



# City of Sydney Law Society Newsletter

February 2014  
Issue 1

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 President's Message
- 2 Matters of Interest
- 3 Matters of Interest
- 4 Seminars – dates for diary
- 5 Seminars – dates for diary
- 6 CSLS Membership form
- 7 Seminar registration form
- 8 Seminar registration form
- 9 CSLS Contact Details

## CSLS 2013 – 2014 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### **Stephen Bell**, *President*

Stephen W Bell & Associates  
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**John Newton**, *Vice President*  
Solicitor

(Email: [mnewton@bigpond.net.au](mailto:mnewton@bigpond.net.au))

### **Ken Harkness**, *Secretary*

KM Harkness & Co

(Email: [kh@kmhc.com.au](mailto:kh@kmhc.com.au))

### **Igor Kazagrandi**, *Treasurer*

Doyle Wilson Solicitors

(Email: [igork@doylewilson.com.au](mailto:igork@doylewilson.com.au))

## Secretariat

Ann Parisi

Tel 9266 0062

Email: [info@sydneycitylawyers.com.au](mailto:info@sydneycitylawyers.com.au)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### **Stephen Bell**, *CSLS president*

Welcome back. We hope that you have enjoyed the festive season and return refreshed ready to tackle the new year.

We aim to dramatically increase our membership this year by offering high-quality seminars and social events. We hope also to improve communication with our members both in providing information and receiving feedback. We practice in the pre-eminent legal precinct in Australia and should enjoy the advantages of this and the camaraderie for which our profession is famous.

We also face many challenges this year and as a peak representative body of the legal profession we hope to keep you informed and ensure your voice is heard on crucial matters.

We have a new executive listed in the margin. We welcome new councillors **Andrew MacPherson**, **Con Ktenas**, **Mani Nair** and **Laurence Hibbert** as well as returning councillors **Colleen Donnelly**, **Ken Harkness** and **Philip Sim**.

## SEMINARS

Seminars have proven to be one of our core activities and a great means of solicitors meeting on a regular basis in a social and informative environment. Seminars don't aim to cater for specialised areas but cover topics that should be of general interest to all solicitors.

**Margarita Patrick** is Seminar Convenor for 2014. Email: [mpatrick@bigpond.com](mailto:mpatrick@bigpond.com). Margarita has many newly innovative ideas and is keen to receive comments and suggestions on the seminar program.

The first seminar event for 2014 on **6 February** is a seminar on Ethics (compulsory unit) held at **A NEW SEMINAR VENUE** details of which are:

Topic: Ethics-rule 42.1.6.1 on regulation 176  
Speaker: Linden Barnes, Ethics solicitor, Law Society NSW  
Date: 6 February 2014  
Time: 5:30 – 6:30pm  
Venue: Angel Place, Level 1, 123 Pitt Street Sydney  
Cost: CSLS members free; NSW Law Society members: \$25 incl GST  
Non-members \$35.00 incl GST

**New members half yearly membership of CSLS until 30 June 2014 – only \$50.00 incl GST.** Details of seminars for the beginning of the year are at the end of this newsletter.

## MATTERS OF INTEREST

### *Law Society seminars: The Lawyers Guide to Sanity, Profitability and Wellbeing*

Given the high level of depression in our profession and the attrition rate of new solicitors, the City of Sydney Law Society endorses the above seminar series commencing with a seminar “How to Stay Well at Work (in-depth)” on Tuesday 25 February 2014 (AM) and Tuesday 8 April 2014 (AM).

We will be distributing a brochure and detail of seminar content is available on [www.lawsociety.com.au/well-being](http://www.lawsociety.com.au/well-being)

### *Your comments - Legal Practice Management courses*

From time to time we will seek your views on particular topics. Your comments and case histories from the “coal face” are really important in influencing decision-makers.

The Law Society is presently running a review of the legal practical management guidelines and associated courses offered by external providers for solicitor is seeking Unrestricted Practising Certificates. Any comments are greatly appreciated and can be forwarded to our Executive Officer by email: [info@sydneycitylawyers.com.au](mailto:info@sydneycitylawyers.com.au)

### *National Legal Profession*

Legislation to enact a new Legal Professional Uniform Law is to be introduced this year (supposedly by July). The aim of the uniform law is to deliver harmonised regulation of the legal profession across by cutting red tape for law firms especially those of operating across jurisdictions and to assist Australian law firms facing increasing competition from overseas and looking to expand into emerging markets. Also it aims to provide enhanced consumer protection by greater consistency in consumer law.

