

2026 NQLA CONFERENCE

svpartners

specialist accountants & advisors

TOWNSVILLE, 14 MAY 2026 - 16 MAY 2026

10 CPD
POINTS

PRACTICAL LEGAL ETHICS
PROFESSIONAL SKILLS
PRACTICE MANAGEMENT & BUSINESS SKILLS

ETHICS & PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
PRACTICE MANAGEMENT & BUSINESS SKILLS
SUBSTANTIVE LAW, PRACTICE & PROCEDURE, EVIDENCE
BARRISTERS' SKILLS



NQLA North Queensland
Law Association

BOOK NOW: <https://www.trybooking.com/DJFMP>

THURSDAY, 14 MAY 2026

4:30pm-
5:00pm

Delegate Registration | The Ville Resort-Casino, Daintree Room

5:00pm-
7:00pm

Welcome Drinks | Ardo Rooftop Bar

After collecting your delegate registration package, head on up to Ardo Rooftop and enjoy some welcome drinks with your fellow delegates. The night is then yours – with multiple options for dining at various restaurants in the area.

Welcome Drinks tickets are included in your Conference Registration. Additional tickets can be purchased for \$44.00 (inc. GST) per person.

Sponsored by:

Explore.
Property



8:00am- **Delegate Registration** | The Ville Resort-Casino, Daintree Room

8:30am **For delegates who did not register on Thursday, 14 May 2026.*

8:30am- **Conference Opening & Welcome to Country** | The Pavilions

9:15am Presenters: **Wulgurukaba Walkabouts** | Traditional Owners
Sarah Singh | President, North Queensland Law Association
Michael Brennan | Director, SV Partners
Peter Jolly | President, Queensland Law Society
Chief Justice Helen Bowskill | Supreme Court of Queensland

9:15am- **PLENARY 1 | The Evolving Anti-Money Laundering Landscape in Australia** | The Pavilions

10:00am Presenter: **Matt Dunn** | Chief Executive Officer, Queensland Law Society
Chair: **Sarah Singh** | President, North Queensland Law Association

Australia's evolving AML legislation will introduce new regulatory expectations for legal practitioners. This session cuts through the noise to explain what's changing, who is affected and how to implement compliant systems without disrupting your practice.

Sponsored by:



10:00am- **COMPULSORY CPD | Legal Ethics** | The Pavilions

11:00am Presenters: **Judge Dean Morzone KC** | District Court of Queensland
Ashley Raymond | Lawyer, Bar Reader
Contributor: **Callum Copeland** | Senior Associate, Jensen McConaghy
Chair: **Katherine Graff** | Principal Librarian, Supreme Court Library Queensland

Responsible and Ethical Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence in Court Proceedings:
AI is transforming the legal profession, changing how lawyers research, draft, advise and manage matters. This session explores the opportunities that AI presents, alongside the ethical responsibilities that come with its use.

Sponsored by:



11:00am- **MORNING TEA** | The Ville Resort-Casino

11:30am

11:30am- **COMMERCIAL LAW**

11:45am Sponsored by: [First Title](#)

Presenter: **Gary Lee**

FAMILY LAW

Sponsored by: [FLPA](#)

Presenter: **James Bailey**

LITIGATION & ADVOCACY

Sponsored by: [31 Sturt Chambers](#)

Presenter: **Justin Gregory KC**

11:45am- **If, and only if – aspects of the law bearing upon unilateral contracts.**

12:45pm Presenters:
Michael Jonsson KC
Barrister-at-Law, Trinity Chambers
Sean Kelly
Barrister-at-Law, 31 Sturt Chambers
Chair:
Mark Metzeling
Principal Solicitor, Macpherson Kelley

Joint decision-making and the death of week about?

Presenter:
Alex Raeburn
North Queensland Family Law Chambers
Renae Stocks
North Queensland Family Law Chambers
Chair:
Kelly Whitten
Senior Associate, WGC Lawyers

True Crime Podcasts: Help or Hinderance?

