



- | Leading legal expertise
- | Relentless dedication and client care
- | Righting wrongs with integrity and respect

# Hudgell | *we're here*

SOLICITORS





Overview by Neil Hudgell, Solicitor and Executive Chairman

**I am very proud to say Hudgell Solicitors is established as a leading legal firm in righting wrongs for those who have suffered at the hands of others.**

**Hudgell**  
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hudgellsolicitors.co.uk

We know people turn to us for not only our legal expertise, but also for our understanding and passion to help them towards making the best possible recovery.

Be it through seeking damages in individual cases relating to personal injury, medical negligence or injuries suffered abroad to representing families at inquests and inquiries, our team is fully committed to seeing justice served.

With a commitment to always 'seeing the person and not just the claim' we have a reputation for our conscientious and committed approach, with legal experts who are recognised for being 'prepared to go the extra mile' for clients.

We are recognised for working in a sympathetic and understanding manner when supporting people who have suffered and are experiencing traumatic and difficult times, and are one of only a small handful of firms nationally to have been recognised at the Rehabilitation First awards for our ground-breaking commitment to rehabilitation alongside the litigation process.

Our success in securing substantial settlements and putting rehabilitation at the heart of all we do has brought repeated industry recognition, and with a team of lawyers and solicitors who have track records of securing high-value settlements for injured people, and of holding state bodies to account for wrongdoing, we now represent thousands of clients each year.

“We have a reputation for righting wrongs and providing vital support to those who suffer serious and life-changing injuries.”



**Amanda Stevens – Our Managing Director, London recognised for outstanding dedication to rehabilitation.**



Amanda Stevens is dedicated to ensuring we truly put the best interests of those we serve at the heart of our work, in each and every case.

Recognised for going above and beyond for clients, Amanda has spent much of her career seeking law reform to ensure access to justice for injured people.

Described as being ‘in a class of her own’ by the leading Legal 500 legal guide, she is a former hospital manager and a passionate advocate for the role of rehabilitation within litigation.

She was appointed by industry representatives to chair a national committee responsible for substantially updating the Rehabilitation Code in 2015, which provides the protocol for the rehabilitation process during legal claims.

She was also awarded the ‘Outstanding Individual Achievement’ prize at the 2016 Rehabilitation First Awards in London – an award selected by judges which recognise those who have ‘set themselves apart from their peers by the sheer weight and significance of their contribution to the UK rehabilitation industry’.

Amanda was named UK Catastrophic Personal Injury Claims Lawyer of the Year for 2019 in the ACQ5 Global Awards and Catastrophic Personal Injury Claims Lawyer of the Year in England for 2019, in The Corporate Intl Magazine Global Awards.



## Our team represents people relating to;

- **Personal Injury** – Including an entire range of road traffic accidents, work place accidents and public liability claims including the most complex catastrophic injuries which can require full, long-term rehabilitation support packages and home adaptations.
- **Medical Negligence** – All types of cases including surgical errors, misdiagnosis or delayed diagnosis of serious illnesses such as cancer, GP negligence and dental errors.
- **Birth Injury** – Including negligent care during pregnancy and birth leading to conditions needing lifelong care, including Cerebral Palsy and Erbs Palsy. Cases involve seeking substantial damages to cover long-term care and home adaptations.
- **Inquest and Inquiries Representation** – Representing families at hearings relating to deaths where concerns are raised following involvement with the state. Our work has included representing families of those killed in the Manchester Arena bombing and the Grenfell Tower fire, as well inquests involving NHS care.
- **Breaches of Human Rights** – Holding authorities and state bodies to account with regards to respecting and protecting everybody’s rights to respect for their private and family lives, being treated fairly, equally, with dignity, and be afforded the ‘right to life’ at all times.

- **Claims Against the Police** – Relating to misconduct, wrongful arrest and unlawful detention, police assault and deaths in custody.
- **Employment Claims** – Representing individuals and groups where their employment rights have been compromised, including former sub-postmasters and mistresses effected by the Post Office Horizon accounting scandal.
- **Injuries Abroad** – Providing industry-leading legal advice and support to those injured in a foreign country as a result of road traffic accidents, accidents at work, accidents whilst on a package holiday, on cruise holidays and during international air travel.
- **Criminal Injuries Compensation (CICA)** – Ensuring victims of crime secure the full damages they deserve through the CICA process, often helping secure higher settlements than those who don’t choose to apply with legal support. Our team has also settled many historic cases and where alleged offenders were not convicted.
- **Abuse and Neglect claims** – Supporting a wide range of people who have suffered abuse and neglect, including former residents of various children’s homes who are claiming to the London Borough of Lambeth Council under the Lambeth Redress Scheme and former pupils of a private school in London who suffered physical and emotional abuse between 1975 and 1991.



