



Australasian LAWYER

australasianlawyer.com.au
Issue 1.1

BRISBANE BOUND
FIRMS EXPLAIN THE
CITY'S NEW
OPPORTUNITY

DARWIN'S LAW
GLOBAL FIRM MP TALKS
LEGAL EVOLUTION

COMPANY LIABILITY
INSURERS
CONTEMPLATE
UNCERTAIN FUTURE

HOT 40

The 40 inspiring lawyers shaking the industry up

The legal industry's

HOT 40

Australasian Lawyer reveals 2014's 40 hottest private practice lawyers working in the trans-Tasman legal market

What makes a lawyer 'hot'?

It's got nothing to do with looks, if you're curious. In compiling this list of Australia and New Zealand's standout legal talent, *Australasian Lawyer* has been burning the midnight oil researching the region's prominent dealmakers and lawyers who have made the headlines.

What this feature seeks to achieve is to profile lawyers who have stood out among their peers in some way. It's not all about deals. All manner of achievements were considered. This included non-transaction areas, pro bono work, involvement in a landmark case or judgment, or a result that defied the odds.

Lawyers featured here could also have simply been water-cooler talk – a result of being involved

in something that, from an industry standpoint, was nothing other than interesting or amusing.

Of course, being included in listings such as this is a significant achievement, but we should remember that many commendable lawyers never receive such accolades for one reason or another.

Thus, *Australasian Lawyer's* HOT 40 does not purport to be an exhaustive listing of meritorious achievement.

Lawyers were chosen for this feature based on submissions received from firms; nominations made on our website (australasianlawyer.com.au); and, in the dealmakers section, a look at those lawyers fronting significant deals that have made the news.

