

## 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

### Personal Injury

Bill has been a KC for 29 years, and since taking silk he has worked exclusively for claimants who have suffered catastrophic brain and spine injury – nowadays, his work is almost all with brain injured families, where damages are likely to be more than £5 million.

Bill never works for defendants and has represented well over 1,000 catastrophic brain or spine injury claimants, and has won hundreds of millions of pounds in client compensation. He regularly finalises more than £50 million of claims a year.

Bill spends his time seeing injured people and their families, at their convenience, and he believes passionately in the rights of those who have suffered catastrophic injury, and their families.

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

Bill has been awarded Personal Injury Barrister of the Year twice, UKABIF Lawyer Innovator once, and The Times Lawyer of the Week once.

### Personal Injury Cases

*SP* – Liability issue involving pedestrian running into road

*H* – Difficult liability issue – defence raised that defendant had unforeseen and unforeseeable heart attack, causing him to lose control of his car and injure the claimant

BRAIN

*S* – Severe brain injury – allegedly, when in utero, and mother involved in car crash – ongoing

*BO* – Difficult seat belt issue – extremely severe brain injury

*M* – Child running into road – very severe brain injury – ongoing

*GP* – Male aged 25 – catastrophic brain injury – settlement for £11 million at full value

*PV* – Baby assaulted aged 4 months – severe brain damage – CICA award settled at £3 million

*JS* – Three year old boy knocked down by a car – severe brain damage – £4.2 million

#### SPINE

*CS* – male aged 21 – C8 sensory and T1 motor complete paraplegic – settled for £3million lump sum

*MH* – male aged 45 – C8 Asia C tetraplegic – settled for lump sum of £2.9 million

*JM* – male aged 20 – settled in 2011 for £2.2million with periodical payments

#### CLINICAL NEGLIGENCE

*NC* – Unlicensed use of Misoprostal for stillbirth delivery leading to catastrophic brain injury

*XY* – Cerebral palsy caused by medical negligence – settled for £5.2 million

*OM* – Negligent diagnosis of acute abdominal condition – settlement of £3.4 million

See his web site for fuller details – [www.billbraithwaite.co.uk](http://www.billbraithwaite.co.uk)

## Recommendations

Chambers & Partners

Band 1 – Personal Injury

## Band 2 – Clinical Negligence

“Bill is quite simply brilliant. He is commercially aware with fantastic vision but also extremely approachable. He commands a room and instils confidence.”

“Bill is a very experienced and knowledgeable barrister.”

“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

Tier 1 – Clinical Negligence

Tier 1 – Personal Injury

“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.