



INNERVIEW

Newsletter of The Inner Temple

Hilary 2026

A 2026 First



Helen Davies KC

Treasurer



The Rt Hon Lady Justice May DBE

Reader



Tracy Ayling KC

Reader-Elect

From the Treasurer

It is with a deep sense of honour and privilege that I take up the role of Treasurer of The Inner Temple for 2026, another year of firsts for the Inn. Not only am I the first female practitioner to be appointed to this office, but this year will also be the first year in which all the Principal Officers of the Inn (and indeed any of the Inns) are female. I am greatly looking forward to working with Lady Justice Juliet May and Tracy Ayling KC, as they take up their roles as Reader (Treasurer 2027) and Reader Elect (Treasurer 2028) respectively.

That the Inner Temple is able to celebrate such milestones (and the many others reflected in the displays in the Treasury building) is, of course, a testament to the Inn's core values, including, in particular, equality and inclusivity as well as a strong sense of community. These are all ideals that are facing real challenges in the current global climate and in my year in office I intend to do all that I can to ensure that the Inn's commitment to them remains firm and flourishing.

The Inn is rightly proud of the many efforts it makes to support those from under-represented groups seeking to enter, remain in, and thrive in the profession. However, it is clear that there is still much work to be done. This includes the implementation across the profession of the recommendations of the Harman Report which should help to eradicate behaviour that has no place in the modern working world. I look forward to working with COIC and the Inn's Working Party to ensure that Inner Temple's policies and approach represent best practice in this vital area.

A number of other important projects will also form a significant part of the work of the Inn this year. They include (i) the Inn's contribution to the debate on Timing of Call, where, thanks to the invaluable work of my predecessor Richard Salter KC, Bench Table has very recently approved an approach for which the Inn will endeavour to encourage broader support, (ii) the project to develop

the car park, increasing the amount of green space and improving the environment for those who work and live in the Inn, and (iii) the project to restore the West Door to Temple Church, and the broader plans for enhancement of the Church and its facilities.

Amongst my core objectives for the year is a firm commitment to continuing to foster the enduring community that defines The Inner Temple. In that connection, I will continue to ensure that all members of The Inner Temple gain as much enjoyment from their membership as we can reasonably provide, and in that context would strongly encourage in person attendance at events whenever possible. In an increasingly challenging world, strengthening human connection wherever we can has become ever more important. Under Richard's careful and committed leadership, 2025 was a notably musical year. I hope that 2026 will be a more theatrical one, including an event involving our new Honorary Benchler, Olivia Williams, although as actors are even more notoriously last minute than members of the Bar further details will have to follow in due course.

I am truly grateful to be a member of The Inner Temple and am very much looking forward to contributing to it as Treasurer. I start the year feeling thankful for the enormous amount of work undertaken by Richard on the Inn's behalf, and for the dedication of our excellent and hardworking staff, whom I look forward to getting to know better as the year progresses.

May I take this opportunity to wish all Inner Temple members, and all of our staff, a happy and successful year. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in the Inn, or on one of the visits to each of the circuits I hope to make during my year in office.

Helen Davies KC
Treasurer

Social Context of the Law

TUESDAY 17 MARCH 2026

The Duty to Rescue



TO BOOK

innertemple.org.uk/rescue

COST

In-person £13.65

Online: £10.50

ENQUIRIES

members@innertemple.org.uk

020 7797 8250

EQUIVALENT TO 1HR CPD

WHERE

In-person and livestreamed
from The Inner Temple

WHEN

Lecture: 6pm – 7.20pm

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INNERVIEW

Editors:

Henrietta Amodio,
Kate Peters and
Sandra Alvarez

Who's Who 2026

TREASURER

Helen Davies KC

READER

The Rt Hon Lady Justice Juliet May DBE

READER ELECT

Tracy Ayling KC

Announcements

For our full list of appointments, please go to innertemple.org.uk/appointments

Master Kate Brunner (The Hon Mrs Justice Brunner) was appointed to the High Court, King's Bench Division, on 17 November 2025.

Master Adam Constable (The Hon Mr Justice Constable) has been appointed Judge in Charge of the Technology and Construction Court. This is a two-year appointment that runs from 11 January 2026 to 10 January 2028.

Master Julian Flaux (The Rt Hon Sir Julian Flaux) retires as the Chancellor of the High Court with effect from 1 November 2025.

Orlando Fraser KC was awarded an OBE for Charitable and Public Service in the New Year Honours List 2026.

Master Nicholas Lavender (The Hon Mr Justice Lavender) has been appointed to be the President of the Immigration and Asylum Chamber of the Upper Tribunal with effect from 2 October 2025, in succession to Master Ian Dove (The Hon Mr Justice Dove), who stood down from the role on 1 October 2025.

Master Juliet May (The Hon Mrs Justice May) has been appointed as Chair of the Sentencing Council for England and Wales, with effect from Monday 6 October 2025.

Master Rachel Spearing KC has been appointed Attorney General of Anguilla from January 2026.

