

McCormicks Briefing

Autumn 2018



Call the experts

**Safeguard your
brand**

Awards launched



McCormicks
SOLICITORS

Expert witnesses can make all the difference if you are charged with a criminal offence, as two recent fraud cases handled by McCormicks have highlighted.

Call the experts

In criminal law, expert witnesses can be instructed by both the prosecution and defence to help their case.

These witnesses do not take sides. Instead, they must use their expert knowledge and experience to interpret the evidence impartially. That is one of the reasons their testimony can carry such weight.

Examples of expert witnesses include forensic accountants (who can be essential in complex fraud matters), psychiatrists and

psychologists, firearms experts and road traffic collision experts.

In one of the recent fraud cases mentioned earlier, a handwriting expert instructed by McCormicks was able to show that a signature on a document said to have been that of our client was almost certainly not genuine.

As a result of this finding, the Crown Prosecution Service offered no evidence in court and our client was found not guilty.

The second case was

discontinued after McCormicks submitted a psychologist's report to the court.

In both cases our clients were spared the ordeal of having to stand trial because the Crown Prosecution Service appreciated the strength of our experts' evidence.

Peter Minnikin, Partner in McCormicks Criminal Law department, said: "This shows the value of instructing solicitors such as McCormicks who have the experience to know when an expert witness could be useful and who

know which expert to call upon.

"At McCormicks we have a database of experts across a wide range of fields who have proven their worth time and again. This is just one example of the resources we have at our fingertips to help our clients.

"Each of our solicitors also has extensive experience of instructing experts on behalf of their clients and their own network of experts to call upon when required.

"It is not every day that

cases are effectively dropped because of the findings of expert witnesses, but it is not unusual for expert evidence to play an important role in cases."



Peter Minnikin

Richard received the Order at an investiture in London this summer.

His citation referred to his invaluable work as a volunteer over 20 years and as an effective Vice Chairman for the last ten years.

It stated: "Since Richard retired from business he has spent countless hours garnering grants and goodwill from companies and through major fundraising events. He has acquired equipment (e.g. wheelchairs) and other forms of support to enable youngsters to have more fulfilled lives.

Congratulations to our friend and Vice Chairman of the Yorkshire Young Achievers Foundation Richard Stroud who has been awarded the Order of the League of Mercy for his sterling work.

Honour for Richard

"Richard has also raised funds to train support dogs to help young children overcome serious physical difficulties including autism, he devotedly matches youngsters to the dogs and sees the child through to a successful relationship with them, thus transforming their lives.

"Richard is passionate

about promoting peace and goodwill between the many diverse faiths in West Yorkshire and is a trusted emissary and greatly respected by all."

The award is made by the League of Mercy Foundation to individuals who have given seven or more years of outstanding service, with only a small number of awards made nationally every year.



Richard is pictured with his Order of the League of Mercy medal at the investiture with his wife Denise, daughter Azure and son James.

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McCormicks has a new Partner

New Partner

Stephen Hopwood, who leads the firm's Family Department, has been made a Partner after more than four years at the practice.

He is a specialist family lawyer and heads our Family Department, ranked as one of the leading Family/Matrimonial practices in the region by the leading independent Guides to the profession, the Legal 500 and Chambers UK.

Senior Partner Peter McCormick said: "We are very pleased that Stephen has become a Partner. His commitment to achieving the best possible outcomes for our Family clients is clear and he is an important member of the McCormicks team."

Stephen has expertise in all aspects of Family work, with a focus on finance and children. He is equally specialist in resolving normal family breakdowns and those with complex elements such as trusts and international elements.

He is Vice President and President Elect of Harrogate and District Law Society.



Partner Stephen Hopwood

McCormicks has welcomed two new faces since the last edition of the Briefing.

Two new faces

Emily Steed joins the practice from a regional North Yorkshire firm and will assist Partner Jon Healey in providing Corporate and Commercial services to clients.

