

In this Issue	
BIALL Awards 2010	Page 1
Ghana IALS Library Visit to IALS	Page: 2
IALS SKILLS	Page: 2
Books Page	Page: 3
Developments in the Electronic Law Library	Page 3
Other Library News	P. 4-5

Autumn News from the IALS Library

Hello from everyone at the Library of the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies! October is a very busy time for law schools and their libraries, and at IALS we welcome many hundreds of new researchers during the Autumn term. We offer them inductions, tours and information skills training, so that they are aware of the many services and collections which IALS has to offer.

We hope that IALS Library will be of service to you in one way or another throughout this academic year, and please get in touch at any time by e-mail, phone or in person, if we can help. This newsletter includes news of distinguished professional awards, a visiting law librarian from Ghana in June, the new SKILLS database, together with some brief updates on services and collections.

With best wishes,

*Gerard Power,
Access Librarian*

BIALl Awards 2010

Congratulations to both Jules Winterton and to Steven Whittle on winning prestigious awards at this year's Conference of the British and Irish Association of Law Librarians in Brighton in June!

Jules, the IALS Associate Director and Librarian, was awarded "Law Librarian of the Year" on the 11th June. This award is sponsored by Wildy and recognises the many contributions which Jules has made to the profession: his innovations in legal information provision, his published work,



Jules Winterton (left) receiving his award



The British Columbia Law Reports after cleaning.

his work as a conference speaker and conference organiser, and his distinguished membership of BIALl and of the International Association of Law Librarians.

Steven, IALS Information Systems Manager, received the Wallace Broom Award 2010 for his many contributions to law librarianship, including the



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Steven Whittle pictured with Daniella King, President of BIALL at the conference dinner in June



Akua Aforo with library staff

development of the Foreign Law Guide, the FLARE Index to Treaties, the Intute Law Gateway and the Current Awareness for Legal Information Managers. You can read more news on both awards [on the website](#). Next time you visit the Institute at 17 Russell Square, you can admire the awards on display in the main reception area on the ground floor.

Visiting Law Librarian from Ghana

From 7 June to 2 July, IALS Library hosted a placement training programme for Miss Akua Aforo, Law Librarian at the Ghana Institute of Advanced Legal Studies / Faculty of Law at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana.

During June, Akua met with many of the IALS Library staff to discuss in detail collection development and cataloguing, academic services, information skills training, and electronic services development. She reviewed the IALS collection of material on Ghana, and contributed towards a research guide on the sources of the law of Ghana. She also had an opportunity to visit several law libraries in London.

On 1st July, Akua gave a lively presentation at IALS about the Library of the Ghana Institute and the Law Faculty at KNUST, well illustrated with many colour photographs. Slides from Akua's presentation are on the IALS website at http://ials.sas.ac.uk/news/Akua_GIALS_visit_2010.htm


IALS SKILLS

An initiative at the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies is developing a web database to provide ready access to a wealth of legal research and information skills resources freely available on the Internet. IALS [SKILLS](#) (Sources + Know-how in Legal Literacy Skills) is a simple web database referencing and linking to law resource and skills guidance materials – bringing together some materials created by IALS Library's own staff (delivered through the IALS website, Informs or Intute) and many others produced by law librarians in UK universities and internationally and made available generously on their websites.

IALS hopes that the know-how database will help to share established expertise and support those new to an area of legal study and research as well as distance learning programmes. Resources included offer a foundation in UK, foreign and international law as well as guidance on the use of key sources including particular electronic online services.

Initially skills resources have been traced from the websites of those UK libraries featured in the FLAG Foreign Law Guide as holders of foreign and international law materials in the UK.

Further suggested additions are very welcome. Please contact Steve Whittle at IALS steven.whittle@sas.ac.uk



Books Page

In this issue, we look at some recent books in the collection which deal with prominent cases.

Chapman, M. (2010) ***The Snail and the ginger beer: the singular case of Donoghue v Stevenson***. London: Wildy, Simmonds and Hill

This book concentrates on a key negligence case, providing a detailed account of the case itself and the protagonists. The plates include portraits of Lords Aitkin, Buckmaster and Macmillan. It concludes with a chapter looking at the influence of the case throughout the common law world.

135 years of The Law Reports and The Weekly law reports (2001) London: Incorporated Council of Law Reporting for England and Wales

The Incorporated Council brought out a special issue of the *Law Reports* and the *Weekly Law Reports*, reprinting their “top ten” cases along with brief notes and commentary. The cases range in date from 1884 to 1975 and include the Carbolic Smoke Ball Co., the infamous Donoghue v Stevenson, and the first time that a UK court made a reference to the Court of Justice of the European Communities under article 177 of the Treaty of Rome.

A Celebration of law reporting in Hong Kong (2006) Hong Kong: Sweet & Maxwell Asia

This volume was produced as a centenary supplement to the *Hong Kong Law Reports and Digest*, and is very similar in approach to the UK title. It looks at a hundred years of law reporting in the jurisdiction and includes brief comments from a number of contributors from Hong Kong and the UK and then reprints ten of the “most important cases” from the series.

Oliver, D. (ed.) (2009) ***Justice, legality and the rule of law: lessons from the Pitcairn prosecutions***, Oxford: Oxford University Press

This collection of essays looks at the issues raised by the prosecution of six Pitcairn Islanders between 2003 and 2006 for various sexual offences. More generally it considers the nature of law, the development of the rule of law, the authority of a distant colonial power and its effect on international law.