Master Jonathan Swift (The Hon Mr Justice Jonathan Swift) has been appointed the Chairman of Special Immigration Appeals Commission (SIAC), Proscribed Organisations Appeal Commission (POAC) & Pathogens Access Appeal Commission, with effect from 15 October 2025.

Seeking an Editor

We are extremely grateful to Lily Walker-Parr for her meticulous editing of the past three editions of the Yearbook. Practising members of over 7 years' Call who are interested in taking up this important role from 2026 should contact the Assistant Editor, Henrietta Amodio, Director of the Treasury Office on hamodio@innertemple.org.uk.



New Benchers

We are delighted to announce that the following have been elected as Masters of the Bench of The Inner Temple:

Listed in alphabetical order

ACADEMIC BENCHERS

The Hon Justice Clyde Croft AM – Monash University Law Faculty and the Commercial Court of the Supreme Court of Victoria

Professor Michael Lobban FBA – All Souls College Oxford

Professor Andrew Simester – Dean of Law, National University of Singapore

HONORARY BENCHERS

Tu'inukutavake Barron Afeaki – Lord Chancellor of the Kingdom of Tonga

Chief Justice Yahya Afridi – Chief Justice of Pakistan

Dato Mohammad Faiz Azmi – Executive Chairman of the Securities Commission SC, the capital markets regulator of Malaysia

Her Excellency Kimberly Prost – Judge at the International Criminal Court (Canada)

Olivia Williams – Actor

The Rt Hon Lady Morag Wise PC – Judge of Scotland's Supreme Court (Court of Session, Inner House) and President of the Scottish Tribunals

OVERSEAS BENCHERS

Ariff Rozhan – Malaysian lawyer and member of Malaysian Inner Temple Alumni Association

Lisa Sam – Singaporean lawyer, Barrister and President of the Singapore Law Society

Tuesday 10 March, 6pm Iftar Dinner

Join us for a special dinner to celebrate Ramadan and enjoy Iftar together.

TO BOOK

innertemple.org.uk/iftar





WE'D LOVE TO SEE YOU THERE!

6 February

North Eastern Circuit Dinner in Newcastle

Join the Treasurer, Helen Davies KC, and members of the Inn at the North Eastern Circuit Dinner at Newcastle Mansion House.

TO BOOK

innertemple.org.uk/newcastle



COME DINE WITH US

27 February

Wales & Chester Circuit Dinner in Cardiff

Looking to become more involved with the Inn? Join the Treasurer, Helen Davies KC, and members of the Inn.

TO BOOK

innertemple.org.uk/cardiff

Recent Events



Bar Guest Night

10 October



Benchers' Night

16 October



Recent Events

Western Circuit Dinner in Bristol

17 October



In Conversation: The Lady Chief Justice and Chair of the Bar

28 October

Available to watch at innertemple.org.uk/inconversation



History Society

Paradise Lost and Found

29 October

Our thanks to Professor Joe Moshenska and Dr William Poole for their insightful discussion and to Master Tom Kinninmont for moderating.

Available to watch at
innertemple.org.uk/paradiselost





Grand Day

5 November



Northern Circuit Dinner

14 November



Social Context of the Law

Is the Rise in Mass Litigation
Distorting our Legal System
and the UK Economy?

18 November

The Inn is grateful to Martyn Day, Fredrik Erixon and moderator, Estelle Dehon KC for this fascinating discussion introduced by Master Geoffrey Nice.

Available to watch at innertemple.org.uk/masslitigation



Dinner to Celebrate the Amity between The Inner Temple and the Worshipful Company of Solicitors of the City of London 19 November



Denning Lecture 2025 Contracts, Certainty and the Supreme Court 1 December

The Employed Bar Forum jointly hosted the annual Denning Lecture with the Bar Association for Commerce, Finance and Industry (BACFI), supported by Marque Wealth Management.

Our thanks to speaker Professor Ewan McKendrick KC (Hon) and to Gaynor Wood, outgoing BACFI Chair.

Available to watch at innertemple.org.uk/denninglecture2025



Recent Events



Christmas
Lunch
14 December





Children's
Christmas
Tea
14 December



18 February 2026

Private Guest Night

Private Guest Nights are convivial social occasions where Students, Members of Hall, and Benchers are warmly invited to host friends, family, colleagues, and clients, and to share in the Inn's renowned hospitality.

Benchers may invite one guest. Members of Hall and Students may invite multiple guests, subject to capacity.

TO BOOK

innertemple.org.uk/pgn

Benchers/Called Members and guests £115.75 each

Under 7 years' Call and guests £81.03 each

Students and guests £49.65 each

DRESS CODE

Black tie

Sunday 15 March 12.30pm

Mothering Sunday Lunch

A buffet style Sunday lunch for members of the Inns and their guests to celebrate Mother's Day. Preceded by Choral Communion in Temple Church at 11.15am, for those who would like to attend.

