

# AAL

## Annual Report 2022

Connecting to advance  
the discipline of law.





# Highlights

► **Executive Discretion in a Time of COVID-19—promoting, protecting and fulfilling human rights in the contemporary public health context:** The speaker at this 11th Austin Asche Oration in Law and Governance in Darwin was Emeritus Professor Rosalind Croucher AM, President of the Australian Human Rights Commission.

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► **Pathway to Truth-Telling and Treaty:** This event explored important aspects of the November 2021 *Pathway to Truth-Telling and Treaty Report* to the Victorian Premier, prepared by Emeritus Professor Kate Warner AC, Professor Tim McCormack and Ms Fauve Kurnadi, and the implications for the future of that Report. The speakers were Kate Warner AC and Tim McCormack.

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► **Book Launch for *A Sense of Common Purpose*:** This launch celebrated the publication of the history of the Australian Academy of Law written by Emeritus Professor David Barker AM, which recounts the history and development of the AAL from its beginnings in 1996, its official launch in July 2007 and through to 2020. The Chief Justice of the Federal Court of Australia, the Hon James Allsop AO, launched the book.

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► **The Appointment of State, Territory and Federal Judges:** This two-part event heard papers and addresses by the Hon Tom Bathurst AC KC, formerly Chief Justice of New South Wales; the Hon Walter Sofronoff KC, formerly President of The Court of Appeal, Supreme Court of Queensland; the Hon Justice Jenny Blokland, Judge of the Supreme Court of the Northern Territory and President of the Australasian Institute of Judicial Administration; Mr Ian Govey AM, former Deputy Secretary, federal Attorney-General's Department; Professor Rosalind Dixon, Professor of Law and Director of the Gilbert + Tobin Centre of Public Law at UNSW, Sydney; and Mr Michael Tidball, Secretary of the NSW Department of Communities and Justice.

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► **11th Annual Patron's Address, delivered by the Hon Patrick Keane AC KC:** 'Leave Those Blue-Eyed Babies Alone: Rhetorical Limitations on Parliamentary Sovereignty.' In his speech, the Hon Patrick Keane AC, KC spoke about the High Court's long history of deprecating the use of extreme and distorting examples of the bad laws Parliament might make as justification for taking a narrow view of legislative power. Yet the rhetoric of the extreme example has continuing appeal, and as a rhetorical strategy it echoes elements of a longstanding antidemocratic tradition within the common law.

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► **Senior Trial Judges from England and Australia Speak about Judging:** A distinguished panel discussed important aspects of judging in practice: finding facts; decisions on the papers; writing judgments; case management; closed hearings; and ex tempore judgments. The speakers from England were Lord Justice (James) Dingemans, Mrs Justice Cheema-Grubb and Mrs Justice Cockerill; from Australia, Justice Julie Ward, Justice Susan Kenny AM and Justice Katrina Banks-Smith. Sir Ross Cranston KC, Professor of Law at the London School of Economics and a former judge of the High Court, Queen's Bench Division, chaired the event.

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# Australian Academy of Law

## Annual Report 2022

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### Acknowledgement of Country

The Australian Academy of Law acknowledges the Gadigal people of the Eora nation on whose land is the office of the Secretariat.

We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging and to all First Nations Peoples.



# Message from the AAL's Patron



In 2022, once again, academics, practitioners and judges came together to discuss a broad range of topics in a series of events held both nationally and at different places in Australia. In addition the AAL organised lectures, sponsored and promoted publications by AAL Fellows and granted scholarships and prizes. Amongst the many diverse subjects in which members of the AAL were engaged in discussion was the appointment of State, Territory and Federal judges. This subject is of importance to all. The discussion of it was undertaken in a series of two national seminars. As with other events they were held both in person and by online attendance, ensuring greater participation. The AAL continues to fulfill its objective of bringing together the three branches of what makes up the legal profession as a whole. Thanks are, as always, due to the President, the directors and officeholders and committee members of the AAL whose good work makes this possible.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Susan Kiefel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

*The Hon Susan Kiefel AC  
Chief Justice of Australia*

# Message from the President

The practice, discipline and understanding of the law are fundamental to the operation and structure of our society and 2022, in particular, was a year in which the law often took centre stage in public discourse: from discussion about the proposed Voice Referendum and the Constitutional implications of the Voice to Parliament, to ongoing debate about the emergency powers invoked by the Federal and State Governments during the COVID pandemic.



Our events — national, State or Territory-based, with their diversity of subject matter and continued level of attendance by Fellows and members of the public — demonstrate the relevance and worth of what we do.

We have continued to receive significant and generous donations to the AAL's Public Fund. We were again able to offer the First Nations Scholarship to a student in their final year of legal studies. We also again offered the substantial Essay Prize. You can read more about these on pages 18–19 of this Report.

The Academy also had the pleasure of sponsoring the publication by the Federation Press of *A Sense of Purpose*, a book detailing the history of the Academy from its inception to the end of 2020. The author, Emeritus Professor David Barker AM, has been active in the Academy since the very beginning and was recently welcomed as a Life Fellow. I am grateful to the Hon AM Gleeson AC for providing a foreword to the book.

As you will see from the details in this Report, the number of Fellows of the Academy continues to grow and the number of sponsored activities increases each year.

The AAL continues to be an energetic and growing organisation with a range of plans for the future. I remind readers of the wealth of material and information available on our website: <https://academyoflaw.org.au>

I commend this Report to you and I trust it will help keep Fellows and other interested people informed about the work and achievements of the Academy throughout 2022.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'A. Robertson'.

Alan Robertson, President



The Australian Academy of Law achieves its Mission by promoting excellence, ethical conduct and professional responsibility and legal education; by providing scholarships and research grants towards those ends; and by promoting the continuous improvement of the law and of the operation of the legal system.

**DEBATE**

Holds Roundtable events for Fellows for constructive debate

**EXCHANGE**

Conducts public conferences and other events for the interchange and dissemination of ideas and views

**AWARDS**

Awards prizes and scholarships to encourage legal learning at the tertiary level

**RESEARCH**

Promotes legal research

**PUBLISHING**

Sponsors the publication of scholarly papers

**SCHOLARSHIP**

Offers an annual essay prize to promote excellence in legal scholarship

# About the Academy of Law



The Australian Academy of Law (AAL) is committed to building bridges between each part of the legal profession—academics, practitioners and the judiciary—and to providing a forum for cooperation, collaboration, constructive debate and the effective interchange of views amongst all branches of the legal community.

It was founded, in part, in response to the Australian Law Reform Commission's Report, *Managing Justice—A Review of the Federal Civil Justice System* (ALRC Report 89).

The ALRC expressed the concern that, as the law profession continued to grow in Australia, there was a risk of fragmentation so that, instead of a single 'profession', there would be a range of legal occupations, none of which would see themselves as part of a 'larger whole'.

One of the Report's recommendations stated:

There is a need for an institution which can draw together the various strands of the legal community to facilitate effective intellectual interchange of discussion and research of issues of concern, and nurture coalitions of interest. Such an institution should have a special focus on issues of professionalism (including ethics) and professional identity, and on education and training.

There was broad acceptance of the need for 'bridge building' between the different strands of the legal profession and so the AAL was launched in July 2007 with 36 Foundation Fellows.

