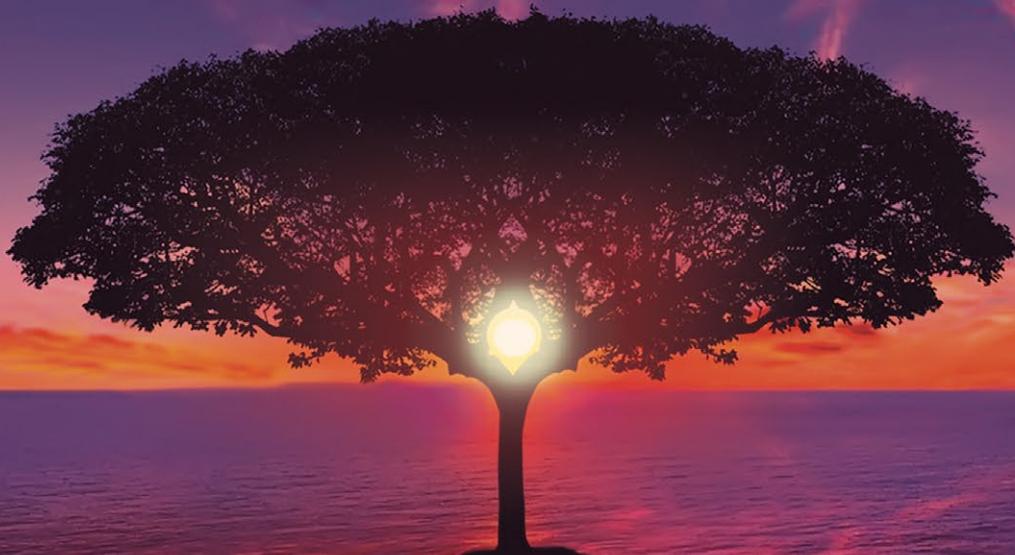


# CitySolicitor

THE MAGAZINE OF THE CITY OF LONDON SOLICITORS' COMPANY AND THE CITY OF LONDON LAW SOCIETY



*“You can’t wait for inspiration.  
You have to go after it with a club.”*

JACK LONDON

Stewart Online  
Solution.

Designed with  
you in mind.



You told us you wanted a system that makes ordering title indemnity insurance fast and easy. With Stewart Online Solution you can access over 150 policies, obtain a quote and receive cover in just three simple steps. In addition, our experienced underwriters and Telephone Solution Team can be contacted from the system and are ready to help when needed.

See for yourself. Visit [stewartsolution.com](http://stewartsolution.com), call 020 7010 7821 or email [solution@stewart.com](mailto:solution@stewart.com).

**stewart title**<sup>®</sup>

Real partners. Real possibilities.<sup>™</sup>



The City of London  
Solicitors' Company

## The City of London Solicitors' Company Court of Assistants

### Master

ALDERMAN DAVID GRAVES, M.A.

### Senior Warden

RUPERT JONES

### Junior Warden

JOHN WOTTON

### Stewards

DAME JANET GAYMER, D.B.E., Q.C. (Hon.)

ROBERT. BELL, B.A., LL.M.

### Full Assistants

Past Master MARTIN ROBERTS, B.A

Past Master ALDERMAN VINCENT KEAVENY

Past Master ALDERMAN DAME FIONA WOOLF, D.B.E

Past Master NICHOLAS HUGHES

JOHN ABRAMSON

NEIL LOGAN GREEN

TONY KING

EDMUND PARKER

MARY-ANN WRIGHT

SARAH DE GAY

### Additional Assistants

COLIN GREGORY

VIRGINIA CANNON

### Chairman of The City of London Law Society

EDWARD SPARROW

### Ex-officio assistants

#### Past Masters

PETER PURTON, O.B.E., L.M.R.T.P.I.

DAVID GRAY, M.A.

SIR MAX WILLIAMS

KEITH HINDE, O.B.E., T.D., M.A.

JOHN YOUNG, LL.B.

DAVID BIDDLE, M.A.

STUART BEARE, M.A., LL.B.

WILLIAM KING, M.A.

RONNIE FOX, M.A.

MICHAEL MATHEWS, M.A.

MICHAEL CASSIDY, C.B.E., B.A., M.B.A., Dep.

BRIAN GREENWOOD, LL.B.

ALASTAIR COLLETT, LL.B.

NIGEL BAMPING, LL.B.

KAREN RICHARDSON, M.A.

WILLIAM KNIGHT, O.B.E.

ALEXANDRA MARKS, C.B.E.

SIR DAVID LEWIS, D.L.

ALDERMAN SIR DAVID WOOTTON

JOHN WHITE, T.D.

### Clerk

LINZI JAMES



The City of London Law Society

## The City of London Law Society

### President

\*THE MASTER

### Chair

EDWARD SPARROW

### Chief Executive

DAVID HOBART

### Treasurer

\*TONY KING

### Secretary

LINZI JAMES

### Administrator

ELIZABETH THOMAS

### Legal Policy Analyst

KEVIN HART

### Committee

CHAIR

PRESIDENT

†PAUL BARNES

RUPERT BOSWALL

†ROBERT BOURNS

†SIMON DAVIS

†CHRISTOPHER DIGBY-BELL

MARC HANSON

VANESSA KNAPP, O.B.E.

JULIE NORRIS

COLIN PASSMORE

ROBERT PITCHER

†DEBORAH PRINCE

NILUFER VON BISMARCK

\* Ex-officio, appointed by the CLSC

† Ex-officio as members of the Council of The Law Society

### Contact Us

4 College Hill, London EC4R 2RB

Tel: 020 7329 2173

Fax: 020 7329 2190

mail@citysolicitors.org.uk

www.citysolicitors.org.uk

Twitter @TheCLLS and @CLSC2

### Editor

Philip Henson (ebl miller rosenfalck)

### Editorial Board

Robert Bell (Bryan Cave LLP), Chair

Marc Hanson (Berwin Leighton

Paisner LLP)

Philip Henson (ebl miller rosenfalck)

David Hobart (CLLS)

Joel Leigh (Howard Kennedy LLP)

Elizabeth Thomas (CLLS)

### Journalist

Maroulla Paul

### Published on behalf of

The City of London Solicitors' Company and

The City of London Law Society

by



Lansdowne Publishing Partnership Ltd

11 School House, 2nd Avenue

Trafford Park Village

Manchester M17 1DZ.

T: 0161 872 6667

W: www.lansdownepublishing.com

E: info@lansdownepublishing.com

Printed by Buxton Press



### Advice to readers:

City Solicitor is published four times a year by the City of London Solicitors' Company and the City of London Law Society. Reproduction, copy, extraction or redistribution by any means of the whole or part of this publication must not be undertaken without the written permission of the publishers. City Solicitor is distributed as a free member benefit to all members of the City of London Solicitors' Company and the City of London Law Society. Articles are published in good faith without responsibility on the part of the publishers or authors for loss to any person acting or refraining from acting as a result of any views expressed in them. Opinions expressed in this publication should not be regarded as the official view of the CLSC or the CLLS or as the personal views of the Editorial Board or their respective firms. All rights are reserved in respect of all articles, drawings and photographs published in City Solicitor, anywhere in the world. Reproduction or imitations of these are expressly forbidden without permission of the publishers.

Keep up to date  
by following us  
on social media:



City of London Solicitors' Company @CLSC2 and City of London Law Society @TheCLLS



Linzi James City of London Solicitors Company



City of London Solicitors Company



City of London Solicitors Company

## what's happening in the legal world



### 7 CHANGING THE WORLD. THEN. AND NOW

A look at some inspirational lawyers, both past and present, who have shaped and changed the world for the better.



## what's happening in the city



### 17 INSPIRATIONAL MUST SEES THIS SPRING

A review of some of the many inspirational events happening in London this season.



