

Personal Profile



Andrew Nicholas Arentsen

PERSONAL DETAILS

Date of Birth:	14/04/1972
Call to the Bar:	1995
Joined Civitas:	2008 (Founder Member)
Resides:	Llanblethian, Vale of Glamorgan
Contact:	andrew.arentsen@civitaslaw.com

PRACTICE PROFILE

Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence:

Personal Injury with a particular focus on catastrophic, spinal and closed head injuries. This includes cases of employers liability, occupiers liability and road traffic accidents. Specialist advice is offered in claims with conflicting, complex medical evidence for example with orthopaedic, neurological or psychiatric disputes or where pain disorders are challenged. Work is divided between Claimant and Defendant and includes extensive experience at trial and in a pre trial advisory capacity of industrial disease litigation (including group actions) in the form of deafness, asbestosis, dermatitis, WRULD and HAVS. The acute difficulties of cases involving exposure to asbestos with mesothelioma are regularly and sensitively addressed as are the problems presented litigating high value cases worth over one million. Clinical negligence work is largely Claimant focused and has included injuries caused at birth, negligent surgical procedures and cases of mis-diagnosis.

Commercial and Common Law

Commercial and common law litigation that includes a focus on costs and recoverability issues. Regular work involves a multitude of commercial contractual disputes as well as insolvency, Companies Act litigation, partnership issues and construction disputes. Common law work includes cases of professional negligence with solicitors, architects and surveyors. Specialist advice is offered in respect of insurance policies and recoverability issues as well as complex cases revolving around the construction, maintenance and management of sewerage systems.

NOTABLE CASES

- **Charles v Cardiff County Council CA 2002 (The duty of care on a council employer in respect of residential homes).**
- **Saunders v Williams CA 2002 (the burden of proving mitigation of loss in negligence claims).**
- **Stevens v Blaenau Gwent Borough Council CA 2004 (The duty of care on local authority landlords in respect of upgrading facilities)**
- **Environment Agency v James and others. 2004 Cardiff Crown Court. Prosecution of a large scale unlicensed waste disposal site in Barry. At that date the largest prosecution of its type in South Wales.**



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- **WRU v Penygraig Rugby Club. 2005.** Representing the Welsh Rugby Union in disciplinary proceedings brought in response to the refusal of an entire rugby team to submit to a drugs test.
- **Slade and others v Corus 2006 Cardiff County Court.** Successful group action brought by 30 steelworkers for HAVS suffered whilst working at the Llanwern Plant.
- **Jones v BBC and others 2007 QBD (liability of employer and occupier towards a soundman rendered paraplegic whilst engaged on an external assignment)**
- **Preece v Caerphilly County Borough Council 2007 (Enforceability of an unsigned CFA).**
- **Edwards v Edwards 2007 EWHC 1119 Ch (Undue Influence in the making of a will.)**
- **Neal Soils v Environment Agency of Wales [2007] EWHC 2592 Lawtel 12/11/07. Divisional Court (The proper purpose of Notices served under Section 59 of the EPA 1990).**
- **J (A child) v The Executors of the Estate of Griffith Jones [2007] 3CL 344 Kemp B2-022.1. (£3.15 million settlement in respect of a catastrophic brain injury)**
- **Fuk Wan Hau v Shushing and Steven Jim [2007] QBD 19/12/2007. Lawtel 4/1/08. Aggravated damages in an assault claim.**
- **Kerslake v Thames Valley Police [2008] CA 21st October 2008.** The application of the Animals Act 1971 to a police dog.
- **Brain and others v Welsh Water and 12 Others [October 2010] Chester County Court.** The determination of liability and the quantification of a number of claims arising from the discharge of Hydrogen Sulphide from the sewer of a recently constructed industrial estate.

EDUCATION

1994-95:	Inns of Court School of Law Bar Vocational Course
1991-94:	University of Cambridge Corpus Christi College MA 2:1 Law
1983-1990:	Cardiff High School 3 A grade A Levels

AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- Welsh Schoolboy Rugby International at 18 group
- Recipient of the 1990 Cardiff High School Award for the top history student.
- Cambridge Rugby Blue 1993.

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- Completed the 2009 Etape Du Tour. A 120 mile stage of the Tour De France including an ascent of Mont Ventoux in aid of the Enerw Glyn Caerphilly Children's Home
- First class professional rugby player for Richmond, Newport and Glamorgan Wanderers.
- Company and Commercial Law Tutor on the Cardiff Bar Vocational Course 1999-2006 teaching the fundamentals of corporate identity, corporate liability, shareholder disputes and insolvency.
- Employers Liability and Clinical Negligence Tutor on the Bar Vocational Course 2006-2007.
- Certified Pupil Supervisor.
- Appointed as the Welsh Rugby Union Independent Tribunal Chairman to consider foreign player work permit applications.
- Presenter of regular Bar Council and Law Society approved seminars. Very recent seminars have included "Part 36 A Costs Update" and "Periodical Payments Orders in cases of Catastrophic Birth Injury". Seminars in the last year have also involved "The Admissibility of Expert Evidence under Part 35 and the Practice Direction" and "Drafting High Value Schedules of Loss".
- Author of "Out of Control ? - Consistency in the application of Part 36". New Law Journal 2 September 2011.

DIRECTORY ENTRIES

- Chambers Guide to the Legal Profession. Listed as a leading personal injury practitioner since 2000. The 2009 entry records "Sources commend 'the sound and practical' Andrew Arentsen for being 'extremely approachable but also straight with you – he will tell you if you are going down the wrong route'.
- The Legal 500 Listed as leading personal injury practitioner since 2000. The 2009 entry notes the ability of Andrew Arentsen to handle numerous high-value damages claims.

INTERESTS

- Family. Husband and Father of 3 young children.
- Rugby
- Skiing
- Surfing
- Mountain and road biking
- Reading