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## MATTHEW SCOTT

"This is such a result. We are so very, very grateful."

2021: Emily, APPEAL solicitor, after client's convictions for historic sexual offences were quashed by Court of Appeal

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Criminal law, including appeals, wrongful convictions and miscarriages of justice.

Matthew accepts instructions by direct access, not just in purely criminal matters, but also in related areas of the law such as applications to amend or revoke Sexual Offender Prevention Orders etc.

As "barristerblogger" he is one of the country's best known legal bloggers and runs the website [www.barristerblogger.com](http://www.barristerblogger.com).

Matthew is a member of the Criminal Bar Association and the Criminal Appeal Lawyers Association.

## Criminal

All areas of criminal law, particularly as a defence and appellate advocate.

Matthew welcomes instructions by direct access, including appeals and applications to vary or remove restrictive orders such as Sexual Offence Prevention Orders, ASBOs, Risk of Sexual Harm Orders etc.

He also has experience in professional disciplinary work, including medical and veterinary fitness to practise tribunals.

In his advisory work he is sometimes instructed to advise Police forces and Local Authorities, as well as individuals

seeking to set aside wrongful convictions.

## Selected Cases

### **R v. A [2020] EWCA Crim 849**

Conviction for penetrative sexual abuse of child quashed after court received fresh expert evidence.

### **R v MA [2019] EWCA Crim 178**

Court of Appeal quashed conviction over judge's summing up of bad character evidence in alleged case of marital rape. Matthew represented the appellant who was formally acquitted after the CPS eventually offered no evidence at the retrial.

### **R v. MM & SJ [2019] EWCA Crim 1570**

Historic allegations of child rape and cruelty. Court of Appeal gave leave to appeal and ruled that "expert" counselling evidence on the effects of child abuse was wrongly admitted as a result of errors by the original trial counsel, but nevertheless upheld conviction.

### **Attorney General's Reference (R v. L.) [2018] 1 Cr. App. R. (S.) 2**

Court of Appeal refused Attorney-General's attempt to increase sentence in S.18 stabbing case.

### **R v Gough [2015] EWCA Crim 1079**

Right to appear naked in court "The Naked Rambler." The first and so far only time an appellant has appeared naked in the Court of Appeal, albeit by video link. Unfortunately the right to appear naked in the Crown Court was not established, although the case was decided on the narrow basis that in Mr Gough's particular case appearing naked would have breached the terms of his ASBO.

### **R v Xiong Xu [2007] EWCA Crim 3129**

Leading case on sentences for cannabis cultivation.

### **R v Corcoran [2003] EWCA Crim 43**

Murder of Horndean schoolgirl Helen Gorrie. Conviction quashed on appeal. Case remains unsolved.

### **R v. Patrick Ryan [2021] EWCA Crim 262**

2013 conviction for sexual allegations dating from the 1970s were quashed by Court of Appeal in 2021. Mr Ryan's

case was taken up by the miscarriage of justice charity APPEAL. The Court of Appeal ordered a retrial, but in 2023 the prosecution offered no evidence and not guilty verdicts were recorded on every count.

## Professional associations

- Association of Regulatory & Disciplinary Lawyers
- Criminal Bar Association
- Criminal Appeal Lawyers Association
- National Union of Journalists

## Professional activities

Matthew is a well known legal blogger and journalist.

As well as running the award-winning legal blog [www.barristerblogger.com](http://www.barristerblogger.com), Matthew writes on legal issues for national newspapers and websites including [The Daily Telegraph](#), [The Times](#), [Standpoint](#), [The Spectator](#), [The New Statesman](#) and [Quillette](#). He also contributes to professional journals including [Counsel](#), Criminal Law and Justice, the [Criminal Bar Quarterly](#) and [Scottish Legal News](#). He regularly broadcasts on BBC and independent national and local radio and is in demand as a speaker on legal affairs for example on rape laws at the 2018 [Battle of Ideas](#) and on miscarriages of justice to FACT ("False Allegations Against Carers and Teachers").

## Outside Interests

He has kept bees for over 40 years, variously in Hampshire, North Yorkshire, London and Bath.

## Publications

- <http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/law/article3185193.ece>
- <http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/law/article2215564.ece>
- <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2005/apr/26/law.ukcrime?INTCMP=SRCH>
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b01ng83c>