

# Court Book – PART A

NSD 1727 of 2025

Federal Court of Australia

District Registry: New South Wales

Division: General

**Charlotte MacInnes**

Applicant

**Rebel Wilson**

Respondent

## PART A – Pleadings, and Publications

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## NOTICE OF FILING AND HEARING

### Filing and Hearing Details

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*Sia Lagos*

Registrar

### Important Information

This Notice has been inserted as the first page of the document which has been accepted for electronic filing. It is now taken to be part of that document for the purposes of the proceeding in the Court and contains important information for all parties to that proceeding. It must be included in the document served on each of those parties.

The date of the filing of the document is determined pursuant to the Court's Rules.



## Originating Application

No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 2025

Federal Court of Australia  
District Registry: New South Wales  
Division: General

**Charlotte MacInnes**

Applicant

**Rebel Wilson**

Respondent

To the Respondent

The Applicant applies for the relief set out in this application.

The Court will hear this application, or make orders for the conduct of the proceeding, at the time and place stated below. If you or your lawyer do not attend, then the Court may make orders in your absence.

You must file a notice of address for service (Form 10) in the Registry before attending Court or taking any other steps in the proceeding.

**Time and date for hearing:**

**Place:**

Date: 22 September 2025

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signed by an officer acting with the authority  
of the District Registrar

Filed on behalf of (name & role of party) Charlotte MacInnes, Applicant  
Prepared by (name of person/lawyer) Patrick George  
Law firm (if applicable) Giles George  
Tel 1300 163 662 Fax \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Address for service** 135 King Street  
(include state and postcode) Sydney NSW 2000

[Form approved 01/08/2011]

**Details of claim**

On the grounds stated in the Applicant's Statement of Claim, the Applicant claims:

1. Damages for defamation, including aggravated damages.
2. Equitable compensation for breach of confidence.
3. An order restraining the Respondent from publishing any imputation found by the Court to be carried by the Publications (as defined at paragraph 17 of the Statement of Claim) or any of them.
4. Costs.
5. Interest.
6. Such further or other orders as the Court deems fit or thinks necessary.

The Applicant's address for service is:

Place: c/- Giles George, 135 King Street, Sydney NSW 2000

Email: [patrick.george@gilesgeorge.com.au](mailto:patrick.george@gilesgeorge.com.au) and [jeremy.marel@gilesgeorge.com.au](mailto:jeremy.marel@gilesgeorge.com.au)

The Applicant's address is c/- Giles George, 135 King Street, Sydney NSW 2000.

**Service on the Respondent**

It is intended to serve this Originating Application on the Respondent.

Date: 22 September 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P. George', written over a light grey rectangular background.

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Signed by Patrick George  
Lawyer for the Applicant

## NOTICE OF FILING

### Details of Filing

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*Sia Lagos*

Registrar

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## Statement of Claim

No. of 2025

Federal Court of Australia

District Registry: New South Wales

Division: General

### Charlotte MacInnes

Applicant

### Rebel Wilson

Respondent

### Parties

1. The Applicant, Charlotte MacInnes (**MacInnes**):

1.1 was born in Western Australia;

1.2 studied contemporary voice and musical theatre at the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts;

1.3 graduated with a bachelor's degree in Musical Theatre from the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts in 2021;

1.4 is an actor and singer;

1.5 acted in the leading role in the film *The Deb*, which premiered in its first public screening at the Toronto International Film Festival on 14 September 2024 but has not yet been publicly released.

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Filed on behalf of (name & role of party)	Charlotte MacInnes, Applicant
Prepared by (name of person/lawyer)	Patrick George
Law firm (if applicable)	Giles George
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<b>Address for service</b> (include state and postcode)	135 King Street Sydney NSW 2000

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[Form approved 01/08/2011]

2. The Respondent, Rebel Wilson (**Wilson**):
  - 2.1 is a well-known actor who has been acting professionally since about 2002;
  - 2.2 has performed in a number of films both in Australia and internationally;
  - 2.3 directed and acted in and was a co-producer of the film *The Deb*;
  - 2.4 is and at all material times was the publisher of content on:
    - a. the Instagram account @rebelwilson (at the URL: <https://www.instagram.com/rebelwilson/?hl=en>), which, as at the date of this pleading, has approximately 11,010,050 followers; and
    - b. the Instagram account @thedebfilm (at the URL: <https://www.instagram.com/thedebfilm/?hl=en>), which, as at the date of this pleading, has approximately 6,823 followers.

### **23 September 2024 Post**

3. On or about 23 September 2024, Wilson – herself or by her agents on her behalf - published a series of posts to her Instagram account @rebelwilson (**23 September 2024 Post**):
  - 3.1 A copy of the 23 September 2024 Post is **Annexure A** to this pleading.
  - 3.2 The 23 September 2024 Post was read by persons throughout the States and Territories within Australia including the Australian Capital Territory and Western Australia.
  - 3.3 The sense and substance of the 23 September 2024 Post was republished, as authorised and/or intended by Wilson and/or as the natural and probable result of its publication to Instagram, in the mainstream news media, on social media, and elsewhere via the grapevine effect.
  - 3.4 MacInnes relies on the republications of the 23 September 2024 Post in relation to serious harm and damages, not as separate causes of action.

4. The 23 September 2024 Post was about MacInnes in that she was reasonably identifiable and was identified as the actress referred to in it, by reason of it including:
  - 4.1 part of an article which had been published by *The Daily Mail* on or about 23 September 2024 entitled “*Actress at center of defamation suit against Rebel Wilson is REVEALED as drama from Australian star’s new film ‘The Deb’ escalates*” (**Daily Mail Article**);
  - 4.2 a statement that: “*When an actress on her first feature film is asked by a producer to stay in the same apartment as them, and then makes a complaint to me as the director saying said producer “asked her to have a bath and shower with her and it made her feel uncomfortable” – what am I supposed to do? Of course I reported it. There is no world where this is acceptable. The fact that this girl has been employed now by this ‘producer’ in the lead role of a production called GATSBY (ART Boston) and given a record label – should be all the proof you need as to why she has now changed her story;*”
  - 4.3 a photograph of MacInnes and Wilson and two other actors from *The Deb*, with a red circle around the head and shoulders of MacInnes.
5. The 23 September 2024 Post carried the following defamatory imputations (or imputations that do not differ in substance):
  - 5.1 MacInnes lied by denying that she had made a complaint to Wilson about sexual harassment or other unacceptable behaviour by a producer of the film *The Deb* that made her feel uncomfortable.
  - 5.2 MacInnes falsely changed her story that a producer of the film *The Deb* had made her feel uncomfortable by asking her to have a bath and a shower with her.
  - 5.3 MacInnes falsely changed her story that a producer of the film *The Deb* had engaged in unacceptable behaviour toward her that made her feel uncomfortable during the making of the film *The Deb* in return for being employed by the producer in the lead role of the production called GATSBY and given a record label.
  - 5.4 MacInnes was paid off by a producer of the film *The Deb* to lie about a complaint she had made to Wilson about inappropriate behaviour by that producer during the making of the film *The Deb*.

- 5.5 MacInnes was a sell out, in that she falsely denied being a victim of sexual harassment in exchange for a lead role in a production and a record label.

### **16 May 2025 Post**

6. On or around 16 May 2025, Wilson – herself or by her agents on her behalf - published a series of posts to the @thedebfilm Instagram account (**16 May 2025 Post**):

6.1 A copy of the 16 May 2025 Post is **Annexure B** to this pleading.

6.2 The 16 May 2025 Post was read by persons throughout the States and Territories within Australia including the Australian Capital Territory and Western Australia.

6.3 The sense and substance of the 16 May 2025 Post was republished, as authorised and/or intended by Wilson and/or as the natural and probable result of its publication to Instagram, in the mainstream news media, on social media, and elsewhere via the grapevine effect.

6.4 MacInnes relies on the republications of the 16 May 2025 Post in relation to serious harm and damages, not as separate causes of action.

7. The 16 May 2025 Post was about MacInnes.

8. The 16 May 2025 Post carried the following defamatory imputations (or imputations that do not differ in substance):

8.1 MacInnes lied and supported people blocking the release of the film *The Deb* in exchange for a record deal, at the expense of the 300 people who worked on *The Deb*.

8.2 MacInnes preferred her own interests to the interests of the people who worked on the film *The Deb* by accepting a record deal from the producers and supporting them in blocking the release of the film *The Deb*.

8.3 MacInnes prevented the release of the film *The Deb* through her lies and support for the people blocking the film's release.

### **Further May 2025 Post**

9. Later in May 2025, Wilson – herself or by her agents on her behalf - published a post or a series of posts to the @thedebfilm Instagram account (**Further May 2025 Post**):

- 9.1 The Further May 2025 Post was read by persons throughout the States and Territories within Australia including the Australian Capital Territory and Western Australia.
  - 9.2 The sense and substance of the Further May 2025 Post was republished, as authorised and/or intended by Wilson and/or as the natural and probable result of its publication to Instagram, in the mainstream news media, on social media, and elsewhere via the grapevine effect.
  - 9.3 MacInnes relies on the republications of the Further May 2025 Post in relation to serious harm and damages, not as separate causes of action.
10. The Further May 2025 Post was about MacInnes.
  11. The Further May 2025 Post carried the following defamatory imputations (or imputations that do not differ in substance):
    - 11.1 MacInnes lied by denying that she had made a complaint to Wilson about sexual harassment made to her by a producer of the film *The Deb*.
    - 11.2 MacInnes falsely changed her story that a producer of the film *The Deb* had sexually harassed her during the making of the film *The Deb*.
    - 11.3 MacInnes falsely changed her story that a producer of the film *The Deb* had sexually harassed her during the making of the film *The Deb* in return for being employed by the producer in the lead role of the production called GATSBY and given a record label.
    - 11.4 MacInnes was paid off by a producer of the film *The Deb* to lie about a complaint she had made to Wilson that she had been sexually harassed by the producer during the making of the film *The Deb*.
    - 11.5 MacInnes, as the lead actress of the film *The Deb*, conducted herself unprofessionally by engaging in an inappropriate relationship with one of the producers of the film and procuring special benefits not available to other cast members.
  12. In the alternative to paragraph 11 above:
    - 12.1 imputations 11.1 to 11.4 (or imputations that do not differ in substance) were carried to readers of the Further May 2025 Post who also read the 23 September 2024 Post and/or the 16 May 2025 Post; and

- 12.2 imputation 11.5 (or an imputation that does not differ in substance) was carried to readers of the Further May 2025 Post who also read the 23 September 2024 Post and/or the 16 May 2025 Post and knew that MacInnes was the lead actress of the film *The Deb*.

### **25 July 2025 Post**

13. On or about 25 July 2025, Wilson – herself or by her agents on her behalf - published a series of posts to her Instagram account @rebelwilson (**25 July 2025 Post**).
- 13.1 A copy of the 25 July 2025 Post is **Annexure C** to this pleading.
- 13.2 The 25 July 2025 Post was read by persons throughout the States and Territories within Australia including the Australian Capital Territory and Western Australia.
- 13.3 The sense and substance of the 25 July 2025 Post was republished, as authorised and/or intended by Wilson and/or as the natural and probable result of its publication to Instagram, in the mainstream news media, on social media, and elsewhere via the grapevine effect.
- 13.4 MacInnes relies on the republications of the 25 July 2025 Post in relation to serious harm and damages, not as separate causes of action.
14. The 25 July 2025 Post was about MacInnes.
15. The 25 July 2025 Post carried the following defamatory imputations (or imputations that do not differ in substance):
- 15.1 MacInnes lied by denying that she had made a complaint to Wilson about dodgy conduct towards her by a producer of the film *The Deb*.
- 15.2 MacInnes falsely changed her story that a producer of the film *The Deb* had sexually harassed her during the making of the film *The Deb*.
- 15.3 MacInnes falsely changed her story that a producer of the film *The Deb* had sexually harassed her during the making of the film *The Deb* in return for being employed by the producer in the lead role of the production called GATSBY and given a record label.
- 15.4 MacInnes was paid off by a producer of the film *The Deb* to lie about a complaint she had made to Wilson that she had been sexually harassed by the producer during the making of the film *The Deb*.

- 15.5 MacInnes lied to support the financiers of the film *The Deb* in blocking the release of the film *The Deb*.
- 15.6 MacInnes lied by denying she had complained to Wilson, who is known by everyone as a 'truth teller', about inappropriate behaviour to her by a producer during the making of the film *The Deb*, which was sexual harassment and in breach of a safe and inclusive workplace for the film.
16. In the alternative to paragraph 15 above, the imputations pleaded in paragraph 15 above (or imputations that do not differ in substance) were carried to readers of the 25 July 2025 Post who also read the 23 September 2024 Post and/or 16 May 2025 Post and/or Further May 2025 Post.

### Concerns Notice

17. On 7 August 2025, MacInnes, through her solicitors, gave a Concerns Notice (**Concerns Notice**) to Wilson under the *Defamation Act 2005* (WA) (and, to the extent necessary, the *Defamation Act 2005* (NSW) and its counterparts in the other Australian jurisdictions) in relation to the 23 September 2024 Post, the 16 May 2025 Post, the Further May 2025 Post, and the 25 July 2025 Post (together, **Publications**). A copy of the Concerns Notice (without its annexures) is **Annexure D** to this pleading.
18. Over 28 days have passed since the Concerns Notice was given to Wilson.
19. Wilson has not made any offer to make amends in relation to the Publications (or any of them).

### Applicable Law

20. As pleaded above, each of the Publications was read by persons throughout the States and Territories within Australia including the Australian Capital Territory and Western Australia.
21. MacInnes has suffered harm as a result of each of the Publications.
22. The harm occasioned by each of the Publications has its closest connection with Western Australia where MacInnes grew up and has been identified by persons who know her or know of her.
23. Accordingly, pursuant to s 11(2) and (3) of the *Defamation Act 2005* (WA), the substantive law applicable to this proceeding is the substantive law of Western Australia.

## Serious Harm

24. In the alternative to paragraphs 22 and 23 above, in the event the Court finds that the substantive law of Western Australia does not apply and that MacInnes is required to establish that each of the Publications has caused or is likely to cause serious harm to her reputation under s 10A of the *Defamation Act 2005* (NSW) (and its counterparts in the other Australian jurisdictions), MacInnes says that each of the Publications caused or was likely to cause serious harm to her reputation.
25. The 23 September 2024 Post caused or was likely to cause serious harm to MacInnes' reputation by reason of the following facts and matters:
- 25.1 the inherently serious or defamatory nature of the imputations conveyed;
  - 25.2 the 23 September 2024 Post harms and/or was likely to harm MacInnes' reputation for integrity and honesty;
  - 25.3 the harm caused or likely to be caused to MacInnes' personal and professional reputation is that MacInnes would not be regarded or reputed as trustworthy within the film industry and/or by the public generally;
  - 25.4 the wide dissemination of the 23 September 2024 Post, including:
    - c. the large numbers of followers of Wilson's Instagram account @rebelwilson; and
    - d. the wide extent of republication of the sense and substance of the 23 September 2024 Post;
  - 25.5 Wilson's followers on Instagram are likely to believe her claims, especially given she portrays herself publicly as a 'truth teller';
  - 25.6 MacInnes' role in *The Deb* was her first lead role in a film and Wilson cruelled MacInnes' professional reputation by publishing the allegations before MacInnes could even enjoy the benefit of having starred in her first lead role in a film;
  - 25.7 Wilson's reputation as a leading Australian star in the international film industry means that her statements carried particular weight within the film industry;
  - 25.8 that Wilson continued to double down on and repeat her claims – in the 16 May 2025 Post, in the Further May 2025 Post, and in the 25 July 2025 Post – made it more likely that viewers of the 23 September 2024 Post would believe her claims and increase the harm to MacInnes' reputation.

