Council's direction crystallised in vision and mission statements

By David Dunbar

New Zealand Law Society Wellington Branch

VISION
Professionalism, inclusiveness and collegiality in everything we do.

MISSION
The Wellington Branch of the New Zealand Law Society provides the following representative services to lawyers throughout the Wellington region:

• Professional development in the form of seminars, workshops and subject area committees
• Social events to enhance networking and collegiality in the profession
• Recognition and celebration of the achievements of our members
• Advocacy to the Council and Board of the Law Society on issues of importance to our members
• Practising well and peer support
• Up to date communications of relevance to career or practice development
• Leadership of initiatives to promote inclusiveness and the retention of lawyers in the profession

You will hear more about these in the year to come, but for me these clearly crystallise the Council’s role and direction. They are the culmination of our strategic thinking over the past year and will further strengthen a strategic approach to delivering on our representative function. The statements will guide the Council’s future decision-making – serving as touchstones for all we do. Just as importantly they will also facilitate greater discussion and suggestions about what matters to us all, as members of the branch.

The statements of Vision and Mission are noted below.

From the President

Nga mihi o te tau hou ki a koutou. Welcome to 2018! As you read this, the summer break might already be fading into memory. Even so, I hope, you enjoyed some time off with friends and family and feel refreshed for the year ahead. For those who make New Year resolutions, I hope these come to fruition for you. Even without midnight resolutions, there’s something to be said for taking time to revisit assumptions; set new goals and consciously aspire to make a difference.

I’ve talked in this column previously about the importance of Council of developing and communicating a strong vision and mission statements for Council of developing and communicating a strong strategic focus in its work. This has been a recurring thread over time to revisit assumptions; set new goals and consciously aspire to make a difference.

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The Solicitors’ Benevolent Fund – ways to donate

Donations to the Solicitors Benevolent Fund can be made through:

• “Give a Little” http://www.givealittle.co.nz/Solicitors , which will be automatically receipt-ed, or

• by Direct debit: Bank of New Zealand: 02-0506-0101108-097

All donations go directly to the capital reserve. The Solicitors’ Benevolent Fund Trust is registered as a charitable trust (number CC48709) and has tax deductibility status.

If a receipt is required when making a direct debit, please email: wellington@lawsociety.org.nz with your name, the amount deposited and a contact number to ensure a receipt is issued and sent to the correct place.

The Last Resort Golf Tournament 2018

The Annual ‘Last Resort’ golf tournament is being held on Friday 16 February 2018. The format of the competition is Stableford. There will also be an Ambrose competition for the more casual golfers (numbers permitting).

The round of golf will be followed by drinks, the historical 8th hole shootout (don’t forget your jacket), and dinner to be held at the Masterton Golf Club at approximately 6.45 pm. The round of golf will be followed by drinks, the historical 8th hole shootout (don’t forget your jacket), and dinner to be held at the Masterton Golf Club at approximately 6.45 pm.

Location: Masterton Golf Club, Manuka Street, Masterton

Cost: $75 / meal included; $40 / meal not included

Email: melissa.pauling@gibsonsheat.com or phone 06 929 7430 by Tuesday 13 February 2018 to advise:

1. Name of Entrant
2. Meal: Yes / No (Delete one)
3. Stableford / Ambrose (Delete one)

Please pass invite on to any interested parties

The ‘Counsel in Concert’ performances at St Andrews on the Terrace have become musical events to look forward to in the final weeks of the year, and 2017 was no exception. The concerts by musicians and singers from the Wellington legal profession assisted by other Wellington musicians, were once again a pre-Christmas highlight, this time celebrating significant musical anniversaries. Soloists in the Telemann pieces are seen here: Anna Rowe, Amanda Barclay, Toby Gee, Ken Trass and Jason Cooper.

Tell a friend about this newsletter.
Appointments as High Court Judge

WELLINGTON barrister and solicitor Christine Grice has been appointed a Judge of the High Court.

Justice Grice graduated from the University of Canterbury with an LLB (Hons.) in 1979 and commenced work with Fell & Harley in Nelson. In 1981 she moved to Hamilton to take up a position at Harkness Henry, eventually leading the firm’s commercial litigation team, and joining the firm in partnership in 1985.

From 2000 to 2003, a time of significant change for the regulation and governance of the legal profession, Justice Grice chaired the Board and Council of the New Zealand Law Society as the Society’s second woman President.

