# CHAIR



#### Murray Earl, Barrister, Hamilton

Murray focuses on custody and relationship property cases. He delivered papers on the New Zealand matrimonial property legislation to the Australian Family Law Section at Hobart in 1998 and the Auckland District Law Society in May and June 2001. He was a member of the New Zealand Law Society's Family Law Committee and was an executive member of the Family Law Section from its inception in 1998 through to 2002. He is the editor of the *Family Advocate*.

### **KEYNOTE SPEAKER**



#### Solangel Maldonado, Professor of Law, Seton Hall University School of Law, New Jersey (USA)

Solangel Maldonado is a Professor of Law and Dean's Scholar at Seton Hall University School of Law. She teaches several courses in the family law area, as well as torts, estates and trusts, and race, ethnicity, and the law. Her research focuses on the law's regulation of children's relationships with adults who play a parental role. She has published several articles exploring how the law can encourage non-residential fathers to nurture their children. Her work also examines the legal and social challenges surrounding minority and multi-cultural families, including adoption and grandparent access. Prior to joining the Seton Hall faculty, Solangel clerked for a federal district judge and was a litigation associate at two New York law firms. She received her BA from Columbia College and her JD from Columbia Law School, where she was a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar and the managing editor of the *Columbia Journal of Gender and the Law*.

# **INTERNATIONAL SPEAKERS**



#### Chief Justice of the Family Court of Australia Diana Bryant (Au)

Her Honour was appointed as the inaugural Chief Federal Magistrate on 31 January 2000 and headed the Federal Magistrates Court until July 2004. Prior to this appointment Chief Justice Bryant was admitted to practice in 1970 in Victoria and practised as a solicitor/advocate in Perth from 1977 to 1990. When she returned to Melbourne she was a member of the Victorian Bar from 1990 to her appointment as Chief Federal Magistrate in 2000, and was appointed Queen's Counsel in 1997. Her Honour was a member of the Executive of the Family Law Section of the Law Council of Australia, Vice-chair of the Family Law Bar Association, a board member of Victoria Legal Aid and regularly participated at seminars and advocacy teaching workshops. Chief Justice Bryant's other major contributions to the law include her four-year involvement on the committee with Justice Fogarty advising the Government on the model for the Child Support Scheme and her appearance for the mother in the High Court in *AIF v AMS* in the first relocation case in the High Court. She was appointed Chief Justice of the Family Court of Australia on 5 July 2004.

# **INTERNATIONAL SPEAKERS**



### Dr Robert Emery, Professor of Psychology and Director of the Center for Children, Families, and the Law at the University of Virginia, Associate faculty member in the Institue of Law, Psychiatry, and Public Policy and (Director of Clinical Training from 1993 - 2002) (USA)

Dr Emery received his BA from Brown University in 1974 and his PhD from the State University of New York at Stony Brook in 1982. He has served or is serving on the editorial board of eleven professional journals, and he has been a member of the social sciences and population grant review study section of the National Institutes of Health. His research focuses on family relationships and children's mental health, including parental conflict, divorce, child custody, family violence, and associated legal and policy issues. Dr Emery is the author of over 100 scientific publications and several books. He has won numerous awards for his writing and has had books translated into Chinese, Italian and Korean. Dr Emery's new book, *The Truth about Children and Divorce:* Dealing with the Emotions So You and Your Children Can Thrive (New York: Viking/ Penguin) was published in August, 2004, and was featured when Dr Emery presented on several talk shows, radio, Newsweek magazine, and in many other print and electronic media. Dr Emery has lectured extensively on his research across the United States and in numerous countries throughout the world. In addition to his research, teaching, and administrative responsibilities he continues to engage in a limited practice as a clinical psychologist and divorce mediator. He is also the father of five children.



