

## Edward Ramsay

Call: 2012

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### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Inquests, Personal Injury, Clinical Negligence, Credit Hire, Fraud, Product Liability, International & Travel, Insurance, Industrial Disease

Edward is ranked as a Leading Junior for Clinical Negligence in the Legal 500 and for Inquests and Inquiries in both the Legal 500 and Chambers and Partners. He has been described as showing “*huge attention to detail*”, with “*a razor-sharp intellect*” and an “*unrivalled knowledge of coronial law*”. In court the directories describe him as being “*skilled*”, “*impressive*”, and “*fantastic on his feet*”, with “*a natural instinct of which lines of inquiry to pursue with witnesses*”.

Edward accepts instructions across all practice areas in Chambers. He specialises in healthcare and inquest law and is frequently instructed in lengthy and complex hospital inquests, including enhanced Article 2 inquests and jury inquests.

In 2021 Ed was appointed Assistant Coroner for the Swansea Neath Port Talbot area.

He retains a busy personal injury and clinical negligence practice acting for claimants and defendants, particularly in the field of fatal accident claims, and often where he has previously appeared at the inquest relating to the death in question. He has led many high value cases through from inquest to successful settlement, including at JSM and mediation.

Ed has extensive experience managing experts in conference and in drafting statements of case and complex schedules of loss. As a result of his inquest practice, he has a wealth of experience in general witness handling, including examination of experts.

Ed continues to act for large insurers in fraud and related costs work arising out RTA and exaggerated credit hire claims.

### Inquests

Edward is ranked as Leading Junior for Inquests and Inquiries in the Legal 500 and Chambers and Partners.

In May 2018 his cross-examination of a DVSA witness in the Gurung case was reported on the front page of *The Times*. The inquest received extensive media coverage and led to the recall of over 300,000 vehicles in the UK and a separate Parliamentary Select Committee Inquiry.

Edward represents interested parties at all types of inquest (including Article 2 and Jury), but with particular expertise in hospital inquest cases, principally in the areas of mental health, emergency care, and other serious untoward incidents, but also including primary care, cancer misdiagnosis, failed organ transplantation, obstetric and neo-natal care, and paediatrics.

Edward is also instructed to represent care homes, local authorities, RTA insurers, and fire and rescue services. He has particular experience of cases involving fire safety.

In most of Edward's inquest cases, he is instructed to then bring or defend a potential civil action.

Many of Edward's cases have been reported in local and national media and he appears regularly as sole counsel (often against senior juniors and KCs).

He frequently provides advice on issues of evidence and procedure, and has extensive experience in the drafting of written submissions (both at pre-inquest review and final hearings).

He has delivered seminars on the legislative changes to the coronial system following implementation of the CJA 2009. He has detailed knowledge and experience of post-inquest remedies including JR and Section 13 applications.

Past instructions include:

- **the Michael Zawadzki Inquest** (Coroner returns conclusion of unlawful killing at inquest into the death of Michael Zawadzki)
- **the Dev Naran Inquest** (Coroner questions safety of smart motorways after 8 year old killed).
- **the Gurung BMW Inquest** (Ed Ramsay represents family of Narayan Gurung in widely reported BMW safety recall inquest)
- **the Amy Allan GOSH Inquest** (Amy Allan death: Significant failings in care by Great Ormond Street Hospital)
- **the Alex Pavlou Inquest** (death of a 19-year-old from drowning in the River Tawe (Article 2 jury inquest) <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-south-west-wales-42427996>)
- **the St Michael's Hospice Inquests** (the deaths of three residents at an East Sussex hospice following a large fire (instructed by East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service (issues concerning criminal prosecution, suspension of inquest, Article 2 and obligation to sit with jury))(St Leonards hospice patients unlawfully killed in fire, inquest finds);
- **the Chris Dunning Inquest** (the death of a mental health patient (non-MHA) following a fire in the residential care home (issues concerning criminal prosecution, Rule 22 and adjournment of inquest))(Chris Dunning: Secure unit patient's drug death 'accidental');
- **the Diane Parkhouse Inquest** (the fire-related death of a resident in sheltered accommodation)<https://www.walesonline.co.uk/news/wales-news/woman-died-fire-after-dropping-21128490>
- **the Bradley John Inquest** (death of school boy on school premises)
- **the Kathleen Parkinson Inquest** (the death of an elderly patient following emergency admission to A&E (issues concerning complex histopathology, police investigation; judicial review) – being led by Michael Rawlinson KC.;
- **the James Rawlings Inquest** (the death of a neonate from hypoxic birth injuries following prolonged labour and inadequate resuscitation);
- **the Michael McVey Inquest** (the death of a 29-year-old man in ITU following allegations of drug-overdose (issues relating to medical cause of death, adequacy of original investigation and inquest, application under Section 13 Coroners Act 1988). Ed appeared before the Divisional Court in ***Jones v HM Coroner for Mid Kent and Medway [2020] EWHC 3733 (Admin)*** and obtained the quashing of the original inquisition);
- **the Sian Hollands Inquest** (the death of a 25-year-old mother of three from pulmonary embolism following admission to Accident and Emergency (issues regarding delayed diagnosis and treatment, Article 2 and need for

jury; 4 PiPs))

