



WOMEN IN CLASS ACTIONS

CLASS ACTIONS 2020

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Alex Burt

Alex appears in criminal pleas, committals, appeals against sentence and conviction, trials, contested hearings and bail applications. Alex appears in occupational health and safety matters and disciplinary matters. She has experience in both State and Commonwealth crime, including complex fraud, bankruptcy and people smuggling. Alex has had a diverse work experience including working in circuit courts in remote WA, in detention centres and at psychiatric facilities. Alex appears in applications and reviews under the Crimes (Mental Impairment and Unfitness to be Tried) Act 1997. Alex is a Victoria Legal Aid Criminal Trial preferred barrister and has an Indictable Crime Certificate.



Alexandra Folie

Alexandra advises and appears in a broad range of commercial disputes. She has particular expertise in corporations and securities, class actions, banking and finance, insolvency, property, and equity and trusts. Alexandra is currently representing the applicant shareholders in the UGL Federal Court shareholder class action (led by Rachel Doyle SC).



Amanda Carruthers

Amanda Carruthers is an advocate with over 14 years' experience as a barrister and solicitor in the areas of commercial litigation and insolvency law. She has represented clients and practitioners in a range of disputes involving shareholder oppression, voidable transactions, breaches of directors' duties and contracts, and consumer law contraventions. She is a member of ARITA, WIRV, and the Law Council of Australia's Insolvency and Reconstruction Law Committee.



Amy Hande

Amy practices primarily in commercial, commercial fraud, construction and maritime law. Before coming to the Bar, Amy was the Senior Associate to the Honourable Justice Croft of the Supreme Court of Victoria. Prior to the Court, Amy worked at Robertson Hyetts in Bendigo, her practice was primarily commercial litigation focused. Amy has experience working on large scale superior Court litigation, as well as mediation. Amy has significant experience in running trials electronically.



Andrea Bannon

Before being called to the Victorian Bar, Andrea was a partner at Hall & Wilcox Lawyers, acting for WorkSafe Victoria and its agent insurers and employers. Prior to that she was the Senior Legal Manager of the Common Law team at the Transport Accident Commission. She has worked in the UK and she commenced her career in Tasmania, where she had an extensive plaintiff based personal injury practice. She was recommended by her peers as a pre-eminent specialist in the area of defendant insurance law in Victoria by Doyle's Guide in 2017 and again as a leading specialist in 2018.



Anita Spitzer

Anita was admitted to practice in 2003 and signed the Bar Roll the same year. She subsequently practised in personal injury, workplace relations and wills and estates. During a stint at the Supreme Court as Practice Court Coordinator and Deputy Prothonotary, she gained extensive knowledge in disciplinary matters and in procedural and interlocutory matters. She resumed her practice in 2009 and continues to practice in the common law.

Since 2013, a significant part of her practice has involved acting for adults suffering psychiatric injury consequent upon the historical abuse of them as children in institutional settings.



Anna O'Callaghan

Anna practises in commercial, public and criminal law. Anna is particularly interested in class actions focusing on consumer law, shareholder/investor disputes and the sale of financial products. Prior to the Bar, Anna was the Senior Associate to His Honour Judge Cosgrave, Head of the Commercial Division of the County Court. As an associate she gained exposure to both general commercial, and banking and finance disputes. Before the Court, Anna was a solicitor at Mills Oakley Lawyers in their Commercial Disputes & Insolvency team. She's worked on a variety of matters, including the liquidation of Timbercorp Finance Pty Ltd (In Liquidation).



Anna Robertson

Anna has advised and appeared in several representative and group proceedings in the Supreme Court of Victoria and the Federal Court of Australia in areas involving commercial and consumer law, as well as tort and administrative law. Proceedings have included:

- Matthews v SPI Electricity Pty Ltd (Kilmore East-Kinglake bushfire class action);
- Liesfield v SPI Electricity Pty Ltd (Murrindindi bushfire class action);
- Certain Aboriginal Children by their Litigation Guardian Sister Marie Brigid Arthur v Minister for Families and Children;
- Certain Children by their Litigation Guardian Sister Marie Brigid Arthur v Minister for Families and Children (detention of children from the Parkville Youth Justice Centre in Barwon prison);
- Fenton v Monsanto Australia and Maisano v Monsanto Australia (Round-up pesticide class actions).

Anna has been the Victorian Bar representative on the Federal Court Class Actions user group and was previously the Deputy Chair of the Class Actions Committee of the Commercial Bar Association.



Aphrodite Kouloubaritsis

Aphrodite Kouloubaritsis practices in a wide variety of areas including commercial law, equity, banking and finance, insolvency, administrative law and wills and estates. She has acted for a variety of clients including ASX listed companies (including the major banks), industry superannuation funds, large not-for profit agencies, insolvency practitioners, directors, trade unions, and high net worth families. A small sample of the clients she has acted for, and the type of matters she has been briefed in, can be found on her Victorian Bar profile.



Astrid Haban-Bear

Astrid appears in all Courts and tribunals, and has a mixed defence and prosecution practice. Astrid also appears and advises in Royal Commissions and other inquiries, acting for the State of Victoria in the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, and a person of interest in the Royal Commission into Trade Union Governance and Corruption. Astrid was previously a Senior Lawyer at the Australian Government Solicitor (AGS) in the civil regulatory and enforcement teams. Astrid commenced her legal career as a Judge's Associate at the Supreme Court of Victoria with the Hon. Justice Bongiorno.



