

**Obituary – Professor Aubrey Diamond QC,
28 December 1923 – 6 July 2006,
Former President of BILA, 1988 - 1990**

by Alison Green

Aubrey Diamond was an eminent academic lawyer who was a champion of consumer law. He came from a very modest background and left school at 15. After serving in the RAF in the Second World War he was one of only three members of the RAF to win a scholarship to attend night school for a degree and gained his LLB in 1950. He qualified as a solicitor and combined private practice with his lecturing for many years. He was a lecturer at LSE for ten years and then became a Professor at Queen Mary College, London.

In 1971 he left private practice and University life to become a Law Commissioner. He relished the opportunity to become involved in many developments in commercial and consumer law. He was one of the Commissioners who worked on the early stages of the Law Commission's review of misrepresentation, non-disclosure and breach of warranty in insurance law in the 1970s. On the completion of his term as a Law Commissioner he was appointed Professor of Law and Director of the Institute of Legal Studies in the University of London and stayed there until his retirement in 1986. He continued to lecture at American Law Schools well into his seventies and advised on consumer legislation in countries as diverse as Mauritius and Papua New Guinea.

Aubrey Diamond will chiefly be remembered in legal and insurance circles for his contribution to the development of Consumer Law. In 1963 he wrote (with Lord Borrie) a book entitled, '*The Consumer, Society and the Law*'. This became a popular book not only with lawyers, but also with the lay public, and was required reading for many law students. He was a member of the Consumer Council from 1963 to 1971 and after 1981 became its vice-president.

Aubrey Diamond received many honours and accolades, but always retained his modesty and dry wit. Aubrey was a brilliant and entertaining speaker, as those who heard him at BILA events can testify. His wisdom, sense of humour and kindness will be missed by all who knew him.

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