## **60-SECONDS WITH:**

## ANNABEL BARRONS BARRISTER 1GC





- What do you like most about your job?
- The people, I'm lucky in the people I get to work with and I always knew that I wanted to do a job that revolved around people. The fact that there is a real person waiting at court for me each day (if remotely at the moment) is what drives me in preparing my cases.
- What would you be doing if you weren't in this profession?
- I'd be a pastry chef. Having said that, I did spend a lot of time baking (and eating) during lockdown and perhaps it is for the best that I'm at the Bar I eat fewer pies.
- What's the strangest, most exciting thing you have done in your career?
- A I don't know about exciting, but I did once spend half a day making submissions as to who should keep the family cat. The cat was very sweet and rather expensive by the end of it all.
- What has been the best piece of advice you have been given in your career?
- A Cases are won and lost in the preparation, before the hearing even starts. You can only be so brilliant, as an advocate, on the actual day. It cannot

replace all the hard work done beforehand.

- What is the most significant trend in your practice today?
- Remembering how to travel to court again which, I think a positive development for many cases. It also means I can remind myself where the best snacks are; if anyone wants to know where the best sausage rolls in the South East are, do come and ask me in 6 months.
- What personality trait do you most attribute to your success?
- Patience is very important

   and not least the patience
  and dedication of my clerks
  and of the supervisors who
  trained me.
- Who has been your biggest role model in the industry?
- A Janet Bazley QC, Laura Heaton and Penny Clapham. Three amazing women who I have either shared a room in chambers with, or who I worked with early on in my career. They have been incredible to watch and they are all inspirational.
- What is something you think everyone should do at least once in their lives?
- Go to Bali!

- What is the one thing you could not live without?
- A Coffee. I wouldn't make it beyond 11am otherwise.
- What is a book you think everyone should read and why?
- Anything published by Persephone Books. They re-publish gems have fallen out of print, particularly those written by women and which would not have been given the prominence they deserve when written.
- What would be your superpower and why?
- A Sleep! If I could have 8 hours whenever I wanted I'd feel superhuman.