In 2004 she was awarded the Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to the legal profession. Since 2007 Justice Grice has been a Judge of the High Court of the Cook Islands, sitting in civil and criminal jurisdictions, and from time to time sitting on the Cook Islands Court of Appeal.

In 2010 Justice Grice resigned from the partnership of Harkness Henry to take up a permanent role as Executive Director of the New Zealand Law Society. She had been acting in that role for the previous three years to lead the implementation of the regulator and governance changes introduced under the Lawyers and Conveyancers Act 2006. She has remained a consultant to Harkness Henry.

The new judge will sit in Wellington.

New Year Honour

THE Hon Douglas White QC has been named a Knight Companion to the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to the judiciary in the 2018 New Year Honours.

Hon Douglas White is the President of the Law Commission, appointed to a five-year term in 2015.

He was previously a Judge of the High Court of New Zealand, appointed in 2009, and a Judge of the Court of Appeal of New Zealand, appointed in February 2012.

Hon Douglas White was admitted as a barrister and solicitor in 1969 after graduating with first class honours from Victoria University.

After working for the Law Commission in London, he was a litigation partner in predecessor firms to Kensington Swan before moving to the independent firm of Swan in 1986. He was appointed Queen’s Counsel on 4 March 1988.

As a Queen’s Counsel he has practised in civil litigation, with an emphasis on administrative and taxation law. He has also conducted three government inquiries and provided legal advice to the Commission of Inquiry into Police Conduct.

Hon Douglas White was Pro-Chancellor and Chancellor at Victoria University for nine years.

NZLS Acting Executive Director

MARY Ollivier has been appointed Acting Executive Director of the New Zealand Law Society, from 15 January.

She takes over from Christine Grice, who has been appointed a High Court Judge.

Mrs Ollivier worked in the Wellington District Law Society in the mid-1990s as Professional Standards Director and then Deputy Executive Director. She moved to the New Zealand Law Society in 2008 to assist with implementation of the new Lawyers and Conveyancers Act 2006.

She has been the Law Society’s General Manager Regulatory since the role was established following major changes to the regulation of lawyers in 2008.

Law graduate CV scheme

THE scheme to assist law graduates into work is still being operated by the Wellington Law Society. Law graduates seeking work leave their CVs at the Society. These are available to potential employers needing to recruit law graduates.

The work offered need not be permanent. Any work in a law office will give graduates experience that may be helpful next time they make job applications.

Appointment of Medical Practitioner

At its annual general meeting, held on 12 May, the Society elected Dr Lyndall Bagley as the Medical Practitioner to assist in the regulation of the legal profession.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1. 12 the numbers in each column descend by 2, 3, and 2 respectively. For the first column we descend by 17, 12, 7; for the second column we descend by 4, 21, 17, 13; for the third column we descend by 14, 11, 9; for the last column we descend by 2, 19, 17, 15.

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Cryptic Solutions

Across

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Quick Solutions

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Frank Bernard Niall Fox – 17 March 1936-7 October 2017

By Chris Ryan

Frank Fox, who died last year in his 82nd year, spent all his working life as a lawyer in Wellington.

Frank Bernard Niall Fox was born in Kenya on 17 March 1936 where his English father, Frank Fox, was a coffee planter. His mother Monica – always called “Cona” – was one of 13 children of Francis Petre, a prominent Dunedin-based architect who was a leading designer of Catholic churches in New Zealand including Wellington’s Basilica (later Cathedral) of the Sacred Heart.

At some point, it seems, Frank’s parents separated and Frank and his mother went to England where they spent the war years somewhere in the countryside before coming to New Zealand in the late 1940s. Frank went to St Patrick’s College in Silverstream where he was a gregarious student, and then studied law at Victoria University of Wellington, graduating at the end of 1960.

A general practice

He was admitted as a barrister and solicitor on 10 February 1961. In April 1964 he became a partner with Brandon Ward McAndrew and Wiggs and spent the rest of his working life with Brandons and its predecessor firms. As was not unusual at the time, he developed a general practice, and was involved in court work, personal property and estates work. As time went on he specialised in property and estates work.

Duncan Laing, now with Simpson Grierson, was a law clerk with Martin Evans-Scott and Hurley when that firm merged with Brandon Ward McAndrew & Co on 1 January 1976, and he became aware of Frank well.

“Frank was introduced to me as ‘Mr Fox’, one of the Brandons’ partners. We got on well from that first meeting and I recall that he told me to call him Frank – something that could not be presumed at the time.

