

## Inner Temple Library Newsletter

Issue 30, October 2012

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## **Partitioning Proposal**

In 2011, as part of a wider review of the utilisation of the Inn's space resources, the Executive Committee began to consider the feasibility and desirability of partitioning Rooms E, F and G in the Library to allow them to be used for Education and Training events, Committee meetings and some external events after 5pm and at weekends.

To assist in assessing the impact on Library users, an email was sent out in September 2011 from the Master of the Library to members of the Inn and barrister tenants, who were invited to comment on the partitioning proposal. A number of respondents expressed concerns, and these were shared by the Library Committee. The Executive Committee hoped that those concerns might be allayed and decided to commission a fully costed and detailed proposal before determining whether the proposal should proceed.

Having considered the results of the recent acoustic tests carried out in the Library, the Executive Committee has now decided not to proceed with the partitioning proposal.

## **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.

October 13 October 20 October 27 October	Middle Temple Gray's Inn Inner Temple
November 3 November 10 November 17 November 24 November	Lincoln's Inn Middle Temple Gray's Inn Inner Temple
December 1 December 8 December 15 December 22 December 29 December	Lincoln's Inn Middle Temple Gray's Inn CLOSED CLOSED

January	
5 January	CLOSED
12 January	Inner Temple
19 January	Lincoln's Inn
26 January	Middle Temple

To view a Saturday Opening Timetable up to July 2013 click here.

### **Student Activities**

The Library would like to welcome all new BPTC students.

In September the Deputy Librarian gave two presentations at the City Law School on the services offered to BPTC students by the four Inn Libraries. Over 60 students attended. The presentation was also given at Kaplan Law School where 30 students were in attendance. The presentation is available as a slideshow on the Library's website.



Presentation at Kaplan Law School

The Library was represented at the Inn's introductory evenings for London and out of London students. As in previous years a range of Library guides and leaflets was on display and the Deputy Librarian was on hand to answer students' questions.



The Deputy Librarian and a new student

## **Tours and Inductions**

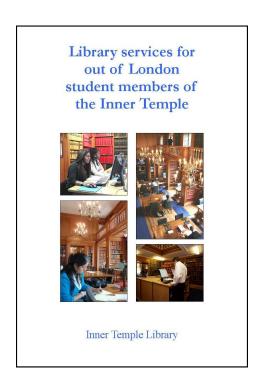
Library tours for new BPTC students took place over a two week period in September.

We are happy to arrange tours on a one-toone basis for students, pupils, clerks or for any member of the Inn. Please email librarytours@innertemple.org.uk to arrange a suitable time.

Alternatively a virtual tour is available for students and other members of the Inn unable to visit the Library in person.

## **Library Guides**

An updated version of the leaflet for out of London student members is now available, as are new editions of the Readers' Guide and the Student Guide. All the guides are available in the Library or can be downloaded from the website.



## New Initiatives in Legal Information Literacy

At the beginning of this year the Deputy joined working Librarian a group information literacy skills set up by the British and Irish Association of Law Librarians (BIALL). The impetus behind the working group was a BIALL survey of information professionals which revealed concerns about the legal research skills of new entrants to law firms and chambers. The group took as its chief task the production of a set of guidelines which could be used by information professionals charged with instructing trainees and pupils.

At around the same time, the Legal Education and Training Review (LETR) was established to review education and training requirements across regulated and non-regulated legal services in England and Wales. BIALL felt that the experiences of information professionals and their suggestions could make a valuable contribution to the LETR.

The working group met several times and in the summer agreed a final set of guidelines and produced a legal information literacy toolkit. It is anticipated that these will ultimately benefit law students, at both the academic and vocational stage of training, as they seek to develop comprehensive legal research skills.

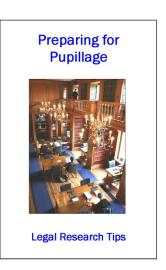
The LETR noted the working group's initiatives with interest, and we hope that some of these will be incorporated into their final recommendations in December 2012.

## **Times Digital Archive**

An additional 20 years has been added to the Times Digital Archive, which now covers the period 1785 to 2006. The extended version of the archive, which is available for use in the Library, also has a new improved search interface.

## **Preparing for Pupillage**

We have produced new guide intended for pupils, contains which useful tips on various aspects of legal research. Copies of the guide are available in the Library; it can also downloaded from our website.



We are also offering one-to-one legal research training sessions for new pupils. These are refresher sessions which can be tailored to meet individual needs. For more information please contact tdennis@innertemple.org.uk.

