

2016



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VICTORIAN BAR ANNUAL REPORT

2016

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Annual Report of the Victorian Bar Incorporated for the year ended 30 June 2016

To be presented to the Annual General Meeting of the Victorian Bar Incorporated to be held 17 October 2016 in Owen Dixon Chambers East, William Street, Melbourne

THE VICTORIAN BAR INCORPORATED REGISTERED NO. A00343045



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

PAUL ANASTASSIOU

This year has been a year of development with a continued focus on raising the profile of the Bar and increasing opportunities for work for our members. There has been a continued commitment by the Bar Council this year to ensuring that the Victorian Bar maintains a strong outward focus increasing our connection with the broader profession, government, in-house counsel and the community. The Bar has continued to emphasise the many benefits of engaging a barrister, the merits of early engagement and the provision of fearless independent advice. All of our major projects this year have been directed to the achievement of this objective.

This has also been a year of review where we have focused on ensuring that the Bar is in the best position to meet the challenges presented in the rapidly changing and highly competitive legal services market in which we operate. The Bar Council has embarked upon a thorough governance review and continues to review of all significant items of expenditure.

Financial Results

The Bar has delivered a strong financial result, particularly in circumstances where significant investment has been required to implement and deliver important initiatives including the Indictable Crime Certificate and our business development initiatives, including the website redevelopment.

Over this financial year, a number of initiatives to improve financial oversight and reporting to Bar Council and the Finance & Audit Committee have been implemented under the direction of the CEO, Sarah Fregon, and with the assistance of Caleb Jansen. The provision of financial management and reporting services to the Bar by BCL has provided efficiencies and cost savings.

I am pleased that as a result of prudent financial management, the Bar Council has been able to ensure that there was no increase in subscriptions for the fourth year running. This is particularly satisfying given there has been increasing activity in areas of professional development and business development.

As our wholly owned subsidiary, Barristers' Chambers Limited (BCL), accounts are consolidated as part of the Bar's annual report. BCL has once again performed very well financially under the strong leadership of its Chair, Michael Wyles QC, the Board and its CEO, Gary Brinkworth. I congratulate Michael and his team on another outstanding year.

Governance Review

One of the key areas of focus this year has been to improve the governance of Bar Council and the organisation as a whole. A comprehensive governance review has been commenced, together with a Governance Review Working Group lead by Wendy Harris QC as Chair, together with Dr Matt Collins QC, the Bar Council Executive, the CEO and most ably assisted by Kat Brazenor. The work of the Governance Review Working Group has resulted in various dedicated working groups being established to focus on specific areas such as risk management, Bar Council performance and Bar policies. I thank Wendy Harris QC and Kat Brazenor, in particular, for their significant work and dedication to this project. I believe this work will ensure that the Bar, the Bar Council and the organisation is supported by strong governance structures; and will place the Bar Council in the best position to fulfil its roles and responsibilities.

Strategic Plan 2017 - 2020

As part of the Governance Review, a Strategic Planning Working Group was established and I am delighted to report that a new strategic plan has now been developed and approved by the Bar Council.

The new strategic plan sets out a clear direction for the Victorian Bar over the next three years. This plan is designed to enable us to meet the challenges of the changing legal landscape and to capitalise on the opportunities before us. It was developed in consultation with, and takes into account



ABOVE: Federal Attorney General, Senator The Honourable George Brandis QC opens the 2015 Victorian Bar LIV Conference. In 2016, the Bar will join forces with the ABA to take the conference to a national level.

the views of, both members and other interested parties, across the legal profession, clients and the judiciary.

The new strategic plan is intended to guide us to strengthen the Victorian Bar and its members' market position in an increasingly competitive legal services market, and is directed to ensure that individual members have the help and support they need to provide high quality legal services.

We will use this plan to shape the work of the Bar Council and to help us to enhance and maintain our objectives of independence, excellence, leadership and growth. Our ultimate purpose, and that of the plan, is to focus our activities and resources on ensuring that the Bar as an institution, and our individual members, thrive and continue to do so.

The four core objectives of the strategic plan are:

- > to maintain and expand market share;
- to provide services to members to support and enhance their practices;
- to foster excellence and enhance the performance of Victorian barristers; and
- > to be a strong, independent and authoritative voice.

The full strategic plan will be made available on the Victorian Bar website.

External Engagement

We are now in the third year of running our in-house CPD program for the whole of the profession, with many events across a wide variety of practice areas being conducted over the last year. I thank all members who have contributed and volunteered their time to present at these events. I also extend the gratitude of the Bar to the many members of the judiciary who have volunteered their time to speak at these events and supported our Bar in doing so.

International Commercial Law Conference

The Bar joined with our Commercial Bar Association, and the Commercial Bar Association of the Bar of England and Wales, for the first International Commercial Law Conference in London this year. The organising committee and particularly its Chair, Paul Hayes, with the support of the Victorian Bar Marketing team, are to be commended for producing what was a most engaging and high quality event.

ABA VicBar National Conference

Following the success of our second annual all-of-profession conference last year partnering with the Law Institute, we have this year joined with the Australian Bar Association to take this conference to a national level, with members of the judiciary, Bars, solicitors in private practice and in-house counsel from across the country to attend. Much work has



ABOVE: In March an Afternoon Tea was held at Government House hosted by Her Excellency the Honourable Linda Dessau Ami for women lawyers who work in regional areas.

gone into the development of the program and planning for the event over the last six months and we are looking forward to a highly engaging and successful event in October at the MCG. I thank Will Alstergren QC for his outstanding work and dedication in putting together what can only be described as an extraordinary program.

Website Redevelopment

A key project this year has been the Victorian Bar website redevelopment project. Much effort has gone into scoping and planning for this project with a comprehensive scope of works being developed, a thorough tendering process and then a detailed technical and design stage completed. Stakeholder engagement workshops have been conducted with Committees, Bar Associations and clerks, and a usertesting group engaged in an effort to ensure the new website provides a contemporary and significantly improved user experience for all users, members and non-members.

CPD In Session

I am extremely pleased to announce a further major project with the development and launch of CPD In Session, an online CPD subscription service, by the Victorian Bar, for the profession. As we have done through our successful external CPD program, a key purpose of CPD In Session is to enable the Victorian Bar to continue to engage with the broader profession and showcase the expertise of the Bar through continuing legal education. Our aim is to enable our members to engage more directly and widely through this online forum providing continuing legal education through a series of external-facing CPDs online for solicitors, in-house counsel and interstate Bars. Many of our members already contribute to various other online and in-person legal education forums and I encourage you to do the same with the Bar through CPD In Session.

In developing CPD In Session we have been professionally recording all external engagement sessions and selected internal CPD sessions that are selected for the broader profession. We are also compiling a series of Q&A styled interviews with individual members of our Bar.

BarristerCONNECT>>

BarristerCONNECT>>, the first online direct access portal to facilitate engagement of barristers for criminal matters in the Magistrates' Court, was launched in October last year. The service provides rapid access to barristers in criminal matters before city, suburban and regional Magistrates Courts. The support of our clerks and their commitment to its success has been critical to the delivery of this initiative for which I thank them.

I am particularly pleased that BarristerCONNECT>>



has been recognised by the Courts and Victorian Legal Aid as an important access to justice initiative, in recognition of which both have supported the project by making information available in the Courts and adding the facility to the list of referral services respectively.

Victorian Bar Mediation Centre

The expansion and refurbishment of the Victorian Bar Mediation Centre at Douglas Menzies Chambers was completed in April this year. The centre now occupies levels 1 and 3 at DMC. A dedicated website has also been developed and expanded services on offer include video conferencing facilities. Early trading since the expansion has been extremely positive and I am confident that the Bar will deliver a positive return on its investment in accordance with expectations and enable us to continue to utilise our assets to earn revenue from other sources outside of member subscriptions for the benefit of the entire Bar.

Life & TPD Insurance Scheme

The commencement of the Life and TPD Group Scheme last year was a significant achievement and one which demonstrated the collegiality of our Bar. Since its commencement, there have been five claims accepted and paid and a further claim is under consideration by the insurers, Metlife. Readers, continue to be accepted into the scheme at no cost for the first year. I thank all those members who joined the scheme for their support of our Bar in this way and commend the scheme to all new members. It is vital that we retain support of members, and the requisite 75% of eligible members threshold, to ensure that this important initiative continues to be available to our members.

Life at the Bar

Bar Dinner

The Bar Dinner was again a memorable and most enjoyable occasion with outstanding speeches delivered by the Honourable Chief Justice Marilyn Warren AC and Mark Costello. Honoured guests included: State appointments: Justices Jane Dixon and Andrew Keogh to the Supreme Court; Richard Niall QC as Solicitor-General for Victoria; Chief Judge Peter Kidd and Judge Sara Hinchey to the County Court - Judge Hinchey also appointed State Coroner; and Charles Tan to the Magistrates' Court; Federal Appointments: Justice Mark Moshinsky to the Federal Court; and Judges Joshua Wilson, Jillian Williams and Alister McNab to the Federal Circuit Court; Queen's Birthday Honours 2015: Justice Chris Maxwell AC, Justice Lex Lasry AM and Reserve Magistrate Gregory Levine OAM; Australia Day Honours 2016: Allan Myers AC QC, The Honourable John Batt AM, and Lionel Robberds AM QC; Julian McMahon, named Victorian Australian of the Year; and our Victorian Bar 45ers:



ABOVE: The Honourable Chief Justice Marilyn Warren AC addresses the 2016 Victorian Bar Dinner.

Alan Archibald QC, Jeffrey Moore QC, Gerald Lewis QC, Christopher Connor and Clive Rosen.

We were also honoured to have in attendance: the Honourable Chief Justice Robert French AC and her Honour Valerie French, and the Honourable Justices Geoffrey Nettle and Michelle Gordon, the Honourable Chief Justice Alsop, Commonwealth Attorney-General the Honourable George Brandis QC, the Honourable Chief Justice Marilyn Warren and Mr Mick Heeley, Victorian Attorney-General the Honourable Martin Pakula MP, and the Commonwealth and Victorian Shadow Attorneys-General, the Honourable Mark Dreyfus QC and John Pesutto MP. A number of Victorian Heads of Jurisdiction were present; and Judges and retired Judges both Federal and State.

Diversity & Inclusion

The CommBar Equitable Briefing Initiative is heading towards the completion of its first year of operation, with reporting being submitted to the Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission by the participating firms, corporations and authorities. Following our involvement in the National Attrition and Re-engagement Study, the Bar Council approved the adoption of the Law Council of Australia's Equality and Diversity Charter earlier this year, and supported the adoption of the Equitable Briefing Policy by the Law Council at its June meeting this year. The Bar continues to promote diversity through this initiative and through our Equality and Diversity Committee, Indigenous Justice Committee, Education and Professional Development Committee and the Women's Bar Association.

This year the Bar also convened a student engagement event at the City of Hume to promote diversity more broadly. The Honourable Chief Justice Warren AC and the Honourable Justice Gordon spoke to over 200 City of Hume secondary students about a career in the law and as a barrister. It was an extremely positive event and I look forward to seeing the Bar continuing to engage beyond the 'so called' traditional pathways to the law to encourage students from all backgrounds to pursue a career in the law and at the Bar should they wish to do so. The Bar is very grateful to both the Chief Justice and Justice Gordon for giving their time so generously to speak at this event.

Education

The Readers' Course

The Readers' Course continues to deliver specialist advocacy training of the highest quality to ensure that Readers develop the essential advocacy skills. This year the Bar was fortunate to have Professor Noah Messing of Yale Law School return to teach the March Readers legal writing skills.

This year has also been a year of transition with Professor



ABOVE: In November, a dinner was held to mark the retirement of the Honourable Kenneth Hayne AC QC as a Justice of the High Court of Australia.

George Hampel assisting with a handover to Andrew Palmer and others to teach in the course. Professor Hampel has also been instrumental in developing our advocacy instructors, conducting advocacy instructor training sessions and continuing to provide valuable assistance in the development and running of our skills workshops. Many members of our Bar will have had the benefit of Professor Hampel's advocacy instruction over the years. His contribution to our Bar in this respect has been enormous over many years. I thank Professor Hampel on behalf of the Bar for his many years of service and commitment to ensuring the highest quality in advocacy training for our Readers.

I also thank the Chair of the Education and Professional Development Committee, David O'Callaghan QC, for his many years of service to the Bar on this Committee and to Rachel Chrapot, her team and the many members of the Bar and judiciary who assist and teach in the course.

Junior Bar Conference

The inaugural Junior Bar Conference this year was incredibly well received and was the first of what I hope will be many more. I thank Rachel Chrapot, Manager Education and Policy and the Education and the New Barristers Committees for their work in bringing this event to life. I also thank the many members of the Bar and the judiciary who generously donated their time to teach the sessions and master classes on the day.

Indictable Crime Certificate

I congratulate and thank the Indictable Crime Certificate Committee for the enormous amount of work performed over the last year. Over 115 Indictable Crime Certificates have now been issued. I would like to extend particular thanks to the Honourable Geoff Eames AM QC for his leadership as Chair of the Committee and his commitment and dedication to this vitally important initiative for the Criminal Bar. I also thank the Honourable Stephen Charles QC, who has now taken on the role of Chair, having previously been the Deputy Chair, and committee members, David O'Callaghan QC, Greg Lyon QC, Michael O'Connell S.C. and Justin Hannebery. The Bar is also very grateful to the Hon. Chief Justice Marilyn Warren AC for her unwavering support for the scheme.

Victorian Bar News

Georgina Schoff QC and Georgina Costello do an outstanding job editing the Victorian Bar News each year. This year has been no exception, with a further two editions of an extremely high standard publication being produced. The Bar thanks the editors, the committee and all of those members who have contributed to Bar News this year.

Access to Justice

The Bar welcomed the Victorian Government's Access to Justice Review this year, to which the Bar made its submission in February. I thank the working group established



to prepare the Bar's submission, led by the Chair, Chris Winneke QC, for their work. We look forward to continuing to work with the Government with its final report due to be released shortly.

The Bar thanks Chief Justice Warren for continuing to undertake the important task of appointing silk. The Bar also thanks the Attorney General Martin Pakula MP for continuing to give members the option to be appointed QC on application.

Thanks to Jim Peters QC for his work as President of the Bar in 2015. Jim's dedication and commitment ensured that initiatives such as BarristerCONNECT>>, the IAG Direct Briefing Pilot and the Indictable Crime Certificate implementation were delivered. I am delighted to report that direct briefing is now 'business as usual' at IAG with the practice having evolved from the 'pilot' commenced during Jim's term as President.

Thank you to each of the members of the Bar Council who retired at the last election. They were Michael Wheelahan, QC, Michelle Sharpe, Elizabeth McKinnon, Stewart Maiden, Matthew Hooper and Emma Peppler. I thank each of them for their contribution.

I extend my thanks and that of the Bar Council to the Bar's CEO, Sarah Fregon, and to her team who have worked diligently to deliver many of the initiatives I have referred to and supported the implementation of the ongoing improvements to the governance of the Bar and Bar Council. I thank Rachel Chrapot, Kirstin Green, Alison Rock, Sally Bodman, Ross Nankivell, Denise Bennett, Amanda Utt, Wendy Pollock, Bianca Stajcic, Emma Fox, Gabrielle Ostberg, Courtney Bow, Stephen Holland, Marisa Pretotto, Daphne Ioannidis, Alannah Jones, Fiona Faulkner and Elize Simpson.

I thank all members of the Bar Council and the Honorary Secretary, Paul Panayi, and Assistant Honorary Secretaries Andrew Denton and Nicole Papaleo for their commitment and assistance this year.

I have also been provided with the dedicated support and assistance of the Executive members of Bar Council, Vice-Presidents, David O'Callaghan QC and Jennifer Batrouney QC, and Treasurer, Samantha Marks QC, for which I thank them sincerely. I also thank Daniel Crennan for his contribution as Chair of the Finance & Audit Committee and then as Treasurer following Samantha Marks QC's resignation upon the announcement of her appointment as a Judge of the County Court effective 3 October 2016.



BAR COUNCIL 2015-16

Category A:

Eleven counsel who are Queen's Counsel, Senior Counsel or junior counsel of not less than fifteen years standing

President	Paul E Anastassiou QC
Senior Vice-President	David J O'Callaghan QC
Junior Vice-President	Jennifer J Batrouney QC
Member	O Paul Holdenson QC
Member	Michelle L Quigley QC
Member	Gregory J Lyon QC
Member	Ted Woodward S.C.
Honorary Treasurer	Samantha L Marks QC (to 14 September 2016)
Member	Wendy A Harris QC
Member	Matthew J Collins QC
Member	Christopher J Winneke QC

Category B:

Six counsel who are not of Queen's Counsel or Senior Council and are of not more than fifteen nor less than six years standing

Assistant Honorary Treasurer	Daniel J Crennan (to 15 September 2016;	
	from then, Honorary Treasurer)	
Member	Áine M Magee QC	
Member	Suzanne A Kirton	
Member	Sam D. Hay	
Member	Justin P. Wheelahan	
Member	Elizabeth H Ruddle	

Category C:

Four counsel who are not of Queen's Counsel or Senior Counsel and are of less than six years standing

Member	Daniel B Bongiorno	
Member	Karen Argiropoulos	
Member	Barbara A Myers	

Member

Julia Frederico



STANDING ROW L-R: Julia Frederico, Elizabeth Ruddle, Andrew Denton (Assistant Honorary Secretary), Christopher Winneke, Greg Lyon QC Ted Woodward S.C., Karen Argiropoulos, Daniel Crennan (Assistant Honorary Treasurer), Barbara Myers, Sam Hay, Matthew Collins QC, Justin Wheelahan, Daniel Bongiorno, Wendy Harris QC.

SEATED L-R: Áine Magee QC, Samantha Marks QC (Honorary Treasurer), David O'Callaghan QC (Senior Vice-President), Paul Anastassiou QC (President), Jennifer Batrouney QC (Junior Vice-President), Paul Holdenson QC, Suzanne Kirton.

ABSENT: Michelle Quigley QC, Paul Panayi (Honorary Secretary).

PART III

BAR OFFICE STAFF

Chief Executive Officer	Sarah Fregon	
Corporate Services		
Manager, Corporate Operations & EA to CEO	Kirstin Green	
Executive Assistant to the Bar Council	Denise Bennett	
Manager Assisting CEO	Ross Nankivell	
Administration Assistant / Reception	Alannah Jones	
Victorian Bar Mediation Centre		
Mediation Centre Coordinator	Fiona Faulkner Elize Simpson	
Administration Assistant - Accounts/Reception	Nicole Dawson	

Compliance and Member Services

Manager, Compliance and Member Services	Alison Rock
Compliance Officer	Marisa Pretotto
Administration Assistant - Membership	Daphne Ioannidis
Education & Policy	
Manager, Education & Policy	Rachel Chrapot
Co-ordinator, Continuing Professional Development	Bianca Stajcic
Co-ordinator, Readers Course	Wendy Pollock
Policy Lawyer	Emma Fox
Marketing & Communications	
Manager, Marketing	Sally Bodman
Event and Communications Assistant	Courtney Bow
Digital Marketing Coordinator	Stephen Holland
Business Development	

Project Manager

Amanda Utt



LEFT TO RIGHT: Alannah Jones, Ross Nankivell, Amanda Utt, Bianca Stajcic, Kirstin Green, Wendy Pollock, Fiona Faulkner, Rachel Chrapot, Alison Rock, Emma Fox, Marisa Pretotto, Courtney Bow, Daphne Ioannidis, Sally Bodman, Stephen Holland.

LEADERSHIP TEAM







Sarah Fregon Chief Executive Officer

Prior to returning to the Victorian Bar as CEO in 2015, Sarah Fregon was a solicitor in private practice, then a Barrister at The Victorian Bar for eight years prior to taking on General Counsel roles with national franchise company, Endota Spa, and then multi-national consumer goods company, PZ Cussons. At PZ Cussons, Sarah also held a senior executive position on the board and as Head of Corporate Social Responsibility, Communications and Consumer Services. Sarah was instrumental in PZ Cussons' acquisitions and integrations of the five:am organic yoghurt and Rafferty's Garden baby food companies and the development of corporate strategy.

Kirstin Green

Manager, Corporate Operations & EA to CEO Dip, Quality Auditing & WHS, Cert IV Human Resources

Kirstin Green was appointed Manager, Corporate Operations & EA to the CEO in 2015. Kirstin has experience in, Human Resources, Quality Auditing, Risk Management and supporting C-Level Executives working in the financial services & automotive industry. Prior to joining the Victorian Bar in 2015 Kirstin worked as a Risk & Quality Manager for Moore Stephens Accountants & Advisors.

Rachel Chrapot Manager, Education & Policy

Rachel Chrapot was appointed as Manager of Education & Policy in 2014. Prior to joining the Victorian Bar, Rachel had experience as a barrister, Lecturer at both Monash and Melbourne University Law schools and as the Program Director of the Monash University JD. She is also the former Judges' Associate to The Hon Justice Philip Mandie. Rachel holds the degrees Bachelor of Arts (Hons.), Bachelor of Laws (Bond) and Master of Laws (Melb).







Alison Rock Manager, Compliance & Member Services

Alison joined the Bar Office as Office Manager in October 2007 and took over the regulatory functions and member services as the Compliance and Member Services Manager in June 2008. Alison has extensive administrative and management experience developed across many sectors and industries including the Commonwealth Public Service, finance, printing and publishing, mining and not-for-profit. Her principal expertise is in developing robust and repeatable administrative processes, and her focus is on customer service.

Sally Bodman Marketing Manager

Sally is an experienced professional services marketer. Her experience lies in corporate communications, corporate event management and client relationship management, primarily in the legal field, but including work in the food and IT industries. Prior to coming to the Bar in 2011, Sally worked as Marketing Manager for Watermark Intellectual Asset Management.

Amanda Utt Project Manager BLS, Dip. Tourism, Cert IV TAA

Amanda Utt was appointed Project Manager in late 2015. Amanda has experience in General management, Human Resources, Training, Marketing and Operations gained through activities in tourism, events and attractions with the CaPTA Group. Amanda has worked in Project roles including authoring a nationally accredited Certificate 3 qualification and new business start-up and development.



