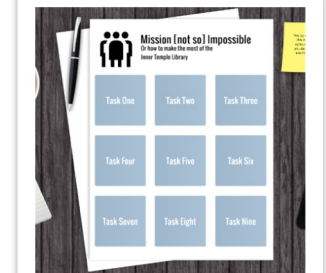
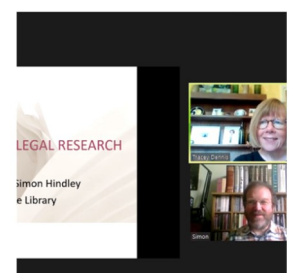
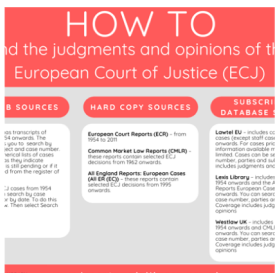


ANNUAL REVIEW

2020



The Inner Temple Library

Library Services During the COVID-19 Crisis

The Library continued to provide a full range of services during the COVID pandemic. In the first major lockdown we operated a remote document supply service, for which we suspended all charges. We were able to supply materials from a range of online databases and liaised with the other Inns' libraries to obtain hard copy materials where necessary. We extended our online subscriptions and negotiated free access to other electronic resources (such as those offered by Oxford University Press) on a short-term basis. We continued to operate the free service throughout 2020 and beyond.

We were able to answer enquiries submitted by members via email, and to offer advice as to where to find materials. The main subscription databases offered free trials and training, and we made sure members were aware of these offerings.

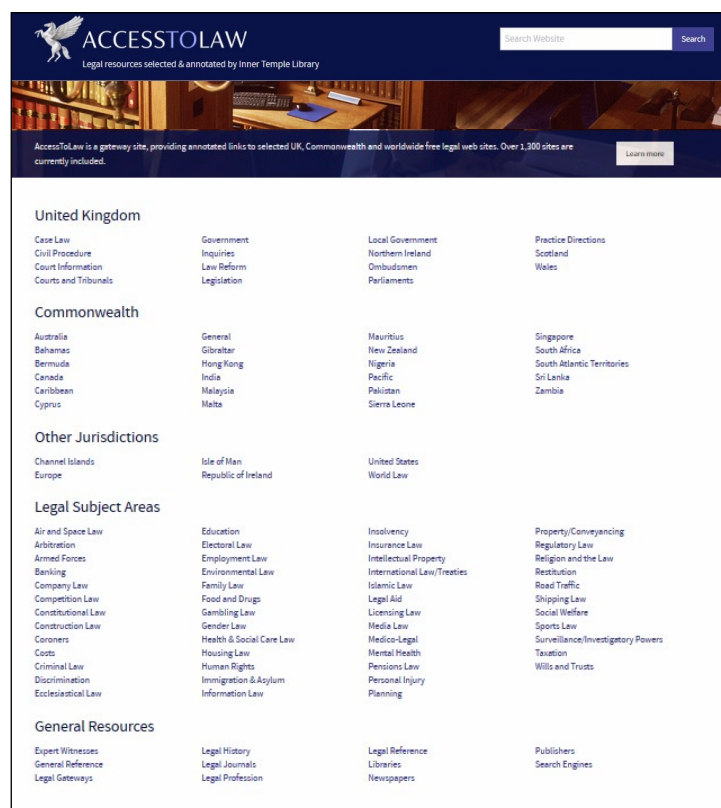
We made extensive use of social media, not only to keep members informed of our services, but also to provide tips on legal research and pointers to finding materials; we also marked significant anniversaries by posting relevant illustrated timelines.

All training activities and inductions had to be carried out online via Zoom; nevertheless, staff enjoyed the stimulus of adapting to the "new normal", ensuring that we kept our training programmes running and offered a welcome to new students and pupils.

More details about our activities during this particularly challenging year can be found below.

AccessToLaw

During the year visitors from 175 countries viewed our [legal gateway site](#), the majority coming from the UK, USA, India, Sri Lanka, Australia, Malaysia, China and Canada. The sections of the site accessed most frequently were Case Law, Legal Journals, Sri Lanka, Health and Social Care Law, India, Caribbean and Legislation.



Cataloguing

A total of 49 new titles, and 125 new editions of titles already held, were added to the [catalogue](#). The number of new titles was smaller than usual since the Library Committee were less able to meet in order to view, discuss and approve newly published books than under normal circumstances. In addition, 954 existing records were amended. We have launched a long-term project to add detailed contents information to records for practitioners' works, an enhancement which should further aid subject retrieval.

