Dear Caroline

Spring has sprung and it’s party time at FLPA’s Round Table! In this edition, FLPA president Trent Waller addresses members for the last time as president and gives a rundown on the Family Law Residential.

See what’s next on the FLPA events calendar – Caveats are coming on 25 September! And don’t miss the 30th birthday celebrations for FLPA on Friday 7 November.

You can also ‘Meet a FLPA member’ and don’t forget to join the conversation on LinkedIn and Twitter.

Also, if you haven’t renewed your membership, don’t miss out. If you have renewed, encourage a colleague to join too! This year with membership, you will receive your Member Information Kit as well as a new ‘proud member’ logo!

More case notes are on the FLPA website too!

The Round Table team

Message from the FLPA president

What a successful and active few months it has been since the last Round Table.

The 29th Annual Family Law Residential at Royal Pines Resort from 7 - 9 August 2014 took centre stage and was again a great success for FLPA and our members.

This year’s conference enjoyed a record attendance of more than 430 delegates which was a wonderful achievement given it was so close to the biennial conference.

The conference’s success is much attributed to the outstanding support from the judiciary and other professional speakers. I again sincerely thank the judiciary for their continued loyalty and support.

To continue this outstanding professional development program and extend it to regional members throughout the state, FLPA will again host a one-day conference in far north Queensland in October 2014.

FLPA is also proud to announce we will sponsor the family law stream at North Queensland Law Association’s (NQLA) conference on Hamilton Island in May 2015.

On other events, don’t miss the biggest celebration of the year – FLPA’s 30th birthday celebration at Restaurant II on Friday 7 November. It’s gearing up to be a fabulous night to celebrate FLPA’s growth and achievements over the last 30 years. The party will be so big it is doubling as a Christmas party too. Don’t miss it!

This will be my last message in Round Table as FLPA president. FLPA’s AGM will be held on Thursday 28 October. Please nominate and vote for the next FLPA committee.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my term as president over the past two years. The family law profession in Queensland is a vibrant and rewarding one and I am very proud to be a member...
of it. I am pleased that FLPA contributes to the collegial nature of the Queensland family law community.

The president and the FLPA Board are, for their term, custodians of this fine association, which this year turns 30 years old. My term as president is for others to judge, but I thank all members of the FLPA Board during my term for their unwavering commitment, hard work, inspiration and assistance to not only me, but for the benefit of FLPA.

I look forward to continuing to be a part of this great association and continuing to making a contribution as immediate past president.

See you at the AGM and FLPA’s 30th birthday celebrations!

Trent Waller
President

---

**Residential rundown**

The premier professional development event for family lawyers in Queensland—the Family Law Residential—lived up to its name with a record 430 delegates attending this year’s event.

Held once again at Royal Pines Resort on the Gold Coast, this year’s dynamic program kicked off on Thursday with a Masterclass.

FLPA president Trent Waller said the new Masterclass was a great success and added a new beneficial dimension to the traditional two day event.

In his closing remarks at the Residential, Trent acknowledged and thanked FLPA members for their attendance and continued support of the event, as well as the sponsors and the speakers, who devote their time from practice and judicial demands to prepare and present high quality papers. With dates already set for 2015, FLPA is once again very proud of their role in organising this event with the Queensland Law Society.

“We are extremely fortunate to have the support and relationships with such wonderful speakers from the judiciary and other specialists in the family law profession to really make this event a must attend event each year for family law professionals,” Trent said.
Caveats are coming - Twilight Seminar on 25 September

The long-awaited twilight seminar and webinar on caveats is back! Justice Colin Forrest will present his experience and knowledge to assist you in understanding the proper grounds upon which you can lodge and maintain caveats in Court Applications.

The last twilight of the 2014 year, this twilight seminar and webinar is not to be missed.

This twilight seminar will be broadcast LIVE via webinar, so if you can’t make it in person, you can log in, see the speaker and participate online. Don’t miss it! Register Now!

to top

FLPA presents cheque to QIMR Berghofer Medical Research

FLPA president Trent Waller and vice president Clarissa Rayward were pleased to present the fundraising cheque of more than $10,000 to the QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute in July.

