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CHAIR



Clare Bennett, Barrister, Auckland

Clare is a barrister practising in Manukau. She graduated from Otago University in 1986, practised in Hamilton until 1999 and then commenced practice in Auckland. Clare has been a member of the NZLS CLE Litigation Skills faculty since 2004 and has acted for young persons in the criminal jurisdiction at all levels since 1987. She has a keen interest in youth involved in the criminal justice system and has represented young people in the Youth, District and High Courts and has appeared in the Court of Appeal on appeals involving the youth justice legislation. Clare has spoken at both national and regional law society conferences on matters relating to youth justice on a number of occasions.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



His Hon Judge Andrew Becroft, Principal Youth Court Judge, Wellington

Judge Becroft is a graduate of Auckland University and practised as a solicitor at Fortune Manning and Partners before moving in 1986 to assist setting up the Mangere Community Law Centre. From 1993 he practised as a criminal barrister in South Auckland. In 1996 he was appointed to the District Court bench and in 2001 was appointed to his current position. Judge Becroft is the Patron of the New Zealand Speak Easy Association Inc., which assists those with various forms of speech impediment, and is chair of the Board of the Tertiary Students Christian Fellowship (NZ) Ltd. He has three teenage children.

SPEAKERS



Phil Adams, Ministry of Education, Auckland

Phil has been working in the education sector and with youth for more than 10 years. Moving from AUT to the Ministry of Education, his original task at the Ministry was assisting excluded students to return to education. As an Education Officer in the Youth Court his focus is on providing information to assist the court and other key stakeholders in making the best decisions for the young person. He sits on the Auckland Central Youth Offending Team (YOT) which has a multi-agency approach to reducing recidivist youth offending.



His Hon Judge Louis Bidois, District Court, Tauranga

Judge Bidois has been a District Court Judge for over 12 years presiding in the criminal and youth jurisdictions. He has held positions on a number of judicial committees including the Kaupapa Māori Advisory Group and the Principal Youth Court Judge's Advisory Group.



Rob Black, Youth and Family Services, Waitakere

Rob has a Bachelor of Social Work (Hons) and has worked for Child, Youth and Family for 15 years. That has been within the youth justice sector where he was a Youth Services Social Worker from 2000 – 2006 and then from 2006 to the present as the CYFS Youth Court Supervisor at Waitakere.

SPEAKERS



Eleanor Chan Boon, Lay Advocate, Auckland

Eleanor has considerable experience working as an administrator in the justice sector. She is currently a professional Samoan interpreter for the Waitemata Health Board and for a range of government agencies including ACC, MoJ, HNZC and tribunals. Eleanor is a volunteer project coordinator for the Waitakere Pacific Wardens' Trust and has been a lay advocate since 2012.



Jim Boyack, Barrister, Auckland

Jim Boyack is a barrister and solicitor practising in Auckland from Franklin Chambers. His principal interest is in therapeutic jurisprudence. His general criminal practice includes work in the Youth Court and the Alcohol and other Drug Treatment Court as supervising lawyer. Jim has had a long-standing involvement in restorative justice both as an advocate for and teacher of RJ processes in the adult jurisdiction and as a volunteer facilitator of RJ Conferences. He and his partner Helen Bowen are trustees of the New Zealand Restorative Justice Trust.



Mike Butcher, Auckland District Health Board, Auckland

Mike Butcher is a clinical psychologist with over 25 years practice in the area of child and adolescent mental health. He was Clinical Director of the Kari Centre from 1995 until April 2014. Mike worked in the Regional Youth Forensic Service from 2006 until April 2014, including being Lead Clinician for the last three years of that time. Since April 2014 he has been the Allied Health Director for Mental Health and Addictions at Auckland DHB, and since August 2014 he has been Acting Clinical Director for the Regional Eating Disorders Service.



