

The logo for Barker Brettell, featuring the company name in a serif font. The background of the entire page is a dark blue pattern with traditional Japanese motifs, including stylized waves and colorful fish (koi) in shades of purple, red, and blue.

**Barker
Brettell**

Intellectual
Property

+44(0)121 456 0000

✉ info@barkerbrettell.co.uk

An introduction to Barker Brettell

Our work in Japan

barkerbrettell.co.uk

"An excellent firm that consistently outperforms reasonable expectations."

Recognition & Accreditations



**Your innovation. Your ideas.
Your business. Your world.**

An introduction to Barker Brettell

Thank you for the opportunity to briefly introduce our firm

Established in 1891, Barker Brettell is a modern and vibrant intellectual property (IP) practice, putting IP on our clients' board room agenda. Our cornerstones continue to be patents, trade marks, designs & copyright.

Our clients benefit from over 60 attorneys and trainee attorneys with a variety of academic backgrounds, as well as a large and highly regarded support network of 30 paralegals plus administrators.

We are fortunate and proud to have a UK-based and international client portfolio that spans independent inventors, start-ups, SMEs, universities and other research institutions, and government agencies as well as large multi-national and global corporations.

Providing practical and strategic IP advice is a given – it's what we do day in and day out. But we are more than IP attorneys – we are business advisors and problem solvers, and our aim is simple – to make our clients' lives easier.

We hope you find this brief introduction to our firm useful. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any additional information at this stage.

Barker Brettell would be delighted to work with you and your clients.

Our work in Japan

We have been actively growing and successfully nurturing our working relationships with Japanese attorneys which has resulted in a steady stream of work in recent years.

Japan is an important market for us and our domestic clients, especially in patent filings and trade mark activity.

Our attorneys regularly attend the major international conferences, including AIPLA, AIPPI, APAA, AUTM, ECTA, FICPI, INTA/INTA TMAP/INTA Leadership, Marques, Union-IP, IPO Annual Meeting, BIO International and PTMG, to stay informed and updated on any changes to case law and technical procedures, maintain regular contact with our global clients and identify new client opportunities. Notably, we have contributed to and helped shape the agenda of these conferences, highlighting our continued expertise and knowledge.

What our clients say ...

"They are always proactive about protecting our brand, advice is concise and timely when problems arise, and their knowledge is extensive but they are able to communicate it to us in a digestible form."

"The Barker Brettell team has been a reliable partner for our firm. Their technical knowledge has been spot on and their professionalism is top tier. They are quick with their response."

"An excellent firm that consistently outperforms reasonable expectations."

"The team quickly becomes part of your business. They are on hand for advice whenever required, making you feel part of their team by creating an approachable dynamic."

"With Barker Brettell's unquestionable support we have gone from strength to strength and are currently using our protection to launch in other territories."

"I have sent every EPO and UK patent matter to Barker Brettell for almost a decade and it's a pleasure working with you. Every contact is reliable, responsive, insightful, and accommodating."

"Thank you for all the help you have given me in building my IP portfolio. Your advice has been invaluable, and I won't hesitate to recommend the services of Barker Brettell to other aspiring inventors."

"It's rare in business that you come across true professionals and when you do, it's a reassuring feeling. When it comes to patents, there is not much that is more complicated. Knowing we have Barker Brettell by our side is mighty reassuring."

Our firm

About us

Today, we are a modern and vibrant intellectual property (IP) practice, the cornerstone of which continues to be patents, trade marks, designs, and copyright.

We have a wide range of attorneys with different technical specialisms and the strength and depth of our support teams mean we are equipped to ensure responsiveness to our clients.

We are proud to work with a diverse range of clients across the globe to provide practical and commercial IP advice.

1891

The firm was born when George Barker joined forces with Frederick Brettell to provide patent, trade mark, copyright and designs advice from offices in Colmore Row, the heart of Birmingham's business district.

1928

William Duncan joined the firm which changed its name to Barker, Brettell and Duncan, with each member serving as President of the Chartered Institute of Patent Agents (CIPA).

1957

As the firm grew it located from Colmore Row in central Birmingham to larger premises on the Hagley Road in Edgbaston.

1998

The firm rebranded as Barker Brettell and became an LLP in 2008.

2019

The doors of our Stockholm office, home to Barker Brettell Sweden AB, open.

60+
attorneys

28
partners

5
offices across
the UK &
Europe

130+
professional
support staff

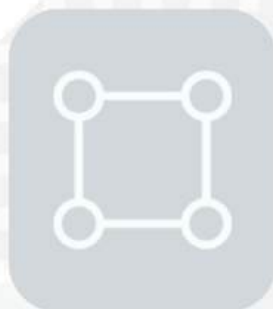


Our expertise



Patents

We regularly and consistently rank highly for UK and European patent filings, and we are confident that the ratio of our patent attorneys to patent filings far outperforms many of our competitors. Our patent specialisms include pre-filing advice and patentability searches, invention mining and the drafting of applications for new inventions, the filing and prosecution of patent applications, advice on contentious issues, EPO opposition work, freedom-to-operate opinions, landscape searching, transactional work relating to IP ownership and licensing, and IP-related due diligence.



Designs & Copyright

Designs continue to be a real specialism within our practice, and we are routinely ranked as one of the highest filers of EU designs of any UK firm. With much interplay between designs and other IP rights, our designs team comprises patent and trade mark attorneys who provide robust and cost-effective strategies for design protection. As such, we've built a strong reputation for design advice and strategy over the years.



