

ANNUAL REVIEW 2017



The Inner Temple Library

AccessToLaw

A new version of **AccessToLaw**, our legal gateway site, was launched in April. It runs on WordPress, the same technology that underpins the Library website and the Current Awareness blog. The site is now more user-friendly and works on all devices – from PCs to tablets to smartphones. During the year visitors from 178 different countries viewed the site, the majority coming from the UK, USA, India, Canada, Malaysia and Sri Lanka. The sections of the site accessed most frequently were Case Law, Legal Journals, Northern Ireland, Regulatory Law and Personal Injury.

Awards

At the annual conference of the British and Irish Association of Law Librarians the award for Wildy – BIAL Librarian of the Year 2017 was presented to Margaret Clay, Librarian at the Inner Temple. The award is given for making a “significant contribution to the legal information world”.



The Librarian with Sandra Smyth, President of BIAL and Abbie Sinkins of Wildy & Son

Binding

A total of 542 volumes of UK law and 128 volumes of Commonwealth law were bound or rebound during the year. Bookends Bindery, which specialises in dealing with early printed books, carried out conservation and repair work on a number of items including *Observations on the more ancient statutes from Magna Charta to the twenty-first of James 1 cap. XXVII* by Daines Barrington and *The old Benchers of the Inner Temple* by Charles Lamb.

Cataloguing

The total number of new law titles and editions added to the **catalogue** during the year was 163. This includes only practitioners' texts, and excludes continuation volumes of periodicals (which are of course heavily represented in a library such as ours), most reissue volumes of encyclopaedic works, non-law titles, and reference works. Around 300 existing catalogue records were updated during the year.

The focus of retrospective cataloguing has been the folio titles (both law and non-law) mostly dating from the eighteenth century and earlier, housed in the Littleton Building basement.

Clerks

In April the Deputy Librarian gave presentations on locating authorities to clerks at Blackstone Chambers. The aim of the sessions was to provide some background on the English legal system and offer tips on how to find law reports more quickly and easily. Feedback from clerk, Tom Hatcher, on behalf of all the participants indicated that *the presentation was well constructed and clear; all information was relevant and useful; the presentation provided a good refresher for those who have not dealt with authorities for a long time and several people found learning about the hierarchy of online sources very useful*. We hope to offer more legal research training sessions in chambers this year.

Committees

The Librarian acted as Secretary to the Library Committee and as coordinator of the Bar Librarians Group. She also attended meetings of the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies Library Committee and participated in its seventieth anniversary celebrations.

Current Awareness Blog

Our **Blog** celebrated its tenth anniversary in April. The coverage includes the latest legal news, new case law and changes in legislation as well as commentary from chambers' blogs and announcements of forthcoming lectures and seminars. The number of posts added during the year was 4,461, bringing the total number of posts up to 51,009. There are 1,114 subject categories, the top 10 most frequently accessed of these being sentencing, appeals, police, human rights, murder, internet, children, local government, EU law, and media.

We now have 7,041 subscribers via email or RSS feed, and 9,202 Twitter followers. The readership of the blog has grown from members of the Inns to the wider legal community and includes students, academics, law firms and libraries, located both in the UK and overseas.

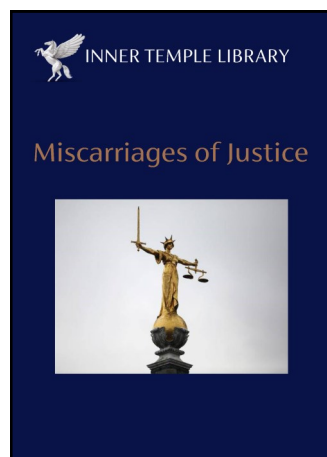
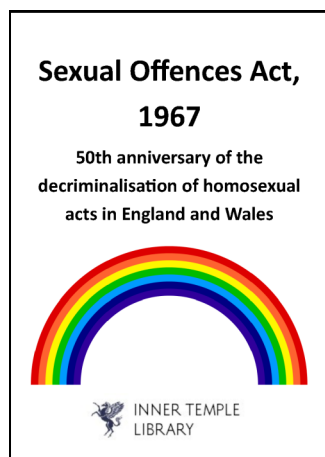
So many sources, so little time...THE leading resource for keeping lawyers on top of the legal news, commentary and authorities, Current Awareness from the expert Inner Temple librarians, is indispensable.
Emily Allbon, Senior Lecturer at City Law School.

