

REDMOND-COOPER

LIMITATION OF ACTIONS



Sweet & Maxwell

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For Marjorie and James

PREFACE

My aim in writing this book has been to provide a succinct, but comprehensive account of the law governing limitation periods throughout a wide range of relationships and causes of action. I was encouraged in this enterprise by frequent reminders from colleagues in the professions of the need for a text which is both readily accessible to the non-specialist practitioner and also capable of yielding further authority for those whose needs require them to explore the subject more fully.

It is well known that problems of limitation can arise at short notice in any species of action, and the practitioner may find him or herself called upon to advise speedily but with relative certainty.

The recent avalanche of case law in this area, much of it unreported, and the complexity of the relevant statutes have reinforced my belief that an authoritative but concise treatment of the law is much needed.

I should like to thank Kirsty Keywood, postgraduate student at Leicester University, for her help in tracking down elusive materials. My greatest debt, however, is owed to Caroline Forder of the Faculteit der Rechtsgeleerheid, Rijksuniversiteit Limburg, both for her unflagging encouragement during the course of this project and for her invaluable criticisms of the chapter on Adverse Possession; any errors which may remain, are of course, my entire responsibility.

The law as stated is up-to-date to July 6, 1992.

Ruth Redmond-Cooper

September 1992

TABLE OF CASES

<i>Ackbar v. Green (C.F.) & Co. Ltd.</i> [1975] Q.B. 582; [1975] 2 W.L.R. 773; 119 S.J. 219; [1975] 2 All E.R. 65; [1975] 1 Lloyd's Rep. 673	66
<i>A'Court v. Cross</i> (1825) 3 Bing. 329; 11 Moore C.P. 198; 4 L.J.O. S.C.P. 79; 130 E.R. 540	1, 2
<i>Acsim (Southern) Ltd. v. Danish Contracting and Development Co. Ltd.</i> (1989) 47 B.L.R. 55; (1990) B.L.M., July p. 1	17
<i>Adams Holden & Pearson v. Trent Regional Health Authority</i> (1989) 47 B.L.R. 34	10, 78
<i>Agromet Motoimport Ltd. v. Maulden Engineering Co. (Beds.) Ltd.</i> [1985] 1 W.L.R. 762; (1985) 129 S.J. 400; [1985] 2 All E.R. 436; (1985) 82 L.S.Gaz. 1937	10
<i>Aikman v. Hallett & Co.</i> , March 20, 1987, unreported	50
<i>Allen v. Sir Alfred McAlpine & Sons Ltd.</i> See <i>Allen v. McAlpine (Sir Alfred) & Sons</i> .	
— <i>v. McAlpine (Sir Alfred) & Sons; Bostic v. Bermondsey and Southwark Group Hospital Management Committee; Sternberg v. Hammond v. Hammond</i> [1968] 2 Q.B. 229; [1968] 2 W.L.R. 366; [1968] 1 All E.R. 543; <i>sub nom.</i> <i>Allen v. McAlpine (Sir Alfred) & Sons; Bostic v. Bermondsey & Southwark Hospital Management Committee; Sternberg v. Hammond</i> (1968) 112 S.J. 49, C.A.	19
— <i>v. Waters</i> [1935] 1 K.B. 200, C.A.	2
<i>Amalgamated Investment and Property Co. Ltd. (in liquidation) v. Texas Commerce International Bank Ltd.</i> [1982] Q.B. 84; [1981] 3 W.L.R. 565; (1981) 125 S.J. 623; [1981] 3 All E.R. 577; [1981] Com.L.R. 236, C.A.; affirming [1981] 2 W.L.R. 554; (1980) 125 S.J. 133; [1981] 1 All E.R. 923; [1981] Com.L.R. 37	96
<i>Amantilla Ltd. v. Telefusion plc</i> (1987) 9 ConLR 139	39
<i>Angus v. Dalton</i> (1877) 3 Q.B.D. 85; 42 J.P. 452; 47 L.J.Q.B. 163; 38 L.T. 510; reversed on other grounds (1878) 4 Q.B.D. 162; 43 J.P. 412; 48 L.J.Q.B. 225; 40 L.T. 605; 27 W.R. 623, C.A.; on appeal <i>sub nom.</i> <i>Dalton v. Angus</i> (1881) 6 App. Cas. 740; 46 J.P. 132; 30 W.R. 191; <i>sub nom.</i> <i>Public Works Com'rs v. Angus & Co., Dalton v. Angus & Co.</i> [1881–1885] All E.R. Rep. 1; 50 L.J.Q.B. 689; 44 L.T. 844, H.L.	102, 104
<i>Anns v. Merton London Borough Council</i> [1978] A.C. 728; [1977] 2 W.L.R. 1024; (1977) 121 S.J. 377; (1977) 75 L.G.R. 555; [1977] J.P.L. 514; (1977) 243 E.C. 523, 591; <i>sub nom.</i> <i>Anns v. London Borough of Merton</i> [1977] 2 All E.R. 492, H.L.; affirming <i>sub nom.</i> <i>Anns v. Walcroft Property Co.</i> (1976) 241 E.G. 311, C.A.	46
<i>Applegate v. Moss; Archer v. Moss</i> [1971] 1 Q.B. 406; [1971] 2 W.L.R. 541; <i>sub nom.</i> <i>Archer v. Moss; Applegate v. Moss</i> (1970) 114 S.J. 971; [1971] 1 All E.R. 747, C.A.	22, 27
<i>Arab Bank v. Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas)</i> [1954] A.C. 495; [1954] 2 W.L.R. 1022; 98 S.J. 350; [1954] 2 All E.R. 226, H.L.; affirming [1953] 2 Q.B. 527; [1953] 3 W.L.R. 67; 97 S.J. 420; [1953] 2 All E.R. 263; [1953] C.L.Y. 248, C.A.; affirming [1952] W.N. 529; [1952] 2 T.L.R. 920; 96 S.J. 851; [1952] C.L.Y. 236	38
<i>Archer v. Brown</i> [1985] Q.B. 401; [1984] 3 W.L.R. 350; (1984) 128 S.J. 532; [1984] 2 All E.R. 267; (1984) 134 New L.J. 235; (1984) 81 L.S.Gaz. 2770	65
— <i>v. Catton & Co. Ltd.</i> [1954] 1 W.L.R. 775; 98 S.J. 337; [1954] 1 All E.R. 896	8, 41, 67
— <i>v. Moss, Applegate v. Moss.</i> See <i>Applegate v. Moss; Archer v. Moss.</i>	
<i>Aries Tanker Corporation v. Total Transport Ltd.; Aries, The</i> [1977] 1 W.L.R. 185; (1977) 121 S.J. 117; [1977] 1 All E.R. 398; [1977] 1 Lloyd's Rep. 334, H.L.; affirming [1976] 2 Lloyd's Rep. 256, C.A.	17, 42
<i>Aries Tanker, The.</i> See <i>Aries Tanker Corporation v. Total Transport; Aries, The</i>	
<i>Armitage, dec'd, Re; Ellam v. Norwich Corporation</i> [1972] Ch. 438; [1972] 2 W.L.R. 503; (1971) 116 S.J. 62; 70 L.G.R. 305; <i>sub nom.</i> <i>Armitage's Will Trusts, Re; Ellam v. City and County of Norwich</i> [1972] 1 All E.R. 708	87
<i>Arnold v. Central Electricity Generating Board</i> [1988] A.C. 228; [1987] 3 W.L.R. 1009; (1987) 131 S.J. 1487; [1987] 3 All E.R. 694; (1987) 84 L.S.Gaz. 3416, H.L.; affirming [1987] 2 W.L.R. 245; (1987) 84 L.S.Gaz. 743; (1987) 131 S.J. 167, C.A.; reversing [1968] 3 W.L.R. 171; (1986) 130 S.J. 484; (1986) 83 L.S.Gaz 2090	5
<i>Artisan's Land and Mortgage Corp'n., Re</i> [1904] 1 Ch. 796; 73 L.J.Ch. 581; 52 W.R. 330; 48 S.J. 222; 12 Mans. 98	32
<i>Atkinson v. Bradford Third Equitable Benefit Building Society</i> (1890) 25 Q.B.D. 377; 59 L.J.Q.B. 360; 62 L.T. 857; 38 W.R. 630, C.A.	38

