

# CORAM CHAMBERS FAMILY LAW CONFERENCE

1 November 2022

9:00am-5:00pm | 3.5 CPD points

The Ashworth Centre

The Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn

London WC2A 3TL



followed by a drinks reception at Baranis

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# CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

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08:30-09:15 **REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST**

Location: Advocacy rooms 1-5

09:15-09:20 **OPENING ADDRESS**

Location: Lecture Theatre

Speaker: Martha Cover (former Head of Chambers, Coram Chambers)

09:20-09:30 **DEMONSTRATION FROM OUR FAMILY WIZARD**

09:30-10:30 **DISPUTE RESOLUTION: THE BETTER ALTERNATIVE**

Location: Lecture Theatre

Speakers: Liz Isaacs KC, HH Philip Waller CBE, Jackie Marks, Anarkali Musgrave

This session will take a deep dive into private FDRs, mediations and arbitrations – what their potential is and how they can complement and improve the existing court process.

10:30-11:30 **HOW FINAL ARE ORDERS FOR SALE?**

Location: Advocacy rooms 6-9

Speakers: Tosin Oguntayo, Rachel Cooper

This session will consider a discrete but interesting look into orders for sale. What happens where the court makes an order for sale, but the parties subsequently reached an agreement for one party to buy out the other's interest. If the consenting party, then changes his or her mind, is the order for sale still enforceable? What remedies are available to the party who believed a subsequent and binding agreement had been reached?

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10:30-11:30 **A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO DEALING WITH CASES INVOLVING RIB FRACTURES/HEAD INJURIES**

Location: Lecture Theatre

Speakers: Anna Walsh, Judith Pepper

This session will cover the approach to cases of non-accidental or inflicted injuries that commonly arise in public law proceedings: how to challenge allegations, explore expert evidence and prepare for a fact finding hearing. It will focus in particular on rib fractures and low level falls and consequent brain injuries.

11:30-11:45 **COFFEE BREAK**

Location: Advocacy rooms 1-5

11:45-12:45 **FACT FINDING HEARINGS AND DOMESTIC ABUSE IN PRIVATE LAW CHILDREN PROCEEDINGS**

Location: Advocacy rooms 6-9

Speakers: Gill Honeyman, Sarah Tyler, John Paul Cregan

This session will cover off the law post Re H-N [2021] EWCA Civ 488, how and when to hold a fact-finding hearing, how to plead coercive and controlling behaviour, and new provisions on making section 91(14) orders and how best to approach cases with vulnerable parties or witnesses.

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11:45-12:45 **THE VOICE OF THE VULNERABLE: ACHIEVING FAIRNESS FOR CLIENTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES, COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENTS OR MENTAL HEALTH DIFFICULTIES**

Location: Lecture Theatre

Speakers: Sarah Branson, Hannah Gomersall and Julie Hine (Family Lawyer, The Official Solicitor & Public Trustee)

This seminar will provide practical tips and approaches to:

- fair assessments and participation in care proceedings for parents with vulnerabilities;
- the role and appointment of intermediaries;
- obtaining and challenging capacity assessments and the role of the official solicitor.

12:45-13:45 **LUNCH BREAK**

Location: Advocacy rooms 1-5

13:45-14:45 **ART NOT SCIENCE, NOW MORE THAN EVER: BUSINESS VALUATIONS WITH KRESTON REEVES**

Location: Lecture Theatre

Speakers: Adrian Barnett-Thoung-Holland, Alex Laing, Richard Heasman (Partner and Head of Forensic Accounting, Kreston Reeves), Daniel Grainge (Partner and Head of Tax, Kreston Reeves), Tom Wachter (Forensic Accounting Partner, Kreston Reeves)

This session will be led by the Kreston Reeves panel and will cover off the following topics:

- the differences between valuing partnerships vs companies
- the optimum methodology for valuing particular types of business (balance sheet v income statement v mixed v cash flow discounted).
- the impact of taxation; and
- what information to go into a letter of instruction and what are the key questions that should be asked

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13:45-14:45

## **IT WAS THE BEST OF TIMES, IT WAS THE WORST OF TIMES: SURROGACY, GILLICK COMPETENCE AND PARENTAL ALIENATION**

Location: Advocacy rooms 6-9

Speakers: Richard Beddoe, Cathy Nicholes and Dr Bianca Jackson

This session will be broken up into three parts:

### **Parental Alienation**

A deep dive in to the law, issues and solutions within private law children proceedings

### **Parental Order applications: where are we now?**

How the courts have approached parental order applications where the criteria for making them has not been met.

### **Gillick competence – a changing landscape?**

14:45-15:45

## **MENOSPLIT - THE REALITY OF MENOPAUSE IN FAMILY LAW**

Location: Advocacy rooms 6-9

Speakers: Farhana Shahzady (Director, Solicitor and Mediator and Founder of the Family Law Menopause Project), Flora Grossman (Partner, Blake Morgan) Atifa Ismailmiya-Balding (Integrative wellbeing therapist and founder of Surrey Hills Wellness)

Chair: Sally Harrison KC

Facilitator: Hala Mustafa

This session will discuss the impact of menopause on the family bar, clients and specifically women going through divorce and question whether family lawyers are inadvertently gaslighting menopausal clients by failing to acknowledge this important stage of life.

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## 14:55-15:45 **RESILIENCE IN PRACTICE: A TASTER SESSION**

Location: Lecture Theatre

Speakers: Amanda Bewley, Sam Mercer (Head of Diversity and Inclusion & CSR, The Bar Council)

Facilitator: Rachel Cooper

### Part One

Why is resilience important? What can you do to increase your resilience? Using models for resilience, Amanda will take you on a whistle-stop tour to equip you with ways to increase your resilience.

### Part Two

Sam will talk about what we can learn from the Bar Council's approach to wellbeing. She will talk about recent research and work undertaken in respect of bullying and culture change.

## 15:45-16:00 **COFFEE BREAK**

Location: Advocacy rooms 1-5

## 16:00-16:55 **TRANSPARENCY IN THE FAMILY COURT**

Location: Lecture Theatre

Speakers: Mark Twomey KC, Jack Harrison

Guest speakers: Matthew Parris (Columnist, The Times), Mrs Justice Lieven, Sanchia Berg (Journalist, BBC)

This panel session will explore significant proposed reforms following the President's much anticipated report on transparency in the family court and the ramifications for implementation of its recommendations for clients, practitioners and the media. The panel will include representation from the media (Matthew Parris - The Times), practitioners (Mark Twomey KC - Joint Head of Coram Chambers) and the Transparency Implementation Group (Jack Harrison - Coram Chambers).

# C O N F E R E N C E P R O G R A M M E

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16:55-17:00      **CLOSING SESSION**

Location: Lecture Theatre  
Speakers: Mark Twomey KC

17:30-19:00      **DRINKS RECEPTION**

Location: Baranis, 115 Chancery Ln, London WC2A 1PP