Jared Cuff, NZ Police, Auckland

Jared joined the Police in 1991. After working in various frontline roles for 11 years, in 2002 he secured a position in the Henderson Youth Aid Office and began working with youth. Very quickly, Jared figured out that working with youth really suited him and, even more importantly, it was an approach to policing that he really believed in. As a result, some 13 years later, he is still working with youth, still enjoys his work and, even more importantly, still believes in this approach to policing. For the last two and a half years, Jared has worked as full-time prosecutor in the Waitakere Youth Court.



Gary Earley, Barrister, Manukau

Gary has over 25 years' experience in criminal and family law. He began his career as a solicitor for the then Department of Social Welfare, became a partner in a South Auckland law firm and then became a barrister 14 years ago. Gary has been a practising youth advocate in South Auckland for the past nine years. He has presented papers in the past for NZLS CLE and ADLSI during which, it is rumoured, many people remained awake.

SPEAKERS



Eru Findlay, Lay Advocate, Gisborne

Eru graduated from Massey University in 2012 with a Bachelor of Arts in Māori Studies and Sociology. He completed a Post Graduate Diploma in Te Reo Maori in 2014 and is completing his Master of Arts in 2015. Eru was part of the first group of Youth Court lay advocates appointed in 2008 at Te Poho o Rawiri Marae Gisborne. He has a background in youth and social work and currently practices as a social worker for Family Works Tāirawhiti. Eru is also a Learning Advisor (Māori) at the Eastern Institute of Technology (Tāirawhiti).



Gwenda Findlay, Lay Advocate, Gisborne

Gwenda graduated from Waikato University in 1999 with a Bachelor of Education and Diploma of Teaching. She practised as a specialist teacher in Māori Education in Hamilton, Taupo and in the Gisborne East Coast region prior to her appointment as a specialist teacher of numeracy and literacy in a Native Aboriginal School in East Kalgoorlie, Western Australia. Gwenda currently manages the Youth Justice Programmes at the Iwi Tertiary Education Provider Tūranga Ararau in Gisborne and has been involved with the Gisborne Youth Court since 2006 and the Rangatahi court at Te Poho-o-Rawiri Marae since its inception in 2008.



His Hon Judge Tony FitzGerald, District Court, Auckland

Judge Tony FitzGerald, who was appointed to the bench in 1999, is based at the Auckland District Court and spends about half his time working in the Youth Court and the other half in the adult criminal courts. He is a member of the Principal Youth Court Judge's Advisory Group, an editor of the Youth Court Bench Book, and a member of the Youth Court education committee.



Karol Hadlow, Barrister, Auckland

Karol has practised in the criminal courts since 1985 and is admitted in NSW and ACT as well as NZ. She has a particular interest in therapeutic jurisprudence and solution-focussed courts. Karol has been a duty lawyer supervisor, is team leader in the AODTC/Auckland Drug Court, has been on the mental health roster since 2003 and has been a youth advocate for many years.



Dr Emily Henderson, Henderson Reeves, Whangarei

Emily has published widely on criminal cross-examination and trial reform, particularly in relation to vulnerable witnesses. In 2012 she was the first woman and first practitioner to be awarded the NZ Law Foundation International Research Fellowship, researching England's Court of Appeal's innovative approach to facilitating best evidence from vulnerable witnesses and vulnerable defendants. This work is being published in a series of eight articles in the Criminal Law Review and the International Journal of Evidence & Proof. She recently rejoined the litigation team at Henderson Reeves in Whangarei.

SPEAKERS



Pania Hetet, Tūhoe Hauora, Tāneatua

For the past 28 years Pania has been an active member of the social work and health profession, both in the capacity of practitioner and manager. The majority of her experience was gained through 25 years of employment with Child Youth & Family working predominately in the South Auckland area. During this period Pania held mainly managerial roles both in care and protection and youth justice. She is currently the General Manager for Tūhoe Hauora which is the largest Kaupapa Maori organisation specialising in addictions and mental health services, based in Tāneatua Eastern Bay of Plenty.



