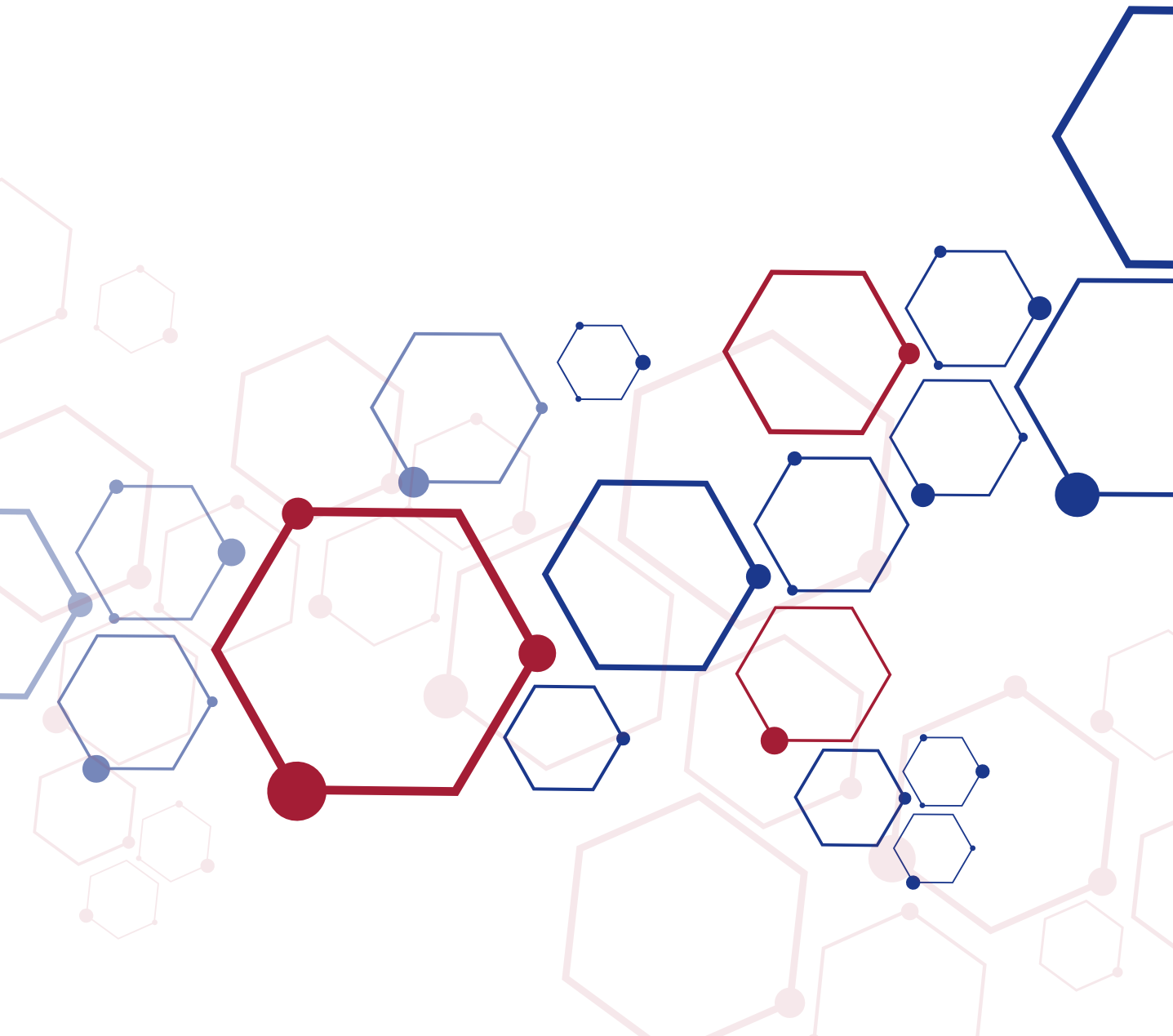




Supreme Court
of New South Wales

2017

ANNUAL REVIEW



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FOREWORD BY THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF NEW SOUTH WALES

I am very pleased to present the 2017 Annual Review of the Supreme Court of New South Wales. It provides information to the public about the Court's stewardship of the resources entrusted to it. It also provides an overview of how the Court fulfils its constitutional obligations to the people of New South Wales as the state's superior court. Public trust and confidence in the judiciary is essential to the maintenance of the rule of law in a liberal democratic nation. The information provided in this review is one of the ways the Court remains transparent and accountable to the public, and in doing so maintains that trust and confidence.

The just, quick and cheap resolution of disputes is an overriding obligation of the Supreme Court. The statistics contained in this review measuring the time taken to list, manage, and resolve matters provide some evidence of the Court's fulfilment of this obligation. However, statistics cannot reveal the legal complexity of individual cases, or the quality of justice delivered in each case. These intangibles sit at the core of the Court's obligations to the community. They are reflected in the substantive judgments, numbering over 2000, delivered by judges of the Court throughout 2017. They are also represented in the everyday interactions between judges and Court staff and members of the public.

The Court's public education programme is one of the more informal ways in which the Court engages with the public. I am pleased to report that in conjunction with the Attorney General, we launched a new self-guided tour mobile app which guides visitors through the Supreme Court building providing educational insights into its work. In addition, the Court participated in Sydney Living Museums' "Sydney Open" event in November, opening the doors of the King Street Court Complex to members of the public interested in its rich legal and architectural history. The Court also maintained its commitment to improving regional access to justice, with the Court of Appeal conducting an historic first sitting in Orange in February.

The Court faced a significant challenge in 2017 with the flooding of the Law Courts building in late October. The building was closed for over two weeks, the registry floor was closed for over five weeks, and some judges were dislocated for five months. The hard work and dedication of all Court staff and judges meant that most matters went ahead on the Monday following the flood, and that by Wednesday all listed matters had been assigned new dates and alternative venues in the CBD. I extend my sincere thanks first, to the Land and Environment Court, the Industrial Relations Commission, the District Court, Local Court and NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal, whose staff generously shared their facilities with dislocated judges and enabled matters to proceed as planned. Second, to all the Court staff who remained unflappable and enthusiastic despite the challenges faced during this time. Third, to the NSW Courts Service Centre, Reporting Services Branch and Law Courts Library for their assistance and flexibility. Finally, to all the judges of the Court, who continued to fulfil their obligations to the public in the face of considerable disruption.

Throughout 2017 there were a considerable number of judicial appointments. I am extremely pleased by the outstanding quality of those appointed, and that the Court has continued to maintain a sufficient number of judges to perform its functions. This is essential to the effective administration of justice.

I would like to express my thanks and appreciation to all judges and staff who maintained the Court's unshakeable commitment to dispensing justice. I am confident that during the course of 2017 the rule of law was administered by judges of this Court with independence, impartiality, integrity and efficiency. This Review is a testament to their diligent work and I trust it provides an instructive detailing of the Court's operations.



The Hon T Bathurst AC
Chief Justice of New South Wales



1 COURT PROFILE

- The Court's jurisdiction and Divisions
- Who makes the decisions?
- Supporting the Court: the Registry

THE COURT'S JURISDICTION AND DIVISIONS

The Supreme Court of New South Wales: our place in the court system

The court system in New South Wales is structured on a hierarchical basis. The Supreme Court is the superior court of record in New South Wales and, as such, has an inherent jurisdiction in addition to its specific statutory jurisdiction.

The Supreme Court has appellate and trial jurisdictions. The appellate courts are the:

- Court of Appeal
- Court of Criminal Appeal.

The trial work of the criminal and civil jurisdictions is divided between two Divisions:

- Common Law Division
- Equity Division.

This structure facilitates the convenient despatch of business in accordance with the provisions under section 38 of the *Supreme Court Act 1970*.

Section 23 of the *Supreme Court Act 1970* provides the Court with all jurisdiction necessary for the administration of justice in New South Wales. The Supreme Court has supervisory jurisdiction over other courts and tribunals in the State. The Court generally exercises this supervisory jurisdiction through its appellate courts.

The Industrial Court of New South Wales and the Land and Environment Court of New South Wales are specialist courts of statutory jurisdiction. The Judges of these courts have the status of Supreme Court Judges.

The District Court of New South Wales is an intermediate court, and its jurisdiction is determined by statute. The Local Court sits at the bottom of the hierarchy of New South Wales courts, and has broad criminal and civil jurisdictions.

The NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NCAT) was established on 1 January 2014 by the *Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 2013*. NCAT is the single point of access for specialist tribunal services in NSW, consolidating the work of 22 former tribunals. NCAT was established in response to the recommendations of the Legislative Council's Standing Committee on Law and Justice Inquiry

into opportunities to consolidate tribunals in NSW. There are four divisions of NCAT: the Administrative and Equal Opportunity Division; the Consumer and Commercial Division; the Guardianship Division; and the Occupational Division.

Figures 1.1 and 1.2 illustrate the court hierarchy in New South Wales and the gateways to appeal in the criminal and civil jurisdictions.

Court of Appeal

The Court of Appeal is responsible for hearing appeals in civil matters against the decisions of the judicial officers of the Supreme Court, other courts, commissions and tribunals within the State, as prescribed in the *Supreme Court Act 1970*.



Court of Criminal Appeal

The Court of Criminal Appeal hears appeals from criminal proceedings in the Supreme Court, the Industrial Court, the Land and Environment Court, the District Court and the Drug Court. Appeals may challenge convictions and sentences imposed upon indictment or in the trial court's summary jurisdiction, or interlocutory orders made by the trial court. Appeals from committal proceedings in the Local Court may also be heard in certain circumstances.

Sittings of the Court of Criminal Appeal are organised on a roster basis, taking into account the other regular judicial duties and commitments of the Judges who form the Court's bench. The Judges who sit in the Court of Criminal Appeal are the Chief Justice, the President, the Judges of the Court of Appeal, the Chief Judge at Common Law and Judges of the Common Law Division. During 2017, each Court of Criminal Appeal bench comprised at least two Common Law judges, with the presiding judge being the Chief Justice, the President, a Judge of Appeal, or the Chief Judge at Common Law.

The Court of Criminal Appeal List Judge throughout 2017 was Justice R A Hulme.

Common Law Division

The Common Law Division hears both criminal and civil matters. The criminal matters involve homicide offences and offences where the prosecution seeks life imprisonment. Other matters involving serious criminality or matters of public interest may be brought before the Court with the Chief Justice's

approval. The Judges of the Common Law Division also hear bail applications, matters concerning proceeds of crime and post-conviction inquiries.

The Division deals with all serious personal injury and contractual actions, in which the Court has unlimited jurisdiction. The civil business of the Division also comprises:

- claims for damages
- claims of professional negligence
- claims relating to the possession of land
- claims of defamation
- administrative law cases seeking the review of decisions by government and administrative tribunal
- appeals from Local Courts.

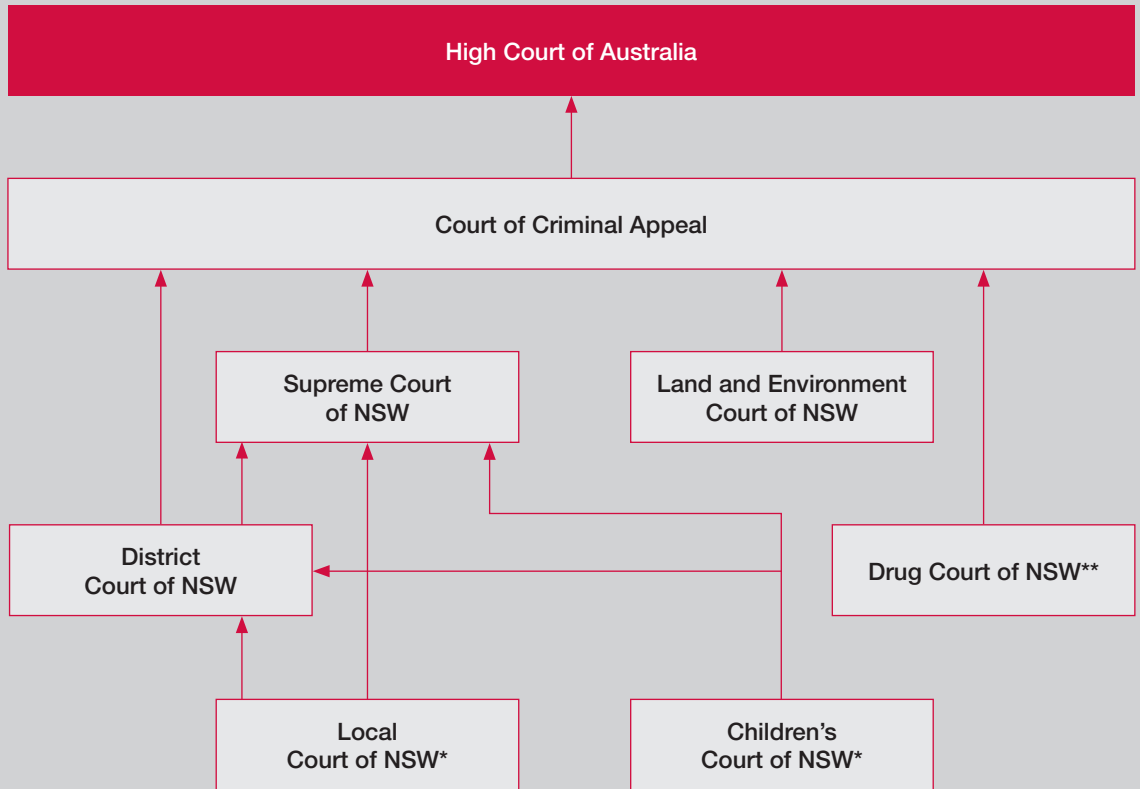
Equity Division

The Equity Division exercises the traditional equity jurisdiction dealing with claims for remedies other than damages and recovery of debts, including contractual actions, rights of property, and disputes relating to partnerships, trusts, and deceased estates.

The Division hears applications brought under numerous statutes, including the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth), the *Succession Act 2006*, and the *Property (Relationships) Act 1984*. The Division also handles a diverse range of applications in the areas of admiralty law, commercial law, technology and construction, probate and the Court's adoption and protective jurisdictions.



Figure 1.1 NSW COURT SYSTEM CRIMINAL JURISDICTION

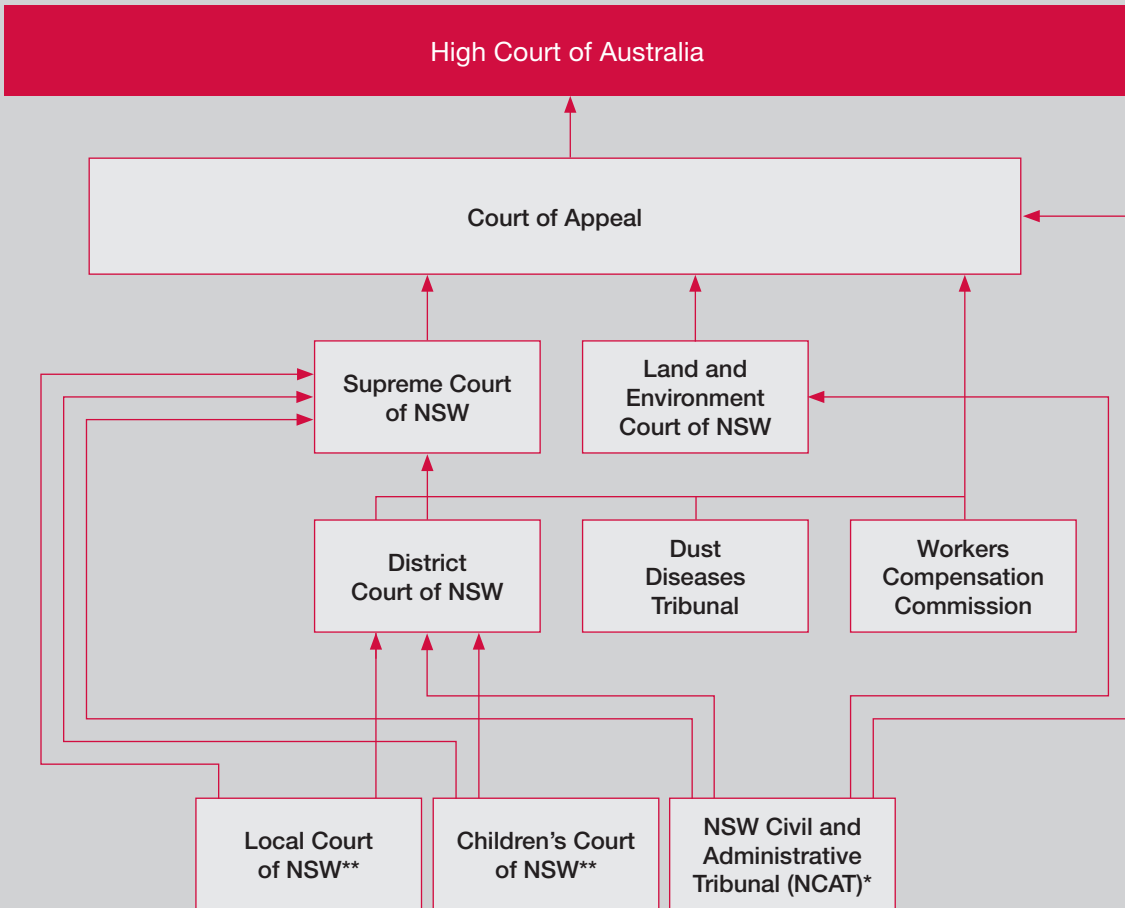


Note: The above diagram is a simplified representation of the appeal process in NSW. Actual appeal rights are determined by the relevant legislation.

* Appeals can be made to the District Court of NSW, or directly to the Supreme Court in certain circumstances.

** Some appeals from committal proceedings may be made directly to the Court of Criminal Appeal

Figure 1.2 NSW COURT SYSTEM CIVIL JURISDICTION



Note: The above diagram is a simplified representation of the appeal and judicial review process in NSW. Actual appeal rights are determined by the relevant legislation.

* Appeals from certain decision of NCAT may be made to the Court of Appeal, Supreme Court, Land and Environment Court or District Court. See *Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 2013* ("the Act"), Part 6, Division 3. Also, certain decisions may be judicially reviewed by the Supreme Court or Court of Appeal under Section 34 of the Act; refer to section 48 of the *Supreme Court Act 1970* as to which decisions are assigned to the Court of Appeal.

** Appeals can be made to the District Court of NSW, or directly to the Supreme Court in certain circumstances

WHO MAKES THE DECISIONS?

The judicial officers of the Supreme Court of New South Wales are its Judges and Associate Judges. The Registrars of the Court have limited decision-making powers.

The Judges

The Governor of New South Wales formally appoints the Judges of the Court following a decision by Cabinet. Judicial appointments are made on the basis of a legal practitioner's integrity, high level of legal skills and the depth of his or her practical experience.

The Governor appoints judges pursuant to section 25 of the *Supreme Court Act 1970*. Section 25 specifies that the Court will include: a Chief Justice, a President of the Court of Appeal and such other Judges of Appeal, Judges and Associate Judges, as the Governor may appoint from time to time. The Governor is also empowered to appoint qualified persons as Acting Judges of Appeal or Acting Judges when the need arises.

The Chief Justice is, by virtue of his office, a Judge of Appeal, and the senior member of the Court of Appeal. The other members of the Court of Appeal are the President and the Judges of Appeal. The Judges of the Court are assigned to specific Divisions, and ordinarily confine their activities to the business of those Divisions. In certain circumstances, the Chief Justice may certify that a particular Judge should act as an additional Judge of Appeal in certain proceedings before the Court of Appeal.

The *Supreme Court Act 1970* also provides that the Chief Justice may appoint Judges to administer a specific list within the Common Law or Equity Divisions. Details of the Judges assigned to these lists in 2017 can be found in Chapter 3.

Set out below are the Judges of the Court, in order of seniority, as at 31 December 2017.

Chief Justice

The Honourable Thomas Frederick Bathurst, AC

President

The Honourable Justice Margaret Joan Beazley, AO

Judges of Appeal

The Honourable Justice Ruth Stephanie McColl, AO

The Honourable Justice John Basten

The Honourable Justice Robert Bruce Macfarlan

The Honourable Justice Anthony John Meagher

The Honourable Justice Clifton Ralph Russell
Hoeben, AM, RFD

The Honourable Justice Julie Kathryn Ward

The Honourable Justice Peter David McClellan, AM

The Honourable Justice Fabian Gleeson

The Honourable Justice Mark James Leeming

The Honourable Justice Carolyn Chalmers Simpson

The Honourable Justice Anthony James Payne

The Honourable Justice Richard Weeks White

Chief Judge at Common Law

The Honourable Justice Clifton Ralph Russell
Hoeben, AM, RFD

Chief Judge in Equity

The Honourable Justice Julie Kathryn Ward

Judges

The Honourable Justice Michael John Walton

The Honourable Justice Robert Calder McDougall

The Honourable Justice Peter Anthony Johnson

The Honourable Justice Megan Fay Latham

The Honourable Justice Stephen Rothman AM

The Honourable Justice Paul Le Gay Brereton, AM,
RFD

The Honourable Justice Derek Michael Price, AM

The Honourable Justice David Jacob
Hammerschlag

The Honourable Justice Ian Gordon Harrison

The Honourable Justice Elizabeth Lillian Fullerton

The Honourable Justice Lucy McCallum

The Honourable Justice Nigel Geoffrey Rein

The Honourable Justice Robert Allan Hulme
 The Honourable Justice Michael John Slattery
 The Honourable Justice David Lloyd Davies
 The Honourable Justice Monika Schmidt
 The Honourable Justice Michael Andrew Pembroke
 The Honourable Justice Michael Lee Ball
 The Honourable Justice Peter Richard Garling, RFD
 The Honourable Justice John Robertson Sackar
 The Honourable Justice Ashley John Black
 The Honourable Justice Christine Elizabeth Adamson
 The Honourable Justice Geoffrey John Bellew
 The Honourable Justice James William John Stevenson
 The Honourable Justice Robert Thomas Beech-Jones
 The Honourable Justice Stephen Gerard Campbell
 The Honourable Justice Richard James Button
 The Honourable Justice Geoffrey Charles Lindsay
 The Honourable Justice Philip Hallen
 The Honourable Justice Francois Kunc
 The Honourable Justice Stephen David Robb
 The Honourable Justice Rowan James Hunter Darke
 The Honourable Justice Robertson James Wright
 The Honourable Justice Helen McLeod Wilson
 The Honourable Justice Desmond John Fagan
 The Honourable Justice Natalie Jane Adams
 The Honourable Justice Julia Lily-Ann Lonergan
 The Honourable Justice Thomas Guy Radcliffe Parker

The Acting Judges

Set out below are details of those persons who held commissions as Acting Judges during the 2017 calendar year. Unless otherwise indicated, the judicial officer's commission was effective for the entire calendar year.

Acting Judges are asked to preside over specific hearings as the need arises. The total number of days each person acted as a Judge of the Court during 2017 is also indicated.

Acting Judges of Appeal (in alphabetical order)

- The Honourable Reginald Ian Barrett, former Judge of the Supreme Court of New South Wales and Judge of Appeal (acted as a Judge and Judge of Appeal for 60 days).
- The Honourable Arthur Robert Emmett, AO, QC, former Judge of the Supreme Court of New South Wales and Judge of Appeal (acted as a Judge and Judge of Appeal for 225 days).
- The Honourable Ronald Sackville, AO, QC, former Judge of the Federal Court of Australia (acted as a Judge and Judge of Appeal for 181 days).

Acting Judges (in alphabetical order)

- The Honourable Jane Hamilton Mathews, AO, former Judge of the Federal Court of Australia (commission effective until 18 December 2017, acted as a Judge for 145 days).
- The Honourable Peter John Hidden, AM, QC, former Judge of the Supreme Court of New South Wales (acted as a Judge for 107 days).

Appointments

The following Judges were appointed in 2017 (in chronological order):

- The Honourable Julie Kathryn Ward, a Judge of Appeal of the Supreme Court of New South Wales, was appointed Chief Judge of the Equity Division of the Supreme Court of New South Wales on 15 March 2017.
- The Honourable Richard Weeks White, a Judge of the Supreme Court of New South Wales, was appointed a Judge of Appeal of the Supreme Court of New South Wales on 15 March 2017.
- Julia Lily-Ann Lonergan, SC was appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court of New South Wales on 21 March 2017.
- Thomas Guy Radcliffe Parker, SC was appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court of New South Wales on 6 April 2017.

Retirements

The following Judges retired in 2017 (in chronological order):

- The Honourable Justice Patricia Ann Bergin retired as Chief Judge of the Equity Division of the Supreme Court of New South Wales on 29 January 2017.
- The Honourable Justice Michael Frederick Adams retired as a Judge of the Supreme Court of New South Wales on 10 February 2017.

The Associate Judges

The Governor appoints Associate Judges to the Court under section 111 of the *Supreme Court Act 1970*. Associate Judges are usually assigned to perform work within either the Equity or Common Law Division. However, they may be asked to work outside the confines of these Divisions in the interests of flexibility.

The work of an Associate Judge generally involves hearing applications that arise before trial, certain types of trial work and work on proceedings that the Court of Appeal or a Judge may refer to the Associate Judge.

Applications that arise before trial include:

- applications for summary judgment
- applications for dismissal of proceedings
- applications for extensions of time to commence
- proceedings under various Acts
- applications for the review of decisions of Registrars.

In the Common Law Division, the Associate Judge conducts trials of actions for personal injury and possession of property. The Associate Judge also hears other trials (without a jury) that are referred to them by the Court of Appeal or a Judge, in addition to appeals from the Local Court and various tribunals.

In the Equity Division, the Associate Judge deals with proceedings under the *Family Provision Act 1982* and the *Property (Relationships) Act 1984*, and applications for the winding up of companies under the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth).

The Associate Judge also deals with inquiries as to damages, or accounts referred by the Court of Appeal or Equity Judges, along with applications relating to the administration of trusts, and certain probate matters.

As at 31 December 2017, the Court's only Associate Judge was The Honourable Joanne Ruth Harrison (Common Law Division).

The Registrars

Registrars of the Court are appointed under section 120 of the *Supreme Court Act 1970* pursuant to the provisions of the *Government Sector Employment Act 2013*. The Chief Justice may also certify officers of the Supreme Court or Local Courts to act as Deputy Registrars of the Court from time to time.

Registrars are allocated to work within the Court of Appeal, the Court of Criminal Appeal or to one of the Court's Divisions. However, they are permitted to work outside particular Divisions, if required.

Registrars are afforded limited powers of the Court under the Supreme Court Rules 1970 and the Uniform Civil Procedure Rules 2005, and undertake some of the functions formerly performed by Judges and Associate Judges.