Presented to Professor Adele Green, the funds were raised in February from FLPA’s ICL conference which was held in memory of the late Honourable Keith Slack, who passed away from cancer in 2011.

The Honourable Keith Slack was a keen supporter and promoter of the excellent work that ICLs provide to our profession.

to top

QUT’s new Family Mediation Service

The significant gap in the market for parties who cannot access Legal Aid and also cannot afford the fees of a private mediator has been bridged by QUT’s new family mediation service.

The service is also providing a solution for practitioners undertaking training to meet the FDRP requirements to obtain the required 10 hours of supervised practice before they can apply for registration as an FDRP.

The service is the only one in Australia allowing practitioners the opportunity to gain supervised practice in FDR, while offering a highly professional service to the public.

Mediation course and supervision

QUT conduct two short CPE courses which train practitioners in the academic requirements of Family Dispute Resolution and also meet the education and training requirements of the National Mediator Standards.

Cost-effective family mediation service

QUT also has the capacity and the infrastructure in place to provide an affordable mediation service to the public. Costs can be negotiated on the basis of economic hardship, but are recommended at $100 per party per hour up to a maximum contribution of $500 per party per day.

This cost includes intake and the issuing of a certificate but intake and screening occurs before the day of the mediation. Mediations by phone can also be arranged. Parties may attend with a lawyer with the consent of the other party.

The mediations will be co-mediated by an experienced FDRP and a practitioner who is a Nationally Accredited Mediator and has successfully undertaken the two FDR short courses at QUT. Most of these practitioners are experienced family lawyers, along with those with a social science background. At this stage, only children’s matters are being mediated.

Mediations are held at the QUT Health Clinics, Musk Ave, Kelvin Grove Village. Mediations usually start at 9.30 am, but this can be negotiated. Waiting times are about two weeks.

For more information, contact QUT on 3138 0999 or visit healthclinics.qut.edu.au

to top
Meet Joanna Lezanski – Mediate It

After working exclusively in family law in private practice for the past 10 years, FLPA member Joanna Lezanski has undertaken her next challenge. Joanna has established Mediate It, a boutique mediation practice focusing on delivering quality and affordable mediation and alternative dispute resolution services to parties while guiding them to reach an outcome which will allow their future relationship to move forward in a positive way.

Joanna was born in Poland and speaks fluent Polish. If you know Joanna, you may also know she really enjoys baking and makes a mean red velvet cupcake (even if she does say so herself!). Contact Joanna:
P: 0409 578 737
E: joanna@mediateit.com.au
W: www.mediateit.com.au

If you would like to feature here, please email us at roundtable@flpa.org.au with the following information:

- Your photo or business logo
- Your name and business name
- A brief description of your business
- Something interesting about you (that will get attention and ensure others remember you)

gto top

FLPA FUNNIES

A new section of Round Table, we share a funny verbatim excerpt from an actual court case. If you have any to share, please post it on LinkedIn or email roundtable@flpa.org.au.

Counsel: Your Honour, I don’t mean to be facetious. In all seriousness, this case that literally cries out for justice.

The Court: Counsellor, everyone receives justice in this court.

Counsel: Yes, Your Honour, but this case cries out for additional justice.

The Court: I’m sorry counsellor, we’re all out of additional justice. We used it up on the morning list.

to top

Don’t forget: No court on 14 November for G20

The Queensland Government’s public holiday for those working in the Brisbane City Council area on Friday 14 November will mean there will be no court on this day.

Only workers in the Brisbane City Council area will receive this special one-off holiday to assist with easing security concerns and traffic congestion when the G20 summit is being held.

to top

Renew if you haven’t and join a colleague for 2014/15

FLPA membership fees for 2014/15 were due in July. For only $99, FLPA membership must be one of the best value professional memberships around. If you haven’t already renewed, please do so immediately as your membership will soon lapse.