BAR ASSOCIATIONS

Criminal Bar Association

Committee at 30 June: Peter Morrissey S.C. (Chair), Michael Cahill (Vice Chair), Simon Moglia (Treasurer), Megan Tittensor (Secretary), Lesley Taylor S.C., Leighton Gwynn, Michelle Mykytowycz, Olivia Trumble, Cynthia Lynch, Justin Hannebery, Anthony Lewis and Ruth Champion.

This was another busy and rewarding year for the Criminal Bar Association (CBA) committee. As in previous years, many challenges arose. The CBA sought to advance justice by participating in public debate, by contributing advice to law reform and drafting bodies. We have assisted the courts as amicus curiae in significant litigation, particularly in the court of Appeal early in 2016. We sought to advance the interest of members (and of the wider Bar) by engaging with the chief briefing agencies and with the courts. We assisted members in the courtroom crises which often arise.

The Indictable Crime Certificate, our certification and quality control program, has now met very widespread acceptance and support. At a high level, it ensures the continued relevance of the Bar as the premier source of high quality advocacy in criminal trials. The take-up of this initiative has been excellent. As government briefing agencies (particularly VLA) impose their own criteria for briefing, the ICC will become a resource and a source of great strength. The CBA also supported barristers applying to the VLA for inclusion on the Preferred Counsel list, and will continue to do so. Finally, the CBA has assisted many barristers in dealing with the difficulties which inevitably arise during the ICC process.

The CBA also actively promotes respect for the occupational health and safety of barristers in their workplace – the courts. The CBA engages in many ways with the Bar and with the courts to ensure that barristers are supported in the workplace – a unique workplace, with built-in competitive and adversarial parameters. The CBA has been very busy in this field, eschewing publicity but supporting members. The Chair also consults with the Attorney-General and the heads of jurisdiction on a range of issues, including Legal Aid reform, professional development, court management issues and law reform of all sorts. Committee members have consulted with the DPP, Sentencing Advisory Council, Department of Justice, Corrections, Court of Appeal Reference Group, and many important court users groups and other jurisdictional meetings. The Chair has made regular contributions to radio, television and newspaper pieces in current criminal justice issues.

The CBA also continues to provide educational and professional development support to ensure the Bar maintains its high standard of representation. Many CPD lectures have been offered for that purpose, and the standard remains excellent.

The CBA remains proud to represent the Bar in crime. The Victorian Bar provides the best pool of advocates available to conduct criminal trials. Those at the Bar have completed an intensive three-month advocacy course (and an exam in the last few years), as well as a nine-month period of reading with an experienced member of the Bar, followed by continuing education. The chambers system, the mentoring system and the access to and open doors of senior Barristers provide great value which is not available elsewhere.

In the previous Report, we noted the challenge to the role of barristers by in-house counsel at the briefing institutions and by a limited number of private solicitors keen to expand their market share. That challenge remains. The ICC is but one step in maintaining the credibility and relevance of the Bar in this field. Ongoing interest and support is needed from the Bar – and from the Bench, which benefits from a strong Bar. Happily, that support has been manifest. The ICC represents a commitment from the Bar, and enjoys excellent support from the courts. However, good relations with other branches of the profession are an ongoing priority in the face of a flood of graduates entering the law.

Many thanks to the Bar Office for the continued promotion



ABOVE: In June, a highlight of the Commercial Bar's London 2016 ICLC Conference was the Gala Dinner held in the traditional grandeur of the Middle Temple Hall.

and recording of our CPDs and to Courtney Bow for getting out our updates in a timely fashion. Many thanks, too, to non-Committee members who contributed time and intellectual commitment to the work of the Committee, particularly in the areas of law reform and judicial administration.

Finally, the CBA remains committed to promoting fellowship through social events. As always, the annual Dinner at Matteo's was a sell-out, enjoyed by all. Other events were popular.

The CBA will face changes, with the resignation of the Chair after a three-year term. We thank all members, and indicate our determination to continue to serve the members, and the community, as best we can. We invite all members to consider participating in the CBA in 2016-2017.

Commercial Bar Association

The Executive Committee for the 2014 – 2015 year was as

follows: Philip Crutchfield QC (President), Stewart Anderson QC (Senior Vice President), Wendy Harris QC (Junior Vice President/Convenor), Ian Percy (Treasurer), Albert Monichino

QC, Dr Josh Wilson QC (until appointment in October 2015 as a Judge of the Federal Circuit Court), Caroline Kenny QC, Anna Robertson, Dr Elizabeth Boros, Kathleen Foley, Caryn van Proctor, Andrew Downie (Honorary Secretary), and Georgia Douglas (Assistant Honorary Secretary).

The Commercial Bar Association of Victoria (CommBar®) incorporates nineteen separate specialist sections. Information regarding each section, including its Chair and members, is available on CommBar's website, www.commbar.com.au.

CommBar could not carry on its activities in the way that it does without the help of the Bar Office. In that regard, particular thanks are due to Sally Bodman, Courtney Bow and Stephen Holland for their ongoing and tireless assistance.

During the 2015-2016 year, CommBar has hosted CPD seminars in conjunction with the Victorian Bar, Melbourne and Monash Universities and the Supreme and Federal Courts.

CommBar's constituent sections have also made submissions to Government and the Victorian Law Reform Commission on law reform.

Highlights of the 2015-2016 year include:

Direct briefing by Corporations

In conjunction with the President and CEO of the Bar, CommBar has engaged in a number of initiatives, including presentations to in-house legal teams, with a view to investigating how work may be generated for commercial barristers directly from in-house counsel.

London Conference 28-30 June 2016

CommBar held a conference in London, in conjunction with the Commercial Bar Association of England and Wales. The conference was a terrific success with over 180 people in attendance. Particular thanks are due to the organising committee for this conference, headed by Paul Hayes. The other members of the organising Committee were Andrew Bailey, Benjamin Jellis, Caryn Van Proctor, Dr Josh Wilson QC, Ian Percy, Rodney Garratt and Sarah Fregon. CommBar is also very grateful for the strong support received from the Chief Justice and other members of the Supreme Court of Victoria and Federal Court of Australia who participated in or attended the conference. Special thanks also go to those members who devoted significant time and effort in providing detailed papers, or who acted as a moderator or panellist at the conference. Without their contribution, the conference would not have been the success that it was.

CommBar News and the CommBar Blog

CommBar continues to publish a Blog known as "CommBar Matters" to provide commentary on topical issues in commercial law. The Blog is intended to be available not only to CommBar members but also to members of the legal profession more broadly. CommBar has entered into an agreement with Lexology to enable the CommBar Blog to reach subscribers to that database.

CommBar continues to publish its CommBar News, which includes topical information and case notes for members. CommBar thanks the Editor of CommBar News, Cornelia Fourfouris-Mack for her dedicated service in assisting CommBar members to publish CommBar News. Unfortunately, Cornelia has had to resign from her position and we thank her for her tireless efforts as Editor, and in promoting the interests of CommBar generally. Daniel Lorbeer has agreed to take on the role. We thank Daniel for his willingness to do so.

Social and other events

In conjunction with LexisNexis, CommBar held the book launch of Insolvent Investments on 25 August 2015 in the Neil McPhee Room. The book was launched by the Honourable Julie Dodds-Streeton, and a responding speech was made by the editor of the book, Stewart Maiden. The foreword was kindly contributed by the Honourable Chief Justice Warren. The book has 25 contributing authors, most of whom are drawn from the ranks of our Bar. Thanks are due to Stewart Maiden for his tireless efforts in making this book possible, and to Julie for kindly agreeing to speak. It was fitting that Julie launched this book given her deep involvement in the education of many members of our commercial Bar, and many contributors to the book in particular. As many will know, the Honourable Dodds-Streeton J, together with Whelan JA, were the founding teachers of the Corporate Insolvency subject in the Melbourne University Masters course.

CommBar held its annual cocktail party at the Federal Court of Australia on 8 October 2015. Speeches were made by Chief Justice Allsop and, most amusingly, by Philip Solomon QC. The function was attended by many judges, barristers, solicitors and corporate counsel and has been adjudged a great success. Thanks are due to the organising committee: Wendy Harris QC, Anna Robertson and Georgia Douglas, Sally Bodman and Courtney Bow in the Bar Office, and Sia Lagos and Melissa Charles of the Federal Court.

This year CommBar will again host judges, commercial solicitors, corporate counsel and CommBar members at its annual social event to be held on 19 October 2016. This event is the highlight of CommBar's social calendar.

On 11 November 2015, the CommBar Equitable Briefing Initiative was launched at the Federal Court of Australia in Melbourne. The launch was the culmination of work over an 18-month period involving a collaboration between CommBar, the Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission, and the judiciary. As part of the initiative, members of the judiciary met with senior members of the profession from private law firms, the government sector and the corporate sector in two private workshops to discuss the underrepresentation of women barristers in commercial litigation, and what might be done to address the inequity. The workshops were facilitated by Kate Jenkins, Victoria's Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commissioner, and involved judges from the High Court of Australia, the Federal Court of Australia, the Supreme Court of Victoria (including the Court of Appeal) and the County Court of Victoria.

As a result of the workshops, a Charter of Commitment was formulated. Signatories to the Charter commit, over a three year period, to six concrete actions aimed at achieving gender equality in commercial briefing. The Charter includes a target to brief in approximately equal proportion to the percentage of women practising in commercial work, both in terms of number of briefs and value of briefs. It includes a commitment to ensure that shortlists for clients include suitably qualified and experienced women barristers. There is also a commitment to collect and report relevant data on briefing to the Commission, every six months.

The founding signatories to the Charter of Commitment are:

- > Arnold Bloch Leibler
- > Australian Securities & Investments Commission
- > Corrs Chambers Westgarth
- Gilbert & Tobin
- > K & L Gates
- > Lander and Rogers
- > Maddocks
- > Norton Rose Fulbright
- > Slater and Gordon
- > Telstra
- > Victorian Government Solicitors Office

Speaking at the launch, Chief Justice Warren noted the number of women judges in the various courts, and said that if firms want to do the best by their clients, it would maximise their clients' interests to brief a diverse range of advocates. Justice Maxwell, President of the Court of Appeal, encouraged men in the profession to take action in relation to the issues facing women. He asked men to "push a little bit harder, and ... make ourselves a bit unpopular by saying 'as senior counsel or junior litigator, I want that woman'." Describing the charter as remarkable, he urged every firm in Victoria to get out in front in relation to equitable briefing. Chief Justice Allsop of the Federal Court of Australia also spoke at the launch. He spoke of the reasons for the difficulties facing women in the profession, and in particular noted the blokey and sometimes aggressive atmosphere in courtrooms. The Chief Justice said it was the responsibility of everyone to drive this kind of mindset out of the courtroom.

The equitable briefing initiative, and the Charter, is groundbreaking. CommBar is proud to have been a part of this initiative, and with the support of the Victorian Bar, we look forward to other firms signing up to the Charter in coming months. Particular thanks go to the working group who developed the project and continue to work on it: Justice Mortimer of the Federal Court of Australia, Justice Hollingworth of the Supreme Court of Victoria, Kate Jenkins, Philip Crutchfield QC, Anna Robertson and Kathleen Foley.

Additional contributions to legal professional organisations

CommBar continues to donate funds to AustLii and the Victorian Supreme Court Library, and to sponsor prizes for Law Students from time to time.

Many CommBar members provide valuable pro bono and otherwise unpaid services to a range of worthy causes. This year, CommBar Section Chairs will once again nominate section members to receive requests from the Bar for pro bono assistance.

Many members contribute through their membership of CommBar's specialist sections in providing CPD sessions, serving on committees and assisting with the Readers' Course. Some of our members have travelled overseas to provide advocacy training courses in the Pacific region as part of various aid programs.

Membership

CommBar has approximately 600 members made up of mostly practising barristers, which makes it the largest Association of the Victorian Bar. The CommBar Executive is committed to advancing the interest of all of its members, and the interests of the Bar generally.

Children's Court Bar Association

Committee at 30 June 2016: Robert T Burns (President), Geoffrey R Martin (Honorary Treasurer), Melissa Stead (Secretary), Judy Benson and Vicki L Marty

The Children's Court Bar Association is comprised of dedicated Counsel who work in a unique area of law. The past year has seen major variations to the Court's opportunities in relation to care orders. These are as a consequence of the changes to the Children Youth and Families Act 2005. To assist Counsel to understand the impact of these changes, the Children's Court Bar Association held a CLE seminar early in the year where members of the Department of Human Services legal team presented the effect of the alterations and the impact on process for legal representatives. The Association has been involved in the writing of submissions on behalf of the Baron matters relating to both the Family and Criminal Division of the Court. We continue to address the issue of briefing fees with Victorian Legal Aid and the Department of Human Services and the working towards work towards better practices and outcomes with the latter.

During the past year or so, we farewelled from our membership Urfa Massood and Charles Tan who were appointed Magistrates and we thank them for their past assistance and wish them well in their new careers.

Common Law Bar Association

Committee at 30 June: Ross Gillies QC (Chairman), Mary Anne Hartley QC (Treasurer), David Martin (Secretary), Richard Stanley QC, Tim Tobin QC, Fiona McLeod S.C., Michael Wheelahan QC, James Mighell QC, Andrew Clements QC, Róisín Annesley QC, Jacinta Forbes QC, Michelle Britbart QC, Simon McGregor, Fiona Ellis, David Purcell, Patrick Over, Gavin Coldwell, Stephen Jurica, Stella Gold, Julia Frederico, Raph Ajzensztat

During the year, the Common Law Bar Association has been involved in a number of activities including:

- > Continued liaison with Judges of the Supreme Court, in particular, the Chief Justice and J. Forrest J. who continue to encourage the litigation of common law matters in the Supreme Court. The number of Jury trials has increased considerably in the Supreme Court over the past 12 months.
- > Meeting with Judges of the County Court, in particular Judge O'Neill. The Court continues to liaise with the Common Law Bar Association especially concerning improvements in listing procedures and attempts to streamline the conduct of serious injury applications, including earlier listing of damages trials following successful serious injury applications.
- The provision of speakers and topics on a range of issues as part of the Bar's ongoing CPD Program.
- Providing case summaries of recent Court decisions to its members.
- Making submissions to the Bar Council and to the Department of Justice on a range of issues including the Wrongs Act Amendments, and the Law Council's proposal concerning contingency fees.
- Noting the important legislative changes to the Wrongs Act whereby the threshold for the recovery of noneconomic damages was lowered.
- Jointly sponsoring the Australian Insurance Law Association Conference and Dinner.
- Continued discussion with the Transport Accident Commission and the Victorian WorkCover Authority concerning a variety of matters pertaining to the conduct and hearing of common law matters arising as a result of transport accidents and industrial accidents.

 Hosting a very successful dinner following the Annual Meeting on the 8th December 2015.

The number of members of the Common Law Bar Association continues to increase. Currently, there are 290 members of the Victorian Bar who are members of the Common Law Bar Association.

Compensation Bar Association

The Committee as at 30 June: Ian McDonald (Chairman), Anthea MacTiernan (Secretary), Ray Ternes (Treasurer), Michael Richards, Timothy Ryan, Bruce McKenzie, Steven Carson, Nick Horner and Megan Tait.

The Association continues to flourish with a current membership of 122, probably in no small part due to Bruce McKenzie's diligent distribution of judicial decisions from the Magistrates', County, Supreme and High Courts. This contemporaneous distribution of relevant decisions is of enormous significance to those practicing in the jurisdiction, and offers a compelling reason to join the Association.

It is particularly gratifying that there is a high take-up of membership by those who have recently completed the Readers course and for whom membership of the Association is free.

As at 31 January 2016 (seven months into the financial year) the number of WorkCover applications issued in the Magistrates' Court has decreased slightly by some 2 per cent, compared to the same time the previous year. The number for the relevant period had altered from 1116 to 1095, indicating however that the jurisdiction is still very active. We do not have details of the numbers of Writs for statutory benefits cases in the County Court but anecdotally they appear to be approximately the same.

Representatives of the Association, Michael Richards and Nick Horner have continued to liaise with the Magistrates' Court WorkCover Users Group on a regular new bar basis.

Anecdotally it seems that a significant number of decisions from the Magistrates' Court are currently being appealed to the Supreme Court and many members of the Association have been actively involved in these appeals.

The Association hosted CPD sessions as follows:

Michael Proud, former solicitor and now mediator, titled "Will (or can) this matter settle at Mediation";

Megan Tait, barrister and member of the Association, "Issue Estoppel and Accord & Satisfaction"

The Association thanks Bruce McKenzie who distributes those judgments relevant to our members' practices.

Family Law Bar Association

Committee at 30 June: Geoff Dickson QC (Chair), Rohan Hoult (Deputy Chair), Patricia Byrnes (Secretary), Robin Smith (Treasurer), Caroline Jenkins, Andrew Combes, Jennifer Howe.

The Association has again had a busy year representing its members in what are currently somewhat difficult times in the family law jurisdiction with an ever-shrinking number of Judges sitting in the Family Court, and the Judges of the Federal Circuit Court being conversely overburdened with work. The latter has led to a blow-out in listing times. The excellent relationship the Committee has with members of the Courts has become more important than ever.

The CPD program has again been strong, both in frequency, the diversity of topics and the range of speakers. As well as collaborating with other Bar Associations, many of the CPDs have also been chaired or jointly chaired with members of the Bench.

With the topic of family violence having been such a prominent issue during the past year and more, there have been a number of enquiries in which the Association has been asked to be involved and/or make submissions. Committee members have been asked to speak, and have spoken, at various public events dealing with family violence issues and their management within the Court's system.

The Committee has also had input to the Access to Justice enquiry and the Victoria Legal Aid Child Protection Review.

The Committee continues to liaise with the Victorian Legal Aid over its proposed introduction of a preferred Barrister scheme, and to represent the interest of its members strongly in relation to those discussions.

Sadly for the Committee, but happily for the profession, the Committee lost Jillian Williams when she became Her Honour Judge Williams of the Federal Circuit Court of Australia earlier this year. It was pleasing to see, and was an extremely popular appointment.

The Committee continues to organise various social functions for its members during the year, including those involving members of the Courts.

Finally, the Committee thanks the immediate past Chair, Ian Mawson QC, for his seven years of outstanding service in looking after the interests of the members.

Industrial Bar Association

Committee as at 30 June 2016: Craig Dowling (President), Richard Dalton (Senior Vice President), Steven Moore QC (Vice President), Rohan Miller (Treasurer), Catherine Symons (Secretary), Justin Bourke QC, Paul O'Grady QC, Eugene White, Gerard McKeown, Victoria Lambropoulos, Mark Felman, Robert O'Neil, Robyn Sweet, Andrew Bell, Siobhan Kelly, Rebecca Preston.

The Industrial Bar Association is comprised of counsel who undertake work in industrial and employment law in state and commonwealth courts and tribunals. During the 2015-2016 financial year, the Industrial Bar Association co-ordinated and developed a continuing professional development program on topics of significance to its members. The association also continued to provide a forum for the exchange and dissemination of information relevant to its members and organised social functions to facilitate co-operation and comradery between its members.

The events organised by the Industrial Bar Association during the 2015-2016 financial year included:

A seminar on recent developments in industrial law delivered by the Honourable Justice Chris Jessup; Rachel Doyle S.C.; Stuart Wood QC; Will Alstergren QC; Brian Corney (Chief Counsel, Fair Work Building and Construction); Leon Zwier (Arnold Bloch Leibler); Kamal Farouque (Maurice Blackburn).

An industrial bar half day continuing professional development seminar, delivered by the Honourable Justice Chris Jessup, Paul O'Grady QC, Mark Irving and Robyn Sweet.

A seminar on serious misconduct, summary dismissal and the contract of employment, delivered by Johnathan Forbes and Victoria Lambropoulos.

A seminar and drinks function held together with the Federal Court of Australia and the Workplace Relations section of the Law Institute of Victoria, addressed by the Honourable Chief Justice James Allsop, the Honourable Justice Mordecai Bromberg, Richard Niall QC, Solicitor General for Victoria, Rachel Doyle S.C., Paul O'Grady QC, Craig Dowling, Steven Amendola (Ashurst) and Kamal Farouque (Maurice Blackburn).

An annual dinner of members addressed by Greg Smith, former Deputy President of the Fair Work Commission.

The Industrial Bar Association thanks its members and supporters for their contribution to developing learning and co-operation within the industrial and employment jurisdiction.

Migration Law Bar Association

Committee as at 30 June: Guy Gilbert (President), Georgina Costello (Vice-President), Matthew Albert (Treasurer), Angel Aleksov (Secretary)

The Migration Law Bar Association was established in 2015. A formal launch of the association and a series of CPDs are planned for the last quarter of 2016. The Association has various aims, including: to be a network for exchanging knowledge and ideas about migration law; to foster collegiality and closer working and social relationships between members of the Bar who practise in the area; to liaise with courts, tribunals, government departments and law reform agencies in relation to migration law; and to promote Victorian barristers in Victoria and interstate.

Tax Bar Association

Committee at 30 June: Jennifer J Batrouney QC (President), Michael T Flynn QC (Vice President), Daniel J McInerney (Treasurer), Hadi Mazloum (Acting Secretary from November 2015), Gregory J Davies QC, Michael Y Bearman, Julianne E Jaques, F John Morgan, Tim M Grace, Eugene F Wheelahan, Ria Sotiropoulos, Sam Ure, Angela Lee (CPD Coordinator; Communications Officer), Kateena O'Gorman (Secretary until November 2015), Annette M Charak (Communications officer), Ben Gauntlett, Anna R Wilson, Fiona R Cameron, Gareth J Redenbach, William Thomas

Highlights of the Financial Year included:

Membership

Membership has increased to 118.