## what's happening out of the office



### 18 RULES FOR WORKING (AND LIVING) TOGETHER

Playwrights, Sam Holcroft and Al Muriel discuss their lives, work and love.



### 20 LIVERY NEWS

A look at what has been happening – and what is coming up.

## what happens in the other side of a solicitor's mind



### 22 HOW DAVID BEAT GOLIATH WITH A D-TYPE

Joel Leigh pays homage to the "Scotland Stable".



### 23 ONE LAST WORD

Did you know?.....

## editor's letter



### WELCOME TO THE SPRING EDITION OF CITY SOLICITOR.

Anyone who has studied Law in the last 45 years or so will remember at least one opening line from a judgment by Lord Denning. "It was bluebell time in Kent" was my favourite. Just hearing those words brings back happy memories of the University library. Lord Denning was, and remains, an inspiration to many of us. But he is just one of a long line of lawyers – including some fictional ones such as Atticus Finch – whom we cherish.

Our focus in this edition is on inspiration. We are honoured and privileged to have had the pleasure of interviewing so many talented people for this edition, including Baroness Hale. There was a giddy excitement when we received the wonderful news that Baroness Hale had agreed to be interviewed for City Solicitor, and we are grateful for her time and for the opportunity; along with all of our valued contributors in this edition.

Practising Law gives us all a unique opportunity to help others and hopefully by our actions to inspire others. As a profession we are perhaps not entirely comfortable with discussing the good deeds that we carry out on a daily basis; indeed for many to do so would not be the done thing. But I believe that we should take every opportunity to promote the selfless work that many of our fellow lawyers carry out and I am honoured to share some of the stories of our contributors in this edition. Let us showcase their valued contributions, applaud and celebrate their success, and share their stories. I would encourage you all to continue your own good work so that we can all inspire the current and next generation of City solicitors.

We welcome your feedback and thoughts on this edition. Please do get in touch.

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "P. Henson". The signature is fluid and cursive.

**Philip Henson**  
Editor  
[mail@citysolicitors.org.uk](mailto:mail@citysolicitors.org.uk)

# CHANGING THE WORLD THEN and NOW



**When we think of people who are inspirational and who have changed the world, both in the past and also today, it is not necessarily lawyers who first spring to our minds.**

**Yet despite lawyers sometimes drawing the short straw when it comes to reputational PR, there have always been and still are some hugely dedicated and talented people in our profession doing the most incredible things.**

**Let's celebrate them and their achievements.**



# THEN

## LORD DENNING

Alfred Denning, known as Tom to his friends and family, was born in Hampshire in 1899 and was the son of a draper. He went to school at Andover Grammar and then to Oxford, to Magdalen College where he studied Mathematics and got a First. He taught for a year before deciding to go back to Magdalen to study Law (again he got a First) saying he made that change because he was a very ambitious young man and saw the Law as a profession where he could make progress quickly.

He wasn't wrong. He was appointed a Judge by the age of 45 and was in the Court of Appeal by the very young and unprecedented age of 49. He was Master of the Rolls from 1962 until 1982. He died aged 100 and was considered the most famous Judge ever, even though he never reached the peak of his profession, only ever attaining the third highest role. After his death, the former Prime Minister, Baroness Thatcher said of him;

"Lord Denning was probably the greatest English Judge of modern times. He combined a love of liberty with a passion for justice. His life and work will provide inspiration for generations to come."

His list of achievements is endless. He first came to prominence when he was head of the inquiry into the Profumo political scandal in 1963. His report, the Denning Report, had chapters named in a way that would have not been out of place in a best selling thriller, *The Man In the Mask*, *The Slashing and the Shooting*, *The Meeting of the Five Ministers*. He was the first ever Judge to legally treat couples living together as though they were married. In a divorce case, he pronounced that the wife was awarded an equal share



of the wealth to her husband. He allowed Freddie Laker to compete with British Airways, so paving the way for the low cost airlines that form such an important part of our lives today.

He once joked, although there was much truth behind the words, at a legal dinner;

"Unlike my brother Judge here, who is concerned with law, I am concerned with justice."

Indeed, in order to give someone justice he would summon all his ingenuity and knowledge even if on the surface the wrongdoer appeared to have the Law on his side. His sometimes controversial judgements led him to be rebuked several times by the House of Lords, but he paid little heed. His sole aim was to administer justice.

He claimed that his secret to living so long was "by eating plain English food. I don't want any of that French stuff."

# NOW

## LADY HALE

It can be argued that whilst Lord Denning WAS the most famous Judge, that honour has now been taken over by the recently appointed new President of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom, Baroness Hale.

Brenda Hale, Baroness Hale of Richmond, was born in 1945, the year after Lord Denning became a Judge. She went to school in Richmond in North Yorkshire and then studied Law at Girton College in Cambridge where, like Lord Denning, she got a First. She also was top of her class. She became a lecturer at the University of Manchester and was called to the Bar by Gray's Inn in 1969. Needless to say she came top in the list for Bar Finals. She managed to maintain both a highly successful career in academia alongside her rising stardom in the Law. She was the first ever woman and youngest ever person to be appointed to the Law Commission in 1984 and became Professor of Law at Manchester in 1986.

During her nine years on the Law Commission, Baroness Hale was responsible for some very significant changes and reforms in Family Law. She was highly instrumental in the Children Act of 1989. She was appointed as a Recorder in 1989 and became a Judge in the Family Division of the High Court in 1994. In 1999 she was appointed to the Court of Appeal, only the second woman ever. In 2004, she became the very first woman Lord of Appeal in Ordinary and in September 2017 she became the first woman to be appointed President of the Supreme Court having been the first woman Justice in the Supreme Court in 2009.

"First woman ever" seems to be something Baroness Hale is getting pretty famous for and she is a source of inspiration to all young female lawyers starting off in the profession today, showing them that there is no glass ceiling to be scared of.

But on that subject Baroness Hale says;

"In my time there were so few women around in the profession, it was not that difficult to be the first. Sometimes the

*"I have an endless enthusiasm for the Law in all its aspects, and that includes fairness, equality and justice."*



most important thing is to be the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and so on."

When asked if there is still something she would like to be the first woman or, indeed, person, to do;

"I'm afraid not. When you are the top Judge in the United Kingdom, there really isn't anywhere else to go, except down, and I have no plans to do that quite yet!"

The paucity of women in the judiciary is something Baroness Hale has been and still is very outspoken about.

After her appointment as the first female Law Lord in 2004, she said in a lecture that the gender and ethnicity of Judges matters "because democracy matters".

"We are the instrument by which the will of Parliament and Government is enforced upon the people. It does matter that Judges should be no less representative of the people than the politicians and civil servants who govern us."

What inspires Baroness Hale?

"I have an endless enthusiasm for the Law in all its aspects, and that includes fairness, equality and justice. Each case is different, difficult and involves not just hard work but also hard thinking. It's the sheer challenge of the job that is fascinating, quite apart from trying to keep things on an even keel and keeping the organisation running properly. Many people have inspired me along the way; Tony Weir, who taught me Law at Cambridge, by sheer force of his intellectual energy and kindness to us students, Professor Julian Farrand, the Dean of Faculty of Law at the

University of Manchester who first set me out on a writing career. Several Judges have also inspired me including Dame Margaret Booth who was the third woman High Court Judge and whose robes I acquired when she retired because I took her place in the High Court. Lord Bingham, who was the senior Law Lord when I joined the House of Lords, was an inspiration to many for his wisdom, humanity and morality."

To call Baroness Hale herself inspirational is undoubtedly an understatement when we consider how much she has achieved in her lifetime so far. But what does she consider to be her greatest achievement?