Dr Nathan Hughes, University of Birmingham, Birmingham, UK

Dr Nathan Hughes is currently Marie Curie Research Fellow at the Murdoch Childrens Research Institute at the Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne, and Senior Lecturer in Social Policy and Social Work at the University of Birmingham. He was lead author of 'Nobody Made the Connection', a review of the prevalence of neurodevelopmental disorders among young people in custody, published by the Children's Commissioner for England. His research explores how expression of neurodevelopmental impairments can explain trajectories of offending and how current practices may inadvertently discriminate against and criminalise young people with such impairments.



Dr Craig Immelman, Psychiatrist, Auckland

Craig is a child & adolescent and general psychiatrist in private practice in Auckland, and an honorary senior clinical lecturer at the Department of Psychological Medicine at the University of Auckland. He is a Fellow of the Royal Australian & New Zealand College of Psychiatry. Craig also consults to a number of District Health Boards, provides expert opinion to courts, and holds the designation of Specialist Assessor relating to Intellectual Disability.



Ingalise Jensen, Auckland Regional Youth Forensic Service, Auckland

Ingalise is Acting Lead Clinician at the Auckland Regional Youth Forensic Service (RYFS) and has a Masters of Clinical Psychology and BA(Hons) from The University of Queensland. She has worked in adult forensic services in Queensland and adult, child and adolescent mental health services in the UK. In 2008 Ingalise commenced work in adult forensic services in Auckland and has been at RYFS since 2011.



La-Verne King, Barrister and Solicitor, Mangonui

La-Verne graduated from Auckland University in 1989 and has practised as a youth advocate since 1992. She has practised in the Far North since 2008 having previously worked for many years as a youth advocate in the Manukau and previously Otahuhu Youth Courts. La-Verne is a past presenter at this conference and was also a member of the Youth Justice Independent Advisory Group chaired by Principal Youth Court Judge Becroft. La-Verne has tribal affiliations to the Northern iwi as well as Ngati Paoa near Clevedon.

SPEAKERS



Aaron Lloyd, Ministry of Social Development, Wellington

Aaron advises the Ministry of Social Development on a broad range of legislative and operational legal issues, including youth justice reform and the implementation of the CYPF (Youth Courts Jurisdiction and Orders) Amendment Act 2010. He graduated from Victoria University, was admitted in 1997, and has practised in private, public, and not-for-profit sectors. Aaron was a legal officer for the NZLS from 2004-07 before taking employment at MSD.



Her Hon Judge Ida Malosi, District Court, Manukau

Judge Malosi has a long history of involvement in the care and protection and youth justice areas, having been both counsel for child (as it then was) and youth advocate for many years before being appointed to the Bench in 2002. In early 2013 she was seconded to the Supreme Court of Samoa where she was instrumental in establishing the Family and Family Violence Courts there, as well as strengthening its Youth Court jurisdiction. Having returned to New Zealand in July of last year Judge Malosi is once again sitting in the Pasifika Youth Courts, back in the Family Court fold, and leading the Crossover Court at the Manukau Youth Court.



Her Hon Judge Jane McMeeken, District Court, Christchurch

Before her appointment to the bench, Judge McMeeken was a youth advocate and lawyer for child in Nelson. She was appointed to the bench in 1999, sitting in Whangarei in the Youth Court, Family Court and the general District Court. Judge McMeeken now presides over Youth Drug Court and Rangatahi Court in Outatahi, is Administrative Youth Court Judge for the Canterbury region and is a member of Judge Becroft's Principal Youth Court Judge's Advisory Group. Judge McMeeken is a mother of three.



Dr Brigit Mifrin-Veitch, Director, Donald Beasley Institute, Dunedin

Brigit has been a member of the Institute's research team since 1994 and Director since 2008. The DBI is an independent charitable trust which conducts research and education in the field of intellectual (learning) disability. Her current research, which was funded by the New Zealand Law Foundation, is focused on the experiences of people with an intellectual disability in the legal system and included those of people with intellectual disability, judges, and lawyers as participants. Brigit is working to encourage more responsive policy and legal practice related to people with intellectual disability and other vulnerable witnesses and defendants.