HOT 40 BREAKDOWN

TOP 5 PRACTICE AREAS



1. Corporate advisory



2. Banking and finance



3. Energy and resources



4. Litigation and dispute resolution

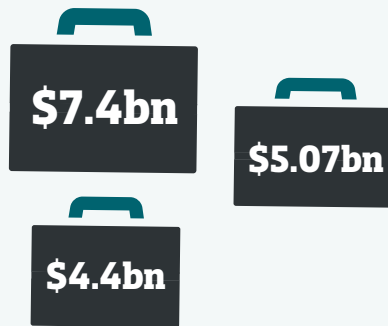


5. Real estate

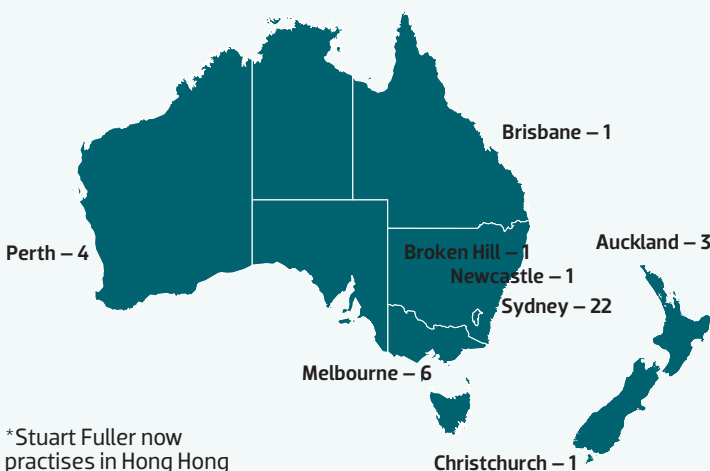
GENDER SPLIT



BIGGEST DEALS



WHERE THEY PRACTISE



*Stuart Fuller now practises in Hong Kong

THE HOT 40

ALAN MAXTON	ALLENS
AMANDA BANTON	PIPER ALDERMAN
ANTHONY LATIMER	NORTON ROSE FULBRIGHT
ASHLEY WARTON	ASHURST
ATHENA KOELMEYER	WORKPLACE LAW
BRYNN GILBERTSON	BELL GULLY
CAMPBELL HUDSON	GADENS
CHRIS CURETON	SQUIRE SANDERS
COLLEEN PLATFORD	GILBERT + TOBIN LAWYERS
DANIEL LIVINGSTONE	MILLS OAKLEY
DARREN FITTER	GILBERT + TOBIN LAWYERS
DAVID HOLLAND	BAKER & MCKENZIE
FRAN RUSH	CLAYTON UTZ
GAVIN SMITH	ALLENS
GRAEME QUIGLEY	RUSSELL MCVEAGH
IAN ROBERTSON	HOLDING REDLICH
JEN CRAWFORD	ANDERSON LLOYD
JOHN DENTON	CORRS CHAMBERS WESTGARTH
JOHN MANN	KL GATES
JOHN POULSEN	SQUIRE SANDERS
KATE JORDAN	CLAYTON UTZ
LEE MACDONALD	ASHURST
LES KOLTAI	DLA PIPER
MALCOLM SHELTON-AGAR	JACKSON MCDONALD
MARK TREISMAN	CHANDLERS LAW
MOYA DODD	GILBERT + TOBIN LAWYERS
NICK HUMPHREY	SPARKE HELMORE
ORLA MCJOY	CLAYTON UTZ
RACHEL STOREY	RACHEL STOREY & ASSOCIATES
RICHARD ANICICH	SPARKE HELMORE
ROGER WALLIS	CHAPMAN TRIPP
SANDY MAK	CORRS CHAMBERS WESTGARTH
STEPHEN WEBB	DLA PIPER
STEVEN TANG	MADDOCKS
STUART FULLER	KING & WOOD MALLESONS
SUE KENCH	KING & WOOD MALLESONS
TONY DAMIAN	HERBERT SMITH FREEHILLS
TONY SPARKS	ALLEN & OVERY
TRACY RENSHAW	CLIFFORD CHANCE
VIRGINIA BRIGGS	MINTER ELLISON

TRAILBLAZERS

The intrepid lawyers breaking new ground in the legal industry

As industries go, the legal market is a tough nut to crack. Not only is it fiercely competitive – it's becoming increasingly global. Demands on firms to provide more for less intensify every year and the cost of failing to adapt is high. In this section, we pay homage to a handful of lawyers who have reached incredible heights in the business of running a law firm. These lawyers have played key roles in their firms' strategies to tap into new markets, transform their client base and grow their practice areas.



Stuart Fuller, King & Wood Mallesons

With a clear vision of Asia as the new centre of global economic activity and the desire to build a 'different' type of international law firm, Hong Kong-based global managing partner of King & Wood Mallesons, Stuart Fuller, continues to be instrumental in the expansion and integration of the firm's network, which now includes 30 offices. At the helm of the first Sino-Western international law firm combination, Fuller recently acted as point man in negotiations to merge KWM with SJ Berwin, which delivered the firm a European platform and English law capabilities. As chief executive of the Hong Kong firm, Fuller led the full local partnership integration, including a new profit pool, employee terms, IT system and internal processes. He also continues to demonstrate his penchant for leadership and innovation, with achievements that include defining the global firm's business priorities in a changing environment and the creation of a global secondment program.



Sue Kench, King & Wood Mallesons

To those who know her, King & Wood Mallesons' Australian managing partner, Sue Kench, is more action hero than lawyer. So much so that the Canada Pension Plan Investment Board, which she advised on its

\$2bn co-investment in the Barangaroo development site in Sydney, recently praised her work on the "arduous" nine-month transaction as "akin to John McClane in *Die Hard 2* landing fuel-starved jumbos on Christmas Eve in a snowstorm." But Kench's work goes beyond legal and business expertise: as managing partner, she is heavily involved in the firm's network expansion and is considered to have been instrumental in executing the integration of the Australian practice into the firm's global network. A recognised innovator, she also has a track record working on deals that have set a number of new precedents and market trends in the real estate sector. Kench recently assisted DEXUS on its acquisition of interests in a portfolio of Sydney CBD office properties worth over \$500m, which she helped close at 'break-neck' speed of under three weeks while keeping the deal off-market.



