



# CUTTING THROUGH

## Your QM Bar Society Newsletter



Welcome to the first edition of Cutting Through for the year 2021-22! Congratulations to those of you who just joined Queen Mary and we hope that you can make the most of this year!

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**Do you want to write for the newsletter?**

**Send an email to:**

**[info@queenmarybarsociety.org](mailto:info@queenmarybarsociety.org)**





# CUTTING THROUGH

## A Message from your President



**Hello Everyone! My name is Tanisha Patel; I am the QM Bar Society President for 2021-22.**

**This year the QM Bar Society has a lot in store for our members and non-members. From panel events, to CV and pupillage application workshops, competitions and much more.**

**It's our mission to promote diversity and inclusion at the Bar. To do so not only through our events but our Inclusivity Week, in which we will host our renowned Inclusion Networking Event in collaboration with Cake & Counsel.**

**We welcome you to join us at all our events and initiatives. If you would like to participate in our members-only initiatives be sure to purchase your membership today. Please see the other side of this leaflet for more information about our upcoming events.**





# How to make the most out of Freshers!

## TIP No. 1

Always be open-minded to trying new things, whether that's outfits, events or food. Freshers is a time to test what you're comfortable with.

## TIP No. 3

Buying tickets to events, following Facebook groups and joining WhatsApp groups are some of the best ways to get involved and meet new people!

## TIP No. 2

Get to know all of your flatmates as best you can. Try not to shut yourself in, instead don't be afraid to have a chat in the communal areas!

## TIP No. 4

Make sure you budget yourself properly, you don't want to find yourself without enough money after freshers is over.

## TIP No. 5

**Most importantly, have fun!**

Freshers is ultimately a time to have fun and meet new people in a completely new environment.





# Upcoming Bar Society Events

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The introduction to law is an event that aims to introduce new members of the society to what both the bar and the society entails for new students.

28 September

## INTRODUCTION TO LAW

Held on zoom

The Pathways to the bar event entails a talk given by the Student & Programme lead on the GDL at the University of Law. Covering how to apply and the university's approach to learning. Aimed at law students and those who wish to enter the profession through a different degree.

23 September

## PATHWAYS TO THE BAR: LLB & GDL

Held on zoom



# Upcoming Bar Society Events

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6 October  
**TOUR &  
TALK:  
LINCOLN'S  
INN**

Held in-person

One of the four Inns of Court in London, it is one of the world's most recognised professional bodies of both lawyers and judges. Its earliest documents date back from 1422 and it is the largest of the four Inns, covering 11 acres. Truly worth a visit!

The Medical Law Panel aims to give an introduction to medical law to those with an interest within the field. Additionally, there will also be a Q&A section to answer all your questions.

6 October  
**MEDICAL  
LAW PANEL**

Held on zoom



# Law News and Mini-pupillages

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Clifford Chance finalises the Morrisons takeover for Clayton Dubilier and Rice following a long battle over the summer.

Slaughter and May, Kirkland & Ellis and Ashurst are leading Cobham's £2.6bn takeover of UK defence manufacturer Ultra Electronics.

Baroness Helena Kennedy has written a commentary detailing how the rule of law has come under threat as government reform emanating from the Gina Miller cases.. Going further to state that judicial independence is also at threat.

Law firms put pressure on barrister chambers to assess their cybersecurity following breaches that took place at 4 New Square and 3VB in June and July.

An account from a female law student in Afghanistan. She describes all of her work towards becoming a lawyer being ruined by the Taliban as they have prohibited women from attending university.

Read the full articles here: [TheLawyer](#)

A mini-pupillage is the bar's version of a legal internship and they last between one to five days. They are usually only offered to second-year law students and above.

Nonetheless a select number of chambers offer them to non-law students.

Applications usually require an online form or cv to be sent to the chambers and will either be on a rolling basis or have deadlines for different periods of the year.

A list of upcoming mini pupillage deadlines can be found here: [Chambersstudent](#)



# Books, Podcasts and Film Recommendations

## Films

Dark Waters,  
2019

Dark Waters tells the real story of Robert Bilott, an American environmental lawyer who investigated and brought a class action suit against the chemical manufacturing corporation DuPont. Directed by Todd Haynes, whilst the film has a dramatized spin on some of the events, it keeps a procedural and grounded perspective of the events. A lot of the beauty of the film is hidden within the tiny details where Haynes demonstrates the legal process with structure and ingenuity. Points to consider throughout the film would perhaps be the different strategies and techniques used in and out of the courtroom.

The production undeniably shines the spotlight on powerful corporations that take advantage of their power on economically significantly smaller individuals. Underlining an importance for the motion of a class action lawsuit, which interestingly does not exist in the United Kingdom. Instead, being replaced by “Group Litigation Orders”.

**These recommendations are designed for those who want to keep their legal knowledge up to date, but also for those who are completely new to law.**

## Podcasts

The Digital Edge Podcast May 27,  
2021

Ben Schorr discusses the top ten features lawyers especially enjoy about Microsoft 365. He shares lawyer-specific insights on security, email encryption, licensing structure and mobile access. In a technological world where developments are constantly being made, it is essential to stay up to date on all that is happening.

Talking Law with Sally Penni  
MBE,

Sally Benni invites individuals with a leading position in UK law as they discuss the realities of the legal profession, highlighting both the highs and the lows. Most importantly they dive into the difficulties of being a woman in the legal world.

## Books

Jeena Cho and Karen Gifford have come together to write *The Anxious Lawyer* published in 2016. A book that concentrates on improving the way that lawyers approach mental health, as it further becomes prevalent in our society. They do so by bringing forward an interest in meditation and mindfulness, providing an 8-week introductory program on meditation and mindfulness.

Whilst the book is aimed at practicing lawyers, the benefits don't suddenly disappear for a student.

*The Devil's Advocate* by Iain Morley QC aptly describes itself as a short guide to be good in court. As an experienced barrister in all areas of criminal law and most importantly in advocacy, he succinctly gets all the key points to the reader. Taking only three hours to read, the book can feel quite short. Regardless, it feels more like Morley is directly talking to you which arguably, is the best way to teach.