If you have renewed already, why not encourage another family law practitioner to join too. And remember students can join for free!

FLPA provides members with constant and up-to-date information about the family law industry and great professional development opportunities.
Payment is easy as we now accept credit card, cheque, or EFT. Go to the website or email membership@flpa.org.au for more information.

---

**Women’s Legal Centre: Call for female family law volunteers**

Would you like to make a positive difference to the many women who access the services at Women’s Legal Centre?

Women’s Legal Centre is a not-for-profit organisation that relies on the invaluable contribution volunteers make to provide vital services. Are you:

- A female lawyer who has experience in family law?
- Currently practising in family law and hold a current practising certificate to provide legal advice to women in relation to family law and domestic violence matters?
- Available to provide telephone advice to women once per month?
- Available to provide face to face advice one evening per month (Monday and Wednesday evenings) from 6–8pm?

If you can help, please email Suzanne Marshall at smarshall@wlsq.org.au.

---

**Case Watch - Calling contributors for 2015**

We’ve loaded some great new and interesting case summaries on the FLPA website under categories of children, property, binding financial agreements, procedural and spousal maintenance.

- Maldera & Orbel [2014] FamCAFC
- Thompson & Berg [2014] FamCAFC 73
- Parkes & Parkes [2014] FCCA 102
- Kent & Brook [2012] FMCAfam 413
- Auricchio & Auricchio and Ors (No 2)[2014] FamCA 240

A very big thank you to FLPA members Paul Mason, Carla Franchina, Sarah Dibley, Caitlin Wilson, Grace Lawson, and Ashley Ehlers for your recent case notes.

If you would like to be in the team of volunteers in 2015 who prepares a case note for the FLPA website, please register your interest at roundtable@flpa.org.au.

---

**Join the conversation – FLPA on LinkedIn and Twitter**

Don’t forget to join FLPA on LinkedIn and Twitter. Use it to find valuable information, share content, make business contacts and establish yourself as an industry expert!

A closed group only for FLPA members, we have more than 70 practitioners in the group. If you are unsure how to make the most of a LinkedIn group, here’s a few tips.

**Starting a discussion**

You can start a discussion from FLPA’s Discussions page. A discussion might be a question for group members to provide feedback, an observation, an opportunity or heads up advice for fellow practitioners. To start a discussion:

1. Move your cursor over **Interests** at the top of your homepage and select **Groups**.
2. Click the group's name – Family Law Practitioners Association.
3. Enter your topic or question in the “Start a discussion or share something with the group” box (required). Remember to keep it quite short.
4. Enter details in the “Add more details” box or add a link to a website by typing in the URL and pressing the space bar on your keyboard.
5. Click **Share**.

To join, log into LinkedIn. In the search field, type in Family Law Practitioners Association of Queensland and click on **Follow**

http://www.linkedin.com/groups?home=&gid=6640041&trk=groups_most_popular-h-logo&goback=%2Egmp_6640041

Don’t forget, FLPA also now has a Twitter account for fast communication about last minute changes, quick announcements, or Family Law Residential information. To follow, log into Twitter. Search for FLPAQ or go to **https://twitter.com/flpaq** and click on **Follow**.

to top

---

**Heads up**

**FLPA Annual General Meeting**

FLPA’s AGM is coming, so if you would like to nominate or vote, take note of the following dates:

- **30 September**  Nominations for board due
- **23 October**  Voting papers due
- **28 October**  Annual General Meeting

**The Legal Practitioner's guide booklet**

The Department of Human Resources has released a new guide to provide precedents for court orders and child support agreements made under the Child Support (Assessment) Act 1989 (the Assessment Act). See the link below to download the guide:  http://www.humanservices.gov.au/business/publications/cs1174

to top

**Member information kit 2014/15**

The member information kit for 2014/15 is now available to members. Containing some valuable resources for family law practitioners, this year’s kit has:

- Passwords for WiFi, computers and photocopying facilities provided by FLPA in Brisbane, Cairns, and Townsville.
- An updated list of public contact centres still open.
- A shadow expert checklist.

