# MAITLAND

# **REBECCA PAGE**

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# **OVERVIEW**

Rebecca specialises in commercial and chancery disputes, both in litigation and arbitration with a particular focus on Company and Insolvency related matters.

Consistently recommended by the legal directories for Company, Insolvency and Commercial Litigation, Rebecca has been described as 'A very persuasive advocate' with 'a brilliant mind' who is 'Excellent both on her feet and on paper'. She is recognised as counsel who 'will go the extra mile for clients' and as being 'fantastic in court'. In 2022 she was awarded 'Chancery Junior of the Year' at the Legal 500 Bar Awards. She was shortlisted for 'Company/Insolvency Junior of the Year' at the Chambers UK Bar Awards 2020 and 'Commercial Litigation-junior of the year' at the Legal 500 Bar Awards 2019.

Rebecca's practice has a particular focus on shareholder disputes and claims concerning the duties of directors and other fiduciaries. She appeared as junior counsel in the Supreme Court in *Bilta (UK) Ltd (in liquidation) v Nazir* (led by **Christopher Parker KC**), a leading authority on corporate attribution, illegality, and the extraterritorial effect of the fraudulent trading provisions in the Insolvency Act. Rebecca also has substantial contentious insolvency experience. Notable matters include advising on the *Lehman Brothers 'Waterfall'* applications and successfully appearing on a contested application to appoint administrators in respect of *Force India Formula One*.

Rebecca read law at Cambridge (Gonville & Caius) where she was a senior exhibitioner. She was awarded a Bedingfield Scholarship by Gray's Inn. Rebecca has been admitted to the Bar of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court (BVI). She is currently recommended by the Legal 500 in the fields of Commercial Litigation, Company and Insolvency, by Chambers UK for Company and Restructuring/Insolvency, and by Chambers Global for Restructuring/Insolvency.

Rebecca is a contributor to 'Buckley on the Companies Act' and 'Gore-Browne on Companies'.

## **EXPERTISE**

#### **COMMERCIAL LITIGATION & ARBITRATION**

Business disputes involving contracts (including breach of warranty claims), agency, civil fraud, breach of fiduciary duties, conspiracy, misrepresentation, banking, loans, guarantees, sale of goods, mortgages and other securities. Her experience includes conflicts of law issues concerning jurisdiction and applicable law, applications for freezing orders, proprietary injunctions and other interim relief.

Rebecca appeared as junior counsel in the Supreme Court for the successful parties in *Bilta (UK) Ltd(in liquidation) v Nazir* [2016] ACI (led by **Christopher Parker KC**) — confirming claims by an insolvent company for breach of fiduciary duty, dishonest assistance and conspiracy were not defeated by the illegality defence. Her experience includes claims against fiduciaries for secret profits and diversion of business opportunities, conspiracy and dishonest assistance/knowing receipt claims, acting for liquidators in several MTIC fraud cases.

- *LCIA Arbitration*: shareholder dispute concerning £1bn family-owned group. Allegations of unfair prejudice. Settled before 6-week trial.
- Henderson & Jones Ltd v Ross & Others [2023] EWHC 1276 (Ch): 18-day High Court trial. Successfully defended £33m claims for alleged breach of directors' duties, negligence, dishonest assistance and conspiracy arising out of the corporate restructuring of a private hospital group
- Re P14 Medical Limited v Mahon [2020] EWHC 1823 (QB): successfully obtaining interim injunctions to enforce restrictive covenants (non-solicitation and non-compete) and restrain use of confidential information against a former director and employee.
- LCIA Arbitration: acting on contractual dispute relating to European TV channel. Achieved settlement.
- Interlink v Revenko: successfully obtaining ex parte freezing and proprietary injunctions against former agents (and their associates) in £5m+ claims for breach of fiduciary duty (secret profits and diversion of business opportunities), dishonest assistance, knowing receipt and conspiracy arising out of international titanium trading (Business List (ChD), January 2019)
- *LCIA Arbitration*: acting on multi-million-pound dispute between high-net-worth individuals. Achieved settlement.
- LCIA Arbitration: acting on shareholder dispute concerning IT start-up. Achieved settlement.
- Hynes Heating Solutions v Homebase: appeared for Homebase successfully striking out £1.2m claim against it for breach of contract. (High Court, Birmingham, March 2017).
- Bilta (UK) Ltd (in liquidation) and others v Nazir [2016] AC 1: Supreme Court decision on dishonest assistance, conspiracy, director's breach of duty, corporate attribution, illegality and fraudulent trading (led by Christopher Parker KC) arising out of MTIC trading in carbon credits.
- *Tomlinson v Pickup* [2014] EWHC 4495 (Ch): appeared as sole counsel for successful claimants in Chancery Division trial for enforcement of oral agreement for shares and directorships.
- Bilta (UK) Ltd (in liquidation) v Nazir [2014] Ch 52: Court of Appeal dishonest assistance, breach of duty and fraudulent trading (led by Christopher Parker KC).