The inaugural Patron was the then Chief Justice of the High Court of Australia, the Hon Murray Gleeson AC. The second Patron was Chief Justice Robert French AC and the Hon Chief Justice Susan Kiefel AC is the present Patron.

The first President was the Hon Robert Nicholson AO. The new organisation started slowly and took some time to grow and achieve recognition within the legal community.

The Hon Kevin Lindgren AM KC became President in November 2011. Mr Lindgren's professional experience spanned all three categories of Fellow — legal practice, academia and the judiciary — and the AAL began to become more firmly established. The membership grew, as did the number of Academy events and conferences. He introduced monthly Newsletters sent to all Fellows and some significant research projects were undertaken. Mr Lindgren also instigated the move of the Academy's Secretariat from the Australian National University to the Federal Court of Australia.

A turning point in attracting wider recognition for the Academy was the inaugural Patron's Address in 2012. The then Chief Justice of the High Court, the Hon Robert French AC, spoke about the need for more dialogue and interaction between legal scholars, legal practitioners and the judiciary and the importance of the Academy of Law in 'bridging the gulf'.

Mr Lindgren served as President until July 2020 when he retired from that office. The Board then unanimously invited him to become a Life Fellow in recognition of his indefatigable work for the Academy. The Hon Alan Robertson SC was elected as the new President, with effect from 1 July 2020.

Each of the three Presidents to date has served as a judge of the Federal Court of Australia.

The AAL membership continues to grow steadily, as does the range of activities, functions and events in a spirit of collegiality across the legal profession.

The Directors and officeholders for the year 2022 were:

- » The Hon Alan Robertson SC (President)
- » The Hon Justice Tony Besanko (Deputy President)
- » Emeritus Professor Bee Chen Goh (Treasurer)
- » Emeritus Professor David Barker AM (Secretary)
- » Professor Gino Dal Pont
- » Dr Nuncio D'Angelo
- » Professor Melissa De Zwart
- » The Hon John Digby KC
- » The Hon Kevin Lindgren AM, KC
- » Professor Les McCrimmon
- » Mr Russell Miller AM
- » The Hon Emeritus Professor Ralph Simmonds
- » Professor Natalie Skead
- » The Hon Pamela Tate SC

Further details about the Academy's structure and purpose are contained in the Constitution available on the Academy's website.



# Profile of the Membership

Fellows of the Academy are drawn from practising lawyers, legal academics and the judiciary across Australia:

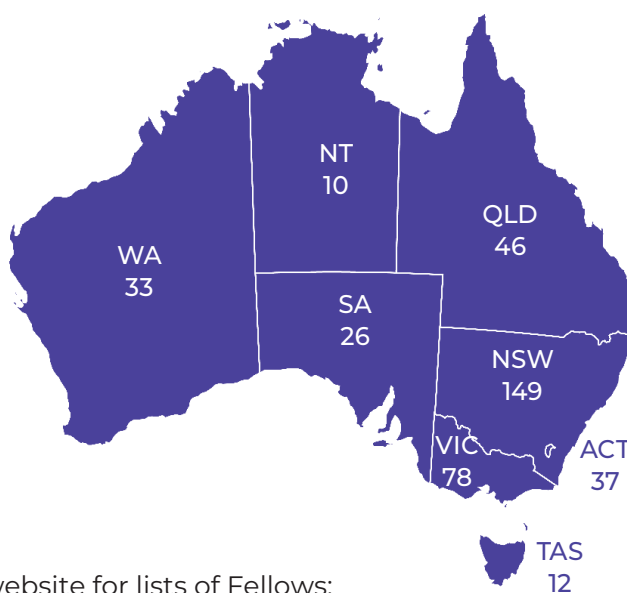
Fellows are nominated and invited on the basis of exceptional distinction within the discipline of law and commitment to the advancement of that discipline and to justice according to law. The Academy welcomed 22 new Fellows in 2022, so membership currently stands at 424 Fellows.



There are three categories of membership: Fellows (resident in Australia); Overseas Fellows; and Life Fellows:



- Life Fellows – 9
- Overseas Fellows – 18
- Fellows – 389



Membership by State and Territory as at 30 June 2022 (total 396):

See the AAL website for lists of Fellows:

[www.academyoflaw.org.au/fellows](http://www.academyoflaw.org.au/fellows)

# New Fellows

During 2022, the Academy welcomed the following distinguished lawyers as new Fellows:

- » **Professor Rob McLaughlin**, Professor, Australian National Centre for Oceans Resources and Security, University of Wollongong, Senior Fellow, Stockton Centre for International Law, US Naval War
- » **Justice John Bond**, Judge, Court of Appeal, Supreme Court of Queensland
- » **Dr Ben Gauntlett**, Disability Discrimination Commissioner, Australian Human Rights Commission
- » **Professor Rachael Mulheron KC (Hon)**, Professor of Tort Law and Civil Justice, School of Law, Queen Mary University of London
- » **Chief Justice Helen Bowskill**, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Queensland
- » **Mr Perry Herzfeld SC**, Barrister, NSW
- » **Mr Ben Doyle KC**, Barrister, SA
- » **Ms Carol Webster SC**, Barrister, NSW
- » **The Hon Jennifer Coate AO**, Commissioner, Law Reform Commission
- » **Dr Suzanne McNicol AM KC**, Barrister, Victoria
- » **Dr Kristina Stern SC**, Barrister, NSW
- » **Justice Geoffrey Kennett**, Judge of the Supreme Court of the ACT
- » **Chief Justice Lucy McCallum**, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the ACT
- » **Professor Michelle Foster**, Professor and Director of the Peter McMullin Centre on Statelessness at Melbourne Law School
- » **Professor Ana Vrdoljak**, UNESCO Chair in International Law and Cultural Heritage, University of Technology, Sydney
- » **Professor Elizabeth Fisher**, Professor of Environmental Law at Corpus Christi College and the Faculty of Law, University of Oxford
- » **Professor Anita Stuhmcke**, Professor and Dean of the Faculty of Law at the University of Technology, Sydney

- » **Justice Nicola Pain**, Judge of the Land and Environment Court of NSW
- » **Mr James Renwick CSC FRSN SC**, Senior Counsel, Honorary Professor ANU, Deputy Judge Advocate-General (Navy)
- » **Professor Daniel Meagher**, Professor and Chair in Law, Deakin Law School
- » **The Hon Leslie Katz SC**, formerly a Judge of the Federal Court of Australia
- » **Mr Gim Del Villar KC**, Solicitor-General for Queensland

Current Fellows are listed on the website:

[www.academyoflaw.org.au/fellows](http://www.academyoflaw.org.au/fellows)



# Events and Activities

The Academy held a wide range of events throughout the 2022 calendar year and almost all were open to the public. With the technology practices developed during the pandemic, we were able to offer most events with the option of attending in-person or online. This meant many Fellows and members of the public from across the country could access events which might otherwise have been unavailable to them. All events throughout the year were well attended, with some attracting audience numbers above previous figures. You can find recordings of many of the events, as well as papers presented, on the website.

<https://academyoflaw.org.au/events-and-videos>

## March 2022

**National event:** *Senior Trial Judges from England and Australia speak about judging*

In this online event, a distinguished panel discussed important aspects of judging in practice. The speakers from England were Lord Justice (James) Dingemans, Mrs Justice Cheema-Grubb and Mrs Justice Cockerill. The speakers from Australia were Justice Julie Ward, Justice Susan Kenny AM and Justice Katrina Banks-Smith. The panel Chair was Sir Ross Cranston KC, Professor of Law at the London School of Economics and a former judge of the High Court, Queen's Bench Division.