26. The 16 May 2025 Post caused or was likely to cause serious harm to MacInnes' reputation by reason of the following facts and matters:
- 26.1 the inherently serious or defamatory nature of the imputations conveyed;
  - 26.2 Wilson explicitly alleges in the 16 May 2025 Post that *The Deb* will never get released because of MacInnes' lies, portraying her as dishonest and a liar;
  - 26.3 Wilson explicitly alleges in the 16 May 2025 Post that MacInnes got a record deal at the expense of the 300 people who worked on *The Deb*, portraying her as having selfishly prioritised her own career over those of the 300 cast and crew who also worked on *The Deb*;
  - 26.4 the 16 May 2025 Post harms and/or was likely to harm MacInnes' reputation for integrity and honesty;
  - 26.5 the harm caused or likely to be caused to MacInnes' personal and professional reputation is that MacInnes would not be regarded as trustworthy within the film industry and by the public generally;
  - 26.6 the wide dissemination of the 16 May 2025 Post, including:
    - a. the large numbers of followers of the @thedebfilm Instagram account; and
    - b. the wide extent of republication of the sense and substance of the 16 May 2025 Post;
  - 26.7 Wilson's followers on Instagram are likely to believe her claims, especially given she portrays herself publicly as a 'truth teller';
  - 26.8 MacInnes' role in *The Deb* was her first lead role in a film and Wilson cruelled her professional reputation by publishing the allegations before MacInnes could even enjoy the benefit of having starred in her first lead role in a film;
  - 26.9 Wilson's reputation as a leading Australian star in the international film industry means that her statements carried particular weight within the film industry;
  - 26.10 that Wilson continued to double down on and repeat her claims – in the Further May 2025 Post and in the 25 July 2025 Post – made it more likely that viewers of the 16 May 2025 Post would believe her claims and increase the harm to MacInnes' reputation.

27. The Further May 2025 Post caused or was likely to cause serious harm to MacInnes' reputation by reason of the following facts and matters:
- 27.1 the inherently serious and defamatory nature of the imputations conveyed;
  - 27.2 the Further May 2025 Post harms and/or was likely to harm MacInnes' reputation for integrity and honesty;
  - 27.3 the harm caused or likely to be caused to MacInnes' personal and professional reputation is that MacInnes would not be regarded as trustworthy within the film industry and by the public generally;
  - 27.4 the wide dissemination of the Further May 2025 Post, including:
    - a. the large numbers of followers of the @thedebfilm Instagram account; and
    - b. the wide extent of republication of the sense and substance of the Further May 2025 Post;
  - 27.5 Wilson's followers on Instagram are likely to believe her claims, especially given she portrays herself publicly as a 'truth teller';
  - 27.6 MacInnes' role in *The Deb* was her first lead role in a film and Wilson cruelled her professional reputation by publishing the allegations before MacInnes could even enjoy the benefit of having starred in her first lead role in a film;
  - 27.7 Wilson's reputation as a leading Australian star in the international film industry means that her statements carried particular weight within the film industry;
  - 27.8 that Wilson continued to double down on and repeat her claims – in the 25 July 2025 Post – made it more likely that viewers of the Further May 2025 Post would believe her claims and increase the harm to MacInnes' reputation.
28. The 25 July 2025 Post caused or was likely to cause serious harm to MacInnes' reputation by reason of the following facts and matters:
- 28.1 the inherently serious or defamatory nature of the imputations conveyed;
  - 28.2 the 25 July 2025 Post harms and/or was likely to harm MacInnes' reputation for integrity and honesty and her professionalism;

- 28.3 the harm caused or likely to be caused to MacInnes' personal and professional reputation is that MacInnes would not be regarded as trustworthy within the film industry and by the public generally;
- 28.4 the wide dissemination of the 25 July 2025 Post, including:
- a. the large numbers of followers of Wilson's Instagram account @rebelwilson; and
  - b. the wide extent of republication of the sense and substance of the 25 July 2025 Post;
- 28.5 Wilson's followers on Instagram are likely to believe her claims, especially given she portrays herself publicly as a 'truth teller';
- 28.6 MacInnes' role in *The Deb* was her first lead role in a film and Wilson cruelled her professional reputation by publishing the allegations before MacInnes could even enjoy the benefit of having starred in her first lead role in a film;
- 28.7 Wilson's reputation as a leading Australian star in the international film industry means that her statements carried particular weight within the film industry.

### **Breach of Confidence**

29. To the extent that Wilson alleges MacInnes made a complaint against Amanda Ghost (**Ghost**) to Wilson during the production of *The Deb* (which MacInnes denies):
- 29.1 the information provided by MacInnes in any such complaint, and the fact that any such complaint had been made, was private and confidential to MacInnes, especially if the complaint involved allegations of sexual harassment or that MacInnes had been made to feel uncomfortable by a producer;
  - 29.2 that information should not have been disclosed by Wilson to anyone other than MacInnes' employer without MacInnes' permission, and certainly should not have been disclosed by Wilson to Ghost as the subject of the complaint;
  - 29.3 Wilson owed a duty of confidence to MacInnes as a producer and director of *The Deb*;
  - 29.4 the Publications by Wilson constituted a breach of confidence owed to MacInnes.

## Damages

30. By reason of the publication and republication of the Publications, MacInnes has been seriously injured in her reputation personally and professionally, and in her career, and has suffered and will continue to suffer substantial distress, embarrassment and hurt.

31. MacInnes relies on her knowledge of the following conduct of Wilson, which was improper, unjustifiable and/or lacking in bona fides and which has increased the harm suffered by MacInnes so as to warrant an award of aggravated damages:

31.1 Wilson's knowledge, prior to the Publications, of the falsity of the imputations:

- a) MacInnes did not make 'a complaint' to Wilson about the producer's conduct toward her as alleged in the Publications by Wilson.
- b) On 5 September 2023, Ghost, one of the producers of *The Deb*, experienced a medical episode after entering cold water at Bondi Beach. MacInnes helped Ghost back to her apartment where they and others were staying and helped stabilise her condition by running a hot shower and bath for her. Both women remained in their bathing suits. A third person, Pia Ashcroft (**Ashcroft**), a senior member of the production team staying in the apartment, was also present.
- c) On 6 September 2023, Ghost and MacInnes openly discussed the events referred to in the preceding subparagraph with cast and crew including Wilson.
- d) On 7 September 2023, Wilson phoned Ghost and told her that MacInnes had made a complaint to Wilson that she felt uncomfortable when asked to have a bath with Ghost. Ghost was shocked by Wilson's statement and asked Wilson to clarify with MacInnes whether she was making a complaint against her.
- e) Wilson lied to Ghost about MacInnes making a complaint to Wilson against Ghost.
- f) Wilson did not report any alleged complaint (if MacInnes had made such complaint to Wilson which MacInnes denies) to the appropriate person at the production company.
- g) On 8 September 2023, Wilson phoned MacInnes and said that she wanted to make sure MacInnes was not uncomfortable with what had

occurred with Ghost at the apartment. MacInnes told Wilson she had not felt uncomfortable in any way but thanked her for checking in.

- h) Wilson phoned Ghost and said that MacInnes said that she was 'not uncomfortable' with what had occurred on the day.
- i) On 9 September 2023, Wilson travelled to the Whitsundays with her partner Ramona Agruma (**Agruma**). Wilson had, some time before, asked Ghost to accompany them to celebrate Ghost's birthday, and she paid for Ghost's accommodation at Qualia Resort on Hamilton Island.
- j) While there, Wilson said to Ghost that she wanted to fire MacInnes from the film because she believed that MacInnes was sharing confidential information about the film with Hannah Reilly (**Reilly**), the writer of the script for the film with whom Wilson was in dispute over the credit for the script, and because MacInnes had made a false accusation against Ghost. She said to Ghost words to the effect 'She made up that lie about you'. Wilson suggested MacInnes be fired for a week and then rehired to teach her a lesson. Ghost refused to agree to this. Ghost told Wilson that MacInnes would be asked to leave the apartment nonetheless.
- k) On 14 September 2023, MacInnes' agent told MacInnes that the production company was moving her back to the company's accommodation and she needed to pack up and move out of the apartment which she proceeded to do that day.
- l) On 15 September 2023, Ghost told another producer of the film, Greer Simpkin (**Simpkin**), that it was important that there be proper protocol followed in relation to Wilson's claim that MacInnes had made a complaint against her and that MacInnes be asked to provide a full statement to her agent to confirm whether she wished to proceed with any complaint of feeling uncomfortable with Ghost.
- m) On 18 September 2023, MacInnes' agent told MacInnes that she had had to move out of the apartment on 14 September 2023 because she felt uncomfortable with Amanda. MacInnes' agent then provided, on behalf of MacInnes, a written statement by email to Simpkin to set the record straight, in which she stated that there appeared to have been a misunderstanding and that MacInnes had no issue with Ghost or what had occurred on 5 September 2023 and had not felt uncomfortable. She said

that MacInnes had noticed that Ghost had distanced herself from MacInnes and it upset her because she did not know why.

- n) On 18 September 2023, Ghost sent MacInnes' agent's email to Wilson. Wilson spoke to Ghost about the email and said words to the effect 'Is she (MacInnes) calling me a liar?'
- o) Ghost and Simpkin considered the matter was a misunderstanding on Wilson's part and required no further consideration or investigation. MacInnes did not make any complaint about Ghost.
- p) Having initially tried unsuccessfully to persuade Ghost that MacInnes' claim about Ghost was a lie, Wilson then subsequently changed her position and started to claim that MacInnes' denial that she had made a complaint about Ghost to her was a lie.
- q) On 14 June 2024, Wilson's lawyer, Bryan Freedman, sent a demand letter to Ghost and two of the directors of Dunburn Debutantes Commissioning Company Pty Ltd, Gregor Cameron and Vince Holden, in which Wilson attempted to renegotiate the terms of her contracts and threatened to bring proceedings against them and alleged, amongst other allegations, that MacInnes had made a complaint to Wilson that Ghost had engaged in sexual misconduct toward MacInnes.
- r) On 3 July 2024, MacInnes signed a statement in which she declared under penalty of perjury:

*2. I have a wonderful professional relationship with Ms. Ghost and Mr. Cameron and think highly of them both. My relationship with Ms. Wilson, however, became strained early on while working on The Deb. Beginning in September 2023, Ms. Wilson made up stories about Ms. Ghost supposedly mistreating me.*

*3. Contrary to Ms. Wilson's contentions, there never was anything inappropriate or otherwise improper about my interactions and/or relationship with Ms. Ghost.*

*4. At no time did Ms. Ghost ever force me to stay at her apartment in Bondi Beach. During production, Ms. Ghost offered me to stay in the apartment. Ms. Ghost, Pia Ashcroft, and I each had separate*

*bedrooms. Mr. Cameron was not staying in the apartment at the time.*

*5. Ms. Ghost never asked me to “have a bath and shower with her.” Neither Ms. Ghost nor Mr. Cameron ever harassed me, pressured me, held me “captive” or “shuttled” me anywhere. I never complained to Ms. Wilson or anyone else that Ms. Ghost or Mr. Cameron “made me feel uncomfortable” or caused me any trauma whatsoever.*

- s) On 10 July 2024, Wilson posted a video to her Instagram page in which she accused Ghost of sexual misconduct toward the ‘lead actress of the film’.
- t) On or about 6 August 2024, Wilson requested her publicist, Melissa Nathan of US PR firm, The Agency Group PR LLC, to register and publish on the internet a series of malicious websites about Ghost.

Text messages between Melissa Nathan (**MN**) and Katie Case (**KC**) of The Agency Group PR LLC dated 6 August 2024 including the following (emoticons omitted):

MN: ... I’m already trying to kill one rebel story...

MN: So basically, Rebel wants a one [sic] of those sites

KC: I know I’m sorry

KC: And ok!

MN: Should be a mixture of that document that I think Carolina pulled about Amanda goes [sic] or the Intern pulled

The voice note and this

[url:'https://p59-content.icloud.com/MD4DB9417E1E14FEC4D80CA53C53B88F7D86C0430694B14053833DF993455B479.CO1USN00']”

Attachment: *\_Library\_SMS\_Attachments\_88\_08\_ DB9BA 138-EBEE-4043-803C-A39606AB4701 Amanda Ghostwebsite.docx (26 KB)*

KC: Okdokes! Ill pull this together this morning

MN: Thank you

It can be really really harsh and then link it to Jed S voice thing...Russian oglivarchs (sic) and making her a madam basically lol said Jed

KC: Oh my god lol ok this one will be fun

- u) The websites were published at such addresses as amandaghost.com and amandaghostsucks.com (**Websites**), and made false and malicious allegations against MacInnes and Ghost including the following:

*We won't stop. We're in this until Amanda Ghost is exposed for the evil that she is. As the Indian Ghislaine Maxwell, she trades on pleasure for protection...*

*Failing in music she turned full pimp, reinventing herself as a theatrical producer alongside her husband while really procuring young women for the pleasure of the extremely wealthy.*

*This strain of constantly procuring women could explain her company UNIGRAM's financial loss of 4.7M pounds last year. And let's only hope the hookers made up for losing her financier \$25M by mounting The Great Gatsby stage musical to simply reward an actress for remaining silent about the abuse she suffered at Ghost's hands.*

- v) On or about 19 August 2024, Wilson caused links to the Websites to be sent to associates of MacInnes and Ghost, including a link to "amandaghost.com" being sent by managementelitetalent@gmail.com to Reilly.

- w) In or around late August 2024, Wilson caused to be posted to *The Deb's* Instagram account a link to the [amandaghost.com](http://amandaghost.com) website, with the statement "please read this".
  - x) MacInnes made a statement to *The Daily Mail* in September 2024 (which was quoted in the Daily Mail Article) in which she said: "*There is no truth to the allegations made involving me. I made a statement to the film team when this was first said in September 2023 and am saying this now to draw a line under it. Making false accusations undermines real victims and I won't be the subject of a fabricated narrative.*"
  - y) Wilson continued to make the Publications about MacInnes.
- 31.2 Wilson had attempted to take adverse and prejudicial action against MacInnes whilst in Hamilton Island as pleaded at paragraph 31.1(j) above by lying and seeking to persuade Ghost to agree to fire MacInnes from the film for making a complaint to Wilson of sexual harassment or misconduct against Ghost when she had not even made a complaint. Wilson's statement to Ghost was false and malicious and intended to damage MacInnes' reputation in Ghost's estimation.
- 31.3 Wilson made the Publications on and from 23 September 2024, knowing the above circumstances and knowing that MacInnes had not made a complaint against Ghost, and did so without seeking any further information or verification from MacInnes.
- 31.4 Wilson made the Publications, knowing the above circumstances and knowing that MacInnes had not made a complaint against Ghost, and did so by disclosing and identifying MacInnes in the Publications as an alleged victim of sexual harassment or misconduct without MacInnes' permission or consent.
- 31.5 Wilson made the Publications, knowing the above circumstances and knowing that MacInnes had not made a complaint against Ghost, and knew particularly that she had attempted to persuade Ghost to agree to fire MacInnes from the film for making the complaint when she had not even done so and lied to Ghost about it.
- 31.6 Wilson's failure to apologise and retract the Publications.