Emily graduated from Durham University before completing the Legal Practice Course at the University of Law in York and qualifying in March 2017.

She has experience in a wide range of matters, including the sale and purchase of businesses, advising on business structure and negotiating commercial contracts. Emily also has a keen interest in IP law and regularly deals with trademark applications and assignments.

Jon Healey said: "Emily is a welcome addition to a busy department

working with a range of businesses in Harrogate and across Yorkshire and her experience makes her an asset to the team."

Tiffany Jackson joins the firm to assist the Head of Commercial Property, Heather Roberts, in acting for a broad range of clients, dealing primarily with commercial landlord and tenant matters, asset management and sales and purchases across a variety of sectors including retail, industrial and agriculture.

Tiffany, who joins from another North Yorkshire practice, graduated with a degree in Law and completed her legal studies at the University of Law in Leeds.

Partner Heather Roberts said: "Tiffany will have an important role to play."



Emily Steed



Tiffany Jackson

Safeguarding the brand, whether new or established, is important to any business. Solicitor Emily Steed looks at how to go about it.

Safeguard your brand

There is widespread belief that securing a domain name and registering your company name at Companies House ensures that you are the only person that can use your brand name. However, this is a common misconception.

Until you have secured a registered trademark, anyone else (whether

that be an individual or a company) may apply to register your brand name as a trademark. If successful, they can then stop you from using that name in relation to the goods and services they have chosen for it to apply to.

Protecting a trademark in the UK is relatively inexpensive and, once secured, a trademark offers you 10 years of

protection. There is also an option for renewal at the end of that period.



In the event that you come to sell your business, a registered trademark also gives

significant added value and is attractive to any potential purchasers.

For UK applications, Intellectual Property Office fees are £170 (if the application is submitted online) which includes one class of goods and services. Each additional class of goods and services is an additional £50.

If you are interested in registering a

trademark, the team at McCormicks can assist you with your trademark application and can make you aware of any existing trademarks that are similar to your proposed mark.

We are also able to advise on what goods and services it would be prudent to register, as well as providing bespoke wording for your application.

At Harrogate's Theakston Old Peculier Crime Writing Festival, of which McCormicks is a sponsor...

the Plot Thickens

This summer saw another triumphant event, with appearances by the world's leading crime writers, Programming Chair Lee Child and Val McDermid.

The Award for Outstanding Contribution went to John Grisham, whose extensive list of international bestsellers includes *The Pelican Brief*, *The Client*, and *The Confession*, and whose secret passion for Theakston Old Peculier was revealed to the audience.

The Crime Novel of the Year Award was presented to Stav Sherez for *The Intrusions* by broadcaster Mark Lawson at the Festival's opening night, while other highlights of the event included a one-to-one with John Grisham and Lee Child at the Royal Hall in Harrogate, a Room 101 of Crime chaired by Pointless star Richard Osman, and an appearance by a band made up of six authors under the name The Fun Lovin' Crime Writers.

Senior Partner Peter McCormick said: "It is marvellous to see this event continuing to grow in both size and stature, with it now being the leading Crime Writing Festival in the world, and we congratulate all at Harrogate International Festivals for putting on such an impressive event."



Sponsor Simon Theakston and writers Lee Child and John Grisham



John Grisham makes a point during his interview with Lee Child

McCormicks once more renewed its support for the Great Yorkshire Show, which this year celebrated its 160th event, by sponsoring the bandstand.

Support for Agriculture

McCormicks once more renewed its support for the Great Yorkshire Show, which this year celebrated its 160th event, by sponsoring the bandstand.

The bandstand plays host to a number of musical groups over the three-day event at England's biggest agricultural show and is also the venue for the daily morning prayers.

Partnership Executive Kathryn McCormick, who was among more than 134,000 visitors to the Harrogate showground, said: "Agriculture is very important to the economic health of our region and our Agricultural team is always busy in such a fast-changing industry, so we are delighted to support this flagship event for the sector."