**Victorian event:** *10th Austin Asche Oration in Law and Governance: The Internet of Things*

'The Internet of Things' describes objects or devices which are able to connect to each other in a network without human help. This online event was chaired by the Hon Pamela Tate KC. The speakers were Jeannie Patterson, Professor of Law and co-Director of the centre for AI and Digital Ethics at the University of Melbourne; Lee A Bygrave, Professor of Law and Director of the Norwegian

Research Centre for Computers and Law at the University of Oslo; and Dr Simon Coghlan, Senior Research Fellow in the Centre for AI and Digital Ethics and the School of Computing and Information Systems at the University of Melbourne.



*At the Internet of Things event: the Hon Justice Mark Moshinsky, the Hon Pamela Tate KC, Dr Simon Coghlan and Professor Jeannie Paterson*

## April 2022

**National Event:** *Making Law through Practice: Examples from Commercial Law*

This online and in-person event was held jointly by the AAL and the Selden Society with assistance from the Queensland Supreme Court Library Legal History Committee. Sir Ross Cranston KC spoke about themes in his book, *Making Commercial Law through Practice 1830–1970* (Cambridge UP, 2021), emphasising the Australian dimension. He focused on three areas: markets, agency and sales, indicating that although the common law provided the backdrop to commercial activity, it was in practice a flexible tool to achieve what the parties wanted.



Sir Ross Cranston KC (speaking), Justice Peter Applegarth AM and Chief Justice Helen Bowskill

## May 2022

**ACT event:** *Private and Public Lawyers: An ethical divide?*

Five speakers explored the ethical and related issues confronting lawyers in the public and private sector and looked at the similarities and the differences. The speakers were Ms Elizabeth Carroll, President of the ACT Law Society and a partner at Holding Redlich; Dr Jennifer Duxbury, Digital Industry Group in-house Lawyer; Vivien Holmes, Professor of Law, ANU College of Law; Mr Michael Kingston, Australian Government Solicitor; Mr Athol Opas, commercial barrister and the ACT Bar's representative on the Law Society's Legal Practitioner Act and Ethics Committee. The Hon Alan Robertson SC chaired the event.

**SA Event:** *Review of Non-Statutory Government Action*

This online and in-person event considered the extent to which the exercise of non-statutory government powers are reviewable, and on what basis. The speakers traced the changes in approach over recent times in Australia and also referenced the position in some overseas jurisdictions. The speakers were the Solicitor-General for South Australia, Mike Wait SC and AAL President, the Hon Alan Robertson SC.



*Private and Public Lawyers: An Ethical Divide.* From left to right: Elizabeth Carroll (speaking); session Chair, the Hon Alan Robertson; Michael Kingston; Jennifer Duxbury



Webinar participants at the Emerging Scholars event

**WA Event:** *Emerging Scholars 2022: Technology, Regulation and Politics*

This online and in-person event was chaired by Professor Erika Techera, UWA Law School. The speakers were Murdoch University Lecturer Dr Michael Wilson, who presented on the politics of end-to-end encryption; UWA PhD candidate, Helen Stamp, who looked at corporate criminal accountability for harms caused

by autonomous digital systems; and Curtin University PhD candidate, James Carpenter who looked at the issues of liability and compensation when autonomous vehicles cause injuries.

## June 2022

**WA Event:** *The Fallibility of Memory and Fact Finding*

This in-person and on-line event looked at the findings from recent psychological and neuroscience studies indicating that memory is a reconstructive process susceptible to distortion. University of Western Australia School of Psychological Science Professor, Ullrich Ecker spoke about the imperfection of human memory and the implications not only for eye-witness testimony but for how evidence is assessed. After Professor Ecker's address, Justice Colvin of the Federal Court of Australia gave a commentary on the address from the point of view of a trial judge.

**National Event:** *Pathway to Truth-Telling and Treaty*

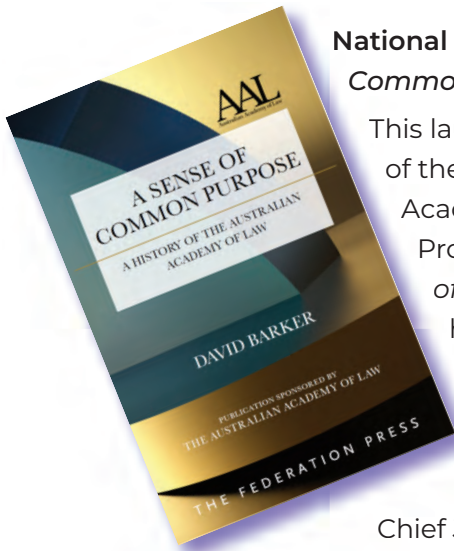
This blended event offering both public in-person and on-line attendance explored important aspects and future implications of the Pathway to Truth Telling and Treaty Report which was prepared by Emeritus Professor Kate Warner AC, Professor Tim McCormack and Ms Fauve KurnadiIn and

tabled in the Tasmanian Parliament in November 2021. In March 2022, the Premier announced that there was broad support to take further steps on both a Truth-telling process and Treaty process in Tasmania and committed the Government to establishing an Aboriginal advisory body to work with the Government on these processes. The speakers were Kate Warner AC and Tim McCormack.



*Pathway to Truth-telling and Treaty:*  
Emeritus Professor Kate Warner AC and Professor Tim McCormack





**National Event:** Launch of *A Sense of Common Purpose*

This launch celebrated the publication of the history of the Australian Academy of Law written by Emeritus Professor David Barker AM. *A Sense of Common Purpose* recounts the history and development of the Australian Academy of Law from its beginnings in 1996, through its official launch in July 2007 and up to the end of 2020. The

Chief Justice of the Federal Court of Australia, the Hon James Allsop AO, launched the book.

**ACT Event:** Launch of *The Responsible Shareholder*

The AAL held this event jointly with the ANU College of Law to mark the publication of the latest book by Emeritus Professor of Commercial Law Stephen Bottomley. *The Responsible Shareholder* explores in detail the idea that shareholders should think of themselves, and be thought of by others, as having a moral and possibly a legal responsibility for the actions of companies from which they derive financial benefit. The Hon Mary Finn chaired the event and the speakers were the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the ACT, the Hon Lucy McCallum and the Dean of the ANU College of Law, Professor Sally Wheeler OBE.

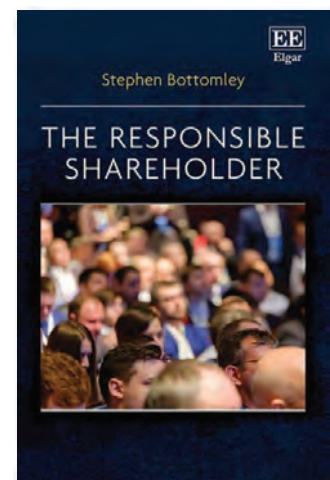
## July 2022

**National Event:** *The Appointment of State, Territory and Federal Judges – Part 1*

The first of two seminars designed to ensure continued discussion about the appointment of judges and whether systems and criteria should be updated. The first seminar looked at the work of judges; the similarities and differences in the respective jurisdictions and explored the necessary qualities of a prospective appointee. The speakers were the former Chief Justice of Supreme Court of NSW, the Hon Tom Bathurst AC KC, former President of the Court of Appeal, Supreme Court of Queensland, the Hon Walter Sofronoff KC and judge of the Supreme Court of the Northern Territory and President of the Australasian



Emeritus Professor David Barker AM, the Hon Justice Melissa Perry and Chief Justice James Allsop AO at the *Sense of Common Purpose* book launch.



