



WLAQ | WOMEN LAWYERS
ASSOCIATION OF QUEENSLAND INC

*2022 WLAQ
INSPO LIST*

A LIST OF WOMEN WHO INSPIRED AND SUSTAINED US
IN 2021





*AFTER A CHALLENGING
TWELVE MONTHS, THE
WLAQ PRESENTS THIS
SPECIAL EDITION OF
THE INSPO LIST*



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Catherine Cheek
President

Last year, I wrote that there had never been 12 months like 2020. Despite the legacy of 2020 conditions, 2021 was not the same as 2020. In March 2021, we expected to return to something that resembled, if not replicated, our pre-COVID-19 life, but with inclusion of progressive changes in work and domestic flexibility.

We spoke casually of a resumption of pre-COVID activities. We expected the worst to be over. In short, we were mentally prepared for an intense sprint to the end of the COVID-19 upheaval.

Instead, we have found ourselves grinding through 2021 into 2022, having lived through a time where endurance and stamina were the essential skills in our skillset. At the beginning of 2021, we anticipated that we would go hard and fast to get to an early finish. We were not prepared for the extended effort of a marathon.

This year, the WLAQ Committee would like to acknowledge the women who have made this effort possible, because without this sustenance, it is difficult to imagine continuing with depleted energy, patience and personal resources.

Because we wish to acknowledge the value of those who have checked in on us, lifted our spirits and reminded us how competent we are, we have offered the opportunity to thank our fellow women lawyers to our membership. The women mentioned in this year's list have given the gifts of support and encouragement in the last 12 months to another member of our organisation.

WLAQ also acknowledges all firms, businesses, chamber groups and organisations who have contributed to the profession's ability to adapt to the 2021/2022 marathon.

This is the fifth year that WLAQ has published its Inspo List. All the women listed hold a law degree either in or from Queensland.





Alysha Jacobsen
Bouchier Khan Lawyers

Amanda Bain
Crown Law

Amanda Gilmour
Shine Lawyers

Amie Mish-Wills
Fair Work Ombudsman

Amy Honan
Honan Family Law

Amy Zanders
RSPCA

Andrea Perry-Petersen
Reimagining Justice

*It's the colleagues you can call for support at any
hour that truly matter*

- WLAQ on Amy Honan



The Honourable Ann Lyons
Formerly Supreme Court of Queensland

Ann-Maree David
College of Law Queensland

Anna Tichborne
Megaport

Anna-Maria Lofaro
MinterEllison

Senior Judicial Registrar Anne-Marie Rice
Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia

April Freeman
More Chambers

Throughout 2021, April juggled an extremely busy practice as well as family commitments with her two young boys with style and grace. Despite how busy she is she maintains contact with our tight group of female lawyer friends to ensure we have regular catch ups and opportunities to vent to each other.

- WLAQ on April Freeman



Ashleigh DoRozario
Potts Lawyers

Ashleigh Harrison
Maurice Blackburn Lawyers

Ashleigh Poole
Thynne + Macartney

Avelina Tarrago
North Quarter Lane Chambers

Magistrate Belinda Merrin
Brisbane Magistrates Court of Queensland

Beth Rolton
Travis Schultz & Partners

Beth personally ensured each of her team members felt valued and appreciated during what was a difficult time due to COVID and staffing changes. She encouraged and motivated me to progress my career at a time I felt it wasn't possible. Beth's continued encouragement made me realise I could achieve things I'd previously thought weren't possible.