CPD

Provision of a number of CPD seminars on a range of topics, including:

- Tax Implications in Non-Tax Circumstances: Trusts, companies, and other related entity transactions under Div
 7A in commercial, estate and family law disputes – 18 August
 2015 - delivered by Terry Murphy QC and Angela Lee;
- Fundamental Taxation Consequences of Damages, Settlement and Compensation Payments – 3 September
 2015 – delivered by Michael Bearman and Claire Nicholson, chaired by Jennifer Batrouney QC;
- Developments at the Intersection of Trusts and Tax 20 October 2015 – delivered by Christina Wong (Tax Counsel Network, ATO) and Sam Ure, chaired by Jennifer Batrouney QC;
- > The Post-Futuris Landscape: The impact of the High Court's decision in relation to ss 175 and 177 and challenges to administrative decisions of the Commissioner of Taxation 18 November 2015 delivered by Stephen Sharpley QC and Simon Tisher, chaired by Jennifer Batrouney QC;
- Model Litigant Obligations What are they, what do they add and how are they enforced - 15 March 2016 - delivered by Jennifer Batrouney QC, Eugene Wheelahan and Emily Nance (Senior Executive Lawyer at AGS), chaired by Justice Jennifer Davies;
- > Question of Law The post-Haritos landscape 19 May 2016 – delivered by Meredith Schilling and Jennifer Beard (University of Melbourne), chaired by Jennifer Batrouney QC;

- Ethical Duties in Advising in Relation to Tax Strategies 31 May 2016 – delivered by Brind Zlchy-Woinarski QC and Sam Ure, chaired by Justice Pagone;
- Direct Briefing when to do It, how to do it and ethical considerations – 7 June 2016 – delivered by Roisin Annesley QC, Michael Flynn QC and Paul Abbey (PwC), chaired by Justice Middleton;
- Organising CPDs and social functions in partnership with tax groups in commercial law firms.

Tax Barristers Fact Sheet – Tips for Barristers

Worked closely with the ATO to create and develop a "Fact sheet" for barristers highlighting our tax rights and obligations, which was circulated to all barristers and is now available for download on the Tax Bar website.

Training ATO officers on s353-10

Delivered a full day of training to ATO officers on section 353-10 thereby fostering the relationship between the TBA and the ATO.

Tax Bar Brochure

Created a Tax Bar Brochure, showcasing the profile and CV of interested members, which was distributed at the Tax Bar Association annual dinner and other functions to solicitors and potential clients. It is also available for download from the Tax Bar website.

AAT Pro Bono Scheme

Working closely with the AAT to develop and implement a pro bono scheme to mirror that of the superior Courts so as to facilitate access to justice for those in need.

Tax Discussion Group

The monthly "Tax Discussion Group" lunches, chaired by John Morgan have continued this year and they provide a forum in which tax barristers can discuss recent cases and issues that arise from them.

Tax Bar Newsletter

The regular electronic newsletter, informs members, and subscribers from legal and accounting firms, the Australian Taxation Office and universities, of the latest tax developments.

Tax Bar Website

The Association's website is a valuable and up-to-date tax resource available to members, which includes papers presented by barristers and other tax professionals, an easy search tool for a tax barrister, links to research material, and advertises forthcoming seminars and social events.

Social Events

Hosted a number of social events to foster relationships

between Association members and the broader tax community. The 2015 annual dinner in November had as its guest speaker, Justice Nettle of the High Court and the 2016 annual dinner will have as its guest speaker, Justice Gordon of the High Court.

Finally, the Tax Bar Association was particularly pleased to host drinks for Justice Mark Moshinsky upon his appointment to the Federal Court.

The Committee thanks Peter Sest QC who retired during the year. The Committee also thanks Hadi Mazloum for filling in the role of secretary while Kateena O'Gorman is on maternity leave.

Women Barristers' Association

Committee as at 30 June 2016: Emma Peppler (Convenor), Jennifer Trewhella (Assistant Convenor), Georgia Berlic (Assistant Convenor), Joye Elleray (Treasurer), Jess Swanwick (Secretary), Tiphanie Acreman (Memberships Officer), Kylie Weston-Scheuber (Communications), Jennifer Batrouney QC, Suzanne Kirton, Diana Price, Megan Fitzgerald, Fiona Batten, Astrid Haban-Beer, Sandra Karabidian, Megan Tait, Laura Keily, Alex Burt.

Retiring committee members: Charmaine Lye, Angela Lee, Aine Magee QC.

In the financial year ending 2016, the Women Barristers Association (WBA) undertook a number of events and activities.

We contributed to the ongoing development of the National Equitable Briefing Policy, following the National Attrition and Re-engagement Study, through submissions and advocacy.

In conjunction with the Magistrates' Court, we implemented a Magistrate-Barrister mentoring program.

In conjunction with the Court of Appeal, we implemented an Advocacy Program for members, providing the opportunity for upcoming appellate barristers to improve their skills by presenting a moot appeal to a full bench.

We held our annual "Leaps and Bounds" event, to network and congratulate women who were appointed to the Bench, took silk, were elected to Bar Council, and all the men and women who joined the Bar as readers.







STANDING COMMITTEES

Promoting Access To Justice

Indigenous Justice Committee

Committee at 30 June 2016: Tom Keely S.C. (Chair), Abigail I Burchill (Deputy Chair), Jennifer J Batrouney Q.C., Carolyn H Sparke Q.C., Peter G Willis S.C., Campbell F Thomson, Michael W Wise, Julie Condon, Richard B C Wilson, Anne M Sheehan, Kylie Evans, Penny Harris, Astrid M Haban-Beer, Timothy B Goodwin and Philip H P Teo.

The Committee thanks those members who retired during the year: George A Georgiou S.C., John R V Kelly, Stephen M Rebikoff, Elizabeth A Bennett, Justin A Willee, Emma Peppler, Robin A Robinson and Jacqualyn L Turfrey for their significant contributions.

The Committee also thanks the following judicial consultants for their valued and continuing support: Justice of Appeal Emilios J Kyrou (Court of Appeal), Justice of Appeal Stephen W Kaye (Court of Appeal), Justice Timothy J Ginnane (Supreme Court), Justice Mordecai Bromberg (Federal Court), Judge David A Parsons (County Court) and Ms Rosemary Falla (Magistrates' Court).

2015-2016 was a busy year for the Indigenous Justice Committee (IJC), formerly known as the Indigenous Lawyers' Committee.

Under the Bar's Reconciliation Action Plan (2012-2016) (RAP), the IJC has continued to implement and oversee a number of programs for Indigenous barristers, law graduates, law students and secondary school students, designed to assist Indigenous barristers to develop and maintain successful practices, and to attract more of their number to the legal profession. These include:

- > a mentoring program establishing close ties between Indigenous law students and graduates and both Judges and barristers;
- > paid summer clerkships for three Indigenous law students, who spend a week with a Supreme Court judge, a week with a Federal Court judge and a week with a number of barristers;
- > a work experience program for Indigenous secondary school students; and
- > ensuring that at least one CPD seminar on legal issues relating to Indigenous people and/or working with Indigenous people is presented each year.

The mentoring and work experience programs and the summer clerkships have again been successfully implemented this year. IJC members have arranged and promoted and will chair a CPD seminar in August 2016. This will be presented by Prof Mick Dodson AM, Director of the National Centre for Indigenous Studies and Professor of Law at the Australian National University. His topic will be: Let's talk about recognition: Reflections on the Constitutional debate based on Tasmanian Dams.

Other activities of the IJC during the year included facilitating the Bar's sponsorship of the National Indigenous Legal Conference held in Melbourne, facilitating a presentation by two Indigenous barristers to solicitors and clients of Corrs Chambers Westgarth, and participating in events held during National Reconciliation Week and NAIDOC Week. Given that the Bar's RAP expires in 2016, work has recently commenced on reviewing its operation and developing a plan for 2017 and beyond. As at 30 June 2016, there are six Indigenous barristers at the Victorian Bar. Of these, one is presently working full-time on a Ph D at Melbourne University, while another holds a position in the Department of Premier and Cabinet, and is working on the proposed Treaty with Aboriginal people.

Finally, the IJC relies heavily upon the Bar Office to assist it in its work. For example, Bar Office staff attend meetings of the Legal Profession Reconciliation Network and assist in monitoring compliance with the RAP. The IJC sincerely thanks the staff of the Bar Office, in particular, Gabrielle Ostberg and Emma Fox.

Equality and Diversity Committee

Committee as at 30 June 2016: Michelle L Quigley QC (Chair), Kim J Knights (Deputy Chair) Jim Delany QC, Helen M Rofe QC, Tomaso Di Lallo, Grant R Atkinson, Susan M Borg, Anna L Robertson, David A Klempfner, Jenny Firkin, Susan Aufgang, Amy Brennan(Secretary),Premala Thiagarajan, Astrid M Haban-Beer, Philip H P Teo.

The Committee sincerely thanks those members who retired during the year: Caroline E Kirton QC (especially as the retiring Chair for her tireless efforts and leadership), Philip A Dunn QC, Jennifer J Batrouney QC, Daryl Williams QC, Christine Melis and Fiona Battan.

Over the past twelve months the Committee has continued to work with the Bar Council and the profession more generally to implement the Victorian Bar's Quantum Leap Program. The measurable achievement of equality of opportunity for women at the Bar continues to be a work in progress.

The key work of the Committee in 2016 has included:

Assisting in formulating the Victorian Bar's submission in support of the LCA's National Model Gender Briefing Policy. This work was a timely revision of the 2004 Model Briefing Policy. The Policy aims to achieve a nationally consistent approach to bringing about cultural and attitudinal change within the legal profession on gender briefing practices. The Policy's ambition is to achieve a briefing outcome for women of 30%, by briefs and by value, by 2020. The shortterm target is 20% by 1 July 2018 for senior women and 30% for junior women. The LCA adopted this Policy in June 2016. The challenge in the next twelve months is in implementing the policy's aims and expectations. In this, the Committee will work on the establishment of benchmark data to help define the extent of the gender pay gap for women barristers in Victoria, reinvigorate career coaching initiatives, and work with the Male Champions of Change Project to assist the implementation of gender equality initiatives.

Providing input to VEOHRC in its preparation of the Disability Access Bench Book. This publication aims to provide guidance to Courts dealing with persons (litigants, counsel, witnesses etc.) with some form of a disability. Expanding the Committee's focus to include issues of law reform and legal practice of concern to the LGBTI community. In this regard, the Chair met with the Victorian Gender and Sexuality Commissioner, Rowena Allen, members of the LGBTI Taskforce and policy officer from VEOHRC to establish a direct dialogue.

Human Rights Committee

Committee at 30 June: Peter G Willis S.C. (Chair); Tomaso Di Lallo (Deputy Chair); Christopher Tran (Secretary); Ron J Meldrum QC, Peter J Hanks QC, Timothy Walker QC, Murray V McInnis, Dr Ian F Turnbull, Susan Borg, Dr Andrew Hanak, Malcolm Harding, Michael D Stanton, Douglas W Laidlaw CSC and Paul Panayi.

The Committee thanks the following members who retired during the year: Glenn McGowan QC (retiring Chair), Eliza Holt (retiring Secretary), Sharon Burchell, Rebecca M Nelson and Karen Argiropoulos.

Achievements of the Committee in 2015/2016

The Committee has had a very active year, analysing and commenting on a range of legislative and executive actions that raised questions of respect for human rights.

The Committee met on seven occasions during the year under review, as well as conducting business by circular email when an issue required urgent attention.

The Committee's task is to raise for attention issues that affect the liberty and dignity of all persons where those issues engage human rights. The Committee is especially concerned with issues affecting access to justice, equality before the law, freedom from discrimination and from the arbitrary exercise of power, and adherence by Government at all levels to widely accepted human rights norms, including those established by the International Conventions to which Australia is a signatory.

The principal matters in which the Committee has been engaged in the year under review include:

The Counter-Terrorism Legislation Amendment (Foreign Fighters) Bill 2014 (Cth) was publicly released on 23 September 2014 and referred to the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Security and Intelligence on the next day, with submissions to be lodged by 3 October 2014. Despite this abridged time, nine members of the Committee prepared a detailed submission, which was submitted in their own names.

After a submission by the Committee, early in 2015, the Bar Council endorsed a joint statement issued by the Law Council of Australia and the Australian Bar Association expressing alarm at personal criticisms of the Australian Human Rights Commission and its President, Professor Gillian Triggs, following publication by the Commission of a report on children of asylum seekers held in detention. Additionally, nine members of the Committee wrote to the federal

Attorney-General in their own names in support of the independence of the Commission and its President.

Bringing to fruition a previous major piece of work of the Committee, in April 2015, the Bar Council approved a memorandum to the Law Council on the legal principles governing the Australian Government's responsibility for the safety and welfare of asylum seekers held in detention overseas on behalf of Australia. This was incorporated, with additional contributions from the NSW Bar Association, Law Institute of Victoria and Law Societies of NSW and SA, in a submission of the Law Council to the Senate Select Committee on the Recent Allegations relating to Conditions and Circumstances at the Regional Processing Centre in Nauru.

The Committee's other major task was the preparation, on behalf of the Bar Council, of a submission to the quadrennial Review of the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities. The Committee established a working group with wide representation, surveyed members of the Bar and conducted a practitioners' forum to seek as full input as possible for the submission. In addition to survey respondents and participants in the forum, the Committee was greatly assisted by the Criminal Bar Association and by Alistair Pound, Kylie Evans and Michelle Quigley QC in this work. The Bar Council adopted the submission in May 2015.

The Committee has kept abreast of the Australian Law Reform Commission's Review of Commonwealth Laws for Consistency with Traditional Rights, Freedoms and Privileges and expects to continue that work in the coming year. The Chair of the Committee and David Neal S.C. have been contributors on behalf of the Victorian Bar to a Law Council working group making submissions to the Review.

The Committee records its appreciation of the assistance of Gabrielle Östberg of the Bar's Policy staff and of the Bar Council's engagement with human rights. Finally, thanks are due to Peter Hanks and Glenn McGowan for their robust leadership of the Committee during 2014.

Climate Change and Environmental Law Panel Committee as at 30 June 2015: Tom Pikusa (Chair & Treasurer), Emma Pepler (Secretary), Rudi D Cohrssen

The Climate Change and Environmental Law Panel (CCELP) comprises senior and junior members of the Bar who are willing to advise and appear in relation to public interest matters concerning climate change and environmental law.

The objects of the CCELP are:

- to promote the understanding of climate change and environmental law;
- to represent and advise litigants in matters of public interest on a pro bono or reduced fee basis;

> to contribute to the development of effective legislation governing impacts to the environment; and to encourage the participation of other legal professionals and law students in the panel's programs and cases.

During the past year, the CCELP has:

- arranged for the provision of advice and/or advocacy in relation to public interest environmental or climate change matters;
- provided submissions to both State and Federal governments on proposed legislative amendments;
- > facilitated seminars on topical issues;
- acted as a contact point for universities and others interested in climate change and environmental law; and
- was a member of the Centre for Asia Pacific Pro Bono (CAPPB), as a referral organisation in relation to environmental matters.

Pro Bono Commitment

Pro Bono Committee

Committee as at 30 June 2016: Pat Zappia QC (Chair), Tom Danos (Deputy Chair), Aine Magee QC, Fiona Batten, Cahal Fairfield, Daniel Harrison, Haroon Hassan, Ben Ihle, Andrew Laird, Garrie Moloney, Jessica Swanwick, Megan Tait, Joseph Tsalinidis, Jarrod Williams, Richard Wilson, Michael Bearman, Matthew Walsh, Daniel Star, Meredith Schilling, Anastasia Smietanka, (Justice Connect), Jason Saultry (Justice Connect), Teresa Cianciosi (Justice Connect), Tina Turner (Justice Connect).

The Committee has had another busy and productive year. It continues to play a pro-active role on behalf of the bar in order to address the increasing demand for pro bono legal services in the wider community.

The Committee meets quarterly and implements initiatives through sub committees. The broad objective of the Committee is to improve access to justice for those who cannot afford to pay for legal services. The Committee does this through initiating and assisting in the administration of schemes through which barristers at the Victorian Bar provide legal representation on a pro bono basis. There are two principal schemes through which barristers provide pro bono services. One is the Victorian Bar Pro Bono Scheme (VBPBS), which is supervised by the Pro Bono Committee and administered by Justice Connect. The other is the Victorian Bar Duty Barrister Scheme, which is administered by the Victorian Bar Office.

An important initiative that the Committee has overseen and implemented over the past few years is the Court of Appeal Duty Barrister Scheme. Under this Scheme barristers represent self-represented litigants on a pro bono basis in appeals before the Court of Appeal. The request for assistance in such matters originates from the Court. The Scheme has



SEPTEMBER 2015 READERS: Back row: Kimberley Phair, Brendan Avallone, Olaf Ciolek, Patrick Miller, Luke Virgona, Rajat Bhattacharya, Owen Wolahan, Nicholas Elias, Reiko Okazaki, Gary Clark, Jacob Pruden-Collier, Michael Sharkey, Lisa Papadinas, Olivia Thompson, Sophie Mariole. Middle row: Wendy Pollock, Raini Zambelli, Monika Paszkiewicz, Andrew Yuile, Justin Rizzi, Gorjan Nikolovski, Mark Benkel, John Moore, Alison Burt, Stephanie Scully, Jason Romney, Ryan Maguire, Min Guo, Kim Cullen, Emma Jeans, Rachel Chrapot. Seated Row: Samantha Renwick, Joseph Amin, Rose Cameron, Andrew Pollock, Anastasia Smietanka, Nicholas Phillpott, Christopher Fenwick, Carly Robertson, Adam McBeth, Diana Karamicov, Christopher Jensen, Jing Zhu, Fiona Crock.

proven to be a great success with all requests for pro bono assistance being met. The Court and, in particular, the Chief Justice has acknowledged the valuable contribution of the bar in providing its assistance in such matters. The Committee has recently endorsed a proposal to permit Monash University Law students to become involved in assisting barristers who accept briefs to appear under this Scheme.

During the past twelve months the Committee in conjunction with the Supreme Court has launched the "Open Courts Act Duty Barrister Scheme". The Scheme commenced on 1 May 2016, and will be trialled as a Pilot Scheme for a period of 12 months. The purpose of the Pilot Scheme is for the Victorian Bar to provide pro bono Counsel to appear as amicus curiae upon the request of a Judge in applications for suppression orders under the Open Courts Act 2013 (Vic). The need for such assistance arises where there is no contradictor. The Scheme Protocols and further information about the Scheme may be found on the Vicbar website. The Committee is particularly appreciative of the efforts of Tom Danos, Richard Wilson and Haroon Hassan, the subcommittee members involved in the establishment of the Pilot Scheme.

The Committee is also presently liaising with the Coroners Court to establish a referral service through Justice Connect to enable barristers to appear for and provide pro bono assistance to families of deceased persons involved in the coronial process. The Committee and the Court have identified the need for such a service and it is expected that the service will be implemented in the next twelve months. An important task that the Committee has commenced during the past year and which will require further work during the forthcoming year is the capturing of accurate data recording the value of the pro bono work which is provided by the bar. The Committee considers this to be an important objective, as presently available statistics grossly underestimate the value of pro bono services provided by the bar.

The Committee is also awaiting the Rules Committee of the Supreme Court to respond to its proposal for the inclusion of a new rule in the Supreme Court Rules to enable legal practitioners (including counsel) appearing in pro bono cases to claim and recover costs insofar as their client is successful.

The Committee looks forward to hosting the Victorian Bar Pro Bono awards this year. The awards are held on a biennial basis and recognise the significant contribution made by individual members of the bar in particular categories.

The next twelve months of the Committee will be a busy time as a range of existing and new initiatives are implemented.

Duty Barristers Scheme Committee

Committee at 30 June: Frances I O'Brien QC (Chair), Simon A Moglia, Amanda R Wynne, Natalie T Sheridan-Smith, Dr Angela M B O'Brien, Matthew L Albert, Romesh Kumar

The Duty Barristers Scheme Committee has had a very busy year. Its oversight of our duty barrister schemes in the Court of Appeal, the Magistrates Court and in the County Court has been demanding and at times onerous. The demands of the schemes on the Bar and its members are at times heavy.



Back row: James McComish, Laurence White, Patrick Donovan, Israel Cowen, Robert Forrester, Michael Allen, Gary Taylor, Adam Purton, Timothy Jeffrie, Marcus Finlay, Rachel Chrapot. Middle Row: Wendy Pollock, Jacqueline Papson, Julia Lucas, Jack O'Connor, William Thomas, Joel Ruffles, Gareth Redenbach, Daniel Kinsey, Christine Willshire, Thomas Storey, Rudi Kruse, Michelle Jenkins, Peta Smith, Catherine Fitzgerald, Anna Parker. Seated: Naomi Lenga, Victoria Compton, Brett Harding, Lisa Mendicino, Marissa Chorn, Anna Lord, Simon Weir, Jennifer Cowen, Daniel Diaz, Rachel Waters, James Waters, Eliza Tiernan, Natasha Crowe.

Members of the Bar have often responded expeditiously and beyond the call of duty. The Committee continues to urge all member of the Bar to make their availability known to the bar Administration for the personal rewards offered by the work of the duty barrister scheme.

The support of the Bar Administration has been instrumental in alleviating many pressures. The committee thanks the CEO and all other persons at the Bar administration for their generous support and work.

Education

Education and Professional Development Committee

Committee at 30 June: Michael G O'Connell S.C. (Chair), The Hon. Raymond A Finkelstein AO QC (Deputy Chair), Dr Suzanne B McNicol QC, Philip D Corbett QC, Adrian J Finanzio S.C., Michael P Cahill, Elizabeth M Brimer, Oren Bigos, Sarah J Keating and Rachel Chrapot (Manager, Education & Professional Development)

The EPDC oversees the Bar Readers' Course, the ongoing CPD program and the South Pacific education and training programs.

The CPD program has also been a great success and the CPD Sub-Committee and the various Bar Associations are to be commended for their work in populating dynamic and relevant programs.

The EPDC committee is responsible for strategy development and has oversight of projects such as the Indictable Crime Certificate, the development of an advocacy teaching faculty, a new program for junior barristers and uniform CPD Rules as part of the Uniform Legal Profession Law.

The committee was greatly assisted by a number of people, Rachel Chrapot (Manager, Education & Professional Development), Brittany Swanson (Coordinator, Continuing Professional Development, until October 2015), Bianca Stajcic (Coordinator, Continuing Professional Development, from October 2015), Wendy Pollock (Coordinator, Bar Readers' Course). The Committee would like to thank them for their hard work during the year.