- Burntcopper Ltd v International Travel Catering Association Ltd [2014] All ER (D) 64 (Feb): appeared for defendants as sole counsel in Commercial Court trial on liability for breach of contract.
- Arla Foods UK plc v Barnes [2009] I BCLC 699: Chancery Division trial, breach of contract. Instructed as junior counsel for claimant.
- Alan Williams Entertainment Ltd v Hurd [2006] E.M.L.R. 15, Chancery Division trial. Claim for breach of compromise agreement in relation to split of 'The Rubettes' pop band. Music Industry.
- Devi v Banerji [2005] All ER (D) 340 (Jun): Chancery Division, civil evidence, letter of request for examination out of jurisdiction (led by Michael Driscoll QC).

#### **COMPANY & PARTNERSHIP**

Contentious matters including directors' liabilities, shareholder disputes (unfair prejudice petitions, derivative claims, just and equitable winding up), claims concerning unlawful distributions of capital and unlawful dividends, corporate insolvency, dissolution, restoration and directors disqualification. Rebecca has experience of companies in wide range of sectors including IT, biotech, electrical engineering, manufacturing, hospitality, property and sport.

- Lane v Lane [2024] EWHC 2616 (Ch): appeared for successful shareholders at 5-day High Court trial of claim to disputed shares based on oral agreement alternatively proprietary estoppel. Achieving dismissal of unfair prejudice petition concerning company's use of a Remuneration Trust tax scheme and rejection of allegations against director-shareholders of breach of s.174 Companies Act 2006.
- *LCIA Arbitration*: shareholder dispute concerning £1 bn family-owned group. Allegations of unfair prejudice. Settled before 6-week trial (2024).
- Henderson & Jones Ltd v Ross & Others [2023] EWHC 1276 (Ch): 18-day High Court trial. Successfully defended £33m claims for alleged breach of directors' duties, negligence, dishonest assistance and conspiracy arising out of the corporate restructuring of a private hospital group. Transaction alleged to include a transaction defrauding creditors (contrary to s.423 Insolvency Act 1996), unlawful dividend, unlawful return of capital and amount to an informal winding up.
- Sprint Electric Ltd v Buyer's Dream Ltd [2021] EWHC 960 (Ch): appearing for majority shareholder on 4-day consquencials hearing on unfair prejudice petition. Determined issues of quasi-interest and costs where petitioner failed to establish all allegations of unfair prejudice.
- Re Sprintroom Limited [2020] EWHC 3465 (Ch): 5-day High Court trial on valuation of shares in unfair prejudice petition.
- Re Sprintroom Limited [2019] BCC 1031: Court of Appeal, Rebecca appeared un-led in cross-appeals in unfair prejudice petition in which Court of Appeal gave guidance on what constitutes a reasonable offer to purchase a minority shareholding.
- LCIA Arbitration: acting on shareholder dispute concerning IT start-up. Achieved settlement.
- Brockstone Ltd v Force India Formula One Team Ltd. [2018] EWHC 3852 (Ch): successfully acted for a creditor in contested application to appoint Administrators in respect of a Formula One team.
- Bilta (UK) Ltd (in liquidation) and others v Nazir [2016] AC 1: Supreme Court decision on dishonest assistance, conspiracy, director's breach of duty, corporate attribution, illegality and fraudulent trading (led

by **Christopher Parker KC**) arising out of MTIC trading in carbon credits.

