



PUMP COURT

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MATTHEW SCOTT

"Matthew was magnificent."

2020: Chris, solicitor, after their client's convictions for sexual offences against a child were quashed in Court of Appeal

Call: 1985

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All aspects of criminal law, especially appeals 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.

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.

[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.

Professional associations

- Association of Regulatory & Disciplinary Lawyers

- Criminal Bar 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, 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>