

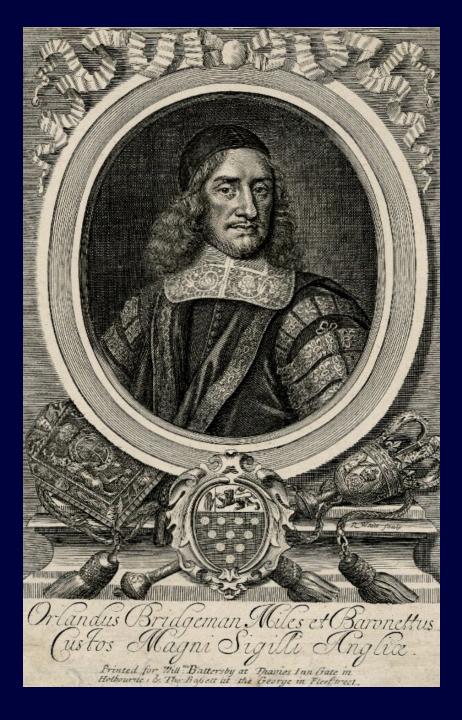


GRESHAM

COLLEGE



"The lamp that shows that freedom lives." Lord Devlin



"If these be not overt acts of compassing and imagining the death of the king I do not know what they are..... "It must be left to you, members of the jury.... I think you need not go from the bench."

Chief Justice Bridgeman



"Gentlemen, You shall not be dismissed till we have a verdict that the court will accept; and you shall be locked up, without meat, drink, fire, and tobacco; you shall not think thus to abuse the court; we will have a verdict, by the help of God, or you shall starve for it."

Direction to the jury in *R v Penn* and *Mead*

"Trial by jury...ever has been, and I trust ever will be, looked upon as the glory of English law...The liberties of England cannot but subsist so long as this palladium remains sacred and inviolable."

William Blackstone, 1760

"The publication was a most impious and profane libel...Believing and hoping that you are Christians, I have not any doubt that you would be of the same opinion."

Lord Ellenborough speaking to the jury in R v Hone (1817)

"It is a general principle of British law that on a trial by jury it is for the judge to direct the jury on the law and in so far as he thinks necessary on the facts, but the jury, whilst they must take the law from the judge, are the sole judges on the facts.

The jury is one of the great protectors of the citizen because it is composed of twelve persons who collectively express the common sense of the community. But the jury members are not expert in the law, and for that reason they must be guided by the judge on questions of law"

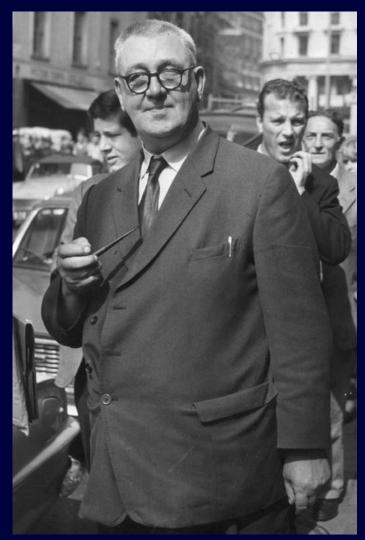
Lord Oaksey in *Joshua v The Queen* [1955]

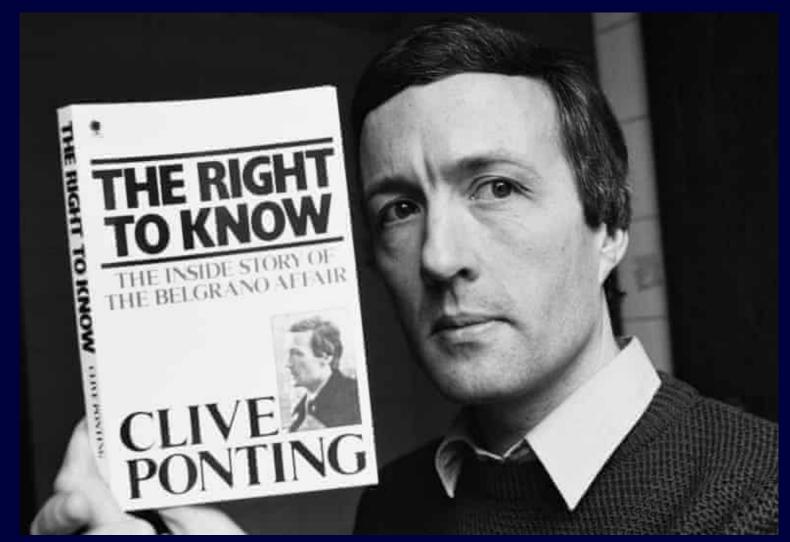
The Jury Oath:

