

CHAIR



Usha Patel, Barrister, Auckland

Usha was the first member of her immediate family to be born in New Zealand. Educated in Papakura and Otago university, she did her OE at the age of 12 spending a year in her parents' birthplace of India. Usha specialises in all aspects of family law with a particular passion for CoCA cases. In addition Usha has advocated for children for over 30 years, specialising in high conflict cases.

KEYNOTE



Judge Andrew Becroft, Children's Commissioner, Wellington

His Honour Judge Andrew Becroft was appointed a District Court Judge in 1996. In 2001, he became the Principal Youth Court Judge of New Zealand; a role that he held until 2016 when he was appointed the Children's Commissioner.

SPEAKERS



Alex Ashmore, Ponsonby Chambers, Auckland

Alex was admitted as a barrister and solicitor in 1990. He specialises in all aspects of family law, including relationship property and cases involving children. Alex also regularly undertakes appellate work, taking instructions to appear on behalf of the appellant or respondent in appeals from the Family Court to the High Court in particular.



Dr Sarah Calvert, PhD. Clinical Psychologist, NZPsS, NZAP, IARPP, Auckland

Sarah is a registered psychologist holding the Clinical Scope of Practice. She has been a practicing psychologist for over thirty years primarily specialising in working with trauma in adults and children and in working with children and families. In addition, Sarah has an interest in longer term psych-dynamic work with adults and she provides supervision for both psychotherapists and psychologists. Most of Sarah's work is currently assessment work for both the Criminal and Family Courts here and in Australia and ACC.



Maurice Casey, Carlile Dowling, Napier

Maurice graduated from Otago University in 1998 and joined Carlile Dowling in 2006 after working in general practice (including time spent in Auckland and a year overseas for the Civil Service). His work includes appointments as lawyer for child, for the subject person in PPPR Act proceedings and in mental health proceedings.

SPEAKERS



Kathryn Dalziel, Taylor Shaw, Christchurch

Kathryn specialises in employment and privacy law as well as civil litigation and professional ethics. She also lectures in Legal Ethics and Employment Law at the University of Canterbury and is a former member of a NZLS Standards Committee. Kathryn regularly presents at conferences and seminars in privacy, employment and legal ethics. She has co-authored *Ethics, Professional Responsibility and the Lawyer* (3rd Ed), and co-authored the chapters on *Employment Law and Health Information in Health Care and the Law* (5th Ed). She is a member of the New Zealand Privacy Foundation, the International Association of Privacy Professionals (Australia and NZ), and the Asian Privacy Scholars Network.



Hana Ellis, Matariki Chambers, Auckland

Hana (Nga Puhī/Ngati Porou) is a barrister and mediator. She has a background in criminal and mental health law and works in South Auckland including appointments as lawyer for child, lawyer to assist, and for subject person and care recipient.



Andrew Finnie, Ponsonby Chambers, Auckland

Andrew was admitted to the bar in 1995 after graduating from Otago University with a law degree. He has been practicing law for over 20 years in both provincial New Zealand and Auckland and has been a barrister since 2003. Andrew's practice covers all areas of family law and he has extensive experience in the field of elder law and particularly in proceedings under the Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act involving vulnerable adults. He is also experienced in issues involving mental health, intellectual disability and estates. Andrew is regularly appointed by the Family Court to act as lawyer for the subject person, lawyer for the care recipient and lawyer for the child and also regularly acts as Counsel in mental health hearings.



Simon Jefferson QC, Simon Jefferson Queens Counsel, Auckland

Simon has had more than 33 years' legal experience specialising almost exclusively in family law since 1983. After 20 years as a partner with Shieff Angland (where he led a family law team renowned for its ability and from which has emerged many leading family law practitioners), he left to practice at the independent bar in June 2006. He was elevated to the status of Queen's Counsel in 2013. Simon has appeared in the Family Court, the High Court and the Court of Appeal. A number of his cases feature in the Law Reports and he is particularly noted for his appellate advocacy.



Khylee Quince, Auckland University of Technology, Auckland

Of Ngapuhi, Ngati Porou, Ngati Kahungunu Khylee has 20 years teaching and research experience in criminal law and youth justice, and wider issues involving Māori and the law. She co-authored *Youth Justice in Aotearoa/New Zealand* and in 2014 was awarded a national Tertiary Teaching Excellence Award for sustained excellence in teaching.

SPEAKERS



Kiriana Tan, Te Kōpū Chambers, Hamilton

Kiriana is of Ngati Hangarau, Ngati 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, Kiriana has been practising as a barrister from Te Kōpū 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 also worked in a number of Waitangi Tribunal Inquiries and in the Maori Land Court jurisdiction.



Stephen van Bohemen, Atticus Chambers, Christchurch

Stephen's practice is predominantly family law. His current caseload is a mix of property and child law and includes appellate advocacy. Stephen has previously presented seminars on a variety of family law topics. He is a contributing editor to *Brookers Family Law – Child Law, Family Procedure and Family Property*.



Nicola Williams, Cromwell Chambers, Dunedin

Nicola commenced as a barrister sole in 1998 specialising in family law, with a particular focus on relationship and trust property issues and child related litigation. She appears frequently in the Family Court and receives regular appointments as lawyer for child, lawyer to assist the Court and as counsel for the Central Authority on Hague Convention cases. Nicola is a former member of the Family Law Section Executive.



Tania Williams Blyth, Kōpū Legal, Rotorua

Tania is of Ngāti Pukenga and Te Arawa (Tapuika and Waitaha) descent. She is a senior family lawyer who has appeared as counsel in the Family Court since 1999. Tania undertakes Court appointed work including lawyer for child, lawyer to assist, lawyer for subject person on a regular basis. For nine years, until July 2017, Tania held a warrant as District Inspector for Mental Health. Currently Tania is a panel convenor and member of the New Zealand Parole Board. Throughout her career Tania has maintained a commitment to the Maori community. That commitment is reflected in the production of a DVD to assist self-represented whanau appearing in the Family Court, carrying out of research in relation to the care and protection of Maori children (to be published in the New Zealand Law Journal) and development of Te Korimako Legal Training to assist whanau who come to the attention of Oranga Tamariki. Tania has also presented at the World Indigenous Law Conference held in California in 2016 and the World Congress on Family Law held in Dublin in 2017.

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