



LIABILITY INSURANCE CONFERENCE

There is much matter to be heard and learn'd

1-3 SEPTEMBER 2026

WORCESTER COLLEGE, OXFORD

THE CONFERENCE

This is the thirty-second Conference organized with the support of the Liability Underwriters Group. The Conference will once again cover a wide number of issues including:

- The state of the market
- A review of some emerging risks including artificial intelligence, smart medical devices
- Legal developments impacting on Liability business
- Policy coverage issues, particularly in relation to emerging risks
- Reinsurance of liability business in relation to emerging risks and legal developments

There will be plenty of opportunities for delegates to join in discussions. Time is set aside after each presentation for questions, delegates will be able to take part in the debate, and issues can be raised by delegates for consideration by the Conference.

WHO IS THE CONFERENCE FOR?

This Conference will be of interest to anyone involved in Liability Insurance: underwriters, brokers, claims managers, risk managers and lawyers.

THE LIABILITY UNDERWRITERS GROUP

The Conference is supported by the Liability Underwriters Group (LUG), a Committee of the International Underwriting Association of London Ltd (IUA). LUG was formed over 40 years ago by leading underwriters in the London Market with a view to improving levels of knowledge in the market as a whole. Membership is open to all IUA members together with invited underwriting representatives from other syndicates and companies. LUG presents a forum for discussion of issues of interest to the Liability Market. It also seeks to promote sound principles for best practice, provide education to its members and formal liaison with other professional bodies. This Conference gives the members of LUG the opportunity to further its aims and to involve others in the industry who have an interest in General Liability Insurance.

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

WELCOME TO THE CONFERENCE

Deborah Hall

AN OVERVIEW OF ISSUES FACING THE MARKET

Christina Newman - LUG Chair

COSTS OF REPRESENTATION AT REGULATORY AND CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS

Peter Bennett - Partner, Dolmans

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE NUISANCE - LAW AND POLICY COVERAGE

Robert Beesley - Senior Casualty Underwriter, AXA XL

THE NEW PRODUCT LIABILITY DIRECTIVE

David Heard - Director of Broking, WTW

FUNDING MASS TORT CLAIMS ARISING FROM EMERGING RISKS

Barnaby Winckler - Partner, Kennedys

William Healy - Legal Director, Kennedys

RIGHTS OF NATURE

Neil Beresford - Partner, Clyde & Co

CAUSATION: SCIENCE AND LAW

Andrew Auty - Director, re:liability (Oxford)

ROBOTICS AND AUTONOMY

Karishma Paroha - Counsel, Hogan Lovells

Alexandre Colle - Founder and CEO, Konpanion

SOCIAL MEDIA

David Myhill - Crown Office Chambers

LITIGATION, INSURANCE AND REINSURANCE

Henriette Heine - Senior Claims Manager Casualty, Munich Re

REINSURANCE PANEL

OUR PANELLISTS WILL DISCUSS SOME OF THE ISSUES RAISED FROM BOTH INSURERS' AND REINSURERS' VIEWPOINTS

Natalie Donald - Head of International Casualty Treaty, Inigo

George MacDonald - Head of Casualty for UK & Ireland, Swiss Re Corporate Solutions

Tony Gregory - Managing Director, IMC Events (Chair)

Henriette Heine - Senior Claims Manager Casualty, Munich Re

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE - RISKS AND LIABILITIES

James Rooney - International Casualty Risk Consulting Manager, AIG

BUFFET LUNCH AND SYMPOSIUM

OUR PANEL OF EXPERTS WILL LEAD A DISCUSSION ON ISSUES RAISED BY DELEGATES

CHAIRPERSON



DEBORAH HALL has been a professional presenter for 40 years. She was trained by BBC TV as a journalist and read the Local and National News on BBC One. She was a News Anchor on BBC World (total 12 years). She is a very experienced Conference Chair, fronting nearly 100 conferences for the London insurance market, including 28 of the 29 Liability Conferences. She presents TV programmes and webcasts for businesses. Deborah is the in-house trainer for PwC Switzerland as well as various law firms, barristers' chambers, insurance brokers and underwriters. She was a lecturer at Durham University and trained both students and staff at London Business School. In addition, she is Media Consultant to WHO/Gates Foundation's programme to vaccinate the world's poor - ADVAC, the Advanced Course in Vaccinology. Since its inception in 2000, she has trained over 1800 health professionals from 95 countries. She is the in-house trainer for various law firms and insurance brokers and underwriters.