Les Koltai, DLA Piper

Joining from Ashurst in 2012, DLA Piper's Les Koltai has been instrumental in realigning the firm's real estate practice in Australia, after being quickly promoted to head the group. Koltai has used his expertise in cross-border real estate transactions to transform and expand the nature of the firm's client base, which now includes well-known global REITs, private equity groups, asset managers and pension funds including The Blackstone

Group, The Carlyle Group, Mapletree REIT and SEB Bank. He has also managed to boost domestic traction, adding clients such as Mirvac Group, Investa Property Group, Charter Hall and Abacus Property Group. As a result, Koltai has ensured the firm is being pitted against traditional 'tier 1' players on deals of greater size and complexity, with large portfolio instructions valued from \$100m to \$1bn. Koltai is also proving an asset to the firm's corporate, finance and tax groups, managing to personally represent 60% of all referrals to those groups.



John Poulsen, Squire Sanders

Encouraging lawyers to be brave and take the ultimate leap of faith can be very difficult indeed – but that’s just what Squire Sanders’ Australian managing partner has achieved. Having led and managed the combination of the large part of a national firm with a top 10 global law firm, Poulsen has engineered its growth in Australia, with

a focus on positive workplace culture that follows Jim Collins’ Good to Great motto – getting the right people on the bus so that the rest looks after itself. During his tenure, the firm also built a successful financial practice from scratch– something that’s certainly been helped by having Poulsen on the bus.



Stephen Webb, DLA Piper

Internationally-renowned Stephen Webb is the type of projects lawyer that top tier clients with an interest in the Asia-Pacific region trust on deals that are a ‘first’ of their kind. Though now based in Brisbane, Webb has built a reputation as a true cross-border specialist, working in jurisdictions across the globe that include Abu Dhabi and Hong Kong, and has brought his

experience home to Australia to advise clients across Asia. His work for public sector clients in the last 12 months includes advising the government of East Timor in relation to a significant oil and gas project in the Timor Sea, and he is also advising the Mongolian government on its first IPP project, CHP5. Webb also demonstrated cross-border expertise for private sector clients such as Xstrata, Leighton and Equis/Soleq.



John Denton, Corrs Chambers Westgarth

If you were looking for someone to chair a discussion between the presidents of Russia, China and Mexico, you would need that person to be a globally-respected thought leader. That’s why, when the Australian Business Advisory Counsel recently hosted this exact group of leaders at its annual dialogue with APEC leaders, it called upon John

Denton. Long one of the most influential lawyers in the country, Denton is the personification of his vision for a law firm. In this regard, Denton was recently appointed one of two originating Australian members by the Prime Minister and Treasurer for a business reference group of the G20, the B20.



Malcolm Shelton-Agar, Jackson McDonald

It’s not easy filling the shoes of a predecessor who worked as CEO for 14 years, but Jackson McDonald’s Malcolm Shelton-Agar has done an admirable job since taking the reins from John McLean last year at WA’s

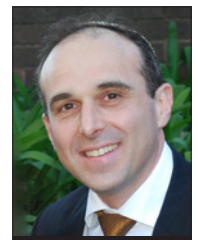
biggest independent firm. Shelton-Agar came into the firm having worked at Singapore law firm Allen & Gledhill, where he was chief operating officer. He had also spent more than a decade at then DLA Phillips Fox (now DLA Piper). Since joining Jackson McDonald, Shelton-Agar has implemented new strategies for advancing the firm.



John Mann, K&L Gates

Mann has forged a strong reputation at K&L Gates and its predecessor firms. He was responsible last year for finalising a critical merger, acting on behalf of Middletons in its combination

with K&L Gates. Since then, his star has continued to rise, with advice such as that provided to Harbert Private Equity concerning its divestment in the Aesop Group. This was recognised in 2013 by the Australian Venture Capital and Private Equity Association (AVCAL) as the ‘best expansion stage’ deal of the year.



Mark Treisman, Chandlers International Lawyers

It’s easier to headline the deals landscape within the ranks of a top-tier firm, but Treisman is proof that boutique firms can pack an awesome punch too if given the opportunity.

Treisman was one of just 18 solicitors selected nationally to represent clients in a \$500m Federal Court investor class action relating to a failed managed investment scheme. He also advised on the sale of Australia’s fifth largest super fund administrator for an undisclosed amount. Those deals were in 2013 and he has since gone on to advise a significant private sector client on a \$90m property development.

