

# MIDDLE TEMPLE MEMBERS' GUIDE

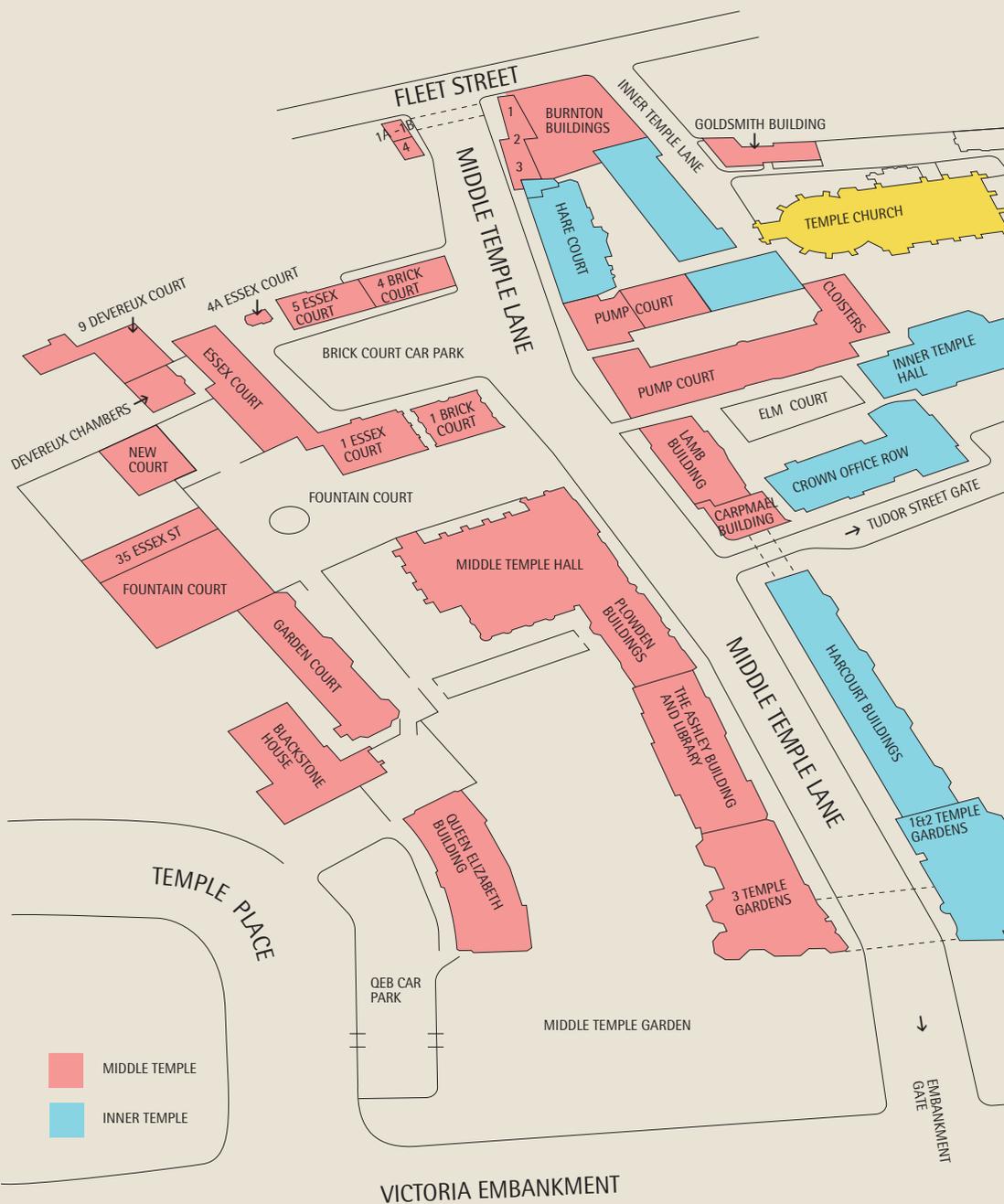
2014/15



THE HONOURABLE SOCIETY OF THE  
MIDDLE TEMPLE

# THE TEMPLE

# WELCOME



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E: [verger@templechurch.com](mailto:verger@templechurch.com)

Welcome to this third edition of the Middle Temple Members' Guide, which we have created to give you an overview of the services and facilities available to you as a Member, and to help you make the very most of what the Inn has to offer.

Whether your interests lie in sponsoring a student, hosting an event in our historic buildings, dining with us, staying in our overnight accommodation, joining our fundraising programmes or one of our societies, or just obtaining contact details for our departments, we hope you will find this Guide useful.

If you are yet to become a Member, do use this Guide to get a sense of what the Inn offers you. Details of how to join are just inside the back page.

And if you are already a Member, we would very much like to hear from you; we actively welcome your views on this publication and on anything relating to our activities at Middle Temple. Also, do feel free to get in touch with us, if we can be of any assistance.



**Guy Perricone**  
Under Treasurer

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# INTRODUCTION



What follows is an introduction of two parts: to the Inn itself, and to the benefits of Membership. We trust it will be eye-opening and supportive – and enable you to make the very most of being a Middle Templar.