TO BOOK

innertemple.org.uk/mothersday

Open to: Members of the Inns,
their families and friends

Adult £52.50; IT Student £33.10 Child (6-16 years)

£26.45; Child (under 6 yrs) £14.53



Education & Training



The Inner Temple Podcast

The brand new Inner Temple podcast is an exciting initiative bringing together those with experience and expertise in what it really means to both move within the profession and return to the Bar after time away.

As soon as the Inn's doors closed last spring on the inaugural conference for those moving or returning to practice, it was immediately apparent that this was only the tip of the iceberg! The buzz on conference day was palpable. The attendees told us they were engaged, energised and enthused. They had found a safe, supportive space to listen to, and interact with, speakers and mentors who generously shared their experiences. From those on parental leave or on a career break, to people with caring responsibilities or thinking about moving practice areas, the overwhelming feedback we received was that everyone wanted to know more.

When the idea to create a podcast for The Inner Temple's Established Practitioner community came about, the decision to focus it on 'Movers and Returners' was an easy one. Supporting the profession with information and skills to aid retention and help manage absence from the Bar, the initial podcast series comprises eight episodes. Each episode is around 20 to 30 minutes long, so bite sized and easily digestible – ideal for the daily commute, doing the school run, or on a morning jog!

– and perfect for those who are balancing other life commitments.

The monthly episodes feature a variety of hosts drawn from the Inn's membership. The first two episodes, hosted by Master Rachel Spearing, focus on *Advocate*, the Bar's national pro bono charity. The episodes explore how pro bono work develops new skills, mentoring connections and practice opportunities to aid moving or returning to practice. In the first episode, Master Spearing speaks to *Advocate*'s CEO and Engagement Manager. Listeners can find out everything they need to know about how *Advocate* operates and the practicalities of taking on a pro bono case. Episode Two delves deeper with an inspiring, cross-Inn panel comprised of Sophie Cartwright KC, Sarah Lucy Cooper and Alex Findley who discuss the extent to which undertaking pro bono work has benefited them both personally and professionally.

Future episodes in the series offer interviews and conversations on juggling caring responsibilities and managing unexpected career breaks, as well as spotlights on advocacy and the employed Bar. Even if you are someone who has never taken time away from the profession – and has no intention of doing so – we hope that the podcast content is wide-ranging and informative so as to be of interest to everyone.

Please do join the Inner Temple podcast community and, if you have not done so already, check out Episode One... and enjoy listening!
innertemple.org.uk/podcast



Education & Training

Calling all alumni and former Inner Temple Debating Society Members:

Time to Celebrate our 65th Anniversary!

Mark Sutherland Williams

Chair of the ITDS Alumni Association and Master of the Inner Temple Debating Society

This year marks an auspicious occasion in the history of the Inner Temple Debating Society. In April 1961, the Society was founded as an official student body within the Inn, and 65 years later we are proud to report it is still going strong.

It was launched by Ivan Lawrence, (now Sir Ivan Lawrence KC) and Roger Sanders, (latterly His Honour Judge). In 1995, Judge Sanders recalled how he spotted as a student in the '60s an opportunity for the Inn to set up a debating society to meet a need in its training, writing: *"I also wanted to be a barrister and assumed that all would-be advocates would take every opportunity to learn their skills first, before putting their name on a chambers door. It is incredible to think that in those days there were no provisions for vocational training, public speaking practice or mock trials."*

And it is from there that the Inner Temple Debating Society soon developed, with early debates taking place in the then Niblett Hall (demolished in the early 1990s to be replaced by the Littleton Building.)

A former treasurer of the Society in those early days, F R Anthony, recalled in his diaries some of the debate topics in the early 60's, many of which reflected the times:

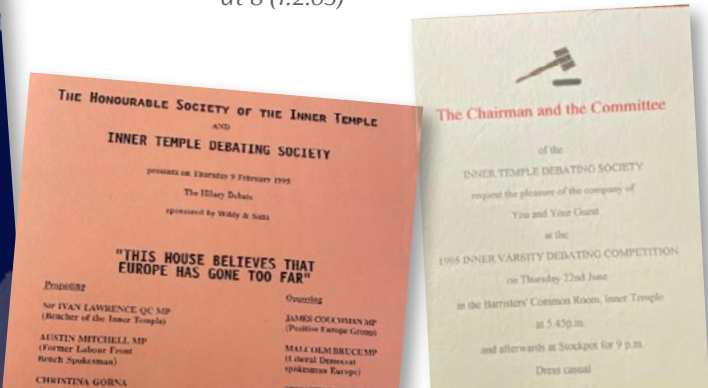
This House Would Abolish Capital Punishment (26.6.61)

This House Thinks Women Should be Admitted to The Bench (5.7.62)

This House Considers Marriage is Outdated (17.1.63)

This House Thinks the Commonwealth is Disintegrating (22.1.63)

This House Believes that the Age of Criminal Liability Should have Remained at 8 (7.2.63)



Save the Date

On **Friday 24 April 2026**, the Society will be celebrating its 65th Anniversary with a Commemorative Dinner at the Inn. We invite you to start getting your committees and friends back together to mark this auspicious occasion to give thanks to the Society.