[... continued overleaf]

Institute of Judicial Administration (AIJA), the Hon Justice Jenny Blokland.

**National Event:** *The Appointment of State, Territory and Federal Judges – Part 2*

The second seminar discussed the systems in place for finding prospective judges and looked at the best aspects of these systems as well as exploring the potential for system changes and improvements. The speakers were former Deputy Secretary, Federal Attorney-General's Department, Ian Govey AM, Professor of Law and Director of the Gilbert and Tobin Centre of Public Law at UNSW, Rosalind Dixon and Secretary of the NSW Department of Communities and Justice, Michael Tidball.

## August 2022

**ACT event:** *Michael Coper Roundtable - Class Actions in Australia: Controversy and Critique*

This member only event posed the question of whether class actions are a good or a bad thing and asked how this might be determined. The speakers were Acting Presidential Member of the ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal, Emeritus Professor Peta Spender and Emeritus Professor of Commercial Law and former Dean of the ANU College of Law, Stephen Bottomley.

**National Event:** *Judicial Independence*

This public event was held in-person and online and covered the fundamental importance of judicial independence from the Australian and the international perspective. President of the International Association of Judges and President of the Court of Appeal in Porto, Portugal, Judge José Matos spoke about challenges to judicial independence, including the current situations in Poland, Turkey, and Afghanistan. Justice of the High Court of Australia, the Hon Jacqueline Gleeson addressed what Australian judges might learn from challenges to judicial independence in foreign jurisdictions.

**National Event:** *Issues Arising from Intermediate Courts of Appeal (Criminal)*

Following on from the 2021 event which looked at Civil Courts

(Left) At the Judicial Independence event: Judge Matos, Justice Gleeson and Alan Robertson SC



of Appeal, this event focused on the criminal jurisdiction. Senior Judges and heads of Australia's Criminal Appeals Courts addressed a range of common issues including the volume of cases; case management of large appeals; priorities in the hearing of cases; management of bail applications; interlocutory applications, the giving of reasons; the place for ex-tempore judgments; written submissions; oral submissions; consistency within and between courts; legal aid and litigants in person. The eight speakers were, in the order in which they spoke: Quinlan CJ, Chief Justice of Western Australia, Beech-Jones JA, Judge of the Court of Appeal and Chief Judge at Common Law, Supreme Court of New South Wales, McCallum CJ, Chief Justice of the ACT, Livesey JA, President of the Court of Appeal of South Australia, Walker JA, Court of Appeal, Supreme Court of Victoria, Blow CJ, Chief Justice of Tasmania, Bowskill CJ, Chief Justice of Queensland, and Grant CJ, Chief Justice of the Northern Territory.



At the Intermediate Criminal Courts of Appeal event. At the table, left to right: Walker JA; Chief Justice Blow AO; Livesey JA; Alan Robertson SC. On the screen, clockwise: McCallum CJ; Quinlan CJ; Bowskill CJ; Beech-Jones CJ at CL.

## September 2022

### **National Event:** *Causation Conference*

This conference was sponsored by Herbert Smith Freehills, the AAL and the University of Western Australia Law school, bringing together the expert contributors to the University of Western Australia's 2022 *Law Review* special issue on causation. They debated some of the law's most pressing, and persistent, causal challenges and shared their authoritative insights on the spectrum of private, commercial and criminal law doctrines in which causation plays a leading role – arising at common law, in equity and under statute. The full-day event attracted 100 online and in-person attendees.

### **WA Event:** *The Palmer Act – The Rule of Law under State Constitutions*

The AAL and the Australian Association of Constitutional Law (WA Chapter) jointly sponsored this event. It discussed the broad theoretical basis of what the rule of law is; the status of the rule of law in Australian constitutional law; how the rule of law featured in the submissions in *Palmer v The State of Western Australia* [2021] HCA 31 and *Mineralogy v The State of Western Australia* [2021] HCA 30; and how these issues were ultimately resolved by the High Court. The speakers were Senior Lecturer in the Law School, University of Western Australia, Dr Murray Wesson and Lecturer in Public Law at Monash University, Dr Paul Burgess.







The AAS  
Shine  
Dome  
(© Bidgee,  
Wikimedia)

## October 2022

**National Event:** *Joint Symposium Australian Academy of Law and Australian Academy of Science: The Science and the Law of Prohibited Drugs*

The annual joint event was organised with the President of the Australian Academy of Science, Professor Chennupati Jagadish AC. The symposium was chaired by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the ACT, the Hon Lucy McCallum. The speakers were head of the ACT Drug and Alcohol Court, the Honourable Acting Justice Richard Refshauge, Director of the Centre for Social Research in Health at UNSW, Scientia Professor Carla Treloar, Professor of Analytical Pharmacology at Monash University, Arthur Christopoulos and former NSW Director of Public Prosecutions, Nicholas Cowdery AM KC.

**National Event:** *11th Annual Patron's address – delivered by former Justice of the High Court of Australia, The Hon Patrick Keane AC*

The title of the address was 'Leave Those Blue-Eyed Babies Alone: Rhetorical Limitations on Parliamentary Sovereignty.' In his speech, the Hon Patrick Keane AC, KC spoke about the High Court's long history of deprecating the practice of using extreme and distorting examples of the bad laws Parliament might make as justification for taking a narrow view of legislative power. Yet the rhetoric of the extreme example has continuing appeal, and as a rhetorical strategy it echoes elements of a longstanding antidemocratic tradition within

the common law. AAL Deputy President and Judge of the Federal Court of Australia, the Hon Justice Anthony Besanko chaired the event.

**National Event:** *Presentation for the winners of the Annual Essay Prize*

The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Queensland, Helen Bowskill presented certificates to the two winners of the 2022 competition, Catherine Bugler and Alice Muir, who were both Associates to judges of the Supreme Court. The ceremony was attended by Judges of the Court, senior academics and practitioners and family members of the recipients.



The Hon  
Patrick  
Keane AC KC  
delivering  
the Patron's  
Address



Guests at the Essay Prize award ceremony. Further details about the essay and the winners can be found on page 19.

## November 2022

**ACT Event:** Michael Coper Roundtable – *Where there's a will, there's a lawyer: the Dobell case and subsequent litigation about the Archibald Prize*

At this event the President of the ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal, Graeme Neate AM, spoke about litigation in the Supreme Court of New South Wales, starting with the famous Dobell case of 1944. He discussed legal issues arising under the will which established the Archibald prize, how judges have decided whether the prize should be awarded to particular pictures, some of the personal implications of the litigation for parties and other participants, and some outstanding legal issues. The Hon Mary Finn chaired the event.



