



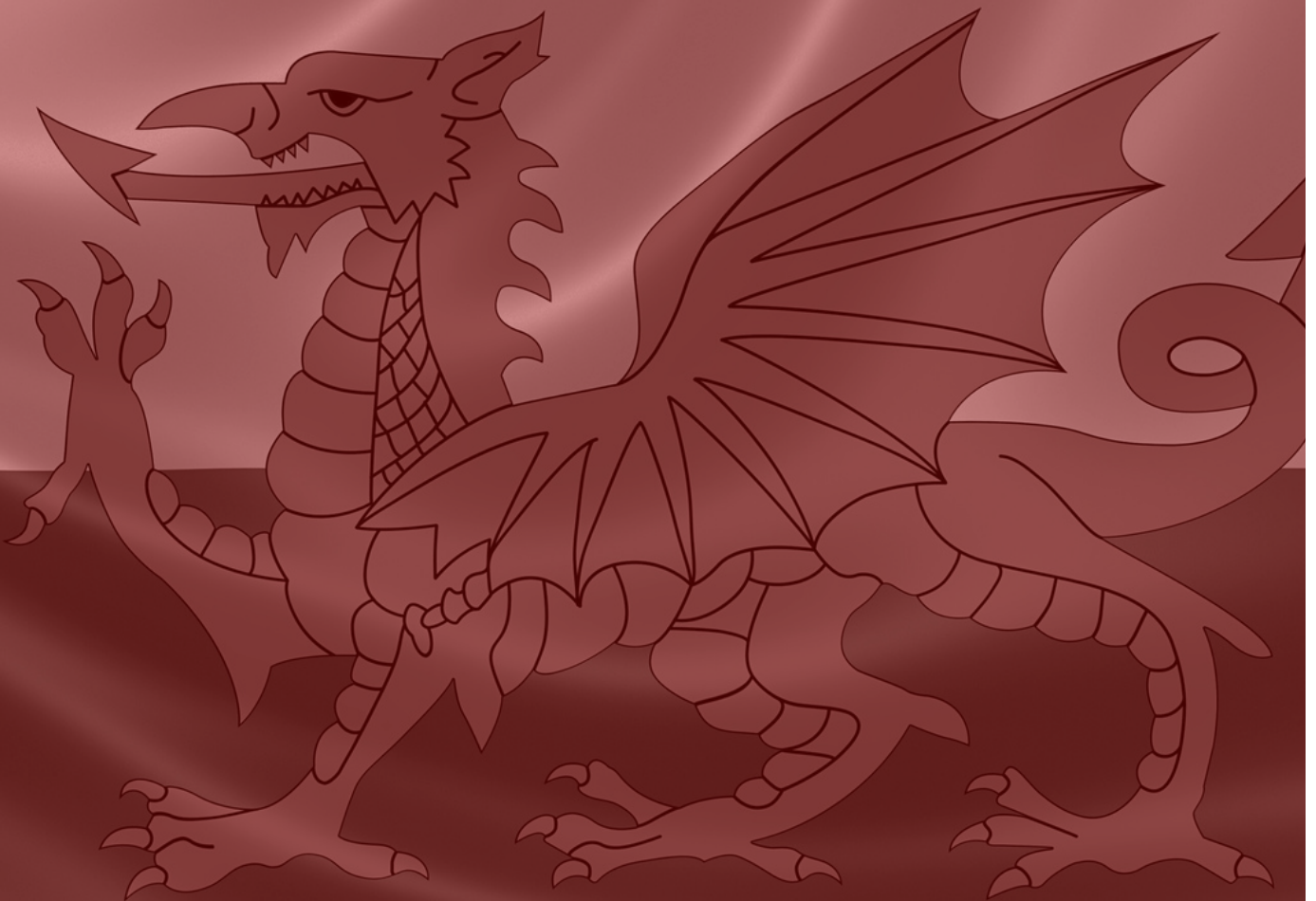
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Legal Wales Conference 2023

Friday 6th October, Hilton Hotel, Cardiff



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Legal Wales Conference 2023

6 October 2023, Hilton Hotel, Cardiff

Conference Programme

09:00	REGISTRATION	09:30
09:30	Opening Address Jonathan Elystan Rees KC Chair of Legal Wales	09:45
09:45	Keynote address by Mick Antoniw AS, Counsel General for Wales and Minister for the Constitution	10:15
10:15	Report / Updates by The Law Society's National Board for Wales: Gareth Gwyndaf Jones, Chair of the Policy Committee The Law Council of Wales: Rt Hon Lord Lloyd-Jones JSC (Chair) Dr Nerys Llewelyn Jones Professor Emyr Lewis Hephzibah Egede	10:45
10:45	REFRESHMENT BREAK	11:10
11:15	"Seven Years in Wales" The Hon Mr Justice Francis reflects on his time as Family Liaison Judge for Wales Introduction by The Hon Mrs Justice Morgan DBE, Family Division Liaison Judge for Wales.	11:45