Whether you come as a table for 10 or as an individual who was once part of the ITDS, we would be delighted to see you.

Register your interest now by contacting jbatterson@innertemple.org.uk

Sixty-four years later we are still as active and engaged as we ever were, with our magnificent student body, through the generosity of the Inn, representing The Inner Temple at competitions across the country and abroad.

Since those early days, hundreds of Inner Templers will have passed through the Society, either as committee members or just keen debaters. This year, we want to welcome you back.

We need judges from all areas of law, specifically civil, criminal, public and family in and outside of London.

To volunteer, please click [here](#).

Want to reconnect? Here's how –

- Visit our Inner Temple webpages for news and details of how Alumni can help
- Visit and follow our Alumni Facebook pages for nostalgia and updates
- Follow the ITDS on Instagram

PASS

Each year, we welcome a new cohort of Pegasus Access and Support Scheme (PASS) scholars to the Inn. PASS is our flagship outreach scheme designed to improve access to the profession and to support high achieving aspiring barristers from under-represented backgrounds by providing experiences and developing skills that will support a career at the Bar. All PASS scholars attended non-fee-paying schools and are at least an academic year away from starting the Bar Course.

On Saturday 25 October, we welcomed 62 of our 2025/26 PASS scholars to the Inn where they received tours of our Treasury Building from practising barristers and judges while hearing about their professional lives. Scholars engaged in an informal advocacy session, with experienced practitioners discussing what skills inform

strong advocacy before giving students the chance to pair up and try an advocacy exercise.

Our Insight Afternoon for aspiring barristers was also held on Saturday 25 October at the Inn, with a total of 143 attendees (in addition to our PASS scholars). Attendees heard from panels of barristers and judges about their varied journeys to the Bar as well as receiving advice about succeeding in the scholarship and pupillage application process.

A total of 25 members gave up their Saturday to support these two events and we are so grateful for their time and the insights they provide aspiring barristers. If you are in practice and want to support our events for aspiring barristers, please contact outreach@innertemple.org.uk

You can find more information about PASS at innertemple.org.uk/pass

Education & Training

Contacts

Outreach

Outreach

outreach@innertemple.org.uk

020 7797 8240

Scholarships

Scholarships

scholarships@innertemple.org.uk

020 7797 8211

Pegasus

pegasus@innertemple.org.uk

020 7797 8210

Professional Training

Pupils and New Practitioners

pupils-practitioners@innertemple.org.uk

020 7438 2310

Established Barristers

establishedbarristers@innertemple.org.uk

020 7797 8209

Pre-Pupillage

Pre-Pupillage

pre-pupillage@innertemple.org.uk

020 7438 2311

Call to the Bar

call@innertemple.org.uk

020 7797 8257

Qualifying Sessions

qs@innertemple.org.uk

020 7438 2311

General and Volunteering Enquiries

Education

education@innertemple.org.uk

020 7797 8208

COME DINE WITH US Western Circuit Dinner in Bristol 13 March

Looking to become more involved with the Inn? This event is an excellent opportunity to speak to us and other members about volunteering opportunities.



Reader's Lecture Nights 2026

Theme: Children in the Justice System



Monday 9 February

**Sarah-Jayne
Blakemore
FBA FRS**

Department of Neurophysiology,
University of Cambridge

**Inside the Adolescent Brain:
What Developmental Science
Reveals and Why It Matters for
the Justice System**



Monday 2 March

**Professor
David
Ormerod
CBE KC (Hon)**

Professor of Criminal Justice at
the Faculty of Laws, University
College London and Barrister,
Red Lion Chambers

**The Age of Criminal
Responsibility**

TO BOOK

innertemple.org.uk/blakemore
innertemple.org.uk/ormerod

COST

In-person £13.65; Online: £10.50

ENQUIRIES

qs@innertemple.org.uk

Equivalent to 1hr CPD

WHERE

From The Inner Temple and livestreamed

WHEN

6pm – 7.30pm



Summer celebrations await!

Host your event in our beautiful Marquee between 16 June and 9 July 2026.

From corporate receptions to family fun days for up to 600 guests, The Inner Temple offers the perfect summer setting.

Dates are filling fast. Enquire now to secure your preferred date.

To book, call 020 7797 8230 or email venuehire@innertemple.org.uk
innertemplevenuehire.co.uk

18 March Château Talbot Dinner

TO BOOK

innertemple.org.uk/talbot

Tickets: £140

Open to: Members and their guests

Join us for an evening celebrating and learning about the wines of world famous Château Talbot.

Jean-Paul Bignon, who owns the château with his wife, Nancy Bignon-Cordier, the great-grand daughter of the original founder, will give us an insight into the history of the Château, and guide guests through seven of the Château's finest wines, accompanying a wonderful dinner chosen to pair.