Att.-Gen. v. Cocke [1988] Ch. 414; [1988] 2 W.L.R. 542; (1988) 132 S.J. 418; [1988] 2 All E.R. 391; [1988] L.S.Gaz., April 1, 1988	115
Autocephalus Greek Orthodox Church of Cyprus v. Goldberg 171, F. Supp. 1374 (5 D.Ind. 1989) (District Court) Trans. No. 89-2809 of the U.S.C.A. for the Seventh Circuit	30
Aylott v. West Ham Corporation [1927] 1 Ch. 30; 90 J.P. 165; 95 L.J. Ch. 533; 135 L.T. 424, 427; 42 T.L.R. 516; 24 L.G.R. 429, C.A.	32
B.P. Properties v. Buckler (1988) 5 P. & C.R. 337; (1987) 284 E.G. 375; [1987] 2 E.G.L.R. 168; (1987) 137 New L.J. 899, C.A.	5, 89, 91, 97
Bagot v. Stevens Scanlan & Co. Ltd. [1966] 1 Q.B. 197; [1964] 3 W.L.R. 1162; 108 S.J. 604; [1964] 3 All E.R. 577; [1964] 2 Lloyd's Rep. 353	36
Baker v. Courage & Co. [1910] 1 K.B. 56; [1908-1910] All E.R. Rep. 65; 79 L.J.K.B. 313; 101 L.T. 854	25
— v. Ollard & Bentley (a firm) (1982) 126 S.J. 593	50, 52
— (G.L.) v. Medway Building and Supplies [1958] 1 W.L.R. 1216; 102 S.J. 877; [1958] 3 All E.R. 540; [1958] C.L.Y. 2095, C.A.; reversing [1958] 2 All E.R. 532. Petition for leave to appeal to House of Lords dismissed [1959] 1 W.L.R. 492, H.L. .	13, 22, 27, 115
Balfour Beatty Construction Ltd. v. Parsons Brown & Newton Ltd., <i>The Financial Times</i> , November 7, 1990, C.A.	14
Bank of America National Trust and Savings Association v. Epidavros Gulf Shipping Co. S.A.; Cape Sounion, The [1990] 2 Lloyd's Rep. 329	6
Bank of Boston Connecticut (formerly Colonial Bank) v. European Grain and Shipping; Dominique, The [1988] A.C. 1056; [1989] 2 W.L.R. 440; (1989) 133 S.J. 219; [1989] 1 All E.R. 545; [1989] 1 Lloyd's Rep. 431; [1989] L.S.Gaz. March 8, 43, H.L.; reversing Colonial Bank v. European Grain and Shipping; Dominique, The [1988] 3 W.L.R. 60; (1988) 132 S.J. 896; [1988] 1 F.T.L.R. 327; [1988] 3 All E.R. 233; [1988] 1 Lloyd's Rep. 215; (1988) L.S.Gaz. February 17, 1988, C.A.; reversing [1987] 1 Lloyd's Rep. 239	42
Banks v. CBS Songs, <i>The Times</i> , January 30, 1992, C.A.	15
Basildon District Council v. Manning (1975) 237 E.G. 878	91
Battersby v. Anglo American Oil Co. Ltd. [1945] K.B. 23, C.A.	12, 13
Beaman v. A.R.T.S. Ltd. [1949] 1 K.B. 550; 65 T.L.R. 389; 93 S.J. 236; [1949] 1 All E.R. 465, C.A.; reversing [1948] W.N. 224; 64 T.L.R. 285; [1948] 2 All E.R. 89	21, 22
Beer v. London Borough of Waltham Forest, December 16, 1987, unreported	84
Bell v. Peter Brown & Co. [1990] 2 Q.B. 495; [1990] 3 W.L.R. 510; [1990] 3 All E.R. 124; (1990) 140 New L.J. 701, C.A.	33, 34, 35, 36, 43, 49, 50, 53
Bentley v. Bristol & Western Health Authority, <i>The Times</i> , December 6, 1990	70
Berg v. Glentworth Bulb Co. Ltd., July 25, 1988, C.A., unreported	43, 53, 56
Berry v. Stone Manganese Marine Ltd. [1971] 115, S.J. 966; (1971) 12 K.I.R. 13; [1972] 1 Lloyd's Rep. 182	58, 65
Beswick v. Beswick [1968] A.C. 58; [1967] 3 W.L.R. 932; 111 S.J. 540; [1967] 2 All E.R. 1197, H.L.; affirming [1966] Ch. 538; [1966] 3 W.L.R. 396; 110 S.J. 507; [1966] 3 All E.R. 1; [1966] C.L.Y. 1915, C.A.; reversing [1965] 3 All E.R. 858; [1965] C.L.Y. 632	14
Billings v. Reed [1945] K.B. 11; [1944] 2 All E.R. 415	64
Bills v. Fernandez-Gonzalez (1982) 132 New L.J. 66	91
Birkett v. James [1978] A.C. 297; [1977] 3 W.L.R. 38; (1977) 121 S.J. 444; [1977] 2 All E.R. 801, H.L.	18, 19, 77
Biss v. Lambeth, Southwark and Lewisham Health Authority (Teaching) [1978] 1 W.L.R. 382; (1978) 122 S.J. 32; [1978] 2 All E.R. 125, C.A.	78
Bliss v. South East Thames Regional Health Authority [1978] I.C.R. 700; [1985] I.R.L.R. 308, C.A.; reversing (1984) 134 New L.J. 121	65
Blow, Re, St. Bartholomew's Hospital (Governors) v. Cambden [1914] 1 Ch. 233; 58 S.J. 136; 83 L.J.Ch. 185; 109 L.T. 913; 30 T.L.R. 117, C.A.	119
Bosma v. Larsen [1966] 1 Lloyd's Rep. 22	40
Bowring-Hanbury's Trustee v. Bowring-Hanbury [1943] Ch. 104; 87 S.J. 39; [1943] 1 All E.R. 48; 112 L.J.Ch. 37; 168 L.T. 72; 59 T.L.R. 121, C.A.	118
Bradley v. Eagle Star Insurance Co. Ltd. [1989] A.C. 957; [1989] 2 W.L.R. 568; [1989] 1 All E.R. 961; [1989] I.C.R. 301; (1989) 133 S.J. 359; [1989] 1 Lloyd's Rep. 465; [1989] BCLC 496; (1989) New L.J. 330; 1989 Fin.LR 253; [1989] L.S.Gaz. May 3, 38, H.L.; affirming 1988 Fin.LR 238; [1988] 2 Lloyd's Rep. 233	40
— v. Hanseatic Shipping Co. Ltd. [1986] 2 Lloyd's Rep. 34, C.A.	76
Bray v. Stuart A. West & Co. (1989) 139 New L.J. 753	3

