

Bill Braithwaite KC

Call 1970 | Silk 1992



Clerks

 Neil Wright
 0151 242 8814

Appointments

Accredited Mediator

Memberships

- European Brain Injury Society Headway
- Spinal Injuries Association
- International Medical Society of Paraplegia

Education

- Gordonstoun School
- Liverpool University

Court of Protection

Bill has been a KC for 29 years and since taking silk has worked exclusively for claimants who have suffered catastrophic brain and spine injury. He never works for defendants. He has represented over 1,000 catastrophic brain injury claimants and has won hundreds of millions of pounds in client compensation. Bill regularly finalises over £50 million of claims a year therefore has seen hundreds of claimants with mental capacity issues. He has been advising about capacity for the entire period, and he has written and lectured extensively on Court of Protection and mental capacity, including with the current Senior Judge of the Court of Protection. He has written a book which concentrates on capacity, and has been involved with a forensic psychiatry book recently published.

He is the author of “Brain and Spine Injuries – the Fight for Justice” – 2nd edition out now as an e-book – including a specific chapter about mental capacity – available on request.

He was also the consultant editor of Kemp & Kemp on The Quantum of Damages from 1995 to 2004, and is the joint editor of “Medical Aspects of Personal Injury Litigation”, with Professor Barnes and Professor Ward.

He travels the country seeing injured people and their families at their convenience, and believes passionately in the rights of those who have suffered catastrophic injury, and their families.

He has been awarded Personal Injury Barrister of the Year and UK Acquired Brain Injury Forum Lawyer Innovator of the Year.

Bill is an accredited mediator, and supports mediation and ADR when appropriate.

Court of Protection Cases

Bill has managed hundreds of claims involving severe brain injury, and issues relating to mental capacity arise in most of them.

Bill's main mental capacity interest at the moment is the detailed assessment of capacity, and the evidence which should be made available to doctors and other professionals involved in capacity assessments and decisions.

Recommendations

Chambers & Partners

"Bill is excellent with clients. Clients are instantly put at ease by his presence on a case."

"Bill Braithwaite KC is the leading claimant silk for catastrophic brain and spinal injury cases on the Northern Circuit. He has several decades' worth of experience in that area and has carved out an impressive niche."

"He is incredibly experienced."

"An outstanding barrister – he has a wealth of knowledge in clinical negligence and other personal injury cases and a razor-sharp mind. He is also an excellent advocate with good negotiating skills."

"Bold and meticulous in his approach to cases."

"He is empathetic, has a sharp brain and is an amazing advocate."

"He's an outstanding barrister who offers a unique combination of expertise, a really sharp mind and a passion for justice."

"Bill Braithwaite QC is an outstanding counsel – I don't think I've worked with someone who has better intelligence than him. Second to none."

"Very good client skills."

"He has formidable knowledge of catastrophic injury claims, particularly brain injuries, and has a very good way with clients. He explains very complex subjects to them and is always willing to go above and beyond."

“He has a huge amount of experience and very good client care skills, understanding very quickly what is involved.”

“He’s clearly a fighter – he pushes the boundaries for his clients.” “He is an extremely approachable silk and human being, and he’s very intelligent and very bright.”

“Bill is an immensely experienced barrister who has the ability to put clients at ease whilst simultaneously being a fierce advocate for them.” “A QC of formidable experience and expertise.”

“He very much looks outside the box and takes a wider view of the case, always doing what’s best for the client.”

“He predominantly specialises in brain injury, so from his knowledge and experience we’re happy to instruct him with very vulnerable clients.” “In conference, if the client has any questions, he is just a constant reassurance to them.”

“He is probably the most outstanding personal injury claimant silk I have worked with. He is a bright and excellent advocate; a great fighter for the victims of traumatic injury.”

“He is a formidable lawyer. He can always provide a solution and a way forward.”

“He lives up to his reputation as one of the leading catastrophic injury lawyers in the country.”

“Widely regarded as a leader in the field of catastrophic injury nationally. His practice is devoted solely to catastrophic brain and spinal injury claimant work, and he is recognised for his excellent communication skills. He combines forensic analysis with a very gentle and caring way with the clients – very approachable from that perspective.”

“He will fight and succeed on cases where other barristers will shy away.”

The Legal 500

“Bill’s powers of reasoning in cases where there are complex issues relating to liability and causation is absolutely formidable. He champions justice for the victims tirelessly. He is the best of the best!”

“Bill has an excellent grasp of the practicalities of living with disabilities. He is very assured in settlement negotiations and has an excellent rapport with clients.”

“Bill is a fearless litigator who leaves no detail unconsidered. At the heart of it all is his obvious desire to achieve the best outcomes for people who have suffered catastrophic injuries.”

“Bill is definitely a leader in his field. His knowledge is second to none and clients always have confidence in his abilities to secure a successful outcome. Excellent advice and ability to resolve problems in cases. Genuinely cares and fights cases for claimants.”

“Bill is highly intelligent, hugely experienced and incredibly skilled as a negotiator. He has a razor sharp mind and those who have been fortunate enough to see him in court will know him as a formidable advocate. He is a must have Silk for any solicitor who deals with complex high value clinical negligence work.”

“A leading brain and spine injury barrister.”

“He has immense knowledge of brain and spinal cord injury matters.”

“Serene and charming, and his presence adds considerable weight to a case.”

“An honest, genuine and creative practitioner, who always secures the best outcome.”

“His cross-examination skills are second to none.”

“Particular expertise where claimants have mental capacity issues.”

Publications

- Consultant editor of Kemp & Kemp from 1995 to 2004
- Joint editor of “Medical Aspects of Personal Injury Litigation”
- Author of “Brain and Spine Injury – The Fight for Justice”

Beyond the Bar

Bill has always been mad about cars, motorbikes and lorries, he is fascinated with their design and performance. He has a Class 1 LGV (heavy goods) licence, and has passed the Institute of Advanced Motorists test on both cars and articulated lorries. He has a competition driving licence, and races in the Historic Sports Cars series at weekends, driving old Lotuses. He has been keen on wine for 40 years. He is an enthusiastic photographer.