## INTRODUCING MIDDLE TEMPLE

### One of the four Inns of Court

Middle Temple is one of the four Inns of Court in London that serve as the professional associations for barristers in England and Wales. Several centuries ago, the Inns were buildings or precincts where barristers traditionally lodged, trained and carried on their profession. In time, these have reduced in number to the present four, the other three Inns of Court being: Inner Temple, Lincoln's Inn and Gray's Inn.

### Developing a thriving society

Although Middle Temple is steeped in history and tradition, of which we are very proud, today we are a friendly and forward-looking Inn. With over ten

thousand members in the UK and across the world, we are also an active worldwide network with much to offer those who are part of our society.

We constantly seek new avenues through which to interest and engage with our Members and to widen opportunities for public engagement: from taking part in the BBC's Masterchef, to hosting the Belgian International Olympic Committee, and lending our treasured Molyneux Globes to the British Museum for an exhibition.

### Members are our raison d'être

Once a Member, we encourage you to become actively involved in the Inn and to make the most of the facilities available



to you, whatever your age or seniority, and wherever your career path leads you. Sometimes a gap can grow in the Inn's continuing relationship with its members, especially after initial qualification, and as Members move away from London. We hope that this Guide – together with our website – can help to narrow such a gap. By engaging in the life and work of the Inn, you can play your part in ensuring that our society has a healthy future for generations to come. (See pages 15 and 23.)

## A focus on diversity and inclusivity

We always look to ensure that under-represented groups are supported in their professional development. We interview every scholarship award applicant. This is possible because of the dedication of our Members who give their time freely, and who contribute to our Scholarship Fund Appeal. (See page 22)

A recent major initiative co-founded in 2011 by our first female Treasurer, Professor Dawn Oliver QC, and our former Under Treasurer, Catherine Quinn, is the Temple Women's Forum – established to support and inspire women at the Bar and in the Judiciary throughout their careers.

## Our founding principles

The Inn's estate on the banks of the Thames was provided by Letters Patent to 'The Honourable Society of the Middle Temple' in 1608 – on condition that it would always be used for the joint objectives of educating and accommodating those practising or training in the Law. Over four hundred years later, Middle Temple's core purposes are still based on these founding principles. Namely:

- The education and training of students and barristers (see page 13); and the promotion of diversity and access to the Bar by the provision of financial support to students and all other means.
- The maintenance of the Inn's estate and its historic heritage (see page 25); and the provision of professional accommodation for barristers and other facilities in support of the Inn's core purposes.
- The achievement of the highest standards of advocacy in support of the judiciary and the rule of law; the promotion of the ethos of the Bar; and the maintenance of the highest professional standards in the public interest.

## OVERVIEW OF MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

We believe that the benefits of being a Member of Middle Temple are rich and varied. The rest of this Guide explains and explores these in some depth – as does our website. Here we give you a brief overview of what's available to you as a Member, directing you to where you can learn more, and highlighting some useful details.

### Events & Dining

Our Events team puts on a wide array of events for Members and their guests to enjoy throughout the year in the surroundings of our fabulous Elizabethan Hall, which is also where lunches and dinners are served. (See page 10.)

To see our calendar of events, please go to: [www.middletemple.org.uk/inn-calendar](http://www.middletemple.org.uk/inn-calendar).

As a Member, you are entitled to a discount on room hire for personal and chambers events at the Inn. For more details, contact the Events team on 020 7427 4820.

### Career Support

The Education and Training we offer our Members, at all stages of their careers, varies enormously, from residential weekends, to Pupils' courses, to whole CPD days. We offer essay prizes, mooted competitions, and exchange trips to faraway places such as Canada and India.

To learn more about the support we provide – to students and more senior professionals – go to page 13.

### Associations and Activities

As a Member, you have the opportunity to join any of a wide range of Specialist Bar Associations (or SBAs). There are also four 'Inn Societies' that give you the opportunity to become more closely involved specifically with our own activities at Middle Temple. (See page 15.)

Also, overleaf we outline how you can become an Ambassador for the Inn.



## Accommodation

We offer Members a wide range of accommodation options – whether you are looking to stay overnight, or for chambers from which to practise by day. For more details, go to the members’ section of the website or call the Treasury Office on 020 7427 4800. (Also, see page 19.)

## Facilities, Grounds and Gardens

### Middle Temple Gardens

Our award-winning gardens are open for everyone to enjoy between the months of May and September from 12.00 to 15.00 and in the summer months we have a BBQ lunch service (closed August). Members are most welcome to enjoy the Gardens at other times of the year by purchasing a garden gate key from the Treasury Office for £12. (To learn more about the Gardens, see page 27)

### Middle Temple Library

Our Library with its dedicated staff provides access to over a quarter of a million volumes of legal material. As well as computer terminals, WiFi, photocopying and printing, the Library provides many quiet areas for study and a dedicated

relaxation area on the Gallery floor. For more details and for opening hours, during and outside term time, go to: [www.middletemple.org.uk/library-and-archive](http://www.middletemple.org.uk/library-and-archive).

### Members’ Common Room

If you are looking for a quiet place to sit and relax, to read or to meet colleagues, you can enjoy the common room facilities of the Prince’s Room. This Common Room is available to Middle Temple Members and their guests from 9.00am to 12.30pm, and from 2.30pm to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday during term time. Complimentary tea and coffee is available.

