

## CHAIR



### **Antony Mahon, Barrister, Auckland**

Antony is a family lawyer practising in Auckland who specialises in all aspects of family law. He has been a lawyer for the child since 1989 and in 2004 was co-presenter of the NZLS seminar Child Development. He has also co-presented the Lawyer for the Child workshop since 2006. Antony is a past chair of the Family Law Section, and a regular presenter at family law forums.

## INTERNATIONAL SPEAKERS



### **Vincent Papaleo, Clinical Psychologist, Kew, Victoria, Australia**

Vincent is a member of the psychological society and a member of the Board of Clinical Psychologists. He worked for eight years as a clinical psychologist in the Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at The Austin Hospital, Melbourne, and has worked as a private practitioner for twenty five years in family law. Over those years, Vincent has worked extensively in all areas of the Family Court, and has not only written a great many family reports but given evidence extensively, has contributed to teaching, the training of Independent Children's Lawyers, has been a regular presenter at State and National Family Law conferences, to the Victorian Family Law Bar, The Victorian Law Society, Leo Cussen and various other professional development activities. Vincent works in private practice and continues to specialise in working with separated and separating families. He continues to provide family reports and maintains a clinical practice. Vincent's greatest areas of clinical interest are working with families in high conflict and bringing a developmental perspective to family law disputes. He has a particular interest in family law matters dealing with the needs of pre-school children.



### **Bryan Rodgers, Professor of Family Health & Wellbeing, ANU, Canberra, Australia**

Bryan is Professor of Family Health & Wellbeing at the Australian Demographic & Social Research Institute, ANU, and an NHMRC Principal Research Fellow. He is author of over 200 publications, mostly in international academic journals. He was co-author with Jan Pryor of *Children in Changing Families: Life After Parental Separation* (Blackwell; 2001). Bryan's research interests include: the epidemiology of common mental disorders, substance use and gambling; childhood predictors of adult mental health; the interaction between family relationships and mental health; interventions to prevent mental health problems and minimise their impact on social and economic functioning. In addition to his own research projects, Bryan has been an advisor to the Longitudinal Study of Australian Children (LSAC), the Household, Income and Labour Dynamics of Australia (HILDA) Survey, and the Department of Defence Health & Wellbeing Survey. He is also the Independent Scientific Advisor to the Department of Veterans' Affairs Family Studies Program. Most of Bryan's research interests are directed at policy translation and improving service delivery. He has served as a co-opted member of the Board of Family & Relationships Services Australia.

## SPEAKERS



### **Robert Bowe, Principal Solicitor, Child Youth and Family, Wellington**

Robert has worked extensively in the family law area since 1974. He joined Child, Youth and Family in 2003. Robert is now Principal Solicitor in the Office of the Chief Legal Advisor.



### **Jan Chappell, Inland Revenue Department – Legal, Manukau**

Jan has been with Inland Revenue for nine and a half years. She specialises in child support matters, advising and appearing on legislative, administrative and litigation functions on behalf of the department.



### **Vivienne Crawshaw, Barrister, Auckland**

Vivienne has been in practice for over 20 years, most of which has been focused primarily on family law. She has presented to the Institute of Judicial Studies, at the IBA Conference, for Lexis Nexis, to ADLS and NZLS Family Law conferences. In 2006 she published a book for the general public entitled *Untying the Knot – What You Need to Know in a Family Break-up*. Vivienne has appeared as counsel in a number of relationship property and children's cases at first instance and at appellate level. Vivienne has been in practice as a barrister sole since 2008.



### **Rohan Cochrane, Family Law Specialists, Porirua**

Rohan graduated from Victoria University in 1995. He is a director of Family Law Specialists, a five lawyer firm in Porirua delivering a wide range of legal services. Rohan has a particular interest in how lawyers can maintain professional standards while delivering legal services under financial and time constraints, and is appointed to New Zealand Law Society Standards Committees and the Ministry of Justice Legal Aid Provider Selection Panel.



### **Angela Corry, Barrister, Christchurch**

Angela is a family law barrister who graduated from Otago University in 1982. She practised in Auckland until 2005 and since then has been enjoying the ups and downs, literally, of practising in Christchurch, along with her colleagues in Atticus Chambers, Stephen van Bohemen, Siobhan McNulty, and Bob Perry. Angela was one of the mediators engaged by the Ministry of Justice in its mediation pilot in 2005. She has continued to offer a mediation service and her legal practice involves Lawyer for the Child work, relationship and trust property cases and estate claims.

