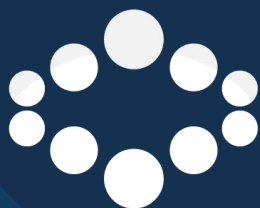


# RISA Cayman & South Square 2024

Wednesday 20th November 2024

The Ritz Carlton

Cayman Islands



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# Programme

## **13:45 | REGISTRATION**

## **14:00 | WELCOME**

### **CO-CHAIRS:**

Clara Johnson, South Square  
Spencer Vickers, Conyers

## **14:15 | PANEL A**

### **Director's Duties and Actions Against Directors in the Context of Distressed Companies**

Rory Brown, South Square  
Nicola Cowan, FFP  
Joe Curl KC, South Square  
Andrew Lomas, Kobre Kim  
Martin Trott, R&H Restructuring

## **15:20 | PANEL B**

### **Arbitration Proceedings and their Interplay with Insolvency Proceedings**

Richard Fisher KC, South Square  
Gráinne King, Harneys  
Natascha Steiner-Smith, Collas Crill

## **16:10 | REFRESHMENTS**

## **16:35 | KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

### **Geopolitical Implications of the US Election and the Evolving Global Order**

Kevin Kajiwara, Teneo

## **17:15 | DRINKS RECEPTION**

# Co-Chairs



## Clara Johnson

### Barrister - SOUTH SQUARE

Clara specialises in domestic and cross-border Restructuring and Insolvency, Civil Fraud and Company law and has been recommended as a leading junior in Restructuring and Insolvency, and Offshore for a number of years. She has particular experience of acting for office holders in the context of fraud and obtaining injunctive relief. She has also been involved in some recent high profile restructurings in the UK, namely, Hong Kong Airlines and McDermott.



## Spencer Vickers

### Partner - CONYERS

Spencer Vickers is a Partner at Conyers in the Cayman Islands Litigation & Restructuring practice.

Spencer has extensive experience advising clients on a range of insolvency, restructuring and commercial litigation matters, including regulatory disputes. This includes regularly advising clients on applications regarding the appointment of liquidators/receivers. Spencer is an experienced advocate. He appears frequently before the Grand Court and Court of Appeal of the Cayman Islands.

Following his appointment to the Board of Directors in 2022, Spencer was recently appointed Co-Chair of RISA Cayman. Spencer is also an author, presenter and course coordinator of the INSOL Introductory Certificate in Insolvency Law and Practice in the Cayman Islands.

# Speakers



## Rory Brown

### Barrister - South Square

Rory has a commercial-chancery practice focusing on litigation in the following areas: commercial dispute resolution; insolvency and restructuring; and trusts disputes, in particular the removal of trustees and protectors. His practice has a heavy emphasis on civil fraud, in particular investment fraud, and cross-border asset recovery. As well as advising and representing clients in respect of litigation at all levels in England and Wales, he has advised and represented clients in the courts of the DIFC and has also advised and assisted in substantial Bermuda, Jersey, and Hong Kong proceedings.

Much of his practice involves giving strategic advice in multi-jurisdictional disputes or has an international dimension involving difficult questions of the conflict of laws. He has already appeared in over 35 reported cases. In recent years, Rory has commonly led counsel teams.

Rory regularly acts for clients across the following industry sectors: commodities, fashion, aviation, oil and gas, reinsurance, football, motor-racing, utilities, sustainable energy, banking, and financial services. He is expert in heavily contested applications for injunctive relief in fraud and insolvency litigation.

Rory is often instructed to advise and represent clients in alternative dispute resolution including at arbitration and mediations. Rory can accept instructions to act as an arbitrator in private commercial arbitrations. He can take instructions and advise in German and Italian as well as English.

*“Rory is an excellent cross-examiner and a persuasive advocate with the rare gift of coupling those skills with the ability to deal with clients and solicitors on the level.”*

## Nicola Cowan

### Director - FFP

Nicola Cowan is an experienced Director specializing in providing independent fiduciary services and insolvency and restructuring advice to offshore registered funds and companies with extensive experience in number of investment strategies such as structured finance, digital assets, and other private equity strategies. In her role Nicola acts as a Court appointed Official Liquidator, Court appointed receiver and voluntary liquidator. Nicola also sits as a board member on a variety of offshore registered funds and companies.