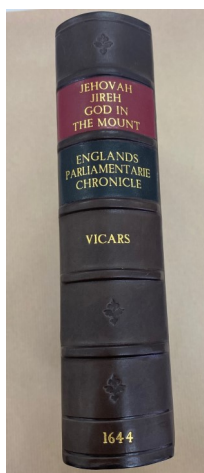
Committees

The Library Committee met three times in 2020, once face to face and twice via Zoom. The newly-appointed Librarian, Rob Hodgson, was able to attend his first Library Committee meeting in November.

Margaret Clay (our former Librarian) attended one meeting of the Inns of Court Libraries Liaison Committee before she retired. The Deputy Librarian attended a second meeting in October via Zoom.

Conservation

We have continued to send carefully selected rare books (usually ones associated with former members of the Inn) for specialist treatment by the craftspeople at The Bookends Bindery. Typically, the paper is dry-cleaned and de-acidified, and repaired where necessary, and any rebinding undertaken is entirely sympathetic with the original. Existing lettering and/or decorative material is preserved wherever possible. Examples from the past year are John Vicars' *Jehovah-Jireh: God in the mount, or, Englands parliamentarie-chronicle* of 1644, bearing the signature of Francis Maseres, a major benefactor of the Library, dated 1813; Clement Writer's *Fides Divina* of 1657, with the armorial bookplate of another benefactor, Herbert Jacob; and Lord Herbert of Cherbury's *De religione gentilium* (1663) which features the same bookplate.



Current Awareness Blog

During the year we added 4,601 posts to the [blog](#), bringing the archive to a total of 63,485 posts. There were 104,475 visitors to the site and 195,482 unique page views. Email subscriptions now stand at 4,620; in addition 4,894 people subscribe to the RSS feed and we have 10,900 Twitter followers. There are 1,141 subject categories, the top 10 most frequently accessed of these being sentencing, appeals, police, human rights, children, local government, internet, murder, sexual offences and costs. The highest ranking locations for visitors are the UK, USA, India, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Australia and Ireland.

Database Training

The Library liaised with the main database providers to offer training to members during lockdown.

Feedback was very positive and included the following: "I cannot thank you enough for putting me in touch with the trainers. It is life-enhancing."

Document Supply

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 904 items were scanned and emailed to barristers.

Donations

Members of the Inn continue to present copies of their newly published works, and of new editions for which they are responsible, either solely or jointly. We also receive Wildy, Simmonds and Hill publications free of charge. Donations resulted in a saving of £928 on monographs and £6,963 on loose-leaf releases and journals in 2020.

Enquiries

The Library continued to receive many interesting and varied **enquiries** throughout 2020. Examples include:

- general guidance to an arbitrator on how to draft an arbitration award in an international commercial context (under UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules and/or Arbitration Act 1996);
- Articles 13-15 of the Brussels Convention;
- debates and materials by the International Law Commission on Article 22 of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations 1961

In addition we received requests for cases and legislation from many jurisdictions including India, Malaysia and the Turks and Caicos Islands.

Feedback

We received complimentary feedback from barristers, students and librarians during the year on various aspects of library services; here are a few examples:

“Wow – Thanks so much for such a prompt service.” (*From a Barrister emailing about the document supply service*)

“He was exceeding helpful and skilfully tracked down the document I wanted. All whilst behaving as though there was no greater pleasure in life than helping me. I should say I had tried to get a copy of this document from other sources and none were as helpful.” (*From a Bencher who had been struggling to find a document*)

“I am reviewing the cases you sent me and some are certainly on point and very helpful. Thank you very much for your assistance.” (*From a Barrister researching BVI cases*)

“thank you for maintaining an extensive service” (*From a Barrister enquiring about services during COVID crisis*)

“many thanks to you all for supporting the members of the Inn so diligently during lockdown!” (*From a Barrister working from home*)

Guides

In the course of 2020 we published a series of **subject guides** to make users aware of the electronic resources to which the Library currently has access. The guides cover, as far as possible, key textbooks, law reports, journals, laws and free web sources - with the caveat that textbooks and laws are not available for all subject areas. So far, subject guides to Australian Law, Canadian Law, Caribbean Law, Criminal Law, Family Law, Hong Kong Law, India Law, Intellectual Property Law and Personal Injury Law are available on our website.