Frank always took a keen interest in his clients and his business. I recall that when he could no longer go out to the office and spent whatever time was necessary with them. When I was still in the same firm, I got the distinct impression that he didn’t like taking time recording very much – I suspect he thought that it pressed him not to spend as much time with individual clients.

“He was extremely conscientious and thorough in his work, and when it came to charging he would be concerned as to whether the client could afford it and whether the matter justified it. He had no hesitation in reducing the fee to meet a client’s circumstances.”

Duncan says Frank had a system that he didn’t like to put in a diaristic filing system. “In his office, files were parked on most level spaces including the floor. His system was a mystery to most of us but it seems that he knew instinctively where each file was.”

John Langford worked with Frank in the early 1970s and said that Frank and Jim Wiltshire were his first bosses. “They were both very fair and decent men and good teachers. Frank did traffic cases for the AA and used to send me down to the Magistrate’s Court with up to a dozen or so cases. Sometimes I would be placed by a certain time on the weekend, so prepared and in, and Frank was a heavy smoker. Duncan Laing says that a visit to Frank’s office inevitably involved Frank lighting up and exhaling a steady stream of smoke through the window. ‘…while he chatted amiably about his latest flutter at the TAB, who he had seen at church on Sunday, what shares he had just bought, and his favourite TV programme’.

Duncan remained good friends with Frank throughout his life. “Later on, when my wife and I had children, he would often come for dinner on a Sunday night. Although he never married or had children of his own, he was always interested in the progress of our children and would often read to them. They in turn were interested in his stories of his overseas travels or his latest car purchase.

“We shared an interest in antique collecting and often attended auctions together. On one occasion, we must have arrived at the auction at different times and were not sitting next to each other. We ended up inadvertently bidding against each other for a set of silver spoons that he thereafter always produced when we went to dinner at his flat.”

As well as a love of sterling silver, Frank was interested in art, in general and regularly purchased paintings, so much so that they eventually covered most of the wall space in his flat. His taste was eclectic and descriptive of Frank as “an impressionist pastoral”, but he also owned a Picasso print and several portraits.

Brandons’ long-time office manager, Vicky Hills, recalls how Frank prided himself on rarely taking a sick day, and would often speak of this. “So when he had a major heart attack and triple bypass surgery while on holiday in Sydney in April 1998, the first we heard of it was when he sent a casual fax to the office saying, ‘Just reporting, that unfortunately I will be a bit late back at work as I have had a heart attack’.

Duncan Laing says that Frank structured his weekends around his passion for horse racing on Saturdays and church on Sundays. “His phone bets had to be made by 10am, double on Saturdays. Frank made them on Saturday morning, and then most of the rest of the day he listened to the radio and watched the racing channel,” Vicky says, “and often Frank would come into the office on Friday afternoons and say to the office staff, ‘Here are your tips for Saturday’.

He also loved rugby and cricket and regularly went to games. In more recent years he cancelled his season tickets because he disliked the loud public address and music at the stadium.

Duncan enjoyed cars and was well known to many Wellington car dealers, often dropping in to test-drive a particular new car. He owned many cars over the years, focusing particularly on European marques. He had bought a new Volvo not long before he died.

Vicky says Frank was a creature of habit, always punctual, and punctilious. “He liked a gin and tonic for instance but it had to be at 6pm,” she says.

“He was very easy to deal with but he was somewhat set in his ways and liked the things same as every day.”

‘Owd Trafford’

From the age of 12 in the late 1940s, when he and his mother arrived in Wellington, and until the end of his life, Frank lived in the same apartment in the distinctive art deco block known as ‘Owd Trafford’ at 17 Brougham Street in Mount Victoria. It seems that he and his mother began renting there when they came to Wellington, and bought their flat in the 1960s when a company share structure was set up and the flats sold individually.

Family was very important to Frank. He was very caring of his mother and while at Brandons would go home most days and they would have lunch together. He often phoned her in the morning and they would discuss what to have for lunch. They travelled to Christchurch for Christmas most years, staying with one of his brothers and his family, and also spent time with his cousin Helen Turner in Auckland. They travelled widely together, to Europe and other parts of the world, and sometimes on cruises. As his mother aged and became unwell Frank cared for her in their flat until her death in the early 1980s.