Bonnie Renou

Bonnie has experience in legal and policy roles in the community legal sector, including at Women's Legal Service Victoria and the Loddon Campaspe Community Legal Centre. Bonnie was appointed to the Board of Fitzroy Legal Service (incorporating Darebin Community Legal Centre) in 2017. At the bar Bonnie has appeared in family law and associated matters including Children's Court, family violence intervention orders, and in the Review and Regulation List at VCAT. Bonnie sits on the Vicbar Pro Bono and Student Engagement Committees. Bonnie is reading with Erin Gardner and her senior mentor is Felicity Gerry QC



Bridget Slocum

Bridget Slocum is a commercial disputes professional with a sub-specialty in insolvency. In addition to her two years of experience in Victoria, Bridget was a member of Counsel in New Zealand, commencing in March 2005. Bridget represents a wide range of clients in commercial, trade practices, class actions and corporations disputes. As a solicitor, Bridget acted for the administrators and liquidators of the Timbercorp Group, the Willmott Group, Retravision Southern Group and Bob Jane's Calder Park trading entities. Her extensive commercial litigation experience includes complex shareholder and director disputes, insurance litigation, regulatory prosecutions, class actions, taxation, administrative appeals, civil interlocutory disputes (discovery, subpoenas, freezing orders, security for costs and strikeout/summary judgment) and general contract disputes.



Carolyn Symons

Since coming to the Bar in 2012, Carolyn has developed a general civil and commercial practice, with a particular emphasis on personal and corporate insolvency and insurance. Her interests also include costs disputes and professional discipline, and wills and estates.



Dr Catherine Button QC

Dr Button is one of the most experienced class actions barristers at the Victorian Bar, having acted in the Brambles, ISG Management (Tandem), Vocation, Money Max, Earglow, Roo-Roofing, Great Southern Finance, Oz Minerals and Centro class actions, amongst others. She is the author of a book on international trade law, has worked at the Law Commission in London and has been published in the Australian Bar Review and Company and Securities Law Journal.



Christie Jones

Christie has a broad commercial practice with a focus on contract, corporate and trust disputes, insolvency and building and construction matters. She regularly appears in all jurisdictions in trials and appeals and has a thorough understanding of civil procedure and substantive law and a demonstrated ability for complex problem solving.

Christie is committed to providing strategic, commercially focused advice to her clients. Before coming to the Bar, Christie was an Associate at Corrs Chambers Westgarth where she acted for public companies, private companies and regulatory bodies in the County Court, Supreme Court, Federal Court and appellate courts. Christie has also represented clients in Royal Commissions and Parliamentary Inquiries.



Christine Boyle

Christine Boyle is an experienced advocate in the field of personal injuries. She has been at the Bar for over 15 years and her practice includes Workcover, TAC, public liability and historical sexual abuse claims. In the Kilmore and Murrundindi bushfire class actions, Christine was appointed as a damages' assessor of claimants. Before coming to the Bar, Christine was a solicitor for 8 years with Freehill, Hollingdale and Page (now Ashurst) and Rigby Cooke.



Christine Willshire

Christine practices in personal injury, insurance law and commercial disputes. She regularly appears in Magistrates, County and Supreme Court matters as well as at the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT). Prior to coming to the bar, Christine was a Senior Associate at DLA Piper in the Litigation team. She has also worked in London for Treasury Solicitors (UK Government), in human rights and administrative law matters. She is currently studying a Masters in Law at Melbourne University.



Claire Harris QC

Claire practises in commercial law, professional and public liability, and public law. She has significant experience in acting for insurers and insureds in indemnity disputes and for insurers in conducting defences in liability cases, including class actions. She is experienced with the procedural issues frequently arising in the class action context.



Claire Roberts

Claire was called to the NSW Bar after eight years of working with leading firms in Australia and London and on strategic litigation in New York. She was seconded to the Sydney offices of two major financial institutions as a solicitor, and served as associate to the Honourable Justice Jacobson of the Federal Court of Australia.



Claire Nicholson

Claire has extensive experience in class actions arising from major torts, particularly negligence causing catastrophic fires. Claire's recent matters include claims arising from the 2018 St Patrick's Day bushfires in south-west Victoria, the 2017 fire at the SKM recycling plant in Coolaroo, Victoria, and the 2009 bushfire caused by the escape of fire from a municipal waste facility in Gerogery, New South Wales. The Gerogery litigation recently concluded in the High Court. Claire is available to advise and assist with all aspects of class action litigation, including initial merits assessment, pleadings, briefing experts, loss assessment, trial, mediation and settlement approval.



Coral Alden

Coral practises in common law and commercial law. Coral regularly appears in all Victorian courts (both led and unled) and the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal. In common law, Coral has advised and appeared in matters involving tort, personal injury, workers' compensation, transport accidents, occupiers' liability and defamation law. In commercial law, Coral has advised and appeared in matters involving consumer law, contract claims, property disputes, probate and wills and estates. Before coming to the Bar, Coral was Class Actions and Major Torts List Coordinator to the Honourable Justices J Forrest and John Dixon, and Associate to the Honourable John T (Jack) Rush RFD QC.



