



Inner Temple Library Newsletter

Welcome to the Inner Temple Library's quarterly electronic newsletter. The newsletter aims to keep members and tenants of the Inner Temple up to date with news and developments in the Library.

Summer Opening

Summer opening hours begin on Wednesday 1st August. During August and September the Library will open at 9 a.m. and close at 5.30 p.m. Late opening will resume at the start of the new legal term on 1st October.

The Library will be closed for two weeks in August so that general maintenance work may be carried out. The Library will close at 5.30 p.m. on Friday 10th August and re-open at 9 a.m. on Tuesday 28th August.

To view a Summer Opening Timetable for all four Inn Libraries click [here](#).

Saturday Opening

One of the four Inn Libraries is open from 10.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. on each Saturday during the legal terms. There will be no Saturday opening in August. Saturday opening will recommence on 29th September.



July

28 July Inner Temple

September

29 September Lincoln's Inn

October

6 October Middle Temple

13 October Gray's Inn

20 October Inner Temple

27 October Lincoln's Inn

To view a Saturday Opening Timetable up to December 2007 click [here](#).

Legal Research - FAQs

Library staff have recently produced a guide which aims to answer frequently asked legal research questions. We hope this will be useful to students, pupils, and perhaps to some barristers of longer standing who are as yet unfamiliar with electronic resources. The guide covers case law and legislation research and is available via the home page of the Library's web site. Click [here](#) to view FAQs.

The guide is divided into sections on Cases, Acts and Statutory Instruments. In each section there is a series of questions and answers illustrating both electronic and hard copy sources. For example the section on UK case law covers questions such as "What is a neutral citation?", "How do I find the full judgment in a case?", "How do I track the judicial history of a case?" and "How do I find cases that have cited a particular piece of legislation?" The aim is not to provide an exhaustive listing of sources but rather to include sources that Enquiry Point staff have found to be most useful and which are likely to be found in a chambers library, a BVC provider's library or a public library with a law collection. The electronic sources mentioned include free web sites and some subscription-based services.

It is hoped that this will be the first in a series of FAQ guides which will cover different aspects of legal research.

If you have any comments about this guide or suggestions for future guides please contact tdennis@innertemple.org.uk

Student Tours

The Library will be offering tours for BVC students each morning from 11th - 14th September. Students interested in attending a tour should email librarytours@innertemple.org.uk for more information.



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Barristers as Politicians

The transition from barrister to politician is a frequent one. In Gordon Brown's new cabinet, there are two members of the Bar as well as one Scottish advocate and a number of solicitors. Additionally, the posts of Lord Chancellor and Attorney General have traditionally been filled by members of the Bar. How smooth the transition between law and politics can be was evident after the 1997 election, when Tony Blair (himself a barrister of Lincoln's Inn) appointed his ex-pupil master Lord Irvine, an Inner Temple Bencher, as Lord Chancellor.

Recent political events involving the former Attorney General, Lord Goldsmith, show (some might argue) that it is not always easy to maintain the expected balance between the roles of politician and lawyer. Polly Botsford, writing in *The Law Society's Gazette* (12th July 2007) commented that 'political expediency had washed over his legal independence'. The position of Lord Chancellor has also, of course, required a similar balancing act.

Barristers have no doubt been attracted to politics because the two jobs require similar skills, chiefly, as Lord Brittan observed in the *Inner Temple Yearbook* some years ago, 'an ability to marshal facts and ideas, to present them lucidly, and to be quick thinking'. Additionally, becoming an MP can be a way for barristers to effect changes in legislation which would be beyond their power as practising members of the Bar.

Prominent politicians of recent years who are members of the Inner Temple include the current Lord Chancellor, Jack Straw, as well as three previous Lord Chancellors – Lord Mackay, Lord Irvine and Lord Falconer – and the former Conservative leader Michael Howard. Of Britain's 53 prime ministers, two have been Inner Temple members. The first was George Grenville who was called to the Bar by the Inner Temple in 1735 and elected Member of Parliament for Buckingham in 1741. As a politician, Grenville was particularly

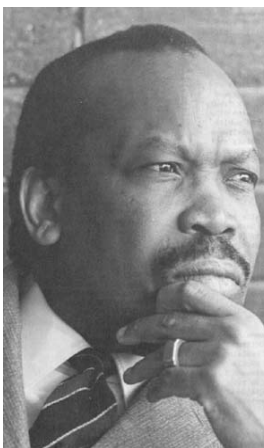
esteemed for his oratory: his legal training no doubt played a part in this. He rose to become Prime Minister in 1763.

