



NEWSLETTER

Newsletter of The Inner Temple Library

ISSUE 64
APRIL 2021

Contents

Reopening the Library	1
Saturday Opening	1
The Librarian Talks Shop	2
ICCA Students	2
Student Town Hall Meeting	3
BIALL Talk	3
Neurodiversity	3
AccessToLaw: Case Law	4
History Society Lecture	4
New Acquisitions	5
What We Are Looking Forward To	6

Reopening the Library

Following the relaxation of the lockdown, the Library at 10 Fetter Lane reopened to users on 29 March. We decided to operate initially with reduced hours so that staff could have some flexibility in using public transport. Following further changes to the rules governing lockdown the Library then extended its opening hours from 9am to 6pm with effect from 12 April.

We are continuing to operate a free document supply service, and self-service photocopying in the Library is also free. Both services will be reviewed as the COVID crisis (we hope) continues to recede.

Enquiries about the document supply service should be sent to distanceservice@innertemple.org.uk.

We are delighted to be welcoming users back to the library, and to enjoying some degree of normality.

Saturday Opening

One of the four Inn Libraries is open from 10am to 5pm on each Saturday during the legal terms.

May

1 May	CLOSED
8 May	Gray's Inn
15 May	Inner Temple
22 May	Lincoln's Inn
29 May	CLOSED

This timetable gives details of the Saturday opening hours of all four Inn Libraries up to the end of July.

The Librarian Talks Shop

Rob Hodgson, Librarian, writes

I recently gave a lecture to postgraduate students at City, University of London who are studying towards an MSc in Library Science. The title was “Legal Information”, a wide-ranging “all about” talk covering what it is, where it comes from, how you find it, and what makes it different from the “information” that might be handled by librarians in other fields.

The session examined the specialist nature of legal information work and looked at some of the very different types of legal information professional and how their roles and responsibilities differ across sectors. We then proceeded to sources of legal information. Interest is always piqued when discussion turns to the cost of legal materials: the initial expense, and the ongoing updating costs, are invariably an eye-opener for the uninitiated. Comparing the cost of the White Book to that of an Ultra HD television set (and that is not an arbitrary comparison) is real food for thought for librarians-to-be, especially when one points out that unlike with the White Book, one would not expect to have to buy a new television set every March!

Less frivolous and not entirely separate from issues of cost, there was discussion relating to the barriers faced in accessing (and interpreting) legal information for the lay user in a world where so much material is not publicly available. The lay user is further frustrated, as the real interpretive “added value” and commentary is locked inside subscription-only databases. Reflecting on the apparent difficulty of piecing together “the law” on a given topic we suggested that legal information is much like London: steeped in tradition, full of historical anomalies, difficult to navigate without “the knowledge”, and commercialised from the earliest days.

It wouldn't be possible to sum up how legal information works without giving an overview of the English legal system, the doctrine of precedent, the legislative process, and more. That's an awful lot of information for non-legal specialists to process on a Friday afternoon. Nevertheless, the students made it to the end and asked interesting questions about the differences in collection holdings between academic and professional libraries; appropriate classification schemes for legal collections; and the drawbacks of using general schemes

such as the ubiquitous Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC). If anyone is interested, the DDC classification number range for “Law” is congested in the 300 numbers, and the number assigned to a given publication frequently runs to several decimal places: quite impractical for a spine sticker on an average-sized monograph. Try retaining in your head “347.41035504 MAN” as you walk between the enquiry point and the shelf. (There is no need to commit this to memory unless you are looking for *Privy Council Practice* by Lord Mance.)

Confused? You can always ask your librarian...

ICCA Students

In March 2021, Part 2 of the ICCA course started. It was at this point that the Inns of Court Libraries became involved with the new students.

It had been decided that the four Inn Libraries would work together to deliver a lecture on legal research and to produce an accompanying guide. In addition, training sessions on Lexis and Westlaw would be organised for the cohort. Discussions had started back in 2020 but the bulk of the work took place from the start of 2021. The Deputy Librarian at the Inner Temple became part of the team of three who would draft and then deliver the lecture. The team divided up between them the material to be covered and got to work on their respective sections. The focus was on how to start the research process and what to think about right at the initial stages. We then looked at researching aspects of case law and legislation. We ended the session by giving tips on how to construct searches on the databases using Boolean operators and connectors and suggesting some useful free resources.

The lecture was delivered on the morning of 23 March, and later in the day trainers from Lexis and Westlaw gave presentations on their respective services.

The lecture was well received by the ICCA course director and we hope that the students found it useful. The team involved in creating the lecture enjoyed working together and look forward to continuing this collaborative approach in the future.