## Keeping our community up-to-date

We aim to provide all members of Middle Temple, wherever they are in the world, with a varied programme of communications, updates, benefits and events. The Treasury Office is the first point of contact for our members and works hard to strengthen the relationships between the Inn and its worldwide network of members. So if, as a Member, your contact details change, please let us know at [members@middletemple.org.uk](mailto:members@middletemple.org.uk).

## Merchandise

The Treasury Office sells a wide variety of merchandise, including cufflinks, pens, notebooks, port, wine, accessories, and books; these make either great gifts or an ideal treat for any Member. For more details, email: [members@middletemple.org.uk](mailto:members@middletemple.org.uk).

## An invitation for Ambassadors

Middle Temple is seeking to recruit volunteer representatives around the world who are interested in representing the Inn – either within their chambers or through the formation of international groups situated within their home regions. If you are interested in getting more involved or would like more information, contact: [c.davidson@middletemple.org.uk](mailto:c.davidson@middletemple.org.uk).



# SPECIFIC BENEFITS AND TODAY'S MIDDLE TEMPLE



Whatever matters most to you – be it socialising and networking with fellow Members, developing your career, or arranging a place at the Inn to stay or to practise – you should find it here.

## EVENTS AND DINING

From colourful seasonal gatherings to world-class musical events, our Events team puts on a highly varied calendar of events.

Middle Temple boasts first class in-house caterers who create stylish, imaginative and sumptuous cuisine worthy of a 21st century Inn of Court. As well as providing our Members with lunches there are also over 60 evening events every year.

### Private events – venue hire

You can enjoy discounted room hire rates for private events, chambers and Bar-related occasions. For more information, contact the Events team on 020 7427 4820 or email: [events@middletemple.org.uk](mailto:events@middletemple.org.uk). See our dedicated events website: [www.middletemplehall.org.uk](http://www.middletemplehall.org.uk).

### Seasonal events

You are warmly welcome to the seasonal events we host each year. These include:

- A **Burns Night** in January.
- A **Garden Party** in July. Also in the summer, we offer barbecue lunches in Middle Temple Gardens, with tables on the terrace, and a popular Pop-up Champagne Bar in Fountain Court.
- A **Carol Service** lunch in December, which takes place after a service in the magnificent Temple Church.
- **The infamous Christmas “Revels” performances** when Members perform sketches from topical news items.



## Annual events

Hall is open to Members for dinner for a variety of evening events throughout the year. These include:

- **Music nights.** One-off events at which musicians perform after dinner.
- **Guest lectures** – where a lecture is given in Hall by a distinguished guest.
- **Circuit Dinner.** This event follows CPD Day and enables members to enjoy an evening with colleagues from the Circuits.
- **Traditional Dining Nights**, which have an educational content, and which student members attend to gain qualifying session points.
- **All Inn Dining.** Ideal opportunities for students and their sponsors to meet.
- **Annual Dinner.** Organised by the Hall Committee with a guest speaker. All Members of the Inn are welcome to this event as are guests of members.

## Buying tickets for events

Please do check the Inn's website for the calendar of events. There you can also see which events your guests can attend, and get a guide to prices. Alternatively, email: [members@middletemple.org.uk](mailto:members@middletemple.org.uk). To buy tickets, you can phone the Treasury Office and pay by card. Alternatively, you can come into the Treasury Office and pay.

## Lunch at the Inn

In term time, lunch is served in Hall from 12:30 to 14:00, Monday to Friday. Members are encouraged to bring guests to lunch with them in Hall. And while there is no need to book, we do require advance notice of larger groups.

There is a fantastic range of dishes on offer including a carvery, a salad bar, fish and vegetarian options, a daily chef's special as well as a range of desserts and cheese. The dress code is business suit, court dress or smart casual dress (i.e. smart jeans are acceptable, but no shorts or T-shirts please).

## YOUR CAREER

**We are committed to supporting you throughout your legal career; the ways in which we do that vary enormously. Here we touch on four aspects of that support, before looking at the Associations you can join as a Member; by doing so, we believe you stand to enrich both your personal and professional life.**

### The Inn and its professional membership

Call to the Bar should not be seen as the end of your connection with Middle Temple, but rather as the beginning of a life-long relationship.

There are many ways of getting involved with the Inn. From judging moots or joining committees... to becoming an advocacy trainer or assisting with scholarship interviews... to providing advice at a careers fairs or an Open Day... to being on standby to support junior members on an ad hoc basis.

Whether you're interested in helping

other Members or in receiving training and career guidance yourself, please contact our Education Department at: [members@middletemple.org.uk](mailto:members@middletemple.org.uk).

### Education and Training for Students

#### For Students

The Inn plays a key role in helping students to develop their professional identity from the time they are admitted.

- **Qualifying sessions** provide an induction into the life and ethos of the Bar.
- **Residential weekends** in Cumberland Lodge in Windsor Great Park and in York give students the opportunity to develop their advocacy skills and to meet senior members of the profession.
- **Our advocacy programme.** We run five two-week courses for pupils (as well as two shorter versions) every year in the Rutledge Suite, on the third floor of the Ashley Building.