- WLAQ on Beth Rolton



Bettina Trenear
Queensland Police Service

Dr Bridget Cullen
Administrative Appeals Tribunal

Carolyn Juratowitch
Hub Community Legal Centre

Cassandra Heilbronn
Private Family Office

Cate Heyworth-Smith QC
Chambers 33

Justice Catherine Carew
Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia (Div 1)

Dr Catherine Brown
Queensland University of Technology

*Her knowledge and generosity of time have meant
more than I can say; not to mention the small
matter of time zones.*

- WLAQ on Cassandra Heilbronn



Catherine Cheek
Kennedy Spanner Lawyers

Chief Justice Catherine Holmes AC
Supreme Court of Queensland

Cecelia Bernardin
Blair Chambers

Chelsea Saldumbide
McConnell & Saldumbide Criminal Lawyers

Chloe Kopilovic
FC Lawyers

Christa Nicola
ODPP

Claire Grant
31 Sturt Chambers

Claire takes my calls after hours, weekends, whenever I need. She helped me a lot recently when I wanted to quit being a lawyer and she talked me through things and gave me the confidence that I needed to keep at it.

- WLAQ on Claire Grant



Clare Hine
Clare Hine Lawyers

Magistrate Clare Kelly
Beenleigh Magistrates Court of Queensland

Senior Judicial Registrar Clare McCormack
Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia

Clare O'Connor
Fullagar Chambers

Clarissa Rayward
Brisbane Family Law Centre

Claudia Georgouras
ODPP

*Clare is a huge source of support to me and her line
is always open whenever I need a friendly and
understanding ear to listen!*

- WLAQ on Clare Hine



Dale Bampton
North Quarter Lane Chambers

Danielle Illiffe
Youth Advocacy Centre

Davina Lucas
Legal Aid Queensland

Judge Dearne Firth
Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia (Div 2)

Deborah Awyzio
DA Family Lawyers

Deborah Mitchell
Administrative Appeals Tribunal

I didn't know Dale before I came to the bar in 2021, but we connected via a social media group and she was instantly supportive to me and offers me her time and support and mentoring. Dale recently organised a get together - a small group of women barristers with the sole purpose of enabling us to meet each other and get to know each other for support and ideas sharing.

- WLAQ on Dale Bampton



Judge Deborah Richards
District Court and Children's Court of Queensland

Justice Debra Mullins AO
Queensland Court of Appeal

Dejana Kovac
ODPP

Diane Ruhl
Ruhl Family Law Centre

Dominique Lamb
National Retail Association

Donna Callaghan
Jeddart Chambers

Donna is a quiet achiever, but she was the first and most supportive person to me at the bar. No one talks about how isolating the bar is, but in 2021 Donna made me feel welcome, like I had a community from day one at the bar, and she is generous with her time and knowledge.

- WLAQ on Donna Callaghan



Magistrate Dzenita Balic
Southport Magistrates Court of Queensland

Elizabeth Kelso
ODPP

Elizabeth Shearer
Shearer Doyle Law

Emma Davis
Shine Lawyers

Emma Fitzgerald
Jeddart Chambers

Emma Lewis
Shand Taylor Lawyers

Erin Shaw
O'Reilly Shaw Lawyers

She has always made herself available to chat whether it relates to work or personal stress and has provided helpful advice that has assisted me during more difficult periods of 2021.

- WLAQ on Elizabeth Kelso



Felicity Nagorcka
Crown Law

Genevieve Dee
Lander & Rogers

Georgina Wong
Colin Biggers & Paisley

Hannah Wordsworth
MA Kent & Associates

Helen Ashton
East Coast Injury Lawyers

Helen Blaber
Prisoners' Legal Service

Justice Helen Bowskill
Supreme Court of Queensland

Helen Davison
More Chambers

Georgina is a fearless advocate who has been an exceptional mentor to me throughout 2021 and consistently shows me that you can have it all - work success, a social life and a family life.

- WLAQ on Georgina Wong



Helen Driscoll
Rose Litigation

Dr Jacoba Brasch QC
Inns of Court

Jamie Shine
Shine Lawyers

Magistrate Jane Bentley
Coroners Court of Queensland

Jane Bowes
Maurice Blackburn Lawyers

Magistrate Janice Crawford
Brisbane Magistrates Court of Queensland

Jemima Harris
Megaport

I worked with Helen on the executive of Queensland Young Lawyers and she provided incredible support in the 2021 year through her bubbly energy, decisive action and community spirit.

