

HH Judge Michael Fysh QC, SC

A Brief Career History

Michael Fysh was born in the USA in 1940 where his early education was undertaken. He is a British national. He attended Downside School and after a year at Grenoble University (France) read Natural Sciences (Chemistry) at Oxford (BA 1962, MA 1969). Judge Fysh was called to the Bar by the Inner Temple in 1963 and for some 25 years practised as a barrister in the field of Intellectual Property in England and Ireland. He was involved as junior counsel and later as senior counsel in a number of well-known cases. He was appointed QC (Queen's Counsel) in 1989 and QC in Northern Ireland (1990), SC (Senior Counsel) in Trinidad & Tobago (1990) and SC in Dublin in 1994 (where he was a subscribing member of the Bar Library for many years). Judge Fysh has also practised extensively in Commonwealth countries having been called to the Bar in New South Wales and admitted to practise as an advocate in both India and Pakistan. He has frequently acted as an arbitrator in IP related matters and has lectured extensively for *inter alia* WIPO, Geneva, UNDP, the EPO, OHIM, Alicante and for the UK Foreign Office in various places. He also participates annually in judicial instruction at the Indian Institute of Judicial Studies, Bhopal.

He was author of *Russell-Clarke on Registered Designs* (5th Edn.) and for over 20 years was editor of the specialist *Reports of Patent Cases* and *Fleet Street Reports*. He was author of *The Spycatcher Cases* (The European Law Centre 1989), *The IP Citator* (Sweet & Maxwell 1982 and continuing) and is Editor of *Butterworth's Modern Law of Patents* (2005). He has contributed articles to both British and overseas legal journals.

Judge Fysh has served on the International Relations Committee of the Bar Council. He became head of chambers at 8 New Square, Lincoln's Inn in 1993 succeeding Thomas Blanco-White QC and Robin (now Lord Justice) Jacob. He is visiting Professor at the Indian Institute of IP Law, New Delhi.

In 1999 Judge Fysh was appointed a Deputy High Court judge (Chancery Division) and in 2001 was made Senior Circuit Judge having responsibility for the Patents County Court in England and Wales. He is also a judge of the Technology and Construction Court. In November 2005, Judge Fysh was awarded an Hon LLD at Wolverhampton University, England for services to IP law. In March 2006 he was appointed Chairman of the UK Copyright Tribunal.

Judge Fysh is fluent in French and his interests range from forestry to the law of manorial foreshore rights. He is married with three children and lives in London.

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