Trade marks

Acting directly before the UKIPO, EUIPO and WIPO, we consistently rank among the top filers of UK and EU trade marks. Our trade mark specialisms include IP strategy, the searching, filing and prosecution of applications, oppositions, cancellations, enforcement programmes, the negotiation of settlement agreements, renewals, assignments and licensing, domain name issues, internet takedown actions, customs and excise actions, due diligence exercises, portfolio management, and counterfeiting issues.



Oppositions & Appeals

We have a strong track record in patent and trade mark oppositions and appeals. Whether your IP rights need defending from third-party attacks, you want to challenge the validity of IP rights belonging to others, or you need to challenge a decision already issued by an IPO, our attorneys are accomplished at protecting the interests of businesses during disputes. An opposition or appeal is not only about whether you win but also whether the outcome is right for you commercially.

Our markets

▶ Aerospace and defence

▶ Automotive

▶ Biotechnology

▶ Chemistry

▶ Computing & AI

▶ Consumer products

▶ Cosmetics

▶ Electronics

▶ Energy

▶ Engineering

▶ Fintech

▶ Food & Drink

▶ Industrial systems

▶ Life Sciences

▶ Materials

▶ Medical

▶ Nanotechnology

▶ Optics

▶ Pharmaceuticals

▶ Physics

▶ Software

▶ Telecommunications

▶ Universities

▶ Wearable tech

We provide all of the services you would expect of patent, design and trademark attorneys and we aim to match the skills of the attorneys handling your work to your needs. As well as technical know-how, many of our attorneys also have significant experience working with clients in particular sectors, and can use the insight they have gained to advise other businesses operating in the same, or similar industries.

Our culture

Our people are our biggest asset.

We have over 60 attorneys with a variety of academic backgrounds, as well as a large and highly regarded support network of paralegals and administrators.

We are a female-majority owned firm committed to equality, diversity, and inclusion.

We are truly committed to providing a supportive working environment that respects and values each employee regardless of their background and experience.

We deal with all those we come into contact with throughout our work with attention, courtesy, consideration, respect, and dignity, and we place this personal responsibility on each staff member.

We are committed to acting ethically and with integrity in all our business processes and relationships.

Quality at the centre of our professionalism

It is our policy to put client's interests first; delivering a high-quality service and maintaining client focus in everything we do. Our aim is to make a client's life easier in the IP world.

When it comes to client service, we are committed to:

- Doing the hard work for our clients
- Establishing, maintaining and building a strong, trusted relationship
- Being results-focused
- Considering our clients' commercial objectives and specific requirements at all times

Social responsibility

No matter how small, we recognise the importance of the impact of our activities on the environment, and we acknowledge that there is a responsibility to constantly consider ways to conserve energy and minimise waste in all activities we undertake.

As part of this, we encourage the cooperation and involvement of all our people in environmental management.

"We are proud of what we have already achieved but we know we can never become complacent. We need to keep evolving and educating."

Meet our managing partner



Yvonne Johnson
Managing Partner

UK & European Patent Attorney,
UPC Representative.

"My ambition is to ensure we flourish as a thriving and modern business and deliver real competitive advantage for our clients".

Elected to Managing Partner in 2024, Yvonne is an experienced patent attorney, having worked in the profession for over 25 years, and has a formidable reputation when it comes to dealing with oppositions and appeals. She is recognized for providing pragmatic and commercially focused advice.

Yvonne's main focus of work is within the field of chemistry and life sciences, including: "green" innovations; polymers, pigments and dyes; fuel technology; flavors and fragrances. She also has broad experience working within the healthcare and medical fields, including pharmaceutical formulations, and is adept at navigating excluded matter rules in Europe in the fields of therapeutic, surgical and diagnostic methods.

Our offices



Birmingham

100 Hagley Road
Edgbaston
Birmingham
B16 8QQ
United Kingdom

Tel: +44 (0) 121 456 0000
Fax: +44 (0) 121 456 1368

info@barkerbrettell.co.uk



Southampton

Medina Chambers
Town Quay
Southampton
SO14 2AQ
United Kingdom

Tel: +44 (0) 23 8033 6970
Fax: +44 (0) 23 8033 7006

info@barkerbrettell.co.uk

Meet our senior partner



John Lawrence
Senior Partner

UK & European Patent Attorney,
UPC Representative.

"Making our clients' lives easier underpins everything we do, and we are best known for our pragmatic and robust advice across all of our specialisms".

John has over 40 years' experience as a patent attorney and acts for a diverse range of clients, from startups and SMEs to large global corporates. His degree in Natural Sciences means he is well placed to help clients in the physics and computer-implemented technologies fields.

John has deep and varied experience in writing and prosecuting patents in advanced engineering, aerospace, lasers and optics hardware, medical devices and implants and software controlled telemedicine/robotic surgery, and medical IT systems.



Stockholm

Kungsbroplan 3
112 27 Stockholm
Sweden

Tel: +46 (0) 872 161 00
Fax: +46 (0) 845 811 28

sthlm@barkerbrettell.se



London

Holborn Gate
330 High Holborn
London
WC1V 7QH
United Kingdom

info@barkerbrettell.co.uk



Uppsala

Uppsala
Green Innovation Park
Ulls väg 29C
756 51 Uppsala
Sweden

Tel: +46 (0) 872 161 00

sthlm@barkerbrettell.se