

# My Court Room Chronicles

By Olivia Sayers



# Preparation

- Me and my dad went on the trip together, so we booked a hotel room for 2 for a night.
- We bought train tickets to travel from Royston station to London in advance.
- Once we were in London and getting the tube we paid on the credit cards.
- We also researched nearby supermarkets in case we needed to pick up any essentials and looked up good restaurants near by.
- We also had to make sure we had the appropriate attire as most high scale courts require you to be formally dressed.







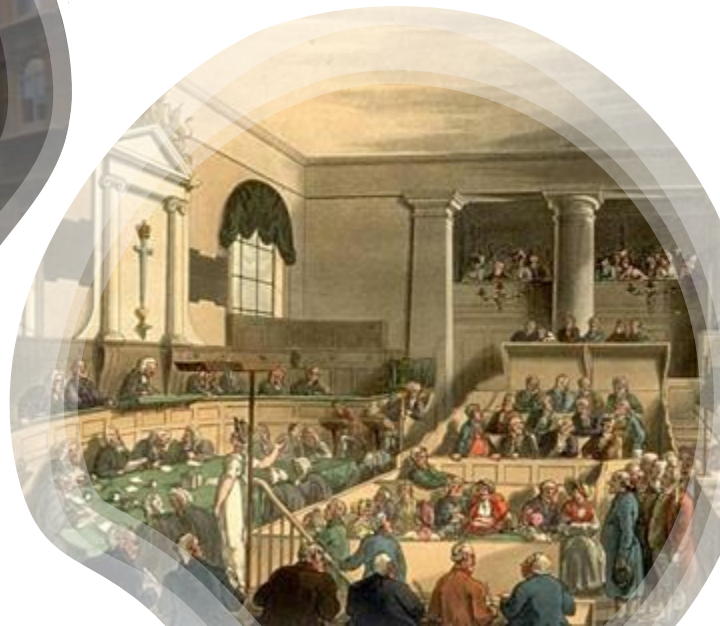

# Day 1: Part One Of Two

- We arrive in London at around 10:00 on the 23rd of July.
- We first had to check in to our hotel and leave our overnight bags in the room.
- Then we walked down to the Old Bailey which was only about 5mins away.
- I wanted to take some pictures of the outside because I already knew I couldn't take any once I was in the building.
- We then arrived at the entrance and had to go through security.
- And then  we were in!









# Day 1: Part Two Of Two

-Once we were inside we decided to go up a couple of floors and just ask what courts were available for civilian viewers.

- Our first courtroom that we were directed too was a GBH case (Grievous Bodily Harm) but we couldn't stay there because we needed to show ID and neither me or my Dad had any on us.
- But we were then directed to another courtroom which had a much better case..


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# Murder Case: Old Bailey

- My experience at the Old Bailey murder trial was very interesting and helped me understand how a murder case is investigated and presented in court. The murder was a shooting, and there were 12 members of the jury who had to listen carefully to all the evidence. Photos were used as evidence, while security cameras helped identify the direction of the car involved. There were also three eyewitnesses and multiple victims. The police had questioned people involved and used CCTV footage to help build a timeline of events.  Overall, the trial showed me how different types of evidence, eyewitness statements and CCTV footage can be brought together to help a jury decide what happened.

# Day 2: Part One Of One

- On the second day me and my Dad paid a visit to the Royal Courts of Justice.
- We checked out of our hotel and luckily again we could walk to the court.
- We arrived and both me and my Dad took pictures.
- When we went inside there was also security that we had to go through.
- Once we were through security we went for a walk through the building which was nice because it was vey historical and  also had sheets of paper explaining what was going on in the various trials.







# Appeal Case :Royal Court Of Justice

My experience at the Royal Courts of Justice was interesting because I got to learn about an appeal case and how it is different from a murder trial. The case involved a prisoner who had been sent to prison and was later admitted to a secure hospital, and the appeal considered whether he could be put back in the prison system. There were three judges instead of a jury, and witnesses were called to the stand to present evidence. I noticed that there were no traditional wigs. The prisoner appealing also appeared on zoom rather than in person. Law students were also sitting at the back of the courtroom, which showed me that students can observe real court cases to learn more about the law. We were also allowed to take notes . Overall, visiting the Royal Courts of Justice gave me a better understanding of how appeal cases work and how they are different from other types of trials.

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# The Comparison: Old Bailey Vs Royal Court

## Similarities

- They both had a lot of security.
- They both had  an incredibly large amount of courtrooms.
- They both had law students sitting in on the trials.

## Differences

The Royal Court had a very traditional court room with a witness stand and leatherbound law reports dating back to the 1800s were as the Old Bailey was more basic.

The Old Bailey prosecutors all wore traditional white wigs and the Royal Court didn't.

The Royal Court only does no jury cases but the Old Bailey does accept jury cases.

In the Old Bailey, because some of the cases had very dangerous suspects in the dock, there were security officers present.





# What I learned from this amazing experience?

This amazing experience will definitely be one to remember. It has really given me some insight on what being a lawyer actually means and how it impacts people's lives. This mesmerizing experience has left me with so many amazing memories and new information on my chosen career path. I don't think I would have been as excited to pursue my dream as I now am if I hadn't done this.






# How this adventure has affected my wish to  be a lawyer?

This incredible adventure has affected my wish to be a lawyer by deepening my motivation and excitement to achieve my dream. It showed how much lawyers are needed and how they create justice for those who can’t. Observing lawyers present arguments and advocate for their clients gave me a greater appreciation of the importance of communication, critical thinking and attention to detail within the legal profession.

# My Aims

- To deepen my knowledge of the law industry.
- To create memories
- To understand how trials worked and how somebody was decided guilty or innocent.
- Decide whether a career in law is something I want to pursue
- Explore different areas of law and potential career paths
- Gain a better understanding of what studying/working in law is really like
- Develop practical legal skills, such as analysing cases and legal arguments





# Did My Project Meet My Aims?

Throughout my law project, I feel that I have successfully met the aims I set for myself. I have deepened my knowledge of the legal sector and gained a better understanding of what studying and working in law is really like. I have learned more about how trials work and how decisions are made about whether someone is guilty or innocent. I have also explored different areas of law and potential career paths, which has helped me think more carefully about whether a career in law is something I would like to pursue. During the project, I developed practical skills such as analysing cases and legal arguments, while also gaining valuable experiences and creating memories that I will take away from the project.











# How I Think Henry Morris Would Have Reacted To My Project?

I think Sir Henry Morris would have appreciated the incredible architecture on the outside of both the courts. Main points being the incredible Lady Justice on top of the Old Bailey and the almost medieval edge to the Royal Courts of Justice. Also, although the Old Bailey doesn't have an extremely architectural interior – the Royal Court is gorgeous with long spiral staircases and oak panel doors.

# My Appreciation

I would like to use this last slide to thank the Henry Morris Foundation for giving me this opportunity and turning this idea into a reality. It really opened my eyes onto how the industry that I want to spend my adult life working in actually works. I have learned more about the legal sector, developed new skills and gained a better understanding of what a career in law could be like. I am very grateful for the support and funding, as this experience has helped me grow in confidence and has given me memories and experiences that I will take with me into the future.