“I can’t believe how much support I have had. It has been amazing. Hopefully I am an example of how suffering a serious injury doesn’t have to hold you back.”

Ricky Thompson, 21.

# Helping the **seriously injured** rebuild their lives

We are immensely proud of our reputation for providing complete packages of support to those who have suffered serious and life-changing injuries, commonly involving orthopaedic, spinal cord or severe brain injuries sustained in accidents.

Our team of experienced specialists always seeks to secure the earliest possible admissions of liability from defendants, helping us to secure funds to provide a full package of rehabilitation as quickly as possible.

We support the NHS Commissioning Guidance for Rehabilitation, introduced in 2016, and promise our clients:

- A clear rehabilitation programme, focused on your needs to support your aspirations and goals, such as a return to roles and responsibilities, where possible – including work.
- Joined up, reliable rehabilitation services that are personalised and consistent.
- A single point of contact with the knowledge and skills to help and keep you fully informed at all times.
- Support to self-care and self-manage, reducing hospital admissions.
- Recognition for loved ones and the support they need.



## OUR EXPERTS

### Sam McFadyen – Catastrophic Personal Injury Solicitor

Sam specialises in supporting people who suffer catastrophic, life-changing injuries, including spinal and brain injuries. He has a track-record of securing six and seven-figure damages settlements, alongside extensive rehabilitation packages which are provided from the earliest possible stage.

Sam is highly-experienced in securing interim payments – at times before liability has been admitted – to best benefit his clients, ensuring vital support can be financed and put in place. This involves coordinating the support of physiotherapists, medical specialists, dieticians and counsellors to deliver effective rehabilitation packages.



## OUR EXPERTS

### Kent Pattinson - Catastrophic Personal Injury Solicitor

Kent specialises in spinal cord injury, brain injury, amputation, serious orthopaedic injury and pain disorder claims. He has more than 30 years of industry experience and is a specialist in handling high-value claims, including ground-breaking multi-million pound awards.

He is known for his pioneering casework, including successfully securing a £9.2 million settlement for a client in 1993, which at the time was the highest ever personal injury case settlement. He secured the second highest ever award at the time in 1999 with £5.6 million damages for a family where the child suffered a paediatric brain injury. He continues to secure seven-figure settlements and substantial interim payments for clients to help them towards the best possible return to independent living.

# Client stories – how we've helped people **rebuild their lives**



**Angela Menzies has her independence back after a horror car crash which almost claimed her life.**

A head-on collision caused Angela to break almost every bone in her body. There was no guarantee of her ever walking again.

However, less than three years on, and thanks to a complete package of support, she started to enjoy independence again, walking unaided during physiotherapy sessions and back behind the wheel of a car.

Her injury claim even covered the cost of buying a new bungalow, moving from a semi-detached home where she was unable to get upstairs.

[READ MORE HERE](#)

**Father Barrie Steeley has been supported in bringing up his two boys after his partner Jennifer, and their six-year-old daughter Kodi, died in a car accident.**

Brandon, who was just 15-months-old at the time, also suffered a severe brain injury, meaning Mr Steeley had to give up work to care for him and his other son Morgan, who was four.

An ongoing package of financial, physical and psychological support has been provided to the family, assisting Brandon with his recovery, independence and education, ensuring both boys, and Mr Steeley, have had all the support required.

[READ MORE HERE](#)



**Ricky Thompson had to have his lower right leg amputated at the age of 19 following a serious motorbike accident when he was hit by a car.**

He says he has been overwhelmed with support which is helping him rebuild his life as our team has provided constant support as part of his personal injury claim.

Working in conjunction with the car driver's insurers, we have been able to provide a full package of physical and psychological support, including therapy to help him overcome psychological issues, and provision of interim payments to assist during his prolonged absence from work.

[READ MORE HERE](#)



“High value settlements ensure people with life-changing injuries have the vital care and support they need for the rest of their lives.”



# Challenging medical errors and securing damages for lifelong care

Our medical negligence claims team is led by specialists with decades of experience in handling high-value, complex cases, supporting people who have suffered as a result of negligent care at their GP surgery, in hospital, at dentists and opticians or within a residential or care homes.

Highly-experienced lawyers have continually demonstrated their ability to find answers for families during extremely difficult times, holding people accountable even when liability is denied and securing multi-million pound damages settlements in the most challenging of cases.

