

Review of Library Activities for 2010

- [AccessToLaw](#) – the 1400 annotated entries on our legal gateway site have been checked for consistency of content and style and amended where necessary on a quarterly basis. The sections of the site accessed most frequently were Case Law, Health & Social Care Law and Personal Injury.

- [BAILII](#) – the Librarian organised an evening event on behalf of BAILII, which was sponsored by the Inner Temple. Representatives from chambers and law firms attended the presentation, in which the history of BAILII and the current content of the database were outlined and the need for regular core funding was emphasised.



- Bar Librarians Group – the Librarian organised three meetings during the year. Representatives from Sweet & Maxwell attended one of the meetings. Subjects discussed by the Group included price increases, discounts, delivery problems and database content.
- Binding – 508 volumes of UK law and 106 volumes of Commonwealth law have been bound or rebound during the year.
- Book Prize – the Deputy Librarian, who is a member of the Book Prize Committee, continues to assist with preparations for the [2011 Inner Temple Book Prize](#).
- Cataloguing – the number of new law titles (and new editions of legal works already held) added to the [catalogue](#) during the year was 188. To these must be added the many hundreds of serial volumes, both legal and non-legal, and reference works. The recataloguing of the early Caribbean law material is nearing completion.
- Committees – the Librarian attended meetings of the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies Library Committee and of the Institute Librarians Group and was Secretary of the Inter Inn Libraries Liaison Committee.

- [Current Awareness Weblog](#) – a brief survey carried out during the year indicated a high level of user satisfaction with the service, which has now been running for nearly 4 years. Survey respondents included barristers, students, academics, solicitors, civil servants and librarians. Most were UK-based but some were farther afield: in Australia, Barbados, Canada, India and New Zealand.



Users can sign up to receive daily current awareness updates by email or RSS feed, or follow the blog on Twitter. There are now 18,000 posts on the blog, 1,000 subject categories, and over 1,000 subscribers via email or RSS feed. The average number of daily visits to the site is 600-1,000 and the total number of visits during 2010 was 285,119.

- Cutbacks – we have continued to monitor the pricing and usage of books and series in the print collections during 2010. The ever increasing price of legal books and the need to stay within our acquisitions budget have led us to cancel duplicate copies of some expensive textbooks, as well as loose-leaf works in subject areas outside our specialisms or where we have more than one such title on the same subject.
- [Document Supply Service](#) – the service has been extended to include barrister members of other Inns based in chambers outside central London. 292 items have been supplied to members located in the UK and in Antigua, the Bahamas, the British Virgin Islands, Gibraltar, Guernsey, the Isle of Man, Jersey and Trinidad.
- Donations – members of the Inn continue to donate copies of their newly published works. This has resulted in a saving of £2,400 for 2010. [Wildy's](#) very generously agreed to donate a copy of all the Wildy, Simmonds & Hill publications to the Library.

- Education and Training Activities – for the second year running the Library was involved in the Inner Temple Academy programme, which is organised by the Inn's Education and Training Department. The school students who participated in the programme were given a tour of the Library on their first visit and on subsequent visits they used our print and online resources to carry out legal research exercises and to prepare for their debating competition.

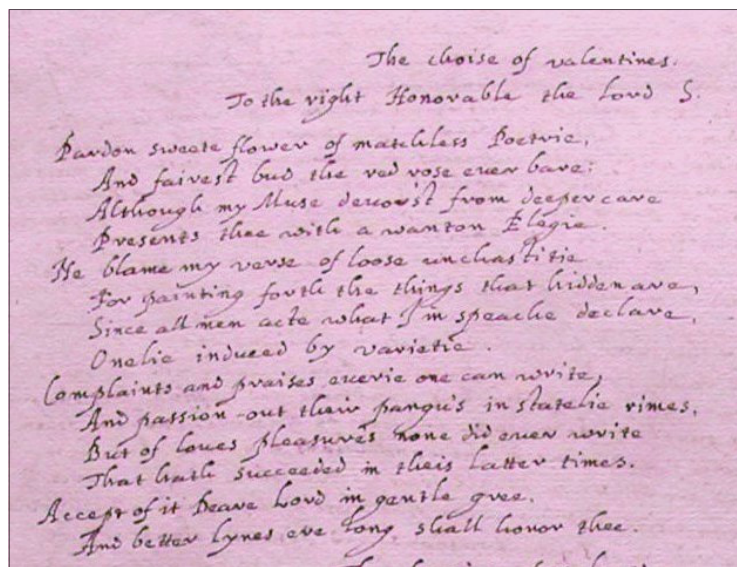


- Enquiries – staff at the Enquiry Point dealt with 5,083 personal and telephone enquiries from barristers, pupils, students, clerks and researchers.