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Conference Programme

11:45	MORNING BREAKOUT SESSIONS	13:00
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<p>Public Law Wales ROOM: Located upstairs in the Sophia Suite</p> <p>"Wales and Covid-19 Emergency Public Health Legislation"</p> <p><u>Speakers:</u> Professor John Harrington, professor of Global Health Law, Cardiff University</p> <p>Dr Ruth Hussey CB, OBE, DL Bingham Centre Independent Commission on UK Public Health Emergency, Vice chair Food Standards Agency and formerly Chief Medical Officer for Wales</p> <p>Chair: Rhodri Williams KC, chair of Public Law Wales</p>	<p>Legal Services ROOM: Located upstairs in the Roath Suite</p> <p>Delivering excellence in legal services in Wales <u>Speaker:</u> Richard Orpin - Director, Regulation & Policy, Legal Services Board</p> <p>SRA Wales Office <u>Speaker:</u> Liz Withers – Head of Welsh Affairs, SRA</p> <p>Legal Ombudsman <u>Speaker:</u> Jason Chapman, Legal Ombudsman</p> <p>Chair: Nicola Williams, SRA Board Member (Wales) (Partner, Eversheds)</p>	<p>Criminal Justice ROOM: Located in The Ballroom</p> <p>"The Welsh Criminal Justice System on the Jagged Edge"</p> <p><u>Speakers:</u> Dr Robert Jones; and Prof Richard Wyn Jones (Wales Governance Centre, Cardiff University)</p> <p>Chair: HH Judge Tracey Lloyd-Clarke, The Recorder of Cardiff</p>
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13:00	<p>LUNCH Kindly sponsored by:</p> <p>11KBW</p>	14:00
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Conference Programme

14:00	AFTERNOON BREAKOUT SESSIONS	15:15
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<p style="text-align: center;">Public Law Wales</p> <p>ROOM: Located upstairs in the Roath Suite</p> <p>(Bilingual talk with simultaneous translation)</p> <p>"Protecting the Historic Environment of Wales (The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2023"</p> <hr style="width: 20%; margin: 10px auto;"/> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Speakers:</u></p> <p>Alice Hart (National Trust Lawyer for Wales)</p> <p>Dr Hayley Roberts of Bangor University and Vice Chair of the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments in Wales</p> <p>Chair: Laura Hughes (Executive Lead Wales, Browne Jacobson)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Law Reform</p> <p>ROOM: Located in The Ballroom</p> <p>Update from the Law Commission of England and Wales</p> <hr style="width: 20%; margin: 10px auto;"/> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Speakers:</u></p> <p>Rt Hon Sir Nicholas Green, Chair of the Law Commission</p> <p>Nicholas Paines KC Commissioner for Public Law and Welsh Law</p> <p>Welsh Tribunals Update</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Speaker:</u></p> <p>Rt Hon Sir Gary Hickenbottom President of Welsh Tribunals</p> <p>Chair: Keith Bush KC (hon) Member of the Law Commission Wales Advisory Committee</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Welsh Commercial Law</p> <p>ROOM: Located upstairs in the Sophia Suite</p> <p>Views on the Future of ADR in Wales</p> <hr style="width: 20%; margin: 10px auto;"/> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Speakers:</u></p> <p>Dr Sarah Nason and Rhys Taylor</p> <p>International Commercial Courts</p> <hr style="width: 20%; margin: 10px auto;"/> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Speaker:</u></p> <p>HH Judge Christopher Grout (formerly Chief Executive and Registrar of the Qatar International Court)</p> <p>Chair: The Hon Mrs Justice Jefford DBE, a Presiding Judge of the Wales Circuit</p>
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15:15	REFRESHMENT BREAK	15:45
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15:45	<p>Keynote Address by Her Honour Judge Joanna Korner CMG KC British Judge at the International Criminal Court Introduction by Jonathan Elystan Rees KC</p>	16:30
16:30	<p>Welsh Legal History Society The History of the Sir Samuel Evans Prize Professor Thomas Watkin KC (hon) Presentation of the 2023 Centenary Prizes and the Prize for 2022 by Rt Hon Dame Carr DBE, Lady Chief Justice of England and Wales, and the Lady Chief Justice of Northern Ireland Chair: Prof Elwen Evans KC – Vice-Chancellor, University of Wales Trinity St David</p>	17:00
17:00	<p>Lady Carr DBE, Lady Chief Justice of England and Wales Introduction by Jonathan Elystan Rees KC</p>	17:20
17:20	<p>Close of Conference by Jonathan Elystan Rees KC</p>	17:30
<p>19:00 Drinks Reception</p> <p>19:45pm Dinner Served</p>	<p>Legal Wales Conference Dinner Hilton Hotel, Cardiff. Dress code: business attire</p> <p>Conference Dinner Sponsor:</p>  <p>PARK PLACE</p> <p><u>Guest Speaker:</u> HH Wendy Joseph KC (author of "Unlawful Killings") Vote of thanks on behalf of the Guests: Lady Chief Justice of Northern Ireland (Rt Hon Dame Siobhan Keegan DBE)</p>	



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CYNHADLEDD CYMRU'R GYFRAITH 2023

