# Artificial Intelligence: Oh, really? And why judges and lawyers are central to the way we live now.

Humans have made life very complicated. Software code now controls our lives, in power stations, refineries, medical devices, and banking to mention just a few areas. Motor vehicles are largely controlled by software, and aircraft totally controlled by software. People have been injured and killed because of the failure of software – indeed, 2 people have recently been killed by motor vehicles in England and have been the subject of a Coroner's hearing and a prosecution.

The concept of artificial intelligence was first considered as the topic of a proposal dated 31 August 1955 for a '2 month, 10 man study of artificial intelligence be carried out during the summer of 1956 at Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire'. This talk will consider, at a high level of generality, the meaning of intelligence; consider some definitions of artificial intelligence and how to test for artificial intelligence; outline the criticisms, and will then consider how judges and lawyers should be responding to the world in which we live.

**Thursday 23 March 2017**

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| **5.30pm:** | Registration |
| **6-7pm:** | Seminar |
| **Speaker:** | Stephen Mason |
| **CPD:** | **1 hour** (for Scottish Solicitors and Advocates) |
| **Venue:** | Turcan Connell Princes Exchange 1 Earl Grey Street Edinburgh EH3 9EE |
| **Fee:** | Free (members and non-members welcome) |

## To book a place please reply by e-mail to mail@sscl.org

Stephen Mason is a barrister, an Associate Fellow at the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies in London, and a member of the IT Panel of the General Council of the Bar of England and Wales.

He is the author of *Electronic Signatures in Law* (4th edn, Institute of Advanced Legal Studies for the SAS Humanities Digital Library, School of Advanced Study, University of London, 2016); *Electronic Disclosure A Casebook for Civil and Criminal Practitioners* (PP Publishing, 2015); *Email, social media and the internet at work: A concise guide to compliance with the law* (7th edn, PP Publishing, 2014), and *When Bank Systems Fail Debit cards, credit cards, ATMs, mobile and online banking: your rights and what to do when things go wrong* (2nd edn, PP Publishing, 2014).

He is the general editor of *Electronic Evidence* (4th edn, Institute of Advanced Legal Studies for the SAS Humanities Digital Library, School of Advanced Study, University of London, 2016) and *International Electronic Evidence* (British Institute of International and Comparative Law, 2008).

He founded the international open source journal *Digital Evidence and Electronic Signature Law Review*, which has become an international focal point for judges, lawyers and researchers. Stephen has acted as the external marker in postgraduate degrees dealing with electronic evidence: LLM at the University of Oslo (2006), PhD at the University of Exeter (2013); PhD on 'The Authentication of Electronic Evidence' at Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia (2015).

### Administration notes

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