



Movers and Returners

A one-day conference for those seeking guidance and support in returning to the Bar, taking a career break, or moving practice area.

Inner Temple, Thursday 22 May 2025

PROGRAMME	08:45 – 09:30	Registration and refreshments	
	09:30 – 10:15	Opening plenary Welcome notes Introduction Keynote address	Rachel Spearing, Conference Chair Barbara Mills KC, Chair of the Bar Lady Justice Whipple
	10:20 – 11:20	Real-Life Stories in Building a Career Panel of individuals who have taken leave/returned to practice sharing their experiences – in conversation with Q&A.	Ruby Sayed, One Pump Court HHJ Ian Bugg Malvika Jaganmohan, St Ives Chambers Emma Stuart-Smith, 25 Bedford Row HHJ Robin Sellers
	11:20 – 11:50	B R E A K	
	11:50 – 12:35	Breakout sessions (1) – 'Interactive workshops a) Breaking barriers to being your best at the Bar through mindset, resilience and confidence b) Mentoring and Micromentoring opportunities	Nikki Alderson, Nikki Alderson Coaching Alice Nash, Nancy Kelehar, Caroline Musgrave-Cohen, and mentors tbc
	12:35 – 13:30	L U N C H	
	13:30 – 14:30	'Lessons and Leadership: Top Tips for Navigating Transfers and Flexible Working at the Bar' with Q&A Panel discussion from a range of speakers demonstrating best practice in moving and returning to the bar	James Whiting, CEO Doughty St Chambers Suzanna McGibbon, Government Legal Dept Lisa Peacock, Head of Chambers, Dr Johnson's Buildings Stephen Parkinson, Director of Public Prosecutions Sam Mercer, Bar Council
	14:30 – 14:45	B R E A K	
	14:45 – 15:45	Breakout sessions (2) – Presentations and Roundtable Discussions a) Financial and preparatory planning b) Refreshing advocacy skills	Mason Bloom, Silver Levene Fallon Alexis, QEB Hollis Whiteman Sarah Clarke KC, Serjeants Inn Chambers Yaa Dankwa Ampadu-Sackey, Four Brick Court
	15:50 – 16:30	Closing reflections Conference close	Brie Stevens-Hoare KC, Gatehouse Chambers Rachel Spearing, Conference Chair
16:30 – 17:15	Drinks reception		