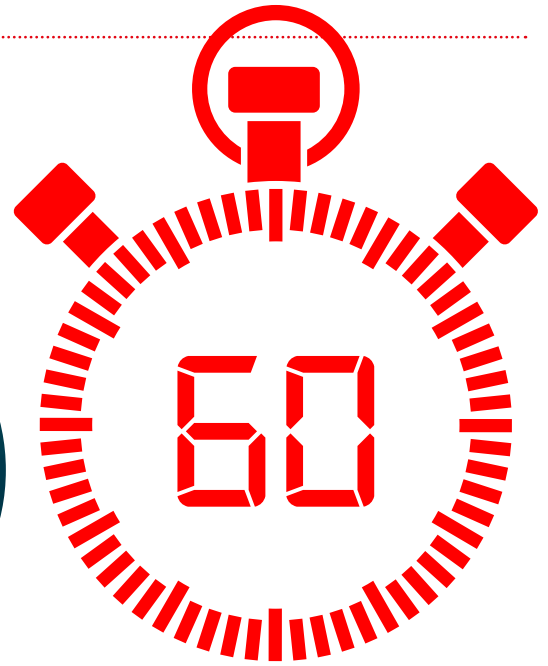


60-SECONDS WITH:

**CAROLINE
GREENWELL**
PARTNER
**CHARLES
RUSSELL**
SPEECHLYS



Q What would you be doing if you weren't in this profession?

A I am completely obsessed with maps so were I not a lawyer, I think I would have been involved in cartography in some way. Either that or a weather woman. I'm always hoping for a map related fraud case...but I think I might be waiting for some time!

Q What's the strangest, most exciting thing you have done in your career?

A I hesitate before describing this as strange (for fear of offending the others involved!) but working on the AHAB v Saad trial (which ran for 129 days in the Cayman Islands over a period from June 2016 to July 2017) was certainly an unusual and incredibly exciting experience.

The role went beyond simply being a fraud lawyer - I definitely did not expect to go to 5:30am spinning classes with clients, to know the team's supermarket shopping list off by heart, or to have a goat curry cooked for me by a now High Court Judge! But the intensity of the trial and the long stints away from home meant that you came to rely on the support and good humour of your team and if that meant deviating from conventional working relationships in the name of sanity, then so be it!

The more conventional side of the role was fascinating, demanding, and exhilarating. With credit to all of the solicitors, barristers, attorneys, and other technicians involved, it was a demonstration of true international litigation operating in real time. It was an impressive feat of legal excellence and technology, combined with complete dedication to our respective clients' causes. An experience that I doubt will be repeated for me, but one I shall never forget.

Q What is the easiest/hardest aspect of working on FIRE cases?

A Litigating against the highest calibre opposition is probably the hardest aspect. It is a relatively small community so FIRE practitioners tend to know each other well and be well aware of the intellect and strategic nous of their contemporaries. Having those contemporaries representing your opposition certainly keeps you on your toes!

The easiest aspect is simply the fact that there is never a dull day working on a FIRE case. You are certainly never bored!

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

A Be prepared to really care! FIRE cases are all encompassing and captivating so don't be surprised if you become extremely passionate about and committed to your client's case.

Q What has been the most interesting case you have seen in 2021?

A Broad Idea International Limited v Convoy Collateral Limited [2021] UKPC 24
I am sure that your readers are all aware but just to recap, the case essentially confirms that, where a court has personal jurisdiction over a party (the case specifically dealt with the BVI but it concerns all jurisdictions whose courts have inherited the equitable powers of the former Court of Chancery), it also has the power to grant a freezing injunction (or other interim injunction) against that party to assist the enforcement of a foreign judgment. The Privy Council confirmed that there was no principle or practice which prevented the exercise of the power: the statements in "The Siskina", to the effect that the court had no power to grant an interlocutory injunction unless it was ancillary to a cause of action, were found to be legally unsound. This is clearly a significant statement of principle for the kind of international fraud cases that we all work on.

Q What do you think will be the most significant trend in your practice over the next 12 months?

A I am fascinated to see if and how ESG elements will start to feature in FIRE cases. As we all know, where there are (a) pressures to act fraudulently, (b) opportunities to commit frauds, and (c) a reason to do so, an environment ripe for improper behaviour emerges.

As ESG becomes a mainstream feature of doing business, and one which will bring increased regulation and scrutiny, as well opportunities, for organisations, I suspect we will see a developing trend of companies and individuals resorting to fraudulent behaviour in order to enhance their ESG credentials and optimise sustainability opportunities, with the goal, as ever, being financial gain.

Q If you could learn to do anything, what would it be?

A Ski. As in, properly ski. Not just once a year pottering around type skiing! I would love to have learned as a child when completely fearless and for it to feel as natural as walking now. All of that said, I am very excited for my next week of pottering around on the pistes early next year!

Q What is the one thing you could not live without?

A A cup of tea first thing every morning.

Q If you could meet anyone, living or dead, who would you meet?

A My wonderful brother, who sadly passed away aged 14.

Q What does the perfect weekend look like?

A Friday evening on the sofa (most likely falling asleep halfway through a film!) after a post work drink with my fabulous colleagues; a leisurely start to Saturday with brunch at home and copious cups of tea; champagne afternoon tea (the best meal ever invented in my opinion!) in a Mayfair hotel with my family; then live music and dancing on Saturday evening; and a walk along the river on Sunday, returning home to watch a dramatic victory for Newcastle United on Super Sunday.

Q Reflecting on 2021, what have you been most grateful for?

A The birth of my niece, Cassie. 2020 was such a tough year wasn't it, so when Cassie arrived in April 2021, life felt wonderful, joyful and full of optimism. I am admittedly a completely biased auntie, but she really is a little cracker!

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