

# Ann Barthorpe

Expert Witness  
Occupational Therapist

Chesterfield



## Professional Background

Ann Barthorpe is a seasoned Occupational Therapist with over two decades of clinical experience, specialising in neurological rehabilitation since 2008. She has expertly managed the assessment and treatment of adults with newly acquired disabilities, including brain injuries, enteral feeding needs, complex movement disorders, and severe physical, cognitive, and communication impairments. Ann has an extensive background within the NHS, where she developed and led a multidisciplinary outreach team that significantly improved the continuity of care for clients transitioning from hospital to home environments. This role involved developing and delivering training programs for carers and actively participating in the review of care packages with social services, emphasising single-handed care techniques and innovative equipment to enhance patient independence and safety.

Before focusing on neurological rehabilitation, Ann gained broad experience across various domains of occupational therapy, including physical rehabilitation, dementia care, adult mental health, trauma and orthopaedics, general medicine and surgery, outpatient neurology services, palliative care, and learning disabilities. This diverse experience has equipped her with a profound understanding of the multifaceted needs of individuals across different life stages and conditions.

In her role as a case manager, Ann excels in the coordination and delivery of personalised rehabilitation packages for clients with complex orthopaedic injuries, amputations, and those who have sustained psychological trauma. She is skilled at managing cases that involve intricate decision-making regarding mental capacity and best interests, often leading best interest meetings to ensure all perspectives are considered and respected.

As an expert witness, Ann balances her caseload between claimant and defendant instructions, providing well-rounded and unbiased insights into each case. Her reports are informed by an in-depth clinical understanding and are underpinned by her commitment to evidence-based practice. Ann is fully trained in Civil Procedure Rules, ensuring her expert witness reports are thorough, impartial, and authoritative.

## Specialisms

- Complex Physical Disability
- Acquired Brain Injury
- Progressive Neurological Conditions
- Peripheral Nerve Conditions & Injuries
- Orthopaedics
- General Medical Conditions
- Cognitive impairment

## Instructed by

- Irwin Mitchell LLP
- Capsticks Solicitors LLP
- Kennedys
- Weightmans LLP
- Hill Dickinson LLP
- Stewarts Law LLP
- Anthony Gold Solicitors LLP

## Age group

- Adults



## Career history

- Case Manager & Expert Witness 2017 - Present
  - Coordinates and implements evidence-based rehabilitation programmes for clients with complex needs including brain injury and polytrauma.
  - Sets up and manages support packages for clients with a wide range of needs.
- Occupational Therapist Independent 2021 - Present
  - Provides occupational therapy to individuals with range of physical and cognitive disabilities.
  - The includes the assessment and provision of assistive equipment and the procurement of modified vehicles.
- Lead Senior Occupational Therapist 2011 - 2017  
Chesterfield Royal Hospital
  - Managed a large team of staff in delivering an occupational therapy service to the stroke unit and to patients with a wide range of neurological and complex conditions, including traumatic brain injury with orthopaedic injuries.
- Lead Occupational Therapist (Neurology) 2011 - 2017  
Chesterfield Royal Hospital
  - Led an occupational therapy team, initiating a seven-day service for stroke and complex neurological conditions, achieving an A Grade in the Stroke Sentinel National Audit Programme.
  - Founded a multidisciplinary outreach team for post-discharge patient support and spearheaded single-handed care techniques with innovative equipment, alongside reviewing care packages with social services.
- Senior Occupational Therapist 2008 - 2011  
Chesterfield Royal Hospital
  - Managed the integration of acute and rehabilitation stroke services in North Derbyshire.
  - Developed an assessment tool for evaluating insight in patients with acquired brain injuries.
  - Managed a diverse caseload, including individuals with enteral feeding needs, limited communication, and severe cognitive impairments.
- Senior Occupational Therapist 2003 - 2008  
Chesterfield Royal Hospital
  - Managed a caseload of patients across medical, surgical, and neurological specialities.
  - Treated patients in neurology outpatient service
- Occupational Therapist 2002 - 2003  
East Hull Community Learning Disability Team
  - Tailored community independent living plans for service users and their carers.
  - Undertook training on postural management for individuals with complex physical disabilities.
- Occupational Therapist (Trauma & Orthopaedics) 2001 - 2002  
Rotherham & Scunthorpe Hospitals
- Occupational Therapist 1999 - 2001  
West Middlesex Hospital (Rotational Post)

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## Qualifications

- BSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy
- MSc Module Cognitive Processing

## Professional Memberships

- HCPC
- BAOT
- BABICM



**Harrison**  
Associates

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