

A letter from Lord Neuberger, Sir Bernard Rix, Neil Kaplan CBE QC, V.V. Veeder QC, Professor Doug Jones AO and Gary Born

We are writing to ask for your support to ensure the completion of the history of arbitration that has been Derek Roebuck's major preoccupation for over 20 years, and to cement its legacy.

As you are aware, Derek has made a truly unique contribution to the history of arbitration through his research and series of publications – including eight monographs over the last 15 years (most of them very substantial) – detailing the history of dispute resolution.

Spanning the ancient world, through to the Medieval and Elizabethan Ages in England, his most recent book, *Arbitration and Mediation in Seventeenth-Century England*, was published in January 2017.

This leaves only the 18th and 19th century missing from this thorough historical overview. As the birth of the modern era, this period is essential to our understanding of 20th and 21st century current practices, the civil justice system and our own attitudes to legal justice. With your help we can ensure that this important historical journey is completed.

Since 2013, the project has been housed at the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, University of London. Generous donations from private donors have enabled the pump-priming of this work as part of the Institute's strategy to ensure the preservation and dissemination of our legal history and improve our understanding of access to justice. With the assistance of Dr Francis Boorman in discovering primary sources, Derek has produced two monographs recording for the first time the history of arbitration during the period 1558-1703.

The University of London is committed to ensuring that this project attains its objectives for further research and publication on the history of arbitration during the 18th and 19th centuries, by employing a researcher to spearhead the work under Derek's mentorship. We also hope to establish a longer-term sustainable platform for arbitration historians more widely – as a fitting legacy to Derek's contribution to the field.

We would like to ask you to join us in supporting this project, *Access to Justice: Development of Arbitration in England and Wales*. We are garnering support from a large number of Derek's friends, colleagues and arbitration professionals, and we would also welcome your advice in this area.

For further information and to discuss any aspects of the University of London's formal proposal on the *Development of Arbitration* project, please contact Dr Nellie Phoca-Cosmetatou, Development Manager at the University of London by email at nellie.cosmetatou@london.ac.uk or by telephone at 020 7862 8007.

Thank you very much for all your support,

With all best wishes,



Lord Neuberger



Sir Bernard Rix



Neil Kaplan CBE QC



V.V. Veeder QC



Doug Jones AO



Gary Born