## Injunctions

32. MacInnes relies upon the following facts and matters in seeking an order restraining Wilson from publishing any imputation found by the Court to be carried by the Publications (or any of them):
- 32.1 Wilson published the Publications despite knowing the allegations in them were false.
- 32.2 Wilson has repeatedly published allegations about MacInnes as pleaded in this Statement of Claim, indicating a pattern of behaviour which will continue unless she is restrained.
- 32.3 As at the date of this pleading, Wilson has not apologised to MacInnes for the Publications (or any of them).
- 32.4 Wilson's adversarial response to the Concerns Notice, in which she repeated her false and defamatory allegations and refused to retract the allegations.
- 32.5 Wilson's uncontrolled use of her social media to criticise colleagues, in relation to which she has a large worldwide audience, due to her fame.

Date: 22 September 2025



---

Signed by Patrick George

Lawyer for the Applicant

This pleading was prepared by Patrick George and Sue Chrysanthou SC

**Certificate of lawyer**

I, Patrick George, certify to the Court that, in relation to the Statement of Claim filed on behalf of the Applicant, the factual and legal material available to me at present provides a proper basis for each allegation in the pleading.

Date: 22 September 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P. George', is written on a light-colored rectangular background.

---

Signed by Patrick George

Lawyer for the Applicant

5:54 📶 🔋

 rebelwilson 🔒 4h ⋮ ✕

 MORE STORIES 🔍

### Actress at center of defamation suit against Rebel Wilson is REVEALED as drama from Australian star's new film 'The Deb' escalates

By Ruth Styles In Los Angeles For Dailymail.com  
17:17 23 Sep 2024, updated 17:47 23 Sep 2024



**Share or comment on this article:**

      2 shares

🗨️ 0 comments

❤️ 📌

5:54



rebelwilson 4h



When an actress on her first feature film is asked by a producer to stay in the same apartment as them, and then makes a complaint to me as the director saying said producer “asked her to have a bath and shower with her and it made her feel uncomfortable - what am I supposed to do?

Send message...



5:54



rebelwilson 4h



Of course I reported  
it. There is no  
world where this is  
acceptable.

Send message...



5:54



rebelwilson 4h



The fact that this  
girl has been  
employed now by this  
“producer” in the  
lead role of a  
production called  
GATSBY (ART Boston)  
and given a record  
label - should be  
all the proof you  
need as to why she  
has now changed her  
story

Send message...





Charlotte Macinnes  
in a culturally  
inappropriate Indian  
outfit on Len  
Blavatnik's luxury  
yacht in Cannes -  
ironically singing a  
song from a movie  
that will never get  
released because of  
her lies and support  
for the people  
blocking the film's  
release



thedebfilm 2h

Follow



The gorgeous voice of Charlette



So glad you got your  
record deal  
Charlotte at the  
expense of the 300  
people who worked on  
The Deb and really  
wanna see it  
released

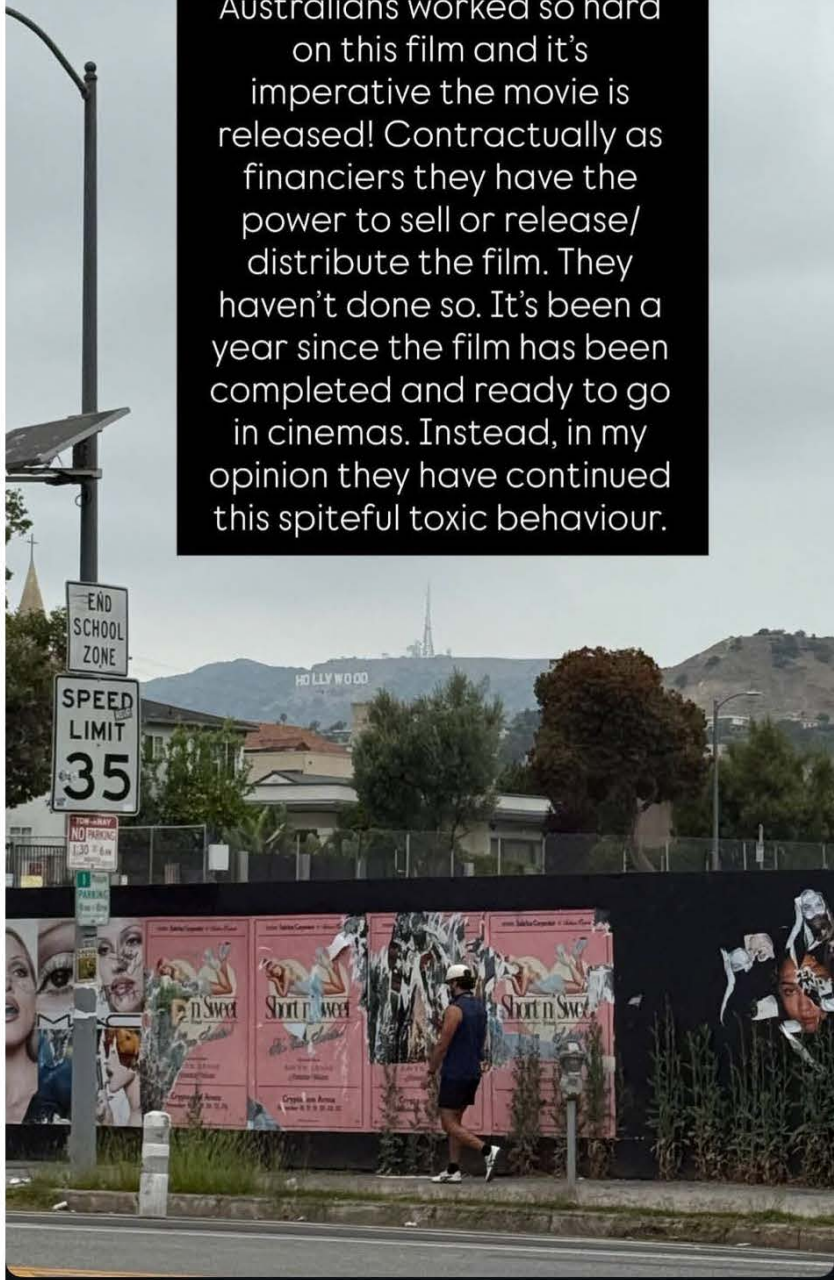
Annexure C





rebelwilson 19m

It's so sad these people would do this. So many Australians worked so hard on this film and it's imperative the movie is released! Contractually as financiers they have the power to sell or release/distribute the film. They haven't done so. It's been a year since the film has been completed and ready to go in cinemas. Instead, in my opinion they have continued this spiteful toxic behaviour.



Send message...

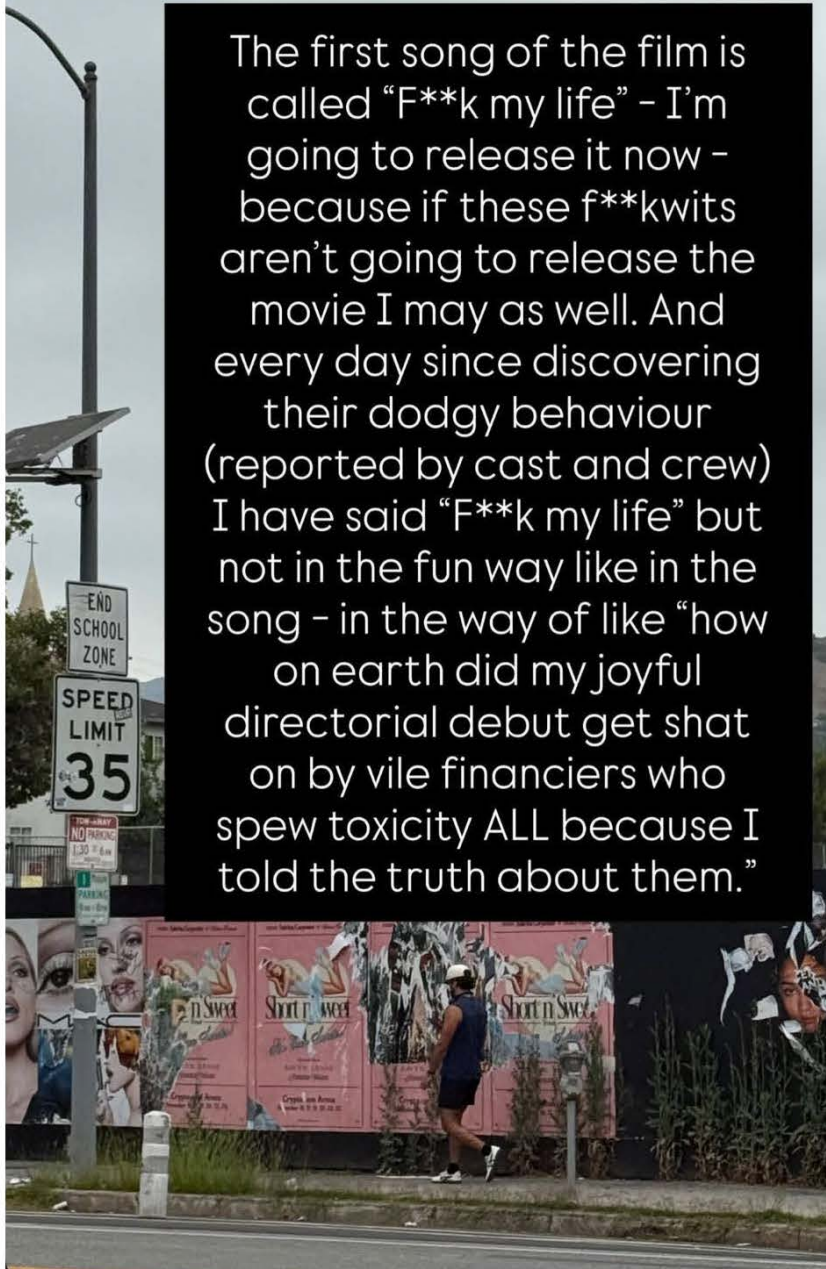




rebelwilson 12m



The first song of the film is called "F\*\*k my life" - I'm going to release it now - because if these f\*\*kwits aren't going to release the movie I may as well. And every day since discovering their dodgy behaviour (reported by cast and crew) I have said "F\*\*k my life" but not in the fun way like in the song - in the way of like "how on earth did my joyful directorial debut get shat on by vile financiers who spew toxicity ALL because I told the truth about them."



Send message...



11:47

5G



rebelwilson 5m

What would you do if you were me, a first time female director - and a young cast member says she's living with a producer and had a bath and shower with them and that she feels uncomfortable? What would you do if crew told you they were stealing money from the independent film's really tight budget? I reported both things. I'd do the same again. I believe in a safe and inclusive workplace.



Send message...



7:55

◀ Spotify



rebelwilson 8m



I've moved on, now directing my 2nd movie and loving it. But regarding THE DEB all I can literally say is "F\*\*k my life" with tears in my eyes and a heavy heart. Everyone who worked on the movie and who knows me KNOWS I put my blood, sweat and tears into this. Everyone knows I'm a "truth teller" when it comes to vile people in the industry. I just want this movie to come out and for all the amazingly talented contributors to be recognised for their sensational work! At least we had the Toronto premiere - and at least now you can all see the opening of the film. Posting it now!  
Rebs x

Send message...



## Annexure D

Giles George Pty Ltd  
(ABN) 81 637 721 683

Level 7, 135 King St Sydney NSW 2000  
Level 11, 456 Lonsdale St Melbourne VIC 3000

e./ patrick.george@gilesgeorge.com.au  
w/ www.gilesgeorge.com.au  
t/ 1300 163 662

Your ref /

Our ref /

Date / 7 August 2025

Sent by / Email

# Giles / George

Ms Rebel Wilson  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Dear Ms Wilson,

### OUR CLIENT: CHARLOTTE MACINNES

- 1 We act for Ms Charlotte MacInnes.
- 2 This letter is a Concerns Notice under the *Defamation Act 2005* (WA) and, to the extent necessary, the *Defamation Act 2005* (NSW), and their counterparts in the other Australian jurisdictions.

### Background

- 3 Ms MacInnes was cast as the lead actress in the film 'The Deb'. On and from 27 February 2023, the film went into production. On or about 10 October 2023, shooting for the film commenced. You directed, acted in, and co-produced the film.
- 4 On 10 July 2024, you posted a video to your Instagram account (@rebelwilson), which has approximately 11 million followers. In the video you said, amongst other matters, concerning the co-producers of the film including Amanda Ghost, "...so I said, reported, I guess you would say, their [the co-producers] bad behaviour when I found out. Not minor things, big things, you know, inappropriate behaviour towards the lead actress of the film...so kind of really important things".

### Publications

- 5 On or about 23 September 2024, you posted or caused to be posted a series of 'stories' to your Instagram account in which you:
  - (a) reposted part of a *Daily Mail* article entitled "Actress at center of defamation suit against Rebel Wilson is REVEALED as drama from Australian Star's new film 'The Deb' escalates"; and
  - (b) made the following statements (**23 September 2024 Statements**):

*When an actress on her first feature film is asked by a producer to stay in the same apartment as them, and then makes a complaint to me as the director saying said producer "asked her to have a bath and shower with her and it made her feel uncomfortable" – what am I supposed to do?*

*Of course I reported it. There is no world where this is acceptable.*

*The fact that this girl has been employed now by this 'producer' in the lead role of a production called GATSBY (ART Boston) and given a record label – should be all the proof you need as to why she has now changed her story.*



- 6 On or about 16 May 2025, you posted or caused to be posted to The Deb's Instagram account, (@thedebfilm), which has approximately 6,500 followers, stories that contained the following statements (**16 May 2025 Statements**):

*Charlotte MacInnes in a culturally inappropriate Indian outfit on Len Blavatnik's luxury yacht in Cannes – ironically singing a song from a movie that will never get released because of her lies and support for the people blocking the film's release.*

*So glad you got your record deal Charlotte at the expense of the 300 people who worked on The Deb and really wanna see it released.*

- 7 On or about 21 May 2025, you posted or caused to be posted to The Deb's Instagram account a story or stories that contained the following statements (**21 May 2025 Statements**):

*After this session Ghost took MacInnes back to the Bondi Beach Penthouse apartment that they were 'sharing' after Ghost insisted MacInnes live with her despite the film housing all interstate cast members in hotels which is professional standard.*

- 8 On or about 25 July 2025, you posted or caused to be posted a series of stories to your Instagram account in which you made the following statements (**25 July 2025 Statements**):

*What would you do if you were me, a first time female director – and a young cast member says she's living with a producer and had a bath and shower with them and that she feels uncomfortable? What would you do if crew told you they were stealing money from the independent film's tight budget? I reported both things. I'd do the same again. I believe in a safe and inclusive workplace.*

*I've moved on, now directing my 2nd movie and loving it. But regarding THE DEB all I can literally say is "F\*\*k my life" with tears in my eyes and a heavy heart. Everyone who worked on the movie and who knows me KNOWS I put blood, sweat and tears into this. Everyone knows I'm a "truth teller" when it comes to vile people in the industry. I just want this movie to come out and for all the amazingly talented contributors to be recognised for their sensational work! At least we had the Toronto premiere – and at least now you can all see the opening of the film. Posting it now! Rebs X*

- 9 Ms MacInnes relies on the natural and probable republication of the publications referred to in paragraphs 5-8 above (collectively, **Publications**) by mainstream media outlets and social media and the grapevine effect. Further particulars will be provided in due course.

