



BAR COUNCIL NEWS UPDATE – WEDNESDAY 28 NOVEMBER 2018

Social mobility

The Brief (The Times) – The Brief reports that “Flushed with the success of its social mobility campaign, #IAmTheBar, the Bar Council has launched a spin-off, #IAmTheBench, which looks at social mobility in the judiciary.”

Three judges launch the campaign by sharing their stories: Judge Avik Mukherjee, Judge Sandy Canavan and Judge John Aitken, who is president of the tribunal chamber.

The Brief publishes the Bar Council’s [campaign poster](#) which mimics the renowned “Enemies of the people” front page that the Daily Mail ran in 2016 following the High Court Article 50 case.

The Brief reports that a spokesman for the Bar said their stories were being told to demystify the role of judges and the routes to getting there. “These three stories demonstrate the importance of attracting more individuals from a diverse range of backgrounds to a career as a judge so that they are representative of society when passing judgment on their peers,” he said. The front-page image of the campaign bears more than a passing resemblance to a notorious tabloid front page after the judges’ Brexit ruling.”

Brexit for barristers

New Law Journal – NLJ reports that barristers have been issued with guidance on what to do in the event of a no-deal Brexit by the Bar Council.

The authors of the Bar Council guidance agree no-deal remains a ‘genuine risk’ although its likelihood receded slightly this week. If the prime minister’s plan is accepted by Parliament and the EU, the shape of any agreement on professional services is ‘extremely uncertain’, the authors say.

Moreover, no-deal could impact on practitioners in family, personal injury and criminal cases where EU nationals are involved, and could affect domestic law derived from the EU, such as consumer protection, employment, or health and Safety.

Practising Certificate Fee

[Law Society Gazette](#), [Legal Futures](#) – The legal media report on the General Council of the Bar’s PCF and budget consultation, which closes on 5 December. The media focus on how new PCF proposals will affect the Bar’s highest earners.

Bar training

[Legal Cheek](#) – Further coverage appears of Shadow Attorney General, Baroness Chakrabarti’s Bar Conference speech in which she said a Labour government will reform barristers’ training by putting it back in the hands of the Inns of Court and ending the “profiteering” by the current commercial providers.

Flexible operating hours

New Law Journal – Further coverage appears of the Bar Council’s reaction to the latest HMCTS announcement on flexible operating hours, which will now be piloted in family and civil courts, not criminal courts.

Andrew Walker QC, Chair of the Bar, said: “While the type of work involved in the family and civil court pilots is much more limited than that proposed in the criminal courts, we remain very concerned about the implications of early starts and late finishes, and there are many questions still to be answered about the practicality of these revised proposals.

“Family barristers, in particular, are already working under enormous strain, as are our family courts; and it j would be unacceptable and irresponsible to place even greater burdens on them.”

Wellbeing at the Bar

New Law Journal – NLJ devotes a double-page spread to look at the Bar Council's Wellbeing at the Bar Portal for a host of information, support and advice on staying well in an exhilarating but pressured profession-relevant to all in the law.

Content from the Portal on the five drivers for wellbeing is reproduced for NLJ readers.



The Bar Council 

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JUDGES OF THE PEOPLE: today we release a social mobility spin-off series: [#IAmTheBench](#). More info here: barcouncil.org.uk/careers/i-am-t ...

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Her Honour Judge Sandy Canavan



His Honour Judge Avik Mukherjee



Tribunal Chamber President Judge John Aitken

JUDGES OF THE PEOPLE

The Bar Council's successful [#IAmTheBar](#) social mobility campaign reached the judiciary today, with three judges selected as role models to represent the importance of social mobility at the highest rungs of the legal profession.

Her Honour Judge Sandy Canavan, His Honour Judge

By The Bar Council

individuals from a diverse range of backgrounds to a career as a judge so that they may help to deliver justice to their peers.

The judges' stories form a "spin-off series" to the Bar Council's [#IAmTheBar](#) campaign which took Twitter by storm during

A spokesperson for the Bar Council said: "The campaign goes a long way in shattering the perception that the Bar is a closed shop, reserved for those with a privileged up-bringing. Now, the judges' series joins the campaign. This is [#IAmTheBench](#). It demonstrates that a successful career at the Bar isn't the limit of

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barcouncil.org.uk/media-centre/n ... What should barristers do to prepare for a 'no-deal' Brexit? At least read our guide prepared by the Bar Council's Brexit Working Group.

2:30 PM - 27 Nov 2018

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