## Ongoing Professional Development

Following Call to the Bar, there are various opportunities to undertake CPD in the course of the year. These include:

- Guest lectures on a wide variety of subjects, followed by discussion and a reception where guests are able to network.
- Our annual CPD Day which covers topics of interest to practitioners of all seniority and areas of practice.
- Experienced practitioners can also obtain CPD by providing training and lectures.

## Sponsorship Scheme

We encourage interaction between junior members and more experienced practitioners by providing students with sponsors to guide them during their training at Middle Temple and to explain how the Inn and the Bar work.

Sponsors can provide a key link to the profession: introducing students to the customs of the Bar, and advising on applications for pupillage, on drafting a CV, or on what to expect in a pupillage interview. The Inn's social events, particularly All Inn Dining, are ideal opportunities for students and their sponsors to meet.

To join our Middle Temple sponsorship programme, please contact our Education Department at: [members@middletemple.org.uk](mailto:members@middletemple.org.uk).

## ASSOCIATIONS

### Specialist Bar Associations, Bar Societies & Inn Societies

Specialist Bar Associations (SBAs) are dedicated to the interests of groups of barristers within specific practice areas and geographical regions. SBAs can help to promote their members' interests, for example responding to proposals for changes to regulations, and offering support to their members through networking events and mentoring schemes.

#### Specialist Bar Associations

##### Administrative Law Bar Association

E: [enquiries@adminlaw.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@adminlaw.org.uk)  
W: [www.adminlaw.org.uk](http://www.adminlaw.org.uk)

##### Bar Association for Commerce Finance and Industry:

E: [secretary@bacfi.org](mailto:secretary@bacfi.org)  
W: [www.bacfi.org](http://www.bacfi.org)

##### Bar Association for Local Government and the Public Service:

E: [chairman@balgps.org.uk](mailto:chairman@balgps.org.uk)  
W: [www.balgps.org.uk](http://www.balgps.org.uk)

##### Bar European Group

E: [administrator@bareuropeangroup.org.uk](mailto:administrator@bareuropeangroup.org.uk)  
W: [www.bareuropeangroup.org.uk](http://www.bareuropeangroup.org.uk)

##### Chancery Bar Association

E: [admin@chba.org.uk](mailto:admin@chba.org.uk)  
W: [www.chba.org.uk](http://www.chba.org.uk)

##### Commercial Bar Association

E: [admin@combar.com](mailto:admin@combar.com)  
W: [www.combar.com](http://www.combar.com)

##### Criminal Bar Association

E: [aaron.dolan@criminalbar.com](mailto:aaron.dolan@criminalbar.com)  
W: [www.criminalbar.com](http://www.criminalbar.com)

##### Employment Law Bar Association

E: [bmoodie@barcouncil.org.uk](mailto:bmoodie@barcouncil.org.uk)  
W: [www.elba.org.uk](http://www.elba.org.uk)

##### Family Law Bar Association

E: [admin@flba.co.uk](mailto:admin@flba.co.uk)  
W: [www.flba.co.uk](http://www.flba.co.uk)

##### The FDA

E: [info@fda.org.uk](mailto:info@fda.org.uk)  
W: [www.fda.org.uk](http://www.fda.org.uk)



**Intellectual Property Bar Association**

E: copeland@3newsquare.co.uk  
W: www.ipba.co.uk

**London Common Law and Commercial Bar Association**

E: kent@crownofficechambers.com  
W: www.lclcba.com

**Northern Chancery Bar Association**

E: sara.brett@hotmail.com  
W: www.nchba.co.uk

**Northern Circuit Commercial Bar Association**

E: admin@nccba.org.uk  
W: www.nccba.org.uk

**Parliamentary Bar Mess**

E: timothy.comyn@ftb.eu.com

**Personal Injuries Bar Association**

E: admin@piba.org.uk  
W: www.piba.org.uk

**Planning and Environmental Bar Association**

E: peba@peba.org.uk  
W: www.peba.org.uk

**Professional Negligence Bar Association**

E: Woodbridge@crownofficechambers.com  
W: www.pnba.co.uk

**Property Bar Association**

E: enquiries@propertybar.org.uk  
W: www.propertybar.org.uk

**Public Access Bar Association**

E: admin@paba.org.uk  
W: www.paba.org.uk

**Revenue Bar Association**

E: rba@pumptax.com  
W: www.revenue-bar.org

**Technology & Construction Bar Association**

E: LMcCafferty@4pumpcourt.com  
W: www.tecbar.org

**Western Chancery and Commercial Bar Association**

E: leslie.blohm@stjohnschambers.co.uk

**Other Societies**

**Bar Golfing Society**

E: bar.golf@yahoo.co.uk  
W: www.bargolf.org.uk

**Bar Lawn Tennis Society**

E: meyer@11stonebuildings.com

**Bar Musical Society**

E: nikolas.clarke@fieldcourt.co.uk  
W: www.barmusicalsociety.com

**Bar Yacht Club**

E: mfurness@wilberforce.co.uk  
W: www.baryachtclub.org.uk

**BLAGG (Bar Lesbian and Gay Group)**

W: www.blagg.org

**CEBA (Commonwealth in England Barristers' Association)**

E: cebamember@hotmail.co.uk

**Inn Societies**

*(Opportunities to get more involved with our Middle Temple community)*

**Middle Temple Historical Society (MTHS) \***

E: mths@middletemple.org.uk

**Middle Temple Students Association (MTSA)**

E: president@middletemplestudents.com  
W: www.middletemplestudents.com

**Middle Temple Young Barristers Association (MTYBA) \***

E: middletempleyoungbar@gmail.com

**Revels**

E: only\_mee143@hotmail.com

\* You can learn more about these two 'Middle Temple' Inn Societies on the following pages.