Retirement

Frank retired as a partner of Brandon McAndrew & Co in 1984 and was staying on as an employed solicitor. When the firm disbanded at the end of 1990 he moved with the arm of the firm that reformed as Brandons on 1 January 1991, and retired again in February 1995 to run a building on The Terrace, where he remained until August 2001 when he finally gave up practising.

In his years of retirement he continued to travel, and often did so with his wider family, particularly with cousin Helen Turner in Auckland with whom he shared an interest in horse racing. He was a life member of the Wellington Racing Club. He regularly went to the Wellington Club for Friday lunches and was also a member of the Wellington Scrabble Club. Vicky Hays says that he would come into the office for half an hour at a time to time and if they hadn’t seen him for a while they would check on him.

Frank was a devout Catholic, and missed church on Sunday only if he was travelling or at a significant distance from a church. Duncan Laing says that Frank’s faith became even more important to him as his health began to fail. “He was always punctual, and descended on us when he could no longer go out on a regular basis.”

Cousin Helen Turner says that Frank Fox was the “kindest, most generous and most selfless man I ever knew”. If a spot of bother he would always help you out. But he didn’t suffer fools gladly, if he had something to say he would say it. I would call him irascible. You could not help but be drawn to Frank. We loved him dearly.”

Q Thanks to Duncan Laing,
Michael Webb, Vicky Hays, John Langford and Helen Turner.
Restorative justice collection available online

Judge Fred McElrea (retired) and editor David Thompson with the collection at Napier Library.

Anyone with an interest in justice and law reform will want to bookmark the online collected papers of leading restorative justice advocate, his Honour (retired) Judge Fred McElrea.

Launched in October, the newly-curated “McElrea Restorative Justice Collection” comprises some 80 records – ranging from lectures given by Judge McElrea throughout the world, to journal articles, book chapters, articles, Select Committee submissions and interviews, together with court cases relevant to restorative justice and other writings.

With a nudge from his Honour’s wife Margaret (an experienced librarian), the McElrea collection has been put together with the assistance of editor (and trained lawyer) David Thompson, and Napier Libraries – whose website is hosting the collection. Given that the city served as an early pilot for restorative justice, this is fitting.

Judge McElrea graduated with an LLB and an MA (first class honours) in philosophy from Otago University, then an LLM from Cambridge University. After 18 years in civil litigation in Auckland, he served on the Auckland District Court from 1988, and was later appointed a Youth Court Judge and Alternate Judge of the Environment Court, as well as sitting on the Supreme Court of Tonga for three months in 2004. He retired from full-time judging in 2008 and part-time judging in 2013.

Most of the material in the collection dates from his Honour’s time as a judge, although not all of it was written in that capacity – but rather as a private advocate for restorative justice, who had had the advantage of witnessing first-hand the traditional “adversarial-punitive” world of the courts.

Judge McElrea’s desire to awaken readers to the potential of restorative justice – and to dispel myths about it – is evident. His passion for restorative justice was sparked by his work as a judge in the youth jurisdiction, which coincided with the introduction of Family Group Conferences (FGCs) under the Children, Young Persons and Their Families Act 1989. He found himself part of a burgeoning international restorative justice movement, and continued to advocate for the adoption and extension of restorative justice for the next two decades.

From 1994, he took a judicial lead in applying the principles of restorative justice, including in applying the provisions of the Sentencing Act 2002 to adults, integrating those provisions with traditional sentencing principles, and developing restorative justice jurisprudence in environmental offending. He also proposed introducing Community Justice (or Resolution) Centres, which would facilitate restorative justice conferences for adults in a similar manner to FGCs for youth – much of it diversionary.

Judge McElrea also chaired and co-founded the advisory board of Massey University’s Centre for Justice and Peace Development, and was a founding member of the AIT Restorative Justice Centre in Auckland. He has been a keen advocate throughout his career of reducing reliance on prisons, and was a founding member of the board of directors of the Canada-based International Corrections and Prisons Association for the Advancement of Professional Corrections.

Musing on restorative justice in New Zealand, Judge McElrea notes: “What New Zealand has done is good, but is far from enough. We need to make court the backstop, not the mainstream way of doing justice. Restorative justice could have a big part in this, and there would be great benefits, especially for victims, but including savings of taxpayer dollars.”

The collection was formally launched with functions at Taradale Public Library in Napier on Thursday 13 October 2017, and at Victoria University of Wellington, where Judge McElrea has New Zealand’s only chair in restorative justice) on Friday 13 October 2017.