Congratulations are due again to our friends and clients at Ridding Park who have added to their trophy cabinet with another award.

Accessibility Wins Award

The hotel took the 2018 Accessibility Award in the "Cateys", the Oscars of the hospitality industry.

The awards are organised by The Caterer, which said the judges had been impressed by the passion shown by Ridding Park to make the hotel completely accessible to both guests and staff with additional needs.

Steps taken by the business went far beyond those required by the Equality Act 2010, and the hotel was praised for the empathy shown in its goal of ensuring that the only reason a guest should feel special "is because of their visit to our surroundings".

Judge Helen Dolphin said: "A shining example of what can be achieved when there is a will and desire to make a hotel truly accessible."

McCormicks has been recommended in the latest guide for high net worth clients by leading guide to the legal profession, Chambers UK.

Most Efficient Firm

The guide outlines McCormicks' expertise, saying the firm acts for an impressive client base of landed estates and has a noted niche practice in the world of football.

It quotes a market commentator who describes the firm as "very dependable and reliable, with a modern outlook," while another source reports: "I can only say they are extremely efficient and most helpful at all times and indeed the most efficient firm I have ever been involved with."

Partner Elaine Lightfoot, the practice's Head of Private Client, also wins praise, with a client commenting that she is always quick to respond and tries her utmost to help with any issue, while another says: "Elaine Lightfoot puts clients at ease, she has exceptional people skills, she's reliable and knowledgeable."



Head of Private Client Elaine Lightfoot

Awards and Accolades

McCormicks has gathered another bundle of accolades from industry publications in recent months.

The firm won four categories in the 2018 ACQ5 Law Awards, taking UK regional titles for Sport, Media and Entertainment; Corporate and Commercial; Commercial Litigation and Private Client. ACQ5 is a leading corporate magazine news site.

McCormicks was also named Sports Law – Law Firm of the Year – UK in the Finance Monthly Global Awards and Senior Partner, Peter McCormick was listed as a UK expert in Sports Law by Best Lawyers in the UK.

Mat Chaplin has joined McCormicks this year as Accounts Executive. When he is not keeping the firm's accounts in order, he varies between being glued to the big screen and speeding around the countryside.

Out of Hours

If you weren't in the legal profession what would you be doing?

I really love the movies and my dream job would be to work for Total Film watching and reviewing all the new films that come out. I love sci-fi and am a total Star Wars geek!

Where would be your ideal holiday destination and why?

New York City. It is such an iconic place with the most recognisable skyline in the entire world. Ever since watching Superman in 1978 and Ghostbusters in 1984, it became my must-visit destination in the world.

There are so many film locations in Manhattan and when I am there I try to visit them and imagine myself in the movies of my childhood.

If you could have dinner with five individuals, dead or alive, who would they be and why?

Jeremy Clarkson – I like his sense of humour and view of the world.

Sir Roger Bannister – To get tips on breaking the four-minute mile.

Mark Hamill – To get him to change the outcome of The Last Jedi.

Christopher Reeve – He was Superman!!

Stringfellow Hawke – Pilot of Air wolf, my inspiration for joining the Army Air Corps.

Where is your favourite place in Yorkshire?

Fountains Abbey. The venue for the most picturesque Parkrun in the country. It is so popular amongst the Parkrun community that we get Parkrun Tourists from all corners of the UK and even further afield.



Fountains Abbey

What do you like most about life at McCormicks?

Due to the diverse areas of law in which the firm specialises, I am expanding my legal accountancy knowledge. Plus, the town centre is great for feeding my latte addiction!

What is the best piece of advice you have ever been given?

Look after your pennies and the pounds will look after themselves. (Well, I am an accountant!)

What is your favourite sport and why?