The work of the Registrars commonly includes:

- defended applications in relation to security for costs, discovery, interrogatories, provision of particulars and subpoenas
- costs disputes if the amount in question is unlikely to exceed \$20,000
- unopposed applications for the removal of cases to, or from, the District Court
- conducting examinations under various Acts, including the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) and the *Proceeds of Crime Act 1987* (Cth)
- dealing with applications for orders under many of the provisions of the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth), such as the winding up of companies
- handling applications as referred to them by an Associate Judge
- issuing court orders and writs of execution, and
- entering default judgments.

The Supreme Court Rules 1970 and delegations under the *Civil Procedure Act 2005* permit Registrars to directly assist the Judges in caseload management. For instance, in the Court of Appeal, the Registrar deals with most interlocutory applications, excluding applications to stay judgment pending an appeal. In the Common Law Division, a Registrar conducts directions hearings in its General List, and also assists the Possession List and Professional Negligence List Judges.

The Registrars may also be called upon to mediate cases. During 2017, nine of the Court's Registrars were qualified mediators and available to conduct mediations throughout the year on a rostered basis.

Deputy Registrars are rostered to act as Duty Registrar and to provide procedural assistance each day to court users in the Registry, or by email or telephone. They also attend to the issue of court orders, writs of execution and other miscellaneous matters.

Set out below are the Registrars of the Court, as at 31 December 2017:

Executive Director and Principal Registrar

Chris D'Aeth

Director, Assistant Principal Registrar and Prothonotary

Rebel Kenna

Registrar, Court of Appeal

Jerry Riznyczok

Registrar, Court of Criminal Appeal

Katrina Curry

Registrar, Common Law Case Management

Christopher Bradford

Registrar in Equity

Leonie Walton

Registrar, Corporations List

Leonie Walton

Senior Deputy Registrars

Nicholas Flaskas

Jennifer Hedge

Brendan Bellach

Louise Brown

Deputy Registrars

Emoke Durkin

Bhaskari Siva

Suzin Yoo

Assistant Deputy Registrars

Stephanie Hill

Lynda Gerritsen

SUPPORTING THE COURT: THE REGISTRY

The work of the Registry

The Court operates with the support of the Registry, which provides administrative and clerical support to the Court.

In civil matters, the Registry is responsible for: accepting documents filed at the Court; securing the custody of court documents including exhibits and documents produced under subpoena; listing matters for hearing; issuing court process; attending to the information needs of the Court's users by providing procedural guidance; maintaining the Court's physical files and computer records; and ensuring that all the necessary facilities are available for hearings.

In criminal matters, the Registry provides support in processing committals, bail applications, applications under Part 7 of the *Crimes (Appeal and Review) Act* 2001 and Common Law Division criminal summary jurisdiction proceedings.

In respect of the Court of Appeal, the Registry provides specialist administrative and clerical support to the Court of Appeal Judges and offers procedural guidance to litigants and their representatives. Similarly, in criminal appeal matters, the Registry provides support to the Court of Criminal Appeal Judges and users, and also issues orders concerning the custody of prisoners.

Management of the Registry

The Chief Justice directs the priorities to be pursued by the Registry. In general, the priorities reflect the central aim of meeting the expectations of Court users competently, efficiently and professionally.

Day to day management of the Registry is handled by the Executive Director and Principal Registrar of the Court. The Executive Director is also responsible for securing and managing the resources the New South Wales Department of Attorney General and Justice provides to the Court, providing executive support to the Court's judicial officers and developing strategies to improve the delivery of Registry services. The Executive Director undertakes these duties in close consultation with the Chief Justice, other judicial officers, the Department, representatives from key professional bodies and the Court's users.



2 CASEFLOW MANAGEMENT

- Overview by jurisdiction
- Regional sittings of the Court
- Alternative dispute resolution

OVERVIEW BY JURISDICTION

Introduction

The Court manages the flow of its cases from inception to completion in a number of different ways, and is continually looking to improve its processes and outcomes.

Caseflow management strategies are reflected in the Uniform Civil Procedure Rules, the Supreme Court Rules and the Practice Notes issued by the Chief Justice. The Judges, Associate Judges and Registrars work together to ensure that cases are resolved as efficiently and justly as possible.

Commonly, cases will be allocated to Registrars to establish the core arguments in dispute and determine when cases should progress to hearing before a Judge or an Associate Judge. A Registrar makes directions to ensure that a case is properly prepared for hearing. If an issue arises that falls outside the specified duties of a Registrar, he or she may refer that case to a Judge or an Associate Judge.

Court of Appeal

New appeal cases are reviewed for competency and, if necessary, referred back to legal representatives to either substantiate the claim of appeal as of right or seek leave to appeal. Applications for leave to appeal are examined to ascertain whether they are suitable for hearing concurrently with the argument on appeal.

Appeals are allocated a directions callover date before the Registrar once a notice of appeal is filed. At that callover, the appeal may be listed for hearing if the appellant has filed written submissions and the red appeal book. Further case management may be ordered with respect to lengthy or complex appeals.

The Registrar manages and lists most appeal cases and applications for leave to appeal, although some cases may be referred to a Judge of Appeal for special case management. Urgent cases are expedited and can be heard at short notice, if appropriate. The Registrar in the Court of Appeal also deals with most interlocutory applications (in accordance with a delegation by the Chief Justice under section 13 of the *Civil Procedure Act 2005*).

Mediation is offered to parties in appeals identified as capable of resolution by this process. Detailed

statistics regarding the number of matters referred to mediation can be found in Appendix (I).

Detailed information about case management practices in the Court of Appeal is set out in Practice Note SC CA 1.

Court of Criminal Appeal

Accused persons may initially lodge a Notice of intention to Appeal, without specifying their grounds of appeal. The Notice of Intention to Appeal allows the accused person six months (or such longer time as the Court grants) to file an appeal. Transcripts and exhibits are now provided to accused persons free of charge to facilitate the preparation of an appeal.

Case management begins when an appeal or application for leave to appeal is filed in the Registry. The appeal or leave application is listed for callover within two weeks of filing. Callovers are held fortnightly, although special callovers can be held in urgent matters. At the callover, the presiding Registrar will fix a hearing date and make directions for the filing and serving of submissions by the parties. The Registrar also manages cases that are deemed to require special attention.

Generally, three Judges hear an appeal or leave application. The Chief Justice may also direct that more than three Judges sit on an appeal or leave application, particularly in matters involving an important issue of law. In some circumstances, the Chief Justice may direct that two Judges hear an appeal against sentence. Single Judges hear sentence appeals from the Drug Court of New South Wales, and also deal with bail applications and other interlocutory applications in the Court.

Common Law Division

Case management in the Common Law Division begins when a summons or statement of claim is filed in the Registry. Each summons or statement of claim (with the exception of default matters) is given a return date before a Judge or Registrar and placed in a List. A Judge is appointed to manage each List, while the Common Law List Judge monitors all cases listed for hearing before a Judge. Registrars handle default matters administratively.

Common Law List Judge

The Common Law List Judge allocates cases listed for hearing to specific Judges. When deciding which Judge will hear a matter, the List Judge considers the type of cases, its estimated hearing length, and whether the Judge has other Court commitments. The List Judge also hears various applications in cases already listed for hearing, including all applications for adjournment. From time to time, the List Judge will issue further case management directions in cases already listed for hearing. The Common Law List Judge during 2017 was Justice Bellew.

Common Law Duty Judge

The Duty Judge is available each day to hear urgent applications, including applications for interlocutory injunctions, during and outside normal Court hours when required. Judges of the Division are rostered to act as the Duty Judge for a week at a time during Law Term. A Vacation Judge is rostered during the court vacation to perform this role.

The Duty Judge also conducts an applications list each Monday. The applications in this list cannot be determined by an Associate Judge or a Registrar and include appeals from the Local Court under the *Crimes (Local Courts Appeal and Review) Act 2001*, applications for restraining orders, applications for declaratory relief, and applications to dispense with a jury. Matters are initially listed at 9 am before a Registrar to determine whether the application is ready to proceed. The Duty Judge may specially fix applications that cannot be heard on the Monday to a later time or date.

The Duty Judge determines interlocutory applications for restraining assets and issues examination orders under the *Confiscation of Proceeds of Crime Act 1989*, *Criminal Assets Recovery Act 1990*, and *Proceeds of Crime Act 1987 (Cth)*. The Duty Judge also considers, in chambers, applications seeking authorisation of warrants, such as those made under the *Surveillance Devices Act 2007*.

Associate Judge

The Associate Judge in the Common Law Division deals with statutory appeals from the Local Court (except under the *Crimes (Local Courts Appeal and Review) Act 2001*). The Associate Judge also deals with applications for summary judgment and dismissal, applications for extension under the *Limitation Act 1969*, and contested applications to transfer matters from the District Court. The Associate Judge may deal with other matters as outlined in Schedule D of the *Supreme Court Rules 1970*.

Matters allocated to the Associate Judge's List are case managed by a Registrar daily at 9am. The Registrar refers applications to the Associate Judge when they are ready for hearing.

Lists of the Common Law Division

In addition to the above, the work of the Division is also distributed amongst a number of specialised Lists. The Chief Justice appoints a specific Judge to be responsible for the management of a List throughout the year. These Lists are set out below in alphabetical order, together with the Judge appointed to manage each List in 2017.

Specialised case management List	Judge managing List in 2017
Administrative & Industrial Law List	Justice Adamson
Criminal List	Justice Johnson
Defamation List	Justice McCallum
Possession List	Justice Davies
Professional Negligence List	Justice Harrison

Administrative & Industrial Law List

Three broad categories of cases are assigned to this list: statutory appeals arising from an error of law, or a question of law; administrative law matters commenced under section 69 of the *Supreme Court Act 1970* challenging an error of law on the face of the record or jurisdictional error, and matters under the *Industrial Relations Act 1996* that were formerly dealt with by the Industrial Court (also known as the Industrial Commission in Court Session).

The Administrative & Industrial Law List operates in accordance with the procedures outlined in Practice Note SC CL 3.

Bails List

Applications for bail or to review bail determinations can be made to the Supreme Court under the *Bail Act 1978* in respect of any person accused of any offence, even if the trial will not be heard in the Supreme Court. These applications are listed throughout the year, including during the court vacation. Common Law Division Judges are rostered on a weekly basis to determine these applications.

Criminal List

Arraignment hearings are held each month during Law Term. The aim of the arraignment procedure is to minimise the loss of available judicial time that occurs when trials are vacated after they are listed for hearing, or when a guilty plea is entered immediately prior to, or on the day of the trial's commencement.

The arraignment procedure contemplates the involvement of counsel at an early stage of the proceedings. This allows both the prosecution and defence to consider a range of issues that may provide an opportunity for an early plea of guilty, or to shorten the duration of the trial.

The procedures for arraignment are detailed in Practice Note SC CL 2.

Defamation List

Matters filed in this List after 1 January 2006 are managed in accordance with the provisions of the *Defamation Act 2005*. Matters are first listed before a Judge for directions and legal argument. The parties may also ask the Judge to consider if the dispute should be tried before a jury. If the Judge grants an application for trial by a jury, the matter will be set down for hearing. The jury will determine if the material in question is defamatory and if there is any lawful defence for publishing the material. If the jury finds that the plaintiff has been defamed without any lawful defence being established, the Judge will then determine any damages payable and resolve any outstanding issues under dispute.

Matters filed before 1 January 2006 are case managed in an identical way, but the issues considered by the jury differ slightly. In these matters, the jury is asked to consider whether the matter complained of carries the imputation alleged, and if it does, whether the imputation is defamatory.

Practice Note SC CL 4 governs the operation of this List.

General List (formerly known as the General Case Management List)

This List comprises all Common Law Division civil claims that are not included in the Administrative Law, Defamation, Professional Negligence or Possession Lists. It includes money claims, personal injury claims, claims for possession (excluding land), breach of contract, personal property damage, malicious prosecution, and claims under the *Compensation to Relatives Act 1897*. These cases are managed by a Registrar who conducts status conferences and final conferences. At the status conference, the Registrar gives directions to ensure the case is ready for hearing by the compliance date and encourages the early resolution of disputes through mediation or settlement.

The procedures associated with the running of this List are set out in Practice Note SC CL 1.

Possession List

The Possession List deals with all proceedings seeking recovery through the possession of land. The management of the List encourages early resolution of cases through mediation, other alternative dispute resolution processes or settlement. Case management is also used to clarify the real issues in dispute.

Practice Note SC CL 6 applies to cases in this List.

Professional Negligence List

Claims against medical practitioners, allied health professionals (such as dentists, chemists and physiotherapists), hospitals, solicitors and barristers are allocated to the Professional Negligence List. Specialised case management encourages parties to focus on the real issues under dispute in these types of claims. A Registrar monitors cases at regular conference hearings. Conference hearings

provide an opportunity for parties to discuss outstanding issues in the case, and provide a forum for mediation between the parties. The Professional Negligence List Judge hears applications and makes directions according to the specific needs of each matter.

Practice Note SC CL 7 applies to this List.

Equity Division

Proceedings in the Equity Division are case managed by Registrars and Judges of the Division to achieve the just, quick and cheap resolution of the real issues in dispute between the litigants. The work of the Division is administered through the General List and a number of specialised Lists.

Expedition Judge

Cases are expedited when sufficient urgency is shown. Applications for expedition are made to the Expedition Judge on Fridays. The Expedition Judge case manages all expedited cases and hears those cases when they are ready for trial. During 2016, the Expedition Judge was Justice Sackar.

Equity Duty Judge

A Judge of the Division is available at all times for urgent applications. Duty Judges are rostered in blocks of two weeks. If a matter requires an urgent final hearing, the Duty Judge will consult with the Chief Judge with regard to possible allocation of an urgent final hearing date.

General List

All cases other than those in the specialised Lists, including applications for family provision under Chapter 3 of the *Succession Act 2006* or *Family Provision Act 1982*, are entered into the General list.

Family provision applications are managed in accordance with Practice Note SC Eq 7 by the Family Provision List Judge, who also sets the cases down for hearing. Other cases in the General List are managed by the Registrar in Equity in accordance with Practice Note SC Eq 1. The Registrar sets cases down for hearing before the Judges of the Division. The Registrar consults with the Chief Judge in Equity in relation to long and/or complex matters.

Specialised Lists of the Equity Division

The Equity Division's caseload is also managed by allocating certain matters to specific Lists according to the nature of the claims. These Lists are set out below in alphabetical order, together with the Judge appointed to manage each List in 2017.

Specialised case management List	Judge managing the List in 2017
Admiralty List	Justice Rein
Adoptions List	Justice Brereton
Commercial List	Justice Hammerschlag
Commercial Arbitration List	Justice Hammerschlag
Corporations List	Justice Brereton Justice Black
Expedition List	Justice Sackar
Family Provision List	Justice Hallen
Probate List	Justice Lindsay
Protective List	Justice Lindsay
Real Property List	Justice Darke
Revenue List	Justice White
Technology and Construction List	Justice Hammerschlag

Admiralty List

The Admiralty List deals with maritime and shipping disputes. It is administered in the same manner as the Commercial List (see below).

Adoptions List

This List deals with applications for adoption orders and declarations of the validity of foreign adoptions under the *Adoptions Act 2000*. Most applications are unopposed. Once all supporting affidavits are filed, a Judge will deal with the application in the absence of the public, and without the attendance of the applicants or their lawyers. Unopposed applications require close attention for compliance with formal requirements, but there is little delay. A small number of contentious hearings take place in court in the absence of the public. Most of these relate to dispensing with consent to adoption. The Registrar in Equity deals with requests for information under the *Adoptions Act 2000*.

Commercial List

The Commercial List is concerned with cases arising out of transactions in trade or commerce. The case management strategy applied to the running of this List aims to have matters brought on for hearing quickly by:

- attending to the true issues at an early stage
- ensuring witness statements are exchanged in a timely manner
- intense monitoring of the preparation of every case.

There is also adherence to the allotted hearing dates, and hearings are continued to conclusion, even though time estimates may be exceeded.

Commercial Arbitration List

The List provides parties with a quick and effective mechanism for resolving disputes in relation to arbitration agreements, or which arise in the context of, or from, arbitral proceedings.

Disputes entered into the List arise from the context of arbitral proceedings in which the Court has prescribed jurisdiction in the *Commercial Arbitration Act 2010*, or by virtue of a provision within an arbitration agreement, or otherwise.

The Judge assigned to manage the List calls over all pending applications fortnightly, and parties to matters entered into the List are expected to comply with the provisions of Practice Note SC Eq 9.

Corporations List

A Registrar sits four days a week to hear most applications and hearings under the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) and related legislation. The Registrar may refer applications to the Judge on a Monday. The Registrar determines routine applications to wind-up companies, applications for leave to proceed against companies in liquidation (limited to personal injury actions) and applications to reinstate companies.

The Judge will give directions and monitor preparations for hearing in longer matters, as well as in other complex corporate cases. Cases managed in this List are generally given a hearing date as soon as they are ready.

Practice Note SC Eq 4 applies to cases entered into the Corporations List.

Probate List

The work performed by the Judges and the Probate Registry consists of both contentious and non-contentious cases. The Registrar and Deputy Registrars deal with the majority of non-contentious cases. This includes the granting of common form probate where applications are in order and are unopposed.

Both the Probate List Judge and the Registrars have procedures whereby some supervision is kept over executors in the filing of accounts, and ensuring beneficiaries are paid.

In court, the Registrar considers routine applications, and applications concerning accounts. Should a routine application require a decision on a matter of principle, the application is referred to the Probate List Judge.

The Probate List Judge sits once a week to deal with complex applications. If an application can be dealt with quickly, it is usually heard immediately. Others are set down for hearing, normally within a month.

Contentious matters are monitored by either a Judge or a Registrar. Contentious matters commonly include disputes as to a testator's last valid will. When these cases are ready to proceed, they are placed in the callover list to receive a hearing date before an Equity Judge.

Protective List

The work of this List is to ensure that the affairs of people deemed incapable of looking after their property, or themselves, are properly managed. The List also deals with appeals from the Guardianship Tribunal of New South Wales, along with applications (in chambers) by the New South Wales Trustee and Guardian for advice regarding the administration of estates. The Court also considers applications regarding missing persons' estates and, in certain circumstances, may order that their estate be managed under the *NSW Trustee and Guardian Act 2009*.

Often the issues under dispute in the Protective List are of a highly sensitive nature. The Court acknowledges this situation, and handles these proceedings with the minimum degree of formality.

REGIONAL SITTINGS OF THE COURT

However, when there is a dispute that cannot be solved in this way, it is decided more formally.

The Protective List Registrar sits in court one day a week. The Registrar may refer a case to be determined by the Judge without further appearance or adjourn a case into the Judge's list. A Judge sits once a week to deal with any referred cases. Most cases are considered on the Judge's usual sitting day as soon as the parties are ready. Longer cases, however, are specially fixed, usually within one month.

Real Property List

The Real Property List was established in June 2015 to manage disputes over land that the filing party seeks to resolve through equitable relief, rather than recovering a monetary sum as damages or debt under the common law. The disputes could relate to a contract for the sale of land, or issues with leases, easements, covenants or strata and community schemes. The Real Property List Judge sits weekly to manage new cases and complex interlocutory applications that have been given leave to proceed. The Registrar provides support to the List Judge by handling procedural applications for substituted service, security for costs or to set aside subpoenas and notices to produce.

Practice Note SC Eq 12 applies to cases entered into the Real Property List.

Revenue List

The Revenue List is dedicated to the hearing of taxation matters. The List was created to ensure that these matters are heard as efficiently as possible. Matters in the Revenue List are heard by a specific Equity Division Judge each month, and allocated the earliest hearing date possible before this same Judge.

Practice Note SC Eq 10 applies to cases entered into the Revenue List.

Technology and Construction List

Cases involving complex technological issues and disputes arising out of building or engineering contracts are allocated to this List. The List is managed by the same Judge and in the same manner as those in the Commercial List.

In February 2017, the Court of Appeal conducted its first sitting in Central Western New South Wales at Orange courthouse. In first instance matters, the Supreme Court conducted trials and hearings at Bathurst, Coffs Harbour, Dubbo, Grafton, Lismore, Newcastle, Port Macquarie, Orange, Tamworth, Wagga Wagga and Wollongong during 2017.

Criminal trials and civil hearings will continue to be held in venues outside Sydney as required.



ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Alternative dispute resolution is a broad term that refers to the means by which parties seek to resolve their dispute, with the assistance of a neutral person, but without a conventional contested hearing before a Judge or Associate Judge. The alternative dispute resolution method most commonly employed in Supreme Court proceedings is mediation.

Mediation

Mediation is available for most civil proceedings pursuant to Part 4 of the *Civil Procedure Act 2005*. Mediation is not available in criminal proceedings.

The role of the mediator is to assist parties in resolving their dispute by alerting them to possible solutions, while allowing the parties to choose which option is the most agreeable. The mediator does not impose a solution on the parties. Nine qualified Registrars and Deputy Registrars were certified to conduct mediations throughout 2017 at specified times each week. Alternatively, parties may use private mediators.

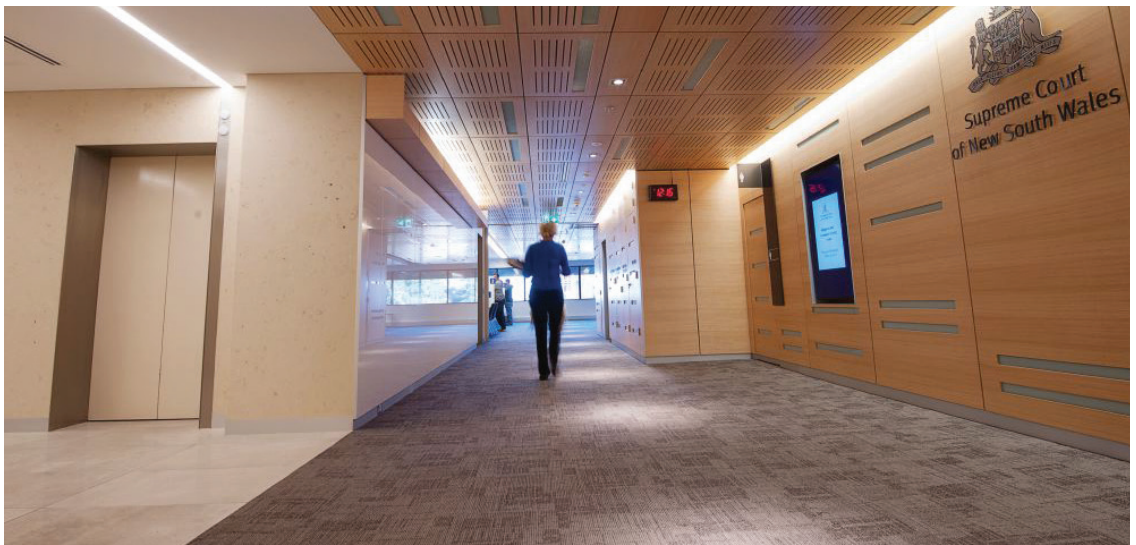
A matter may proceed to mediation at the request of the parties, or the Court may refer appropriate proceedings to mediation, with or without the consent of parties. If the Court orders that a matter

be referred to mediation, there are several ways in which a mediator may be appointed. If the parties are in agreement as to a particular mediator, they can ask the Court to appoint that mediator or they may agree to mediation by a Registrar of the Court. If parties cannot agree upon a mediator, they should attempt to agree on how the Court can appoint a qualified mediator. Some options are set out in Practice Note SC Gen 6.

Settlement of disputes by mediation is encouraged in the Court of Appeal and in the Common Law and Equity Divisions. Parties may derive the following benefits from mediation:

- an early resolution to their dispute
- lower costs
- greater flexibility in resolving the dispute as the solutions that may be explored through mediation are broader than those open to the Court's consideration in conventional litigation.

Even where mediation fails to resolve a matter entirely and the dispute proceeds to court, the impact of mediation can often become apparent at the subsequent contested hearing. Mediation often helps to define the real issues and facts in dispute and this may result in a reduction in court time and, consequently, lower legal costs.





3 COURT OPERATIONS

- Overview of operations by jurisdiction
- Timeliness
 - Measurement against benchmarks
 - Listing delays
- Use of Alternative Dispute Resolution

OVERVIEW OF OPERATIONS BY JURISDICTION *

* to be read in conjunction with Appendix (I)

Court of Appeal

The net number of new cases coming to the Court of Appeal was 354 this year. This is 11 per cent lower than the number in 2016, and 29 per cent lower than the number in 2013.

The principal sources of new cases in 2017 were: Supreme Court decisions (57 per cent) and District Court decisions (32 per cent). Over the last five years, 50-61 per cent of cases commenced each year in the Court of Appeal have come from Supreme Court decisions and 27-35 per cent have come from District Court decisions.

In 2017, of the 354 new cases, 204 were commenced by notice of appeal, 116 by summons seeking leave to appeal, and 34 by summons for the Court of Appeal to exercise its original jurisdiction.

The net number of disposals was 380 this year, which is 10 per cent lower than last year but consistent with the reduction in new cases coming to the Court of Appeal from 2014 onwards. Overall, during 2017, final disposals occurred by the following methods:

- settlement, or else non-progression to an appeal following a grant of leave to appeal – 19 per cent;
- judgment following hearing of either an appeal, an original jurisdiction summons or a concurrent hearing (a concurrent hearing enables the application for leave to appeal and, where leave is granted, the consequent appeal to be determined in a single hearing) – 62 per cent;
- refusal, striking out or other final disposal of an application for leave to appeal – 16 per cent;
- striking out or other final disposal of either an appeal or an original jurisdiction summons – three per cent.

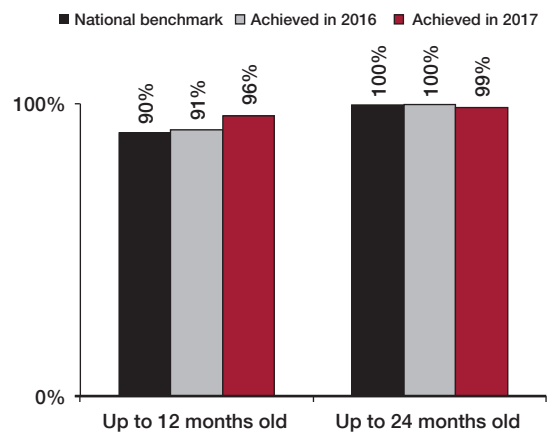
The overall Court of Appeal caseload at the end of 2017 was 184 cases, a 12 per cent reduction from the end of 2016. Of the 184 pending cases, 43 (23 per cent) were cases for which the question of leave to appeal had yet to be determined.

The age profile of the Court of Appeal's pending caseload improved further during 2017 (see

Figure 3.1). At the end of the year the proportion of pending cases within 12 months of age was 96 per cent (with the number of cases older than 12 months reducing from 18 to eight) – this well exceeds the national benchmark for that age group. One case was older than 24 months – it is an appeal that cannot progress until there is resolution of a related case in another court.

