



ST JOHNS  
BUILDINGS  
BARRISTERS CHAMBERS



**Sonia Gal**  
**Year of call: 1982**

### **APPOINTMENTS**

Recorder

### **TYPE OF PRACTICE**

All aspects of family law but particularly high value Ancillary Relief cases including those with an international element, Cohabitation Schedule 1 applications and Inheritance Act cases. Sonia has been consistently mentioned in Chambers & Partners and the Legal 500 as recommended Counsel in this field. Sonia also specialises in Hague Convention abductions otherwise all levels of children cases are undertaken both private and public law.

Developing interest on matters relating to Mental Health issues.

### **PARTICULARS OF SPECIALIST INTEREST**

High value (multi million) Ancillary Relief with particular emphasis on those involving family businesses, inherited wealth, property and pension sharing.

### **NON CASE SPECIFIC ISSUES**

Sonia is fluent in French, German, Norwegian, Romanian, Hungarian and conversational Italian. She has acted over many years as legal advisor to an Irish exploration company who were seeking to form a joint merger with a uranium mine in Hungary. This entailed numerous trips to the country and negotiations at ministerial level.

### **REPORTED CASES**

Smith v Smith 3 FCR [2001]



[www.stjohnsbuildings.co.uk](http://www.stjohnsbuildings.co.uk)



ST JOHNS  
BUILDINGS  
BARRISTERS CHAMBERS

## MEMBERSHIPS

Family Law Bar Association

International Bar Association

## PERSONAL DETAILS

Sonia has a keen interest in travel, books, theatre, film, tennis and skiing.

## WHAT THE DIRECTORIES SAY

2003 "Popular for ancillary relief" - Legal 500

2004 "Has a reputation for "handling clients with kid gloves"" - Chambers & Partners

2004 "Forceful and intimidating, widely experienced in ancillary relief matters." - Legal 500

2005 "Praised for her "excellent legal mind"" - Chambers & Partners

2005 "Remains in top form on money matters" - Legal 500

2006 "An experienced "battler" who handles international family law, financial disputes and public and private children cases" - Chambers & Partners

2006 "Recommended for money work" - Legal 500

2007 "Has a strong and varied workload that takes in cases regarding international family law and financial disputes" - Chambers & Partners

2007 "Particularly recommended where family businesses are an issue" - Legal 500

2008 recommended for ancillary relief and Hague Convention by Chambers & Partners

2009 ""able and determined"" and "in demand". Chambers & Partners

Contact Ben McKay ([ben.mckay@stjohnsbuildings.co.uk](mailto:ben.mckay@stjohnsbuildings.co.uk))

Tel: 0161 214 1500



[www.stjohnsbuildings.co.uk](http://www.stjohnsbuildings.co.uk)