Nicola has over 15 years' experience in insolvency and restructuring. Prior to joining FFP Cayman, Nicola was led the in-house liquidations team at a leading fund governance provider where she oversaw a portfolio of voluntary liquidations and strike offs and specialized in the voluntary liquidation of hedge funds and related structures.

Nicola is a qualified Court appointed liquidator in the Cayman Islands and a Certified Director, accredited by ICSA Canada and is also registered with the Cayman Islands Monetary Authority as an Approved Director.



## Joe Curl KC

### Barrister - South Square

Joseph Curl KC specialises in insolvency litigation. He was appointed to silk in 2021. Immediately prior to taking silk, he was ranked Band 1 as a junior in Restructuring and Insolvency by Chambers and Partners.

The Legal 500 2025 says: "Joe is an outstanding chancery barrister, his expertise is second to none, his written work is of the highest quality and his advocacy skills are exceptional, both in cross-examination and when making legal submissions." Chambers and Partners 2025 says "Joseph Curl is a superb barrister, highly adept in contentious insolvency matters. He has a deep understanding of the area and is a tenacious advocate in complex matters" and "He is a delight - strategically brilliant on his feet and loved by his clients."

Joseph's recent work includes successfully leading for the joint liquidators of the BHS Group in a five-week trial before Leech J in proceedings brought against a number of former directors: *Re BHS Group Limited (in liquidation); Wright v Chappell* [2024] EWHC 1417 (Ch). This case led to what is reputed to be the largest ever award entered for wrongful trading under s.214 of the Insolvency Act 1986 and also saw the directors separately held liable for continuing to trade in breach of their duty to have regard to the interests of creditors.

He was appointed a Deputy Insolvency and Companies Court Judge in 2020.

## Andrew Lomas

### Lawyer - Kobre Kim

Andrew Lomas is a lawyer at cross-border disputes and investigations law firm Kobre & Kim with a broad experience of handling high value and complex cross-border disputes. Leveraging his background in scientific research, he specializes in cases with highly technical subject matter. Mr. Lomas has extensive experience in commercial, competition, and investor-state disputes involving multi-jurisdictional elements. He has represented clients before the English High Court and Court of Appeal, as well as in various arbitral tribunals under ICC, ICSID, LCIA, HKIAC, MKAS-ICAC, SCC, SIAC, VIAC, and UNCITRAL rules.

Before joining Kobre & Kim, Mr. Lomas co-led the International Arbitration and Litigation team at Egorov Puginsky Afanasiev and Partners in Moscow. He completed pupillage at One Essex Court, a 'magic circle' set of commercial chambers in London, where he was regularly instructed and led in trials and heavy interlocutory applications.





## **Martin Trott**

### **Partner - R&H Restructuring**

Martin specialises in corporate restructuring and insolvency, as an insolvency practitioner in the Cayman Islands and qualified accountant with over 30 years' experience. He has broad experience in leading complex administrations, liquidations and receiverships across a number of industry sectors and in several jurisdictions around the World. His practice encompasses traditional insolvency, directorship appointments, restructuring advisory, asset tracing and forensic accounting.

Martin is a fellow member of both the ACCA and R3 and a member of RISA, the Cayman chapter of INSOL, acting as treasurer on its board of directors. In addition, he is a member of the Cayman Islands' Insolvency Rules Committee and a member of ABI and NAFER.



## **Richard Fisher KC**

### **Barrister - South Square**

Richard was called to the Bar in 2000, and took silk in 2020. He has a commercial dispute focused practice with a particular specialism in restructuring and insolvency, banking, fraud and financial products litigation. He regularly acts in relation to multi-jurisdictional and complex commercial disputes.

A material part of Richard's practice involves overseas work. Richard is a member of the BVI bar, and frequently appears before the Courts of the Cayman Islands and the BVI. He has significant experience of acting for and against officeholders.

In recent years Richard has appeared in various substantial and high-profile cases in England and abroad, at all levels of tribunal up to the Supreme Court, including almost all of the disputes arising out of the Lehman Brothers insolvency. He has acted in relation to many of the major UK and international insolvencies and restructurings (including, for example, Three Arrows Capital Limited, Bulb, Cafe Nero, Arcadia, House of Fraser, Debenhams, Primeo, International Bank of Azerbaijan), and has been involved in numerous long commercial trials.