During most of 2017, the listing delay for non-urgent hearing of substantive appeals and for concurrent hearings was 2-4 months. It settled at 2.2 months for the start of the 2018 law term. Hearings for leave applications alone are listed more quickly, and the listing delay for these was 1.5 months or less throughout most of 2017, settling at 1.2 months for the start of the 2018 law term.

Figure 3.1 Court of Appeal achievements against national benchmarks for age of pending cases



Court of Criminal Appeal

The number of new cases coming to the Court of Criminal Appeal was 380 this year, five per cent higher than the number in 2016. Over the past five years, the filing rate has been relatively stable.

The principal sources of criminal appeals in 2017 were: District Court decisions (84 per cent) and Supreme Court decisions (seven per cent). Over the last five years, 79-85 per cent of criminal appeals each year have come from District Court decisions and 7-15 per cent have come from Supreme Court decisions.

The new cases in 2017 included 239 appeals against severity of sentence (of which 49 were appeals by the Crown), 92 appeals against conviction, 18 appeals against interlocutory judgments and 31 cases of other types. During 2017 no cases were returned from the High Court for re-hearing.

In 2017, conviction appeals made up 24 per cent of filings. Over the past five years, conviction appeals have made up 25 to 28 per cent of filings, except for 2016 when conviction appeals were only 20 per cent of filings. Conviction appeals are more complex and typically require longer hearings than appeals against severity of sentence only. Hearings for conviction appeals are usually at least double the length of those for severity-only appeals, and sometimes extend to a whole day or longer.

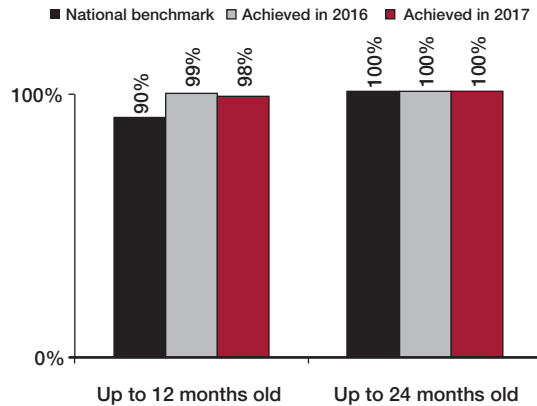
The number of disposals was 395 this year, three per cent more than the number last year. Of the 395 disposals this year, 359 were by judgment following a substantive hearing (compared with 333 during 2016), and 31 were by the appellant abandoning or withdrawing the appeal (compared with 37 during 2016).

This year, again, the number of disposals exceeded the number of filings and so, again, the pending caseload decreased – from 145 to 130 cases.

The age profile of the Court of Criminal Appeal’s pending caseload remained at an optimal level during 2017. At the end of the year, it again met or well exceeded the national benchmarks (see Figure 3.2), with only three cases older than 12 months (none of these being older than 13 months).

During 2017 the listing delay for non-urgent hearing of criminal appeals fluctuated between 0.5 and 2.5 months. It settled at 1.2 months for the start of the 2018 law term. Interlocutory appeals are listed more quickly according to their urgency.

Figure 3.2 Court of Criminal Appeal achievements against national benchmarks for age of pending cases



Common Law Division criminal cases

The Criminal List registered 112 new cases (defendants) in 2017, compared with 102 during 2016, and 118 during 2015. Of the 112 new cases registered in 2017, 84 involved homicide charges. After entry into the Criminal List, the next step usually is arraignment. The majority of defendants enter a plea of “not guilty” at arraignment, and the arraignment concludes with those cases being listed for trial. Nearly all trials are conducted with a jury.

A total of 92 defendants were given listings for trials (six being for judge-alone trials) at arraignments during 2017, with the trials set to start in either 2017 or 2018 (apart from one trial set down for early 2019, involving 3 co-accused and a hearing estimate of 23 weeks). Additionally, five defendants were listed for fitness hearings (to deal with the question of the defendant’s capacity to stand trial). Fourteen defendants were listed for sentence (following entry of the defendant’s plea of “guilty” at arraignment).

During 2017, a total of 42 pleas of “guilty” were taken, compared with 32 during 2016. Not only the number, but also the timing, of “guilty” pleas can significantly affect the operation of the Criminal List: fewer pleas of “guilty” entered at arraignment lead to more cases queuing for trials, and this has the potential to increase listing delays and thus the time

to finalise cases. In 2017 there were 14 pleas of “guilty” entered at arraignment, compared with 12 in 2016 and eight in 2015. Some defendants change their plea to “guilty” after being given a trial date – sometimes the change occurs as late as the start of, or during, the trial. When the plea is changed at a late stage it might not be possible to re-assign that trial-time to another case.

For criminal trials arraigned during the year the hearing estimates given to the Court ranged from less than one day to six months. For trials (not started or not concluded) on hand at the end of each month during 2017, the average hearing estimate was between 5.5 and 6.3 weeks.

For many years the Criminal List has used its capacity for listing three-week trials as the standard for measuring its listing delay. However, the average hearing estimate for criminal trials has increased: consequently, in November 2016, the standard reference for measuring listing delay for criminal trials became the four-week trial. At the first arraignments of the 2018 law term, the listing delay was 5.5 months for criminal trials requiring at least four weeks of trial time. The listing delay for criminal trials can vary during the year, especially when several long trials are listed simultaneously, when long trials must be vacated and re-listed, or when defendants plead guilty after their trial has been set or started.

Trials for 86 defendants were listed to start during 2017. For seven of those defendants the trial either collapsed or was adjourned (this happened for 11 defendants during 2016 and for 10 defendants during 2015). Re-starting or re-listing trials following collapse or adjournment reduces the Court’s capacity to deal with its backlog of cases.

For the twelfth consecutive year no trial was “not reached” (a situation where the Court, rather than the parties, cannot start a listed trial). Over-listing of criminal trials occurs in a very limited form. With over-listing there is some risk of “not reaching” a listed trial. Additionally, trials that run longer than their estimated hearing time can jeopardise the scheduled start of other listed trials. The Court is aware of the financial impact for the various publicly funded agencies involved in the criminal justice

system, and of the emotional and financial impact for the family of victims and for witnesses, when trials are delayed. It is a high priority for the Court to allocate its resources so that every criminal trial can start on its listed day.

During 2017, a total of 105 defendants’ cases were finalised, compared with 105 during 2016 and 88 during 2015. The Court prepared and handed down 77 sentences during 2017, compared with 75 during 2016 and 61 during 2015.

By the end of 2017, there were 119 defendants with cases pending in the Criminal List, an increase of six per cent from the position at the end of 2016 (112 defendants). The variation in the number of filings and the number of disposals from year to year can cause large changes, on a percentage basis, in the pending caseload from year to year.

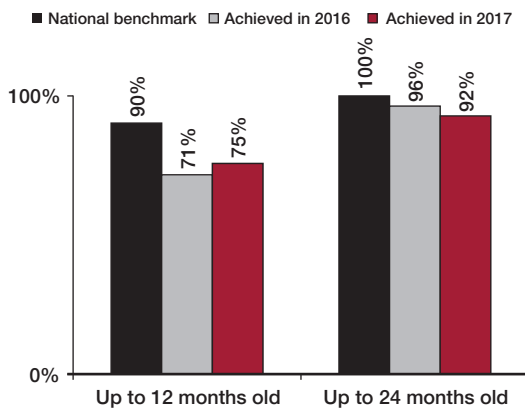
With the relatively low number of cases in this resource-intensive list, the age profile can also show some volatility. The age profile for pending cases in the Criminal List improved during 2017 (see Figure 3.3) with respect to the number of cases older than 12 months (decreased from 32 to 30), although the number of cases older than 24 months increased from five to 10. Every Criminal List case that was older than 24 months at the end of 2017 had been delayed at least once by the need to either re-start or re-list the defendant’s trial – that need could arise from a hung jury, a collapsed trial or late emergence of the need to grant separate trials to co-accused defendants – and most involved long hearing estimates. Access to acting judges is invaluable in maintaining an acceptable age profile for the Criminal List, as the only alternative would be to take permanently appointed judges away from other areas of work.

When evaluating the Court’s performance against the national benchmarks it is important to note that almost all indictments presented to this Court are for offences of murder or manslaughter, or otherwise have the potential for a life sentence to be imposed. In contrast, the criminal lists of most other Australian supreme courts deal routinely with a broader range of charges that includes shorter maximum sentences. The national timeliness benchmark of 12 months from committal to

sentencing is therefore a challenging target for this Court. Additionally, the relatively small size of the List allows just a few cases to make statistically significant changes to percentages within that caseload, and those percentages are then compared with the national benchmarks.

The Bails List received applications from a total of 3,953 applicants during 2017, just one per cent fewer than in 2016 (3,996). The number of disposals also decreased very slightly - by less than one per cent, from 3,991 to 3,984. Because disposals exceeded lodgments during the year, the pending caseload has reduced (from 742 at the end of 2016 to 707 at the end of 2017). The listing delay for Bails List hearings has improved slightly: for publicly aided adults it decreased from 9 weeks (at the start of 2017) to 7 weeks by the start of the 2018 law term. The listing delay is longer than ideal. While the Court allocates extra judges to the Bails List from time to time to reduce the delay, the effectiveness of this strategy is limited by the capacity of other justice agencies that are vital participants in the operation of the Bails List. Juveniles' applications are given priority and are listed within 2 weeks.

Figure 3.3 Criminal List achievements against national benchmarks for age of pending cases



Common Law Division civil cases

The civil work of the Common Law Division can be separated into two broad groups: contested or defended cases (these require case-management and include the specialised case-management lists) and cases requiring no case-management (such as uncontested cases proceeding to default judgment, and the miscellaneous applications dealt with administratively by registrars and registry officers).

Overall, there were 3,163 civil filings in the Division during 2017, a decrease of less than two per cent from the number in 2016 (3,216). Again, the principal area of reduction was the Possession List (where typically around 94 per cent of cases are uncontested). Filings also decreased in the Defamation List and the Administrative Law List. Filings increased in all other lists.

During 2017 the disposal rate was six per cent lower than in 2016. This was principally due to the ongoing reduction in work for the Possession List, but there were decreases in disposals in all case-managed lists except for the Defamation List. The total of 3,111 disposals included 1,240 contested cases, of which 406 had been listed for at least one hearing. The remaining 1,871 disposals were uncontested cases: apart from the 503 disposals of miscellaneous applications, there were 654 uncontested cases dismissed for inactivity and 466 finalised by default judgment. During 2017 the registry received a total of 576 applications for default judgment, of which 99 per cent were either granted or requisitioned within five working days.

The number of pending cases in the Common Law Division increased by two per cent during 2017 (see Figure 3.4). The contested caseload increased by nearly three per cent from 1,694 to 1,742. The uncontested caseload increased by less than two per cent from 899 to 913.

The JusticeLink system is used to report the age of pending civil cases (see Figure 3.5). The national benchmark measures are set by the Productivity Commission's *Report on Government Services*. Inactive cases that should have been closed were present in the caseload up until the end of 2014. Consequently, the appropriate point from which to measure changes in the age profile of the real

workload is from the end of 2014 onwards. During 2017, the proportion of the Division's civil caseload within 12 months of age reduced slightly from 68 per cent to 67 per cent, and the proportion within 24 months of age also reduced slightly from 85 per cent to 84 per cent. Over the year, the number of cases on hand and older than 24 months increased from 388 to 412.

During 2017, the listing delay for non-urgent hearing of Common Law Division civil cases that required five days of hearing time fluctuated between four and nine months. For the start of the 2017 law term, the listing delay had settled at 2.8 months for two-day hearings, seven months for five-day hearings, and seven months for ten-day hearings. Civil hearings comprise just one area of work covered by the judges of Common Law Division (see the section "Listing Delays" later in this chapter) and the task of balancing the limited judicial resources between all areas of the Division is challenging.

During the year, 1,008 matters were listed for a hearing of either the substantive issues or lengthy interlocutory issues (see Figure 3.6). Of those listed matters, 589 proceeded to a hearing, 324 settled after being listed for hearing and 93 successfully applied to vacate the hearing listing. This information is collated independently of the JusticeLink system.

So that available judicial time is used optimally, the Common Law Division's civil hearings are over-listed. This carries a risk that some cases may be "not reached". During 2017, there were two listed cases that were "not reached". Since 2007 the Division has maintained a "not reached" rate of one per cent or less.

Figure 3.4 Common Law Division pending civil caseloads at 31 December

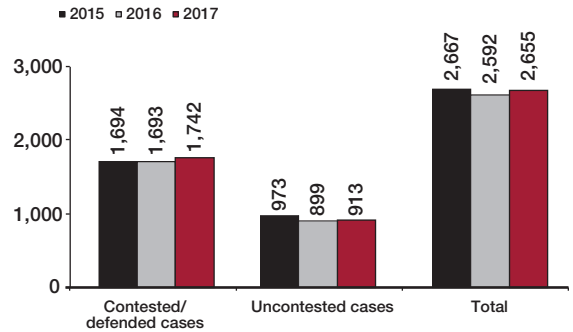


Figure 3.5 Common Law Division civil lists – achievements against national benchmarks for age of pending cases

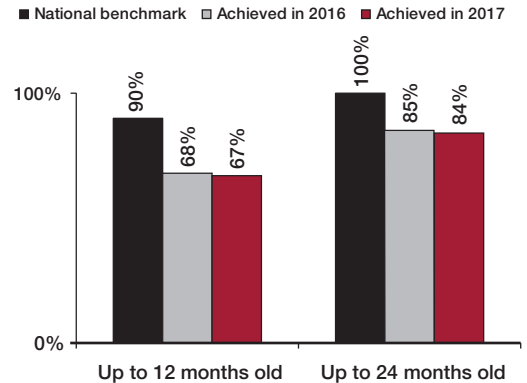
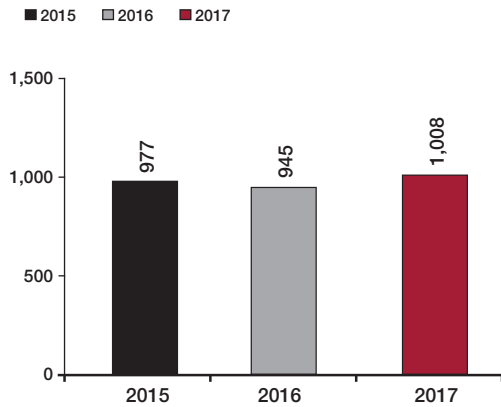


Figure 3.6 Listings for hearing – common law civil hearings



Equity Division

The following analysis of the operational trends within the Equity Division does not include uncontested probate cases. The volume of uncontested probate cases is so large that, if included, it would mask the important trends for all other cases in the Equity Division. Uncontested probate cases are discussed separately at the end of this section.

Overall, there were 4,147 filings in the Division during 2017, a decrease of two per cent from the number in 2016 (4,220). The most significant reductions were in the Registrar's component of the Corporations List (a high-volume list where typically over 80 per cent of cases are case-managed and finalised by the Registrar in Equity, without requiring any listing before a judge) and the family provision cases. There was also a reduction in filings in the Revenue List. Filings were unchanged or increased in every other area of work. The Judges' component of the Corporations List showed the largest increase in filings.

Overall, the disposal rate for the Division was eight per cent lower in 2017 than in 2016 – the areas showing reduced disposals were the Corporations List (the Registrar's component), the Commercial

List and the Equity General List (within the family provision cases and, as a group, the other cases). Auditing of inactive Equity Division cases continued into early 2016 and will have contributed slightly to the difference in disposal rates between 2016 and 2017.

Overall, the number of pending cases in the Equity Division increased by seven per cent during 2017 (see Figure 3.7). The largest increases were in the caseloads for family provision cases and for contentious matters of the Probate List. The only lists showing reduced caseloads were the Commercial List, the Revenue List and the Registrar's component of the Corporations List.

The JusticeLink system is used to report the age of pending civil cases (see Figure 3.8). The national benchmark measures are set by the *Productivity Commission's Report on Government Services*. The age profile of the Equity Division's pending caseload showed significant improvement during 2014, when auditing enabled a large number of inactive cases to be finally closed. Auditing continued through to early 2016 but resulted in only a small number of case closures during 2015 and 2016. The age profile of Equity Division cases at the end of December 2017 is shown at Figure 3.8. During 2017, the proportion of the Division's caseload within 12 months of age reduced from 71 per cent to 69 per cent, and the proportion within 24 months of age remained stable at 89 per cent. Over the year, the number of cases on hand and older than 24 months increased from 305 to 338.

During 2017, for two-day hearings of non-urgent General List or Probate List cases, the listing delay ranged between 1 and 6 months. By the start of the 2018 law term the listing delay had settled at 4.5 months for two-day hearings, 5.2 months for five-day hearings and 6.3 months for ten-day hearings. Some judges of the Equity Division have been assigned for short periods to hear cases in other areas of the Court so that listing delays are managed across all areas of work.

The JusticeLink system does not provide reliable reports regarding the outcomes of matters listed for hearing, and there are no manually maintained statistics, so hearing rates and settlement rates cannot be reported. Since 2014 the Equity Division has over-listed hearings to a small extent, and no case has been recorded as “not reached”.

Uncontested probate applications are handled by the Court’s registrars – these applications are for a grant of probate, a grant of letters of administration, or a re-seal (of a probate granted elsewhere). During 2017, a total of 27,294 applications were filed (an increase of four per cent over the number filed during 2016). If an application meets all procedural requirements when lodged, a grant will be made on initial processing. During 2017 the waiting time for initial processing of grant applications was seven working days or less, settling at five working days by the start of the 2018 law term.

Figure 3.7 Equity Division pending civil caseloads at 31 December

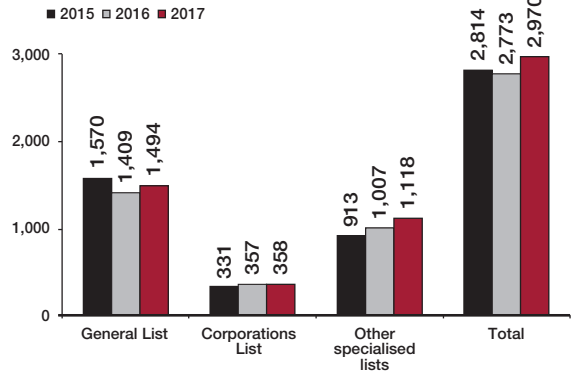
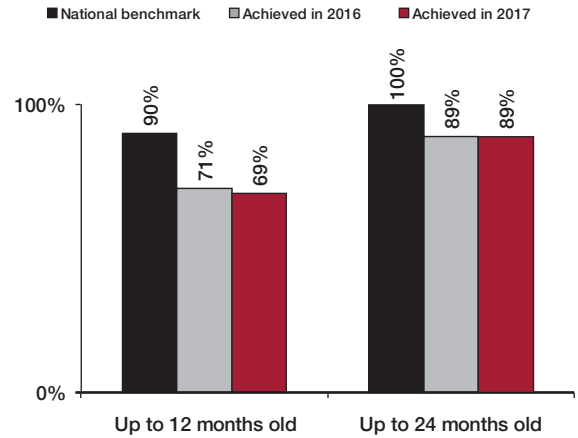


Figure 3.8 Equity Division - achievements against national benchmarks for age of pending cases



TIMELINESS

Measurement against benchmarks

The Court's performance in dealing with cases in a timely way is reported in terms of the age of the pending caseload. Measurement of the age distribution within a pending caseload helps the Court to assess more quickly whether delay reduction strategies are successful and to identify areas where further case management would be beneficial.

Courts and other organisations may use different methods to measure the age of cases or the timeliness of case handling, and this can produce statistics that are not necessarily comparable. To cite criminal cases as an example, some courts report performance by measuring the time between committal and the commencement of trial, while the Australian Bureau of Statistics produces national statistics that measure the time from committal to either acquittal or sentencing. The information in Appendix (I) concerning age of pending cases uses the same definitions of commencement and finalisation as are used by Productivity Commission in its *Report on Government Services*.

Appendix (I) shows the position this Court reached at 31 December for each reported year with regard to the age of its pending caseload. For criminal matters (including criminal appeals) the method of measurement aligns fully with the method used by the Productivity Commission's *Report on Government Services*. For the Court of Appeal, the reporting here is also aligned with the methods used by the Productivity Commission but is confined to those cases lodged in the Court of Appeal (whereas the Productivity Commission's figures cover all civil cases that are appellate in nature, not just those lodged in the Court of Appeal). For civil cases in the Common Law and Equity Divisions, the Court's reporting differs from the Productivity Commission's methods: firstly, the Court reports separately for each Division; secondly, for cases that are appellate in nature but heard in the Common Law or Equity Division, the Court reports those cases within the appropriate Division and not in combination with Court of Appeal cases; and thirdly, the Court's

reports include all pending cases, whereas the Productivity Commission's counting rules allow for exclusion of some particular case types and pending cases that have been inactive for at least 12 months.

Appendix (I) allows comparison of the Court's position with the national benchmarks for "backlogs" as set by the Productivity Commission. Those benchmarks are applicable to Australia's supreme courts and district/county courts, regardless of the case-mix of those courts. With regard to criminal non-appeal cases, the range of charges routinely brought in criminal lists of supreme courts varies across the country. This Court hears only criminal cases involving charges of murder or manslaughter or where there is otherwise the potential for a life sentence to be imposed; for such cases a 12-month timeframe from committal to sentencing is challenging. With regard to civil non-appeal cases, it is worth noting that every supreme court in the country has difficulty meeting the backlog benchmarks (see Table 7A.18 of the latest *Report on Government Services* published by the Productivity Commission).

This is the eighth year of reporting the size and age profile of the civil caseloads of the Common Law and Equity Divisions using data extracted from the NSW courts' case information system, JusticeLink. The extraction of data was continually refined from 2009 through to 2012, at which point the Court obtained reports that were better able to identify inactive civil cases. From 2012 to 2016 the Court audited its civil caseload to identify the many inactive cases that had accumulated since 2009. Auditing of backlogs was substantially completed for the Common Law Division by the end of 2014, and for the Equity Division by early 2016. We estimate nearly 5,000 inactive civil cases were closed as a result of that auditing, which should be taken into account when analysing the changes in size and age profile of the Court's civil caseload since 2010. The Court continues to routinely audit its caseload to identify inactive cases that should be dismissed or closed.

Listing delays

The reported listing delays indicate the timeliness with which the Court can allocate non-urgent hearings for various types of cases that have been assessed as ready for hearing, providing the parties are willing to select from the first available group of hearing dates offered by the Court. Listing delays change during the year and updated information is published daily in the court list.

The table of listing delays in Appendix (I) shows the listing delays that applied at the start of the new law term following the close of the reporting year. The listing delays refer to hearing-time requirements that are considered representative or typical of the various areas of the Court, as explained in the footnotes to the table. This standardised measurement of listing delays, in contrast to measurement of the age of pending cases or case finalisation times, focuses on the Court's management of its own resources to deliver timely hearings. It is distinct from other factors that lengthen case finalisation time, such as delays in serving court documents, delays caused by the need to join additional parties to proceedings, time taken up with interlocutory issues or appeals, time needed for parties to prepare their evidence, time that elapses while parties attempt mediation, and the delays caused when parties request a trial date that is later than the first available. During 2016, the representative hearing-time requirement for Criminal List cases was changed: formerly it was a three-week trial but now it is a four-week trial.

For the representative hearing lengths described in Appendix (I), over the 12 months leading up to the start of law term 2018:

- Court of Criminal Appeal hearing delays improved slightly to 1.2 months
- Court of Appeal hearing delays lengthened to 2.2 months (from the aberrantly short hearing delay 12 months earlier);
- criminal trial listing delays improved to 5.5 months;
- Bails List hearing delays improved to seven weeks;
- Common Law Division civil hearing delays improved slightly to seven months; and
- Equity Division civil hearing delays improved to 4.5 months.

The listing delays for the Court of Appeal and Court of Criminal Appeal are at optimal levels. Temporary re-allocation of judicial time is being considered to address listing delays that are of concern in other areas of work.

The Common Law Division over-lists its civil cases for hearing. In 2017, two of its listed hearings were "not reached" (a situation where the parties are ready to proceed but the Court is unable to provide a judge for the hearing). There are 23 permanently appointed judges currently assigned to the Common Law Division – not only do they hear the criminal and civil trials of the Division, but also they preside over the Bails List and are the principal judicial resource for the Court of Criminal Appeal. The task of appropriately balancing and re-balancing the allocation of Common Law Division judges to these four areas of work is challenging. Without access to acting judges, the listing delays across the Common Law Division would have been more difficult to balance, and longer delays would have been likely in one or more areas across the Court.

USE OF ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

The Supreme Court supports mediation as a method of alternative dispute resolution for Supreme Court civil proceedings. Litigants in any contested civil case (including appeals) can consider using mediation. Mediation is generally inapplicable for cases where no defendant contests the claim and in applications for an uncontested grant of probate, for adoption of children, for winding-up of companies, for recovery of proceeds of crime and for the miscellaneous applications where only administrative processing is required. For other civil cases mediation is considered generally applicable, although individual cases may have circumstances that make mediation inadvisable or inappropriate.

Since 2014, in addition to its long-standing court-annexed mediation program, judicial settlement conferences have been used in family provision cases where the estate is valued at less than \$500,000 or where the parties jointly request one. These conferences are conducted by Justice Hallen and are timed to occur at an early stage of case management with a view to achieving settlement as soon as possible so as to minimise litigation costs. The judicial settlement conferences have reduced the number of cases going to the court-annexed mediation program, and need to be taken into account when interpreting statistics concerning the Court's use of mediation, both court-annexed and overall.

In 2017, the registry recorded a total number of 943 referrals to mediation (court-annexed or private), which was a 17 per cent increase from the 2016 total of 806 referrals. The number of court-annexed mediation listings (which are conducted by the Court's registrars) decreased from 615 in 2016 to 571 in 2017, so the increase in the total referrals arises from increased referrals to private mediators. It is possible that the total number of referrals does not fully include the use of private mediation because it is not essential for litigants to obtain a formal referral for mediation to use private mediation, nor (where no referral order has been made) to disclose to the Court that private mediation has been used.

During 2017, an estimated 4,536 civil cases were filed that were of types for which mediation was considered generally applicable. This is a decrease of three per cent from the estimated 4,654 cases filed during 2016.

The "mediation referral index" is the total number of cases referred for mediation in a given year, expressed as a percentage of the total number of cases commenced (in that year) that are of types where mediation is considered to be generally applicable. For 2017 the mediation referral index was 20.8 per cent, up from 17.3 per cent for 2016. The introduction, in 2014, of judicial settlement conferences has reduced the proportion of family provision cases that proceed to mediation, and caused an appreciable reduction in the mediation referral index.

