

CHAIR



His Hon Judge Bruce Davidson, District Court, Wellington

Prior to his appointment to the District Court bench in 2003, Judge Davidson was in private practice as a defence lawyer for 25 years in Wellington at Grieg, Davidson and Gallagher. He was involved in a number of high profile trials in that time and was a member, then convener, of the NZLS Criminal Law Committee for 6 years. Judge Davidson is the liaison judge for jury trials in Wellington, is convener of the judicial District Courts Jury Trial Committee and was a member of the Rules Committee Criminal Procedure Rules subcommittee.



His Hon Judge Chris Harding, District Court, Tauranga

Judge Harding was in private practice in Hamilton for 19 years during which time he was closely involved with the District Law Society and the NZLS on various committees. He was also Hamilton Coroner for 8 of those years and Deputy Presiding member of the Legal Services Board from 1993 till his appointment to the bench in 1996. Judge Harding has been the Chancellor of the Diocese of Waikato and Taranaki Anglican Church, held various offices within or for the Anglican synod, has been acting Chief District Court Judge and a temporary Associate Judge of the High Court. He has a Youth Warrant and has presented at a number of NZLS CLE seminars and to and for the judiciary.

SPEAKERS



Sandy Baigent, PDS, Wellington

Sandy has practised criminal law for 22 years. For the first two decades she was a barrister in Wellington. She is now the Public Defender, Southern. Sandy has been a faculty member for the NZLS CLE Litigation Skills course for the past 14 years, and director of the course twice. She has presented seminars for NZLS CLE, the NZBA, and the Royal New Zealand Police College. She has been a legal adviser to the Legal Services Review Panel, a member of the NZLS section 357 Standards Committee and the Wellington Branch of the Disciplinary Tribunal. Sandy was a NZLS representative on the Rules Committee Criminal Procedure Rules subcommittee and contributes to the Ministry of Justice CPA implementation plan.



Tony Balme, Barrister, Tauranga

Tony was admitted in 1981 and from 1983 has worked in Tauranga primarily as a criminal lawyer. He has extensive jury trial experience in the District and High Courts. In 2008 Tony became involved in trialling the Criminal Procedure (Simplification) Project in Tauranga which developed the case management procedures that have now been incorporated into the Criminal Procedure Act.

SPEAKERS



The Hon Justice Brewer ONZM, Auckland

Justice Brewer graduated LLB (Honours, 1st class) from Victoria University in 1979. Between 1980 and 1987 he practised predominantly commercial and property law at Govett Quilliam, New Plymouth.

Justice Brewer was then appointed New Plymouth Crown Solicitor, an appointment he held from 1988-2010. From 1990-2010 he was the senior litigation partner in the firm which became Auld Brewer Mazengarb & McEwen. From 1997-2001 he was a part-time Commissioner of the Law Commission.

Justice Brewer joined the Territorial Force of the New Zealand Army in 1976; appointed a member of the Courts Martial Panel of Advocates in 2001; Judge-Advocate from 2004-2009 and a Judge of the Court Martial of NZ from 2009. He retired in 2009 as Director-General Reserve Forces with the rank of Brigadier. Justice Brewer was appointed an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit in 2003.



Alison Hill, Ministry of Justice, Wellington

Alison leads the Provider and Community Services Business Unit of the Legal Aid Unit within the Ministry of Justice. Her unit manages the relationship and contracts with legal aid lawyers, including approvals, audits and complaints. Alison is also responsible for the Victims Centre programme of work and for restorative justice and Community Law Centres. She has an extensive background in the justice sector.



Jonathan Krebs, Barrister, Napier

Jonathan is a barrister in Napier practising a mixture of criminal and civil litigation, having been admitted for 25 years. He is President of the Hawke's Bay Branch of the New Zealand Law Society and Convenor of the NZLS Criminal Law Committee. Jonathan was a member of the Rules Committee the Criminal Procedure Rules subcommittee. He has presented at a number of NZLS CLE seminars and in 2012 was Director of its Litigation Skills programme at Lincoln, having previously been on the faculty for a number of years.



Mark Lillico, Crown Law Office, Wellington

Mark is Crown Counsel in the criminal law team at Crown Law, Wellington. Prior to that, for over two years, he was contracted to the Ministry of Justice assisting with the Criminal Procedure (Reform and Modernisation) Bill. He undertook that role following 14 years in private practice as a defence lawyer. Mark is involved in drafting a procedure manual on the Criminal Procedure Act for Crown Solicitors and Departmental Prosecutors.

SPEAKERS



The Hon Justice Miller, Wellington

Justice Forrest Miller graduated LLB (Hons) from Otago University in 1981 and LLM from the University of Toronto in 1997. Initially he worked for the Alexandra firm of Bodkins Solicitors and in 1984 moved to Wellington to join Chapman Tripp, becoming a partner in 1987. He had a wide general practice in commercial and public law litigation, specialising in securities, regulatory and competition law. Justice Miller was appointed to the High Court Bench in February 2004 and is based at the Wellington High Court.



Brent Stanaway, Raymond Donnelly & Co, Christchurch

Brent has held the warrant as Crown Solicitor for Christchurch and Greymouth since 2003. He was admitted in 1977 and apart from one year as defence counsel has prosecuted ever since. Brent is a member of the SFO prosecution panel and has been a faculty member of the NZLS CLE Litigation Skills programme and of its PILON equivalent. He is a member of the NZ Lawyers and Conveyancers Disciplinary Tribunal. Brent was seconded to the Ministry of Justice to advise on the drafting phase of the Criminal Procedure (Reform and Modernisation) Bill and the Criminal Procedure Act.



The Hon Justice Ronald Young, Wellington

Justice Ronald Young graduated LLB from Otago University in 1974. He joined Dunedin law firm Mirams & Wilson in 1974 and in 1975 moved to Hamilton to the firm of McCaw Lewis Chapman. Justice Young became a partner of the firm in 1977 specialising exclusively in litigation until 1988 when he returned to Dunedin following appointment as a district court judge. In 1993 Justice Young moved to Wellington to take up the position of Chief District Court Judge and was appointed President of the Electoral Commission in 2000. He became a High Court judge in June 2001 and is based at the Wellington High Court.



The Hon Justice Venning, Auckland

Justice Geoffrey Venning completed a double major B Comm in 1978 at the University of Canterbury followed by an LLB (1st Class Hons) in 1981. From 1982 to 1986 he tutored part time in commercial law at the University. He became a litigation partner at the Christchurch law firm of Wynn Williams and Co in 1986. He was appointed a Master of the High Court in 1995 based in Christchurch. He subsequently moved to Auckland in November 2002 to take up a position as a High Court judge. He was a member of the Rules Committee from 1999-2008, and has been member of the Council of Legal Education since 2004, becoming its chair in 2010.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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