THE RAIN MAKERS

The legal pros who have headlined the deals environment

It's a tough life running the marketing function of a corporate law firm. In theory, the firm is a team, a collective where the efforts and kudos are shared in equal measure among the partners. The reality is somewhat different. Every firm has their big dealmaker – the lawyer whose name seems to appear on every significant deal. This section recognises the lawyers who have advised on not only the biggest deals, but also on deals that were newsworthy, defied the odds or were just plain fascinating.



Nick Humphrey, Sparke Helmore

Humphrey is a name that has become synonymous with private equity, having literally 'written the book': *The Australian Private Equity Handbook* (CCH). With key clients that include AMP Capital and Macquarie Capital, Humphrey has a reputation as a safe pair of hands on private equity and more broadly mid-market corporate and M&A deals. Recent

advice includes that given to Tea & Coffee Traders on the sale of its shares in Jireh Group to the Singapore-listed Global Yellow Pages, for a purchase price of \$35.6m. Since joining Sparke Helmore in January 2012 to lead the firm's national corporate practice, Humphrey has built an eight-partner team from the ground up.



Virginia Briggs, Minter Ellison

Briggs has continued to deliver what clients in the past have termed 'technically fantastic', 'innovative' and 'commercial' advice on a number of complex, large-scale property, development and government infrastructure transactions throughout 2013 and 2014. From leading DEXUS Property Group's strategic acquisitions in Perth and Brisbane over the period worth

\$1bn in aggregate, to co-leading the landmark NSW Ports \$5.07bn refinancing and long-term lease of Port Botany and Port Kembla, Briggs has continued to impress her long list of clients, which read as a 'who's who' of the sector. They include AMP Capital Investors, Australand Holdings, Brookfield Multiplex, Commonwealth Bank, Charter Hall, Mirvac, the NSW Department of Transport, RailCorp, Sydney Ports Corporation, State Property Authority, and the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority.



Lee McDonald, Ashurst

Having relocated from colder climes in London to Ashurst's Sydney office in 2012, transport and railway infrastructure heavyweight Lee McDonald hasn't wasted any time attaining 'hot lawyer' status in the Australian market. A large part of this has been driven by his ability to win business for the new brand by advising top-tier clients on key infrastructure deals. With a host of experience in the transport sector that he has imported from work on projects across Europe and the Middle East, McDonald has positioned himself as a key adviser on some of the most important transport infrastructure deals in Australia over the last 18 months. For example, he advised Projects Queensland/Department of Transport and Main Roads on its \$4.4bn new generation rolling stock PPP, which will provide up to 100 new 6-car trains for the Queensland passenger network. McDonald's team navigated a tight procurement timeframe, while preserving flexibility for broader reform of the rail sector and accommodating the decision of the new government to alter the procurement model from a Design-Build-Maintain approach to a PPP availability model. McDonald also advised Transport for NSW on the \$1.6bn light rail PPP, which is set to transform Sydney's public transport system via the extension of the system, and won a role advising a major consortium's bid on the \$4bn Northwest Rail PPP.



Brynn Gilbertson, Bell Gully

Gilbertson has been described as unbelievably resilient by sources. "He's hard working, a man of few words, a reputation for getting the deal done," said one source. "He's got very loyal client relationships and he's been a long time trusted advisor for Fletcher Building in particular." This includes advising Fletcher Building on its NZ\$1.3bn takeover of Australia's Crane Group, New Zealand's largest on-market takeover of an Australian public company. Gilbertson also featured prominently in the New Zealand government's partial sell-down of key assets last year,

including Mighty River Power and Meridian. He took the lead advisor spot for the government on Mighty River.

Anthony Latimer, Norton Rose Fulbright

Papua New Guinea has become big business news lately, as resource-rich gas fields open up for development. Norton's Anthony Latimer has had a key hand in this, advising the PNG government on its purchase of \$1.2bn in Oil Search Ltd shares. The PNG government has purchased the shares as it seeks to develop the PNG LNG project, which aims to produce almost seven million tonnes of liquefied natural gas to export around the globe. The project is expected to deliver its first gas by mid-year, with 20% economic growth forecast in 2015 if all goes according to plan.



