



## **PROFESSIONAL INDEMNITY INSURANCE CONFERENCE**

*Knowledge is the wing wherewith we fly*

26-28 AUGUST 2026

THE QUEEN'S COLLEGE, OXFORD

### **THE CONFERENCE**

This is the twenty-eighth Conference arranged with support from the Professional Indemnity Forum. The event will once again cover a wide number of issues including:

- A review of recent issues and expectations for the future
- Emerging issues facing the professions and the insurance market
- Regulatory, legal and coverage developments in individual professions
- Significant legal decisions that are impacting on the professions' exposures and a look forward to what the coming years may bring

Following each presentation, time is set aside for delegates to discuss points and there will also be opportunities for participants to partake in the Symposium and raise issues for further discussion.

### **WHO IS THE CONFERENCE FOR?**

This Conference will be of interest to anyone involved in Professional Indemnity Insurance, including underwriters, claims managers, risk managers, lawyers and brokers.

### **THE PROFESSIONAL INDEMNITY FORUM**

PIF was formed many years ago by leading underwriters in the London Market with a view to improving levels of knowledge in the market as a whole. PIF is now a Committee of the International Underwriting Association of London Ltd (IUA). Membership is open to all IUA members together with invited underwriting representatives from other syndicates and companies. PIF presents a forum for discussion of issues of interest to the PI Market. It also seeks to promote sound principles for best practice, provide education to its members and formal liaison with other professional bodies. This Conference gives the members of PIF the opportunity to further its aims and to involve others in the industry who have an interest in Professional Indemnity Insurance.

# CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

## **AN OVERVIEW OF ISSUES FACING THE MARKET**

*Sharon Glynn - Managing Director Underwriter, Bond & Specialty Insurance, Travelers Europe*

## **IFA PANEL**

*Paul Freeman - Chief Underwriting Officer, Professional Indemnity, Folgate Insurance*

*Lucy Tolond - Partner, DWF*

*James Hall - Barrister, Gatehouse Chambers*

## **ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: RISKS TO THE PROFESSIONS**

*David Gooding - Partner, Mills & Reeve*

*Jacqui King - Principal Associate, Mills & Reeve*

*Neil Howes - Partner, Mills & Reeve*

## **DATA CENTRES - CONTRACTS, DESIGN, RISK AND INSURANCE**

*Nick Smith - Senior Associate, Beale & Co*

## **CONSTRUCTION PROFESSIONALS PANEL**

*Michael Attwell - Underwriter, Large Clients Professions and Product Leader, Beazley*

*Ian Masser - Partner, Beale & Co*

## **NEW DUTIES, MISCONDUCT AND MISTAKES, LIMITATIONS ON RECOVERY, AND LIMITATION: A REVIEW OF THE MOST IMPORTANT RECENT CASE-LAW**

*Simon Wilton KC - Hailsham Chambers*

## **REINSURANCE OF PROFESSIONAL INDEMNITY INSURANCE**

*Panel Discussion*

## **TECHNOLOGY RISKS LIABILITIES**

*Crown Office Chambers*

## **THE PERSPECTIVE AND FRUSTRATIONS OF PROFESSIONAL NEGLIGENCE CLAIMS FROM EITHER SIDE OF THE FENCE WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS**

*Charlie Shillito - Senior Associate, Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP*

