



Movers and Returners

A one-day conference for those seeking guidance and support in returning to the Bar, taking a career break, or moving practice area.

Inner Temple, Thursday 22 May 2025

PROGRAMME	08:45 – 09:30	Registration and refreshments	
	09:30 – 10:15	Opening plenary Welcome notes Introduction Keynote address	Rachel Spearing KC, Conference Chair Barbara Mills KC, Chair of the Bar Lady Justice Whipple (<i>introduced by The Hon Mrs Justice Hill</i>)
	10:20 – 11:20	Real-Life Stories in Building a Career Panel of individuals who have taken leave/returned to practice sharing their experiences – in conversation with Q&A.	Ruby Sayed, One Pump Court Malvika Jaganmohan, St Ives Chambers Emma Stuart-Smith, 25 Bedford Row HHJ Robin Sellers <i>Chaired by Vanessa Meachin KC</i>
	11:20 – 11:45	B R E A K	
	11:45 – 12:45	Breakout sessions (1) – a) Breaking barriers to being your best at the Bar through mindset, resilience and confidence b) Mentoring World Café	Nikki Alderson, Nikki Alderson Coaching <i>introduced by Christie O'Connell</i> Alice Nash, Caroline Musgrave-Cohen, and further mentors tbc <i>Chaired by Katharine Duncan and Nancy Kelehar</i>
	12:45 – 13:30	L U N C H	
	13:30 – 14:30	'Lessons and Leadership: Top Tips for Navigating Transfers and Flexible Working at the Bar' with Q&A Panel discussion from a range of speakers demonstrating best practice in moving and returning to the bar	James Whiting, CEO Doughty St Chambers Susanna McGibbon KC (Hon), Government Legal Dept Lisa Peacock, Head of Chambers, 3DJB Heidi Stonecliffe KC, Crown Prosecution Service Sam Mercer, Bar Council <i>Chaired by Fiona Jackson</i>
	14:30 – 14:45	B R E A K	
	14:45 – 15:45	Breakout sessions (2) – a) Financial and career break planning b) Refreshing advocacy skills	Mason Bloom, Silver Levene Fallon Alexis, QEB Hollis Whiteman <i>Chaired by Sarah Martin</i> Scott Matthewson, Serjeants Inn Chambers Yaa Dankwa Ampadu-Sackey, Four Brick Court <i>Chaired by Francesca O'Neill</i>
	15:50 – 16:30	Closing reflections Conference close	Brie Stevens-Hoare KC, Gatehouse Chambers Rachel Spearing, Conference Chair
	16:30 – 17:15	Drinks reception	