"I am particularly proud of the Children Act of 1989 and the Mental Capacity Act of 2005, both of which I played a large part in whilst I was a Law Commissioner. I am also very proud of some of the decisions we made in the House of Lords and the Supreme Court. For example, there was one case where we held that the best interests of any children involved had got to be of primary concern in making immigration decisions about their parents, and another case in which we held that the definition of violence is wider than hitting or threatening to hit somebody but also includes other domination. There are, of course, a great deal of many other cases that I could mention too!"

What else would she like to achieve?

"I have two years left as a Judge. In that time I hope to lead the Supreme Court in the same direction that it is going in now, and to leave it a happy and successful place."

Given her work to date, we have no doubt that this will definitely be the case.

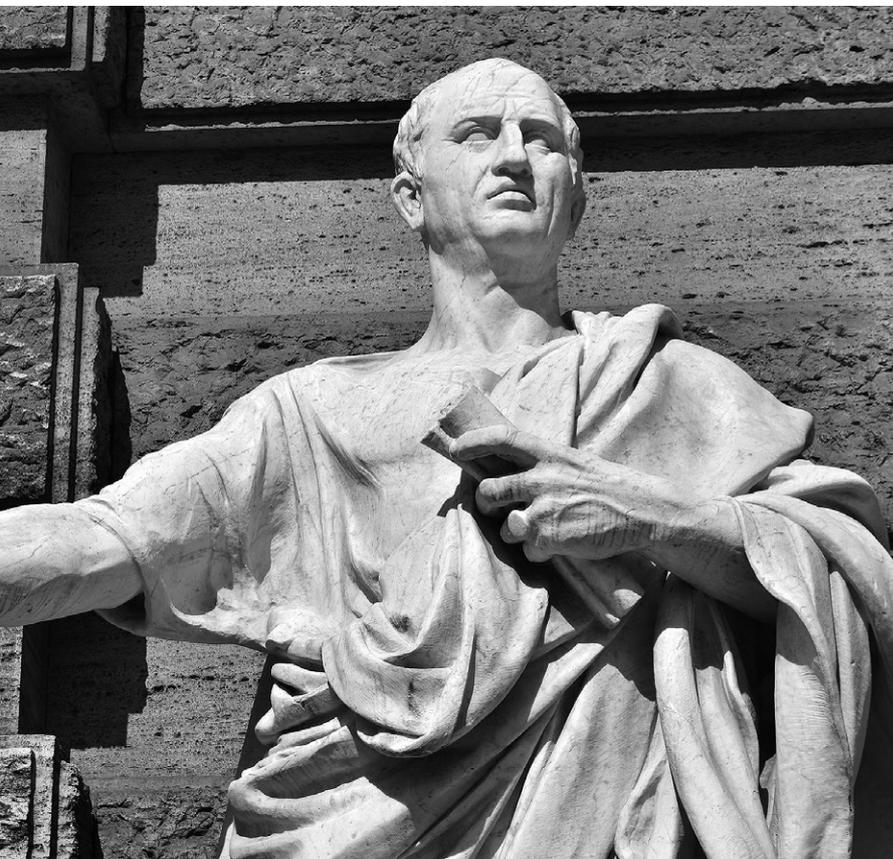
# THEN

## CICERO

Cicero was not one to be twiddling his thumbs; he seems to have had boundless energy and was inspirational as someone who managed to be not a Jack but a Master of many trades. As well as being a lawyer, he was also an orator, political theorist, consul, constitutionalist, philosopher, writer and poet. He was even in the army for a short while before he entered the legal profession. It was in the law, however, that he began to make his name as he was not afraid to take on risky cases that others would shun – and he would invariably win them.

One such case was when he was the quaestor for Sicily and he bravely, although some would say foolishly, prosecuted its Governor, the mighty Galus Verres. His speeches given during this case caused him to win and to also earn the title as the greatest orator in Rome. He was then elected to be Consul, which was then the highest position in the Roman Government, so making him one of the most powerful men in the world. When there was a threat to overthrow the Republic, Cicero managed to thwart it without much difficulty and in the process earned himself the title of *Pater Patriae* which literally means the father of his country. He was loved, respected, feared, revered – all at once. He had his doubts and concerns over Julius Caesar's very fast rise and almost blind ambition but after his assassination he and Mark Anthony became enemies; this antagonism led to his death.

He is most known for developing Ciceronian Rhetoric which was the foremost model of rhetoric for many centuries. It was written in *De Inventione* in around 50 BC and comprised Five Canons which constituted a system on crafting powerful speeches and writing – and are still of great use to all of us lawyers today.



# NOW

## PHILIP WOOD

Another lawyer not known for thumb twiddling and with as many strings to his bow as Cicero is Philip Wood. Wood is an international lawyer, a CBE, a QC, a don at the universities of Oxford, Cambridge and London, a lecturer, an author and a pop song lyricist (yes, you did read that correctly). In his “spare” time, at the youthful age of 72, Wood decided to add running to his tick boxes and completed the Paris Marathon. It's exhausting just to read his list of achievements.

Wood was born in what was then known as Northern Rhodesia and is now Zambia. His father was a lawyer but, initially, Wood had no plans to follow in his footsteps and he went to the University of Cape Town to take a general degree and then came to the UK to take an MA in English Literature, at Oxford.

So, what caused the shift from Literature to the Law?

“I needed to get a job. I happened to read a case about some blokes that were stranded in a boat and so they killed and ate the cabin boy in order to survive. If they hadn't, they would have died. The Judge in the case did not recognise the custom of the sea and the defendants were convicted of murder.”

That case was *R v Dudley and Stephens* (1884) and Queen Victoria subsequently pardoned the accused. Wood sees the case as a matter of a “moral survival code” and was immediately fascinated by the issue of whether it can be right to break the Law and kill so that others can live. Would this be the “road to Damascus?” Wood mused. “If there is no Rule of Law, can humanity survive?”

The moral and philosophical debates that this case triggered in Wood's mind were sufficient to interest and intrigue enough to enter the profession and after attending the College of Law in London he became a trainee at Allen & Overy LLP in 1967 and has just celebrated his 50th anniversary there with a big party.

“I like lawyers. I like being in their company. They are, for the most part, civilised people. And Allen & Overy has a one world principle that I believe in. Nobody cares



## “Where do I belong? On this planet.”

religion but secular authorities pushed all that to one side. The true moral and ethical system is the legal system. And it has always been so. It covers subjects religion has never even thought of. Five hundred years before Moses gave us his 10 bullet points on a mountain top, we had the Code of Hammurabi. Lawyers have long since out-distanced religion. The Law is our code of survival. Not just for the basic, obvious stuff but I am talking Capital Markets, Derivatives, Taxation – all of these are drenched with a moral view. The Law is not just the centre of Jurisprudence, it is the centre of all moral philosophy. Laws are the religion that everyone believes.”

When asked what inspires Wood to do so many inspirational things, he simply answered that he had “no idea”. But on the subject of what inspires him on a daily basis;

“I love work. Even at the age of 75. I want not to be an onlooker or a bystander and so I am determined to be disciplined and stick to what I know well and where I can make the most contribution. I like to think I am doing something useful. I do not just want to be a tourist. I can't dedicate myself to something like travel. I have to push myself to the ultimate. I hope to keep going as long as possible – way past my due date!”

Wood sees his book *The Fall of the Priests and the Rise of the Lawyers* as the most inspirational thing he has ever contributed.

“It shows that philosophy is not dead.”

The people he finds inspirational himself are also lawyers rather than more public figures and he quotes Guy Beringer as one.

So, how did it come about that such an eminent lawyer, academic and philosopher came to write a pop song?

“I used to play the piano for enjoyment – I wouldn't call myself a pianist. I love Freddie Mercury, Buddy Holly, Elvis Presley, Abba, Fats Domino and standards like *Who's Sorry Now?*. The song I penned is not fully in accordance with what someone of my position should be saying but it was written as a private song, not a public one. But it came to be performed in public because of a charitable matter. It's based on some chords from the Carpenters' song, *Solitaire* with some rhythms from *Wake Up Little Susie* over the top of the chords.”