Brickfield Properties Ltd. v. Newton; Rosebell Holdings v. Newton [1971] 1 W.L.R. 862; 115 S.J. 307; [1971] 3 All E.R. 328, C.A.	35
Bridges v. Mees [1957] Ch. 475; [1957] 3 W.L.R. 215; 101 S.J. 555; [1957] 2 All E.R. 577	97
Bridle v. Ruby [1988] 3 W.L.R. 191; (1988) 132 S.J. 897; [1988] 3 All E.R. 64; (1988) 56 P. & C.R. 155; [1988] L.S.Gaz. May 18, 42, C.A.	103
British Anzani (Felixstowe) Ltd. v. International Marine Management (U.K.) Ltd. [1980] Q.B. 637; [1979] 3 W.L.R. 451; (1978) 123 S.J. 64; [1979] 2 All E.R. 1063; (1978) 39 P. & C.R. 189; (1978) 250 E.G. 1183	18
British Steel Corp. v. Cleveland Bridge & Engineering Co. Ltd. [1984] 1 All E.R. 504; (1983) Build. L.R. 94; [1982] Com. L.R. 54	37
Brueton v. Woodward [1941] 1 K.B. 680; 85 S.J. 154; [1941] 1 All E.R. 470; 110 L.J.K.B. 645; 165 L.T. 348; 57 T.L.R. 349	33
Brunswick (Duke) v. Harmer (1849) 14 Q.B. 185; 19 L.J.Q.B. 20; 14 L.T.O.S. 198; 14 Jur. 110; 117 E.R. 75; subsequent proceedings (1850) 1 L.M. & P. 505; 19 L.J.Q.B. 456; 15 L.T.O.S. 248; 14 Jur. 620	57
Buck v. English Electric Co. Ltd. [1977] I.C.R. 629; [1977] 1 W.L.R. 806; [1978] 1 All E.R. 271	83
Buckinghamshire County Council v. Moran [1990] Ch. 623; [1989] 3 W.L.R. 152; (1989) 133 S.J. 849; [1989] 2 All E.R. 225; 88 L.G.R. 145; (1989) 58 P. & C.R. 236; (1989) New L.J. 257; C.A.; affirming (1988) 86 L.G.R. 472; (1988) 56 P. & C.R. 372	86, 88, 89, 90, 94, 95
Bulli Coal Mining Co. v. Osborne [1899] A.C. 351; [1895–1899] All E.R. Rep. 506; 68 L.J.P.C. 49; 80 L.T. 430; 47 W.R. 545; 15 T.L.R. 257, P.C.	22
Bumper Development Corp. Ltd. v. Commissioner for Police for the Metropolis [1991] 1 W.L.R. 1362; [1991] 4 All E.R. 638; (1991) 135 S.J. 382; <i>The Times</i> , February 14, 1991; <i>The Guardian</i> , March 5, 1991, C.A.	59
Cadija Umma v. S. Don Manis Appu [1939] A.C. 136; 108 L.J.P.C. 13, P.C.	90
Cannon v. Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council, <i>The Times</i> , June 24, 1992, E.A.T. ...	110
Caparo Industries plc v. Dickman [1990] 2 A.C. 605; [1990] 2 W.L.R. 358; [1990] 1 All E.R. 568; (1990) 134 S.J. 494; [1990] BCC 164; [1990] BCLC 273; [1990] E.C.C. 313; [1990] L.S.Gaz. March 28, 42; (1990) 140 New L.J. 248, H.L.; reversing [1989] Q.B. 653; [1989] 2 W.L.R. 316; (1989) 133 S.J. 221; [1989] 1 All E.R. 798; (1989) 5 BCC 105; [1989] BCLC 154; 1989 PCC 125; (1988) 138 New L.J. 289, C.A.; reversing in part (1988) 4 BCC 144; [1988] BCLC 387, D.C.	37, 46
Cargill v. Gotts [1981] 1 W.L.R. 441; (1980) 125 S.J. 99; [1981] 1 All E.R. 682; (1980) 41 P. & C.R. 300; [1981] J.P.L. 515, C.A.; reversing [1980] 1 W.L.R. 521; [1980] 2 All E.R. 49; (1979) 40 P. & C.R. 122; [1980] J.P.L. 602	102
Carr-Saunders v. McNeil (Dick) Associates [1986] 1 W.L.R. 922; (1986) 130 S.J. 525; [1986] 1 All E.R. 888; (1987) 53 P. & C.R. 14; [1986] 2 E.G.L.R. 181; (1986) 279 E.G. 1359; (1986) 83 L.S.Gaz. 2331	106, 107
Cartledge v. Jopling (E.) & Sons Ltd. [1963] A.C. 758; [1963] 2 W.L.R. 210; 107 S.J. 73; [1963] 1 All E.R. 341; [1963] 1 Lloyd's Rep. 1, H.L.; affirming [1962] 1 Q.B. 189; [1961] 3 W.L.R. 838; 105 S.J. 884; [1961] 3 All E.R. 482; [1961] 2 Lloyd's Rep. 61, C.A.; [1961] C.L.Y. 5055	4, 8, 44, 45, 67
Central Asbestos Co. v. Dodd [1973] A.C. 518; [1972] 3 W.L.R. 333; 116 S.J. 584; [1972] 2 All E.R. 1135; [1972] 2 Lloyd's Rep. 413; 13 K.I.R. 75, H.L.; affirming <i>sub nom.</i> Smith v. Central Asbestos Co. [1972] 1 Q.B. 244; [1971] 3 W.L.R. 206; 115 S.J. 443; [1971] 3 All E.R. 204; [1971] 2 Lloyd's Rep. 151, 11 K.I.R. 239, C.A.	4, 68, 84
Central Electricity Board v. Halifax Corporation [1963] A.C. 785; [1962] 3 W.L.R. 1313; 106 S.J. 936; [1962] 3 All E.R. 915; 61 L.G.R. 125, H.L.	10
Central Insurance Co. v. Seacalf Shipping Corp.; Aiolos, The [1985] 2 Lloyd's Rep. 25, L.A.	39
Chandris v. Argo Insurance Co., 107 S.J. 575; [1963] 2 Lloyd's Rep. 65	41
Chaplin v. Boys [1971] A.C. 356; [1969] 3 W.L.R. 322; 113 S.J. 608; [1969] 2 All E.R. 1085, H.L.; affirming <i>sub nom.</i> Boys v. Chaplin [1968] 2 Q.B. 1; [1968] 2 W.L.R. 328; 111 S.J. 968; [1968] 1 All E.R. 283, C.A.; affirming [1967] 3 W.L.R. 266; 11 S.J. 297; [1967] 2 All E.R. 665	7
Chappell v. Cooper; Player v. Brugiere [1980] 1 W.L.R. 958; (1979) 124 S.J. 544; [1980] 2 All E.R. 463, C.A.	77, 79
Chatsworth Investments Ltd. v. Cussins (Contractors) Ltd. [1969] 1 W.L.R. 1; (1968) 112 S.J. 843; [1969] 1 All E.R. 143, C.A.	39

Chelmsford District Council v. Evers (T.J.) (1983) 25 B.L.R. 99; (1984) 1 Const. L.J. 65 16, 35, 45

Chesworth v. Farrar [1967] 1 Q.B. 407; [1966] 2 W.L.R. 1073; 110 S.J. 307; [1966] 2 All E.R. 107 37

China v. Harrow Urban District Council [1954] 1 Q.B. 178; [1953] 3 W.L.R. 885; 118 J.P. 41; 97 S.J. 797; [1953] 2 All E.R. 1296; 51 L.G.R. 681; 46 R & I.T. 750, D.C. 3

Cladakis v. Commission of the European Communities (No. 276/85) [1987] E.C.R. 495 ... 111

Clark v. Wooll [1965] 1 W.L.R. 650; 109 S.J. 251; [1965] 2 All E.R. 253 23

Clarkson v. Modern Foundries Ltd. [1957] 1 W.L.R. 1210; 101 S.J. 960; [1958] 1 All E.R. 33 61

Coburn v. Colledge [1897] 1 Q.B. 702; 41 S.J. 408; [1895–1899] All E.R. Rep. 539; 66 L.J.Q.B. 462; 76 L.T. 608; 45 W.R. 488; 13 L.T.R. 321, C.A. 8, 44

Cockerill-Sambre S.A. v. Commission of the European Communities (No. 42/85) [1987] 1 C.M.L.R. 325; [1985] 9 E.C.R. 3749, European Ct. 111, 112

Colchester Borough Council v. Smith [1992] 2 W.L.R. 728; [1992] 2 All E.R. 561, C.A.; affirming [1991] Ch. 448; [1991] 2 W.L.R. 540; [1991] 2 All E.R. 29; (1990) 62 P. & C.R. 242 5, 94, 95, 96

Collin v. Westminster (Duke) [1985] Q.B. 581; [1985] 2 W.L.R. 553; (1985) 129 S.J. 116; [1985] 1 All E.R. 465; (1985) 50 P. & C.R. 380; (1984) 17 H.L.R. 246; [1985] 1 E.G.L.R. 109; (1985) 273 E.G. 881; (1984) 25 R.V.R. 4; (1985) 82 L.S.Gaz. 767, C.A. 3, 31, 32, 33

Collinge v. Heywood (1839) 9 A. & E. 633; 1 Per. & Dav. 502; 2 Will. Woll. & H. 107; 8 L.J.Q.B. 98; 112 E.R. 1352 40

Colls v. Home and Colonial Stores Ltd. [1904] A.C. 179; [1904–1907] All E.R. Rep. 5; 73 L.J. Ch. 484; 90 L.T. 687; 53 W.R. 30; 20 T.L.R. 475, H.L.; reversing *sub nom.* Home and Colonial Stores Ltd. v. Colls [1902] 1 Ch. 302, C.A. 107

Compania de Electricidad de la Provincia de Buenos Aires Ltd., *Re* [1980] Ch. 146; [1979] 2 W.L.R. 316; (1978) 122 S.J. 145; [1978] 3 All E.R. 668 32

Conquer v. Boot [1928] 2 K.B. 336 15

Conry v. Simpson [1983] 3 All E.R. 369, C.A. 75, 81

Cork and Brandon Rly. Co. v. Goode (1853) 13 C.B. 826; 1 C.L.R. 345; 22 L.J.C.P. 198; 21 L.T.O.S. 141; 17 Jur. 555; 1 W.R. 410; 138 E.R. 1427 32

Cornish, *Re, ex p.* Board of Trade [1896] 1 Q.B. 99; 40 S.J. 100; 65 L.J.Q.B. 106; 73 L.T. 602; 44 W.R. 161; 12 T.L.R. 69; 3 Mans. 48, C.A. 115

County and District Properties v. Jenner (C.) & Son [1976] 2 Lloyd's Rep. 728; (1974) 230 E.G. 1589 40

Curtis v. Wild [1991] 4 All E.R. 172 63

D.W. Moore & Co. v. Ferrier. *See* Moore (D.W.) & Co. v. Ferrier.