- *Tomlinson v Pickup* [2014] EWHC 4495 (Ch): appeared as sole counsel for successful claimants in Chancery Division trial for enforcement of oral agreement for shares and directorships.
- Bilta (UK) Ltd (in liquidation) v Nazir [2014] Ch 52: Court of Appeal dishonest assistance, breach of duty and fraudulent trading (led by Christopher Parker KC).
- Bilta (UK) Ltd (in liquidation) v Nazir [2013] | All ER 375: Chancery Division, dishonest assistance, breach of duty and fraudulent trading (led by Christopher Parker KC).
- Re Neath Rugby Ltd (No 2) Hawkes v Cuddy (No 2) [2009] 2 BCLC 427: Court of Appeal, Unfair Prejudice petition. Instructed as junior counsel.
- Re Neath Rugby Club Ltd; Hawkes v Cuddy [2008] All ER (D) 252 (Nov): Chancery Division 3-week trial of unfair prejudice petition. Instructed as junior counsel for successful respondent.
- Cuddy v Hawkes [2007] BPIR 1217: Court of Appeal, Unfair Prejudice. Instructed as junior counsel.

#### **INSOLVENCY & ASSET RECOVERY**

All aspects of contentious corporate and personal insolvency, office holder and asset recovery claims and investigations, including claims for breach of directors' duties, wrongful and fraudulent trading, transactions at an undervalue, transactions defrauding creditors and preferences. Cross-border insolvency issues including under the EC Regulation on Insolvency Proceedings.

Rebecca's experience includes advising in relation to the *Lehman Brothers International (Europe)(in administration)* Waterfall applications (Waterfall I, Waterfall IIA and Waterfall IIB), appearing as junior counsel in the Supreme Court in *Re Bilta (UK) Ltd (in liquidation)* in which the Supreme Court confirmed the extraterritorial effect of s.213 Insolvency Act 1986 and advising liquidators of a retail company with a substantial pension deficit where action had been taken by The Pensions Regulator. Rebecca's insolvency experience spans a wide range of sectors including, banking and finance, property holding and development, retail, legal, sports, music and entertainment and renewable energy. Clients have ranged from hedge funds to HMRC, directors, office holders and secured / unsecured creditors.

- Henderson & Jones Ltd v Ross & Others [2023] EWHC 1276 (Ch): 18-day High Court trial. Successfully defended £33m claims for alleged breach of directors' duties, negligence, dishonest assistance and conspiracy arising out of the corporate restructuring of a private hospital group. Transaction alleged to include a transaction defrauding creditors (contrary to s.423 Insolvency Act 1996), unlawful dividend, unlawful return of capital and amount to an informal winding up.
- Brockstone Ltd v Force India Formula One Team Ltd. [2018] EWHC 3852 (Ch): successfully acted for a creditor in contested application to appoint Administrators in respect of a Formula One team.
- Bilta (UK) Ltd (in liquidation) and others v Nazir [2016] AC 1: Supreme Court decision on dishonest assistance, conspiracy, director's breach of duty, corporate attribution, illegality and fraudulent trading (led by Christopher Parker KC) arising out of MTIC trading in carbon credits.
- Bilta (UK) Ltd (in liquidation) v Nazir [2014] Ch 52: Court of Appeal dishonest assistance, breach of duty and fraudulent trading (led by Christopher Parker KC).

- Bilta (UK) Ltd (in liquidation) v Nazir [2013] | All ER 375: Chancery Division, dishonest assistance, breach of duty and fraudulent trading (led by Christopher Parker KC)
- Re Bowen Travel Ltd [2012] All ER (D) 63 (Dec): Application for Administration Order (Chancery Division Birmingham DR) in respect of a travel company.
- *Hunt v Harb and Aziz* [2012] I W.L.R. 317: Court of Appeal, appeared un-led for Trustee in Bankruptcy in successfully responding to appeal against judge's refusal to make pre-emptive costs order in case concerning assignment of cause of action to bankrupt.
- Stephen Hunt (Trustee in bankruptcy of the Estate of Janan George Harb) v HRH Prince Abdui Aziz Bin Fahd Abdul Aziz v Janan George Harb [2011] EWHC 714 (Ch): Application by bankrupt to set aside notice of discontinuance filed by trustee in bankruptcy and for directions for assignment of claim to bankrupt.
- Re DCC Realisations Ltd (in liquidation) [2009] STC 1390: Chancery Division, jurisdiction, administration and excise duty. Appeared as sole counsel for HMRC.
- Coulter v Chief of Dorset Police [2004] BPIR 462: Chancery Division, bankruptcy, choses in action and assignment.