Student Town Hall Meeting

The Deputy Librarian attended the Inn's Student Town Hall meeting on 26 March. She gave an overview of the Library's services and details of the upcoming re-opening of the Library.

She reminded students that they are welcome to use the Library and there is no need to pre-book a seat. In addition she mentioned that the Library's Current Awareness blog and gateway site, AccessToLaw.com, are free resources that students will find useful for keeping up to date and for undertaking research.

Students who cannot come into the Library were reminded of the Library's email address library@innertemple.org.uk which they can use to ask staff for assistance.

BIALL Talk "A Communication Skills Masterclass"

James Rowles, Senior Library Assistant, writes

In March I attended via Zoom a training course, organised by the British and Irish Association of Law Librarians (BIALL), on "How to Communicate with Impact and Confidence in the Online World".

The talk was given by Jayne Constantinis, who has previously presented on the BBC and delivered media training to various Olympic stars and media personalities.

The main theme of the course was how presenting online differs from presenting in person. Many of the usual layers of body language that an audience can pick up on during in-person presentations are largely absent, and the sound, as relayed via laptop computers, often has a tinny quality; this can be irritating on the ear and also cause the listener to feel more tired and so make concentration difficult.

To counter these challenges, Jayne talked about several essential pointers to remember when presenting online. I will look briefly at some of Jayne's suggestions regarding content and delivery.

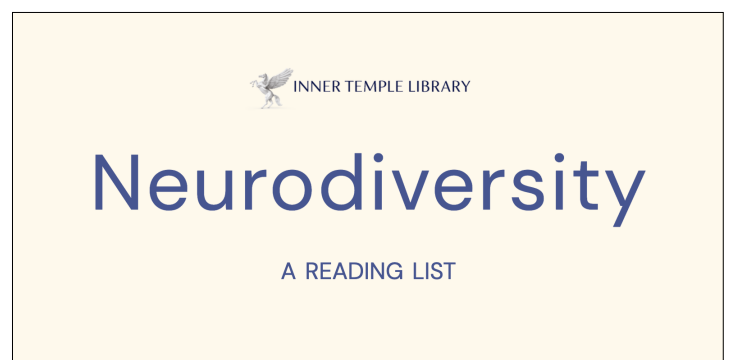
Jayne suggested that one should take a "less is more" approach with respect to content and not try to replicate all the material that one would have given in an in-person training session, as it is more difficult for the audience to concentrate on a Zoom presentation than on an in-person event. In addition, it is advisable to keep wording on any slides to a minimum, as the audience will naturally start to read the content from the slides, when ideally you want the audience to be listening and engaging with you.

I also found Jayne's points on delivery very useful. For instance, she recommended that when presenting one should look directly at the camera and not focus on participants on the screen. This may seem obvious, but it is surprisingly very hard to do without practice. The camera should be level with one's eyes so that one is not looking up or down; and one should try to make oneself like the "big cat", exuding confidence in the points being conveyed.

Even after a year of attending and running Zoom training sessions and presentations, this talk was very informative and interesting, as it made me re-evaluate how I present online and will, I hope, enable me to improve my presentation technique. Tracey and I will be giving a "lightning talk" at the BIAL Conference in June via Zoom, and we are going to try to employ many of the techniques covered in this session. We will update you in the next Newsletter.

Neurodiversity

On 31 March the Inn held an In Focus event on Neurodiversity and the Bar. To accompany this, Sally McLaren put together a **reading list** which is freely available and is intended to act as a starting point for those wanting to learn more.



AccessToLaw: Case Law

During lockdown the Library staff have received many requests for reports of cases and transcripts of judgments from members unable to access the Library in person. The **Case Law** page of **AccessToLaw** covers free sources for case law, largely from UK jurisdictions. While the freely available material does not generally include the published reports of cases that should be cited in court, there is still quite a lot of potentially useful information available.

The major free site for UK case law is **BAILII**, the British and Irish Legal Information Institute, which as its name suggests also includes cases from the Republic of Ireland. The case law is browsable by jurisdiction and court, and can also be searched, either as a whole or section by section. Coverage is generally from the late 20th century onwards, but selected older judgments are also available. In addition, the site provides links to the various other Legal Information Institutes from around the world.

For older material, the *English Reports*, an authoritative reprint of most of the nominate (i.e. pre-1865) law reports, are available as full PDF images on the **CommonLII** website. These can be searched, or browsed by case name or year. An index to the Year Books, with brief summaries, is available on the **Boston University School of Law** website.

There are websites for the England and Wales **Courts and Tribunals Judiciary**, the **Judiciary NI** and the **Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service**, which include judgments from their various courts and tribunals, and we also provide links to the sites of some of the specialist tribunals. The Employment Appeal Tribunal's section of the GOV.UK website includes judgments from the EAT.