Alan Maxton, Allens

A pillar of Australia's banking and finance talent pool, Maxton snared roles in 2013 that included advising Billabong on its recapitalisation (including competing bids and ongoing refinancings), Origin Energy on its \$7.4bn refinancing,

Vodafone on its \$3.5bn refinancing, the consortium of lenders on AMP's \$1bn refinancing, and the financing of property developments that included One Central Park, Queens II and the Fawkner Centre. Maxton continues to advise financial institutions that include Macquarie Bank and CBA.



David Holland, Baker & McKenzie

Readers of any NSW national paper in 2013 would probably have encountered evidence of Baker & McKenzie partner David Holland's work and not even known it. Head of the international firm's corporate practice in Australia, Holland advised the NSW government on the high profile sale to the private sector of some of its electricity assets and businesses valued

in excess of \$3bn, as well as advising the state government on the equally controversial proposal by Crown Sydney for a \$1bn resort and gaming facility at Barangaroo. A renowned M&A and securities lawyer, Holland also finessed a number of deals for key client APN News and Media, including the sale of its remaining interest in its outdoor advertising business to Quadrant Private Equity for \$96m, and the \$246.5m acquisition of a 50% stake in Australian Radio Network and its New Zealand subsidiary, which included advising on the \$132m fully underwritten accelerated non-renounceable entitlement offer, which will be used to fund the acquisitions. Cross-border instructions included advising the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan as the successful bidder for 70% of Leighton Holdings' telecommunications portfolio for \$885m.



Gavin Smith, Allens

With a 'rising star' reputation across all three streams of the TMT practice area, Allens' Gavin Smith continues to secure major instructions for top tier clients, which include advising Fox Sports Australia on its 5-year,

circa \$1bn NRL TV rights deal. A leading adviser in Australia on privacy, data protection and cyber security issues, Smith's enviable client base includes Sydney Trains, Virgin Australia and Google. Smith recently advised Transport for NSW on its next generation IT infrastructure outsourcing for both data centre services and end user computing services, one of the largest IT infrastructure managed services arrangements in Australia.



Graeme Quigley, Russell McVeagh

Quigley was cited by rival firms as one of Russell McVeagh's top dealmakers. His profile has been enhanced by his presence on significant deals, including a leading role for NZ's Genesis on that entity's sell-down. One source described Quigley's strength as his "technical ability" but another thought that the "trusted adviser" tag was a more apt

description. "He would be seen in NZ as one of those people that the large corporates know as a trusted adviser, pulling in extremely complex deals," the source said. Quigley also had a leading role advising Fonterra on its corporate restructure and 'Trading Among Farmers' program.



Daniel Livingston, Mills Oakley Lawyers

Considered a trusted adviser by brands that have included Tabcorp, Echo Entertainment, ANZ, Westpac and Exxon Mobil, Livingston is helping propel Mills Oakley's corporate practice towards \$1bn in deals this financial year. An expert in M&A, capital markets, corporate governance and

risk management, Livingston recently demonstrated his acumen on deals that included Findex Australia's \$131m acquisition of Centric Wealth Ltd, which included advising on an equity investment, and resources client Metro Quarry Group on a debt/equity investment made by Myer Family Company Holdings.



Roger Wallis, Chapman Tripp

Recent deals for Wallis include advising Metlifecare on its ASX listing, institutional placement and share purchase plan and advising EBOS on its placement and rights issue in conjunction with its transformative acquisition of Symbion for NZ\$1.1bn. Wallis is described as the young gun of Chapman Tripp's corporate offering: the rising star who has come into his own in recent years. "Roger was, back in the old days, the walking encyclopaedia [on] securities law and a superb technical

lawyer, maybe not senior enough to develop a broader commercial reputation," said one source. But things have clearly moved on since then, with Wallis being cited as a prominent dealmaker by many rivals.



Steven Tang, Maddocks

Steven Tang has been slowly making a name for himself since joining Maddocks in March 2011. The lawyer has carved out a niche for himself advising on highly complex deals, acting for Re:Capital in their

acquisition of Ernest Hiller, which included debt refinancing. Tang also acted for Housing Loans Group in the refinancing of its loan book using a de facto securitisation structure. His transactions landscape has been further rounded off with advisory to a privately held electrical wholesaler in its acquisition of a New South Wales-based subsidiary.



