



Thursday, 19th November 2026

8:30am – 5:30pm

@ Hosted by Burgess Salmon, One Glass Wharf, Bristol BS2 0ZX

- Host:
Andrew Burnette – Burgess Salmon
- Chair & Keynote:
Nicholas Davidson KC – Guildhall Chambers
- Speakers:
 - Dan Stacey – Hailsham Chambers
 - James Hall – Gatehouse Chambers
 - Nicole Hilton – St Johns Chambers
 - Sam Morley – Hawkins
 - Jamie Molloy – Ignite Specialty Risk
 - Helen Ager – Kennedys
 - Nicholas Lee – Paragon Costs Solutions
 - Tom Whittaker – Burgess Salmon
 - Amy Khodabandehloo – Burgess Salmon

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0830–0900 *Registration and Refreshments*

0900–0905 *“Introduction”*

- Andrew Burnette – Burges Salmon

Andrew heads the Burges Salmon's Dispute Resolution department. He is a highly experienced commercial litigator with top-band ranking in the leading independent directories. Legal 500, 2025 says “He is a highly intelligent, focused and commercially-minded partner, who seeks to provide an excellent service to clients. He knows everything there is to know about professional negligence claims, and commercial litigation generally.”

He specialises in high value, complex or portfolios of professional negligence claims, particularly against solicitors, surveyors/valuers, financial advisors and brokers, actuaries, auditors and accountants. He is particularly well-known for his work on behalf of traditional and specialist lenders in this field. His team is “an extremely formidable force on the claimant-side of professional negligence claims...providing city law firm quality out of London” (Legal 500, 2025).

Andrew is a regular speaker and commentator on professional negligence matters, with a keen interest in how liability for the deployment of AI and technology in professional services will evolve.

His practice also includes civil fraud, company and shareholder disputes, contractual disputes across a wide variety of subjects and sectors, urgent injunctive relief to protect his clients' commercial interests, and product liability.

Andrew is a member of the Professional Negligence Lawyers' Association and the International Bar Association.

0905–0925 *Chairman's Address: “Duties: clients, others, the profession and regulators”*

- Nicholas Davidson KC – Guildhall Chambers

Nicholas has decades of experience of claims against lawyers, both on the claimants' side and on the defendants' side, and this has taken him around the full spectrum of the law and to the highest Courts (e.g. AIB v Mark Redler & Co in the Supreme Court).

He is an arbitrator and mediator and has served as a Deputy High Court Judge and as a Senior Decision Maker to the Guernsey Financial Services Commission.

He has extensive experience, both as advocate and as arbitrator, of professional indemnity insurance, and of management liability insurance.

In recent years he has been involved in claims relating to problems over executive bonus arrangements, senior employee exit payments, discrimination claims, Stamp Duty Land Tax, the administration of a potentially insolvent Estate, the flotation on AIM of an overseas business, loss of an option to acquire a freehold interest, infrastructure project issues, and criticisms of the way in which lawyers have conducted litigation and arbitration. A long-serving trustee of his Inn's Defined Benefit Pension Scheme, he has a keen interest in, and acted in, investment-related claims and corporate governance problems.

0925–1005 *“Insured” Claims? Traps for the Unwary”*

Dan Stacey – Hailsham Chambers

Dan Stacey is a senior junior barrister who specialises in professional indemnity and costs litigation. He has been rated in the main directories for many years for both professional negligence and costs and he has appeared in numerous reported cases in the High Court, Court of Appeal and Supreme Court (including Page v Hewetts and Grondona v Stoffel). He was shortlisted as Professional Negligence Junior of the Year 2022.

“Dan is excellent at costs and professional negligence. Dan is straightforward, helpful and a pleasure to work with.” Legal 500, 2026

“Dan is always very well-prepared and has an excellent ability to build a good rapport with clients. In court, his advocacy skills are something to behold, calmness personified but with a ruthless streak to ensure that a client's case has the best possible chance of success.” Legal 500, 2026

1005–1020 *Refreshments*

1020–1100

“Limitation: the age-old question; recent cases on s14A and s32 LA 1980”

- James Hall – Gatehouse Chambers

James specialises in professional negligence, commercial litigation and property disputes. His professional negligence work relates primarily to the financial services and property sectors though he also deals with a wide variety of claims arising from transactions, projects and misconduct of litigation including claims worth many tens of millions of pounds often with complex causation and loss of a chance issues. He deals with a variety of commercial claims with a focus on disputes connected with his professional negligence practice, such as insurance disputes, conspiracy claims and FS sector work including claims against the FSCS. His property work generally relates to title issues, land registration issues, mortgages and trusts issues and often overlaps with his professional negligence practice.

