



Message from the Chair

Dear Members,

It seems like only yesterday that I was elected as Chair and here we are at the end of the year. I have very much enjoyed my first year and looking forward to a productive 2017.

I would like to thank all the members of the 2016 General Committee for their contributions over the course of the year. All have very busy careers but still manage to give up evenings and weekends to help BACFI provide education, support and representation for the employed Bar by organizing events, manning stands at conferences and drafting responses to consultations.

We have had some fantastic events in 2016 and all have been well attended. We have started work on our program for 2017 and details of our February event are given below.

This year, we have contributed to Bar Council responses to consultations and will continue to take this approach in 2017 except where we feel members' interests would be better served by an independent BACFI response.

We have decided to establish two new sub-committees of the General Committee: an Events Committee; and a Professional Issues Committee. These will be less formal than the General Committee so that members can take part without having to commit to regular meetings. Please get in touch if you would like to be involved.

Thank you for your support this year. I hope to see you at a BACFI event in 2017.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Officers and General Committee Members

Chair	Simon Broomfield
Senior Vice-Chair	Lucinda Orr
Junior Vice-Chair	Patrick Rappo
Hon Secretary	Rebecca Dix
Hon Treasurer	James Kitching
General Committee	Grant Warnsby
	Ian Brookes-Howells
	Hussain Khan
	Christiane Valansot
	Stephen Potts
	Richard Ryan
	Alexandria Carr
	Sally Bevan
	Jenny Barker
	Lorinda Long

Education, support and representation for the employed Bar

What's been going on this autumn

We've had a busy programme of events throughout the autumn beginning with the Workplace Insider Threat seminar on 6th September which was held at Middle Temple. Aably chaired by Don Randall MBE the panel of speakers consisted of Commander Chris Greany, Director and National Co-ordinator for Economic Crime and Cyber, Andrew Fitzmaurice, CEO of Templar Executives, Antony Dunkels, Associate Partner of Bell and Dr Dan Prince, Cyber Business Development Director at Lancaster University. The event was very well attended and we would like to thank Bivonas Law and Templar Executives for their sponsorship.

6th October saw our second "Big Meet" speednetworking event. Fewer participants attended than we would have liked but everyone had a great time. Thanks to Brett Wilson of Kenworthy's Chambers, Birmingham for his generous sponsorship of this event.

Lori Frecker from the Judicial Appointments Commission led delegates through the appointments process at our seminar on 20th October. She spoke of how to apply and what to expect and outlined forthcoming selections. She also answered numerous questions from the floor. Thank you to Austin Allison (a Vice President of BACFI) for the use of his wonderful offices at TT International.

Inn Lunches Spring 2017

Dates for your diary

Middle Temple: Thursday 2nd March

Inner Temple: Monday 6th February

Lincoln's Inn: Wednesday 15th February

Gray's Inn: Wednesday 15th March

All lunches are from 12.30pm. Please let Sandra know if you are intending to come along so

Forthcoming events

15th February: BSB Workshop: CPD 2017 – Understanding the new regime at the Bar Standards Board

24th May: Sports Law seminar at Middle Temple

24th November: Denning Lecture at Inner Temple

For more information about any of our events or to purchase tickets please contact Sandra at secretary@bacfi.org

2016 Denning Lecture

The Rt.Hon. Dominic Grieve MP QC delivered the 2016 Denning Lecture on the topic: “The British Bill of Rights – substance or poltergeist?” on 11 November 2016 in the Inner Temple. It was a fascinating exposition into how the United Kingdom was at the forefront of enshrining human rights post the Second World War, and the crisis that liberalism now faces in the wake of the Brexit vote and the election of Donald Trump. The lecture provoked wide-ranging questions and the former Attorney General was excellent at explaining the intersection between law and politics.



AGM 7 December

We were pleased that one of our Vice Presidents, Stephen Collier was able to give a short talk entitled “The Changing Shape of the Bar – Where Next?” prior to the formal business of the AGM. Thanks were given to Cecilia Xu, Hannah Laming and Julian Abenbrook who stood down from the committee. Special thanks were given to Tricia Howse CBE who has also decided to step down after years of committee membership including being chairman. Tricia was unanimously voted in as a BACFI Vice President. We welcome Jenny Barker as a general committee member.