- 10 Screen-shots of your post of 23 September 2024 are enclosed as '**Annexure A**', screenshots of your post of 16 May 2025 are enclosed as '**Annexure B**', and screenshots of your post of 25 July 2025 are enclosed as '**Annexure C**'. Your 21 May 2025 Statements were reported in the media including by *Variety* on 21 May 2025. A copy of the article by *Variety* is **enclosed** as '**Annexure D**'. Given the Publications were all published as Instagram stories, they are no longer available for publication on any URL.

## Defamatory Imputations

### 23 September 2024 Statements

- 11 The 23 September 2024 Statements carried, in their natural and ordinary meaning, the following imputations (or imputations not different in substance):

- (a) Charlotte MacInnes lied by denying that she had made a complaint to Rebel Wilson about unwanted sexual advances made to her by Amanda Ghost, a producer of the film The Deb.



- (b) Charlotte MacInnes falsely changed her story that Amanda Ghost had made unwanted sexual advances to her and sexually harassed her during the making of the film *The Deb*.
- (c) Charlotte MacInnes falsely changed her story that Amanda Ghost had made unwanted sexual advances to her and sexually harassed her during the making of the film 'The Deb' in return for being employed by Ms Ghost in the lead role of the production called GATSBY and given a record label.
- (d) Charlotte MacInnes was paid off by Amanda Ghost to lie about a complaint she had made to Rebel Wilson that she had been sexually harassed by Ms Ghost during the making of the film *The Deb*.

12 The imputations are false and seriously defamatory of Ms MacInnes.

13 The imputations were false to your knowledge. Ms MacInnes had made a statement in September 2023 to the film team and again to *The Daily Mail* in September 2024 in which she said "*There is no truth to the allegations made involving me. I made a statement to the film team when this was first said in September 2023 and am saying this now to draw a line under it. Making false accusations undermines real victims and I won't be the subject of a fabricated narrative*". You were aware of these statements by Ms MacInnes at about the time they were made.

#### 16 May 2025 Statements

14 The 16 May 2025 Statements conveyed, in their natural and ordinary meaning or by reason of the previous statements you had made on 23 September 2024, the same or substantially the same imputations in paragraph 11 above.

15 In addition, the 16 May 2024 Statements carried the following imputations (or imputations that do not differ in substances):

- (e) Charlotte MacInnes, through her lies and dishonest acceptance of a record deal, supported the UK producers of the film *The Deb* blocking the film's release at the expense of the 300 people who had worked on the film.
- (f) Charlotte MacInnes preferred her own interests to the interests of the cast and crew of the film *The Deb* by accepting a record deal from the UK producers and supporting them in blocking the release of the film *The Deb*.

16 The imputations are false and seriously defamatory of Ms MacInnes.

17 The imputations were false to your knowledge.

#### 21 May 2025 Statements

18 The 21 May 2025 statements carried, in their natural and ordinary meaning or by reason of the previous statements you had made on 23 September 2024 and 16 May 2025, the same or substantially imputations in paragraphs 11 and 15 above.

19 In addition, the 21 May 2025 Statements carried the following imputations (or imputations that do not differ in substance):

- (g) Charlotte MacInnes, as the lead actress of the film *The Deb*, conducted herself unprofessionally by engaging in a sexual relationship with one of the producers of the film, Amanda Ghost, and procuring special benefits not available to other cast members.

20 The imputations are false and seriously defamatory of Ms MacInnes.

21 The imputations were false to your knowledge.



## 25 July Statements

- 22 The 25 July 2025 Statements carried, in their natural and ordinary meaning or by reason of the previous statements you had made on 23 September 2024, 16 May 2025, and 21 May 2025, the same or substantially the same imputations in paragraphs 11, 15 and 19 above.
- 23 In addition, the 25 July Statements carried the following imputations (or imputations that do not differ in substance):
- (h) Charlotte MacInnes lied to support the financiers of the film *The Deb* in blocking the release of the film *The Deb*;
  - (i) Charlotte MacInnes lied by denying she had complained to Rebel Wilson, who is known by everyone as a 'truth teller', about unwanted sexual advances made to her by a producer, Amanda Ghost, during the making of the film *The Deb*, which was sexual harassment and in breach of a safe and inclusive workplace for the film.
- 23 The imputations are false and seriously defamatory of Ms MacInnes.
- 24 The imputations are false to your knowledge.

## **Serious Harm to Reputation**

- 25 Our client grew up and resided in Western Australia for most of her life. In our view, the law of Western Australia will apply to any proceedings commenced in relation to the Publications the subject of this Concerns Notice.
- 26 However, for the avoidance of doubt, and for the purposes of s10A and s12A of the *Defamation Act 2005* (NSW), Ms MacInnes considers that the Publications have each caused or are likely to cause serious harm to her reputation including by reason of the following facts and matters:
- (a) The Publications were published on Instagram, to your account @rebelwilson or to the *Deb* film account @thedebfilm, and to many followers who shared and republished the Publications on social media and beyond by the grapevine effect and by word of mouth to persons unknown to our client.
  - (b) Your Instagram account alone has 11 million followers which evidences the vast extent of publication and the likely serious harm to Ms MacInnes' reputation by the mere posting of the Publications.
  - (c) The Publications carried seriously defamatory imputations damaging to Ms MacInnes' personal and professional reputation. This was her first lead role in a film and you cruelled her professional reputation before she could even enjoy the benefit of the success of the film as the lead actress.
  - (d) The Publications cast Ms MacInnes in a particularly negative light, speaking as they do of her dishonesty and lack of trustworthiness, and being able to be bought corruptly in return for favourable benefits.
  - (e) Your followers are likely to believe you, as you portray yourself as a 'truth teller' and in doing so, caused serious harm to Ms MacInnes' reputation.
  - (f) The Publications were made to a vast audience despite you knowing that they were false on each occasion you made them. You exercised the power you had in the media and on Instagram at the expense of Ms MacInnes' reputation.



- (g) Your reputation as a leading Australian star in the international film industry means that your statements carry particular weight within the film industry, seriously harming Ms MacInnes' reputation.
- (h) The likelihood that your Publications have or will come to the attention of those who know, or who did not previously know, or who might know of Ms MacInnes now or in the future, is very high, given the extent and nature of the Publications and the serious harm likely to be suffered.
- (i) We reserve the right to add further particulars of serious harm in due course, particularly noting the harm to Ms MacInnes' reputation is ongoing and you continue to make statements conveying the same or substantially the same false and defamatory imputations.

## Damages/Injunction

- 28 Ms MacInnes claims general damages, aggravated damages, and costs, as well as a permanent injunction to restrain you from publishing the defamatory imputations about her or anything similar in the future.
- 29 Ms MacInnes claims the damages were aggravated, in particular, by her knowledge of your conduct in publicly disclosing our client's name as an alleged victim of sexual harassment, without her consent, and then accusing her of lying about it as justification for identifying her. This conduct was improper, unjustified and lacking in bona fides. Further particulars will be provided in due course.

## Next Steps

- 30 This is a Concerns Notice under Part 3 Division 1 of the *Defamation Act 2005* (NSW). It is sent as required under that Act by email to you at the email addresses you regularly use, and to fulfil Ms MacInnes' obligations to take genuine steps to seek to resolve the dispute including pursuant to the provisions of the *Civil Dispute Resolution Act 2011* (Cth) and the *Defamation Act 2005* (NSW).
- 31 Please ensure you retain all records relevant to the matters raised in this Concerns Notice including electronic communications of whatever nature. That extends to disappearing messages platforms such as WhatsApp and Signal. Adverse inferences are likely to be drawn by the Court if you are unable to produce those records, after receipt of this notice, because they have not been preserved or retained, after receipt of this notice.
- 32 We reserve Ms MacInnes' rights generally.

Yours faithfully  
**GILES GEORGE**



**Patrick George**  
Principal



## NOTICE OF FILING

### Details of Filing

Document Lodged: Defence - Form 33 - Rule 16.32  
Court of Filing FEDERAL COURT OF AUSTRALIA (FCA)  
Date of Lodgment: 22/10/2025 9:44:20 PM AEDT  
Date Accepted for Filing: 22/10/2025 9:44:25 PM AEDT  
File Number: NSD1727/2025  
File Title: CHARLOTTE MACINNES v REBEL WILSON  
Registry: NEW SOUTH WALES REGISTRY - FEDERAL COURT OF AUSTRALIA



*Sia Lagos*

Registrar

### Important Information

This Notice has been inserted as the first page of the document which has been accepted for electronic filing. It is now taken to be part of that document for the purposes of the proceeding in the Court and contains important information for all parties to that proceeding. It must be included in the document served on each of those parties.

The date of the filing of the document is determined pursuant to the Court's Rules.



## Defence

No. NSD1727 of 2025

Federal Court of Australia  
District Registry: New South Wales  
Division: General

### Charlotte MacInnes

Applicant

### Rebel Wilson

Respondent

In response to the applicant's statement of claim filed 22 September 2025 (**SOC**), the respondent pleads as follows.

Unless otherwise stated, this defence adopts the defined terms used in the SOC.

### Parties

1. As to paragraph 1, she:
  - (a) does not know and therefore does not admit sub-paragraphs 1.1 to 1.3; and
  - (b) admits sub-paragraphs 1.4 and 1.5.
2. As to paragraph 2, she:
  - (a) admits sub-paragraphs 2.1 to 2.3; and
  - (b) save that she says that others had access to the Instagram accounts, she admits that at all material times she was a publisher of content on the Instagram accounts.

### 23 September 2024 Post

3. As to paragraph 3, she:

---

Filed on behalf of (name & role of party) Rebel Wilson, the respondent  
Prepared by (name of person/lawyer) Richard Leder; Georgie Austin  
Law firm (if applicable) Wotton Kearney  
Tel (03) 9604 7940 Fax \_\_\_\_\_  
Email [richard.leder@wottonkearney.com](mailto:richard.leder@wottonkearney.com); [georgie.austin@wottonkearney.com](mailto:georgie.austin@wottonkearney.com)  
**Address for service** Level 30, 500 Bourke Street, Melbourne VIC 3000  
(include state and postcode) \_\_\_\_\_

[Form approved 01/08/2011]

- (a) admits that on or about 23 September 2024 she uploaded a story to her Instagram account comprising the words on pages 21 to 23 of the SOC which was available for downloading for up to about 24 hours;
  - (b) says further that she does not recall including in the story the extract of the Daily Mail Article at page 20 of the SOC, and, therefore, does not know and does not admit that it was included in the story;
  - (c) does not know and therefore does not admit the matters in sub-paragraph 3.2;
  - (d) does not know and therefore does not admit the unparticularised allegations in sub-paragraphs 3.3 and 3.4; and
  - (e) otherwise denies paragraph 3.
4. She admits paragraph 4.
5. As to paragraph 5, she:
- (a) denies that the 23 September 2024 Post conveyed the imputations alleged in sub-paragraphs 5.1 to 5.5;
  - (b) admits that if the imputations alleged in sub-paragraphs 5.3 to 5.5 are conveyed (which is denied), each of them is defamatory of the applicant; and
  - (c) otherwise denies paragraph 5.

#### **16 May 2025 Post**

6. As to paragraph 6, she:
- (a) admits that on or about 16 May 2025 she uploaded a story to the @thedeofilm Instagram account in the form of Annexure B to the SOC;
  - (b) says further that it was available for download for up to about 24 hours;
  - (c) does not know and therefore does not admit the matters in sub-paragraph 6.2;
  - (d) does not know and therefore does not admit the unparticularised allegations in sub-paragraphs 6.3 and 6.4; and
  - (e) otherwise denies paragraph 6.
7. She admits paragraph 7.

8. As to paragraph 8, she:
- (a) denies that the 16 May 2025 Post conveyed the imputations alleged in sub-paragraphs 8.1 to 8.3;
  - (b) admits that if the imputations alleged in sub-paragraphs 8.1 and 8.3 are conveyed (which is denied), each of them is defamatory of the applicant; and
  - (c) otherwise denies paragraph 8.

**Further May 2025 Post**

9. As to paragraph 9, she:
- (a) says the applicant has not pleaded the words of the Further May 2025 Post or annexed a copy of it to the SOC; and
  - (b) accordingly, does not know and therefore does not admit the matters alleged in paragraph 9.
10. She denies paragraph 10.
11. She denies paragraph 11.
12. She denies paragraph 12.

**25 July 2025 Post**

13. As to paragraph 13, she:
- (a) admits that on or about 25 July 2025 she uploaded a story to her Instagram account in the form of Annexure C to the SOC;
  - (b) says further that it was available for download for up to about 24 hours;
  - (c) does not know and therefore does not admit the matters in sub-paragraph 13.2;
  - (d) does not know and therefore does not admit the unparticularised allegations in sub-paragraphs 13.3 and 13.4; and
  - (e) otherwise denies paragraph 13.
14. She denies paragraph 14.

15. As to paragraph 15, she:
- (a) denies that the 25 July 2025 Post conveyed the imputations alleged in sub-paragraphs 15.1 to 15.6;
  - (b) admits that if the imputations alleged in sub-paragraphs 15.3 to 15.5 are conveyed (which is denied), each of them is defamatory of the applicant; and
  - (c) otherwise denies paragraph 15.
16. She denies paragraph 16.

### **Concerns Notice**

17. As to paragraph 17, she:
- (a) admits that the applicant's solicitors sent her the Concerns Notice on or about 7 August 2025, a copy of which is Annexure D to the SOC;
  - (b) otherwise denies paragraph 17;
  - (c) says further that the Concerns Notice did not inform her that the applicant considered that each of the defamatory imputations alleged in the SOC were or may be carried by the Publications, and, accordingly, it was not a Concerns Notice for the purposes of s 14 of the *Defamation Act 2005* (WA) (**WA Act**) or the *Defamation Act 2005* (NSW) (**NSW Act**) and its counterparts in the other Australian jurisdictions; and
  - (d) if the substantive law applicable to this proceeding is the substantive law of New South Wales, the applicant was not permitted to commence this proceeding by reason of s 12B(1) of the NSW Act.
18. Save for the matters alleged in paragraph 17 above, she admits paragraph 18.
19. She admits paragraph 19.

### **Applicable Law**

20. She does not know and therefore does not admit the matters in paragraph 20.
21. She denies paragraph 21.

22. She denies paragraph 22 and says further that any harm occasioned by the Publications has its closest connection with New South Wales, being the place where the applicant worked on *The Deb* and where any publication was more extensive.
23. She denies paragraph 23 and says further that the substantive law applicable to this proceeding is the substantive law of New South Wales.

#### **Serious Harm**

24. She denies the allegation in paragraph 24 that each Publication caused or was likely to cause serious harm to the applicant's reputation.
25. She denies paragraph 25.
26. She denies paragraph 26.
27. She denies paragraph 27.
28. She denies paragraph 28.