## SPEAKERS



### **Simon Cunliffe, Fairfax Editorial Services, Wellington**

Simon is an editor, columnist, playwright and tutor. In the UK he worked on The Independent and contributed articles to *The Guardian* and *The New Stateman*, among others. He has been deputy editor of The Press in Christchurch and the *Otago Daily Times*. He has written current affairs columns for about 10 years, for *The Press*, the *Otago Daily Times* and the *Sunday Star-Times*. In 2012, he was named New Zealand Columnist of the Year. His play *The Truth Game* has had professional productions at the Fortune theatre in Dunedin and Circa theatre in Wellington. He has tutored on IJS judgment writing courses and co-presented NZLS seminars to lawyers on writing plain English. He is currently Deputy Chief of Staff of Fairfax Editorial Services, based in Wellington.



### **Kate Diesfeld, Auckland University of Technology, Auckland**

Kate is a member of the State Bar of California. She represented people with disabilities in Los Angeles and patients before England's Mental Health Review Tribunal. For eight years, Kate was the Legal Supervisor for the Kent Law Clinic (Mental Health and Learning Disability) at Kent Law School in England. She was the Director of the National Centre of Health Law and Ethics at AUT and the Associate Dean of Research at the University of Waikato's Te Piringa Faculty of Law. With Professor Freckelton, she edited *Involuntary Detention and Therapeutic Jurisprudence* (2003). Currently she is editing *Essentials of Elder Law in New Zealand* (Thompson Reuters).



### **Catriona Doyle, Family Law Specialists, Porirua**

Catriona graduated from Otago University in 1993 with an LLB and BA majoring in Political Studies. She is the director of Family Law Specialists, a six lawyer full service Family Law practice. Catriona has 20 years' experience as a lawyer specialising in providing advice and advocacy on a full range of family law matters including protection, child care, adoption, surrogacy, property and estate planning matters. She is regularly appointed by the Family Court to represent children and incapacitated persons in both the Family and High Court jurisdictions. She also appears in Hague Convention cases.



### **Erin Ebborn, Ebborn Law Ltd, Christchurch**

Erin has specialised in family law for 14 years. Driven by values she has embraced the changes to legal aid and started a firm in September 2012 that now supports a staff of seven. Erin's innovative Christchurch-based practice specialises in matters before the Family Court and is a leading provider of family law services to legally-aided people in Canterbury, making legal aid profitable through a focus on lean management and technology.

## **SPEAKERS**



### **Rosaline Fuata'i, Barrister, Manukau**

Rosaline holds warrants as District Inspector pursuant to the Mental Health (CAT) Act 1992 and the Intellectual Disability (CC & R) Act 2003. Outside work she is on the board of Cerebral Palsy Society NZ and a partner of Samoa Cycling Tours.



### **Anne Hinton QC, Barrister, Auckland**

Anne practises in relationship property and civil litigation. Until 1997, Anne was a civil litigation partner at Simpson Grierson. She is a past chair of the New Zealand Law Practitioners Disciplinary Tribunal and of the St Johns College Trust Board and is a current trustee of a number of charitable Trusts. Anne has presented many seminars on common law, trust law and relationship property topics.



### **Susan Hughes QC, Barrister, New Plymouth**

Susan has a wealth of experience in litigation and has been a faculty member of the NZLS CLE Litigation Skills Programme since 1997 and was a Director in 2009.



### **Kevin Muir, Morgan Coakle Lawyers, Auckland**

Kevin graduated from Canterbury University in 1986. His litigation practice includes the defence of lawyers facing civil claims and disciplinary issues as well as a focus on relationship property matters. He is the partner who heads the family law team at Morgan Coakle Lawyers and he has presented a number of seminars and papers on relationship property and advocacy issues for NZLS and ADLS in the past.



### **His Hon Judge Robert Murfitt, District Court, Christchurch**

Judge Murfitt was in practice in Christchurch for 30 years specialising in family law and criminal law (and briefly in conveyancing). For eight years he was a barrister sole practising primarily in family law litigation. He was appointed to the Family Court Bench in New Plymouth in 2004 and was transferred back to a very different Christchurch in October 2010. Judge Murfitt has presented papers at NZLS conferences and was a presenter of the NZLS seminars.