- [Facebook](#) – the Library's Facebook page, which was created to promote Library services and as an additional way of communicating with our users, now has 524 fans. The latest Library news and links to new Library publications continue to be posted to the page.

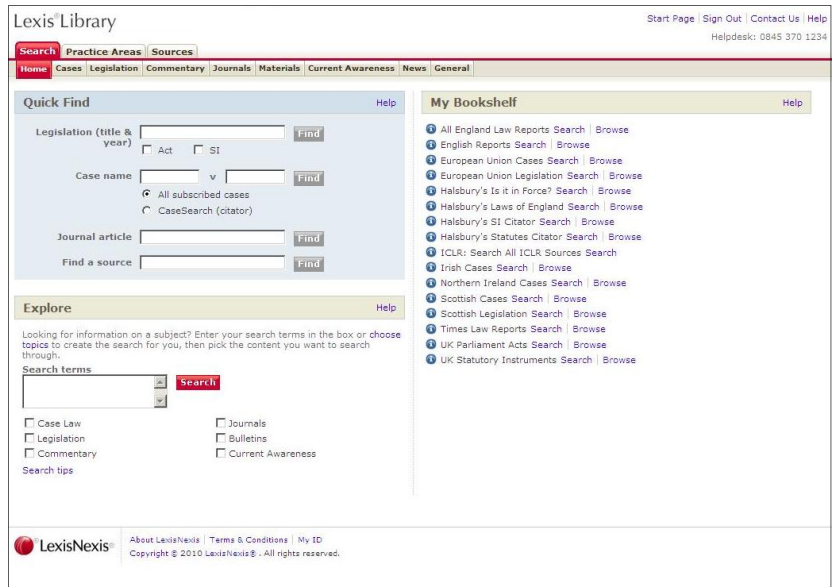
- FAQs – the [legal research FAQs](#) on the Library website have been updated to take account of numerous changes to the free and subscription sites listed, and more search tips for commercial databases have been added. The FAQs cover UK and EU case law and legislation, and treaty research.

- FLAG Database – the Library’s entries in the Flag Database (a collaborative project listing holdings of foreign and international law in UK libraries) were thoroughly revised during the year. This exercise is undertaken every 3 to 4 years.
- Guides – we produced a new leaflet for out of London student members, and the content of the Readers’ Guide and Student Guide, plus guides to online services, has been updated. All the guides are available in the Library or can be [downloaded](#) from the website.
- Historical Enquiries – we received just over 100 written (mostly email) enquiries from Australia, Spain, Ireland, Italy, Canada, Germany and the United States, as well as from all over the UK. Apart from enquiries relating to past members of the Inn, subjects of study have included the ever-popular “Royal Charter” of the Inner Temple and Middle Temple, the books supposedly presented to the Library by Anne Sadleir, daughter of Sir Edward Coke, images of Clement’s Inn, and the argument of Sir Heneage Finch in the dispute between the Inner Temple and the Lord Mayor in 1669.
- IT Facilities – the 25 public-access PCs continue to be well used for legal research, word processing and checking emails. Over 1,500 word processing sessions were booked during the year on the PCs in the Gallery. The Wi-Fi access provided in rooms E, F and G is popular with students and barristers and we are planning to extend access to a fourth room.
- Legal Research – a new legal research training manual has been developed by the Deputy Librarian to assist with the training of new members of staff.
- Littleton Basement – 210 items were retrieved from the Library’s basement store in the Littleton Building in response to readers’ requests. Many of the items were old editions of practitioners’ texts and law reports (UK and Commonwealth). Such items are not easily obtainable outside the Inns of Court Libraries and are seldom available online.
- Manuscript Enquiries – subjects being investigated by visiting scholars have included the “Apology of the Earl of Essex”, records of early English drama (for a volume on the Inns to be published in February), Archbishop Matthew Parker’s Psalter, manuscript poems by Thomas Nashe and Sir Edward Dyer, and the *Chronicle* of Robert Mannyng. It is interesting to note that the *legal* manuscripts attract comparatively little attention. Our manuscripts are in increasing demand for reproduction in books and journals. This is especially true in the case of the illuminations depicting the courts in session (c.1450) and to a slightly lesser extent Edward VI’s “Devise for the Succession”. Also featured this year was the Countess of Pembroke’s translation of Petrarch’s “The Triumph of Death”, of which ours is the only known manuscript source.