#### **Breach of Confidence**

29. As to paragraph 29, she:
  - (a) denies the allegations made therein;
  - (b) says further that at the time of each of the Publications, the information was not confidential; and
  - (c) on a date presently unknown but prior to the 23 September 2024 Post, the applicant identified herself to the DailyMail.com as the actress who the respondent had stated had made a complaint about a producer on *The Deb*, which information was then published on [www.dailymail.co.uk](http://www.dailymail.co.uk) in an article entitled "*Exclusive Actress at center of defamation suit against Rebel Wilson is REVEALED as drama from Australian star's new film 'The Deb' escalates*".

#### **Damages**

30. She denies paragraph 30.
31. As to paragraph 31, she:
  - (a) admits that she has not apologised or retracted the Publications; and

- (b) otherwise denies paragraph 31.

### **Injunctions**

32. As to paragraph 32, she:

- (a) admits that she has not apologised to the applicant for the Publications; and
- (b) otherwise denies paragraph 32.

### **Justification**

33. If the Publications were defamatory of the applicant in the meanings alleged in paragraphs 5, 8, 11 (and 12) and 15 (and 16) of the SOC (which is denied), then in those meanings the Publications were substantially true and the respondent has a defence at common law and pursuant to s 25 of the NSW Act (and its cognate provisions in each other state and territory of Australia).

### **Particulars**

The respondent relies upon the particulars in the Schedule to this defence.

### **Qualified Privilege**

34. Further or alternatively, if the 23 September 2024 Post was defamatory of the applicant (which is denied), then:
- (a) the respondent published the 23 September 2024 Post in response to an attack made by the applicant and/or Amanda Ghost, Gregor Cameron and/or Vince Holden and/or their or their companies' agents, on her character, conduct and reputation;
  - (b) the 23 September 2024 Post was relevant and proportionate to the public attack made on her; and
  - (c) accordingly, the respondent published the 23 September 2024 Post on an occasion of qualified privilege at common law.

### **Particulars**

The respondent refers to and relies upon the matters in paragraphs 64 and 66 of the Schedule to this Defence.

35. Further or alternatively, if the 25 July 2025 Post was defamatory of the applicant (which is denied), then:

- (a) the respondent published the 25 July 2025 Post in response to an attack made by A.I Film Production Limited, through officers Amanda Ghost, Gregor Cameron and/or Vince Holden and/or its agents, on her character, conduct and reputation;
- (b) the 25 July 2025 Post was relevant and proportionate to the public attack made on her; and
- (c) accordingly, the respondent published the 25 July 2025 Post on an occasion of qualified privilege at common law.

#### **Particulars**

- i. On or about 24 July 2025, A.I Film Production Limited commenced a proceeding against the respondent and her company, Camp Sugar Productions Pty Ltd, in the New South Wales Supreme Court by way of Summons and Commercial List Statement.
- ii. At a time unknown to the respondent but before 1.09pm that same day, A.I Film Production Limited, through its officers Amanda Ghost, Gregor Cameron and/or Vince Holden and/or its agents, provided a copy of the Commercial List Statement to the Sydney Morning Herald (**SMH**) and journalists Stephen Rice and Liam Mendes of The Australian. They did so with the intention that the SMH and The Australian would publish articles about the matters alleged in the Commercial List Statement against the respondent.
- iii. The Commercial List Statement was provided to the SMH and The Australian before it had been served on the respondent and at a time when public access to the Court file was not permitted.
- iv. At 1.09pm on 24 July 2025, the SMH published an article about the Commercial List Statement on its website entitled *"Rebel Wilson 'deliberately undermined' her own film, new lawsuit says"*.
- v. At 5.39pm that same day, The Australian published an article about the Commercial List Statement on its website entitled *"Rebel Wilson sued by film producers over 'inappropriate conduct' claim"*.
- vi. The respondent learned of the proceeding against her through the media reporting of the Commercial List Statement.
- vii. True copies of the articles referred to in particulars iv and v above are annexed to this Defence.
- viii. The provision of the Commercial List Statement to the SMH and The Australian with the intention of it being published, and the consequent publication of its contents, constituted an attack on the respondent's character, conduct and reputation.
- ix. The respondent published the 25 July 2025 Post in response to the attack made upon her, and the Post was relevant and proportionate to the attack.

**Mitigation of Damages**

36. Further or alternatively, if the respondent does not have a complete defence to the applicant's claims, then she will rely in mitigation of damages on the following matters:
- (a) evidence adduced at trial to the extent that such evidence is relevant to mitigation of damages;
  - (b) the circumstances in which the Publications were published; and
  - (c) the truth (whether substantial or partial) of any of the meanings pleaded in the SOC.

Date: 22 October 2025



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Signed by Richard Leder  
Solicitor for the respondent

This pleading was prepared by Renee Enbom KC and Conor O'Beirne of Counsel.

**Certificate of lawyer**

I Richard Leder certify to the Court that, in relation to the defence filed on behalf of the respondent, the factual and legal material available to me at present provides a proper basis for:

- (a) each allegation in the pleading; and
- (b) each denial in the pleading; and
- (c) each non admission in the pleading.

Date: 22 October 2025



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Signed by Richard Leder  
Lawyer for the respondent

## SCHEDULE OF PARTICULARS

### The beginnings of *The Deb* feature film

1. In 2019, Hannah Reilly was awarded the 2019 Rebel Wilson Comedy Commission by the Australian Theatre for Young People (**ATYP**) for her submission called “The Deb”.
2. The respondent (**Ms Wilson**) and her production company, Camp Sugar Productions Pty Ltd (**Camp Sugar**), then spent the following years working with Ms Reilly and composer Megan Washington to develop The Deb into a stage workshop production.
3. From 8 April 2022 to 4 June 2022, The Deb stage production was performed at ATYP’s Rebel Theatre in Sydney.
4. The applicant (**Ms MacInnes**) had the role of Maeve Brennan in The Deb stage production.
5. Following the success of the stage production, Ms Wilson and Camp Sugar worked with Ms Reilly and Ms Washington to develop The Deb into a feature film (**Film**).
6. In or around July 2022, Ms Wilson was looking for co-producers and financiers for the Film. She was introduced to entertainment executive Amanda Ghost who, together with her husband, Gregor Cameron, owned and operated a film, theatre and music production company incorporated in the United Kingdom called Unigram. Unigram had a sister-company, A.I. Film Production Limited (**AI Film**), which was an independent financial and executive production company incorporated in the United Kingdom. Mr Cameron and Vince Holden were at the time (and are) the directors of AI Film, while Ms Ghost was (and is) its chief executive officer.
7. AI Film was (and is) a subsidiary of a United States-based company called Access Industries Inc, owned by Sir Leonard Blavatnik. Access Industries Inc was (and is) also the parent company of Access Entertainment, of which Danny Cohen was (and is) the President. Access Industries Inc is a large investment company which, inter alia, owns Warner Music Group.
8. On or around 27 February 2023, AI Film and Camp Sugar entered into an agreement in relation to the production and financing of the Film. The agreement was in writing and titled ‘The Deb – Co-Production Deal Memo’ and dated 27 February 2023 (**Deal Memo**). It was agreed that Ms Wilson would, amongst other things, direct, co-produce and play the role of Janette in the Film. It was also agreed that Messrs Ghost and Cameron would be two of her co-producers.

### Pre-production of the Film

9. Shortly thereafter, pre-production for the Film commenced. This included:
  - (a) further discussions about the structure of the arrangement between Ms Wilson and Camp Sugar and AI Film, Mr Cameron, Mr Holden, Ms Ghost and Sir Blavatnik and the incorporation of companies Dunburn Debutantes Commissioning Company Pty Ltd and Dunburn Debutantes Pty Ltd;
  - (b) the preparation of an approved budget for the Film;
  - (c) extensive writing and creative work on the script and music by Ms Wilson and others; and
  - (d) rehearsals, recordings and general preparations ahead of the commencement of the filming of the Film scheduled for 17 October 2023 in Carcoar, New South Wales.
10. Ms MacInnes was cast by Ms Wilson to play Maeve in the Film. Being cast in the Film was Ms MacInnes' breakthrough role. She was a young actress and this was her first major role in a feature film. Ms Wilson was excited to give Ms MacInnes this acting opportunity and to support her young career.
11. In May 2023, Ms Wilson, Ms MacInnes and other members of the Film's cast attended the Cannes Film Festival. Messrs Ghost, Cameron, Holden and Blavatnik also attended.
12. While in Cannes, Ms MacInnes stayed in the same hotel room as other cast members.
13. On or around 24 May 2023, Ms Wilson, Ms MacInnes and other cast attended a lunchtime event to announce and promote the Film on Sir Blavatnik's superyacht, Odessa II. They were asked by Ms Ghost to sing songs written for the Film for Sir Blavatnik, which they did.
14. After the event, and late in the evening, Ms Ghost asked Ms MacInnes to return to the superyacht to sing further songs which she did until the early hours of the morning. When Ms Wilson later learned about this, she felt uneasy.
15. In or around early September 2023, rehearsals for the Film commenced in Sydney.
16. Hotel accommodation was arranged for the Film's cast and crew, including Ms MacInnes. Ms Ghost arranged to rent a penthouse for herself at the Pacific in Bondi Beach.

17. In the lead up to rehearsals commencing, Ms Ghost arranged for Ms MacInnes to stay with her in her penthouse. When Ms Wilson learned about this, she, again, felt very uneasy because Ms Ghost was much older than Ms MacInnes and there was a power imbalance between them in that Ms Ghost was a producer of the Film. Ms Wilson's concern was also heightened by the earlier incident set out in paragraph 14 above.
18. Ms Wilson told Ms Ghost that she did not believe Ms MacInnes should be staying with her. Ms Wilson told Ms Ghost that it was inappropriate for a young and inexperienced actress to stay with her. She also explained to Ms Ghost that it risked causing discontent amongst the cast and crew over what could be seen as favouritism towards Ms MacInnes.
19. Despite Ms Wilson's protestations, Ms MacInnes stayed in the penthouse with Ms Ghost from about late August 2023 to mid-September 2023.

#### **The shower and bath incident**

20. On 5 September 2023, Ms MacInnes and Ms Ghost went swimming together at Bondi Beach. After returning to Ms Ghost's penthouse, they showered and bathed together at Ms Ghost's invitation (**shower and bath incident**). Such sexual behaviour or harassment by a co-producer on the Film towards a young actress in the Film was completely inappropriate and unacceptable, especially in the context of their workplace relationship.
21. The following day, on 6 September 2023, Ms Wilson and Ms MacInnes were rehearsing at 301 Studios Sydney in Surry Hills. During a break, while Ms Wilson and Ms MacInnes were sitting on a couch, Ms MacInnes told Ms Wilson about the shower and bath incident. She said to Ms Wilson words to the effect that "Amanda [Ghost] asked me to have a bath and a shower with her and it made me feel uncomfortable."
22. That evening, Ms Wilson contacted her UK-based agents to discuss what she should do. As director and co-producer of the Film, and as the person who had given Ms MacInnes her role in the Film, Ms Wilson saw it as her responsibility to ensure that Ms MacInnes and the rest of the cast and crew were safe in their workplace.
23. Ms Wilson resolved that, out of fairness to Ms Ghost, she should put Ms MacInnes' complaint to Ms Ghost to give her a chance to respond and to then assess what, if any, steps were required.

24. Ms Wilson did so on 7 September 2023. Ms Ghost denied any wrongdoing and said that Ms MacInnes was “a lying idiot who cannot sing”. Ms Ghost asked Ms Wilson to contact Ms MacInnes to clarify what she had told Ms Wilson.
25. Later in the day, Ms Wilson spoke to Ms MacInnes who told her that the shower and bath incident had not made her feel uncomfortable, but that she found the incident “strange and bizarre”. In stating that she had not felt uncomfortable showering and bathing with the producer of the Film in her penthouse, Ms MacInnes was not being truthful.
26. Ms Wilson later told Ms Ghost that Ms MacInnes was now stating the shower and bath incident had not made her feel uncomfortable. Ms Wilson, at this time, was uncertain as to what, if any, further steps should be taken.
27. Between 9 and 13 September 2023, Ms Wilson, her wife, Ramona Agruma, and Ms Ghost were on Hamilton Island for a writing retreat to work on the music for the Film. Ms Wilson and Ms Agruma did not stay with Ms Ghost.
28. During the retreat, Ms Wilson found Ms Ghost to be fixated on what Ms MacInnes had initially told Ms Wilson about the shower and bath incident. Ms Ghost repeatedly described Ms MacInnes as a liar and said words to the effect that Ms MacInnes would never receive a record deal from Warner Music. Ms Ghost told Ms Wilson and Ms Agruma that she suffers from anaphylaxis when she swims in cold water. Ms Ghost explained that the shower and bath incident took place as part of a medical emergency caused by her medical condition. Ms Ghost described, and demonstrated, to Ms Wilson and Ms Agruma what happens when she swims in cold water and has an anaphylactic reaction.
29. Ms Wilson and Ms Agruma observed Ms Ghost swimming on several occasions on Hamilton Island. She did not have an anaphylactic reaction to the cold water.
30. When Ms Ghost was at Hamilton Island, Ms MacInnes was removed from Ms Ghost’s penthouse in Bondi Beach after the local producer, Ms Simpkin, told Ms MacInnes’ agents that she needs to stay with other cast members in the accommodation provided.
31. Between 14 and 18 September 2023, Ms Ghost ignored Ms MacInnes at rehearsals for the Film.
32. On or around 17 September 2023, Ms Ghost and Ms MacInnes had a meeting. After the meeting, Ms Wilson arrived at the recording studio and found Ms MacInnes visibly upset. Ms MacInnes finished recording her vocals that day and then left the room crying. At a

further meeting around this same time, Ms Ghost berated and insulted Ms MacInnes about her singing.

33. At 8.50pm on 18 September 2023, Ms MacInnes' agent, Monica Keightley, sent an email to the local producer on the Film, Ms Simpkin, which purported to contain the version of the shower and bath incident that Ms MacInnes had given to Ms Keightley (**Keightley Email**). In downplaying what had occurred and how she felt in this version of the shower and bath incident, Ms MacInnes was not being truthful.
34. The Keightley Email was forwarded to Ms Ghost by Ms Simpkin at 8.58pm on 18 September 2023. Ms Ghost then forwarded it to Ms Wilson at 9.03pm on 18 September 2023.

### **Developing concerns and retaliatory bullying and harassment**

35. Around this same time, Ms Wilson also had concerns about adjustments that were being made to the Film's budget by Mr Cameron.
36. In around mid September 2023, local producer Ms Simpkin raised concerns with Ms Wilson about an email she had received from Mr Cameron requesting adjustments to the Film's budget. The adjustments included payments being made to himself and his wife, Ms Ghost. The email had been sent to Ms Simpkin on 14 August 2023 (**Budget Email**) and stated:

I'd like to alter the budget so that we...  
 Reduce the finance charges to \$250k.  
 Add in \$300k against EP AI. (let's discuss how we make this Quape-able)  
 Add in \$300k for Music Producer (Amanda [Ghost])  
 Add in \$300k for Producer (Gregor [Cameron])  
 Keep the Unigram/Camp Sugar budget line as it was.

37. Ms Wilson and Camp Sugar were not consulted about and had not agreed to the adjustments in the Budget Email. This was in circumstances where, inter alia, the terms of the Deal Memo required that there be mutual approval of the budget (including line costs) between AI Film and Ms Wilson's company, Camp Sugar.
38. During pre-production, Ms Wilson had also repeatedly asked Mr Cameron and Mr Holden for a copy of the Film's budget, but it was not provided. On one occasion, Ms Wilson was allowed to read the Film's budget at Unigram's offices but she was not permitted to have a copy. These circumstances contributed to Ms Wilson's concerns about the conduct of Ms Ghost, Mr Cameron and Mr Holden.