## **SPEAKERS**



### **Her Hon Judge Mary O'Dwyer, District Court, Wellington**

Judge Mary O'Dwyer was appointed to the District Court with a Family Court warrant in November 2002, and sits in Wellington. From 2002 to 2011 she sat in Dunedin and is a designated Youth Court Judge. Judge O'Dwyer graduated from Birmingham University, England and is a barrister of Gray's Inn, London. She practised as a barrister for 15 years in London and throughout the United Kingdom. In 1993 she joined Cunningham Taylor, Christchurch and became a partner in 1997. She served on several New Zealand Law Society committees and on the Family Law Section Executive in 2001. She has served on the Council of Legal Education for nine years and was chair of the Family Court Education committee for five years. She has a keen interest in raising standards of advocacy in the Family Court.



### **Henare O'Keefe QSM JP, Hastings (Ngāti Porou/Ngāti Kahungunu/ Irish)**

Growing up in a low socio-economic household in Ruatoria, but influenced by the strong core values that lie at the heart of his large family, Henare has a deep commitment to uplift and inspire his community and his people. He has a thirst to reverse negative social statistics and is dedicated to combating family violence, mentoring youth and assisting in the reintegration of prisoners. Henare and wife Pam have fostered more than 200 children over a period of 17 years. Although world renowned opera singer Phillip Rhodes is perhaps the O'Keefes' most famous foster child many of their "kids" have achieved their own goals and aspirations.



### **Sharyn Otene, Barrister, Manukau**

Sharyn is of Nga Puhi descent and has worked in Auckland and predominantly in South Auckland since commencing practice in 1996. Sharyn's first position was as a solicitor with King Alofivae Malosi – the first all-female Maori and Pacific Island partnership in the country. From 2001 until 2010 Sharyn was in partnership with Hana Ellis in a general practice with a focus on family law. In 2010 Quadrant Chambers was established in Manukau. All its members have a strong focus on family law. Sharyn's practice is predominantly in matters concerning CYPTF, COCA and PPPR proceedings. She was appointed to the Lawyer for the Child panel in 2001 and frequently acts as Lawyer for Child and as Counsel to Assist the Court. Sharyn is an accredited mediator and has been a member of the panel to conduct counsel-led mediation since the inception of the Early Intervention Process in 2010. Sharyn is a past member of the Section's Maori Issues Standing Committee. She was appointed to the Family Law Section Executive in March 2012 as has been involved with the Family Court Review as a participant in the Section's symposium on the Family Court held at Parliament in June 2011 and a member of the External Reference Group to the Ministry of Justice.

## SPEAKERS



### **The Hon Justice John Priestley, High Court, Auckland**

Justice Priestley graduated BA LLB (Hons) from the University of Auckland in 1968 where he was a senior scholar in law. He then graduated to an MA degree from Cambridge University and a doctorate in 1972 from the University of Virginia. He was admitted to the bar in 1968 and was a partner in an Auckland firm from 1975 until becoming a barrister sole in 1983. Justice Priestley was noted for his interest in family law and was the chairman of the NZ Law Society's family law section. He was the original chairman of the Deportation Review Authority, and was deputy chairman of the Refugee Status Appeal Authority and chairman of the Film Censorship Board of Review. Justice Priestley was appointed Queen's Counsel in 1994 and was appointed to the High Court bench in 2000. He is based at the Auckland High Court.



### **Dr Jan Pryor, Wellington**

Jan is the editor of *The International Handbook on Stepfamilies. Policy and Practice in Legal, Research and Clinical Environments*, published in 2008. She has completed another book entitled *Stepfamilies. A Global Perspective on Research, Policy and Practice* to be published in 2013 by Taylor and Francis.



### **Haamiora Raumati, RMY Legal, New Plymouth**

Haamiora has worked in New Plymouth, since his admission in 1995. He has been a partner at RMY Legal (formerly Reeves Middleton Young) since 2002. Haam has a varied practice with a large part of that being Family Law. Haam is qualified to be appointed as Lawyer for Child and Counsel to Assist, is a Youth Advocate, and appears regularly in both the Family Court and Youth Court.