#### **CIVIL FRAUD**

Disputes concerning civil fraud, breach of fiduciary duties, conspiracy and misrepresentation. Her experience includes conflicts of law issues concerning jurisdiction and applicable law, applications for freezing orders, proprietary in junctions and other interim relief.

Rebecca appeared as junior counsel in the Supreme Court for the successful parties in *Bilta (UK) Ltd(in liquidation) v Nazir*[2016] ACI (led by **Christopher Parker KC**) — confirming claims by an insolvent company for breach of fiduciary duty, dishonest assistance and conspiracy were not defeated by the illegality defence. Her experience includes claims against fiduciaries for secret profits and diversion of business opportunities, conspiracy and dishonest assistance/knowing receipt claims, acting for liquidators in several MTIC fraud cases.

- *LCIA Arbitration*: shareholder dispute concerning £1 bn family-owned group. Allegations of unfair prejudice, civil fraud and dishonesty. Settled before 6-week trial (2024).
- Henderson & Jones Ltd v Ross & Others [2023] EWHC 1276 (Ch): 18-day High Court trial. Successfully defended £33m claims for alleged breach of directors' duties (including fraudulent breach), negligence, dishonest assistance and conspiracy arising out of the corporate restructuring of a private hospital group.
- Interlink v Revenko: successfully obtaining ex parte freezing and proprietary injunctions against former agents (and their associates) in £5m+ claims for breach of fiduciary duty (secret profits and diversion of business opportunities), dishonest assistance, knowing receipt and conspiracy arising out of international titanium trading (Business List (ChD), January 2019)
- Bilta (UK) Ltd (in liquidation) and others v Nazir [2016] AC 1: Supreme Court decision on dishonest assistance, conspiracy, director's breach of duty, corporate attribution, illegality and fraudulent trading (led by Christopher Parker KC) arising out of MTIC trading in carbon credits.
- Bilta (UK) Ltd (in liquidation) v Nazir [2014] Ch 52: Court of Appeal dishonest assistance, breach of duty and fraudulent trading (led by Christopher Parker KC)).

• Bilta (UK) Ltd (in liquidation) v Nazir [2013] I All ER 375: Chancery Division, dishonest assistance, breach of duty and fraudulent trading (led by Christopher Parker KC).

#### PROFESSIONAL NEGLIGENCE

Rebecca acts for claimants, defendants and professional indemnity insurers in professional negligence matters involving legal, insolvency, business and accountancy professionals.

Notable cases include:

- Henderson & Jones Ltd v Ross & Others [2023] EWHC 1276 (Ch): 18-day High Court trial. Successfully defended £33m claims including for professional negligence against company consultant / alleged de facto director arising out of the corporate restructuring of a private hospital group. Dishonest assistance and conspiracy claims also successfully defended.
- Harrington Scott Ltd v Coupe Bradbury Solicitors Ltd [2022] EWHC 2275 (Ch): successfully striking out a multi-million-pound claim for professional negligence against solicitors in which the Court found that the claim had been knowingly exaggerated. Rebecca led **Emily Gailey**. High Court hearing over 5 days.
- Acting for solicitors defending multimillion-pound claim by insolvency practitioner client concerning advice given in relation to CVA in respect of clothing retailer. Achieved settlement.
- Acting for insolvency practitioner defending claims for negligence and breach of fiduciary duty. Achieved settlement.
- Acting for liquidators bringing claims against insolvent company's former solicitors for negligence and former administrators for negligence / misfeasance arising out of pre-pack administration.