The Hon Mary Finn and Graeme Neate AM



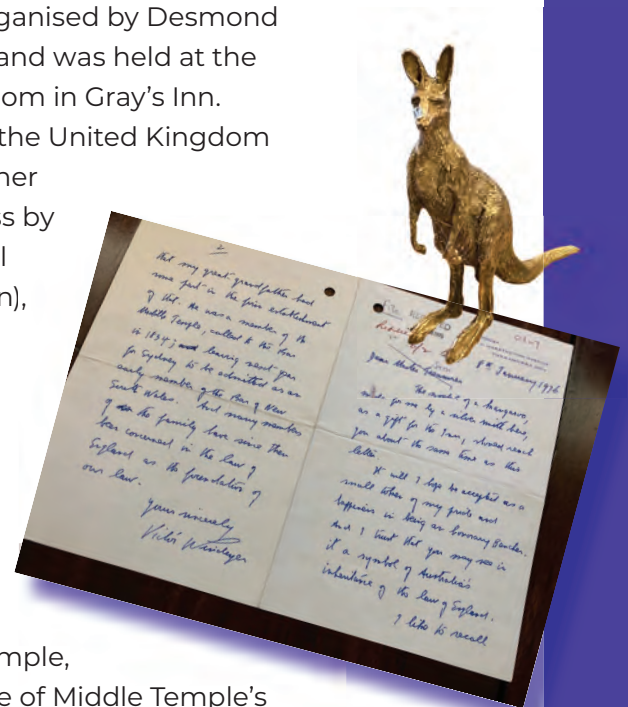
**International Event:** Dinner for AAL Fellows in London

The event was organised by Desmond Browne CBE, KC and was held at the Small Pension Room in Gray's Inn. Fellows based in the United Kingdom attended the dinner to hear an address by Professor Rachael Mulheron KC (Hon), Professor of Tort Law and Civil Justice, School of Law, Queen Mary University

of London, who spoke on class actions, comparing the history and current position in the United Kingdom and Australia. Earlier that afternoon, Professor Mark Lunney arranged a visit to Middle Temple, where the archivist, Barnaby Bryan, showed us some of Middle Temple's Silver Collection as well as Sir Victor Windeyer's splendid cast silver model of a kangaroo, donated by him to the Inn in 1976 to express his pride and happiness at being made an honorary Bencher.

**National Event:** 11th Annual Austin Asche Oration in Law and Governance

The oration, titled 'Executive discretion in a time of COVID-19: promoting, protecting and fulfilling human rights in the contemporary public health context', was sponsored by Charles Darwin University and the AAL. The oration was delivered by the President of the Australian Human Rights Commission, Emeritus Professor Rosalind Croucher AM. She explored the democratic challenges of emergency decision-making during the pandemic and the lessons that might be learned to ensure the rule of law is respected. Professor Croucher also discussed how human rights principles can inform decision-making especially in times of crisis.



(Above):  
The silver kangaroo and Sir Victor's accompanying letter.

# Scholarship, Essay Competition and Prizes

One of the key goals of the AAL is to promote high standards of legal scholarship, research and education. To advance these goals, the Academy offers an Annual First Nations Scholarship, a National Essay Prize and the Michael Coper Memorial Prize.

## First Nations Scholarship

This \$5,000 Annual First Nations Scholarship is in its second year and is made possible by the generosity of donors to the Academy's Public Fund. The scholarship is designed to help ease the financial burden for a final year law student and also includes an offer of an AAL Fellow as a mentor for that period.

The 2022 recipient was 24-year-old ANU student Lillian Ireland, who was completing her combined Law and Science degree.

The proud Melukerdee woman from Cygnet, near Hobart, described herself as passionate about Criminal Law and Environmental Law, and she plans to use the law as a tool to advance the rights of First Nations Peoples. She also described the AAL Scholarship as 'financially empowering'.

The Chair of the 2022 judging panel was Professor Gino Dal Pont; the other members were The Hon Kevin Lindgren AM, KC, The Hon Alan Robertson SC and Stephen McDonald SC.

**The Hon Alan Robertson SC with  
scholarship recipient  
Lili Ireland**

## Essay Competition

Each year, the Essay Competition invites entrants to consider important legal issues in need of resolution. In 2022, entrants were asked to address the question:

What are one or more reforms that could be made to remedy deficiencies in the administration by Australian courts of the criminal law as it applies to minorities or disadvantaged groups?

The members of the 2022 judging panel were Professor William Gummow AC, Emeritus Professor Kate Warner AC and Mr Tim Game SC. They were unanimous in choosing the essay titled 'The Courts' Ameliorative Role in the Face of Harsh Bail Laws: Recommendations to Alleviate Gendered, Racial and Socio-Economic Inequalities.'

The recipients were two young Associates to judges of the Supreme Court of Queensland, Catherine Bugler (QUT) and Alice Muir (UQ).



In their essay, they chose to focus on the bail system and what they described as systemic inequalities which fail to accommodate cultural, gendered and socio-economic differences:

'The current system is working to perpetuate pervasive inequalities and disproportionately disadvantages three vulnerable groups: Indigenous Australians, women, and people experiencing homelessness.'

They detailed the main areas of concern and proposed several pragmatic solutions including: tailoring bail conditions according to the unique needs of specific groups like Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people; varying the reporting and fixed-address conditions in recognition of homeless people and those who have cultural reasons for travelling; incorporating social services into the Court system; and mandating cultural education for judicial officers involved in bail determinations.

The winning essay is published in the *Australian Law Journal* and is also available on the AAL website.

The Essay Prize is \$10,000.

## Michael Coper Memorial Prize

This \$1,500 prize is in memory of the late Emeritus Professor Michael Coper. It is awarded to the winner of the annual Paper Presentation Competition run by the Australian Law Students Association.

The event could not be held during the COVID pandemic but was reinstated in 2022.

The competition involves researching and writing a legal essay and then presenting it to a panel of judges. Entrants compete individually and may choose to write on any legal topic.

The members of the panel were Justice James Edelman, Justice Sarah Derrington AM and Professor Kit Barker. They assessed competitors on their depth of knowledge and understanding of their chosen topic and on their presentation.

The winner was ANU Arts/Law Honours student, Ben Yates. His presentation was titled: 'Sequencing the Uluru Statement: The Deliberative Case for Treaty First.'



Chief Justice Bowskill and Justice Besanko with the prize-winners, Catherine Bugler and Alice Muir

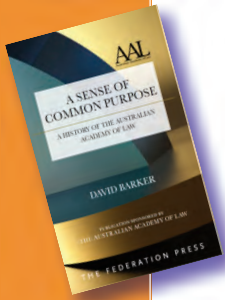


Justice Sarah Derrington with Ben Yates, winner of the Michael Coper Memorial Prize

# Publications

## History of the Australian Academy of Law

'A Sense of Common Purpose' recounts the history and development of the AAL from its early beginnings in 1996 through its official launch in 2007 and up to the end of 2020. Sponsored by the Academy and published by The Federation Press, the book is written by Emeritus Professor David Barker who has been part of the organisation since the beginning and is now a Life Fellow.



See launch details on page 13

## Other publications

Below is a selection of publications by AAL Fellows as author, co-author, editor or co-editor.

### ► *Annotated Bankruptcy Act 1996*

Michael Murray and Paul Nichols

The 9th edition brings the law up to date as at July 2022 including the Bankruptcy Regulations 2021, and the rules of the new Federal Circuit and Family Court. The Act is comprehensively annotated with latest case law and practice guidance.