Klarman, M.J. (2007). ***Brown v the Board of Education and the civil rights movement*** Oxford : New York: Oxford University Press


Klarman considers the case which had a great effect on the United States, in terms of law and social reform, and on the role of the Supreme Court. This book is an abridged version of a 2004 title which provided a much wider view of the Supreme Court and racial equality. The purpose of the abridged version is to “make the themes and arguments of the original work accessible to a broader audience”.

To view a detailed list of newly acquired books at IALS, simply go to the [New Acquisitions page](#) on our website!

Developments in the Electronic Law

Library , by Hester Swift, *Foreign and International Law Librarian*

Over the last year, the major online services in the IALS [Electronic Law Library](#) have added new content and new features, while a leading series of law reports has had to be withdrawn from one of them. Hein Online has launched a new module, *World Constitutions Illustrated*. It makes available the current constitution for each state, together with constitutional histories, texts on constitutional law, links to relevant journal articles and a bibliography of treatises on constitutional law. For many states, historical constitutions are also provided. Where there is no constitution as such, a collection of constitutional laws is available.

Westlaw UK has added annotations to many acts (all acts 2007 onwards, plus selected earlier ones). Written by lawyers, the annotations summarise the purpose and likely application of each act. Derivation, ambiguities, parliamentary debates, human rights aspects and judicial consideration are also covered. Annotated acts are marked with a capital A on a yellow square () and the legend “annotations available”. Annotations applying to the whole act come at the end of the Preamble; there are also annotations to individual sections.

The Case Analysis attached to each case on Westlaw UK now includes several new features. Lists of other cases between the same parties, but on different points of law, have been added, under the sub-heading “Related Cases”. The key cases citing each case are now being selected by Westlaw’s editors and listed under “Key Cases Citing” (the full list of all cases citing is still available as well).

Another enhancement is the expansion of the case summaries to include an outline of the facts.

Lloyds Law Reports were withdrawn from Westlaw UK in April this year. Some new content has been added recently, such as *Arbitration*, the journal of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, and *The WIPO Journal* and the *IIC – International Review of Intellectual Property and Competition Law*.

New features in the UK legislation section of Lexis Library include Status Snapshots, in which the online versions of *Is it in force* (dealing with commencement) and the *Halsbury's Statutes Cimator* (dealing with amendments and repeals) have been merged to provide an overview of the status of each act. When you display an act, or section of an act, on the screen, there is a Status Snapshot link towards the top right-hand corner.

The annotations from *Halsbury's Statutes* are now available on Lexis Library, in a file called *Halsbury's Annotations*. Definitions, derivation, secondary legislation, parliamentary debates, judicial interpretation and other matters are covered. Also available are general introductions to each area of law, from Agency to Wills. If annotations are available for a particular act that you have found on Lexis, there will be a link saying "Find related annotations".

CaseSearch, the Lexis Library case cimator, has introduced an appeal tracker facility. When you look up a recent case (from the last two years or so), it will show whether an appeal is pending, has been applied for but denied, and so on.

Individual training sessions on MS Word for dissertations

During the Summer term, both Narayana Harave and Lindsey Caffin, of the Computing Services team at IALS, offered one-to-one training to students who needed help in using Microsoft Word when writing their dissertations. 45 sessions were offered in total and feedback indicates that the training was very well received. Most people said they found the training excellent, and most people also said that the summer months, after the exams, are the best time for this training.

More digitising at IALS, by Lesley Young, Information Resource Manager

Following on from last year's pilot project on early maritime law volumes, IALS Library has been identifying more material from its collections suitable for full text digitisation. We have been fortunate to have help from a member of the earlier project team to check for existing digital copies, carry out some in-house digitising and prepare the images for presentation on the catalogue. We have been looking at different types of material for this second stage. Two of the items digitised in-house have close connections with the Institute, having been written by or for IALS.

The Institute's first prospectus was produced in 1948 and set out its national mission to support and promote advanced legal teaching and research and to collaborate with law libraries in London, Oxford, and Cambridge and throughout the UK. It notes that IALS Library opened with 11,000 volumes. The second is a 1994 IALS research working paper on implementing the European Community directive on free movement rights.

As a contrast, we have also selected three titles from the oldest part of our collections. Two represent the Library's focus on early Roman Dutch law, important for its influence on the development of law in South Africa, Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe. They were mentioned in a 1992 article by Paul Norman on "buried treasure" in the Library's collections and are two editions of 17th century Dutch court decisions; the earlier was published in Latin in Amsterdam and the later one is the second edition of a translation of the collection into Dutch. The third is a seventeenth century compendium of criminal practice by Galderico Galino published in Milan.

We shall continue to explore our historic collections and bring more of our hidden gems to the notice of researchers.

Book cleaning

On Wednesday 23rd June and Thursday 24th June the 3rd floor of IALS Library was temporarily closed to readers while a professional company cleaned the book collections and shelves. Library staff offered a fetching service for books shelved on the 3rd floor. On both days it was possible to re-open the floor in

the late afternoon which helped to minimise the impact on readers. These 2 days are the first part of a rolling programme intended to protect our national research collections and to provide a more pleasant research environment for readers.

New International Law Library on WorldLII

On 6th September, an International Law Library was launched on WorldLII (www.worldlii.org/int/special/ihl/). It makes available 25,000 international court and tribunal decisions and more than 30,000 international agreements, as well as UN resolutions, a number of international law journals/yearbooks and a collection of law reform materials.

The treaty sources include the UNTS, LNTS, Council of Europe treaty series and numerous national treaty collections (e.g. Australia, UK, India, Ireland). The case sources include decisions of the ICJ, International Criminal Court, WTO, ECJ, ECHR and many other courts and tribunals.

You can search across the whole Library, part of it (e.g. just cases, just treaties) or a single database (e.g. UK Treaty Collection).

Reported by Hester Swift, Foreign and International Law Librarian

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