

"Expert in serious crime" Legal 500 2010



Tony Cross was called in 1982 and quickly established himself as a successful criminal practitioner in a short space of time. Within a few years of call was regularly appearing in cases of note. As a Junior (until 2006) his practice consisted of all aspects of serious crime; murder, manslaughter, large conspiracies, serious violence and sex cases. Towards the end of his time as a Junior he developed an expertise in fraud, defending professional clients accused of money-laundering. In the 2007 edition of The Legal 500 Tony Cross was noted for his wide experience of defending in such cases.

He has always been entrusted to prosecute and defend in cases of gravity. He continues so to do in Silk. He is frequently commended as a Silk who is able to establish positive working relationships with difficult clients.

OTHER APPOINTMENTS

Recorder (2002)
Silk (2006)

NOTABLE CASES

(This is not an exhaustive list in any of the categories and is confined to cases in Silk and is an indication of the gravity and type of cases undertaken)

R v Howson and Waddington - Prosecution of two men accused of double murder. Trial and Re-trial. First case in country requiring consideration of the "new" defence of loss of control.

R v Donnelly - First case in country to call for imposition of 25 minimum year term for murder involving a knife.

R v Knox and others - Prosecution of Drug Conspiracy and Police corruption [leading to prosecution of juror for contempt in Court of Appeal].

R v McDonald and Others - Prosecution of gang for attempted murder of police officer.

R v Finch - People trafficking of prostitutes from South America, Europe and within the UK

R v G – A prosecution arising out of the alleged illicit activities of a Registered Charity. The case concerned three separate allegations of dishonesty, namely: i) Conspiracy to Cheat the Revenue (a PAYE Fraud) which is alleged to have been committed by the deliberate understating of employee wages; (ii) Theft, by the appropriation from the charity of a significant percentage of the donations made to it; and (iii) Conspiracy to Cheat the Revenue, a Gift Aid Fraud, allegedly perpetrated by the non-declaration of the fact that the majority of the declared donations were from limited companies.

R v Arun Patnaik – Twice prosecuted and convicted of rape and attempted rape. <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/manchester/6155282.stm>

R v Thomas Wood – Defence of man who stabbed a student to death on a train. <http://news.sky.com/skynews/Home/Sky-News-Archive/Article/20080641223940?f=rss>

R v Liam McKearney – 19 year old man tried and acquitted for alleged racist murder <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/lancashire/5255990.stm>

R v Lynn Jeffrey - Trial and acquittal of murder of a baby by babysitter <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/lancashire/6284870.stm>

R v H – Teenager accused and acquitted of murder of Sophie Lancaster (The Goth Murder). <http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/article3834296.ece>

R v Stewart Diamond – Prosecution in 1999 led by Openshaw QC (now Openshaw J.) Reference by CCRC to CA.- Where a defendant who was charged with murder had refused to be assessed for mental illness and refused legal advice to plead guilty to manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility, found it was not in the interests of justice to admit fresh evidence 10 years after the offence in relation to the defendant's mental state at the time of the killing as it was clear from the evidence that the defendant's decision to plead not guilty was tactical. [2008] EWCA Crim 923 CA (Crim Div) <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/lancashire/6206646.stm>

R v Pervez -Murder committed in Pakistan and subsequently tried in UK; involving complex issues of jurisdiction and evidence in honour- type killing) <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-560937/Arranged-marriage-bride-lover-arrested-teenage-grooms-murder.html>

R v Flood – Gangland murder. Female tried and acquitted as an accessory http://www.messengernewspapers.co.uk/news/4478072.Father_and_son_convicted_of_Halloween_murder/

R v Cusack- Prosecution of man accused of murder in a case involving alleged failings in supervision of mentally disordered offender.

http://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/s/1085572_catalogue_of_failure_in_voices_killing

EDUCATION / PROFESSIONAL

St Mary's College Blackburn 1969-1976

University of Manchester LLB 1977-1980

Inns of Court School of Law 1981-1982

Accredited Mediator 2010

Direct Public Access Lawyer 2010

Registered Lawyer on the Football Association's List of approved Football Agents.

Member of the Criminal Bar Association

Member of the Executive Committee of the Northern Circuit

Past Member of the Bar Council

PERSONAL

Season ticket holder at Burnley Football Club. Competitive athlete in Masters Division of CrossFit - the Sport of Fitness. Other interests include golf and tennis.