



# First Women Lawyers in Great Britain and the Empire Symposia

Call for Papers: 29th June 2017 Symposium

“Individual struggles of the ‘successful’  
– Williams, Morrison, Normanton and  
the rest of the 1922 cohort”

The Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act 1919 heralded women's long awaited entry to the legal profession. What do we actually know about that journey? How much of that struggle has been recorded? Where is it recorded? The 'First Women Lawyers in Great Britain and the Empire' Symposia seek to unite academics and researchers in this area and explore the journey of those first women lawyers.

The 'First Women Lawyers Symposia' has now run successfully for two years and has drawn papers from England, Scotland, Estonia, Canada and Australia.

The third symposium will be held on **Thursday 29th June 2017** at St Mary's University. The symposium is entitled: “**Individual struggles of the ‘successful’ – Williams, Morrison, Normanton and the rest of the 1922 cohort**” and will focus on those early individual struggles.

Submissions are welcomed from those researching in this area, including anyone with knowledge that will place the struggle for entry to the legal profession in England and Wales in an international context. Papers would be particularly appreciated on three individual barristers:

Lillian Maud Dawes,  
Naomi Constance Wallace, and  
Elsie May Wheeler,

as well as papers on any of the first cohort of women barristers and solicitors (either in Great Britain, the Empire or abroad – in order to place this struggle in context). Skype participation is welcomed and possible.

**Date of symposium:** Thursday 29th June 2017

**Location:** St Mary's University  
Waldegrave Drawing Room  
Waldegrave Road  
Twickenham TW1 4SX

**Time:** 10am

**Please contact:** Dr Judith Bourne  
judith.bourne@stmarys.ac.uk

**To register:** [www.ticketsource.co.uk/  
event/174781](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/event/174781)

Contributions of £10 are requested to cover refreshments and lunch.

Please submit abstract (max 300 words) by email, with very short biography, no later than 12th May 2017 (please indicate if you intend to Skype).

Presentations to last 20 minutes plus 10 minutes for questions.

The purpose of the symposia is to produce a comprehensive history of women's struggle to enter the legal profession within a publication of collected essays arising out of papers given throughout the symposia (this collection is under review with Routledge, and if you would like to contribute please email me). 2016 saw the publication of the symposia first output when we self-published the “First Women Lawyers in Great Britain and the Empire Record”.