6 Hydref 2023, Gwesty Hilton, Caerdydd

Rhaglen Cynhadledd

09:00	COFRESTRU	09:30
09:30	Sesiwn Agoriadol Jonathan Elystan Rees KC Cadeirydd, Sefydliad Cymru'r Gyfraith	09:45
09:45	Prif anerchiad gan Mick Antoniw AS, Y Cwnsler Cyffredinol a Gweinidog y Cyfansoddiad	10:15
10:15	Adroddiad / Diweddariadau gan Bwrdd Cenedlaethol Cymru Cymdeithas y Cyfreithwyr: /Gareth Gwyndaf Jones, cadair, Pwyllgor Polisi Bwrdd Cenedlaethol Cymru Cymdeithas y Cyfreithwyr a Cyngor Cyfraith Cymru Y Gwir Anrh yr Arglwydd Lloyd-Jones UGL (Cadeirydd) Rt Hon Lord Lloyd-Jones JSC (Chair) Dr Nerys Llewelyn Jones Professor Emyr Lewis Hephzibah Egede	10:45
10:45	COFFI	11:10
11:15	"Saith Mlynedd yng Nghymru" Yr Anrhydeddus Mr Ustus Francis yn myfyrio ar ei amser fel Barnwr Cyswllt Is-adran Teuluoedd Cymru Cyflwyniad gan yr Anrhydeddus Mr Ustus Morgan DBE, Barnwr Cyswllt Is-adran Teuluoedd Cymru	11:45

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Jonathan Elystan Rees KC has been the Chair of Legal Wales since 2022.

Jonathan is a graduate of Jesus College, Cambridge and was called to the Bar by the Inner Temple in 2000, becoming a Bencher in 2020. Practicing from chambers in Cardiff, Chester, London and Manchester, Jonathan specialises in international criminal law, white collar fraud, serious crime and professional misconduct.

He has recently appeared before the Kosovo Specialist Chambers sitting in The Hague. Jonathan sits as a Recorder in the Crown Court.



Mick Antoniw AS/MS came to Wales to study law at the Cardiff Law School in 1973. He was President of the National Union of Students Wales from 1977 to 1979.

Mick was a practising solicitor specialising in personal injury and partner in the firm of Thompsons, with whom he began his training in 1980, before being elected to the Senedd in 2011 as the Member for Pontypridd. Between June 2016 and November 2017 Mick served as Counsel General, the Welsh Government's Law Officer. On 13 May 2021 Mick again became Counsel General and was additionally appointed Minister for the Constitution. Mick is of Ukrainian and Danish heritage and he is a fluent Ukrainian speaker. In 2019 he was appointed to the Order of Merit of Ukraine.



Gareth Gwyndaf Jones is the Deputy Chair of the Law Society National Board for Wales.

A graduate of the University of South Wales, he was admitted a solicitor in 2004. In 2013 Gareth obtained Higher Rights of Audience in Crime and conducts cases in both Welsh and English.

Gareth practiced law in several firms across South Wales before becoming a senior director of the long-established firm of Gomer Williams in Llanelli, Cockett, Ammanford and Merthyr Tydfil.



Lord Lloyd-Jones JSC is the President of the Law Council of Wales.

David Lloyd-Jones was educated at Pontypridd Boys' Grammar School. He was a Fellow of Downing College Cambridge from 1975 to 1991 before entering full time practice at the Bar. He took silk in 1999 and was appointed to the High Court in 2005, serving as a Presiding Judge of the Wales Circuit. Appointed to the Court of Appeal in 2012, also served as Chair of the Law Commission of England and Wales.

His tenure at the Law Commission, saw the publication of an important report on the "The Form and Accessibility of the Law Applicable in Wales" (2017), which pointed the way to subsequent consolidation and codification initiatives. In 2017, he was appointed the first Justice of the Supreme Court of the UK to come from Wales. Lord Lloyd-Jones is currently the Treasurer of the Middle Temple.



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Speaker Biographies



Nerys Llewelyn Jones is a Member of the Law Council of Wales. Founder and current Managing Partner of AgriAdvisor Legal which was established on her home farm in Pumsaint, Carmarthenshire in 2011. Nerys has first-hand knowledge of the farming industry and her firm specialises in advice to the agricultural sector. Nerys obtained a doctorate from Aberystwyth University for research on Sustainable Agriculture and its Implementation and Enforcement at an International, European and regional level. She is a fellow of the Agricultural Law Association and an ADR Accredited Mediator. Nerys sits as a Landowner Member of the Agricultural Land Tribunal Wales. Between 2017 and 2019 Nerys served on the Commission on Justice in Wales. In 2021 she was appointed Interim Environmental Protection Assessor for Wales by the Welsh Government. Nerys has two young sons and farms a sheep farm in conjunction with her husband.



Professor Emyr Lewis FLSW is the Deputy President of the Law Council of Wales and chairs its Education and Training Working Group. Emyr was appointed Head of Aberystwyth Law School in September 2019. Before then he was Senior Partner in the Cardiff office of the firm of Blake Morgan (originally Morgan Bruce and Nicholas), specialising in Public Law, Commercial Law and the law of State Aid and Public Procurement. During his time in practice Emyr served for 12 years as the United Kingdom member on COMEX, the Council of Europe's Committee of Experts monitoring states' compliance with the European Charter for Regional and Minority Languages and was Senior Fellow in Welsh Law at the Wales Governance Centre at Cardiff University. He has given evidence to UK and Welsh Parliamentary Committees on devolution, language law, devolved tax law and children's rights. He is currently a member of the panel of experts advising the Independent Commission on the Constitutional Future of Wales, a member of the Wales Advisory Committee of the Law Commission and of the steering Committees of Legal Wales and Public Law Wales. Emyr is a winner of both the Crown (1998) and the Chair (1994) at the National Eisteddfod of Wales.



