

Thomas Wood

Call 2002

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Introduction

Tom excelled in his university studies. Achieving a First Class degree in law and receiving four subject prizes (including tort and medical law). He was awarded two Scholarships from Lincoln's Inn (Lord Denning and Hardwicke) and was called to the Bar in 2002. His pupillage encompassed primarily medical law issues (negligence claims, consent and capacity issues and professional regulatory prosecutions) as well as personal injury and other regulatory work.

He has been at 22 Old Buildings and then 42 Bedford Row since 2005 practicing almost exclusively in the fields of personal injury and clinical negligence.

Tom is a contributor to Westlaw Insight and regularly provides training on all aspects of his practice.

Tom is able to accept instructions on a public access basis from individuals, companies and other organisations including NHS Trusts.

Clinical Negligence & Personal Injury

Tom is finding this an increasingly active area of his work profile. As a clinical negligence barrister his work encompasses all aspects of medical malpractice.

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Clinical Negligence

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encompasses all aspects of medical malpractice. A selection of recent cases include:

- Obstetric and midwifery negligence at birth;
 - Delayed diagnoses of cancer;
 - Negligent prescription of chemotherapy leading to Bleomycin Lung Toxicity;
 - Negligent operative treatment, including cleavage sparing mastectomies;
 - Failing to provide adequate post-operative care;
 - Misdiagnosis of torsion of the testicle;
 - Instrumentation left inside the body; and
 - Hospital acquired infection cases, including MRSA and C Diff.
- He finds the interpretation, dissection and distillation of medical expert reports one of the most interesting forensic aspects of his job. He enjoys conferences with clients and experts and prides himself on being able to boil a case down to the key issues.

Tom prides himself on his analysis of difficult causation points. He is comfortable advising upon technical aspects of causation and arguing them in Court where necessary.

In relation to quantum Tom's work is dedicated to the detailed pleading that complex cases require.

Tom is equally at home representing Claimant's or medical practitioners.

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Court of Protection

- Tom accepts instructions to appear in the Court of Protection.

Inquests

Coroner's court work is an important part of Tom's work. He receives instructions from a variety of interested parties, but is always acutely aware of the respect required for all those involved in what is understandably a difficult process for all those involved.

Tom is keen to be involved from the earliest opportunity to engage with the investigation of the facts, the HSE (where appropriate), interested parties and, of course, the Coroner themselves. Advisory and advocacy work in the Coroner's Court forms a vital part of the investigation of the untimely death of an individual.

Tom often advises in relation to potential civil actions that may be running alongside, or starting after, the conclusion of proceedings before the Coroner.

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Personal Injury

Tom's written and court work as a personal injury barrister now focuses on Multi Track disputes. He advises on cases in six figures on a regular basis and enjoys the process of negotiation and settlement, whether at JSM or otherwise. He has significant experience of all types of personal injury claim:

- road traffic
- employers liability
- occupiers' liability
- highways act
- fatal accidents
- industrial disease (including asbestos related disease, vibration injuries and NIHL)
- He works for both Claimants and Defendants and prides himself on being able to interact constructively with his lay client, whether individual or insurer, to conclude the claim on the best possible terms.

He has a significant part of his work dedicated to fraudulent road traffic claims, including fraud rings, staged accidents, exaggerated claims, phantom passengers and other opportunistic dishonest conduct. He is the author of the article on civil fraud on Westlaw Insight.

Tom has a particular interest in drafting complex Schedule of Loss and Counter Schedules. He has developed a keen interest in cost budgeting and mathematical aspects of personal injury work.

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Professional Regulatory and Disciplinary

- Tom's work encompasses the GMC, GDC, Nursing and Midwifery Council, General Chiropractic Council.
- He is happy to hear at interim and final hearings and provide advisory work, where necessary.

Accreditations

- *'An experience practitioner specialising in the fields of Personal Injury & Clinical Negligence'*

Professional memberships

- PIBA
- PNBA
- AVMA

Selected cases

- Several cases of delayed diagnosis of different types of cancer;
- Negligent operative treatment;
- Failing to provide adequate post-operative care;
- Misdiagnosis of torsion of the testicle;
- Instrumentation left inside the body; and
- Hospital acquired infection cases, including MRSA and C Diff

Education

- Marling School, Stroud
- King's College London (LLB with First Class honours)

Scholarships and Awards

- Lord Denning Scholar
- Hardwicke Scholar (both Lincoln's Inn)
- 3 Serjeants' Inn Medical law prize
- Withers Trusts law prize
- Tort law prize
- Contract law prize
- Laws exhibition award

Other information

- I play cricket for Old Wimbledonians Cricket Club and enjoy watching all sport.
- I am developing an interest in wine.
- I hold the Queen Scout Award.