D. & F. Estates v. Church Commissioners for England [1988] 3 W.L.R. 368; (1988) 132 S.J. 1092; [1988] 2 All E.R. 992; (1988) 41 B.L.R. 1; (1988) 138 New L.J. 210; [1988] L.S.Gaz. September 14, 46, H.L.; affirming [1987] 1 FTLR 405; (1987) Const. L.J. 110; (1987) 36 Build.L.R. 72; (1988) ConLR 12, C.A.; affirming in part (1987) 7 ConLR 40 37, 46, 47, 61

Dale v. British Coal Corporation (No.1), *The Times*, June 25, 1992, C.A. 11

Dalton v. Angus. *See* Angus v. Dalton.

Dance v. Triplow, *The Times*, December 4, 1991, C.A. 105, 106

Davis v. City & Hackney Health Authority, *The Times*, January 27, 1989 70, 72, 73, 83

— v. Ministry of Defence, *The Times*, August 7, 1985, C.A. 68, 69

Dawson v. Norfolk (Duke) (1815) 1 Price 246; 145 E.R. 1391 102

— v. Spain-Gower, October 18, 1988, C.A., unreported 20, 83

Department of Transport v. Smaller (Chris) (Transport) [1989] A.C. 1197; [1989] 2 W.L.R. 578; (1989) 133 S.J. 361; [1989] 1 All E.R. 897; (1989) 139 New L.J. 363, H.L. ... 19

Derry v. Sanders [1919] 1 K.B. 233; 63 S.J. 115; 88 L.J.K.B. 410; 120 L.T. 194; 35 T.L.R. 105, C.A. 103

Diment v. Foot (N.H.) Ltd. [1974] 1 W.L.R. 1427; 118 S.J. 180; [1974] 2 All E.R. 785; 28 P. & C.R. 163 101, 102

Diplock, *Re*, Diplock v. Wintle. *See* Ministry of Health v. Simpson.

Donovan v. Gwent Toys Ltd. [1990] 1 W.L.R. 472; [1990] 1 All E.R. 1018; (1990) 134 S.J. 910; [1990] L.S.Gaz. April 25, 40, H.L. 1, 74, 78, 80, 84

Driscoll-Varley v. Parkside Health Authority, January 15, 1990, unreported 70

Duke of Brunswick v. Harmer. *See* Brunswick (Duke) v. Harmer.

Duke of Leeds <i>v.</i> Earl of Amherst. <i>See</i> Leeds (Duke) <i>v.</i> Amherst (Earl).	
Dulieu <i>v.</i> White [1901] 2 K.B. 669; 45 S.J. 578; [1900–1903] All E.R. Rep. 353; 70 L.J.K.B. 837; 85 L.T. 126; 50 W.R. 76; 17 T.L.R. 555	65
Earle <i>v.</i> Bellingham (No. 2) (1857) 24 Bear. 448; 27 L.J.Ch. 545; 30 L.T.O.S. 162; 3 Jur. N.S. 1237; 6 W.R. 45; 53 E.R. 430.	119
Easy <i>v.</i> Universal Anchorage Co. Ltd. [1974] 1 W.L.R. 899; 118 S.J. 464; [1974] 2 All E.R. 1105, C.A.	78
Eaton <i>v.</i> Swansea Waterworks Co. (1851) 17 Q.B. 267; 20 L.J.Q.B. 482; 17 L.T.O.S. 154; 15 Jur. 675; 117 E.R. 1282	102
Eckersley <i>v.</i> Binnie and Partners (1988) 18 ConLR 1; (1988) B.L.M. April, p. 7, C.A. . .	35, 36
Eddis <i>v.</i> Chichester Constable [1969] 2 Ch. 345; [1969] 3 W.L.R. 48; 113 S.J. 386; [1969] 2 All E.R. 912, C.A.; affirming [1969] 1 W.L.R. 385; (1968) 113 S.J. 146; [1969] 1 All E.R. 546. Petition of leave to appeal to the House of Lords refused . . .	4, 21, 27, 29, 61
Edginton <i>v.</i> Clark [1964] 1 Q.B. 367; [1963] 3 W.L.R. 721; 107 S.J. 617; [1963] 3 All E.R. 468, C.A.	96
Ellett-Brown <i>v.</i> Tallishire Ltd., March 29, 1990, C.A., unreported	91
Emmott <i>v.</i> Minister for Social Welfare and Att.-Gen. (Case 208/90) [1991] I.R.L.R. 387, European Ct.	110
Esso Petroleum Co. Ltd. <i>v.</i> Marsdon [1976] Q.B. 801; [1976] 2 W.L.R. 583; 120 S.J. 131; [1976] 2 All E.R. 5; [1976] 2 Lloyd's Rep. 305, C.A.; reversing in part [1975] Q.B. 819; [1975] W.L.R. 147; (1974) 119 S.J. 81; [1975] 1 All E.R. 203	36
Fairweather <i>v.</i> St. Marylebone Property Co. [1963] A.C. 510; [1962] 2 W.L.R. 1020; 106 S.J. 368; [1962] 2 All E.R. 288, H.L.; affirming <i>sub nom.</i> St. Marylebone Property Co. <i>v.</i> Fairweather [1962] 1 Q.B. 498; [1961] 3 W.L.R. 1083; 105 S.J. 947; [1961] 3 All E.R. 560; [1961] C.L.Y. 4967, C.A.	98, 99
Fannon <i>v.</i> Backhouse, <i>The Times</i> , August 22, 1987, C.A.; (1988) B.L.M. February, p. 8 .	14
Ferriera Valsabbia SpA <i>v.</i> Commission of the European Communities (No. 209/83) [1984] E.C.R. 3089	111
Firma C-Trade S.A. <i>v.</i> Newcastle Protection and Indemnity Association; Fanti, The; Socony Mobil Oil Inc. <i>v.</i> West of England Shipowners Mutual Insurance Association; Padre Island, The (No. 2) [1991] 2 A.C. 1; [1990] 3 W.L.R. 78; [1990] 2 All E.R. 705; (1990) 134 S.J. 833; [1990] BCLC 625; [1990] 2 Lloyd's Rep. 191, H.L.; reversing [1989] 1 Lloyd's Rep. 239, C.A.	40
Firman <i>v.</i> Ellis; Ince <i>v.</i> Rogers; Down <i>v.</i> Harvey; Pheasant <i>v.</i> Smith (S.T.H.) (Tyres) [1978] Q.B. 886; [1978] 3 W.L.R. 1; [1978] 122 S.J. 147; [1978] 2 All E.R. 851, C.A.; affirming (1977) 121 S.J. 606; <i>The Times</i> , July 8, 1977 . . .	75, 77, 78, 79, 81
Flight <i>v.</i> Thomas (1840) 11 A. & E. 688; 3 Per. & Dav. 442; 113 E.R. 575, Ex.Ch.; on appeal (1841) 8 Cl. & Fin. 231, H.L.	105
Florida Hotels Pty. Ltd. <i>v.</i> Mayo (1965) 113 C.L.R. 588	26
Forster <i>v.</i> Outred & Co. [1982] W.L.R. 86; [1981] 125 S.J. 309; [1982] 2 All E.R. 753, C.A. . . .	33, 44, 49, 50, 52
Foster <i>v.</i> South Glamorgan Health Authority [1988] I.C.R. 526; [1988] I.R.L.R. 277, E.A.T.	84
Fowell <i>v.</i> N.C.B. <i>See</i> Fowell <i>v.</i> National Coal Board.	
— <i>v.</i> National Coal Board, <i>The Times</i> , May 28, 1986, C.A.	73
Fowley Marine (Elmsworth) Ltd. <i>v.</i> Gafford [1968] 2 Q.B. 618; [1968] 1 W.L.R. 842; 112 S.J. 114; [1968] 1 All E.R. 979; [1968] 1 Lloyd's Rep. 343, C.A.	87
G.L. Baker <i>v.</i> Meadow Building and Supplies. <i>See</i> Baker (G.L.) <i>v.</i> Meadow Building and Supplies.	
Gale, <i>Re</i> , Blake <i>v.</i> Gale (1885) 31 Ch.D. 196; (1886) 32 Ch.D. 571, C.A.; (1883) 22 Ch.D. 820; 53 L.J.Ch. 694; 48 L.T. 101; 31 W.R. 538	119
Gardner <i>v.</i> Hodgson's Kingston Brewery Co. Ltd. [1903] A.C. 229; 72 L.J.Ch. 558; 88 L.T. 698; 52 W.R. 16; 19 T.L.R. 458, H.L.	102
George Wimpey & Co. <i>v.</i> Sohn. <i>See</i> Wimpey (George) & Co. <i>v.</i> Sohn.	
Gilbert-Ash (Northern) <i>v.</i> Modern Engineering (Bristol) [1974] A.C. 689; [1973] 3 W.L.R. 421; 117 S.J. 745; [1973] 3 All E.R. 195; 72 L.G.R. 1, H.L.; reversing <i>sub nom.</i> Modern Engineering (Bristol) <i>v.</i> Gilbert-Ash (Northern) (1973) 71 L.G.R. 162, C.A.	17
Good <i>v.</i> Parry [1963] 2 Q.B. 418; [1963] 2 W.L.R. 846; 107 S.J. 194; [1963] 2 All E.R. 59, C.A.	38