Hephzibah Egede is the LLB Programme Director at Cardiff Metropolitan University and a member of the Education and Training Group of the Law Council of Wales. Hephzibah Egede is a dual qualified lawyer admitted in Nigeria, and in England and Wales. Hephzibah has taught at the University of Buckingham, Birmingham Law School, University of Birmingham and as LLM tutor at the Cardiff Law School, Cardiff University. Hephzibah conducts research in the field of reproductive health care rights, health equity and gender equality. She has published work on shrouded gender and reproductive issues in child welfare and protection proceedings. Hephzibah's research interests also cover Energy and Environmental Law. She acted as a co-investigator with Prof Robert Lee (principal investigator) on the "Law and Your Environment" project funded by UKELA, which delivered a public access website to improve access to environmental law information in the United Kingdom.



The Hon Mr Justice Francis (Sir Nicholas Francis) was born in Penarth and served as family Division Liaison Judge for Wales since 2016. After graduating from Downing College, Cambridge, Sir Nicholas was called to the Bar by Middle Temple in 1981. He specialised in family law and became head of chambers at 29 Bedford Row, being appointed Queen's Counsel in 2002.

He was appointed as an Assistant Recorder in 1999 and later a Recorder sitting on the South Eastern Circuit in July, 2000. Sir Nicholas was appointed as a Deputy High Court judge in 2011 and became a High Court judge in 2016 and was assigned to the Family Division. In 2017, he ruled on the controversial best interests case of Charlie Gard.



The Hon Mrs Justice Morgan (Dame Sarah Morgan, DBE) was born in Wales, the daughter of a teacher and a civil engineer. She spent some of her early childhood living in the Caribbean before her family returned to the UK and settled in the Midlands, where she attended state schools.

Dame Sarah studied law at Brunel University, graduating in 1987. She was called to the Bar at Gray's Inn in 1988 and practised from 1GC Family Law chambers in London where she specialised in Family Law, particularly relating to children. She was appointed a Recorder sitting in the criminal and family courts on the South Eastern circuit in 2009 becoming Queen's Counsel in 2011. In 2019, Dame Sarah was appointed as a deputy High Court Judge and in 2022 she was appointed to the High Court and assigned to the Family Division. In 2023 she became Family Presiding Judge for Wales, in succession to Francis J.



Professor John Harrington FLSW is Professor of Global Health Law at Cardiff University, holding degrees in law from Trinity College, Dublin (LL.B.) and Oxford University (BCL).

Prof Harrington is chair of the Socio-Legal Studies Association (SLSA) for four years in 2022. SLSA is a major learned society in the UK, with members around the world. Prof Harrington has been the Director of the Economic and Social Research Council's Doctoral Training Partnership in Wales since 2019. Before moving to Cardiff Prof Harrington held appointments as Professor of Law, University of Liverpool (2004-14) and directed Liverpool University's Institute of Medicine Law and Bioethics (2006-10), Lecturer in Law, Warwick University (1994-2004) and Lecturer in the Department of Comparative Law at the Free University of Berlin (1992-4). He has held visiting and research appointments at the University of Melbourne (2006), a Jean Monnet Fellow at the European University Institute, Florence, Italy (2001-2), at the Universities of Dar es Salaam and Cape Town, at the Wissenschaftszentrum fuer Sozialforschung (WZB) in Berlin, at the Institute of Health, Warwick University and at the British Institute in Eastern Africa and a Visiting Researcher at the African Population and Health Research Centre, both in Nairobi (201-14). Prof Harrington speaks Irish, English and German (C2), French (C1) Italian (B2), Kiswahili (A2) and Welsh (A1).



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Dr Ruth Hussey CB, OBE, DL was Chief Medical Officer for Wales 2012-2016. Born and brought up in north Wales, her career developed in England, initially training as a GP; working in academia; as Director of Public Health in Liverpool; and then in strategic leadership posts in north-west England for the NHS and Department of Health.

Prior to joining Welsh Government, she was part of the Public Health Transition Team in the Department of Health, Whitehall. Ruth is Deputy Chair of the Food Standards Agency, Deputy Chair of the Health Foundation, Chair of the advisory board for the NIHR, School of Public Health Research and Chair of the Care Inspectorate Wales Advisory Board as well as contributing to other research and policy groups.



Rhodri Williams KC is the Chair of Public Law Wales.

Rhodri studies Modern Languages at Exeter College, Oxford. He was called to the UK Bar in 1987 and to the Bar of Northern Ireland in 2009, and he took silk in 2010. Prior to joining Keating Chambers in October 2022, he was a member of Henderson Chambers in London and 30 Park Place Chambers in Wales. Rhodri specialises in public procurement cases and is a longstanding expert in the field, his experience includes representing the successful appellants in the first ever case concerning public procurement to be heard before the Supreme Court in *Brent LBC v Risk Management Partners Ltd & London Authorities Mutual Ltd & Harrow LBC* [2011] UKSC 7. More recently he was instructed in a claim for breach of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015, concerning provision of orthodontic services during the Covid-19 pandemic. In addition to public procurement, Rhodri also deals with a wide range of public law cases in England, Wales and in Northern Ireland. In 2000, he was appointed to the Attorney General's list of approved Counsel and to the list of the Counsel General to the National Assembly for Wales (subsequently Senedd Cymru/the Welsh Parliament) and has represented the United Kingdom Government on several occasions before the Court of Justice of the European Union in Luxembourg.



Richard Orpin, Director, Regulation & Policy, Legal Services Board. Richard leads the policy, research and regulatory teams at the Legal Services Board.