Continuing Professional Development Sub-Committee

Committee at 30 June: Michael G O'Connell S.C. (Chair), Michael P Cahill, Mary Anne Hartley QC, Erin J Gardner, Dr Michael D Rush, Oren Bigos, Leana Papaelia, Megan S Tait (resigned on 16 June 2016), Rachel Walsh and Rachel Chrapot (Manager, Education and Professional Development). Subject to the overriding control of the Education and Professional Development Committee, the Sub-Committee has continued to exercise its delegated powers of dealing with the day-to-day management of the CPD program and the requirements of barristers to undertake the requisite CPD activities during the year. That has included determining requests for accreditation of CPD activities, dispensing with the requirements of the program in respect of certain barristers, overseeing the audit of compliance with CPD requirements and dealing generally with issues raised relevant to the program.

The CPD program continues to provide seminars of high standard to members in all of the categories of CPD. Included in the program have been workshops in appellate advocacy, jury skills and ethics, which were all popular and well received. In February 2016 together with the New Barrister Committee, the CPD Sub-Committee held the Junior Bar conference. The conference was well received and will be a permanent fixture on the Bar's CPD calendar.

On 1 July 2015, the new Uniform Laws came into effect, bringing with them the Legal Profession CPD (Barristers) Rules. The CPD Committee has been involved with the implementation of the new CPD rules and will be monitoring and providing input into the development of policies that will inform the operation of the new rules.

The sub-committee continues to be supported by Rachel Chrapot and Bianca Stajcic. The sub-committee thanks them for their work.

Readers' Course Sub-Committee

Sub-Committee at 30 June: David J O'Callaghan QC (Chair), Adrian J Finanzio S.C. (Deputy Chair), The Hon. Raymond A Finkelstein AO QC, Simon E Marks QC, Michael G O'Connell S.C., Dr Suzanne B McNicol QC, Carolyn H Sparke QC, Kristen L Walker QC, Michael Cahill, Andrew Hanak, Miguel A Belmar Salas, Andrew T Broadfoot, Eugene F Wheelahan, Carolyn M Symons, Christopher J Tran, Mark Hosking and Rachel Chrapot (Manager, Education & Professional Development).

Over the last year the Sub-Committee has overseen the implementation of two exams. The conduct of the entrance exam continues to represent a significant piece of work by the members of the exam working group. 95 candidates sat the October 2015 exam and 38 received offers. There were 37 readers in the March 2016 course.

In the May 2016 exam there were 101 candidates, and 38 candidates received offers. The September Readers' Course will commence on 1 September 2016 with 40 Readers plus two overseas readers from Indonesia and Papua New Guinea.

The sub-committee continues to be involved with the continued development of curriculum of the Bar readers' Course with input and support from Rachel Chrapot and Wendy Pollock.

Pacific Rim Sub-Committee

Committee at 30 June: The Hon. Raymond A Finkelstein QC (Chair), Philip D Corbett QC, Stephen T Russell, Maya Rozner, Trevor C Wallwork, Sarah J Porritt, Paul P Kounnas, Jonathan H Kirkwood, Matthew LL Albert, Emma Peppler, Sitesh Bhojani and Wendy Pollock (Co-ordinator Bar Readers' Course).

In June 2015, legal officers from Public Solicitors Office, State Law Office, Public Prosecutions, State Prosecutions Department and Vanuatu Women's Centre participated in an intensive three-day development at the Moot Court facility at University of the South Pacific campus. The course was run by five Barristers from the Victorian Bar, and supported by Advisers from the Stretem Rod Blong Jastis (SRBJ). The coaching team comprised Gary Hevey, Christine Melis, Jim Shaw, David Sexton and Sarah Porritt.

The course was interactive with officers learning skills, and then practicing them through mock trials based on cases that are 'typical' for Vanuatu. A number of Vanuatu Police Force officers also gave of their time to participate as witnesses during the mock trials, making them a realistic learning experience. A total of 32 officers graduated from the course. For many of them this course built on the skills learnt during the Victorian Bar courses conducted in December 2014.

Since 1990 members of the Victorian Bar and Judiciary have provided advocacy skills training to trainees of the Legal Training Institute, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea and to lawyers of the South Pacific Region generally. The Committee continues with these activities.

In July 2015 the 15th Civil & Criminal Advocacy Workshop was conducted in Port Moresby for the Legal Training Institute over a period of five days. A total of 93 trainees attended the workshop. These advocacy skills workshops have become an integral and compulsory part of the course undertaken by the trainees as part of their qualification for admission to practice as national lawyers in PNG. The workshop was led by His Honour Judge Christopher O'Neill. The teaching team comprised Her Honour Judge Liz Gaynor, Philip Corbett QC, Remy van de Wiel QC, Paul Higham, Maya Rozner, Ashley Halphen, Trevor Wallwork, Christine Melis, Nicholas Goodenough, Matthew Albert, Sarah Keating and Wendy Pollock (as administrative assistant). The Director and the staff of the Legal Training Institute consider the workshop to have been very successful.

A new program for the female students of the Legal Training Institute (LTI) was conducted in 2015 by the Victorian Bar in partnership with the LTI and with the support of the Papua New Guinea - Australia Law and Justice Partnership (PALJP). The program, entitled "Empowering Women in the Law in PNG", was rolled out across the weekend of 11-12 July 2015. The program immediately followed the Advocacy workshop conducted by VicBar in conjunction with the LTI. The program was developed with a focus on building confidence in and empowering women entering the PNG legal profession. Christine Melis was the driving force behind this new and exciting initiative. She was ably assisted by Pauline Mogish (Director LTI) and also Tess McSpedden, 2nd Secretary, Australian High Commission who officially launched the

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program. The program was opened by The Hon Chief Justice Marilyn Warren AC. The teaching team consisted of Her Honour Judge Liz Gaynor, Philip Corbett QC, Christine Melis, Paul Higham and Sarah Keating and Wendy Pollock (as administrative assistant). Thirty-seven of the forty female LTI trainees completed the inaugural program.

In June 2016 the Victorian Bar sent a team of five barristers to Port Vila, Vanuatu to teach the 'Building Professional Legal Skills in Criminal and Civil Advocacy, Vanuatu, June 2016' program. Training was held for 35 legal officers in two streams (civil & criminal). In addition, two days of individual 1:1 coaching sessions were offered for individualised support. The program was fully supported by the Vanuatu Judiciary. The Chief Justice of Vanuatu briefed the team prior to the program, opened the program and then presented certificates at the conclusion. The coaching team comprised Gary Hevey, Michael Cahill, Jim Doherty, Jim Shaw and Sally Flynn.

The Committee is continually arranging further advocacy skills workshops to meet the needs particularly of the lawyers of the Pacific Rim with which the Committee has formed close bonds.

Student Engagement Committee

Student Engagement Committee at 30 June 2016: Angela Lee (Co-Chair), Dr Kylie Weston-Scheuber (Co-Chair), Andrew Sim (Secretary), Shaun Ginsbourg (Secretary), Diana Harding QC, Richard Antill, Michael Stanton, Steven Lowry, Belinda Franjic, Georgia Douglas, Katherine Brazenor, Christopher Tran, Samantha Renwick, Amanda Pearson.

The Committee thanks those members who retired during the year: previous Co-Chair Simon Pitt, previous members David O'Callaghan QC, Diana Price, Lionel Wirth, Carmela Pezzimenti, Catherine Symons, Nicole Papaleo.

The patron of the SEC is the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the Honourable Marilyn Warren AC.

During 2015-2016, the Student Engagement Committee met once a month and was actively involved in a number of initiatives to engage high school and university students with barristers and the legal profession generally.

The demand from law students and high school students for mentoring and work experience opportunities at the Bar is ever increasing and the SEC is committed to addressing this need and continuing to provide opportunities for students to engage with barristers and to learn more about the law and the legal profession.

Work Experience and Mentoring Subcommittee

Over the past 12 months, the work experience and mentoring sub-committee updated the "work experience kit" that is made available to barristers on the VicBar intranet. That document is a valuable resource for barristers who host secondary school or university work experience students, and has been updated to reflect current opportunities and suggestions. In conjunction with the release of the updated kit, the sub-committee also released a number of worksheets and activities that can be given to work experience students to give them an insight into the paperwork aspect of being a barrister. These resources are intended to assist those barristers who participate in the VicBar mentoring scheme, through which students may obtain work experience with or 'shadow' a barrister for a defined period.

Over the past 12 months, the SEC arranged 54 shadowing and mentoring opportunities for high school and university students. In particular, the SEC placed numerous students from its collaboration with the Deakin Law Student Society, Monash Law Student Society, the Boundless Foundation and the Incubate Foundation.

School Visits Subcommittee

The School Visits Sub-Committee co-ordinated presentations by barristers to secondary school students across Victoria, including at Melbourne High School, Kyneton High School, Beaconhills College, and Bayside College.

The presentations were usually given to later year legal studies students, and involved barristers explaining their role in the justice system, as well as sharing experiences of particular legal issues and about how the legal system works in practice.

The Sub-Committee also coordinated attendance at the Monash Law Students' Society 'Beyond Commercial Careers Fair 2016', where Monash University students could ask a barrister questions about becoming a barrister and about life at the bar.

In 2016, SEC members have continued their involvement in presenting to high schools and primary schools through the Victoria University "Leap into Law" program, which focuses on demystifying the jump from school to university and the profession.

Visits are an important part of the Student Engagement Committee's work, and have an important function in demystifying the role of the barrister in the justice system, as well as explaining pathways to the bar.

Social Media Subcommittee

The SEC's Facebook page is the primary tool used to connect with students through social media. The Social Media Sub-Committee continues to maintain the page, and is pleased to report that we now have nearly 1000 'Likes'! This year the Sub-Committee has branched out further into cyberspace with Instagram, and is putting the two social media streams together with its Photo Competition to be launched later in 2016, hoping to offer the winning student an opportunity to shadow a Supreme Court judge!

VLF Subcommittee

The Victorian Law Foundation (VLF) subcommittee attends quarterly meetings of the VLF's Education forum, where various stakeholders meet to discuss issues relating to legal education. Meetings this year have canvassed issues such as curriculum change relating to law and citizenship in schools and legal education series "Legal briefs".

Law Week Subcommittee

The Law Week subcommittee organised an information stand at Federation Square during Law Week in May 2016 to provide information to students and members of the community about barristers and a career at the Bar.

The SEC is grateful to the members of the Bar who continue to volunteer their time attend school speaking engagements or act as mentors to students. The demand for barrister mentors is ever-growing, and the SEC is always keen to hear from barristers who would like to donate their time to this worthwhile cause. If you have such an interest or would like to know more, please email: students@vicbar.com.au.

The SEC would like to thank Xi Xi Wang for her assistance with the barrister/student mentoring program, and to law student Kate Little for her continuing involvement with the committee.

Finally, the SEC would like to express its gratitude to outgoing Chair Simon Pitt for his tremendous contribution to, and leadership of, the Committee over the past few years.

Indictable Crime Certificate Committee

Committee as at 30 June 2016: The Hon Geoff Eames AM QC (Chair), The Hon Stephen Charles QC (Vice Chair), David J O'Callaghan QC, Michael G O'Connell S.C., Gregory J Lyon QC, Rachel Chrapot (Manager, Education and Policy) and Emma Fox (Policy Lawyer).

The Committee thanks Paul Anastassiou QC, Peter Morrissey S.C., Jacqueline Stone and Gabrielle Östberg who retired during the year.

The Indictable Crime Certificate ("ICC") is an accreditation and quality assurance program, administered by the Indictable Crime Certificate Committee ("the Committee") on behalf of the Victorian Bar. The Committee supports the development of quality and competence in this challenging jurisdiction and offers a clearer path to those aspiring to run trials. It also enables the Bar to assist with the development and regulation of its members. The requirements for the Indictable Crime Certificates vary depending on the level of seniority of the applicants, but at each level the process for attaining the certificate is extensive and thorough.

In its inaugural year, the Committee received 285 applications. Each applicant was streamed into one of three categories (Streams A, B and C), having regard to the applicant's criminal law experience in indictable criminal matters.

Of the 285 applicants, approximately 200 applicants are required to complete the advocacy assessment – a 90-minute moot before a retired Supreme Court Judge. 49 applicants have now completed their advocacy assessment. We would like to thank the Honourable David Habersberger QC for his ongoing assistance with the advocacy assessment.

All ICC applicants are required to complete the online knowledge test. 159 applicants have now completed this component of the accreditation process.

In April 2016, the inaugural group of 49 ICC recipients were formally acknowledged at an event held in the Supreme Court Library. Speeches were delivered by the Honourable Geoff Eames AM QC and the Chief Justice, the Honourable Marilyn Warren AC. A further 27 certificates have since been granted, taking the total number to 76.

We thank Rachel Chrapot and Emma Fox from the Victorian Bar office for their continued support of this program.

Submissions to Government and Law Reform Agencies

In the 2015 -2016 all policy matters were moved under the portfolio of the Education and Policy Team within the Bar office. The policy lawyer in the Bar office is now managed by the Manager of Education & Policy, Rachel Chrapot. In addition, a small working group lead by Bar Council member Sam Hay has now been formed to assist with responding to the numerous policy matters.

The Victorian Bar has submitted over 25 submissions to a range of stakeholders, including: State and Federal Courts, Australian Parliament Senate Inquiries, the Law Council of Australia, Victorian Law Reform Commission, the Department of Justice and Regulation (DOJR), and the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). Submissions have covered a range of legal areas and have varied in length and complexity.

The Bar wrote a detailed submission to the DOJR on the access to justice review. With nine terms of reference, the Bar established an access to justice working group, where we saw individual members, Associations and Committees contribute. The end product was a 28-page submission covering access to legal information, alternate dispute resolution, pro bono services in Victoria and recommendations regarding the resourcing of VLA and reforming aspects of VCAT. Since submitting the response, the President of the Victorian Bar, Paul Anastassiou QC, and Policy Lawyer, Emma Fox, have attended a follow-up roundtable meeting with DOJR and other key stakeholder groups.

We would like to thank all individuals, Associations and

Committees who have assisted in developing submissions. We thank Bar Councillor Sam Hay for his willingness to assist the Policy team throughout 2016. We also thank Gabrielle Ostberg and Jacqueline Stone for their contributions throughout the year.

Library Committee

Committee at 30 June: Samantha L Marks QC (Chair to 14 September 2016), Richard L Brear (Deputy Chair), Anthony J Kelly QC, Georgina Schoff QC, Ian W Upjohn CSC, QC (Chair from 14 September 2016), Peter Willis S.C.. Mark A Irving, Gerard Dalton, Andrew M Bell, Mark P Costello, Sarah J Varney, Harry Forrester, Nawaar Hassan, John Leung and Melanie Baker (Secretary).

The Committee thanks those members who retired during the year: Leonie Englefield and Judy Benson.

New computers have been added to the library so that the extensive subscriptions now available can be easily accessed. The Committee particularly thanks Nawaar Hassan for her work on this.

A review of the hard-copy holdings of the library has been underway to endeavour to consider what new books that will be most useful to barristers. Georgina Schoff QC has headed a subcommittee reviewing the results of last year's survey of barristers' use of the library and following up on recommendations. Work has been done on getting a clearer webpage available for the library, with an easily searchable catalogue.

The Chair of the Committee had addressed each of the new Readers' Courses at the start of their course letting the readers know about the Bar Library, and taking them over to see what is available to them. There has been a significant increase in those using the library.

Proposals for the establishment of a Victorian Law Library, which may eventually see its collection merged with the libraries of the Supreme Court and the Law Institute of Victoria, continue to be examined. Anthony Kelly QC and Samantha Marks QC have been to meetings relating to this. The Committee is working to ensure that the implementation of any such a proposal will result in a better library resource for all members of the Bar, keep necessary current holdings available to members, and ensure that barristers continue to have 24 hour access to those resources that they need.

Ms Annie Hutchinson of CCH has been available at the library one morning a week assisting with CCH enquiries. These services have been well received.

Members of the bar and bench generously continue to donate books and other items to the library. In particular, the Committee thanks Peter Heerey AM QC and Jacob Fajgenbaum QC for the extensive donations they have made.

Professional Standards

Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee

Committee as at 30 June 2016: Tony Neal QC (Chair) Tony Elder (Deputy Chair) Michael D G Heaton QC, Tony Nolan QC, Carolyn H Sparke QC, Peter F Agardy, Marianne TH Barker, Dr C Elizabeth Brophy, Dr Peter FJ Condliffe, Mark G Hebblewhite, Julian G Ireland, Carmel M Morfuni, Carey J Nichol, Angela O'Brien, Michael J O'Brien, Glen Pauline, David J Sanders, Michael JF Sweeney, Daniel Sweeney, John Hall, Raini Zambelli and Ross Nankivell (Staff).

The Committee thanks those members who retired during the

year: BA Toby Shnookal QC, Robert Hay QC, Pierre Baume, Carmella Ben-Simon, and Karen Streckfuss. A particular vote of thanks goes to longstanding Chairman Michael DG Heaton QC and Deputy Chairman Tony Nolan QC both of whom stood down as office bearers at the end of 2015.

Lawyer's Certificate in Mediation Course

Another successful Lawyer's Certificate in Mediation Course was held in December 2015. Eighteen participants [of whom seventeen were barristers and one a judge's associate] attended the course. These participants rated the course very highly. The course leaders were again Dr Peter Condliffe, Dr Elizabeth Brophy and Tony Neal QC. The Mediation Course is a premier course and the Mediation Course Sub-Committee is to be congratulated on the continued success of it.

Access to Justice Review

The Committee assisted the Bar's response to this review by drafting a section dealing with Reference 3 "-whether and how alternative dispute mechanisms should be expanded so that more Victorians can use them."

Standard Mediation Agreement

The Accreditation Subcommittee has been working on a draft Mediation Agreement as a template document for use by members of the Bar. It is expected to have that completed and in circulation by October 2016.

Recommendation to MSB re Approval Standards

The Committee provided a memo to the MSB to assist its deliberations on the wording of its approval standards regarding disclosure of criminal convictions. The committee is pleased to report its recommendation was accepted by the MSB.

VicBar Mediation Centre

The committee liaised with the Bar about a number of issues in connection with the Mediation Centre. Earlier this year, the Bar undertook the general refurbishment of the Centre and an expansion of it onto Level 1 of Douglas Menzies Chambers. Members of the committee are delighted with that work, commend the Bar on the changes and report that the Centre is now performing well.

Hosting of Meeting with MSB:

On 22 February 2016, the Bar hosted a meeting of the Mediator Standards Board, with a number of members of the Committee joining the MSB Board for a sandwich lunch and having the opportunity to explore and discuss matters of mutual interest.

Bar Website Development

The committee has been concerned for some time with the listing of mediators on the Bar's website and the use of the website for more active marketing of the Bar's mediators. The Committee has made representations over several years as to changes that it thought would benefit members of the Bar. On 20 May, a representative of the committee participated in a Stakeholder Workshop being conducted as part of the Bar's Website Re-development project. The committee looks forward to the expanded opportunities which will be provided by the new website.

Law Council ADR Committee

The definition of Barrister's Work: The Committee continues to urge the Victorian Bar Council, the Australian Bar Association and the Legal Services Council under the new Uniform Law to expressly state in the Uniform Bar Rules that barrister's work includes acting as an ADR principal.

CPD Sub-Committee

The CPD Sub-Committee under Carolyn Sparke QC, as well as conducting seminars, has introduced monthly workshops for mediators to debrief, discuss recent issues or recent cases and authorities. This is a welcome addition where mediators can discuss issues or problems that have arisen. The potential for these workshops to be assessed for CPD points is currently under investigation.

PMC Sub-Committee

The Publicity Media and Communications Sub-Committee has set itself the task of promoting the Bar's ADR services to outside professional bodies. Some preliminary meetings have occurred. The ADR Committee is eager to progress this initiative in the months ahead.

Acknowledgments

The ADR Committee thanks Ross Nankivell, Manager Assisting the CEO, for his attendance, input and assistance, and the Bar Office for its administrative assistance with the running of the LMC course.

International Arbitration Committee

Committee at 30 June: Martin R Scott QC (Chair), Michael H Whitten

(Deputy Chair), Peter B Murdoch QC, Michael D G Heaton QC, Caroline M Kenny QC, Caroline E Kirton QC, Peter G Willis S.C., Michael J F Sweeney, Kumar Kappadath, Margo J Harris, Eugenia Levine and Brian G Mason.

The Committee thanks those members who retired during the year: Joshua D Wilson QC, William Alstergren *QC*, William E M Lye, Ian H Percy and Andrew Di Pasquale.

The International Arbitration Committee continues its work in developing contacts and connections in the arbitration community across Australia and in our region.

To that end, the Committee commissioned and has received preliminary reports and cost estimates for a chambers initiative in Singapore from Owain Stone of Korda Mentha and Nicole O'Hare of LawConnexion. Expressions of interest have been received from members of other domestic Bars, in particular, NSW. Further work is being undertaken to explore how this initiative might be progressed, structured and integrated with existing groups such as MTECC and the MCAMC. The Committee recognises the support of the Bar Council, which has part-funded the external consultants' reports to date.

The Committee's ongoing work this year also includes preparation of a report to the Bar Council covering a draft proposal to the Attorney General, in support of reform proposals raised at the Monash Symposium in April 2016, specifically, the establishment of an international commercial court. The report and proposal for an Australian ICC will address the economic case and strategic benefits, the international context, legislative context and required reform.

The Committee continues to work in close cooperation with external bodies such as the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and the Melbourne Commercial Arbitration and Mediation Centre in maintaining and developing the profile of arbitration generally. The Committee encourages members of the Bar to join the Chartered Institute and undertake its courses, as appropriate, and actively participate in its events locally and across the region.

Counsel Committee

Committee at 30 June: Christopher Winneke QC (Chair), Jennifer Batrouney QC, Wendy Harris QC, Áine Magee QC, Sam Hay, Daniel Bongiorno, Barbara Myers, Paul Panayi (Honorary Secretary), Andrew Denton (Assistant Honorary Secretary) Nicole Papaleo (Assistant Honorary Secretary) and Alison Rock (Manager Compliance).

