

THE COURT GUIDE

ANDREW GOODMAN



Sweet and Maxwell

THE COURT GUIDE

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To His Honour Judge E. F. Monier-Williams
in gratitude

Introduction and Author's Note

This little book is designed to be a brief reference guide to the locations of and the facilities at various courts in the Greater London Area. It is intended as an aid for those who regularly use the courts and will hopefully benefit counsel, solicitors, pupils and law students especially. Chiefly dealt with are central and local crown, county, magistrates and juvenile courts, but other important tribunals are included. The most notable exclusion however is that of London's Coroners' courts.

The information in the book must necessarily change just as the location and facilities at courts change, as does the law itself. Thus this information is taken as being accurate as of April 1, 1980. Therefore included are the new overflow crown courts at Croydon and Luton (St. Albans).^{*} Conversely the overflow courts which have technically closed but are actually still being used, for example North London Magistrates Court at Stoke Newington are included here but not in Shaw's Directory.

Locations

The courts are set out alphabetically by their title indicating their geographical location. Due to the importance of the travel information and local facilities the whole book is based on the locations of the courts. It became necessary to draw an arbitrary line as to the boundaries of London's environs, in deciding which courts would have to be excluded. Roughly the geographical boundary is Uxbridge—Hemel Hempstead—Watford—St. Albans—Epping—Romford—Dartford—Croydon—Epsom—Walton—Staines. Thus while Watford and St. Albans are included, Luton and Bedford could not be. Similarly it was felt that other South Eastern Circuit Courts at Maidstone and Guildford would also have to be left out.

Facilities

These do vary immensely from court to court, but of chief concern is what the advocate going to a court for the first time can expect when he gets there: and especially what time the staff will open the front door to him or her.

Travel

Whilst the nearest station and bus routes have been shown they are not necessarily recommended routes. Where a bus number is underlined that indicates the route will go either past the court or

very near it. It has been impossible to give directions for walking from each bus stop or underground station, but in Central London little difficulty should be experienced. As for parking a variety has been indicated: as a rule of thumb whether to take the car or not, unless there is a specified car park, the nearer to Central London, the greater the difficulty in finding a space to park.

Journey times are not necessarily peak period but they do not include waiting, staff shortages, faulty trains or bad weather.

Local dining

There are no definite recommendations as to the establishments listed as local dining. This is not an Egon Ronay guide, but an attempt to catalogue anything that is fairly near to courts, since the majority do not have on-premises catering, nor should they be expected to have. Prices vary from the top notch, Fredericks at Camden Passage (Clerkenwell County Court) to a sandwich in a local pub. Some inclusions were born out of desperation—I leave the users of this guide to decide which.

N.B. In certain courts in London it is possible for advocates to obtain refreshments at the private arrangements of police matrons or court staff—this is especially so if they are prosecuting. In fairness to those who run this service I have refrained from advertising where this happens, since an inundation of custom would almost certainly have an adverse effect.

Finally towards the rear are certain blank pages for notes since alterations are inevitable once this first edition matures. That being so I hope that those using this guide will take the opportunity to flood Messrs. Sweet & Maxwell with new information where necessary such that updated editions may be produced as speedily, cheaply and efficiently as this.

Andrew Goodman
Inner Temple

April 1, 1980

**New Crown Courts:* Projections by the Lord Chancellor's Department show a significant building programme for Crown Courts in the Greater London Area until 1982. Included as an addendum here is Acton Crown Court which opened on May 6, 1980

and the new courts at Inner London as mentioned. The next court extension will be at the Town Hall, Wallington in July, 1980, as part of Croydon Crown Court and Wood Green Crown Court will open in its own right in September. Further projections are at Woolwich, North West London and Chelmsford in the Autumn 1981 and at Southwark, Autumn 1982.

A.D.G.