Before joining the LSB, Richard was Public Policy Principal at Ofcom, leading Ofcom's engagement with Government and Parliament on all broadcasting and media matters. From 2017 to 2022, as Consumer Policy Principal, he led Ofcom's work on customer fairness. From 2014 to 2017, he managed Ofcom's review of the regulation of Royal Mail. Before joining Ofcom in 2014, he worked at the Department for Culture, Media & Sport (DCMS) for seven years, including as Head of Domestic Gambling Policy. He also held policy roles in broadcasting, school sport and culture during his time at DCMS.



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Liz Withers – Head of Welsh Affairs, Solicitors' Regulatory Authority Liz was appointed the SRA's first Head of Welsh Affairs Officer 2021 and spearheaded the opening of the SRA office in Cardiff in 2022.

Liz leads the SRA's public affairs and stakeholder engagement activities in Wales, including strengthening our understanding of the Welsh legal landscape and working with local consumer groups. Prior to the SRA Liz worked in a number of high-profile public affairs roles within Wales including for Citizens Advice Cymru, the Equality and Human Rights Commission, National Autistic Society and Consumer Focus (Wales).



Jason Chapman – Ombudsman Jason originally joined the Legal Ombudsman in 2011 as an investigator before being appointed as an ombudsman in 2013. In his ten years as an Ombudsman Jason gained a wealth of experience and has determined over 3,500 complaints.

Prior to joining the Legal Ombudsman, Jason was an experienced Commercial Manager, working in several sectors, including consumer finance, leasing, travel and facilities management. During this time, he also gained considerable experience managing regulatory and compliance functions.



Nicola Williams is a Board Member of the SRA. Nicola is a partner in the Cardiff office of Eversheds Sutherland LLP, having rejoined the firm in 2023 to work in the regulated utilities sector group.

Nicola trained at Slaughter and May, including time spent in the firm's Brussels office, and joined the Disputes and Investigations team on qualification, where she worked on complex disputes as an Associate for six years. In 2004 she moved to Eversheds Sutherland, first as an Associate and from 2007 as a Partner based in the firm's Cardiff office, where she led the Commercial Dispute Resolution team and specialised in dispute resolution for clients in regulated sectors. She was also Graduate Recruitment partner for the Cardiff Office of Eversheds and maintains a strong interest in legal education and the future of the profession. In 2012, she moved to an in-house role, first as General Counsel and Company Secretary, latterly as Legal and Compliance Director and Company Secretary, of Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water. Previous roles have included being a member of the Wales Committee for the Equality and Human Rights Commission (2015-2020). Nicola is Vice Chair of the Board of directors for Citizens Advice Rhondda Cynon Taf.



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Professor Richard Wyn Jones FAcSS FLSW is Director of Cardiff University's Wales Governance Centre and Dean of Public Affairs. Richard was a former Professor of Welsh Politics at Cardiff as well as the founding Director of the Institute of Welsh Politics and Critical Security Studies at Aberystwyth University. Since 1997, he has led election surveys helping to detail the attitudes of electors in Wales in the immediate aftermath of Westminster and National Assembly elections. Richard joined the staff of Cardiff University in February 2009 as Director of the Wales Governance Centre. In 2011, he was elected a Fellow of the Learned Society of Wales. Richard has written extensively on contemporary Welsh politics, devolved politics in the UK, and nationalism. He is often featured on BBC appearing on both Welsh and English-language broadcasts. He is the co-author with Robert Jones of a ground-breaking study of criminal justice in Wales "The Welsh Criminal Justice System: On the Jagged Edge" (2022).



Dr Robert Jones joined Cardiff School of Law and Politics in January 2022 as a Lecturer in the Welsh Criminal Justice System. His main areas of interest are imprisonment, penal policy, devolution, and criminal justice in Wales. He is a member of the Wales Governance Centre and the Cardiff Centre for Crime, Law and Justice. Rob is also a Coordinator of the European Group for the Study of Deviance and Social Control's Prisons, Punishment and Detention Working Group. He is the co-author with Prof Richard Wyn Jones of a ground-breaking study of criminal justice in Wales "The Welsh Criminal Justice System: On the Jagged Edge" (2022). In 2018, Rob was seconded to the Wales Governance Centre's Justice and Jurisdiction project which was set up to inform the ongoing work of the Commission on Justice in Wales. He was cited as an Expert Contributor within the Commission's final report published in October 2019. Rob currently teaches on Miscarriages of Justice: The Cardiff Innocence Project and Crime, Law and Society. He is the Chair of the School of Law and Politics Research Ethics Committee.



HH Judge Tracey Lloyd-Clarke, The Recorder of Cardiff. Judge Lloyd-Clarke was appointed as a Senior Circuit Judge and the Resident Judge for Cardiff, Newport and Merthyr Tydfil in 2021. She was sworn in as Recorder of Cardiff in May 2022

Judge Lloyd-Clarke was called to the Bar by the Middle Temple in 1988 and practiced in London and the Midlands before joining 30 Park Place Chambers in Cardiff in 2005.



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Alice Hart is part of the Legal Team at the National Trust. A Property Lawyer by background, she provides legal support to the regional staff in NT Cymru.

She was involved in the acquisition of the Hafod Estate in the Ystwyth Valley, Ceredigion in 2022 and more recently has overseen the implementation of the Renting Homes (Wales) Act 2016 across the Welsh residential let estate.



Dr Hayley Roberts Reader in Law at Bangor University and is the Vice-Chair of the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments in Wales.