Elizabeth Bennett

Liz practises in commercial law, public law, and regulatory cases in the High Court, the Federal Court, the State Supreme Courts, the County Court and VCAT. Liz has appeared in complex commercial cases, including the recent Air Cargo class action and the Oz Minerals class action in the Federal Court. She has also been involved in a range of commercial proceedings for the State of Victoria in relation to registered training organisations. Prior to coming to the Bar, Liz was a Senior Associate in litigation at Allens, and an associate in the Victorian Court of Appeal.



Dr Elizabeth Boros

Dr Boros is an experienced corporate law and insolvency, equity and trusts barrister who has held the Sir Keith Aickin Chair of Company Law at Monash University and was a consultant in the corporate group at Ashurst in Melbourne. She is also a member of the Executive of the Law Council of Australia's Business Law Section and of the section's Corporations Committee.



Ella Delany

Ella accepts briefs in all areas of commercial and public law, and has a particular interest in planning and tax. Prior to coming to the Bar, Ella was Associate to Justice Gordon at the High Court of Australia, Justice Dixon at the Supreme Court of Victoria and a solicitor at Arnold Bloch Leibler. Ella completed her undergraduate law degree at Cambridge University on a Cambridge Commonwealth Trust Scholarship, where she was awarded the Richard Akinjide Prize for exceptional academic performance. Ella holds a Masters in Writing from Columbia University where she was appointed a Teaching Fellow in 2012, and received various academic prizes. Ella also holds an LLM from Melbourne University, focusing on commercial and public law (and particularly the intersection between these areas), for which she achieved a first class honours average. Ella is reading with Kathleen Foley and her senior mentor is Dr. Catherine Button



Elle Nikou Madalin

Elle is an experienced advocate with a focus on complex trial, appeal and interlocutory matters, and commercial arbitrations, for corporations and private individuals in a diverse range of industries. She has particular experience in contract (including international contract disputes), corporations law, partnerships and joint ventures.



Erin Gardner

Erin Gardner has 20 years' experience as a Barrister. She specialises in inquiries, administrative and regulatory law, health and medical law and tort law. She represents individuals, large corporations, insurers, government departments and instrumentalities and has appeared in Royal Commissions, investigations, inquiries and coronial inquests. Erin acts in disciplinary proceedings in the Review and Regulation List at VCAT, before health practitioner boards and other tribunals. Erin undertakes briefs for plaintiffs and defendants in tort actions, including advising in relation to intentional torts and claims for breach of statutory duty, and following the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, has been engaged by organisations and individuals to advise and appear in proceedings which allege physical and/or sexual abuse in institutional settings.



Eugenia Levine

Eugenia Levine practises in commercial and public law. She has particular experience in contractual disputes, corporations' law matters, trade practices, international and domestic commercial arbitration, and securities and other class action litigation. Eugenia's recent class action experience includes the BHP Group Limited shareholder class action and J Wisbey & Associates Pty Ltd v UBS AG & Ors the foreign exchange cartel class action. Eugenia is a member of the Class Actions Committee of the Commercial Bar Association.



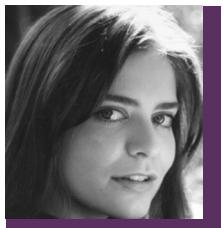
Evelyn Tadros

Evelyn has acted in a range of commercial matters including in contracts, consumer protection, employment, company and property law. Her public law matters include judicial and merits review and Charter cases. Evelyn's common law practice includes defamation law and strategic litigation based in negligence on behalf of asylum seekers and refugees. Prior to the Bar, Evelyn practised litigation at Clayton Utz before becoming Senior Associate to the Honourable Justice Almond in the Victorian Supreme Court. In 2019, she was awarded the Ron Castan AM pro bono award for her human rights work.



Felicity Gerry QC

Felicity Gerry QC is admitted to the list of counsel for the International Criminal Court (ICC) and the Kosovo Specialist Chambers and in England & Wales and in Victoria and had ad hoc admission in Hong Kong and Gibraltar. She has advised and appeared in major terrorism, international fraud and money laundering matters, multi claimant and multi defendant cases, administrative action to heritage list Aboriginal land, a federal challenge for women and children in Syrian camps and in a potential class action relating to illegal logging. She is also Professor of Legal Practice at Deakin University where she lectures in Contemporary International Legal Challenges.



Fiona Alpins

Fiona Alpins recently resumed full-time practice at the Victorian Bar. She is a former Deputy President of the Administrative Appeals Tribunal (2012-2017). Fiona has a broad national practice as an advocate and adviser, in private and public law matters. She practises primarily in commercial litigation, taxation litigation (federal and state), regulatory law and administrative law, at trial and appellate level. Fiona is a former Senior Fellow at Melbourne Law School (2002, 2004-2005). She is a member of the International Association of Tax Judges.



Fiona Forsyth QC

Fiona Forsyth is a very experienced class actions barrister. She has acted for plaintiffs in the Manus Island class action and Murrindindi Bushfire class action and is presently acting for the plaintiffs in a claim relating to the Essure medical device. Fiona has a wealth of experience in the complex issues that arise when representing large numbers of vulnerable plaintiffs in mass tort claims. Fiona has also appeared in securities class actions and has regularly acted for the ACCC in both consumer and competition matters.



