

INNER TEMPLE LIBRARY REVIEW OF 2012

AccessToLaw - there have been 45,000 visits to our legal gateway site from 168 countries, the majority coming from the UK, USA, India, Australia and Malaysia. The sections of the site accessed most frequently were **Case Law**, **Health and Social Care Law**, the **Caribbean** and **Personal Injury**. The 1,400 annotated entries on the site were checked and amended on a quarterly basis. Entries for UK government websites in particular required careful amendment to reflect the major changes made to their content in the autumn. In the Commonwealth section of the site separate sections were created for the **Bahamas**, **Bermuda** and **British South Atlantic Territories**.

Awards - the staff of the Inner Temple Library were winners of the 2012 Wallace Bream Memorial Award, which was presented at the Annual Conference dinner of the British and Irish Association of Law Librarians. The award was made in recognition of our “considerable contribution to the legal information profession via three sources in particular.”



These were *Transcripts of Judicial Proceedings in England and Wales: a Guide to Sources*, the daily **Current Awareness blog** and the **AccessToLaw** legal gateway site. Our nomination was considered by an award panel which endorsed the statement that “the quality of work that [we] do, under considerable budgetary constraints deserves an accolade”. This is the first time since its inception in 1992 that the award has been made to a library rather than to an individual librarian.

Bar Librarians Group - at meetings organised by the Librarian, discussions took place with the two main legal publishers, Sweet & Maxwell and LexisNexis, on a variety of issues, including the pricing of print and online resources.

Binding - a total of 570 volumes of UK law and 130 volumes of Commonwealth law were bound or rebound during the year.

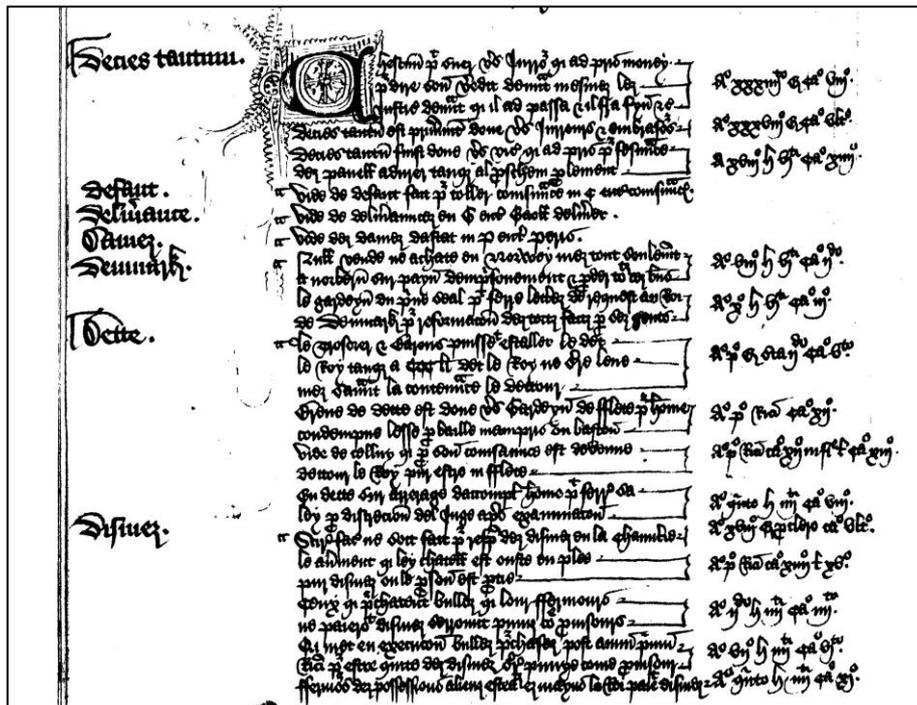
Cataloguing - almost 200 new law titles and editions were added to the **catalogue** during the year. Given that ours is a “periodical-heavy” collection this accounts of course for a small proportion of the actual number of *volumes* acquired. A major project started in 2012, and which continues, is the cataloguing of our large collection of peerage claims, dating mostly from the 19th century. This category of material is at present for the most part inadequately accounted for in library catalogues generally.