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, barrister and founder of UK Human Rights Blog.

I am a Current Awareness subscriber for all of the ten years and couldn't live without it. Director of the Bar Standards Board.

Displays and Publications

Throughout the year we mounted a number of displays to commemorate anniversaries and events and to highlight particular parts of our collection. They included the Sexual Offences Act 1967, Indian and Pakistan Independence, Miscarriages of Justice and World Poetry Day. We also created a series of Black History Month profiles to celebrate black history at the Inns of Court. To accompany the displays we produced information sheets and leaflets, all of which can be found via our **Publications** webpage.



Document Supply Service

This service is available to barrister and judicial members of all four Inns wherever they are based, and to student members of the Inner Temple. Over the year 179 items have been scanned and emailed to barristers located in the UK, The Bahamas, Bermuda, Brunei, Gibraltar, Guernsey and Jersey.

Donations

Members of the Inn continue to present copies of their newly published works. Donations in 2017 resulted in a saving of over £3,575 on monographs and over £8,981 on loose-leaf releases and journals. We continue to receive **Wildy, Simmonds and Hill** publications free of charge.

Enquiries

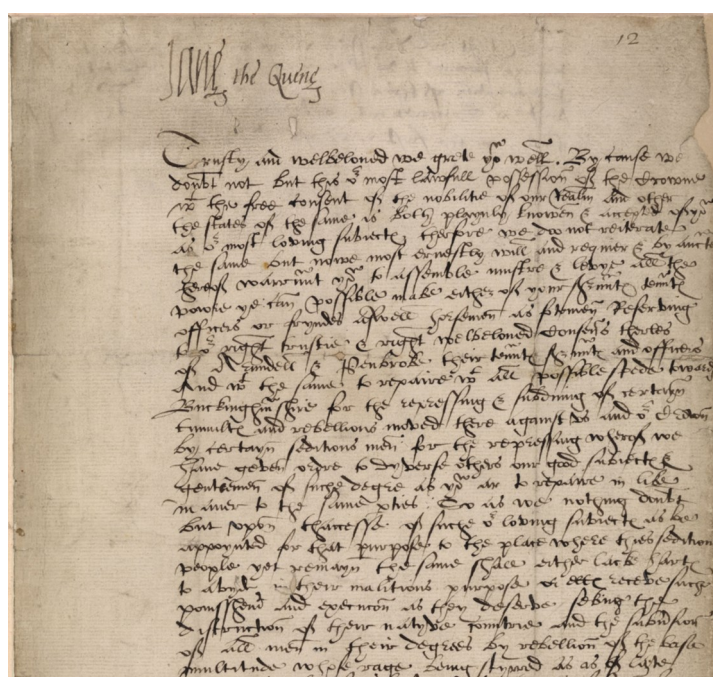
Staff at the Enquiry Point dealt with 3,600 personal and telephone enquiries from barristers, judges, pupils, students and clerks. As in previous years the enquiries were very wide ranging and included finding a template for a standstill agreement; advice on how best to cite a case verbally; finding the codes of practice on homelessness for local authorities in 1991, 1994 and 1996; tracking down a definition of "special defence" in the Criminal Proceedings Rules of St Lucia (2008 revision) and finding the Jamaican Companies Act 1864 as originally enacted and as it stood in 1923.

Filming

Two Royal letters from the Library's Petyt manuscript collection were filmed for a BBC4 series *England's Forgotten Queen: the Life and Death of Lady Jane Grey*.