#### **REAL ESTATE**

Disputes concerning the legal and beneficial ownership of land, easements, restrictive covenants, adverse possession, boundary disputes and mortgages. Rebecca's practice also includes property related insolvency disputes including insolvency disclaimer, rent as an expense and issues concerning interests in property in an insolvency context.

Notable cases include:

Advising on effect of insolvency disclaimer of leases, options and pre-emption rights relating to retail
property development, including acting on vesting order applications.

# **DIRECTORY QUOTES**

"Rebecca is fantastic - very clever, very responsive, very commercial."

Legal 500 Insolvency (2024)

"Succinct and precise in her advocacy, Rebecca is unquestionably a leading junior, very thorough and will go the extra mile to achieve the best outcome for the client."

Legal 500 Company (2024)

"Rebecca is an impressive advocate who is very responsive and great with clients."

Chambers UK Company (2023)

"She is extremely thorough and well prepared."

Chambers UK Company (2023)

"She is really great at getting hold of the detail and being thoughtful about strategy without getting stuck in the weeds."

Chambers UK Restructuring/Insolvency (2023)

"Everything she does is excellent."

Chambers UK Restructuring/Insolvency (2023)

"Rebecca is a very reassuring and calm presence. She delivered concise and clear advice to agitated clients who were then felt empowered to take the right decision for them in difficult circumstances."

Legal 500 UK Commercial Litigation (2023)

"Rebecca is clever, organised and responsive. She inspires confidence in clients."

Legal 500 UK Company (2023)

"Rebecca is fantastic – very clever, very responsive, very commercial."

Legal 500 UK Insolvency (2023)

"She's very user-friendly, really knows her stuff, and helps navigate complex strategic decisions."

**Chambers UK Company (2022)** 

"Excellent both on her feet and on paper." "She is very user-friendly and her advice is excellent - she's very good."

Chambers UK Restructuring/Insolvency (2022)

"A sharp and analytical junior who is not afraid to get stuck into difficult drafting and advice issues. Very hard working and a real team player."

Legal 500 UK Commercial Litigation (2022)

"Always pleasure to work with, personable, unfazed by complex legal issues and a persuasive advocate."

Legal 500 UK Company (2022)

"She has a fantastic ability to simultaneously grasp all the detail whilst being able to step back, see the bigger picture and advise on strategy more broadly."

Legal 500 UK Insolvency (2022)

"She has a brilliant mind and is very thorough. She will go the extra mile for clients and is fantastic in court."

Chambers UK Company (2021)

"She is very bright, academic and comes at problems from a clever angle." "She's very smart and a practical and lateral thinker."

Chambers UK Restructuring/Insolvency (2021)

"A brilliant mind, very thorough, fantastic advocate, personable and down to earth."

Legal 500 UK Commercial Litigation and Company and Partnership (2021)

"A go-to junior willing to get into the details and who understands wide ranging, complex disputes."

Legal 500 UK Insolvency (2021)

"Her wise strategic input and commercial acumen have been critical to the successful resolution of several claims."

Legal 500 UK Commercial Litigation (2020)

"Her strengths include attention to detail; drafting; and her client manner."

Legal 500 UK Company & Partnership (2020)

"Her strengths are attention to detail and drafting; good with clients."

Legal 500 UK Insolvency (2020)

"She's clever, very careful and someone who has meticulous attention to detail. She delivers a great service."

Chambers UK Company (2020)

"She's good at formulating impressive legal arguments and is very client-focused. She's extraordinarily easy to deal with and is highly responsive." "She provides sound, commercial advice and is a confident advocate."

Chambers UK Restructuring/Insolvency (2020)

"Truly excellent - responsive, practical and strategic, she is at the top of her game."

Legal 500 UK Commercial Litigation (2019)

"She is bright and concise."

Legal 500 UK Company & Partnership (2019)

"A very persuasive advocate."

Legal 500 UK Insolvency (2019)

"Rebecca is an excellent lawyer. She's user-friendly, responsive and someone with strong advocacy skills."

Chambers UK Company (2019)

"She is easy to work with and has a great eye for detail." "She provides sound commercial and technical advice."

Chambers UK Restructuring/Insolvency (2019)

"A confident advocate who provides sound commercial and technical advice."