ADLS President Joanna Pidgeon, who attended the Wellington event, noted: “This collection will be a fantastic resource for the judiciary, practitioners, academics and students alike as we continue to explore the opportunities to develop restorative justice as an option in our justice system.

Judge McElrea, David Thompson and the Napier Libraries are to be congratulated for their efforts.”

“Judge McElrea has been more than a mere proponent of restorative justice; he has been a leading pioneer and critic, seeking to help the field live up to its promises and potential and has imagined important ways that restorative justice can be applied within the legal system while encouraging a healthier balance of system and community.”

Papers on the McElrea Restorative Justice Collection website are freely available for download and can be accessed at https://www.napierlibrary.co.nz/collections/judge-mcelrea-papers/

The Solicitors’ Benevolent Fund – ways to donate

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- “Give a Little” http://www.givealittle.co.nz/org/Solicitors, which will be automatically receipted, or
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Advertising email change

ROBIN REYNOLDS, the advertising manager for Council Brief of many years, has a new email address.

The change comes about as a result of the demise of Vodafone email services. The new address is:

nz.adman@gmail.com

Wellington Medico-Legal Society

The Wellington Medico-Legal Society is an amalgam of practising lawyers and doctors, and students with an interest in medical law. Regular meetings are held featuring speakers with particular expertise in areas that affect medical law. If you are interested in joining the Society please contact either of the below email addresses:

Jenny Gibson: jgibson@legalchambers.co.nz
Caroline Cheetham: caroline@legalchambers.co.nz

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Five years as Ombudsman to world internet body

By Chris Ryan

A five-year stint as ombudsman with ICANN, the international organisation that coordinates access to the internet, proved to be an "immensely fulfilling" role for Chris LaHatte.

The Wellington barrister and mediator finished his work with ICANN a year ago but he is still buzzing with enthusiasm for the challenging work he did.

"It was a truly awesome experience – I was very lucky to be part of ICANN for that time, meeting amazing people and travelling widely to various international meetings of the ICANN body, as well as satisfying work," he says.

ICANN – the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers – is the global multi-stakeholder, non-governmental organisation that manages internet resources for the public benefit.

It is best known as the technical coordinator of the internet's Domain Name System, the basis of the addresses that we enter into our browsers to access websites on the internet.

Chris ran the advertisement for the ombudsman position on Mediate.Com, a website devoted to all things mediation, and sent off his CV without a lot of hope of landing the job. After a lengthy hiatus a first Skype interview followed, then a second, and nearly eight months from initial application, a third “... and by then I was gripping my chair!”

During his five-year tenure, Chris continued to work from his Lambton Quay office, but travelled widely and frequently on ICANN business.

Within days of his appointment he was in Los Angeles training with the previous ICANN Ombudsman, and within weeks in Dakar in Senegal for the ICANN 13th meetings of the ICANN body, as well as the ICANN’s three main meetings a year, each held in a different part of the globe. Given their cultural, ethnic and geographic diversity, and given that numbers are swollen by local members depending on where each meeting is held, it is probably inevitable that misunderstandings arise and turn into disputes that will be grist to the ombudsman’s mill.

**Mutual respect and cultural understanding**

An issue Chris dealt with early in his tenure, for instance, was a complaint by a German group that a meeting time they had agreed to with an African group's meeting ran 15 or more minutes late. “Without going into cultural stereotypes, I was able to defuse that by appeals for mutual respect and an acceptance of cultural understandings,” he says.

Many of the complaints he dealt with concerned cases of bullying or unfairness of various kinds, most of which could be dealt with by conducting an investigation, writing a report and making a recommendation. One case, a complaint of sexual harassment made at a meeting in Marrakech, was difficult to deal with in part because the complainant went public and made it difficult to reach a satisfactory conclusion. Having undertaken more recent training in restorative justice at Victoria University, Chris says that might have been a better paradigm to use. “I handled it in the best way I could at the time but I would now approach it using a restorative justice perspective, bringing the two parties together and attempt to arrive at mutual understanding of the other’s perspective.”

**Top level domains**

One of the major ICANN initiatives of the past few years has been to release “new generic top level domains.”

Ombudsman’s office received a number of complaints.

“I looked into it and thought that the .gay gTLD was not dealing with the application for .gay fairly. The Ombudsman has the power to initiate an ‘own motion’ investigation and I requested permission from the ICANN board to do this which was approved.” The investigation that followed highlighted some areas in the process which participants saw as unfair such as a lack of transparency and high costs involved, but Chris as Ombudsman felt overall that the process was equitable given the parameters set, but there were some lack of clarity about community-based applications.