Soana Moala, Moala Merrick, Auckland

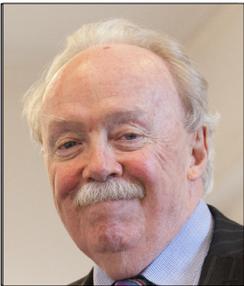
Soana Moala was admitted in New Zealand in 2002 and to the bar in Tonga in 2008. In February 2002, she joined Meredith Connell as a junior prosecutor. For ten years, she prosecuted serious criminal matters in both the District Court and the High Court. In 2012, Soana established Moala Merrick, a litigation firm based in Manukau City. As well as private litigation work, she is a legal aid lawyer approved to undertake criminal work in categories 1-4. Soana was appointed a youth advocate in December 2013.

SPEAKERS



Fergus More, Scholefield Cockroft Lloyd, Invercargill

Fergus was admitted in December 1980 at Dunedin, commenced practice in Invercargill in 1981, and became a partner of his current firm in 1984. He was appointed a youth advocate in 1989. Aligned to this work is his engagement with professionals outside the role. For many years Fergus was a member of the Board of Trustees, chairing the Disciplinary Committee, of a local high school. He has previously chaired the Invercargill Student Support Network (ISSN) which enabled him to work with the principals and board chairs of the five local secondary schools.



His Hon Judge Kevin Phillips, District Court, Dunedin

Judge Phillips was born in Darfield in 1949, educated at Gore High School and Otago University and practised law with Bannerman Brydone & Foster 1973-1984 and Macalister Todd Phillips 1985-2006. He was appointed a District Court Judge in 2006 sitting in Invercargill and then from 2014 in Dunedin. Judge Phillips has been involved in youth justice from 1973. He recalls appearing in “Children Court” back in the day when dedicated support for the court and the young person was non-existent and is strongly of the view that the existence of the current youth justice supports owe a great deal to the leadership of the Principal Youth Court Judges.



Chris Polaschek, Child Youth and Family, Wellington

Chris is the General Manager for Youth Justice within Child, Youth and Family. In recent times he led the roll out of changes to the CYP&F Act which included the implementation of the Military Activity Programme, contracting a raft of new services and programmes and changes in practice guidelines. He is now leading a project to reinvigorate family group conferences and he is currently the chair of the Youth Crime Action Steering Group. Chris has worked with young people and adult offenders in a wide variety of roles in the last 27 years including as a senior social worker, youth justice coordinator, prison manager and National Manager Youth Justice.



Elizabeth Purcell, Barrister and Solicitor, Auckland

Liz is a sole practitioner based in Auckland who has been a youth advocate for over 15 years. She is a New Zealand born Samoan who has appeared in Te Kooti Rangatahi, the mainstream Youth Court and the Pasifika Court. Liz is a mother of three children aged 9, 17 and 19 and is an elder in the Pacific Islanders Presbyterian Church Newtown. She is passionate about the youth justice system in Aotearoa, regarding it an honour to be an advocate in the Pasifika Court where she believes the skills, knowledge and life experience of all participants can and do make a difference.



Jemma Stephens, Auckland Regional Youth Forensic Service, Auckland

Jemma is a registered nurse and holds qualifications of Bachelor of Nursing Degree and a Post-Graduate Diploma in Advanced Nursing Practice – Mental Health from the University of Auckland. She graduated in 2003 and worked in the child and adolescent mental health inpatient unit following this. Jemma then completed a year in community mental health prior to joining the Regional Youth Forensic team as a clinical team member. Her main work is that of liaison within the Auckland youth courts as well as in-reach mental health treatment at Auckland-based Child, Youth and Family secure residential units.

