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Rhys Jones

Year of call:	**2022**
Degree:	**BA, History (Cantab, First Class), MPhil, History (Cantab, Distinction), PhD, History (Cantab), GDL (City, Distinction), Bar Vocational Scheme (City, Distinction)**
Languages:	**Welsh (fluent), French (working knowledge)**

Rhys accepts instructions in all of Chambers' practice areas, with a particular emphasis on commercial, employment, sports and competition law. Rhys' recent experience includes:

- Acting in Zaha Hadid Limited v Zaha Hadid Foundation [2026] EWCA Civ 192, in relation to claims arising under a licence agreement in contractual construction and restraint of trade, including as sole counsel at interlocutory stage.
- Acting in Guy Carpenter v Willis [2026] EWHC 361 (KB), an expedited employee competition trial, successfully resisting allegations of wide-ranging wrongdoing and unlawful means conspiracies, including claims for injunctive relief on a springboard basis.
- Acting for the Premier League in disciplinary proceedings brought against Everton Football Club under the Premier League's Profit and Sustainability Rules.
- In a sports context more generally, acting for clients including the Premier League, the Welsh Rugby Union, as well as players and managers in several FA Rule K arbitrations.

While studying for the Bar, Rhys worked as a pro-bono advocate and union representative on behalf of the Cleaners and Allied Independent Workers Union (CAIWU), successfully representing members in a variety of workplace disciplinary matters, including in appeals against final written warnings and misconduct allegations. In 2021-2022, Rhys was a paralegal at the Infected Blood Inquiry.

Prior to coming to the Bar, Rhys was Fellow in History at Sidney Sussex College, University of Cambridge, and wrote and presented documentaries for BBC Radio 4.

Rhys was seconded to the Competition and Markets Authority in 2023, where he worked with the litigation team, primarily on matters arising from anti-trust and merger and acquisition investigations.

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EXPERIENCE

Commercial

Rhys accepts instructions in all areas of commercial law. He is equally comfortable working unled or as part of a team in major litigation.

Cases

Zaha Hadid Limited v The Zaha Hadid Foundation

[2026] EWCA Civ 192

Acted as junior counsel for the successful licensee company at both first instance an on appeal in relation to claims arising in contractual construction and restraint of trade, and acting as sole counsel at interlocutory stage (with Michael Bloch KC).

Confidential arbitration

2026

Acting for the sports governing body in a confidential arbitration concerning claims arising in contract and competition law. With Adam Lewis KC and Daniel Cashman.

A.S.S. Concerts v Geldof

Acting unled for the concert promoter in a contractual claim brought against the artist.

C v D (ongoing)

For the claimant in an application for a worldwide freezing order (assisting Harry Adamson).

O v D

Instructed by the Defendant in relation to an allegation of non-performance for the supply of photographs under a contract.

Various Claimants v Mirror Group Newspapers (Phone Hacking Litigation) (ongoing)

For the defendant news group, MGN, in the ongoing phone hacking litigation (assisting Harry Adamson).

X v Y (ongoing)

For the defendant in a claim arising from the Ingenious Litigation, a group action relating to a claim in fraud brought by a large number of investors in a film finance scheme (assisting Harry Adamson).

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Confidential Arbitration

For the Premier League in a confidential arbitration relating to alleged breaches by a football club of the league's profitability and sustainability rules (assisting Jason Pobjoy).

Re Severn Trent Water (ongoing)

For the defendant water company in relation to an ongoing multi-million pound High Court claim in restitution by personal search companies alleging breach of the Environmental Information Regulations (assisting Jason Pobjoy).

Whitestone & Ors v Financial Conduct Authority

For the FCA in a reference brought before the Upper Tribunal in relation to the FCA's findings of a lack of integrity against three employees of a private investment bank (assisting Celia Rooney).

Hanson v Sicurella

For the claimant in relation to a final charging order over a property for sums due and owing under two orders and a default costs certificate (assisting Harry Adamson).