The Committee thanks Paul Anastassiou QC and Samantha Marks QC who retired during the year, and welcomes new members Wendy Harris QC, Áine Magee QC, Daniel Bongiorno and Barbara Myers (previously Assistant Honorary Secretary). They were elected to Bar Council in November 2015 The Counsel Committee is appointed pursuant to clause 63 of the Constitution of the Victorian Bar Inc. It is comprised solely of members of Bar Council and its Chair is appointed by Bar Council from time to time. The role of the Counsel Committee is to consider and make recommendations to Bar Council in relation to the grant, renewal, variation, suspension and cancellation of practising certificates, applications to sign the Roll of Counsel, and the removal of names from the Roll (pursuant to part 14 of the Constitution).

The Committee is only required to meet on an ad hoc basis and since the last report has met once. It has also considered various matters by circulating email, including consideration of the impact of the Legal Profession Uniform Law Application Act, 2014 (Vic), which came into force on 1 July 2015. The delegations from the Legal Services Board ("LSB") to the Bar Council were reviewed and reflect the new Act and Rules but in substance were largely unchanged. It has been noted that there are subtle differences but of most significance is the absence of any noticeable change in the policy of the LSB with regard to determining whether practitioners are fit and proper persons. There are additional statutory conditions requiring the notification of certain offences but the sections regarding automatic show cause events and the provisions for dealing with them are also largely unchanged.

The Bar's Protocol for Dealing with Disclosures delegates to the Honorary Secretary the role of reviewing routine disclosures made in the course of the application for renewal, or grant of practising certificates and applications to sign the Roll of Counsel, and make recommendations directly to Bar Council.

The 2015-16 practising certificate renewal period required the review of three disclosures for recommendation to Bar Council. Pursuant to the Protocol described above, the Honorary Secretary reviewed and made recommendation on a further five matters.

Other matters considered by the Committee in 2015-16 were five disclosures in respect of show cause events pursuant to s.2.4.27 of the Legal Profession Act 2004 (Vic), At 30 June, two show cause matters awaited determination.

Ethics Committee

Committee at 30 June: Ted W Woodward S.C. (Chair), Róisín N Annesley QC (Deputy Chair), E Noel Magee QC, Jeremy W St John QC, Dr Gregory J Lyon QC, Peter A Chadwick QC, Kevin J A Lyons QC, Andrew I Strum QC, Murray V McInnis, Mandy C Fox, Andrew J Palmer, James D S Barber, Stewart J Maiden, Sarah F Cherry, Meredith A Schilling and Eliza S Holt. The Committee is assisted by Alison Rock (Manager, Compliance) and Marisa Pretotto (Compliance Officer)

The Committee thanks Helen Symon QC who retired from the Chair during the year, for her service and contribution to the

Committee and for her leadership and guidance since 2013. The Committee is also grateful for the work of retiring members Caroline Kirton QC, Jeremy Twigg QC and Miguel Belmar-Salas and particularly for the long and dedicated service of Malcolm Titshall QC who served the Bar as a member of the Ethics Committee for eight and a half years. Ted Woodward S.C. and Róisín Annesley QC are congratulated on their appointments in February as Chair and Deputy Chair.

Since the last report the Committee has met 11 times, 11 complaints were delegated by the Legal Services Commissioner for investigation, three complaints were delegated for preliminary assessment, and four investigations and one preliminary assessment were completed.

The members of the Committee continue to spend countless hours answering telephone calls and emails from members seeking ethical guidance, reading voluminous materials, preparing reports and correspondence and preparing and presenting education sessions for Readers and the CPD program.

Legal Profession Uniform Law (LPUL)

The introduction of the LPUL and the Uniform Law Conduct (Barrister) Rules (Conduct Rules) in July 2015 presented a number of challenges for the Ethics Committee. The ability of the Ethics Committee to provide rulings to members of the Victorian Bar was limited by the terms of the new legislation but in recognition of the benefit to members of assistance being provided by it, Bar Council has determined to grant the Committee the power to assist members pursuant to Cl 61.1 of the Constitution, with effect from 1 July 2015. More particularly, the Committee may make resolutions concerning matters of professional conduct and practice not specifically covered by the Rules, as well as where there is doubt about how a member should professionally engage in conduct or practice.

In accordance with that authority, the Committee has provided 52 formal resolutions to members of the Bar since July 2015. The majority of the resolutions were considered and determined by circulating email.

In light of the changes to the Conduct Rules, the Ethics Committee has also worked closely with the Pro Bono and Duty Barrister Scheme Committees to develop guidelines for members who provide their services to the various pro bono and duty barrister schemes operated by the Bar in its commitment to access to justice.

Change to delegations from the Legal Services Commissioner

With regard to the handling of complaints, the Victorian Bar is now the delegate for the purposes of complaint handling, and the Ethics Committee is no longer the prescribed investigatory body to which an investigation is referred. As a consequence, the delegations made to the Bar by the Commissioner were subjected to a comprehensive review. Processes and procedures are being updated to reflect the changes both to the Act and to the form of the delegations made.

During the review and after some discussion with the Committee, the Commissioner agreed to delegate additional functions and powers regarding complaint handling to the Bar but these were limited to complaints in relation to potential disciplinary matters that might arise as a result of interactions between Victorian barristers.

Grievance Protocol

In light of this development, the Ethics Committee has worked closely with Bar Council to develop a Grievance Protocol for the Bar. The protocol was adopted by Bar Council in May and the Committee is now working to create awareness of the existence and workings of the protocol and to develop procedures for its operation.

Thank you to all members of the Committee for their hard and thoughtful work and commitment to both the Committee and to members of the Bar.

Professional Standards Committee

Committee at 30 June: Roisin N Annesley QC (Chair), Peter A Chadwick QC (Deputy Chair), Ian R L Freckelton QC, Aileen M Ryan QC, Mark A Robins QC, Christopher J Winneke QC, Gerard L Meehan, Donald J Farrands, James D S Barber, Lisa De Ferrari, Sarah F Cherry

The Committee thanks those members who retired during the year: Michael F Wheelahan QC, Stephen J Moloney, Elizabeth M Brimer and Daniel B Bongiorno.

In 2016 the Professional Standards Committee has continued to review the requirements for compliance of members who participate in the Professional Standards Scheme. The review is ongoing. It is anticipated that modifications will be suggested to the regulatory authority with a view of minimising administrative burdens on member participants in the upcoming year.

The Professional Standards Committee has monitored the interplay between practice and the introduction of the Uniform Rules. The Committee has been alert to changes in the Rules that interfere with or hamper practice as a barrister at the Victorian Bar. There has been liaison in this regard with other Bar Committees. The Professional Standards Committee will continue to agitate for changes to the Rules in appropriate circumstances on behalf of members.

The Chairman wishes to thank all members of the Committee for their assistance throughout 2015.

Our Member Community

Health and Well Being Committee

Committee at 30 June: Philip Corbett QC (Chair), Richard W McGarvie QC, Mary Anne Hartley QC, Robert Hay QC, Ian Stewart, Greg Ahern, Laura Colla, Caroline Jenkins, Kaye McNaught, Caroline Patterson, Douglas Shirrefs, Bronia Tulloch, Emma Swart, Theo Kassimatis, Viola Nadj and Michael Symons.

The Committee thanks those members who retired during the year: Michelle Sharp (retiring Chair), Arna Delle-Vergini, Richard Wilson, Tim Tobin S.C., Anthony Rodbard-Bean, Meredith Schilling, Louise Martin and Pierre Baume.

The Committee has had an active and productive year. There were a number of initiatives carried forward from the previous year, including various sporting activities and the CPD program.

The Choir has continued to attract regular support and participation and the Committee thanks the tireless work of Laura Colla in both establishing and maintaining the activities of the Choir. Richard McGarvie QC and Emma Swart are now assisting in the co-ordination of the Choir's activities which this year have included a number of concerts including several performances during Law Week.

The Committee with the assistance of the Bar office promoted "Winter Wellness Day" where flu shots were made available to all members of the Bar, free of charge.

The Committee continues to oversee the Barristers' Counselling Service provided by the ReVision group and its principal Bernadette Healey. There has been strong demand again this year for the services provided, and the Committee believes it is an essential service that should be maintained for the benefit of all members of the Victorian Bar and their families. A review is currently underway to ascertain whether any further improvements or additions can or should be made to the quality and availability of the service. The service provides both crisis and occasional counselling for Barristers and members of their immediate family in times of need. Currently four counselling services are provided free of charge with the cost met by the Victorian Bar.

Caroline Jenkins and Caroline Patterson have been instrumental in co-ordinating the CPD program for 2016 which has included seminars on dealing with difficult clients, resilience, nutrition, and a very well attended similar on using the Bar's moble defibrillator units.

The Committee wishes to thank Michelle Sharp, the retiring Chairman of the Committee, for her outstanding contribution to the Committee and the Health & Wellbeing of members of the Bar over numerous years.

The Chairman and Bernadette Healey continue to present to



ABOVE: Members enjoy a night of celebration at the Victorian Bar Dinner in May.

each Readers Course on the issues of mental and physical health, resilience, anxiety, emotional intelligence and achieving work/life balance.

It is hoped that during the 2016/2017 year the Committee will undertake a survey of all members of the Victorian Bar on Health & Wellbeing issues in conjunction with a survey to be undertaken by the Bar of England and Wales.

Occupational violence and vicarious trauma are also issues which the Committee intends to address together with further seminars on managing back pain and injury, ergonomics, identifying and dealing with autism in clients and witnesses, maintaining physical health and suicide prevention.

It is also hoped that the Victorian Bar will field a team in the corporate "Spring Swim" competition later in the year. The Committee is also intending to update the "Health Central" web page on the Victorian Bar website and has established or maintained liaison with several Health and Wellbeing interest groups including the Tristan Jepson Foundation, WATL (Wellness and the Law) and the Law Institute of Victoria.

New Barristers' Committee

Committee at 30 June: Karina Popova (Chair), Kevin F Jones (Secretary), Nicholas Pane QC, Andrew T Conley, Fiona Batten, Joel Silver, Clare Nicholson, Sandra Karabidian.

The Committee thanks those members who retired during the year: Julien M Lowy, Erin J Gardiner, Phoebe Knowles, Dean Luxton, Sam Andrianakis, Toby Mullen, Katherine Brazenor. In February 2016 the Committee in conjunction with the CPD sub-committee hosted a day long Junior Bar Conference. The Conference was a sold out success and the Committee is grateful to everyone who participated.

In order to better understand the challenges and pressures facing new barristers, the Committee undertook a survey of junior barristers in May 2016. In response to the survey results, the Committee spent the first half of 2016 organising a number of events for junior barristers for the remainder of the year.

In response to the feedback received in the survey, throughout the year, the Committee is hosting a number of casual networking coffees between junior barristers and Senior Counsel. The first of such events was held on 8 June 2016 between junior barristers and construction Silks. The event was well attended and the Committee thanks Senior Counsel who are participating in the program. Further such coffees for different practice areas are scheduled for the remainder of 2016.

In response to the survey, the Committee has created opportunities for junior barristers to meet solicitors. A networking evening between junior barristers and LIV Young Lawyers was held on 17 June 2016. It was a fantastic opportunity for junior barristers and solicitors to mingle in an informal setting. A networking CPD is scheduled for 29 August 2016. Junior barristers and solicitors will hear from two judges on the topic of ethics and following the CPD will have the opportunity to network over drinks at the Essoign.

A further CPD targeting new barristers is scheduled for



15 November 2016, with the attendees being given practical advice about the first few years of practice by an experienced panel of barristers.

The Committee has been represented nationally at the Australian Young Lawyers Committee of the Law Council of Australia. The Committee has continued to speak to March and September Readers, fielding questions about what the new barristers can expect in the first year of practice.

The Committee is grateful for the ongoing support it receives from the judiciary and senior members of the Bar.

Victorian Bar News Editorial Committee

Committee as at 30 June 2015: Georgina L Schoff QC (Co-Editor), Georgina Costello (Co-Editor), Anthony Strahan (Deputy Editor), Maree Norton (Deputy Editor), Annette Charak (Deputy Editor), Justin Wheelahan, Catherine Pierce, Brad Barr, Jesse Rudd, Natalie Hickey, Justin Hooper, Denise Bennett (Executive Assistant) and Sally Bodman (Manager Marketing)

Two issues of Victorian Bar News have been published in this financial year, VBN Issue 158 and VBN Issue 159. Whilst a great part of the Committee's work is in commissioning articles, we also continue to receive a good amount of unsolicited content, most of which we publish gratefully. We try in every issue to cover the many events hosted by the Victorian Bar or attended by our members and the issues that affect them. We also strive to publish as many articles by and about our members as possible. We hope that this content, together with the many photographs that we publish, serve both as a means by which our Members can get to know one another and as a record for future generations.

The Committee would particularly like to thank Denise Bennett who has, for many issues now, been of invaluable administrative support. We were able to prevail upon her to continue to provide that support for the most recent issue, a task she was able to perform remotely from her new home in Byron Bay. For that we are very grateful.

We would also like to thank Guy Shield and the Slattery Media Group. Guy's wonderful illustrations, featured throughout the most recent issues and on the covers of the last three, give the VBN a distinct look of which we are very proud.

Broadening Interests

(Art and Collections Committee)

Committee at 30 June: Peter J Jopling AM QC (Chair), Wendy A Harris QC, Campbell F Thomson, Ian Stewart, Ingrid Braun, Siobhan Ryan, Charles O Parkinson, Angela M B O'Brien and Edward Gisonda.

This has been another busy year for the committee. We were sad to farewell Phil Dunn QC at the end of 2015. Philip's long service to the committee was much appreciated. We were delighted to welcome Wendy Harris QC, Angela O'Brien and Ingrid Braun as new members of our committee, and to welcome as curator of the Peter O'Callaghan QC Gallery, Mr Adam Ashby. Mr Ashby has a Master of Fine Arts from the Courtauld Institute in London and is a practising lawyer.

During the year we were pleased to receive the newly commissioned portrait of the Hon Susan Crennan AC QC from commissioned artist Mr Lewis Miller. The portrait will be unveiled in September. During the year we also received the portrait of Ms Lillian Leider QC which, together with Barristers' Chambers Ltd's (BCL) gifts of photographic portraits of the Hon Sir Keith Aickin QC and Mr R Castan AM QC, will see a rehang of the collection in September. Work on the Bar's commissioned portraits of the Hon Ken Hayne AC QC by Bill Hensen and the Hon Michael Black AC QC by Louise Hearman also commenced this year.

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We were pleased to welcome the initiative from the Supreme Courts Activities and Records Manager, Ms Joanne Boyd who convened an exhibition for the Bar to mark the contribution of barristers during World War I, which coincided with the centenary of the deaths of the bar members who fought in that war. Our distinguished members who lost their lives in the service of their country were Messrs Murdoch McKay, Desmond Gavan Duffy and Mervyn Higgins. The exhibition also tells the story of the fifth woman to sign the Bar roll, Ms Gladys Hain, who went to England during the war and did war work before returning to Australia at the war's end.

Finally, it was with much pleasure that the committee together with BCL announced the commissioning of the History of the Victorian Bar. Thanks to the generous financial support of BCL, acting on the advice of a sub-committee of the Arts and Heritage committee, comprising Peter Jopling AM QC, Wendy Harris QC, Siobhan Ryan and Charles Parkinson, BCL has commissioned the distinguished historian Mr Peter Yule to write the definitive history of the Bar. During the past 175 years two other histories of the Bar have been written. The first publication was written by John Leonard Forde and entitled "The Story of the Bar of Victoria from its foundation to the amalgamation of the two branches of the legal profession, 1839-1891." It was published in 1913. The second work is Sir Arthur Dean's "A Multitude of Counsellors: a History of the Bar of Victoria" published in 1968. The subcommittee thought it appropriate that a new and definitive work be prepared that traced the 175-year history of the bar from its origins in the earliest days of British settlement in the Port Phillip district before the arrival of Melbourne's first superior court judge, John Willis, in 1841 to the present day. In the nearly 50 years since Arthur Dean's work the Bar has changed substantially. We thought it timely to commission this new work to reflect the important role that our Bar and its members have played in the development both of Victoria and the Commonwealth of Australia. The sub-committee identified the best-gualified historian to undertake this project and is pleased that Barristers' Chambers has supported the recommendation. The gift of this biography to the Bar by BCL is a valuable and timely contribution by that entity, whose own history is deserving of reflection in the new work that Mr Yule will author. We are indebted to BCL's Board and in particular its chair, Mr M Wyles QC, for championing this project.

We are delighted that the distinguished historian Mr Peter Yule has accepted the BCL commission. Mr Yule's works to date include the biographies of W. L. Baillieu and Ian Potter, and his work "The Royal Children's Hospital: a history of faith, science and love". Mr Yule is currently working on the history of the Australian War Memorial. Mr Yule is a research fellow of the School of Historical and Philosophical Studies at the University of Melbourne as well as a freelance historian, and is a fellow of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria. I want to conclude by thanking all members for their engagement with the work of the committee.

Other Committees

Audit & Finance Committee

Committee at 30 June 2016: Daniel Crennan (Chair), Samantha Marks QC (Honorary Treasurer), Susan Gatford, Andrew Broadfoot, Stewart Maiden, Benjamin Murphy, Kate Beattie, Sarah Fregon (Chief Executive Officer), Caleb Jansen (BCL)

The Committee thanks those members who retired during the year: Paul E Anastassiou QC and Jennifer J Batrouney QC

The Committee exercises oversight over budgeting and annual reporting, including meeting with the auditors. Members of the Committee have access to monthly financial and variance reports and engage with the Bar Office regarding financial performance and projects that require funding.

The Committee has been involved in a number of steps that have successfully improved the financial operation and position of the Bar including streamlining the Bar's financial reporting with BCL. It has also been involved in the corporate governance review and is taking steps to incorporate risk oversight in the Committee's remit.

The Chair would like to thank the members of the Committee, Sarah Fregon and Caleb Jansen for their diligent efforts throughout the year.

Practising Past Chairmen's Committee

Andrew J Kirkham AM RFD QC, Neil J Young QC, David E Curtain QC, John T Rush QC, Michael W Shand QC, Michael J Colbran QC, Fiona M McLeod S.C., William Alstergren QC, and James W S Peters QC.

Chairs of List Committees

LIST A	List A Barristers Pty Ltd	Matthew N Connock QC
LIST B	Michael Green Pty Ltd	David E Curtain QC
LIST D	Dever's List	Ross H Gillies QC
LIST F	Foley's List Pty Ltd	Jeremy H Gobbo QC
LIST G	List G Pty Ltd	Michael W Wise
LIST H	Lennon's List Pty Ltd	Paul F O'Dwyer S.C.
LIST L	Paul Holmes Barristers	Martin Bartfeld QC
	Clerk Pty Ltd	
LIST M	Meldrum and Hyland List	Peter J Pickering
LIST R	R J Howells Pty Ltd	David P Gilbertson QC
LIST S	Gordon & Jackson	Data Fac OC
	Barristers Clerks	Peter Fox QC
LIST T	Barristers Logistics	Norman J O'Bryan AM S.C.
LIST W	Patterson's List	Darren A Mort



PUBLIC, JUDICIAL & OTHER OFFICE

The Bar congratulates members appointed to public, Judicial and other Office:

Governor of Victoria

Her Excellency The Honourable Linda Marian Dessau AM

Supreme Court of Victoria The Honourable Justice Jane Alison Dixon The Honourable Justice Andrew John Keogh The Honourable Justice Peter Barrington Kidd	Federal Court of Australia The Honourable Justice Mark Kranz Moshinsky
County Court of Victoria His Honour Chief Judge Peter Barrington Kidd	Federal Circuit Court of Australia His Honour Judge Joshua Douglas Wilson Her Honour Judge Jillian Elizabeth Williams His Honour Judge Alistair Ronald McNab
Magistrates Court of Victoria His Honour Magistrate Charles Leng Tatt Tan Her Honour Magistrate Ursa Masood Judicial Registrar Samantha Louise Dixon	Administrative Appeals Tribunal Member (part time) Andrew Gerard Cameron Member (part time) Louie Elie Hawas
Commissioner of Sustainability & Environment Dr. Kathryn Helen Auty	

Victorian Legal Aid Panel of Independent Reviewers The Honourable Andrew John McIntosh

Joint Standing Committees

Law Aid

(Victorian Bar and Law Institute of Victoria) Christopher J Blanden S.C., James H Mighell QC., Roisin N Annesley QC and John P Constable

Medico-Legal Standing Committee

(Victorian Bar, Law Institute of Victoria and Australian Medical Association) Timothy P Tobin S.C., Mary Anne Hartley S.C. and Dr Paul B Halley (to September 2016), Dr Sharon Keeling (from September 2016)

Sustainability Committee

(Victorian Bar and Barristers Chambers Limited) Andrew J Laird (Chair) Jennifer J Batrouney QC Kristine P Hanscombe QC Carolyn H Sparke QC Emma F Peppler Michael H Whitten, Nicholas Kanarev, Travis P Mitchell, David Yarrow, Melanie Szydzik, Matthew L L Albert, Megan S Tait, Mr Geoff Bartlett, Mr Gary Brinkworth and Gareth Harris

National Legal Profession Representative Bodies

Australian Bar Association

William Alstergren QC (Vice-President), Paul Anastassiou QC (Victorian Bar Representative)

Law Council of Australia

Board of Directors

Fiona M McLeod S.C., President Elect Jennifer J Batrouney QC, Director

Committees and Working Groups

Access to Justice Committee Dr David J Neal S.C. Australian Young Lawyers Committee Joel A Silver Business & Human Rights Committee Peter Fox QC and Peter G Willis S.C. (alternate) Domestic & Family Violence Task Force Emma M Swart, Megan Tittensor Equal Opportunies Committee Caroline E Kirton QC (Chair) and Michelle L Quigley QC Indigenous Legal Issues Committee Thomas P Keely S.C. and Timothy B Goodwin Legal Profession Futures Committee Michael J Colbran QC Legal Profession Uniform Law Working Group Sarah L Fregon (Chief Executive Officer)

