



# London Legal Support Trust

## Our Year 2018





# Events and Activities



The 13th annual London Legal Walk broke all previous records. On May 21st, 13,000 individuals in 750 teams from across the sector walked 10km to fundraise for access to justice. Two routes provided walkers with the choice of the Parks route or River route, culminating in a street party behind the Royal Courts of Justice.

Fire jugglers, food vendors, live music, and more helped get the party started, with the Lord Chief Justice thanking walkers in a speech where he announced the running total for fundraising.

The 2018 London Legal Walk raised £836,948 for free legal advice agencies.



*"The free legal advice charities and pro bono agencies supported by the walk help the most vulnerable people in London and the South East."*

The Rt. Hon The Lord Burnett of Maldon, Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales



## Legal Walkies



The inaugural Legal Walkies sponsored dog walk took place in September, with keen supporters and their four-legged fundraisers enjoying Greenwich Park in the Autumnal sunshine.

Over £3,900 was fundraised by pooches and their owners.

*"Legal Walkies was a brand new event for 2018, born out of the enjoyment of all the dogs (and their owners!) at the London Legal Walk. Walkies is definitely the fluffiest fundraiser of the year!"*

Philippa Hicks, Events Manager, London Legal Support Trust

## Walk the Thames



Walk the Thames gave walkers and runners the chance to take on a challenge in the form of a full, or half marathon along the Thames.

Walkers were led by Lord Justice Gross, and runners led by Lord Justice Haddon-Cave.

Fundraising totalled an impressive £33,405.79.



## Great Legal Bake



The Great Legal Bake saw more bake sales than ever before. 245 teams nationwide held their own bakes, with national fundraising topping £36,500. Of this, £20,776.53 was raised for LLST.

This event was run in collaboration with the Access to Justice Foundation.



"It is fantastic that so many lawyers and their colleagues now support free legal advice through our events and donations. It is hard to explain to the general public that at times of crises, vulnerable people need specialist advice, casework and representation. Thank goodness that lawyers do understand that and so many are willing to support the cause."

Bob Nightingale MBE, Head of Fundraising

## Great Legal Quiz



## THE GREAT LEGAL QUIZ

Competition was fierce to raise the Great Legal Quiz trophy, with 39 quiz teams putting their general knowledge to the test nationally.

This event was run in collaboration with the Access to Justice Foundation, and raised over £8,000 nationally to support free legal advice agencies. Of this, the Great Legal Quiz raised £5,431.86 for the London Legal Support Trust.

## Regional Walks

Legal Walks took place all across the South East of England, with 10 regional walks happening in the summer in Guildford, Eastbourne, Tunbridge Wells, Hastings, Brighton, Chichester, Reading, Southampton, Epsom and Oxford.



Fundraising for the regional walks raised a combined total of £63,393.35 which goes to supporting local advice agencies within the communities that the walks take place in.

A total of £1,008,677 was raised through events in 2018

## Other fundraising

Individuals took on many challenges to fundraise for us throughout 2018.

Runners took on the London Marathon, Royal Parks Half Marathon, and the British 10k to fundraise for LLST.

Some individuals fundraised for us through their own events, including 'Expertise Rocks' battle of the bands (raising £1,760), a 'Jump for Justice' skydive (raising £592), a Frank Sinatra evening (raising £1,150), and a law firm team 'Climbing for Justice' up Mount Snowdon (raising £537).

# Direct Donations

Walk funds benefit from considerable matched funding by law firms which added over £100,000 to the total last year.

Other income has come from substantial donations from Allen & Overy Client Account Interest Scheme and their charity donations from Hogan Lovells, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, Dechert, and Salughter May. In addition to direct donations Allen & Overy provided pro bono advice and Freshfields produced many of our event materials for free. Other firms make ad hoc donations from their dormant client accounts.

We save money on our own activities by gaining fee use of rooms and halls from, among others, Herbert Smith Freehills, Hardwicke Chambers, Simmons & Simmons and Freshfields.



## Centres of Excellence a joint initiative with City Bridge Trust

Our Centres of Excellence (COEx) Scheme has continued to support a core group of 34 key advice agencies in London and the South East throughout 2018.

The aim is to assist the agency to improve overall and increase their sustainability. Centres are awarded COEx status once they meet specific criteria, and are supported to continue developing and improving on all aspects of their organisation.

As well as core funding, we provide support and guidance alongside our grants to help make sure that every penny raised by our supporters is well spent.

*"The LLST is a fantastic listening ear and their ability to help agencies respond effectively to organisational challenges, especially those which are unexpected, is unique."*

Centre of Excellence

# Where does the money go?

Grants distributed to 154  
free legal advice agencies:  
£863,411.01



*"Funding is so difficult these days, we cannot emphasise enough how grateful we were to receive this unrestricted funding. Vital to our organisation's continued existence."*

Centre of Excellence

# Sector Support

LLST continued to support free legal advice organisations through the Every Penny Counts scheme, providing money saving groups, education about discounts or exemptions available to charities and managing in-kind donations from law firms or chambers. Over 35 organisations benefitted from the Stationery Buying Group. The archiving group also enables money saving, as do ongoing relationships with telecoms providers, printer and photocopier services, and other services from which all free legal advice centres can benefit.

LLST estimate this money saving work saved the advice sector over £120,000 in 2018.

## Maximising income

LLST organised training in maximising legal aid billing for those agencies with legal aid contracts. This in turn identified a need for support within the centres for their billing. With the help of City Bridge Trust, we funded a pilot project at South West London Law Centres. That was so successful in increasing income from the contracts that the Law Centre continued to employ the billing support worker after the grant expired. We are now funding a second pilot in which 4 centres share a billing support worker.



"The LLST has provided Islington Law Centre with invaluable support, not just in terms of financial support, but also through their willingness to share their knowledge of the legal service landscape and their experience from supporting other organisations. The financial support we have received from LLST has been crucial in helping us deal with unforeseen issues and to enable us to continue to provide innovative and high quality accessible services."

Stuart Hearne, Director, Islington Law Centre

"The support we have received from LLST has been vital in helping us to develop our work supporting vulnerable users with complex needs."

Eddie Coppinger, Director, Legal Advice Centre

"On behalf of the thousands of people helped by funds raised for LLST during 2018, we would like to express our very sincere thanks to everyone who has taken part in an event, donated, sponsored or supported LLST during the year. We continue to spend every penny of those funds that we can on supporting front line advice agencies and to ensure that every penny we donate is spent efficiently and effectively for the benefit of poor and vulnerable people in our region." - LLST Trustees and Team