Hailing from Caernarfon, Gwynedd, a town steeped in history, Hayley has always been interested in heritage and the historic landscape. She read Law at the University of Wales, Bangor, developing an interest in the legal protection of historic shipwrecks, before continuing this research for her PhD. In 2013, she joined the School of Law at Bangor University as a Lecturer in Public International Law (initially as a Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol lecturer), developing programmes in the law of the sea and maritime law. Hayley's research reflects her expertise in maritime heritage, both domestically and internationally. She is particularly interested in the international regulation of underwater cultural heritage, the impact of devolution on the protection of maritime heritage in the UK, and alternative ways of protecting the historic environment. She has led a number of funded research projects and has been published in leading journals in her field. Later this year the University of Wales Press will publish Hayley's book on "State-owned Shipwrecks and International Law"



Laura Hughes is a partner at Browne Jacobson and head of the public law team, as well as head of the insurance and public risk department. Laura is also the Executive Lead Wales.

Laura is an experienced public law expert who advises her clients on their most important and high-profile matters. She acts across the public sector advising clients in government, local government, education, health, audit, sports and natural resources. Laura has over 19 years' experience advising public sector clients on the full range of public law matters including decision making, consultation, statutory interpretation, statutory and guidance drafting, judicial review and civil enforcement. Laura's clients include Welsh Government, National Audit Office, Natural Resources Wales, Sport England, Qualification Wales, Northern Ireland Audit Office, UK Sport, and the Cabinet Office. Laura has a particular specialism in the environment and has acted for many of the environmental regulators throughout her legal career. She is a passionate supporter of organisations looking to move to net zero or otherwise manage their environmental impact and leads the firm's own efforts in this area.



Rt Hon Sir Nicholas Green was appointed as Chair of the Law Commission in 2018.

Sir Nicholas is a former academic having lectured at the University of Southampton and the University of London. He was called to the Bar in 1986 and appointed a Queen's Counsel in 1998.

He was made a judge of the High Court of Justice (Queen's Bench Division) in 2013 and in June 2018 it was announced he would be joining the Court of Appeal. Sir Nicholas has also previously served as Chairman of the Bar Council and the Advocacy Training Council.



Nicholas Paines KC was appointed as Law Commissioner with responsibility for public law in 2013 and in 2018 he was reappointed for a further five years. He is also the Commissioner with responsibility for Welsh Law.

Nick was formerly a leading silk in EU and public law. He sits as a Deputy High Court Judge in the Administrative Court, a Deputy Judge of the Upper Tribunal (Administrative Appeals Chamber) and the First-tier Tribunal (Tax Chamber) and as a Recorder in the Crown Court. He is also a member of the Bar of Northern Ireland.



Rt Hon Sir Gary Hickinbottom is the President of Welsh Tribunals. Sir Gary was the fourth solicitor to be appointed a High Court Judge and who practised in commercial and public law until 2000 as a partner with the firm of McKenna & Co (now CMS Cameron McKenna) and also sitting as a part-time judge. His first judicial role was as a Parking Adjudicator.

Sir Gary's full time judicial career started as resident civil judge in Swansea while also hearing criminal cases throughout Wales and beyond. He was authorised within a year to take High Court work, becoming a Senior Circuit Judge by 2003 and undertaking specialist appointments in social security and pensions tribunals, the Technology and Construction Court, the Administrative Court, the Mercantile Court and even the Supreme Court of the Falkland Islands. He was judicial lead on the programme of tribunal reform under the Tribunals, Courts and Enforcement Act 2007, before being made a High Court Judge in 2008. Sir Gary served as a Presiding Judge on the Wales Circuit and was appointed to the Court of Appeal in 2017. Following his retirement Sir Gary was appointed in 2021 by the Governor of the British Virgin Islands to inquire into allegations of corruption, abuse of office or other serious dishonesty in public office in recent years, and if so, what conditions allowed this to happen. His report in 2022 recommended a temporary suspension of the Constitution. Sir Gary was appointed President of Welsh Tribunals in May 2023.



Keith Bush KC (hon) LLM (London) Barrister is a Senior Fellow in Welsh Law in the Wales Governance Centre (having previously been an Honorary Professor of Law at Swansea University). He was, until August 2019, President of the Welsh Language Tribunal, and has served as a Recorder (sitting in the County Court) a member of the Law Commission's Advisory Committee for Wales and Secretary of the Wales Public Law and Human Rights Association. He is currently Treasurer of the Legal Wales Foundation and Director of the annual Legal Wales Conference. Having practised at the Bar in Cardiff for over 20 years, he joined the Welsh Government's legal service in 1999, where he became Legislative Counsel, leading the legal team which worked on a number of bills relating to Wales, including the one that became the Government of Wales Act 2006. From 2007 until 2012 he was Chief Legal Adviser to the National Assembly for Wales. At Cardiff University, he is a member of the team teaching higher degree Modules on Constitutionalism and Governance and the Law of Devolution in Wales. He was appointed Queen's Counsel (Honoris Causa) in 2014 in recognition of his contribution to increasing public knowledge of Welsh law.



Rhys Taylor specialises in money and property disputes following family relationship breakdown.