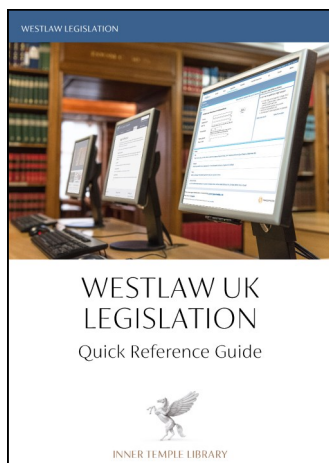
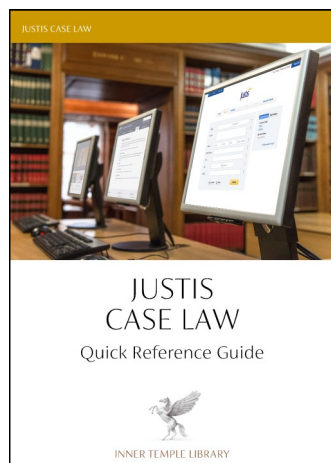
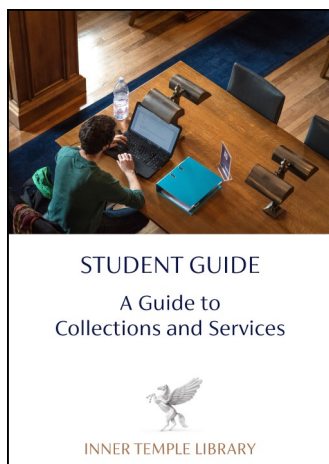
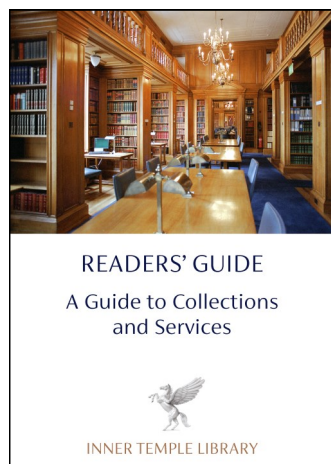
Dr. Helen Castor with Edward VI's Devise for the Succession.
Image Credit: BBC.DSP, Image Copyright: DSP



Original letter of Lady Jane Grey, signed by her as 'Queene', July 1553.

Guides

A new edition of **Library Resources for the Bar** was published. This guide outlines the collections, services and facilities that are available in all four Inn Libraries. The **Readers' Guide**, **Student Guide**, and **legal research and database guides** were revised, rebranded and reprinted in the autumn.



Historical Enquiries

Aside from the many enquiries concerning persons supposed (correctly or otherwise) to have been members of the Inn, topics covered by historical enquiries during the year have included John Playford's *Dancing master* (1670 edition); an unidentified portrait of Lord Blanesburgh; Arthur Capel Earl of Essex and Restoration politics; and a theft from chambers, and subsequent conviction and transportation to New South Wales, in 1684.

IT

Ten of the public access PCs and three staff PCs have been replaced with new models. The Library's SirsiDynix system, which is used for the online catalogue, was upgraded to Symphony version 3.5.

Legal Research Training

The Library ran its legal research training course for new pupils twice in the spring and once in the autumn of 2017. Another session was held in January 2018 to meet extra demand. The course covers UK case law and legislation.



Training Session on Legal Research

We offered legal research training sessions as part of the Inn's qualifying sessions. Over 110 students attended the sessions which were run twice on a Saturday and once on a weekday evening in the autumn. In response to feedback, a new initiative in the spring of 2018 will be a session on advanced legal research for BPTC students.



Qualifying Session

In November the Deputy Librarian was invited to give a presentation to the Law Society at the University of Winchester on the skills required to carry out effective legal research.

