



Matthew Corkey B.L.

Hosted by: Sandy Dibble; Springfield, MA

Matthew Corkey was born in Belfast in 1984 and grew up just north of the city near Carrickfergus. He went to school at Belfast Royal Academy. In 2003, he moved to Dundee in Scotland where he studied English Law graduating in July 2007. Matthew returned to Northern Ireland on completion of his studies in Dundee and proceeded immediately to the Institute of Professional Legal Studies at Queen's University Belfast where he undertook a postgraduate certificate in professional legal studies. On completion of the course at Queen's in the summer of 2008 he was called to the Bar of Northern Ireland and commenced his pupillage. Matthew's pupillage finished in March 2009 and he has been working as a self-employed barrister ever since.

In the first couple of years of practice, Matthew did largely publicly funded criminal defence work in the lower courts. As time has gone by his practice has become increasingly dominated by civil litigation. Currently his practice involves a large amount of judicial review work for both individual applicants and respondent public authorities. He also does a reasonable amount of representation of employers in employment litigation and regularly receives instructions from insurance companies in personal injury work (commonly referred to as '*whipper*' and '*slipper*' claims).

In Matthew's spare time he is a keen rugby player having played since he was 11 years old, the sport provides a great antidote to the rigors of legal practice. He enjoys travelling and tries to put on a backpack and disappear for a few weeks every summer.



Frank Kennedy B.L.

Hosted by: George Haley; Salt Lake City, UT

Frank is Barrister at Law, practising at the Law Library, Four Courts, Dublin. He trained at the Honorable Society of King's Inns, and was called to the Bar of Ireland in 2010 as winner of The Society's Exhibition. He studied law at University College Dublin and Oxford University. As an undergraduate at UCD he won the Irish National Debating Championships.

Frank practises in civil litigation, with particular emphasis on commercial matters, insolvency and professional liability. Frank also practises in public law and on behalf of professional regulatory bodies. He has previously taught in the Law School at Trinity College Dublin.

Frank has a longstanding interest in the United States and the Irish-American relationship. As a student, he spent a summer as an intern in the Capitol Hill office of Senator Edward M. Kennedy. Separately, he was also a summer intern with the Solidarity Center of the AFL-CIO in Washington, DC. On graduation, he worked for a year in Washington, DC, with the US-Ireland Alliance. Three of Frank's five siblings are naturalised US citizens.

In addition to his legal practice, Frank is also active in Irish politics. In 2014 he ran for and was elected to Dublin City Council as a candidate for the Fianna Fáil party. Frank is one of 63 elected members of Dublin City Council, which is the authority responsible for local government in Ireland's capital.

He is a keen supporter of the fortunes of Leinster Rugby and of the French club, Stade Toulousain, the latter affinity stemming from a year spent living in the city of Toulouse, and especially many Friday nights at the Stade Ernest-Wallon. He also loves hiking in the mountains of Ireland.



Charlotte Simpson B.L.

Hosted by: Chris Paliare and Paul Pape; Toronto, ON, Canada

Charlotte Simpson hails from County Donegal. This is the most Northerly County in Ireland and is almost entirely landlocked by Northern Ireland. She had the unique experience of attending primary school in the Republic of Ireland and secondary school in Northern Ireland. In her final year of school she was elected Head Girl of Foyle and Londonderry College.

Charlotte attended Trinity College, Dublin where she was awarded an Entrance Exhibition Scholarship in 2004. She graduated with a First Class Honours Degree in Law in 2008. In the third year of her degree she spent a year studying at the Law School at Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Virginia. This experience cemented her desire to practice law as a trial advocate (and her love for country music!)

She completed the Barrister-at-Law degree in the Honourable Society of King's Inns and was called to the Bar of Ireland in Trinity term 2009. Charlotte practices predominately on the Northern Circuit where she has developed a diverse and varied practice. This can involve criminal trials, personal injury actions and bitterly fought land disputes – all in the one week! She also represents the Irish State in defending employers liability and public liability claims.

Charlotte has a keen interest in travel and has spent time in Nepal, Vietnam, India and Central America. She also enjoys theatre and is a qualified speech and drama teacher.



Aisling Trainor B.L.

Hosted by: Richard Burbidge; Salt Lake City, UT

Aisling Trainor was called to the Bar of Northern Ireland in 2007. Prior to being called to the Bar of Northern Ireland Aisling achieved a First Class Honours in Law and Accountancy from Queens University, Belfast and a Certificate in Professional Legal Studies from the Institute of Professional Legal Studies, Belfast.

Aisling is an elected member of the Family Bar Committee and holds the post of Treasurer. She is a member of the Pro Bono Committee and the Young Bar Association.

Aisling would consider herself as a specialist in Family Law and she enjoys the considerable mix of care, adoption, divorce, matrimonial finance and private law children order applications. Aisling deals with all aspects of private and public family law, appearing frequently in complex and sensitive cases.

Aisling has regularly received instructions to represent parents who have learning disabilities and she is instructed in cases involving vulnerable adults and children under the Mental Health (NI) Order 1986 and Family Homes and Domestic Violence Order (1998). Aisling has an ongoing interest in Human Rights.

Outside of work Aisling is a very keen triathlete competing in sprint, olympic, half ironman and ironman distance races. Aisling has completed Ironman Wales in 2012 and qualified to represent Ireland for the World Age Group Triathlon Championships in London in 2013. Aisling has won various Irish Age Group Championship races over the years.

Through sport Aisling takes part in various charity events involving cycling, swimming and running where she has raised large sums of money for many worthy charities. Aisling has travelled to various countries including New Zealand, Australia and America. Aisling enjoys watching all sports to include rugby, cycling and Gaelic football and she is an active walker. More leisurely events Aisling enjoys are reading and socialising with her friends.