Declan Colgan Music v UMG Recordings (ongoing)

For the claimant in relation to a dispute over payment of royalties under a licence agreement between the claimant and defendant pertaining to the sampling by Kanye West of a recording by the group King Crimson (assisting Celia Rooney).

Jon Moss v Culture Club

For Mr Jon Moss in his dispute against his former band, Culture Club (assisting Celia Rooney).

Guy Carpenter v Howden (ongoing)

For the defendant company in an expedited High Court employee competition claim involving allegations relating to a team move of 38 employees across different jurisdictions in the insurance broking industry, including an alleged unlawful means conspiracy and quia timet and springboard injunctive relief (assisting Craig Rajgopaul).

Music Management Contract Breach

For the talent management agency in relation to proposed proceedings arising out of an alleged breach of a music management contract by the artist (assisting Celia Rooney).

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[Artists] v [Recording Company]

For the artists in proposed proceedings arising from an alleged failure on the part of the recording company to comply with its royalty accounting obligations in relation to streaming services (assisting Celia Rooney).

Sport

Rhys accepts instructions in all areas of sports law. He has acted for a range of clients, including sports governing bodies (such as the WRU and Premier League) and clubs.

Cases

Football Disciplinary Proceedings

2026

Acting on behalf of the club in relation to threatened disciplinary proceedings arising from alleged breaches of league competition rules (with Ian Mill KC and Andreas Gledhill KC).

Confidential arbitration

2026

Acting for the sports governing body in a confidential arbitration concerning claims arising in contract and competition law. With Adam Lewis KC and Daniel Cashman.

Football Academy Proceedings

2026

Acting for the club in relation to a threatened redesignation of academy status (with Ravi Mehta).

Advising Football Club Official

2026

Providing advice to a club official in relation to threatened disciplinary proceedings.

Premier League v Everton FC

Premier League Commissions and Appeal Boards, 2023-4

Acting for the Premier League in disciplinary proceedings brought against Everton Football Club under its Profit and Sustainability Rules (with Adam Lewis KC and Jason Pobjoy).

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Confidential Arbitration

For the Premier League in a confidential arbitration relating to alleged breaches by a football club of the league's profitability and sustainability rules (assisting Jason Pobjoy).

Advising the Premier League

Advised the Premier League on various proposed rule changes, including in respect of its compliance with certain statutory obligations (assisting Jason Pobjoy).

England Athletics

For an athletics coach in relation to a disciplinary matter brought by the regulatory body (assisting Celia Rooney).

FA Jurisdiction Advice

Advised the Football Association on a regulatory matter arising in the context of a confidential arbitration (assisting Celia Rooney).

Employment

Rhys accepts instructions in all areas of employment law, and appears unled before the Employment Tribunal. Rhys has also appeared as junior counsel in the High Court, including in expedited employee competition proceedings.

Cases

Guy Carpenter v Willis Ltd

[2026] EWHC 361 (KB)

Acted as junior counsel for the Eighth Defendant in an expedited employee competition trial, successfully resisting the claimant reinsurance firm's allegations of wide-ranging wrongdoing and unlawful means conspiracies as well as claims for injunctive relief on a springboard and quia timet basis (with Craig Rajgopaul KC and Emmeline Plews).

Confidential advice

Providing written advice to a departing partner in relation to the enforceability of restrictive covenants in several membership agreements (with Diya Sen Gupta KC)

Confidential advice

Advice arising in the context of an Employment Tribunal claim regarding jurisdiction and the possibility of pursuing a reconsideration.

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C v P
For the employer in successfully obtaining a strike out of an Employment Tribunal whistleblowing claim (assisting Craig Rajgopaul).

