

Pro Bono Voco



Thanks to Kingsford Legal Centre for use of front cover photo



Many of us are contemplating how we'll fill our cups over the holiday break to restore our mental, physical and emotional energy after such a challenging year. I hope this edition of *Voco* will aid you in this quest! This edition's focus is on celebrating the work of lawyers in Australia and abroad in advancing human rights and social justice to create a better, brighter, future for our communities.



Natalie Wade, Founder and Principal Lawyer of Equality Lawyers in South Australia, discusses her career advancing the rights of people with disabilities and how she's developing innovative ways to provide accessible and inclusive legal services (p.3).



Fighting for human rights and social justice and advocating for those who suffer systemic discrimination is also at the core of the National Justice Project's work. The firm's work, which includes assistance to refugees and its groundbreaking activities fighting discrimination in the healthcare system, has been recognised nationally and internationally (p.5).



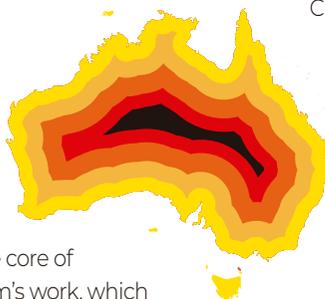
We are delighted to have Rosalind Croucher AM, President of the Australian Human Rights Commission, discuss the work of the Commission and the pro bono assistance it receives, which she notes has had a meaningful, lasting and positive experience on human rights (p.11).



In this edition we feature the work of boutique firm and Target signatory, FAL Lawyers, and its wide-ranging pro bono work, including the firm's involvement in the important 'Free the Flag' campaign (p.14).

Technology has been at the forefront of DLA Piper's adaptation of training for students in Fiji (p.25).

Thank you to Emma Colledge, Director of the Kingsford Legal Centre based at UNSW, who reports on her Centre's work during COVID-19, and the pro bono support it receives (p.19).



Chloe O'Brien, a lawyer in the pro bono team of Simmons & Simmons in London, discusses challenges and opportunities presented by COVID-19 and her work as a volunteer Policy & Project Officer at the Centre while on furlough leave this year. Chloe was a great asset to the team and we are grateful for her support, all provided pro bono and in the spirit we promote at the Centre (p. 23).

Climate-related work has been a significant focus of the Centre this year. I'm so pleased this edition includes a case study provided by Jodie Wauchope, Planning & Environment Partner and National Pro Bono Partner at Dentons, on the firm's work on two of the largest land acquisitions for conservation in Australia (p.9). If you haven't already done so, please read our *Pro Bono Guide to the Climate Crisis*, released in August 2020. Find a summary of the guide on page 7.

In this edition we also highlight other Centre initiatives, including our work to grow in-house pro bono (p.27). Our Australian Government Solicitor secondee, Anna Jacobs, writes about the Centre's own measuring impact procedures and highlights our new Buddy Program as a case study (p.16). Anna has been integral to the development of these initiatives. As her secondment comes to an end we thank Anna for her fantastic contribution to the work and life of the Centre since January 2020.

Continuing our 'spotlight on board members' series, a huge thank you to PIAC CEO and trumpeter, Jonathon Hunyor, for sharing his early career experiences and passions (p.27)! ■

Gabriela Christian-Hare,
CEO

PRO BONO IN THE NEWS

Each week the Centre distributes a Weekly Round-Up of the top news stories relating to pro bono legal work and access to justice through Pro Bono in the News. Subscribe at www.probonocentre.org.au

Don't miss the Centre's primary resources at www.probonocentre.org.au:

- The Australian Pro Bono Manual: a 'how to' and 'best practice' guide on establishing and operating a pro bono program
- Pro Bono Partnerships and Models: A Practical Guide to What Works: practical information on how to effectively collaborate on pro bono projects
- Best Practice Guide: a guide to best practice in the provision of pro bono legal services
- Client Management & Self-Care Guide
- Pro Bono Legal Work: A Guide for Government Lawyers
- Pro Bono Legal Work: A Guide for In-House Corporate Lawyers
- Pro Bono Guide to the Climate Crisis
- Pro Bono Guide for Individual Lawyers