Graham v. Voigt, 89 A.C.T.R. 11	65
Gray v. T.P. Bennett & Son (1987) 43 B.L.R. 63; 13 Con.L.R. 22	23, 26, 28
— v. Wykeham-Martin January 17, 1977 (S.C. Library, Transcript No. 10A), unreported	93
Greater Nottingham Co-operative Society Ltd. v. Cementation Piling and Foundations Ltd. [1988] 3 W.L.R. 396; (1988) 132 S.J. 754; [1988] 2 All E.R. 971; (1988) 41 BLR 43; (1988) 4 Const.L.J. 216; (1988) 138 New L.J. 112, C.A.; reversing [1985] C.I.L.L. 160	36, 49
Green (R. & H.) & Silley Weir v. British Railways Board [1985] 1 W.L.R. 570; [1985] 1 All E.R. 237; (1980) 17 Build. L.R. 94	40
Guidera v. NEI Projects (India), January 30, 1990, C.A., unreported	69
Gunnella (Monique) v. Commission of the European Communities (No. 33/72) [1973] E.C.R. 475, European Ct.	110
Gutsell v. Reeve [1936] 1 K.B. 272; 79 S.J. 796; [1935] All E.R.Rep. 117; 105 L.J.K.B. 213; 154 L.T. 1; 52 T.L.R. 55, C.A.	32
Halford v. Brookes [1991] 1 W.L.R. 428; [1991] 3 All E.R. 559, C.A.; reversing <i>The Independent</i> , November 27, 1990, C.A.	82, 117
Halls v. O'Dell (1991) 135 S.J. (LB) 204; <i>The Times</i> , November 5, 1991; <i>The Independent</i> , November 6, 1991; <i>Financial Times</i> , November 20, 1991, C.A.	19
Hardy v. Ryle (1829) 9 B. & C. 603; 2 Man. & Ry. M.C. 301; 4 Man. & Ry. K.B. 295; 7 L.J.O.S. M.C. 118; 109 E.R. 224	56
Harris v. Lombard (New Zealand) [1974] 2 N.Z.L.R. 161	65
Hartley v. Birmingham City D.C. [1992] 2 All E.R. 213; <i>The Independent</i> , August 16, 1991, C.A.	10, 78, 79, 80
Hayes v. Dodd (James and Charles) (a firm) [1990] 2 All E.R. 815, C.A.	65
Hayward v. Challoner. See <i>Hayward v. Chaloner</i> .	
— v. Chaloner [1968] 1 Q.B. 107; [1967] 3 W.L.R. 1068; <i>sub nom.</i> <i>Hayward v. Challoner</i> , 111 S.J. 519; [1967] 3 All E.R. 122, C.A.	92–93, 97
Healey v. Hawkins [1968] 1 W.L.R. 1967; (1968) 112 S.J. 965; [1968] 3 All E.R. 836; 20 P. & C.R. 69	104
Hedley Byrne & Co. v. Heller & Partners [1964] A.C. 465; [1963] 3 W.L.R. 101; 107 S.J. 454; [1963] 2 All E.R. 575; [1963] 1 Lloyd's Rep. 485, H.L.; affirming [1962] 1 Q.B. 396; [1961] 3 W.L.R. 1225; 105 S.J. 910; [1961] 3 All E.R. 891; [1961] C.L.Y. 518, C.A.; affirming <i>The Times</i> , December 21, 1960; [1960] C.L.Y. 168	15, 37, 46, 47
Hellenic Steel v. Svolmar Shipping Co.; Komninos S, The [1991] 1 Lloyd's Rep. 370; <i>Financial Times</i> , January 16, 1991, C.A.; reversing [1990] 1 Lloyd's Rep. 541; <i>Financial Times</i> , January 16, 1990	6
Henriksens Rederi A/S v. T.H.Z. Rolimpex; Brede, The [1974] Q.B. 233; [1973] 3 W.L.R. 556; [1973] 2 Lloyd's Rep. 333; 117 S.J. 600; [1973] 3 All E.R. 589, C.A.; affirming [1972] 2 Lloyd's Rep. 511	17, 18
Hermine, The. See <i>Unitramp v. Garnac Grain Co. Ltd.</i>	
Hetton Victory Club Ltd. v. Swainston [1983] I.C.R. 341; (1983) 127 S.J. 171; [1983] 1 All E.R. 1179; [1983] I.R.L.R. 164, C.A.; affirming [1983] I.R.L.R. 139; (1982) 126 S.J. 673; [1983] 1 All E.R. 1179, E.A.T.	11
Heywood v. Wellers (a firm) [1976] Q.B. 445; [1976] 2 W.L.R. 101; (1975) 120 S.J. 9; [1976] 1 All E.R. 300; [1976] 2 Lloyd's Rep. 88, C.A.	65
Higgins v. Betts [1905] 2 Ch. 210; 49 S.J. 535; 74 L.J.Ch. 621; 92 T. 850; 53 W.R. 549; 21 T.L.R. 552	106
Hill (William) Organisation v. Sunley (Bernard) & Sons (1982) 22 B.L.R. 1, C.A. ...	23, 28, 36
Hinz v. Berry [1970] 2 Q.B. 40; [1970] 2 W.L.R. 684; 114 S.J. 111; [1970] 1 All E.R. 1074, C.A.	65
Hochster v. de la Tour (1853) 2 E. & B. 678; 1 C.L.R. 846; 22 L.J.Q.B. 455; 22 L.T.O.S. 171; 17 Jur. 972; 1 W.R. 469; 118 E.R. 922	34
Hollins v. Verney (1884) 13 Q.B.D. 304; 48 J.P. 580; 53 L.J.Q.B. 430; 51 L.T. 753; 33 W.R. 5, C.A.	101
Horbury v. Craig Hall & Rutley (1991) C.I.L.L. 692	15, 54, 55
Hornsey Local Board v. Monarch Investment Building Society (1889) 24 Q.B.D. 1; [1886– 1890] All E.R. Rep. 992; 59 L.J.Q.B. 105; 61 L.T. 867; 54 J.P. 391, 38 W.R. 85; 6 T.L.R. 30, L.A.	119
Howard E. Perry & Co. v. British Railways Board. See <i>Perry (Howard E.) & Co. v. British Railways Board</i> .	