Presenter:
William Mitchell OAM Hon LLD
Principal Solicitor, Townsville Community Law Inc.
Chair:
Jessica Hine
Barrister-at-Law, 31 Sturt Chambers

12:45pm-
1:45pm

**Running an Oppression
Claim: from pleading to buy
out**

Presenter:
William Evans
Barrister-at-Law, 31 Sturt
Chambers
Chair:
Michael Brennan
Director, SV Partners

Division 2: Latest & Greatest

Presenter:
**Senior Judicial Registrar
Kerrie Stuart**
Federal Circuit & Family Court
of Australia (Division 2)
**Senior Judicial Registrar
Shaune Williams**
Federal Circuit & Family Court
of Australia (Division 2)
Chair:
Kellie Mythen
Barrister-at-Law, 31 Sturt
Chambers

**Beyond a Reasonable Doubt:
where did it come from?**

Presenter:
Anthony Collins
Barrister-at-Law, Castle Hill
Chambers
Chair:
Nick Westcott
Osborne Butler Lawyers

1:45pm-
2:30pm

LUNCH | The Ville Resort-Casino

2:30pm-
3:30pm

**A few good workplace
rights... a case involving the
laws of general protection,
discrimination and
whistleblowers**

Presenter:
Keta Roseby
Director, Roseby Law
Andrew Kaye
Senior Associate, Roseby Law
Chair:
Lynette Lyons
Associate, WGC Lawyers

**Court is not casual: the
solemnity of Court
&
Section 102NA: An
important provision but do
you think it needs reform?**

Presenter:
Justice Jacoba Brasch
Federal Circuit and Family
Court of Australia
Chair:
Judge Corey Jenkins
Federal Circuit and Family
Court of Australia

**Can a Machine Think Like a
Lawyer?**

Presenter:
Dr Matt Collins AM KC
Barrister-at-Law, Aickin Chambers
Chair:
Michael Murray
Barrister-at-Law, 31 Sturt
Chambers

3:30pm-
4:30pm

COMPULSORY CPD | Practice Management Skills | The Pavilions

SOLICITOR

**“Big Little Lies”: an examination of the tips
and traps in misleading and deceptive
conduct cases under the ACL. Plus bonus
chapter: ethical obligations of legal
practitioners not to mislead or deceive
Courts or colleagues**

Presenter:
Merissa Martinez
Barrister-at-Law, Paloma Chambers
Chair:
Lynette Lyons
Associate, WGC Lawyers

BARRISTER

**Life at the Bar: The Good, the Hard and the
Practical**

Presenters:
Andrew Philp KC
Barrister-at-Law, Trinity Chambers
Claire Grant KC
Barrister-at-Law, 31 Sturt Chambers
Andrea Lawrence
Barrister-at-Law, 31 Sturt Chambers
Chair:
Michael Murray
Barrister-at-Law, 31 Sturt Chambers

Sponsored by:



**Legal
READY**

4:30pm-
5:00pm

AN UPDATE FROM THE QUEENSLAND LAW REFORM COMMISSION | The Pavilions

Presenter: **Fleur Kingham** | Chair of the Queensland Law Reform Commission
Chair: **Jessica Alexander** | Associate, Macrossan & Amiet

50 years after the Evidence Act 1977 commenced, the Queensland Law Reform Commission will deliver its report on evidence law in Queensland and provide draft legislation to give effect to its recommendations. The Chair, Fleur Kingham, will explain the scope of the review and place the key issues in a historical and comparative context. She will outline the Commission's approach to the review and invite your input to a timely review of this fundamental justice infrastructure.

5:00pm-
6:00pm

Enjoy some leisure time to unwind or connect with colleagues

6:00pm-
10:00pm

Flinders Lane After Dark | The Manhattan Room, Flinders Lane

Step off the street and into Flinders Lane – a stylish Townsville venue with a modern, New Orleans vibe. It is the perfect location to unwind, relax and connect in a truly unique setting.

Buses will depart The Ville reception from 5:45pm, returning to the Ville from 9:45pm. Tickets are included in your Conference Registration.

Dress: Cocktail

Sponsored by:

**Splatt
Lawyers**



9:00am-10:00am

PLENARY 2 | A View from the High Court | The Pavilions
 Presenter: **Justice Robert Beech-Jones** | High Court of Australia
 Chair: **Chief Justice Helen Bowskill** | Supreme Court of Queensland

In this session, Justice Beech-Jones will share insights from our nation’s highest court, offering reflections on contemporary legal issues, the evolving role of the judiciary and trends shaping Australian law.

