



Ecclesiastical
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Society

NEWSLETTER
of
THE ECCLESIASTICAL LAW SOCIETY

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**8 JULY 2021 WEBINAR—RELIGION AND MARRIAGE
LAW: THE NEED FOR REFORM**



The *Ecclesiastical Law Society* is hosting a zoom webinar on the subject of Religion and Marriage Law: The Need for Reform, when an expert panel will mark the launch of Professor Russell Sandberg's new **book**.

The panel will include: Professor Gillian Douglas (formerly Dean of the Dickson Poon School of Law, King's College, London); Lady Hale of Richmond (formerly President of the United Kingdom Supreme Court); and Professor Jane Mair (Professor of Private Law, University of Glasgow). The session will be moderated by Professor Mark Hill QC, former Chair of the ELS.

DATES FOR THE DIARY 2021

Wednesday 16 June 2021

The Rt. Rev'd Christine Hardman, Bishop of Newcastle

The importance of ecclesiastical law in facilitating the mission of the Church.

[Book here.](#)

Thursday 8 July 2021

The Society is hosting a Zoom webinar on the subject of *Religion and Marriage Law: The Need for Reform*. The session will be moderated by Professor Mark Hill QC (Former Chair, Ecclesiastical Law Society). [Book here](#). Panel members will include:

- Professor Gillian Douglas (formerly Dean of the Dickson Poon School of Law, King's College, London),
- Lady Hale of Richmond, DBE (formerly President of the United Kingdom Supreme Court),
- Professor Jane Mair (Professor of Private Law, University of Glasgow).

Wednesday 15 September 2021

The Rt. Worshipful Morag Ellis QC, Dean of the Arches and Auditor

Clean and green—law and the carbon neutral Church. [Book here.](#)

Wednesday 20 October 2021

A joint lecture by the Rev'd Stephen Coleman (Assistant Director of the Cardiff Centre for Law and Religion) and the Rev'd Russell Dewhurst (Chair of the ELS Communications Committee). *The Canons of the Church of England—reflections on some fundamentals of ecclesiastical law.* [Book here.](#)

Wednesday 17 November 2021

The Rt. Worshipful Peter Collier QC, Vicar General of the Province of York

50 years of Safeguarding—950 years of Clergy discipline: Where do we go from here?

[Book here.](#)

FROM THE EDITOR

I'm sad to write that the time has now come, after just over a year in the editor's seat, to hand over to a new pair of hands. I had hoped to enjoy a rather longer spell as editor of this *Newsletter*, but the time has come to step down to allow more time to focus on the *Ecclesiastical Law Journal*, for which I'm due to take over as editor in 2022.

My successor is the estimable Frances Godden, deputy registrar of the Dioceses of London and Norwich, and I leave you in her capable hands.

Thank you for your continued support of the Society, and I hope you enjoy my final edition.

B.H.

NOTE OF THANKS

From Professor Mark Hill QC

Those who were present for the Society's AGM will be well aware of how moved I was by the generous words of the President and of the print of Doctors' Commons given to me as a gesture of gratitude for—if I recall Bishop Christopher's words correctly—my seven years on the bridge, plus a good many more in the engine room.

I was surprised and touched that, at a socially-distanced lunch at the Athenaeum, the Vice Chairman presented me with a card and a most generous cheque. I should like to thank all those who contributed. I have been humbled to learn of the extent to which I am held in the affection and respect of members of the Society, which it has been my pleasure to serve.

May its future work and mission be richly blessed.

THE HONOURABLE SOCIETY OF THE INNER TEMPLE ECCLESIASTICAL LAW MOOT

By Batuhan Betin, Vice-President, Inner Temple Mooting Society 2020/2021

Saturday 8th May 2021 saw the Inner Temple's Mooting Society host the Grand Final of its inaugural Ecclesiastical Law Moot. The Ecclesiastical Law Society was delighted to have sponsored the event by providing a £100 prize for the winner.

The final moot problem concerned a fictional appeal heard in the Arches Court of Canterbury, and required the participants to engage with burial rights, and principles governing exhumation of remains pursuant to *Re Blagdon Cemetery* [2002] Fam 299.

The final was judged by an esteemed panel consisting of the Rt. Worshipful Morag Ellis QC, the Dean of the Arches; Araba Taylor, a Deputy District Judge sitting on the South Eastern Circuit; and Caroline Harris, the newly appointed Deputy Chancellor of Coventry. The finalists reached this stage after a highly competitive semi-final judged by former Chair of the ELS, Professor Mark Hill QC (who is also the Master of Moots at the Inner Temple).

The finalists included Andrew Burrell, Ruihan Liu, Rebecca Khan and Edmund Garnett, all student members of the Inner Temple and aspiring barristers. The participants showed an excellent display of advocacy and received high praise from the judges. Edmund Garnett, appearing on behalf of the respondent, was ultimately declared the winner of the competition.

'I am grateful to the Ecclesiastical Law Society and the Inner Temple Mooting Society for organising such an enjoyable and thought-provoking competition. I would also like to thank Mark Hill QC, Morag Ellis QC, Araba Taylor and Caroline

Harris for sacrificing their Saturdays and providing such thoughtful judicial scrutiny. The competition introduced me to an engaging area of law of which I was previously ignorant—as such, I intend to reinvest a portion of the prize money in purchasing membership of the Society so that this new acquaintance might develop into a rewarding familiarity.’

Edmund Garnett, Winner—inaugural Inner Temple Ecclesiastical Law Moot 2021

‘The judges were delighted to take part in this moot, not only because of the excellence of all the participants but also because of the choice of ecclesiastical law as the subject matter. It made a very good subject, as all contestants had to get to grips with an area of law which was new to them, on an equal footing, which all of them did impressively. Well done Inner Temple!’

Judging Panel

‘This moot was a brilliant opportunity for student members of the Inner Temple to engage with ecclesiastical law and gain valuable insight into disputes occurring in this jurisdiction. The Committee extends its gratitude for the assistance and involvement of the ELS in this endeavour.’

Lutfullahil Majid-Mahdi, President Inner Temple Mooting Society 2020/2021



OTHER NEWS

Best practice in the Consistory Court and other bits

The Worshipful John Bullimore’s lecture on *Best practice in the Consistory Court and other bits* can be viewed [here](#).

Exorcism and the Law



The Rev'd Dr Helen Hall's lecture on *Exorcism and the Law*, can be viewed [here](#).

Legislation update

Clergy Discipline (Amendment) Rules 2021. These Rules are made under sections 83 and 94 of the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction and Care of Churches Measure 2018 and make amendments to the Clergy Discipline Rules 2005 (S.I. 2005/2022): see [here](#).

Legislative Reform (Church of England Pensions) Order 2021. This Order is made under section 1 of the Legislative Reform Measure 2018 and amends the Church of England Pensions Measure 2018: see [here](#).

Payments to the Churches Conservation Trust Order 2021. This Order provides that, in respect of the period from 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2024, the total amount to be paid by the Church Commissioners to the Churches Conservation Trust is a fixed sum of £4,500,000 plus certain additional sums. The total amount consists of grants made by the Church Commissioners and moneys allocated by them out of the net proceeds of: (i) the sale or exchange of churches closed for regular public worship or land occupied by them and (ii) the net premiums for the grant of leases of such churches or land: see [here](#).
