



STEP AUSTRALIA CONFERENCE 2017

TRUSTS AND ESTATES – THE CHALLENGES OF CONTEMPORARY PRACTICE

2-4 August 2017, Melbourne, Australia

SPEAKERS BIOGRAPHIES

The Hon. Justice Kate McMillan, Supreme Court of Victoria

The Hon. Justice McMillan was appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court of Victoria in March 2012. Her Honour primarily hears matters in the Common Law Division, and is the judge in charge of the Trusts, Equity and Probate List. Before her appointment, she practised as a silk in commercial litigation. She is a former Chair of the Victorian Bar. She also served on the Bar Ethics Committee for 10 years, chairing that Committee for four years.

Professor Rosalind Croucher AM TEP, President, Australian Law Reform Commission

Professor Rosalind Croucher was appointed to the ALRC in February 2007, and in December 2009 was appointed as President. She was formerly Dean of Law at Macquarie University, where she continues as an Adjunct Professor. In the Australia Day Honours list, 2015, she was made a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for 'significant service to the law as an academic, to legal reform and education, to professional development, and to the arts'.

Dylan Alcott OAM, Paralympian

Dylan Alcott, a dual sport athlete, has represented Australia on the international stage in both wheelchair basketball and wheelchair tennis, since the age of 13. In 2008, at the age of 17, he was a main contributor in the Australian wheelchair basketball team, The Rollers, winning gold at the 2008 Paralympic games in Beijing, and becoming the youngest wheelchair basketball gold medallist in history. At the 2016 Rio Paralympics, he won gold in both the singles and doubles tennis, making him one of an elite few to have won Olympic gold in two different sports at two separate Olympics. He was inducted as a member of the Order of Australia in 2009, at the age of 18.

The Hon. Tom Gray QC, retired Justice of the Supreme Court of South Australia

Thomas Gray QC was admitted to the Supreme Court and the High Court in 1969. He worked in general legal practice for more than 10 years before joining Bar Chambers in 1981, where he practised in the areas of common law, commercial law and equity. He was appointed Queen's Counsel in 1984. In 2000, he was appointed the 67th South Australian Supreme Court Judge. He has made a marked contribution to legal education and training, and has published various articles in legal books and journals. He maintains a keen interest in legal and social issues. He retired from the Supreme Court in February 2016. He now holds positions at Adelaide University and Flinders University.

Jennifer Batrouney QC TEP, Victorian Bar

Jennifer Batrouney QC is the President of the Victorian Bar. She was appointed silk in 2000. She is a director of the Law Council of Australia and has sat on the Law Council of Australia's Tax Committee since 1991, and sits on the ATO Public Advice and Guidance Panel. She was a member of the Advisory Panel to the Board of Taxation from 2010-2013. She is the inaugural chair of the Law Council Not-for-Profit Practice and Charities committee, a director of the Charity Law Association of Australia and New Zealand, and a member of the Melbourne Law School Advisory Council.

Grahame Young TEP, Western Australian Bar

Grahame Young practised as a barrister and solicitor with what subsequently became part of a national law firm, and after more than 30 years, commenced practise at the independent Bar. He is the editor of *Duties Legislation Western Australia* and the author of numerous articles in professional publications, including a seminal article on Trust Splitting in 2002.

Associate Professor Tina Cockburn TEP, Queensland University of Technology

Tina Cockburn has lectured in, and co-ordinated, the undergraduate law unit Equity and Trusts at the Queensland University of Technology for over 20 years. Prior to joining the University, she worked as a solicitor with a well-known Brisbane firm, in the areas of wills, trusts and estate law, and commercial and property law. She is a member of the Queensland Law Society Health and Disability Law Committee.

Carolyn Sparke QC TEP, Victorian Bar

Carolyn Sparke QC was admitted to practice in 1989, and joined the Bar in 1991. She took silk in 2012. She had a broad commercial practice in property law, building cases, insolvency and insurance, but specialises in equity, trusts and deceased estate cases of all types. She also teaches as an advocacy instructor: initially in the Melbourne University, Advocacy course (until 2012); and subsequently with the Australian Advocacy Institute, the Australian Bar Association, and the Victorian Bar Readers Course.

Lindsay Ellison SC TEP, New South Wales Bar

Lindsay Ellison SC was called to the Bar in 1985. He became a Senior Counsel in 2005. He practices principally in equity and probate and has appeared in many leading NSW wills and estates cases.