Of course it is! Is there no end to this man's inspirational talent?

here where you have come from. I don't have a sense of belonging for Africa where I was born or to Yorkshire where my family originate from. Where do I belong? On this planet.”

Wood believes that the Law is necessary for our survival and this is discussed and articulated in his first book for the general reader, *The Fall of the Priests and the Rise of the Lawyers*. (Wood's 18 other publications are Law books for Lawyers and include a 9 volume tome, *The Law and Practice of International Finance*, which has remained the unchallenged bible for over two decades now.)

Wood began writing *The Fall of the Priests and the Rise of the Lawyers* whilst he was in the emergency ward of a hospital.

“In a nutshell, it is about our duty to survive. We owe it to both the past and to the future. The moral sense of duty to survive used to be underpinned by

# THEN

## NELSON MANDELA

When Nelson Mandela died on 5 December, 2013 not only did we lose one of the most inspirational leaders of our time, we also lost a most inspirational lawyer too.

Mandela was the first lawyer in South Africa to set up a black law firm with a partner, Oliver Tambo. At that time, 1952, being black in South Africa meant it was easy to commit a crime without even really knowing. There were Whites Only beaches, Whites Only buses, even Whites Only fountains to drink from. As a result, a lot of black people ended up in Court and struggled to get legal representation as most lawyers had Whites Only clients or charged black people even higher fees than they charged their white clients. Mandela and Tambo provided representation for those who otherwise would not have it.

As a politician, Mandela used all the skills he had acquired as a lawyer to try create a democratic South Africa. This led him to being imprisoned for over a quarter of a century but he emerged, without bitterness, to fulfil his dream and to become President.

The values that he risked his life for – Democracy, Human Rights and the Rule of Law – are the very highest values, right at the core of our profession and one could argue that it was his legal background that put Mandela on the path that led him to become one of the most inspirational figures ever.

*“Mandela used all the skills he had acquired as a lawyer to try create a democratic South Africa.”*



# NOW

## GUY MACINNES-MANBY

On paper, you could be forgiven for thinking that Guy MacInnes-Manby is like every other very talented young lawyer who works in big City law firms today. Look more closely and you will find a very inspirational individual whose work has already left a mark on the world that is vast compared to his very little time so far in the profession.

Like Wood, MacInnes-Manby did not start off studying Law. Instead, he studied Politics and International Relations at Emmanuel College, Cambridge. But on graduating, he decided not to go into Politics, preferring a more structured profession, and chose the law because “it covers all facets of life. There are so many different areas of the Law that it affords so much flexibility. All companies have lawyers so within the law problem solving arena, most interests can be satisfied.”

MacInnes-Manby joined Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP in 2015 after doing a Graduate Diploma in Law followed by a Legal Practice Course at the College of Law in Moorgate.

It was in his very first week at Cleary Gottlieb that he received an email that was destined to set the course his career would follow.

“It was the time that the Syrian refugee crisis was at its height and David Cameron was being pressured to decide on a number that could come to the UK. A few people within the firm were interested in setting up some sort of pro-bono project to help and I knew immediately that I wanted to get involved. Initially, there were four of us and I, together with another colleague who has since left, were the ones really pushing it forward. It was tricky in the beginning as in the UK, in order to give immigration advice you need a specific qualification which nobody in the firm had. I spoke to the International Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP) and with their help managed to build the project.”

The project works with some of the most vulnerable refugees from all over the world who have had to flee from their homes for fear of arrest or harm, attempting to get them legal refugee status so they can live without fear in other countries. It has now

---

*“I knew I wanted to work where I had a positive impact on the world.”*

---

grown to have around two dozen volunteers in the London office and is also gaining momentum in Paris, Brussels, Frankfurt, Hong Kong and Abu Dhabi – all of which MacInnes-Manby coordinates. In total, they have worked on fourteen submissions, of which MacInnes-Manby handled three personally and was responsible for staffing the other eleven. He represented a refugee who had fled Iraq for fear of arrest and persecution on the grounds of political affiliations and had subsequently been subjected to illegal detention and torture at the hands of a local militia group in Lebanon. He also represented an LGBTI couple who had been violently attacked and detained by their own families before fleeing from Iraq to Turkey.

In addition to the refugee project, MacInnes-Manby also worked, on a pro-bono basis, on a criminal resentencing project after the abolition of the mandatory death penalty in Malawi. In one case, his work on reassessing evidence that had been used in a trial, led to a man on death row walking free. In March 2017, he was seconded to New York for six months and in that time he assisted by being part of a Cleary Gottlieb rota of volunteers which manned a helpline for migrants in New York who needed assistance when faced with the threat of detention or deportation by Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

But this is not MacInnes-Manby's day job. His practice focuses on domestic and cross-border litigation and dispute resolution, so all the work for refugees is in addition.

In 2017, MacInnes-Manby was rewarded for his excellent pro-bono work to date when he received the City of London Law Society's Wig and Pen Prize.

What inspires him to do so many inspirational things?

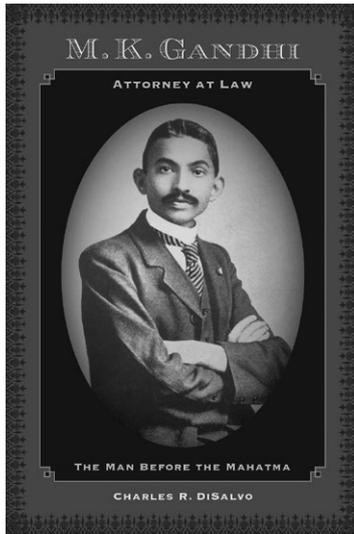
“Even before I became a lawyer, I knew I wanted to work where I had a positive impact on the world. My grandmother was my inspiration. She was one of the very first women in South Africa to go to university. I am also inspired every single day by my colleagues. We all work hard and it's stressful but everyone just gets down to business without any fuss, without any shouting – even when we are all breathing down each other's necks. The response I have had from them to the project is phenomenal. It has proven to me that lawyers are much more than the stereotype of the job.”





# THEN

## MAHATMA GANDHI



The whole world knows Gandhi as a pacifist reformer and leader of Indian nationalism who employed non-violent civil disobedience in order to inspire movements for civil rights all over the globe.

But how many know that before he was a politician, he was a lawyer? He was admitted to the Inner Temple of London in 1888 and called

to the Bar in 1891. During these three years, as well as being pivotal in shaping his philosophy of non-violence, he also learnt to ballroom dance, became an advocate for vegetarianism and developed a passion for Equity Law.

Gandhi suffered from a huge affliction which, initially, had a negative impact on his legal career and which could have prevented him from growing into the political giant he was later to become. He was painfully shy which obviously had a somewhat adverse effect when he was publicly representing cases. So severe was this impediment that on one of his first cases he actually had to resign, he was so overcome with fear.

But Gandhi was not a defeatist and he worked long and hard to overcome his disability to the point that not only was he able to stand up confidently in Court but to deliver long, long speeches – sometimes as long as two and a half hours – which would persuade and sway even the most cynical of audiences.

This hard fought and newly discovered ability to sway with rhetoric paved the way for this lawyer to become one of the most inspirational leaders ever.

He used his hard earned use of words to secure the rights of Indians in what was then British South Africa, a place run by Europeans who identified more with the UK than with Africa.

Whilst initially there was some concern about a lawyer exercising and supporting civil disobedience, later his legal and political beliefs converged as he completely and utterly dedicated himself to his political, moral and spiritual beliefs.

# NOW

## KATHERINE (KATIA) RAMO

Katherine (Katia) Ramo is an international Corporate and Commercial Solicitor. She is an Associate in Technology, Media and Communications at the London Office of global law firm CMS.