Aperitif:

Caillou Blanc de Château Talbot 2023

First Course:

Château Sénéjac 2020 and
Connétable de Talbot 2018

Main Course:

Château Talbot 2015 and Château
Talbot 2010

Savoury Course:

Château Talbot 2006 and Château
Talbot 1996



Monday 30 March

The Early History of the English Bar

Professor Sir John Baker KC LLD FBA

Downing Professor Emeritus of the Laws of England
and Inner Temple Bencher

The legal profession began to emerge in the early years of the 13th century. By the 1250s there were legally trained judges, attorneys and pleaders, and a school of common law associated with the Common Bench. Professor Baker will show how the pleaders acquired, in the 14th century, the status and degree of Serjeant-at-Law, forming the so-called Order of the Coif. During the same period the educational system was taken over by the Inns, and already by 1388, those known as the Inns of Court had a special status. The talk will also explore the process by which the degrees of barrister and Bencher, originally acquired by participation in moots and readings, became qualifications for practice at the Bar of the King's Courts.

BOOK

innertemple.org.uk/englishbar
020 7797 8264

TICKETS

In-Person £13.65; Online Free

WHERE

In-person and livestreamed
from The Inner Temple

WHEN

6pm – 7pm

Library

Saturday Opening

Opening Hours 10am to 5pm
January – April 2026

January

10 January	Lincoln's Inn
17 January	Middle Temple
24 January	Gray's Inn
31 January	The Inner Temple

February

7 February	Lincoln's Inn
14 February	Middle Temple
21 February	Gray's Inn
28 February	The Inner Temple

March

7 March	Lincoln's Inn
14 March	Middle Temple
21 March	Gray's Inn
28 March	The Inner Temple

Qualifying Sessions

Library staff will be taking part in a Qualifying Session on 20 January 2026 which is a basic legal research skills presentation. This is followed on 12 February with an advanced training session. Please contact the **Education & Training Department** to book your place.

One-to-one Training Sessions

The Library can set up training sessions for all members. They can be tailored to suit individual requirements. We can cover aspects of legal research and database searching. We are flexible and will endeavour to fit around members' busy schedules. Contact **library@innertemple.org.uk** outlining what you need help with.

Patron-Driven Acquisition Scheme

This **Patron-Driven Acquisition Scheme** is intended to be responsive to the needs of Inner Temple Library users if they discover a book that they need is not available in the Library collection. All requests meeting the criteria will be automatically purchased whilst funds remain available. The criteria for purchase are under **Terms and Conditions** on the website.

From Cork Boards to Clicks: 18 Years of Current Awareness



Sally McLaren, Assistant Librarian

Picture the scene: it's early 2007. A perfectly ordinary morning in the Library. The first task of the day? Snipping legal stories out of the newspapers, pinning them to a noticeboard and hoping someone might pause on their way past to read them. Impact? Let's just say... limited.

Back then, we were puzzling over a big question: how do we really "do current awareness"? How do we share key legal developments widely, across all areas of law, without relying on a bigger cork board and a bad drawing pin habit?

Here's what we knew from the start:

1. **Our audience was broad.** As an Inn Library, we serve members of all four Inns of Court, so our updates needed to be wide-ranging and relevant across many practice areas.
2. **It had to be easy.** No log-ins, no passwords, no fuss.
3. **It needed to be delivered directly, not just wait to be found.** Email delivery was a must. (RSS wasn't everyone's cup of tea then... and still isn't!)
4. **And it had to be free.** Because access to legal news shouldn't come with a paywall.

So, in April 2007, we launched our simple WordPress-hosted **Current Awareness Blog**, with our very first post tackling a theme that remains all too familiar: social exclusion and the law. www.theguardian.com/society/2007/apr/02/socialexclusion.law

Fast forward 18 years, and the service has grown beyond anything we imagined:

- Over 78,000 posts published
- **1.4 million** email digests delivered in 2024 alone
- And yes, it's still **100% free**

We're also delighted to count some very distinguished readers among our subscribers. As **Lady Simler, Justice of the Supreme Court**, recently told us:

"I look forward to my daily email digest from you and read it with interest every day – no matter where I am in the world or what I am doing. So thank you very much for producing it and for keeping me up to date!"

This little trip down memory lane is prompted by our brand-new business cards advertising the Current Awareness Blog. Perfect for handing out at parties.

Here's to 18 years of keeping the legal world informed – one click (and no drawing pins) at a time.





Gardener's Cuttings

Polly Cetin, Gardener

Late-winter flowering shrubs

When the days are short and dark, the weather outside cold and gloomy, the one thing guaranteed to lift my spirits are the late-winter flowering shrubs. We have a great selection of them in the garden, including *Salix gracilistyla* 'Mount Aso', *Daphne* spp, *Sarcococca* spp, *Viburnum x bodnantense* 'Dawn' and *Chimonanthus praecox* which offer scent and flowers all through the season.