Sponsored by:



COMMERCIAL LAW

Sponsored by: **First Title**

FAMILY LAW

Sponsored by: **FLPA**

LITIGATION & ADVOCACY

Sponsored by: **31 Sturt Chambers**

10:00am-11:00am

Clubs, sports and schools: “Judicial Review” in domestic tribunals

Presenter:
Matthew Paterson
 Barrister-at-Law, North Quarter Lane Chambers
 Chair:
Lynette Lyons
 Associate, WGC Lawyers

DV Applications and the ADF

Presenters:
Group Captain Scott Geeves
 Deputy Chief Judge Advocate, Australian Defence Force
Major Nathan Smith
 3rd Brigade, Legal Officer, Australian Army
 Chair:
Lorelei Billing
 Solicitor, Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Legal Service (Qld) Ltd

The rollercoaster of the Jury Trial: persuasion on the run

Presenters:
Saul Holt KC
 Barrister-at-Law, 8PT Chambers
Matthew Jackson
 Barrister-at-Law, 8PT Chambers
 Chair:
Jessica Shuttleworth
 Family Lawyer, Ruhl Family Law Centre

11:00am-11:30am

MORNING TEA | The Ville Resort-Casino

11:30am-12:30pm

Matters of life, death and Estate Planning

Presenters:
Paul Radford
 Partner, Connolly Suthers
Nicole O’Bree
 Partner, Connolly Suthers
 Chair:
Jessica Alexander
 Associate, Macrossan & Amiet

The “Balance Sheet” - nature and current issues

Presenters:
Philip Looney KC
 Barrister-at-Law, French Quarter Chambers
Kellie Mythen
 Barrister-at-Law, 31 Sturt Chambers
 Chair:
Peter Finocchio
 Director, Legal Funding Australia

Speed Dating with the Chiefs

Presenters:
Chief Justice Helen Bowskill
 Supreme Court of Queensland
Chief Judge Brian Devereaux SC
 District Court of Queensland
Chief Magistrate Janelle Brassington
 Magistrates Court of Queensland
 Chair:
Andrew Philp KC
 Barrister-at-Law, Trinity Chambers

12:30pm-1:30pm

A perspective on contemporary court practice

Presenter:
Justice Christopher Johnstone
 Supreme Court of Queensland
 Chair:
Sarah Singh
 President, North Queensland Law Association

Not a Mere Mouthpiece: Exercising Forensic Judgment in section 102NA matters

Presenters:
Deanna Musumeci
 Barrister-at-Law, 31 Sturt Chambers
Michael Murray
 Barrister-at-Law, 31 Sturt Chambers
 Chair:
Rebecca Casanovas
 Associate, Family Lawyers Mackay

Committal Hearings – the do’s, don’ts and whys

Presenter:
Rémy Kurz
 Barrister-at-Law, 8 Petrie Terrace Chambers
 Chair:
Magistrate Bronwyn Hartigan
 Magistrates Court of Queensland

1:30pm-
2:30pm

LUNCH | The Ville Resort-Casino

2:00pm-
2:30pm

2026 NQLA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING | Pavilion 1, The Ville Resort-Casino

2:30pm-
3:30pm

COMPULSORY CPD | Professional Skills | Barrister Stream + Solicitor Stream | The Pavilions

Sponsored by:

Avoiding Burn Out in Legal Practice

Presenters: **Matt Heelan** | Barrister-at-Law, Brisbane Chambers

Dr Tania Rose | Consultant Psychiatrist

Chair: **Commissioner Megan Mahon** | Legal Services Commission



The legal profession is demanding, fast-paced and increasingly high-pressure, making burnout a growing risk for practitioners at every stage of their career. This session explores the practical causes of burnout in legal practice, how to recognise the early warning signs and realistic strategies to manage workload, stress and professional expectations.

3:30pm-
3:45pm

Closing Remarks | The Pavilions

Presenter: **Sarah Singh** | President, North Queensland Law Association

3:45pm-
6:00pm

Enjoy some leisure time to unwind or connect with colleagues before our closing event.

