

Vote for Justice Rally

2 pm Westminster Central Hall, London.

Directions:- <http://www.c-h-w.com/contact/transport/>

(Transforming summary justice course 11.00 am)

This event is to force access to Justice into the election debate. It is too important to ignore say 89% of the people. – YouGov Poll April 2015

Registration. 13.30.

PART ONE

14.00 - 14.05 **Introduction** by Chairman Robin Murray



Vice Chair of the CLSA, solicitor, writer and campaigner on legal aid matters but, to be honest mainly tolerated for his terrible jokes and poor attempts at humour on occasions like this.

14.05 – 14.25 **Sir Alan Moses**



Sir Alan Moses retired from the Court of Appeal in May 2014 and was appointed as the first chairman of the Independent Press Standards Organisation which began work in September 2014. He appeared in a recent BBC Panorama programme expressing strong concern over threats to access to Justice. This speech is much anticipated.

14.25 – 14.35 **Paul Harris** with Mike Mansfield's statement of support. (Mike is at Hillsborough)

14.35 – 14.40 **Jon Black**



Jon is President of the London Criminal Courts Solicitors' Association (LCCSA) and a regular writer, broadcaster and tweeter on all things legal aid. He is a partner in BSB solicitors, a two partner firm that was established in Kings Cross since 2002 specialising in criminal defence work. In the last decade, Jon has passionately campaigned against legal aid cuts, before joining the LCCSA committee on 2008 where he previously served as training officer, and Vice President. When not on the platform he is likely to be found in the comfort of his own twitter account @jonblackbsb .

14.40 – 14.45 **Mark Fenhalls QC. Vice Chair of CBA**



Mark Fenhalls QC is ranked as a leader at the Bar in both Crime and Fraud in the last five editions of Chambers and Partners and Legal 500. He prosecutes and defends the most serious and complex of criminal cases.

14.45- 14.50 **Bill Waddington**



Bill is Chair of the Criminal Law Solicitors Association. Director of Williamsons, Bill has over 30 years' experience in dealing with all nature of cases within the criminal justice system. He has jointly led the struggle against the attack upon criminal legal aid for the last 3 years. He has done so whilst still retaining his wicked sense of humour. (An advantage in the world of legal aid)

Part 2 Save Legal Aid Team:

14.50 – 15.00 **Fred Grace** introduces his well-received 'Legal Aid Team' film



Fred Grace is a producer at Rat Films which is an award-winning production company, specialising in documentaries on social justice, civil liberties and human rights. Their films have been broadcast on BBC Newsnight, Channel 4, Al-Jazeera, screened worldwide at festivals and garnered national press coverage. How did he get together such a star-studded cast to do this film?

15.00 -15.05. **Ian Lawrence from NAPO**



Ian Lawrence is an Assistant General Secretary with the Probation and Family Court Union (NAPO) with responsibility for the union's terms and conditions, legal services and Family Court section portfolio. Ian is involved in promoting the multi-union campaign: 'Criminal Justice in meltdown' which seeks to demonstrate how major cuts to the police, probation, courts and legal aid system will have a detrimental impact on the prevention of reoffending and undermine public confidence in the rule of law.

Part 3. Who is affected by legal aid and why is it important?

15.05 -15.10 Joe Mensah-Dankwah



Joe is owner of Foresters Solicitors Ltd. Frequent speaker on legal aid matters and a strong supporter of the Black Solicitors Network, the primary voice of black solicitors in England and Wales. On Twitter his description is 'Hot shot criminal solicitor- Gets you out of nasty horrors'. (Two Tier?)

15.10- 15.15 Shauneen Lambe – from Justice for Kids Law



Shauneen worked on and saved all children she represented from the death penalty in a racist parish of Louisiana. After working in the U.S. for another three years Shauneen returned to the U.K. and started exploring the youth justice sector.. She approached Lawrence & Co. solicitors with the proposal to establish the first Youth Justice Department for them, which they accepted. Her client base grew year to year, confirming the unmet need for specialist support of young offenders. In response to the rising demand for additional support for young people in the criminal justice system, Shauneen launched Just for Kids Law as a charitable organization in 2006.

15.15 – 15.20 Raphael Rowe



Raphael Rowe In 1988, aged 19, was sentenced to life imprisonment for a murder and robbery he did not commit. In July 2000, after 12 years in prison, the Court of Appeal quashed his wrongful convictions and he was freed. After a year travelling the world, Raphael returned to the UK determined to become a reporter. Raphael specialises in investigations, particularly human tragedies born from wrongs within the criminal justice system. He conducted a three-part investigation which revealed the UK's first criminal underworld rich list and carried out an investigation for BBC's Panorama into the murder of Jill Dando. That programme cast doubts on firearms forensic evidence used at the trial of Barry George, who was convicted of killing the BBC TV presenter. In August 2008, Barry George was acquitted at a retrial and freed.

Recently he investigated for BBC's panorama and investigation into the effect of legal aid cuts on litigants in person

15.20 – 15.25 **Yvonne Kramo** Young Legal Aid Lawyers



Yvonne Kramo is a member of Young Legal Aid Lawyers. She is also a Third Six pupil at Garden Court Chambers where she practises predominantly in criminal defence. Yvonne will talk about the challenges facing junior lawyers who wish to pursue a career in legal aid law.

PART 4

15.25 – 15.35 **Matt Foot** introduces and we show Justice Alliance Film .



Matt Foot, a partner at the leading civil liberties firm Birnberg Peirce. Matt was named Legal Aid Champion Legal Aid Lawyer of the Year awards ceremony last year for his tireless campaigning against cuts in legal aid.

Part 5. Justice Today

15.35 – 15.40 **Zoe Gascoigne**



Zoe Gascoyne, is a partner at Liverpool firm Quinn Melville and very active in Liverpool organising resistance to legal aid cuts. This brought her to the attention of the CLSA who invite her to join the committee which has benefited greatly from her energy. She may well describe a 'day in the life' of a legal aid lawyer. Zoe is Chief Assessor for Criminal Litigation for The Law Society and Chair of the Criminal Practice Sub-Committee for Liverpool Law Society

15.40 – 15.50. **Baroness Helena Kennedy QC**



Helena is one of Britain's most distinguished and famous lawyers. She has spent her professional life giving voice to those who have least power within the system, championing civil liberties and promoting human rights. Does she need further introduction?

15.50 – 16.00 **Shami Chakrabarti CBE**



Shami Chakrabarti has been Director of Liberty since September 2003. She became heavily involved in its engagement with the 'War on Terror' and with the defence and promotion of human rights values in Parliament, the Courts and wider society. Shami is very well known to us all for her writing and broadcasting on these issues.

16.00 to 17.30. **Panel Discussion and possible resolution voting .**