

The Barristers of  
**2 | Selborne**  
Chambers  
present



2025  
**PROPERTY, FAMILY &  
SUCCESSION LAW  
CONFERENCE**

**Thursday, 20 March 2025**

Noah's on the Beach  
29 Zaara Street, Newcastle East NSW



**Get tickets**

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# PROPERTY, FAMILY & SUCCESSION LAW CONFERENCE



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## PROGRAM SCHEDULE

8:30am	Arrival and Registration		
8:55am	Welcome	Jack Whelan MC	
9:00am	Keynote Speaker	The Honourable Philip Hallen SC	Succession Act releases in Family Law – Mediation Preparation
10:00am	Panel: Property Law	David Pritchard SC Simon Burchett Adrian Maroya	Presumption or resulting trusts/Constructive trusts Running a case in the Supreme Court Real Property List The right of exoneration/trust property
11:00am	Morning Tea	ALL	
11:30am	Panel: Family Law	Ian Duane Michelle Meares Jonathon Abednego	Farming cases Bankruptcy & Family Law Tax implications of Family Law Settlements
12:30pm	Winning Affidavits	Cameron Jackson	Ethical preparation of Winning Affidavits and Witness Statements – a practical approach
12:55pm	Networking Lunch	ALL	A catered networking luncheon providing an opportunity to connect, share experiences, and foster professional relationships
1.45pm	Managing your law practice	Vera Culkoff	
2:10pm	Interactive Ethics Panel	David Pritchard SC Vera Culkoff Adrian Maroya Damien Toohey Michelle Meares - facilitator	Case studies will cover the use of artificial intelligence in our practice, cyber risks and the usual ethical dilemmas that confront practitioners
3:10pm	Afternoon Tea	ALL	
3:25pm	Artificial Intelligence in Practice	Laina Chan	
3:45pm	Panel: Succession Law	Mark Friedgut Gabrielle Colquhoun	Testamentary capacity and undue influence Sole Beneficiaries in Family provisions claims
4:30pm	Keynote Speaker	Her Honour Judge Jane Costigan	Assisting the Bench as a practitioner in a property matter
5:00pm	Closing		

# CONFERENCE

## WHAT TO EXPECT

The Barristers of 2 Selborne Chambers invite you to our 2025 Property and Family Law conference in Newcastle NSW on Thursday 20 March 2025

### The Main Objective

The main objective of this Conference is to reach out and deepen the relationship between the Bar and Solicitors in the Newcastle and Central Coast Region. We aim to achieve this in discussion about the latest and most important developments in family, property and succession law.

### CLE/CPD Points

Attendees will earn 6 CPD / 6 CLE points, including 1 point in Ethics. An interactive panel session will cover ethics and the professional responsibilities of solicitors, their duties and responsibilities to their clients.



Scan to register

### Wealth of Knowledge

We have secured two outstanding Keynote speakers who will give tips on appearing in the Supreme Court of NSW and the Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia. We also have 3 special guest speakers and 10 speakers from 2 Selborne Chambers who will join one of our three panels plus an interactive ethics workshop. This is a conference that any Family Law and Property Law specialist will not want to miss!

### A Good Cause

Tickets for the event will be non-refundable, however all profits will be donated to local Newcastle charity, Jenny's Place, a charity providing support for women and children in the Newcastle area to find safety.

# OUR SPEAKERS

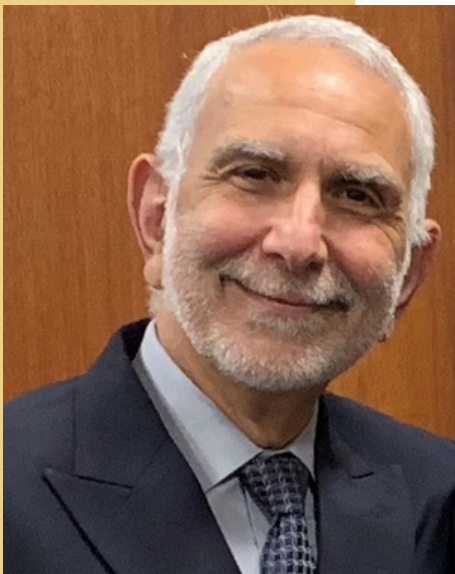
## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



### **HER HONOUR JUDGE JANE COSTIGAN**

#### **Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia | Division 2 | Newcastle Registry**

Judge Costigan was appointed to the Newcastle Registry of the Federal Circuit Court of Australia on 7 September 2017. She was educated at University of Sydney and admitted in the Supreme Court of NSW in 1986 and to the roll of solicitors in England and Wales in 1992. She practised as a solicitor in Goulburn, Sydney, Tunbridge Wells & Tonbridge in England, and Gosford. In 2001 she left private practice to join Legal Aid NSW working in family law and care and protection. In 2015 she was appointed as the Solicitor in Charge of the Gosford Office of Legal Aid.



### **THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE PHILLIP HALLEN SC**

#### **Retired Supreme Court Judge**

Mr Hallen SC was appointed as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court in July 2010 and then as a Justice of the Supreme Court in November 2012, sitting in the Equity Division, until his retirement. He was the Family Provision List Judge from March 2013 until February 2020 and then the Succession List Judge until August 2023. His Honour is a uniquely positioned to shed light on best practice Supreme Court advocacy in the fields of equity, wills and succession.