There were 571 cases listed for court-annexed mediation in 2017 (seven per cent fewer than in 2016), and 561 court-annexed mediation sessions were held. Court-annexed mediations are conducted by those Supreme Court registrars who are additionally qualified as mediators. The court-annexed mediation settlement rate was 46 per cent during 2017. The Court has a stringent convention for recording cases as "settled at mediation": the parties must have agreed to finalising orders (or drafted heads of agreement) by the close of the mediation procedure. An additional 26 per cent of cases were recorded as "still negotiating" at the close of the mediation session, and many of those cases are likely to have settled subsequently. If parties agree to settle their dispute at any time after the close of the mediation session, those settlements are not recorded as "settled at mediation" even though the mediation procedure may have been fundamental to the parties eventually reaching settlement. The statistics for the court-annexed mediation program are collated independently of the JusticeLink system, where the data is not sufficiently reliable for this purpose. There are no statistics on settlement rates for cases referred to private mediators.

The waiting time during 2017 for a non-urgent court-annexed mediation session ranged between two and eight weeks, but was 3-6 weeks for most of the year. The waiting time settled at two weeks for the start of the 2018 law term. Where the Court orders an expedited court-annexed mediation, the waiting time does not apply. The waiting time can change during the year, and updated information is published daily in the court list.

Use of arbitration for Supreme Court cases is possible but now extremely rare. The most recent referral to arbitration occurred in 2006 (one referral only in that year). Arbitration of Supreme Court cases declined following re-distribution of work among the State's courts. The types of cases that typically had been referred to arbitration no longer come to the Supreme Court.





4 EDUCATION AND PUBLIC INFORMATION

- Judicial officer education (information supplied by the Judicial Commission of New South Wales)
- Public education programme
- The role of the Media Manager

JUDICIAL OFFICER EDUCATION

Many judicial officers updated and developed their skills and knowledge during the year by attending conferences, seminars and workshops. Some of the programs are tailored specifically to the Court's needs, while others target the wider legal community. An overview of some of the educational activities completed during 2017 appears below. For a more comprehensive list of activities, please refer to Appendix (III): Other Judicial Activity.

Domestic judicial education activities undertaken in 2017

During 2017, judges attended 103.5 days of face-to-face judicial education organised by the Judicial Commission, an average of 2.3 days of judicial education per judge. Participants are asked to rate the practical value of each education event to their role as a judge. The overall ratings in 2017 (from an average response rate of 59%) reveal that judges find the Supreme Court's education program relevant and a useful source of knowledge and ideas, while 89% of participants said that the education program was applicable to their day to day work.

In June, thirteen Supreme Court judges attended a twilight Seminar on 'Using JIRS Effectively' conducted by Hugh Donnelly, Director, Research and Sentencing at the Judicial Commission. This was an instructional session on how to use the Judicial Information Research System (JIRS) effectually. This session provided quick tips on how best to find the law by accessing either primary or secondary material and was also open to associates to assist with research.

The Court's Annual Conference, held in August, included sessions on statutory wills, developments in criminal law, vicarious liability, liability of public authorities and soft law, the pre-judicature equity jurisdiction in New South Wales, and duty of care. Forty Supreme Court judges and the Principal Registrar attended.

In October, three Supreme Court judges attended a tour of the Forensic Hospital in Malabar. This session provided a unique opportunity to understand both how the hospital operates and the work of the wider Forensic Mental Health Network. It offered an overview of the Forensic Hospital, who is housed there and the nature of assessments, care and treatment given. The tour highlighted the different areas of the hospital with the aim to provide judges with a clearer picture about available treatment facilities and processes for forensic patients.

The National Judicial Orientation Program was held in Manly, New South Wales and was attended by two Supreme Court judges in October. This five-day orientation program assists newly appointed judicial officers with their transition to judicial office by facilitating the development and refinement of the skills and knowledge necessary for effective judging. It is conducted by the National Judicial College of Australia with the assistance of the Judicial Commission of New South Wales, the Australian Institute of Judicial Administration and the Judicial College of Victoria.

In November, twenty-one judges from the Supreme Court attended a seminar on 'Motor Accidents Legislation presented by Mr Andrew Stone SC. This session covered the proposed changes to the Motor Accident Injuries Act 2017. More specifically, topics included were: the new statutory benefits regime (treatment and wage loss); 'minor injury' threshold at 6 months; dispute resolution regime within the statutory benefits scheme; what is still recoverable as damages; which matters will still proceed to the District Court for determination; what administrative appeals are likely to arise; what role for lawyers; and CTP Assist: regulated costs and unregulated costs.

The Ngara Yura Committee presented various programs throughout the year:

- In March, four Supreme Court judges attended a private screening of the film 'Motor Kite Dreaming'. This event involved a specially edited screening of Motor kite Dreaming with special commentary by Ngarrindjerri man Carroll Karpany and the Director of the film, Charlie Hill-Smith who were able to provide insights from behind the scenes about the significance of songlines.
- In October, four judges attended a seminar conducted jointly with the Bar Association and Law Society on the Uluru Statement from the Heart, a statement with two broad objectives, for reform as agreed to by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders at the First Nations National Constitutional Convention—the establishment of a First Nations Voice and a Makarrata Commission. This session provided an explanation of the history and process that led to the Convention in Central Australia in 2017 resulting in the Uluru Statement from the Heart while also providing the profession with information on specifically what they seek in constitutional reform – the 10 Guiding Principles. This session also identified significant precedents for self-determination and explained potential ways in which a Makarrata Commission could supervise a process of agreement between governments toward future reconciliation.

There were a number of cross jurisdictional programs throughout the year. These programs facilitate discussion about topical issues and provide opportunities for exchanging ideas between members of different courts focusing on informing the NSW judiciary about changes in legislation and practice and procedure. The following programs were attended by Supreme Court judges:

- In May, six judicial officers of the Supreme court attended a seminar on 'Reforming the Justice System: the Alchemy of Data, Leadership and Synergy' presented by Justice Rebecca Love Kourlis, who served Colorado's judiciary for nearly two decades, first as a trial court judge and then as a justice of the Colorado Supreme Court and is the Executive Director of the Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System (IAALS). She served Colorado's judiciary for nearly two decades, first as a trial court judge and then as a justice of the Colorado Supreme Court. In this program, Justice Love Kourlis shared some of the research and analysis of IAALS including studies on judicial evaluation.
- Also in May, six judges attended a session on 'Accommodating Muslims in Court' presented by Dr Ghena Krayem, senior lecturer at the University of Sydney Law School who has co-authored a book titled 'Accommodating Muslims under Common Law'. Based on themes present in her book, this session provided insights and the opportunity for open discussion into the relationship between sharia law within western common law legal traditions and the role of the judiciary. This was also useful to gain a better understanding of cultural sensitivities to take into consideration during court proceedings.

PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAMME

Throughout 2017, the Court's Registrars continued to address secondary school students and community groups regarding the Court's jurisdiction and daily operations. However, towards the end of the year, the Chief Justice and the Attorney launched a new self-guided tour mobile app that will replace these formal talks. The free app guides visitors through a specially selected route highlighting the most legally and visually significant aspects of the Law Courts Building in addition to educational insights into the Supreme Court's work. It allows visitors an opportunity to visit the Court at times that suit their needs while ensuring they are equipped with information necessary to independently orient themselves within the Building and confidently undertake courtroom observation.

On Sunday, 5 November 2017, the Court also participated in Sydney Living Museum's popular "Sydney Open" event in 2017, throwing the doors to the King Street Court Complex open to members of the public interested in both its rich legal, but also architectural, history.

THE ROLE OF THE MEDIA MANAGER

The Court's Media Manager (MM) is the principal media spokesperson for the superior NSW courts and provides a professional court-media liaison service. The major role of the position is to provide the media with information about court proceedings in the Supreme Court, the Land & Environment Court (LEC) and the Industrial Relations Commission (IRC). The MM works with the media to ensure that judicial decisions are correctly reported to the community and promotes initiatives taken by the courts to enhance access to justice. The MM is also responsible for ensuring that media outlets are alert to any non-publication and suppression orders issued in proceedings, and that they are familiar with the terms and impacts of these orders. This is important because the media's failure to acknowledge or adhere to such orders in their coverage could compromise proceedings.

During 2017, the MM completed 5,546 requests for information. Of these:

- 93 per cent related to Supreme Court matters
- 7 per cent related to the LEC, IRC and other courts and tribunals.

The total number of requests for information handled in 2017 was marginally lower than usual due, in part, to the effects of the flooding of the Supreme Court's principal registry in Queens Square. For a period of some six weeks, journalists were asked, in general, to limit requests if possible, and file access requests were completely suspended.

Sydney metropolitan journalists from major newspapers and radio and TV stations remained the major users of MM services, accounting for 74 per cent of requests in 2017. Just over nine per cent of users were from NSW regional newspapers, radio and TV stations, and less than one per cent was from suburban Sydney newspapers. The remaining 16 per cent of inquiries were from interstate or overseas journalists, writers for specialist/trade publications, authors, lawyers, students or members of the public.

During the reporting year, the MM received 14 media applications to film criminal sentences under the broadcasting judgments legislation, which includes a presumption in favour of permitting recording and broadcast of judgment remarks that determine proceedings. All 14 filming requests were granted.

In addition to reactive work, the MM undertook proactive tasks such as organising media interviews for the Chief Justice to mark his 40 years in the legal profession, and the elevation of Justice Julie Ward to the Head of Equity. The MM continued to assist with the Supreme Court's social media activity, attended and presented at the national Court Media Officers Conference, and drafted communications relating to the Law Courts Building shutdown following the flooding incident.



5 OTHER ASPECTS OF THE COURT'S WORK

- Uniform Civil Procedure Rules
- Law Courts Library
- Admission to the legal profession and appointment of Public Notaries
- Admission under the mutual recognition Acts
- Administration of the Costs Assessment Scheme
- Pro Bono Scheme
- Judicial Assistance Program

UNIFORM CIVIL PROCEDURE RULES

The *Civil Procedure Act 2005* and Uniform Civil Procedure Rules 2005 commenced operation in 2005. The Uniform Rules Committee was established under sections 8 and Schedule 2 of the Act. The Chief Justice (who acts as chair) and the President of the Court of Appeal are ex-officio members of the Committee. The other Supreme Court representatives on the Committee during Justice Adamson and Justice Lindsay. As well as considering amendments to the Rules the Uniform Rules Committee approves forms for use in civil proceedings under section 17 of the Act.



LAW COURTS LIBRARY

The Law Courts Library is one of the premier law libraries in Australia; its collection predates the formation of the Supreme Court in 1824. The Library is a legal resource and information centre for all judicial officers, court staff and registrars in the Law Courts Building.

Legal authorities and accurate information are provided to support the timely and effective decision making of the courts. In 2017, librarians answered more than 1600 requests from the Supreme Court, and around 3,900 legal resources were borrowed. Law Courts Library reader services librarians continued to provide support for court use of online resources and e-publications on iPads and other mobile devices.

In addition, 2,474 Supreme Court (including Court of Appeal and Court of Criminal Appeal) decisions were published on the NSW Caselaw website during 2017, which is managed and supported by the Library.

The NSW Department of Justice and the Federal Court of Australia jointly fund the Law Courts Library. The operations of the Library are overseen by the Library Advisory Committee, consisting of three Judges from the Federal Court of Australia and three Judges from the Supreme Court of NSW.

The Committee provides advice on matters of collection development and service provision.

During 2017, the Supreme Court representatives on the Advisory Committee were:

- The Honourable Justice Basten
- The Honourable Justice Macfarlan
- The Honourable Acting Justice Emmett

ADMISSION TO THE LEGAL PROFESSION AND APPOINTMENT OF PUBLIC NOTARIES

The Legal Profession Admission Board is responsible for:

- determining the eligibility and suitability of people seeking to be admitted as a lawyer in NSW
- accrediting academic law courses and practical legal training courses in NSW
- registering, enrolling and examining students in the Board's own Diploma in Law course
- appointing public notaries in NSW, and
- maintaining the Roll of Lawyers and the Roll of Public Notaries in NSW.

Constituted by the *Legal Profession Uniform Law Application Act 2014*, the Board is a self-funding statutory corporation. Membership of the Board comprises:

- the Chief Justice of NSW
- three Judges of the Supreme Court nominated by the Chief Justice
- a nominee of the Attorney General
- nominees of the Committee of NSW Law Deans, the Bar Council, and the Law Society Council.

During 2017, the members of the Board were:

- The Honourable the Chief Justice Bathurst
- The Honourable Acting Justice Emmett (Deputy Chair)
- The Honourable Justice Payne
- The Honourable Justice Lindsay
- Mr Garry McGrath SC
- Ms Margaret Allars SC
- Mr Charles Cawley
- Mr John Dobson
- Professor Lesley Hitchens (Dean of Law, University of Technology, Sydney)
- Professor Michael Adams (Dean of Law, University of Western Sydney)
- Dr Jacob Campbell

A detailed account of the Board's activities and achievements can be found in its Annual Report, which is available for download from www.lpab.justice.nsw.gov.au

ADMISSION UNDER THE MUTUAL RECOGNITION ACTS

The Registry liaises with the Legal Profession Admission Board in performing the task of managing applications from legal practitioners for admission under the mutual recognition Acts: from New Zealand legal practitioners under the *Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Act 1997*, and from Australian legal practitioners from other States and Territories under the *Mutual Recognition Act 1992*.

In 2017, 58 New Zealand practitioners were enrolled under the *Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Act*. In comparison, there were 76 Trans-Tasman admissions in 2016 and 54 in 2015.

The number of Australian legal practitioners enrolled under the *Mutual Recognition Act 1992* remains negligible after legislative changes to allow most lawyers to practise seamlessly throughout Australia.



ADMINISTRATION OF THE COSTS ASSESSMENT SCHEME

The Costs Assessment Scheme is the mechanism through which clients and practitioners can resolve disputes about costs, and also quantify costs orders made by a NSW court or tribunal. The Scheme's processes are governed by the NSW legal profession legislation in force when the litigation in which the costs dispute arose commenced, or the costs order was made, commenced.

The Chief Justice appoints independent Costs Assessors to determine applications for costs assessment and review. All Costs Assessors are legally qualified and must have been a practising Australian lawyer for at least 5 years to be considered eligible for appointment.

The Costs Assessment section of the Registry undertakes the day-to-day administration of the Scheme under the guidance of the Manager, Costs Assessment.

During 2017, 1,308 costs assessment applications were lodged. Of these, 605 (46 per cent) related to costs between parties to costs orders; 162 (12 per cent) were brought by clients against practitioners, and 396 (30 per cent) were brought by practitioners to recover against clients. There were 145 reviews (11 per cent), 144 of which were filed by the parties to the original assessment, and one of which was commenced by the Manager, Costs Assessment.

The review process is undertaken by a review panel comprising two senior assessors. The review panel generally considers the material before the assessor and can affirm or vary the original assessment. If the application is made under the *Legal Profession Act 2004* (LPA) a costs assessment determination can be appealed to the District Court as of right on questions of law and otherwise by leave. Although now repealed, the LPA still applies to assessments where the matter in which the costs order was obtained was commenced before 1 July 2015 or where first instructions from a client were given before 1 July 2015.

The *Legal Profession Uniform Law Application Act 2014* (as amended) incorporates the recommendations of the Chief Justices' Review concerning reviews. For matters falling under the new legislation, an appeal is now to the District Court, but only with leave if the amount in dispute is less than \$25,000 or to the Supreme Court but only with leave if the amount in dispute is less than \$100,000.

The Chief Justice appoints the Costs Assessment Rules Committee (CARC). Since 1 July 2015, with the commencement of the Application Act, CARC was reconstituted in the legislation to include a Supreme Court Judge, a District Court Judge, a nominee of Office of Legal Services Commissioner and of both NSW Law Society and NSW Bar Association as well as representative Costs Assessors. The CARC is chaired by The Honourable Justice Paul Brereton AM RFD.

The Costs Assessment User Group meets as necessary to discuss issues on costs assessment from a user's perspective. The User Group met regularly during 2017 to finalise updates to application forms required to accommodate the uniform legislation along with updated practice guidelines for decision makers and prospective costs applicants and respondents.

PRO BONO SCHEME

The Court established the Pro Bono Scheme with support from the New South Wales Bar Association and Law Society of New South Wales in 2001.

The Scheme operates in accordance with Part 7 Division 9 of the Uniform Civil Procedure Rules 2005 and enables unrepresented litigants to be referred to a barrister and/or solicitor once the Court determines they are deserving of assistance.

During 2017, the Court made 33 referrals under the Scheme: eight referrals were made in Court of Appeal cases, and 25 referrals were made by Judges across the Common Law and Equity Divisions. The Scheme's success depends upon the continued goodwill of barristers and solicitors who have indicated a willingness to participate in the Scheme. The Court gratefully acknowledges and extends its sincere thanks to those who support the scheme by volunteering their services.

JUDICIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

A Judicial Assistance Program was launched to help New South Wales judicial officers meet the demands of their work whilst maintaining good health and well-being. The scheme provides for 24-hour access to a professional, confidential counselling service and free annual health assessments. The Court administers this Program on behalf of all the jurisdictions.





6 APPENDICES

- I Court statistics – comprehensive table of statistics
- II The Court’s committees and user groups
- III Other judicial activity: conferences, speaking, engagements, publications, appointments to legal and cultural organisations, delegations and international assistance and commissions in overseas courts

APPENDIX (I): COURT STATISTICS – COMPREHENSIVE TABLE OF STATISTICS

(to be read in conjunction with Chapter 3)

- Filings, disposals and pending cases
- Timeliness
 - Age of pending cases at 31 December
 - Listing delays after the end of the year
- Alternative dispute resolution

Filings, disposals and pending cases

NOTES:

The figures for pending cases exclude cases that have been re-opened after judgment.

Pending caseload figures within the Common Law and Equity Divisions (or within case management lists within those Divisions) will not always reconcile with associated filing and disposal figures. This is because cases commenced in one case management list or Division may subsequently be transferred to another list or Division for further case management and disposal.

The statistics for 2013 through to 2017 for civil cases in the Common Law Division and for the Equity Division (other than the Adoptions List, Protective List and contested Probate List cases) have been extracted from the JusticeLink system.

The statistics for the Court of Appeal, Court of Criminal Appeal, Criminal List, Bails List, Adoptions List, Protective List and contested Probate List matters are not supplied through the JusticeLink system; they continue to be manually collated and are subject to audit and revision.

"n/a" – figures not available or not separately reported

"-" – item not applicable

"0" – zero count

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
COURT OF APPEAL ^{1,2}					
Filings (net new cases) ³	502	461	379	397	354
<i>Filings of appeals / applications for relief</i>	334	310	255	261	241
<i>Filings of applications for leave to appeal</i> ⁴	183	166	134	144	121
Disposals (final disposals) ⁵	510	501	433	423	380
<i>Disposals of appeals / applications for relief</i>	337	330	312	277	257
<i>Disposals of applications for leave to appeal</i>	188	186	131	154	131
Pending cases at 31 December	330	290	236	210	184
<i>Appeals / applications for relief</i>	249	230	173	157	141
<i>Applications for leave to appeal</i>	81	60	63	53	43

¹ These statistics exclude holding notices of appeal, holding summonses for leave to appeal, and notices of intention to appeal because those forms do not commence substantive appeals or applications.

² These statistics cover Court of Appeal cases only. They are not comparable to "civil appeal" case statistics reported within the Productivity Commission's Report on Government Services, which include all civil cases of an appellate nature, including appeals and reviews dealt with in the Common Law Division or Equity Division.

³ When a notice of appeal is filed after a successful application for leave to appeal, the appeal and the leave application are counted as one case (not two). For this reason, the figures for filings of notices of appeal (and applications for relief) and filings of applications for leave, combined, exceed the number of net new cases.

⁴ This item includes not only leave applications, but also applications where parties have elected to have a concurrent hearing of both the application for leave to appeal and the appeal (if leave is granted).

⁵ Where an appeal has been preceded by a grant of leave, this is counted as one continuous case, with a final disposal being counted only when the substantive appeal is finalised. For this reason, the figures for disposals of notices of appeal (and applications for relief) and disposals of applications for leave, combined, exceed the number of final disposals.

2013 2014 2015 2016 2017

COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEAL ¹

Filings	385	373	342	362	380
Disposals	381	376	400	385	395
Pending cases at 31 December	229	226	168	145	130

¹ These statistics exclude appeals from decisions of the NSW State Parole Authority. There were 4, 7, 7, 8 and 2 applications lodged in the Court of Criminal Appeal for the years 2013 to 2017, respectively, for review of Parole Board decisions.

2013 2014 2015 2016 2017

COMMON LAW DIVISION – Criminal ^{1,2}

Criminal List

Filings (registrations) ³	110	72	118	102	112
Disposals ⁴	121	92	88	105	105
Pending cases at 31 December	105	85	115	112	119

Bails List ⁵

Filings (applicants)	3,698 (est.)	3,780	4,401	3,996	3,953
Disposals (applicants)	3,742 (est.)	3,637	4,201	3,991	3,984
Pending applicants at 31 December	439	561	761	742	707

¹ In all years, the figures exclude matters under Part 7 of the Crimes (Appeal and Review) Act (formerly s474D of the Crimes Act), applications for re-determination of a life sentence, and summary jurisdiction cases (which are included within the statistics for “other summons cases” within the Common Law General List (where they are managed).

² Since 2005, the Court has used counting rules that align with national counting rules. Therefore the figures reported now are not directly comparable with those reported before 2005.

³ The figures include committals for trial/sentence, ex officio indictments, re-trials ordered by the Court of Criminal Appeal or High Court, matters referred from the Mental Health Review Tribunal, transfers from the District Court, and re-activated matters (eg where a bench warrant is executed).

⁴ Disposals are counted at sentence, acquittal or other final disposal. Previously disposals were counted at verdict, plea of guilty, or other final disposal. (“Other final disposal” includes referral to the Mental Health Tribunal, no bill, death of the accused, order for a bench warrant to issue, transfer to another court, and other final orders.)

⁵ The figures for Bails List cases now count the number of applicants, not the number of applications. At a Bails List hearing, the Court may deal concurrently with multiple applications for any one applicant. Because the change in counting was implemented in mid-2013 and was not retrospective, an estimate has been made for the filings and disposals for 2013. From 2016 onwards, new reports have been used which extract data from the JusticeLink system – it is possible that these do not take into account some data entered retrospectively.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
COMMON LAW DIVISION – Civil					
Administrative Law List					
Filings	122	144	134	127	121
Disposals	148	136	158	149	114
Pending cases at 31 December	86	109	91	70	79
Defamation List					
Filings	67	58	47	69	54
Disposals	76	65	65	52	56
Pending cases at 31 December	84	81	65	84	85
Common Law General List (formerly the General Case Management List)					
Filings	1,177	1,056	1,176	1,105	1,109
Contested claims	503	454	484	449	442
– <i>personal injury</i>	213	266	315	291	347
– <i>other claims</i>	290	188	169	158	95
Uncontested claims	161	133	169	185	194
Proceeds of Crime cases	104	94	120	93	108
Other summons cases	409	375	403	378	365
Disposals	1,556	1,408	1,149	1,134	1,057
Contested claims	616	572	525	495	509
– <i>personal injury</i>	365	283	299	291	317
– <i>other claims</i>	251	289	226	204	192
Uncontested claims	317	185	109	154	114
Proceeds of Crime cases	100	116	77	97	85
Other summons cases	523	535	438	388	349
Pending cases at 31 December	1,656	1,286	1,275	1,247	1,274
Contested claims	999	886	850	865	819
– <i>personal injury</i>	418	531	562	575	575
– <i>other claims</i>	581	355	288	290	244
Uncontested claims	139	70	94	69	99
Proceeds of Crime cases	148	134	176	173	200
Other summons cases	370	196	155	140	156

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Possession List					
Filings ¹	2,447	1,844	1,600	1,312	1,218
Disposals	3,647	2,641	1,592	1,376	1,250
<i>Contested</i>	155	136	100	61	76
<i>Uncontested</i>	3,492	2,505	1,492	1,315	1,174
Pending cases at 31 December	1,711	914	903	838	820
<i>Contested</i>	136	92	56	60	39
<i>Uncontested</i>	1,575	822	847	778	781
Professional Negligence List					
Filings	194	162	127	150	180
Disposals	204	193	191	153	131
Pending cases at 31 December	402	370	301	301	364
Miscellaneous applications ²					
Filings	566	415	454	453	481
Disposals	608	436	435	437	503
Pending cases at 31 December	26	11	32	52	33
COMMON LAW DIVISION TOTALS – Civil					
Filings	4,573	3,679	3,538	3,216	3,163
Disposals	6,239	4,879	3,590	3,301	3,111
Pending cases at 31 December	3,965	2,771	2,667	2,592	2,655

¹ All Possession List cases are assumed to be uncontested at the time of filing. If a subsequent defence or cross-claim is filed the case is listed for case-management and counted as a contested case.

² These include applications under the Mutual Recognition Act, Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Act, applications for production orders, requests for service within NSW of documents related to civil proceedings being conducted outside NSW, and applications to enforce judgments given outside Australia.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
EQUITY DIVISION ¹					
Admiralty List					
Filings	0	1	4	0	1
Disposals	2	1	1	4	0
Pending cases at 31 December	1	1	4	0	2
Adoptions List ²					
Applications	206	208	160	198	222
Orders made	218	214	168	179	195
Pending cases at 31 December	62	56	48	67	94
Commercial List					
Filings	175	195	155	147	155
Disposals	190	232	166	224	182
Pending cases at 31 December	278	277	282	223	200
Commercial Arbitration List					
Filings	3	3	2	1	5
Disposals	8	4	1	2	2
Pending cases at 31 December	2	1	1	0	4
Corporations List					
Filings	1,353	1,601	2,126	1,097	952
<i>Judges' list</i>	24	79	111	137	185
<i>Registrar's list</i>	1,329	1,522	2,015	960	767
Disposals	1,617	1,714	2,133	1,071	958
<i>Judges' list</i>	59	115	138	138	191
<i>Registrar's list</i>	1,558	1,599	1,995	933	767
Pending cases at 31 December	465	336	331	357	358
<i>Judges' list</i>	54	53	65	96	128
<i>Registrar's list</i>	411	283	266	261	230

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Equity General List					
Filings	1,994	1,998	2,146	1,901	1,856
<i>Family provision cases</i>	790	774	972	1,018	973
<i>Other cases</i>	1,204	1,224	1,174	883	883
Disposals	2,098	2,595	2,207	2,058	1,774
<i>Family provision cases</i>	919	855	835	1,068	928
<i>Other cases</i>	1,179	1,740	1,372	990	846
Pending cases at 31 December	2,235	1,629	1,570	1,409	1,494
<i>Family provision cases</i>	513	419	554	492	544
<i>Other cases</i> ³	1,722	1,210	1,016	917	950
Probate (Contentious Matters) List					
Filings	191	212	207	265	294
Disposals	172	200	187	245	246
Pending cases at 31 December	141	153	173	193	241
Protective List ⁴					
Applications	95	110	107	83	110
Disposals	99	109	105	93	90
Pending applications at 31 December	32	33	35	25	45
Real Property List ⁵					
Filings	-	-	150	394	406
Disposals	-	-	37	248	357
Pending cases at 31 December	-	-	141	292	310
Revenue List					
Filings	56	13	22	26	8
Disposals	35	39	8	18	18
Pending applications at 31 December	40	15	29	36	27
Technology and Construction List					
Filings	129	98	89	108	138
Disposals	95	180	114	139	125
Pending cases at 31 December	283	212	200	174	195

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
EQUITY DIVISION TOTALS					
Filings	4,202	4,439	5,168	4,220	4,147
Disposals	4,534	5,288	5,127	4,281	3,947
Pending cases at 31 December	3,539	2,713	2,814	2,776	2,970
PROBATE – Applications lodged for grant of probate etc.⁶	23,607	24,526	26,408	26,243	27,294

¹ The figures reported for 2013 through to 2017 have been extracted from the JusticeLink system, except for the figures for the Adoptions List, Probate (Contentious Matters) List and Protective List (the data for those lists are obtained from manually collated data).