Tony Sparks, Allen & Overy

At the time of writing, Allen & Overy partner Tony Sparks had been involved in 2014's largest equity capital market issuance to date. This entailed advising Citigroup on a block trade by CapitaLand of 226

million Australand stapled securities, representing a 39% stake in Australand for an aggregated US\$766m (\$848m). It is but one deal in a long and distinguished career. Sparks advises on a range of corporate and commercial transactions and is cited by peers as a 'knowledgeable' and 'accessible' team head.



Tracy Renshaw, Clifford Chance

Clifford Chance's M&A veteran in Perth, Tracy Renshaw, has had a busy year so far. The lawyer was the Australian adviser to Royal Shell Plc on its selling of Shell Australia's

downstream businesses (excluding Aviation) to Vitol. The total transaction value was just short of \$3bn. The sale covers Shell's Geelong refinery and 870-site retail business – along with its bulk fuels, bitumen, chemicals and part of its lubricants businesses in Australia.

LANDMARK ACHIEVEMENTS

Lawyers who have had a notable or career defining year

Old wisdom suggests that some lawyers are born great, others achieve greatness and some have greatness thrust upon them. Whatever was the case for the lawyers here, this section honours those who have had a reason to pinpoint 2013 or 2014 as particularly noteworthy years in their careers. This could be for a variety of reasons: a significant case, a ruling with far reaching consequences for the industry or taking on work that involved navigating some considerable hurdles.



Amanda Banton, Piper Alderman

Piper Alderman partner Amanda Banton led the ground-breaking case against Lehman Brothers Australia Limited, finalised in December last year.

As a result of the case, the liquidators of Lehman Brothers Australia agreed to settle IMF-funded claims, conditional on Court approvals. The settlement put 69 councils, church groups and charities a major step closer to having their claims resolved for roughly \$180m lost on investments

in complex financial derivatives known as collateralised debt obligations (CDOs). The CDOs have been sold by Lehman's Australian subsidiary.

In its initial judgement, the Federal Court found that Lehman Brothers Australia, in marketing the CDOs to the claimants, had engaged in misleading conduct and negligence and had breached fiduciary duties and contracts.

"Our clients were conservative investors who should never have been approached to buy these CDOs in the first place," Banton explained. "They were simply not in a position to

understand the risks involved, including that of losing all of their money. It's very pleasing today to have passed this major hurdle in having our clients' claims resolved."

One Lehman Brothers victim represented in the claim was MontroseAccess, a registered charity in Queensland which provides support to hundreds of disabled children and young adults.

At the time of the Federal Court judgment, MontroseAccess CEO, Darrel Bourke, said: "This decision comes as a massive relief to the hundreds of disabled children and their families who rely on our services. The losses from the Lehman investments in 2008 were significant. They affected our ability to employ support staff and extend core services to our clients and families. We can now plan ahead with more certainty."



Ashley Wharton, Ashurst

Wharton is an adviser to some of Ashurst's biggest clients, including ANZ Bank. He is currently leading the team representing ANZ in the defence of the exception fees class action in the Federal Court in Melbourne, Australia's largest-ever consumer class action and one which Wharton says is already delivering promising results for the client. The case has involved a High Court decision on a preliminary question, redefining the scope of the doctrine of penalty. Furthermore, Wharton led the Ashurst team representing the liquidators in the landmark Bell Group litigation in Perth, which stands as Australia's longest-running piece of commercial litigation following 20 years of legal action.



**Tony Damian,
Herbert Smith
Freehills**

This last year saw Damian release the third edition of the book he co-authored, entitled *Schemes, Takeovers and Himalayan Peaks*. The 700-page work on M&A has made a significant contribution to the relevant law and, in the forward to the latest edition, Chief

Justice T F Bathurst, Chief Justice of New South Wales, referred to the influence and importance of this work. "Earlier editions have established this book as the pre-eminent text on schemes of arrangement. This edition will be indispensable to any practitioner in the area and, dare I say it, to any judge required to determine whether to approve a scheme," Bathurst wrote.

