

Collegiality vital for junior employment lawyers

ADLS' Employment Law Committee Convenor, Catherine Stewart, along with committee member, Philip Skelton QC, recently attended and spoke at a junior employment lawyers' collegiality event.

The brainchild of two junior employment lawyers, the purpose of this event was to provide a forum for junior employment lawyers to meet and engage. Recognising the importance of building professional relationships in this area of law, the ADLS Employment Law Committee was quick to support this event.

In speaking to the gathering, Catherine Stewart and Philip Skelton QC emphasised the benefits of having positive, collegial relationships with others in the legal profession. While clients may be locked in a battle, this does not mean that lawyers need to be aggressive among themselves. Instead, effective advocacy is often better achieved through a firm, but collegial approach.

Each gave examples of circumstances where a respectful approach had worked in their client's favour. They also noted that further knowledge and growth can be gained from conferring with colleagues on legal concepts and ideas. Such discussions will be especially beneficial in light of anticipated new legislation in this area. Receiving different views on how upcoming changes might impact clients and work in practice can assist enormously with pending cases.

The situations with which employment lawyers deal are invariably very "human", as people's jobs are often strongly linked with their identity.



Catherine Stewart, Phillip Skelton QC, Emily Partridge, Gillian Service and Eleanor Gregan



Daniel Church, Joshua Kimpton, Kent Duffy and Ruthi Bommoju



Michael Greenop, Danielle Findlay, Rebecca Scoggins and Sharnika Leleni

It is therefore extremely helpful to have a support network in the work environment, and having such a network at the same level of experience and from the start of one's career is invaluable.

It is anticipated that further events providing opportunities for junior employment lawyers to meet will be held throughout 2019. Watch this space.



APPOINTMENTS

A round-up of recent appointments

Armstrong Murray appoints new partner

Andrew Reeder began working at Armstrong Murray as a part-time law clerk while studying. After he was admitted to the bar, he spent three years working for a large national firm in the CBD, before returning to Armstrong Murray in 2011. Mr Reeder's work primarily focuses on commercial and company law and commercial leasing.



Andrew Reeder

Two promoted to partner at Glaister Ennor

Leading Auckland law firm Glaister Ennor has elevated two high-performing senior associates to its partnership. Anthea Coombes and Nicola Harrison have been appointed as new partners in the firm's land development and property team.

Anthea Coombes is a leading expert in subdivisions and has significant experience in a wide range of land development and property matters. With more than 12 years' experience in property law, Ms Coombes has worked on major subdivisions, commercial property transactions, complex title matters and large property developments.



Anthea Coombes

With close to 20 years' experience in NZ and the UK, **Nicola Harrison** is an expert in commercial property law, residential land development and commercial contracts. She has worked on some of New Zealand's largest and most complex property transactions and looks after commercial property investors, developers, commercial landlords, franchisors and high-profile businesses.



Nicola Harrison