### **Peter Redpath, Eagles Eagles & Redpath, Invercargill**

Peter has practised in Invercargill for 30 years with a strong emphasis on all aspects of family law. An Otago graduate with the benefit of being taught by a young Mark Henaghan, Peter will bring his provincial and generalist perspective to the conference.

## SPEAKERS



### **His Hon Principal Family Court Judge Laurence Ryan, Wellington**

Educated at Selwyn College. Obtained an LLB at Auckland University and was admitted to the Bar in 1973. Joined the late Brian Shenkin in partnership in 1975. Became a Barrister sole in 1988 specialising in Family Law. Was appointed to the District Court bench in 1996 with a Family Court warrant and Youth Court designation. Has been Administrative Family Court Judge for the Northern Region under Sir Patrick Mahony and the recently retired Principal Family Court Judge, Judge Peter Boshier. Presented a paper on case management to the Australasian Family Court Judges at a combined conference in 1999. Presented a paper on Restorative Justice for Children to the Commonwealth Magistrates and Judges Association in Kuala Lumpur in 2011. Has written papers and presented at many NZ Law Society conferences both as a Judge and a specialist family lawyer. Was a member of the National Caseflow Management committee chaired by Justice Sir John Hansen until that committee was disestablished. Upon the enactment of the Domestic Violence Act, established a caseflow management practice for applications for protection orders that was adopted throughout most of the New Zealand courts. Has been instrumental in establishing and managing the Centralised Fixtures program in the Greater Auckland area. Has been a member of the Family Court Education committee and helped co-present at a number of seminars for Family Court Judges. Has been a member of various Judicial Reference Groups and Working Groups dealing with specific issues which involved consultation and collaboration with the Ministry of Justice.



### **Her Hon Judge Emma Smith, District Court, Christchurch**

Judge Smith was appointed as a District Court Judge in 2004. While initially sitting in Dunedin she now sits in Christchurch. Prior to this she had worked as a criminal and family court litigator in South Auckland before moving to Taranaki where she began to specialise in family law with a particular emphasis on child advocacy, sexual abuse cases, domestic protection work and property litigation.



### **His Hon Judge Chris Somerville, District Court, Christchurch**

Judge Somerville was admitted to the bar in 1971 and practised in Wellington, Southern Hawkes Bay, and the Manawatu before being appointed to the District Court Bench in 1996 to sit in Christchurch. He has sought specialist training in family mediation from CDR & Associates (Boulder, Colorado) and John Wade (Bond University, Queensland). Since 2001 he has been on the Judicial Faculty responsible for training judges in mediation.



### **Kiriana Tan, Barrister, Hamilton**

Kiriana is of Ngāti Hangarau, Ngāti Mutunga and Chinese descent. She commenced practice in a Rotorua law firm in 1998 before moving to a Hamilton law firm for six years. Since July 2008, she has been practising as a barrister from Te Kopu Chambers in Hamilton. She currently practises in all areas of family law and is also a Lawyer for the Child and Counsel for the Subject Person under the PPPR Act. Kiriana has previously worked on a number of Waitangi Tribunal Inquiries and in the Māori Land Court jurisdiction. Kiriana is currently the Te Hunga Roia Māori representative on the Family Law Section.

## **SPEAKERS**



### **Jennifer Wademan, Thomas Dewar Sziranyi Letts, Lower Hutt**

Jennifer graduated from the University of Otago in 2008 with an LLB, BCom and a Masters in International Studies (with Distinction). She then went on to study at The Hague Academy of International Law and graduated from the Summer Programme in 2010. From 2007 to 2010 Jennifer worked as Judge's Clerk to the then Principal Family Court Judge, Judge Boshier. She now works in the family law team at Thomas Dewar Sziranyi Letts, where she specialises in family law with an international component, and relationship property. She is the author of a number of published papers on family law matters, and recently presented at the World Congress on Family Law and Children's Rights.



### **Her Hon Judge Alayne Wills, District Court, Tauranga**

Judge Wills was appointed to the District Court Bench in 2010. She sits in the Family, Criminal and Youth Court jurisdictions. Before appointment the Judge practised in the family law area for 28 years, her work mix including mental health and protection of personal and property rights matters. She has presented a NZLS CLE seminar on Child Youth and Family Services proceedings, conducted family workshops for Te Hunga Roia Māori and has been a regular faculty member for the NZLS CLE Litigation Skills programme.



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