6:00pm-
11:00pm

Gala Dinner | The Pavilions @ The Ville Resort-Casino

The learning is over – now let the fun begin! While you get glammed up, the Pavilions will be transformed, ready for an unforgettable evening. This event will be the social highlight of the conference calendar - an evening to unwind, connect and celebrate the legal profession.

Black Tie dress code.

Tickets to this event must be purchased separately for \$198.00 (inc. GST) per person.

Sponsored by:



CONFERENCE TICKETS

(all ticket prices include GST + \$0.50 trybooking fee)

Member standard \$1,100.00

Registration includes NQLA membership, Conference proper, "Welcome Drinks" and "Flinders Lane After Dark"

Corporate Package | Three (3) transferable delegate tickets \$2,970.00

Registration includes NQLA membership, Conference proper, "Welcome Drinks" and "Flinders Lane After Dark"

One Day Registration | One day registration (standard) \$550.00

Registration includes one day at the NQLA Conference as selected by the delegate and entry to "Welcome Drinks" (if attending Friday) or "Flinders Lane After Dark" (if attending Saturday)

Junior Practitioner Registration \$880.00

Available to practitioners who have three years or less PAE.

Registration includes NQLA membership, entry to the Conference proper, "Welcome Drinks" and "Flinders Lane After Dark"

Student Registration | One day registration (student) \$330.00

Available to law students. Registration includes one day at the NQLA Conference as selected by the delegate and entry to "Welcome Drinks" (if attending Friday) or "Flinders Lane After Dark" (if attending Saturday)



FOLLOW
THE NQLA
SOCIALS

 nqla00
 NQ_LA_
 North Queensland Law Association

SIGNATURE SOCIAL EVENT TICKETS

(all ticket prices include GST + \$0.50 trybooking fee)

Thursday Night – Welcome Drinks | additional tickets (each)

\$44.00

Included in Conference registration

Thanks to:

A traditional start to the SV Partners 2026 NQLA Conference. Welcome drinks will be held at Ardo Rooftop, Ardo Hotel, a short stroll from the Ville. Drinks and canapes provided (and it's all included in your delegate registration)! Come up, say hello, and have a well-deserved cold one, with an incredible view of the sunset! Then it's a night at leisure, with plentiful dinner options, so make sure you book early to secure a table!

Explore.
Property

Dress: Smart Casual

Friday Night – Flinders Lane After Dark | additional tickets (each)

\$82.50

Included in Conference registration.

Thanks to:

Step off the street and into Flinders Lane – a stylish Townsville venue with a modern, New Orleans vibe. It is the perfect location to unwind, relax and connect in a truly unique setting.

Splatt
Lawyers

Buses will depart The Ville reception from 5:45pm, returning to the Ville from 9:45pm. Tickets are included in your Conference Registration.

Dress: Cocktail

Saturday Night – Gala Dinner | tickets (each)

\$198.00

Tickets must be purchased separately

The learning is over – now let the fun begin! While you get glammed up, the Pavilions will be transformed, ready for an unforgettable evening. This event will be the social highlight of the conference calendar - an evening to unwind, connect and celebrate the legal profession.

Dress: Black Tie

Thanks to:



MACKAY DISTRICT
LAW ASSOCIATION

SPEAKERS

Judiciary

Justice Robert Beech-Jones
High Court of Australia

Chief Justice Helen Bowskill
Supreme Court of Queensland

Justice Jacoba Brasch
Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia (Div 1)

Justice Christopher Johnstone
Supreme Court of Queensland

Chief Judge Brian Devereaux SC
District Court of Queensland

Judge Dean Morzone KC
District Court of Queensland

Chief Magistrate Janelle Brassington
Magistrates Court of Queensland

Judge Corey Jenkins
Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia (Div 2)

Senior Judicial Registrar Kerrie Stuart
Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia (Div 2)

Senior Judicial Registrar Shaune Williams
Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia (Div 2)

Fleur Kingham
Former President of the Land Court of Queensland, chair of the Queensland Law Reform Commission

