



Photographer Christopher Lynch

David Lynch was born and educated in Liverpool. He retired in January 2005 after a career in the Law spanning 50 years from solicitors' office boy to Circuit Judge. He tried family and criminal cases in Liverpool and sat on the Mental Health Review Tribunal at Ashworth Hospital. He was the Liaison Judge to St Helens Magistrates and Liverpool John Moores University. More often than not, when sitting on the Bench he had with him two law undergraduates. In recognition of his services to legal education he was made an Honorary Fellow of Liverpool John Moores University in 2003.

After eight years spent on this Directory, and in retirement, he now has more time for his family, travel, photography, playing the guitar, golf and bookbinding, but there is a National Directory of Office Holders well under way.

David Lynch is married with two sons. He lives in Wirral.



NORTHERN CIRCUIT DIRECTORY 1876 - 2004 JUDGE DAVID LYNCH

NORTHERN CIRCUIT

DIRECTORY 1876 - 2004



This Directory is a biographical record of the 3,417 judges and barristers who have been members of the Northern Circuit between 1876 and 2004. There are chronological lists of those circuiters who have held office from Lord Chancellor to magistrate during this period. Included are those, not members of the circuit, who have greatly assisted the administration of justice in the North West such as: Lord Lieutenants, High Sheriffs, Chief Constables, Presidents of Law Societies, Prison Governors, Crown Prosecutors, Chief Probation Officers and Professors of Law. It would take a brave former member of the Bar to omit the barristers' clerk.

Whilst the Directory is an important document of record of the past 128 years, it is hoped that amusing anecdotes and 260 photographs and sketches will bring to life many characters of this great circuit.

"One County Court judge, sitting on undefended divorces, insisted on Counsel asking leading questions to save time. Whereas the other judge would not tolerate leading questions, but had difficulty understanding the case without them. So, ingenious Counsel, like yourself, developed the art of doing both in the same question. You will remember that immortal question of yours, at Preston, which so impressed me that I took it down in writing and had Arthur Prest who was sitting next to me to certify. Question, "What was it he poured over your head from out of a teapot?" Answer, which surprised none of us but which seemed to satisfy the judge. "Tea".

(Letter from James Fowler to Sandy Temple in 1990 congratulating him on his Knighthood)

JUDGE DAVID LYNCH