

## Personalia

Warm congratulations to Academy Fellow, Walter Sofronoff QC, on his appointment as President of the Queensland Court of Appeal. Justice Sofronoff succeeds another Academy Fellow, the Hon Margaret McMurdo AC, in that office.

Justice Sofronoff delivered the address at the annual Academy event in Queensland in 2015.

## National Conference on Legal Education 11-13 August 2017

I am very happy to advise Fellows that registration for the conference, sponsored jointly by the Academy and the *Australian Law Journal*, is now open.

There is a special reduced rate for members of the Academy of \$250. The other rates are \$450 (full rate), \$350 (early bird, until 1 June) and \$150 (student).

To register and to find out more about the Conference, please refer to the Academy website at [www.academyoflaw.org.au/Conference](http://www.academyoflaw.org.au/Conference)

Registration is effected online. The registration form invites Fellows to state their AAL Membership number. You can ascertain this from subscription invoices and receipts that have been issued to you, but our ever considerate and efficient Secretariat advises that if you leave that space blank, the Secretariat will fill it in for you (it is not a "mandatory field"). The registration fee can be paid by using credit card, debit card or an existing PayPal account.

A flyer for the conference is **attached** to this Newsletter and I would be grateful if you would distribute this to your colleagues and networks.

## Series of Ethics Events in Sydney

*First Ethics event held on Tuesday 4 April*

Reference has previously been made in newsletters to a series of events being held this year in Sydney on an ethics theme.

The first of these, in the form of a hypothetical, was held on Tuesday 4 April in the ceremonial courtroom at the Federal Court (which is where the others will also be held).



*Moderator John Sheahan QC addressing the panellists.*

The event was open to the public and drew a large attendance of some 200. The Moderator was John Sheahan QC of the Sydney Bar and the panellists were Bret Walker SC, Sydney; Professor Bryan Horrigan, Dean, Faculty of Law, Monash University; Dr Ruth Higgins, Barrister, Sydney; Professor Peter Cashman, Barrister, Sydney and Professor of Law, University of Sydney; Cathie Armour, Commissioner, ASIC; Professor Uwe Dulleck, Business School, Queensland University of Technology; and the Hon Michael Lavarch AO, Commissioner of the Australian Skills Quality Authority and former Attorney-General of Australia.

The Academy is grateful to them and also to Professors Natalie Klein and Rosalind Croucher and Messrs Michael Murray and Nuncio D'Angelo for their roles in devising and organising this event.



*Bret Walker SC, Professor Bryan Horrigan, John Sheahan QC, Professor Peter Cashman, Dr Ruth Higgins, Professor Uwe Dulleck, Cathie Armour, the Hon Michael Lavarch AO*

#### *Second Ethics event to be held on Tuesday 20 June*

Preparations are well under way for the second in the series of ethics events which is to be held on Tuesday 20 June.

The subject will be *“Ethics in the practice of law: a profession, a business or both?”*

The format will be that a Moderator will question the members of a panel and there will be ample opportunity for questions and comments from the audience.

Some, but not all members of the panel have been engaged and therefore it is not possible to provide the flyer for the event just yet (it will be supplied to Fellows in a week or two's time). But I am **enclosing** a draft of the flyer which will inform members of the subject matter and scope of the event. This event will also be open to the public.

#### **“Updating the Classics: Law Treatises in the Modern Age” – Tuesday 9 May 2017**

Academy Fellow, Professor Barbara McDonald of the University of Sydney raised the possibility of the Academy's joining the University in co-sponsoring this event which is imminent.

I agreed.

A flyer for the event is **attached**.

The flyer gives details of the speaker, Professor Caprice Roberts, of Savannah Law School, of the panel members and of the subject matter. I believe that the topic will be of interest to many members of the Academy, involving the updating of classic law treatises and, indeed, the role of law treatises in the electronic age.

Fellows will note that the venue is the offices of Herbert Smith Freehills, Level 35, ANZ Tower, 161 Castlereagh Street, Sydney.

I hope to see other members of the Academy there.

#### **Academy Event in London on 3 July 2017**

Deputy President Justice Alan Robertson has taken the initiative in organising this event, which will coincide with the Australian Bar Association's biennial international conference.

The event will take the form of a reception and dinner to be held at Brooks's, 60 St James Street, Westminster in the 18<sup>th</sup> century circular Cavendish room.

Fellows and partners are welcome but note that time is running out for further Fellows to register as the room seats a maximum of 20. There are only 4 places left. The cost per head is £75. Sir Ross Cranston QC has agreed to give a short talk at the dinner.

If you, or you and partner wish to attend, please confirm to Alan Robertson at [Justice.Robertson@fedcourt.gov.au](mailto:Justice.Robertson@fedcourt.gov.au).

#### **2017 Annual Essay Prize**

Registrations of expressions of interest in submitting an essay for consideration for the award of the Essay Prize for 2017 should be effected online at [www.academyoflaw.org.au/2017-Essay-Prize](http://www.academyoflaw.org.au/2017-Essay-Prize).

**Attached** is a further copy of the Notice that has been issued.

Fellows will note that those interested in submitting

an essay must register their intent to do so by 30 June and that the essay must be submitted by 31 August.

All Fellows are encouraged to publicise the offering of the Prize.

## Event for Fellows in Perth on 17 July 2017

There was attached to the last Newsletter a flyer for an event for Fellows in Perth to be held on Thursday 20 April. The date had to be changed to Thursday 17 July 2017.

**Attached** to this newsletter is a revised flyer showing the new date. The other details remain the same. Registration for this event is facilitated online at [www.academyoflaw.org.au/events](http://www.academyoflaw.org.au/events)

## "New Look" for AAL Website

In connection with the transition to the "Wild Apricot" software, the Academy's website has been substantially improved and now includes a facility for online registration for Academy events.

Registration for the Conference on legal education in August will be effected online and the administration of the Conference will benefit in various ways from the new software and the PayPal facility that has been adopted.

Fellows are encouraged to visit the website ([www.academyoflaw.org.au](http://www.academyoflaw.org.au)) and, of course, to register for the Conference.

## New Members

I am sure that all Fellows join me in welcoming the distinguished lawyers mentioned below into membership of the Academy. They have become Fellows on the invitation of the Board of Directors since the last Newsletter:

The Hon Justice Hugh Fraser  
Professor Nick James  
Associate Professor Philip Chung  
Dr James Watson  
Mr Peter Walmsley



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