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Rhys Evans

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Practice Overview

Rhys joined Chambers in September 2010 and following the successful completion of his pupillage he became a tenant in September 2011. Rhys is a fluent Welsh-speaker.

Notable and Reported cases

- Re C (Children) [2016] EWCA Civ 374

Rhys was led in the Court of Appeal acting for a local authority in the widely publicised/reported appeal of a mother against the decision to permit her to name her twin babies 'Cyanide' and 'Preacher'.

- EB (A Child: Care Order and Placement Order) [2016] EWHC 887 (Fam)

Acted for the child in a widely-publicised case concerning allegations that a Romanian mother had attempted to sell/hand over her newly-born child to a family in the UK having travelled from Spain.

- Edkins v. Hopkins et. al. [2016] EWHC 2542 (Ch)

Acted for beneficiaries in a contentious probate claim exceeding £2,000,000.00. The claim concerned allegations of undue influence, incapacity and knowledge and approval as well as detailed costs arguments.

- Edkins v. Hopkins and Ors. [2017] WTLR 39.

The case, heard before His Honour Judge Jarman QC sitting as a High Court Judge, concerned a £2 million estate and allegations of undue influence, capacity and knowledge and approval.

Children Act & Matrimonial Finance

Rhys has a developing matrimonial finance practice and has received instructions at all stages of proceedings. Recent cases have concerned sales of farms (with generational arguments); and high net worth cases (in excess of £1,000,000.00).

Court of Protection

Rhys is regularly instructed on behalf of local authorities and protected persons in the Court of Protection in



respect of *section 16 Mental Capacity Act (MCA) 2005* applications and *section 21A MCA 2005* challenges (welfare). He is also regularly instructed in claims concerning property and financial affairs where there can be considerable overlap with his chancery practice.

Chancery and Commercial

Rhys receives regular instructions across a wide range of chancery and commercial matters. Recent cases have involved landlord and tenant disputes allocated to the multi track; breach of contract (PPI, misrepresentation, bills of sale); professional negligence (accountancy, building and solicitors' advice); and disputes of land (easements across property). Rhys has advised and represented government agencies and local authorities in claims arising from malicious prosecution and breach of contract. Most recently, Rhys has been instructed as junior counsel in a very complex million pound land and contract dispute before the High Court. In addition, Rhys has experience of acting in cases involving applications for freezing injunctions as well as media injunctions against social networks before the High Court. Rhys is happy to accept instructions to advise across a broad range of chancery and commercial disputes as he seeks to expand his practice further.

Personal Injury and Human Rights Act Claims

Rhys has a very busy personal injury practice with regular instructions in matters allocated to both the fast and multi tracks. Rhys is happy to advise in respect of future losses and has had involvement in cases involving very serious injuries and consequential losses. Rhys is happy to accept instructions on a Conditional Fee Agreement basis as well. Rhys is also regularly instructed (by the Official Solicitor and others) to advise and settle particulars on behalf of children and other parties pursuing *Human Rights Act 1998* claims against local authorities arising from *Children Act 1989* proceedings (failure to issue claims etc.).

Public Access

Rhys accepts instructions within his practice areas from members of the public in appropriate circumstances.

Education

- LL.B(Hons) (2.i), Cardiff University Law School
- Bar Vocational Course (Very Competent), Cardiff University Law School

Appointments/Achievements/Memberships

- Legal 500 (Band 1 Public Law Children) – “thorough, committed and knowledgeable”
- Deputy District Judge 2020
- Fee Paid Judge of the Employment Tribunal in Wales 2020
- Member of the Family Law Bar Association.
- Trial Judge Intern, United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, The Hague (2008)
- Young Barristers' Committee Wales and Chester Circuit Representative (2014 and 2015).
- Member of the Bar Council's Law Reform Committee (2014).
- Part of a Working Group on Paid McKenzie Friends (2014 and 2015).



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- Interviewed for The Times Legal Section (November 2014).

Recommendations

- 'Thorough, committed and knowledgeable' (Legal 500, 2020 & 2021)

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