The UK **Supreme Court** and the **Judicial Committee of the Privy Council** also have websites where all of their judgments are published shortly after being handed down, and the **House of Lords** has an archive of judgments from 1996 to 2009, when the court was superseded by the Supreme Court.

Case law is also available via some more specialised sources. Social Security Commissioners' Decisions can be found on the **Rightsnet** site, while those from

Northern Ireland are located on the **Department for Communities** website. **Restitution and Unjust Enrichment Legal Resources** includes cases on restitution from the UK and elsewhere 1990-2010 (although the site has not been updated since shortly after the latter date) and the barristers' chambers **5RB** has a database of case digests relating to media and communications law, 1978 onwards, many with full text of the judgment also available.

The Case Law page also includes links to subscription case law databases. While most of the material on these is not available free of charge, the **ICLR** site allows free access to indexing information, and to summaries of recent judgments. Other sites that provide indexing of case law are **LawCite**, an international legal case and journal article citator, and **Swarb.co.uk**, a long-standing site providing an index of over 250,000 cases (the earliest being from 1024), and including information that is otherwise unavailable online.

History Society Lecture

Gilds and Things: Keeping the Peace in 10th Century London

Dr Rory Naismith

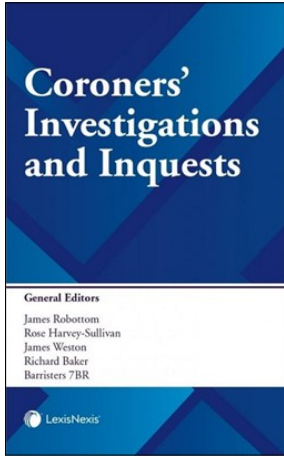
In the early 10th century, the inhabitants of London and the surrounding region formed one of the first recorded gilds in England - the so-called 'peace gild'. This large body was a combination of vigilante group, mutual insurance scheme and charitable organisation. The peace gild drew up its own statutes that accounted for all levels of society, from bishops and aristocrats to destitute widows, and it negotiated with the king to guarantee recognition and support. This talk will examine the gild's achievement, and consider how legislation contributed to the formation of a distinct town-based community.

Time: Tuesday 4 May 2021, 5.30pm via Zoom

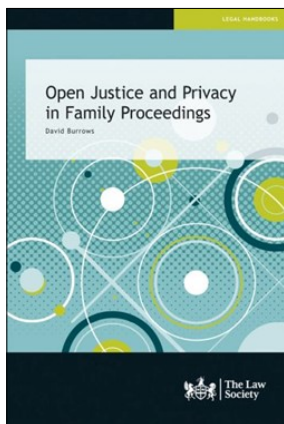
Tickets: Members and the Public: Free

Book online or email members@innertemple.org.uk

New Acquisitions

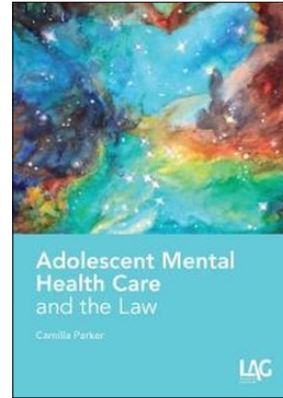


Key areas covered by *Coroners' Investigations and Inquests*, edited by Richard Baker and others (LexisNexis) include detailed guidance on conducting inquests into particular types of death, such as deaths in custody and deaths in the armed forces; analysis of procedural and substantive issues arising in inquests and investigations; practical guidance on representing organisations and/or families at inquests; the role of Article 2 ECHR in coronial investigations and at inquests; the impact of COVID-19 guidance; examples of the various forms and precedents used in inquests; and analysis following the Supreme Court judgment in *R (Maughan) v. HM Senior Coroner for Oxfordshire*.



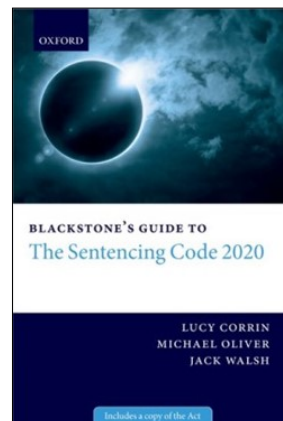
Open Justice and Privacy in Family Proceedings by David Burrows (Law Society Publishing) provides a practical guide to the principles and practice of open justice and privacy in family proceedings. It provides an explanation of the law and procedures governing family courts and the difficulties involved in balancing the rights of privacy and publicity. The author examines when open justice principles apply; the substantive law governing open court principles; in what circumstances hearings may be held in private, in secret, or in chambers; the release of court materials before and after hearings; anonymity, judgements and witnesses; and publicity/reporting restrictions.