Fiona Knowles

Fiona Knowles is experienced employment barrister known for her work in anti-discrimination law and general protections matters. Prior to coming to the Bar, Fiona worked at the Fair Work Ombudsman and the Department of Justice after being in private practice at Holding Redlich and at a large commercial law firm. Fiona sits on the Law Institute of Victoria's Workplace Relations Specialisation Advisory Committee.



Fiona McLeod

Fiona is a Senior Counsel at the Victorian Bar practising in the areas of commercial, public and common law including class actions. She signed the Bar roll in 1991 and was appointed silk in 2003. Fiona appears regularly in the Supreme Court of Victoria and the Federal Court of Australia in trials, including jury trials, and appeals. She led the class action into the Murrindindi Black Saturday bushfires. She led the Commonwealth team in the Queensland Floods Commission of Inquiry, the Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission and the Royal Commission into Institutional Child Sex Abuse working closely with the Attorney General's Department to represent the interests of the Commonwealth across the whole of government. She has appeared for private insurers and aged care providers in the Banking and Aged Care Royal Commissions.



Fleur Shand

Fleur is an experienced commercial and tax litigator focusing on company and securities law, class actions, taxation disputes, contract disputes, regulatory and disciplinary action, building and construction disputes, arbitrations and professional negligence claims. Fleur's recent class actions experience includes Murray Goulburn unit-holder class action, the 7-Eleven Stores franchisee class action, the Banksia Securities Limited debenture holder class action and the Crown Resorts and Oz Minerals securities class actions.



Gayann Walker

Gayann has over 18 years experience as an attorney in the United States and as a solicitor and now Barrister in Australia. Her multi-jurisdictional experience uniquely positions her to assist in class action matters. Gayann has been admitted to practice law in Western Australia, Massachusetts and Florida, USA. Gayann has worked on contractual litigation, property and employment discrimination during her time as an attorney in Massachusetts. In Florida, Gayann acted for insurance companies in various tort and injury cases, and also has experience in acting for personal injury plaintiffs. In Australia, Gayann has worked both for and against government entities. In Western Australia, Gayann assisted individuals who were former wards of the State in compensation actions against the West Australian government. In Victoria, Gayann has had various roles within State government, including litigation of regulatory matters and personal injury claims at the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions.



Georgina Costello SC

Georgina appears and advises in commercial and property law matters, common law cases involving torts and insurance claims, class actions, regulatory matters, proceeds of crime cases and Royal Commissions. She also has a substantial administrative law and migration law practice. Georgina appeared in the Manus Island class action in the Victorian Supreme Court in 2017, and more recently in the Robodebt Class Action in the Federal Court. She is currently involved in various cases involving wind farms, negligent professional services, solar panel sales, government tender and grant processes, and mining joint venture contracts.



Helen Tiplady

Helen has a broad commercial practice. Helen's experience has a strong focus on contractual disputes, and also encompasses a variety of insurance and professional negligence, trade practices and competition matters. Helen has appeared and advised in relation to a number of class actions proceedings involving securities, managed investment schemes, alleged airline cartels, and bushfires. Helen has appeared in both international and domestic commercial arbitrations, particularly in the construction and resources sectors. Most recently, Helen appeared on behalf of the Victorian State Government in the Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System. Helen is also a member of the Western Australian Bar and maintains a door tenancy at Quayside Chambers in Perth.



Holly Jager

Holly practices in commercial law, public law, and common law (major torts). She has experience in class actions arising from her time as an associate to the Principal Judge of the Common Law Division and the Common Law Class Actions List (the Hon. Justice John Dixon). Holly has a particular interest in emerging legal issues in this field, such as the role of litigation funding, and mass-tort claims, such as the recent St Patrick's Day bushfire proceedings. Before coming to the Bar, Holly was also the Senior Researcher to the Chief Justice, and a Trial Division Researcher. These roles have given Holly significant experience in the Major Torts and Class Actions Lists at the Supreme Court. Prior to working at the Court, Holly was a solicitor at HWL Ebsworth in the commercial group.



Jane Gregory

Jane practises in commercial law. She was called to the Bar in 2017 and previously worked at Allens. As a solicitor, Jane worked on the Ford class action and a class action in Papua New Guinea. Jane is currently completing a Master of Laws at the University of Melbourne and, as part of her studies, recently wrote a paper on shareholder class action litigation. During her undergraduate studies, Jane wrote her honours thesis paper on class action settlement processes and the safeguards in place to manage potential conflicts of interest.



Jenny Firkin QC

Jenny is a highly experienced appellate and trial advocate with a broad practice. Jenny has extensive experience in general appellate work and class actions. She practises in all areas of employment and industrial law, and has specialist experience in discrimination and human rights cases. Jenny appears in the High Court, Supreme Court, Federal Court and in various tribunals. She acts for a diverse range of clients including listed companies, government agencies, regulators, insurers, associations and individuals. Jenny has a national practice and advises and appears interstate. Before joining the Bar, Jenny practiced as a solicitor at Galbally & O'Bryan in the Commercial Litigation department, and Herbert Smith Freehills in Employee Relations.



Jillian Williams

Jill practises primarily in commercial and regulatory law. She has particular experience in corporations, insolvency, class actions, equity and trusts, insurance, royal commissions, trade practices/consumer law and banking and finance. Prior to coming to the Bar, Jill was a Senior Associate at Allens Linklaters in the commercial disputes division. Jill regularly appears for a wide range of private and government clients (including ASIC and ACCC) in proceedings in the Supreme Court and the Federal Court.