<i>Howe v. David Brown Tractors (Retail) (Rustons Engineering Co., Third Party)</i> [1991] 4 All E.R. 30, C.A.	14, 16, 66
<i>Howlett, Re, Howlett v. Howlett</i> [1949] Ch. 767; [1949] L.J.R. 1632; 65 T.L.R. 569; 93 S.J. 632; [1949] 2 All E.R. 490	116
<i>Huber v. Steiner</i> (1835) 2 Bing. N.C. 202; 1 Hodg. 206; 6 Scott 304; [1835–1842] All E.R. Rep. 159; 132 E.R. 80	6
<i>Hughes v. Griffin</i> [1969] 1 W.L.R. 23; 112 S.J. 907; [1969] 1 All E.R. 460; 20 P & C.R. 113, C.A.	91–92
<i>Hyde v. Pearce</i> [1982] 1 W.L.R. 560; (1982) 125 S.J. 119; [1982] 1 All E.R. 1029, C.A. ...	92
<i>Hydrocarbons Great Britain Ltd. v. Cammel Laird Shipbuilders Ltd.</i> (1991) 25 ConLR 131; (1992) B.L.M. 5	14, 15
<i>Hyman v. Van den Bergh</i> [1908] 1 Ch. 167; 52 S.J. 114; 77 L.J.Ch. 154; 98 L.T. 478, C.A.	106
<i>Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. Ltd. v. Papadopoulos</i> [1980] 1 W.L.R. 1129; (1980) 124 S.J. 592; [1980] 2 All E.R. 29; [1980] 2 Lloyd's Rep. 1, H.L.; affirming [1979] 1 Lloyd's Rep. 130, C.A.	39
<i>Ichard v. Frangoulis</i> [1977] 1 W.L.R. 556; (1976) 121 S.J. 287; [1977] 2 All E.R. 461	65
<i>Imperial Chemical Industries v. Commission of the European Communities</i> (No. 48/69) [1972] E.C.R. 619; [1972] C.M.L.R. 557, European Ct.	111
<i>Internationale Handelsgesellschaft GmbH v. Einfuhr-und Vorratsstelle Für Getreide und Futtermittel</i> (No. 11/70); <i>Einfuhr-und Vorratsstelle für Getreide und Futtermittel v. Firma Köster, Berodt & Co.</i> (Case 25/70); <i>Einfuhr-und Vorratsstelle Für Getreide und Futtermittel v. Firma Günther Henck</i> (case 26/70); <i>Firma Ottscheer v. Einfuhr-und Vorratsstelle Für Getreide-und Futtermittel</i> (Case 30/70) [1970] E.C.R. 1125; [1972] C.M.L.R. 155, European Ct.	111
<i>Iron Trade Mutual Insurance Co. Ltd. v. Buckenham (J.K.) Ltd.</i> [1990] 1 All E.R. 808; [1989] 2 Lloyd's Rep. 85; (1990) B.L.M., May, pp. 1–4, D.C.	9, 30, 37, 42, 51, 53
<i>Islander Trucking Ltd. (in liquidation) v. Hogg Robinson & Gardner Mountain (Marine) Ltd.</i> [1990] 1 All E.R. 826	9, 30, 51
<i>Jackson v. Horizon Holidays Ltd.</i> [1975] 1 W.L.R. 1468; 119 S.J. 759; [1975] 3 All E.R. 92, C.A.	65
<i>James McNaughton Paper Group v. Hicks Anderson</i> [1991] 2 Q.B. 113; [1991] 2 W.L.R. 641; [1991] 1 All E.R. 134; (1990) 140 New L.J. 1311; (1990) BCC 891; [1991] BCLC 235; <i>The Independent</i> , September 11, 1990, C.A.	15
<i>Jarvis v. Swans Tours Ltd.</i> [1973] Q.B. 233; [1972] 3 W.L.R. 954; 116 S.J. 822; [1973] 1 All E.R. 71, C.A.	65
<i>Jessamine Investment Co. v. Schwartz</i> [1977] 2 W.L.R. 145; 120 S.J. 384, [1976] 3 All E.R. 521, C.A.	91, 92, 96
<i>Joachimson v. Swiss Bank Corp.</i> [1921] 3 K.B. 110; 65 S.J. 434; [1921] All E.R. 92; 90 L.J.K.B. 973; 125 L.T. 338; 37 T.L.R. 534; 26 Com. Cas. 196, C.A.	38
<i>Jolly, Re, Gatherole v. Norfolk</i> [1900] 2 Ch. 616; 44 S.J. 642; [1900–1903] All E.R. Rep. 286, 69 L.J.Ch. 661; 83 L.T. 118; 48 W.R. 657; 16 T.L.R. 521, C.A.	97, 98
<i>Jones v. Bellgrove Properties</i> [1949] 2 K.B. 700; 65 T.L.R. 451; <i>sub nom. Jones v. Bellegrove Properties</i> , 93 S.J. 512; [1949] 2 All E.R. 198; C.A.; affirming 65 T.L.R. 166	38
— <i>v. Jones</i> [1970] 2 Q.B. 576; [1970] 3 W.L.R. 20; 114 S.J. 374; [1970] 3 All E.R. 47, C.A.	10, 13, 78
— <i>v. Price, The Independent</i> , January 16, 1992, C.A.	102
— <i>v. Trollope Colls Cementation Overseas Ltd., The Times</i> , January 26, 1990, C.A. ...	6, 7
<i>Junior Books Ltd. v. Veitchi Co. Ltd., The</i> [1983] 1 A.C. 520; [1982] 3 W.L.R. 477; (1982) 126 S.J. 538; [1982] 3 All E.R. 201; [1982] Com.L.R. 221; (1982) 79 L.S.Gaz. 1413; (1981) 21 Build. L.R. 66, H.L.	46
<i>Kaliszewska v. John Clague & Partners</i> [1984] C.I.L.L. 131; (1984) Const. L.J. 137; (1984) 5 ConLR 62	21, 23–24
<i>Kamouh v. Associated Electrical Industries International</i> [1980] Q.B. 199; [1979] 2 W.L.R. 795; (1978) 122 S.J. 714	38
<i>Katzenstein Adler Industries v. Borchard Lines Ltd.; Gladys, The</i> [1988] 2 Lloyd's Rep. 274; [1988] 138 New L.J. 94	13
<i>Kaur (Pritam) v. Russel (S.) & Sons</i> [1973] 1 Q.B. 336; [1973] 2 W.L.R. 147; (1972) 117 S.J. 91; <i>sub nom. Kaur (Pritam) (Administratrix of Bikar Singh) v. Russell (S.) & Sons</i> [1973] 1 All E.R. 617, C.A.; reversing [1972] 3 W.L.R. 663; 116 S.J. 446; [1972] 3 All E.R. 305	10