Ramo is active in all diversity-related issues in the City of London and beyond. She is the founder and has been Chair of CMS ENABLE Disability Network since 2014. She is a Trustee on the Board of BlindAid and Co-Chair of Interlaw Diversity Forum Enable Network and also Co-Chair of the Visually Impaired Working Group, PurpleSpace. She has a passion for serving, assisting and advocating on disability issues, especially having become disabled as an adult.

“My journey into law was unconventional and unexpected. I came to it as a mature student after having a highly successful career in International Development working on international Acquisition and Assistance projects in various sectors e.g. investment and export promotion, financial services, environment, women in development, infrastructure, micro-lending and judicial reform. This involved working in Washington DC and globally in the field on behalf of the US State Department, USAID, the UN, the IMF, the World Bank, foreign Governments, donor agencies and non-Governmental organisations.

The idea of changing my career path to international law was born after undertaking a special field assignment that challenged me to the core. Briefly, one of my last assignments was a civilian tour of duty in Afghanistan. I was a contracts, sub-contracts and grants manager responsible for a portfolio of USD100 million (which was a lot of money in 2003/2004) for a high-profile international development project that aimed to rebuild Afghanistan’s economy. Irrespective of any physical risks that were present at the time, I loved it. I was living history and actively involved in a unique opportunity in bettering the lives of others. It enriched my life and innate love of service.

Undoubtedly, it was a turning point in my life, both personally and professionally.

Sadly, I was exposed to trauma on more than one occasion. As such, after 14 months, I had to cut my three-year assignment short. I returned to Washington to DC for treatment and medical monitoring. I was diagnosed with PTSD but also started losing my vision. A few months later, in November 2006, I became severely visually-impaired blind. This was the start of various disabilities unfolding that I neither fathomed nor imagined their scope let alone the enormity of what ensued.

‘Know thyself’ is a wise adage to live by. I knew that I had an active mind. I needed to put it into action mode and work again. Within 8 months from my initial vision loss, I put a plan together to change not only my career but my whole environment. I moved from Washington DC to London on

my own to pursue studies and a career in International Arbitration as I had some experience of it during my international development career.

I took an LLM in International Comparative Dispute Resolution at Queen Mary University of London. I thoroughly enjoyed it. It appealed to me given its international spectrum. I decided to properly commit to and complete my legal education. I did the GDL and LPC, trained and qualified with CMS.

Currently, I am an Associate in Technology, Media and Communications. I advise on corporate, commercial and telecommunication regulatory work. I qualified as a transactional energy lawyer. The initial plan was to qualify as a contentious energy lawyer especially as I am in the process of completing a PhD in International Energy Dispute Resolution. However, life does not always go according to plan. Early on in life, I learnt to remain flexible and explore opportunities as they arise.

At the height of the oil price meltdown, I accepted a secondment at one of our important telecoms clients. It was a superb opportunity as it opened my eyes to a whole new sector, namely Technology, Media and Communications that I tremendously enjoy. I never looked back.

As to the disabilities and how they shaped me, the PTSD and vision loss ushered the development of a new set of terms of reference in my life as a person with disabilities. The vision loss started slowly. Then all of a sudden the pace of deterioration increased and was coupled with hearing loss that baffled the doctors. The mystery was solved via genetic DNA testing at Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridge. They confirmed that I have a genetic condition called Stickler Syndrome Type II which causes vision loss, hearing loss, and affects the joints. It has no cure.

It affects me everyday. It is part of my life and who I am. I did all of my legal studies and my training contract applications whilst I was adjusting to this new reality. It does not prevent me from working as a City lawyer, pursuing my diversity work or supporting global charities via sport challenges such as cycling from London to Paris or the Engadin Cross Country Ski Marathon.

I had to find ways of coping with learning how to re-live. This was a journey not of my choosing. I had to embrace it. It was not easy. I had to teach myself to operate with a resilient hope, find ways to teach it to others and/or be a voice, if needed, for persons with disabilities who are for no fault of their own unable to express themselves and their needs.

It stares at us everyday that a life is a life irrespective of triumphs or defeats or which stage of it we are at. A life of a disabled person is no different than another, yet it is lived differently. It is lived with constant challenges, isolation and struggles.

These challenges surface to the fore with vengeance or seep into unsettling undercurrents on a daily basis. They create battles we are forced to fight. Yet when we choose life, by default, we find ways of coping.

To the disabled, the pain...the difficulty... the struggles... the constant undermining and bigotry are all fires that burn



bright with no exaggeration on a daily basis, and in the process turn us into gold. They are fires that shine bright to help us gain better and deeper understanding that treating disabled persons with dignity and respect is not a sentimental charity. It is a way of life as it should be.”

Ramo's story and the way she has learned to deal with all that life has thrown at her make her one of the most inspirational people you could hope to meet, both within our industry and generally. But who does she draw her inspiration from?

“I find anyone who crosses my path inspirational whether it is a short lived interaction, an on-going one; an easy or a challenging one, with anyone from any walk of life. There is always a lesson and something inspirational to learn from our interactions if we really pay attention and set our ego aside.

My loyal, beautiful guide dog, Cora, is the first Free-Dog in the City of London since 1237, and inspires me daily.

I am one of the luckiest people in the world as I have had access to many wonderful, inspirational people. I couldn't possibly pick one, there are so very many. In no particular order I would like to mention: my international development mentors Tony Teele and Candy Conrad (sadly, both no longer with us), Dr Peter Varadi, a global solar energy pioneer, Dame Fiona Woolf, Penelope Warne, the senior partner and head of energy of my firm, Judge John Lafferty, the late Sir John Wall of the Society of Visually Impaired Lawyers, Stephen Hawking, Stephen Fry, Queen Elizabeth II, Graham Norton, my Stickler Syndrome retina surgeon, my orthopaedic spinal surgeon, the Air Force, Navy, and military who put their lives at risk for us, the children in war zones, my friends and colleagues and the aid workers who died in Afghanistan, Daniel Winterfeldt the LGBT advocate, and lastly, the everyday men and women, the unsung heroes, who get our country functioning daily by quietly doing their jobs with great pride and ethic – these are all people I find inspirational.

For me, to be inspirational means that we must all look beyond our limitations, rise above bigotry and be of service.”

And, indeed, Ramo continues to inspire us all by being the personification of her philosophy.

# Feel like a winner, every day



Keep on top of managing your AP1s with our unique dashboard.

Managing AP1s can be time consuming, especially when it comes to requisitions. InfoTrack now give you access to an innovative AP1 dashboard with multiple functions including the ability to prioritise applications, respond to requisitions and include further supporting evidence in a WhatsApp-style message exchange. And with a tabled snapshot to manage the status of all AP1s, making it easier to submit, prioritise and respond within a single platform - using InfoTrack will make you feel like a winner, every day.

Contact us today to find out more.

Visit [www.infotrack.co.uk/AP1dashboard](http://www.infotrack.co.uk/AP1dashboard) or call 0207 186 8090



[ eCOS ] + [ Searches ] + [ SDLT ] + [ AP1 ] + [ Land Registry ]

# INSPIRATIONAL MUST SEES THIS SPRING

London is a plethora of inspirational arts and culture. Whether you are drawn to music, art, dance or drama, it's all here for you to enjoy. Here are a few highlights to whet your appetite.

## LADY WINDERMERE'S FAN

**VAUDEVILLE THEATRE**  
404 Strand, London WC2R 0NH  
Booking until 7 April 2018



The Vaudeville Theatre has been running a year of Oscar Wilde plays, in celebration of this ever inspiring writer. And until 7th April, you can catch the wonderfully funny and talented Jennifer Saunders of Ab Fab and French and Saunders fame,

starring as the Duchess of Berwick, in Lady Windermere's Fan. This is Saunders first West End appearance for over two decades. The play is directed by actress, comedian, playwright and theatre director, Kathy Burke and also stars Samantha Spiro and Kevin Bishop.