Committees - the Librarian attended meetings of the Inter Inn Libraries Liaison Committee, the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies Library Committee and of the Institute Librarians Group. The Deputy Librarian participated in a working group on information literacy skills, which was set up by the British and Irish Association of Law Librarians. In the summer the group agreed a final set of guidelines and produced a legal information literacy toolkit, which could be used to benefit law students at both academic and vocational stages of training. The Legal Education and Training Review noted the working group’s initiatives with interest and the guidelines will be mentioned in their final report.

Current Awareness Blog - we celebrated the fifth anniversary of the blog in April 2012. Since its inception it has been updated on a daily basis by Library staff and continues to provide users with the latest in legal news, case law and legislation. Over 40 sources are checked each day and 66 are monitored in total, including selected chambers' websites and practitioners' law blogs. A **Classifieds** section for chambers' vacancies was trialled during the year and interest was sufficient for this to be made a permanent feature, which is likely to be developed further in 2013. The blog now has 28,000 posts, over 1,000 subject categories, 2,200 subscribers via email or RSS feed, and 3,570 followers on Twitter. There are about 20,000 visits per month from over 120 countries, the majority coming from the UK, USA, Australia, Ireland, India, Hong Kong, Canada and Singapore. Our statistics show that the number of readers accessing the blog via mobile devices, especially iPhones and iPads, has grown rapidly compared with last year.

The screenshot shows the 'Classifieds' section of the Current Awareness blog. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for 'About', 'The Library', 'Legal Links', 'Transcripts', and 'Classifieds'. The main heading is 'Classifieds'. Below this, there is a disclaimer: 'Please note that advertisements are posted here as received by the advertisers. We accept no responsibility for the content of any advertisement and make no representation or guarantee concerning vacancies listed.' This is followed by instructions for advertisers: 'Chambers can submit advertisements to classifieds@innertemplelibrary.com, including the following information: Chambers name, Title of vacancy, Description of responsibilities, Contact information, Deadline for submission of applications. Users can keep track of vacancies by RSS feed or by Email. Any new vacancies received will be added on Mondays.' There are links for 'Classifieds RSS feed' and 'Classifieds Email'. A featured article titled '2 Pump Court – Third six pupil' is displayed, with a sub-heading 'The Chambers of Richard Christie QC welcomes applications from third six pupils. 2 Pump Court is a friendly and well-established set of chambers offering a specialist service in criminal law. We are a London based set practising predominantly in Greater London and the South East. Pupils should expect to be in court on a daily basis.' Below the article, there is a note: 'Applicants should send a CV and covering letter to pupillage@2pumpcourt.co.uk or into chambers, for the attention of Sasha Bailey. No deadline. Click here for more info'. On the right side, there is a section for 'Current Awareness is a blog from the Inner Temple Library providing up-to-date information on new case law, changes in legislation and legal news from England and Wales.' Below this is a circular logo for the 'WALLACE BREEM MEMORIAL AWARD' and social media icons for RSS, Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn. There is also a 'Classifieds' section with a search bar and a link to 'Click here to view chambers' vacancies'. At the bottom right, there is a 'Users' Comments' section with a quote: 'It is easy to miss legal news on a crowded net. The Inner Temple Library's Current Awareness team don't - a first class news and awareness service. Essential.' attributed to 'Charon QC, http://charonqc.wordpress.com/'. Finally, there is a 'Sign up for the daily email' section with an 'Email Address' input field and a 'Subscribe' button.

Digitisation - we are collaborating with the **Law Library Microform Consortium (LLMC)** on a long term project to create digitised images from microfilm of the items in the Manuscript collection. The aim is to make the collection available to Inner Temple Library users and to researchers worldwide via the LLMC database.



Document Supply Service - the service is available to barrister members of all four Inns wherever they are based. Over the year, 193 items have been supplied to barristers located in Guernsey, Bermuda, the Bahamas, Northern Ireland, Gibraltar, Brunei, Turks and Caicos Islands, Singapore and Canada. Unsurprisingly, email has now become the preferred method of delivery rather than fax or post.

Donations - members of the Inn continue to present copies of their newly published works. We also receive all **Wildy, Simmonds and Hill** publications free of charge. Donations resulted in a saving of £4,495 on monographs and £7,363 on looseleaves in 2012.

Enquiries - staff at the Enquiry Point dealt with 3,800 personal and telephone enquiries from barristers, pupils, students, judges, clerks and researchers. Telephone enquiries and personal enquiries from members of the Bar showed a slight increase on last year's figures. Enquiries are very varied and range from requests for books on subjects such as child witnesses and on arbitration law in Hong Kong to queries on treaties between the UK and Italy on the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion and on the Solicitors Accounting Rules as at 1986.