National Criminal Law Committee O Paul Holdenson QC, Dr David J Neal S.C. and Michael D Stanton National Human Rights Committee Emrys M Nekvapil

Business Law Section – Executive

Francis D O'Loughlin

Business Law Section – Committees

George H Golvan QC, David Shavin QC, Philip D Crutchfield QC, Dr Matthew J Collins QC, Michael J F Sweeney, Francis D O'Loughlin, Carl Moller and Elizabeth Boros

Family Law Section – Executive Minal Vohra

Federal Litigation Section – Committees

George H Golvan QC, Paul A Willee RFD QC, David Shavin QC, Anthony A Nolan QC, Rachel M Doyle S.C., Lachlan W L Armstrong QC, Stephen J Moloney, John R Wallace, Francis D O'Loughlin, Fiona L McKenzie and Jonathan H Kirkwood

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Courts & Tribunals Committees & Users Groups

Commonwealth Courts and Tribunals

Federal Court of Australia

Class Actions Committee

Charles M Scerri QC, Wendy A Harris QC, Bernard F Quinn QC and Lachlan W L Armstrong QC

Intellectual Property User Group David Shavin QC

Users Committee

Garry T Bigmore QC, Charles M Scerri QC, Jennifer J Batrouney QC, Helen M Symon QC, and Francis D O'Loughlin

State Courts and Tribunals

Supreme Court

Victorian Legal Admissions Board Dr Suzanne B McNicol QC

Victorian Legal Admissions Committee

Peter J Jopling AM QC, Matthew N Connock QC, Ian G Waller QC, Kerri E Judd QC, Aileen M Ryan QC and Lisa M Nichols

Victorian Legal Admissions Academic Course Appraisal Committee

Dr Elizabeth J Boros (Chair), Dr Ian Hardingham QC, Magdalini Karagiannakis

Arbitration Users Group David S Levin QC, Hugh Foxcroft QC

Chief Justice's Rules Committee Jonathan P Moore QC

Admiralty List Users Group

Paul A Willee RFD QC, Michael W Thompson QC, Samuel R Horgan QC, Martin R Scott QC, Matthew N C Harvey, Hamish N G Austin, Dr Anton P Trichardt, Chris Young, David J Goodwin and Simone C Bailey

Confiscation & Proceeds of Crime Users Group Simon McGregor and Christian Juebner

Corporations & Commercial Court Users Group

Garry T Bigmore QC, David G Collins QC, Stewart M Anderson QC, Philip D Crutchfield QC, Samantha L Marks QC, Philip H Solomon QC, Michael S Osborne QC, Lachlan W L Armstrong QC, Jonathan L Evans, Michael J Galvin, Peter Fary, James D S Barber, Daniel J Crennan, Anton P Trichardt, Simon Rubenstein, Catherine F Gobbo, Joshua Kohn, Carl Moller, Peter Fary, Penny A Neskovcin and Oren Bigos

Court of Appeal Civil Reference Group

(injuries, common law, administrative law & defamation) Michael F Wheelahan QC, Stephen A O'Meara QC, Roslyn L Kaye and Maree Norton

Court of Appeal Civil Reference Group (commercial,

planning, employment, property & probate) David J O'Callaghan QC, Dr Suzanne B McNicol QC, Stephen H Parmenter, Jenny M Firkin and Renee L Enbom

Costs Co-ordination Committee Michelle L Quigley QC

Dust Diseases Users Group

John R C Gordon and Patrick Over

Employment & Industrial Users Group Rachel M Doyle S.C. and Justin L Bourke QC

Judicial Review and Appeals Users Group

Peter J Hanks QC, Dr Ian R L Freckelton QC, Kerri E Judd QC, Michael F Fleming QC, Dr Stephen P Donaghue QC, Jason D Pizer QC, Rowena Orr QC, Christopher J Horan QC, Lisabella G De Ferrari, Rachel Ellyard, Ben Ihle, Emily Latif and Simon Lee

Law Library of Victoria Committee Jennifer J Batrouney QC and Anthony J Kelly QC

Personal Injury Users Group Ross H Gillies QC and David Martin

Probate Users Committee Richard R Boaden and Shane P Newton

Professional Liability Users Group

David G Collins QC, Dan Christie, Dr Andrew Hanak and Penny A Neskovcin

TEC List Users Committee

George H Golvan QC, Hugh Foxcroft QC, Richard J Manly QC,

Albert A Monichino QC, Caroline E Kirton QC, B A (Toby) Shnookal QC, Michael H Whitten QC, Emrys M Nekvapil and Kathryn L Stynes

Valuation Compensation and Planning Users Group

Christopher J Canavan QC, The Hon. Stuart R Morris QC, Anthony G Southall QC, Michelle L Quigley QC, C James

Delany QC, Christopher J Wren QC, Christopher J Townshend QC, David J Batt QC, Adrian J Finanzio S.C., Susan M Brennan S.C., Jason D Pizer QC, Nicholas J Tweedie S.C., Craig W Porter, Graeme H Peake, Matthew D Townsend, David R O'Brien, Lisa-Maree Lo Piccolo, Sarah J Porritt, Marita H Foley, Paul F Chiappi, Peter E O'Farrell and Nicola Collingwood

County Court

Building Cases User Group Andrew J Laird and Geraldine F Gray

Commercial List User Group

Steven R Grahame, Peter W Lithgow, Robert N Cameron, Ian H Percy, Aphrodite Kouloubaritsis and Elizabeth A Bennett

Family Property Division List Committee Carolyn H Sparke QC and Graham W Robertson

Rules Committee Michael J Corrigan and Geraldine F Gray

Magistrates Court

Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee Carey Nichol Civil Rules Committee Frank J Ravida

WorkCover Users' Group Michael J Richards and Amanda C Ryan

Statutory Appointments

Council of Law Reporting Charles Gunst QC and Michael R Pearce S.C.

Representatives on Educational Bodies

Melbourne Law School Advisory Council Fiona M McLeod S.C. Jennifer J Batrouney QC Legal Services Board – Elected Barrister (Advocate) Member Peter J Jopling AM QC

Victoria University College of Law & Justice Program Advisory Committee Adjunct Professor David H Denton RFD QC and Terrence P Murphy QC

Victoria University Sir Zelman Cowen Centre Advisory Committee Fiona M McLeod S.C

Other Bodies

ACICA – Board E William Alstergren QC

Firearms Appeal Committee Anthony G Burns (Chairman), Sergio Petrovich and Dianne L Mitchell

Justice Connect (previously PILCH) Richard Wilson

Legal Practitioners Liability Committee Adrian J Finanzio S.C.

Mediator Standards Board – Board of Directors Mark G Hebblewhite

National Rural Law and Justice Alliance Anne M Sheehan

Racing Appeals and Discipline Board (Harness) Anthony G Burns (Chairman) and Peter S Kilduff

The Victoria Law Foundation Board Elizabeth M Brimer

Wellbeing And The Law Foundation Michelle L Quigley QC (Director)

PART VII

PERSONALIA

Obituaries

The Bar Council records with deep regret the death of the following members and past members of the Victorian Bar:

The Honourable Frank Hortin Callaway RFD QC James Stephen Bessell John Ainslie Bell Dr John Francis Bleechmore John Fraser Roberts Phillip David Macartney Condell Thomas Victor Hurley Peter Charles Robinson Edmond William Coady The Honourable John Augustine Keely QC His Honour Leo Sydney Lazarus QC David William Willshire Andrew Patrick Phillips The Honourable John Joseph Hedigan QC Marc Thuraine Bevan-John Gary Albert Glover James Theodore Ivan Rangelov Constantine George Nikakis Leigh Andrew Thompson William Ross Ray QC Brian Scheid

Honours

During the year, the following Victorian judges, members and past members of the Victorian Bar were recipients of the following honours:

Australia Day Honours 2016

Allan James Myers AC, QC Dr Michael Charles Pryles AO The Honourable John Michael Batt AM Lionel Philip Robberds AM, QC Dr Michael William Duckett White OAM Victorian Australian of the Year Julian P McMahon

The Queen's Birthday Honours 2016

The Honourable Raymond Anthony Finkelstein AO, QC The Honourable Justice Arthur Robert Emmett AO The Honourable Alan Robert Stockdale AO

Senior Counsel



SENIOR COUNSEL: Far back row: Tom Keely, Dermot Dann Back row: Daniel Gurvich, Chris Winneke, Chris O'Grady, Anthony Young, Michael Flynn Middle row: Gerard Darlton, Ed Heeery, Michelle Britbart, Jonathan Brett, Andrew McClelland Front row: Michael Whitten, Chris Horan, Áine Magee, Jonathan Davis, Peter Willis, Andrew Strum, Paul O'Grady.



ROLL OF COUNSEL

The following is a statistical profile of membership of the Bar Association and a listing of those joining, leaving or transferring their membership during the year ended 30 June 2016.

Division	Description	Male	Female	Total
AI	Victorian Practising Counsel	1464	559	2023
	- Queen's Counsel or Senior Counsel	241	31	272
	- Junior Counsel	1223	528	1751
All	Crown Prosecutors and Public Defenders	19	9	28
AIII	Interstate and Overseas Practising Counsel	115	15	130
	- Queen's Counsel or Senior Counsel	54	6	60
	- Junior Counsel	61	9	70
AIV	Victorian Practising Counsel without a current practising certificate, temporarily absent from practice	8	14	22
BI	Governors	0	1	1
BII	Judges, Associate Judges, Magistrates and Judicial Registrars	192	65	257
BIII	Ministers of the Crown and Members of Parliament	4	0	4
BIV	Solicitors-General and Directors of Public Prosecutions	3	0	3
BV	Full-Time Members of Statutory Tribunals	22	14	36
BVI	Crown Counsel & Parliamentary Counsel	1	2	3
BVII	Other Official Appointments	4	5	9
BVIII		0	0	0
CI	Retired Judges and Other Judicial Officers	116	9	125
CII	Retired Holders of Public Office other than Judicial Office	11	3	14
CIII	Retired Counsel	167	30	197
D	Academics	14	7	21
TOTAL		2140	733	2873

ROLL OF COUNSEL (continued)

The following persons signed, re-signed, transferred or were removed from the Roll of Counsel:

Division A Part I (Victorian Practising Counsel)

Signed

Matthew J Goldberg, Gary R Clark, Christopher M Fenwick, Adam N Peter McBeth, Brendan J Avallone, Raini T Zambelli, Diana Karamicov, Stephanie S Scully, Ryan J Maguire, John S Moore, Justin Rizzi, Kim M Cullen, Rajat Bhattacharya, Andrew P Yuile, Christopher S Jensen, Samantha E Renwick, Carly M Robertson, Min W Guo, Mark D Benkel, Patrick R Miller, Owen K Wolahan, Olivia M Thompson, Andrew R M Pollock, Kimberley N Phair, Rose A Cara Cameron, Sophie I M Mariole, Olaf M Ciolek, Joseph Amin, Emma C Jeans, Jing Zhu, Michael F Sharkey, Monika A Paszkiewicz, Nicholas M Elias, Gorjan Nikolovski, Nicholas J Phillpott, Lisa K Papadinas, Anastasia S Smietanka, Jacob J Pruden-Collier, Fiona J Crock, Reiko Okazaki, Alison J Burt, Luke A Virgona, Simon Richard Weir, Gary Douglas Taylor, Jennifer Rae Cowen, Joel Ruffles, Natasha Crowe, Naomi Lenga, Lisa Amalia Mendicino, Christine Willshire, Michelle Claire Jenkins, Catherine Elizabeth Mary Fitzgerald, Anna Kathryn Parker, James Alexander Gordon McComish, Adam John Purton, Julia Anne Lucas, Anna Lord, Marcus Richard Finlay, Gareth John Redenbach, Jacqueline Sara Papson, Thomas Patrick Storey, Marissa Fay Chorn, Timothy Kennedy Jeffrie, Daniel Ramon Diaz, Daniel Konrad Robert Kinsey, Rudi Wilhelm Kruse, Peta Alexis Smith, Eliza Gabrielle Tiernan, Jack Patrick O'Connor, Patrick Michael Donovan, Rachel Claire Waters, James Barrington Waters, Israel Cowen, Brett Harding, William David Alexander Thomas, Robert Forrester, Victoria Anne Compton, Michael Paul Allen

Re-signed

Rodney J McNeil, Jason Romney, David M Clarke, Ms Peta Murphy, Rupert Watters, Holly Jean Nash, John P Rowland QC, Mark J Leeton, John G Bolton

Transfers from this part

Robin Gorton QC, Colin L Lovitt QC, Robert C Johnson, Garry K Moore, John Bushby; Richard Spicer, Andrew N Bristow, Anthony William Ellis, Maria Corbisiero, Frederick Stuart, Russell Keen, Christine Melis, Michael P J Lee S.C., Nathan Moshinsky QC Michael Ramage, Mark Leach, Gregory Hughan, Jaclyn Lontos, Joel Harris, Dane McLeod, Francesco Tallarida, J Damian Ellwood, John Bushby, Jane A Dixon QC, Charles L T Tan Peter Faris QC, Penny Renc, Mark Moshinsky QC Joshua D Wilson QC, Julie A H Sutherland, Stanley Spittle, Peter A Rosenberg, Stewart Stribling , Philip A Jewell QC, Ian Gourlay, Jillian Williams, Christopher B Boyce S.C., Bryan Keon-Cohen AM QC, Urfa Masood, Eliza, Samantha Dixon, Alister, McNab, The Honourable Alan H Goldberg AO, QC

Transfers to the part

Thomas Gyorffy QC, Mark PD Leach, Alexandra Burt, Marcus Langlois, Gregory M Hughan, Roderick A F Saunders, The Hon Jack Rush RFD QC, Isaac Joseph (Joe) Beder

Division A Part II (Crown Prosecutors and Public Defenders)

Transfers from this part

Thomas Gyorffy QC, Marcus Langlois, Peter Kidd S.C.

Transfers to this part Christopher B Boyce S.C.

Division A Part III (Interstate and Overseas Counsel)

Signed

Patrick O'Sullivan QC, Grant Robert Allan, Senator, the Hon George Brandis QC, Jacoba Brasch QC, Christopher M Tam, Alexander G Manos, Sashi J Maharaj QC, Kym Tredrea

Transfers from this part Solomon Gerber, Michael J Dodson AM Transfers to this part Christine Melis, Michael P J Lee S.C.

Division A Part IV (Victorian Practising Counsel temporarily absent without a Practising Certificate)

Transfers from this part

Mark P D Leach, Alexandra Burt, Gregory M Hughan, Roderick A F Saunders, Michael F Ramage, Jane Treleaven

Transfers to this part

Mark Leach, Gregory Hughan, Jaclyn Lontos, Joel Harris, Penny Renc

Division B (Judiciary and Official Appointments)

Re-signed William R (Richard) Clancy

Transfers from

His Excellency The Honourable Alex Chernov AC QC, The Hon Justice Betty King, The Hon Justice Shane Marshall, The Hon Jack Rush RFD QC, The Hon Richard Edmonds

Transfers to

The Hon Linda Dessau AM, The Hon Andrew McIntosh, The Honourable Justice Jane A Dixon, His Honour Magistrate Charles L T Tan, His Honour Chief Judge Peter Kidd, The Honourable Justice Mark Moshinsky QC, Judge Joshua D Wilson QC, Judge Jillian Williams, Her Honour Magistrate Urfa Masood, Dr Kate Auty, Judicial Registrar Samantha Dixon, Judge Alister McNab

Division C (Retired)

Transfers from this Division

The Hon Linda Dessau AM, The Hon Andrew McIntosh, Isaac Joseph (Joe) Beder

Transfers to this Division

The Honourable Alex Chernov AC QC, Nathan Moshinsky QC, Robin Gorton QC, Colin L Lovitt QC, Robert C Johnson, Garry K Moore, John Bushby, Richard Spicer, Andrew N Bristow, Anthony William Ellis, Solomon Gerber, Maria Corbisiero, Frederick Stuart, Russell Keen, Ian McKechnie, Bill E Coady, Jane Treleaven, Francesco Tallarida, J Damian Ellwood John Bushby, The Honourable Betty King, Peter Faris QC, The Hon Justice Shane Marshall, Julie A H Sutherland, Stanley Spittle, Michael F Ramage, Peter A Rosenberg, Stewart Stribling, Philip A Jewell QC, Ian Gourlay, The Hon Richard Edmonds, Bryan Keon-Cohen QC, The Honourable Alan H Goldberg AO QC, David M O'Callaghan

Division D (Academics)

Transfers from this Division Dr Kate Auty Transfers to this Division Michael J Dodson AM

LEAVE GRANTED

Alexandra Burt

Removed from the Roll (at own request)

Allen Evans, Bruce Thompson, Dane McLeod, Ian McKechnie, Bill E Coady, Sharon Moore, Dane McLeod, Gordon Ritter QC, John Wadsley, Alexandra Squarci, Eric Wawra, Carolyn Welsh, David W Podger, Chris Nisiforou, Paula Piccinini, Jessie Taylor, Jim Bisas, Ms Mayada Dib, Adrian Indovino, Dr Rod McNeil, Sally R Wilson, Luisa Alampi, Andrew Blakeman, Elisabeth Peden, Catherine Garde, Andrew Alston, Richard Jefferis



CONSOLIDATED GROUP ENTITIES

Victorian Bar Incorporated

Registered No. A0034304S

Owen Dixon Chambers East 205 William Street Melbourne Victoria 3000

T: 03 9225 7111 F: 03 9225 6068 E: vicbar@vicbar.com.au W: www.vicbar.com.au

Barristers Chambers Limited

ACN 004 454 004

Board of Directors

Michael D Wyles QC (Chairman), Jacob (Jack) I Fajgenbaum QC (Deputy Chairman), David J O'Callaghan QC, Christopher M Caleo, Adrian J Finanzio S.C, Scott W Stuckey, Katherine J D Anderson, Daniel J Crennan, Penelope A Neskovcin, Catherine G Button, Alice Williams, Rebecca McGarth and Gary Brinkworth (Member/CEO)

The Melbourne Bar Pty Ltd

ACN 004 640 108

Paul E Anastassiou QC and Daniel J Crennan

PART X REPORTS OF GROUP ENTITIES

The Victorian Bar Incorporated – Officers Report

The officers, members of the Council of the Victorian Bar Incorporated, submit herewith the annual financial report of the Association for the financial year ended 30 June 2015. In order to comply with the provisions of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 and generally appropriate good practice disclosure, the Officers report as follows:

The names of the Officers of the Association during or since the end of the financial year are included on page 10 of the annual report under Bar Council, except for the following, who retired from the previous Bar Council during the year:

James WS Peters QC Michelle Sharpe Stewart J Maiden Elizabeth McKinnon Emma Peppler and Matthew J Hooper.

Principal Activities

The Victorian Bar Incorporated is a professional association for lawyers practising solely as barristers. As well as serving its barrister members, the Bar serves the public interest through its activities in improving access to justice and law reform, and its pro bono work. The Bar has two wholly owned subsidiary companies: Barristers Chambers Limited owns and leases buildings, which are provided as chambers to barristers, and provides telephone and internet services to members of the Bar; and The Melbourne Bar Pty Ltd which is a non-operating nominee company. There has been no change in these activities during the year.

Review of Operations

During the financial year ended 30 June 2016 the Association achieved a surplus from ordinary activities of \$299,690 (2015: \$293,546) after an income tax benefit of \$256,156 (2015: \$205,922). Its consolidated surplus from ordinary activities was \$4,724,007 (2015: \$4,526,985) after income tax expense of \$2,153,726 (2015: \$1,727,592)

Changes in State of Affairs

Except as set out in the accompanying financial reports, there was no significant change in the state of affairs of the Association during the financial year.

Subsequent Events

There has not been any matter or circumstance occurring subsequent to the end of the financial year that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect, the operations of the Association, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Association in future financial years.

Future Developments

Substantial changes in the operations of the Association are ordinarily determined by a vote of members which are communicated other than through the Annual Report.

Environmental Regulations

The Association is not subject to any significant environmental regulations under Australian law.

Dividends

The Association is incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act 1981 (Vic). It is precluded under the Act and its Constitution from paying a dividend to its members. The Association is a not-for-profit organisation.

Indemnification of Officers

During the financial year, the Association paid a premium in respect of a contract insuring the Officers of the Association (as named above and on page ? of the Annual Report) and all Executive Officers of the Association and of any related body corporate against a liability incurred as an officer or executive officer to the extent permitted by the Association's Constitution.

The contract of insurance prohibits disclosure of the nature of the liability and the amount of the premium.

The Association has not otherwise, during or since the financial year, except to the extent permitted by law, indemnified or agreed to indemnify an officer or auditor of the Association or of any related body corporate against a liability incurred as such an officer or auditor.

Proceedings on Behalf of the Association

No person has applied for leave of court to bring proceedings on behalf of the Association or to intervene in any proceedings to which the Association is a party for the purpose of taking responsibility on behalf of the Association for all or part of those proceedings. Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Council made pursuant to the Constitution of the Victorian Bar.

On behalf of the Officers

and Anastassian

Paul Anastassiou QC

President

Daniel Crennan 27 September 2016



The Essoign Club Limited Report

ACN 005 785 937

The Essoign Club continues to be well patronised by members both through the use of the clubs core services being the dining room and café, and also its extensive catering arm, Essoign Events. The 2016 financial year was a difficult trading year for the club, with only our breakfast trade showing an increase from the previous year. All other areas continued to trade strongly but did not generate revenue as per previous years.

The core areas of the club continue to be well patronised despite the ever increasing competition outside our door. We hope that, despite the choice of dining establishments, members will continue to patronise the club as we strive to make it to the social hub of the Bar.

In 2015, The Essoign's catering arm was rebranded Essoign Events and launched its own website. Members can view the website at essoignevents.com.au.

Members would have noticed the refurbishment of the Essoign Bar in January this year. The bar had served the club well but with the increasing usage of the club as an event venue there was a need to upgrade the bar so it would transition better from a daytime café bar to an evening events bar. The use of natural timbers and corian tile have modernised the bar considerably and it has received positive remarks from all members.