A v B
Acting as junior counsel in relation to a claim arising from pregnancy/maternity discrimination, direct sex discrimination and whistleblowing (led by Jane Mulcahy KC and Kerenza Davis)

T v S (ongoing)
For the defendant employer in a claim brought by a male employee regarding allegations of sex discrimination under the Equality Act 2010 arising during the course of internal disciplinary proceedings (assisting Craig Rajgopaul).

C v Z (ongoing)
For the employer in an Employment Tribunal disability discrimination claim (assisting Craig Rajgopaul).

M v A
For the employer in an Employment Tribunal disability discrimination claim, which involved complex territorial jurisdictional matters (assisting Craig Rajgopaul).

[Energy Company] v [Former Employee and Competitor]
For the Energy Company in a proposed employee competition claim involving allegations of misuse of confidential information and unlawful means conspiracy (assisting Celia Rooney).

Patel v Aecom
For the employer in an Employment Tribunal discrimination claim involving allegations of disability discrimination, harassment and victimisation under the Equality Act 2010 (assisting Celia Rooney).

Competition

Rhys accepts instructions in all areas of competition law.

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Cases

Newman v Rightmove

2026

Acted for the proposed class representative in an application to commence opt-out collective proceedings against the property portal for abuse of dominance for excessive and unfair pricing (with Kieron Beal KC).

Visa Interchange Litigation

For Visa in relation to the Visa interchange litigation, including the umbrella interchange proceedings, relating to claims that Multilateral Interchange Fees set by the Mastercard and Visa schemes are anti-competitive and unlawful (assisting Jason Pobjoy).

VW Emissions Group Litigation

For Volkswagen AG in group litigation proceedings, which raise a number of EU and competition law issues, including in respect of the Commission's decision regarding emission levels (assisting Jason Pobjoy).

Media & Entertainment

Rhys accepts instructions in all areas of media and entertainment law.

Cases

Various Claimants v Mirror Group Newspapers (Phone Hacking Litigation) (ongoing)

For the defendant news group, MGN, in the ongoing phone hacking litigation (assisting Harry Adamson).

Zaha Hadid Limited v The Zaha Hadid Foundation

[2026] EWCA Civ 192

Acted as junior counsel for the successful licensee company at both first instance an on appeal in relation to claims arising in contractual construction and restraint of trade, and acting as sole counsel at interlocutory stage (with Michael Bloch KC).

O v D

Instructed by the Defendant in relation to an allegation of non-performance for the supply of photographs under a contract.

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Keighley v Information Commissioner and BBC

For the BBC in resisting an appeal against the decision of the First-tier Tribunal to refuse the appellant's multi-part request for information regarding audience research undertaken by the BBC (assisting Jason Pobjoy).

Jon Moss v Culture Club

For Mr Jon Moss in his dispute against his former band, Culture Club (assisting Celia Rooney).

Declan Colgan Music v UMG Recordings (ongoing)

For the claimant in relation to a dispute over payment of royalties under a licence agreement between the claimant and defendant pertaining to the sampling by Kanye West of a recording by the group King Crimson (assisting Celia Rooney).

Malkiewicz v United Kingdom

For the United Kingdom in a challenge brought in the European Court of Human Rights by the editors of a Polish-language monthly magazine, which concerned the compatibility of the UK litigation costs regime with the right to freedom of expression under Article 10 ECHR (assisting Jason Pobjoy).

Associated News Limited v United Kingdom

For the United Kingdom in a challenge brought in the European Court of Human Rights by ANL, publisher of the Daily Mail and other titles, alleging a violation of Article 10 in respect of costs orders requiring the publisher to pay success fees to successful claimants (assisting Jason Pobjoy).

Music Management Contract Breach

For the talent management agency in relation to proposed proceedings arising out of an alleged breach of a music management contract by the artist (assisting Celia Rooney).

[Artists] v [Recording Company]

For the artists in proposed proceedings arising from an alleged failure on the part of the recording company to comply with its royalty accounting obligations in relation to streaming services (assisting Celia Rooney).