“There was ... a need for a better scope of understanding of what those community-based applications were for, and what sort of persons or organisations would benefit from the use of a community-based top level domain.”

A couple of years on, the .gay application is still stalled with ICANN.

**Mediation, arbitration & restorative justice**

Chris LaHatte has been a lawyer for more than 37 years, much of that time working as a barrister. He has argued cases over a diverse range of areas including insolvency legislation, criminal and judicial review cases. He has a particular interest in construction and building law. The ICANN position was not the first time that he had worked overseas. In 2002, after spotting an advertisement in Lawtalk, he got a job with the Taiwan High Speed Rail Corporation. As “in-house advocate for construction conciliations and arbitrations” for the project, at the time the largest transportation infrastructure initiative in the world, he and his young family spent two years in Taipei.

These days he finds himself drawn to mediation, arbitration and restorative justice techniques, as personally satisfying and useful ways of resolving disputes. “In mediation and restorative justice the result is owned by the participants which is altogether a better model where it is possible,” he says.

Post ICANN, Chris has retained links with ombudsman associations and continues to be an ombudsman with Mediators Beyond Borders, an international organisation which aims to promote peacemaking and mediation worldwide. He is an FDR (Family Dispute Resolution) mediator, is on the AMINZ (Association of Mediators in New Zealand) attempt to establish a construction adjudicator panel and intellectual property list.

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**Ombudsman**

ICANN's headquarters are in Los Angeles with hub offices in Istanbul, Singapore and Washington DC, and "engagement centres" in Belgium, Zurich, China and Uruguay. There are also many supporting groups, and a complex and diverse international community of very active volunteers in over 130 countries who tend to be knowledgeable, dedicated, and very forthright. This group comes together at ICANN’s three main meetings a year, each held in a different part of the globe. Given their cultural, ethnic and geographic diversity, and given that numbers are swollen by local members depending on where each meeting is held, it is probably inevitable that misunderstandings arise and turn into disputes that will be grist to the ombudsman’s mill.

**ICANN meetings**

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**Top level domains**

One of the major ICANN initiatives of the past few years has been to release “new generic top level domains.”

Denoted by the acronym gTLD (ICANN is very fond of acronyms!), these domains consist of the letters that flow to the right of the dot in internet addresses, for example .com or .org. The new gTLDs allow companies and organisations to choose just about any text, for example .shop, .hotel, .casino or .lawyer, providing they are willing to pay the fairly expensive fees involved.

While the new gTLDs have been generally well received, there have been some problems, one longstanding one being the debate over the .gay TLD. Chris says there are two ways of obtaining these top level domains, one represented purely by commercial interests, such as .email or .shop and often sold for huge amounts of money; the other represented by community interest and what sort of persons or organisations would benefit from the use of a community-based top level domain.”

A couple of years on, the .gay application is still stalled with ICANN.

**Mediation, arbitration & restorative justice**

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Justice Williams was appointed as a Judge of the High Court in 2004. Justice Williams graduated with an LLB from Victoria University in 1986 and joined the faculty as a junior lecturer in law. He graduated with an LLM (Hons) from the University of British Columbia in 1988. In 1988 his Honour commenced employment with Kensingston Swan, subsequently establishing the first unit specialising in Māori issues in a major New Zealand law firm. He also developed a large environmental practice.

Justice Williams became a partner at Kensingston Swan in 1992, leaving in 1994 to co-found the new firm of Walters Williams & Co in Auckland and Wellington.

In 1999 Justice Williams was appointed Chief Judge of the Māori Land Court. The following year, he was appointed acting chairman of the Waitangi Tribunal, a position to which he was permanently appointed in 2004. Justice Williams’ tribal affiliations are Ngāti Pūkenga and Te Arawa (Waikato, Tapuika).

Justice Williams was appointed as a Judge of the High Court in 2008. The new one level library is now open, ready and waiting for you! All the reports, books and journals have been organised. You will notice gaps in some series where we have sent material off to be repaired or rebound. There are also gaps where volumes have been destroyed or are missing in action. We hope to fill most of these in the next few months as the repaired books come back and we are able to source replacements for missing items. We have also removed all unreported materials and these are either being scanned or are available on a websites such as NZLLI. Please ask if you want access to anything that was previously in our boxes or volumes of unreported judgments.