I love football. Playing it (not so much now) and watching it. I am obsessed by football. My teams are York City and Ipswich Town. I always dreamed I could have become a professional footballer. Clearly, I was nowhere near good enough. I had to make do with being an above average runner instead. I Parkrun every Saturday, doing 5km in around 25 mins. Not bad for a veteran.

Pessimist or optimist? Why?

Pessimist. Expect the worst and you are never disappointed. Everything else is a bonus!



Mat Chaplin

This summer has seen another massive endeavour to raise money for the Yorkshire Young Achievers Foundation by Premier League referee Martin Atkinson.

WhistleStop Tour

He swapped his whistle for wheels for an epic 1700-mile cycle from England to Russia for the World Cup, arriving in Kaliningrad for the England v Belgium World Cup clash on Thursday June 28.

To date the marathon effort has raised more than £60,000 to be divided between the Yorkshire Young Achievers Foundation, the St David's Hospice Care Newport, University Hospitals - Coventry & Warwickshire Charity and The Jane Tomlinson Appeal.

Martin was accompanied by fellow riders Mike Tomlinson and Darren Clark, representing the Jane Tomlinson Appeal. Mike Tomlinson crashed just 150 miles before the finish.

Other riders, including referee Jon Moss who took part in the 2016 WhistleStopTour of all the Premier League clubs in the country, joined for part of the journey.

Yorkshire Young Achievers Foundation Chairman Peter McCormick said: "It was an absolutely fantastic achievement by Martin and his fellow riders and we are very grateful that they have chosen to support the Foundation once again."

Anyone who would like to donate can do so at www.virginmoneygiving.com.



Martin arriving at Kaliningrad

Save the Date

A reminder that the 2018 Yorkshire Young Achievers Awards falls slightly earlier in the calendar this year on Thursday 8 November.

You can book your table by visiting www.yorkshireyoungachievers.co.uk/gala-dinner.html and downloading a booking form or by ringing Sonia Jones on 01423 530630.

Sponsors and supporters of the Yorkshire Young Achievers Awards gathered for the launch of the 2018 Awards this spring.

2018 Awards



Kathryn Apanowicz with Eddie and Linda Gray



Jan Fletcher OBE and Neil Smillie



Alastair Watson of sponsors Barclays with Yorkshire Young Achievers Foundation trustees Nicola Corp and Ron Miller



Launching the Awards at ITV Yorkshire are from left, Duncan Wood, Kathryn McCormick, 2017 Youngster of the Year Evie Addelman, hammer thrower Jessica Mayho and Foundation Vice Chairman Richard Stroud.



Launch reception sponsor Chris Blundell of the Provenance Inns and Hotels Group with, from left, Kathryn McCormick, Jill Blundell and Awards Chairman Peter McCormick.



Mike Partridge, left, and Garry Plant of Harrogate Town with Fiona Movley.



Mary Taylor of sponsor Walsh Taylor with Jeremy Carter and Sue Cameron-Bell

Launched

A launch at ITV Yorkshire with Patron Duncan Wood was followed with an evening reception at the West Park Hotel, Harrogate, courtesy of the Provenance Inns and Hotels Group.

The search is on for talented and determined young people across the region. Awards Chairman Peter McCormick OBE said: "Nominating someone is very simple and we are keen to hear about the successes of young people from wherever they live in Yorkshire. We know there is a tremendous amount of talent and determination out there so please let us hear about it!"

The 26th Awards, sponsored by McCormicks, take place on Thursday 8 November at the Leeds United Centenary Pavilion. For tickets or to nominate a potential winner, just visit the Awards website at www.yorkshireyoungachievers.co.uk or contact

Sonia Jones at McCormicks on 01423 530630.

The Awards have raised more than £1.2 million to support young people in Yorkshire, with grants made to both individuals and organisations supporting them, including sportspeople, those involved in the arts and disabled youngsters.

On hand to launch the 2018 Awards were the 2017 Youngster of the Year, Evie Addelman who campaigns to raise awareness of Crohn's disease, and grant recipient Jessica Mayho, a hammer thrower who is aiming to compete in the Olympics, who also attended the evening reception.