### ► *An Environmental Court in Action: Function, Doctrine and Process*

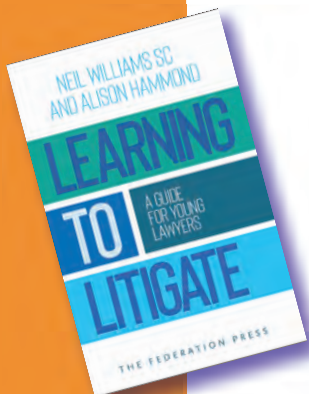
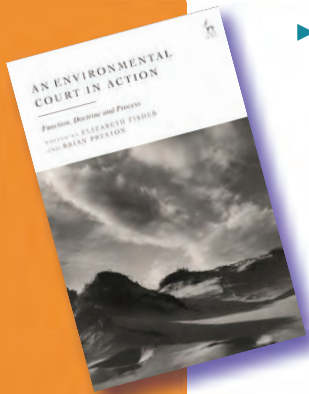
Elizabeth Fisher and Brian Preston

One of the most important questions is whether environmental law frameworks need their own courts, with the conclusion being: yes they do. In this critical assessment, a pioneer of such a court, the NSW Land and Environment Court, is forensically examined to see what it might teach other such courts. Showing a court 'in action' it suggests models that practitioners and policy makers might follow.

### ► *Learning to Litigate: A Guide for Young Lawyers*

Neill Williams SC and Alison Hammond

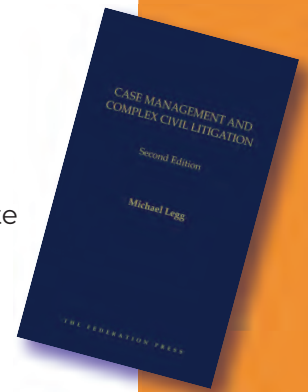
The book is a collaboration between a senior practitioner, Neil Williams SC, who has been at the independent Bar for more than 33 years and a relatively junior barrister, Alison Hammond, who has been at the Sydney Bar for three years. It is designed to combine the lessons of recent experience in acquiring litigation technique with a longer view of advocacy training, one informed by the observation of many readers and other junior practitioners, and more extensive direct experience of litigation at all levels.



► *Case Management and Complex Civil Litigation*

Michael Legg

This 2nd edition examines the case management tools available to the modern-day judge for dealing with crucial aspects of complex civil litigation, such as pleadings, discovery, expert evidence, alternative dispute resolution, summary judgment and the separate question procedure. It also addresses the role of the overriding or overarching purpose with its command that civil litigation is to be conducted in a manner which achieves justice while minimising cost and delay as this has major significance for complex cases.



► *Allegiance, Citizenship, and the Law: The Enigma of Belonging*

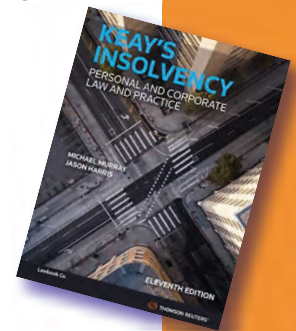
Helen Irving

Exploring theoretical, historical, and legal approaches, this book offers a fresh perspective on the concept of allegiance and its revival in recent times. It examines allegiance from multiple perspectives, including laws for the revocation of citizenship, new ideas of citizenship education, the doctrine of treason, oaths of allegiance, naturalisation tests, and theories of belonging.

► *Keay's Insolvency: Personal and Corporate Law and Practice*

Michael Murray and Jason Harris

In this 11th edition, the authors explain Australian insolvency law under the Bankruptcy Act 1966 and the Corporations Act 2001, in light of the substantial case law and practice developments flowing from the changes made by the Insolvency Law Reform Act 2016.



► *Zines and Stellios's The High Court and the Constitution*

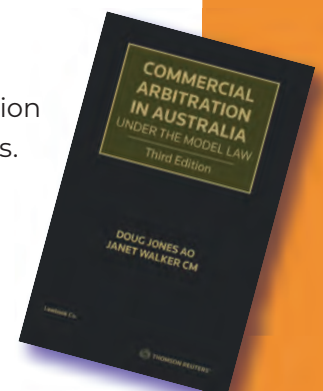
James Stellios

It has been seven years since the publication of the 6th edition of Professor Zines's classic book on Australian constitutional law, *The High Court and the Constitution*. In that time the High Court has handed down a range of important decisions transforming, extending and developing existing constitutional law principles. This 7th edition, by Professor James Stellios, contains analysis and critique of the High Court's jurisprudence over that period. Revisions have been made to almost all chapters to update the law.

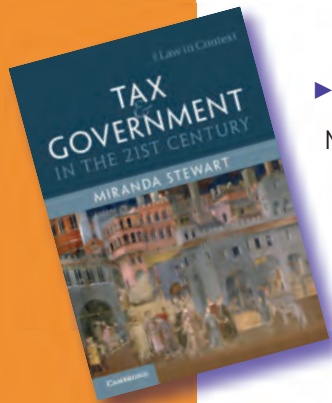
► *Commercial Arbitration in Australia Under the Model Law*

Doug Jones AO and Janet Walker AM

The book is an annotated guide to the domestic commercial arbitration legislation in Australia under the uniform commercial arbitration Acts. It provides analytical commentary on the growing body of case law applying the Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration in Australia and around the world, discusses innovations in institutional rules and offers practical guidance.







► *Tax and Government in the 21st Century*

Miranda Stewart

The book explores tax law in its historical, economic and social context and explains how taxation finances government in the twenty-first century.

► *The Ombudsman in the Modern State*

Mathew Groves and Anita Stuhmcke

This is the first edited collection to examine the place of the ombudsman in the modern state. In 16 chapters it brings together key international scholars to discuss current and future challenges for the Ombudsman institution and the systems of government within which it operates. Its authors – from Canada, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, South Africa, Germany, and Austria – provide a global analysis of the operation of Ombudsmen across civil and common law legal systems.

► *NSW Civil Procedure Handbook 2022*

Geoff Lindsay, Carol Webster, John P Hamilton

The update edition of this handbook provides practitioners with essential annotated procedural and evidence legislation for all NSW courts in a single volume. It takes selected legislation and commentary from Thomson Reuters' NSW Civil Practice and Procedure Suite which, under the guidance of The Hon John P Hamilton KC, The Hon Justice Geoff Lindsay and Carol Webster SC, specifically addresses the requirements for practice within the uniform rules framework.

► *The Responsible Shareholder*

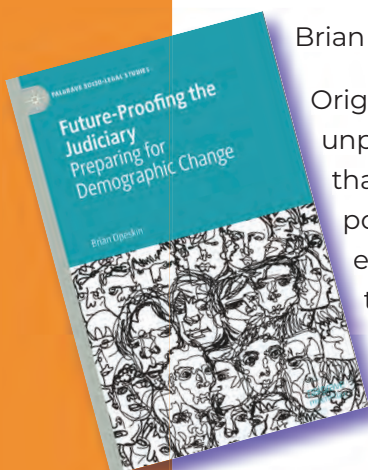
Stephen Bottomley

This book examines the role of shareholders in modern companies and argues that more should be expected of shareholders, both morally and legally. It explores the privileged position of shareholders within the corporate law system and the unique rights and duties awarded to them in contrast to other corporate actors. It also introduces the concept of shareholders as responsible agents whose actions and inactions should be judged on that basis.