# OUR SPEAKERS

## GUEST SPEAKERS



### **DAVID PRITCHARD SC**

#### **Barrister, Third Floor St James Hall Chambers**

David Pritchard SC was admitted as a Lawyer in 1985, called to the NSW Bar in 1991 and appointed Senior Counsel in 2007. He is a Member of the Review Panel of the Office of the Legal Services Commissioner and an Instructor and Examiner for the NSW Bar Readers Course.

His practise is primarily in banking and finance, bankruptcy and insolvency, commercial disputes, equity and Corporations Act proceedings, real and personal property disputes and professional negligence.



### **ADRIAN MAROYA**

#### **Barrister, 9 Selborne Chambers**

Prior to being called to the Bar in 2004, Adrian was Research Assistant and Tipstaff to the Hon Mr. Justice Meagher of the NSW Court of Appeal.

Adrian has built an extensive advisory practice in contentious and non-contentious matters, with appearances in all jurisdictions generally, and in particular the Supreme Court of New South Wales.



### **IAN DUANE**

#### **Barrister, Newcastle Chambers**

Ian Duane graduated in 1991 from Macquarie University with degrees in law and economics. He worked as a solicitor at Mullane & Lindsay in Newcastle from 1991 until 1996, at which time he went to the Bar. Ian has practised a wide variety of areas of law as a solicitor and as counsel, including contract, commercial, property, defamation, copyright equitable claims, misleading/deceptive conduct, crime, employment law, civil claims and building disputes.

In more recent years his practice has developed a primary focus on family law and he appears for clients in all types of family law cases, both parenting and property matters, and in particular property matters involving substantial asset pools, corporate entities and third parties, as well as farming cases.

# OUR SPEAKERS

## 2 SELBORNE BARRISTERS



**SIMON BURCHETT**  
Barrister

Simon specialises in commercial contract and property law. He is highly experienced in administrative, trusts and estates and intellectual property law. He is an accredited arbitrator and mediator, acting in court-appointed and independent alternative dispute resolution procedures in relation to all manner of civil disputes.



**LAINA CHAN**  
Barrister

Laina is an experienced and widely published commercial barrister with particular expertise on all issues relating to construction, real property, and insurance law. Her works are in the syllabus of many Australian universities. Laina is the founder and CEO of MiAI Law, pioneering a new era in AI-driven legal research.



**GABRIELLE COLQUHOUN**  
Barrister

Gabrielle was called to the Bar in 2019. Gabrielle's practice is diverse, but she has a particular interest in probate and family provision, along with property, equity and trust matters. Gabrielle previously worked as a senior manager in a major financial institution with experience in property transactions, and the administration of trusts and deceased estates.



**VERA CULKOFF**  
Barrister

Vera's practice is primarily in commercial litigation (with an emphasis in building and construction disputes) and estate litigation including probate and family provisions disputes. Vera has lectured widely in building and construction law at various seminars and workshops, as well as chairing Seminars.



**MARK FRIEDGUT**  
Barrister

Mark practices primarily in the equity, commercial, corporate and insurance fields, and also has extensive experience in defamation. He has represented a wide range of commercial disputes both at trial and at appellate level. He has also had extensive experience in alternative dispute resolution procedures, including mediation.

# OUR SPEAKERS

## 2 SELBORNE BARRISTERS



**CAMERON JACKSON**  
Barrister

Cameron's two areas of specialisation are health law and administrative law. Cameron has a particular focus upon advising and appearing for doctors, colleges, and hospitals in disciplinary proceedings, inquests, and other inquiries, and on appeal. He has given numerous presentations and written papers in the areas of health and administrative law



**MICHELLE MEARES**  
Barrister

Prior to being called to the Bar in 2023, Michelle was the owner and principal lawyer of Central Coast firm Meares Law, practicing primarily in family law and plaintiff litigation. Michelle has significant experience in complex parenting and property matters including valuation issues, company and trust structures, bankruptcy, superannuation including Australian and international pensions and appellate work.



**DAMIEN TOOHEY**  
Barrister

Damien was called to the Bar in 2019 and became a qualified mediator in 2022. He focuses his practice in Estate matters encompassing Family Provision and contested Wills, Damien has a particular interest in Aviation Law, specifically in responding to Show Cause Notices, conferences with CASA, attending reviews in the AAT, and appearing in Coronial Inquests.



**JACK WHELAN**  
Barrister

Jack was called to the Bar in 2018. He has conducted more than 650 mediations and drafted more than 300 speeches for political leaders, Members of Parliament, CEOs and public figures. Jack continues to work as a mediator, negotiator and speech writer. He has particular passion for Administrative Law, Family Law, Personal Injury Law and Employment Law.



**JONATHAN ABEDNEGO**  
Barrister

Jonathan practices principally in taxation and commercial law, and in alternative dispute resolution, as a mediator. Before coming to the Bar in 2024, Jonathan held various senior roles within banking and finance, consulting, health and the not-for-profit sector. He is an experienced board director and a former accountant.