

PERSONALIA

HONOURS

I am sure that all Fellows will join me in extending warm congratulations to the following Fellows upon their being recognised in the Queen's Birthday Honours List announced on 11 June 2018:

The Hon Catherine Margaret Branson AC QC

The citation reads: "For eminent service to the judiciary as a Judge of the Federal Court of Australia, to the law as an advocate for human rights and civil liberties, to judicial administration and professional development, and to governance roles in tertiary education"

Emeritus Professor Robin Mary Creyke AO

The citation is: "For distinguished service to administrative law, and to education, as an academic and author, to public administration and tribunal practice, and to professional bodies."

STATE AND TERRITORY EVENTS

SYMPOSIUM SPONSORED JOINTLY BY AAL AND THE AUSTRALIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

As noted in the last Newsletter, this symposium marks the first collaboration between our Academy and the Australian Academy of Science.

But please note: **THERE HAS BEEN A CHANGE OF DATE TO THURSDAY 23 AUGUST 2018**

The event will be held in the Federal Court's ceremonial court on Level 21 of the Law Courts Building, Queen's Square, Sydney starting at 5.00 pm.

The topic is: "*Are you sure?*"

It is likely that there will be some discussion of the following aspects of the topic:

- Scientific certainty compared with legal certainty, and scientific decision-making compared with decision-making by courts;
- The difference between the scientific assessment of evidence and the assessment of evidence by the courts;
- The different notions of what is evidence and the different timeframes for reaching a decision;
- Cause and effect in science and law;
- Unconscious predispositions (biases) of judges and witnesses;
- The presentation and treatment of expert scientific evidence in the courts
- Uncertainty as part of certainty

A flyer is **attached** and gives the following details:

Chair: The Hon Stephen Gageler AC

Panellists: Professor Max Coltheart AM, Emeritus Professor of Cognitive Science, Macquarie University;

Professor Kerrie Mengersen, Australian Laureate Fellow and Professor of Statistics, QUT;

The Hon Chief Justice James Allsop AO, Chief Justice of the Federal Court of Australia;

The Hon Robert French AC, formerly Chief Justice of the High Court of Australia

VICTORIA

The flyer for the Patron's Address for this year will be attached to the next Newsletter or distributed in advance of it.

As previously advised, the Address will be delivered on Thursday 18 October 2018 by Dame Sian Elias GNZM PC QC, Chief Justice of New Zealand.

The venue will be the Federal Court in Melbourne.

Chief Justice Allsop has agreed to introduce the speaker.

QUEENSLAND

The annual public event in Queensland this year will be held on Thursday 4 October 2018 when The Hon Phillip Cummins AM will deliver a lecture on "Litigation Funding: Access and Ethics". As will be well known to Fellows, Mr Cummins is the Chair of the Victorian Law Reform Commission which has published its Discussion Paper on "Access to Justice: Litigation Funding and Group Proceedings".

We are fortunate that The Hon Justice Sarah Derrington has agreed to give a commentary. The Australian Law Reform Commission, of which her Honour is the President, is conducting an inquiry into class action proceedings and third party litigation funders.

As in past years, the event will be held in the Banco Court of the Supreme Court of Queensland.

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

NORTHERN TERRITORY

As has been announced in previous Newsletters, Fellows in the Northern Territory are fortunate indeed that The Hon Robert French AC will be giving the Austin Asche Oration this year.

The topic will be: "*Free Speech and the Law: Do we need a Charter of Rights and Freedoms just for Universities?*"

As in previous years, this event, which is sponsored jointly by the Academy and Charles Darwin University, will be held in the Nitmiluk Lounge, Level 4, Parliament House, Darwin.

The date is Monday 17 September 2017.

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

NEW SOUTH WALES

The second in the series of *Access to Justice* events will be held on Thursday 26 July.

The venue will again be the Banco Court of the Supreme Court of New South Wales, Level 13 of the Law Courts Building, and the time will again be 5.00 pm.

The topic will be "*Overcoming Financial Barriers to Access to Justice*".

A flyer for the event is **attached**

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

A "roundtable for Fellows will be held in Canberra on Wednesday 27 June at which Academy Fellow, The Hon Margaret Stone, the Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security, will speak about the role of her office under the fine title "Eyes on the Spies".

The flyer for the event has already been distributed to Fellows but it is expected that this Newsletter will be received by Fellows a little ahead of the event, so the flyer is **attached**.

ANNUAL ESSAY PRIZE

Any Fellow who is willing to form part of the Judging Panel should contact me or the Chair of the Prizes Committee, Professor Bee Chen Goh, whose email addresses are:

beecheen.goh@scu.edu.au and
bcgoh8@gmail.com

The topic this year is “*Rights and freedoms under the Australian Constitution: what are they and do they meet the needs of contemporary Australian Society?*”

The closing date for expressions of interest is 30 June and for entries 31 August.

As at the date of this Newsletter we have 162 expressions of interest but past experience suggests that only a small portion of these will result in an essay.

Therefore do not be dissuaded from volunteering to be on the Judging Panel by the number of expressions of interest.

We are again indebted to Professor William Gummow AC for his willingness to chair the Judging Panel.

Attached is the notice advertising the Prize.

THE FUTURE OF AUSTRALIAN LEGAL EDUCATION

I am pleased to inform Fellows that the book of the papers from last August’s Conference is about to be published.

It is expected that it will be available for purchase in late June or, at the latest, early July.

The price will be \$140.00 plus GST.

More information about purchasing the book is available here:

<https://legal.thomsonreuters.com.au/the-future-of-australian-legal-education/productdetail/126538>.

NEW FELLOWS

I am sure that all Fellows join me in extending a warm welcome to the following distinguished lawyers who have accepted the Board’s invitation to become Fellows of the Academy since the last Newsletter:

Professor Ross Buckley FASSA
Professor William McNeil

Kevin Lindgren



Kevin Lindgren
President
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