Bryce Figot, DBA Lawyers, Melbourne

Bryce is recognised as one of Australia's leading self-managed superannuation fund (SMSF) lawyers. He has worked predominantly in the fields of tax and superannuation over the past 15 years. He is a senior fellow at the University of Melbourne and is the subject coordinator of the subject *Taxation of Superannuation* as part of Melbourne Law School's masters program. He is the author of the book *Complete Guide to SMSFs: Planning for Loss of Capacity and Death*. He is on the editorial panel of LexisNexis' Australian Superannuation Law Bulletin. He is a Specialist SMSF Advisor, and a Chartered Tax Adviser.

Sam McCullough TEP, Worrall Lawyers, Hobart

Sam McCullough is a Director of Worrall Lawyers, Hobart. He practises in the areas of estate planning, estates and trust disputes. He is the co-author of *Statutory Will Applications: A Practical Guide*, and a contributing author to Halsbury's Laws of Australia. He is the Tasmanian representative on the National Elder Law and Succession Committee of the Law Council of Australia, and an Associate of the Tax Institute.

Professor Nolan Sharkey TEP, The University of Western Australia

Nolan Sharkey was a tax consultant in the private sector prior to becoming a full time academic with the University of New South Wales in 2002. He joined the University of Western Australia in 2014. He is a barrister at Francis Burt Chambers in Perth, and continues to give tax advice. He has been a visiting scholar at the National University of Singapore, the National University of Taiwan, Xiamen University (China), Hong Kong University and Fengjia University (Taiwan). His current research focuses on international tax and the interaction of income tax laws of different countries, particularly Australia, China, Singapore and Hong Kong.

David W Marks QC TEP, Queensland Bar

David W Marks QC is an Australian commercial barrister, specialising in tax. He has a traditional Chancery practice in tax advice, tax appeals, trusts, equity, property and estates. He appears and advises in corporate, commercial, professional negligence, and administrative law matters.

Rod Luker TEP, Hume Taylor & Co Lawyers, Adelaide

Rod Luker is Chair of STEP South Australia Branch, and a partner of the law firm Hume Taylor & Co. He predominantly practices in the areas of commercial law , securities, estates and succession planning.

Peter Bobbin TEP, Argyle Lawyers, Sydney

Peter Bobbin is Chair of STEP New South Wales Branch. He has been the Managing Principal of Argyle Lawyers for the past 20 years. He is recognised as one of Australia's best-known speakers on estate planning, tax and trusts. His areas of expertise also include superannuation, asset protection, and financial services distributions. In 2015, he was awarded Tax Adviser of the Year, SME Category by the Australian Tax Institute. He was the only individual (non-association) representative invited to the Federal Treasury initiative on the Ralph Report.

Richard Williams TEP, Queensland Bar

Richard Williams is a Barrister at the Queensland Bar. He specialises in wills, trusts and estates. He is Chair of STEP Queensland Branch. He studied Law at Cambridge University and was first called to the Bar in England and Wales in 1993. He is listed in the current Doyle's Guide to the Australian Legal Profession as a Leading Junior Counsel in wills and estates litigation. He has particular expertise in statutory wills in various States, and is co-author of *Statutory Will Applications: A Practical Guide*, published by LexisNexis. He teaches as an Adjunct Lecturer for the College of Law's LLM program in Wills & Estates, and as a sessional academic at the Queensland University of Technology.

Jenny McMillan TEP, Lawcover, NSW

Jenny McMillan was admitted to practice in New South Wales in 1989 and in Western Australia in 1992. She is an accredited specialist in wills and estates in NSW and has extensive experience in this area in private practice, with a trustee company, and as the Practice Leader – Wills and Estates for the College of Law's LLM (Applied Law) program. She is a member of the NSW Law Society Elder Law and Succession Committee and a part-time Senior Member (Legal) in the Guardianship Division of the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal.

Dr Ben Harris, Melbourne

Ben Harris is a senior clinical neuropsychologist whose current public appointments are in community aged psychiatry for Monash Health, and in the Cognitive Dementia and Memory Service for St Vincent's Health. He also has a long-term involvement with Delmont Private Hospital, working with adult and aged patients experiencing a range of psychiatric and substance abuse disorders. Ben trained at the University of Melbourne where he completed a Masters in Clinical Neuropsychology and a PhD in Cognitive Neuroscience. He has a particular clinical interest in the overlay between psychiatric and neurological presentations.