Jing Zhu

Jing Zhu is a common law and commercial barrister, specialising in personal injuries. Jing accepts briefs to advise on or appear in all areas of personal injury, insurance law, employment law and general commercial matters. Jing regularly appears in Supreme and County Court jury trials, and unled in Serious Injury hearings and in the Magistrates' Court. She also regularly appears in VCAT in sexual harassment and discrimination cases. She is often involved in complex multi-party disputes and regularly represents parties at mediation. She is a native Chinese language speaker, being fluent in Mandarin and Shanghai dialect.



Julie Zhou

Julie practices in employment, administrative and commercial law, including unfair dismissal, general protections, merits and judicial review, migration, Commonwealth benefits (e.g. social security and NDIA), and various commercial disputes. Before coming to the Bar, Julie was senior in-house counsel at Monash University where she acted for and advised the University on issues of public and administrative law, disciplinary proceedings, discrimination and negligence claims. Julie was also in-house counsel for State and Commonwealth governments in the ACT and in Victoria. She was a solicitor advocate for the Commonwealth Department of Human Services, appearing in merits review proceedings in the AAT.



Karina Popova

Karina has a successful practice encompassing common law, criminal law, coronial work and regulatory proceedings. She has a strong interest in personal injury law. Since coming to the Bar she has appeared in a wide range of personal injury matters in the Magistrates' Court, County Court and Supreme Court. She accepts briefs to represent Plaintiffs and Defendants in statutory benefits proceedings, serious injury applications, trials and appeals. Karina's coronial practice has included investigations into death in custody, bushfires, road rescue and applications to re-open investigations. She has appeared on behalf of the CFA, families and other interested parties. Prior to coming to the Bar, Karina was the associate to the Hon. Justice Kaye at the Supreme Court of Victoria, during which time his Honour sat in the Common Law and Criminal Law Divisions, as well as the Court of Appeal.



Kate Anderson

Kate Anderson is a barrister practising at the Victorian Bar since November 2000. Kate is an experienced litigator in state and federal jurisdictions and has previously acted in the following class actions: for the liquidators in Bolitho v Banksia Securities Ltd (recons & mgrs apt)(in liq) and for the defendant in Winterford v Pfizer Australia Pty Ltd. She is counsel for the defendant in Capic v Ford Motor Company of Australia Ltd class action in Sydney. Kate also has a broad commercial practice involving a variety of contractual disputes, corporations law, trade practices, insurance and property law matters. Kate graduated from Melbourne University with a BA(Hons), LLB (Hons). Previously, she was the Associate to Hon. Ray Finkelstein at the Federal Court.



Kate Bowshell

Kate practises principally in commercial and administrative law. She appears regularly in the Victorian Supreme and County Courts and the Federal Court, and has an interest in class action litigation. From 2013 to 2016 Kate was briefed in a Federal Court class action concerning discriminatory wage-fixing for intellectually disabled workers, which achieved the largest employment underpayment settlement in Australian history. In 2011 and 2012 Kate was briefed in a Supreme Court class action proceeding arising from the Black Saturday Bushfires.



Kate Burke

Kate Burke is an experienced class actions barrister who has represented parties in shareholder, personal injury and product liability class actions, including the Crown Resorts, Vocation, UGL, Centro, Hepatitis C, Christmas Island and Bonsoy class actions. Kate has also practiced extensively in employment law and industrial relations including in matters concerning the creation of new minimum entitlements for family and domestic violence leave. Prior to going to the Bar, Kate was a solicitor practising in class actions and general commercial law, and Associate to Justice Hargrave at the Supreme Court of Victoria.



Kateena O'Gorman

Kateena has a BCL from Oxford University, where she studied as a Rhodes Scholar, and was associate to Justice McHugh for his final year on the High Court of Australia. Kateena was called to the Bar in Queensland in 2009, before coming to the Victorian Bar in 2013. Prior to that, Kateena was Lecturer in Corporate Law at Queen Mary, University of London. Kateena has a broad practice, where she regularly appears led and unled, with a focus on commercial litigation, public law, environmental law and tax.



Katherine Brazenor

Katherine has a broad commercial practice. She has advised on and appeared in a range of matters including corporations law, insolvency, bankruptcy, banking and finance, taxation, health, regulatory, contract, trade practices, defamation, professional negligence, domestic building, civil penalty, administrative (in particular, Freedom of Information Act matters) and competition law. She appears led and unled in all fora in Victoria. Before coming to the Bar, Katherine was an Associate at the Federal Court of Australia, first to the Honourable Justice Michelle Gordon in 2011, and then to the Honourable Justice John Middleton in 2012 and 2013. Prior to this, she was at Arnold Bloch Leibler, where she worked as a solicitor in the litigation department. In October 2017, she won the Lawyer's Weekly Women in Law "Barrister of the Year" award. As of 2017, Katherine is also a member of the tutorial teaching staff at Monash University Law School. Katherine read with Dr. Andrew Hanak.



Kess Dovey

Kess is an experienced commercial litigator with a broad practice. Her particular expertise includes competition and trade practices, class action, energy/resources and construction litigation in Federal and State courts, as well as commercial arbitration. Prior to joining the Bar, Kess was a Senior Associate in the commercial litigation team at King & Wood Mallesons where she worked for over 10 years on large scale and high profile litigation.