Recent cases of note include acting for the appellant in *Kay v Martineau Johnson* [2026] EWCA Civ 224 and acting for the Law Centres Network, an intervener in *Mazur v Charles Russell Speechly* [2026] EWCA Civ 369. He also represented the representative defendants in *Barclays Bank v Terry* [2023] EWHC 2726 (Ch), a case involving the accidental discharge of over 5,000 mortgages in one fell swoop which was a landmark decision on use of the bifurcated procedure in representative actions.

He understands the need not only for technical excellence but also the commercial imperatives of his clients, which range from large lending institutions, other corporate claimants and high net worth individuals (on the claimant side) to professionals and their professional indemnity insurers (on the defendant side). He focuses on strategy and cost-benefit analysis as well as legal finesse. Earlier in his career he spent several years as an employed barrister in an international law firm, developing and leading a team of specialist lawyers, giving him invaluable insight and understanding of the workings of solicitors' firms and their clients.

He has regularly contributed to leading texts including *Lender Claims* (Sweet and Maxwell), *Construction Professional Indemnity Insurance* (Sweet and Maxwell), *Risk and Negligence in Property Transactions* (Law Society) and *Insurance Broking and the Law* (Informa) and had many articles published in industry periodicals and peer-review journals. He has also spoken at the Professional Indemnity Forum 2025 and the same event in 2026; the Professional Negligence Lawyers Association 2022 Online Conference; the CML Fraud Conference; The Legal Week Banking Litigation and Regulation Forum; and the Legal Business Financial Regulation and Disputes Summit.

James won the Legal 500 Professional Negligence Junior of the Year Award in 2024. He was nominated for the same award in 2025 and 2026 and was nominated as Professional Negligence Junior of the Year 2025 by Chambers UK Bar.

1100–1135

“What’s New in Negligence? - A Professional Negligence Update”

- Nicole Hilton – St Johns Chambers

Nicole Hilton is a barrister and accredited mediator with a broad commercial, business and property practice.

Nicole is regularly instructed across a wide array of commercial, business and property matters, including professional negligence, building and construction, commercial property, complex landlord and tenant disputes, wills, trusts and probate and partnership disputes.

Nicole has a busy practice with experience of conducting hearings across the various stages of litigation and across the fast track, intermediate track, and multi-track, including (but not limited to): CCMC and directions hearings, interim hearings (such as multifaceted summary judgement and strike out applications, pre-action disclosure application, and setting aside default judgment applications), Part 8 hearings, and trials.

Nicole's broad practice provides for an acute, comprehensive and incisive understanding of the court system and strength in providing strategic advice across her instructions.

Prior to joining the Bar, Nicole gained experience working in complex mortgage enforcement cases and as a paralegal on the COVID-19 public inquiry, establishing both a strong backbone for financial literacy and an attention to detail that underpins her practice. Nicole has a particular interest in transport and shipping having previously written a dissertation on the principles and potential reforms of multimodal transport and international contracts.

Nicole is a frequent speaker at conferences and training events and provides practical presentations on all aspects of her practice."

1135–1210

“The Forensic Architect’s Perspective”

- Sam Morley – Hawkins

Sam led schemes across the residential, commercial, and public sector from briefing to completion. Sam is a forensic architect and carries out investigations into building defects including those relating to fire safety, damp and personal injury. He is instructed by private claimants and insurers for various types of policy including professional indemnity. He provides expert opinion for cases involving alleged negligence in relation to architectural services including the following areas that are typically the focus of a dispute: lead designer, specification, and site inspection.

1210–1245

“Litigation funding”

- *Jamie Molloy – Ignite Specialty Risk*

Jamie Molloy has worked in the ATE market for the past 17 years.

His experience includes underwriting and managing a significant volume of High Court disputes as well as supporting successful appeals to both the Court of Appeal (Salt v Stratstone Specialist Ltd [2015] EWCA Civ745) and Supreme Court (Braganza v BP Shipping Ltd [2015] UKSC 17).

Jamie has created bespoke hedging products for commercial litigation funders and also a number of novel insurance schemes across the areas of privacy, property, and nuisance litigation.

