



City of Sydney Law Society Newsletter

January 2015
Issue 1

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CSLS 2015 – 2016

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Stephen Bell, President
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CSLS CONTACT DETAILS

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Executive Officer
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

WELCOME BACK

Hope you had a good break and are refreshed ready to face 2015. It will be a challenging year.

MEMBERSHIP: NEW and RENEWALS

We are keen to have new members and ask our existing members to renew their membership:

- Full membership - \$150.00
- For newly admitted solicitors (first two years) - \$75.00
- Students - \$30.00

Group discount of 10% is available when 3 or more solicitors from the same firm join together.

Membership remains current to 30 June 2015. New members applying between 1 October and 31 March receive a 50% discount.

*All prices include 10% GST. Membership is "personal" to the individual and is not transferable within the firm.

Membership can be completed online through the website or on the form herewith.

Stephen Bell,
CSLS President

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

- Individual Membership \$150.00 (incl GST)
 Newly admitted Solicitor (1-2 years) \$75.00 (incl GST)
 Student Member \$ 30.00 (incl GST)
 Group Membership for _____ members (Please attach list of names, addresses and email address)

Membership remains current to 30 June 2015. **NEW MEMBERS** or associate members applying between 1 April and 30 June, 2015 will continue membership to 30 June, 2016. New Members applying between 1 October and 31 March receive a 50% discount. Law students may join as Student Members for \$ 30 per annum (no discounts).

APPLICANT'S DETAILS

Name: Title:

Firm:

Postal address: P/code.....

DX: Phone: Mobile:

.....

Email:

PAYMENT METHOD (tick one)

- Visa MasterCard 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: / / 20

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.

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

SEMINARS

We offer over 30 seminars a year free to members. **Seminars to non-members now cost \$55.00.**

Seminars are offered in two distinct periods:

1. **Summer/Spring seminar series**

From first week in February until the Easter break. This year Easter is early with Good Friday on 3 April 2015 so the break will be from 27 March 2015 until 15 April 2015.

2. **Winter/Spring seminar series**

From 16 April 2015 until 5 November 2015.

There will be no seminars throughout July 2015.

The venue for seminars is the **Angel Place Conference Auditorium, 123 Pitt Street Sydney.**

Occasionally we need to change the venue so it is advisable to check the website or notices close to seminar dates.

Please book online so that we have some estimation of numbers attending and can streamline registration. Booking is to our website on **www.sydneycitylawyers.com.au**.

We are always keen to have your suggestions on topics and speakers. Please feel to contact me directly by email on **stephen@sblaw.com.au** or our Executive Officer, Ann Parisi on **info@sydneycitylawyers.com.au**.

Details of upcoming seminars:

- 05 February 2015 *CyberLawyer – Tips and Traps for lawyers in the electronic age, Neil Watt (Ethics)**
- 12 February 2015 *Estate Planning, Darryl Browne (Professional Management and Business Skills)**
- 19 February 2015 *Human Behaviour and Social Issues, Jean-Marcel Malliate (OHS)**
- 26 February 2015 *Janice Purvis and Malcolm Heath of Lawcover (Professional Skills)**
- 05 March 2015 *Sentencing Offenders for Commonwealth Crime, Troy Anderson*
- 12 March 2015 *Electronic Conveyancing, Peter Rosier*
- 19 March 2015 *Getting the Most Out Of Mediation, Dennis Wilson (Professional Skills)**
- 26 March 2015 To be advised

Easter break

- 16 April 2015 The Application of Equitable Principles in Family Law Proceedings, Ian Coleman SC

***NB: Mandatory seminar topic.**

We will advise of the other seminars for the year in due course.

PRACTICE VIABILITY SUBCOMMITTEE

It is a challenging year with State Elections in March and the rollout of the National Profession Reforms. The Productivity Commission - Access to Justice Report has been released and its recommendations are being considered. We will continue to conduct polls of our members and draft submissions to the Law Society and other bodies expressing our members' views. Philip Roberts is our convener and is always interested in members' views.

WEB-SITE REVAMP- Volunteers needed

This year we are undertaking to rebuild our website almost from scratch under the direction of Andrew Macpherson. We are looking for solicitors with an interest or expertise in this area to join our subcommittee to work on this project. Please contact me directly by email on stephen@sblaw.com.au or our Executive Officer, Ann Parisi on info@sydneycitylawyers.com.au.

DOWNING CENTRE PRO BONO DUTY ROSTER

We continue with our duty roster aiming to provide free legal advice at the Downing Centre on hearing days. Our convener, Anthony Restuccia is keen to speak to solicitors willing to volunteer to attend one fixed day a month.

Please contact Anthony Restuccia on a_j_restuccia@yahoo.com.au.

Needed YOUNG LAWYERS LIAISON OFFICER

We are looking for a young lawyer (less than five years since admission) to be our coordinator with the Young Lawyers. This will require them attending the two Young Lawyers Assemblies with accommodation and meals paid for. We asked the Liaison Officer to provide the committee with a report and keep us informed of how we can work with Young Lawyers.

PRACTICAL LEGAL TRAINING (PLT)

The City of Sydney Law Society, in cooperation with a number of academic institutions, has been running a program to match up Practical Legal Training (PLT) students with our practitioner members and we invite all members to participate in the program.

Students who have joined our Society as Student Members will be eligible to seek the Society's assistance with completing their admission requirements in relation to the compulsory 16 week PLT. (Supervision may be for the whole of the 16 week period or some part of it, dependent of the particular academic institution's regulations and the practitioner's requirements).

Practitioners with unrestricted practicing certificates who are members of our Society and wish to consider supervising PLT students are invited to register the following details:

- Name of firm
- Address, email, phone and fax
- Contact person
- Brief job description (one paragraph)
- Placement period details (ie. how many weeks, dates and hours preferred)

Interested persons should contact our PLT coordinator Robert Eaves:

principal@eaveslegal.com.au.

UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS

We have a program of social events throughout the year. We are yet to finalise dates and speakers. The following dates are approximate:

- May 2015 Law Week Breakfast
- July/August 2015 Luncheon
- October 2015 Downing Centre Cocktail Function
- November 2015 Annual Dinner

We are always on the lookout for entertaining and lively speakers and would welcome any suggestions. We try to give as much notice as we can of social events and offer early-bird rates hoping that members will assist us by booking early.