**Cris Cureton,
Squire Sanders**

Cureton acted for John Holland Pty Ltd (the largest building contractor in Australia and part of the Leighton Group) in its defence of current Northern Territory Supreme Court litigation in relation to a dispute concerning the Alice Springs Hospital. The case ran for seven years. John Holland had 13 third parties joined, including a number of offshore professional indemnity underwriters, and three fourth-parties, all of whom had to have the plaintiff's case apportioned and attributed to them. Following this, Cureton prepared a series of seminars for John Holland providing information on how to avoid such a dispute in the future. This has toured Australia.



Ian Robertson, Holding Redlich

Robertson acted for the peak body of trade unions in New South Wales, Unions NSW and five NSW trade unions in a landmark case late last year in the High Court. The case challenged provisions in NSW election funding legislation that prohibit those not on the NSW roll of registered voters from making a political donation to a political party or candidate. The provisions also aggregate expenditure of trade unions affiliated with a political party with the expenditure of that political party for political expenditure cap purposes. In a

game-changing decision, the High Court ruled in a unanimous decision that these NSW election funding laws are invalid because they infringe the implied freedom of political communication in the Australian Constitution. The outcome has far-reaching implications and presents an opportunity for national reform of Australia's election funding laws.



**Rachel Storey,
Rachel Storey &
Associates**

It's a tough time to be building a boutique firm in any market, but spare a thought for lawyers in some of Australia's more remote regional

centres. Rachel Storey practices full-time in NSW's Broken Hill and was recently involved in a complex case that attracted a fair share of media coverage.

In the first case of its kind, Storey helped issue proceedings against the Parole Board, Department of Corrections and South Australian Police regarding their failure to properly manage a violent parolee who then went on to engage in a violent police siege. She also obtained an out of court settlement for the mother of the parolee.



Colleen Platford, Gilbert + Tobin

Platford was the lead partner representing Google in its landmark High Court win against the ACCC in February 2013. The ACCC initially alleged that Google had engaged in misleading and deceptive conduct over sponsored links or advertisements which appeared on its search results pages. The High Court found that Google was not responsible for the content of third party ads displayed on its search results pages. This benchmark case raised significant issues for the internet, particularly in relation to the responsibility for third party content by search engines. The case was in the Federal Court of Australia – it went on appeal and ultimately to the High Court.

Moya Dodd, Gilbert + Tobin

Dodd has been featured among eight FIFA ‘People of the Year’ who helped shape and promote football in 2013. During 2013, Dodd was appointed as one of the first women to join the FIFA Executive Committee, re-elected as a vice-president of the Asian Football Confederation and, most recently, appointed as chair of FIFA’s Task Force for Women’s Football, which focuses on the creation of a FIFA strategy for women’s football in the short and longer term. She travelled widely, advocating women’s roles in football, including visiting Iran’s Second International Congress on Football and Science and speaking out in Tehran in support of women being permitted to enter stadia to attend men’s football matches. “Businesses, governments and now sporting organisations are realising that organisations are better and fairer when women can fully participate,” said Dodd.



Richard Anicich, Sparke Helmore

2013 was an exciting year for Anicich, whose career has spanned more than 30 years. The lawyer was handed an Exceptional Service Award by the Hunter Medical Research Institute (HMRI) in recognition of his contributions in transforming the institute into one of the country’s leading medical research centres. Anicich was an original member of the HMRI Foundation in 1998 and was the inaugural Chair of the Foundation’s Strategic Funding Committee. He played a significant role in working to develop financial support from the business and broader community and managed the legal and contractual matters associated with the development of the HMRI building on the John Hunter Hospital campus. This was a \$90m project.

PILLARS OF THE COMMUNITY

Lawyers who have contributed to the greater good through pro bono work, mentoring or pursuing noble causes

Australian and New Zealand lawyers are known for having a heart – and big ones at that. Lawyers devote a sizeable portion of their time every year to advancing good causes and often this is motivated by nothing more than altruism. These lawyers haven't celebrated diversity, advised communities or advanced charitable causes to get the spotlight, but just this once we're giving them the pat on the back they deserve.



Campbell Hudson, Gadens

Hudson (pictured, centre) has played an integral part in helping reduce the socio-economic gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians, having led Gadens' flagship Lilla Aboriginal Community Engagement project last year. The project involved lawyers from the firm travelling to the remote Lilla Aboriginal community in the Watarrka National Park and working with school students and teachers from the Watarrka School to write a school song, with the objective of inspiring the children to progress through education. The students were then sent on a sponsored educational visit to Sydney, where they performed and recorded the Watarrka School Song.