More recently, Clement Attlee was Prime Minister during the immediate aftermath of the Second World War. Called to the Bar by the Inner Temple in 1906, he practised only until 1909; it was said that he never had any great passion for a career in law. In 1922 Attlee was elected Labour MP for the Limehouse Division of Stepney. He became leader of the opposition in 1935 then deputy Prime Minister in the coalition government led by Winston Churchill in 1942. In July 1945, Attlee took office as Prime Minister and was to play a major role in founding the National Health Service.



Clement Attlee - portrait by Sir Lawrence Gowing

It is not only leading British politicians who have been members of the Inn, but also eminent statesmen overseas. The most frequently mentioned are Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of India, and the political and spiritual leader Mohandas K. Gandhi, but we might also add to these Abdul Rahman, the first Prime Minister of Malaysia and Seretse Khama, the first President of the Republic of Botswana. Susan Williams's biography of Khama, *Colour Bar* (2006) was acquired by the Library on publication. Mohamed Ali Jinnah, founder of Pakistan (having been the most highly-paid lawyer in India) was initially called by Lincoln's but later had the good sense to seek admission to this Inn *ad eundem*.



Seretse Khama



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Westlaw's New Platform - A User's Perspective

Tracey Dennis, Deputy Librarian, looks at the new Westlaw platform.

As a long-standing user of Westlaw, both in my previous employment at law firm Lewis Silkin and in my present capacity at the Inner Temple, I was aware of some of the problems users had finding their way around the databases, for example, the confusing front screen, the unnecessarily complicated legislation database and the lack of a browse facility. I was therefore interested to see how Westlaw would respond to issues such as these in the design of their new platform.

The Inner Temple Library went over to the new platform in Spring 2007. Having used the new platform since then, my view is that the system has been made much easier to use and improvements have been made that make legal research quicker and far less complicated.

The front screen has been simplified and is less confusing for users. You can opt to do a simple search from the front screen, or you can select individual databases for cases, legislation, articles or EU material. These individual databases allow for more advanced searching. So within the Cases database you can search by citation, by judge or between dates, if you are not sure of the exact date. In the Legislation database you can now carry out historic law research. This means you can search for a piece of legislation as it stood at a particular point in time or you can opt to view legislation after a particular date. Improvements such as this make finding exact data less complicated.

Within the Cases and Legislation databases, the Case Analysis and Legislation Analysis documents have been improved. These documents allow

users to find key information about a piece of legislation or case quickly and easily in one place. So for cases you can find the direct and indirect history, find journal articles that consider the case, and link to the legislation cited within the case. Within legislation you can link to cases that cite a section of an Act, find journal articles and related legislation.

Westlaw has enhanced its status icons to indicate more clearly the status of cases and legislation. You can now clearly see if a case has been overruled or considered or if a piece of legislation has been repealed or revoked. This is vital for carrying out effective and accurate legal research.

The Legislation database has been improved considerably and some of the enhancements are an excellent response to user feedback. For example, it is now possible to view an "Arrangement of Act/SI" document. This is basically a contents page of all the sections of an Act or SI and from this document you can link directly to the section/paragraph that you want. Also for most Acts/SIs there is an "Overview" document. This has particularly useful features such as a citator which enables you to see how an Act/SI has been amended over the years, as well as details of any pending amendments and commencement information.

One of the most welcome enhancements is the Browse function that covers cases, legislation and articles. For example, if you want to see the contents of the latest issue of a journal, you can now do this by using the Browse option within the Journals database. Just find the journal you need, select the year and issue and you will see the contents for that particular issue. Likewise if you think an important case was reported in the Weekly Law Reports in 2005, but you cannot remember the exact details, you can now browse all 2005 cases very easily.

Overall the move to the new platform has brought many improvements which have made case law and legislation research considerably easier for users.



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AccessToLaw

The [Government section](#) of the Library's AccessToLaw web site links to the web sites of government bodies, including major departments such as the Treasury, Home Office and Foreign & Commonwealth Office. It also links to the sites of smaller departments and agencies, and to web sites providing official information, such as the London Gazette, the Government News Network and the government's Information Asset Register, which lists information resources held by UK government departments, agencies and other bodies, including unpublished resources.

This section requires frequent and extensive updating as a result of reorganisations of government departments. In May, entries needed to be updated to reflect the formation of the Ministry of Justice, which took over the functions of the Department for Constitutional Affairs and some functions of the Home Office. Although the DCA no longer exists, there is still archived material on its web site, so the link to the site has been retained alongside the link to the new ministry.

Further major updates have now been made to entries as a result of the reorganisation of the Department for Education and Skills and the Department of Trade and Industry into the Department for Children, Schools and Families and the Department for Business, Enterprise & Regulatory Reform.