Opening of ‘The Choise of Valentines’ by Thomas Nashe (Petyt MS 538.43)

- Master of the Library – Master Sedley stood down as Master of the Library at the end of 2010, after seven years’ distinguished service, for which we owe him many thanks. His successor is Master Beatson.
- [Newsletter](#) – a new regular feature on database search tips is now included in the electronic newsletter, which is sent out quarterly to all members and tenants of the Inn.
- Online Services – the Library has moved to the new Lexis Library platform, which combines UK and international content from LexisNexis Professional, All England Direct, Legislation Direct and Halsbury’s Laws. To assist users, Lexis Library quick reference guides on case law and legislation have been produced. Towards the end of the year, the new platform for JustCite, the citator service from Justis Publishing, was also introduced.



- Presentations – the Deputy Librarian once again gave two presentations about the Inns of Court Libraries to BPTC students at the City Law School. The presentation, which has been updated, is available on our website as a [slide show](#).



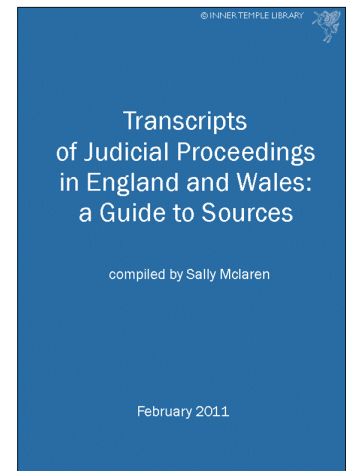
- Publicity – the [Current Awareness Weblog](#) continues to be regularly featured on the *Guardian* Law site under “best of the law blogosphere” and was recently named on *The Times* website as one of the “ten best legal tweeters”. The [legal research FAQs](#) received a favourable mention in an article on “resources for the faster, cheaper, better legal researcher” in the journal *Legal Information Management*.
- Staff Changes – Mark Leonard joined the Library staff in October, replacing Anne McGeary Carvell. Mark previously worked in the Library of the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies while studying for an MSc in Psychological Research Methods at King’s College, London.
- Space Planning – Parliamentary papers from the period 1950 to 1960 were moved from the Gallery to the Littleton Basement to create more space for Hansard. Selected series of journals and law reports were also transferred to create more growth space in Rooms A, B and D.

- Student Events – the Library participated in the Inn’s introductory evenings for London and for out of London students, as well as organising tours for new BPTC students in September. Tours were also offered to students attending the Advocacy Training Day on Saturday September 25.



- Training – courses attended by Library staff included ecopyright, salvage and practical disaster recovery, using blogs, wikis and RSS feeds, internal marketing, online branding and legal research, as well as the conference of the British and Irish Association of Law Librarians.

- [Transcripts Guide](#) – work has almost been completed on an updated and expanded edition of the Library’s 2006 guide to sources of transcripts. This edition will include sources for both court and tribunal transcripts.



- Visits – during the year we were visited by a group of librarians from Romania and law librarians from the Supreme Court, Royal Courts of Justice, Kaplan Law School and the other Inns. Other visitors have included the IALS Research Fellow, Mr Justice Nelson Rolston, new Benchers, and a group from the National Pro Bono Unit. Library staff have visited the Bodleian Law Library and Kaplan Law School.

- [Website](#) – new editions of [Current Law Reports and Periodicals](#), [Current Looseleaf Publications](#) and [Electronic Legal Resources](#) have been added to the Library’s website during 2010. These listings cover the holdings of all four Inn Libraries. The Library catalogue, FAQs and current Newsletter were the most frequently accessed pages of the site.