We are now in the process of integrating resources available in hard copy into the guides, to give a more complete reflection of the resources available in the Library. We also aim to expand on the subject areas covered.

Historical Enquiries

Aside from the many queries we receive about former members of the Inn, enquiries we dealt with included (to give a few examples) Archbishop Matthew Parker’s metrical paraphrases of the Psalms (Inner Temple Misc. Ms. 36), for an article in the *Yale Journal of Church Music*; titles held by the Library relating to historical slavery; Roger de Hoveden’s *Chronica* (Petyt Ms. 511.2), described by the enquirer, an academic historian in the USA, as “a gorgeous text”; and Mary Sidney, Countess of Pembroke’s translation of Petrarch’s “The Triumph of Death” (Petyt Ms. 538.43, foll. 286r-289r), a transcript of which recently appeared in *Petrarch’s Triumph in the British Isles* in MHRA’s Tudor & Stuart Translations series.



ICCA Course

The Deputy Librarian attended meetings with staff from the other Inn Libraries to plan a legal research session for ICCA students, which will take place in March 2021.

IT

The Library's hardware provision had to be scaled down in response to COVID-19. Several PCs were removed to ensure social distancing could be achieved. The Library's Wi-Fi security was upgraded during 2020 to ensure best practice. The Library's photocopier server was migrated to newer hardware and software, bringing it in line with the Inn's other servers.

Legal Research Training

We ran a Qualifying Session on legal research in Birmingham in January.




Qualifying Session on legal research held at BPP Birmingham

Because of COVID restrictions, further in-person training sessions have not been possible. Nevertheless, we ran Qualifying Sessions via Zoom in June, September and October, and legal research training sessions for pupils in July and October.

Feedback from students and pupils has been positive: students commented that the sessions were “fantastically well-organised” and “most helpful”, and a pupil said that the online format was particularly helpful for those in chambers outside London.


Starting research


- Distinguish the facts, legal issues and points of law
- Start with a textbook
- Think about the search – key terms, boolean operators
- Select appropriate resources



Simon Hedley

Does legal research make you feel like this?





Tracey Davis

In November, we ran the first of our redesigned clerks' training presentations for the clerks at Fountain Court Chambers. We designed the sessions to be short and informative, with the primary aim of helping the clerks understand the citations they might have to identify, and where and how to find the material cited, whether that be in hard copy or online.

In all we ran three 20 to 30-minute sessions over Zoom, for two clerks at a time. We kept the training informal, which helped to promote a conversation between us and the clerks.

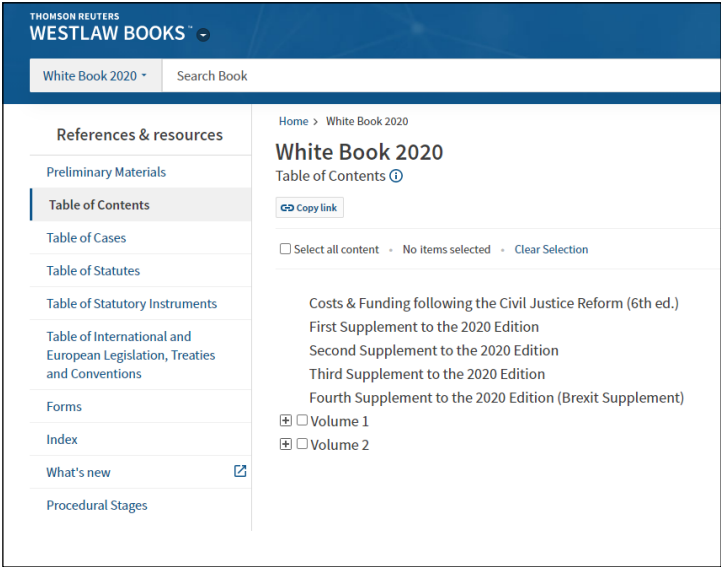
It was useful for us to take time to understand the information needs of the clerks, and we hope they found the sessions helpful.

Newsletter

The Library’s electronic **newsletter** was emailed to all members and tenants in February, May, July and November. In these Newsletters we covered topics such as feedback from services run during the main lockdown; reviews of legal films and TV programmes; a series of “Meet the team” profiles; and reflections from staff working at home.