**New ‘proud member’ logo**

This year’s membership information kit also contains a new 'proud member' logo. We have designed this logo for members to use on stationery, email signatures, website or other corporate marketing.

And here’s a great tip. If you use it in your email signature or website, hyperlink it to the FLPA website or your profile on the FLPA website.

Download the logo and right click as "save as" into your own files. If you would like more information about using this logo, please contact  **roundtable@flpa.org.au**.

to top

**FLPA events 2014**

To register or find out more about upcoming FLPA events as well as other events, see below and go to the **FLPA website**.
Women at the Bar – 23 September 2014
If you’re a solicitor or a barrister, and you’re interested in developing your connections and networks over drinks and canapés, this event is for you! The Women at the Bar event is a social networking evening for solicitors to meet women barristers, and for women barristers to meet a broader network of solicitors. It’s also an opportunity for women who are considering going to the Bar to meet other female barristers to discuss the practical and exciting aspects of life at the Bar.

When: 5.30pm, Tuesday, 23 September 2014
Where: Bar Common Room
Cost: $35.00 members, $40.00 non-members
RSVP: Online by 19 September 2014

Twilight seminar and webinar – 25 September 2014
Don’t miss the long-awaited twilight seminar and webinar on caveats!

When: 5.30pm, Thursday 25 September 2014
Where: Grant Thornton, Level 18, 145 Ann Street, Brisbane
Cost: $33 members, $55 non-members
RSVP: Register by completing the registration form by Monday, 22 September 2014 to membership@flpa.org.au; fax to (07) 3112 6838.

LEADR event – Ethical FDR practice where there is a history of family violence
This session explores issues concerning ethical and safe FDR practice in matters where there is a history of family violence. In particular the session considers how the recent family violence amendments to the Family Law Act 1975 (Cth) impact on FDR practice, and explores the lessons learned from the Coordinated FDR pilot program.

When: 5.45pm, Thursday 25 September 2014
Where: Clayton Utz, Level 28, Riparian Plaza, 71 Eagle Street, Brisbane
Cost: $20 LEADR members, $25 non-members
RSVP: Register by Tuesday, 23 September 2014

FLPA in the Tropics – One-day conference – Cairns – 25 October 2014

When: 9am to 5pm, Saturday 25 October 2014
Where: Cairns
Official invitation with more details to come.

FLPA Annual General Meeting – 28 October 2014

When: 5.30pm, Tuesday 28 October 2014
Where: Vincents, Level 33, Santos House, Turbot St, Brisbane
Nomination forms and voting forms to come.

FLPA’s 30th birthday – 7 November 2014
Can you believe FLPA is 30 years young this year? Don’t miss FLPA’s birthday celebrations. Save the date and kick up your heels like a 30 year old would. This will double as an early Christmas celebration, so don’t miss it.

When: 6pm, Friday, 7 November 2014
Where: Restaurant II, Alice Street, Brisbane
Dress: Cocktail
Official invitation with more details to come.


When: Friday 29 May to Saturday 30 May 2015
Where: Hamilton Island
Official invitation with more details to come.

FLPA is proud to sponsor the family law stream of the North Queensland Law Association Conference on Hamilton Island in May 2015.

North Queensland FLPA committee member Kate Pateman said the conference was a great professional development as well as networking opportunity for FLPA members, particularly those who cannot make the annual Family Law Residential.

**Child support Agency Care Estimator**


---

**Titles office website**

The following link takes you to the Titles Office for industry professionals [http://www.derm.qld.gov.au/property/titles/industry.html](http://www.derm.qld.gov.au/property/titles/industry.html). It includes:

- the Land Titles Practice Manual (how to complete and lodge land registry forms),
- the fee calculator (calculates the lodgement fees payable on land registry forms), and
- the latest land registry forms.

These forms change regularly. You can also register your details for an [automatic update](http://www.derm.qld.gov.au/property/titles/industry.html).

---