Called to the Bar in 1996 after studying at Reading University, Rhys is a member of 30 Park Place Chambers in Cardiff. In the field of financial remedies he has a noted and sought after specialism dealing with pensions on divorce. Rhys is both an IFLA appointed arbitrator and civil mediator. He also offers Early Neutral Evaluation (private FDRs) for both TOLATA and financial remedy disputes. He was voted "Family Law Commentator of the Year" in the 2015 Jordans' Family Law Awards. He is a co-author of the third edition of "Pensions on Divorce: A Practitioner's Handbook" (LexisNexis/Jordans) and a member of the Pension Advisory Group. Rhys lectures on his areas of interest, including at the Judicial College about pensions on divorce.



Dr Sarah Nason is a Senior Lecturer at Bangor University. She holds a BA in Law from the University of Cambridge and read for her PhD in Laws at University College London. Sarah's research interests include administrative justice, dispute resolution, devolution, human rights and judicial review. Sarah has published widely in these fields including editing a collection on Administrative Justice in Wales and Comparative Perspectives (University of Wales Press 2017). Her research has been funded by the British Academy, Nuffield Foundation, Welsh Government, Ministry of Justice, ESRC and others. She is an academic panel member of the UK Administrative Justice Council, and a member of the Editorial Committee of the journal Public Law co-authoring the journal's current survey section. Sarah was Independent Expert Adviser to the Senedd Cymru Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee's 2020 inquiry into 'Making Justice Work in Wales'.



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Speaker Biographies



Mrs Justice Jefford DBE (Dame Nerys Jefford DBE) was born and brought up in Swansea. She was educated at Olchfa Comprehensive School in Swansea before studying law at Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, and at the University of Virginia, where she was a Fulbright Scholar. Dame Nerys was called to the Bar by Gray's Inn in 1986 and practised at Keating Chambers in London, specialising in construction and engineering law. She was appointed as a Recorder in 2007 and as Queen's Counsel in 2008. She was appointed a High Court Judge in 2016. In 2020 she was appointed a Presiding Judge of the Wales circuit. Dame Nerys has maintained her links with Wales through long-standing membership of the London Welsh Chorale and her involvement with the Association of London Welsh Lawyers and the Lord Edmund Davies Legal Education Trust.



Professor Elwen Evans, KC became the the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Wales Trinity St David in September 2023. Prior to her appointment she was Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Executive Dean for the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at Swansea University with responsibility for the Welsh Language and Culture within the University and before that Head of the College of Law & Criminology where she was responsible for establishing the Hillary Rodham Clinton School of Law. Professor Evans read Law at Girton College, Cambridge, graduating with a double first: M.A. (Cantab). On graduating she attended the Inns of Court School of Law and was called to the Bar by Gray's Inn in 1980. She was appointed a Recorder in 2001 and became Queen's Counsel in 2002; Head of Iscoed Chambers for over 15 years, stepping down on her appointment to Swansea University in 2015. Professor Evans has enjoyed a very successful career as a barrister, practicing mainly in Wales. She was best known for her work in criminal law at trial and appellate levels. She led the prosecution team in the April Jones case and the defence team in the Gleision mine disaster case. In 2021 Professor Evans was appointed by the Police and Crime Commissioner for South Wales to lead an Independent Learning Review into the disorder at Mayhill and Waun Wen, Swansea in May 2021. In 2022 Professor Evans was appointed by the Welsh Government to conduct an independent review of the Local Government section 19 and Natural Resources Wales reports into extreme flooding in winter 2020-2021.



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Speaker Biographies



Judge Joanna Korner CMG KC is a Judge of the International Criminal Court.

Judge Joanna Korner CMG QC has practiced criminal law for more than 45 years as a judge and barrister. Prior to joining the ICC, she has served since 2012 as a judge of the Crown Court of England and Wales, trying the most serious and complex criminal cases including cases of fraud and murder. Appointed QC in 1993, she has also prosecuted and defended in numerous cases in the courts of England and Wales.

Her experience includes a total of eight years (1999-2004 and 2009-2012) as a senior prosecutor at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, including leading in the cases of Prosecutor v. Mićo Stanišić and Stojan Župljanin, Prosecutor v. Radoslav Brđjanin and Momir Talić, and Prosecutor v. Milomir Stakić. As a renowned expert, Judge Korner has organised and taught on numerous training programmes on international criminal law and advocacy for judges and lawyers from different regions. Between 2004-2005, she was Senior Legal Adviser to the Chief Prosecutor of Bosnia and Herzegovina, during the establishment of a War Crimes Section in the country's State Prosecutor's Office. Judge Korner studied law at the Inns of Court School of Law. In 2004 she was Appointed Companion of the Order of St. Michael and St. George ("CMG") for services to international law.



Rev Professor Thomas Glyn Watkin KC (hon) was born in the Cwmparc in the Rhondda. He studied law at Pembroke College, Oxford, where he was Oades and Stafford Scholar (1971-1974) (BCL, MA) and was called to the Bar by the Middle Temple (1976).

From 1975 until 2004, he was successively lecturer, senior lecturer, reader and professor in the Law School at the University of Wales, Cardiff. He was appointed foundation Professor of Law at the University of Wales, Bangor in 2004. Professor Watkin was Legal Assistant to the Governing Body of the Church in Wales from 1981 until 1998 and he is an ordained priest in the Church in Wales. In 2007 he was appointed to the post of First Legislative Counsel to the Welsh Government, created following the Government of Wales Act 2006. Known mainly for his work in legal history and civil law, Professor Watkin is a council member of the Selden Society, Secretary and Treasurer of the Welsh Legal History Society and a member of the editorial board of the Journal of Legal History. His seminal work "The Legal History of Wales" was first published in 2007 (second edition 2012). Professor Watkin was elected to the Academy of Private Lawyers of Milan and Pavia in 2002 and in 2013 he was elected a Fellow of the Learned Society of Wales.