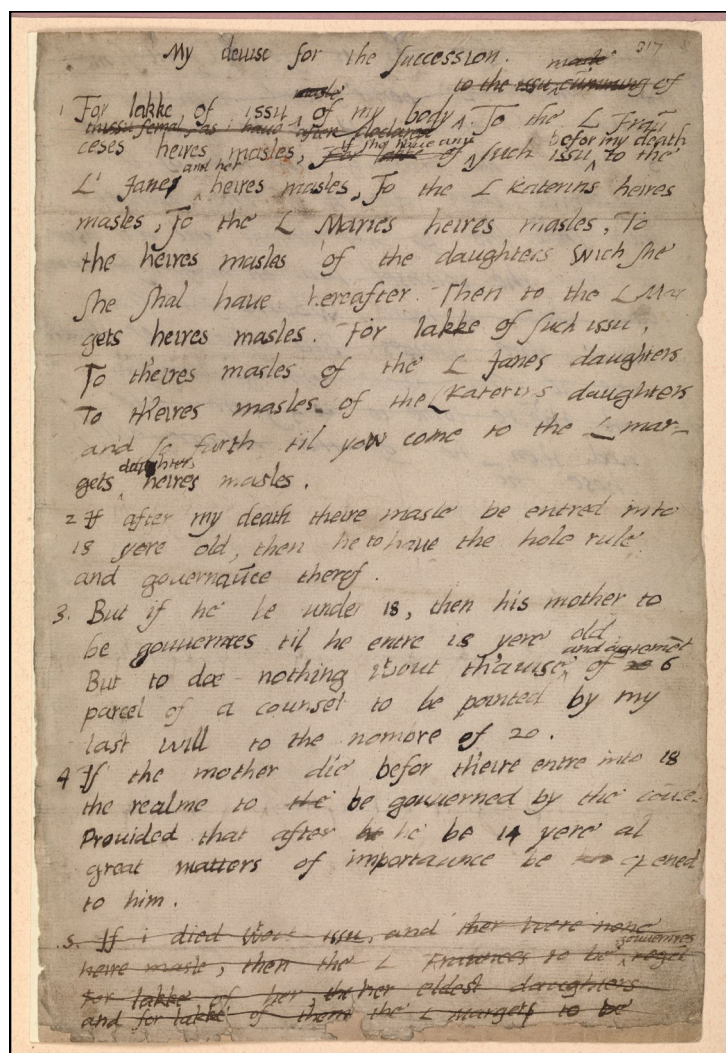
Littleton Basement

240 items were requested from the Library's basement store in the Littleton Building. The most frequently requested items were for old editions of practitioners' textbooks and older Commonwealth material.

Manuscript Enquiries

The range of subjects being studied by visiting scholars and correspondents demonstrates the variety and richness of the manuscript collection. In the last year these have included the Charters of the Cathedral Church of Sarum [Salisbury]; Petrarch's "The triumph of Death" translated by Mary Sidney, Countess of Pembroke; John Austin's annotations to Bentham's *Theory of morals and legislation*; an Act for the legitimization of the children of Sir Ralph Sadleir (1545) following a bigamous marriage; Stuart Moore's preparatory notes for his *History of the foreshore and the law relating thereto*; and a request for a return of Irish papists in the Inns of Court (1679).

As regards reproductions of manuscripts, Edward VI's "My devise for the succession" was used three times: in a video on styles of 16th-century handwriting, in a new illustrated edition of *She-wolves* by Helen Castor, and in educational material published by Historic Royal Palaces for use at the Tower of London. A letter of Ralph Cudworth to William Petyt (Inner Temple Treasurer in 1701) currently features in an exhibition in Cambridge on "Liberty and Order".



Edward VI's Devise for the Succession

Newsletter

The fiftieth issue of the Library's quarterly **electronic Newsletter** was sent out to all members and tenants in October. This issue was redesigned to incorporate elements of the Inner Temple's newly modernised branding.

