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## **Alexander Maxwell Law Scholarship Trust awards £27,000**

### **∞ Three winning book proposals**

The Alexander Maxwell Law Scholarship Trust has awarded a total of £27,000 to three practising lawyers to fund their legal book writing projects.

The Trust was established in the memory of Alexander Maxwell, one of the founders of leading information provider Sweet & Maxwell. Uniquely, the Trust makes annual awards to those working in the legal profession. The proposed works are judged on their practical use just as much as on their academic value

The Trust is one of the biggest grant schemes available for legal writers in the UK and most of the previous successful applicants have gone on to win book publishing deals, either with Sweet & Maxwell or other publishing groups.

### **The Awards**

- ∞ **Bernard Doherty, a Barrister at 39 Essex Street**, was given the largest grant, of £11,000 to assist in his book project on Accidents Abroad. This will be a practical guide for UK lawyers looking at when English law is applicable to accidents when they take place overseas. The book will also look at the procedural issues arising from such claims.

According to Doherty, personal injury (PI) lawyers in the UK often handle claims that take place in foreign jurisdictions with a sense of anxiety borne out of unfamiliarity. At present there is no single reference source that covers all the conflicts in law, special treaties and regulations that would govern such PI claims.

- ∞ **Richard Moules, a Barrister at Landmark Chambers**, was awarded £8,000 for his proposed book on the Principles of Good Administration. The book looks at the under explored but highly topical issue of what taxpayers and other stakeholders can legally expect from the public sector. The book will cover topics such as misstatements, mistakes and misconduct by public officials and look at when such actions might lead to legal liability.
- ∞ **Adam Kramer, a Barrister at 3 Verulam Buildings**, was also awarded £8,000 for his proposal for a book of Contract Law Commentaries. This will be a digest of the most important articles, research, books, journals and cases in the field of contract law. For practitioners the drawing together within a single sourcebook of all of the most important works on contract law written by the leading experts on the topic is expected to be a very compelling prospect.

The Trust was established by the will of Maurice Maxwell, a former Managing Director of Sweet & Maxwell, in memory of his great grandfather Alexander Maxwell. Alexander

Maxwell set up his publishing business in 1800, which became Sweet & Maxwell Limited in 1889. Whilst the Trust is wholly independent of Sweet & Maxwell, the company (now part of The Thomson Corporation, the global media group (NYSE: TOC; TSX: TOC)), provides substantial support to the Trust: its Managing Director Peter Lake being one of the two Managing Trustees, (the other is Kate Britten, Maurice Maxwell's daughter) and the business helps to administer the Trust and review the proposals submitted.

Peter Lake comments: "We hope that all three of these proposals will find their way to being published, and if they do that they will all play an important role in helping the practicing lawyer to advise and represent their client to a higher standard."

"The Trust helps ensure that potential authors who have identified a topic of value to the practising lawyer – one that really needs to be explored - can then afford the research assistance or take the sabbatical needed to complete their project."

Others trustees to the Alexander Maxwell Law Scholarship Trust who helped to judge the submissions include:

- ∞ Ms. Siobán Healy, a leading Insurance and Reinsurance barrister, of 7 Kings Bench Walk
- ∞ Ms. Lesley Browning, a leading Pensions Lawyer, who is a Partner at Norton Rose
- ∞ Prof. Charles Mitchell is Professor of Law at Kings College, London and an authority on the law of unjust enrichment and the law of trusts

The Trust is unusual in that its focus is providing grants to practising as opposed to academic lawyers.

As well as providing a financial award the Trust will also arrange for the recipient to receive advice on how to adapt the research for publication via confidential reader feedback.

**ENDS**

### **Notes to Editors:**

Sweet & Maxwell ([www.sweetandmaxwell.thomson.com](http://www.sweetandmaxwell.thomson.com)) is a leading provider of information and solutions to the legal and professional markets in the UK and Ireland. With over 200 years of history and heritage in legal publishing, Sweet & Maxwell offers detailed and specialist knowledge, understanding, interpretation and commentary across a wide range of subjects in a variety of formats to meet customers' needs - books, journals, periodicals, looseleaves, CD-ROMs and online services. Sweet & Maxwell is part of The Thomson Corporation.

The Thomson Corporation ([www.thomson.com](http://www.thomson.com)) is a global leader in providing essential electronic workflow solutions to business and professional customers. With operational headquarters in Stamford, Conn., Thomson provides value-added information, software tools and applications to professionals in the fields of law, tax, accounting, financial services, scientific research and healthcare. The Corporation's common shares are listed on the New York and Toronto stock exchanges (NYSE: TOC; TSX: TOC).

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