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Lady Sue Carr DBE became the first Lady Chief Justice of England and Wales on 1 October 2023.

Dame Sue Carr was called to the Bar by the Inner Temple in 1987. She undertook pupillage at Brick Court Chambers and 2 Crown Office Row, now Four New Square, where she became a tenant in 1988. She was called to the New South Wales Bar in 1989, following a Pegasus scholarship in Sydney. She developed a broad commercial practice, taking silk at the age of 38 in 2003. She also became a trained arbitrator and mediator. She became Chair of the Professional Negligence Bar Association in 2007, Chair of the Bar Standards Board Conduct Committee in 2008, and was appointed as the Complaints Commissioner to the International Criminal Court in the Hague in 2011. Her judicial career began in 2009 in crime, when she became a Recorder. She was appointed to the High Court, Queen's Bench Division in 2013, and became a nominated Judge of the Commercial Court and the Technology and Construction Court in 2014. In the same year she became a member of the Investigatory Powers Tribunal until 2016. She became a Presider of the Midland Circuit in 2016 until 2020, when she was appointed as a Lady Justice of Appeal. In the same year she was also appointed as the senior Judicial Commissioner and Vice Chair of the Judicial Appointments Commission, a position she held until January 2023. Dame Sue Carr was educated at Wycombe Abbey School and read law at Trinity College Cambridge.



Rt Hon Dame Siobhan Keegan DBE is the Lady Chief Justice of Northern Ireland.

Dame Siobhan was appointed as a High Court Judge in October 2015, one of the first two women to be appointed to the High Court along with Madam Justice McBride. Prior to becoming a judge, Lady Chief Justice Keegan, a Queen's University alumna, graduating with LLB Honours in 1993, was called to the Bar of Northern Ireland in 1994 and became a Queen's Counsel in 2006. During her career at the Bar Lady Chief Justice Keegan served as Vice Chair of the Bar of Northern Ireland, Chair of the Young Bar, Chair of the Family Bar Association and Chair of the Bar Charity Committee. She was also a long standing member of the Professional Conduct Committee of the Bar. Lady Chief Justice Keegan was the Judge in Residence at the Queen's University of Belfast from November 2015 until August 2021. She was a member of the Judicial Studies Board (JSB) from April 2016 until August 2021. She was also the Northern Ireland representative on the Franco-British-Irish Judicial Cooperation Committee. Lady Chief Justice Keegan was appointed as a Coroner in July 2017 and was the Presiding Coroner from September 2017 until September 2020. She was assigned to hear Judicial Reviews from 2017 until 2020 and was the Senior Family Judge in the High Court of Northern Ireland from April 2020 until her appointment as Lady Chief Justice in 2021. During her tenure in the Family Division, she was also the designated Northern Ireland judicial member of the International Hague Network of Judges.



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Dinner Speaker Biography

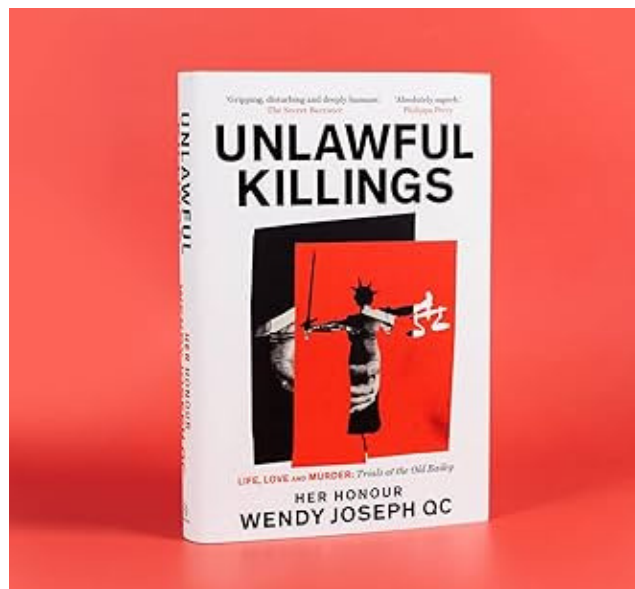


Her Honour Wendy Joseph KC was a judge at the Old Bailey, sitting on criminal cases, trying mainly allegations of murder and other homicide. Born and educated in Cardiff She read English and Law at Cambridge and was called to the Bar by Gray's Inn in 1975, becoming a QC in 1998 and a full-time judge from 2007 to 2022.

When she moved to the Old Bailey in 2012 she was the only woman amongst sixteen judges, and only the third woman ever to hold a permanent position there. She was also a Diversity and Community Relations Judge, working to promote understanding between the judiciary and many different sectors of our community, particularly those from less privileged and minority groups. She mentors young people, from a variety of backgrounds, who hope for a career in law and has a special interest in helping women.

Wendy Joseph is the author of the best-selling "Unlawful Killings: Life, Love and Murder: Trials at the Old Bailey", published shortly after her retirement from the Bench.

Copies of HH Wendy Joseph KC's book 'Unlawful Killings' will be available to purchase* on the Griffin Books stand.



*(HH Wendy Joseph KC has kindly agreed to sign purchased copies. Please liaise with Griffin Books.)