

### **Asbestos Cancer in Stomach Lining – case settles**

John Pickering and Partners client, Mr McGhie developed peritoneal mesothelioma. This is a tumour in the sheet of tissues covering the organs of the abdomen. Between a quarter and a third of mesotheliomas occur here so it is much rarer than mesothelioma in the chest. Peritoneal mesothelioma is a particularly aggressive, terminal cancer caused by exposure to asbestos.

Mr McGhie worked as a labourer for Wimpey's 37 years ago. He recalled working with a joiner who was fireproofing a walkway between flats. Mr McGhie was working underneath the joiner and ended up covered in asbestos dust and debris. He described the situation as being as if it were snowing. He was exposed to deadly asbestos dust every day that he worked on this contract in Burnley. He was never warned of the dangers of asbestos or advised to take precautions to protect his health.

Mr McGhie was 61 years old when he was diagnosed. He was working full time and enjoying his free time with his wife and family. He enjoyed walks in the Yorkshire Dales and played a mandolin, banjo and tin whistle with friends. He intended to work to 65 as he was in good health prior to the diagnosis of mesothelioma.

Mr McGhie instructed Carolann Hepworth, Solicitor us to pursue a claim for compensation in November 2008. She visited him at home and obtained details of his work and exposure to asbestos.

We completed Mr McGhie's claim in 6 months in an out of court settlement of £180,000.

As with most of our asbestos cases we dealt with this claim on a 'no win no fee' basis which ensures that our client's keep all of the compensation and do not need to worry about having to pay costly legal bills.

In many asbestos cases there is a long period between exposure to asbestos and the development of the asbestos related cancer. In Mr McGhie's case this was 37 years later. As Wimpey's are still an active company, albeit under a different name, we were able to submit a claim to the company straightaway. In many cases our client's former employers are no longer trading and we have to trace their employer's liability insurers in order to bring a claim. John Pickering and Partners LLP specialise in asbestos claims and we have built up an extensive archive of insurance information and are used to the challenge of locating insurance information.

Mr McGhie was very pleased with the outcome of his case and thanked Carolann Hepworth for her hard work and for bringing his case to a successful conclusion so quickly.

Carolann Hepworth, partner in our Manchester office said *“I admire Mr McGhie’s determination and strength in holding his former employers accountable when he was so ill”*.

If you have a claim for an asbestos disease, please contact:

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### 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.