Kim Cullen

Kim has a broad range of experience in the areas of commercial and family law. Prior to coming to the Bar in October 2015, Kim was an Associate Solicitor working in the area of commercial litigation, corporate insolvency and bankruptcy. Since signing the Bar roll Kim's experience has expanded to include family law. Her extensive advocacy experience extends both running trials at first instance and appeals. Her passion has always been obtaining the best outcomes for her client while guiding them through the often complex court process.



Dr Kristine Hanscombe QC

Dr Hanscombe has a broad commercial, administrative law and equity practice. She has substantial experience in class actions including the GIO, Aristocrat Leisure and Mediaworld shareholders' cases, the Concept Sports multi-plaintiff proceeding, and the Contract Blinds industrial class action. She appeared for the applicant in De Brett v Qantas Airways Ltd, Duval-Comrie v Commonwealth and the Palm Island discrimination case, Wotton v Queensland. More recently she was briefed in the Aveo (retirement villages), 7-Eleven (franchise disputes) and Appco (employment) class actions.



Dr Kylie Weston-Scheuber

Kylie has a range of commercial law experience, including in the areas of building and construction (particularly Security of Payments), consumer law, banking and finance, insurance, contractual disputes and corporations. She also advises and appears in administrative law matters, both judicial review and merits review, and in matters involving regulatory compliance. Kylie is listed in Doyle's Guide as a Recommended Construction and Infrastructure Junior Counsel in Victoria for 2019 and has previously been listed in Dogles Guide nationally and for Victoria. Prior to coming to the Bar in 2013, Kylie was a Senior Advocate at the ACT Director of Public Prosecutions. Before and after coming to the Bar she has appeared as counsel (unled) in numerous jury trials in the ACT involving charges ranging from sexual assault and attempted murder to grievous bodily harm, armed robbery, attempting to pervert the course of justice and obtaining benefit by deception.



Lauren Burke

Lauren Burke is a skilled advocate in common law and crime. Lauren regularly appears at contested applications. And will appear (led or unled) at trials and appeals. Lauren is a strong negotiator, and acts in mediations and settlement conferences. In addition to regular court appearances, Lauren has a busy paperwork practice including advices and serious injury applications. Lauren acts for plaintiffs and defendants. She is also on the preferred list of Counsel for the VWA, TAC and OPP. Before the Bar, Lauren ran a substantial personal injury practice at Lander & Rogers and Thomson Geer. Lauren managed a multi-million-dollar personal injury class action brought by nearly 100 plaintiffs in addition to a large portfolio of individual actions.



Lisa De Ferrari QC

Lisa De Ferrari is one of the Victorian Bar's most eminent barristers with over 18 years' experience in litigation in all the superior courts, including the High Court, extending to class actions, administrative and constitutional law, and public interest litigation. Lisa has received the Susan Crennan AC QC and Ron Merkel QC awards for her outstanding pro bono work.



Louise Martin

Louise Martin practises in commercial and public law. She has particular expertise acting for private and government clients in regulatory and administrative law proceedings. Louise has worked on long-running class actions, regulatory proceedings, and corporate oppression matters. Before joining the Bar, Louise was an associate to the Honourable Justice Weinberg in the Federal Court and the Court of Appeal and the researcher to the former Solicitor-General for Victoria, now the Honourable Justice Tate of the Court of Appeal. Prior to that, she was a solicitor at Clayton Utz in Sydney. Louise completed an LLM (with distinction) at the London School of Economics and Political Science. She also holds a BA (first-class honours) from the University of Melbourne and an LLB (first-class honours) from the University of Sydney.



Lucy Line

Lucy Line has over 5 years of experience as counsel and 12 years of experience in law. She has a background in commercial litigation, working at a top-tier firm prior to being called to the bar. She has also served as an Associate to the Honourable Justice Almond in the Supreme Court of Victoria, primarily sitting in the Commercial Court. Lucy has appeared led and unled in large, complex matters, and has acted for and against government agencies and statutory authorities. Lucy has acted or advised in proceedings concerning areas such as employment, industrial action, finance and financial advice, the education sector, and medicine. She holds a Masters degree from the University of Oxford and teaches subjects related to employment law at Monash University.



Luisa Alampi

Luisa returns to the Bar after two and a half years at Consumer Affairs Victoria (CAV) where she occupied the roles of General Manager, Legal Services Branch and Senior Advocate. She specialises in the areas of general commercial, contract and regulatory law, including consumer protection and disciplinary matters. During her time at CAV, Luisa advised and represented the Director in a breadth of consumer protection matters under the Australian Consumer Law and Australian Consumer Law (Vic) including product safety, misleading or deceptive conduct, false or misleading representations, unconscionable conduct, and unfair contract terms.



Marietta Bylhouwer

Marietta is currently one of four assessors involved in the DePuy defective hip implants class action. Her role is to assist the assessment of damages for the claimants. Prior to this current role, Marietta was involved in the assessment of damages for claimants in the Black Saturday Bushfire Class Action. Since signing the Bar Roll in 1999, Marietta has practised in the Common Law/ Personal Injury area. Her practice covers WorkCover, TAC and public liability matters along with a substantial focus on medical negligence matters.