You can keep up to date on what the Library is doing by subscribing to our Twitter feed. Just follow @NZLSlibrary and get our monthly new books list and other news.

The Wellington Library will be offering training this year on the new Lexis Advance search interface that we will all be using some time in 2018. The sessions have not yet been fixed, but we will be sending out information as soon as we can.

New books

*Delegated legislation in Australia, Chatswood, NSW: LexisNexis Australia 5th edition 2017 KM302.K1 PEA*

*EPA forms - the wrap up, Wellington: Continuing Legal Education, New Zealand Law Society 2017 KN87.6.L1 NEW*

*Employment law in New Zealand, Wellington: LexisNexis New Zealand 2nd edition 2017*

*Environmental and resource management law, Wellington: LexisNexis NZ Ltd 6th edition 2018 KN94.L1 ENV*

*Family law conference, Wellington: Continuing Legal Education, New Zealand Law Society 2017*


*Gambling law, Wellington: Thomson Reuters 2017 KN94.L1 TRU*

*Getting up and giving it all away, Wellington: Continuing Legal Education, New Zealand Law Society 2017 KM336.L1 NEW*


*LexisNexis New Zealand Public Law*

Government Law – Year in Review Half-Day Seminar

**When:** 12:45 - 5:15pm (seminar) and 5:45 - 6:45pm (keynote address) **Monday, 12 February 2017**

**Where:** Victoria University of Wellington, Pipitea Campus, Wellington

**Price:** $100 incl gst (other fees available, on application, for students or unvagged)

**Registration:** nzcpl-govt-law.eventbrite.co.nz

**CPD compatible:** 5.5 hours

**Details:** [https://www.victoria.ac.nz/law/centres/nzcpl](https://www.victoria.ac.nz/law/centres/nzcpl)

**Cross-Border Issues in Australasian Courts**

On 13 February 2018 (at 2pm in GIB.L2) Professor Jürgen Baxbendorf (Max Planck Institute for Comparative and International Private Law, Hamburg) will give a public lecture providing a European perspective on the legal challenges posed by the response from a common law perspective from Professor Mary Keyes (Griffith University, Queensland). This will be followed by an afternoon tea, ending at 5pm. There will be no charge for this event.

**When:** 2pm, 13th February 2018

**Where:** GIB.L2, Rear Courtyard

**Faculty of Law, Old Government Building, 5.5 Lambton Quay**

**Who:** Dr Maria Hook (Clagio School of Law) & Dr Bevan Martin (VUW School of Law)

**Keynote speaker:** Professor Jürgen Baxbendorf (Max Planck Institute for Comparative and International Private Law, Hamburg)

**RSVP:** To RSPV please email law-events@vuw.ac.nz

**Sponsored by the New Zealand Law Foundation, University of Waikato Humanities Research Grant**

**Last Resort Golf Tournament 2018**

Friday 16 February

For details see notice on page 1 in this issue
Conflict resolution leader receives new year honour

Virginia Goldblatt was appointed as a member of the New Zealand Order of Merit in the New Year Honours. Ms Goldblatt has been a leader in the field of conflict resolution, alternative dispute resolution and mediation in New Zealand for many years, and will be familiar to many lawyers.

She has been an independent mediator since 1994 practising primarily in the employment, organisational, health and education areas. She was senior lecturer in English at Massey University from 1978 to 1998 and senior lecturer in Dispute Resolution from 1998 to 2013. She was instrumental in the establishment of the Massey University Dispute Resolution Centre and was its director from 2007 to 2012.

LEANZ essay competition

The Law and Economics Association of NZ (LEANZ) has established an essay competition, open to current or recent under- or post-graduate New Zealand university students of any discipline. Academic essays that approach a legal or public policy issue using an economic analysis (or specifically addresses the failings of such an analysis) are invited. The essay should recognise the significance of legal institutions and instruments in creating or moulding the incentives.

A first prize of $3,000 will be offered together with the opportunity to present the work at a LEANZ seminar event in 2018. A discretionary prize of $1,500 may be awarded to a high-quality runner up. Entries close on Monday 7 May 2018. Details are available at: leanz.org.nz

The Solicitors’ Benevolent Fund – ways to donate

Donations to the Solicitors Benevolent Fund can be made through:

- “Give a Little” http://www.givealittle.co.nz/organisations/Solicitors,
- by Direct debit: Bank of New Zealand: 02-0506-0101108-097

All donations go directly to the capital reserve. The Solicitors’ Benevolent Fund Trust is registered as a charitable trust (number CC48709) and has tax deductible status.