Online Services

The Bahamas Law Reports, the Cayman Islands Law Reports and the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court Reports were added to the range of online subscription services available within the Library. These are all jurisdictions for which the Inner Temple is responsible under the Inn Libraries specialisation scheme.

Pupils

In addition to the legal research sessions already mentioned, the Deputy Librarian and the Library Assistants gave introductory talks about the Library to new pupils at a number of lunchtime sessions. Tours were also given to new pupils from various sets of chambers.

Q&A Day

In June the Deputy Librarian took part in the Inn's Q&A Day for prospective members. She gave a presentation on the skills required to undertake effective legal research and based this round a superhero theme. Feedback was very positive with attendees describing the session as "brilliant" and "elucidating and enlightening."

Social Media

We continued to develop our social media presence, expanding our audience and engaging in more interactions with users. As in previous years we highlighted key dates and in-house displays featuring topics as diverse as World Poetry Day and the anniversary of the Sexual Offences Act. We engaged in cross-promotion, drawing attention to lectures held at the Inner Temple, Garden events, and the Temple Women's Forum, to name only a few. Our follower numbers have grown steadily and in 2017 we celebrated our 10th anniversary on both **Twitter** and **Facebook**.



Staff Changes

One of the Library Assistants, Verity Parkinson, left to take up a new post as Senior Library Assistant at Merton College, Oxford. Two members of the Library team, Michael Frost and Simon Hindley, completed thirty years' service with the Inn.

Staff Training

Library staff attended training sessions on the following topics: managing mental health in the workplace; finance for non-financial staff; improving services for blind and partially sighted people; marketing for libraries and InDesign software. Members of the Library team also attended the annual conference of the British and Irish Association of Law Librarians (held in Manchester) and the Historic Libraries Forum Conference (held at Lambeth Palace).

Student Events

The Library participated in the Inn's introductory evenings for London and out of London students. The Deputy Librarian joined the panel of speakers to explain the benefits of using the Library and met new students at the reception where Library leaflets and guides were on display.

The Deputy Librarian and colleagues from the other Inns gave presentations at the University of Law and at BPP Law School on the services that the Inn Libraries offer to Bar students. The presentation is also available as a **slideshow** on the Library website.

Library staff from the Inner Temple, the Middle Temple and Lincoln's Inn represented their Inns at fresher events at the London Bar schools. The events were well attended and provided an opportunity for students to ask questions about the Libraries.



Fresher Fair at City Law School

An open afternoon for new students was held in September. A number of attendees took part in an orientation quiz, one lucky student winning lunch for two in Hall.



Open Afternoon

Timelines

To mark Brexit Day we put together a **new interactive timeline** charting the history of the EU from 1945 to the present day; this is now available on the Library website. It received very positive feedback on social media. The timeline also appeared in the 2017 edition of the Inner Temple Yearbook.

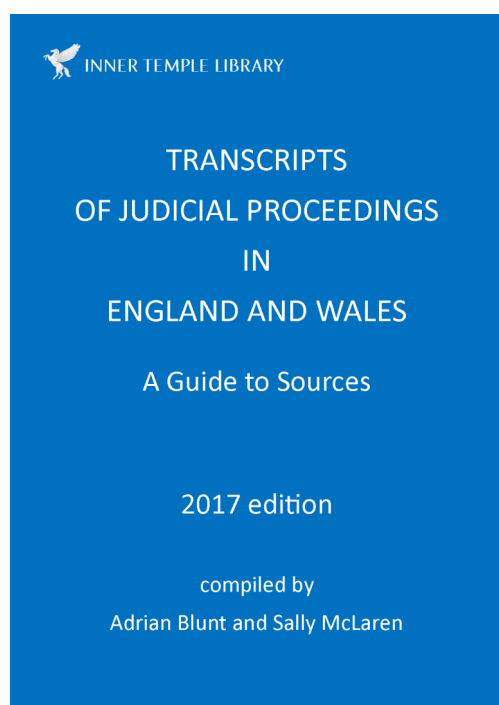


Tours

Seventy tours of the Library were given to individuals and groups of prospective new members during the year.