Last autumn we planted witch hazels, *Hamamelis x intermedia* 'Arnold Promise',

'Ruben' and 'Orange Beauty' in different locations around the garden. These large shrubs are unremarkable during the summer - then autumn arrives turning their foliage into stunning, vibrant colours. This is followed by displays of fragrant, spidery blooms, appearing on bare branches for many weeks in late winter and early spring in yellows, oranges, and reds-reminiscent of warm, fireside flames.

One of my favourite plants, however, is our winter flowering honeysuckle, *Lonicera* x



Pink fluffy catkins belonging to *Salix gracilistyla* 'Mount Aso'



The bright, spidery flowers of *Hamamelis* 'Arnold Promise'



The vibrant autumn colours of *Hamamelis* 'Arnold Promise'

purpusii 'Winter Beauty'. Particularly loved by bumble bees it provides a valuable nectar source when all else is scarce. It is semi-evergreen, so retains some of its foliage throughout winter and produces creamy white tubular flowers that smell delicious! *Lonicera purpusii* is a cross between *L. fragrantissima* and *L. standishii* both originating from China. These winter honeysuckle early blooms symbolise resilience and hope, two qualities in short supply on a damp dark day in January.

Another favourite is *Edgeworthia chrysantha*, sometimes known as yellow Daphne (they are closely related in the same family, *Thymalaceae*). From the woodlands of the far east, this gorgeous plant produces soft, silvery, downy buds on bare branches, from which clusters of highly fragrant yellow flowers emerge. Preferring a sheltered spot, we have them nestled amongst the roses in the meadow at the top of the garden.

The appearance of these flowers with intoxicating scents in the depths of winter evoke the promise of spring's imminent arrival, and with it the reawakening of nature. A reminder that a new year is beginning.



The sweetly scented, delicate blooms of *Lonicera* 'Winter Beauty'



Edgeworthia chrysantha's rounded inflorescences



Temple Church

TEMPLE CHURCH HILARY TERM

We are holding a choral service every Wednesday evening in term-time at 6pm (unless otherwise stated)

JANUARY

Sunday 18 January, 11.15am
Epiphany Carol Service

Wednesday 28 January, 6pm
Choral Evensong for Candlemas
The Round Church was consecrated at
Candlemas, 1185.

FEBRUARY

Wednesday 11 February, 6pm
Choral Evensong for St Valentine's Day
In celebration of all the weddings at the
Temple Church.

Wednesday 18 February, 6pm
Choral Evensong: Ash Wednesday

Wednesday 25 February, 6pm
Choral Evensong for St David's Day
Sung by The London Welsh Male Voice Choir

MARCH

Wednesday 4 March, 6pm
Choral Evensong
Sung by the Temple Church Choir and the
Choir of Norwich Cathedral

Sunday 15 March, 11.15am
Choral Mattins: Mothering Sunday
Followed by Sunday lunch in The Inner
Temple for members of Inner and Middle
Temple and their guests. To book for the
lunch: innertemple.org.uk/mothersday

Wednesday 18 March, 6pm
Choral Evensong for St Patrick's Day

Sunday 29 March, 11.15am
Choral Communion: Palm Sunday

APRIL

Thursday 2 April, 1.15pm
Choral Communion: Maundy Thursday
The Temple Singers.

Friday 3 April, 11.15am
Choral Mattins: Good Friday
The Temple Church Choir.

Saturday 4 April, 8pm
Choral Communion: Easter Vigil:
Holy Saturday
The Temple Singers.

Sunday 5 April, 11.15am
Choral Communion: Easter Sunday
The Temple Church Choir.

Wednesday 15 April, 6pm
Easter Carol Service

Sunday 19 April, 11.15am
Easter Carol Service
To include Vaughan Williams' Five
Mystical Songs.

Wednesday 22 April, 6pm
Choral Evensong for St George's day

Contacts

The Reverend Robin Griffith-Jones
Master of the Temple
07834 521 471
master@templechurch.com

Catherine de Satgé
020 7353 8559
catherine@templechurch.com

Temple Church
www.templechurch.com



Temple Music

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2026

Temple Music Foundation is delighted to announce the new season, packed with exceptional musical talent in our iconic and illustrious venues. Tickets are available to purchase now and we look forward to welcoming you. Here are some particularly special highlights:



Tuesday 20 January | 6.30pm-7.30pm
£20 | Temple Church

Images of the Divine

The Temple Singers return with a compelling programme reflecting sacred mysticism across centuries and Christian traditions. At its centre is **Frank Martin's** *Mass for Double Choir*, a powerful and private statement of faith, heard alongside works by Hildegard von Bingen, Josquin des Prez, Stravinsky, Tavener and Messiaen. **Eric Whitacre's** *Sainte-Chapelle*, inspired by the glowing stained glass of the Parisian chapel, imagines a young girl stepping inside and hearing the voices of angels softly singing the Sanctus, a vision that resonates with the divine encounters explored throughout the programme.

