



NINESTJOHNSTREET

CRIMINAL TEAM BULLETIN

Issue 3 - 12th May 2020

CRIMINAL TEAM 90'S QUIZ NIGHT

At 7pm this Wednesday 13th May, we will be hosting 90's quiz night via Zoom.

It looks like we're going to have a good turn out, but there is still time to join us - the more the merrier!

Please contact Chris Swann at chris.swann@9sjs.com or Vanessa Thompson at vanessa.thompson@9sjs.com

WELCOME!

This is our third weekly bulletin. We appreciate the difficulties our clients and colleagues face during this difficult period. You can be assured that we strive to maintain our high standards of service.

Via this bulletin we aim to keep you updated as to:

- our continuing work on serious criminal cases during the lockdown
- how as a team we can help you
- the latest key local and national information relating to the CJS.
- how we can still keep connected remotely both professionally and socially

HOW CAN WE HELP YOU?

- We continue our work on the full range of serious criminal cases
- Call us if you have any issue with a case. We are here to advise and assist you. Conferences with barristers can be conducted over Teams, Skype Zoom or Phone.
- We can arrange online training sessions via webinars in all areas of criminal law and advocacy.
- You can use our facilities in Chambers - e.g if you have a client on bail and wish to arrange a conference, they can attend Chambers and speak via a video link to both solicitor and counsel.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE UPDATES

JURY TRIALS have stopped, although a working group has been established to consider ways to restart some once it is safe to do so. A Judicial Office statement announced yesterday that a few courts will recommence (or restart) some trials as soon as next week. It is not clear if the Manchester courts will be part of this. Read the full announcement [here](#) and the CBA response [here](#). This is only the first small step back to trials starting at the same frequency as pre-lockdown; "normality" is likely to be some time away yet.

OTHER HEARINGS DURING LOCKDOWN. Most hearings are still being conducted remotely. The most recent guidance from the Greater Manchester Courts is [here](#). However, each court centre appears to be adopting slightly different practices, at least at the moment. Click [here](#) for the latest guidance from Lancashire, [here](#) for Liverpool, and [here](#) from Leeds issued only last Friday. Following the Prime Minister's announcement of easing the lockdown, the position is likely to change further. Updates will appear here in our bulletin weekly.

SKYPE HEARINGS still remain the norm in the Manchester Courts but CVP (Cloud Video Platform) is being used elsewhere and likely to be used in the future. For anyone confronted with CVP hearing click [here](#) for a useful hub of information.

SENTENCING UPDATE - R v Manning is an important case which may greatly assist defendants sentenced during the pandemic. Not necessarily a get out a jail card, but it might make that difference between immediate and suspended custody. [Hayley Bennett](#) has prepared a helpful summary [here](#). A link to the full case transcript is [here](#) - see especially para 41.

SOME OF OUR RECENT WORK

Our team are trusted to defend and prosecute cases of the utmost seriousness and complexity. Here are some recent examples:

CONSPIRACY TO ROB / BURGLAGE: In Jan/Feb 2020 [Gordon Hennell](#) defended a career criminal who was acquitted of conspiracy to rob following a 6 week trial, although the defendant had previously admitted involvement in conspiracies to burgle and steal goods to a total value over £1 million (Operation Hansford). Four other members of the team - [Simon Blakebrough](#), [Andrea Lock](#), [Vanessa Thompson](#) and [Darren Preston](#) - also represented other defendants in this case who pleaded guilty at an earlier stage. MEN link to the case [here](#).

SERIOUS SEXUAL ASSAULT AND CHILD ABUSE: In March 2020 [Simon Blakebrough](#) successfully prosecuted a male and female defendant in a 13 day trial at Minshull Street Crown Court. Convictions included attempted rape, ABH, and Child Cruelty. Sentence is adjourned.

9SJS RUN / WALK - SATURDAY 9TH MAY

On Saturday 9th May most of us took advantage of the wonderful weather (where has it gone?!) to get out for a run or walk, on our own or with the family. During the walk we stopped to record a little of where we were and explain how we were getting on during lockdown. Thanks to Jon Savage who has expertly compiled a recording of our experiences - this will be available to view on our YouTube page shortly.

Crime Team Members -

click on a name a full profile

- [Charles Garside QC](#)
- [Nicholas Clarke QC](#)
- [Simon Jackson QC](#)
- [Jaime Hamilton QC](#)
- [Peter Cadwallader](#)
- [Gordon Hennell](#)
- [David Bruce](#)
- [Mark Monaghan](#)
- [Nicola Gatto](#)
- [Darren Preston](#)
- [Nigel Booth](#)
- [Geoff Whelan](#)
- [Vanessa Thomson](#)
- [Alison Heyworth](#)
- [Jonathan Savage](#)
- [Robert Smith](#)
- [Fiona Wise](#)
- [Simon Blakebrough](#)
- [Phil Barnes](#)
- [Helen Longworth](#)
- [Hayley Bennett](#)
- [Andrea Lock](#)

USEFUL LINKS

Chambers Website:

www.9sjs.com

Twitter

[https://twitter.com/
9StJohnStreet](https://twitter.com/9StJohnStreet)

Our YouTube Page

<https://www.youtube.com/>