In recent times these have included;

- Securing a damages settlement of £14.3million for a boy left brain damaged after midwives failed to properly monitor his heart-rate during birth and he was starved of oxygen. The settlement has ensured he will be provided with the 24-hour, round-the-clock care he will require for life.

- Reaching a damages settlement worth £8million for a teenage girl left with life-long injuries after errors in care during her mother's pregnancy led to her being delivered at just 24 weeks, and the girl being left with lifelong injuries and in need of 24-hour care.

Our team also campaigns for improved standards of care to prevent avoidable mistakes, injuries and accidents from happening in the future.

Together with national charity Baby Lifeline, we have campaigned for the Government to reinstate an £8.1 million Maternity Safety Fund to ensure a target of halving the rates of still birth, neonatal and maternal deaths by 2025 is met.

Our Love Our Vulnerable and Elderly (LOVE) campaign has placed a much-needed focus on unacceptable neglect and care in care homes, calling for residents to be respected, protected and treated with dignity.



## OUR EXPERTS

### Vince Shore – Joint Head of Clinical Negligence

Vince heads up a team of experienced Clinical Negligence solicitors dealing with a range of misdiagnosis claims, dentistry negligence, birth injury, surgical errors and serious injury claims. Vince has a case history which includes supporting clients relating to the negligent treatment of spinal injuries, birth injuries, orthopaedic injuries, amputations, fatal claims and delayed cancer diagnosis.

He passionately believes that whilst exceptional legal knowledge is a key quality required in any clinical negligence lawyer, the ability to empathise and connect with people is equally as important, and he is driven by being able to help clients achieve justice for their suffering.



## OUR EXPERTS

### Chris Moore – Joint Head of Clinical Negligence

Chris is one of the country's leading figures in supporting victims of serious clinical negligence, handling some of the most complex, high-value cases.

He has more than 25 years' experience and is a member of The Law Society Clinical Negligence Panel, for which only solicitors who can demonstrate extensive knowledge, skills and experience in dealing with high-value and complicated injury cases are selected.

Settlements secured for clients by Chris include one with a total value of £8 million for a teenage girl left with life-long injuries after a catalogue of errors during her mother's pregnancy.

# Helping victims of crime **secure compensation**

Many victims of assault and abuse are unaware they are able to pursue compensation through a dedicated Government scheme called the Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority (CICA).

It awards settlements ranging anywhere from £1,000 up to a maximum of £500,000 and aims to help people physically or mentally injured as the result of a crime of violence.

Our expertise and knowledge of this scheme makes us one of the leading teams in the UK in this specialist area, securing damages for hundreds of people each year.

We care about how the justice system treats blameless victims of crime and sadly there is a lack of general knowledge and understanding of this scheme, who can apply, how it works, what levels of evidence are required and what sort of compensation figures should be awarded.

It is why our dedicated team is committed to supporting people every step of the way and ensuring people receive the correct award from the CICA.

Our team often helps people secure offers of higher damages when they have initially applied without specialist legal support, and also has an excellent success rate when making appeals over rejected claims.

*"When I contacted Hudgeell Solicitors they were brilliant in listening to me and understanding the position I was coming from. Finally after all these years, and all I have been through, someone listened and recognised me as a victim. I was awarded £23,000 compensation and was overwhelmed by the result."*

**Victim of domestic abuse - South Yorkshire**

# Supporting survivors of **abuse and neglect**

Our specialist abuse claims team handles many sensitive cases and can provide immediate legal representation to anyone who has survived abuse, or to family members who wish to support loved ones.

Sadly, people can be subjected to abuse in a wide range of environments and at many times of life, from children to the elderly and in situations where they should be safe and protected.

We know complete trust and confidence between ourselves and those we represent is one of the most important aspects of the support we provide. It is why we have a dedicated team of specialist lawyers dedicated to this important area of work.

Our team has helped many access support which has enabled them to better cope with the psychological impact of what happened to them and many who do come forward feel a huge sense of relief when they finally start receiving the support they need.

We have experience in supporting survivors of child abuse, elder abuse, historic abuse, abuse in hospitals and by medical professionals, in schools, religious settings, sports clubs and as a result of social services failures.

*"I wanted to say a personal thank you for everything you have done for me and my family. You have managed to balance difficult conversations and establish facts through a very emotional time, whilst still giving me my dignity."*

**Anonymous, London**



## OUR EXPERTS

### **Paul Cain – Senior Solicitor, Clinical Negligence and Head of CICA**

Paul is an experienced solicitor who took on the role of national head of criminal injuries at the firm in 2019, having joined in 2013.

He has a background in leading high value, complex, heavily contested claims, routinely recovering damages of hundreds of thousands of pounds in settlements or at trial.