GPCAPT Scott Geeves
Deputy Chief Judge Advocate, Australian Defence Force

Barristers

Andrew Philp KC
Barrister-at-Law, Trinity Chambers

Dr Matt Collins AM KC
Barrister-at-Law, Aickin Chambers

Saul Holt KC
Barrister-at-Law, 8 Petrie Terrace Chambers

Philip Looney KC
Barrister-at-Law, French Quarter Chambers

Michael Jonsson KC
Barrister-at-Law, Trinity Chambers

Claire Grant KC
Barrister-at-Law, 31 Sturt Chambers

Anthony Collins
Barrister-at-Law, Castle Hill Chambers

Andrea Lawrence
Barrister-at-Law, 31 Sturt Chambers

Merissa Martinez
Barrister-at-Law, Paloma Chambers

Sean Kelly
Barrister-at-Law, 31 Sturt Chambers

Alex Raeburn
Barrister-at-Law, North Queensland Family Law Chambers

Matt Heelan
Barrister-at-Law, Brisbane Chambers

Matthew Jackson
Barrister-at-Law, 8 Petrie Terrace Chambers

Renaë Stocks
Barrister-at-Law, North Queensland Family Law Chambers

Deanna Musumeci
Barrister-at-Law, 31 Sturt Chambers

William Evans
Barrister-at-Law, 31 Sturt Chambers

Rémy Kurz
Barrister-at-Law, 8 Petrie Terrace Chambers

Kellie Mythen
Barrister-at-Law, 31 Sturt Chambers

Matthew Paterson
Barrister-at-Law, North Quarter Lane Chambers

Michael Murray
Barrister-at-Law, 31 Sturt Chambers

Ashley Raymond
Lawyer, Bar Reader

Solicitors

William Mitchell OAM Hon LLD
Principal Solicitor, Townsville Community Law Inc.

Michael Brennan
Director, SV Partners – Townsville

Paul Radford
Partner, Connolly Suthers

Nicole O'Bree
Partner, Connolly Suthers

Keta Roseby
Director, Roseby Law

Major Nathan Smith
3rd Brigade Legal Officer, Australian Defence Force

Andrew Kaye
Senior Associate, Roseby Law

Key Note Speakers

Matthew Dunn
CEO, Queensland Law Society

Peter Jolly
President, Queensland Law Society

Dr Tania Rose
Consultant Psychiatrist

WITH THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

NAMING RIGHTS SPONSOR

svpartners

specialist accountants & advisors

STREAM SPONSORS

COMMERCIAL LAW
STREAM

FAMILY LAW
STREAM

LITIGATION & ADVOCACY
STREAM

first title



FAMILY LAW
PRACTITIONERS
ASSOCIATION

31
STURT
CHAMBERS

GOLD SPONSORS



MEDIBYTES LEGAL



SILVER SPONSORS



PLENARY & SESSION SPONSORS



EVENT SPONSORS



COFFEE SPONSOR



VEHICLE EXHIBITOR

Townsville BMW



ACCOMMODATION



The NQLA has been able to secure 10% off the best available rate at The Ville Resort-Casino and Ardo Hotel across 14, 15 and 16 May 2026.

To take advantage of this discount, contact the Reservations Team on (07) 4722 2333 or email TSVL.reservations@the-ville.com.au and quote "NQLA2026"

DINING OPTIONS

ARDO
ROOFTOP

A place where the rhythm of the sun rules, and the rules don't matter. Refreshments on repeat with views to the horizon that just won't end.

TERASU
照らす

With the bright lights of Tokyo as Terasu's muse, they've created a lively take on casual Japanese dining that packs a punch.

M A R M O R

A union of land and sea, where ocean meets pasture in elevated Australian dining.

QUARTERDECK
TOWNSVILLE QUEENSLAND

Alfresco, casual dining by day. Playground by night. Welcome to Quarterdeck: Restaurant. Bar. Icon. Serving cocktails + dreams + good times with some of the best views of Magnetic Island Townsville has to offer.

The
PALM HOUSE

Experience the unexpected delights of contemporary buffet dining in Townsville, with breakfast and dinner in casual resort comfort at The Palm House. Featuring live cooking stations, a show kitchen, and an eclectic selection of cuisine borrowing inspiration from across the globe, this is a buffet revival.

Spin^{CAFE}

Retreat to the comforting classics at Spin Café: the perfect place to unwind and catch up for a chit chat over some coffee and cake, a light meal, or a full on feed.

WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

2027 conference planning is under way! Contact us to register your interest for sponsorship and speaking opportunities:

 secretary@nqla.com.au