In drawing together the differing legal frameworks that might apply to adolescents with mental health needs, Camilla Parker's *Adolescent Mental Health Care and the Law* (LAG) seeks to bridge a gap in the information currently available. To date, resources concerned with mental health and/or mental capacity law tend to focus on adults, while those concerned with children's services rarely consider the specific issues for adolescents with mental health needs, or how legal frameworks, such as



provisions for looked-after children, interact with the Mental Health Act 1983. Parker provides an overview of the services forming the system known as CAMHS (child and adolescent mental health services), covering matters such as the application of the Mental Capacity Act 2005 to under 18s (including the forthcoming Liberty Protection Safeguards); the rules for identifying

“parental responsibility” and the “nearest relative”; admission to hospital and treatment for mental disorder, and discharge from hospital; and community powers, including community treatment orders (CTOs) and police powers.



Following the enactment of the Sentencing Act 2020, criminal practitioners' works such as *Archbold* have spawned additional supplements covering the new Sentencing Code. *Blackstone's Guide to the Sentencing Code 2020* by Lucy Corrin, Michael Oliver and Jack Walsh (Oxford) appears to be the first stand-alone work to examine the Code in detail. The authors offer commentary on the scope, extent and effects of

the 2020 Act, with practical checklists and tables ensuring that users can track the changes between the previous law and the new Code; a quick-reference tool, logically organised, allowing rapid access to the relevant parts of the Act; tables mapping the previous statutory basis for all key elements of the Code to the new Act; and commentary exploring how the Code applies in practice.

Our thanks are due to Paul Nicholls QC for presenting his *Employment and Commercial Disputes: The International Aspects*.

A list of **new law titles and editions** received from January to March is available on our website.

What We Are Looking Forward To

Rob, Librarian

Roads less travelled (recently at least): As lockdown lifts I look forward to travelling the Great North Road again - well, the modern A1(M). When 'stay local' restrictions lift, I'm not fussy, I'll take the North East or the North West. Perhaps both, then I can travel along my favourite road, the B6318, known locally as the Military Road. It has it all: long straight lines, stomach-churning blind summits, views, mile castles, a famous sycamore tree - think Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves - the Brocolitia Mithraeum and, of course, Hadrian's Wall.

It is possible that there are other roads that might vie for the title 'Librarian's Favourite Road' but I haven't given it too much thought. What I can say for certain is that this is a road I have missed.

Tracey, Deputy Librarian

I am very pleased to be back on site at Fetter Lane and meeting users in the Library. Whilst I feel very proud of how the Library has operated during successive lockdowns, it is much more pleasant to deal with our users face to face. I am looking forward to seeing our regular readers back in the Library and to answering their many varied queries. I am also looking forward to meeting users who will not have been able to visit us before, and to showing them all that the Library can offer.



Outside of work, I am looking forward to racing again. I am a very keen runner and enjoy the thrill of a race. I have a marathon in October which is now over a year delayed, so I am itching to get out and improve on my previous marathon time. Before then I have a few races booked and am looking forward to representing the new running club I joined last year, and for which I have not yet had a chance to race. I will wear my club's rather fetching running shirt with pride!

James, Senior Library Assistant

Tennis and runs, with a dash of meet the parents: that's what I am looking forward to as lockdown eases. After what has felt like an unending lockdown, and seemingly not having left the house since December, I have finally been able to make some plans.

Being a keen, though somewhat average, tennis player, I am looking forward to re-joining my tennis box league and taking to the courts on these fine sunny spring evenings. I'm hoping that my enthusiasm will make up for the loss of form and fitness during lockdown, and that I can finally achieve promotion from League 6 this time.

I wouldn't quite say I am looking forward to it, but I have also managed to sign up for an organised 10k run on the Early May Bank Holiday. It will be fun to be able to run with lots of other people again as opposed to wheezing my way around the pavements of Bromley on my own. As I mentioned at the beginning, I am also looking forward to seeing my parents for the first time since Christmas 2019, but need to get that train booked.

Tina, Library Administrator

As lockdown eases, I am looking forward to many things, but mainly to meeting up with friends and family, and travelling.

Travelling includes long walks through town and country visiting historical and interesting sites with friends, stopping for drinks in the pub and later enjoying a relaxed and sociable meal in the evening, talking about the day's events and the places visited, and then heading home.

Travelling also means holidays with the family, at home and abroad; weekends away in our newly-converted camper van (completed March 2020!); and trips to the cinema, theatre, museums and art galleries. Getting in a car, van, train or plane, and getting away, discovering something new and being somewhere different. These are things I have missed, and the things I am looking forward to doing again the most.