He holds both Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Law as well as Cilex and CII qualifications and has a keen interest in the development of the litigation risk transfer market, having written both his undergraduate and postgraduate dissertations around these topics.

1245–1300

Questions and discussion

1300–1400 *Lunch*

1400–1435

“10 Things I Hate About You”

- *Andrew Burnette – Burges Salmon*

Andrew heads the Burges Salmon's Dispute Resolution department. He is a highly experienced commercial litigator with top-band ranking in the leading independent directories. Legal 500, 2025 says “He is a highly intelligent, focused and commercially-minded partner, who seeks to provide an excellent service to clients. He knows everything there is to know about professional negligence claims, and commercial litigation generally.”

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Andrew is a member of the Professional Negligence Lawyers' Association and the International Bar Association.

1435–1510

“The Defendant Perspective”

- *Helen Ager – Kennedys*

Helen is a partner in Kennedys Bristol office and is a professional liability specialist.

With significant experience acting for professionals and their insurers, Helen predominantly deals with claims against solicitors, accountants and other professionals in both traditional lines of work and emerging, non-traditional areas.

In addition to advising insurers on policies relating to these types of claims, she has also represented a variety of professionals and businesses, consultants, agents, brokers and manufacturing or service businesses facing claims under their professional indemnity, directors' and officers' (D&O) or corporate legal liability insurance policies.

Helen is an accredited mediator and uses mediation, or other forms of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) to resolve disputes as effectively as possible.

Helen Ager is very good at resolving things in a simple way as she sees the commercial reality and gets things done efficiently - Chambers UK 2026

1510–1545

“Costs Update”

- Nicholas Lee, Managing Director – Paragon Costs Solutions

Nicholas Lee is a specialist Costs Lawyer, Accredited Mediator, and the Managing Director and founder of Paragon Costs Solutions, a leading costs law practice with offices in Bristol and London. He has specialised exclusively in legal costs since 2001 and is widely recognised for his expertise in complex and high-value civil litigation costs disputes, costs management, detailed assessment proceedings, and strategic litigation funding advice.

Nicholas qualified as an Associate of the Association of Law Costs Draftsmen in 2009, became a Fellow in 2011, and was admitted as a Costs Lawyer in 2011 following the recognition of Costs Lawyers in the Legal Services Act 2007.

Prior to establishing Paragon Costs Solutions in 2011, he worked in-house for a Top 100 law firm, progressing to Director of Costs and Partner. His practice has since advised a broad range of clients including leading national law firms, niche regional law firms, local authorities, insurers, housing providers, and international financial institutions.

A recognised commentator and speaker on civil litigation costs, Nicholas regularly delivers seminars and training on costs law, fixed recoverable costs, proportionality, litigation funding, and housing litigation. He is a member of the LexisNexis Dispute Resolution Expert Panel, a frequent speaker for MBL Seminars and has contributed extensively to legal publications and professional training programmes. Nick is the author of “Costs in Housing Disrepair Cases”.

Nicholas is recognised by the leading independent legal directories for his technical expertise and commercial approach to costs litigation. He is ranked by Chambers UK and recognised by The Legal 500 as a leading individual in costs law. In addition to his legal practice, he has served as President of Bristol Law Society and continues to hold a number of advisory and trustee positions within the legal, educational, and charitable sectors.

“Nick is absolutely excellent in his field. He has great client service, is very knowledgeable, thinks outside the box and applies his hard-earned specialist knowledge to any situation in order to get the right results that others wouldn't be able to, which is exactly what you need in an area of law like this.”. Chambers and Partners 2026.

1545–1600 *Refreshments*

1600–1635

“Speaker tbc”

1635–1710

“When could a professional be negligent for using or not using AI?”

- Tom Whittaker & Amy Khodabandehloo – Burges Salmon

- **Tom** is a director and solicitor advocate in the Technology team.

He regularly advises and trains clients on AI regulation and legal risk. Tom is recognised by Chambers and Partners as a global market leader in AI law (2024 and 2025). He wrote the chapter on Public Law and Procurement Law and AI in the practitioner’s textbook the Law of Artificial Intelligence, alongside co-authors Rebecca Williams (Professor of Public and Criminal Law, University of Oxford), Azeem Suterwalla KC and Will Perry (Monckton Chambers) and Burges Salmon colleagues.