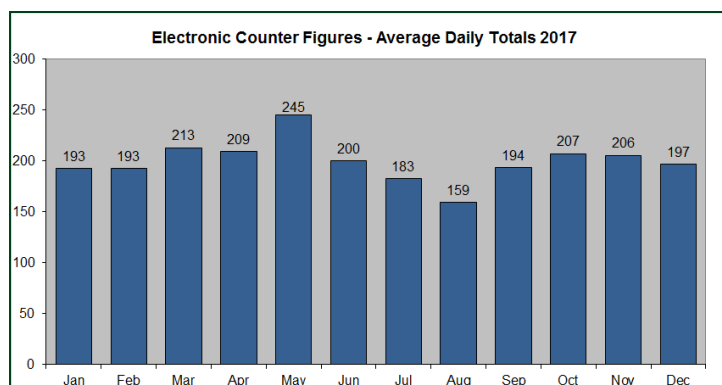
Transcripts Guide

A new edition of the Inner Temple Library's **Guide to sources of transcripts**, last revised in 2011, was published. The guide is intended primarily for libraries and information service staff who may need to obtain, or assist others to obtain, transcripts of proceedings in the courts and tribunals of England and Wales. Purchasers of the guide have included law firms, chambers, academic libraries, the Royal Courts of Justice Library and other court libraries.



Usage Statistics

An electronic monitor at the library entrance counts people entering and leaving the Library, including staff: totals for each day are halved to compensate (as far as possible) for the fact that most people would be counted twice. The average daily total in 2017, after this adjustment, was 200.



User Group

The Library Users Group held a number of meetings throughout the year. The main topic for discussion was the effect of Project Pegasus on the Library both during and after its implementation.

Visits

Visitors to the Library this year have included a group from the Bruneian Chief Justice's Office, the Minister for Justice of Sierra Leone, a group of Nigerian lawyers accompanied by Oba Nsugbe QC (Bencher of Gray's Inn), staff from the Bar Pro Bono Unit, librarians from BPP Law School, the Supreme Court Library and the other Inns, and four of this Inn's Academic Fellows, Dr Solène Rowan, Dr Tatiana Cutts, Martin George and Dr Yue Ang.

Website

Visitors from 149 different countries viewed the **Library website**, the majority located in the UK, USA, Canada, Ireland, Australia, Germany and India. The most frequently accessed sections of the site were the catalogue, opening hours, legal research FAQs, EU timeline, Transcripts Guide and Newsletter.

Wellbeing

In September two members of the Library staff were part of an Inner Temple team that participated in the City v Wharf 5k race to raise money for the Movember Foundation. The team are members of the Inner Temple Running Group, which was formed as part of the Inn's wellbeing initiative. Another member of Library staff, Sally McLaren, organised a series of lunchtime talks with guest speakers. These included Stoicism and the art of happiness, Coming to our senses, and An introduction to mindfulness.

COMING TO OUR SENSES

Scientists have long known that there's much more to our experience than the five senses – hearing, sight, smell, touch and taste. According to cognitive neuroscientists we may have as many as thirty-three senses!

Join us for our last lunchtime lecture of the year with Professor Barry C. Smith and explore the tangled world of human multi-sensory experience.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER:
Barry C Smith is a professor of philosophy and director of the Institute of Philosophy as well as the founder of the Centre for the Study of the Senses, which pioneers collaborative research between philosophers, psychologists and neuroscientists. He was the writer and presenter of The Mysteries of the Brain for the BBC World Service and BBC Radio 4's Coming to Our Senses. He is also the wine columnist for Prospect Magazine.

15TH NOVEMBER 2017 AT 12.30-1.30
LUNCHEON ROOM
A light lunch will be provided after the lecture

RSVP via Eventbrite at <http://bit.ly/2zaqITn>
Password: senses

working with **mind**
for better mental health