² In this List, all applications types are counted, including information applications.

³ During 2014 and 2015 a large number of inactive cases in this List were audited and, where appropriate, closed. Accordingly, in those years the disposals figures are unusually high.

⁴ In this List, applications are counted instead of “cases” because cases in this List can be of a perpetual nature. During the period when a person’s affairs or property are managed under the NSW Trustee and Guardian Act, it is possible that more than one application will be made in relation to that person. “Disposals” refers to the number of disposed applications.

⁵ The Real Property List commenced on 1 June 2015. Some cases commenced earlier in the Equity General List have been transferred to this List for case management.

⁶ This includes all probate applications that are lodged as uncontested applications for a grant of probate or letters of administration, or for reseal of a probate grant. Registrars deal with uncontested applications. Only a small proportion of these applications become contested. Contested applications are transferred to the Probate (Contentious Matters) List and are counted additionally as filings there. The figures here do not include probate-related matters handled by the registry, such as probate accounts matters, caveats, deposited wills, and elections to administer estates.

Timeliness – age of pending cases at 31 December ^{1, 2, 3}

Number pending (and % of total)	National standard ⁴	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
COURT OF APPEAL						
Total number of cases pending		330	290	236	210	184
Cases within 12 months of age	90%	297 (90%)	270 (93%)	214 (91%)	192 (91%)	176 (96%)
Cases within 24 months of age	100%	328 (99%)	288 (99%)	234 (99%)	210 (100%)	183 (99%)
COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEAL						
Total number of cases pending		229	226	168	145	130
Cases within 12 months of age	90%	206 (90%)	194 (86%)	158 (94%)	144 (99%)	127 (98%)
Cases within 24 months of age	100%	220 (96%)	222 (98%)	166 (99%)	145 (100%)	130 (100%)
COMMON LAW DIVISION – Criminal ^{5, 6}						
Total number of defendants pending		105	85	115	112	119
Cases within 12 months of age	90%	85 (81%)	56 (66%)	93 (81%)	80 (71%)	89 (75%)
Cases within 24 months of age	100%	101 (96%)	77 (91%)	109 (95%)	107 (96%)	109 (92%)
COMMON LAW DIVISION – Civil						
Total number of cases pending		3,965	2,771	2,667	2,592	2,655
Cases within 12 months of age	90%	2,674 (67%)	1,799 (65%)	1,834 (69%)	1,766 (68%)	1,783 (67%)
Cases within 24 months of age	100%	3,365 (85%)	2,299 (83%)	2,242 (84%)	2,204 (85%)	2,243 (84%)
EQUITY DIVISION (excluding uncontested probate matters)						
Total number of cases pending		3,539	2,713	2,814	2,776	2,970
Cases within 12 months of age	90%	2,059 (58%)	1,865 (69%)	2,001 (71%)	1,975 (71%)	2,057 (69%)
Cases within 24 months of age	100%	2,751 (78%)	2,369 (87%)	2,508 (89%)	2,471 (89%)	2,632 (89%)

- ¹ For Equity Division cases and the civil cases of the Common Law Division, the information is based on data from the JusticeLink system. Until the end of 2012, many finalised cases remained open in the JusticeLink system, contributing inaccurately to the data for the age of pending cases. During 2013, 2014 and 2015, with improved JusticeLink reports, the Registry was able to identify inactive cases in these Divisions – those cases were audited and, where appropriate, closed. As a result of the audits, the size of the pending caseloads was reduced and the age profiles changed.
- ² For cases in the Court of Appeal and the Court of Criminal Appeal, the age of cases includes time taken to deal with any associated application for leave to appeal.
- ³ These figures include the effect of factors outside the control of the Court, such as the time taken to complete relevant cases in other courts or interlocutory appeals, time taken to prepare essential reports, and time occupied by trials that result in a hung jury.
- ⁴ The national standards are taken from the “backlog” performance indicator within the Courts chapter of the Report on Government Services (published by the Productivity Commission). Note that the national standards apply to district/county courts as well as supreme courts; consequently the national standards apply to a large range of indictments, criminality and civil case types. The case-mix of any court can influence that court’s capacity to achieve the standards. For criminal cases, for example, while other supreme courts in Australia typically deal with a broad range of offences, this Court deals typically with cases involving homicide offences (any other matters, generally involving the most serious criminality, may be brought only with the approval of the Chief Justice). For civil non-appeal cases, all supreme courts in Australia continue to have difficulty achieving the national standards (see the “Backlog” tables in Chapter 7A in the latest Report on Government Services).
- ⁵ The figures exclude matters under Part 7 of the Crimes (Appeal and Review) Act (formerly s474D of the Crimes Act) and applications for re-determination of a life sentence.
- ⁶ The figures are comparable from year to year. The counting unit is defendants. Cases are considered to be pending until the time of sentence/acquittal or other final disposal. Where a trial collapses and a new trial is ordered, the counting of the age of the case is calculated from the date of committal (not from the date of the order for a new trial).

Timeliness – listing delays after the end of the year ^{1,2}

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
COURT OF APPEAL ³	4 months	3.8 months	2.3 months	1 month	2.2 months
COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEAL	3 months	3 months	2.5 months	1.5 months	1.2 months
COMMON LAW DIVISION					
Criminal List ⁴	6.5 months	2.8 months	5.5 months	7.3 months	5.5 months
Civil lists ⁵	5 months	6.8 months	6.0 months	7.3 months	7.0 months
Bails List ⁶	4 weeks	3 weeks	10.5 weeks	9 weeks	7 weeks
EQUITY DIVISION ⁷	3.8 months	2.8 months	3.0 months	5.3 months	4.5 months

- ¹ This is the time between the establishment of readiness for hearing and the first group of available hearing dates that the Court offers for criminal and civil trial cases, criminal and civil appeals and Bails List cases. These delays do not apply if the Court orders an expedited hearing.
- ² The listing delays show the position at the start of the new law term (for example, for 2017 it is the position at the start of the 2018 law term). This removes the end-of-year impact of the law vacation.
- ³ This refers to substantive appeals (including those heard concurrently with a leave application). The listing delay is significantly shorter for a hearing of a leave application alone. The listing delay reported for 2016 is aberrantly short and does not reflect the amount of time required realistically for the preparation of documentation for an appeal.
- ⁴ For years up to 2015, this refers to cases requiring at least 3 weeks of trial time. From 2016 onwards, it refers to cases requiring at least 4 weeks of trial time.
- ⁵ This refers to cases requiring up to 5 days of hearing time.
- ⁶ This refers to adult applicants receiving public funding. Applications by juveniles are usually heard within 2 weeks.
- ⁷ This refers only to General List and Probate (Contentious Matters) List cases requiring 2 or more days of hearing time before a judge.

Alternative dispute resolution

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Court-annexed mediations listed ^{1, 2}					
Total	671	486 ³	518 ³	615 ³	571 ³
<i>Court of Appeal</i>	1	1	0	1	1
<i>Common Law Division</i>	44	28	32	38	51
<i>Equity Division – not probate cases</i>	605	432	447	528	455
<i>Equity Division – probate cases</i>	21	25	39	48	64
Percentage settling at mediation ⁴	55%	54%	51%	51%	46%
Waiting time after the end of the year ⁵	3 weeks	6 weeks	4 weeks	5 weeks	2 weeks
Referrals to mediation generally					
Total referrals recorded ⁶	1,088	839 ⁸	1,071 ⁸	806 ⁸	943 ⁸
Mediation referral index ⁷	23.7%	19.0% ⁸	23.1% ⁸	17.3% ⁸	20.8% ⁸
Arbitrations listed ⁹					
Total	0	0	0	0	0

¹ “Court-annexed mediation” refers to mediations conducted by the registrars of the Court who are also qualified as mediators. It excludes settlement conferences conducted by judges and mediations conducted by private mediators.

² This section refers to court-annexed mediation listings for the year – note that referrals to court-annexed mediation that are made late in one year may result in listings early in the following year.

³ The reduction in cases being referred to the court-annexed mediation program since 2014 is principally due to early use of judicial settlement conferences for family provision cases involving estates valued at less than \$500,000. (A more detailed explanation of the impact is given in the 2014 Annual Review).

⁴ This refers only to cases that have settled and either agreed upon finalising orders, or drafted heads of agreement, by the close of the mediation procedure. It does not include cases that advise a settlement at any later time even though the mediation may have contributed significantly to reaching that settlement. In 2017, for example, in addition to the 46 per cent of cases that settled at the close of their court-annexed mediation session, a further 26 per cent of cases were negotiating a settlement. The registry does not collect settlement data for mediations conducted by private mediators.

⁵ This is the waiting time to the first available group of mediation sessions within the court-annexed mediation program, as reported at the start of the new law term (for example, for 2017 it is the position at the start of the 2018 law term). The waiting time will not apply if an urgent mediation session is ordered by the Court.

⁶ This covers all cases in which, during the year, the Court makes a referral to mediation or otherwise notes it in case-management directions, regardless of whether the mediation is to be conducted through the court-annexed mediation program or by a private mediator.

⁷ The “mediation referral index” is the number of cases referred to mediation during the year, divided by the number of cases lodged (in that year) that are of a type for which mediation is considered to be applicable. For the purpose of calculating the mediation referral index, mediation is considered to be applicable for all civil cases types (including appeal cases), except for proceeds of crime cases, cases that have a high likelihood of proceeding to default judgment or have no defendant element, all cases in the Adoptions List or Protective List, and 90 per cent of cases in the Corporations List. While a case may be of a type for which mediation is considered to be applicable, there may be a particular aspect of that case individually that makes it inappropriate for mediation; however, the calculation of the mediation referral index does not exclude any individual cases on that basis.

⁸ Reduced usage of court-annexed mediation, as a result of use of early judicial settlement conferences (see footnote 3), has some impact on these figures.

⁹ Referral for arbitration is possible for Supreme Court cases but none has been recorded since 2006.

APPENDIX (II): THE COURT'S COMMITTEES AND USER GROUPS

Chief Justice's Executive Committee

The Chief Justice's Executive Committee was established in August 2011 to facilitate contemporaneous consideration and resolution of significant operational strategic issues. The Committee met weekly throughout 2017, except during periods when the Chief Justice was not available or unless the Chief Justice decided not to hold a meeting.

Members during 2017

The Honourable the Chief Justice Bathurst (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Beazley AO
The Honourable Justice Hoeben AM RFD
The Honourable Justice Ward
Mr Chris D'Aeth, Executive Director and Principal Registrar

Adoptions List Users Group

Members during 2017

The Honourable Justice Brereton AM RFD (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Kunc
Mr Robert Svoronos
Ms Grace Romeo, Family and Community Services
Ms Brooke Bowman, Family and Community Services
Mr Derek Smith, Family and Community Services
Ms Nicola Callander, Legal Aid NSW
Ms Amanda Hall, Legal Aid NSW
Ms Nicole Hailstone, Crown Solicitor's Office
Ms Lisa Vihtonen, Barnardos Australia
Ms Lynne Moggach, Barnardos Australia
Ms Sonali Abeynaike, Catholic Care
Ms Jackie Palmer, Anglicare
Ms Donna Ward, Barrister
Ms Esther Lawson, Barrister
Mr Alistair Harvey-Sutton, Solicitor

Alternative Dispute Resolution Steering Committee

The Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Steering Committee which was established in 1993 meets to discuss the Court's ADR processes and consider ways in which they might be improved.

The Committee works to encourage the use of ADR (particularly mediation) in resolving disputes, and to ensure the Court has adequate resources to provide this service. The Committee makes recommendations to the Chief Justice in pursuit of these objectives, consulting with other courts and external organisations where appropriate.

Members during 2017

The Honourable Justice Ward (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Sackar
The Honourable Justice Hallen
Mr Chris D'Aeth, Executive Director and Principal Registrar
Ms Leonie Walton, Registrar, Equity
Mr Nicholas Flaskas, Senior Deputy Registrar (Secretary)
Ms Mary Walker
Mr Stephen Titus (Carneys Lawyers)

Appeal Courts Judgment Writing Committee (NJCA)

Members during 2017

The Honourable Justice Fraser, Court of Appeal Queensland (Chair)
The Honourable the Chief Justice Allsop, Federal Court of Australia
The Honourable the Chief Justice Blow, Supreme Court Tasmania
The Honourable Justice Ainslie Wallace, Family Court of Australia
The Honourable Justice Blue, Supreme Court South Australia
The Honourable John Doyle, Supreme Court South Australia (retired)
The Honourable Justice Frances, Court of Appeal, New Zealand
The Honourable Justice Macfarlan
The Honourable Justice Neave, Court of Appeal Victoria
The Honourable Justice Pullin, Court of Appeal Western Australia
The Honourable Justice Southwood, Supreme Court Northern Territory

Australasian Joint Judges' Committee – (Organising Committee Joint Supreme Court/ Federal Court Conference)

Members during 2017

The Honourable Justice Stevenson (Chair)
The Honourable the Chief Justice Blow,
Supreme Court Tasmania
The Honourable Justice Cavanough, Supreme
Court of Victoria
The Honourable Justice Penfold, Supreme Court of
Australian Capital Territory
The Honourable Justice Heath, High Court of
New Zealand
The Honourable Justice Jessup, Federal Court of
Australia
The Honourable Justice Southwood, Supreme
Court of Northern Territory
The Honourable Justice Lyons, Supreme Court of
Queensland
The Honourable Justice Heenan, Supreme Court
of Western Australia
The Honourable Justice Vanstone, Supreme Court
of South Australia

Board of State Records Authority of New South Wales

The State Records Authority of New South Wales is the New South Wales Government's archives and records management authority. Its purposes are to preserve the State's archives and promote their use, and to set standards and provide guidance and services to improve records management in the New South Wales Public Sector. Pursuant to its governing legislation, its Board is required to include a New South Wales judge nominated by the Chief Justice of New South Wales.

Members during 2017

Ms Anne Henderson (Chair) (representing the
history profession)
The Honourable Justice Lindsay
The Hon Dr Peter Phelps MLC
Mr Rodney Wallis (representing the private sector)
Ms Jeannine Biviano (representing Government
departments)
Ms Elizabeth Tydd (representing Government
departments)

Ms Fiona Cushing (representing State Owned
corporations)
Mr Jeffrey Greenwood (representing law
enforcement agencies)
Ms Michelle Blicavs (representing Local
Government)

Building Committee

The Committee meets approximately every two months to discuss matters affecting the buildings within the Darlinghurst and King Street court complexes, and the Law Courts Building in Phillip Street. The Committee also identifies facilities that are required to support courtroom operations and the needs of Court users.

Members during 2017

The Honourable Justice McDougall (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Hoeben AM RFD
The Honourable Justice Brereton AM RFD
The Honourable Justice Stevenson
The Honourable Justice Hallen
Mr Chris D'Aeth, Executive Director and
Principal Registrar
Mr Nick Sanderson-Gough, Manager, Court
Operations and Communications
Mr Nathan Gray, Courtroom Support Coordinator
(Secretary)

Caselaw Governance Committee

The Caselaw Governance Committee was established to provide a forum for discussion attended by representatives of the various courts and tribunals which publish judgments and decisions on NSW Caselaw. NSW Caselaw is a platform run by the Department of Justice, of the New South Wales Government.

Members during 2017

The Honourable Justice Basten (Chair)
The Honourable Justice R A Hulme
The Honourable Justice Adamson
The Honourable Justice Black
The Honourable Justice Craig, Land and
Environment Court
The Honourable Justice Robertson Wright,
President, New South Wales Civil and
Administrative Tribunal

The Honourable Acting Judge O'Connor,
Deputy President, New South Wales Civil and
Administrative Tribunal
The Honourable Judge Berman, District Court
Her Honour Deputy Chief Magistrate Culver,
Local Court
Mr Chris D'Aeth, Executive Director and Principal
Registrar
Ms Cathy Szczygielski, Executive Director and
Principal Registrar, New South Wales Civil and
Administrative Tribunal
Ms Rosemary Davidson, Executive Officer,
Children's Court
Ms Vanessa Blackmore, Library Services
(Secretariat Support)
Ms Donna Reece, Caselaw Support Officer,
Library Services (Secretariat Support)

Civil Bench Book

Members during 2017

The Honourable Justice Garling
The Honourable Justice Kunc

College of Law

Members during 2017

The Honourable Justice Hallen

Commercial List Users Group

The Group provides a forum for discussion amongst the Commercial List Judges and legal practitioners who practise in the Commercial List. The Group meets to discuss various issues concerning the administration of the List, including matters of procedure and practice in relation to the Lists and the potential for revision of the practice to ensure that the Lists operate as efficiently as possible.

Members during 2017

The Honourable Justice Ward
The Honourable Justice Hammerschlag J
(List Judge) (Chair)
The Honourable Justice McDougall

The Honourable Justice Ball
The Honourable Justice Stevenson
Mr Mark Ashhurst SC, University Chambers
Mr Ziv Ben-Arie, Mills Oakley
Mr Tim Breakspear – Banco Chambers
Mr Leon Chung, Herbert Smith Freehills
Mr Richard Harris, Allens Linklaters
Mr Francis Hicks, Blackstone Chambers
Dr Ruth Higgins, Banco Chambers
Ms Elisa Holmes, Eleven Wentworth
Mr David Jury, HWL Ebsworth Lawyers
Mr Nick Kidd SC, 7 Wentworth Selborne Chambers
Mr Duncan Miller SC, 7 Wentworth Selborne
Chambers
Mr Robert Newlinds SC, Banco Chambers
Mr Peter Pether, King & Wood Mallesons
Ms Georgia Quick, Ashurst
Ms Nuala Simpson, 7 Wentworth Chambers
Dr Kristina Stern SC, 6 Selborne Chambers
Mr David Sulan, Banco Chambers
Ms Vanessa Whittaker, Eleven Wentworth

Common Law Civil Users Group

The Group provides a forum for discussing and addressing matters of concern or interest in the administration of the Common Law Division's civil trial workload.

Members during 2017

The Honourable Justice Hoeben
The Honourable Justice Garling
Mr Chris D'Aeth, Executive Director and Principal
Registrar
Mr Christopher Bradford, Registrar, Common Law
Mr Peter Deakin QC, Sir James Martin Chambers
Mr Eugene Romaniuk SC, Jack Shand Chambers
Ms Lorna McFee, New South Wales Bar Association
Ms Kathleen Harris, Law Society New South Wales
Ms Ramina Kamar, Law Society New South Wales

Corporations List Users Group

The Group promotes open and regular discussion between judicial officers and legal practitioners regarding the Corporations List, and assists in ensuring that the List is conducted in a fair and efficient manner.

Members during 2017

The Honourable Justice Brereton
The Honourable Justice Black
Ms Rebel Kenna, Director & Prothonotary
Ms Leonie Walton, Registrar, Equity

Bar Association of New South Wales

Mr Damian Allen, Eighth Floor Windeyer Chambers
Mr Miles K Condon SC, Sixteenth Floor Wardell Chambers
Mr Doran Cook, Blackstone Chambers
Mr Steven Golledge, Third Floor St James Hall Chambers
Mr Jim Johnson, Frederick Jordan Chambers
Mr Roger D Marshall, Ground Floor Wentworth Chambers
Mr Robert Newlinds SC, Banco Chambers
Mr Malcolm Oakes SC, Tenth Floor Chambers
Mr David Pritchard SC, Third Floor St James Hall Chambers
Mr David Stack, Blackstone Chambers
Mr Jim Thomson, Thirteenth Wentworth Selborne Chambers

Law Society of New South Wales

Mr Charles Bavin, Hunt & Hunt
Mr Andrew Carter, Ashurst
Mr Glen Cussen, Kemp Strang
Ms Georgina Hayden, ASIC
Mr Michael Hayter, Gillis Delaney
Mr Ben Hely, Herbert Smith Freehills
Mr Luke Hastings, Herbert Smith Freehills
Mr Michael Hughes, Minter Ellison
Ms Aamena Hussein, Craddock Murray Neumann
Mr Khaled Metlej, Craddock Murray Neumann
Mr David McCrostie, Turks Legal
Mr Alexander Morris, Mallesons
Mr Michael Murray, Insolvency Practitioners of Australia

Ms Denise North, Insolvency Practitioners of Australia
Ms Maria O'Brien, Baker McKenzie

Costs Assessment Users Group

Members during 2017

The Honourable Justice Brereton (Chair)
Her Honour Judge Gibson, District Court of New South Wales
Mr Brendan Bellach, Manager, Costs Assessment
Ms Samantha Gulliver (Office of the Legal Services Commissioner)
Mr Gordon Salier
Mr Michael Robinson
Ms Geraldine Daley
Ms Deborah Vine-Hall
Ms Peta Solomon
Ms Michelle Castle
Ms Kerrie Rosati
Ms Alyson Ashe
Ms Valerie Higginbotham
Mr Ross Nicholas

Court of Criminal Appeal/Crime Users Group

The joint Court of Criminal Appeal/Crime Users Group meets as required to promote effective communication between the Court and key users. The Group focuses on ensuring that Court of Criminal Appeal procedures work effectively and efficiently within the required timeframes.

Members during 2017

The Honourable Justice Hoeben (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Johnson
The Honourable Justice R A Hulme
Mr Chris D'Aeth, Executive Director and Principal Registrar
Ms Rebel Kenna, Director & Prothonotary
Ms Katrina Curry, Registrar, Court of Criminal Appeal
Mr Mark Ierace SC, Public Defenders Office
Ms Eunice Walsham, Manager Business Support, RSB
Mr Phillip Ingram SC, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions

Mr George Galanis, Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions
Ms Ellen McKenzie, Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions
Ms Janet Witmer, Legal Aid Commission New South Wales
Ms Madeleine Schneider, Legal Aid Commission New South Wales
Ms Clair Wasley, Aboriginal Legal Services New South Wales/Australian Capital Territory
Mr S Odgers SC, New South Wales Bar Association
Ms Elizabeth Hall, District Court of New South Wales
Mr David Giddy, Law Society New South Wales
Ms Pam Olsoen, Senior Registrar, Local Courts

Criminal Trial Bench Book

The Criminal Trials Bench Book Committee is chaired by the Honourable Rod Howie QC. Mr Hugh Donnelly, Director, Research and Sentencing, Judicial Commission of New South Wales is the Convenor). The judicial members of the Committee are listed below. Its function is to continually revise and update the Criminal Trials Bench Book with suggested jury directions and information on procedural aspects concerning the myriad issues that arise in the course of criminal trials in the District Court and the Supreme Court. The committee does not convene formal meetings but engages in regular discussion by electronic means.

Members during 2017

The Honourable Rod Howie QC (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Johnson
The Honourable Justice R A Hulme
His Honour Judge Lakatos SC, District Court of New South Wales
His Honour Judge Arnott, District Court of New South Wales
Mr Hugh Donnelly, Judicial Commission (Convenor)

Education Committee

The Supreme Court Education Committee, in partnership with the Judicial Commission of New South Wales, plans and organises continuing judicial education for judges of the Court.

The principal activity of the Committee involves the planning for the annual Supreme Court conference held in August or September. The underlying focus of the Committee, in its collaboration with the Judicial Commission, is to maintain, as in past years, a high standard of professional development and training for judges of the Court. As in the past, the Committee and the Court are indebted to the speakers who prepared and presented papers at the various seminars and at the conference.

Members during 2017

The Honourable Justice Basten (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Leeming
The Honourable Justice Payne
The Honourable Justice White
The Honourable Justice Hoeben AM RFD
The Honourable Justice Harrison
The Honourable Justice Schmidt
The Honourable Justice Garling RFD
The Honourable Justice Black
Mr Chris D'Aeth, Executive Director and Principal Registrar
Ms Una Doyle, Education Director, Judicial Commission of New South Wales (Convenor)

Equity Liaison Group

This Group was established in 2001 to promote discourse between the legal profession and representatives of the Equity Division in regard to matters of interest and importance to the operation of the Division. The Group is informal and the meetings facilitate candid discussions about the operations of the Division. Typically, these discussions encourage cooperation between the judges and legal profession in developing suggested improvements to the Division's operations.

Members during 2017

The Honourable Justice Ward (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Slattery
Ms Leonie Walton, Registrar, Equity Division
Mr C R C Newlinds SC
Ms J A Needham SC
Mr G A Sirtes SC
Ms V Whittaker
Mr M Ashhurst SC

Mr M K Condon SC
Ms A M Kennedy
Mr J K Martin
Mr B J Miller
Ms P G Suttor
Mr C Alexander

Harmonisation Committee

The Harmonisation of Rules Committee is a committee of the Council of Chief Justices. It has representatives of the Federal Court of Australia, the Family Court of Australia, each of the Supreme Courts of Australia and the High Court of New Zealand. The goals of the Committee are the harmonisation of rules of court and, as appropriate, practice in specific subject areas, either as identified by references from the Council of Chief Justices or, with the endorsement of the Council, by consensus amongst participating jurisdictions, through the members of the Committee. The Committee monitors the operation of harmonised rules of court and practice adopted by participating jurisdictions, as well as relevant proposals for modification of the substantive law, to generate amendments to those rules and practices on a harmonised basis. The convenor of the Committee is appointed by the Council of Chief Justices. Other members are nominated by the head of each participating jurisdiction for one or more specific subject area projects, for the monitoring of adopted harmonised rules of court or for both. The Committee is supported by a Registrar of the Federal Court, with research and advice from the Australasian Institute of Judicial Administration.

