

CHAMBERS OF THE YEAR

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3 VERULAM BUILDINGS

ROBIN JACKSON

A ROBUST RENAISSANCE

Given its problems in 2016/17, when there was talk of 3VB imploding, this set has enjoyed a renaissance since with robust performance in a number of areas combined with a 20% year-on-year increase in turnover. 3VB had a striking year in 2018 with a number of exceptional barristers joining the set, high-profile wins in court and many long-gestated plans coming to fruition.

Under the leadership of Robin Jackson the set has overhauled its expenses structure, making it one of the most competitive

players among the magic circle Chambers. In doing so, the overhaul has helped to attract first class tenants: new joiners in 2018 include Hodge Malek QC, Saima Hanif, Yash Bheeroo, James Potts, Cleon Catsambis and Hefin Rees QC from 39 Essex Chambers, while Farhaz Khan joined from Outer Temple.

In terms of highlight matters, one major standout was Adrian Beltrami QC representing Grant Thornton in its dispute with the Tchenguiz brothers, which settled favourably in 2018.

HIGHLY COMMENDED

RED LION CHAMBERS

MARK BENNETT

This criminal and regulatory set with over 100 barristers has 24 QCs – six of whom were appointed in 2018. Red Lion has developed a considerable reputation in its field, with former head of chambers and independent reviewer of terrorism legislation, Max Hill QC, recently appointed as Director of Public Prosecutions.

COMMENDED

BRICK COURT CHAMBERS

HELEN DAVIES QC, MARK HOWARD QC

Brick Court's position at the top of the commercial chambers tree is confirmed with a 12% increase in gross revenue reported – a significant increase for a large, mature set with 41 silks. The recent handover of the senior clerking team

from Julian Hawes and Ian Moyler to their deputies, Paul Dennison and Tony Burgess, has been smooth and well-executed.

HARDWICKE

AMANDA ILLING

Seven new barristers have joined this set over the past year, and Hardwicke has achieved an impressive financial performance of late with turnover up 12% on 2017. A standout matter was SKAT v Elysium Global (Dubai) Ltd: a claim by the Danish government to recover £2bn+ alleged to have been paid out pursuant to a fraudulent conspiracy.

KEATING CHAMBERS

DECLAN REDMOND

Keating reports that its financial performance in 2018/19 will match the 22% increase in turnover it achieved in 2017/18. In addition to some impressive and high-profile instructions, Keating is noted for its flexible

and innovative approach to pricing, while 21% of its current crop of silks are female.

OUTER TEMPLE CHAMBERS

REBECCA PRIESTLEY

Noted for innovation and variety in its practice, Outer Temple was 'the first and only set' to register with Dubai International Finance Centre and Abu Dhabi Global Market, opening offices in both. Work includes public inquiries such as Grenfell, as well as major private sector cases such as the largest equal pay case against Asda.

RADCLIFFE CHAMBERS

FIONA FITZGERALD

2018 saw the restructuring and insolvency team go from strength to strength, winning instructions on a number of business-critical cases and adding three new members, while Tina Kyriakides has been widely acknowledged as a leading junior.

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