Reconnecting with the Inns

If you would like to become an Inn representative, please contact Sandra: secretary@bacfi.org

Current Inn representatives are:

Middle Temple

Christiane Valansot Christiane@valansot.com

Bart Kavanagh

Amanda-Jane Field

Michel Reznik

Sally Bevan

Gray's Inn

Tricia Howse Tricia.Howse@hotmail.co.uk

Helen Fletcher Rogers hfrogers@dial.pipex.com

Lucinda Orr Lucindaorr@hotmail.co.uk

Inner Temple

Alexandria Carr ACarr@mayerbrown.com

James Kitching

Ayah Elmaazi

Elaine Ngai

Rosalee Dorfman

Lincoln's Inn

Simon Broomfield simon.broomfield@gmail.com

Hussain Khan hussain@khan.cc

Grant Warnsby grant.warnsby@uk.bp.com

News

Confessions of Briefless Barrister

BACFI Vice President, Harry Mitchell QC, has just published an autobiography which is a set of chapters on different aspects of his life from National Service, his call to the Bar in 1968 and being appointed QC in 1987. Harry was briefless in the sense that he was never working as a barrister in private practice and never in a position to accept briefs. Price is £13.00 and is available from http://www.troubador.co.uk/book_info.asp?bookid=4150.

Annual Bar Conference Saturday 15th October

We were invited to have a stand at this year's Bar Conference which was held at the Westminster Plaza Hotel. This was a first for BACFI and all those involved in manning the stand (Simon Broomfield, Grant Warnsby, Stephen Potts, Sandra Janes and Lucinda Orr) had an enjoyable day despite the early start for some! We signed up one or two new members and distributed lots of flyers and leaflets so hopefully we spread the BACFI message. It was great to see so many BACFI members attending the conference and stopping by to have a chat.

Pupillage Fair Saturday 22nd October

As we had helped to promote the Pupillage Fair we were given a stand by the Bar Council for the day. It was another first for BACFI being involved in this event. Simon Broomfield, Grant Warnsby and Tahir Ashraf had a busy day as the fair was attended by over 1400 students.

If you have any news you would like to share with members please let Sandra know

BACFI members on Bar Council and BSB Committees

Bar Council

Simon Broomfield, Lucinda Orr (elected), Lorinda Long (Treasurer), James Kitching (elected), Alexandria Carr (elected), Grant Warnsby (elected)

General Management Committee

Lorinda Long, Simon Broomfield, Lucinda Orr

Employed Bar Committee

Lucinda Orr, James Kitching, Sara George, Alexandria Carr, Patrick Rappo, Grant Warnsby

Audit Committee

Alexandria Carr

Finance & Accounts Committee

Lorinda Long

Bar Pro Bono Panel

Lucinda Orr

Member Services Committee

Lucinda Orr, James Kitching

European Committee

Alexandria Carr

Bar Conference Organising Committee

Lucinda Orr

BSB Governance, Risk and Audit Committee

Nicholas Dee

Bar Council Wellbeing Group

Grant Warnsby

Future Bar Training Consultation

After pressing for the inclusion of the Inns/Bar Council Bar Training proposal (known as the COIC Proposal), the BSB have agreed to the issue of an addendum to their consultation which provides detail of the COIC/Bar Council model. They have extended the consultation period to 5pm on 31 January 2017 in order to allow responses to be received on the model. You are encouraged to submit your comments on it to the BSB. The BSB would like you to make your own evaluation of our proposal against the criteria of:

- flexibility; accessibility; affordability; and sustaining high standards.

And submit your comments to them. The addendum describing the COIC/Bar Council proposal and details on how to submit your comments are at the following link: <https://www.graysinn.org.uk/news/bsb-future-bar-training-consultation>

Andrew Langdon QC's Inauguration as Chairman of the Bar

At Andrew Langdon QC's inauguration he dedicated part of his speech to talk about the Employed Bar:

I was called, in this very room, 30 years ago. We were a smaller profession then – about 6,000 of us in all. In fact, in the preceding 10 years the Bar had doubled in size. Despite that, many prophesied our imminent demise. In fact, in the last 30 years, we have more than doubled in size again. We now number nearly 16,000. But we are still, relatively speaking, a small profession (when compared to 170,000 solicitors).

How is that figure of 16,000 broken down?

13,000 of us are self-employed, the vast majority in chambers. But 3,000 of us are employed. The employed Bar has become a more vibrant and a more influential voice than it used to be, not just with the profession itself, but on its behalf in Government Legal Services, in the CPS, in respected law firms, in commerce, in business, in NGOs of every sort. In-house counsel have become a feature of the legal services provided to the community. Employed barristers are prized for the independent advice they give their employers. The self-employed Bar often misunderstand this. The fact of employment does nothing to the duty of a barrister to give independent advice. Indeed, their independence is their value, and maintaining it is the challenge they constantly rise to. The employed Bar are an asset to us. The versatility of our profession is manifest in the increased traffic in both directions – into employment but also from employment into private practice. The ethos which unites us at the Bar has accordingly percolated into a whole variety of work places. We have all become less insular in consequence.

If you wish to read the full speech, please click here: <http://www.barristermagazine.com/inaugural-address-by-andrew-langdon-qc-chairman-of-the-bar-2017-delivered-in-middle-temple-hall-london-on-14-december-2016/>

www.bacfi.org

Contact BACFI:

PO Box 4532, Edlesborough, Dunstable, Bedfordshire LU6 9EF
Tel: 01525 222244

secretary@bacfi.org