The titles are as follows: the *White Book*; *Chitty on contracts*; *Clerk & Lindsell on torts*; *Dicey, Morris and Collins on the conflict of laws*; *Archbold: Magistrates’ courts practice*; *Archbold: Criminal pleading, evidence and practice*; *Bullen & Leake & Jacob’s precedents of pleadings*; *McGregor on damages*; *Jackson & Powell on professional liability*; and *Phipson on evidence*.



In addition to these practitioners’ books we have also subscribed to the Index of Legal Terms on Westlaw, which includes *Jowitt’s dictionary of English law* and *Stroud’s judicial dictionary of words and phrases*.

We also added *Immigration appeal reports* and *Mental health law reports* to our vLex/Justis subscription.

Presentations

At the Inn’s Town Hall meeting in November the Deputy Librarian gave a talk about the role of the Library within the Inner Temple and how it serves all the different parts of the Inn community.

Pupils

In addition to the legal research sessions already mentioned, virtual inductions were run for pupils at Blackstone Chambers, Fountain Court Chambers and Holborn Chambers.

Online Subscriptions



The Library has subscribed to a selection of Westlaw books.

Social Media

We added a wide range of posts on **Facebook** and **Twitter** during the year, which have included updates on the collections at Fetter Lane, additions to the Library collection, and changes to opening hours, as well as events and lectures taking place online and updated free learning resources.

Social media was particularly important during the coronavirus pandemic as a means of keeping our users up to date on opening times and the services we continued to offer, with some light relief thrown in. Examples included *Question a Day* (e.g. "Who is your legal hero?") throughout the month of June; law-related TV and radio programmes; and Twitter threads on neutral citations, the hierarchy of citations, and legal research tips for students.

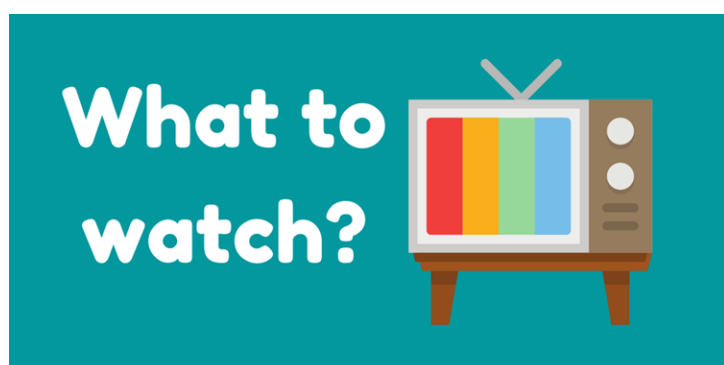


LEARN FOR FREE


Over 250 free learning resources including MOOCs, taster courses, podcasts, video collections and courseware.

Updated

<https://www.innertemplelibrary.com/learn-for-free>



What to watch?



EVERYTHING YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT NEUTRAL CITATIONS BUT WERE AFRAID TO ASK

We marked International Women's Day (with a particular focus on domestic abuse) and Black History Month (focusing on deaths in custody) with coverage on Twitter and Facebook.



ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE BENCH

THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM AND WOMEN WHO HAVE KILLED IN RESPONSE TO DOMESTIC ABUSE

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY



Inner Temple Library @inner_temple · 1 Oct

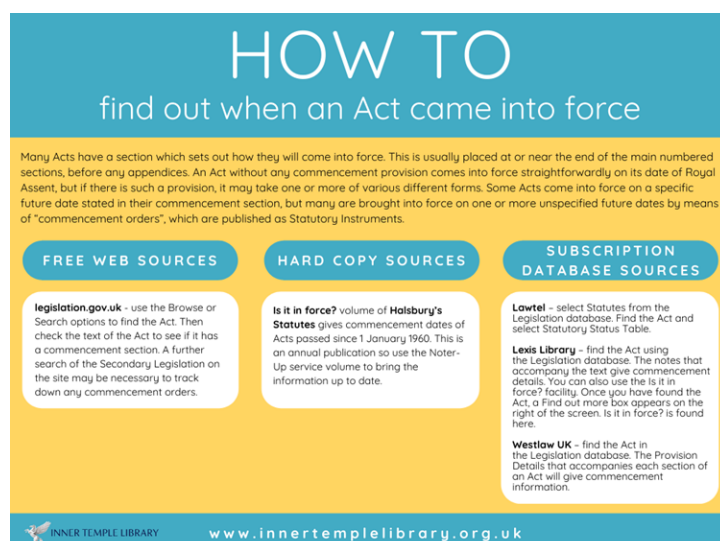
Reading: *Typical* - play by Ryan Calais Cameron - "Typical uncovers the man and the humanity behind a real-life story: a Black ex-serviceman who spent his life fighting for his country and ends up fighting for his life in police custody."