He is a client focused solicitor recognised for involving the people he represents and seeking their input in every aspect of their claim.



## OUR EXPERTS

### **Malcolm Johnson - Senior Solicitor, Abuse**

Malcolm qualified as a solicitor in 1994 and has supported a large number of child and adult survivors of abuse and neglect. He helped establish the Association of Child Abuse Lawyers (ACAL).

He has recovered substantial settlements for clients in cases ranging from claims against local authorities for failure to take children into care to claims involving abuse in foster care and children's homes. Malcolm leads the firm's work supporting victims of the Windrush scandal, for which a compensation scheme was announced by the Government in April 2019.

Malcolm also represents a number of core participants at the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse

# Protecting your civil liberties and human rights

**Upholding justice across the legal system and challenging police forces, state bodies and health trusts when things go wrong is central to our work.**

Ultimately, we stand side by side with families and individuals when they have been badly failed, and it is a role our team undertakes with great passion, commitment and pride.

Our team has been instructed in many high-profile investigations, including representing families of those who lost their lives in the Manchester Arena bombing and key participants of both the Grenfell Tower fire and Infected Blood inquires.

Inquest representation forms a large part of our work, ensuring full and transparent investigations are held and state bodies fully questioned and held to account when lives are lost.

We have also acted for families in a number of cases where the actions of police forces in protecting vulnerable people have unfortunately fallen well short of what is expected and required, including a number of women killed by violent partners who were already known to the police.

Our teams also continue to represent the families of four young gay men, Anthony Walgate, Gabriel Kovari, Daniel Whitworth and Jack Taylor, who were all victims of murderer Stephen Port between 2014 and 2015. An inquest jury will consider 'whether the police investigations into the four deaths were affected by prejudice'.

Whether it be failings in care provided by the NHS, national scandals which have caused irreparable damage to lives, or incidents where the actions of the police are called into question, we believe families should not feel they are fighting for justice and answers alone.

It is why we as a firm have established and recruited a highly-experienced team of specialists who care passionately about justice being served.



## OUR EXPERTS

### **Terry Wilcox – Solicitor, Civil Liberties**

Terry has more than 20 years' experience as a solicitor and has represented many families at inquests. He represented the Hillsborough families at inquest and was named on the Attorney General's application to quash the original verdict.

The Hillsborough Inquest was the longest in English legal history. Following the hearing the family teams jointly received the award for Legal Aid Lawyer of the Year. Terry first started working in law in 1981, qualifying as a legal executive in 1986 and a solicitor in 1997.



## OUR EXPERTS

### **Vicky Richardson, Senior Litigation Executive, Civil Liberties**

Vicky joined Hudgell Solicitors in 1998 and has over 20 years in perusing claims for damages. Vicky has successfully concluded many actions against the police ranging from unlawful arrest, police assault and breaches of human rights.

In addition, she has a great deal of experience in representing families at inquests. She represents many families who have lost loved ones either as a result of domestic homicide or who have died while in the custody of the state.

Vicky has been part of the legal team representing the family of Carl Sargeant, the Welsh Cabinet Minister who committed suicide after he was sacked from his post. She has also been instructed on the Public Inquiry into Manchester Arena terror attack.

# Supporting people seriously injured on holiday

Supporting those injured when travelling is a key part of our work at Hudgell Solicitors, and injuries suffered abroad are often complicated due to foreign laws and the laws around making compensation claims differ from country to country.

At Hudgell Solicitors we have a dedicated team of experts with many years' experience in helping injured people obtain the compensation they deserve following a life-changing accident overseas.

Our team has vast experience of acting for people injured abroad in relation to a civil claim as well as being nationally recognised for our rehabilitation support services (including medical treatment, care and case management services).

Claim types abroad include:

- Road traffic accidents abroad against foreign motor insurers
- Accident and illness claims whilst on package holidays
- Direct claims against foreign hoteliers' insurers
- Claims against the Motor Insurers Bureau's involving uninsured and untraced drivers
- Group action claims following international disasters and illness outbreaks
- Aviation claims
- Accidents on cruises/boats

From road traffic accidents to slips and trips to catastrophic brain and spinal injuries to amputations and paralysis; our experienced solicitors are experts in serious injury abroad claims, helping families through complex cases to secure record awards of compensation for those seriously injured in accidents abroad.

We have an extensive network of highly experienced international lawyers so we can help you with your claim if your accident occurred abroad.