Athena Koelmeyer, Workplace Law

Koelmeyer has tackled big issues on a number of fronts. She is the author of the Workplace Law Anti-Discrimination E-Book, which she created to provide human resources,

payroll and managers with an overview of the current Australian Federal anti-discrimination laws. Koelmeyer is also an active supporter of KIVA, a web-based organisation which leverages a worldwide network of microfinance institutions, allowing individuals to lend a minimum of \$25 at a time to help create opportunity around the world. She has drafted and lodged formal submissions to various government ministries, addressing the potential for lawyers to be excluded from work due to the rules surrounding the right of parties to be legally represented by lawyers of their own choosing, in matters before the Fair Work Commission.



Darren Fittler, Gilbert + Tobin

Proving that anything is possible with passion, tenacity and a never give up attitude, Darren Fittler has achieved a world first and raised awareness for blind people around the

world. Fittler is a lawyer in Gilbert + Tobin's Corporate Advisory group and became the first blind person in the world to complete the Tough Mudder in October 2013. For those unfamiliar with the race, it is a 21km army-style obstacle race where participants run through bales of burning hay, immerse themselves in a skip bin filled with ice and water and undergo a form of electro-shock therapy slithering on their stomachs through and beneath dangling wires carrying 10,000 volts.

**Fran Rush,
Clayton Utz**

Rush recently returned from a trip to the Philippines in support of the not-for-profit organisation Good Return. She and colleague, Sydney corporate partner Kate Jordan, observed Good Return’s work firsthand before embarking on a four-day fundraising trek up Mt Madjaas, the highest peak in the Philippines. To date, the two women have raised over \$17,000 for the cause. Good Return works to create long-lasting change in the lives of some of the poorest people living in the Asia-Pacific region by providing small loans and banking services, as well as financial education and skills-building training to help deliver long-term benefits to families and individuals facing poverty. “What appeals most to us about Good Return is that what it does is empower the poor, particularly women, to lift themselves and their families out of poverty,” says Rush.



**Kate Jordan,
Clayton Utz**

Apart from her involvement with Good Returns, working alongside colleague Fran Rush, Jordan worked closely with the Australian Paralympic Committee, on a pro bono basis, to put in place broadcast arrangements with the Australian Broadcasting Corporation in respect of the Paralympic Games. She is also leading the Clayton Utz team that will support various rugby unions in the negotiation of media rights deals.



**Orla McCoy,
Clayton Utz**

McCoy was promoted to the Clayton Utz partnership in January and advised on a high-stakes ABC Learning Centres (ABC2) matter. She and a cross-practice team helped the client restructure and sell more than 200 childcare centres – which, without the client’s intervention would have been shut down. The matter involved significant legal issues, including ensuring leases remained on foot, applications to the Court and numerous indemnity and liability issues.



**Jen Crawford,
Anderson Lloyd**

The Christchurch rebuild has been a matter close to international hearts and it is therefore with some pleasure that we are able to acknowledge Anderson Lloyd partner Jen Crawford and her work on the restoration of the Arts Centre of Christchurch. This project, believed to be the largest heritage project currently being undertaken in the world,



involves a NZ\$290m, seven year post-earthquake program to restore a cluster of heritage buildings and rebuild the city’s cultural heart. Crawford is chair of the Arts Centre of Christchurch Trust Board, devoting her time on a pro bono basis. “Jen is absolutely devoted to the Christchurch Arts Centre and she lives and breathes its restoration,” says Nicky Wagner, MP for Christchurch Central.

**Sandy Mak, Corrs
Chambers Westgarth**

Colleagues describe her as a “dynamo” – passionate about championing women lawyers. As co-chair of Corrs’ Diversity Council, Mak has driven key initiatives and programs which have seen an improvement in the progression and development of female lawyers at Corrs. She has also helped develop ground-breaking initiatives for the professional advancement of women. Aside from these contributions, Mak has devoted her time over the past four years as a lecturer in takeovers and schemes at Sydney University’s undergraduate course Corporate and Securities Regulation on a pro-bono basis.