Jill Blundell, left, with Rebecca Cundall of sponsor Lunchbox Theatrical Productions



The team from sponsors Barclays with athlete Jessica Mayho – from left Dipesh Mistry, Adam Moore, Charlie Bowling, John Dodgson and Martin Gerrard.



Alison Robinson and Anne Wells



Simon Mackaness of sponsor Rudding Park with grant recipient, athlete Jessica Mayho



Kathryn McCormick and Wallace Sampson



Awards Vice Chairman Richard Stroud with Peter Banks, of sponsor Rudding Park, and Jon Healey.

This year has already seen a host of grants being made by the Yorkshire Young Achievers Foundation to benefit young people in our region.

Helping Hands

Amongst this year's beneficiaries are:

- ▶ Funding to help 20-year-old Will Lake to attend the ninth Downs Syndrome World Championships in Canada in July. Swimmer Will returned home with three bronze medals, all of them achieved with personal bests!
- ▶ A grant towards equipment including a bowling machine and net for junior cricketers at Pannal Cricket Club near Harrogate.
- ▶ Help towards an Disability Assistance dog for ten-year-old Molly Birch who has quadriplegic Cerebral Palsy. The dog will help Molly with day-to-day activities, such as washing and dressing, giving her independence from adult help.
- ▶ A grant to Adversity United, a football club for young people with physical and mental disabilities, to help fund additional training and coaching skills. The team was set up for primary school pupils by 17-year-old Cameron Osburn, who has cerebral palsy, plays for the North East CP team and is aiming for the national team.
- ▶ Promising snooker player Aimee Benn, 15, now ranked ninth in the world after just two seasons competing in the ladies' open age tour, towards coaching, registration and entry fees.
- ▶ Harrogate International Festivals' "Musical Mums" programme, a group for mums aged under 25 which offers an opportunity to learn and play music for both mums and children in a relaxed setting.
- ▶ The North Yorkshire Downs Syndrome Support Group to take around 100 members on their annual trip to Flamingoland.



Young members of the Musical Mums groups



Trustee Sonia Jones presents a grant cheque to Cameron Osburn of Adversity United with members of the club



Pannal's Junior cricketers enjoy their new equipment

OUR EXPERTISE

McCormicks offers the full portfolio of legal services to all forms of organisation including businesses, charities and sporting bodies, together with private individuals. The firm offers expertise in all areas of corporate and commercial work whilst maintaining a commitment to the personal client in areas such as rural property, tax, trusts, probate, family matters and crime.

Charities & Community

- Charities
- Not For Profit

Corporate & Commercial

- Acquisitions and Disposals
- Banking and Finance
- Commercial Agreements
- Competition and EU Law
- Corporate Crime, Fraud and Risk
- IT and Data Protection
- Insolvency and Bankruptcy
- Intellectual Property
- Partnership and Company Law

- Regulatory and Disciplinary

Crime

- General Crime
- Corporate Crime, Fraud and Risk
- Dispute Resolution & Litigation
- Commercial Disputes
- Mediation and Arbitration
- Partner/Shareholder Disputes
- Property and Construction
- Reputation Management

Employment

Family & Matrimonial

- Children
- Matrimonial

Insolvency & Bankruptcy

Mediation & Arbitration

Property

- Agriculture and Estates
- Commercial Property
- Development and Regeneration
- Residential Property

Sport, Media & Entertainment

- Employment
- IT and Data Protection
- Insolvency and Bankruptcy
- Intellectual Property
- Media and Entertainment

- Mediation and Arbitration

- Regulatory and Disciplinary

- Reputation Management

- Sponsorship
- Sport

Tax, Trusts, Wills & Estates

- Agriculture & Estates
- Care of the Elderly
- Tax and Trusts Disputes
- Trust and Tax Planning
- Wills and Probate



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