## **RISK MANAGEMENT IN PROFESSIONAL FIRMS**

*Speaker to be confirmed*

## **RECENT LEGAL DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO ACCOUNTANTS, AUDITORS AND ACTUARIES**

*Jamie Smith KC - 4 New Square*

## **SYMPOSIUM**

### **OUR PANEL OF EXPERTS (EX PIF CHAIRMEN) WILL LEAD A DISCUSSION ON ISSUES RAISED BY DELEGATES**

*Paul Freeman - Senior Underwriter and AVP, Liberty Specialty Markets*

*Russell Newell - Director of Underwriting Strategy, Collegiate Underwriting*

*Rob McTaggart - Head of Professional Indemnity, Starr Underwriting Agents*

## CHAIRPERSON



**DEBORAH HALL** has been a professional presenter for over 30 years. She was trained by BBC TV as a journalist and read the Local and National News on BBC-1. She was a News Anchor on BBC World (total 12 years). She is a very experienced Conference Chair, fronting nearly 100 conferences for the London insurance market, including all the Professional Indemnity Conferences. She still presents TV programmes and webcasts for businesses. Deborah coaches MBA students at Durham University and is the staff trainer for London Business School. She is the in-house trainer for various law firms and insurance brokers and underwriters. As a coach on the Civil Service Learning Panel, she has worked with Directors at the Departments of Health, Business Innovation & Skills, Work & Pensions and HM Treasury. Deborah has worked extensively in Europe over 25 years as media trainer for the European Centre for Disease Control and is the media consultant on the scientific side of Bill Gates/WHO's programme to vaccinate the world's poor (since 2000), training over 1000 delegates from 92 countries.

## PRESENTERS



**MICHAEL ATTWELL** is underwriter Large Client Professions and Product Leader large AEC at Beazley. Michael rejoined Beazley in 2024, having previously spent five years there from 2016 to 2021. He has over 20 years of experience underwriting professional liability and has spent most of that time focussing on large and complex architecture, engineering, and construction businesses. He was also the inaugural chair of the International Underwriting Association's Construction Working Group, a market grouping of underwriters specialising in professional liability in construction.



**PAUL FREEMAN** is Chief Underwriting Officer – PI at Folgate Underwriting. He was previously UK Underwriting Manager at Liberty Specialty Markets. He is a past Chairman of the Professional Indemnity Forum. He has been involved in Professional Indemnity Insurance for many years, working in claims, broking, and underwriting.



**SHARON GLYNN** is a Managing Director Underwriter, Bond & Specialty Insurance for Travelers Europe with specific responsibility for our largest solicitor accounts. As a qualified solicitor with a Diploma in Insurance, and extensive experience as a Senior Claims Professional handling complex claims, Sharon works with brokers and insureds to ensure that solicitor insureds receive insurance solutions specifically tailored to their needs.



**DAVID GOODING** is a Partner at Mills & Reeve. David is a professional liability and policy coverage specialist. His practice is focussed on advising lawyers, accountants and financial professionals and their insurers on defending and resolving claims. He also advises insurers on policy coverage disputes and dishonesty investigations. David is head of the firm's national accountants' liability practice. His practice also includes handling the defence of disciplinary tribunal claims against lawyers, financial professionals and insolvency practitioners. He is regularly instructed to assist and defend professionals facing high profile and significant claims.



**JAMES HALL** practises from 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. He deals with a variety of commercial claims with a focus on disputes connected with his professional negligence practice, such as insurance disputes.



**NEIL HOWES** is a Partner at Mills & Reeve and a recognised expert in the field of professional indemnity. Neil's insight and expertise means that he is regularly instructed to handle high profile claims with significant reputational or financial implications for professionals and their insurers. His defence work for professionals in the legal sector covers both solicitors and members of the Bar. Neil also heads up Mills & Reeve's national construction insurance practice and he undertakes defence work for a wide range of architects, design & build contractors, and engineers.



**JACQUI KING** is a Principal Associate at Mills & Reeve. She specialises in insurance coverage work across a wide variety of policies including Cyber, Directors and Officers and Professional Indemnity. She also assists insurers and insureds in defence work across a broad range of professional indemnity policies and has particular experience defending construction professionals and technology professionals. Jacqui also advises on general commercial dispute resolution.



**IAN MASSER** is a Partner at Beale & Co in the firm's construction, engineering and infrastructure and insurance teams. He has over 15 years of experience in advising on construction professional indemnity and design and construct insurance matters, both on the coverage and defence sides. He also has experience advising on disputes involving public liability claims.



**ROBERT McTAGGART** is Deputy Chief Underwriting Officer - Financial Lines, London, Europe & Middle East at Starr Underwriting Agents. He is a past chairman of the Professional Indemnity Forum. He has over many years' insurance underwriting and broking experience. Robert started his insurance career at Windsor's Insurance Brokers and moved into underwriting in 2005. He previously worked as underwriter at Norwich Union and Mitsui Syndicate 3210 before heading up the Professional Indemnity team at AVIVA before moving to his current role in 2017.