Tom holds multiple specialist accreditations in AI and, separately, electronic disclosure technology. He is part of various AI working groups and has led responses to multiple government consultations related to AI. He is a member of the Society for Computers and Law AI committee. He has also spoken at various conferences on AI and, separately or together, disclosure, including Legal 500 Commercial Litigation conference, Society for Computers and Law AI conference, and the Responsible AI and Risk Management Summit. Tom was recognised as lawyer of the year at Bristol Law Society awards 2024 for his work regarding AI.

Tom also regularly advises clients on commercially significant and complex civil disputes, investigations and inquiries for a wide range of corporate and government clients across different sectors. Tom’s focus is on disclosure and evidence management. His experience includes leading disclosure workstreams in litigation, regulatory investigations, and inquiries. Tom’s specialism includes the use of AI in disclosure, and he co-wrote the ILTA best practice guide to GenAI in eDiscovery.

- **Amy** is a Director in Burges Salmon’s Dispute Resolution team. She is an experienced litigator, noted for her expertise in high-value commercial disputes, pensions disputes, and contentious cyber security matters. Her core specialisms include contractual disputes, business ownership disputes, complex pensions-related claims including professional negligence actions, and injunctive relief. Amy has a proven track record of successfully handling complex multi-party claims, and has worked on cases spanning the High Court, Court of Appeal, and Supreme Court as well as the main courts of international arbitration.

Amy advises claimants and defendants on all aspects of dispute resolution, helping clients resolve their disputes and legal challenges in a commercial and cost-efficient way. She builds close working relationships and is adept at providing practical advice in time-critical situations, tailoring her guidance to each client’s operational, commercial, and financial objectives.

She is recognised as a ‘Leading Associate’ by The Legal 500 and an ‘Associate to Watch’ by Chambers UK.

1710–1730

Chairman’s closing remarks, questions and discussion session

Costs

Terms and conditions in relation to courses, seminars and conferences ('events') provided by The Professional Negligence Lawyers' Association (PNLA) and organised by PNLA Training Ltd. (PNLA Training)

1. The full fee invoice for the conference ticket is payable.
2. For conferences taking place at a venue on a fixed date, if cancellation is received in writing at least 21 working days before the event the fee will be credited less a £75 administration charge. Substitutions are welcome at any time subject to any variation in price that might be payable if the substitute is not entitled to a discount as a PNLA member or specialist.
3. For virtual conferences the ticket(s) purchased are for the individual delegate(s) named in the booking. If a delegate gives access to the recorded speaker programme to others, then they agree to pay for a ticket at the full fee for all those delegates who watch the programme deriving from such access.
4. The booking constitutes a legally binding contract. The delegate and their employer/partnership/other practice entity are jointly and severally liable for payment of all the fees due.
5. The PNLA and PNLA Training reserve the right without prior notice to vary or cancel an event where the occasion necessitates including changing the password for virtual conference programmes.
6. The PNLA and PNLA Training accept no liability if, for whatever reason, the event does not take place or access online is not possible.
7. Large print versions of the handouts can be made available by prior request. If sufficient notice is not received, it will be provided as soon as possible after the event.
8. If there are insufficient rooms in the hotel to accommodate all delegates who require one when an overnight stay is involved, we will try to arrange for rooms of a similar quality in a nearby hotel, but the organisers cannot be held responsible if such rooms are not available. Any additional cost will be invoiced to the delegate.
9. To the extent permitted by law, it is agreed that the PNLA, PNLA Training Limited presenters and speakers will not be liable by reason of breach of contract, negligence or otherwise for any loss or consequential loss occasioned to any person acting, omitting to act or refraining from acting in reliance upon the course material or presentation of the event, or, except to the extent that any such loss does not exceed the price of the event, arising from or connected with any error or omission in the material or presentation of the event. Consequential loss shall be deemed to include, but not limited to, any loss of profits or anticipated profits, damage to reputation or goodwill, loss of business or anticipated business, damages, costs, expenses incurred or payable to any third party or any other indirect or consequential losses.
10. The personal information provided by you will be held on a database and you may be contacted from time to time by The PNLA and PNLA Training with details of events and services that may be of interest to you. If you do not wish your details to be used for this purpose, please write to: The Database Manager, PNLA, PO Box 1685, Congresbury, Bristol, BS 49 5WQ or email: yvonne.fairbrother@pnla.org.uk

PNLA Training Ltd - Costs

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