Marita Foley SC

Marita is an experienced advocate and specialist in environmental law. Marita has appeared in many cases involving contaminated land, environmental prosecutions and losses related to environmental damage. Marita appeared on behalf of the State of Victoria in the Bushfires Royal Commission, in the Hazelwood Mine fire inquiry for the mine operator and also acted on behalf of residents in the class action relating to the Brookland Greens landfill.



Meg O'Sullivan

Meg has a busy trial and advice practice spanning commercial law, equity & trusts, property and torts. Meg appears led and unled in all state courts and tribunals and the federal court. Meg acts for regulators (presently, ASIC). Meg is a member of the Victorian Bar Council and a former member of the Executive of the Commercial Bar Association.



Melanie Szydzik

Melanie Szydzik is an experienced class actions barrister who has acted in notable class actions including the Manus Island, Uber, Essure medical device, Spotless, Money Max, Appco and the Murrindindi and Kilmore bushfire class actions. She is also the deputy chair of the Class Actions Section of the Commercial Bar. Having observed the regime develop over her decade of practice at the Bar, she has a strong interest in new technology and frontiers in class actions litigation.



Dr Michelle Sharpe

Dr. Michelle Sharpe is an experienced advocate in commercial and regulatory law specialising in contract and consumer protection. She has acted in the Banking Royal Commission and in most of the proceedings brought by the regulator in respect of underquoting by real estate agents. She is the author of "Unconscionable Conduct in Australian Commercial and Consumer Contracts" and was named 'Barrister of the Year' in the 2018 Lawyers Weekly Women in Law Awards.



Millicent Lang

Prior to coming to the Bar, Millicent was a Judge's Associate at the County Court of Victoria. Millicent previously worked as a personal injury lawyer in country Victoria where she instructed in a wide range of matters, including WorkCover and TAC statutory benefit claims, serious injury applications and damages trials. She also instructed in the Beechworth bushfire class action. Millicent holds degrees in Law and Arts (Political Science) and is currently undertaking a Masters of Law with a focus on litigation. Millicent predominantly practices in personal injury law and read with David Purcell.



Nawaar Hassan

Nawaar Hassan practises in commercial and administrative law. She has particular expertise in insurance and superannuation. She regularly acts in matters involving avoidance for alleged non-disclosure and alleged fraudulent claims in both general and life insurance. Nawaar has particular expertise in life, total and permanent disability, income protection, accident and trauma cover. Her experience includes both group and retail policies. Before coming to the Bar, Nawaar worked as the Associate to Justice Cavanough of the Supreme Court of Victoria and to Judge Taft of the County Court of Victoria.



Nikki Wolski

Since 2004 Nikki has practised in the Personal Injury arena. Her practice covers TAC and WorkCover proceedings, medical negligence, asbestos and public liability matters. Nikki was involved in the assessment of damages for claimants involved in the Black Saturday Bushfire Class Action. Nikki is currently one of four assessors involved in the assessment of damages for claimants involved in the DePuy defective hip implant class action.



Rachel Doyle QC

Rachel is a specialist in class actions, royal commissions and inquests. She also appears in common law, industrial, commercial and public law matters. Rachel is currently briefed in the Crown Resorts and Bellamys shareholder class actions. In recent years Rachel has been briefed in the Roo-Roofing v Commonwealth home insulation scheme class action, the A v Peters Hepatitis C class action, Centro Shareholders Class Action and the Esso Class Action.



Rachel Matson

Rachel practices in civil litigation with a particular focus on personal injury. Rachel's practice includes appearing in damages trials in the County Court and Supreme Court of Victoria, serious injury applications, contested interim applications and mediations. Rachel also appears unled in VCAT in Transport Accident Act applications for review, and workers' compensation matters in the Magistrates' Court. Rachel was previously a solicitor, during which time she acted on a large-scale group proceeding with the carriage of a few hundred files. Immediately prior to coming to the Bar, Rachel was the senior associate to the Honourable Justice Incerti at the Supreme Court of Victoria, sitting in the common law division.



Rebecca Howe

Rebecca has a broad practice primarily focused on commercial law including the areas of corporations and securities, corporate governance, insolvency, trade practices, equity and class action litigation. In 2017, Rebecca was on the counsel team for the Manus Island class action. Prior to coming to the Bar, Rebecca was a Senior Associate in the Litigation and Dispute Resolution Department at Baker & McKenzie Melbourne.



Rena Burton

Rena moved to Melbourne in 2007 after 14 years at the Sydney Bar. She has appeared in applications, trials and appeals in the Federal Court, the Supreme Courts of NSW and Victoria, and District and County Courts of New South Wales and Victoria and VCAT. She has appeared in some constitutional law cases in the High Court as junior to then Commonwealth Solicitor-General, David Bennett QC. Rena's practice has principally comprised commercial and contract law disputes, corporate insolvency cases, property disputes, professional negligence, insurance and general equity matters. She has also appeared in confiscation of proceeds of crime and freedom of information applications on behalf of the Victorian DPP and the AFP. Rena was on the Commonwealth Bank of Australia's panel of junior counsel in NSW and appeared in banking disputes, variously for borrowers and lenders. She has appeared in examinations and applications on behalf of ASIC.



