



NEW SOUTH WALES  
BAR ASSOCIATION

## Senior Counsel Appointments 2017

### **First Name, Middle Name, Surname** **Chambers**

#### **Huw Baker**

Crown Prosecutors Chambers Sydney

Huw Baker commenced practice at the New South Wales Bar on 24 January 2005, when he was appointed as a Crown Prosecutor. He specialises in the area of criminal law as both trial and appellate counsel. He is the chairperson of the ODPP Indigenous Lawyers Mentoring Pilot Programme and regularly gives informal presentations concerning criminal law, practice and procedure, advocacy and evidence at Conferences. [BA Australian National University; DipL Legal Practitioners Admission Board]

#### **Michael Robert Elliott**

8th Floor Selborne Chambers

Michael Elliott came to the New South Wales Bar on 15 February 2002. His major area of practice involves commercial disputes, with a particular focus on professional negligence, insurance, contract law, trade practices, corporations law, equity and fraud. He also has appeared for a range of organisations and individuals in Royal Commissions, ICAC hearings and other inquiries. More recently, Michael was Counsel Assisting the Heydon Royal Commission into Trade Union Governance and Corruption [BA, LLB (Hons) University of Queensland].

#### **Melissa Anne Gillies**

Culwulla Chambers

Melissa Gillies commenced practice at the New South Wales Bar on 23 February 2001. Since 2003 she has specialised in the area of family law, appearing in the Family Court and Federal Circuit Court, along with family-related matters and some criminal matters in the Local Court. Melissa is an accredited family law arbitrator and regularly presents papers to various groups on various aspects of family law. [LLB University of Technology Sydney].

#### **Francis Paul Hicks**

Greenway Chambers

Francis Hicks commenced practice at the New South Wales Bar on 17 February 2003. He generally undertakes commercial matters, being primarily engaged in technology and

construction disputes concerning commercial, retail, industrial, mining and infrastructure projects (including renewable energy) and large scale residential developments. He has worked on Halsbury's Laws of Australia "Building and Construction" title and given numerous papers at Building and Construction Disputes Workshops, CLE seminars and insurance forums. [BA, LLB University of New South Wales].

**Dr Ruth C A Higgins**

Banco Chambers

Dr Ruth Higgins commenced practice at the New South Wales Bar on 1 May 2006. Her principal areas of practice are competition law and economic regulatory law (especially energy and telecommunications). She also appears in class action proceedings, public and constitutional matters, corporate criminal matters and general commercial disputes (including insolvency). Ruth is a current member of the Bar Council. She has been a Visiting Scholar at Columbia University in New York and a Lecturer in Law at Corpus Christi College, Oxford. In 2007 she was the co-convenor of the New South Wales Bar Association's rhetoric series of lectures and was a co-editor of *Historical Foundations of Australian Law: Vols. I and II*. [LLB (Hons) Glasgow University; DPhil Oxford University].

**Katharine Clare Morgan**

Tenth Floor Selborne/Wentworth Chambers

Kate Morgan commenced practice at the New South Wales Bar on 16 February 2004. She practices in the areas of regulatory litigation, including civil penalty proceedings, commercial and taxation law, competition and consumer protection, constitutional and administrative law and criminal matters, among others. Kate was the co-vice chair of the Women Barristers Forum for 2014 and 2015, has been a member of Bar Council's Working Party on the Equitable Briefing Policy and is currently a member of the Equitable Briefing Working Group. She has addressed the Bar Readers Course and presented Bar Association seminars regarding CPDs for the Bar Association in relation to practice at the Bar and family responsibilities. [B Ec, LLB (Hons) University of Sydney; LLM (Yale)].

**Richard Craig Scruby**

Tenth floor Selborne / Wentworth Chambers

Richard began practising at the New South Wales Bar in September 2002. His main areas of practice are equity and commercial, bankruptcy and insolvency, tax and revenue law. In 2015 he was junior counsel assisting the Royal Commission into Trade Union Corruption. He is a member of the Diversity and Equality Committee. [BA LLB (University of Sydney), BCL M Phil (Oxford)].

**Naomi Louise Sharp**

Sixth Floor Selborne / Wentworth Chambers

Naomi began practising at the New South Wales Bar in 2002 after she had received the Blashki Award for coming first in the Bar Exams. Her principal areas of practice include competition and consumer law, contract, equity and trusts, public and administrative law, as well as inquests and inquiries. In 2014 she was counsel assisting in the Australian Human Rights Commission Inquiry into Children in Immigration Detention. Similarly, she was counsel assisting in several case studies for the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. She has also served on Bar Council, as well as a Bar Association Professional Conduct Committee and its Human Rights Committee. [BA (Hons) LLB (University of NSW) LLM (McGill University, Montreal)].

**Gregory Richard Waugh**

12<sup>th</sup> Floor Selborne / Wentworth Chambers

Greg began practising at the New South Wales Bar in 1990. His principal areas of practice are commercial, equity, with a particular focus on probate law, and alternative dispute resolution. Greg has served on the board of 12<sup>th</sup> Floor Selborne/Wentworth Chambers. [LLB BComm (University of NSW)].

**Lesley Anne Whalan**

Frederick Jordan Chambers

Lesley began practising at the New South Wales Bar in 1998. Her main areas of practice are medical negligence, product liability, commissions of inquiry and coronial inquests. Between 2013 and 2015 Lesley was a member of a Bar Association Professional Conduct Committee. [BA (Australian National University) LLB (University of NSW)].

**Michael Luscombe Wright**

Frederick Jordan Chambers

Michael began practising at the New South Wales Bar in 2000. Prior to that he had practised for some years as a solicitor in Papua New Guinea. His main areas of practice are environment and planning, native title, administrative law and alternative dispute resolution. Michael is currently a member of the Bar Association's Joint Working Party on Over-representation of Indigenous People in the NSW Criminal Justice System. [BA LLB (University of Sydney)].