The Bill will provide for the establishment of 2 new bodies being Legal Services Council and an Admissions Committee, together with a commissioner for the uniform legal services regulation. In addition, the Attorney Generals of the participating jurisdictions will act jointly as a “standing committee” in relation to various aspects of the scheme. The scheme is co-regulatory with a significant involvement of local practitioners overridden by the National bodies.

Opponents have expressed concerns about potential compromises to the independence of the profession and the amount of power that the national Legal Services commissioner will have. They claimed that reforms may result in unnecessary red tape and increased the cost and time for small firms to comply.

Supporters of the scheme see the establishment of a national legal market centred on Sydney will benefit all practitioners, when other states and territories join. Any improvement in the overall competitiveness of the Australian legal profession will have spin-off benefits to all practitioners



imposition of restrictive or anticompetitive practices.

Following the withdrawal of other states and territories, Victoria and New South Wales are the only participating jurisdictions although we account for nearly  $\frac{3}{4}$  of all Australian legal practitioners. It is hoped that other states and jurisdictions may join the scheme at a later date. The legislation enacted in Victoria will be applied initially by New South Wales and the new authorities will be based in New South Wales.

The concern is that the Law Society of New South Wales has committed to making very significant financial contributions to the establishment of the new bureaucracy which ultimately will be met by New South Wales practitioners.

**Mark Warton** gave two seminars last year on the changes to the treatment of disciplinary matters, and the requirement of charging only “reasonable costs”. These are significant changes that will affect all practitioners. We can only closely monitor developments and keep you informed.

#### ***PLT placement programme***

We continue with our service to newly admitted solicitors. You solicitors register with us and we seek registration of Law Firms willing to take referrals. Students and law firms interested in continuing to participate in the program please contact our Executive Officer.

#### ***Duty Solicitors Pro Bono Service Downing Centre***

All solicitors interested in participating in the service, please contact the coordinator Anthony Restuccia on 0419 689 753.

#### ***State of the Profession***

As at 2 December 2013 there were 26,807 solicitors with practicing certificates in NSW. 52.1% were males. 7.33% had no practising details. 69.83% of the profession were in private practice.

There are more than 12,000 solicitors practising in the Sydney CBD which constitutes approximately 45% of New South Wales practitioners.

NSW Law Students 2013 in Final Year 1,009 made up of: Sydney University: 600; University of Wollongong 187; University of Notre Dame 65; South Cross University 89 + unknown numbers from: UNSW, UWS, UNE, UNewcastle, UTS.

## FOR THE DIARY

**PLEASE NOTE** that all seminars for **February and March 2014** will be held at Angel Place Level 1, 123 Pitt Street, Sydney on Thursdays at 5:30 – 6:30pm. Non-members \$35 per seminar incl GST; NSW Law Society \$25 per seminar incl GST.

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*Seminars held every  
Thursday evening  
5:30pm – 6:30pm*

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- **ETHICS - Rule 57.1.6 (i) (COMPULSORY SEMINAR)**

Date: Thursday 6 February 2014

Time: 5:30 – 6:30pm

Speaker: Linden Barnes, Ethics solicitor, Law Society of New South Wales

- **THE PITFALLS AND PROBLEMS WITH POWERS OF ATTORNEY**

Date: Thursday 13 February 2014

Time: 5:30 – 6:30pm

Speaker: Darryl Browne, Solicitor

- **OH&S (Compulsory seminar)**

Date: Thursday 20 February 2014

Time: 5:30 – 6:30pm

Speaker: Kellie Edwards, Barrister

- **ACCESS TO CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION IN SEXUAL ASSAULT CASES**

Date: Thursday 27 February 2014

Time: 5:30 – 6:30pm

Speaker: Garry Jauncey, Barrister

- **DIRECTOR PENALTY NOTICES – THE NEW LIABILITIES**

Date: Thursday 6 March 2014

Time: 5:30 – 6:30pm

Speaker: Nick Gangemi, Barrister

## FOR THE DIARY

- **No seminar**

Date: Thursday 13 March 2014

- **OHS IN THE DIGITAL AGE (Compulsory Seminar)**

Date: Thursday 20 March 2014

Time: 5:30 – 6:30pm

Speaker: Dr Allan Watt PhD, CFCE, CFE, Cyber Program Coordinator/Lecturer

- **RIPPING UP THE RULEBOOK: AN INTRODUCTION TO THE AUSTRALIAN SOLICITORS CONDUCT RULES (Compulsory Seminar)**

Date: Thursday 27 March 2014

Time: 5:30 – 6:30pm

Speaker: Neil Watt, Solicitor and Consulting Ethicist

- **SOCIAL MEDIA FOR LAWYERS**

Date: Thursday 3 April 2014

Time: 5:30 – 6:30pm

Speaker: Jason Elias, Consultant

- **T B A**

Date: Thursday 10 April 2014

Time: 5:30 – 6:30pm

Speaker: TBA

- **ME... A WORKPLACE BULLY? KNOW HOW TO SPOT ONE? (Compulsory Unit)**

Date: Thursday 17 April 2014

Time: 5:30 – 6:30pm

Speaker: Dr Jean-Marcel Malliate, Mediator and clinical supervisor

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## 2013 – 2014 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