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 804 'likes'. The blog posts, latest Library news, links to new Library publications and new photo sets continue to be posted to the page.

FAQs – a series of FAQs on **Parliamentary Publications** has been added to the existing FAQs on the Library website. The FAQs on UK case law and legislation have been revised and the FAQs on EU case law and legislation and on treaty research are currently being updated. A short glossary of legal terms and phrases which can be used in conjunction with the FAQs is in preparation.

Filming - the Library interior, and Edward Marshall Hall KC's press cuttings on the Camden Town murder case, featured in a BBC4 documentary series *The Strange Case of the Law*. Three royal letters from the Manuscript collection appeared in a National Geographic television series on the Tower of London, *Bloody Tales of the Tower*, which was presented by the Tudor historian, Dr Suzannah Lipscomb.



Guides - *Preparing for Pupillage*, a new guide, which contains useful tips on various aspects of legal research, was produced and circulated to Inner Temple pupils. The content of the *Readers' Guide*, *Student Guide*, *Quick Reference Guide*, *Electronic Resources Guide* and guides to online services have all been updated. All the guides are available in the Library or can be [downloaded](#) from the website.

Historical Enquiries - aside from the many queries concerning former members of the Inn, now greatly facilitated by the [Admissions Database](#), enquiries received have been many and various; subjects have included the identity of the sitter in a "Portrait of an Unknown Judge" (probably Sir George Jessel, it was concluded), the significance of the motto "Nomen et Omen" on an Inner Temple member's bookplate, and Sir Edward Marshall Hall and the Camden Town Murder.

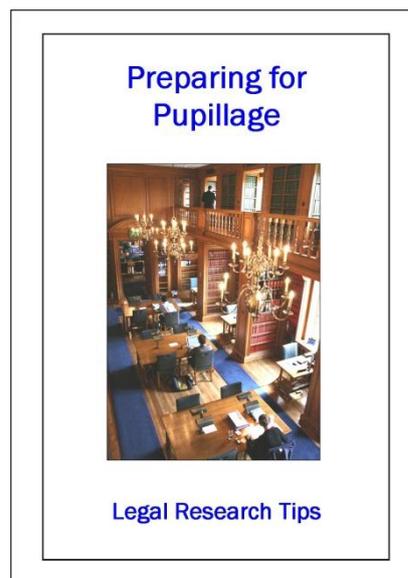
IT Facilities - the 24 public access PCs were upgraded to Windows 7 during the year. They continue to be well used for legal research, word processing and checking emails. Over 1,140 word processing sessions were booked on the PCs in the Gallery. The free Wi-Fi access provided in Rooms E, F and G continues to be popular with students and barristers: we had 1,232 requests for the password.

Legal Research Training - the Deputy Librarian carried out a number of refresher training sessions aimed at new pupils. They covered hard copy and online sources and were tailored to meet the needs of small groups or individual pupils. Subjects covered included updating authorities, using commentary sources, researching an unfamiliar area of law and effective use of the main legal databases. Very positive feedback on the sessions has been received from participants.

Littleton Basement - a total of 260 items were retrieved from the Library's basement store in the Littleton Building in response to users' requests. Of these, over half of the items requested were old editions of practitioners' texts. Older Commonwealth material and law reports were also amongst the most frequently requested items.

Manuscripts Enquiries - Historical and literary manuscripts (rather than legal ones, although there is some overlap) have been the main focus of attention, as in previous years. In particular there was much interest in the Anglo-Norman prose *Brut* and in Robert Mannyng's *Chronicle*, portions of both of which are to appear in the next volume of *The Medieval Chronicle*. Other enquiries (to give a few examples) have concerned Higden's *Polychronicon*, poems by Elizabeth I and the Earl of Oxford, accusations leading to the imprisonment of the poet Sir Thomas Wyatt, and the letters of Archbishop Matthew Parker.

Network Upgrade - during July and August the Network Administrators, who are part of the Library team, completed a major upgrade of the Inn's network systems. This entailed the upgrading of desktop and server hardware and the upgrading of the operating systems and software to Microsoft Windows 7 and Office 2010 Professional for desktop PCs, and to Microsoft Server 2008 for the servers. The Library catalogue server was upgraded in December.