## Associations at Middle Temple

Here we focus on two of the Inn Societies that give you the opportunity to deepen your involvement with Middle Temple. The other two are: the Middle Temple Students Association (MTSA) and the Revels team. *(Both are detailed on the previous page.)*

### Young Barristers' Association (MTYBA)

The Middle Temple Young Barristers' Association has been created by a group of young barristers to help ease the transition from Middle Temple student to successful Middle Temple barrister. It has three aims: to assist those who have been Called but who have yet to obtain that all-important pupillage; to encourage and inform members once they are undergoing pupillage; and to support young (though not necessarily in age) barristers as they start out in the profession.

To get involved, please email: [middletempleyoungbar@gmail.com](mailto:middletempleyoungbar@gmail.com).

### Middle Temple Historical Society (MTHS)

The Middle Temple Historical Society was founded over thirty years ago by enthusiasts who wanted to learn more about the history of the Inn, its buildings and its other treasures.

The Middle Temple Historical Society meets four times a year between October and April in the Bench Apartments for drinks, a hot buffet supper and a talk on an historical topic, usually with a legal theme, given by an eminent speaker.

Membership of the Society is open to all members, friends and staff of the Inn and their guests. Whether you are looking to join, to book tickets for supper or a visit, or simply to learn more, please email: [mths@middletemple.org.uk](mailto:mths@middletemple.org.uk).

## ACCOMMODATION

To our Members we are able to offer a myriad of accommodation options – whether you are looking to stay overnight, either at the Inn itself or at a nearby hotel, or are looking for chambers from which to practise by day. We also have a number of residential flats at the Inn.

### AT MIDDLE TEMPLE

#### Lodgings – a place to stay

Middle Temple has a number of rooms available for overnight accommodation. All are comfortably furnished with en-suite facilities, coffee and tea-making facilities, hairdryers and digital TV. The Raleigh and Frobisher suites are self-contained units situated on the first floor, whilst the Sheridan and Buchan Suites on the second floor are interconnecting and may be hired together at special rates. Please note that no animals other than guide dogs are allowed in the Lodgings. For reservations or for more details, go to the members' section of the website or call the Treasury Office on 020 7427 4800.

#### Chambers – a place to practise

One of the core functions of the Inn is to provide Chambers from which Barristers can practise. In total, the Inn currently has approximately 250,000 sq ft of Professional Barristers Chambers. This is shared between about 40 tenants, ranging from sole practitioners occupying just one room of about 100 sq ft to our larger sets occupying up to around 25,000 sq ft. Inevitably, our tenants' requirements change from time to time and Professional Chambers become available for re-letting. For more information, contact: [estates@middletemple.org.uk](mailto:estates@middletemple.org.uk).

#### Residential flats

In addition to barristers' chambers, Middle Temple provides approximately 45 residential units. Although the majority of flats have one or two bedrooms, sizes range from small bed-sits to large three-bedroom units. Allocation is usually by seniority, but other factors, such as a member's active contribution to the governance or collegiate life of the Inn,



are also taken into account. The residents play an important part in the life of the Inn and Temple Church, and their involvement is always welcome.

### Parking spaces at the Inn

The Inn has two principal areas where vehicles may be parked by arrangement with the Inn, adjacent to Brick Court and Queen Elizabeth Building. The majority of the car parking (100) and motorcycle (15) spaces are let either to barristers working within the Inn or to the Inn's residents.

### Who to contact

For Estate matters, please contact the Inn's Estates Office, located in Carpmael Building, on 020 7427 4840 or by e-mail to [estates@middletemple.org.uk](mailto:estates@middletemple.org.uk).

### HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

For our Members we have negotiated preferential rates at a select number of hotels in London, all conveniently located close to the Inn.

To learn their latest rates, please get in touch with the hotel directly. (See the contact details beneath your chosen hotel.)

### Club Quarters

Club Quarters are full service hotels for private use by guests and employees of member companies; they offer unique and complimentary services for the business traveller in a club-like setting. In London, there are Club Quarters in four locations: (1) near Covent Garden; (2) near the Bank of England; (3) adjacent to St. Pauls Cathedral and (4) next to Trafalgar Square.

T: 020 7451 5800 *and quote Middle Temple*  
E: [memberservices@clubquarters.com](mailto:memberservices@clubquarters.com)  
W: [www.clubquarters.com](http://www.clubquarters.com)

### Apex Temple Court Hotel

Apex Temple Court Hotel is situated just off Fleet Street in the conservation area of the Inner Temple. Enjoying a strong sense of tranquillity that is rare for a City Hotel, this stunning hotel has 184 luxury rooms and suites, offering complimentary Wi-Fi throughout the hotel and complimentary local calls for the guests.