- WLAQ on Helen Driscoll



Jessica Goldie
Queen's Arms Chambers

Jessica Grumelart
DA Family Lawyers

Jessica McClymont
Hemmant's List

Jessica Popple
Pippa Colman & Associates

Jessica Shuttleworth
Shuttleworth Legal

Jo-Anne Hunt
Legal Aid Queensland

I joined Legal Aid Queensland in March 2020 when COVID-19 was just beginning to present challenges for our profession. I was new to the organisation and did not have many familiar faces around me. Since that time, Jo-Anne has become a firm supporter of and constant inspiration to me.

- WLAQ on Jo-Anne Hunt



Jodie Willey
Shine Lawyers

Jodie Wooldridge QC
ODPP

Joelene Seaton
MBA Lawyers

Judy Stewart
Stewart Family Law

Cr Kara Cook
Brisbane City Council

Kara Thomson
Queensland Law Society

Karen Gaston
Callinan Chambers

When there has been a lot of confusion and anxiety thrown into our lives thanks to COVID, thank you for consulting with individuals to see what they need, for providing clear, calm guidance at all stages of the process and for reassuring everyone that we are important.

- WLAQ on Jodie Willey



Kate Juhasz
Lucas Chambers

Dr Kate van Doore
Griffith University

Kate Witt
Clyde & Co

Katherine Manby
VM Family Law

Kathryn Finlayson
MinterEllison

Kathryn McMillan QC
Quay 11 Chambers

Kellie Walker
Legal Aid Queensland

She is an inspiration, and during the challenges of the past 12 months has proven herself to be a tremendous leader. She makes me better simply through her warmth, encouragement and support, and being such a great role model.

- WLAQ on Kathryn Finlayson



Kerala Drew
Wallace Davies Solicitors

Kiarah Grace Kelly
Brisbane Family Law Centre

Kirsten Van Der Wal
Maurice Blackburn Lawyers

Krystal Kovac
Oncore

Kylie Bell
Legal Aid Queensland

Kyna Morice
Legal Aid Queensland

Lara Soldi
ODPP

Kiarah is a cheerleader for everyone who enters her orbit, her clients, her staff, her community and colleagues.

- WLAQ on Kiarah Grace Kelly



Laura Ensinger
VM Family Law

Laura Neil
Endeavour Chambers

Laura Reece
Halsbury Chambers

Leanne McDonald
Shine Lawyers

Judge Leanne Spelleken
Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia (Div 2)

Linda Cho
Robertson O'Gorman Solicitors

Lisa Foley
DA Family Lawyers

Laura's selfless commitment to the welfare of her colleagues during the pandemic has been outstanding and will be remembered by many.

- WLAQ on Laura Reece



Louise McCormack
Murdoch Lawyers

Louise O'Reilly
O'Reilly Shaw Lawyers

Margaret Brain
Maurice Blackburn Lawyers

Margaret Maloney
Crown Law

Megan Dudley
Colin Biggers & Paisley

Megan Fairweather
Queensland Health

Megan Inglis
Hub Community Legal Centre

During tough times, she is the one you want in your corner. She is adept at lifting people up to be the best version of themselves, doesn't shy away from tough conversations, and is a constant inspiration. She has tackled new challenges this past 12 months with such aplomb.

- WLAQ on Megan Fairweather



Magistrate Megan Power
Innisfail Magistrates Court of Queensland

Melia Benn
Endeavour Chambers

Melinda Zerner
Jeddart Chambers

Nadia Bromley
Women's Legal Service Queensland

Nathalie Landaverde
Keane Legal

Nichola Di Muzio
Thynne + Macartney

Nickelle Morris
East Coast Injury Lawyers

Nickelle has boundless energy and an unstoppable commitment to fight for the right outcome for her clients. She has supported me personally and professionally this year in many ways.

