & Machell, The Law of Limited Liability Partnerships (5th edition)

Void vetoes and judicial discretions: recent developments in the law of disclosure in private trust administration (2015) 22(1) JTCP 5-12

Petrodel Resources Ltd v Prest: Where are we now? (2013) 9 Trusts & Trustess 877-888

Lessons from Prest (2013) 163(7569) New Law Journal 11-12

The Nature of Beneficiaries' Rights under Trusts (2011) 25(4) Trust Law International 163-183

Prizes

Award for Overall Best Student in the BPTC, Kaplan Law School, 2012

Award for Outstanding Achievement in the BPTC, Major Scholarship, and Duke of Edinburgh Entrance award, Inner Temple, 2011 - 2012

Scholarship, Selwyn College, University of Cambridge, 2009 - 2010

Fairest Prize for Law (for best performance in the Law Tripos), Selwyn College, University of Cambridge, 2010

Education & Qualifications

MA in Law, Selwyn College, University of Cambridge, including a year at Regensburg University, Germany (First class)

LLM in International Commercial Law, University College London (Distinction)

BPTC, Kaplan Law School (Outstanding; ranked top in the law school)

Former visiting tutor and examiner in the Law of Trusts at King's College London

Memberships

Chancery Bar Association

COMBAR