T: 0845 365 0000 *and quote Middle Temple*  
E: [london.reservations@apexhotels.co.uk](mailto:london.reservations@apexhotels.co.uk)  
W: [www.apexhotels.co.uk](http://www.apexhotels.co.uk)

### Grange Hotels

Middle Templars can choose from seven Grange Hotels including the 5\* Grange Holborn Hotel with 200 luxury guest bedrooms, a fully equipped Health and Fitness Club with 13m pool, and in-house dining outlets including speciality Japanese restaurant Koto.

T: 0845 450 9900 *and quote Middle Temple*  
E: [sales@grangehotels.com](mailto:sales@grangehotels.com)  
W: [www.grangehotels.com](http://www.grangehotels.com)

### For other local hotels

Whether you need help booking a single room or a number of rooms for a one-off event – we also recommend the services of the Corporate Team who are a hotel agency. Contact them on [hotels@corporateteam.com](mailto:hotels@corporateteam.com) or telephone 020 7592 3050 and quote ID 1016.

### MEMBERS' LUGGAGE STORAGE

We offer a complimentary bag-drop service, enabling members of the Inn to leave their luggage securely for up to 24 hours. This facility is located in the main entrance of Ashley Building. Here luggage may be deposited or collected between the hours of 8.00am and 8.00pm, Monday to Friday, and by prior arrangement with the Duty Porter (020 7797 7768) for collection on Saturdays.



## SCHOLARSHIP FUND APPEAL

### The Scholarship Fund

Middle Temple has been awarding scholarships to students since 1877. The primary purpose is to ensure that those of real ability are not deterred from entering the profession by a lack of means.

Middle Temple interviews every single applicant for a scholarship. The Inn has a track record of targeting the funds where they are most needed: to individuals, regardless of their backgrounds, who will ultimately be a credit to the profession and the administration of justice.

Individuals give to the Middle Temple Scholarship Fund Appeal because they want to 'give back' to an institution that has been central to their professional development and to contribute to the future health of the Bar.

### The Scholarship Fund Appeal

A Scholarship Fund Appeal was begun in 2003 to maintain and increase the level of funding and number of scholarships awarded, with the initial aim of raising £5 million. The Right Honourable Lord Phillips of Worth Matravers is the Appeal's patron.

To donate to the Scholarship Fund Appeal, please contact Colin Davidson, Director of Membership & Development at [c.davidson@middletemple.org.uk](mailto:c.davidson@middletemple.org.uk).

## HALL COMMITTEE

If you have a query or question about any aspect of the Inn's activities, this is your best first port of call.

The Hall Committee represents the interests of Hall: that is, all barrister members of Middle Temple (save for students and Masters of the Bench) and is actively engaged in the governance of the Inn.

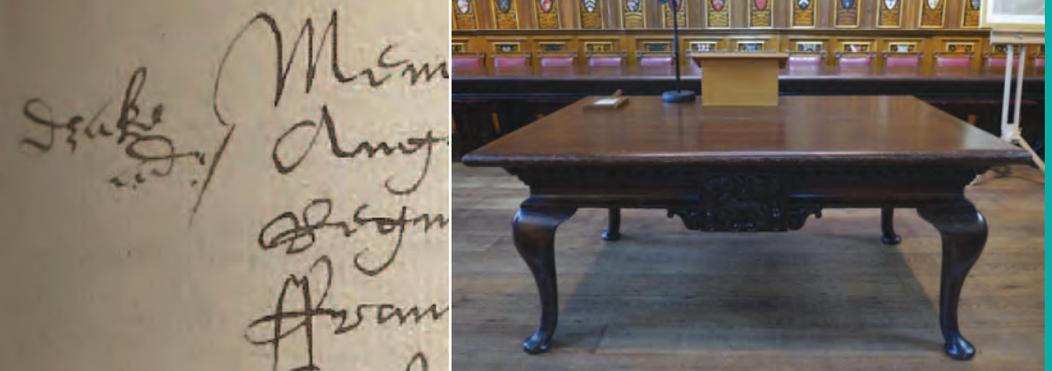
### Who sits on the Hall Committee

The members of Hall Committee are elected every autumn for a period of three years and sit on the Standing (Bench) Committees, which broadly cover the Inn's main activities and responsibilities. You can see who sits on which committees on the Middle Temple website. If you have any comments or questions for the Standing Committees, please get in touch with the Hall Committee representative: [hallcomm@middletemple.org.uk](mailto:hallcomm@middletemple.org.uk).

### An invitation to join

The Hall Committee works hard to engage with all members of the Inn who have been Called to the Bar until the end of their professional lives. The Committee would welcome you to join it. If you would like to learn how you can help the work of the Inn through the Hall Committee, please get in touch: [middletemplehallcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:middletemplehallcommittee@gmail.com).

# HISTORY, ARCHITECTURE AND GARDENS



The history of this Inn is intrinsic to who we are and what we stand for. Also, a deeper sense of our past can – as we look forward – help to shape our sense of what matters, and of what is possible.

## MIDDLE TEMPLE HALL

**“One of the finest Elizabethan banqueting halls in England”**

Completed in the early 1570s, Middle Temple Hall has survived civil unrest and wars across the centuries, including the bombing of London in World War II.