## OUR EXPERTS

### Paul McClorry – Head of Travel Litigation

Paul is recognised as a leader in this field by the Legal 500 and Chambers and Partners. He deals with a range of personal injury claims and specialises in complex and high value cases, representing people who have sustained spinal and brain injuries, and families who have lost relatives as a result of incidents abroad. He has represented many clients in claims in excess of £1million which have also involved ground breaking issues of foreign law and complex negotiations with foreign insurers. Cases include representing a woman who sustained a concussive head injury and a prolonged coma, which left her lacking mental capacity, following an explosion within the grounds of a Spanish hotel, and a young boy seriously injured in a road accident in Spain, leaving him wheelchair dependent. Paul is a member of the Pan European Organisation of Personal Injury Lawyers, APIL Senior Litigator and member of the American Association for Justice.



## OUR EXPERTS

### Jane Woodcock - Head of Personal Injury

Jane heads up a team of experienced personal injury lawyers dealing with an entire range of traffic accidents, work place accidents and public liability claims.

Jane has more than 30 years' experience of personal injury work.

She has represented hundreds of clients successfully and is renowned in the market as a highly-experienced personal injury practitioner.

She has extensive expertise in handling complex, high-value claims relating to catastrophic and life-changing injuries and fatalities, with many cases centering around accidents which happen in the workplace.

Many of Jane's cases involve amputated limbs, reconstructed limbs and claims involving extensive periods of rehabilitation.

# Our Promise

**Hudgell** | *we're here*  
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Hudgell Solicitors is one of the most progressive, modern and customer orientated legal practices within the personal injury, medical negligence and civil liberties sectors where client care and customer service with friendly and helpful advice is central to everything we do.

We improve the quality of life of those who have suffered injury or loss, through securing compensation and providing access to specialist care and support following our five key values throughout everything we do;

**Client Care:** With a service second to none, we put our clients at the heart of everything we do; showing compassion, giving them clear, uncomplicated advice and treating them with respect.

**Pursuing excellence:** We focus on developing our people and continuously improving our standards; we're open to change, responsive to feedback and professional in everything we do.

**Integrity and Respect:** We act with integrity and frankness in all our dealings both internally and externally; placing the highest value on teamwork and mutual support.

**Trust:** We take ownership and accountability very seriously and do what we say we will do.

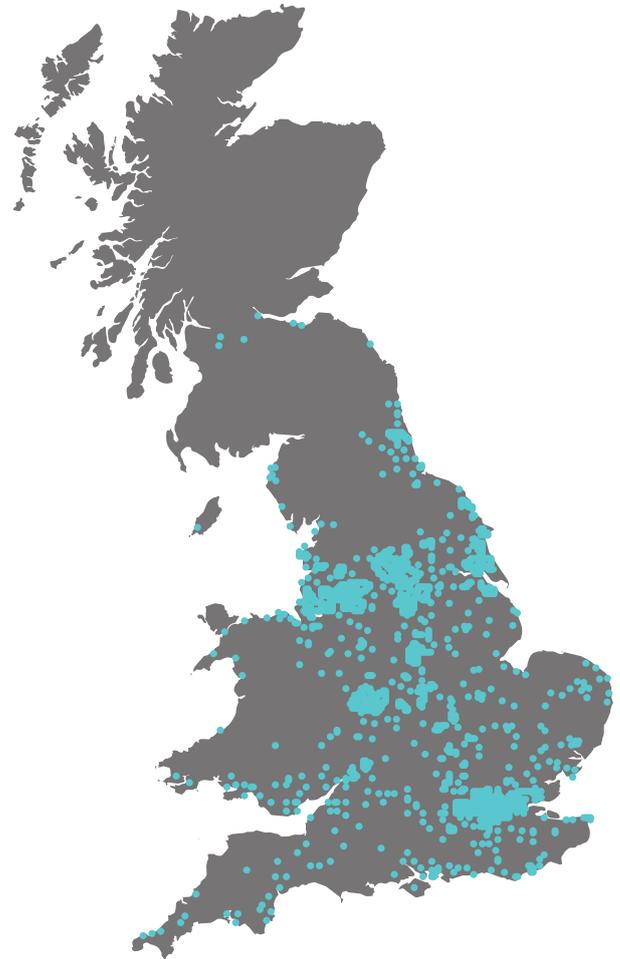
**Commercial success:** We are building a sustainable, well-managed and profitable business, which will benefit our people, our clients and our local communities.

## Our promise to you

When we take on any case, we want you to feel reassured and confident in every aspect of your claim. That's why we offer a service that puts your needs over and above anything else.

## We promise to

- Arrange our first meeting within 24 hours, where the nature of the case requires a face to face visit and you are happy for us to do so
- Return your phone call or email the very same day
- Reply to any letter you send us within two days
- Write to you regularly with any updates of information on your case



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