PRESENTERS



DR. ANDREW AUTY is Managing Director of Re: Liability (Oxford) Ltd and was Senior Liability Consultant at the Loss Prevention Council when it was owned by ABI and Lloyd's. He has over twenty years' experience as an independent consultant to the liability insurance market and to those who seek to influence it. He is principal author of over 110 position papers and publications relating to liability for personal injury, climate change, the environment and clarifications of the common law. He is widely known for his objective, thorough assessment and interpretation of science issues and how they affect liability exposure. These insights lead to greater accuracy of policy wordings, risk selection, and claims strategy and are the basis for quantitative exposure evaluations.



ROBERT BEESLEY is Senior Casualty Underwriter at AXA XL Insurance, having had many years' experience in the London Market as a broker and underwriter. He has been a member of the Liability Underwriters Group since 1993 and is the immediate past Chairman.



PETER BENNETT is Managing Partner of Dolmans in Cardiff. He deals with all types of personal injury litigation and has particular expertise in occupational cancer, asbestos-related disease (particularly mesothelioma), hand/arm vibration syndrome (vibration white finger), occupational asthma and dermatitis. He deals with traumatic injury claims of the utmost severity and has experience of occupational disease Group Litigation Order cases. In regulatory matters, Peter advises public sector and industry clients in relation to HSE investigations, including the defence of prosecutions in the Magistrates or Crown Court. He regularly provides presentations to clients on regulatory matters. Peter is a member of the Sports Law team and has represented clients and sports professionals who have suffered injury by accident.



NEIL BERESFORD is a Partner in Clyde & Co., where he leads the firm's global Product Liability practice. He specialises in complex and cross-jurisdictional liability claims, particularly those involving products and environmental liability. He also has significant experience of Environmental Liability claims, advising on the scope of policies and defending claims against insureds under the UK's largest environmental insurance scheme. Before entering practice, Neil was a Fellow of Robinson College and a speechwriter to the Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg. He maintains active ties with Cambridge and teaches here regularly during term time. He does a lot of work in Colombia.



ALEXANDRE COLLE is Founder and CEO of Konpanion who develop Elegant Human-Centered Robotics and Non-Invasive Technological Solutions to Improve Society.



NATALIE DONALD is Head of International Casualty Treaty at Inigo. She was previously Casualty Treaty Underwriter at MS Amlin covering all lines of liability and professional indemnity and specialty reinsurance business. She brings her reinsurance perspective both from a Lloyd's background and before that, the company side at Everest Re.



WILL HEALY is a senior associate based in Kennedys' London office. He focuses almost exclusively on advising insurers on complex coverage disputes. He has advised on all aspects of insurance law including validity of notifications, breach of the duty of fair presentation, compliance with policy terms and conditions and the application of the Insurance Act 2015, fraudulent claims and waiver and estoppel issues.



DAVID HEARD is Director of Broking at WTW. During his career he has been Head of Casualty at Generali, AVP at AIG Cat Excess, and Casualty Manager at Zurich in Dubai.



HENRIETTE HEINE is Rechtsanwältin (Attorney at Law) and Senior Claims Manager Casualty Claims, Munich Re. She is a trained lawyer with 10 years of experience in the casualty claims department of a German primary insurer before joining Munich Re in 2009 as a Claims Manager for the German Casualty Market. She joined the Global Clients Casualty Claims Team in 2012 and was appointed Senior Claims Manager in 2016 with a focus on General Liability and US/Bermuda markets. She is Key Case Manager for Opioids and PFAS loss complexes and is Co-Lead of Munich Re's PFAS Claims Task Force.



GEORGE MACDONALD is Head of Casualty for UK & Ireland at Swiss Re Corporate Solutions. In this role, he leads the casualty portfolio across the region, overseeing underwriting strategy, portfolio performance and client engagement with a focus on upper-mid and large corporates. George is a member of the UK Corporate Solutions leadership team. He has a particular interest in emerging liability trends, market cycles and sustainable growth strategies.