Newsletter - four issues of the Library's electronic newsletter, now in its eighth year, were sent out to members and tenants. In April changes were made to the design and layout to give it a more modern look.

Online Services - new subscriptions were taken out during the year to a number of Justis databases. These included England and Wales Judgments Court of Appeal (Civil Division) 1951-1992, Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) 1963-1989, British Virgin Islands Cases and Jamaican Cases. The Commonwealth databases complement our hard copy specialist holdings. Coverage of one of our current subscriptions, the Times Digital Archive, has been extended by 20 years, so that it now covers the period 1785-2006. Three database training days were organised with the main suppliers, Justis, Lexis Library and Westlaw. These took place in November and were attended by barristers, pupils and library staff.

Presentations - the Deputy Librarian gave two presentations at the City Law School and one at Kaplan Law School on the services offered by the four Inn Libraries to BPTC students. The presentation is also available on the website as a [slide show](#).

Publicity - the blog continued to receive very favourable comments throughout the year. "Current Awareness is the simplest and most reliable way for lawyers to keep up to date with what is going on in the legal world. The Inner Temple Library team never miss an important event or article." (Adam Wagner - [UK Human Rights Blog](#) / 1 COR). "It really is an excellent facility, and I already find it invaluable. It is particularly useful when I am out of chambers, in the UK or abroad, as it provides not only information but also all the hot-links I need." (Nigel Fleming QC). "A must-read for up to date commentary & a great source of interview fodder." ([Henderson Chambers](#)). "Simply invaluable to any pupillage applicant for current awareness!" ([Pupillage Pages](#))

Pupils - tours and training sessions were advertised and carried out during the year, and a new guide aimed at pupils was produced.

Review - a strategic review of library services began in the autumn and is expected to report by July 2013. The review is being carried out by the Library Committee, with the participation of members of other Inner Temple committees and two external librarians.

Space Planning - some titles from the Medico-Legal collection in the Gallery were moved to the Littleton Basement and a project to weed out older books from the Textbooks collection in Room H was started.


Inner Temple Library Newsletter
Issue 28, April 2012

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Annual Review

The Library's Annual Review for 2011 is now on the website. [Click here to view.](#)

New Justis Databases

The Library now has access to three new Justis databases - England and Wales Judgments Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) 1963-1989, British Virgin Islands Cases and Jamaican Cases.

Opening Hours

We intend to operate our normal summer vacation hours (9.00 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.) during the Olympic Games, 27 July to 12 August. However, since Library staff (and everyone else) are likely to experience problems with travelling into central London by public transport during this period, we hope that our users will bear with us if we need to change these hours at short notice.

Staff Training - courses attended by Library staff included dealing with difficult users, managing training challenges, the future of copyright, official publications, Pepper v Hart research, and dealing with damaged books.

Student Events - the Library participated in the Inn's introductory evenings for London and out of London students, and organised tours for new BPTC students in September. Details of student tours were emailed to new student members, as well as being advertised via the BPTC providers, which led to an improvement in take-up.

Visits - during the year we were visited by law librarians from the City Law School, from the law firms Hogan Lovells and Kirkland Ellis, and by library staff from the other Inns, as well as by a group of East European lawyers, interns from ENSSIB (France's national school for information and librarianship) and a party of library school students from the USA. Library staff visited the libraries at the House of Lords, the LSE and the law firm Hogan Lovells.



Website - there have been 31,000 visits to the Library website from 138 countries, the majority coming from the UK, USA, Italy, Australia, Canada and India. The most frequently accessed sections of the site were the current Newsletter, latest news section, the online catalogue, the legal research FAQs, Library guides and slide shows.

The Inner Temple Library

Winner of the BIALL Wallace Broom Award 2012

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Welcome

The Inner Temple is one of the four Inns of Court. The other Inns are Middle Temple, Gray's Inn and Lincoln's Inn. These are unincorporated associations which have existed since the 14th century. They play a central role in the recruitment, training and professional life of barristers, holding the exclusive rights to call candidates to the bar of England and Wales

The Library provides the following services to barristers, judicial and student members of all four Inns of Court:

- A reference library of over 70,000 volumes of English law
- Specialist Scottish & Commonwealth collections
- An enquiry service for telephone, email & personal callers with legal and parliamentary enquiries
- Web access to the library catalogues of the four Inns
- A range of legal research databases
- Word processing, email and wi-fi
- A daily current awareness service
- A document supply service for barrister members of the four Inns

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