Chambers UK Company (2018)

"She's very dependable, great at distilling complex and voluminous issues and extremely thorough." "She provides thorough commercial and technical advice. She is a sound and very careful all-round advocate."

Chambers UK Restructuring/Insolvency (2018)

"She is thorough and has incredible attention to detail."

## Legal 500 UK Commercial Litigation (2017)

"She has an eye for detail."

Legal 500 UK Company & Partnership (2017)

"She is able to get to the heart of the matter quickly."

Legal 500 UK Insolvency (2017)

"Provides sound commercial and technical advice. She is a confident advocate."

Chambers UK Company (2017)

"Rebecca is quick to grasp the issues and to turn around written advice. She is excellent, both in conference and on her feet in court." "She's industrious and reliable - a rising star."

Chambers UK Restructuring/Insolvency (2017)

## **AWARDS**



Chambers UK Bar Awards 2024 'Company/Insolvency Junior of the Year'



Legal 500 UK Bar Awards 2022 'Chancery Junior of the Year'

# **MEMBERSHIPS**

- Chancery Bar Association
- COMBAR
- Insolvency Lawyers Association

# **QUALIFICATIONS**

• MA (Cantab)

## NOTABLE CASES

- Lane v Lane [2024] EWHC 2616 (Ch)
- LCIA Arbitration: shareholder dispute concerning £1 bn family-owned group.
- Henderson & Jones Ltd v Ross & Others [2023] EWHC 1276 (Ch)
- Harrington Scott Ltd v Coupe Bradbury Solicitors Ltd [2022] EWHC 2275 (Ch)
- Sprint Electric Ltd v Buyer's Dream Ltd [2021] EWHC 960 (Ch)
- Re Sprintroom Limited [2020] EWHC 3465 (Ch)
- Re P14 Medical Limited v Mahon [2020] EWHC 1823 (QB)
- Re Sprintroom Limited [2019] EWCA Civ 932
- Interlink v Revenko & Others
- Sprint Electric Ltd v (1) Buyer's Dream Ltd (2) Aristides George Potamianos; In the matter of Sprintroom Ltd sub nom Aristides George Potamianos v (1) Edwin John Prescott (2) Sprintroom Ltd [2018]
- Brockstone Ltd v Force India Formula One Team Ltd [2018] EWHC 3852 (Ch) (Barling J)
- Hynes Heating Solutions v Homebase
- Bilta (UK) Ltd (in liquidation) and others v Nazir [2016] AC I
- Tomlinson v Pickup [2014] EWHC 4495 (Ch)
- Burntcopper Ltd (t/a Contemporary Design Unit) v International Travel Catering Association Ltd [2014] All ER
   (D) 64 (Feb)
- Bilta (UK) Ltd (in liquidation) v Nazir [2014] Ch 52
- Re Bowen Travel Ltd [2012] All ER (D) 63 (Dec)
- Bilta (UK) Ltd (in liquidation) and others v Nazir and others [2013] I All ER 375: Chancery Division
- Hunt v Harb and Aziz [2012] I W.L.R. 317: Court of Appeal
- Stephen Hunt (Trustee in bankruptcy of the Estate of Janan George Harb) v HRH Prince Abdui Aziz Bin Fahd
   Abdul Aziz v Janan George Harb [2011] EWHC 714 (Ch)
- Re Neath Rugby Ltd (No 2) Hawkes v Cuddy and others (No 2) [2009] 2 BCLC 427
- Re DCC Realisations Ltd (in liquidation) [2009] STC 1390
- Arla Foods UK plc v Barnes and others [2009] I BCLC 699
- Re Neath Rugby Club Ltd; Hawkes v Cuddy [2008] All ER (D) 252 (Nov): Chancery Division
- Cuddy v Hawkes [2007] BPIR 1217: Court of Appeal
- Alan Williams Entertainment Ltd v Hurd [2006] E.M.L.R. 15
- Devi v Banerji [2005] All ER (D) 340 (Jun): Chancery Division

<ul> <li>Harrison v Segger [2005] All ER (D) 416 (Feb): Chancery Division</li> <li>Coulter v Chief of Dorset Police [2004] BPIR 462: Chancery Division</li> </ul>