Kennett v. Brown [1988] 1 W.L.R. 582; (1988) 132 S.J. 752; [1988] 2 All E.R. 600; [1988] L.S.Gaz. May 18, 43, C.A.	16
Ketteman v. Hansel Properties [1987] A.C. 189; [1987] 2 W.L.R. 313; (1987) 131 S.J. 134; [1988] 1 All E.R. 38; [1987] 1 FTLR 284; (1987) 85 L.G.R. 409; (1987) 36 Build. L.R. 1; [1987] 1 E.G.L.R. 237; (1987) 84 L.S.Gaz. 657; (1987) 137 New L.J. 100, H.L.; affirming 1 W.L.R. 1274; (1984) 128 S.J. 800; [1985] 1 All E.R. 352; (1985) 49 P. & C.R. 257; (1985) 27 Build. L.R. 1; [1984] C.I.L.L. 109; (1984) 271 E.G. 1099; (1984) 81 L.S.Gaz. 3018, C.A.	15, 16, 45
Kilgour v. Gaddes [1904] 1 K.B. 457; [1904-1907] All E.R. Rep. 679; 73 L.J.K.B. 233; 90 L.T. 604; 52 W.R. 438; 20 T.L.R. 240, C.A.	103
King v. Victor Parsons & Co. [1973] 1 W.L.R. 29; 116 S.J. 901; [1973] 1 All E.R. 206; [1973] 1 Lloyd's Rep. 189, C.A.; affirming [1972] 1 W.L.R. 801; (1971) 116 S.J. 239; [1972] 2 All E.R. 625; [1972] 1 Lloyd's Rep. 213	23
Kirby v. Leather [1965] 2 Q.B. 367; (1965) 2 W.L.R. 1318; 109 S.J. 357; (1965) 2 All E.R. 441, C.A.	20
Kitchen v. Royal Air Force Association [1958] 1 W.L.R. 563; 102 S.J. 363; [1958] 3 All E.R. 241, C.A.	22
Kleinwort Benson v. Barbrak; Same v. Choithram (T.) & Sons (London): Same v. Chemical Importation and Distribution State Enterprises; Same v. Shell Markets (M.E.); Myrto, The (No. 3) (1987) A.C. 597; [1987] 2 W.L.R. 1053; (1987) 131 S.J. 594; [1987] 2 All E.R. 289; [1987] 1 FTLR 43; [1987] 2 Lloyd's Rep. 1; (1987) 84 L.S.Gaz. 1651; (1987) 137 New L.J. 388, H.L.; [1985] 2 Lloyd's Rep. 567	12, 13
Komninos S., The. See Hellenic Steel Co. v. Svolmar Shipping Co.; Komninos S., The.	
Lacey (William) (Hounslow) Ltd. v. Davis [1957] 1 W.L.R. 932; 101 S.J. 629; [1957] 2 All E.R. 712	37
Lambert v. Lewis [1982] A.C. 225; [1981] 2 W.L.R. 713; [1981] 1 All E.R. 1185; [1981] Lloyd's Rep. 17; <i>sub nom.</i> Lexmead (Basingstoke) v. Lewis (1981) 125 S.J. 310; [1981] R.T.R. 346, H.L.; reversing [1980] 2 W.L.R. 299; (1979) 124 S.J. 50; [1980] 1 All E.R. 978; [1980] R.T.R. 152; [1980] 1 Lloyd's Rep. 311, C.A.; reversing in part <i>sub nom.</i> Lambert v. Lewis; Lexmead (Basingstoke), Third Party; Dixon-Bate (B.), Fourth Party [1979] R.T.R. 61; [1978] 1 Lloyd's Rep. 610	34
Lampitt v. Poole Borough Council, Taylor (Third Party) [1991] 2 Q.B. 545; [1990] 3 W.L.R. 179; [1990] 2 All E.R. 887, C.A.	4
Lands Allotment Co., <i>Re</i> [1894] 1 Ch. 616; 38 S.J. 235; [1891-1894] All E.R. Rep. 1032; 63 L.J.Ch. 291; 70 L.T. 286; 42 W.R. 404; 10 T.L.R. 234; 1 Mans 107; 7 R. 115, C.A.	115
Leeds (Duke) v. Amherst (Earl) (1846) 2 Ph. 117; 16 L.J.Ch. 5; 10 Jur. 956; 41 E.R. 886, L.C.	114
Leicester Wholesale Fruit Market Ltd. v. Grundy (D.H.) (No. 1) [1990] 1 W.L.R. 107; [1990] 1 All E.R. 442; (1990) 134 S.J. 374; (1989) 5 Const.L.J. 282, C.A.	11
— v. — (No. 2) (1990) 53 B.L.R. 1	15, 25
Leigh v. Jack (1879) 5 Ex. D. 264; 49 L.J.Q.B. 220; 42 L.T. 463; 44 J.P. 488; 28 W.R. 452, C.A.	88, 89, 90, 93, 95
Leivers v. Barber, Walker & Co. [1943] 1 K.B. 385, C.A.	31, 33
Letang v. Cooper [1964] 1 Q.B. 232; [1964] 3 W.L.R. 573; 108 S.J. 519; [1964] 2 All E.R. 929; [1964] 2 Lloyd's Rep. 339, C.A.; reversing [1964] 2 Q.B. 53; [1956] 2 W.L.R. 642; 108 S.J. 180; [1964] 1 All E.R. 669; [1964] 1 Lloyd's Rep. 188	56, 64
Limpgrange v. Bank of Commerce and Credit International S.A.; Bank of Credit and Commerce International S.A. v. Smith [1986] FLR 36	38
Littledale v. Liverpool College [1900] 1 Ch. 19; [1895-1899] All E.R. Rep. Ext. 1329; 69 L.J.Ch. 87; 81 L.T. 564; 48 W.R. 177; 16 T.L.R. 44 C.A.	94
Liverpool Corp. v. Coghill (H.) & Son [1918] 1 Ch. 307; 82 J.P. 129; 87 L.J.Ch. 186; 118 L.T. 336; 34 T.L.R. 159; 16 L.G.R. 91	102
Lloyd's Bank Ltd. v. Margolis [1954] 1 W.L.R. 644; 98 S.J. 250; [1954] 1 All E.R. 734 .	37, 38
London Borough of Lewisham v. Leslie & Co. Ltd. (1978) 250 E.G. 1289; (1978) 12 Build. L.R. 22, C.A.	28
London Borough of Merton v. Lowe (1981) 18 B.L.R. 130, C.A.	35
London Congregational Union Inc. v. Harriss & Harriss [1988] 1 All E.R. 15; (1986) 280 E.G. 1342; (1987) 3 Const.L.J. 37; (1987) 35 Build. L.R. 58; (1987) 8 ConLR 52; [1986] 2 E.G.L.R. 155, C.A.; reversing in part [1985] 1 All E.R. 335; [1984] C.I.L.L. 85; (1984) 1 Const.L.J. 54	11, 45

Long v. Hepworth [1968] 1 W.L.R. 1299; (1968) 112 S.J. 485; [1968] 3 All E.R. 248	64
Lord St. John v. Boughton. <i>See</i> St. John (Lord) v. Boughton.	
Lye v. Marks and Spencer plc, <i>The Times</i> , February 15, 1988, C.A.	84
Lynn v. Bamber [1930] 2 K.B. 72; 74 S.J. 298; 99 L.J.K.B. 504; 143 L.T. 231; 46 T.L.R. 367	9, 33
McCafferty v. Metropolitan Police District Receiver [1977] 1 W.L.R. 1073; [1977] I.C.R. 799; (1977) 121 S.J. 678; [1977] 2 All E.R. 756, C.A.	71, 83, 84
McGahie v. Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers, 1966 S.L.T. 74	66
McNaughton v. Hicks Anderson. <i>See</i> James McNaughton Paper Group v. Hicks Anderson.	
Marren v. Dawson Bentley & Co. Ltd. [1961] 2 Q.B. 135; [1961] 2 W.L.R. 679; 105 S.J. 383; [1961] 2 All E.R. 270	10
Marsden v. Miller, <i>The Times</i> , January 23, 1992, C.A.	94
Marshall v. Martin, June 10, 1987, C.A., unreported	82
— v. Southampton & South-West Hampshire Health Authority (Teaching) (No. 152/84) [1986] Q.B. 401; [1986] 2 W.L.R. 780; [1986] I.C.R. 335; (1986) 130 S.J. 340; [1986] 2 All E.R. 584; [1986] 1 C.M.L.R. 688; [1986] 2 E.C.R. 723; [1986] I.R.L.R. 140; (1986) 83 L.S.Gaz. 1720, European Ct.	84
Marston v. British Railways Board [1976] I.C.R. 124	82
Masters v. Brent London Borough Council [1978] 1 Q.B. 841; [1978] 2 W.L.R. 768; (1977) 122 S.J. 300; [1978] 2 All E.R. 664; (1977) 76 L.G.R. 379; (1977) 245 E.G. 483 ...	58
Maxwell v. Murphy (1957) 96 C.L.R. 261, High Ct. of Australia	5
Melton v. Walker & Stanger (1981) 125 S.J. 861	50
Metall und Rohstoff AG v. Donaldson Lufkin & Jenrette Inc. [1990] 1 Q.B. 391; [1989] 3 W.L.R. 563; (1989) 133 S.J. 1200; [1989] 3 All E.R. 14, C.A.; reversing in part [1988] 3 W.L.R. 548; [1988] 3 All E.R. 116; [1988] 2 FTLR 93; [1988] L.S.Gaz., September 14, 46	7
Midland Bank Trust Co. v. Hett, Stubbs and Kemp (a firm) [1979] Ch. 384; [1978] 3 W.L.R. 167; (1977) 121 S.J. 830; [1978] 3 All E.R. 571	2, 33, 35, 36, 49, 50
Miller v. Jackson [1977] Q.B. 966; [1977] 3 W.L.R. 20; (1977) 121 S.J. 287; [1977] 3 All E.R. 338, C.A.	100
— v. London Electrical Manufacturing Co., 120 S.J. 80; [1976] 2 Lloyd's Rep. 284, C.A.	84
Mills v. Silver [1991] Fam. 217; [1991] 2 W.L.R. 324; [1991] 1 All E.R. 449; (1990) 61 P. & C.R. 366; (1990) 134 S.J. 1402; <i>The Independent</i> , July 11, 1990, C.A.	102, 103, 104, 105
Ministry of Health v. Simpson [1951] A.C. 251; 66 T.L.R. (Pt. 2) 1915; [1950] 2 All E.R. 1137; <i>sub nom.</i> <i>Re Diplock</i> , Minister of Health v. Simpson, 94 S.J. 777, H.L.; affirming <i>sub nom.</i> <i>Re Diplock</i> , Diplock v. Wintle [1984] Ch. 465; [1984] L.J.R. 1670; 92 S.J. 484; <i>sub nom.</i> <i>Re Diplock's Estate</i> ; Diplock v. Wintle [1984] 2 All E.R. 318, C.A.; reversing [1947] Ch. 716; [1947] L.J.R. 1158; 177 L.T. 40; 91 S.J. 248; [1947] 1 All E.R. 522	24, 25, 37, 119
Misset v. Council of the European Communities (Case No. 152/85) [1987] E.C.R. 223; <i>The Times</i> , March 23, 1987, European Ct.	112
Mitchell v. Harris Engineering Co. Ltd. [1967] 2 Q.B. 703; [1967] 3 W.L.R. 447; 111 S.J. 355; [1967] 2 All E.R. 682, C.A.	13
Modern Engineering (Bristol) v. Gilbert-Ash (Northern). <i>See</i> Gilbert-Ash (Northern) v. Modern Engineering (Bristol).	
Mondel v. Steel (1841) 8 M. & W. 858; 1 Dowl. N.S. 1; 10 L.J. Ex. 426; 151 E.R. 1288 ..	17
Moore (D.W.) & Co. v. Ferrier [1988] 1 W.L.R. 267; (1988) 132 S.J. 227; [1988] 1 All E.R. 400, C.A.	49, 50–51
Moschi v. Lep Air Services Ltd. [1973] A.C. 331; [1972] 2 W.L.R. 1175; 116 S.J. 372; [1972] 2 All E.R. 393, H.L.; affirming <i>sub nom.</i> Lep Air Services v. Rolloswin Investments [1971] 3 All E.R. 45, C.A.	39
Moses v. Lovegrove [1952] 2 Q.B. 533; [1952] 1 T.L.R. 1324; 96 S.J. 344; [1952] 1 All E.R. 1279, C.A.	91, 92, 96
Mouna, <i>The</i> [1991] 2 Lloyd's Rep. 221; <i>The Times</i> , May 7, 1991, C.A.; reversing [1990] 2 Lloyd's Rep. 7; <i>The Times</i> , March 24, 1990.	13
Mount Carmel Investments Ltd. v. Peter Thurlow Ltd. [1988] 1 W.L.R. 1078; [1988] 3 All E.R. 129; (1988) 57 P. & C.R. 396, C.A.	98