### **Visitors**

Recent visitors to the Library have included a group of US library school students and Emily Allbon, Law Librarian at City Law School. Emily was named Wildy/BIALL Law Librarian of the Year 2012 at the BIALL Conference in June.



*Visit of library school students from the United States* 

# **Update on the Current Awareness Blog**

#### **New Sources**

We regularly review our selection of sources monitored and look for other relevant material to include on the blog. This year we have started to monitor a small selection of legal blogs, written primarily by barristers. sources Mainstream news tend concentrate on criminal law issues; including specialised more commentary we hope to redress the balance and expand upon the range of legal topics covered on the Current Awareness blog.

For a full list of sources monitored click here.

#### **Bundled Feeds**

In January we introduced the concept of bundled feeds. All posts on the Current Awareness blog are indexed using a controlled vocabulary and the option exists for users to subscribe to RSS feed for these individual categories. However, given that these are quite specific, and that there are over 1,000 of them, we decided to bundle individual category feeds together into broader subject areas. We launched this with a Family Law bundled feed and have recently introduced two further bundled feeds: Environmental Law and Intellectual Property.

Users can subscribe to the RSS or sign up for daily email alerts.

Click here for more information on bundled feeds.

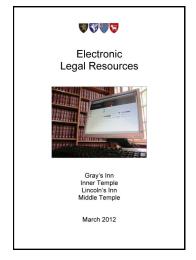
#### Classifieds

We recently trialled the inclusion of chambers' vacancies on the blog. Interest in this was sufficient for us to decide to make the Classifieds section a permanent feature. Chambers can advertise their vacancies for free on the Current Awareness blog. More details can be found on the Classifieds page or you can email classifieds@innertemplelibrary.com for more information.



## **Electronic Legal Resources**

A new edition of the Electronic Legal Resources list is now available in the Library; it can also be downloaded from our website. This list, which was compiled by Gray's Inn Library, covers the electronic resources taken by the four Inn Libraries.



## **Database Training Days**

During November we are holding three database training days in the Lawson Room at the Inner Temple:

Tuesday 13 November

Justis

Wednesday 14 November

Lexis Library (6)

Thursday 15 November

Westlaw uk

There will be two formal training sessions on each day at 1.00 p.m. - 2.00 p.m. and 5.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m.; attendance at any of these carries one CPD point.

During the afternoon a training consultant will also be available in the Lawson Room to deal with individual queries on a "drop-in" basis.

To book a place for one of the formal sessions please contact mclay@innertemple.org.uk.

## **Network Upgrade**

During July and August the IT team completed a major upgrade of the Inn's network systems, which 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 Microsoft Server 2008 for the servers).

The upgrade was a complex exercise achieved with the minimum of disruption, and thanks are due in particular to Peter Higgins (Systems Librarian/Network Administrator) and Jonathan Delaney (Assistant Network Administrator) for their management of this project.

## **Inner Temple Lecture**

The theme for the 2012 Lecture Series is "Academics and Practitioners: Friends or Foes?"

Each lecture counts as 1 qualifying session or 1 hour of CPD.

12 November 2012: Mr Justice Beatson Academics: Forgotten Players or Interlopers?

Location: Inner Temple Hall Lecture/Debate: 6.30 p.m. - 7.30 p.m. Drinks reception: 7.30 p.m. - 8.30 p.m.

Admission: £13.30 for barristers, £7.50 for students.

To book online click here, tel. 020 7797 8241 or email reception@innertemple.org.uk.

## **Christmas Fair**

The Temple Church Christmas Fair will take place in Inner Temple Hall on Thursday 29 November 12 noon at 8.00 p.m.

All proceeds will go to the Temple Church Organ Fund.



## AccessToLaw: Caribbean and Atlantic Sites

In several past issues we have used the AccessToLaw page of the Newsletter to focus upon a specific section within the site's large Commonwealth area. Examples include Canada (issue 13, July 2008), New Zealand (issue 26, October 2011), and most recently the Caribbean (issue 27, January 2012).

The Caribbean section is the largest of these, covering as it does many separate and varied jurisdictions. A major recent change to this section has been the removal from it of the Bahamas and Bermuda entries to create two distinct new sections. As was noted when we looked at the Caribbean a few months ago, those two jurisdictions, strictly speaking, lie geographically in the North Atlantic rather than in the Caribbean. It is true that they are so commonly grouped together with the Caribbean countries, in legal and many other contexts, that their inclusion in the Caribbean section hardly needed defending, but for some this was an anomaly. The number of Bahamas and Bermuda sites continues to grow, and when two additional Bermuda sites were recently suggested to us, and approved for inclusion, we felt the time was right to review the matter.

