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Christchurch function – Wednesday 14 October – 5.30 to 7.30pm

The FLS in conjunction with the Canterbury Westland Branch family law committee warmly invite you to attend a cocktail function at the Ilex Café, Christchurch Botanical Gardens, to celebrate the appointment of Judges Michelle Duggan, Dominic Dravitzki and Tony Greig to the Family Court Bench. Click [here](#) for more details and to RSVP **by 9 October**.

OT webinar – 9.30am to 11.00am – Thursday 15 October – 1.5 CPD hours

Just a reminder about our second free OT webinar on “Section 7AA of the Oranga Tamariki Act” which will take place on Thursday 15 October from 9.30am to 11.00am. The webinar will be presented by Uarnie-Jane More, Director, Treaty Response Unit, Tamariki Advocate Group, Oranga Tamariki. Those who wish to attend **must** register. Click [here](#) to read more about the presenter and to register.

On 14 October, we will send those who have registered a link to join the webinar. Following the webinar, we will also send attendees a CPD verification of

attendance for their records. Click [here](#) if you missed the last webinar and would like to view this. We do hope you will be able to join us for this webinar.

Court appointed counsel remuneration rates

As you will be aware, the FLS [wrote](#) to the Secretary for Justice on 28 August expressing our significant concern over the lack of a regular review of remuneration rates for all court appointed counsel. In that letter, we asked that a working group be established to ensure that all Family Court appointed counsel remuneration rates are regularly reviewed, much in the same way as crown counsel. We are pleased to advise that the Secretary has invited us to attend a meeting on 7 October to discuss this issue. We hope to be able to update members on the outcome of this meeting.

North Shore FLS regional representative – expressions of interest

Due to Chrissy Armstrong's appointment to the Family Court bench, there is now a vacancy for the FLS regional representative's role on the North Shore. Chrissy has been our North Shore representative for many years now and has done an excellent job in the role, including organising regular monthly seminars for members.

This voluntary role is for a period of three years (until March 2023). It enables you to facilitate local FLS events (both social and educational), to attend the bi-monthly LFJSN meetings and be a conduit for members' concerns to the executive. Regional representatives provide regular reports to the executive and we have a template to assist you with this. This information assists enables us to raise concerns and seek solutions to issues with senior ministry officials and the judiciary if necessary.

If you are interested in this role please email us an expression of interest (family@lawsociety.org.nz) together with a brief bio (no more than 500 words) including your areas of practice, a bit about yourself and why you would like to be appointed to the role. Expressions of interest close on **19 October** so the executive can confirm an appointment at its meeting on **30 October**.

Editor of Family Advocate – expressions of interest

We are sad to advise that Allan Cooke will be stepping down from the role of editor of

Advocate. This will take effect from March 2021, but if necessary, Allan will stay on until June 2021 to work with the new editor for two editions. Allan has made a significant contribution to the FLS over the past 10 years, including serving on the executive and as a past FLS chair. His talents as an editor with vision will be sorely missed, as will his wisdom, experience and advice as a past chair and key member of the executive.

We are calling for expressions of interest from FLS members who would like to be considered for appointment as the new editor. The *Advocate* is published every quarter and the FLS currently pays the editor an honoraria of \$15,000 per annum. The editor, with assistance from the FLS manager, has responsibility for planning, sourcing, and delivering the content of the magazine. The layout and design of the magazine is completed by the communications team within the Law Society and the magazine is printed by a commercial printer.

Click [here](#) for more information on the role.

Ideally the editor will have a passion for family law and local, national and international issues as well as personal contacts from which she or he can draw authors, inspiration and direction. Please email the manager in confidence at kath.moran@lawsociety.org.nz **by 19 October** including a brief biography and why you are interested in being considered for the role. This will enable the executive to consider the interview or appointment process at its meeting on **30 October**. Please feel free to contact the manager if you would like to discuss the role in more depth.

Fairway Family Services – Creating robust and durable agreements - 29 October – 10.30 to 11.30am – 1 CPD hour

FairWay are excited to announce the second instalment of its Kotahitanga Webinar Series – “Possibilities to commitment – creating robust and durable agreements”. These free, online interactive sessions provide for ongoing learning and discussion and focus on mediation practice and topics related to FDR and family mediation. The webinar will include a panel: [Debbie Bryan Lamb](#) and [William Hursthouse](#) and will be facilitated by [Samantha de Coning](#).

Creating good outcomes for parties is the goal of the mediator. This panel discussion explores crafting agreements based on practical and clear commitments and how to

manage outcomes which do not include full resolution. Click [here](#) for your CPD verification form which includes specific learning objectives for this webinar. Please email Samantha.Brennan@FairWayResolution.com for an invite to this Zoom session.

Click [here](#) if you missed the last webinar and would like to view this.

Caroline Hickman

FLS Chair