Murphy v. Brentwood District Council [1991] 1 A.C. 398; [1990] 3 W.L.R. 414; [1990] 2 All E.R. 908; (1990) 22 H.L.R. 502; (1990) 134 S.J. 1076; 21 Con.L.R. 1; 89 L.G.R. 24; (1990) 6 Const.L.J. 304; (1990) 54 L.G. Rev. 1010; [1990] L.S.Gaz. August 29, 15; (1990) 134 S.J. 1058; (1990) 134 S.J. 1974; 50 B.L.R. 1; (1990) 3 Admin.L.R. 37, H.L.; reversing [1990] 2 W.L.R. 944; [1990] 2 All E.R. 269; 88 L.G.R. 333; (1990) 134 S.J. 458; [1990] L.S.Gaz. February 7, 42, C.A.; affirming 13 Con.L.R. 96 .. 15, 37, 46, 47-48, 61	
Murray v. East India Co. (1821) 5 B. & Ald. 204; [1814-1823] All E.R. Rep. 227; 106 E.R. 1167	2
Musurus Bey v. Gadban [1894] 2 Q.B. 352; 38 S.J. 511; [1893-1894] All E.R. Rep. 761; 63 L.J.Q.B. 621; 71 L.T. 51; 42 W.R. 545; 10 T.L.R. 493; 9 R. 519, C.A.	8
Napper v. National Coal Board, March 1, 1990, C.A., unreported	80, 81, 84
Nash v. Eli Lilly [1991] 2 Med.L.R. 169; <i>The Times</i> , January 31, 1991 ... 69, 70, 80, 81, 84-85	
National Bank of Commerce v. National Westminster Bank [1990] 2 Lloyd's Rep. 514; <i>Financial Times</i> , March 18, 1990	38
National Geographical Association v. Peter Thimbleby [1984] 25 B.L.R. 94	11
Nebe v. Commission of the European Communities (No. 24/69) [1970] E.C.R. 145	110
Newham v. Lawson (1971) 115 S.J. 446; (1971) 22 P. & C.R. 852	103, 107
Newman v. Bevan Funnell Ltd., October 29, 1990, C.A., unreported	74, 83
Newton v. Cammell Laird & Co. (Shipbuilders and Engineers) [1969] 1 W.L.R. 415; 113 S.J. 89; [1969] 1 All E.R. 708; 6 K.I.R. 195; [1969] 1 Lloyd's Rep. 224, C.A.	68, 72
Nicholson v. England [1926] 2 K.B. 93; [1925] All E.R. Rep. 335; 95 L.J.K.B. 505; 134 L.T. 702, D.C.	96
Nisbet and Potts' Contract, <i>Re</i> [1906] 1 Ch. 386; 50 S.J. 191; [1904-1907] All E.R. Rep. 865; 75 L.J.Ch. 238; 94 L.T. 297; 54 W.R. 286; 22 T.L.R. 233, C.A.	99
Nitrigin Eireann Teoranta v. Inco Alloys Ltd. [1992] 1 All E.R. 854	47
Ocean Estates Ltd. v. Pinder (Norman) [1969] 2 A.C. 19; [1969] 2 W.L.R. 1359; <i>sub nom.</i> Ocean Estates v. Pinder (1969) 113 S.J. 71, P.C.	94
Oliver, <i>Re</i> , Theobald v. Oliver [1927] 2 Ch. 323; 71 S.J. 710; 96 L.J.Ch. 496; 137 L.T. 788	119
O'Reilly v. Mackman; Millbanks v. Secretary of State for the Home Department [1983] 2 A.C. 237; [1982] 3 W.L.R. 1096; (1982) 126 S.J. 820; [1982] 3 All E.R. 1124, H.L.; affirming O'Reilly v. Mackman; Derbyshire v. Same; Dougan v. Same; Millbanks v. Home Office [1982] 3 W.L.R. 604; (1982) 126 S.J. 578; [1982] 3 All E.R. 680; (1982) 79 L.S.Gaz. 1176, C.A.; reversing (1982) 126 S.J. 312	108
Paradise Beach and Transportation Company Ltd. v. Price-Robinson (Cyril) [1968] A.C. 1072; [1968] 2 W.L.R. 873; <i>sub nom.</i> Paradise Beach and Transportation Co. v. Robinson (1968) 112 S.J. 113; <i>sub nom.</i> Paradise Beach and Transportation Co. v. Price-Robinson [1968] 1 All E.R. 530, P.C.	94
Parker (William C.) v. Harn (F.J.) & Son [1972] 1 W.L.R. 1583; 116 S.J. 903; [1972] 3 All E.R. 1051, C.A.	19
Peco Arts Inc. v. Hazlitt Gallery Ltd. (1983) 1 W.L.R. 1315; (1983) 127 S.J. 806; [1983] 3 All E.R. 193; (1984) 81 L.S.Gaz. 203	25, 26, 27, 28
Pegler v. Railway Executive [1948] A.C. 332; [1948] L.J.R. 939; 64 T.L.R. 212; 92 S.J. 296; [1948] 1 All E.R. 559, H.L.; affirming <i>sub nom.</i> Pegler v. Great Western Ry., 63 T.L.R. 178; [1947] 1 All E.R. 355	33
Penny v. Brice (1865) 18 C.B.N.S. 393; 11 L.T. 632; 13 W.L. 342; 144 E.R. 497	118
Perry v. Phillips (Sidney) & Son (a firm) [1982] 1 W.L.R. 1297; (1982) 126 S.J. 626; [1982] 3 All E.R. 705; (1983) 22 Build. L.R. 120; (1982) E.G. 888; (1982) 79 L.S.Gaz. 1175, C.A.; reversing [1982] 1 All E.R. 1005; [1981] 260 E.G. 389	65
— (Howard E.) & Co. v. British Railways Board [1980] I.C.R. 743; [1980] 1 W.L.R. 1375; (1980) 124 S.J. 591; [1980] 2 All E.R. 579	59
— (Patrick J.) v. Woodfarm Homes Ltd. (1975) I.R. 104, Irish Sup. Ct.	98
Pheasant v. Smith (S.T.H.) (Tyres) Ltd. <i>See</i> Firman v. Ellis.	
Phillips v. Eyre (1870) L.R. 6 Q.B. 1; 10 B. & S. 1004; 40 L.J.Q.B. 28; 22 L.T. 869, Ex. Ch.	7
Phillips-Higgins v. Harper [1954] 1 Q.B. 411; [1954] 2 W.L.R. 782; 98 S.J. 250; [1954] 2 All E.R. 51n, C.A.; affirming [1954] 2 W.L.R. 117; 98 S.J. 45; [1954] 1 All E.R. 116 .. 24, 25	
Pilmore (Matthew Ernest Martin) v. Northern Trawlers [1986] 1 Lloyd's Rep. 552	75, 83