**RUSSELL NEWELL** is Director of Underwriting Strategy at Collegiate Underwriting. He has a degree in Economics from LSE and is ACII qualified. He has been underwriting since 1984 at Aegon, Sorema / Trenwick, Canopus and AmTrust. He is an ex-Chairman of the PI Forum (PIF), regularly speaks at the PI Conference supported by PIF and he co-wrote the chapter on IFAs for the Insurance Institute of London Professional Indemnity book. Russell was also instrumental in the establishment of the PIF 'Test' a market recognised set of exams relating to Professional Indemnity.



**CHARLIE SHILLITO** is Senior Associate at Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP in the commercial dispute resolution team and works out of the firm's Oxford office. He is well versed in litigation tactics and procedure, having navigated claims through every level of the English and Welsh judicial system, from the county courts up to the Supreme Court. Charlie has a particular interest in banking disputes and professional negligence, especially APP fraud claims and negligence claims against solicitors. He has extensive experience in shareholder and partnership disputes and disputes arising from distribution and licensing agreements.



**NICK SMITH** is a Senior Associate at Beale & Co and has a wide range of experience advising clients in the energy, infrastructure and construction sectors, from the provision of initial advice on claims under contract and throughout the dispute resolution process. Nick has represented contractors and major consultants in disputes concerning a number of complex, high value projects around the world, with particular focus on road, and airport projects. He also has experience of construction projects, involving coal power plants, railways, road projects, and defence projects.



**JAMIE SMITH KC** practises from 4 New Square. His practice embraces Professional Liability, General Liability, Directors' and Officers' Liability and Cyber Insurances. He also deals with disciplinary and regulatory matters and commercial fraud.



**LUCY TOLON** is a Partner in the insurance team in DWF. Lucy acts on behalf of a wide range of professionals but has particular expertise in dealing with claims against accountants, insolvency practitioners, tax advisers, financial advisers, insurance brokers and mortgage intermediaries. Recently, she led the defence of over 200 mis-selling claims against a mortgage advice network arising from historic sales of interest-only mortgages. In recent years, Lucy has developed particular expertise in dealing with claims against professionals relating to tax advice, tax relief and tax avoidance schemes. She also has experience dealing with various disciplinary and regulatory matters including before the ICAEW and the Financial Ombudsman Service.



**SIMON WILTON KC** practices from Hailsham Chambers. He has advised and appeared in cases involving all kinds of professionals including solicitors, barristers, surveyors, valuers, accountants, professionals acting as expert witnesses, financial advisers, construction professionals, insurance brokers, and professional trustees. Typical cases include lenders' claims against solicitors or valuers or mortgage brokers, claims against lawyers arising from mishandled litigation or transactional work or wills and probate, claims arising from poor financial advice or dubious investment or tax avoidance schemes promoted by financial advisers or accountants.

## CONFERENCE INFORMATION



### VENUE

The Conference will be held at The Queen's College, Oxford.

### DATES

26th - 28th August 2026

Wed 26th Registration from 4.00 pm, dinner at 6.00 pm followed by Punting on the Cherwell  
Thurs 27th Registration from 8.00 am  
Thurs 27th Conference commences at 9.00 am  
Fri 28th Conference Close 3.30 pm

### FEES

The fee for the two-day Conference is £1,095.00 + VAT. The fee includes accommodation for 2 nights, the punting event, refreshments, breakfasts, lunches, dinner, banquet and conference documentation.

### ACCOMMODATION

Student Single Study "en-suite" bedrooms located in the College building.

### SOLICITORS REGULATORY AUTHORITY CONTINUING COMPETENCE REQUIREMENTS

This Conference may be used for these requirements.

### CII CPD SCHEME

This Conference may be used for the purpose of CPD.

### BOOKINGS

To book places for the Conference, please email: [tony.gregory@imc-seminars.com](mailto:tony.gregory@imc-seminars.com)  
or telephone: +44 (0)1491 872 839 / +44 (0)7712 482 212

### PLEASE NOTE

Joining instructions will be emailed to all delegates prior to the Conference. If you do not receive these, please contact us to ensure we have registered your booking. It may be necessary for reasons beyond the control of the organisers to change the speakers and/or alter the content and timing of the programme.

If you have any queries please contact Tony Gregory  
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