Members during 2017

The Honourable Acting Justice Emmett (Chair and Convenor)
The Honourable Justice Hammerschlag, Supreme Court of New South Wales
The Honourable Justice Rein, Supreme Court of New South Wales
The Honourable Justice Cavanough, Supreme Court of Victoria
The Honourable Justice Croft, Supreme Court of Victoria
The Honourable Justice Douglas, Supreme Court of Queensland

The Honourable Justice Le Miere, Supreme Court of Western Australia
The Honourable Justice Blue, Supreme Court of South Australia
The Honourable Justice White, Supreme Court of South Australia
The Honourable Justice Evans, Supreme Court of Tasmania
The Honourable Justice Refshauge, Supreme Court of Australian Capital Territory
Master Luppino, Supreme Court of Northern Territory
The Honourable Justice Strickland, Family Court of Australia
The Honourable Justice Fogarty, High Court, New Zealand
The Honourable Justice Kenny, Federal Court of Australia
The Honourable Justice Lander, Federal Court of Australia
Professor Gregory Reinhardt, Australasian Institute of Judicial Administration
Mr John Mathieson, Deputy Registrar, Federal Court of Australia (Secretary)
Ms Melanie Faithfull, Federal Court of Australia (Minutes)

Heads of Jurisdiction & Planning Committee, National Judicial College of Australia (NJCA)

Members during 2017

Chief Justice Christopher Kourakis (Chair, Supreme Court of SA)
Chief Justice Bathurst (Supreme Court of New South Wales)
Chief Justice Diana Bryant AO (Family Court of Australia)
Chief Justice Wayne Martin AC (Supreme Court of Western Australia)
Chief Judge Peter Kidd SC (County Court of Victoria)
Chief Judge Jan-Marie Doogue (District Court of New Zealand)
Judge Ray Rinaudo, Chief Magistrate (Queensland)
Chief Magistrate Catherine Geason (Tasmania)
The Honourable Trevor Riley (retired)
The Honourable Geoff Muecke (retired)
Ms Lillian Lesueur (Chief Executive Officer of NJCA)

Information Technology

The Information Technology Committee meets to assess the information technology needs of judicial officers and their staff, the technology facilities in courtrooms throughout the State used by the Court and to review the implementation of IT services.

Members during 2017

The Honourable Justice Garling (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Gleeson
The Honourable Justice McDougall
The Honourable Justice Sackar
The Honourable Justice Beech-Jones
Mr Chris D'Aeth, Executive Director and Principal Registrar
Mr Nick Sanderson-Gough, Manager, Court Operations and Communications
Mr Sam Zilic, Supreme Court Information Technology Coordinator
Mr Aaron Liu, Director, Information Technology Services
Mr John Mahon, Information Technology Services
Ms Kathy Duke, Information Technology Services
Mr Con Doulgeris, Information Technology Services

Joint Conference on Sentencing (NJCA & Australian National University, Faculty of Law)

The Honourable Justice Debra Mullins, Supreme Court of Queensland (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Fagan, Supreme Court of New South Wales
The Honourable Justice Rachel Pepper, Land and Environment Court of NSW
His Honour Judge Stephen Norrish, District Court of NSW
Her Honour Judge Sue Cohen, County Court of Victoria
Chief Magistrate Steven Heath, Magistrates Court of WA
Magistrate Andrée Horrigan, Children's Court of WA
Chief Judge Geoff Muecke, District Court of South Australia
Justice Peter Murphy, Family Court of Australia (Brisbane)
The Honourable Justice Richard Refshauge, Supreme Court of the ACT
Ms Amy Begley, ANU College of Law

A/Professor Mark Nolan, ANU College of Law
Dr Anthony Hopkins, ANU College of Law, ANU
Ms Lillian Lesueur, Chief Executive Officer, NJCA
Ms Karen Sloan, Program Manager, NJCA

Judicial Conference of Australia

Members during 2017

The Honourable Justice Beech-Jones, Supreme Court of New South Wales (President)
The Honourable Justice Walton, Supreme Court of New South Wales
The Honourable Justice Judith Kelly, Supreme Court of the Northern Territory (Vice President)
His Honour Judge Michael Baumann, AM, Federal Circuit Court of Australia (Treasurer)
Chief Justice Alan Blow, OAM, Supreme Court of Tasmania
His Honour Judge Wayne Chivell, District Court of South Australia
His Honour Judge Philip Eaton, District Court of Western Australia
The Honourable Justice Timothy Ginnane, Supreme Court of Victoria
His Honour Judge Graeme Henson AM, Chief Magistrate, Local Court of New South Wales
The Honourable Justice Neil McKerracher, Federal Court of Australia
The Honourable Justice Hilary Penfold, Supreme Court of the Australian Capital Territory
Magistrate Marc Sargent, Magistrates' Court of Victoria

Judicial Commission of New South Wales

The Judicial Commission of New South Wales provides a continuing education and information program for the judicial officers of New South Wales, and examines complaints about judicial officers' ability or behaviour. Ten Commission members guide the Commission's strategic direction and examine all complaints.

Members during 2017

The Honourable the Chief Justice Bathurst (President and Chair)
The Honourable Justice Beazley, President of the Court of Appeal

The Honourable Justice Preston, Land and Environment Court of New South Wales
The Honourable Justice Derek Price, AM, Chief Judge, District Court of New South Wales
His Honour Judge Henson, Chief Magistrate, New South Wales Local Court
Mr Peter Kite, Chief Commissioner, Industrial Relations Commission of NSW
Dr Judith Cashmore AO
Mr David Giddy
Professor Brian McCaughan AM
Mr Yair Miller

Judgment Writing Program Committee (National Judicial College of Australia)

The Planning Committee for Judgment Writing has been developed for the Australian judiciary. The program is designed to enhance participants' judgment writing skills through analysis, discussions and rewriting of judgments in small groups, assisted by professional writers and senior judges.

Members during 2017

The Honourable Alan Wilson QC, Supreme Court of Queensland (retired) (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Schmidt
The Honourable Justice Stevenson
Judge Penny Eldridge, Adelaide Youth Court
The Honourable Justice Mullins, Supreme Court of Queensland
The Honourable Justice Murphy, Family Court of Australia (Brisbane)
The Honourable Justice Wilson, Supreme Court of Queensland
Ms Lillian Lesueur, National Judicial College of Australia (Chief Executive Officer)
Ms Julie van den Engel, National Judicial College of Australia (Programme manager)

Judicial Remuneration Committee

The Honourable Justice Hoeben (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Rothman
The Honourable Justice Schmidt
The Honourable Justice Sackar

Law Admissions Consultative Committee

The Law Admissions Consultative Committee consists of representatives of the law admitting authority in each Australia jurisdiction, the Committee of Australian Law Deans, the Australasian Professional Legal Education Council and the Law Council of Australia. It is generally responsible to the Council of Chief Justices, which appoints the chairman of LACC. LACC's main role is to forge consensus between the bodies represented by its members on matters relating to the academic and practical legal training requirements for admission to the Australian legal profession. The functions of LACC are to develop, consider and make recommendations about policies, procedures and other matters directly or indirectly related to admission to the legal profession.

Members during 2017

Professor Sandford D Clark (Chair)
The Honourable Acting Justice Emmett

Law Courts Library Advisory Committee

The Committee was established in 2003 pursuant to a Memorandum of Understanding between the Federal Court and the New South Wales Attorney General's Department relating to the Law Courts Library situated in the Law Courts Building at Queen's Square Sydney.

The Committee gives advice in relation to the management of the library and its collections and is constituted by three representatives from each of the Supreme Court and Federal Court.

Members during 2017

The Honourable Justice Basten
The Honourable Justice Macfarlan
The Honourable Acting Justice Emmett
The Honourable Justice Flick, Federal Court of Australia
The Honourable Justice Jagot, Federal Court of Australia
The Honourable Justice Perram, Federal Court of Australia

Law Extension Committee (Sydney University)

Members during 2017

Her Honour Magistrate Daphne A Kok (Senate nominee) (Chair)
The Honourable Justice White (Chief Justice's nominee)
Professor Joellen Riley, Dean, Law School
Mr Ross Anderson, (Law School nominee)
Professor Sheelagh McCracken (Law School nominee)
Professor Cameron Stewart (Law School nominee)
Professor Philippa Pattison (Deputy Vice Chancellor [Education] & Senate Nominee)
Professor Roslyn Arnold (Senate nominee)
Professor Tyrone Carlin (Senate nominee)
Mr Tony O'Brien (Bar Association of NSW nominee)
Ms Janet Oakley (Bar Association of NSW nominee)
Mr John Dobson (Law Society of NSW nominee)
Ms Heidi Fairhall (Law Society of NSW nominee)
Ms Belinda Hutchinson AM, Chancellor
Dr Michael Spence, Vice Chancellor
Mr Alec Brennan, Deputy Chancellor

Law Reform Commission

Members during 2017

Mr Alan Cameron AO (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Brereton, AM RFD (Deputy Chair)
The Honourable Carolyn Simpson (Commissioner)
Dr Annabelle Bennett, AO SC (Commissioner)

Legal Profession Admission Board

Justice Emmett has been the nominee of the Chief Justice as presiding member on the Legal Profession Admission Board. The Board has responsibility for three broad functions, being the oversight of the approval and admission of lawyers in New South Wales, the accreditation of law schools in New South Wales and the examination of students-at-law for the Diploma of Law course taught in conjunction with the Law Extension Committee of the University of Sydney.

Members during 2017

The Honourable the Chief Justice Bathurst
The Honourable Acting Justice Emmett (Deputy Chair)
The Honourable Justice Payne
The Honourable Justice Lindsay

Bar Association of New South Wales

Mr Garry McGrath SC
Ms Margaret Allars SC

Law Society of New South Wales

Mr Charles Cawley
Mr John Dobson

Organisations

Professor Lesley Hitchens (Dean of Law, University of Technology, Sydney)
Professor Michael Adams (Dean of Law, University of Western Sydney)
Dr Jacob Campbell

Legal Profession Admission Board Legal Qualifications Committee

Members during 2017

The Honourable Justice Robb (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Adams
The Honourable Justice Button
Mr John Fernon SC
Ms Susan Leis
Ms Elizabeth Picker
Ms Mary Macken
Mr Charles Cawley
Mr Stuart Westgarth
Ms Jenny Eggleton
Ms Carolyn Penfold
Prof Peter Radan
Dr Gordon Elkington
Mr Peter Underwood
Mr Gregory Ross

Media Consultation Group

The Media Consultation Group was established in 2002 to promote open discussion between key representatives from the courts, legal profession and media. The Group convenes on a needs basis to discuss issues affecting the reporting of court proceedings by the media. No meetings of the Group were required in 2017.

Members during 2017

The Honourable Justice McColl (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Hoeben
The Honourable Justice McCallum
The Honourable Justice Ball
The Honourable Justice Sackar
The Honourable Justice Bellew
The Honourable Justice Hamill
His Honour the Chief Judge Price, District Court of New South Wales
Mr Lloyd Babb SC, New South Wales Director of Public Prosecutions
Mr Mark Ierace SC, Senior Public Defender
Ms Lauren Farrow, Australian Associated Press
Ms Jamelle Wells, Australian Broadcasting Corporation
Ms Amy Dale, Daily Telegraph
Mr Richard Coleman, Fairfax Legal
Ms Kelly Fedor, Nine Network
Mr Paul Bibby, Sydney Morning Herald
Mr Gil Taylor, Radio 2GB
Ms Katie Walsh, Australian Financial Review
Ms Anna Cooper, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions Media Liaison and Communications Officer
Ms Sonya Zadel, Media Manager, Supreme Court of New South Wales
Ms Lisa Miller, Media Manager, Supreme Court of New South Wales

National Admissions Committee

Members during 2017

The Honourable Justice White
The Honourable Justice Kyrou, Supreme Court of Victoria

National Judicial Orientation Programme

The National Judicial Orientation Program committee assists newly appointed judges with their transition to judicial office. The program offers insights into the role and responsibilities of a member of the judiciary, provides the opportunity for new appointees to benefit from the knowledge and experience of senior judges who attend the program as speakers, and allows for an exchange of ideas and experiences among participants.

Members during 2017

The Honourable Justice Schmidt (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Robert Benjamin, Family Court of Australia
The Honourable Justice Emiliios Kyrou, Supreme Court of Victoria
The Honourable Justice Debra Mullins, Supreme Court of Queensland
His Honour Judge Stephen Norrish, District Court of New South Wales
His Honour Judge Steven Rares, Federal Court of Australia
Her Honour Judge Wager, District Court of Western Australia
Mr John McGuinness, Director, National Judicial College of Australia
Ms Genny Green, Academic Director, National Judicial College of Australia
Professor Greg Reinhardt, Australasian Institute of Judicial Administration
Mr Ernest Schmatt PSM, Judicial Commission of New South Wales
Ms Una Doyle, Judicial Commission of New South Wales

Ngara Yura (Judicial Commission Aboriginal Liaison Committee)

Members during 2017

The Honourable Justice McCallum (Chair)
The Honourable James Allsop AO, Chief Justice of the FCT
The Honourable Justice Rachel Pepper, Land and Environment Court
Her Honour Judge D Yehia, District Court
Her Honour Deputy Chief Magistrate Jane Mottley, Local Court

Her Honour Magistrate T O'Sullivan, Local Court
Her Honour Magistrate S Duncombe, Local Court
Mr J Behrendt, Legal Executive, Chalk & Behrendt
Ms D Link-Gordon, Senior Community Access
Officer, Indigenous Women's Legal Program,
Women's Legal Service NSW
Mr Ernie Schmatt PSM, Chief Executive, Judicial
Commission
Ms Una Doyle, Education Director, Judicial
Commission (Convenor)
Ms Joanne Selfe, Ngara Yura, Judicial Commission
(Program Project Officer)

Planning Committee for Dialogues on being a Judge (National Judicial College of Australia)

The Planning Committee for Dialogues on being a Judge develops programs for mid-career judges and magistrates to provide an opportunity for them to examine their approach to their work through the exploration of a number of contemporary themes.

Members during 2017

The Honourable Justice Dowsett, Federal Court of Australia (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Monika Schmidt
His Honour Gordon Barrett, District Court of South Australia
The Honourable Justice Ann Ainslie-Wallace, Family Court of Australia
The Hon Jon Doyle (formerly Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of South Australia)
Mr John McGinness, Director, National Judicial College of Australia
Ms Jenny Green, National Judicial College of Australia

Possession List Users Group

The Possession List Users Group was established in 2006. The Possession List is, numerically, the largest list in the Common Law Division and involves claims for possession of land following mortgage default. The Group comprises representatives from a range of law firms who regularly appear for plaintiffs in the List and organisations (Legal Aid New South Wales, the Consumer Credit Legal Centre and Redfern Legal Centre) who provide

legal assistance to those experiencing problems with debt. The Group does not have appointed members. Rather, representatives from those firms and organisations attend and provide a range of views on relevant issues. The Group's primary objectives are to encourage frank discussion concerning issues affecting the running of the List, to identify how any problems might be overcome and to improve court processes to assist parties in this class of proceedings.

Members during 2017

The Honourable Justice Davies (Chair)
Ms Rebel Kenna, Director and Prothonotary
Mr Christopher Bradford, Registrar, Common Law Division
Mr Milio Cesta-Incani, Manager, Listing Services

Bar Association of New South Wales

Mr Brendan Burke (Edmund Barton Chambers)
Mr Michael Rose (13 Wentworth Selborne Chambers)

Law Society of New South Wales

Ms Caitlin Watson, Atkinson Vinden
Ms Erin Couper, Bransgroves
Ms Sharon Kim, Bransgroves
Mr Tim Sherrard, Dentons
Mr Campbell Hudson, Dentons
Ms Nora Minassian, Dentons
Mr Richard Lewin, Dentons
Ms Helen Van Ravels, Dentons
Mr Robert Bianchini, DibbsBarker
Ms Amy Knox, Financial Rights Legal Centre
Ms Samantha Tang, Galilee Solicitors
Mr Simon Duke, Galilee Solicitors
Mr Rod Cameron, Hicksons
Mr Scott Stierli, Hicksons
Mr Sam Rigney, Henry Davis York
Mr Matthew Pike, Kemp Strang
Ms Mereya Muljadi, Kemp Strang
Ms Sefakor Dokli, Kemp Strang
Ms Kimberley Wells, Kemp Strang
Mr Imran Mir, Kemp Strang
Ms Nerida Walker, Legal Aid NSW

Probate Users Group

The Group meets from time to time to discuss matters concerning the operation and administration of the Court's probate work. The Group considers improvements to practices and processes and makes recommendations to the Rules Committee when appropriate. The Group also discusses specific issues pertinent to probate matters and deceased estates generally.

Members during 2017

The Honourable Justice Lindsay
The Honourable Justice Hallen
Mr Chris D'Aeth, Executive Director and Principal Registrar
Ms Rebel Kenna, Manager, Court Services & Prothonotary
Ms Louise Brown, Senior Deputy Registrar
Mr Jonathan Simpkins SC
Mr John Armfield
Professor R Croucher, Macquarie University
(representing New South Wales Law Schools)
Ms P Vines, University of New South Wales
Mr R Neal, Law Society of New South Wales
Ms P Suttor, Law Society of New South Wales
Ms R Pollard, New South Wales Trustee and Guardian
Mr P Whitehead (representing trustee companies)
Mr M Willmott, New South Wales Bar Association

Professional Negligence List Users Group

The Group meets as required to discuss issues relevant to the administration and operation of the List.

Members during 2017

The Honourable Justice Harrison (Chair and Convenor)

Bar Association of New South Wales

Mr David Higgs SC
Mr Richard Weinstein SC
Mr Duncan Graham SC
Mr Michael Fordham SC
Ms Julia Lonergan SC
Ms Jacqui Sandford
Ms Kathryn Sant

Mr Jason Downing
Ms Anne Horvath
Mr Patrick Rooney

Law Society of New South Wales

Ms Louise Cantrell, Henry Davis York
Ms Kerrie Chambers, Ebsworths
Ms Rebecca Kearney, Avant
Ms Karen Kumar, Hicksons
Mr Bill Madden, Slater & Gordon
Ms Julie Mahony, Stacks Goudkamp
Ms Francesca Minniti, Curwoods
Mr Don Munro, Tress Cocks
Ms Anna Walsh, Maurice Blackburn

Programs Advisory Committee (National Judicial College of Australia)

The Honourable Justice Stevenson
The Honourable Justice John Dowsett, Federal Court (Brisbane)
Chief Magistrate Steven Heath (Magistrates Court, WA)
Judge Tom Altobelli (Federal Circuit Court of Australia)
Judge Frank Gucciardo (County Court of Victoria)
Magistrate Andree Horrigan (Children's Court of WA)
Justice Glenn Martin (Supreme Court of Queensland)
Chief Judge Geoff Muecke (District Court of SA)
Professor Stephen Bottomley (Dean, ANU College of Law)
Ms Wendy Kukulies-Smith (ANU College of Law)
Ms Lillian Lesueur (Chief Executive Officer, National Judicial College of Australia)

Rule Committee

The Rule Committee meets as required to consider proposed changes to the Supreme Court Rules 1970 with a view to increasing the efficiency of the Court's operations, and reducing cost and delay in accordance with the requirements of access to justice. The Committee is a statutory body that has the power to alter, add to, or rescind any of the Rules contained in, or created under, the *Supreme Court Act* 1970. The Committee's membership is defined in Section 123 of the Act, and includes representatives from each Division of the Court and

key organisations within the legal profession. Many of the rules that govern civil proceedings are now incorporated in the Uniform Civil Procedure Rules. In these circumstances, fewer meetings of the Rule Committee have been required.

Members during 2017

The Honourable the Chief Justice Bathurst (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Beazley
The Honourable Justice Meagher
The Honourable Justice Hoeben
The Honourable Justice Adamson
The Honourable Justice Lindsay
The Honourable Justice Darke
Ms Sylvia Vernandez, Law Society of New South Wales
Mr Nicholas Flaskas (Advising Officer)
Ms Carol Webster SC (NSW Bar Association representative)
Mr David Hing (Law Society of New South Wales deputy/alternate)

Standing Advisory Committee of the Judicial Commission on Judicial Education

The Standing Advisory Committee on Judicial Education advises the Judicial Commission of New South Wales about continuing judicial education. Its activities include identifying specific needs and recommending particular educational activities; recommending papers for publication in *The Judicial Review*, and coordinating the activities of the respective court's Education Committees, where appropriate.

Membership consists of the chairpersons (or their representatives) of the Education Committees of each of the five courts.

Members during 2017

The Honourable Justice Basten (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Walton, President, Industrial Relations Commission of New South Wales (until 8 December)
The Honourable Justice Pain, Land and Environment Court of New South Wales
His Honour Judge Lakatos SC, District Court of New South Wales

His Honour Deputy Chief Magistrate Chris O'Brien, Local Court of New South Wales
Ms Una Doyle, Education Director, Judicial Commission of NSW

Uniform Rules Committee

The *Civil Procedure Act 2005* (NSW) and the Uniform Civil Procedure Rules 2005 (NSW) commenced in 2005, consolidating provisions in relation to civil procedure under a single Act. It provides a common set of rules for civil proceedings in the Supreme, District and Local Courts of New South Wales, and, to a limited extent, in the Land and Environment Court of New South Wales and the Industrial Relations Commission of New South Wales. The Uniform Rules Committee was established under Section 8 and Schedule 2 of the Act. The Chief Justice chairs the Committee, with representatives from the Supreme Court and other courts, as well as from the New South Wales Bar Association and the Law Society of New South Wales. The Committee met four times during 2017. As well as considering amendments to the Rules (under section 9 of the Act), the Committee approves forms for use in civil proceedings (under section 17 of the Act).

Members during 2017

The Honourable the Chief Justice (Chair)
The Honourable Justice Beazley
The Honourable Justice Adamson
The Honourable Justice Lindsay
The Honourable Justice Preston, Chief Judge, LEC
Her Honour Judge Olsson, District Court
His Honour Judge Letherbarrow, District Court
Her Honour Magistrate Jennifer Atkinson, Local Court
His Honour Magistrate Michael O'Brien, Local Court
Ms Carol Webster SC (New South Wales Bar Association)
Mr David Hing (Law Society of NSW)
Mr Jon Prowse (Law Society of NSW alternate representative)
Ms Rebel Kenna, Director and Prothonotary (Secretary)

APPENDIX (III): OTHER JUDICIAL ACTIVITY

In addition to hearing and determining cases, the Court's judicial officers actively contribute to the ongoing professional development of the legal community domestically and abroad. Their contributions encompass activities such as: presenting papers and speeches at conferences and seminars; submitting articles for publication; giving occasional lectures at educational institutions; meeting judicial officers from courts around the world, and hosting delegations. Many judicial officers are also appointed to boards, commissions, and committees for wide range of legal, cultural and benevolent organisations. The Judges' and Associate Judge's activities during 2017 are summarised below in chronological order.

Judicial officers generally use private funds to cover travel and accommodation costs when attending a conference or speaking engagement outside Australia. However, the NSW Department of Justice provides funding towards attendance at several key official events each year. These events are identified as critical to promoting the Court's reputation and role within the Asia Pacific as a centre for commercial dispute resolution, and demonstrating its commitment globally towards developing ethical judicial processes. The events judicial officers attended during 2017 with financial assistance were:

Recipient of travel grant	Event date	Purpose of overseas visit
The Honourable Justice Leeming	6 – 7 Jan 2017	Attended the <i>Defences in Equity</i> workshop at Jesus College, Oxford University, United Kingdom
The Honourable Justice M J Beazley, AO, President of the Court of Appeal	18 – 25 Mar 2017	Visited Timor L'Este to meet with Dili District Court Judge Antonio Goncalves
The Honourable T F Bathurst, AC, Chief Justice of New South Wales	5 May 2017	Attended the Standing International Forum of Commercial Courts Annual Conference, London, United Kingdom
The Honourable Justice Ward, Chief Judge in Equity, Supreme Court	5 May 2017	Attended the Standing International Forum of Commercial Courts Annual Conference, London, United Kingdom
The Honourable Justice Hammerschlag	5 May 2017	Attended the Standing International Forum of Commercial Courts Annual Conference, London, United Kingdom
The Honourable Justice M J Beazley, AO, President of the Court of Appeal	12 – 13 Sep 2017	Attended the Association of Women Judges (AWJ) Third International meeting and Regional Meeting of the International Association of Women Judges (IAWJ) in Mexico City, Mexico
The Honourable T F Bathurst, AC, Chief Justice of New South Wales	18 – 21 Sep 2017	Attended the 17 th Conference of Chief Justices of Asia & the Pacific and 30 th LAWASIA Conference in Tokyo, Japan
The Honourable Justice Ward, Chief Judge in Equity, Supreme Court	18 – 21 Sep 2017	Attended the 30 th LAWASIA Conference in Tokyo, Japan
The Honourable Justice McDougall	18 – 21 Sep 2017	Attended the 30 th LAWASIA Conference in Tokyo, Japan
The Honourable Justice Johnson	26 - 27 Oct 2017	Attended the Singapore Academy of Law Sentencing Conference 2017: <i>Review, Rehabilitation and Reintegration in Singapore</i>
The Honourable T F Bathurst, AC, Chief Justice of New South Wales	25 Nov 2017	Attended the Indian National Bar Association International Conference, New Dehli, India

Private funding sources were used to attend all other conferences or speaking engagements in overseas destinations detailed in this appendix.