Richard is recommended in Chambers and Partners/the Legal 500 as a leading silk for work in the following areas: Chancery/commercial, Insolvency and Restructuring, Commercial Dispute Resolution. Recent comments have included: "Richard is an exceptional barrister. He is technically brilliant but also very user-friendly. Judges like and respect him." "A very impressive silk" "Richard is clearly on top of his game and the field. When you have him on the team, judges listen."

## **Gráinne King**

### **Partner - Harneys**

Gráinne King is a member of our Litigation & Insolvency practice group in the Cayman Islands.



Gráinne has been practising in the Cayman Islands since she joined us in 2015. Prior to joining us, Gráinne was an associate in the Restructuring and Insolvency team at A&L Goodbody in Dublin. Her expertise includes advising insolvency practitioners and other stakeholders in relation to liquidations, restructurings, receiverships and commercial disputes. Gráinne also has experience in the area of fraud and asset tracing, appraisal litigation under s238 of the Companies Act and regulatory litigation. Prior to practising in the Cayman Islands, Gráinne acted for high-profile lending institutions in relation to the appointment of receivers, summary proceedings, implementation of consensual workouts with debtors and defence of injunctions, mis-selling and negligence claims.

Gráinne is a board member of the IWIRC International Board, is a regular contributor to Harneys Offshore Litigation Blog and has published a number of articles in prominent industry publications.

## **Natascha Steiner-Smith**

### **Counsel - Collas Crill**

Natascha has a wide range of experience in commercial litigation and international arbitration. Her practice is focused on complex multi-jurisdictional disputes arising out of commercial contracts, shareholders agreements as well as disputes involving financial institutions and high net-worth individuals. She regularly advises shareholders, insolvency practitioners, banks and energy companies in cross-border proceedings. Natascha also has experience acting in section 238 fair value appraisal proceedings.

Natascha completed her associates and bachelors degrees at New York University with a major in Political Science and minor in Russian Literature and Language. She then went on to complete an LLM from BPP Law School with a focus on insider trading. During her two-year training contract at DLA Piper, Natascha gained experience in restructuring, corporate and leveraged finance before deciding to qualify as a litigator in 2012. Natascha is a member of CIArb.





# Keynote Speaker

**Kevin Kajiwara**

**Co-President, Political Risk Advisory  
TENE0**



Kevin Kajiwara advises Fortune 100 CEOs and significant institutional investors with insights on geopolitical and policy risks, and their investment and corporate strategy implications. He plays an active role in promoting the firm's research agenda and developing its macro views, as well as integrating Teneo's geopolitical advisory services across the platform. Prior to joining Teneo, Kevin was the director of Strategic Clients at Eurasia Group and a member of the firm's Operating Committee. Previously, he was in international institutional equity sales with the Spanish bank BBVA, and earlier, with Bear, Stearns & Co.

A sought-after public speaker, Kevin regularly presents to a wide range of audiences worldwide on geopolitical risks and trends. Kevin received a BA in Economics from Vassar College.



The Recovery and Insolvency Specialists Association (RISA) is a not for profit membership organisation in the Cayman Islands established in 2012. Focusing on delivering educational and networking events, RISA's mandate is to investigate and share best practices amongst industry practitioners in the fields of insolvency, restructuring and litigation.

RISA is made up of an Executive Committee comprising five board directors. Four Sub Committees (Education, Events, Legal & Regulatory and Membership & Communication) report into the Executive Committee. RISA is a member of the International Association of Restructuring, Insolvency & Bankruptcy Professionals (INSOL).

For enquiries about membership contact:

[events@risa.ky](mailto:events@risa.ky)

[www.RISA.ky](http://www.RISA.ky)



South Square is a leading set of commercial barristers. Our members have acted in many of the most important insolvency, restructuring, banking, commercial, company, and fraud-related disputes of recent times. They regularly appear in offshore jurisdictions including the Cayman Islands, the BVI, the UAE, Singapore, and Hong Kong. Whilst our pre-eminent reputation is built on a track record in restructuring and insolvency, our expertise in banking and finance enables members to provide practical and commercial solutions to a wide range of complex business law issues.

For more information contact:

[practice\\_managers@southsquare.com](mailto:practice_managers@southsquare.com)

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