► *Future-Proofing the Judiciary – Preparing for Demographic Change*

Brian Opeskin

Originally conceived as 'population law' in the 1970s following unprecedented growth in world population and the use of law to temper that growth, this book takes a fresh approach by examining how population change can affect legal systems, rather than the converse. It examines how demographic change impacts judicial systems and how those systems should adapt to embody greater preparedness for the demographic changes that lie ahead. The book focuses on Australian courts and judges, but also offers global insights and raises critical questions about institutional structures.



# Committee Reports

## Membership

*Chair, John Digby KC*

Academy membership is by Board invitation. A prospective Fellow must be nominated by a current Fellow and also be supported by a seconder. The Membership Committee assesses each nomination according to the eligibility criteria set out in the Constitution, namely that a nominated person is of exceptional distinction in the discipline of law and demonstrably committed to the objects of the Academy. The Committee recommendations are then made to the Board, which is provided with the supporting documents as well.

Once they receive an official invitation from the Board, prospective Fellows need to accept that invitation and pay their subscription.

During 2022, the Membership Committee met nine times and, as recorded above, 22 distinguished lawyers became Fellows.

## Governance

*Chair, Professor Gino Dal Pont*

The Governance Committee serves primarily to review and ensure the Academy's compliance with applicable legislation; to consider any risk to which the Academy might be exposed; and to give members a forum to raise any governance concerns. It also liaises with other Committees on governance matters. In the year under review, the Governance Committee kept a watching brief on the Academy's reporting and fundraising obligations as well as the need for Directors to register for Director IDs.

## Finance

*Chair, Emeritus Professor Bee Chen Goh*

The Treasurer chairs the Finance Committee which is responsible for the management of the Academy's financial affairs. This Committee collaborates closely with the Office Bearers and other Committees for a smooth functioning of the Academy's financial operations. To this end, in the Financial Year 2022, the Academy trialled an Annual Budget to guide its income and expenditure. The financial position of the Academy is in a healthy state, as shown by the Financial Statements of Financial Year 2022.

At the end of each financial year, the Finance Committee also ensures the production of the annual audited accounts and Financial Statements for approval at the Annual General Meeting.

Regular Finance meetings are held in advance of Board meetings to facilitate Minutes to be provided to the Board for consideration.

## Website and Communications

### *Chair (outgoing)\* Mr Michael Murray*

The Committee is responsible for the public profile and communications of the Academy. Throughout 2022, online and in person events and activities increased. The Committee is pleased to report that website registration and access arrangements for attendees at these events worked well and these facilities continue to be developed. Significant numbers accessed important presentations including those held jointly with overseas presenters and with other organisations, with the website then reporting on the outcome of the particular event, such as the meeting with Fellows in London in November 2022; the event held jointly with the Academy of Science in Canberra; the annual general meeting of the Academy; and the Patron's address, both held in October 2022.

The website promotes the outcomes of Academy prizes and grants and publishes 'spotlight' coverage of Academy Fellows' book publishing achievements. It is also a valuable resource for Academy papers and publications. As well, it is an important means for the Academy to meet its governance and public accountability obligations to provide public access to the Academy's Constitution and its statutory records and board and committee members.

The Academy continues to issue media releases to reach a wider audience, supported by social and professional media and the Academy's regular newsletter.

In 2022, the Academy had the benefit of a law student intern to assist in its website and communication tasks. The Committee continues to review opportunities to resource the Academy's profile and engagement processes in 2023.

*\* Associate Professor Philip Chung is the new Chair.*

## Research and Expenditure

### *Chair, the Hon Alan Robertson SC*

This Committee was established in 2020 to oversee the fund created in response to the AAL's new DGR status which allows for tax deductible donations. One of the Committee's early initiatives was the \$5,000 First Nations Scholarship, awarded for the second time in 2022 to a First Nations final year law student. (See details on page 18 of this Report.)

The Committee also supported the AAL sponsoring the book by Emeritus Professor David Barker, *A Sense of Common Purpose: A History of the Australian Academy of Law*, which was published by the Federation Press in 2022.

The Board accepted the Committee's recommendation of \$5,000 to sponsor the UWA Law School's causation conference which was held in September 2022 and, as in 2020, AAL gave \$5,000 to the Australasian Legal Information Institute (AustLII).

The Committee also gave financial support to a Newcastle Law School survey focussing on judges and Technology. Part of an international research collaboration under the auspices of the Law and Society Association, scholars around the world took part in the project by surveying judges in their own jurisdictions.



## Prizes and Scholarship

*Chair, Professor Gino Dal Pont*

The Committee oversees the Academy's award of prizes and scholarships.

In 2022, the Annual Essay Prize was in its 8th year. The Committee met early in the year and recommended the Essay Topic to the Board. For the first time, the chosen theme focussed on the Criminal Law space with the topic asking entrants to address possible reforms to remedy deficiencies in the administration of the criminal law as it applies to minorities or disadvantaged groups. The \$10,000 prize was shared by two young lawyers working as Associates to Supreme Court Judges in Queensland – Catherine Bugler and Alice Muir – who advocated for change in the bail system to address the disproportionate burden it places on the most vulnerable and disadvantaged in society.

It was equally pleasing in 2022 to see the awarding of the second First Nations Scholarship to a First Nations student in the final year of a Law degree. The 2022 award went to Lillian Ireland, a proud Melukerdee woman from Cygnet near Hobart, studying a combined Law and Science degree at the ANU. The \$5000 award is one of the initiatives made possible because of the generous donations to the AAL's Public Fund.

This year also saw the resumption of the Academy's Michael Coper Memorial Prize, first established in 2019 for the Winner of the Paper Presentation Competition by the Australian Law Students' Association (ALSA). The 2022 winner of the \$1500 prize was ANU student Ben Yates. For further details, see page 19 of this Report.

## Secretary's Report

*Emeritus Professor David Barker AM*

The publication of the Annual Report helps focus the attention of Fellows on the role played by the Academy's Officers, Board of Directors and Secretariat.

The responsibility placed upon company directors was emphasised in 2022 by ASIC, through Australian Business Registry Services (ABRS), ensuring that directors were governed by law to apply for an identification number to establish them as directors. It is the responsibility of the Academy's Company Secretary to maintain a list of all directors and their ID.

Another outcome of taking on charitable status was the necessity to initially register all particulars relating to the Academy with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission. There is also an obligation to annually update this information by supplying a comprehensive report incorporated in an Annual Information Statement supplied to the Commission. This is published on their portal and open to inspection by anyone.

This comprehensive report includes an account of its programme of activities for the reporting period as well as the Academy's Financial Report, which not only includes a summary of its financial activities but also an uploaded financial and audit report as previously reported to the Academy's Annual General Meeting. In addition, there is an updated list of responsible people: the Academy's Officers and Board of Directors, setting

out their current positions and any changes which have taken place over the reported year.

It is obvious that as the Academy represents all aspects of the legal community, it is incumbent on everyone involved to ensure that it complies with all aspects of the Australian Companies Legislation and the Charities Regulations.

All members of the Board give their time completely voluntarily. For many, such as the President and the Treasurer, their responsibilities can be quite time-consuming. For example, the role of the President involves overall direction of both the Board and the administration of the Academy, including writing and publishing the Academy's Newsletters. The Treasurer ensures that the Academy's accounts are in order, both to keep the membership informed and to satisfy the stringent requirements of the Academy's auditors.