THE HONOURABLE T F BATHURST AC, CHIEF JUSTICE OF NEW SOUTH WALES

Conferences:

17 – 19 Mar 2017	INSOL 12 th Multinational Judicial Colloquium on Insolvency (Sydney, NSW)
19 – 22 Mar 2017	INSOL 2017 Tenth World Quadrennial Congress (Sydney, NSW)
04 – 05 May 2017	Standing International Forum of Commercial Courts (London, UK)
25 – 26 Aug 2017	Supreme Court Annual Conference (Leura, NSW)
18 – 21 Sep 2017	17 th Conference of Chief Justices of Asia & the Pacific (Tokyo, Japan)
18 – 21 Sep 2017	30 th LAWASIA (Tokyo, Japan)
15 Nov 2017	Supreme Court Corporate & Commercial Law Conference (Sydney, NSW)
25 Nov 2017	INBA International Conference (New Delhi, India)

Speaking engagements:

27 Jan 2017	Speech: ABA Advanced Trial Advocacy Intensive (Federal Court, Sydney)
01 Feb 2017	Speech: Opening of Law Term Dinner, <i>“Doing Right by ‘All Manner of People’: Building a More Inclusive Legal System”</i> Strangers Dining Room, Parliament House (Sydney)
08 Feb 2017	Opening Address: Law Term Shabbat Dinner, Great Synagogue (Sydney)
16 Mar 2017	Book Launch of Biography of John Walpole Willis at King and Wood Mallesons (Sydney)
19 Mar 2017	Speech, INSOL Judicial Colloquium: <i>“The role of judges in considering the relief to be given where there appears to be abuse of process”</i> International Convention Centre (Sydney)
25 Mar 2017	Opening Address: NSW Bar Association CPD Conference, <i>“On to Strasbourg or back to Temple? - The Future of European Law in Australia Post-Brexit”</i> (Sydney)
30 Mar 2017	Speech: Recent Dispute Resolution Developments in the Supreme Court, <i>“Off With The Wig: Issues that arise for advocates when switching from the Courtroom to the Negotiating Table”</i> Australian Disputes Centre (Sydney)
03 Apr 2017	Speech, NJCA Writing Better Judgments Program: <i>“Writing Judgments with the Parties In Mind”</i> King Street Courts (Sydney)
03 Apr 2017	Moderator: Lighthouse Seminar (Banco Court, Sydney)
07 Apr 2017	Speech: Legal History Lecture, <i>“Fear of The Naked Promise: The Tempering of Contract by Tort, Equity and Property”</i> Faculty of Law, University of Sydney Castlereagh Street campus. (Sydney)
12 Apr 2017	Speech: UNSW Law Journal Issue (40)1 Launch, Allens (Sydney)
31 May 2017	Adjudicator, MULS Grand Final Senior Moot (Banco Court, Sydney)
08 Jun 2017	Adjudicator, SULS Grand Final Torts Moot, Sydney University (Camperdown Campus)
28 Jun 2017	Speech: <i>“Launch of Electronic version of State Reports (NSW)”</i> (Banco Court, Sydney)
22 Aug 2017	Speech: ADR Conference, Advocacy in ADR, <i>“Advocacy Behind Closed Doors: Duties of the Lawyer in Non-Curial Settings”</i> ; Clayton Utz (Sydney)
25 Aug 2017	Opening Address: Supreme Court Annual Conference (Leura)
19 Sep 2017	Moderator at Plenary Session 1 – Independence of the Judiciary and the Rule of Law; 30 th LAWASIA (Tokyo)

18 Oct 2017	Francis Forbes Legal History Tutorial, <i>"The History in Criminal Law"</i> (Banco Court, Sydney)
20 Oct 2017	Silks Bow Ceremony (Banco Court, Sydney)
20 Oct 2017	Opening Address: Artificial Intelligence, Big Data & Quantum Leap Conference (Banco Court)
23 Oct 2017	National Judicial College of Australia: National Judicial Orientation Program
26 Oct 2017	Spigelman Oration: <i>"New Tricks for Old Dogs: The limits of Judicial Review of Integrity Bodies"</i> (Banco Court, Sydney)
27 Oct 2017	Opening Address, UNSW Colloquium "Statutory Interpretation in Private Law Symposium"; Law School UNSW (Sydney)
15 Nov 2017	Opening Address: Supreme Court Corporate Law Conference, <i>"Fiduciary Duties in a Corporate and Commercial Context"</i> (Banco Court, Sydney)
25 Nov 2017	Keynote Address: Indian National Bar Association Annual Conference, <i>"A comparative Perspective on Privacy Law: The Australian Experience"</i> (New Delhi, India)

Publications:

"Doing Right by 'All Manner of People': Building a more Inclusive Legal System", <i>The Judicial Review</i>
"I like a Clamour – John Walpole Willis, Colonial Judge, Reconsidered", <i>Bar News (NSW Bar Association), Federation Press</i>
"Off with the Wig – Issues that arise for advocates when switching from the courtroom to the negotiating table" <i>Bar News (NSW Bar Association)</i>
"Key Issues in Public Law" Spigelman Oration, <i>Federation Press</i>

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

President (Chair) of the Judicial Commission of NSW
Chair of the Supreme Court Rule Committee
Chair of the Uniform Rules Committee
Chair of the Judicial Section of LAWASIA

Delegations and international assistance:

27 Jan 2017	Official visit by Her Excellency Valeria Fowler, US Consul General.
17 Mar 2017	Official visit by INSOL Delegation with Chief Presiding Judge June Young Chung, Presiding Judge Tae Kyu Sim and Judge Young Seok Kim, Seoul, South Korea.
29 Mar 2017	Official visit by His Excellency Dr Hugo Javier Gobbi, Ambassador of the Argentine Republic.
30 Mar 2017	Official visit by Mr Jefri Rahman, Assistant Managing Director, Brunei Investment Agency, Brunei.
13 May 2017	Official visit by Hon Mr SHEN Deyong, Mr LIU Guixiand, Ms MA Xinlan, Ms GE Xiaoyan, Mr WANG Tao, Ms LI Wenwen, Supreme People's Court of the People Republic of China (Government House).
30 May 2017	Official visit by His Excellency Mr Pedro Zwahlen, Ambassador of Switzerland.

21 Jul 2017	Delegation from the Guangzhou Intermediate Peoples District Court and Peoples Court led by Judge Liu Yuejun to learn about court operations and roles, judgment process, judge appointment and management in Australia.
28 Jul 2017	Judge Fujita from Wakayma District Court in Japan on exchange through the ANJeL Program run by Dr Luke Nottage at Sydney University.
19 Oct 2017	Official visit by Her Excellency Ms Beryl Rose Sisulu, High Commissioner of the Republic of South Africa.
26 Oct 2017	Delegation from the Jiangsu Province, People's Republic of China led by Judge Xiong Yi to learn about in depth understanding of court operations, roles, and justice system in NSW.
13 Nov 2017	Delegation from the Superior Court of the State of California led by Judge John S Adams.
21 Nov 2017	Official visit by His Excellency Dr Michael Pulch, European Union Ambassador.
29 Nov 2017	Official visit by His Excellency Karim MEDREK, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco.
05 Dec 2017	Delegation from the Supreme People's Court of Vietnam led by Mr NGUYEN Tri Tue, Deputy Chief Justice.

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE BEAZLEY AO, PRESIDENT OF THE COURT OF APPEAL

Conferences:

22 – 26 Jan 2017	Supreme Court and Federal Court Judges' Conference (Perth, WA)
18 Mar 2017	Gibraltar Conference (Bowral, NSW)
07 – 08 Apr 2017	Inter-Pacific Bar Association Conference (Auckland, NZ)
18 – 19 Apr 2017	District Court Conference (Bowral, NSW)
27 – 30 Apr 2017	International Association of Women Judges Annual Conference (Sydney, NSW)
06 May 2017	Competition Law Conference (Sydney, NSW)
06 May 2017	Annual Conference of JPs Association of NSW (Sydney, NSW)
26 May 2017	College of Law Personal Injury Conference (Sydney, NSW)
25 – 26 Aug 2017	Supreme Court Annual Conference (Leura, NSW)
31 Aug – 02 Sep 2017	Banking and Financial Services Law Association Conference (Brisbane, QLD)

Speaking engagements:

24 Jan 2017	Panel Member: <i>The Role of Intermediate Courts of Appeal</i> , Supreme and Federal Court Judges Conference (Perth, WA)
15 Feb 2017	Lecture: <i>The Principle of Legality and the Protection of Human Rights in Australia: Reflections on "Rights-Form" and "Rights-Content"</i> , The Hon Barry O'Keefe Memorial Lecture (Sydney, NSW)
20 Feb 2017	Address: <i>Ceremony for Commencement of Proceedings</i> , New South Wales Court of Appeal ceremonial sitting (Orange, NSW)
23 Feb 2017	Paper: <i>The Rise of Litigation Funding and Class Actions and the Duties Owed by Legal Practitioners</i> , University of New South Wales CLE Seminar Mandatory Rule 6.1 (Sydney, NSW)

07 Mar 2017	Paper: <i>Extended Joint Criminal Enterprise in the Wake of Jogee and Miller</i> , Office of the Department of Public Prosecutions (Sydney, NSW)
11 Mar 2017	Paper: <i>The Rise of Litigation Funding and Class Actions and the Duties Owed by Legal Practitioners</i> , Toongabbie Legal Centre, Rule 6.1 Mandatory Components for Legal Practitioners (Sydney, NSW)
16 Mar 2017	Address: <i>Advocacy: A View from the Bench</i> , Legalwise Advocacy & Evidence Conference (Sydney, NSW)
17 Mar 2017	Chair: <i>Toongabbie Legal Centre CLD Tax and Trusts Seminar</i> , Ashurst (Sydney, NSW)
18 Mar 2017	Paper: <i>The Rise of Class Actions</i> , Gibraltar Conference (Bowral, NSW)
03 Apr 2017	Panel Member: <i>Lighthouse Arbitration Seminar</i> , New South Wales Court of Appeal (Sydney, NSW)
07 Apr 2017	Paper: <i>Prosecution of Corporate Executives</i> , Inter-Pacific Bar Association Conference (Auckland, NZ)
19 Apr 2017	Paper, <i>Recurring Issues in the Court of Appeal</i> , District Court Conference (Bowral, NSW)
06 May 2017	Dinner Speaker: <i>The Continuing Role of Justices of the Peace in the New South Wales Community</i> , Annual Conference of JPs Association of NSW (Sydney, NSW)
19 May 2017	Judge, Young Lawyers' Golden Gavel Competition (Sydney, NSW)
26 May 2017	Keynote Address: <i>Recent Developments in Vicarious Liability</i> , College of Law Personal Injury Conference (Sydney, NSW)
03 Jun 2017	Keynote Address, Young Lawyers NSW Mid-Year Assembly (Magenta Shores, NSW)
05 Jun 2017	Paper: <i>Natural Justice: Past, Present and Future</i> , Australian Institute of Administrative Lawyers Seminar (Sydney, NSW)
08 Jun 2017	Speaker, Q & A Session, Paypal Leadership Seminar (Sydney, NSW)
17 Jun 2017	Dinner Speaker: <i>History and Role of Community Legal Centres</i> , North & North West Community Legal Service 21st Anniversary Celebration (Armidale, NSW)
21 Jun 2017	Introductory Address, Law & Justice Breakfast for Dame Hazel Genn (Sydney, NSW)
11 Aug 2017	Paper: <i>Language: The Law's Essential Tool</i> , Newcastle University Annual Sir Ninian Stephen Lecture (Newcastle, NSW)
23 Aug 2017	Paper: <i>The Fundamentals of Insurance Law: Enduring Constants in the Winds of Change?</i> , Australian Insurance Law Association Geoff Masel Lecture (Sydney, NSW)
28 Aug 2017	Dinner Speaker, St John's College (Sydney, NSW)
02 Sep 2017	Paper: <i>Judicial Case Law Update</i> , Banking and Financial Services Law Association Conference (Brisbane, QLD)
07 Sep 2017	Keynote Address: <i>Technological Innovation and Its Impact on the Judicial Function</i> , Australia-China Symposium on Digital Technology, Judicial Communication and Access to Justice: Challenges and Opportunities (Sydney, NSW)
20 Sep 2017	Paper, <i>The Fundamentals of Insurance Law: Enduring Constants in the Winds of Change?</i> Australian Insurance Law Association Geoff Masel Lecture (Perth, WA)
21 Sep 2017	Patron's Address: <i>Law in the Age of the Algorithm</i> , Young Lawyers NSW State of the Profession Address (Sydney). Reported in Law Society Journal, issue 30, October 2017 at 14.

26 Sep 2017	Dinner Speaker: <i>Not a Deferential Evening</i> , North Metropolitan Law Society Dinner (Sydney, NSW)
28 Sep 2017	Paper, <i>An Insight into Appellate Justice in New South Wales</i> , Francis Forbes Lecture (Sydney, NSW)
10 Oct 2017	Panellist: <i>Third Party Funding for Litigation and Arbitration Proceedings Including Funding of Enforcement of Judgments and Arbitral Awards</i> , International Bar Association Annual Conference (Sydney, NSW)
17 Oct 2017	Keynote speech, Young Lawyers NSW Youth Justice Program (Sydney)
18 Oct 2017	Paper: <i>Contemporary Issues in Public Law: plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose?</i> Clarence Chambers (Sydney, NSW)
24 Oct 2017	Keynote speech, NSW Young Lawyers Patron's Awards (Sydney, NSW)

Publications:

"An Insight into Appellate Justice in New South Wales" (2017) 44 Australian Bar Review 229

"Accommodating Muslims under Common Law: A Comparative Analysis – Book Review" (2017) 91 Australian Law Journal 685

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

2017 Patron, NSW Young Lawyers

Chair, NSW Chapter, Australian Institute of Administrative Law (Sydney, NSW)

Chair, School of Law Advisory Board, The University of Notre Dame Australia (Sydney, NSW)

Member of the Advisory Board, Centre for Children and Young People, Southern Cross University (Lismore, NSW)

Patron, Toongabbie Legal Centre (Toongabbie, NSW)

President, Arts Law Centre of Australia (Sydney, NSW)

Delegations and international assistance:

14 Feb 2017 Delegation led by Mr Xie Kaihong, Vice President, Higher People's Court of Fujian Province, People's Republic of China

21 Feb 2017 Official visit: Mr Anisul Huq MP, Minister of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Peoples' Republic of Bangladesh

23 Feb 2017 Official visit: His Excellency Mr Lapologang C Lekoa, High Commissioner of the Republic of Botswana

10 Mar 2017 Official visit: His Excellency Mr K Shanmugam, Minister for Home Affairs and Minister for Law, Republic of Singapore

10 Mar 2017 Official visit: The Hon M R Speakman SC MP, Attorney General (NSW)

09 May 2017 Official visit: Her Excellency Mrs Erica Schouten, Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

20 Jun 2017 Official visit: His Excellency Mr Lars Backström, Ambassador of Finland, and Mrs Brigitta Backström

04 Aug 2017 Official visit: Chief Justice Veerapol Tungsuwa, President of the Supreme Court of Thailand, and delegation

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE MCCOLL AO

Conferences:

25 – 26 Aug 2017 Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Leura, NSW)

06 – 08 Oct 2017 Judicial Conference of Australia Colloquium (Hobart, TAS)

Speaking engagements:

18 Aug 2017 CLA Seminar – Keynote address – “*Words, Words, Words! What Did You Mean: Contractual Interpretation And The Reasonable Business Person*”

28 Sep 2017 2017 Baker McKenzie National Women's Moot Grand Final: Keynote Address

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE BASTEN

Conferences:

21 Jul 2017 Centre for Comparative Constitutional Studies Constitutional Law Conference (Melbourne, VIC)

18 Aug 2017 Judges and the Academy Seminar Series (Melbourne, VIC)

25 – 26 Aug 2017 Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Leura, NSW)

08 – 09 Sep 2017 Federal Court of Australia 40th Anniversary Conference (Sydney, NSW)

10 Oct 2017 Judges and the Academy Seminar Series (Melbourne, VIC)

Speaking Engagements:

11 Mar 2017 New South Wales Bar Association: Common Law Conference – *Personal Injury – Contributory Negligence* (Sydney, NSW)

12 Apr 2017 NSW Bar Association – *Notices of Appeal: the Good, the Bad and the Ugly* (Sydney, NSW)

23 May 2017 Chair of UNSW Public Sector Law and Governance Seminar (Sydney, NSW)

21 Jun 2017 NCAT Twilight Seminar: Section 36 of the *Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 2013* (NSW) – The Guiding Principle (Sydney, NSW)

12 Aug 2017 The Australian Academy of Law and the Australian Law Journal: *The Future of Australian Legal Education – Teaching Statutory Interpretation* (Sydney, NSW)

17 Oct 2017 Council of Australasian Tribunals (COAT) Conference, Whitmore Lecture: *Separation of Powers – Dialogue and Deference* (Sydney, NSW)

Publications:

Statute, The Common Law and “Brexit”, Australian Law Journal (2017) Vol 91/5

The Critical Judgments Project – Re-reading Monis v The Queen, Gabrielle Appleby and Rosalind Dixon (eds); The Federation Press – Book Review for the Australian Law Journal

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Chair, Judicial Commission of NSW Standing Advisory Committee on Judicial Education

Chair, Supreme Court Education Committee

Member, Editorial Board of The Judicial Review, Journal of the Judicial Commission of NSW

Member, Supreme Court CaseLaw Governance Committee

Member, Law Courts Library Advisory Committee

Member, Advisory Committee, G&T Centre of Public Law

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE MACFARLAN

Conferences:

25 – 26 Aug 2017 Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Leura, NSW)

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE MEAGHER

Conferences:

25 – 26 Aug 2017 Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Leura, NSW)

18 – 20 Oct 2017 Asia Pacific Insurance Conference (Singapore)

Speaking Engagements:

28 Apr 2017 Speech – Kenneth Sutton Inaugural Lecture, *"The Insurance Contracts Act – good faith, contracting out and refusing claims"* (Sydney, NSW)

26 Aug 2017 Panel Discussion – Supreme Court Annual Conference, *"Duty of Care"* (Leura, NSW)

19 Oct 2017 Speech – *"Insurance and the Courts"* (Singapore)

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE WARD, CHIEF JUDGE IN EQUITY

Conferences:

23 – 27 Jan 2017 Supreme & Federal Courts Judges' Conference (Perth, WA)

25 Feb 2017 AIJA Council meeting (Sydney, NSW)

27 – 28 Apr 2017 IAWJ Conference (Sydney, NSW)

04 – 05 May 2017 Standing International Forum of Commercial Courts (London, UK)

16 – 18 Jun 2017 AIJA Council meeting (Brisbane, QLD)

16 – 26 Sep 2017 Chief Justices of Asia Pacific Conference (Tokyo, Japan)

13 – 14 Oct 2017 AIJA Council meeting (Melbourne, VIC)

Speaking Engagements:

01 Mar 2017 Educational talk with the Tara Anglican School for Girls, Rule of Law Institute of Australia (Sydney, NSW)

10 May 2017 Opening address to the NSW Bar Association – Bar Practice Course 'Bar Readers Practice Course – *The Equity Division*' (Sydney, NSW)

16 May 2017 Keynote address at the City of Sydney Law Society Law Week Breakfast, *"The Kilmuir Rules, Masterchef and the merits of judicial silence"* (Sydney, NSW)

17 May 2017	Panel of speakers at the Women Lawyer's Association of NSW Law as a Career-Coming to the Bar seminar (Sydney, NSW)
25 May 2017	Chairing the Society of Construction Law Australia – Panel Discussion, Desperation or Ingenuity – Claims that arise in construction disputes (Sydney, NSW)
07 Jun 2017	Keynote address at the Australian Women's Leadership Symposium, " <i>The Kilmuir Rules, Masterchef and the Merits of Judicial Silence</i> " (Sydney, NSW)
14 Jul 2017	Occasional address at the Legal Profession Admission Board's ceremony (Sydney, NSW)
25 Jul 2017	Judge AILA Ron Shorter Award 2017
21 Jul 2017	Guest speaker at the NSW Barristers' Clerks Association Biennial Conference
04 Aug 2017	Judge of the Grand Final of the Mooting Competition of Australia's First Peoples 2017 (Sydney, NSW)
17 Aug 2017	Guest speaker at the NSW Bar Association Continuing Professional Development Programme, " <i>Remedies for Promissory Estoppel and Proprietary Estoppel</i> " (Sydney, NSW)
31 Aug 2017	Guest speaker at the Women at Commercial Bar function (Sydney, NSW)
03 Oct 2017	Keynote address at the College of Law's Advanced Business Day (Sydney)
04 Oct 2017	Official Launch of de Groot's Wills, Probate and Administration Practice (NSW)
11 Oct 2017	Judging Panel at the Herbert Smith Freehills Global Diversity & Inclusion Week Debate (Sydney, NSW)
17 Oct 2017	Video appearance for the UNSW Resolving Civil Disputes – Video Teaching Materials (Sydney, NSW)
20 Oct 2017	Judging Panel at The Law Society of NSW 2017 National Golden Gavel (Sydney, NSW)
26 Oct 2017	Judging Panel at the Grand Final of the Herbert Smith Freehills Contact Law Moot (Sydney, NSW)
06 Nov 2017	Guest speaker at the Law Society Accredited Wills & Estates Specialists (Sydney)
16 Nov 2017	Moderator at the Women's Insolvency Network Australia Great Debate (Sydney, NSW)
11 Dec 2017	Level 22 Chambers Speech, Reminiscences from the Duty List (Sydney, NSW)

Publications:

Chapter, Equitable Compensation – An Overview, Equitable Compensation and Disgorgement of Profit, Edited by Simone Degeling and Jason NE Varuhas, Hart Studies in Private Law, 2017

The Australian Financial Review, (Interview 31 July 2017) (Publication 11 August 2017)

Appointments to Legal, Cultural or Benevolent Organisations:

Chair of the Supreme Court ADR Steering Committee

Member and Fellow of The Australian Academy of Law

Member of the AIJA Council

Member of the Australian Association of Womens Judges

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE GLEESON

Conferences:

17 Mar 2017	International Insolvency Institute (III) – Inaugural Sydney Members’ meeting, Henry Davis York, Sydney, NSW
18 – 19 Mar 2017	12 th Joint INSOL/UNCITRAL/World Bank Group Multinational Judicial Colloquium on Insolvency, Sydney, NSW
25 – 26 Aug 2017	Supreme Court Annual Judges’ Conference (Leura, NSW)
29 Aug 2017	John Lehane Memorial Lecture – David Richards LJ – <i>“Is Equity Fair?”</i> , Supreme Court of NSW, Sydney, NSW

Speaking engagements:

24 Feb 2017	Chair, Commercial Law Association, Contracts Master Class, NSW State Library, Sydney
21 Mar 2017	Chair of Judge’s Panel: <i>“Keeping pace with modern restructurings”</i> – INSOL 2017, Tenth World Congress, Sydney
3, 10 May & 7 Jun 2017	Lecturer – Breach of Contract – University of Sydney, Sydney
15 Nov 2017	Speaker – <i>“Proscriptive and prescriptive fiduciary duties: is the distinction helpful and sustainable, and if so, what are the practical consequences?”</i> – Supreme Court, Commercial and Corporations Law Conference, NSW Bar Association, Sydney

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE LEEMING

Conferences:

06 – 07 Jan 2017	<i>“Defences in Equity”</i> (Jesus College, University of Oxford, UK)
18 – 19 May 2017	<i>“Frontiers of Commercial Equity”</i> , UNSW
25 – 26 Aug 2017	Supreme Court Annual Judges’ Conference (Leura, NSW)
27 – 28 Oct 2017	<i>“Statutory Interpretation in Private Law”</i> , UNSW
03 Nov 2017	<i>“Corporate Personality and Barnes v Addy Liability”</i> , UTS
11 Dec 2017	First Biennial Fiduciary Law Conference, UNSW

Speaking engagements:

07 Jan 2017	<i>“Not slavishly nor always”</i> – Equity and Limitation Statutes (Oxford, UK)
30 Mar 2017	<i>“Breach of confidence and equitable compensation”</i> (NSW Bar Association, Sydney, NSW)
07 Apr 2017	Judicature Legislation (Topics in Legal History, University of Sydney)
12 Apr 2017	UTS Equity Moot final judge (Sydney, NSW)
09 May 2017	Parsons Centre/AAL Colloquium panellist: Professor Caprice Roberts on Treatises
18 May 2017	<i>“Overlapping Claims at Common Law and in Equity – An Embarrassment of Riches?”</i> (Frontiers of Commercial Equity conference, UNSW)
24 May 2017	<i>“Procedural issues in the Court of Criminal Appeal”</i> (Supreme Court of New South Wales)
02 Aug 2017	Book launch and forum: <i>“Strata Title Property Rights”</i> (UNSW, Sydney)
25 Aug 2017	<i>“Fusion – Fission – Fusion: Pre-Judicature Equity Jurisdiction in New South Wales 1824-1972”</i> (Supreme Court Annual Conference, Leura, NSW)

06 Sep 2017	Book launch: <i>"Equitable Compensation and Disgorgement of Profits"</i> (11 th Floor, Wentworth Chambers, Sydney, NSW)
Aug – Nov 2017	Equity (series of 20 undergraduate lectures, Faculty of Law, University of Sydney)
27 Oct 2017	<i>"Statutory Interpretation as Private Law"</i> (UNSW, Sydney, NSW)
01 Dec 2017	<i>"Japanese quails, bronze wing pigeons and the rest: NCAT and the Supreme Court – the 2017 term"</i> (NCAT Twilight Seminar)

Publications:

"Injunctions Restraining Enforcement of "Muslim Ban" Executive Orders" (2017) 91 ALJ 443

"Overlapping claims at common law and in equity – An embarrassment of riches?" (2017) 11 *Journal of Equity* 229

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Challis Lecturer in Equity, University of Sydney

Advisory Committee, Francis Forbes Society

Director, The Federation Press Pty Ltd

Editorial Board member: Australian Bar Review, Journal of Equity

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE SIMPSON

Conferences:

25 – 26 Aug 2017 Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Leura, NSW)

Speaking engagements:

Aug 2017 Presentation to District Court of NSW – *Tendency Evidence* (Sydney, NSW)

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE PAYNE

Conferences:

19 – 24 Feb 2017 National Judicial Orientation Program

Speaking engagements:

12 Apr 2017 Notice of Appeal: the Good, the Bad and the Ugly

24 Oct 2017 Environment and Planning Law Conference 2017 – Paper presented: *"Recent appeals from the Land and Environment Court"*

03 Nov 2017 Macarthur Legal Centre 30th Anniversary

Publications:

Federal Criminal Law, Lexis Nexis, Looseleaf, 4 Volumes (continuing)

Obituary – George Masterman, Australian Law Journal(91 ALJ 155)

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE WHITE

Conferences:

23 – 27 Jan 2017 Supreme & Federal Courts Judges' Conference (Perth, WA)

25 – 26 Aug 2017 Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Leura, NSW)

Publications:

Insolvent trusts: Implications of Buckle and CPT Custodian - Australian Bar Review, Vol 44, Number 1 June 2017

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Law Extension Committee – Member

National Admissions Committee – Member

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE WALTON

Conferences:

06 – 08 Oct 2017 Judicial Conference of Australia Colloquium 2017 (Hobart, TAS)

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE JOHNSON

Conferences:

25 – 26 Aug 2017 Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Leura, NSW)

17 Oct 2017 Judicial Visit to the Forensic Hospital (Judicial Commission of New South Wales)

25 – 27 Oct 2017 Sentencing Conference 2017 - "*Review, Rehabilitation, Reintegration*" – jointly organised by Singapore Academy of Law and State Courts Singapore (Singapore)

Speaking engagements:

18 Apr 2017 Presentation of paper "*Criminal Law Review*" at District Court of New South Wales Annual Conference (Bowral, NSW)

Publications:

Joint author with the Hon RN Howie QC of *Criminal Practice and Procedure (NSW)*, LexisNexis

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE ROTHMAN AM

Conferences:

16 Feb 2017 University of Sydney and the Australian Association of Constitutional Law – 2017 George Winterton Memorial Lecture: "*Sir Owen Dixon Today*" [The Honourable Professor William Gummow AC QC] (Sydney, NSW)

07 Mar 2017 NSW Judicial Commission – Ngara Yura Program: Motor Kite Dreaming Screening (Sydney, NSW)

09 Mar 2017 Australian Labour Law Association Seminar: "*Tackling Australia's 'Gangmasters': The Case for Labour Hire Licensing*" [Professor Anthony Forsyth, RMIT University] (Sydney, NSW)

