



BELFAST INTERNATIONAL HOMECOMING 2016

Business & Investment
Conference

12 - 14 October 2016

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Legal Symposium 2016 •

*CPD Eligible (3 points)

The Inn of Court, Royal Courts of Justice, Belfast
Thursday, 13th October 2016 • 10:30am-2:30pm



SCHEDULE

- 10.30 **Registration and Coffee**
- 11.00 **Welcome** - to the Symposium on behalf of the Belfast International Homecoming by Niall Murphy KRW Law. Welcome to the Inn of Court by Chairperson of the Bar Council, Liam McCollum QC
- 11.15 – 11.50 **Professor Colin Harvey:** 'Human Rights in Transition' Questions post BREXIT – Threats to the Human Rights Act, a Bill of Rights, a Charter of Rights.
- 11.50 – 12.25 **Mark Mulholland QC:** 'Standing up for the Rule of Law: The Responsibilities of the Independent Advocate in Challenging Circumstances' The role of Lieutenant William Wylie KC, prosecutor at the 1916 Easter Rising Court Martials.
- 12.25 – 13.00 **Thomas Fitzpatrick:** Justice on the Street. The confrontation between Stop-and-Frisk police practices and the right of every citizen to be free from unreasonable search and seizure.
- 13.00 – 13.45 **Lunch**
- 13.45 – 14.30 **Ian Cobain:** 'The History Thieves'. Drawing on previously unseen material and rigorous research, 'The History Thieves' reveals how a complex bureaucratic machine has grown up around the British state, allowing governments to evade accountability and their secrets to be buried.
- 14.30 – 15.15 **Pete Weatherby QC:** 'Hillsborough – Lessons from an article 2 compliant Inquest.'

In association with



SPEAKERS:



Professor Colin Harvey - Colin Harvey is Professor of Human Rights Law, Queen's University Belfast and a former Head of the School of Law and Director of the Human Rights Centre. Before returning to Queen's in 2005 he was Professor of Constitutional and Human Rights Law at the University of Leeds. He has held visiting positions at the University of Michigan, Fordham University, and the LSE. Professor Harvey was a member of the REF2014 Law sub-panel and the REF2014 Equality and Diversity Advisory Panel. He has served as a Commissioner on the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission, and as a member of the Northern Ireland Higher Education Council.

He is a member of the Academic Panel at Doughty Street Chambers, a Senior Research Associate at the Refugee Law Initiative, School of Advanced Study, University of London and has taught on the George Washington University – Oxford University Summer Programme on International Human Rights Law, and the Master's in International Human Rights Law at Oxford University. He is on

the editorial boards of Human Rights Law Review, European Human Rights Law Review and Northern Ireland Legal Quarterly and is the Series Editor of Human Rights Law in Perspective. He has written and taught extensively on human rights.



Mark Mulholland QC - Mark Mulholland QC has been a practising member of the Bar since 1994, taking silk in 2011. During this period has appeared in some of the most high profile and notorious cases to come before the courts in Northern Ireland with significant defence trial experience ranging from serious fraud, revenue, corruption and corporate 'whitecollar' investigations to non jury and organised crime cases, as well as 'article 2 conflict related inquests.

Mark was elected Chairman of the General Council of the Bar and of the Executive Council of the Inn of Court of Northern Ireland in 2012 until 2014 having served as Vice Chairman between 2010 and 2012. He continued with his busy practice during his time in office. Mark is to be inducted as a member of the Academy of International Trial Lawyers in Washington DC in forthcoming weeks.

Outside of practice Mark has taught at Queen's University, is an executive officer on the International Advocacy Training Council and spoke at the inaugural conference on advocacy in Kuala Lumpur in 2014 and assisted with advocacy training at the invitation of the Bar of Hong Kong in 2015. He has delivered a number of keynote addresses including the Bar Council of England & Wales International Rule of Law Lecture in 2013, the ICAB World Bar Conference in London in 2012, the Bar of Cape Town in 2013, and most recently at the IBA annual conference in Vienna in 2015.



Thomas Fitzpatrick- Tom Fitzpatrick is a shareholder and director of the law firm of Davis, Malm & D'Agostine, PC in Boston, Massachusetts, where he previously served as its Managing Partner and President for six years. Tom is a trial lawyer with a practice focused primarily on business, corporate, and commercial litigation. He has considerable experience in all manners of complex business disputes and has successfully represented individuals and public, private, and closely held corporations in many multimillion-dollar disputes, including matters that established important principles of law, particularly in the area of corporate fiduciary duties.

Tom serves as outside counsel to the City of Boston and has been a member of the City's delegations traveling to Belfast as part of the Sister City Agreement, which the two cities entered into in 2014 for the purpose of fostering educational exchanges, promoting cultural understanding, and stimulating economic development.



Ian Cobain - Ian Cobain is a British journalist who writes for The Guardian newspaper and is best known for his investigation into torture perpetrated by agents of the United Kingdom government, and for his reporting on the culture of secrecy surrounding the British state, past and present. Ian has been shortlisted for the Orwell Prize for Journalism and won the Martha Gelhorn Prize and the Paul Foot Award for investigative journalism, as well as two Amnesty International journalism awards, and, with fellow Guardian journalist, Richard Norton-Taylor, a Human Rights Campaign of the Year Award from Liberty.

In his important new book, The History Thieves Ian offers a fresh appraisal of some of the key moments in British history since the end of WWII, including: the measures taken to conceal the existence of Bletchley Park and its successor, GCHQ, for three decades; the unreported wars fought during the 1960s and 1970s; the hidden links with terrorist cells during the Troubles; the sometimes opaque workings of the criminal justice system; the state's peacetime surveillance techniques; and the convenient

loopholes in the Freedom of Information Act.



Pete Weatherby QC - practices mainly in human rights, public, prison, inquest and criminal law, and is a regular commentator on such matters in the media. He was a founding member of Garden Court North Chambers, in Manchester.

Pete led the team representing 22 of the bereaved Hillsborough families at the recent Inquests, which commenced in 2014. He appeared before the Grand Chamber of the European Court of Human Rights in *Vinter v UK* [2012] ECHR 023, a challenge to the legality of 'whole life' prison sentences without review and also in the guideline case of *R (on the application of Middleton) v Sec of State Home Dept* [2004] 2 AC 182 which is the leading case on application of Article 2 to inquest proceedings and the ambit of neglect verdicts.

Pete has graciously accepted a late invitation to speak at our Symposium, and will speak to the experience of the Hillsborough Inquests as a working example of how an article 2 compliant inquest can function properly, in practice, in terms of timeous

review and disclosure, resource and the appropriate discharge of the suite of responsibilities that article 2 imposes on the State. Pete will also discuss draft legislation, a Hillsborough Law, entitled the Public Authorities Accountability Bill which he has drafted with other lawyers, which proposes to ensure public officials act with "candour" and do not fall prey to "institutional defensiveness". www.thehillsboroughlaw.com