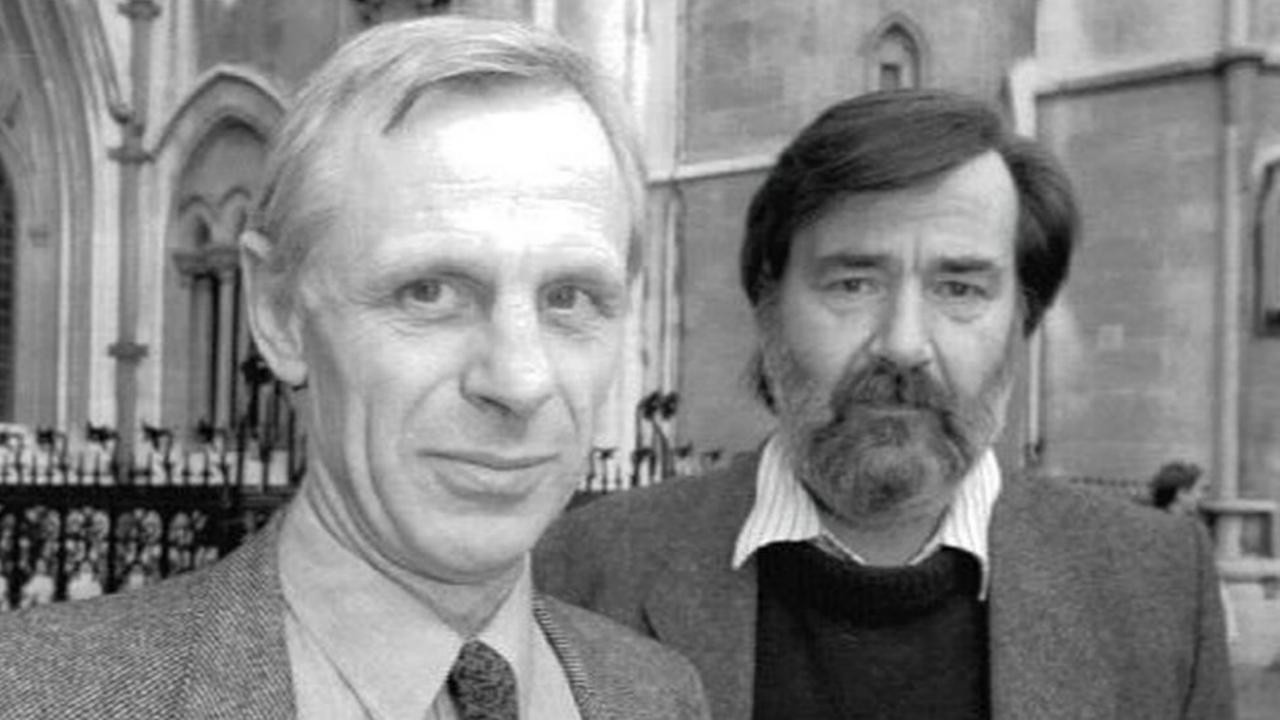
"I swear by almighty God/I solemnly declare and affirm that I will faithfully try the defendant(s) and give (a) true verdict(s) according to the evidence."

"He could, like Pontius Pilate, have washed his hands of the matter. He did not, because good doctors do not turn away. Are we to condemn him as a criminal because he helped two people [the mother and child] at the time of their greatest need? Are we to condemn a doctor because he cared?"

George Carman QC in Rv Arthur







"The judge will tell you what the law is. He will tell you about the ingredients of the offence, what the Crown has to prove, what the defences may be or may not be, and you must take the law from him. But I submit to you that it is up to you and you alone to apply the law to this evidence and you have a right to say it shouldn't be applied."

Counsel for the Defendant, addressing the jury in *R v Morgentaler*

The law should "be declared, by statute if need be, that juries have no right to acquit defendants in defiance of the law or in disregard of the evidence, and that judges and advocates should conduct criminal cases accordingly."

Lord Justice Auld, *Review of the Criminal Courts of England and Wales* 2001

"I regard this proposal as wholly unacceptable - a serious misreading of the function of the jury. The right to return a perverse verdict in defiance of the law or the evidence is an important safeguard against unjust laws, oppressive prosecutions or harsh sentences."

Professor Michael Zander QC

"It is a contempt of court to obtain, disclose or solicit any particulars of statements made, opinions expressed, arguments advanced or votes cast by members of a jury in the course of their deliberations in any legal proceedings."

Section 8, Contempt of Court Act 1981

"A good jury turns into a little community," Baroness Hale has said, 'working together in the interests of justice.' As a jury advocate for over thirty years, I have always been impressed, and often humbled, by the care and dedication they give to their work. Academic research supports the experience of criminal lawyers that juries are fair, and do their utmost to bring in the right result. In every case, it isn't just the defendant on trial: the state itself is on trial, too, in public, before its citizens. Can it prove its case to the high standard the law requires? Has it used its coercive powers wisely and lawfully? Have its operatives in the courtroom – the judge and the lawyers – conducted themselves properly?"

Francis FitzGibbon QC, July 2020