SPEAKERS



Anne Taumaunu, Lay Advocate, Auckland

Anne was born in Auckland and educated at Okaihau District High School, Northland. Returning to Auckland, she married and had 2 children. At 39, with two teenagers, a 1 year old and a yearning to find herself, Anne returned to school as an adult student, mainly to learn Te Reo Māori. This led to a Diploma in Teaching People with Disabilities and a husband who was steeped in cultural knowledge. After a period as a teacher aid, Anne has been a lay advocate since 2010. She is a passionate, motivated, innovative team player, who enjoys the challenges working with rangatahi, their whanau and other stakeholders.



His Hon Judge Heemi Taumaunu, District Court, Auckland

Judge Taumaunu was born in Gisborne, with tribal affiliations to Ngati Pōrou and Ngāi Tahu. He graduated with an LLB from Victoria University in 1993 and practised as a barrister and solicitor in the Gisborne region prior to his appointment as a District Court Judge in 2004. Married with three children, Judge Taumaunu has a special interest in youth justice and, in particular, youth justice for recidivist Māori youth offenders. He presides over the Rangatahi Courts at Te Poho-o-Rawiri Marae in Gisborne, Hoani Waititi Marae in Waitakere, and Ngā Hau e Whā Marae in Christchurch.



Vicki Thorpe, Barrister and Solicitor, Gisborne

Vicki was admitted in 1984. She joined the firm of Chrisp Caley & Co in Gisborne as a staff solicitor in 1984 and the partnership in 1987. In 1994 she set up sole practice, focussing on criminal and family law, which remain her principal areas of practice. Vicki has practised as lawyer for child since around 1987. Her Youth Court practice predates the CYP&F Act 1989, and she has practised in the Rangatahi Court since its inception. She has been a member of the NZLS CLE Litigation Skills faculty since 2003 and is a current member of the NZLS Youth Justice Subcommittee.



Derek Whitehead, Break Whitehead Lawyer, Whangarei

Derek commenced practice in 1994 in Morrinsville and then moved to Taupo before basing himself in 2001 in Whangarei running his own practice. He started in general practice including criminal law for the first few years of work and in the last decade he has focussed more on all aspects of family law. Derek has been lawyer for child and also lawyer for the subject person since 2001. He ceased practising general criminal law in 2010 when he decided to limit himself to Youth Court work. Derek has been a youth advocate since 2001. He is a Board of Trustee member of Otangarei Trust, a tribal organisation that provides social services to local Māori and its wider communities.



Deepti Reddy, Auckland Regional Youth Forensic Service, Auckland

Deepti Reddy is a Registered Nurse and holds the qualification of Bachelor of Nursing Degree from Unitec and a Post Graduate Diploma in Health Science – Speciality in Mental Health Nursing with Merit from University of Auckland.. She graduated in 2008 and worked in the Acute Adult male inpatient unit (Kauri) at Mason Clinic – Regional Forensic Psychiatry Services. Deepti then worked in an acute adult male unit, Acute Adult female unit and adolescent unit at The Forensic Hospital in Sydney NSW Australia. Deepti is currently in the process of completing her Master in Nursing with a focus of Youth Forensics.

SPEAKERS



Dr Huw Williams, Exeter University, Exeter, UK

Huw is an Associate Professor of Clinical Neuropsychology and Co-Director of the Centre for Clinical Neuropsychology Research (CCNR) at Exeter University. He has published papers and books and held grants in a range of areas of clinical neuropsychology – particularly on neuro-rehabilitation. Current projects include, tracking effects of mild traumatic brain injury and Acute Stress Disorder on Post-Concussion Syndrome. In March 2015 he is guest editor of the Journal of Head Trauma Rehabilitation on brain injury and crime in young and youth offenders. He is the past Chair of the Division of Neuropsychology of the British Psychological Society, and has had advisory roles with various organisations, including England RFU (2014).