Book Images of the Divine

Tuesday 27 January | 7pm-8pm
Free – reserve place | Temple Church

Love from Afar

Performed in the Round Church, the programme is the second in a series of an innovative collaboration between singers from Siglo de Oro (dir. Patrick Allies) and scholars from the UKRI-funded **Musical Lives** project at **King's College London**. Join us as our singers breathe new life into songs rarely heard today, performing an eclectic sample from one of Europe's earliest surviving traditions of love song.

Reserve Love from Afar



Monday 9 February | 7.30pm
£5-£50 | Temple Church

Four Last Songs

Masabane Cecilia Rangwanasha (soprano)
Julius Drake (piano)

Tonight's performance of these songs of farewell (to life, to art, to a vanished world) is dedicated to the memory of James Flynn KC, a brilliant man and a generous supporter of music in the Temple and beyond. The rest of the programme for this very special recital will be announced in due course. Sponsored by Brick Court Chambers

Book Four Last Songs



Tuesday 24 February | 7.30pm-8.40pm
£10-£30 | Temple Church

Things Invisible to See

Hamish McLaren (countertenor)
Ana Beard Fernández (soprano)
Matthew Jorysz (piano)

The vivid, metaphysical poetry of John Donne is an endless source of inspiration to composers. Tonight's recital centres on the world premiere of *Things Invisible to See*, a new cycle of Donne settings by Michael Berkeley. Commissioned by countertenor Hamish McLaren and performed with pianist Matthew Jorysz, the work explores themes of love, longing and mortality. Soprano Ana Beard Fernández joins them for selected songs by Shostakovich and Purcell, in a programme that traces powerful emotional threads across centuries and continents.

Book Things Invisible to See

Staff News



VICKY PORTINARI

After an incredible 32 years with The Inner Temple, Vicky now begins her well-earned retirement. As she steps into this new chapter, Vicky is still deciding what the future may hold, but we are certain that her energy and drive will lead her towards new and exciting personal ventures before long. Vicky’s dedication and deep knowledge of the Inn, its members and its events, have been built over a lifetime of service. Her presence and experience will be deeply missed. We cannot thank Vicky enough for everything she has given to The Inner Temple over the last three decades.



ADAM BRACEGIRDLE

Adam left us in September to take up an exciting new role as Head of Sales and Events at Tate (Modern and Britain), a fantastic and well deserved step up in his career. Since joining The Inner Temple originally in 2016 for three years and returning in 2020, he has brought dedication, energy and calm reliability to everything he has done. We are incredibly proud to see him move on to such a prestigious organisation and wish him every success in this next chapter. Thank you, Adam, for everything you have given to The Inner Temple.



CHRIS JONES

We say farewell to Chris, a huge presence in the Hall at lunchtime and across so many of our events. After 11 years with The Inner Temple, Chris has become known for his big personality, great service, and natural warmth. Chris now moves on to an exciting new role at the NEC in Birmingham, bringing him closer to home and ending the long commute between London and Birmingham. His personality, energy and hospitality will be truly missed during Hall lunches and events. Thank you, Chris, for your outstanding service during your time at The Inner Temple.



ISABELLE KELTIE

We are delighted to announce that Isabelle has been appointed as the new Assistant to the Director of the Treasury Office, having previously been working as the Treasury Office Assistant.

LONG SERVICE

Many congratulations to members of staff who have completed significant periods of employment at the Inn.

20 YEARS

LUKAS JELINEK
Facilities Manager

15 YEARS

MD ABU SAYED
Team Leader, Catering

10 YEARS

FARID ALI
Night Security

Oral History Project

The Inner Temple Archives is seeking volunteers to help continue its highly successful oral history project, originally launched by Daire Brehan. A selection of recorded interviews can be heard on our website innertemple.org.uk/oral-history

We are now inviting members and students to take part in interviewing some of the Inn's most senior members, as well as many of our long-serving staff and residents. This is a unique opportunity to help preserve the living history of The Inner Temple while developing valuable research and interviewing skills.

Successful applicants will be offered a dedicated training session led by an accredited trainer from the British Library's Oral History Department. Working in a small group, volunteers will receive practical instruction in interview techniques, guidance on effective questioning, and the opportunity to take part in a feedback session where experiences and outcomes can be shared with fellow participants.

Training will take place on 6 May.

Benefits include:

- The opportunity to meet experienced barristers and an invaluable opportunity to share their professional expertise stretching back many years.
- The development of research skills.
- Access to a rich store of history, gossip, and anecdotes at the Inn.
- Useful training in radio recording and editing techniques – useful to anyone considering a parallel career in the media.
- A chance to meet and learn from experts at the British Library.

If you are interested in taking part, please contact Celia Pilkington
cpilkington@innertemple.org.uk
or telephone 020 7797 8251.