The new **Bermuda** section has six entries in all. The first of the two newly added ones is **Bermuda Judiciary**, a government site containing judgments, practice directions and court rules. The other is the official site of the **Bermuda Parliament**, which has not only Bills and Hansard, as might be expected, but also Statutory Instruments. Most content is 2010 onwards. The remaining four sites are of the guide **Finding the Law in Bermuda**, the legislation site **Bermuda Laws Online**, the **Bermuda Bar Association**, and the law firm **Appleby**.

The **Bahamas** sites remain as they were before, four in number, comprising the general resource site **Lex Bahamas**, the legislation site **Bahamas Laws Online**, the **Court of Appeal of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas** (for judgments, court rules, etc.), and the financial regulator **Securities Commission of the Bahamas**.

At the same time as reviewing AccessToLaw's treatment of the various Commonwealth jurisdictions in the Caribbean and North Atlantic, we have taken the opportunity to introduce another entirely new section, this one devoted to the jurisdictions commonly grouped together and known as the British South Atlantic Territories. These are, in terms of population, very small jurisdictions, but they fall to the Inner Temple Library under the arrangement with Lincoln's Inn Library for comprehensive coverage of Commonwealth legal materials, so it is right that they should be included.

The Falkland Islands Government site contains reports of Assembly proceedings and much useful information, though no legislation is included, apart from the text of the current constitution. South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands were earlier administered as a dependency of the Falkland Islands, becoming a British Overseas Territory in its own right only in 1985. All legislation 1985 onwards is available on the South Georgia & South Sandwich Islands site.

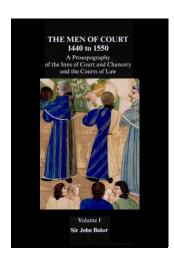
A more recent constitutional change in the South Atlantic saw the transformation in 2009 of the islands previously known as Saint Helena and Dependencies into the British Overseas Territory of Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha, now with equal status for all three island groups. Each has its own government website, but it is only the Saint Helena site which has legislation.

#### AccessToLaw cont.

The legislation content is extensive, though only relating specifically to Saint Helena itself, and, as is often the case with online texts, not authoritative for use in court. We provide a link to the Laws section of the **St Helena Government** site.

The last of this new section's four sites is that of the **British Antarctic Territory**. Its Legislation section includes Ordinances enacted by the Commissioner 1990 onwards, and a link to the text of the Antarctic Treaty of 1959 on the website of the body which administers it, the Secretariat of the Antarctic Treaty.

## **New Acquisitions**

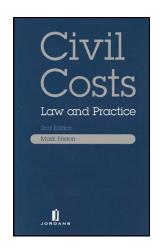


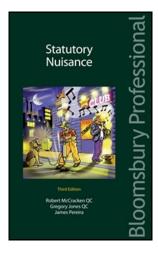
Pride of place must go, unusually, to a work of reference, kindly presented by its author, Sir John Baker. The men of court, 1440 to 1550: a prosopography of the Inns of Court and Chancery and courts of law volumes, Selden Society, 2012) is a

large scale biographical dictionary of members of the Inns of Court, Inns of Chancery and practitioners in the central courts. This is the latest of several biographical works published by the Selden Society, and is on an altogether grander scale than any of its forerunners. Much of the information is gathered from suits for dues brought by the Inns against their members, as contained in the records of the Court of Common Pleas. As is appropriate for

a work termed a prosopography (*prosopon* meaning "face"), this one is lavishly illustrated, reproducing portraits and manuscripts, many of which are from the Inns' own collections; the jacket illustration of volume 1 shows a detail from a miniature of the Court of Chancery around 1450, in our own manuscript collection. Master Baker's new work promises to be an invaluable addition to the legal biography section.

Although not an altogether new title, Mark Friston's Civil costs: law and practice (2nd edition, Jordan, 2012) is new to us. It was praised by one Library user as "better than Cook"; time will tell whether the profession will take to it as they have to HH Michael Cook's much-requested work.





Thanks are also due to Master Goodman for the latest edition of his *Court guide* – which makes a welcome return after an hiatus of several years – to Master Spencer (coeditor) for *Children and cross examination: time to change the rules?*, to Robert McCracken QC (co-author) for *Statutory* 

nuisance, 3rd edition, and to Master Straw for his autobiography, Last man standing: memoirs of a political survivor.

To see the most recent list of new law titles and editions, please click here.