The rest of the AccessToLaw web site also continues to be updated and to have new sections and new sites added on a regular basis. A recent addition is the [Northern Ireland section](#), which collects together sites with legal content relating to Northern Ireland, including the Northern Ireland section of BAILII, Northern Ireland Legislation on the OPSI site, and the Northern Ireland Assembly web site, as well as the Irish Law Site and the web sites of other organisations and public inquiries.

For further information about the pages mentioned here go to www.accesstolaw.com.

AccessToLaw

[AccessToLaw](#) is a gateway site, providing annotated links to selected UK, Commonwealth and worldwide legal resources including legislation, case law, commentary and organisations. Entries are arranged in five sections: United Kingdom, Commonwealth, Other Jurisdictions, Legal Subject Areas and General Resources.

The content is selected, annotated and updated by a team of information professionals at the Inner Temple Library; the aim is to include free sites relevant to lawyers practising in the UK.

www.accesstolaw.com

Current Awareness

from the Inner Temple Library



A selective [current awareness weblog](#), providing up-to-date information on new case law, changes in legislation, and legal news, and intended primarily for lawyers practising in the UK.

The content is selected and updated daily by information professionals at the Inner Temple Library.

www.innertemplelibrary.wordpress.com

Legal Publishers

In the April newsletter the involvement of Reed Exhibitions (a subsidiary of the Reed Elsevier Group of which LexisNexis Butterworths is part) in the organisation and sponsorship of arms fairs was mentioned. Readers may be interested to know that the company decided to sever its ties to arms fairs at the beginning of June. This was in response to complaints from customers, shareholders and academics writing for its major titles. Garden Court Chambers, which is headed by Master Owen Davies, was also very active in campaigning on this issue.



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New Acquisitions

With terrorist attacks and conspiracies seldom out of the news, Ian Walden's *Computer crimes and digital investigations* is a timely arrival. Its contents include substantive offences, cyber-forensics and criminal procedure, jurisdiction and harmonisation initiatives, and evidential issues.

Equality law by Karon Monaghan, which the author kindly presented, is the first comprehensive survey of the subject. It covers discrimination on grounds of gender, sexuality, religion, age, disability and race, and examines UK and EU law as well as decisions of the European Court of Human Rights.

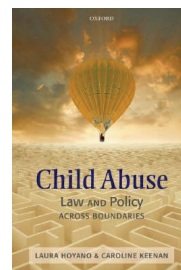


Martin Fodder has presented *Whistleblowing: law and practice*, of which he is co-author along with John Bowers, Jeremy Lewis and Jack Mitchell. This considers disclosure both within and outside the context of the Public Interest Disclosure Act 1998 and relates this to a range of sectors including health services, police, corporate governance, the civil service, local government and financial services.

The law and practice of Admiralty matters by Sarah Derrington and James M. Turner begins by considering admiralty action as governed by the Supreme Court Act 1981 and goes on to deal in detail with maritime liens as well as procedure under Practice Direction 61. The book adopts a comparative approach, featuring commentary on case law from a range of Commonwealth jurisdictions. The authors jointly presented this work.

Another work with a strong comparative element is *Child abuse: law and practice across boundaries* by Laura Hoyano and Caroline Keenan. This covers the legal framework for

adjudication of allegations (considering liability in both criminal law and tort), the inquiry process and adjudication of the allegation. The relevant English law is compared with that of other common law jurisdictions using the adversarial mode of trial.



Inner Temple members to whom thanks are due for presentations (other than those already mentioned) are: Philip Kolvin for *Gambling for local authorities*, Nicholas Yeo for *Blackstone's guide to the Fraud Act 2006*, Stephen Wildblood Q.C. for *Family finance in practice 2007* and Iain Goldrein Q.C. for *Commercial litigation: pre-emptive remedies* (International edition).

As announced in the last newsletter, we are acquiring volumes in the series *Halsbury's laws of Canada* as they appear. The latest three volumes are on employment, environment and wills/trusts.



Charles Arnold-Baker, barrister, legal author, historian (to list only three of the fields in which he has been active during his long career) has published a volume of autobiography: *For he is an Englishman: memoirs of a Prussian nobleman*. Born into the aristocratic von Blumenthal family in 1918, Mr Arnold-Baker is one of the Inn's longest standing residents and has been a valued supporter of the Library for many decades. His acclaimed *Companion to British history*, a highly personal and meticulously researched treatment of this vast subject, is also held by the Library. *For he is an Englishman* is a fascinating addition to our legal biography collection (much of which is, by contrast, as dry as any Victorian tract) and we are most grateful to the author for presenting it.

Click [here](#) to see the latest new acquisitions list.