Typical

From the makers of 2018 hit *Queens of Sheba* comes this powerful new play by Ryan Calais Cameron, ...

bloomsbury.com

The Library put together a "How To" series, posted on Twitter and **Instagram**.



HOW TO

find out when an Act came into force

Many Acts have a section which sets out how they will come into force. This is usually placed at or near the end of the main numbered sections, before any appendices. An Act without any commencement provision comes into force straightforwardly on its date of Royal Assent, but if there is such a provision, it may take one or more of various different forms. Some Acts come into force on a specific future date stated in their commencement section, but many are brought into force on one or more unspecified future dates by means of "commencement orders", which are published as Statutory Instruments.

FREE WEB SOURCES	HARD COPY SOURCES	SUBSCRIPTION DATABASE SOURCES
legislation.gov.uk - use the Browse or Search options to find the Act. Then check the text of the Act to see if it has a commencement section. A further search of the Secondary Legislation on the site may be necessary to track down any commencement orders.	Is it in force? volume of Halsbury's Statutes gives commencement dates of Acts passed since 1 January 1960. This is an annual publication so use the Note-Up service volume to bring the information up to date.	Lowtel - select Statutes from the Legislation database. Find the Act and select Statutory Status Table. Lexis Library - find the Act using the Legislation database. The notes that accompany the text give commencement details. You can also use the Is it in force? facility. Once you have found the Act, a Find out more box appears on the right of the screen. Is it in force? is found here. Westlaw UK - find the Act in the Legislation database. The Provision Details that accompanies each section of an Act will give commencement information.

INNER TEMPLE LIBRARY www.innertemplelibrary.org.uk

We currently have 2,056 followers on Facebook and 10,900 on Twitter. Our Facebook followers are mainly based in the UK, USA, India, Pakistan, Malaysia and South Africa; followers are evenly divided between male and female, with a substantial proportion in the 25-34 or 35-44 age groups.

Staff

Margaret Clay retired as Librarian at the end of July after nearly 30 years in the post. Rob Hodgson, formerly Law Librarian at City University, took over the role in November.

Student Events

In September, we presented our first ever induction for new student members to be conducted via Zoom. We themed this “Mission [not so] Impossible” as the members of staff responsible are both fans of the series; also, we were aware that scenes from *Mission Impossible: Rogue Nation* were in fact filmed in the Inner Temple. We thought it would be an informative and enjoyable way for students to learn about the Library, and to become aware of the role it can play in their development throughout their legal careers.

Content was focused on several “missions”, in the course of which the students learned about what services the Library offers to students, and the considerable and varied legal materials that are available within the Library.

We included a short quiz at the end to test the students’ knowledge of the Inn and the Library, and we gained some good feedback, notably “The quiz at the end was fun and probably better than all the other Zoom quizzes that I have done previously!”.

The Deputy Librarian organized the annual talks to new Bar School students. These were held virtually for students at City Law School, BPP and the University of Law.

Timeline

To celebrate the NHS in 2020 we put together a new timeline - **A History of the NHS**. All of our timelines can be viewed via the **Library website**.



Tours

At the start of the year we ran tours for prospective members in person, but as this has not been possible since the lockdown in March, we have since then delivered the tours virtually.

We designed the virtual tour using the presentation platform, Prezi, and presented the tour over a Zoom video call. We aimed to make the tour informal yet informative, highlighting the resources that the Library holds, and the help that the librarians can offer.

On average two tours a month were carried out between June and December 2020. Feedback from participants included “It was a really helpful session.”

Training Courses Attended

Library staff attended a variety of online training sessions throughout 2020. Some of these were organised by the Inn and others by organisations such as the British & Irish Association of Law Librarians and the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals. Topics covered in these sessions included: line management; working remotely; EU law sources; social media use in Libraries and creating online presentations.

Website

Visitors from 154 countries viewed the **Library website**, the majority located in the UK, USA, Canada, China, Hong Kong, India, Australia and France. The most frequently accessed sections of the site were the guide to neutral citations, catalogue, document supply service, opening hours, Inns of Court Libraries, legal research FAQs and training, free legal resources, Library guides, online services, Library booking system, newsletter and contacts.

Alternative Annual Review

An alternative version of the **Library Annual Review** has been produced in infographic format.