- WLAQ on Nickelle Morris



Nicole Morgan
MinterEllison

Niki Schomberg
Hartley Family Law

Nikki Gough
Gough Law

Nikki Wawryk
Mental Health Review Tribunal

Nikola Prince
Legal Aid Queensland

Patrina Clohessy
Crown Law

Penny Feil
Accord Mediation

During 2021, Patrina has been a shining example of someone who can handle adversity and still have space to support others. She has exhibited great fortitude at being flexible to support others to work in a different way during the pandemic and whilst juggling family and work commitments.

- WLAQ on Patrina Clohessy



Pippa Colman
Pippa Colman & Associates

Rachel Boivin
ODPP

Rachel Stuart
KLM Solicitors

Rachel Volzke
Fair Work Ombudsman

Rachelle Logan
Trinity Chambers

Rebecca Horsley
Inns of Court

Rebecca Jancauskas
Shine Lawyers

Rebecca Treston QC
Callinan Chambers

*Rachel is a fantastic support, someone you can call
with a question or complaint at any time of day.*

- WLAQ on Rachel Stuart



Rhiannon Helsen
Coroners Court of Queensland

Ruby Nielsen
Shand Taylor Lawyers

Ruth O'Gorman QC
Higgins Chambers

Sally Matthews
Office of the Public Guardian

Samantha Legrady
Legrady Law

Magistrate Sandra Pearson
Cairns Magistrates Court of Queensland

Despite all of her responsibilities, she always makes herself available to mentor staff, she is dedicated to making the organisation a better working environment and a respected court registry to the profession. In a time where the office and the outside world is constantly changing, Rhiannon remains the constant safe space for her colleagues.

- WLAQ on Rhiannon Helsen



Sarah Adams
Donaldson Law

Sarah Farnden
ODPP

Sarah Ford
Gilshenan & Luton

Sarah Twinn
Meridian Lawyers

Sarah Vallance
Shine Lawyers

Sarah-Jane MacDonald
MacDonald Law

Sharelle Kusay
University of Southern Queensland

Sarah is the definition of a quiet achiever, a top gun prosecutor who has always done her best to support and raise up her colleagues and is unquestionably fair and decent.

- WLAQ on Sarah Farnden



Sheetal Deo
Shakti Legal Solutions

Simone Bain
Sunshine Coast Barristers Chambers

Simone Fraser
Inns of Court

Stephanie Brown
O'Reilly Shaw Lawyers

Stephanie Nicholas
Legal Aid Queensland

Stephanie Williams
ODPP

Susan Anderson
Chambers 33

*Simone is an empathetic, kind barrister who is
supportive of junior solicitors*

- WLAQ on Simone Fraser



Susan Hedge
Byth Chambers

Tamara Hensen
Denise Maxwell Solicitors

Tara Lucke
The Art of Estate Planning

Terri Mottershead
Centre for Legal Innovation

Professor Therese Wilson
Griffith University

Tracy Bowen
University of Southern Queensland

The Griffith University law faculty is ALWAYS personally supportive, because it is led by a team of women who back each other. This is not just a faculty - it is a family.

- WLAQ on Professor Therese Wilson



Magistrate Trinity McGarvie
Mt Isa/Bundaberg Magistrates Court of Queensland

Vavaa Mawuli
Maurice Blackburn Lawyers

Judge Vicki Loury QC
District Court of Queensland

Virginia Ryan
Mental Health Review Tribunal

Wendy Nixson
Shine Lawyers

As not only a junior solicitor, but also new to the region of Bundaberg, Magistrate McGarvie has been welcoming and patient. Each day I appear in front of her, I develop as an advocate. She is an inspiring role model to junior female practitioners like myself.

- WLAQ on Magistrate Trinity McGarvie



#BREAKTHEBIAS

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THANK YOU TO THE WOMEN OF
QUEENSLAND'S LEGAL PROFESSION