39. As a result of her growing and broadening concerns, on or around 8 October 2023, Ms Wilson reached out to Mr Cohen, who was involved in financing the Film, and then later spoke to him. She told him about her concerns, including about the Budget Email and the shower and bath incident which she said she wanted investigated.
40. Around the same time, on or about 9 October 2023, Ms Wilson's wife, Ms Agruma, telephoned Sir Blavatnik, who was involved in financing the Film, to inform him of the same concerns.
41. Thereafter, and as a result of the matters in paragraphs 39 and 40, the relationship between Ms Wilson and Messrs Ghost, Cameron and Holden rapidly deteriorated.
42. Following the discussions in paragraphs 39 and 40, Ms Wilson was subjected to retaliatory bullying and harassment by Messrs Ghost, Cameron and Holden in the form of:
- (a) unjustified and excessive criticism of Ms Wilson's work in directing the Film, including criticism of the dailies or rushes (being the raw, unedited footage shot during the course of filming);
  - (b) unjustified and excessive criticism of Ms Wilson's work as an actress in the Film;
  - (c) repeated threats that the funding of the Film would be cancelled; and
  - (d) intimidation, such that from around 30 October 2023 until the end of filming on 8 December 2023, Ms Wilson hired security for herself while she was on set at her own expense.
43. On 18 October 2023, at approximately 2pm, Mr Cameron arranged a meeting with Ms Wilson, Ms Simpkin and her colleague David Jowsey. During the meeting, Mr Cameron locked the door and demanded that they sign a document headed "The Deb Producers Minutes Meeting – 18 October 2023" (**Minutes Document**). The Minutes Document inaccurately diminished the shower and bath incident. Ms Wilson was told that she could not return to the set until it was signed. Both Ms Wilson and Ms Simpkin were left distressed by Mr Cameron's behaviour.

#### **Ms Ghost resumes closer contact with Ms MacInnes**

44. At the same time that Ms Wilson was being subjected to retaliatory bullying and harassment by Messrs Ghost, Cameron and Holden, Ms Ghost was resuming closer contact with Ms MacInnes.

45. On or around 10 December 2023, Ms MacInnes and Ms Wilson had a conversation in which Ms MacInnes told her that Ms Ghost had repeatedly tried to take Ms MacInnes out for drinks. She further told Ms Wilson that the requests made her feel uncomfortable because of the earlier shower and bath incident and that she did not want to have drinks with Ms Ghost.
46. Around this time, the Film's cast and crew attended a party to celebrate the end of filming. The party was held at ATYP's Rebel Theatre in Sydney. During the party, clips from the Film were shown to members of the cast and crew who were seated in the audience. While some of the clips were being shown, Ms Ghost put her hand on Ms MacInnes' thigh in a sexual manner.

### **Post-production period**

47. Following the conclusion of filming on 8 December 2023, the Film moved into post-production.
48. In or around mid-January 2024, Ms Wilson travelled to New York to speak to Sir Blavatnik about ongoing issues she was having with Messrs Ghost, Cameron and Holden. She told Sir Blavatnik about the behaviour described in paragraph 42 and that it was retaliatory. Messrs Ghost and Cameron were then removed from working on the Film and Mr Cohen had responsibility for the sale and distribution of the Film and communications with Ms Wilson.
49. Several months later, on or about 30 May 2024, Ms Wilson became concerned about Ms MacInnes' wellbeing during an automated dialogue replacement recording session with her (**ADR Session**). Ms Wilson found it unusually difficult to arrange the ADR Session through Ms MacInnes' representatives. It was eventually scheduled for 30 May 2024. The ADR Session was to take place remotely as Ms Wilson and Ms MacInnes were working in different locations. By this time, Ms MacInnes was rehearsing and preparing for her role as Daisy in the production *Gatsby: An American Myth* (**Gatsby**). Ms MacInnes was almost one hour late for the session and when she arrived, she was accompanied by Mr Cameron. Throughout the ADR Session, Ms MacInnes' camera was turned off which meant that Ms Wilson could not see her face and she was inhibited in directing Ms MacInnes during the ADR Session.
50. Following the ADR Session, Ms Wilson contacted Ms MacInnes' agent, Ms Keightley, out of concern for Ms MacInnes. Ms Wilson asked:

Is everything ok with Charlotte? She was 55 mins late to the ADR session today and then at the 30 minute mark we got a weird request through from the Boston

studio saying she had asked for NO CAMERAS to be on in the studio. This is something I've never heard an actor say for an ADR session?

51. The following day, on 31 May 2024, Ms Wilson contacted Mr Cohen out of concern for Ms MacInnes. Ms Wilson said to Mr Cohen:

In the meantime I'd like to express my concern and bring it to your attention – it was a very odd situation, witnessed also by Januarye Moran and Liam Egan. It felt like Gregor Cameron was controlling the actress.

### **The Toronto International Film Festival**

52. Between January 2024 and April 2024, Ms Wilson and Mr Cohen spoke regularly about the sale and distribution of the Film. On a number of occasions, Ms Wilson told Mr Cohen that, in her view, the best premiere and strategy for the sale and distribution of the Film was for it to premiere at a major international film festival, such as those held in Cannes, Venice and Toronto.
53. As time went on, Ms Wilson and Mr Cohen discussed how the film was unlikely to be ready to premiere in Cannes or Venice, but that it would be ready to premiere at The Toronto International Film Festival (**TIFF**) in September 2024. They agreed that they should pursue TIFF.
54. In April 2024, Ms Wilson, with the help of local producer, Ms Simpkin, submitted the Film for consideration by TIFF. Ms Wilson personally paid for the application.
55. On 22 June 2024, Ms Wilson arranged for Cameron Bailey, the chief executive officer of TIFF, to view the Film.
56. On or around 28 June 2024, Mr Bailey offered the Film a position to close out TIFF. Ms Wilson and Mr Cohen were told this by Deborah McIntosh, an employee of William Morris Endeavour (**WME**). Ms Wilson was ecstatic because the Film was her passion project and it had involved a lot of hard work by many people. Mr Cohen said he would need to obtain instructions from AI Film about the offer, the officers of which were Messrs Cameron (director), Holden (director) and Ghost (chief executive officer).
57. On 3 July 2024, AI Film, through Mr Cohen, withheld its permission for the Film to premiere at TIFF because of what were described as “so many outstanding issues, now including the AWG’s warning on the withdrawal of the Australian tax credits”. In truth, this was further retaliatory conduct by Messrs Ghost, Cameron and Holden.

58. Between 3 and 10 July 2024, Ms Wilson attempted to obtain AI Film's consent to the Film premiering at TIFF. Ms Wilson contacted intermediaries such as Ari Emmanuel of WME to assist.
59. On 10 July 2024, Ms Wilson was informed by WME that TIFF would move on from its offer and instead offer the close out slot to another film. Ms Wilson was devastated for everyone involved in the Film. She was also concerned about the impact that this would have on the Film and on her career.
60. In response to the conduct of Messrs Ghost, Cameron and Holden, on 10 July 2024, Ms Wilson published a video recording of herself to her Instagram account in which she said:

Hey, everyone. Okay so, you know sometimes in life where you try so hard and you just don't know what to do? This is that situation. Um, okay, let me – let me try to explain as best I can.

Um, so you might have noticed that I did a post a couple – you know, like a week ago, about the – my film, the first film that I've directed that I'm so proud of, *The Deb*, which is a little Australian original musical that is so cute and it's – it's awesome um, that it got selected for closing night of the Toronto Film Festival which is like – the hugest – you know, best platform, and to be a first-time female director it's just like – I mean, it's huge. It's massive.

Um, so to have the joy of the movie being selected is one thing, but then to have the business partners that are involved in that movie turn around and say that no, the movie can't premiere um, is just beyond devastating.

Um, why are they saying this? Why are they stopping it from premiering at Toronto? Well, this dates back to October of last year, where I discovered bad behaviour by these business partners. And let me just, you know, I – I just tell it how it is, so I'm just going to tell you who they are. They are so called producers of the film; I use that phrase very lightly. Their names are Amanda Ghost and Gregor Cameron and an executive producer who works with them called Vince Holden. So, these are the people involved.

Um, and – so I said – reported, I guess you would say, their bad behaviour when I found out. Um, not minor things, big things, you know, inappropriate uh behaviour towards the lead actress of the film, um embezzling funds from the film's budget, which we really needed because we're a small movie uh you know – so kind of really important things.

Uh, since I reported that behaviour, I have been met with absolute viciousness and retaliatory behaviour. So, I'm – I'm there on set, I'm trying to film my movie with my gorgeous Australian cast and crew who are so amazing, shout out to all of you guys, uh and yet every step of the way these people, who I complained about, then tried to make my life hell. In the meantime though, I still finished the movie, I made this great movie, *The Deb*. And then – now, you know, almost at the finish line, they're saying, you know, it can't come out. They might not release it. They might bury it. This is work of hundreds of people who have put their heart and soul into this. And this behaviour is absolutely vile and disgusting. Now, these people, you know, Amanda Ghost in particular, has – has a history of doing

this kind of thing, mainly to music artists but also to people in the film business. So, the thing is, these people are forced to sign NDAs or, you know, otherwise threatened or bullied to no speak out.

As you guys know, I'm not like that. I won't be threatened uh I will speak the truth, and, um you know, warn people about these people in the industry. Who are just not behaving ethically. Uh, yeah, so that's my dilemma. If the movie doesn't play at Toronto, it's because of these absolute fuckwits. (**10 July 2024 Post**)

61. On a date and in a manner unknown to Ms Wilson, AI Film subsequently consented to the Film premiering at TIFF. It premiered on 14 September 2024.

**Messrs Ghost, Cameron and Holden initiate proceedings and fail to sell the Film**

62. Prior to the premiere, on 12 July 2024, Messrs Ghost, Cameron and Holden had commenced defamation proceedings against Ms Wilson in the United States in relation to the 10 July 2024 Post. They alleged that Ms Wilson had published false statements about them, including that they had sexually harassed and engaged in inappropriate behaviour towards the lead actress in the Film.
63. At all relevant times, Ms MacInnes was co-operating with Messrs Ghost, Cameron and Holden in relation to the U.S proceedings.
64. After the U.S proceedings were issued, on a date presently unknown but prior to the 23 September 2024 Post, Ms MacInnes identified herself to DailyMail.com as the actress referred to in the U.S proceeding, and, in doing so, she intended that her identity be published. She also made statements, intended for publication, which were supportive of Messrs Ghost, Cameron and Holden's claim against Ms Wilson, and which attacked Ms Wilson. They included the following:
- (a) that there was "no truth" to the allegations made by Ms Wilson about the shower and bath incident;
  - (b) that they were false claims made by Ms Wilson;
  - (c) she had made a statement to the film team when Ms Wilson first made the claims in September 2023 stating that the claims were false;
  - (d) that she would not be the subject of a fabricated narrative by Ms Wilson; and
  - (e) that by making the false accusations, Ms Wilson was undermining real victims.
65. In making those statements to Daily.Mail.com, Ms MacInnes was not being truthful.

66. On or about 23 September 2024, Ms MacInnes' identity together with the statements set out above were published on [www.dailymail.co.uk](http://www.dailymail.co.uk) in an article entitled "*Exclusive Actress at center of defamation suit against Rebel Wilson is REVEALED as drama from Australian star's new film 'The Deb' escalates*". The article included a photograph of Ms MacInnes with Ms Wilson and two other cast members on Sir Blavatnik's superyacht. It can be inferred from the fact that the photograph belonged to AI Film that Messrs Ghost, Cameron and Holden were involved with Ms MacInnes in the provision of the photograph to DailyMail.com.
67. On 20 November 2024, Ms Wilson received an email from Katie Irwin, a sales agent employed by WME, summarising the situation in relation to the sale of the Film.
68. Ms Irwin's email informed Ms Wilson that Sony had previously made an offer to buy the Film which had not been accepted by AI Film before the offer expired. Further, that Sony was no longer interested in purchasing the Film because of an article published in The Guardian on 11 November 2024. The article entitled "*Australian actor alleges Rebel Wilson made up a false sexual assault accusation about her*" reported on Messrs Ghost, Cameron and Holden's legal proceeding against Ms Wilson, and more specifically on a declaration of Ms MacInnes, that they had filed. Ms MacInnes' declaration stated that:
- (a) Ms Wilson had lied about the shower and bath incident;
  - (b) Ms Ghost had not engaged in any misconduct or sexual harassment towards her; and
  - (c) nothing that Ms MacInnes had told Ms Wilson could reasonably have conveyed that she was reporting any misconduct.
69. In making those statements in the declaration, Ms MacInnes was not being truthful.
70. Ms Irwin's email informed Ms Wilson that Sony's Australian team loved the Film and that in the event of an amicable resolution, Sony would be willing to re-engage in conversations but that it was firmly not moving forward in the current conditions, being the ongoing litigation and the associated negative press.
71. Ms Irwin informed Ms Wilson that Roadshow had expressed enthusiasm for the Film but that its position was that it would not pursue a purchase of the Film until the legal proceedings were resolved. Ms Irwin informed Ms Wilson about similar concerns expressed by others.

72. Ms Irwin also informed Ms Wilson that Rialto and Umbrella had made offers to purchase the Film which had not been accepted or pursued by AI Film at the time.
73. AI Film did not consult Ms Wilson about the offers made by Sony, Rialto or Umbrella despite her ownership interest in the Film. None of the offers were accepted or pursued at the time for reasons that have never been explained by AI Film to Ms Wilson.
74. Further to paragraphs 66 to 71 above, at all relevant times, Messrs Ghost, Cameron and Holden were blocking the release of the Film by:
- (a) not accepting offers made to purchase the Film, or alternatively not engaging with those who had made offers or expressed an interest in purchasing the Film;
  - (b) not disclosing such offers and expressions of interest to Ms Wilson; and
  - (c) initiating and pursuing the U.S proceedings when and how they did.
75. By engaging in the conduct set out in paragraphs 25, 33, 63 to 66 and 68 and 69 above, Ms MacInnes was supporting people who were blocking the release of the Film, namely Messrs Ghost, Cameron and Holden.
76. Further, by doing so, she was impeding the release of the Film because some interested purchasers would not, and others were reticent to, purchase and distribute the Film while the co-producers of the Film, Messrs Ghost, Cameron and Holden, were suing the co-producer, director and actress in the Film, Ms Wilson, as set out in paragraphs 67, 68, 70 and 71 above. Such litigation would not have ensued if Ms MacInnes had told the truth that she had informed Ms Wilson that Ms Ghost had asked her to have a bath and shower with her and that it had made her feel uncomfortable.
77. Ms MacInnes engaged in the conduct described in paragraphs 25, 33, 65 and 69 above in order to have a positive relationship with Messrs Ghost, Cameron and Holden, which was in her interests. In doing so, she has conducted herself unprofessionally. She has derived significant benefits from the relationship, including:
- (a) on or around 11 April 2024, Ms MacInnes was cast as Daisy in Gatsby which was being produced by Ms Ghost and her company Unigram and financed by one or more of Sir Blavatnik's companies;
  - (b) on a date presently unknown after September 2023, Ms MacInnes received a record deal with Warner Music, which is owned by Sir Blavatnik's company, Access Industries Inc; and

(c) travel and accommodation overseas since early 2024.