Application deadline:
30 March

INNER TEMPLE
ARCHIVES



Hilary Term Diary

JANUARY

- 12 Hilary Term Law Sitings Begin
Bar Liaison Committee
- 13 Executive Committee
Pupils' Course Introduction and
Criminal Case Analysis Session
Scholarship Interview Training
- 14 **Treasurer's Reception for Benchers
(preceded by Choral Evensong)**
- 15 Pupils' Closing Speeches and Civil
Case Analysis Session
- 19 **Qualifying Sessions Committee**
- 20 **Legal Research 1: Basic Legal
Research Skills**
- 22 ITSA Burns Night Supper
- 23-25 Pupils' Residential Weekend - The
Berystede Hotel & Spa, Ascot
- 26 Investment Sub-Committee
- 27 Pegasus Trust Interviews (online)
Estates Committee
**Established Practitioners
Programme: Understanding
Accounts**
Insight Event Midlands: Becoming a
Barrister
Alexander Cameron Mock Trial
Reception
- 29 **Bench Table followed by Dinner
for Benchers**
- 30-1 **Students' Advocacy Residential
Weekend - Crewe Hall**
- 31 Intervarsity Debating Competition
Library Open

FEBRUARY

- 1 Intervarsity Mooting Competition
- 2 Scholarships and Outreach Committee
- 3 **International Practice Panel**
- 4 Investment Sub-Committee
- 5 EDI Sub-Committee
- 6 **North Eastern Circuit Dinner
(Newcastle)**
- 7 Pupils' Advocacy Applications Day
Circuit Skills Day (Newcastle)
- 9 Bar Liaison Committee
**Reader's Lecture Night
(Professor Sarah-Jayne Blakemore
FBA FRS)**
- 10 Sutton Trust Discovery Day
Executive Committee
- 11 Archives Committee
Pension Scheme Trustees
**Pupillage 2: Self-Employed and
Employed Work at the Bar**
- 12 Bar Course Scholarship Interviews
Temple Church Trust
**Legal Research 2: Advanced Legal
Research Skills**
Pupil Mock Trials
- 14 Bar Course Scholarship Interviews
Ethics 2
- 16 Student Engagement and
Support Committee
- 17 Pupil Mock Trials
- 18 **Advocacy 4: Applied Advocacy
Private Guest Night
(preceded by Choral Evensong)**
- 19 **Communication Skills for
Barristers in the Workplace**
- 21 Bar Course Scholarship Interviews
(online)
Hilary Skills Day
- 23 Book Sub-Committee
- 24 Estates Committee
Pupil Mock Trials
Insight Event (Northern Circuit)
- 25 Education and Training Committee
- 26 International Committee
Pupil Mock Trials
- 27 **Wales and Chester Circuit Dinner
(Cardiff)**
- 28 Library Open
Circuit Education Day (Nottingham)

KEY

Green: Qualifying Sessions

Blue: Member Events

Bronze: Bencher only Events

Purple: CPD Events

MARCH

- 2 **Reader's Lecture Night**
(Professor David Ormerod CBE KC (Hon))
- 3 **Inns of Court Alliance for Women Panel Discussion (MT)**
Insight Event Western Circuit (Southampton)
- 4 Pegasus Scholarship Trust
PASS Skills: Interview Skills and Techniques
- 5 **International Practice Panel**
- 9 Bar Liaison Committee
Dinner to the Universities
- 10 Executive Committee
Iftar (Breaking Fast Dinner)
- 11 Library Committee
- 12 **Bench Table**
- 13 **Western Circuit Dinner (Bristol)**
- 15 **Mothering Sunday Lunch**
- 17 Sutton Trust Discovery Day
Advocacy Training Committee
Social Context of the Law Series
- 18 **Château Talbot Dinner**
- 19 Hilary Term Call Night
- 24 Qualifying Sessions Committee
Employed Bar Forum
Online Insight Event
- 28 Library Open
- 29 Choral Mattins Palm Sunday
- 30 **History Society**

APRIL

- 1 Hall Closes
Hilary Term Law Sitting Ends
- 13 Hall Opens
Bar Liaison Committee
New Practitioner Case Conference Session (online)

SAVE THE DATE!

Calling members of the International Circuit – 24 April visit to the ICC in the Hague followed by dinner.

To register your interest, email members@innertemple.org.uk

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Dine, Unwind, Discuss at Pegasus

Pegasus Bar & Restaurant offers a welcoming setting for entertaining, relaxing, or connecting over light bites, lunch, or dinner.

Choose from healthy options or indulge in home comforts, complemented by fine wine and champagne selections. Settle in and enjoy our refined ambiance or grab a takeaway coffee for those on the go.

Monday to Friday 9am – 10pm

Book a table online
innertemplevenuehire.co.uk



Accommodation at your convenience

The Inn's two equally stunning rooms, the Boswell and Chaucer, are available every day and are located on the third floor of 3 Dr Johnson's Buildings.

Whether you are in town for business or pleasure, our accommodation, along with the Pegasus Bar which is open Monday-Friday, offers respite from a long day of meetings or sightseeing.

Choose from the four-poster luxury of the Chaucer or the more modern Boswell with views overlooking Temple Church.

020 7797 8230 | venuehire@innertemple.org.uk
innertemplevenuehire.co.uk

2026

£220

per room per night