

[Colin Birss](#) read Natural Sciences at Downing College, Cambridge, UK, graduating in 1986. After a period programming computers, he undertook the CPE at City University in 1988 and [was called to the English Bar in 1990](#), [building up a successful practice as a barrister in intellectual property law](#), appearing before the English Courts, the European Patent Office and the European Court of Justice. [Appointed Standing Counsel for the Comptroller General of Patents, Trade Marks and Designs in 2003](#), Colin Birss [took silk in 2008](#). He also worked as a member of the Professional Conduct and Complaints Committee of the Bar Standards Board from 2003 – 2009. In 2010 he left the English Bar to become the new judge of the Patents County Court and Chairman of the UK Copyright Tribunal. His appointment to the PCC coincided with the introduction of new procedural rules in the Patents County Court in order to streamline the procedure.