



Welcome to the May 2018 Mental Capacity Report. Highlights this month include:

- (1) In the Health, Welfare and Deprivation of Liberty Report: CANH withdrawal on the papers and DOLs statistics;
- (2) In the Property and Affairs Report: variation of trusts and the Court of Protection, and Charles J's last hurrah;
- (3) In the Practice and Procedure Report: a new President for the Court of Protection and a regionalization update;
- (4) In the Wider Context Report: the interim report of the independent MHA review, capacity and housing, covert medication and capacity in the MHT context, and a guest article on autonomy and mental capacity;
- (5) In the Scotland Report: an appreciation of the Public Guardian and an update on the AWI consultation;

You can find all our past issues, our case summaries, and more on our dedicated sub-site [here](#).

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Nicola Kohn
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The picture at the top, "Colourful," is by Geoffrey Files, a young man with autism. We are very grateful to him and his family for permission to use his artwork.

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New President of the Court of Protection

We congratulate Sir Andrew McFarlane on his appointment as President of the Family Division and of the Court of Protection with effect from 28 July 2018 and the retirement of Sir James Munby. We might also tentatively hope that an appointment will also be in the offing soon for a replacement for Charles J as Vice-President (the position currently being vacant).

CoP regionalisation moves ahead

As the regionalisation project moves ahead, s.16 (health and welfare) and s.21A these applications will be issued from regional centres, starting with the South West (Bristol) Regional Hub, as from 30 April 2018. The other regional centres will begin issuing their own applications from 25 June 2018. This does not apply to serious medical treatment cases or to property and affairs cases.

A letter from HMCTS setting out essential information about how the new process will work, including how issue fees should be paid can be found here.

Ex parte applications – a further reminder

We published a few months ago a detailed practice note on ex parte (without notice) applications. The judgment in *R (Sathivel) v SSHD*

[2018] EWHC 913 (Admin) only reinforces (by analogy) the obligations on Counsel, as well as solicitors, to ensure that they are acting on proper – and materially complete – instructions when making a without notice application.

Parents with learning disabilities

The President has issued guidance on Family proceedings: Parents with a learning disability, his primary purpose being “to bring to the attention of practitioners and judges, and to commend for careful consideration and application by everyone, the very important ‘Good practice guidance on working with parents with a learning disability’ issued by the Working Together with Parents Network and the Norah Fry Centre in September 2016.” This guidance is equally applicable in relation to a parent of “P” before the Court of Protection.

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Alex is recommended as a 'star junior' in Chambers & Partners for his Court of Protection work. He has been in cases involving the MCA 2005 at all levels up to and including the Supreme Court. He also writes extensively, has numerous academic affiliations, including as Wellcome Research Fellow at King's College London, and created the website www.mentalcapacitylawandpolicy.org.uk. To view full CV click [here](#).



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Victoria regularly appears in the Court of Protection, instructed by the Official Solicitor, family members, and statutory bodies, in welfare, financial and medical cases. Together with Alex, she co-edits the Court of Protection Law Reports for Jordans. She is a contributing editor to Clayton and Tomlinson 'The Law of Human Rights', a contributor to 'Assessment of Mental Capacity' (Law Society/BMA 2009), and a contributor to Heywood and Massey Court of Protection Practice (Sweet and Maxwell). To view full CV click [here](#).



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Neil has particular interests in human rights, mental health and incapacity law and mainly practises in the Court of Protection. Also a lecturer at Manchester University, he teaches students in these fields, trains health, social care and legal professionals, and regularly publishes in academic books and journals. Neil is the Deputy Director of the University's Legal Advice Centre and a Trustee for a mental health charity. To view full CV click [here](#).



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Annabel has experience in a wide range of issues before the Court of Protection, including medical treatment, deprivation of liberty, residence, care contact, welfare, property and financial affairs, and has particular expertise in complex cross-border jurisdiction matters. She is a contributing editor to 'Court of Protection Practice' and an editor of the Court of Protection Law Reports. She sits on the London Committee of the Court of Protection Practitioners Association. To view full CV click [here](#).



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Nicola appears regularly in the Court of Protection in health and welfare matters. She is frequently instructed by the Official Solicitor as well as by local authorities, CCGs and care homes. She is a contributor to the 4th edition of the *Assessment of Mental Capacity: A Practical Guide for Doctors and Lawyers* (BMA/Law Society 2015). To view full CV click [here](#).

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Katie advises and represents clients in all things health related, from personal injury and clinical negligence, to community care, mental health and healthcare regulation. The main focus of her practice however is in the Court of Protection where she has a particular interest in the health and welfare of incapacitated adults. She is also a qualified mediator, mediating legal and community disputes, and is chair of the London Group of the Court of Protection Practitioners Association. To view full CV click [here](#).



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Simon has wide experience of private client work raising capacity issues, including *Day v Harris & Ors* [2013] 3 WLR 1560, centred on the question whether Sir Malcolm Arnold had given manuscripts of his compositions to his children when in a desperate state or later when he was a patient of the Court of Protection. He has also acted in many cases where deputies or attorneys have misused P's assets. To view full CV click [here](#).



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Adrian is a recognised national and international expert in adult incapacity law. While still practising he acted in or instructed many leading cases in the field. He has been continuously involved in law reform processes. His books include the current standard Scottish texts on the subject. His awards include an MBE for services to the mentally handicapped in Scotland; national awards for legal journalism, legal charitable work and legal scholarship; and the lifetime achievement award at the 2014 Scottish Legal Awards.



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Jill Stavert is Professor of Law, Director of the Centre for Mental Health and Capacity Law and Director of Research, The Business School, Edinburgh Napier University. Jill is also a member of the Law Society for Scotland's Mental Health and Disability Sub-Committee, Alzheimer Scotland's Human Rights and Public Policy Committee, the South East Scotland Research Ethics Committee 1, and the Scottish Human Rights Commission Research Advisory Group. She has undertaken work for the Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland (including its 2015 updated guidance on Deprivation of Liberty). To view full CV click [here](#).

Conferences

Conferences at which editors/contributors are speaking

Medical treatment and the Courts

Tor is speaking, with Vikram Sachdeva QC and Sir William Charles, at two conferences organised by Browne Jacobson in [London](#) on 9 May and [Manchester](#) on 24 May.

Other conferences of interest

UK Mental Disability Law Conference

The Second UK Mental Disability Law Conference takes place on 26 and 27 June 2018, hosted jointly by the School of Law at the University of Nottingham and the Institute of Mental Health, with the endorsement of the Human Rights Law Centre at the University of Nottingham. For more details and to submit papers see [here](#).

Advertising conferences and training events

If you would like your conference or training event to be included in this section in a subsequent issue, please contact one of the editors. Save for those conferences or training events that are run by non-profit bodies, we would invite a donation of £200 to be made to the dementia charity [My Life Films](#) in return for postings for English and Welsh events. For Scottish events, we are inviting donations to Alzheimer Scotland Action on Dementia.

Our next report will be out in early June. Please email us with any judgments or other news items which you think should be included. If you do not wish to receive this Report in the future please contact: marketing@39essex.com.

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