DAVID MYHILL practises from Crown Office Chambers. He has a specialist practice focussing on disputes in the fields of Product Liability, Insurance, Professional (including Clinical) Negligence and Property Damage. Whilst David is accomplished at drafting and advisory work, he is also recognised by the directories for the quality of his advocacy. He is also frequently instructed to act in alternative forms of dispute resolution, including arbitrations, mediations and without prejudice meetings. David acts as sole counsel in cases of considerable value, which commonly span several of his practice areas. In addition to that work, David is regularly instructed as junior counsel as part of a large team on major pieces of litigation. Given his areas of expertise, he is particularly knowledgeable in respect of issues concerning the management and running of group litigation.



CHRISTINA NEWMAN is Senior Liability Underwriter, Practice Lead at HDI UK and Ireland. Christina joined HDI Global in 2009, having previously worked at Bain Clarkson and AIG. Her role as an Underwriter encompasses all elements of Liability insurance from UK EL to Global Multinational, International and Construction Liability business. She is the HDI representative at the Liability Underwriting Group (LUG), attending monthly meetings, the annual Conference and being an established member in assisting with Junior Practitioner training and seminars. She is currently the Deputy Chair, taking over as Chair in July 2026.



KARISHMA PAROHA is a senior dual qualified Solicitor and Barrister at Hogan Lovells. Counsel Litigation, Arbitration, and Employment. She has specialist expertise in complex product liability, product recalls, medical devices, clinical trial claims, digital health, and commercial claims and disputes. Over the past 20 years, Karishma has accumulated wide-ranging experience in co-ordinating and project managing global multi-party group action litigation strategies and cross-border liabilities, particularly products claims emanating from the consumer, pharmaceutical and automotive product industries. She has also advised on UK/EU regulatory and risk assessments to leading manufacturers and pharmaceutical companies.



JAMES ROONEY leads AIG's International Casualty Risk Consulting team based in UK. Having joined the Company in 2004, he has over 30 years of risk consulting experience. Prior to joining AIG he held risk consulting positions in the broker and insurer spaces, working with a diverse portfolio of both property and liability clients before focussing solely on liability business when he moved to AIG. James is responsible for liability risk consulting engagements with major national and international organisations, working closely with clients, underwriters and brokers to ensure the design and delivery of bespoke risk management engagements intended to mitigate risk and positively impact risk profiles.



BARNABY WINCKLER is a London-based partner in the insurance division of Kennedys. He specialises in providing policy advice on a range of non-marine policies, and acting in coverage disputes on casualty, property and professional indemnity claims. He additionally has substantial expertise defending higher education institutions and schools in the full range of claims they face. He is a member of the Forum of Insurance Lawyers, sits on the Liability Underwriters' Group and the Developing Technology Monitoring Group of the International Underwriting Association of London. Barnaby also sits on the City of London Law Society Insurance Law Committee.

CONFERENCE INFORMATION

DATES

1st - 3rd September 2026

Tues 1st Registration from 4.00 pm, dinner at 6.00 pm followed by Punting on the Cherwell

Wed 2nd Registration from 8.00 am, Conference Commences at 9.00 am

Thurs 3rd Conference Close 3.30 pm

VENUE

The Conference will be held at Worcester College, Oxford

FEES

The fee for the two-day Conference is £1095.00 + VAT. The fee includes accommodation for 2 nights, the punting event, refreshments, breakfasts, lunches, dinner, banquet and conference documentation.

ACCOMMODATION

Student Single Study "en-suite" bedrooms located in the College building

SOLICITORS REGULATORY AUTHORITY CONTINUING COMPETENCE REQUIREMENTS

This Conference may be used for these requirements

CII CPD SCHEME

This Conference may be used for the purpose of CPD

BOOKINGS

To book places for the Conference, please email: tony.gregory@imc-seminars.com

or telephone: +44 (0)1491 872 839 / +44 (0)7712 482 212

or via the website: www.imc-seminars.com

PLEASE NOTE

Joining instructions will be emailed to all delegates prior to the Conference. If you do not receive these, please contact us to ensure we have registered your booking. It may be necessary for reasons beyond the control of the organisers to change the speakers and/or alter the content and timing of the programme.

If you have any queries, please contact Tony Gregory

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