It is a story of suspicion and doubt. The scene is a birthday party. All should be happiness and laughter. But a seed has been planted and the birthday girl is suddenly full of doubt about her husband's fidelity. And is his mistress going to be a guest at the event?

## PICASSO 1932 — LOVE, FAME AND TRAGEDY

**TATE MODERN**  
The Eyal Ofer Galleries,  
Bankside, London SE1 9TG  
8 March – 9 September 2018

Who can fail to be inspired by Picasso? This exhibit focuses on one specific year of his life, 1932. Not only are there paintings, sculptures and drawings from this intensely creative period featured, but also personal photographs that give us a glimpse into the man himself. A highlight of the show is three paintings of Picasso's lover of the time, Marie-Therese Walter, which were painted in just five days in March. These paintings have never before been shown all together.

A veritable feast for all Picasso lovers, this exhibit gives the audience not only wonderful art to behold but also a deep insight into the man himself.



## SUTRA

**SADLERS WELLS**  
Rosebery Avenue,  
London EC1R  
26–28 March

Choreographer Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui is always an instant sellout – but combine his work with sculptor Antony Gormley's art and throw in 19 Buddhist monks from the Shaolin Temple in China and you begin to understand why Sutra is one of Sadler's Wells longest running and most inspirational productions. This is its tenth anniversary in London and not to be missed.

This contemporary ballet, which features music composed by Polish composer, Szymon Brzoska and is performed live, manages to effectively combine athleticism with philosophy as it examines the relationship between the Shaolin faith and Kung Fu in a modern world.

Gormley's 21 wooden boxes form the perfect set for Cherkaoui's stunning story written in motion without words.

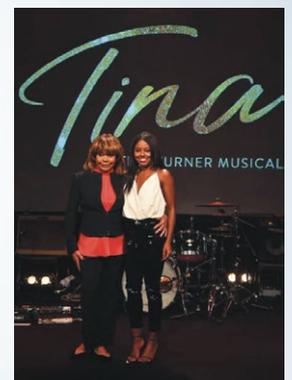


## TINA — THE TINA TURNER MUSICAL

**ALDWYCH THEATRE**  
49 Aldwych, London WC2B 4DF  
21 March – 16 June 2018

Tina Turner, the 'Queen of Rock n Roll', sold more concert tickets than any other artist. Her songs, which won her 11 Grammy awards, are known all over the world. But so is her private life. Her marriage to Ike, her former music collaborator and partner on songs such as Proud Mary and River Deep, Mountain High, was as talked about as their music. Tina endured huge abuse from Ike but rather than fall apart, she left him, divorced and went on to become one of the greatest singers ever. Today, she lives in Switzerland and has worked with Stage Productions, Joop van den Ende and Tali Pelman to bring TINA: the Tina Turner Musical to life. This musical celebrates her music but also tells the story of her roller coaster life.

American actress and Tony Award nominee Adrienne Warren (Shuffle Along, or, the Making of the Musical Sensation of 1921 and All That Followed, Bring It On) will play Tina Turner in this new musical which is being directed by Phyllida Lloyd, who directed the world premiere of MAMMA MIA!



# RULES FOR LIVING (and writing) TOGETHER



Sam Holcroft and Al Muriel are two writers who are hot property and very much in demand at the moment. Currently they are working together on an adaptation of Daniel O' Malley's book *The Rook*, which "follows a young woman who wakes up in a London park suffering amnesia, surrounded by bodies, all wearing latex gloves. As she attempts to piece together her past, she finds herself being pursued by shadowy paranormal adversaries – and discovers she has peculiar abilities of her own". From all accounts it is set to be the next big thing and it is taking up every second of Holcroft and Muriel's time so getting them to commit to an interview for *City Solicitor* was both a headache and a coup.

*The Rook* is not the first time these two highly talented writers have collaborated. They worked together also on the highly acclaimed, very funny and totally heartwarming production of *Fantastic Mr Fox*. Holcroft adapted Roald Dahl's book for the stage and Muriel wrote the lyrics for the songs. It has had two runs now at the Lyric in Hammersmith and was a firm hit with not just audiences but critics too. The *Times* called it a "whisker-licking treat" and the *Evening Standard* called it "jaunty entertainment with a keen satirical bite".

Holcroft originally studied Biology at Edinburgh and whilst there got heavily involved with the University's theatre company, *Bedlam*. She recalls "spending my days working with growth hormones in petrie dishes and my nights making clothes for the Edinburgh Festival". She then joined a Young Writers group, the Traverse Theatre and continued to juggle her two loves; science and theatre. It was during this time that Holcroft wrote her first play, a three hander called *George Ordinary* about a man having a nervous breakdown. Unsure as to whether to continue with academia and take a PhD or to pursue her love of writing, the decision was made for her when, on graduation, the Traverse offered her an official commission. Her first big break came when she wrote "*Cockroach*" for the National Theatre of Scotland. This was a play about children at school learning biology but a war breaks out and so the boy pupils are called up to enlist; it explores themes of science and war and evolution. It was shortlisted for an award and there was no looking back. Holcroft went on to write the much lauded *Rules For Living*, a black comedy about dysfunctional families and social constructs, for the Royal National Theatre and is now working on commissions from the Royal Court, Nicholas Hytner's

*"Spending my days working with growth hormones in petrie dishes and my nights making clothes for the Edinburgh Festival."*

*“We are like two sides of a single brain.”*

new Bridge Theatre as well as another play for the National Theatre.

Muriel studied Economics at Bristol University and, like Holcroft, juggled both sides of his brain after discovering the student theatre and developing a love for it. When he returned to London, he became involved with the Soho Theatre's Young Writers Group, progressing right through the gamut, from a taster day to a week, to a month and then onto advanced courses. From there he went on to the Future Perfect scheme, a collaborative project between Channel 4 and Paines Plough where six writers are chosen each year and have to write something new each month.

“It was a bit like Mission Impossible. We wrote a play for the Globe one month, had to perform at Trafalgar Studios another, and had to pitch ideas to TV companies.”

Whilst all this was going on, Muriel had another life. His day job. From 2003–2010 he worked for the Institute for Fiscal Studies, the Economic Think Tank focusing on poverty and inequality.

It was only when the Artistic Team behind Paines Plough joined forces with the Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC) that Holcroft and Muriel's lives were to change forever. Both of them were commissioned by the RSC to write plays whilst in residency in Newcastle and in 2009 the two writers met at a “glamorous Premier Inn”, Muriel recalls.

Although they both continued to write separately, they also begun to collaborate – in more ways than one as it happens and in 2015 the pair married.

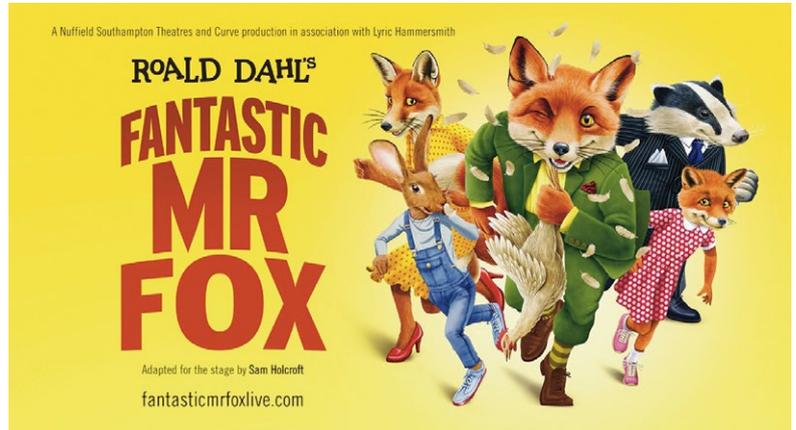
Muriel says;

“The piece of work I have written that I am most proud of is The Poet Of Elswick Park which I wrote whilst Sam and I were in residency in Newcastle. Because the RSC has so very many actors, we had to write plays with big casts. This was a new departure for me. But fortunately Sam liked it enough not to break up with me!”