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### NEW MEMBERSHIP

- Individual Membership ~~\$100.00~~ now \$50.00 (incl GST)  
 Newly admitted Solicitor (1-2 years) ~~\$50.00~~ now \$25.00 (incl GST)

### RENEWAL

- Individual Membership \$100.00 (incl GST)  
 Newly admitted Solicitor (1-2 years) \$50.00 (incl GST)

- Student Member \$ 20.00 (incl GST)  
 Group Membership for \_\_\_\_ members (Please attach list of names, addresses and email address). Discount of 10% is available when 3 or more solicitors from the same firm join together.

Membership remains current to 30 June 2014. **NEW MEMBERS** or associate members applying between 1 April 2014 and 30 June, 2014 will continue membership to 30 June, 2015. New Members applying between 1 October 2013 and 31 March 2014 receive a 50% discount. Law students may join as Student Members for \$ 20 per annum (no discounts).

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### APPLICANT'S DETAILS

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Name: ..... Title: .....

Firm: .....

Postal address: ..... P/code.....

DX: ..... Phone: ..... Mobile: .....

Email: .....

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### PAYMENT METHOD (tick one)

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- Visa     MasterCard    (AMEX NOT ACCEPTED)     Cheque (Payable to City of Sydney Law Society)

I enclose payment of \$..... Credit card No: ..... Expires: ..... / .....

Name (please print): ..... Signature: .....

I apply for membership and declare that I am eligible for the category of membership applied for (see below):

Signed: ..... Dated:        /        / 2014

Full voting membership is available to:

- Persons who hold or are eligible to hold a practising certificate under the Legal Profession Act in NSW;
- Judges, judicial officers and tribunal members;
- Academic lawyers;
- Persons who have retired from any of the above classes.

Associate Membership (non-voting) is available a person who currently works in the legal profession and has worked in the legal profession for a period of five years (in aggregate) over the last eight years. Details of such work should be submitted with the application.

Student Membership (non-voting) is available to a person who is currently either a graduate-at-law or a student undertaking legal or other related studies.

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**Please return this form with payment to:** City of Sydney Law Society (ABN 88 377 230 477), GPO Box 1907, Sydney NSW 2001. Phone 9266 0012 Fax 9266 0062 Email [info@sydneycitylawyers.com.au](mailto:info@sydneycitylawyers.com.au)



## 2014 SEMINAR REGISTRATION FORM

Please ✓	DATE	SEMINAR	TIME	VENUE
	Thursday 06.02.2014	<b>ETHICS RULE 42.1.6.1 AND REGULATION 176</b> (Compulsory Seminar) Speaker: Linden Barnes, Ethics solicitor, NSW Law Society	5:30pm - 6:30pm	Angel Place, Level 1, 123 Pitt Street, Sydney
	Thursday 13.02.2014	<b>THE PITFALLS AND PROBLEMS WITH POWERS OF ATTORNEY</b> Speaker: Darryl Browne, Solicitor	5:30pm - 6:30pm	Angel Place, Level 1, 123 Pitt Street, Sydney
	Thursday 20.02.2014	<b>OH&amp;S (Compulsory seminar)</b> Speaker: Kellie Edwards, Barrister	5:30pm - 6:30pm	Angel Place, Level 1, 123 Pitt Street, Sydney
	Thursday 27.02.2014	<b>ACCESS TO CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION IN SEXUAL ASSAULT CASES</b> Speaker: Garry Jauncey, Barrister	5:30pm - 6:30pm	Angel Place, Level 1, 123 Pitt Street, Sydney
	Thursday 06.03.2014	<b>DIRECTOR PENALTY NOTICES – THE NEW LIABILITIES</b> Speaker: Nick Gangemi, Barrister	5:30pm - 6:30pm	Angel Place, Level 1, 123 Pitt Street, Sydney
	Thursday 13.03.2014	<b>NO SEMINAR</b>	5:30pm - 6:30pm	Angel Place, Level 1, 123 Pitt Street, Sydney

