



14/07/23

LAPG Member Update

Issue 18 of 2023

Winners of the 2023 Legal Aid Lawyer of the Year Awards



We are absolutely delighted to be able to share with you winners of the 2023 LALY awards following the quite spectacular ceremony on Wednesday night (12 July). It was a truly inspirational night and so wonderful to be together with friends and colleagues from across the

legal aid world.

LALY23 winners

1. Legal Aid Newcomer - Christian Weaver (Garden Court North)
2. Legal Aid Support Staffer - Katayoon Zare (TRP Solicitors)
3. Legal Aid Barrister - Kathryn Cronin (Garden Court Chambers)
4. Criminal Defence - Catherine Bond (SL5 Legal)
5. Immigration and Asylum Law - Alison Stanley (Bindmans)
6. Children's Rights - Alia Lewis (Duncan Lewis)
7. Family Legal Aid - Victoria Jones (RLE Law)
8. Social Welfare Law - Chris Johnson (Community Law Partnership)
9. Legal Aid Firm/Not-for-profit Agency - Deighton Pierce Glynn
10. Regional Legal Aid Firm/Not-for-profit Agency - Greater Manchester Immigration Aid Unit
11. Public Law - Nusrat Uddin (Wilson Solicitors)
12. Outstanding Achievement - Molly Russell Inquest Team: Jessica Elliott and Oliver Sanders (One Crown Office Row); Merry Varney, Caleb Bawdon, Pesh Hamza, Media Relations Team (Leigh Day)

This year was the 21st edition of this most wonderful celebration of grass-roots legal aid practitioners. We were delighted to be joined by over 500 guests in Central London.



We want to thank all of those involved who helped make the LALYs such a special event this year:

- Fiona Bawdon as organiser and co-founder
- Our compere: author and broadcaster Symeon Brown
- Our presenter: the incomparable Baroness Helena Kennedy QC
- Our tremendous sponsors (see the press release below for more information)
- The members of Team LALY: Jenny Beck QC (Hon), Ro Jana, Anna Neira Quesada and Matt Howgate on the AV deck, Andrea Shumaker, Thomas Rigard-Asquith, Tim Potter, Beverley Watkins, Saul Bawdon, Victoria Stuart, Oliver Carter live tweeting, Jacob Stephenson-Nairn, and our YLAL volunteers Bryony Goodesmith, Lukasz Buszta, Emma Talbot and Eleanor Finlay
- Photographers Richard Gray and Fred Bellec
- Designer Tom Keates-Miles
- Our judging panel: Chair Kaweh Beheshtizadeh, Sara Lomri, Ursual O'Hare, Anthony Graham, James Stark, Jenny Beck QC (Hon), Fiona Bawdon, Siobhan Taylor-Ward and Aika Stephenson
- All of those who took the time to submit nominations
- And special mention must go out to all of our finalists – we can't give you all a LALY (we wish we could), but your work is truly inspirational and is changing and improving lives every day.



For more information read our [official press release here](#).

LAPG AGM - on Zoom today at 1pm

A reminder for all LAPG members that they are invited to attend our Annual General Meeting today from 13.00-13:45 on Zoom. The Agenda will cover:

- Minutes of and matters arising from the Annual General Meeting held on 7 June 2022 ([draft available here](#))
- Co-Chairs' report
- Treasurer's report and presentation of the draft 2022 Accounts
- Director's report
- Election of the Board of Directors
- Any other proper business of the Annual General Meeting

If you would like to attend this online meeting, which will review our work over 2022/23 and our plans for the future, please use the joining instructions below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88521426314>

Meeting ID: 885 2142 6314

Members are welcome to contact me if they are interested in supporting LAPG by applying to become a member of either our Board of Directors (which is responsible for governance) or our Advisory Committee (which contributes to a wide range of our policy, training and influencing activities). If you would like to know more about these two groups and how they support our work, [please get in touch](#).

Take care one and all,

Chris Minnoch, CEO [@ChrisLAPG](#)

Follow LAPG on Twitter [@WeAreLAPG](#)

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14/07/23



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Would you like to contribute to our Member Updates and share news and information with other members? If so, just email us and we can discuss how you can best contribute.

Thank you for being brave enough to be part of the LAPG community!

**LEGAL AID
LAWYER
OF THE YEAR AWARDS**



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