June 4, 1980

Key to the Court Guide

1. *Name of Courts*
2. *Location of Courts*
3. *Court telephone number*
4. *Any special jurisdiction*
5. *Court times*
 - d.o.=doors open
(morning only)
 - o.h.=office hours
 - court=sitting time
6. *Travel*
 - Rail**
 - B.R.** = British Rail Station
(+ average fast/slow journey
time from relevant London
terminus)
 - Und.** = London Transport
Underground Station
(+ average journey time
from named central
London Station)
+ subsequent directions
 - Bus**
 - L.T.** = London Transport
 - L.C.** = London Country
 - G.L.** = Green Line
 - E.N.** = Eastern National
7. *Professional facilities*
 - Robing Rooms
 - Advocates Room
 - Interview Rooms
8. *Necessary directions for walking*
9. **P.** = *Parking*—domestic, public, NCP, meters
10. *On-premises catering*
11. *Local dining*
 - Restaurants + location
 - Public Houses + Brewer + location

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ACTON MAGISTRATES COURT
ACTON JUVENILE COURT
(Tues. 10.00 a.m.)
WINCHESTER STREET
ACTON
W.3

01-992-9014

d.o. 9.30 a.m.
court 10.00 a.m.

Advocates Room
No Interview Room

B.R. Acton Central (from Broad
Street 33 mins.) + 10 mins.
walk

Und. Ealing Common (Embankment
28 mins., Piccadilly 22 mins.)
+ 207

Und. Acton Town (Embankment
26 mins., Piccadilly 20 mins.)
+ 15 mins. walk

L.T. 7, 207, 260, 266, E3

No on-premises catering

From Acton Central turn left into
Birkbeck Road and right into High
Street. Winchester Street third left.
Court 150 yards on left.

From Acton Town turn right and
bear second right, Avenue Road.
Continue along Avenue Road 800
yards. Court on corner of junction
with Winchester Street.

P. Limited parking in side
streets to rear

The Windmill

Dasos

Saucy Chef

Wimpy

Elephant and Castle

Watneys

Fish Restaurant

Restaurant

Restaurant

Whitbread

High Street

High Street

High Street

High Street

High Street

BALHAM JUVENILE COURT
 LAMBETH EAST JUVENILE
 COURT (Wed.)
 LAMBETH SOUTH JUVENILE
 COURT (Fri.)
 LAMBETH WEST JUVENILE
 COURT (Mon.)
 WANDSWORTH JUVENILE
 COURT (Tues. and Thurs.)
 217 BALHAM HIGH ROAD
 S.W.17

01-672-6547

d.o. 9.00 a.m.
 court 10.00 a.m.

Advocates Room
 Interview Room

W.R.V.S. Coffee

- B.R. Balham and Upper Tooting
 (from Victoria 12 mins.) + 5
 mins. walk
 Und. Balham (Embankment 15
 mins., Bank 19 mins.)
 L.T. 88, 155, 181

From stations turn south into High
 Road and proceed under bridge.
 Court 600 yards on left.

- P. Domestic car park
 Side streets opposite

Parade	Fish Restaurant	Balham High Road
Paphos	Greek Restaurant	Balham High Road
Chris's	Cafe	Balham High Road
McDonalds	Restaurant	Balham High Road
		(North)

BARKING MAGISTRATES COURT
 BARKING JUVENILE COURT
 (Mon., Thurs. 2.00 p.m.)
 EAST STREET
 BARKING
 ESSEX

01-594-5311

d.o. 9.15 a.m.
 court 10.00 a.m.

Advocates Room
 No Interview Room

B.R. Und. Barking (from Fenchurch
 Street 13 mins.) (Embankment
 32 mins.)

No on-premises catering

L.T. 23, 62, 87, 156, 162, 238, 291

From station turn right. Court 500
 yards on left.

P. Large free car park St. Ann's
 Road (to rear of Town Hall)
 N.B. No access from East
 Street to car park

Lunchette
 Black Bull
 Kebab
 Spotted Dog

Barton's Bakery	East Street
Charringtons Bar Food	East Street
Restaurant	High Street
Courage Bar Food	High Street