

FRANCIS NEATE qualified as a solicitor in 1966 and became a partner in Slaughter and May in 1972. He retired in 1997 and joined Schrodgers as Group Legal Adviser. In 2004 he became Of Counsel to Kirkland & Ellis. He has spent all his working life as an international legal practitioner in a variety of fields.

He was born in 1940 and educated at St. Paul's School in London, Oxford University (BA in Jurisprudence) and the University of Chicago (J.D.).

He has been involved in the management of the IBA almost continuously for more than 20 years, including as Chair of the Banking Law Committee, Chair of the Section on Business Law, Treasurer of the IBA and now President.

He has been married for over 40 years and has four children and four grandchildren. The rumour that he is fanatical about cricket, is completely false.