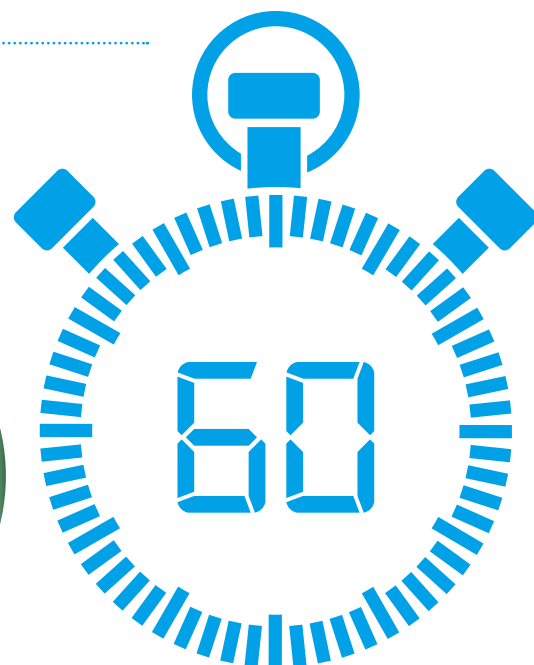


60-SECONDS WITH:

**ANDY
MCGREGOR**
**HEAD OF
CIVIL FRAUD
RPC**


Q What do you tell people when they ask you what you do?

A That I'm saving the world, one Russian oligarch at a time. The reality is that it is very difficult to explain exactly what it is that disputes lawyers do. I feel incredibly privileged to do a job that I enjoy so much and it is that enjoyment that I generally try to communicate. If anyone shows a genuine interest after my saving the world answer I tell them that people come to me with big problems that I try to solve for them.

Q What would you like to be doing right now if you weren't at work considering these questions?

A I would be out running or cycling. I have a tendency to become fixated on work and exercise is my release. Although I also often do some of my best strategic thinking while exercising!

Q If you could start all over again, what if anything would you do differently?

A Nothing at all. Life is about learning from your mistakes (we all make them!) and making friendships along the way. I've worked with many brilliant, inspiring, crazy people over the years and I'm delighted that so many of them are still friends. I wouldn't change where I am now for anything and you can't remove any of the building blocks that got you there.

Q What's the strangest or most exciting thing you've ever done as a lawyer?

A Unfortunately some of the best stories can't be told in print. Best to corner me and ask this question after a few drinks! One of my first work trips on a Russian dispute was among the most exciting though and

ignited my passion for Russian / CIS work. From being picked up by helicopter in Nice and doing a flyby of the opposing oligarch's (then) largest yacht before landing on a helipad built into the cliffs, to an underground car park full of Ferraris and the pool being used by a who's who of influential Russians over to watch a football match - it was quite a trip.

Q If you had a money tree and could afford never to work again, would you and why?

A No chance. If I had too much time on my hands I would just wind myself and my family up. I'm not sure how they put up with me as it is. It has been said that I can occasionally be competitive and work provides the perfect outlet for my competitive juices. Without it I dread to think what inane things I would find to be competitive about around the house.

Q Other than seeing family and friends, what did you miss most during the COVID-19 restrictions?

A I really missed celebrating with colleagues and clients after reaching a notable milestone in a case or winning a hearing. It is great to go out for dinner with the team after a particularly busy period and just have a laugh together. We all tried to find substitutes for that over Zoom but there are some things you just have to do in person.

Q What one positive has come out of COVID-19 for you?

A My dog Juno. My wife is a cat person and had always said I was in the office too much to look after a puppy. I had my name down within 24 hours of the first lockdown being announced!

Q What does the perfect weekend look like?

A Sitting in front of the fire with the latest edition of the White Book. In truth I have 5 kids so my weekends are always noisy and hectic but I wouldn't have it any other way. Except for trampoline parks, they are hell on earth.

Q Which famous person would you most like to invite to a dinner party?

A Sir Ranulph Fiennes. The stories he must have to tell. Not only was he the first person to visit both the North and South Poles by surface means and climbed Everest at 65, he also managed to lose his car in Berlin because he was too drunk to remember where he had parked it and was kicked out of the SAS for blowing up an ugly dam built by a film studio in a pretty Wiltshire village. You need to be pretty robust to do what we do but he is the pinnacle.

Q If you could give one piece of advice to aspiring lawyers, what would it be?

A Don't take yourself too seriously. You could be doing this for 40 years so make sure you have fun doing it. And start building your network of like-minded lawyers as early as possible. You will definitely make friends for life.

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