#### Dr Bruce Smyth, Associate Professor, Australian Demographic and Social Research Institute, Australian National University, Canberra (Au)

Prior to his recent move to the ANU, Bruce was a Senior Research Fellow at the Australian Institute of Family Studies (AIFS). He has published widely in the area of family law, and was a member of the Australian Ministerial Taskforce on Child Support. He is also on the editorial boards of the *Australian Journal of Family Law*, and the *Journal of Family Studies*. Most recently, he and several AIFS colleagues completed a large study of allegations of family violence and child abuse in family law children's proceedings.

### **SPEAKERS**



#### Allison Adams, LawWorks, Auckland

Allison is a founding partner of LawWorks, an Auckland CBD law firm. She has a background in commercial property law but has practised family law for most of the past 18 years. Allison is a member of the Family Law Section's Children's Issues Committee and a LEADR accredited mediator.



#### His Hon Principal Family Court Judge Peter Boshier

Judge Boshier was appointed as the Principal Family Court Judge in March 2004, after serving on the District Court Bench since 1988. Judge Boshier has worked extensively in the management of the Family Court and judicial system. In 1993, he completed a review of the Family Court, which resulted in a number of changes to court processes. Judge Boshier has a particular interest in Pacific youth justice and child offenders. In 1999, he wrote the *Child Offenders Manual*, which gives practical guidance to intervention with child offenders. In 2002 he was seconded by the New Zealand Government to join the Pacific Judicial Education Programme based in Suva. As Principal Family Court Judge, Judge Boshier is committed to working with the Government to continue to reform the court to ensure efficient and economic access to justice. In 2006 Judge Boshier was nominated by the *New Zealand Listener*, as being in the top fifty outstanding New Zealanders.

#### Margaret Briggs, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Law, University of Otago



Margaret has taught in the law faculty at the University of Otago since 1989. She teaches in criminal and family property law. Her research interests are in the same fields. She is the editor of the *Otago Law Review* and is a regular contributor to the criminal law section of the *New Zealand Law Review*. Margaret is a co-author and general editor of *Relationship Property on Death* (Brookers, 2004) and *Relationship Property: Consolidated Legislation and Analysis* (Brookers, 2001).



#### Sandy Callanan, Lewis Callanan, Auckland

Sandy has practised in the area of family law for over 25 years. She has extensive experience in matrimonial property, trust issues and the evolving relationship property law. In 1985 Sandy Callanan and Rowena Lewis became the first all female legal partnership in New Zealand. They are both proud of the fact that the firm of Lewis Callanan has endured for the past 22 years and continues to thrive. Part of the firm's success is their ability to be flexible about how their professional schedules are structured (within any given day) to accommodate family and other interests. Sandy also believes that lawyers need to add value to all transactions to give them a point of difference from other professionals.



#### Garry Collin, Barrister, Christchurch

Garry is a family law barrister based in Christchurch. Most of his work involves children's issues and a significant part of his practice is acting as lawyer for children. Garry completed a post graduate diploma in Child Advocacy in 2005. He is on the Board of Trustees of Shirley Boys High and is on the Executive Committee of the Family Law Section.



#### His Hon Judge Lex de Jong, Family Court, Auckland

Prior to his appointment as a judge in May 2006, Lex de Jong was a family lawyer for 25 years. Lex has been a contributing author and presenter on a wide variety of family law topics, both in New Zealand and overseas. His special area of legal interest is with the 1980 Hague Convention on international child abduction, a topic about which he has written, and presented, on numerous occasions.



#### Hana Ellis, Otene & Ellis, Auckland

Hana (Nga Puhi/Ngati Porou) graduated from Auckland University in 1993 with a BA/LLB. Initially practising as a criminal barrister, she then worked at the Mangere Community Law Centre and then at Recordon & Co. She currently works primarily in South Auckland specialising in family law, and acts as lawyer for child. She is on the mental health roster at Tiaho Mai (Middlemore Hospital).