– 12KBW press release: *'Edward Ramsay represents the family of Sian Hollands at Article 2 inquest into her death'*

- **the Koula Christou Inquest** (the death of a 53-year-old woman in hospital from GI bleeding whilst awaiting transfer to another hospital site for emergency interventional radiology (2-week Article 2 inquest));
- **the Zara Alam Inquest** (the death of a 13-month baby from meningococcal septicaemia following inadequate discharge from A&E);
  - Evening Standard article: *'Doctors must be more aware of meningitis so another baby does not die'*
  - Daily Mail article: *'Doctor sent 13-month-old girl home without fully examining her five hours before she died of meningitis'*
- **the Denise Griffiths Inquest** (the death of a 47-year-old patient following elective hemi-colectomy as a result of a possible morphine overdose);
- **the Angiss Legrand Inquest** (the death of a 44-year-old male in ITU from alleged over-dose of antihypertensive medication (issues of systemic failure concerning fluid overfill in ITU and delayed treatment for sepsis));
- **the Claire Masters Inquest** (the death of a patient detained under s.3 of the MHA 1983 following emergency admission from psychiatric hospital (8 day Article 2 jury inquest)
  - Northampton Chronicle & Echo article: *'Inquest into the death of Northampton patient whose fractured spine went undiagnosed finds care failings'*
- **the Dorothy Pope Inquest** (the death of a patient in hospital following pancreaticoduodenectomy or 'Whipple procedure' (issues include consent and appropriate post-operative care));
- **the George Robson Inquest** (the death of an elderly patient in hospital following an upper GI bleed (issues of systemic neglect/failure concerning the over-administration of an NSAID without gastric protection));
  - 12KBW press release: *'Edward Ramsay helps secure rider of neglect for bereaved family in hospital inquest'*
- **the Herbert Chandler Inquest** (the death of an elderly patient in hospital following an erroneous wrong site aspiration to the chest (issues of systemic failure and Article 2)).
  - 12KBW press release: *'Edward Ramsay represents family in hospital 'Article 2' inquest'*
- **the George Watson Inquest** (the death of an elderly patient in a care home following fall and complex hospital discharge (intracranial bleeding, fracture and infection, issues of neglect, involvement of Health and Safety Executive and Chief Coroner as regards to the statutory obligation to sit with a jury)
  - Coventry Telegraph article: *'Dementia sufferer's death fall blamed on University Hospital neglect'*

## Qualifications & Awards

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Bar Professional Training Course, (Outstanding).

Graduate Diploma in Law, (Distinction).

MA (Oxon) (History & Politics; First Class; 1<sup>st</sup> place in year).

Major Scholar, Inner Temple (2012)

Scholar, St. Catherine's College, Oxford (2007-2009)

## Cases

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*Holt v Allianz Insurance Plc [2023] EWHC 790 (KB)* – landmark decision on the use of pre-action disclosure applications by putative defendants facing claims for credit hire.

*Jones v HM Coroner for Mid Kent and Medway [2020] EWHC 3733 (Admin)* – successful application under s.13 of the Coroners Act 1988 to quash inquisition on grounds of insufficiency of inquiry and new expert evidence as to the medical cause of death.

*R (on the application of Parkinson) v HM Senior Coroner for Kent [2018] EWHC 1501* – leading case concerning the

domestic application of ECtHR jurisprudence on Article 2 in hospital inquests

*McBride v UK Insurance Ltd* [2017] EWCA Civ 144 Whether the Court should revisit its earlier decision in *Stevens v Equity Syndicate Management* [2015] EWCA Civ 93 regarding the correct approach to the calculation of Basic Hire Rates in credit hire litigation.

*Greenway & Ors v Johnson Matthey Plc* [2016] EWCA Civ 408. Whether platinum sensitisation is an actionable injury and/or capable of giving rise to more than nominal damages in contract and/or an exception to the rule against recovery for pure economic loss in tort.