Public & Regulatory

Rhys accepts instructions in all areas of public and regulatory law.

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Cases

R (Thomas Holdings) v HMRC

[2025] EWHC 1660 (Admin)

Acted as junior counsel for the claimants in a judicial review of HMRC's refusal to apply extra-statutory concessions involving misunderstanding or misdirection in respect of assessments to amusement machine licence duty (with Kieron Beal KC).

Privileges Committee investigation into Rt Hon Boris Johnson (2023)

For the former Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, in proceedings before the Privileges Committee relating to the investigation into whether the former Prime Minister misled Parliament over 'partygate' allegations (assisting Jason Pobjoy).

Independent Review of the Independent Safeguarding Board (2023)

Assisted Sarah Wilkinson in conducting an independent review for the Archbishops' Council of the Church of England, reviewing the creation, work and termination of the Church's Independent Safeguarding Board.

https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2023-12/isb-review-report-30-november-2023.pdf

R (ClientEarth) v Financial Conduct Authority (ongoing)

For the legal charity ClientEarth in a judicial review of the Financial Conduct Authority's decision to approve the prospectus of an oil and gas company as a precondition to its admission to the official list and the offer of its securities to the public (assisting Harry Adamson).

R (Khyam) v Secretary of State for Justice (2022)

For the Secretary of State for Justice on a judicial review of the prison categorisation and security conditions of a prisoner convicted of terrorism offences (assisted Harry Adamson).

Advising the Premier League

Advised the Premier League on various proposed rule changes, including in respect of its compliance with certain statutory obligations (assisting Jason Pobjoy).

FA Jurisdiction Advice

Advised the Football Association on a regulatory matter arising in the context of a confidential arbitration (assisting Celia Rooney).

Sanctions

Rhys accepts instructions in all areas of sanctions law.

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Cases

UN, EU and Domestic Sanctions Compliance Advice

Advising several companies and individuals in relation to compliance with the EU and UK sanctions regimes, particularly regarding Russia, Belarus, and Ukraine, including advice on the impact of sanctions on commercial transactions, ownership and control, and the implications of the Sanctions and Anti-Money Laundering Act 2018, and the Regulations made pursuant to that primary legislation (assisting Jason Pobjoy).

Sanctions advice to a natural resources company

Advised a natural resources company in relation to the UK and EU sanctions regimes (assisting Jason Pobjoy).

Sanctions advice to a pharmaceutical company

Advised a pharmaceutical company on the impact upon its business of the Russia (Sanctions) Regulations 2019 (assisting Jason Pobjoy).

Sanctions advice to medical company

Advised a medical services company in relation to the UK and EU sanctions regimes (assisting Jason Pobjoy).

ACHIEVEMENTS

Education

- Bar Vocational Scheme (City, University of London; Distinction).
- Graduate Diploma in Law (City, University of London; Distinction).
- PhD, History (University of Cambridge).
- MPhil, History (University of Cambridge).
- BA, History (University of Cambridge; First Class).

Professional Experience

- 2020–2021 Paralegal, Infected Blood Inquiry, Cabinet Office.
- 2016–2019 Research Fellow in History, Sidney Sussex College, University of Cambridge.

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Further Experience

- 2020–2022 Advocate, Cleaner's and Allied Independent Workers Union.
- 2020–2022 Independent Custody Visitor, Mayor of London's Office for Policing and Crime.
- 2020–2021 Coordinator, Big Voice London.

Scholarships, Awards and Prizes

- Tancred Scholar, Lincoln's Inn (2021).
- Lord Bowen Scholar, Lincoln's Inn (2019).
- Academic Scholarship, City, University of London (2019; 2021).
- Sarah Norton Trust Fund Award, Faculty of History, University of Cambridge (2016).
- Wolfson Postgraduate Scholarship in the Humanities, Wolfson Foundation (2013).
- Senior Scholar, University of Cambridge (2012).

VAT registration number: 453906480

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