#### Bernadette Farnan, Farnan Garthwaite Law, Dunedin

Bernadette is part of an all women general practice in Dunedin. She specialises in criminal and family law. She has represented children in the Family Court since its inception and is also a Youth Advocate, a position she is particularly passionate about. Bernadette has also been an instructor at the Institute of Professional Legal Studies since 1989 teaching the litigation course. She is currently a council member of the Otago District Law Society and co-chairs the Common Law and Family Law Committees. She is also a Legal Services Agency Specialist Adviser.



#### Professor David Fergusson, Principal Investigator and Executive Director, Christchurch Health and Development Study, Christchurch

For the last 30 years, Professor David Fergusson has been the Principal Investigator and Executive Director of the CHDS. The CHDS is an internationally renowned longitudinal study of a birth cohort of 1,265 New Zealand children born in mid 1977. This cohort has now been studied from birth to the age of 25. Professor Fergusson is the author of over 300 scientific articles and books. His recent work has included research into: childhood sexual and physical abuse, family violence, youth unemployment, teenage pregnancy, juvenile delinquency, substance abuse, and youth mental health. His major research interests are the design and analysis of correlational studies and the study of personal adjustment in adolescence. He is also actively involved in the development and evaluation of an early intervention project – Early Start – a home visitation programme designed to address the needs of at-risk families with young children. He is a fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand and an honorary fellow of the New Zealand Psychological Society.



#### The Hon Justice Paul Heath, High Court, Auckland

Justice Paul Heath graduated from Auckland University in 1978 with an LLB and practised with the Hamilton firm of Stace Hammond Grace & Partners from 1981 to 1998. In June 1998, he was appointed a Queen's Counsel. Between 1997 and 2002, he was a consultant, and later a Commissioner, of the New Zealand Law Commission. During his time at the Law Commission he was party to its reports on adoption and battered defendants. He was sworn in as a Judge of the High Court in April 2002. Justice Heath is based in Auckland. From 2003 he has also sat occasionally in Divisional Courts of the Court of Appeal.



#### David Hicks, Barrister, Christchurch

David is a barrister who has been in practice since 1961 and at the independent bar since 1990. He practises in the fields of matrimonial and relationship property and civil litigation. He has been instructed as counsel in a number of leading relationship property cases. He is a contributing author to *Fisher on Matrimonial and Relationship Property* and is the author of the *Matrimonial and Relationship Property* title in the *Laws of New Zealand*. He has presented papers at numerous seminars and conferences on relationship property issues.



#### Anne Hinton QC, Auckland

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



#### Shane Hussey, Hussey & Co, Auckland

Shane is the principal of Hussey & Co chartered accountants based in Auckland. Within the practice, he leads a team that specialises in the areas of valuation, assessment of economic loss, undertaking forensic accounting reviews and general litigation support. Shane is regularly called upon to give independent expert evidence before the courts, often relating to the valuation of relationship property interests.



#### Grant Illingworth QC, Auckland

Grant specialises in public law and civil litigation. He is a former convener of the Public Issues Committee of the Auckland District Law Society and has presented papers at numerous legal seminars. He has been a guest lecturer at the University of Auckland on several occasions and is one of the authors of *Adams on Criminal Law*, contributing mainly in relation to constitutional and administrative law issues. Grant was made Queen's Counsel in 2003.



#### Lynda Kearns, Barrister, Auckland

Lynda specialises in family law particularly the division of property on separation and related trust issues. She has presented seminars for the NZLS, ADLS and LexisNexis on a variety of property matters, including sham trusts, estate planning, the death provisions under the Act and best remedies for clients. She previously chaired the ADLS Family Law Subcommittee and is presently a member of the Lawyer for Child Committee of the Family Law Section.



#### Julian Miles QC, Auckland

Julian graduated from Victoria University. He was a partner in Bell Gully Auckland 1970 - 1990. He joined Shortland Chambers in 1990 and took silk in 1991. He specialises in commercial litigation, defamation, media and privacy law and intellectual property. Julian has appeared in many leading cases in the High Court, Court of Appeal, Privy Council and Supreme Court. He was president of the New Zealand Bar Association 1994 - 1996 and is currently President of the Media Law Association. He is a member of the International Bar Association and chairman of the McCahon Trust.