During the year the club decreased the cost of and/or subsidised a variety of products in the dining room, cafe and bar. The club also began an ethical catering program, whereby we try to source only local produce and where that is not possible, Australian-only product. Our ethical and sustainability policy can be viewed on the Essoign Events website. Much of this product is considerably more expensive than product obtained further afield or offshore. Nonetheless, the club has not increased the price of the meals in the dining room and cafe despite using product that is almost double the price of product used previously.

Since March of this year the club has introduced

happy hour priced drinks every night of the week instead of just Friday night. This is another opportunity for the club to give back to its members and also encourage them to utilise their club.

These are ways that we are trying to encourage members to dine in the dining room and also ways of sharing the successes of catering with all who frequent the club.

Our Club Manager, Nicholas Kalogeropoulos continues to work solidly to provide a professional, welcoming and service-driven environment for members to dine and socialise in. Together with his excellent staff they offer quality food and beverages in an ambient, friendly environment for an enjoyable experience.

As Chairman, I also want to acknowledge the efforts of the previous Essoign Board and, in particular, Peter Crofts who served as Treasurer and later as Chairman during a challenging period for all concerned.

Financially, whilst it was a difficult trading year, once membership subscriptions are taken into account it is expected that when the Essoign's audit (currently in progress) is concluded, a small surplus will be recorded. The result is in line with the Board's philosophy that the Club is there to benefit members and as such should trade at break-even, or a small surplus, in order to ensure profits are passed to members.

Finally, the board is pleased to have lain to rest the difficult negotiations with the Bar in relation to the vexed question of the club having for the first time to pay rent. The board believes that the rent as negotiated should not have any impact on the long-term survival of the club whose charter is to cater for the members of the Victorian Bar and the Bench.

I thank the members of the Essoign Board for their efforts.

Trevor Monti QC Chairman



PART XI FINANCIAL REPORTS

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Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of The Victorian Bar Incorporated

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of The Victorian Bar Incorporated ("the Association"), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2016, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of cash flows and the statement of changes in equity for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the Officers' declaration of the consolidated entity comprising the Association and the entities it controlled at the year's end or from time to time during the financial year as set out on pages 55 to 71.

Officers Responsibility for the Financial Report

The officers are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and

fair view in accordance with the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 and the Constitution and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 3, is appropriate to meet the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 and the Constitution and is appropriate to meet the needs of the Members. Officer's responsibility also includes such internal control as the officers determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the officers, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report gives a true and fair view of the financial position of The Victorian Bar Incorporated and the consolidated entity as at 30 June 2016 and their financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 and the Constitution as described in Note 3.

Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution and Use

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 3 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist The Victorian Bar Incorporated to meet the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 and the Constitution. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our report is intended solely for the Members and should not be distributed to or used by parties other than the Members.

Deloitte Touche Tohmadou

DELOITTE TOUCHE TOHMATSU

Alison Brown Partner, Chartered Accountants Melbourne, 27 September 2016

Deloitte.

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Officers' declaration

The Officers have determined that the Victorian Bar Inc (the "Association") is not a reporting entity because in the opinion of the Officers there are unlikely to exist users of the financial report who are unable to command the preparation of reports tailored so as to satisfy specifically all of their information needs. Accordingly this special purpose financial report has been prepared to satisfy the Officer's reporting requirements under the Victorian Bar Inc's Constitution and the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012*.

The Officers of the Association declare that:

- 1. The financial statements and notes thereto, as set out on pages 56 to 71:
 - a. Comply with accounting standards, the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 and the reporting requirements under the Victorian Bar's Constitution; and
 - b. Give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 30 June 2016 and performance for the year ended on that date, in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 3 to the financial statements, of the Association and the group entities.
- 2. In the Officers opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Association will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Council of the Association

On behalf of the Officers

Vand Anastassian

Paul Anastassiou QC Melbourne, 27th September 2016

Daniel Crennan

Melbourne, 27th September 2016

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Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income for the year ended 30 June 2016

		Consolid	ated	Paren	t
	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$	2016 \$	2015 \$
Continuing operations					
Revenue	4	39,666,414	34,348,194	5,593,599	5,172,329
Employee benefits expense		(5,054,990)	(3,565,394)	(1,929,297)	(1,760,656)
Depreciation and amortisation expense	5	(4,910,283)	(4,517,664)	(67,870)	(64,652)
Finance expense	5	(2,034,330)	(3,270,428)	-	-
Rent & fitout expenses		(8,861,800)	(6,628,811)	(915,449)	(889,200)
Utilities expense		(1,030,080)	(990,817)	-	-
Administration expenses		(10,897,198)	(9,120,503)	(2,637,449)	(2,370,197)
Surplus before income tax expense		6,877,733	6,254,577	43,534	87,624
Income tax (expense)/benefit	6	(2,153,726)	(1,727,592)	256,156	205,922
Surplus for the year		4,724,007	4,526,985	299,690	293,546
Other comprehensive income net of income tax					
Items that will not be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss:					
Fair value gain on revaluation of property		-	26,683,121	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year		4,724,007	31,210,106	299,690	293,546

Statement of financial position at 30 June 2016

		Consolida	ited	Pare	nt
	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$	2016 \$	2015 \$
Current assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	7	8,785,595	8,268,886	5,758,711	5,850,353
Trade and other receivables	8	957,288	2,719,559	902,556	642,590
Other assets	9	971,971	164,175	13,756	2,795
Total current assets		10,714,854	11,152,620	6,675,023	6,495,738
Non-current assets					
Other financial assets	10	-	-	10,187,430	10,187,430
Property, plant and equipment	11	193,257,643	195,310,561	232,860	156,317
Other assets	9	5,954,217	411,954	-	-
Deferred tax assets	15	85,650	68,975	85,650	68,203
Total non-current assets		199,297,510	195,791,490	10,505,940	10,411,950
Total assets		210,012,364	206,944,110	17,180,963	16,907,688
Current liabilities					
Trade and other payables	12	11,883,551	14,015,874	3,603,578	3,553,253
Provisions	14	371,266	442,513	197,230	253,851
Current tax liabilities	15	74,582	94,701	74,582	94,701
Total current liabilities		12,329,399	14,553,088	3,875,390	3,901,805
Non-current liabilities					
Borrowings	13	40,492,391	45,992,391	-	-
Provisions	14	60,439	70,868	30,368	30,368
Trade and other payables	12	5,954,217	-	-	-
Deferred tax liabilities	15	8,085,539	7,961,391	-	-
Total non-current liabilities		54,592,586	54,024,650	30,368	30,368
Total liabilities		66,921,985	68,577,738	3,905,758	3,932,173
Net assets		143,090,379	138,366,372	13,275,205	12,975,515
Equity					
Reserves	20	61,129,276	61,129,276		-
Retained earnings		81,961,103	77,237,096	13,275,205	12,975,515
Total equity		143,090,379	138,366,372	13,275,205	12,975,515

		Asset			
	Capital profits	revaluation	General	Retained	
	reserve	reserve	reserve	earnings	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Parent					

Statement of changes in equity for the year ended 30 June 2016

Balance at 30 June 2016		61,129,276		81,961,103	143,090,379
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	-	-	4,724,007	4,724,007
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	-	-	-	-
Profit for the year	-	-	-	4,724,007	4,724,007
Balance at 1 July 2015		61,129,276		77,237,096	138,366,372
	-	34,446,155	-	-	72,710,111
Balance at 30 June 2015	-	61,129,276	-	77,237,096	138,366,372
Total comprehensive income for the year		26,683,121	-	4,526,985	31,210,106
Other comprehensive income for the year – gain on revaluation of property	-	26,683,121	-	-	26,683,121
Profit for the year	-	-	-	4,526,985	4,526,985
Balance at 1 July 2014	-	34,446,155	-	72,710,111	107,156,266
Consolidated					
Balance at 30 June 2016	-	-	-	13,275,205	13,275,205
Total comprehensive loss for the year	-	-	-	299,690	299,690
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	-	-	-	-
Profit for the year	-	-	-	299,690	299,690
Balance at 30 June 2015	-	-	-	12,975,515	12,975,515
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	-	-	293,546	293,546
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	-	-	-	-
Profit for the year	-	-	-	293,546	293,546
Balance at 1 July 2014	-	-	-	12,681,969	12,681,969

Statement of cash flows for the year ended 30 June 2016

		Consolida	nted	Pare	nt
	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$	2016 \$	2015 \$
Cash flows from operating activities					
Receipts from members and customers		35,653,904	35,652,919	4,601,781	4,665,409
LSB reimbursements and contributions		731,041	707,138	731,041	707,138
Interest received		149,263	198,112	96,952	141,275
Payments to suppliers and employees		(23,010,920)	(19,100,186)	(5,377,003)	(4,453,378)
Finance expenses paid		(2,034,330)	(3,270,428)	-	-
Income tax paid		(2,066,372)	(3,845,192)	-	-
Net cash generated by operating activities	16(b)	9,422,586	10,342,363	52,771	1,060,444
Cash flows from investing activities					
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(3,405,877)	(12,569,237)	(144,413)	(62,121)
Net cash used in investing activities		(3,405,877)	(12,569,237)	(144,413)	(62,121)
Cash flows from financing activities					
Repayment of borrowings		(5,500,000)	(209,756)	-	-
Net cash used in financing activities		(5,500,000)	(209,756)	-	-
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents		516,709	(2,436,630)	(91,642)	998,323
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		8,268,886	10,705,516	5,850,353	4,852,030
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	16(a)	8,785,595	8,268,886	5,758,711	5,850,353

1. General information

The Victorian Bar Inc (the Association) is incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012, Victoria and operating in Australia.

The registered office and the principal place of business of the Association is:

Level 5, 205 William Street Melbourne Victoria 3000

The Victorian Bar is a private, voluntary, self-funded, non-profit professional association of barristers who practise in Victoria. Its principal activities during the period related to the provision of regulatory and other services to barristers who practice in Victoria.

2. Adoption of new and revised Accounting Standards

2.1 New and revised standards affecting amounts and/or disclosures in the financial statements

Certain new accounting standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for 30 June 2016 reporting periods and have not been early adopted by the association. During the current year, the association has not applied any such new accounting standards were or Interpretations that would otherwise have a material affect the amounts disclosed in this financial report.

2.2 Standards and Interpretations in issue not yet adopted

At the date of authorisation of the financial statements, the Standards and Interpretations listed below were in issue but not yet effective.

Standard/Interpretation	Effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after	Expected to be initially applied in the financial year ending
AASB 9 'Financial Instruments', and the relevant amending standards	1 January 2018	30 June 2019
AASB 15 'Revenue from Contracts with Customers', AASB 2014-5 'Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 15', AASB 2015-8 'Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Effective date of AASB 15'	1 January 2018	30 June 2019
AASB 16 'Leases'	1 January 2019	30 June 2020
AASB 2014-4 'Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Clarification of Acceptable Methods of Depreciation and Amortisation'	1 January 2016	30 June 2017
AASB 2014-9 'Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Equity Method in Separate Financial Statements'	1 January 2016	30 June 2017
AASB 2015-1 'Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Annual Improvements to Australian Accounting Standards 2012-2014 Cycle'	1 January 2016	30 June 2017
AASB 2015-2 'Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Disclosure Initiative: Amendments to AASB 101'	1 January 2016	30 June 2017
AASB 2016-1 'Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Recognition of Deferred Tax Assets for Unrealised Losses'	1 January 2017	30 June 2018
AASB 2016-2 'Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Disclosure Initiative: Amendments to AASB 107'	1 January 2017	30 June 2018

2. Adoption of new and revised Accounting Standards (cont'd)

2.2 Standards and Interpretations in issue not yet adopted

At the date of authorisation of the financial statements, the Standards and Interpretations listed below were in issue but not yet effective.

Standard/Interpretation	Effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after	Expected to be initially applied in the financial year ending
Clarifications to IFRS 15 'Revenue from Contracts with Customers'	1 January 2018	30 June 2019

3. Significant accounting policies

Financial reporting framework

The Officers have determined that the Victorian Bar Inc (the "Association") is not a reporting entity because in the opinion of the Officers there are unlikely to exist users of the financial report who are unable to command the preparation of reports tailored so as to satisfy specifically all of their information needs. Accordingly this special purpose financial report has been prepared to satisfy the Officer's reporting requirements under the Victorian Bar Inc's Constitution and the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012.

For the purpose of preparing the financial statement, the Association is a for profit entity.

Statement of compliance

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012, the Victorian Bar Inc Constitution, the basis of accounting specified by all Accounting Standards and Interpretations, and the disclosure requirements of Accounting Standards AASB 101 'Presentation of Financial Statements', AASB 107 'Statements of Cash Flow', AASB 108 Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors, and AASB 1054 Australian Additional Disclosures'.

The financial report includes the separate financial statements of the Association and the consolidated financial statements of the group.

Basis of preparation

The financial report has been prepared on the basis of historical cost, except for the revaluation of certain non-current assets and financial instruments. Cost is based on the fair values of the consideration given in exchange for assets. All amounts are presented in Australian dollars, unless otherwise noted.

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the Group's accounting policies, management is required to make judgments, estimates and assumptions about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods. Accounting estimates are made in relation to the allowance for doubtful debts. Refer to note 8. The following significant accounting policies have been adopted in the preparation and presentation of the financial report:

(a) Principles of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the financial statements of the Association and entities controlled by the Association (its subsidiaries referred to in note 10) (referred to as 'the Group' in these financial statements). Control is achieved where the Association has the power to govern the financial and operating policies of an entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities.

All inter-company balances and transactions between entities in the consolidated entity, including any unrealised profits or losses, have been eliminated on consolidation.

Where consolidated entities have entered or left the consolidated entity during the year, their operating results have been included from the date control was obtained or until the date control ceased.

(b) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash comprises cash on hand and on demand deposits. Cash equivalents are short-term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities in the statement of financial position.

(c) Employee benefits

A liability is recognised for benefits accruing to employees in respect of wages and salaries, annual leave and long service leave when it is probable that settlement will be required and they are capable of being measured reliably.

Liabilities recognised in respect of employee benefits expected to be settled within 12 months are measured at their nominal values using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of settlement.

Liabilities recognised in respect of employee benefits which are not expected to be settled within 12 months are measured as the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made by the Group in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date.

(d) Income tax

Subscription income received by the Association from its members is non-taxable through the mutuality principle. Receipts from non-members are regarded as assessable income for income tax purposes. Member expenses are non-deductible. Other expenses which are not directly deductible from assessable income are apportioned between non-tax deductible and tax deductible expenses according to taxation regulations. All income received by Barristers Chambers Limited, a subsidiary company of the Association, is taxable. The charge for current income tax expenses is based on the profit for the year adjusted for any non-assessable or disallowed items. It is calculated using tax rates that have been enacted or are substantively enacted by the balance sheet date.

Deferred tax is accounted for using the balance sheet liability method in respect of temporary differences arising between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts in the financial statements. No deferred income tax will be recognised from the initial recognition of an asset or liability, excluding a business combination, where there is no effect on accounting or taxable profit or loss.

Deferred tax is calculated at the tax rates that are expected to apply to the period when the asset is realised or liability is settled. Deferred tax is credited in the income statement except where it relates to items credited or debited directly to equity, in which case the deferred tax is adjusted directly against equity.

Deferred income tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that future tax profits will be available against which deductible temporary differences or unused tax losses and tax offsets can be utilised.

The amount of benefits brought to account or which may be realised in the future is based on the assumption that no adverse change will occur in income taxation legislation and the anticipation that the economic entity will derive sufficient future assessable income to enable the benefit to be realised and comply with the conditions of deductibility imposed by the law.

(e) Tax consolidation

The Association and its subsidiaries, Barristers' Chambers Ltd and The Melbourne Bar Pty Ltd are part of a tax-consolidated group under Australian taxation law. The Victorian Bar Inc. is the head entity in the taxconsolidated group. Tax expense/income, deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities arising from temporary differences of the members of the tax-consolidated group are recognised using the 'group allocation' approach by reference to the carrying amounts in the separate financial statements of each entity and the tax values applying under tax consolidation. Current tax liabilities and assets and deferred tax assets arising from unused tax losses and relevant tax credits of the members of the taxconsolidated group are recognised by The Victorian Bar Inc (as head entity in the tax-consolidation group).

(f) Property, plant and equipment

Freehold land and buildings are recorded at fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation or impairment losses. Accordingly they are shown at their fair value (being the amount for which an asset could be exchanged between knowledgeable willing parties in an arm's length transaction), based on periodic, biennial valuations by external independent valuers, less subsequent depreciation for buildings.

Any accumulated depreciation at the date of revaluation is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the net amount is restated to the revalued amount of the asset. Increases in the carrying amount arising on revaluation of land and buildings are credited to the asset revaluation reserve in equity. Decreases that offset previous increases of the same asset are charged against the asset revaluation reserve directly in equity; all other decreases are charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Plant and equipment, leasehold improvements and equipment under finance lease are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment. Cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the item. In the event that settlement of all or part of the purchase consideration is deferred, cost is determined by discounting the amounts payable in the future to their present value as at the date of acquisition.

The carrying amount of plant and equipment is reviewed annually by the Association's Officers to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount from these assets. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash.

Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all property, plant and equipment including buildings and capitalised leased assets, but excluding freehold land, is depreciated on a straight-line basis over their useful lives to the economic entity commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

Classes of Plant and Equipment

	Depreciation Rate
Buildings	2%
Leasehold Improvements	4-10%
Plant and Equipment	5-33%

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each reporting period. An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount. Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount.

These gains and losses are included in the income

statement. When revalued assets are sold, amounts included in the revaluation reserve relating to that asset are transferred to retained earnings.

Any accumulated depreciation at the date of revaluation is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the net amount is restated to the revalued amount of the asset.

Increases in the carrying amount arising on revaluation of land and buildings are credited to the asset revaluation reserve in equity. Decreases that offset previous increases of the same asset are charged against the asset revaluation reserve directly in equity; all other decreases are charged to the income statement.

(g) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Group has a present obligation (legal or constructive) as a result of a past event, it is probable that the Group will be required to settle the obligation, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

The amount recognised as a provision is the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at reporting date, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation. Where a provision is measured using the cashflows estimated to settle the present obligation, its carrying amount is the present value of those cashflows.

When some or all of the economic benefits required to settle a provision are expected to be recovered from a third party, the receivable is recognised as an asset if it is virtually certain that reimbursement will be received and the amount of the receivable can be measured reliably.

(h) Leasing

Leases are classified as finance leases when the terms of the lease transfer substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of the leased asset to the lessee. All other leases are classified as operating leases.

Association as lessee

Assets held under finance leases are initially recognised at their fair value or, if lower, at amounts equal to the present value of the minimum lease payments, each determined at the inception of the lease. The corresponding liability to the lessor is included in the statement of financial position as a finance lease obligation.

Lease payments are apportioned between finance charges and reduction of the lease obligation so as to achieve a constant rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability. Finance charges are charged directly against income, unless they are directly attributable to qualifying assets, in which case they are capitalised in accordance with the company's general policy on borrowing costs. Contingent rentals are recognised as expenses in the periods in which they are incurred.

Operating lease payments are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term, except where another systematic basis is more representative of the time pattern in which economic benefits from the leased asset are consumed. Contingent rentals arising under operating leases are recognised as an expense in the period in which they are incurred.

In the event that lease incentives are received to enter into operating leases, such incentives are recognised as a liability. The aggregate benefit of incentives is recognised as a reduction of rental expense on a straight-line basis, except where another systematic basis is more representative of the time pattern in which economic benefits from the leased asset are consumed.

Association as lessor

Amounts due from lessees under finance leases are recognised as receivables at the amount of the Association's net investment in the leases. Finance lease income is allocated to accounting periods so as to reflect a constant periodic rate of return on the Association's net investment outstanding in respect of the leases. Rental income from operating leases is recognised on a straightline basis over the term of the relevant lease. Initial direct costs incurred in negotiating and arranging an operating lease are added to the carrying amount of the leased asset and recognised on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

(i) Payables

Trade payables and other accounts payable are recognised when the group becomes obliged to make future payments resulting from the purchase of goods and services.

(j) Revenue

Revenue from subscriptions is recognised in the period that the subscription relates to. Revenue from leased properties is recognised on a straight-line basis over the lease term in accordance with lease agreements.

Revenue from the rendering of a service is recognised upon the delivery of the service to the customer by reference to the stage of completion of the service being provided.

Interest revenue is accrued on a time basis, by reference to the principal outstanding and at the effective interest rate applicable, which is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the financial asset to that asset's net carrying amount.

All other revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

(k) Borrowings

Borrowings are recorded initially at fair value, net of transaction costs.

Subsequent to initial recognition, borrowings are measured at amortised cost with any difference between the initial recognised amount and the redemption value being recognised in profit and loss over the period of the borrowing using the effective interest rate method.

Bills of exchange are recorded at an amount equal to the net proceeds received, with the premium or discount amortised over the period until maturity. Interest expense is recognised on an effective yield basis.

Borrowing Costs:

Borrowing Costs directly attributable to the acquisition, construction or production of assets that necessarily take a substantial period of time to prepare for their intended use or sale, are added to the cost of those assets, until such time as the assets are substantially ready for their intended use or sale.

All other borrowing costs are recognised in the income statement in the period in which they are incurred.

(l) Goods and services tax

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except:

- i. where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the taxation authority, it is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of an asset or as part of an item of expense; or
- ii. for receivables and payables which are recognised inclusive of GST.

The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included as part of receivables or payables.

Cash flows are included in the cash flow statement on a net basis. The GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which is recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is classified as operating cash flows.

(m) Impairment of tangible and intangible assets other than goodwill

At each reporting date, the Association reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any). Where the asset does not generate cash flows that are independent from other assets, the Association estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. Where a reasonable and consistent basis of allocation can be identified, corporate assets are also allocated to individual cash-generating units, or otherwise they are allocated to the smallest group of cash-generating units for which a reasonable and consistent allocation basis can be identified.

Recoverable amount is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and value in use. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset for which the estimates of future cash flows have not been adjusted.

If the recoverable amount of an asset (or cash-generating unit) is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset (cash-generating unit) is reduced to its recoverable amount. An impairment loss is recognised immediately in profit or loss, unless the relevant asset is carried at revalued amount, in which case the impairment loss is treated as a revaluation decrease.