78. As to the imputations pleaded in sub-paragraphs 5.1, 5.2, 11.1, 11.2, 15.1, 15.2 and 15.6 of the SOC, Ms Wilson relies upon the matters set out in this Schedule save for paragraphs 70 to 77.
79. As to the imputations pleaded in sub-paragraphs 5.3 to 5.5, 11.3 to 11.5, 15.3 and 15.4 of the SOC, Ms Wilson relies upon the matters set out in this Schedule save for paragraphs 70 to 76.
80. As to the imputations pleaded in sub-paragraphs 8.1 to 8.3 and 15.5 of the SOC, Ms Wilson relies upon all of the matters set out in this Schedule.
81. Further particulars may be provided prior to trial.

# The Sydney Morning Herald

Exclusive National NSW Courts

This was published 2 months ago

## Rebel Wilson ‘deliberately undermined’ her own film, new lawsuit claims



[Perry Duffin](#)

July 24, 2025 – 1.09pm

---

Hollywood star Rebel Wilson is facing yet another lawsuit over her troubled directorial debut as the production company alleges she blocked the film’s release with legal threats and falsely outed a young actor as a victim of sexual misconduct.

The new lawsuit, launched in Sydney by the film’s production company, claims the star “deliberately undermined” the release of her own film and knowingly told lies to damage her partners in the film.



Rebel Wilson allegedly used the official Instagram account of *The Deb* to reinforce her claims. AP PHOTO/CHRIS PIZZELLO

*The Deb*, a musical comedy based on a stage show, centres on a debutant ball for teenagers in rural NSW and stars Charlotte MacInnes among other young Australian talent.

It premiered in September last year at the Toronto Film Festival but has yet to reach cinemas amid duelling allegations between Wilson and her business partners in the film.

[Last July, Wilson claimed she reported “bad behaviour” by \*The Deb\*’s producers](#) Amanda Ghost, Gregor Cameron and executive producer Vince Holden.

“Not minor things, big things ... inappropriate behaviour towards the lead actress of the film, embezzling funds from the film’s budget,” Wilson said in a video.

“I made this great movie, *The Deb*. And then now, you know, almost at the finish line, they’re saying, you know, it can’t come out. They might not release it, they might bury it.”

The producers disputed her comments and [launched a lawsuit in the United States](#) claiming Wilson had defamed them. The matter remains before the courts.

Now Holden’s production company A.I Film – which splits the rights to *The Deb* with Wilson and her mother via her company Camp Sugar – filed its own case in the NSW Supreme Court on Thursday morning.



Charlotte MaInnes has rejected Wilson's claims that she was a victim of sexual misconduct. GETTY IMAGES FOR AFI

A.I.'s legal team – Patrick George, Jeremy Marel and barrister Sue Chrysanthou, SC, – allege in filings that Wilson knowingly spread false information online and breached her contractual duties, effectively blocking the film's launch.

“Wilson threatened the Australian distributor of the film that she would obtain an injunction to prevent its release, when the contractual documents plainly prevented her from obtaining an injunction,” the lawsuit documents obtained by the *Herald* allege.

“As a result of that threat, the Australian distributor withdrew its proposal to distribute the film.” A major part of the long-running battle over *The Deb* is Wilson's public allegations of sexual misconduct by a producer towards MaInnes in a Bondi penthouse.

---

***‘Making false accusations undermines real victims and I won't be the subject of a fabricated narrative.’***

The Deb star Charlotte MaInnes

MaInnes, according to the lawsuit, has denied any misconduct took place.

“Making false accusations undermines real victims and I won’t be the subject of a fabricated narrative,” MacInnes is quoted as saying in the lawsuit.

But in September last year, Wilson allegedly used the official Instagram account of *The Deb* to double down on the claims, saying a producer asked MacInnes to shower with them. “The fact this girl has been employed now by this ‘producer’ in the lead role of production ... and given a record label – should be all the proof you need as to why she has now changed her story,” Wilson wrote.

In May this year, Wilson allegedly accused the 25-year-old lead actress of lies and supporting the producers after MacInnes was filmed singing Chappell Roan’s *Pink Pony Club* aboard a billionaire’s yacht at the Cannes Film Festival.



Rebel Wilson on the set of *The Deb*. INSTAGRAM

“Charlotte MacInnes in a culturally inappropriate Indian outfit on Len Blavatnik’s luxury yacht in Cannes – ironically singing a song from a movie that will never get released because of her lies and support for the people blocking the film’s release,” Wilson allegedly wrote.

“So glad you got your record deal Charlotte at the expense of the 300 people who worked on *The Deb* and really wanna see it released.”

On Thursday, MacInnes told the *Herald* she just wants *The Deb* to be released.

“I love this film and I can’t wait for it to be released. It would be wonderful if these proceedings can help make that happen,” MacInnes said in a statement.

The Australian lawsuit is seeking damages, an apology and corrective advertising at the expense of Wilson or her company, Camp Sugar.

Sources close to the case believe the dispute overshadowing the film is tied to the Australian Writers Guild's (AWG) choice not to award Wilson a writing credit for the film.

*The Deb* was written for the stage by Hannah Reilly, and it was Reilly who received the sole screenplay credit for the film.

Lawyers in the US defamation case say Wilson's "obsession with taking credit ... at the expense of young, talented women" has morphed into a smear campaign against others working on the film.

"What followed [the Australian Writers Guild ruling] has been a series of personal attacks and false accusations, most recently targeting Charlotte – who I cast in the original stage production," Reilly told *Variety Australia* this year.

A.I Film told the *Herald* that the movie, and the hard work of the hundreds involved, should be seen "far and wide".

"These proceedings are regrettable but essential to ensure *The Deb*'s timely release. It's a joyous, fun film, and we are sure that audiences are going to love it," the A.I statement read.

Wilson's lawyers and agents have been contacted for comment.

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**Perry Duffin** is a crime reporter for The Sydney Morning Herald. Connect via [Twitter](#) or [email](#).

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# THE AUSTRALIAN

CULTURE &gt; FILM

## Rebel Wilson sued by film producers over ‘inappropriate conduct’ claim

By [STEPHEN RICE](#) and [LIAM MENDES](#)[🔖](#) [🎁 Gift this article](#)

5:39pm July 24, 2025. Updated 6:08pm July 24, 2025

Hollywood star Rebel Wilson is being sued by producers of her film *The Deb* over claims that the actor made false, derogatory statements about them, including accusations of engaging in “inappropriate conduct” towards lead actor in the film, Charlotte MacInnes.

The producers also allege Wilson, the film’s director, falsely accused them of embezzling the film’s funds and that she threatened the Australian distributor of the film, Kismet, she would obtain an injunction to prevent its release.

Wilson’s directorial debut is a musical comedy about teenage cousins attending a debutante ball in a small Australian country town, with 25-year-old MacInnes in the starring role.

The film premiered to good reviews at the Toronto Film Festival in September last year but has not been released in cinemas because of the dispute between Wilson and producers Vince Holden, Gregor Cameron and Amanda Ghost.

The three producers are already suing Wilson for defamation in US courts and on Thursday Holden’s company, A.I. Film, filed proceedings against her in the NSW Supreme Court, alleging serious breaches of contract and director’s duties, misleading and deceptive conduct, and injurious falsehood.

The dispute revolves around Wilson's very public statements, including in a video posted on Instagram in July 2024 last year, where she said she had reported the producers for "inappropriate behaviour towards the lead actress of the film" and for "embezzling funds from the film's budget".

"Now, these people, you know, Amanda Ghost in particular, has a history of doing this kind of thing, mainly to music artists but also to people in the film business," Wilson allegedly said.

She also allegedly threatened that if the movie didn't screen at Toronto, it was "because of these absolute f..kwits".

Last September, Wilson reposted a Daily Mail article titled "Actress at centre of defamation suit against Rebel Wilson is REVEALED as drama from Australian Star's new film *The Deb* escalates".

Wilson is then alleged to have said: "When an actress on her first feature film is asked by a producer to stay in the same apartment as them, and then makes a complaint to me as the director saying producer 'asked her to have a bath and shower with her' and it made her feel uncomfortable – what am I supposed to do? Of course I reported it. There is no world where this is acceptable. The fact this girl has been employed now by this 'producer' in the lead role of a production called *GATSBY* and given a record label – should be all the proof you need as to why she has now changed her story."

The producers allege these statements conveyed that one of the producers had made "inappropriate sexual advances to an actress in the film", which they deny.

The other producers say that despite Wilson's claims, they pressed on with finalising and releasing *The Deb*, with the film premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival in September last year "to wide acclaim".

"Wilson, however, deliberately undermined these efforts by continuing to publish false and derogatory statements about the other producers and AI Film, including repeating the false allegation that they were trying to block the release of the film.

“In fact, it was Wilson who was undermining attempts to secure distribution deals for the film by continuing to make public and false allegations, and by deliberately undermining negotiations with potential distributors”, the summons states.

In May this year, during the Cannes Film Festival, Wilson allegedly posted more Instagram stories, suggesting MacInnes had “lied by denying the allegations of sexual misconduct by the film’s UK producers”.

“Charlotte MacInnes in a culturally inappropriate Indian outfit on Len Blavatnik’s luxury yacht in Cannes – ironically singing a song from a movie that will never get released because of her lies and support for the people blocking the film’s release. So glad you got your record deal Charlotte at the expense of the 300 people who worked on The Deb and really wanna see it released.”

According to the producers, those statements conveyed representations that MacInnes had lied by denying the allegations of sexual misconduct and that the film’s UK producers were blocking its release.

They say that in fact MacInnes had “truthfully denied the allegations of sexual misconduct” since September 2023.

They noted MacInnes’ statement to a newspaper that there was no truth to the allegations. “Making false accusations undermines real victims and this must be the subject of a hurricane narrative”.

Later, The Deb’s Instagram account (under Wilson’s control) posted that “After this session Ghost took MacInnes back to the Bondi Beach Penthouse apartment that they were ‘sharing’ after Ghost insisted MacInnes live with her despite the film housing all interstate cast members in hotels, which is professional standard.”

In the summons, Ghost denies engaging in any inappropriate behaviour towards MacInnes.

The producers say as a result of threats made by Wilson, Kismet withdrew its proposed distribution of the film in Australia.

The producers are seeking damage, compensation, an apology from Wilson and an order that she be permanently restrained from making statements.

In a statement, AI Film said: ‘These proceedings are regrettable but essential to ensure The Deb’s timely release. It’s a joyous, fun film, and we are sure that audiences are going to love it.’

MacInnes said: “I love this film and I can’t wait for it to be released. It would be wonderful if these proceedings can help make that happen.”

## TRENDING

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### **‘Out of the question: Hanson says Barnaby Joyce won’t lead One Nation**

Pauline Hanson has flatly rejected suggestions disgruntled Nationals MP Barnaby Joyce will replace her as leader of the party she co-founded.

By NOAH YIM, JOE KELLY

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*Sia Lagos*

Registrar

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This Notice has been inserted as the first page of the document which has been accepted for electronic filing. It is now taken to be part of that document for the purposes of the proceeding in the Court and contains important information for all parties to that proceeding. It must be included in the document served on each of those parties.

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## Reply

No. 1727 of 2025

Federal Court of Australia  
District Registry: New South Wales  
Division: General

### **Charlotte MacInnes**

Applicant

### **Rebel Wilson**

Respondent

In answer to the Respondent's Defence filed on 22 October 2025 (**Defence**), the Applicant (**MacInnes**) adopts the same defined terms used in the Statement of Claim filed on 22 September 2025 (**SOC**) and relies upon the following facts and matters:

#### Joinder of issue

1. Save and except insofar as it contains admissions, including deemed admissions, or as otherwise expressly pleaded in this Reply, MacInnes:
  - 1.1 joins issue with the matters pleaded and particularised by the Respondent (**Wilson**) in the Defence; and
  - 1.2 relies upon the matters pleaded in the SOC.

#### Matters responsive to SOC

2. The denials by Wilson in paragraphs 5, 8, 11, and 15 of the Defence that each of the Publications (as defined in paragraph 17 of the SOC) was defamatory of MacInnes is unjustifiable and lacking in bona fides and has increased the hurt and harm occasioned to MacInnes by reason of the Publications.

---

Filed on behalf of (name & role of party)	Charlotte MacInnes, Applicant
Prepared by (name of person/lawyer)	Patrick George
Law firm (if applicable)	Giles George
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<b>Address for service</b> (include state and postcode)	135 King Street Sydney NSW 2000

---

[Form approved 01/08/2011]

3. Wilson's allegation at paragraph 9 of the Defence that she 'does not know and therefore does not admit the matters alleged in paragraph 9' of the Statement, in relation to the Further May 2025 Post, is unjustifiable and lacking in bona fides in circumstances where:

3.1 the Further May 2025 Post was published by Wilson;

3.2 the text of the Further May 2025 Post was set out in paragraph 7 of MacInnes' Concerns Notice (at 'Annexure D' to the SOC); and

3.3 the text of the Further May 2025 Post was quoted in the article published by *Variety* on 20 May 2025 which was 'Annexure D' to MacInnes' Concerns Notice;

and this has increased the hurt and harm occasioned to MacInnes by reason of the Publications.

4. The denials by Wilson in paragraphs 24 to 28 of the Defence that each of the Publications caused, or was likely to cause, serious harm to MacInnes' reputation is unjustifiable and lacking in bona fides and has increased the hurt and harm occasioned to MacInnes by reason of the Publications.