Renée Enbom SC

Renée practises in general commercial law. She specialises in insurance, class actions, defamation and sports law. Since leaving Corrs Chambers Westgarth for the Bar, Renée has appeared in numerous class actions in both the Federal Court of Australia and the Supreme Court of Victoria for plaintiffs and defendants. She also regularly appears for insurers in a range of matters in those courts. Renée's media law practice involves representing parts of the Australian media and plaintiffs in defamation proceedings across Australia and acting for the media in contempt prosecutions. Her sports law work includes appearing as counsel assisting the AFT Tribunal, acting in proceedings before the Court of Arbitration for Sport and advising a range of sporting bodies.



Roshena Campbell

Prior to coming to the Bar, Roshena was a Senior Associate at Corrs Chambers Westgarth. She holds a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Laws with Honours from Monash University and a Master of Laws from the University of Melbourne with a focus on class actions. Roshena has extensive experience in class actions both as a solicitor and since coming to the Bar.



Shanta Martin

Shanta Martin was admitted to practice in 2000 and signed the Bar Roll in 2018. She practices in commercial law, common law, public law, and international law. Shanta is regularly briefed on a range of class action litigation including shareholder class actions, common law class actions and claims against the State. She has extensive experience in large group litigation. Prior to coming to the Bar, Shanta was a partner at a London law firm specialising in international disputes. Her largest cases involved claims being pursued by thousands of claimants. Shanta previously practised as a commercial litigation solicitor at Mallesons Stephen Jaques (King & Wood Mallesons).



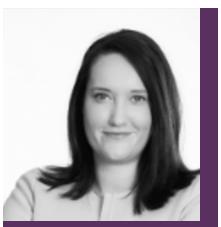
Simone Jacobson

Simone Jacobson signed the Bar Roll in 1998. Her practice at the Bar extends to various areas, acting both for government clients, companies (public and private) and individuals, led and unled. Areas comprise insolvency, taxation, commercial, debt litigation partnership disputes and proceeds of crime, and class action work in Federal and Supreme Court. A recent class action case in the banking/finance sector that Simone acted from the outset in is Uren v RMBL I093/2018 in the Federal Court, junior counsel for RMBL.



Stella Gold

Stella is a common law barrister working in personal injury, with experience in trials, as well as an appellate and judicial review practice. At a state and federal level, Stella has been involved in significant litigation involving statutory authorities, intentional torts, and novel duties of care in negligence. Stella graduated with first class honours, and has been awarded academic prizes including at a Masters level for Administrative Law and published research. Most recently, Stella was listed in the 2019 Doyles Guide as a leading insurance law junior counsel.



Toni Stokes

Toni is an experienced advocate who accepts briefs in criminal law, quasi-criminal law, common law, administrative law, wills and estates and inquiries and inquiries. Toni appears for both prosecution and defence in criminal law. She is experienced in indictable and summary crime, with a focus on corruption and other 'white collar' offences. She also has a thorough understanding of investigative processes and procedures from her roles as in-house counsel for Government agencies. Immediately before coming to the Bar, Toni was a Senior Lawyer at the Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission (IBAC), where she worked on the investigation and prosecution of corruption and police misconduct. She also advised broadly on public law matters, including statutory interpretation, the exercise of statutory powers, public interest disclosures, human rights, the use and disclosure of official information and information privacy.



Veronica Holt

Veronica accepts briefs to appear and advise in commercial, public law and common law matters. Before coming to the Bar, Veronica practised as a solicitor in the commercial disputes and workplace relations teams at Gadens. Immediately before joining the Bar, Veronica was Senior Associate to the Honourable Justice Almond of the Supreme Court of Victoria. Veronica assisted his Honour in a range of commercial matters, including contractual, partnership and joint venture disputes, breaches of directors' duties, misleading and deceptive conduct disputes and insurance disputes. Veronica is interested in working in class actions disputes concerning shareholders and investors, consumer law, medical negligence, financial products and financial planning, environment, human rights and employment.



Victoria McLeod

Victoria has a keen interest in all aspects of personal injuries law and is particularly excited about the changing landscape of class action litigation. Prior to going to the Bar in 2016, Victoria worked as a Solicitor with a focus on workers compensation and insurance. In addition to her Bachelor of Laws, she also holds a Bachelor of Arts (Psychology) and qualifications as a mediator. When she's not working, Victoria is diligently renovating her home by hand as she is a firm believer that she can do anything a man can do, when given the right tools.



Vivienne Jones

Vivienne accepts briefs to appear and advise in criminal, quasi-criminal, public law and common law matters. Vivienne appears for the prosecution and defence in criminal matters. In the quasi-criminal space, she accepts briefs in regulatory prosecutions, disciplinary matters, coronial inquests, enquiries and OH&S matters. Prior to signing the Bar Roll, Vivienne was a Senior Solicitor at the Office of Public Prosecutions. She prosecuted all manner of indictable offences and specialised in sex offences. Her matters typically involved complex trials, committals and plea hearings. She has extensive experience supporting vulnerable people through the legal process, and excellent skills in conferencing.



Wendy Harris QC

Ms Wendy Harris QC is a barrister, who specialises in commercial law. She was admitted to the Victorian Bar in 1997 and was appointed Senior Counsel in 2010. She was elected President of the Victorian Bar in November 2019 and is past President of the Victorian Commercial Bar Association. She has particular experience in securities class actions, banking and finance litigation, insurance and appeals. She was senior counsel for the National Australia Bank in the Royal Commission into Misconduct in the Banking, Superannuation and Financial Services Industry and frequently acts in large-scale commercial disputes, including for numerous ASX100 companies in shareholder disclosure actions.



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