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Nicholas Dobbs

Year of Call: 2020

Practice Areas

- Civil Fraud
- Extradition
- Health & Safety
- Inquests
- Inquiries
- Insurance
- Personal Injury
- Public Law

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Experience

Nick joined Temple Garden Chambers in 2021 and accepts instructions in all of Chambers' core areas of work, which cover a wide range of private and public law matters.

Having worked for the UK Civil Aviation Authority, Nick also has extensive experience in the regulation of civil aviation as well as inquests arising from air accidents.

Before being admitted to the Bar of England and Wales, Nick practised criminal law in New Zealand, working as a Crown Prosecutor at the Manukau Crown Solicitor's Office.

Nick is regularly instructed on behalf of claimants and defendants in fast track trials, contested applications under the Civil Procedure Rules, small claims and stage three hearings, involving personal injury, allegations of fundamental dishonesty and related credit hire issues.

Nick studied at the University of Auckland and was admitted as a barrister and solicitor of the High Court of New Zealand in 2014, after which he worked for a high-profile defence lawyer. He then joined Kayes Fletcher Walker, the Manukau Crown Solicitor's Office, prosecuting jury trials in South Auckland.

During that time, Nick prosecuted serious violent offending, sexual offences, fraud and police drug operations. He also appeared in the High Court of New Zealand in respect of a

number of appeals against conviction and sentence before moving to the United Kingdom.

Between 2017 and 2020, Nick worked in the Office of the General Counsel to the UK Civil Aviation Authority on various regulatory issues, including safety regulation, pilot, airline and operator licensing, as well as the prosecution of aviation-related offences.

Nick completed pupillage under the supervision of Lionel Stride, Tim Sharpe and Benjamin Seifert, broadening his scope of practice by working on high-value personal injury claims, clinical negligence, professional negligence, inquests, judicial review proceedings and extradition.

Education

- University of Auckland BA/LLB (Hons)
- BTT, BPP Law School (2019)

Memberships

- Administrative Law Bar Association (ALBA)
- Personal Injury Bar Association (PIBA)

Publications

TGC Clinical Negligence Newsletter - Second Issue

16/11/2021

Authors: Lionel Stride Marcus Grant Ellen Robertson James Arney QC James Laughland Robert Riddell Nicholas Dobbs Rochelle Powell Anthony Johnson James Yapp

Please see link below to the latest edition of the TGC Clinical Negligence Newsletter.

You can view the publication on our website <http://tgchambers.com>

News

Pupillage Zoom Q&A

17/01/2022

Barristers involved: Ellen Robertson Elizabeth Gallagher Rochelle Powell Nicholas Dobbs

We will have four barristers in attendance – Ellen Robertson, a member of Chambers’ Pupillage Committee and Wellbeing Committee, Elizabeth Gallagher, a member of Chambers’ Equality and Diversity Committee, Wellbeing Committee and Pupillage Committee, and Nicholas Dobbs and Rochelle Powell, who both joined Chambers in 2021 after successfully completing their pupillages at TGC.

This is a chance to ask any questions you have about pupillage, applications and life at TGC. The dress code is informal.

There is no need to RSVP and prospective candidates at all stages are very welcome. The Zoom link is <https://tgchambers.zoom.us/j/96402754468> and the meeting ID is 964 0275 4468. You will not require a password but will be admitted to the event from a waiting room. If you have any difficulties in attending, please email Ellen Robertson at er@tgchambers.com.