02 May 2017	NSW Judicial Commission – Twilight Seminar: <i>“Using JIRS Effectively”</i> [Hugh Donnelly, Director, Research and Sentencing, Judicial Commission of NSW] (Sydney, NSW)
08 Jun 2017	The Australian Law Journal 90 th Anniversary Celebration [The Australian Commonwealth Attorney-General, Senator the Hon George Brandis QC] (Sydney, NSW)
02 - 07 Jul 2017	Australian Bar Association – 2017 International Conference (London and Dublin)
25 - 26 Aug 2017	Supreme Court Annual Judges’ Conference (Leura, NSW)
29 Aug 2017	Allens – The John Lehane Memorial Lecture: <i>“Is Equity Fair?”</i> [Lord Justice David Richards] (Sydney, NSW)
11 Oct 2017	30 th Anniversary of the Judicial Commission Reception [The Hon T F Bathurst AC & Mrs Bathurst] (Sydney, NSW)
24 Oct 2017	NSW Judicial Commission Ngara Yura Committee, the NSW Bar Association Indigenous Barristers’ Trust and the Law Society of NSW Indigenous Issues Committee Seminar: <i>“The Uluru Statement – First Nations Voice Towards Achieving Sovereignty”</i> [Prof. Megan Davis, Noel Pearson and Prof. Rosalind Dixon] (Sydney, NSW)

Speaking engagements:

14 Jun 2017	Keynote Speaker: <i>“Is social exclusion a problem for minorities in Australia and if so how should we deal with it & how does the Judiciary deal with it?”</i> Muslim Legal Network (NSW) 2017 Ramadan Iftar (Sydney, NSW)
17 Oct 2017	Panel Discussion: <i>“Human Rights in Unchartered Territory”</i> – The Law Society of New South Wales Thought Leadership (Sydney, NSW)

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

President – The Great Synagogue (Sydney)
Director; Board Member & Chair Workplace Relations Committee – NSW Association of Independent Schools
Honorary Life Member; Executive Member – NSW Jewish Board of Deputies
Co-Chair – Australian Council of Jewish Schools
Board Member – International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists
Member – National Indigenous Awareness Committee

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE BRERETON AM RFD

Conferences:

17 – 19 Mar 2017	INSOL, Twelfth Joint Multinational Judicial Colloquium on Cross-border Insolvency (Sydney)
28 – 30 Jul 2017	Law Council of Australia Corporations Workshop (Byron Bay, NSW)
31 Aug 2017	Institute of Open Adoption - Research Forum

Speaking engagements:

18 Mar 2017	Chair, break-out session, INSOL, Twelfth Joint Multinational Judicial Colloquium on Cross-border Insolvency (Sydney International Convention Centre)
30 Mar 2017	Opening Address, UNSW Law CPD Wills & Inheritance Disputes, " <i>Flexibility in the Law of Family Provision</i> ", Grace Hotel, Sydney
05 May 2017	Guest Lecturer, Sydney University Law School, " <i>The origins and evolution of the parens patriae jurisdiction</i> "
03 Jun 2017	Chair and Speaker, Annual Costs Assessors Seminar, Banco Court, Law Courts Building
29 Jun 2017	Guest speaker, Sydney Legacy Luncheon, " <i>Australian Defence Force Reserves</i> ", Sydney
25 Sep 2017	Opening Address, Law Reform Commission, 50th Anniversary Dinner, Parliament House, Sydney
29 Sep 2017	Keynote speaker, Western Sydney Law Students Association 2017 Ball, Cockle Bay Rooms, Darling Harbour.
12 Oct 2017	Speaker, IBA Conference, " <i>Recognition of insolvency decisions/foreign office holders in Australia</i> ", International Convention Centre, Sydney
24 Oct 2017	Keynote Address, College of Law, Advanced Wills & Estates Day, St James Centre, Sydney
23 Nov 2017	Speaker, Police Operational Commands Continuum Course, " <i>Command Responsibility</i> ", United Services Club, Brisbane

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Deputy Chair, NSW Law Reform Commission

Chairman of Trustees, Leycester Meares Bequest

Chair, Costs Assessment Rules Committee

Chair, Costs Assessment User Group

Chair, Adoptions List User Group

Chair, Corporations List User Group

Member, Harmonisation of Rules Committee

Delegations and International Assistance:

20 – 21 Mar 2017 South Korean Judges: Chief Presiding Judge of Seoul Bankruptcy Court, June Young Chung; Presiding Judge Tae Kyu Sim, Judge Young Seok (Stephen) Kim.

10 Oct 2017 ARITA & Insolvency and Restructuring Board of India: Ms. Mamta Suri and Ms. Anita Kulshrestha of IBBI, John Winter and Mark Wellard of ARITA

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE HAMMERSCHLAG

Conferences:

4 – 5 May 2017 Standing International Forum of Commercial Courts (London, UK)

Speaking engagements:

08 Mar 2017 Opening Remarks at the UNSW CLE Seminar on Building Law (Sydney, NSW)

25 May 2017 Great Synagogue Young Lawyers Lunchtime Series (Sydney, NSW)

26 May 2017 2017 Specialist Legal Conference – Keynote Presentation (Manly, NSW)

02 Aug 2017 New Barristers Committee of the NSW Bar Association – Judicial Q&A – (Sydney, NSW)

22 Aug 2017 NSW Bar Association Continuing Professional Development Programme – *“The Commercial Court – Advocacy (oral and written) and bespoke aspects of List practice and procedures*

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Chairman – Commercial and Technology & Construction Users Group

Member of the Harmonisation Committee

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE HARRISON

Conferences:

25 Mar 2017 Criminal Law Seminar – Toongabbie Legal Aid Centre

04 Apr 2017 Guest lecture on the area of negligence and Dangerous Recreational Activity – Sports Law in the Faculty of Law at UTS

03 Aug 2017 Legal Aid NSW Criminal Law Conference 2017

24 Aug 2017 Guest speaker – NSW Bar Association Common Law Drinks

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE RA HULME

Conferences:

25 – 26 Aug 2017 Supreme Court Annual Judges’ Conference (Leura, NSW)

Speaking engagements:

02 Aug 2017 Local Court of New South Wales Annual Conference – *Criminal Law Update*

25 Aug 2017 Supreme Court Annual Conference – *Developments in Criminal Law*

Publications:

Co-author *Criminal Law News*, LexisNexis Butterworths

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Court of Criminal Appeal List Judge

Member, Jury Task Force

Member, Judicial Commission of NSW Criminal Trial Courts Bench Book Committee

Member, Caselaw Governance Committee

Member, Court of Criminal Appeal/Crime Users Group

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE SLATTERY

Conferences:

22 – 26 Jan 2017	Supreme Court and Federal Court Judges' Conference (Perth, WA)
18 Feb 2017	Reserve Legal Officers National Heads of Panel Conference – Military Law Centre (Victoria Barracks, Paddington, Sydney, NSW)
03 May 2017	National Defence Legal Conference (Leura, NSW)
25 – 26 Aug 2017	Supreme Court Annual Conference (Leura, NSW)
18 – 19 Nov 2017	Australian Defence Force – Judge Advocate General Conference (Canberra, ACT)

Speaking engagements:

18 Feb 2017	Australian Defence Force – Judge Advocate General, Speech to Reserve Legal Officers National Heads of Panel Conference <i>“Reforms to Military Justice”</i>
14 Mar 2017	Speech to ADF Legal Officers in Legal Training Module 1 – Victoria Barracks, Paddington, <i>“The Qualities of the Best Military Lawyers”</i>
03 May 2017	After Dinner Speech, Conference Dinner, Defence Legal – Joint Legal Issues Workshop, MGallery, Fairmont, Leura, NSW
08 May 2017	NSW Navy Reserve Legal Panel Training Night on board HMAS Adelaide, <i>“Reforms to Military Justice”</i> .
17 May 2017	Adelaide Tri Service Legal Panel's Training Night, <i>“Developments in Military Justice Reform and the CJA Appointment Process”</i>
14 June 2017	Melbourne Tri Service Legal Panel's Training Night, <i>“Developments in Military Justice Reform and the CJA Appointment Process”</i>
04 Dec 2017	Speech to the Tipstaves of the Supreme Court of NSW, <i>“Introduction to the Art of Rhetoric”</i> .

Publications:

Report of the Judge Advocate General of the Australian Defence Force to the Australian Parliament for the period 01 January to 31 December 2016.

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Judge Advocate General of the Australian Defence Force from 14 May 2015

Trustee of the Indigenous Barristers Trust – The Mum Shirl Fund since 2006

Delegations and International Assistance:

18 – 30 Mar 2017 Visit in the role of Judge Advocate General of the Australian Defence Force to Washington DC, Ottawa and London and Army HQ Andover in the United Kingdom, to meet senior Defence legal staff of the United States, Canadian and United Kingdom Defence Forces to discuss recent developments affecting military justice.

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE SCHMIDT

Conferences:

07 Feb 2017	40 th Anniversary of the Federal Court of Australia (Sydney, NSW)
19 Feb 2017	National Judicial Orientation Program (Melbourne, VIC)
07 Mar 2017	Motor Kite Dreaming Judicial Commission, Ngara Yura Program (Sydney, NSW)
03 – 05 Apr 2017	National Judicial College of Australia, Judgment Writing Program (Sydney, NSW)
22 Jun 2017	Twilight Seminar: <i>Using JIRS Effectively</i> (Sydney, NSW)
25 – 26 Aug 2017	Supreme Court Annual Conference (Leura, NSW)
29 Aug 2017	The John Lehane Memorial Lecture, “ <i>Is Equity Fair?</i> ” by Lord Justice David Richards (Sydney, NSW)
04 – 06 Oct 2017	National Judicial Orientation Program – Dialogues on Being a Judge (Hobart, TAS)
22 – 27 Oct 2017	National Judicial Orientation Program (Manly, NSW)
15 Nov 2017	Twilight Seminar: <i>Motor Accidents Legislation Seminar</i> (Sydney, NSW)

Speaking engagements:

25 Mar 2017	Toongabbie Legal Centre – Criminal Law Seminar’ “ <i>Mistakes to avoid in criminal proceedings in the Supreme Court</i> ” (Toongabbie, NSW)
10 Oct 2017	International Bar Association’s Women Lawyers’ Interest Group Lunch (International Bar Association Annual Conference, Sydney, NSW)

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Chair of the National Judicial Orientation Program
Member of the Advisory Board for the Master of Labour Law and Relations (MLLR), Sydney Law School
Member, National Judicial College of Australia Planning Committee for Dialogues on Being a Judge
Member, National Judicial College of Australia Planning Committee for Judgment Writing
Member, Supreme Court Education Committee
Member, Supreme Court Remuneration Committee
Member, CLE for Registrars

Delegations and International Assistance:

21 Mar 2017	Korean Judges Visit, Sydney, NSW
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THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE BALL

Speaking engagements:

24 Oct 2017	Guest Speaker – Australian Construction Law Discussion Group Annual Dinner
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Publications:

“Principles of Insurance Law”, LexisNexis, co-authored with David St Ledger Kelly

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE GARLING RFD

Conferences:

16 Feb 2017	George Winterton Memorial Lecture
27 Mar 2017	Cross Examination Workshop – New Barristers committee – NSW Bar Association
24 May 2017	Twilight Seminar – Current Developments & Issues arising in the CCA
22 Jun 2017	Twilight Seminar – Using JIRS Effectively
25 – 26 Aug 2017	Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Leura, NSW)
17 Oct 2017	NSW Judicial Commission: Visit to NSW Forensic Hospital

Speaking engagements:

15 Mar 2017	Health Law Forum – Hicksons Lawyers
17 May 2017 & 13 Sep 2017	NSW Bar Practice Course 2017 – <i>"Expert Witnesses: Leading Evidence and Cross Examining / Concurrent Witness"</i>
04 Aug 2017	Local Court Annual Conference – Civil Law
20 Oct 2017	Royal Australasian College of Medical Administrators 50 th Anniversary Annual Scientific Meeting: Past Reflections/Future Directions (Melbourne)

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Civil Trials Bench Book Committee, Judicial Commission of NSW
Supreme Court Education Committee
Chair, Supreme Court IT Committee
Supreme Court Common Law Users Group
Chair, Loreto Ministries Ltd
Chair, NSW Rugby Union Appeals Tribunal
Honorary Patron, CanRevive Inc

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE BLACK

Conferences:

29 – 30 Jul 2017	Business Law Section, Law Council of Australia, Corporations Workshop, (Byron Bay, NSW)
25 – 26 Aug 2017	Supreme Court Annual Conference (Leura, NSW)
27 – 28 Oct 2017	Statutory Interpretation in Private Law, University of New South Wales.

Speaking engagements:

25 Mar 2017	Some parallel duties and remedies in equity and Corporations Law, NSW Bar Association, Sydney CPD Conference.
29 May 2017	Development of Corporations Law – presentation at Francis Forbes Society for Australian Legal History, Introduction to Australian Legal History Tutorials
09 Aug 2017	Recent developments in insolvency law – Australian Restructuring Insolvency & Turnaround Association National Conference.
08 Sep 2017	Three developments in insolvency law – Law Council of Australia Insolvency Committee Annual Dinner speech
15 Nov 2017	Modern indicia of fiduciary relationships in a commercial setting and the interaction of equity and contract, Supreme Court Corporate and Commercial Law Conference.
2017	Taught course in financial services regulation, Semester 1, 2017, University of New South Wales.
2017	Taught course in fiduciary duties and conflicts of interest, Semester 1, 2017, University of Sydney.

Publications:

Joint author, *Securities and Financial Services Law*, 9th ed, LexisNexis, 2016

Joint author, *Austin & Black's Annotations to the Corporations Act*, LexisNexis.

Contributor, *Australian Corporation Law: Principles and Practice*, LexisNexis.

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Adjunct Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Sydney

Visiting Fellow, Faculty of Law, University of New South Wales.

Fellow, Australian Academy of Law.

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE ADAMSON**Conferences:**

25 – 26 Aug 2017 Supreme Court Annual Conference (Leura, NSW)

06 – 08 Oct 2017 JCA Conference (Hobart, TAS)

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Member, Uniform Rules Committee

Member Rule Committee

Chairperson, Legal Qualifications Committee (part year)

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE BELLEW**Conferences:**

25 – 26 Aug 2017 Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Leura, NSW)

Speaking engagements:

31 May 2017	Notre Dame University
20 Jul 2017	Judge's Roundtable – Criminal Justice Reform
02 Aug 2017	Magistrate's Conference
31 Aug 2017	Key note address – NSW Young Lawyers – Young Justice Program
5 Oct 2017	Notre Dame University
23 Oct 2017	Lecture – University of NSW
24 - 25 Oct 2017	Judicial Orientation Program
01 Nov 2017	Crown – Dealing with difficult witnesses
15 Nov 2017	Motor Accidents Seminar
24 – 25 Nov 2017	Jury Management Program
24 Nov 2017	NSW Claims Discussion Group

Publications:

Ritchie's Uniform Civil NSW – Author
Australia Uniform Evidence – Author
Motor Vehicle Reports – General Editor
Halsbury's Law of Australia – Contributor
Federal Civil Litigation Precedents – Contributor

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Adjunct Professor – School of Law, University of Notre Dame, Sydney

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE STEVENSON**Conferences:**

22 – 25 Jan 2017	Supreme and Federal Courts Judges' Conference (Perth, WA)
25 – 26 Aug 2017	Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Leura, NSW)
06 – 08 Oct 2017	JCA Colloquium (Hobart, TAS)

Speaking engagements:

04 – 05 Mar 2017	Speaker – CPD Conference, <i>"Practice & Procedure in the Duty, Commercial and Expedition Lists"</i> (Orange, NSW)
18 Mar 2017	Speaker – CPD Conference <i>"Legal Professional Privilege; Rationale & the Test"</i> (Bowral, NSW)
21 Mar 2018	Commentator – Legalwise seminar, commentary on the Professional Skills presentation titled <i>"Getting the Best Out of Expert Witnesses"</i> (Sydney, NSW)

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Member of the National Judicial College of Australia, Programs Advisory Committee

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE BEECH-JONES

Conferences:

25 – 26 Aug 2017 Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Leura, NSW)

06 – 08 Oct 2017 Judicial Conference of Australia Colloquium (Hobart, TAS)

Speaking engagements:

23 Mar 2017 Conference Presentation – University of New South Wales “*Representative Actions in NSW Courts*” (Sydney, NSW)

29 Mar 2017 University of Technology “*Defence Power*” (Sydney, NSW)

08 May 2017 Address – South Australian Magistrates Conference “*The dogs bark but the caravan rolls on: extra judicial responses to criticism*” (Adelaide, SA)

25 Aug 2017 Presentation – Supreme Court Conference “*Duty of Care*” (Leura, NSW)

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

President of the Judicial Conference of Australia

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE CAMPBELL

Conferences:

25 – 26 Aug 2017 Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Leura, NSW)

Speaking engagements:

18 Apr 2017 District Court Judges Conference delivery of paper Civil Liability of the State Police

05 May 2017 Rule of Law Committee – Talk to high school students

27 May 2017 Key note address – Specialist Legal Conference (Manly, NSW)

18 Oct 2017 UNSW Criminal Law Seminar

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE BUTTON

Conferences:

15 Aug 2017 LPAB Committee Meeting (Sydney, NSW)

25 – 26 Aug 2017 Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Leura, NSW)

21 Nov 2017 LPAB Committee Meeting (Sydney, NSW)

24 – 25 Nov 2017 Jury Management Conference (Sydney, NSW)

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE LINDSAY

Conferences:

03 – 09 Jul 2017 British Legal History Conference (London, UK)

Speaking engagements:

24 Jan 2017	Speech – Supreme and Federal Court Judges Conference (Perth): <i>“Concept, Patterns and Problems in Probate Litigation: A Perspective of Estate Administration”</i>
11 Mar 2017	Speech – NSW Bar Association: <i>“The Incapacitated Plaintiff and Personal Injury Compensation Proceedings”</i>
20 Apr 2017	Speech – National Trust Heritage Festival (Gordon): <i>“Having a Voice: CEW Bean as a Social Missionary”</i>
05 May 2017	Lecture – Sydney University Law School: <i>“The ‘Doctrine of Precedent’ in Australian Legal History”</i>
14 May 2017	Speech – College of Law (Sydney) <i>“Recent Developments, Fiduciary Obligations, The Liability of Account and Vulnerable People”</i>
29 Jun 2017	Book launch – AUSTLI: <i>“Launch of ‘Capacity and the Law”</i>
16 - 17 Sep 2017	Speech – Blue Mountains Law Society; <i>“Accountability, Across the Spectrum of Estate Administration in NSW”</i>
18 Nov 2017	Speech – Legal Aid NSW Conference (Terrigal): <i>“Children, the Parens Patriae, and Supervisory”</i> , Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of NSW
08 Dec 2017	Speech – NCAT Conference (Sydney): <i>“Roles in Protective Management of Person and Property”</i>

Publications:

“The ‘Doctrine of Precedent’ in Australian Legal History”, The Commonwealth Lawyer (April 2017) Vo. 27 No. 1
Editor, Australian Bar Review

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Senior Vice President, Francis Forbes Society for Australian Legal History

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE HALLEN**Speaking engagements:**

15 Mar 2017	College of Law, Autumn Intensive Wills and Estates Day, Keynote Address
21 Mar 2017	Wills & Estates Law Update, Keynote Address
19 Oct 2017	CLE Seminar, College of Law, Keynote Address

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Committee Member – STEP Australia
Committee Member – ADR Steering Committee
Committee Member – Wills & Estates Advisory Committee
Committee Member – College of Law
Committee Member – Supreme Court Building Committee

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE KUNC

Conferences:

Jan 2017	Australian Accountants, Lawyers and Directors Conference, Aspen, Colorado – Keynote Speech – The Compleat Expert
Aug 2017	Convenor and speaker, Australian Law Journal and Australian Academy of Law National Conference on the Future of Legal Education in Australia
13 Sep 2017	Address and present awards at the Australian Disputes Centre schools debating competition finals.

Speaking engagements:

15 Mar 2017	Talk to students from Roseville College organised by Rule of Law Institute, Sydney, NSW
08 Jun 2017	Address on the occasion of the 90th anniversary of the Australian Law Journal: Banco Court
05 Aug 2017	Address to the Congress of the International Federation of Translators and Interpreters, Brisbane, QLD
11 – 13 Aug 2017	Opening and closing remarks at the AAL/ALJ national conference on legal education, Sydney, NSW
11 Aug 2017	Vodcast interview with Prof Martha Nussbaum, Sydney
30 Aug 2017	Podcast for Salvos Legal on Succession Law, especially testamentary capacity, Sydney, NSW.

Publications:

Current Issues (monthly), The Australian Law Journal

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

General Editor, The Australian Law Journal

Member Editorial Board, Journal of Equity

Chairperson, Layne Beachley Aim for the Stars Foundation

Director, Opera Australia Capital Fund

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE ROBB

Conferences:

25 – 26 Aug 2017 Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Leura, NSW)

Speaking engagements:

09 Jun 2017 June Judges Series, Guest Speaker. Topic: Practical reflections on success and survival in Litigation

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Chairperson, Legal Qualifications Committee, Legal Profession Admission Board

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE DARKE

Conferences:

25 – 26 Aug 2017 Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Leura, NSW)

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE WRIGHT. PRESIDENT OF NCAT

Conferences:

08 – 09 Jun 2017 National and NSW COAT Conference (Sydney, NSW)

25 – 26 Aug 2017 Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Leura, NSW)

20 Oct 2017 Seminar to SCT and FCT Judges – Artificial Intelligence, Big Data & Quantum Leap (Sydney, NSW)

Speaking engagements:

21 Mar 2017 Speaker – NSW Bar Association – Merit Review. Paper presented: Administrative Review Proceedings in NCAT (Sydney, NSW)

09 Jun 2017 Chair session – Annual National COAT Conference – Tips for writing logical and concise decisions (Justice Mullins of SCT Qld) (Sydney, NSW)

07 Aug 2017 Speaker (occasional address) – St Paul's College, Sydney University

21 Sep 2017 Address the NSW Bar Council about NCAT (Sydney, NSW)

20 Oct 2017 Speaker – EPLA Annual Conference – It's All Happening at NCAT (Sydney, NSW)

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

AIJA Council

Delegations and International Assistance:

04 Mar 2017 Delegation from China Supreme People's Court - meeting with Mr Yongxin Ma (Presiding Judge Administrative Division), Mr Xiujiang Guo (Presiding Judge 2nd Circuit Court), Mr Chao Dong (Director No.1 Secretary Division), Mr Fengyun Liang (Presiding Judge Administrative Division), Ms Wenli Hu (Senior Judge Administrative Division), Ms Zhouning Li (Director Adjudicative Management), Ms Yali Bai (Presiding Judge 3rd Circuit Court) and Ms Fan Zhang (Program Officer, International Co-Operation Dept) (Sydney, NSW)

07 Jun 2017 Delegation from SACAT - meeting with the Honourable Judge Susanne Cole (Deputy President) and Barbara Johns (Executive Senior Member) (Sydney, NSW)

25 Oct 2017 Meeting w/ Justice Judy Hughes, President, SACAT (Sydney, NSW)

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE HAMILL

Speaking engagements:

Feb 2017	Hosting and Oration – University of Western Sydney – Speaking to first year students and hosting them in Court for a day (Sydney, NSW)
20 Jun 2017	Presentation – District Court of New South Wales – “ <i>Non-Publication Orders</i> ” (Sydney, NSW)
24 Nov 2017	Oration – National Judicial College – “ <i>Take Down Orders</i> ”

Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Chair of Joint Examinations Committee

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE WILSON

Speaking engagements:

01 Feb 2017	Formal Opening Ceremony, In The Supreme Court Sittings At Newcastle, The Honourable Justice Wilson Presiding, and in attendance – Mr P Cummings SC, President of the Newcastle Bar Association; and, Mr G Fox, President of the Newcastle Law Society
19 May 2017	Delivered paper “ <i>Recent Criminal Cases: An Overview of recent decisions of the High Court and the Court of Criminal Appeal</i> ” at the Land and Environment Court of New South Wales, Annual Conference 2017.

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE FAGAN

Conferences:

04 – 05 Mar 2017	National Judicial Conference of Australia Sentencing Conference (Canberra, ACT).
25 – 26 Aug 2017	Supreme Court Annual Judges’ Conference (Leura, NSW)

Speaking engagements:

14 Sep 2017	New South Wales Bar Association, “ <i>Day With Judges</i> ” (Supreme Court, Darlinghurst, NSW).
10 Oct 2017	Child Sexual Offences Evidence Pilot, CPD lecture (ODPP, Sydney, NSW).
28 Nov 2017	Rule of Law Institute of Australia, “ <i>Law Day Out</i> ” lecture (Supreme Court, Sydney, NSW).

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE NATALIE ADAMS

Conferences:

19 – 24 Feb 2017	National Judicial Orientation Program (Melbourne, VIC)
25 – 26 Aug 2017	Supreme Court Annual Judges’ Conference (Leura, NSW)

Speaking engagements:

04 Aug 2017	Legal Aid NSW Criminal Conference 2017 – Bail Presentation
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Appointments to legal, cultural or benevolent organisations:

Committee Member – Legal Qualifications Committee, Legal Profession Admission Board

Committee Member – ADR Steering Committee

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE LONERGAN**Conferences:**

25 – 26 Aug 2017 Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Leura, NSW)

22 – 27 Oct 2017 National Judicial Orientation Program (Manly, NSW)

15 Nov 2017 Medico-Legal Society – Lecture (Wesley Centre, NSW)

Speaking engagements:

21 Jun 2017 Q & A with students from Tranby National Indigenous Adult Education & Training (Sydney, NSW)

15 Aug 2017 Keynote Address at the King & Wood Mallesons Women's Mentoring Program Launch (Sydney, NSW)

05 Sep 2017 Rule of Law – Law Day Out Program, speaking to students from Hill Grammar (Sydney, NSW)

18 Oct 2017 Rule of Law – Law Day Out Program, speaking to students from Mount Annan HS (Sydney, NSW)

19 Oct 2017 Speech at Independent Education Union – Western Sydney Women's Forum on "Women's Work" and making opportunities for women (Catherine McAuley, Westmead, NSW)

01 Nov 2017 Maurice Byers Centenary Conference, introducing Tim Game SC

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE PARKER**Conferences:**

22 – 27 Oct 2017 National Judicial Orientation Program (Manly, NSW)

THE HONOURABLE ASSOCIATE JUSTICE HARRISON**Conferences:**

22 – 25 Jan 2017 Supreme and Federal Courts Judges' Conference (Perth, WA)

25 – 26 Aug 2017 Supreme Court Annual Judges' Conference (Leura, NSW)

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