<b>SEMINAR COSTS (Please ✓)</b>				
<input type="checkbox"/> CSLS Member (No charge)	<input type="checkbox"/> Law Society of NSW Member \$25.00 incl GST per seminar	<input type="checkbox"/> Non- Member \$35.00 incl GST per seminar		
<b>SEMINAR REGISTRATION DETAILS</b>				
Name				
Firm				
Address		P/CODE		
Phone		Fax		DX
Email				
<b>PAYMENT METHOD Please ✓</b>  <b>AMEX NOT ACCEPTED</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Visa	<input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard	<input type="checkbox"/> Cheque (payable to the City of Sydney Law Society)	
Credit card no:			Expires:	/
Cardholder's name			Cardholder's signature	
I enclose payment	\$			

**Please return completed form with payment to:**

City of Sydney Law Society: GPO Box 1907 Sydney NSW 2001 Fax: (02) 9266 0062

Email: info@sydneycitylawyers.com.au Enquiries: 9266 0012 Website: www.sydneycitylawyers.com.au

## 2014 SEMINAR REGISTRATION FORM

Please ✓	DATE	SEMINAR	TIME	VENUE
	Thursday 20.03.2014	<b>OH&amp;S IN THE DIGITAL AGE</b> Speaker: Dr Allan Watt, Consultant	5:30pm - 6:30pm	Angel Place, Level 1, 123 Pitt Street, Sydney
	Thursday 27.03.2014	<b>RIPPING UP THE RULE BOOK – AN INTRODUCTION TO THE AUSTRALIAN SOLICITORS CONDUCT RULES</b> Speaker: Neil Watt, Solicitor	5:30pm - 6:30pm	Angel Place, Level 1, 123 Pitt Street, Sydney
	Thursday 03.04.2014	<b>SOCIAL MEDIA FOR LAWYERS</b> Speaker: Jason Elias, Consultant	5:30pm - 6:30pm	Angel Place, Level 1, 123 Pitt Street, Sydney
	Thursday 10.04.2014	<b>T B A</b> Speaker: T B A	5:30pm - 6:30pm	Angel Place, Level 1, 123 Pitt Street, Sydney
	Thursday 17.04.2014	<b>ME... A WORKPLACE BULLY? KNOW HOW TO SPOT ONE?</b> (Compulsory Unit) Speaker: Dr Jean-Marcel Malliate, Mediator and clinical supervisor	5:30pm - 6:30pm	Angel Place, Level 1, 123 Pitt Street, Sydney

### SEMINAR COSTS (Please ✓)

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> CSLS Member (No charge) | <input type="checkbox"/> Law Society of NSW Member<br>\$25.00 incl GST per seminar | <input type="checkbox"/> Non- Member<br>\$35.00 incl GST per seminar |
|--|--|--|

### SEMINAR REGISTRATION DETAILS

Name					
Firm					
Address		P/CODE			
Phone		Fax		DX	
Email					
<b>PAYMENT METHOD Please ✓</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Visa	<input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard	<input type="checkbox"/> Cheque (payable to the City of Sydney Law Society)		
<b>AMEX NOT ACCEPTED</b>					
Credit card no:				Expires:	/
Cardholder's name		Cardholder's signature			
I enclose payment		\$			

**Please return completed form with payment to:**

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Email: [info@sydneycitylawyers.com.au](mailto:info@sydneycitylawyers.com.au) Enquiries: 9266 0012 Website: [www.sydneycitylawyers.com.au](http://www.sydneycitylawyers.com.au)



# CSLS 2013 21st Anniversary Celebration Dinner Invitation At Parliament House, 26 November 2013

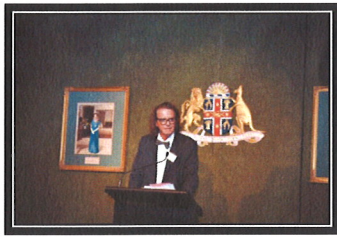
Mr Garry McGrath, MC  
Mr Charles Waterstreet - Keynote speaker



Dinner attendees



Robert Sutherland SC, Charles Waterstreet and Mahrukh Batiwalla



Keynote speaker, Charles Waterstreet



CSLS President,  
Stephen Bell



Dinner attendees



Performance by the Bar Choir



Emeritus Professor David Barker AM, Margarita Patrick and Mahrukh Batiwalla



Mr Garry McGrath SC, MC

# City Of Sydney Law Society

## Contact Details

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<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.sydneycitylawyers.com.au">www.sydneycitylawyers.com.au</a>

*With special thanks to our 21st Anniversary Dinner Sponsors:*