Today, the pair live and work together day in, day out. Do they find it difficult?

Holcroft comments;

“Working together is not something we ever expected or intended to do but it's brilliant. They say two heads are better than one – and there's a reason for that. We have different strengths and weaknesses and like and dislike different bits of the process so it works out



perfectly. It's wonderful to be in your own place and to be able to make creative things with someone you love.”

Muriel adds;

“It's very intense but we thrive on it. We are like two sides of a single brain.”

So who and what inspires these two?

For Holcroft it is “writing about subjects I feel passionate about – like mental health, science and family dynamics. Then I try and communicate my passion to others. The writers who inspire me are Caryl Churchill, Sarah Kane and David Harrower.

At this point, Muriel interjects “inspiring people? We'll take each other as read! For me, it's Tony Kushner, Tom Stoppard – massively, Aaron Sorkin and Martin McDonagh. I am always hugely inspired when I see something phenomenal. When I saw Angels In America it blew my head away and I knew I wanted to have that same impact on others. It's the same when we watch great drama on Netflix; the German series, Dark, was very inspirational.

As well as having a myriad of individual projects, both have a few TV ideas they want to develop together. They obviously have not been put off by the crazy working hours TV has demanded from them so far. At least they have understanding and empathetic other halves.



# LIVERY NEWS

A look at what is coming up – and what has happened.

## The City of London Solicitors' Company

- Mon 14th May** Court meeting at 5.30 p.m.  
Annual Service at 6.30 p.m.  
H.M. Tower of London, followed by  
Reception/Supper at Trinity House.  
Liverymen, Freeman and Guests. **L**
- 
- Wed 16th May** Inter-Livery Clay Shoot, Holland & Holland,  
Northwood, Middlesex.
- 
- Thurs 17th May** Inter-Livery Golf – Prince Arthur Cup.  
Walton Heath.
- 
- Mon 18th June** Court meeting at 4.30 p.m.  
Annual General Meeting and Champagne  
Reception at 5.30 p.m. at Tallow  
Chandlers' Hall, Dowgate Hill, EC4.  
Liverymen and Freeman
- 
- Mon 25th June** Election of Sheriffs, Guildhall, noon.  
Followed by lunch at a venue to be  
arranged. Liverymen.
- 
- Thurs 6th Sept** General Purposes Committee  
at the Company's offices at  
4 College Hill, EC4 at 5.00 p.m.
- 
- Mon 24th Sept** \*Court meeting at 4.30 p.m. followed by  
Court Dinner at 6.30 p.m. **L**
- 
- Thurs 27th Sept** SOLACCSUR Golf Day. Walton Heath  
Golf Club. Details available from the Clerk.
- 
- Mon 1st Oct** Election of Lord Mayor, Guildhall,  
11.45 a.m. followed by lunch at a venue  
to be arranged. Liverymen.
- 
- Mon 5th Nov** Livery Dinner, Carpenters' Hall  
1 Throgmorton Avenue, EC2 at 6.45 p.m.  
Liverymen and Guests. **D**
- 
- Sat 10th Nov** Lord Mayor's Show
- 
- Mon 12th Nov** General Purposes Committee,  
at the Company's offices at  
4 College Hill, EC4 at 5.00 p.m.
- 
- Thurs 29th Nov** \*Court meeting at 11.00 a.m. followed by  
luncheon at 1.00 p.m.

## The City of London Law Society

- Wed 11th April** Committee of the City of London Law  
Society at 11.00 a.m. at the offices of  
Berwin Leighton Paisner LLP, Adelaide  
House, London Bridge, EC4R 9HA.
- 
- Mon 18th June** Annual General Meeting and  
Champagne Reception at 6.00 p.m.  
at Tallow Chandlers' Hall,  
Dowgate Hill, EC4R 2SH.
- 
- Wed 27th June** Committee of the City of London Law  
Society at 11.00 a.m.  
at the offices of Reynolds Porter  
Chamberlain LLP, Tower Bridge House,  
St. Katharine's Way, E1W 1AA
- 
- Wed 19th Sept** Committee of the City of London Law  
Society at 11.00 a.m. at the offices of  
Eversheds Sutherland LLP,  
One Wood Street, EC2V 7WS.
- 
- Wed 21st Nov** Committee of the City of London Law  
Society at 11.00 a.m.  
at the offices of TLT LLP,  
20 Gresham Street, EC2V 7JE.

\*At Cutlers' Hall, Warwick Lane, EC4.

For the assistance of members, the dress for evening functions is indicated in the programme as follows:

- E** Evening Dress (white tie)  
**D** Dinner Jacket (black tie)  
**L** Lounge suit

Keep up to date by following us on social media:

- City of London Solicitors' Company @CLSC2 and  
City of London Law Society @TheCLLS
- Linzi James City of London Solicitors Company
- City of London Solicitors Company
- City of London Solicitors Company



Photo credit © Historic Royal Palaces

## The Company's Annual Service

**Monday 14th May 2018 6.30 pm**

Join us for this year's Annual Service which the Company has been privileged to hold in the Chapel Royal of St Peter-ad-Vincula in HM Tower of London for nearly 50 years. Once again, the service will be led by the Company's Honorary Chaplain, the Reverend Canon Roger Hall MBE, Chaplain to Her Majesty The Queen and the Tower of London and will feature the magnificent Choir of the Chapel Royal.

Dating from 1520, the Chapel Royal is of huge historical importance within the Tower. Three Queens of England, Anne Boleyn, Catherine Howard and Jane Grey, and two Saints of the Roman Catholic Church, Sir Thomas More and John Fisher, are all buried here and attending the service offers a unique opportunity to visit after the tourist crowds have departed.

The service is followed by a reception and supper at nearby Trinity House and is open to all Liverymen, Freemen and their guests. If you have not previously attended, look out for details on the Company's website [www.citysolitors.org.uk](http://www.citysolitors.org.uk) or contact [clerk@citysolitors.org.uk](mailto:clerk@citysolitors.org.uk)



## CITY OF LONDON SOLICITORS' COMPANY DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

The Company's Distinguished Service Award for 2017 was awarded to Alasdair Douglas at the Company's Livery Dinner in November. Alasdair received the award in recognition of his outstanding service as Chair of the City of London Law Society from 2011 to 2016. During his time as Chair, Alasdair was instrumental in raising CLLS's profile with Government and establishing a closer relationship for the City with the SRA and the Law Society. He is pictured receiving his Award from the Master, Alderman David Graves.

## CITY OF LONDON LAW SOCIETY LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Each year, the City of London Law Society presents a Lifetime Achievement Award to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the profession. The Award is presented at the annual British Legal Awards held in November each year and the recipient for 2017 award was Philip Wood CBE, QC (Hon) and Special Global Counsel at Allen & Overy LLP.

Philip is one of the world's leading experts in comparative and cross-border financial law, a celebrated speaker, a well-known writer (even having a pop song to his credit) and a highly experienced practitioner. His 40 years' experience at Allen & Overy includes almost every aspect of international banking and finance. He was a partner from 1973 to 2002 and headed the banking department for ten years during that period. The firm still benefits from that incredible experience today, through Philip's roles as London-based Special Global Counsel, and as Head of A&O's Global Law Intelligence Unit which is a think tank.

In addition, Philip has written 19 books and holds academic posts at three of the UK's top universities. He is Visiting Professor in

International Financial Law at the University of Oxford; Yorke Distinguished Visiting Fellow at the University of Cambridge; and a Visiting Professor at Queen Mary University, London. He has also been a member of the CLLS's own Financial Law Committee for many years.

