



NEW SOUTH WALES  
BAR ASSOCIATION



THE LAW SOCIETY  
OF NEW SOUTH WALES

# Communicating with Aboriginal clients and witnesses

**Presented by:**

**Dr Diana Eades**

*Sociolinguist*

**Mr David Pheeny**

*Aboriginal Legal Service at Bourke*

**and**

**Ms Sophia Beckett**

*Forbes Chambers*

**Chair:**

**Mr Tony McAvoy**

*Frederick Jordan Chambers*

**NSW Bar Association**

**Common Room**

**5.15pm Thursday 16 April 2015**

**1.5 HOUR SEMINAR**

**1.5 CPD/CLE POINTS IN THE  
SUBSTANTIVE LAW STRAND**

Although English is the first and main language of Aboriginal people in NSW, subtle dialectal differences have emerged in Aboriginal English over two centuries. This session will present some of these differences, focusing on the impact on intercultural communication between lawyers and Aboriginal English speaking clients and witnesses. It will also explore implications for practice and procedure.

Dr Diana Eades is a sociolinguist who specialises in intercultural communication and language in the legal process, particularly focusing on the use of English by, to, and about Aboriginal people. Her publications include the lawyers' handbook *Aboriginal English and the Law* (1992, Queensland Law Society).

This seminar has been organised by the New South Wales Bar Association Indigenous Barristers' Strategy Working Party and the NSW Law Society's Indigenous Issues Committee.

**THIS SEMINAR IS OPEN TO EVERYONE**

**REGISTRATION IS NOT REQUIRED**

For more information, please contact Bali Kaur  
[bkaur@nswbar.asn.au](mailto:bkaur@nswbar.asn.au) OR (02) 9229 1722

NSW Bar Association  
Selborne Chambers, B/174 Phillip Street, Sydney

**cpd** Continuing Professional Development