TGC Clinical Negligence Newsletter - Second Issue, November 2021

16/11/2021

Barristers involved: Lionel Stride Marcus Grant Ellen Robertson James Arney QC James Laughland Robert Riddell Nicholas Dobbs Rochelle Powell Anthony Johnson James Yapp

To help you navigate this edition, here is an overview of what you can expect: -

Procedure, Limitation & Expert Evidence

- To kick us off on recent procedural developments, Marcus Grant considers *Calderdale & Huddersfield NHS Foundation Trust v Metcalf* [2021] EWHC 611 QB in which the Court handed down a six-month prison sentence against a claimant as punishment for contempt of court for signing statements of truth on court documents containing facts that she knew to be untrue.
 - Ellen Robertson looks at *Wilkins v University Hospital North Midlands NHS Trust* [2021] EWHC 2164 (QB), which considers the old chestnuts of 'date of knowledge' for the purposes of limitation and the 'balancing exercise' undertaken by the Court when considering whether to utilise its discretion under section 33 of the Limitation Act 1980
 - James Arney Q.C. considers *PAL v Davidson* [2021] EWHC 1108 (QB), an application by a 13-year-old claimant who had suffered catastrophic injuries for an interim payment of £2 million to enable a suitable property to be purchased for her long-term accommodation needs.
- Fourthly - and this is itself a new development for the TGC Clinical Negligence Newsletter - we will take you through a quick-fire review of four key cases in the field.

Breach of Duty & Causation

- Turning to questions of liability, James Laughland first considers the Supreme Court's much awaited judgment in *Khan v Meadows* [2021] UKSC 21, in which the centrality of the 'scope of duty' principle was affirmed as a determinative factor in medical advice cases.
- I (Lionel Stride) then examine the battery of post-Montgomery case law concerning patients' informed consent to treatment.
- Following on from the above, Robert Riddell analyses *Negus (1) Bambridge (2) v Guy's & St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust* [2021] EWHC 643 (QB), which concerns the extent to which a doctor is under a duty to warn a patient before surgery of the material risk which may arise from intra-operative technical decisions.
- Nicholas Dobbs examines *Sheard v Cao Tri Do* [2021] EWHC 2166 (QB), which provides an instructive example of the difficulties in clinical negligence claims when resolving conflicts between witness evidence and contemporaneous medical notes.
- James Laughland analyses *Davies v Frimley Health NHS Foundation Trust* [2021] EWHC 169 (QB) in which the Court considered whether the making of a material contribution to harm was sufficient to establish liability in a clinical negligence claim.
- Rochelle Powell considers *Jarman v Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust* [2021] EWHC 323(QB), which provides an interesting exposition of the Bolam test in the context of an alleged failure to refer the claimant for an emergency MRI.
- Anthony Johnson considers *Brint v. Barking, Havering and Redbridge University Hospitals NHS Trust* [2021] EWHC 290 in which the Judge's consideration of the claimant's lack of credibility as a witness did not equate to a finding of fundamental dishonesty for the purposes of CPR 44.16.
- James Arney Q.C. analyses *XM v Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust* [2020] EWHC 3102 (QB) in which the Court considered the standard of care to be expected from 'health visitors'; the judgment is a practical application of the principles established in *Wilsher and Darnley*.
- I (Lionel Stride) then set out a quick-fire summary of some of the other interesting recent clinical negligence cases that did not (quite) make the cut for articles.

Calculation of Damages

- Turning to questions of quantum, Anthon Johnson analyses *Reaney v. University Hospital of North Staffordshire NHS Trust* [2015] EWCA Civ 1119, which is significant for two reasons: (i) the Court provided guidance on the applicability of the test of causation in a case where a non-negligent injury had been exacerbated by the Defendant's clinical negligence; and (ii) the Master of the Rolls commented obiter on the applicability of the 'material contribution' test in claims of that nature.
- Blowing the final whistle on this edition, James Yapp then considers *Owen v Swansea City AFC* [2021] EWHC 1539 (QB), in which the Court addressed the question of how to calculate the likely career earnings of a young professional footballer.

We very much hope you enjoy this publication, and welcome any feedback.

You can view the publication on our website <http://tgchambers.com>

TGC Welcomes New Junior Tenant

09/07/2021

Barristers involved: Nicholas Dobbs

Temple Garden Chambers is delighted to announce that Nicholas Dobbs has accepted an invitation to join chambers after successfully completing pupillage.