#### Qualified Privilege at Common Law – Reply to Attack

5. In answer to the allegations in paragraphs 34 and 35 of the Defence, MacInnes:

5.1 denies that each of the 23 September 2024 Post and 25 July 2025 Post was a reply to an attack by MacInnes (or some other person) on Wilson's reputation;

5.2 says that Wilson had attacked MacInnes and AI Film Production Ltd (**AI Film**), and/or AI Film's servants and agents, persistently and repeatedly in publications she made or caused to be made from at least around 10 July 2024 – including on or around 14 June 2024, 10 July 2024, 12 July 2024, 30 July 2024, 6 August 2024, on the Websites, 23 September 2024, November 2024, 16 May 2025 and in the further May 2025 publications;

5.3 says that AI Film commenced proceedings against Wilson in the NSW Supreme Court and published the Commercial List Statement in those proceedings to the journalists in response to Wilson's many persistent and repeated attacks on the reputations of AI Film, and/or its officers and agents, as referred to in the preceding sub-paragraph;

5.4 says that to the extent that the 23 September 2024 Post and/or 25 July 2025 Post were a response to an attack by MacInnes (or some other person) on Wilson's

reputation (which is denied):

(a) they were not relevant and proportionate responses as pleaded at paragraphs 34(b) and 35(b) of the Defence; and

(b) they were reposts and not defensible as qualified privilege at common law;

5.5 says further that Wilson had knowledge of the falsity of the allegations in each of the September 2024 Post and 25 July 2025 Post for the reasons set out in paragraph 31 of the SOC and also because:

(a) Wilson had sent texts to Amanda Ghost on 7 September 2023 at about 1.58pm in which she said:

a. *'Charlotte says all good. She just meant "it was a bizarre situation" not that she personally felt uncomfortable x';*

b. *'So all good there';*

(b) Ghost responded:

a. *'Oh thank fuck for that!!';*

b. *'OMG';*

c. *'that's hilarious';*

d. *'I nearly died';*

(c) Wilson responded:

a. *'She instantly was like "oh no, zero issues at all";*

b. *'But she said she was happy I called to clarify';*

(d) Ghost had sent the following text to Wilson on 18 September 2023 with the content of a text from MacInnes's agent:

*Text from Charlotte's agent. Greer – Spoke to Charlotte, who is very aware Amanda is keeping her distance. Happy to chat through with you; I know you are having a huge day so didn't want to butt in with a phone call. Charlotte has categorically stated that she was never uncomfortable with Amanda and Charlotte is hoping to chat to Amanda about it asap. I've asked her to hold off for now but am hoping we can arrange that chat and*

*Amanda will be open to it? It is definitely just a misunderstanding and Charlotte just wants to get back to normal. As you may know Charlotte could t think [sic] more highly of Amanda, so this turn of events is discombobulating for Charlotte. Call me any time and I can fill you in – it appears that there’s been a possible miscommunication in the conversation Rebel had with Charlotte.*

- (e) Wilson had sent the following text to Ghost on 22 September 2023 in respect of the Bondi apartment: *‘Hey, hope you are travelling safely. We are here at the Bondi apartment – Ramona loves it 🥰’*;
- (f) Wilson had sent the following text to Ghost on 25 September 2023 *‘We miss you here in Australia already!’*;
- (g) Ghost responded:
  - a. *‘Omg’*;
  - b. *‘I miss you toooo’*;
  - c. *‘SO MUCH’*;
  - d. *‘I’m so sad to have left’*;
  - e. *‘Have to come back sooner’*;
- (h) Wilson’s UK agents (Charles Collier and Angharad Wood of Tavistock Agency) were unaware of Wilson’s accusations against Ghost until 9 October 2023;
- (i) Collier and Wood had teleconferences with Ghost and Gregor Cameron on 17 October 2023 in which:
  - (a) Ghost and Cameron repeatedly requested that Wilson explain her allegations and either put them in writing or withdraw them;
  - (b) Ghost said that Wilson’s allegations concerning MacInnes was a complete misunderstanding and that MacInnes was on very good terms with Ghost and with Cameron;

(c) Cameron raised an allegation that Collier had made on behalf of Wilson that Cameron had smuggled fees into the budget, Collier said he regretted using that word, Cameron said the allegation was totally and utterly refutable and was ridiculous, and Collier apologised and said that it came from a series of misunderstandings and that he could understand how wires had got crossed but that he thought they should forget and forgive on that; and

(d) Wood agreed to speak to Wilson and said whatever allegations Wilson wished to make needed to be clarified in the next 24 hours;

(j) Wilson and her company Camp Sugar Productions Pty Ltd agreed to the budget and signed the various agreements for the Film shortly afterwards, on 27 October 2023 and 1 November 2023;

(k) further particulars will be provided prior to trial;

5.6 says further that Wilson was predominantly motivated by an improper purpose or purposes in publishing each of the 23 September 2024 Post and 25 July 2025 Post:

(a) to harm MacInnes;

(b) to harm Ghost, Cameron and Vince Holden, and other servants and agents of AI Film;

(c) to put improper pressure on AI Film to sell to Wilson's company, Camp Sugar, the film The Deb as a 'distressed asset' and at a substantially reduced price; and/or

(d) to further her own commercial interests;

by reason of the facts and matters set out in the preceding sub-paragraph and also:

i. the extreme and intemperate language used by Wilson in each of the Publications;

ii. the repeated attacks by Wilson on MacInnes on social media and the media;

iii. the Websites, which Wilson published surreptitiously;

iv. Wilson's conduct in giving a statement to the Daily Mail which was

published on 4 October 2025 claiming again that her allegations were true;  
and

5.7 otherwise denies the allegations in paragraph 34 and 35 of the Defence.

Aggravation

6. MacInnes relies on the matters pleaded in paragraphs 2, 3, 4 and 5 above as conduct by Wilson that was improper, unjustifiable and/or lacking in bona fides that aggravated her hurt and harm caused by the publication of the Publications and increased the damage caused to her.

Date: 23 October 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P. George', written on a light grey background.

---

Signed by Patrick George  
Lawyer for the Applicant

This pleading was prepared by Patrick George and Sue Chrysanthou SC.

**Certificate of lawyer**

I, Patrick George, certify to the Court that, in relation to the Reply filed on behalf of the Applicant, the factual and legal material available to me at present provides a proper basis for:

- (a) each allegation in the pleading; and
- (b) each denial in the pleading; and
- (c) each non admission in the pleading.

Date: 23 October 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P. George', written over a light grey rectangular background.

---

Signed by Patrick George  
Lawyer for the Applicant

5:54



rebelwilson 4h



Daily Mail

MORE STORIES



# Actress at center of defamation suit against Rebel Wilson is REVEALED as drama from Australian star's new film 'The Deb' escalates

By Ruth Styles In Los Angeles For Dailymail.com  
17:17 23 Sep 2024, updated 17:47 23 Sep 2024



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5:54



rebelwilson 4h



When an actress on her first feature film is asked by a producer to stay in the same apartment as them, and then makes a complaint to me as the director saying said producer “asked her to have a bath and shower with her and it made her feel uncomfortable - what am I supposed to do?

Send message...



5:54



rebelwilson 4h



Of course I reported  
it. There is no  
world where this is  
acceptable.

Send message...



5:54



rebelwilson 4h



The fact that this  
girl has been  
employed now by this  
“producer” in the  
lead role of a  
production called  
GATSBY (ART Boston)  
and given a record  
label - should be  
all the proof you  
need as to why she  
has now changed her  
story

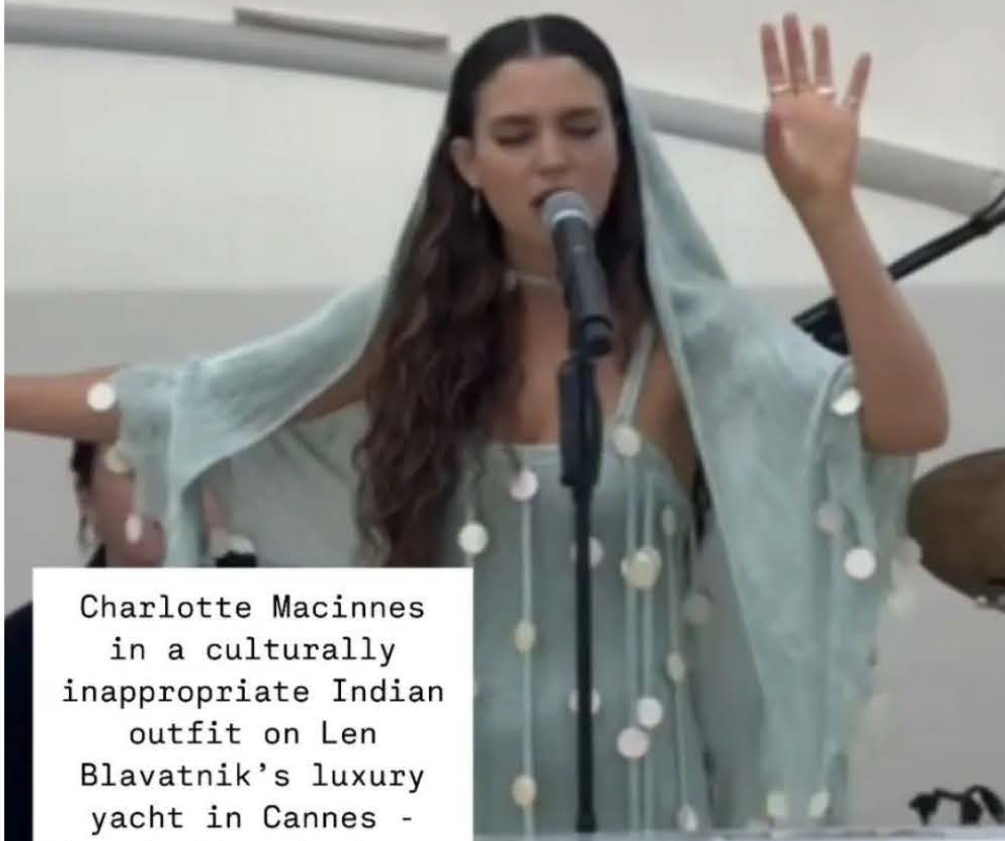
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thedebfilm 2h

Follow



Charlotte Macinnes  
in a culturally  
inappropriate Indian  
outfit on Len  
Blavatnik's luxury  
yacht in Cannes -  
ironically singing a  
song from a movie  
that will never get  
released because of  
her lies and support  
for the people  
blocking the film's  
release



thedebfilm 2h

Follow



The gorgeous voice of Charlette



So glad you got your  
record deal  
Charlotte at the  
expense of the 300  
people who worked on  
The Deb and really  
wanna see it  
released

Charlotte MacInnes v Rebel Wilson

NSD1727/2025

**COURT BOOK – PART A**

**Tab 7**

Hyperlink to video forming part of 'Further May 2025 Post'

[7. Further May 2025 Post.mp4](#)



Liked by **ellieuden** and **others**

**thedebfilm** Amanda Ghost did 30 additional vocal recording sessions with cast member Charlotte MacInnes including nighttime records. Other cast members did an average of 3-4 sessions for their work on the film during regular recording hours with the director and full music team. After this session Ghost took MacInnes back to the Bondi Beach Penthouse apartment that they were 'sharing' after Ghost insisted MacInnes live with her despite the film housing all interstate cast members in hotels which is the professional standard.

31 minutes ago

11:46

5G



rebelwilson 27m



Apparently I'm being sued in Australia? It makes no sense. As the director, producer and co-star who nurtured a project called THE DEB for 5 years from a 3 page idea into a gorgeous feature film - I want nothing more than to have this film released and have been working tirelessly behind the scenes to get this to happen. To say otherwise is complete nonsense. I'm so proud of the film!

In my opinion this is continued bullying and harassment from UK financiers of the project Amanda Ghost, Gregor Cameron and Vince Holden after I exposed their dodgy behaviour. They tried to prevent the film from premiering there (they lost) and now they've tried to stop the film being released because of a baseless US lawsuit and now a further Australian one

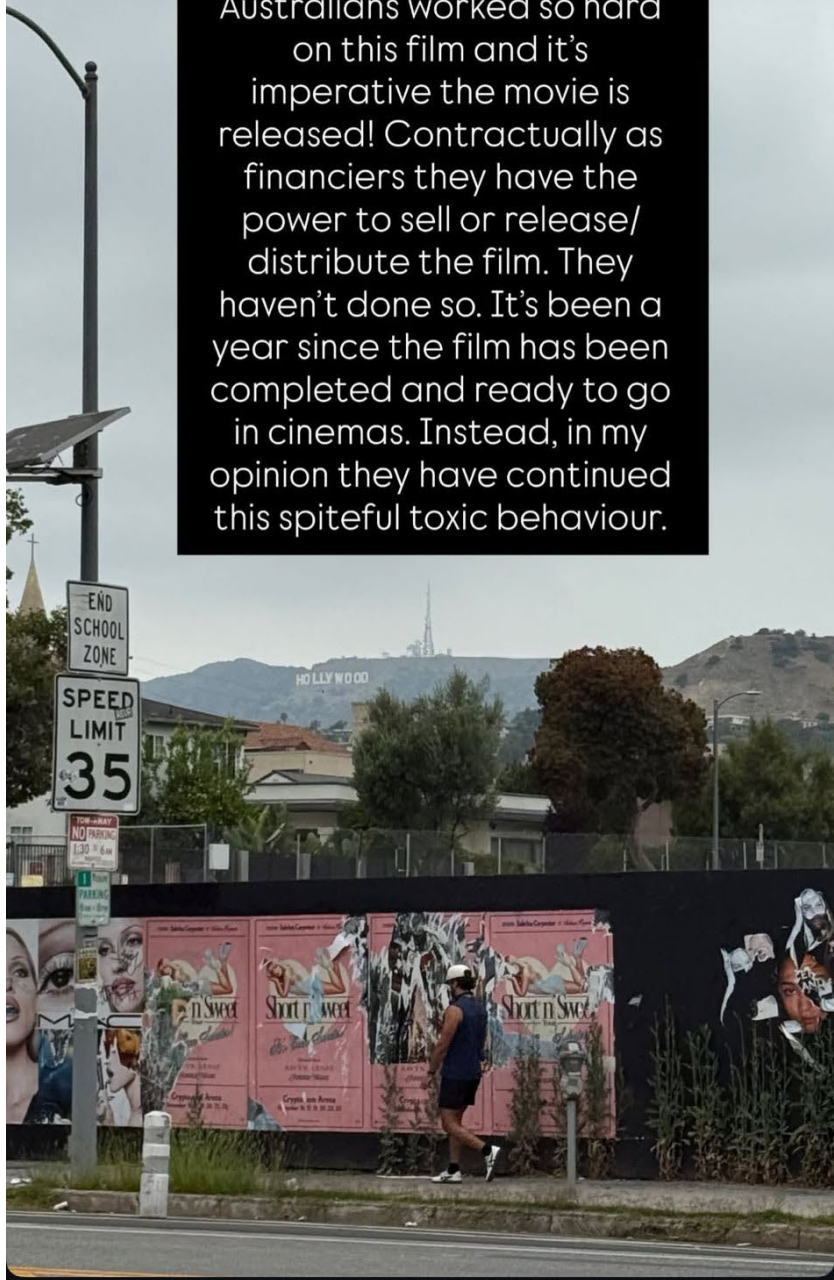
Send message...





rebelwilson 19m

It's so sad these people would do this. So many Australians worked so hard on this film and it's imperative the movie is released! Contractually as financiers they have the power to sell or release/distribute the film. They haven't done so. It's been a year since the film has been completed and ready to go in cinemas. Instead, in my opinion they have continued this spiteful toxic behaviour.



Send message...



11:46

5G



rebelwilson 12m



The first song of the film is called "F\*\*k my life" - I'm going to release it now - because if these f\*\*kwits aren't going to release the movie I may as well. And every day since discovering their dodgy behaviour (reported by cast and crew) I have said "F\*\*k my life" but not in the fun way like in the song - in the way of like "how on earth did my joyful directorial debut get shat on by vile financiers who spew toxicity ALL because I told the truth about them."



Send message...



11:47

5G



rebelwilson 5m

What would you do if you were me, a first time female director - and a young cast member says she's living with a producer and had a bath and shower with them and that she feels uncomfortable? What would you do if crew told you they were stealing money from the independent film's really tight budget? I reported both things. I'd do the same again. I believe in a safe and inclusive workplace.



Send message...



7:55

◀ Spotify



rebelwilson 🌟 8m



I've moved on, now directing my 2nd movie and loving it. But regarding THE DEB all I can literally say is "F\*\*k my life" with tears in my eyes and a heavy heart. Everyone who worked on the movie and who knows me KNOWS I put my blood, sweat and tears into this. Everyone knows I'm a "truth teller" when it comes to vile people in the industry. I just want this movie to come out and for all the amazingly talented contributors to be recognised for their sensational work! At least we had the Toronto premiere - and at least now you can all see the opening of the film. Posting it now!  
Rebs x

Send message...