#### Isabel Mitchell, Cuningham Taylor, Christchurch

Isabel practises in all areas of family law but with an increasing emphasis on relationship property, trust and estate matters. She is a fellow of the International Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers and is a deputy lawyer member of the Mental Health Review Tribunal.



#### Gerald Nation, Wynn Williams & Co, Christchurch

Gerald is a partner at Wynn Williams & Co in Christchurch. He has extensive experience in a range of civil, family and criminal litigation. His family law practice involves mainly relationship property litigation.



#### Jessica Palmer, Law Lecturer, University of Otago

Jessica is a lecturer at Otago University and teaches courses in commercial and contract law. Her research interests lie mainly in equity, trusts, restitution and commercial law. Jessica was previously in practice at Chapman Tripp and was a judge's clerk at the High Court in Auckland. She completed postgraduate studies at Cambridge University in 2005.



# Dr Neville Robertson, Senior Lecturer, Psychology Department, Waikato University, Hamilton

Neville is a registered community psychologist at the University of Waikato. He has worked in domestic violence for over 20 years, as a researcher, trainer, consultant and facilitator of stopping violence programmes. He was a co-author of the recently-released report "Living at the Cutting Edge: Women's Experiences of Protection Orders".



#### Michael Scannell, Simpson Grierson, Wellington

Michael leads the Simpson Grierson commercial property work group advising corporates and individuals on property investment. He has a special interest in trust law. His precedents for trust establishment and operation were published by Brookers in their *Trusts, Practice and Procedure* series. He regularly updates this trust series and is also the editor of Brookers *Wills and Estates* series. He has over many years developed numerous asset plans from the very straightforward to multi-asset, multi-trust structures. He has established a number of major trusts and charitable trusts for private clients and international investors.



#### Her Hon Judge Emma Smith, Family Court, Dunedin

Judge Smith was appointed as a District Court Judge in 2004. 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.



#### April Trenberth, Clinical Psychologist, Auckland

April is a Clinical Psychologist in private practice with 22 years experience in both psychiatric and general populations. She has provided an extensive number of specialist reports for the Family Court, High Court and Child, Youth and Family Service. April supervises the work of psychologists, lawyers, social workers, youth workers and counsellors. As she has gained experience in Family Court matters she has developed a particular concern for the compartmentalisation of professionals. She has argued for the need to establish a multi-disciplinary team approach, particularly in matters that involve the most difficult clients.



#### Stephen van Bohemen, Barrister, Christchurch

Stephen's practice is focussed on all aspects of family law. He is particularly interested in international family law issues. He has advised parties and other lawyers on Hague Convention and international relocation issues for a number of years and appeared as counsel for the "abducting parent" on these issues in the Family Court, High Court and Court of Appeal.



### His Hon Chief Judge Joe Williams, Mäori Land Court, Tribal affiliations -Ngäti Pukenga and Te Arawa (Waitaha, Tapuika)

Judge Williams was appointed Chief Judge, Mäori Land Court in December 1999. He is also the chairperson of the Waitangi Tribunal. He completed an LLB at Victoria University in Wellington in 1985. He was a junior lecturer in law at Victoria University in Wellington from 1986-1987, before gaining a Masters degree with first class honours in indigenous rights law at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver in 1988. He returned to New Zealand to join, and eventually become a partner in Kensington Swan's Auckland office. In 1994, he co-founded Walters Williams & Co. He specialised in litigation in areas of resource management and environmental law, Mäori issues and Treaty of Waitangi claims, Mäori land law, all areas of administrative and public law. In 1999 he was awarded the Mäori Students Millennium Prize as a former student of Victoria University of Wellington. In 2001 he was appointed a fellow of Victoria University of Wellington Law Faculty.

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