



SPECIALISATION

All aspects of personal injury litigation (claimant and defendant), industrial disease (asbestos, deafness and VWF/HAVS) and fatal accident litigation. All other areas of law with medical issues, including clinical negligence, CICA, and Inquests.

Challenging PI cases dealt with include: animals and sports injuries, particularly horse-related accidents; chronic pain; dental injuries; low asbestos exposure; non VWF upper limb disorders; civil proceedings for multiple attempted rape and physical assaults; neglect of elderly relatives in nursing care

Cases have included advising on accidents which have occurred abroad in and outside Europe.

Professional regulatory work have acted for Registered Nurses in NMC proceedings and also before Care Standards Tribunal; GMC; Medical student in University/GMC-related disciplinary issue; Dentist, including in relation to their NHS Trust; and also have advised Radiographer and Health and Care Professionals' Council - HPC.

PI CASES

PI case values range from fast track to £million plus.

Recent cases successfully concluded include:

General PI - Non-disease/Orthopaedic:

- Mining accident – falling materials leading to serious degloving injuries – Watson Burton Solicitors, Newcastle.
- Accident where chain saw severed radial and median nerves at wrist causing profound disability and significant neurological problems – instructed by Ralli Solicitors, Manchester
- Significant knee injury to a knee which required surgery and developed complications resulting in need of compartmental surgery, total knee replacement and pain syndrome – The Clark Partnership, Stockport
- Teenager severely burned in barn fire – Feld McKay & Donner Solicitors, Rochdale
- Police officer repeatedly assaulted and attempt rape by her older police officer partner – Ralli Solicitors, Manchester
- Slipping accidents due to drink on floor of nightclub – 1st Solicitors Stafford and Crofton's Solicitors, Manchester
- RTA – motorcycle accident on roundabout. Design of roundabout main issue in the case – Victoria Johnson, The Compensation Lawyers, London
- Clinical negligence – failure to diagnose herpes simplex encephalitis resulting in severe brain damage to 9 month old baby – Feld McKay & Donner solicitors Rochdale
- Elderly patient in care with dementia – serious injuries were no witnesses for Claimant – Ralli solicitors, Manchester
- Pedestrians hit by debris blown off building during storm – Ralli Solicitors, Manchester
- Paint ball accident – Ralli Solicitors Manchester
- Employers Liability – fall from height accidents – Feld Mackay and Donner Solicitors, Rochdale and Berrymans Lace Mawer
- Horse riding accidents - Claimant's riding other peoples' unfamiliar horses – lack of instruction, supervision and unsafe systems – GLP solicitors, Bury and Feld, Mckay & Donner, Rochdale
- Fraudulent housing-related and highways-related claims resulting in alleged or exaggerated injuries – instructed by Manchester City Council

INDUSTRIAL DISEASE

- Many Deceased mesothelioma cases and several asbestosis cases where Defendant argued de minimis exposure, including successful against 11 day employer – Higgins & Co Birkenhead, JMP Solicitors Warrington, Birchall Blackburn Solicitors Manchester
- Mesothelioma case of woodworker where uncertainty of materials being processed uncertain – John Pickering Solicitors, Manchester
- Deceased mesothelioma cases where practically all employment pre-1954 – Ralli Solicitors, Manchester



- Deceased mesothelioma – Occupiers' Liability – council flat resident – Birchall Blackburn Solicitors, Manchester
- Upper limb disorder from use of staple gun at work – Irwin Mitchell, Leeds
- Numerous deafness cases involving elderly Claimants where no measurements of noise levels and employment many years ago – eg Legal Gateway Solicitors, Eccles, Salford
- Services claims for non-British Coal VWF claims – Shaw & Co, Doncaster

I have advised in several hundred British Coal Respiratory (Chronic Bronchitis, COPD and pneumoconiosis) cases and some VWF scheme cases. Have appeared in the High Court at British Coal hearing for Claimants. Provided advices for British Coal offers for Protected Adults, for settlement of proceedings.

CLINICAL NEGLIGENCE

Cases have included failure to diagnose scaphoid fractures, macular degeneration, slipped femoral epiphysis in child, failure to diagnose Crohn's disease, breast cancer and herpes simplex encephalitis.

The CICA cases which I have been involved in have included a number of sensitive cases for local authorities on behalf of children (now in care) who have been sexually abused, including where it has been inappropriate to call them as witnesses. Also police officers (instructed by Russell Jones and Walker, Manchester) and nurse subject to assault at work (instructed by Royal College of Nursing, Bolton).

INQUESTS

Include many mesothelioma, asbestosis and lung cancer deaths. Also suicide for young woman in presence of police officers (Russell Jones and Walker, Manchester); Also death of a senior doctor under extreme pressures from media as a result of professional standing in the community – (Pannone, Manchester); nurse alleged to have neglected patient (Royal College of Nursing).

PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

- Finding of no impairment for Registered Nurse accused of having hit a patient – Royal College of Nursing, Bolton
- Overturning of CQC (Care Quality Commission) refusal to register foreign-trained nurse as Care Home Manager by Care Standards Tribunal - Royal College of Nursing, Bolton.
- Nurse admitted to failing to follow prescriptions for babies in Paediatric Intensive Care Unit - Royal College of Nursing, Sunderland
- Dentist charged with fraud - maintaining of permission to practice for NHS during course of police investigation – Pannone, Manchester

OTHER GENERAL COMMON LAW

Especially other contractual and tortious cases. Also, health and safety prosecutions of businesses especially for food hygiene issues. Successful cases have included:

- Challenging government contract tendering process – Molesworths Bright Clegg, Rochdale
- Advising in commercial lease dispute – Wrigley Claydon Solicitors, Oldham
- 50% reduction in fine for successful food business prosecuted for health and safety breaches upon appeal.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS

Part-time (fee paid) First Tier Tribunal Judge in the Immigration and Asylum Chamber.

I have been involved with the Bar Vocational Course and Manchester Metropolitan University since its inception. I have taught opinion writing and drafting, the personal injury opinion and, more recently, professional ethics.

MEDIATOR AND MEDIATION ADVOCACY

I am a fully trained mediator and volunteer with Manchester City Council free mediation service.

VOLUNTEERING

On several days a year I volunteer at the **University of Manchester free representation and advice unit**, overseeing advice given by law students to members of the public. I have mentored a student at Xaverian 6th Form College in Rusholme each year since 2009.



LEISURE

Keeping fit (to counter the hours in front of the WP!) swimming, horse-riding, yoga, gym, hiking.
Also food/cooking (have worked as chef in "good food guide" restaurants in France and Manchester in the past), learning Spanish, "arthouse" films and travel (eg South America, India & Malaysia). Renovating Catalan farmhouse in Priorat. Failing to keep grip on family.

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LANGUAGES

Pretty fluent in conversation at Spanish ("nivel avanzado") and French (A' level +)

EDUCATION

Oxford University (MA Jurisprudence) 1989-92
Manchester University – MA in Healthcare Ethics and Law (part-time 2000-2)
Inns of Court School of Law 1992/3
Bury Grammar School