

December 2021

Continuing to offer most events online, the Anglo-Australasian Lawyers Society (AALS) opened this year with **Amal Clooney** and **Philippa Webb** giving its **Crawford Lecture**, and closed with its **long-awaited black tie annual dinner**. Along the way the society hosted its patron **Lord Judge**, published on the **UK/Australia Free Trade Agreement**, and co-hosted **Bank of England General Counsel Sonya Branch** on the busy role of being General Counsel to such an institution.

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Gold Members 2021

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Skadden, Arps, Slate,
Meagher & Flom

Save the Date!
FANZA/AALS concert with
mezzo-soprano Lotte Betts-
Dean **11 February 2022**
6pm at St Mary at Hill church
in support of ANZ artists

Amal Clooney and Philippa Webb give Crawford Lecture—In April, co-authors of much heralded 1000-page volume *The Right to a Fair Trial in International Law* **Amal Clooney** (Doughty Street Chambers) and Australian jurist **Philippa Webb** (King’s College London) kicked off our year with a well-attended presentation on the topic as the AALS’ Crawford Lecture in public international law. The annual lecture (on our website) was again hosted by international firm **Freshfields** with a welcome from its newly-elected senior partner **Georgia Dawson** (Australia).



April 2021—Crawford Lecture in public international law with (clockwise L-R) Philippa Webb, Amal Clooney, Freshfields partner James Kennedy and AALS Chair Anne Bodley.



Freshfields senior partner Georgia Dawson, the first female in this role at a magic circle firm, gave introductory remarks.

Fireside chat with former Lord Chief Justice Lord Judge—With The Right Honourable The **Lord Judge** Kt PC giving a **rousing defence of the rule of law** in 2020 following Brexit and the Internal Market Bill, the AALS invited its patron to address its membership on the topic. Postponed from July when pandemic restrictions were still in place, in October AALS Deputy Chair **Laurence Emmett QC** interviewed Lord Judge on the rise of executive powers and the rule of law at an in-person and online event hosted by **Fletcher Day**.



The Right Honourable The Lord Judge Kt PC, AALS patron (UK Chapter)



Laurence Emmett QC, AALS Deputy Chair, who led the ‘fireside chat’ with Lord Judge

Honorary Life Presidents

Ian Hunter QC

Essex Court Chambers
(Chair/Co-chair c.1998-2010)

Christopher Jackson

MAMO TCV and Stratulat Albulescu
(Chair/Co-chair c.2005-2011)

Anne Cruikshank

Arinna Law
(Chair/Co-chair 2010-2012)

James Drake QC

7 King's Bench Walk
(Chair 2012-2016)

HHJ Tony Baumgartner

South Eastern Circuit
(Chair 2016-2019)

UK Patrons

The Rt Hon Lord Judge Kt PC

former Lord Chief Justice of
England and Wales

The Rt Hon Lady Arden of Heswall DBE

Justice of the Supreme Court
of the United Kingdom

The Rt Hon Lord Carswell PC

former Lord of Appeal in Ordinary

The Rt Hon Lord Walker of Gestingthorpe GBS PC

former Justice of the Supreme
Court of the United Kingdom

The Rt Hon Sir Peter Gross

former Lord Justice of Appeal

Join the AALS!

The AALS offers three
tiers of membership.

Gold (corporate)

memberships are £500
annually and entitle all
employees to member
rates (normally gratis).

Silver (individual)

memberships are £50
annually and entitle the
holder to member rates
(normally gratis).

Bronze (student)

memberships are £25
annually and entitle
eligible holders (current
students and those up to
3 years PQE) to member
rates (normally gratis).

The AALS membership
year runs from 1 March.

PayPal will levy an
additional charge if paying
via the link on our website

aals.co.uk

Online with Bank of England General Counsel Sonya Branch—

Co-led with the Society of English and American Lawyers (SEAL), in October the AALS also welcomed **Bank of England General Counsel Sonya Branch** on the role of the general counsel and its legal team to the Bank through the financial crisis, Brexit and then the pandemic. Welcomed by host firm A&O partner **Angela Clist** and introduced by AALS Chair **Anne Bodley** (also a SEAL Committee member), our guest was interviewed by past AALS Chair **James Drake QC** with the Q&A led by SEAL member **Fiona Fleming**, standing in for SEAL Chair Martha (Marty) Rolle. The well-attended event was hosted by member firm **Allen & Overy**.



Bank of England General Counsel
Sonya Branch interviewed by past
AALS Chair James Drake QC,
October 2021.

UK/Australia Free Trade Agreement publication—

Following a July 2020 panel convened on the **UK/Australia Free Trade Agreement (FTA)** then under negotiation, in October AALS Chair **Anne Bodley** and panellist **Catherine Brims** (Law Society of England and Wales) published in the **Solicitors Journal** on what the June 2021 Agreement in Principle between the countries foretold about legal services under the FTA. The piece, *Legal Services and the Road to the UK/Australia Trade Deal*, is available on our website to read.

Gala Finish: Our long-awaited Annual Dinner—

Postponed twice since 2020, the AALS' **long-awaited black tie annual dinner** took place in November at the Old Hall, Lincoln's Inn, with guest speaker **Sir Lynton Crosby AO**. The sold-out event was a fitting end to the year and followed our popular **summer party** on 1 September at **Ashurst**.



(Above) Our long-awaited black tie
annual dinner at the Old Hall, Lincoln's
Inn, with guest speaker Sir Lynton
Crosby AO



(Above) Our popular summer party,
hosted on Ashurst's Spitalfields terrace
again this year on 1 September

AGM Monday 24 January 2022—

The AALS' next **annual general meeting** will be held after work on Monday 24 January 2022 followed in February by a dial-in breakfast 'congress' with the other chapters. We plan to host **Sir Christopher Greenwood** (UK) on 24 March for our 2022 Crawford Lecture, to hold panels on **AUKUS** and on the **UK/Australia Fintech Bridge**, and to **launch a New Zealand chapter**. We also hope to welcome **more Gold members** into the group, so please **let us know if you would like to attend**.