If a receipt is required when making a direct debit, please email Wellington@lawsoociety.org.nz with your name, the amount deposited and a contact number to ensure a receipt is issued and sent to the correct place.

COUNCIL BRIEF CROSSWORD

You can use this diagram for either the Quick or Cryptic Clues, but the answers in each case are different. This month’s solutions are on page 2.

Crytic Clues

ACROSS
1. Foil some of the peerage (4)
2. Precious little company inside for the early form of rock music! (6,4)
3. Glasses ro round the curves (4)
4. Cut in whisky? (6)
5. His map is transformed by accident (6)
6. Slightly exaggerate an account and blush (6)
7. Stand at one over the eight, we hear. Gracious! (6)
8. It’s used to make a toast in wine (4)
9. Authorise mother to come back (8)
10. Cars go round the curves (4)
11. A baby substitute (10)
12. Infrequent (6)
13. Not liable (6)
14. Early form of rock music! (6,4)
15. Carrs go round the curves (4)
16. It’s used to make a toast in wine (4)
17. Habit (6)
18. Stand at one over the eight, we hear. Gracious! (6)
19. Will he cure plane-sickness? (4-6)
20. Workers that supply most of our wants (10)
21. Will he cure plane-sickness? (4-6)
22. It’s used to make a toast in wine (4)

DOWN
1. Precious little company inside for the early form of rock music! (6,4)
2. A wise man changes as he grows older (4)
3. Make a sound come-back in a speech (4)
4. Precious little company inside for the early form of rock music! (6,4)
5. Glass vessel (6)
6. It’s used to make a toast in wine (4)
7. It’s used to make a toast in wine (4)
8. Nothing illogical about a boy (6)
9. A wise man changes as he grows older (4)
10. Workers that supply most of our wants (10)
11. It’s used to make a toast in wine (4)
12. Precious little company inside for the early form of rock music! (6,4)
13. Precious little company inside for the early form of rock music! (6,4)
14. It’s used to make a toast in wine (4)
15. It’s used to make a toast in wine (4)
16. It’s used to make a toast in wine (4)
17. It’s used to make a toast in wine (4)
18. It’s used to make a toast in wine (4)
19. It’s used to make a toast in wine (4)
20. It’s used to make a toast in wine (4)

Answers: See page 2

COUNCIL BRIEF

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Editor: Chris Ryan, telephone (06) 378 7431 or 027 255 4027

E-mail: chrisr@wise.net.nz

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Booking for Law Society events

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http://bookwhen.com/wellington-branch

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Wellington audiences again delighted by ‘Counsel in Concert’
By Merran Cooke

The Counsel in Concert performances on 19 December 2017 were enthusiastically received by capacity audiences at St Andrew’s on the Terrace.

This is the ninth year that Counsel in Concert has delighted audiences, and along with the joy of making and listening to music, the purpose as previously was to raise money for the Child Cancer Foundation.

This year’s varied programme celebrated significant anniversaries of composers including Monteverdi (450 years since his birth), Telemann (250 years since his death), Gershwin (80 years since his death) and the Beatles (50 years since Sergeant Pepper!).

Fifteen-year-old Lara Cooke spoke at the concerts in support of the Child Cancer Foundation. Lara has connections to both the legal and musical worlds through her parents: she is the daughter of Francis Cooke QC (and granddaughter of Lord Cooke of Thorndon), and her mother, Diana Marsh, has worked in many aspects of the New Zealand musical world throughout her career, including the role of general manager of Orchestra Wellington.

When she was ten years old Lara was diagnosed with a rare form of acute lymphoblastic leukaemia. Since then she has gone through two periods of treatment in Christchurch and Auckland as well as in Wellington. She spoke very movingly at the concerts about the support the Foundation has provided to her and her family during her treatment.

The total raised from the performances was over $4000, all of which goes to the Child Cancer Foundation.


There are also several clips on YouTube – search for ‘Counsel in Concert 2017’.

ROOM AVAILABLE

Featherston Chambers has a room available for a barrister, who would join four colleagues in an elegant professional environment in a recently renovated historic building close to the courts.

Facilities include website (http://featherstonchambers.co.nz/), library, conference room, Wi-Fi, in-house CPD seminars, kitchen, shower, off-street parking.

Please email: office@featherstonchambers.co.nz