Beneath its stunning double hammer beam roof, its walls are lined with armorial Readers’ Panels that date back to 1597, and its stained glass windows illustrate the coats of arms of many famous members of the Inn.

The Hall remains very much the centre of the Inn today.

**Two tangible pieces of living history**

**The High Table.** Made from a single oak tree given to the Inn by Elizabeth I, the High Table sits on a dais at the west end of Hall. Grown in Windsor Great Park, the trunk of the tree was floated along the Thames by barge and carved into a magnificent table 29 feet long in the Hall, where it has remained for the last four and a half centuries.

**‘Drake’s Cupboard’.** Situated prominently in Hall on ceremonial occasions, ‘Drake’s Cupboard,’ crafted from the hatch cover of Sir Francis Drake’s famous ship, the Golden Hind, takes pride of place during Middle Temple’s Call ceremonies. On it is laid the book members sign when they are Called to the Bar.



## BENCH APARTMENTS

All of the Bench Apartments look over the stunning gardens of Middle Temple, which stretch southwards towards the River Thames.

Each of the three rooms is available for private hire both by members of the Inn and by external organisations.

### Parliament Chamber

Originally built between 1822 and 1824 to house the Inn's Library, Parliament Chamber is used for formal dining, meetings and receptions.

### Queen's Room

Named after the late Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, the Queen's Room is a beautifully proportioned room decorated by paintings associated with the Queen Mother and her appointment as Royal Bencher of the Inn in 1944.

### Prince's Room

So called to commemorate HRH The Duke of Cambridge's Call to the Bench of Middle Temple in 2009, the Prince's Room is another reception space of classic proportions, housing a table made from the hatch cover of Gipsy Moth IV and donated by Sir Francis Chichester.

## MIDDLE TEMPLE GARDENS

The award-winning gardens of Middle Temple Hall overlook the river Thames and offer a peaceful haven from the bustle of central London.

Today, the Gardens are a particularly popular venue for summer functions, and provide an idyllic backdrop for corporate events, filming and wedding photography. Here, surrounded by intricately manicured borders and expertly maintained lawns, a garden party or outdoor event can be a spectacular occasion.

### A potted history of the Gardens

Medieval records describe an orchard being here; by the 14th Century there are several mentions of its roses. A more formal design, with a top terrace and walks, was laid out in 1591.

In the early 18th Century a major re-configuration took place, imposing the then fashionable 'William and Mary' Dutch style, enclosed and with three rectangular lawns, dotted with trees and dissected by gravel paths.

After Bazelgette's construction of the Victoria Embankment, when direct access to the river was lost, it was completely re-shaped over the enlarged area and this remains the skeletal design of the 21st Century garden.

### Opening hours

These are private gardens, but with public access Monday to Friday, 12pm to 3pm, in May, June, July and September.

Members are most welcome to enjoy the Gardens at other times of the year by purchasing a garden gate key from the Treasury Office for £12.



## FAMOUS PEOPLE AND TREASURES

The earliest Middle Templar identifiable by name was William Hankeford, who in 1388 was appointed one of Richard II's serjeants-at-law. Since then, the Middle Temple has produced countless famous lawyers, including the Elizabethan law reporter Edmund Plowden, who commissioned our great Hall.

Over four and a half centuries of acclaimed lawyers, Lord Chancellors, Chief Justices and Masters of the Rolls are commemorated in the Inn's portraits and heraldic stained glass. A group portrait of eight current Benchers holding the highest judicial offices was commissioned in 2006 and hangs in the Bench Apartments.

Sir Walter Raleigh is one of the many Middle Temple members who have won fame outside the field of law - as luminaries of the Elizabethan and Jacobean Courts. Another is Bartholomew Gosnold, who named Cape Cod and Martha's Vineyard and founded the first successful English settlement in North America at Jamestown in 1607.

The American connection has remained strong over the years. In the 18th century many young men were sent from America to complete their education at the Middle Temple, among them five who were to sign the Declaration of Independence and seven who were signatories to the Constitution.

The Inn's tradition of masques and revels dates back to medieval times and attracted a host of Elizabethan and Jacobean poets and playwrights to the membership. The first recorded performance of Shakespeare's Twelfth Night took place in Hall in 1602. Famous literary members include John Marston, Elias Ashmole, Henry Fielding, Richard Brinsley Sheridan, Charles Dickens, William Thackeray and John Buchan.

A tradition of Royal Benchers has been in place since the Prince of Wales (the future King Edward VII) became a Bencher of the Inn in 1861. Others include: Prince Albert Victor of Wales, Duke of Clarence and Avondale; Edward VIII, later Duke of Windsor; Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother; Diana, Princess of Wales, and our present Royal Bencher HRH The Duke of Cambridge.

## THE TEMPLE AND THE MAGNA CARTA

At the Temple we have good reason to celebrate the Great Charter on its landmark anniversary in 2015.

Eight hundred years ago, as his enemies grew in power, King John maintained two London headquarters: to the east, the fortified Tower of London; to the west, the Temple, safely under the control of the King's allies, the Knights Templar.

