

Chair



The Hon Justice Robertson, Court of Appeal, Wellington

After being admitted in 1968, the judge practised law in Dunedin and taught part-time at the University of Otago until he was appointed to the High Court in 1987. He was President of the Law Commission from 2001 – 2005 and became a permanent member of the Court of Appeal three years ago. For the last decade he has presided in the Court of Appeal of Vanuatu. Justice Robertson is Editor-in-Chief of the NZLS text *Introduction to Advocacy* and Consulting Editor of *Adams on Criminal Law*.

Presenters



Dr Suzanne Blackwell, Clinical Psychologist, Auckland

Dr Suzanne Blackwell has been a clinical psychologist since 1973 and has experience in the assessment and treatment of sexual offenders, and of children and adults with child sexual abuse trauma histories. She has given expert evidence in criminal trials including those involving charges of child sexual assault. Recently she conducted New Zealand Law Foundation funded research involving the post trial interview of jurors in relation to child sexual abuse issues and beliefs. In addition to clinical practice she is also an Honorary Research Fellow (Psychology) at the University of Auckland, and a researcher in the “Child Witnesses in the Criminal Justice System” research project funded by the Law Foundation.



Grant Burston, Crown Solicitor, Wellington

Grant has worked as a Crown prosecutor since 1985 and has been a partner of Luke Cunningham & Clere since 1988. He was appointed Crown Solicitor for Wellington in 2008. Grant is the author of the title “Criminal Procedure” in *Butterworths Laws of New Zealand*, a member of the Editorial Board of the New Zealand Loose Leaf Edition *Cross on Evidence*, the paper “The Prosecutor’s Duty of Fairness” for the NZLS CLE *Criminal Law Symposium* in 1998, and of the paper “Questioning of Witnesses” for the NZLS CLE intensive *Evidence Act 2006* in 2007.



Jonathan Eaton, Barrister, Christchurch

Jonathan joined the independent bar in 1998 having specialised in criminal litigation both as a prosecutor and defence counsel. He has conducted many trials in the District and High Courts on behalf of both the Crown and the defence and appears regularly in the Court of Appeal. Jonathan is the Vice-President - South Island of the NZBA and one of two criminal specialists on the council of the NZBA. He is on the faculty of the NZLS Litigation Skills programme.



The Hon Justice Simon France, High Court, Wellington

Justice France was appointed to the High Court in 2005. Before that he worked at the Crown Law Office and at Victoria University of Wellington. He has written previously in the area of evidence law, and presented seminars for the Institute of Judicial Studies on the new Evidence Act.

Speakers



Her Hon Judge Mackintosh, District Court, Napier

Bridget Mackintosh worked as Crown Prosecutor from 1985 until 2003. She was a partner at Luke Cunningham and Clere from 1993 until 2003 when she accepted appointment to the District Court Bench. She has extensive experience in departmental prosecutions, criminal jury trials and summary trials. Judge Mackintosh has particular interest and experience in sexual abuse trials involving children. Based in Napier she sits in the criminal jurisdiction.



Kristy McDonald QC, Barrister, Wellington

Kristy McDonald QC has provided advice and representation for private clients and the Crown in a wide range of civil, criminal and administrative matters over the past 27 years. She began her career as a prosecutor in Christchurch, was appointed a Crown Counsel at the Crown Law Office and commenced practice at the independent bar in 1989. She was made a Queens Counsel in 1999. Kristy has undertaken and assisted with a number of independent ministerial and other inquiries and has chaired and advised a number of statutory bodies and tribunals. She is a LEADR- qualified mediator.



Simon Mount, Meredith Connell, Auckland

Simon is a Crown Prosecutor with Meredith Connell in Auckland. Prior to joining Meredith Connell he was an Associate in Law at Columbia University in New York. He has written on media law and freedom of expression topics in New Zealand and the United States.



Christopher Stevenson, Barrister, Wellington

Christopher specialises in defence trial advocacy. He has appeared as counsel in many cases at a senior level, and was recently part of the defence team in *R v Foreman* in which the accused was acquitted of the murder of a Napier farmer. Christopher appears in the Court of Appeal and was counsel in *R v Munro* which involved the question of appealing a jury guilty verdict on the facts.



Jonathan Temm, Barrister, Rotorua

After graduating with a BA/LLB (Hons) Jonathan joined the civil litigation team at Chapman Tripp in Auckland. He moved to Davys Burton in Rotorua where he became a partner practising in civil and criminal litigation. Now a barrister sole based in Rotorua, Jonathan is currently a member of the NZLS Council.



Michele Wilkinson-Smith, Barrister, Auckland

Michele was a Crown Prosecutor in Taranaki from 1993 - 2004 and a partner at Auld Brewer Mazengarb & McEwen from 1998-2004. She is a past president of the Taranaki District Law Society. Michele has prosecuted numerous serious cases including child abuse and murder. More recently she has defended cases including serious sexual offending, class A drug offending and the successful defence in *R v Kahui*.

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