



Kent Law Society

Litigation and Dispute Resolution Conference

6th October 2015 — 9.15am to 5.00pm

followed by a Drinks reception hosted by 6 Pump Court

Following another busy year for practitioners, with the bedding in of civil justice reforms and the pressure of se law and procedural changes, Kent Law Society and Six Pump Court are delighted to present this one day Civil Litigation and Dispute Resolution Update.

Litigation practitioners will benefit from this timely and comprehensive one day conference which will cover all the important developments in the principal areas of law, practice and procedure over the past 12 months. The day will include a focus on Negotiation Skills by Keith Harper and an update from former District Judge Stephen Gerlis on relief from sanctions.

9.15 **Coffee and registration**

9.30 **Chair's Introduction:**
Nicholas Baldock, 6 Pump Court

9.45 **An Examination of the world of Relief from Sanctions through the case law, including:**

- * The *Mitchell* principles
- * The *Denton* variations
- * The *Al Saud* variations
- * Avoiding the limitation trap
- * The latest thinking of the appellate courts

Stephen Gerlis, Former District Judge

10.30 **Case Management Update**

Ian Rees Phillips, 6 Pump Court

11.15 Coffee

11.30 **Costs – the Latest Developments**

Gordon Wignall and Nicholas Baldock, 6 Pump Court

12.15 **Part 36**

Dinah Loeb, 6 Pump Court

1.00 Lunch

2.00 **SKILLS FOCUS - Negotiation techniques and how to Influence People**

Keith Harper, Harper Professional

3.00 Tea

3.15 **Contract Law Update**

Micky Singh and Gordon Wignall, 6 Pump Court

4.00 **Alternative Dispute Resolution Update**

Nicholas Baldock, 6 Pump Court

4.45 **Questions and Chair's concluding remarks**

5.00 **Conference Close**

Venue: Holiday Inn – Rochester, Chatham, ME5 9SF
CPD: 6Hours EC/KLS/1525 (SRA) KLS/1525 (ILEX)
Fee: £200 +VAT (members) £310+ VAT (non-members)

Speakers

Keith Harper is Managing Director of Harper Professional. He has 14 years experience of working with a wide range of law firms and of delivering management and business skills training to lawyers. Keith is an economics graduate of the University of Birmingham, a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Marketing, and a member of the Law Society Law Management Section. Prior to setting up Harper Professional, Keith held a range of Senior Management posts both in the professional services environment and with other large companies.

Stephen Gerlis was appointed as a full-time District Judge in 1988 and retired in October 2012. He was also a Recorder in both the County Court and the Crown Court. He was originally a solicitor and became secretary and, later, President of the West London Law Society. He has also been Chairman of the London Association of District Judges. Until his retirement he was a member of the Advisory Group on Judicial Appointments and was on the founding group which introduced information technology to the judiciary. He is author of *Domestic Proceedings in the Magistrates Court* (Longmans); *County Court Practice Notes* (Cavendish); co-author of *The Civil Practitioner's Handbook* (Sweet & Maxwell), *Civil Procedure* (Cavendish); *Post-Woolf Briefing* (Hawksmere) and a contributor to the *Civil Court Service* (Jordans). He is one of the co-authors of *The Adoption and Children Act* published by Butterworths. He is also co-editor of the monthly *Busy Solicitors Digest* which features on Lawtel and formerly General Editor of *Civil Court Precedents* (Sweet & Maxwell). He used to write regularly on judicial matters for the *Times* and the Law Society's *Gazette*, for which he still contributes to the "From the Bench" article. In recent years he took part in a BBC programme on 'Legal Language' together with Stephen Fry. He is still writes and lectures widely on a range of subjects surrounding the work of the County Court.

The following are all barristers at Six Pump Court Chambers, www.6pumpcourt.co.uk:

Nicholas Baldock was called in 1983. He is a CEDR Accredited Mediator, Legal Assessor to the General Medical Council and is recommended in Chambers (2014) and the Legal 500 (2013). Claimant and Defendant insurance and insurance related work forms a large part of Nicholas Baldock's practice. His personal injury practice includes many catastrophic brain injury cases.

Mukhtiar Singh was called in 2011. Property, housing, contract and employment law form a substantial part of his civil practice. Mukhtiar has over 20 years' experience working for various public bodies. He has enjoyed a successful career in employment relations; debt recovery; and law enforcement, including working for three years in the employment and civil litigation department of the Serious Organised Crime Agency. Mukhtiar is known to his clients for his rigorous attention to detail, reassuring manner and pragmatic outlook.

Ian Rees Phillips read Jurisprudence at Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford University, where he was awarded the Emily Parks and Sheilagh Griffiths Scholarships. He was called to the Bar in 2009 by Middle Temple as an Astbury Scholar. Ian has a focused civil and commercial law practice and commonly appears in the County Court and High Court in fields such as landlord and tenant, personal injury, consumer credit, insurance and trusts of land. He also regularly represents both claimants and employers in the employment tribunal and has a burgeoning criminal regulatory practice.

Gordon Wignall has a wide and varied practice with an international element, including fraud, interim relief and restraint of trade. His specialist interest in litigation funding and costs has been of practical use in multi-party actions. He is familiar with relevant EU principles including those of application in competition cases. Gordon is recommended in *Chambers* 2015 and is a CEDR accredited mediator. His publications include *Nuisances* (Sweet & Maxwell), *Law Society Guide to Conditional Fees* (Law Society), and is a former contributing editor, *Civil Procedure* ('The White Book') (Sweet & Maxwell).

Dinah Loeb specialises in family and civil litigation. Dinah has more than 20 years legal experience having qualified as a solicitor in 1990, as a mediator in 2002 and a barrister in 2004. With experience of both sides of the profession she is uniquely able to support lay and professional clients through the litigation process. She is experienced in all courts including the Court of Appeal, undertaking work on the South Eastern Circuit, Western Circuit and London.