

IAN HELME

T. 0207 353 8845

E. ih@onebrickcourt.com

Registered name on the Bar Standards Board Register: Ian Keir Stacey Helme

Vat Number: 918934389

Call: 2005

SPECIALISATION

- Defamation
- Data Protection
- Privacy and Confidentiality
- Personality Rights under the Convention and Charter
- Injunctive relief
- Harassment
- Malicious Falsehood
- Contempt of Court
- Hate Speech
- Freedom of Information
- Reputation Management
- Costs
- All related Media and Information Law

Ian specialises in all aspects of media and information law. He has a particular specialisation in complex and cutting-edge litigation and has been at the forefront of developments in data protection law post-*Google Spain* and in the law of defamation under the Defamation Act 2013.

In addition to his practice, Ian is a Visiting Lecturer at Kings College University teaching information and privacy law. He has contributed to many of the leading textbooks in the field and regularly gives talks to law firms and industry bodies in relation to new developments in media law.

Ian is an active member of the Bar Pro-Bono Unit.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Ian has been listed as a leading junior in both **Chambers & Partners** and **The Legal 500** since 2008 when he was singled out as "a star of the future". He is currently listed as a leading junior in both **Defamation/Privacy** and **Data Protection** categories. Recent entries include:

- A strong player in the field, who has acted in a number of cutting-edge media cases in recent times. "*Outstanding, very reliable and easy to deal with, he has a calm and measured advocacy style.*" "*He thinks very carefully; he's a good tactician.*" **Chambers & Partners 2015**
- '*Very sensible and practical, and easy to get along with.*' **The Legal 500 2015**
- Ian has built a strong reputation amongst peers, who tout him as a future silk. He is particularly admired for his ability to engage with clients even in difficult circumstances. "*Absolutely first-class, he has a very good manner with clients and exudes a calm authority.*" "*Provides excellent advice and identifies the key issues immediately.*" **Chambers and Partners 2014**
- "*He is unflappable, patient and has a great eye for detail.*" **The Legal 500 2014**

24/09/2015

- Ian Helme continues to impress sources with displays of legal knowledge far beyond his year of call. He is both "*extremely good on technical legal points and highly commercial.*" Allied to this, he has a pleasing work ethic manifested by his "*willingness to roll up his sleeves and be a real team player.*" **Chambers & Partners 2013**

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Ian has a first class law degree from Pembroke College, Cambridge University, graduating in 2003. He won the Ziegler Law Prize for his performance in his final year exams.

Additionally:

- "Very Competent" award on the BVC at the Inns of Court School of Law
- Member of Middle Temple; called to the Bar in July 2005
- Pupillage at One Brick Court; 2005-2006
- Tenant at One Brick Court from 2006
- Judicial Assistant to Lord Justice Waller, Vice President of the Court of Appeal, Jan-Jun 2007

REPRESENTATIVE CASES OF INTEREST

Ian has been involved in a significant number of media cases over the years. Much of his work – in particular with high-profile individuals and companies – is confidential and the following is a list of the most recent representative public cases only:

- ***Heggin v Google Inc (Nos. 1 & 2)***

The first domestic case relating to removal of links from the Google search engine following on from the decision of the CJEU in *Costeja v Google Spain*. Led by Hugh Tomlinson QC. Appeared in his own right opposite Antony White QC in *No.2*, a decision important in its own right in relation to costs budgeting and costs capping.

- ***Ames v Spamhaus***

The leading authority on the meaning and implications of section 1 of the Defamation Act 2013 and its relationship to *Jameel* abuse of process, following the decision in *Cooke v MGN Ltd*. Sole counsel for the Defendants, opposite Adrienne Page QC. A complex libel, privacy and copyright action involving both domestic and US law concerning spam email

- ***Liberty v Primark***

Counsel for the First and Third Defendants, striking out as a *Jameel* abuse of process a claim for defamation arising out of events subsequent to the collapse of a factory building in Bangladesh in April 2014.

- ***Ontulmus v Collett (No. 2)***

Counsel for the Claimants opposite James Price QC on an application for security for costs in a complex multi-million pound defamation claim concerning yachts.

- ***Cairns v Modi***

Junior Counsel for the Claimant, led by Andrew Caldecott QC, in the first defamation trial based upon a Tweet. A damages award of £90,000 for an allegation of match-fixing upheld by the Court of Appeal. The decision is now the leading modern authority on principles applicable to damages awards in respect of online defamation.

24/09/2015

- ***Mionis v Papadaku***

Counsel for the Claimant, a highly successful hedge fund manager, at an assessment of damages hearing for a libel in a Greek newspaper in relation to false allegations of involvement in tax evasion. The Claimant was awarded £40,000 in respect of publication within this jurisdiction.

- ***Voicemail Interception Litigation***

Part of the legal team acting on behalf of News Group Newspapers Limited in relation to the civil claims for misuse of private information arising out of phone-hacking at the News of the World.

- ***Waterson v Lloyd***

Junior Counsel for the Defendant, led by Richard Rampton QC, in a libel claim arising from the MPs expenses scandal. Following a number of hearings (including in the Court of Appeal) the Defendant was awarded summary judgment on the issue of honest comment.

- ***Webb v Draper***

Counsel for the Defendant in respect of a claim under the Malicious Communications Act 1988. Established on an application for summary judgment that the Act was solely a criminal statute and did not create any civil rights or liabilities.

PUBLICATIONS

Ian is an author of or contributor to:

- Halsbury's Laws of England, Defamation title
- Arlidge, Eady and Smith on Contempt, 5th edition
- Carter-Ruck on Libel & Privacy, 5th edition
- Atkin's Court Forms, Defamation title, 2014 edition