The Academy also acknowledges the contribution of the Secretariat in ensuring the smooth running of all the administration relating to the AAL.

## Reporting Periods

In this Annual Report, the Academy's Committee reports and reports of activities and events cover the calendar year 2022, while the financial accounts are presented the financial year July 2021 to 30 June 2022 (its accounting period).

## DGR Status and Donations

The Academy is registered as an endorsed charity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (see [www.acnc.gov.au](http://www.acnc.gov.au)). It is also listed as a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) under the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* (Cth).

The AAL Public Fund is distinct from other Academy accounts and is used only to receive tax-deductible donations. All these donations must be used in accordance with the objectives for which the Academy was established, particularly the advancement of legal education and research.

## Financial Accounts

The Academy's Financial Accounts for the year ended 30 June 2022 are set out in abbreviated form overleaf. For a complete set of statements including Auditor's notes, please click on the Registered Charity Tick on the left or on the [AAL website](http://AAL website).



# Financial Statements

as at 30 June 2022

Australian Academy of Law  
(A company limited by guarantee)

ABN 19 127 640 466

## Statement of Comprehensive Income

	\$
<b>Revenue</b>	151,654
Expenses excluding finance costs	118,891
Profit/(Loss) of the Company	32,764
<b>Total Comprehensive Income</b>	<b>32,764</b>

## Statement of Financial Position

<b>Assets and Liabilities</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	407,214
Total Current Assets	407,214
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>407,214</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
Other Accruals	102,213
Total Current Liabilities	102,213
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>102,213</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>305,001</b>
<b>Equity</b>	
Retained Earnings	305,001
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>305,001</b>



## Statement of Changes in Equity

	\$
<b>Opening balance</b>	272,237
Retained Earnings	
Current Year Profit/ (Loss)	32,764
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>305,001</b>
<b>Reconciliation of Retained Earnings</b>	
Opening Balance	272,237
Current Year Profit/ (Loss)	32,764
Closing Balance	305,001
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>305,001</b>

## Statement of Cash Flows

	\$
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>	272,237
Receipts from customers	151,145
Payments to suppliers and employees	(118,891)
Interest received	510
<b>Net cash inflow from operating activities</b>	<b>32,764</b>
Net increase in trade and other payables	25,013
Net increase in cash held	57,777
Cash and cash equivalents as at 30 June 2021	349,437
<b>Cash and cash equivalents as at 30 June 2022</b>	<b>407,214</b>

## Profit and Loss Statement

\$

### Income

Membership fees	139,334
Donations received	10,200
Event & project fees	1,611
Interest received	510
	<b>151,654</b>

### Expenditure

Accountancy fees	2585
Audit fees	1800
Bank charges	427
Consultants – Projects	30,724
Consultants – Annual Report, Media	7,596
Consultants – IT, Website, Digital	---
Donations paid	5,000
Prizes & Scholarships	15,000
Insurance	1,563
Publishing costs	---
Sponsorships	5,000
Secretariat fees & costs	42,037
Conferences, events & teleconference expenses	6,110
Travelling expenses	717
Website expenditure	333
	<b>118,891</b>

**Net Profit/(Loss)**

**32,764**

# Plans for the Future

## Activities

The AAL's events and activities continue to form the centrepiece of our commitment to bringing together the branches of the legal community, to foster the intellectual exchange of ideas, explore new research and nurture mutual interests.

The First Nations Scholarship is now in its second year and generous donations to the Academy's Public Fund mean we can continue this \$5,000 award for the foreseeable future.

The annual Essay Prize was introduced in 2015 as part of the Academy's objective to promote high standards of legal research, scholarship and education. Each year the question is framed to encourage entrants to consider important legal issues in need of resolution. The \$10,000 prize should be attractive to young legal practitioners, scholars and academics. We must do more to publicise it and secure a greater number of entries.

It was pleasing to see the return of the Michael Coper Memorial Prize after the pandemic hiatus. The Academy sponsors this prize in memory of Emeritus Professor Michael Coper AO as part of the Australian Law Students Association Paper Presentation competition.

The Academy again donated \$5,000 to AustLII (operated jointly by the Faculties of Law at the University of Technology Sydney and the University of New South Wales). AustLII's public policy purpose is to improve access to justice through access to legal information and this purpose accords with many objects of the AAL so it's anticipated this will continue to be an annual donation.

I would like to see further smaller meetings of Fellows held in a symposium format, with papers prepared and circulated beforehand and discussion between the participants.

## Planned Events

Many of the events planned for 2023 are designed to promote discussion and the exchange of ideas about important legal issues currently occupying public attention. For example, the legal aspects of the Voice to Parliament constitutional referendum and state-based Treaty frameworks.



## Cooperation

The Academy will continue to work with other legal institutions as well as with the Australian Academy of Science – this annual symposium is a successful combination of legal and scientific perspectives and serves as a valuable educational experience.

To mark some important national legal bicentenaries, the AAL will also join forces later in the year with the Australian Law Journal and the Australasian Institute of Judicial Administration to host a two-and-a-half-day conference in Sydney and Hobart titled ‘Enduring courts in changing times.’

The legal bicentenaries are in NSW; the Third Charter of Justice promulgated on 13 October 1823 establishing the Supreme Court, and in Tasmania; the first sitting of the Supreme Court of Van Dieman’s Land on 10 May 1824.

A number of distinguished speakers, judges and former judges, academics and practitioners, including from overseas, will address the conference which is intended to be a major event similar to the ‘Future of Australian Legal Education’ conference held by the AAL and ALJ six years ago. We expect to publish the papers from the proceedings in book form in 2024.

## Governance

The Memorandum of Understanding with the Federal Court of Australia, whereby secretariat services are provided to the Academy for an agreed fee, was continued, with a new agreement signed in 2022.

## Publicity

The Academy’s website is now established as a valuable resource. The monthly Newsletters provide information to Fellows and to interested members of the public. During 2023 we may engage some external assistance with keeping the website up to date.

## General

In all that the AAL does, we continue to be guided by its founding objectives – to build bridges between the Australian judiciary, the practising profession and the universities.

# Thanks

The Academy thanks each of the Directors, the Chairs of each of the committees and the members of these committees. All have given freely of their time. In particular, for their hard work, we thank the outgoing chair of the Website and Communications Committee, Michael Murray, and Melissa de Zwart who served as a Director for a number of years. Both resigned from the Board in January 2023 due to increased work commitments.

Thank you also to the Chief Justice and to the Chief Executive Officer of the Federal Court of Australia for the continuation of the Memorandum of Understanding under which the AAL is provided with administrative services.

The Academy thanks Dr Jennifer Farrell, the Secretariat, for her committed and efficient work for the AAL since April 2022 and also Ms Susan Jenkins for her work for the AAL over the last 4 years, up to April.

The Secretariat provides our only administrative assistance: the rest is done by Fellows themselves.

The Academy also notes the generosity of the donors to the Public Fund and thanks them for their contributions. Those contributions were, in part, used to establish the First Nations Scholarship in 2021 which was offered again in 2022.







# AAL

Australian Academy of Law



YouTube  
australian academy of law



LinkedIn  
australian-academy-of-law

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