Where an impairment loss subsequently reverses, the carrying amount of the asset (cash-generating unit) is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount, but only to the extent that the increased carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset (cash-generating unit) in prior years. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised immediately in profit or loss, unless the relevant asset is carried at fair value, in which case the reversal of the impairment loss is treated as a revaluation increase.

(n) Comparative amounts

Where necessary, comparatives have been reclassified and repositioned for consistency with the current year disclosures.

(o) Working capital management

As at 30 June 2016 the consolidated entity has an excess of current liabilities over current assets of \$1,614,545 (2015: \$3,400,468) due to deferred revenue relating to prepaid rent and subscriptions of \$6,890,444 (2015: \$6,813,919). This balance relates to barristers who have prepaid their rent and subscriptions in advance of the end of the financial year and it is expected to be realised in the ordinary course of business as revenue with no cash outlay. In addition, Barristers' Chambers Limited has a policy of utilising excess cash reserves to retire debt. As a result of the above, the officors believe that the consolidated entity can pay its debts as and when due.

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4. Revenue	Consolida	ited	Parent	
	2016 \$	2015 \$	2016 \$	2015 \$
Revenue from operating activities				
Subscriptions	3,459,417	3,372,916	3,459,457	3,372,916
Rent and Joinery Revenue	32,331,853	27,635,859	-	-
Readers Course, Mediation & Seminar Fees	1,108,104	758,382	1,108,104	758,382
Other Revenue	1,886,736	1,675,787	198,045	192,618
	38,786,110	33,442,944	4,765,606	4,323,916
Revenue from non-operating activities				
Interest Revenue	149,263	198,112	96,952	141,275
Legal Service Board and Commissioner, Contributions and Reimbursements	731,041	707,138	731,041	707,138
	880,304	905,250	827,993	848,413
Total Revenue 5. Surplus before income tax Surplus for the user has been arrived at offer observing the follow	39,666,414	34,348,194	5,593,599	5,172,329
		34,348,194	5,593,599	5,172,329
5. Surplus before income tax Surplus for the year has been arrived at after charging the follow		34,348,194 3,270,428	5,593,599	5,172,329
 5. Surplus before income tax Surplus for the year has been arrived at after charging the follow Finance cost 	ing items of expense:		-	-
5. Surplus before income tax Surplus for the year has been arrived at after charging the follow Finance cost Interest on Mortgage	ing items of expense:		-	-
 5. Surplus before income tax Surplus for the year has been arrived at after charging the follow Finance cost Interest on Mortgage Depreciation of non-current assets 	ing items of expense: 	3,270,428	-	5,172,329
5. Surplus before income tax Surplus for the year has been arrived at after charging the follow Finance cost Interest on Mortgage Depreciation of non-current assets Buildings	ing items of expense: 2,034,330 2,755,000	3,270,428 2,542,004	-	-
5. Surplus before income tax Surplus for the year has been arrived at after charging the follow Finance cost Interest on Mortgage Depreciation of non-current assets Buildings	ing items of expense: 2,034,330 2,755,000 2,155,283	3,270,428 2,542,004 1,975,661	67,870	- 64,652
5. Surplus before income tax Surplus for the year has been arrived at after charging the follow Finance cost Interest on Mortgage Depreciation of non-current assets Buildings Plant, equipment and improvements	ing items of expense: 2,034,330 2,755,000 2,155,283 4,910,283	3,270,428 2,542,004 1,975,661 4,517,664	- 67,870 67,870	- 64,652 64,652
 5. Surplus before income tax Surplus for the year has been arrived at after charging the follow Finance cost Interest on Mortgage Depreciation of non-current assets Buildings Plant, equipment and improvements Minimum lease payments on operating leases 	ing items of expense: 2,034,330 2,755,000 2,155,283 4,910,283	3,270,428 2,542,004 1,975,661 4,517,664	- 67,870 67,870	- 64,652 64,652
 5. Surplus before income tax Surplus for the year has been arrived at after charging the follow Finance cost Interest on Mortgage Depreciation of non-current assets Buildings Plant, equipment and improvements Minimum lease payments on operating leases Auditors remuneration - Deloitte 	ing items of expense: 2,034,330 2,755,000 2,155,283 4,910,283 9,817,188	3,270,428 2,542,004 1,975,661 4,517,664 7,287,919	- 67,870 67,870 954,788	- 64,652 64,652 904,788
 5. Surplus before income tax Surplus for the year has been arrived at after charging the follow Finance cost Interest on Mortgage Depreciation of non-current assets Buildings Plant, equipment and improvements Minimum lease payments on operating leases Auditors remuneration - Deloitte Auditing or Reviewing the Financial Reports 	ing items of expense: 2,034,330 2,755,000 2,155,283 4,910,283 9,817,188 35,150	3,270,428 2,542,004 1,975,661 4,517,664 7,287,919 76,000	- 67,870 67,870 954,788 35,150	- 64,652 64,652 904,788 30,000
 5. Surplus before income tax Surplus for the year has been arrived at after charging the follow Finance cost Interest on Mortgage Depreciation of non-current assets Buildings Plant, equipment and improvements Minimum lease payments on operating leases Auditors remuneration - Deloitte Auditing or Reviewing the Financial Reports Taxation and Accounting Services 	ing items of expense: 2,034,330 2,755,000 2,155,283 4,910,283 9,817,188 35,150	3,270,428 2,542,004 1,975,661 4,517,664 7,287,919 76,000	- 67,870 67,870 954,788 35,150	- 64,652 64,652 904,788 30,000
 5. Surplus before income tax Surplus for the year has been arrived at after charging the follow Finance cost Interest on Mortgage Depreciation of non-current assets Buildings Plant, equipment and improvements Minimum lease payments on operating leases Auditors remuneration - Deloitte Auditing or Reviewing the Financial Reports Taxation and Accounting Services Auditors remuneration - PWC 	ing items of expense: 2,034,330 2,755,000 2,155,283 4,910,283 9,817,188 35,150 64,315	3,270,428 2,542,004 1,975,661 4,517,664 7,287,919 76,000 38,500	- 67,870 67,870 954,788 35,150 52,765	- 64,652 64,652 904,788 30,000

6. Income tax	Consolida	ted	Parent	
(a) Components of income tax (expense)/benefit Tax expenses comprises:	2016 \$	2015 \$	2016 \$	2015 \$
Current tax (expense)/benefit	(2,292,626)	(1,956,836)	238,709	226,873
Deferred tax (expense)/benefit relating to timing differences	138,900	229,244	17,447	(20,951
	(2,153,726)	(1,727,592)	256,156	205,922
(b) Income tax (expense)/benefit calculated				
The prima facie tax (expense)/benefit on pre-tax accounting su				
reconciles to the income tax (expense)/benefit in the financial s			42.525	07.02
Operating surplus from operations	6,877,733	6,254,577	43,535	87,624
Income tax (expense)/benefit calculated at the corporate tax rate in each year, 30%	(2,063,320)	(1,876,373)	(13,061)	(26,287
Non-assessable mutual income	1,064,256	1,045,622	1,064,256	1,045,622
Non-deductible mutual & other expenses	(1,154,662)	2,558,343	(795,039)	(813,413
Income tax (expense)/benefit	(2,153,726)	(1,727,592)	256,156	205,922
7. Cash and cash equivalents				
Cash on Hand	250	250	-	-
Cash Deposits with Banks	5,905,602	5,464,992	2,878,968	3,046,709
Short-term Money Market Deposits	2,879,743	2,803,644	2,879,743	2,803,644
	8,785,595	8,268,886	5,758,711	5,850,353
8. Trade and other receivables				
 Trade receivables	814,145	852,862	71,371	18,796
Provision for doubtful debts	(45,583)	(45,583)	-	-
	768,562	807,279	71,371	18,796
Receivable from Barristers' Chambers Limited for income tax	-	-	729,469	510,879
Other receivables	188,726	1,912,280	101,716	112,915
	957,288	2,719,559	902,556	642,590
9. Other assets				
Current				
Prepayments	339,275	164,175	13,756	2,795
Fit-out incentive	632,696	-	-	-
	971,971	164,175	13,756	2,795
Non-current				
Bank guarantee deposit	-	411,954	-	-
Fit out incentive	5,954,217	-	-	-
	5,954,217	411,954	-	-

	Investment in subsidiaries	-	-	10,187,430	10,187,430
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Barristers' Chambers Limited is a public company incorporated in Australia and operating in Australia. It is wholly owned by the Association. The Melbourne Bar Pty Ltd is a private company incorporated in Australia. It has not operated. It has acted as a nominee of the Victorian Bar Inc in being the registered owner of shares in Barristers Chambers Limited and entering into license agreements with approved clerks. The consolidated group is made up of the parent entity The Victorian Bar Inc and subsidiary companies Barristers' Chambers Limited and the Melbourne Bar Pty Ltd.

11. Property, plant and equipment	Cons	olidated	Par	rent
	2016 \$	2015 \$	2016 \$	2015 \$
Freehold land & building				
Land at valuation (June 2015)	64,300,000	64,300,000	-	-
Building at valuation (June 2015)	110,200,000	110,200,000	-	-
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(2,755,000)	-	-	-
Total freehold land & building	171,745,000	174,500,000	-	-
Plant, Equipment & Refurbishments				
In Freehold Buildings at Cost	26,750,499	24,182,943	-	-
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(15,269,547)	(13,897,772)	-	-
	11,480,952	10,285,171	-	-
In Leasehold Premises at Cost	19,340,329	17,048,741	1,407,769	1,286,083
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(10,569,862)	(9,261,536)	(1,203,162)	(1,143,387)
	8,770,467	7,787,205	204,607	142,696
Art Works at Cost	173,190	134,862	141,990	119,263
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(113,739)	(105,642)	(113,737)	(105,642)
	59,451	29,220	28,253	13,621
Work in progress at Cost	1,201,773	2,708,965	-	-
Total plant and equipment	18,747,642	20,810,561	232,860	156,317
Total Property, Plant, Equipment & Refurbishment	193,257,643	195,310,561	232,860	156,317

	Parent					
		Freehold land and building \$	Plant and equipment at cost \$	Art Works \$	Work in Progress \$	Total \$
	Balance at the beginning of the year	-	140,244	18,604	-	158,848
2015	Additions	-	60,826	1,421	-	62,248
20	Depreciation expenses	-	(58,375)	(6,404)	-	(64,779)
		-	142,696	13,621	-	156,317
	Balance at the beginning of the year	-	142,696	13,621	-	156,317
2016	Additions	-	121,686	22,727	-	144,413
20	Depreciation expenses		(59,775)	(8,095)	-	(67,870)
		-	204,607	28,253	-	232,860
	Consolidated					
	Balance at the beginning of the year	116,203,125	18,441,391	34,203	21,530,397	156,209,116
	Additions	-	295,654	1,421	12,271,557	12,568,632
	Transfers +/(-)	29,788,274	1,304,715	-	(31,092,989)	
2015	Disposal/asset written off	-	-	-	-	-
	Depreciation expenses	(2,542,004)	(1,969,384)	(6,404)	-	(4,517,792)
	Revaluation	31,050,605	-	-	-	31,050,605
		174,500,000	18,072,376	29,220	2,708,965	195,310,561

		171,745,000	20,251,419	59,451	1,201,773	193,257,643
	Revaluation	-	-	-	-	-
	Depreciation expenses	(2,755,000)	(2,147,188)	(8,095)	-	(4,910,283)
2016	Disposal/asset written off	-	(548,512)	-	-	(548,512)
9	Transfers +/(-)	-	1,507,192	-	(1,507,192)	-
	Additions	-	3,367,551	38,326	-	3,405,877
	Balance at the beginning of the year	174,500,000	18,072,376	29,220	2,708,965	195,310,561

12. Trade and other payables	Conse	Consolidated P		Parent	
	2016 \$	2015 \$	2016 \$	2015 \$	
Current					
Deferred revenue	6,890,444	6,813,919	2,150,586	2,273,035	
Trade creditors and accruals	2,205,654	2,230,952	1,264,173	1,218,191	
Related Party - The Essoign Club	81,396	-	81,396	62,027	
Other creditors	2,073,361	4,971,003	107,423	-	
Fit out incentive	632,696	-	-	-	
	11,883,551	14,015,874	3,603,578	3,553,253	
Non-current			·		
Fit out incentive	5,954,217	-	-	-	
	5,954,217	-	-	-	
13. Borrowings	5,954,217	-	-	-	
13. Borrowings Non-current	5,954,217	-	-	-	
	5,954,217 40,492,391	- 45,992,391	-	-	
Non-current	40,492,391	45,992,391	-	-	
Non-current Bills - secured The loan is secured by a first mortgage on all propert	40,492,391	45,992,391	-	-	
Non-current Bills - secured The loan is secured by a first mortgage on all propert 14. Provision	40,492,391	45,992,391	-	-	
Non-current Bills - secured The loan is secured by a first mortgage on all propert 14. Provision Current	40,492,391	45,992,391	-	-	
Non-current Bills - secured	40,492,391 ies and a floating charge over other Bar	45,992,391 risters' Chambers Li	- mited (BCL) assets.	- - 253,851	

Current				
Income tax payable	74,582	94,701	74,582	94,701
Non-current				
Deferred income tax assets	(85,650)	(68,975)	(85,560)	(68,203)
Deferred income tax liability	8,085,539	7,961,391	-	-

16. Cash and cash equivalents

(a) Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand and in banks and investments in money market instruments, net of outstanding bank overdrafts. Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year as shown in the cash flow statement is reconciled to the related items in the statement of financial position as follows:

Cash and cash equivalents	8,785,595	8,268,886	5,758,711	5,850,353
(b) Reconciliation of surplus for the year to net cash flows from opera	ting activities			
Surplus for year after income tax benefit/(expense)	4,724,007	4,526,985	299,690	293,546
Depreciation & amortisation of non-current assets	4,910,283	4,517,664	67,870	64,652
Loss on disposal of assets	548,512	-	-	-
Changes in net assets and liabilities:				
Increase/(Decrease) in trade $\&$ other receivables and other assets	1,999,126	(1,687,964)	(288,284)	1,670,882
Deferred tax asset	(16,675)	(228,640)	-	20,951
Increase/(Decrease) in trade & other payables	(2,765,020)	5,120,522	50,235	903,648
Increase/(Decrease) in provisions	(81,676)	(17,244)	(56,621)	(4,275)
Current tax liability	(20,119)	(1,888,960)	(20,119)	(1,888,960)
Deferred tax liability	124,148	-	-	-
	9,422,586	10,342,363	52,771	1,060,444

17. Officers remuneration

No member of the Council received any remuneration from the Association. A premium was paid for Directors' and Officers' Liability insurance, details of which are set out in the Officers' Report.

18. Capital and leasing commitments

Lease commitments				
a) Leasehold premises				
Non-cancellable operating leases contracted for but not capitalised in	the accounts			
Not longer than 1 year	8,403,631	7,607,237	88,053	77,626
Longer than 1 year and not longer than 5 years	29,209,932	26,938,895	-	-
Later than 5 years	36,352,723	9,419,305	-	-
	73,966,286	43,965,437	88,053	77,626
b) Office equipment				
Not longer than 1 year	41,499	19,050	41,499	19,050
Longer than 1 year and not longer than 5 years	46,770	29,683	46,770	29,683
Later than 5 years	-	-	-	-
	88,269	48,733	88,269	48,733
Capital expenditure commitments				
Commitments contracted for but not capitalised in the accounts				
Not longer than 1 year	-	7,917,609	-	-
	-	7,917,609	-	-

19. Subsequent events

No matters or circumstances has arisen since the end of the financial year which may significantly affect the operations of the consolidated entity, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the consolidated entity in future financial years.

20. Reserves

The reserve balances relate to asset revaluation surplus resulting from measuring land and buildings in the subsidiary of the parent at fair value. These are revalued each second year, with the revaluation gain or loss taken to the reserves in shareholders equity.

PART XII

THE VICTORIAN BAR INCORPORATED DETAILED INCOME STATEMENT

Detailed Statement of Profit and Loss for the year ended 30 June 2016

		2016 (unaudited)	2015 (unaudited)
	Notes	\$	\$
Revenue			
Bar Dinner Fees		69,100	70,111
Bar News Advertising Revenue		3,564	6,617
Conferences, Seminars & CPD Fees		140,615	90,791
Interest Income		136,454	0
Income from Investments		96,952	141,275
Legal Services Board & Commissioner	1	731,041	707,138
Mediation Fees		311,661	276,528
Readers Course Fees		533,409	404,141
Subscriptions		3,459,457	3,372,916
Other		111,345	102,813
Total Revenue		5,593,599	5,172,329
Expenses			
Audit Fees & Tax		87,915	54,075
Australian Bar Association		137,809	136,150
Bank & Credit Card Fees		42,815	30,862
Bar Dinner Expense		96,566	106,721
Bar News Expenses		73,716	34,813
Bookkeeping & Accounting		44,223	55,444
Books & Subscriptions		95,371	84,562
Catering Expenses		71,992	61,910
Depreciation		67,871	64,652
Conference & seminars		97,588	94,189
Health & Well Being Program Expense		72,463	95,348
ICC Project Expenses		113,227	0
Law Council of Australia		211,784	207,402
Media & Consultants		57,485	53,225
Photocopier Expenses		25,740	25,214
Printing & Stationery		45,155	48,395
Pro Bono Scheme Expenses		431,838	430,797
Readers Course & CPD		321,725	252,178
Rent, Amortisation & Fit-out		963,716	963,392
Employee benefits & expenses		1,947,106	1,764,858
Travel Expenses		74,739	77,712
Other Administration Costs		469,221	442,806

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TOTAL EXPENSES	5,550,065	5,084,705
SURPLUS FOR YEAR BEFORE INCOME TAX BENEFIT/(EXPENSE)	43,534	87,624
Income Tax Benefit/(Expense)	256,156	205,922
SURPLUS FOR YEAR	299,690	293,546

Notes to the Detailed Statement of Profit and Loss for the year ended 30 June 2016

I. LSB/LSC Reimbursement and Contribution	2016 (unaudited)	2015 (unaudited)
The Legal Services Board and the Legal Services Commissioner reimburs costs of the roles delegated to it in relation to regulation and registration		
Regulation	150,570	145,142
Complaints & Disputes	94,310	89,994
Library	56,650	55,000
Pro Bono Scheme	429,511	417,002
	731,041	707,138
2. Retained Earnings		
Retained Earnings at the beginning of the year	12,975,515	12,681,969
Surplus for the year	299,690	293,546

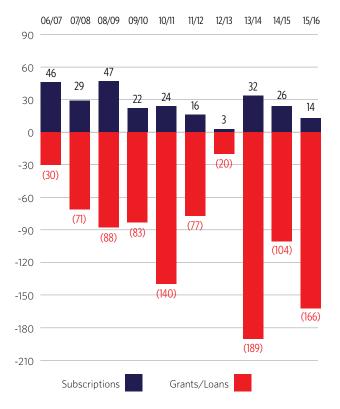
Surplus for the year	299,690	293,546
Retained Earnings at the end of the year	13,275,205	12,975,515

BARRISTERS' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

Barristers' Benevolent Association of Victoria Annual Report for the Year Ending 30 June 2016 (Unaudited)

The Committee of Management for the Association is the Victorian Bar Council through its Chair and Honorary Treasurer.

10 Year History of Subscriptions and Grants/Loans



During 2015-2016, the Association made payments to nine members totalling \$165,500. Of this amount, \$120,500 were interest free loans and \$45,000 were grants.

Amounts Held by Equity Trustees at Market Value at 30 June 2016

The market value of assets at 30 June 2016 with their rates of return is set out below:

	ASSET VALUE		ASSET YIELD	
	\$	%	\$	%
Equity Trustees Flagship Fund	728,552	37.4	51,074	2.2
Equity Trustees Wholesale Mortgage Income Fund	313,938	16.1	12,075	3.8
Equity Trustees PIMCO Wholesale Australian Bond Fund	383,799	19.7	11,288	6.7
Equity Trustees Cash Management Fund	472,603	24.3	7,135	1.4
	1,898,892		81,573	

Basis of Preparation of Comparative Financial Statement The Comparative Financial Statement for the year ended 30 June 2016 has been prepared using historical costs for recording transaction and comparative asset values.

Capital Movement between/within funds

From time to time, capital movements occur between/ within the funds managed by Equity Trustees, which will be reflected in an adjustment to the closing fund balance.

BARRISTERS' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

Comparative Financial Statement for the Year Ended 30 June 2016

	2016 (unaudited)	2015 (unaudited)	
	\$	\$	
Capital Fund			
Opening balance at 1 July 2015	1,698,540	1,612,856	
Receipts	-	-	
Donations received during the year	13,642	13,642 25,925	
Loan repayments received	-	85,300	
Imputation credits refund	-	-	
Net Income Earned During the Year	81,573	79,119	
	1,793,755	1,803,200	
Payments			
Grants	45,000	75,900	
Loans	120,500	27,700	
Total payments to Members	165,500	103,600	
	1,628,255	1,699,600	
Capital movement within/between Funds	(1,127)	(1,060)	
Closing balance at 30 June 2016	1,627,128	1,698,540	
Loans			
Opening Balance at 1 July 2015	312,666	370,266	
Add new loans	120,500	27,700	
Less loan repayments	-	(85,300)	
Less loans converted to grant	-	(15,000)	
Loans at 30 June 2016	433,166	297,666	
TOTAL ASSETS AT 30 JUNE 2016	2,060,294	1,996,206	
Amounts Held by Equity Trustees (at Cost) at 30 June 2016			
Equity Trustees Flagship Fund	464,566	465,692	
Equity Trustees Wholesale Mortgage Income Fund	313,938	,	
Equity Trustees PIMCO Wholesale Australian Bond Fund	376,021		
Equity Instees FINCO Wholesale Australian Bond Fund	472,603		
BALANCE AT 30 JUNE 2016	1,627,128		

Paul Anastassiou QC and Daniel J Crennan

Committee of Management Victorian Bar Council The Committee of Management for the Association is the Victorian Bar Council through its Chair and Honorary Treasurer.

