

Asbestos Exposure claims Harrogate Man

Mr Francis William Dennis died on the 8 December 2008 aged 81.

An inquest determined that Mr Dennis died as a consequence of his exposure to asbestos during his employment at Wealstun prison and onboard HMS Ceres during his time in the Royal Navy.

Mr Dennis had been suffering from the asbestos related cancer, mesothelioma when he passed away at St Michaels Hospice in Harrogate.

His diagnosis had only been made in February 2008.

Mr Dennis had begun giving a statement to a firm of solicitors in an attempt to recoup some compensation for his suffering but sadly he died before he was able to sign it.

The illness was a result of heavy exposure to asbestos fibres during his time spent working at the prison and onboard HMS Ceres. Mr Dennis joined the Navy in 1947 and worked until 1949, as a stoker. He later went to work at the prison where he was a boiler man.

Nicola Smith
John Pickering and Partners LLP
20 Clare Road
Halifax
HX1 2HX

Tele 01422 345535
Fax 01422 438500
E-mail ns@johnpickering.co.uk

Notes

[John Pickering and Partners LLP](#)- Specialist [mesothelioma compensation](#) solicitors.

We are a specialist personal injury law firm. We have been handling claims for industrial disease for over 30 years. Most of our work involves acting for asbestos disease victims.

We only act for the sufferers of asbestos diseases and never act for the organisations that caused the asbestos exposure or their insurers. We have an ethical approach and pledge to donate 10% of our net profits every year to good causes that help asbestos sufferers.

[Click here](#) to find out about our donations to good causes. We have also been involved in most of the landmark judgments that shape this area of law. Find out more [about us](#) or find out about [our reported cases](#). We are on the panels of several asbestos support groups and are ranked highly by legal guides. [Click here](#) to find out more about what others have said about us.

[John Pickering and Partners LLP](#) is a niche legal practice that has represented Claimants in the leading asbestos "test cases" in the last ten years. The firm represented Sylvia Barker in *Barker v Corus (UK) Plc*, a case that highlighted the legal tactics of employers and insurers trying to cut back their compensation liabilities to mesothelioma sufferers, and which prompted the amendment of the Compensation Act 2006 to ensure full compensation for mesothelioma claims. The firm represented two of the three Claimants in the *Fairchild appeal*, in which the insurance industry tried unsuccessfully to block compensation altogether for mesothelioma sufferers unable to identify which of two or more sources of asbestos exposure had caused their illness.

The firm represented Alice Jefferson, a mesothelioma sufferer, whose illness and compensation claim against Cape Asbestos were featured in the important documentary "*Alice: A Fight For Life.*" Shown by Yorkshire Television in July 1982, the programme was an important catalyst for legal change and public awareness of the plight of mesothelioma and other asbestos disease sufferers and a prompt for important legal reform.

Mesothelioma is a type of cancer that affects the lining of certain bodily organs. It most commonly affects the lining of the lungs (the pleura) but it can affect other areas including organs in the abdominal cavity (the peritoneum).

According to the [British Lung Foundation](#), more than 2,000 people are diagnosed with mesothelioma every year in the UK and there is one mesothelioma death every five hours. The number of deaths from mesothelioma increased from 153 in 1968 to 1,969 in 2004 and is expected to peak at 2,450 between 2011 and 2015.

The [British Lung Foundation](#), supported by John Pickering and Partners LLP, launched the first Action Mesothelioma Day on 27th February 2006, to raise awareness about mesothelioma, to improve the treatment and care of mesothelioma patients, and to lobby

for better funding for research into mesothelioma and for the protection and education of people working with asbestos.

If you need advice about an asbestos related illness, [contact us](#) now for information about making a claim for compensation.