Philip, centre, is pictured at the British Legal Awards with Edward Sparrow, Chair of the City of London Law Society and compere Sally Phillips.



## DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

**18th June 2018  
5.30 pm**

**The City of London Solicitors' Company AGM & City of London Law Society AGM & Champagne Party.**

All Liverymen & Freemen and members of the City of London Law Society are invited to attend the CLSC and CLLS Annual General Meetings at Tallow Chandlers' Hall, Dowgate Hill, London EC4. Look out for details and a booking form at [www.citysolitors.org.uk](http://www.citysolitors.org.uk)

# How David beat Goliath with a D-Type

By Joel Leigh

**Paying homage to the privateer team that pulled off a clean sweep at Le Mans in 1957 and examining their legacy.**

As any Formula 1 fan will tell you, the role of a privateer in a major race series is almost always to make up the numbers. They fill the grid, provide casual competition to the big-name teams and never, ever challenge for the top prize. But it wasn't always thus.

Whilst die-hard motor enthusiasts will know that Jaguar D-Types roared to three successive victories at Le Mans in 1955, 1956 and 1957, fewer may be aware that the last two were achieved by Ecurie Ecosse, or the "Scotland Stable", a tiny motor racing team founded in November 1951 by Edinburgh wine dealer and amateur racing driver David Murray and mechanic Wilkie Wilkinson.

Initially, Murray persuaded a group of Scottish-based owners to race their Jaguar XK 120's under the new team name and pool the prize monies, only later branching out into Formula 1 and Formula 2. Within a few short years though, his attentions were focused solely on sportscar events and following Ron Flockhart's 1956 win in a car which had crashed at the Nürburgring the previous year, the team quickly made an impression. Their indisputable moment in history came at Le Mans in 1957, when they smashed both first and second place, with Flockhart leading Ninian Sanderson home.

Remarkably, third, fourth and sixth places were all taken by other, privately entered D-Types, their supremacy challenged only by the Ferrari 315S driven by Stuart Lewis-Evans, in fifth. The win was achieved over 327 laps of the Circuit de la Sarthe, at an average speed of 113.85 mph.

The 60th anniversary of the 1957 win at Le Mans has prompted revival meetings up and down the country, with enthusiasts eager to celebrate both the D-Type in general and Ecurie Ecosse in particular, with some describing it as the most successful Scottish export since shortbread.



The winning cars were exhibited at both the Concours of Elegance at Hampton Court Palace and the Goodwood Revival last year, alongside further examples of 1956 and 1957 D-Types and numerous other team vehicles, spanning everything from a 1950 Bedford K Series van to a 1967 Ecosse Imp. Having neglected to read the press pack properly, I was unaware that visitors wearing tartan could join the pre-parade grid walk, so had to make do with watching from the sidelines, regretfully.

Whilst Ecurie Ecosse continues to compete in the European Le Mans Series, one of their main legacies is that the 1956 and 1957 victories directly inspired Sir Williams Lyons, the so called "Mr Jaguar", to convert the sole remaining twenty-five D-Type racers into the now legendary road-going Jaguar XK-SS, in so doing creating the world's first genuine supercar, capable of storming to 100 mph from a standing start in just over 13 seconds with a top speed of 120 mph; unheard of at the time. In what must have been a PR disaster, nine of the twenty-five were then destroyed in the infamous Browns Lane factory fire of February 12th, 1957. Owners of the surviving models included speed freak Steve McQueen, who endearingly referred to his as the 'Green Rat'.

Though the influence of the D-Type lives on in the design of the hugely popular E-type, XJS and even the F-type, Jaguar's Continuations Division recently revisited the original marque, building versions of the lost nine cars at an estimated £1M each, delivering the first to its new owner

in late 2017. Astonishingly, the D-Type originally retailed for £1,895, significantly less than its build cost at the time, but models with a serious racing pedigree have sold for considerably more.

In 2013, Dick Skipworth's Ecurie Ecosse collection realised record prices of £8.8M at Bonhams, with the team's 1952 Jaguar C-Type hitting £2.9M and its 1956 Jaguar 'Shortnose' D-Type £2.6M, both to a buyer in the United States. The Ecurie Ecosse three-car Transporter, a unique 1960 Commer TS3 with a two-stroke engine immortalised in miniature by Corgi toys, exceeded all expectations at £1.8M after a 20-minute telephone bidding war, making it the most valuable historic commercial vehicle sold at auction ever. More recently, Flockhart's car was re-sold for around \$22M at the Monterey auctions, so an excellent investment all round.

Comparisons have been made between the cockpit of the D-Type and that of a WW11 fighter jet, all white numbers on black dials, toggle shifts and painted metal finishes; the speeding car reminiscent of a low flying Spitfire. For all the brute power and symbolism however, the last words go to motoring journalist John Bolster, who wrote in February 1955: "Like all Jaguars, the D-Type has a wonderfully smooth engine...one's nearest and dearest could drive it through the West End without demur". I seriously doubt that could be said of any other triple Le Mans winner.

**Joel Leigh is the motoring correspondent of City Solicitor and a Partner at Howard Kennedy LLP**

## ONE LAST WORD

# PREMIER REWARDS

**In 2002, more than a million people voted in a poll conducted by the BBC's Great Britons programme. Almost half voted for Winston Churchill, who was declared the Greatest Briton. Almost 60 years after the end of the Second World War, and Churchill still inspires the British public.**

So what was his reward from a grateful nation in the aftermath of the cataclysmic struggle against Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan?

Prime Ministers without noble titles were routinely given Earldoms. This practice carried on after Churchill, with Attlee, Eden and Macmillan donning ermine after being booted to the House of Lords as Earl Attlee, Earl of Avon and Earl of Stockton respectively.

British war heroes who survived long enough to be rewarded were heaped with honours, land and even stately homes. Churchill was even born in one of these trophies of victory – Blenheim Palace. Blenheim had been awarded to John Churchill after his pivotal victory over the French at the Battle of Blenheim.

So, what to bestow on a conquering Prime Minister?

Over time, Churchill accumulated accolades from across the UK and around the world. He became the first honorary citizen of the United States of America. Churchill College in Cambridge was created as the national and Commonwealth memorial. The Queen invested him as a Knight of the Garter and he was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature.

But he turned down what would have been the most remarkable honour: the Dukedom of London.

London had never had a Duke. Indeed, the city proudly defended its prerogatives against incursion by the Crown and aristocracy.

So it would have been a powerful and deeply symbolic act, joining the heroic, blitzed city with its celebrated war leader.

In the end, Churchill turned it down. He preferred to remain in the House of Commons and feared a title would hinder his descendant's political chances.

*“Churchill accumulated accolades from across the UK and around the world.”*



This article was provided courtesy of Ian Chapman-Curry, Principal Associate at Gowling WLG and host of the Almost History podcast  
[www.almosthistorypodcast.com](http://www.almosthistorypodcast.com)

# DO YOU KNOW THE TRUE IDENTITY OF YOUR CUSTOMERS?

**Our AML check will confirm it in 5 seconds! Business checks take a little longer; 1-2 minutes!**

We use the very best quality data to deliver our AML identity check for a result you can rely on. Sanction & PEP screening is automatically included along with Daily Monitoring and Automated Enhanced Due Diligence all at no additional cost.

Call us now to book a free demonstration on:

**0113 333 9835**

Or visit us online:

**SMARTSEARCHUK.COM**

**SMARTSEARCH**<sup>TM</sup>  
THE ONLY AML RESOURCE YOU NEED

POWERED BY  
DOW JONES | **experian** | **EQUIFAX**

SmartSearch delivers UK and International Business checks in the UK and International Markets with inclusive Worldwide Sanction & PEP screening, Daily Monitoring, Email Alerts and Automated Enhanced Due Diligence.