From the Temple were issued some of the vital charters that preceded the Magna Carta itself. One of these guaranteed the City of London the right to freely elect its own Mayor. More fundamental were the famously fraught negotiations that opened the road to Runnymede - whereby twenty-five barons made sure that even the King was subject to the law.

By the fourteenth century the Temple and the Church were occupied by two of London's legal colleges, Middle and Inner Temple. In 1608 King James I gave the whole area of the Temple to these two 'Inns of Court'. He laid down two conditions: the Inns of Court had to maintain the Temple Church and its

Master, and also had to educate and accommodate lawyers. The Inns have done so with pride ever since.

### Today we still celebrate some of the Great Charter's heroes...

Chief among them is William the Marshal, buried in Temple Church, where his effigy still lies. He was the most powerful man in England and remained loyal to the King, but insisted that the King seal the Charter. *(Read more about Temple Church overleaf.)*



## TEMPLE CHURCH

One of the most beautiful and historic churches in London, the Temple Church was built by the Knights Templar, the order of crusading monks founded to protect pilgrims on their way to and from Jerusalem in the 12th and 13th centuries.

The church of both Middle and Inner Temple, it is situated in Church Court between Middle Temple Lane and King's Bench Walk.

The extraordinary space of the Round Church, which forms the core of the building, was constructed to recreate the shape and sanctity of the Holy Sepulchre, the burial place of Jesus in Jerusalem.

### A rare musical heritage

The Church is world-famous for its music, its choir and its exceptional acoustics. Founded in 1841 by Dr Edward John Hopkins, its choir is widely considered to be one of the finest in London.

The Temple Church Choir continues to record, broadcast and perform, in

addition to its regular services at the Church. It is an all-male choir, consisting of 12 professional choirmen and 18 boys who are all educated on generous scholarships. The choir sings at the principal service on Sunday morning (11.15am), at occasional weekday evensongs (5.45pm) and at concerts.

### Weddings, services and the Master of the Temple

All members of the Inn, of all (or no) religious affiliation, are welcome to our Church of England services, concerts, lectures and other events. All members are also entitled to be married in the Church and to have their children baptised there.

The Master of the Temple lives and works within the Temple. If you would like to know more about the Church, to meet him, or to have a confidential conversation, he will be glad to see you: [master@templechurch.com](mailto:master@templechurch.com).

For details of the Church's events, please visit [www.templechurch.com](http://www.templechurch.com).





Here we aim to give you the practical support you most need – either as a potential Member looking to join, or as an existing Member seeking specific contacts or information.

## HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER

If you have yet to become a Member of Middle Temple, we warmly encourage you to join our Inn of Court.

### As a Student

You may apply for admission to the Middle Temple either from the second year of your undergraduate law degree onwards, or once you have a confirmed place on the GDL / CPE (and have obtained a Certificate of Academic Standing from the Bar Standards Board). Each year, the Honourable Society of the Middle Temple admits over 500 student members.

If you are looking to find out more about the Inn, we highly recommend arranging to have a tour. For more information, either see the website [www.middletemple.org.uk/joining-the-inn/students](http://www.middletemple.org.uk/joining-the-inn/students) or, for general enquiries

about student admission, please contact the Student Records Officer, Melissa Tucker, at [m.tucker@middletemple.org.uk](mailto:m.tucker@middletemple.org.uk).

### Other Applicants

We also welcome your application, if you are a Transferring Solicitor, an Overseas Lawyer, or a Legal Academic, and would like to join the Inn as a Specially Qualified Applicant.

You might also like to join the Inn as an Ad Eundem Barrister, having already been Called to the Bar by Lincoln's Inn, Inner Temple or Gray's Inn. Alternatively, you may like to apply for Temporary Call to the Bar of England and Wales, or for readmission to the Inn, having already been Called to the Bar by the Middle Temple. For more details, go to [www.middletemple.org.uk/joining-the-inn](http://www.middletemple.org.uk/joining-the-inn).

## USEFUL INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS

We trust that this Guide, together with our website, helps you to make the most of your membership as a Middle Templar.

To contact Estates, Events, Finance, Library, Security (24 hours) and Temple Church, please turn to the inside front page of this Guide. For general enquiries, please see the contact details below.

### Access to Middle Temple

**If you're on foot.** Please note how timings vary, depending on whether you are entering or leaving Middle Temple.

- **24 hour access:** (1) Tudor Street; (2) Middle Temple Lane into Fleet Street.
- **Restricted access** (7am to 8.30pm Monday to Friday): (3) The Entrance from Fleet Street into Middle Temple Lane; (4) The Embankment.
- **If you're a tenant,** you will be provided with a proximity card for entry into your chambers when the site is closed.

**If you're driving.** Access for vehicles is via Tudor Street with the exit open from 7am to 8.30pm onto the Embankment (turn left only.) The only vehicle exit after 8.30pm on weekdays and weekends is via Tudor Street. The postal code for sat nav for this gate is EC4Y 0AY.

### Keeping in touch

We encourage you to let us know your thoughts about this Guide and any other aspect of our activities and community – so we can continue to develop the value and rewards of being a Middle Templar.

In order to keep up-to-date with the many offerings for members and to see more detailed content available only to members, please do register as a user on the website.

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