

Anne Richardson

Barrister

Overview

'Committed, conscientious and careful, she is invariably instructed by the prosecution in their most sensitive and serious cases, particularly those involving vulnerable witnesses.'

The Legal 500 2021

Anne is now one of the most senior and experienced members of the criminal team within chambers. She has been a Grade 4 prosecutor and a member of RASSO panel for many years and practises exclusively in crime.

Anne has a wealth of experience dealing with sexual offences of all categories and has developed a particular expertise conducting cases of historic abuse allegations and those involving young and vulnerable defendants. She has a calm uncomplicated manner and is recommended for her interpersonal skills and her ability to speak to and gain the confidence of witnesses and defendants.

She has dealt with cases involving witnesses as young as three and defendants as young as eleven and as old as 86. She also deals with cases involving domestic violence and indecent images of all levels.

Anne has prosecuted and defended in cases involving serious violence, including murder. She has also represented those accused of multi handed drugs' conspiracies

Anne regularly conducts lectures for her professional clients and past subjects have ranged from all aspects of the Sexual Offences Act 2003, trials involving young defendants and allegations of historic abuse, the cross examination of vulnerable witnesses, the use of intermediaries and the criminal procedure rules.

She is involved with the court training of new Detective Constables for Northumbria Police and also is the Newcastle and York Bar representative for the local implementation team for Section 28 – cross examination of vulnerable witnesses.

Anne is also a trainer of advocates for the Bar's vulnerable witness programme.

Anne is always happy to be contacted privately by her professional clients – by mobile or email. Please speak to her clerks.



Year Of Call:

1986

Grade of Prosecutor:

RASSO panel member

Practice Areas

Crime

Directory
Recommendations:



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THE LEGAL 500 2021

She is a member of the Inner Temple outreach committee which enables the Inn to engage with students on circuit and within London. She is also a member of the Inner Temple qualifying sessions' committee which sets the various activities through which prospective members of the Bar are able to gain accreditation for lectures and debates.

She is a Bencher of Inner Temple and the Inn's Assistant Master of the North Eastern Circuit

Anne speaks French and German to a reasonable standard and can converse at a basic level in Spanish.

Notable Cases

R v Stephenson: the prosecution of a mother and step father accused of raping and sexually abusing their daughter. The accused also pleaded guilty to attempting to pervert the course of justice, having successfully fooled several psychiatrists into believing that the male defendant was wheelchair bound and so severely psychiatrically damaged that he was unfit to plead. Police surveillance subsequently revealed that he was fit and able and he received a substantial prison sentence.

Operation Ecu: Anne led Jennifer Haigh of the CPS in the prosecution of several men throughout the Teesside area who were part of a substantial drugs' ring, the case involved considerable surveillance and telephone evidence.

Operation Optic: Anne led Tamara Pawson of KBW in the prosecution of a gang of men accused of grooming and raping several young and vulnerable women in the Newcastle area.

Anne was led by Paul Greaney QC of New Park Court Chambers in the successful prosecution of Colin Gregg, a well known North East business man for historical sexual abuse against young boys.

Operation Wren: Anne successfully led Laurie Scott, Dere Street Barristers in the prosecution of a Kurdish gang which groomed and sexually exploited young women in the Newcastle area.

Anne was led by Paul Greaney QC of New Park Court Chambers in the successful prosecution of Colin Gregg, a well known North East business man for historical sexual abuse against young boys.

Appointments:

Master of the Honourable Society of Inner Temple

Professional Qualifications

Governing Bencher (Master) of Inner Temple

LLB(Hons) Birmingham University 1984

Called to the Bar 1986

Memberships

Member of the Criminal Bar Association

Member of the North Eastern Circuit

Notable Cases

She was involved in the first case to utilise a satellite link directly into the witness' home so that an elderly lady could give her evidence to the court without leaving her house.

She has conducted numerous cases involving allegations of historical abuse, some over 50 years old and is well versed in the art of sifting through documents from the Local Authority and medical records disclosed under PII.

She has developed a reputation for dealing with young defendants accused of sexual offences.

Anne successfully prosecuted a number of cases involving allegations of ill treatment of vulnerable residents by care workers within care homes throughout the North of England

She has successfully defended to acquittal amongst others:- A female care assistant accused of sexually abusing a pupil within her care; a female teacher accused of having sex with a pupil she was teaching, an 86 year old man accused of rape 40 years ago.

She has prosecuted police officers, a member of the Orthodox Jewish community accused of historic sexual abuse and several parents accused of child cruelty.

She defended the 18 year old who was convicted of attempting to blow up a local college and was found to have an entire arsenal of weapons in his room upon arrest.

She defended a member of an entire family charged with conspiracy to supply drugs throughout the North East of England

Continued...

Reported Cases

McKerry v. Teesdale and Wear Valley JJ : 164 JP 355, DC :

'Name and shame' of youth defendant

R (Grant) v. DPP, R v. Grant [2002] : Cr.App.R. 38, DC and CA –

Whether issues of fitness to plead invoke article 6 of the European Convention of Human Rights – defendant on murder charge could not rely on defence of provocation as found unfit to plead under section 4 of the Criminal Procedure (Insanity) Act 1964.

Attorney General's Reference (No. 4 of 2002) [2005] 1 AC 264, HL :

First terrorist case in England and Wales, junior counsel for acquitted person at trial and in the Court of Appeal and House of Lords - evidential burden of proof and human rights.

DPP v. Elsom, (2006) CA unreported :

First prosecution appeal on evidential ruling under section 58 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003. Whether prosecution could invoke hearsay rules under the 2003 Act to admit video recorded interview of complainant as sole evidence of rape when she was unavailable for cross examination.

"Her greatest strength is her compassion when dealing with vulnerable witnesses"

Directory Recommendations

The Legal 500 2020

'Particularly effective with vulnerable witnesses.'

The Legal 500 2019

'She has exceptional interpersonal skills.'

The Legal 500 2017

'An expert in historic sexual abuse cases.'

The Legal 500 2016

"She takes the utmost care with each client."

The Legal 500 2015

"Her greatest strength is her compassion when dealing with vulnerable witnesses"