

PRESENTERS

Vivien Botsikas, Associate, DWF (Australia)

Vivien is an Associate at DWF (Australia), who specialises in Commercial Litigation, Insolvency and Bankruptcy. Following her admission as a solicitor in 2010, Vivien has gained significant experience working on bankruptcy and insolvency matters in NSW, and has worked alongside some of the leading lawyers in this area. Vivien's practice includes acting for Trustees in Bankruptcy, both in prosecuting claims brought for the benefit of the estate, and in defending claims made against Trustees. In addition to her substantial experience representing clients in Federal Circuit Court matters, Vivien also often appears in the Federal Court of Australia and the Supreme Court of NSW, acting for insolvency practitioners, creditors, directors and companies, and individuals in financial distress



Giles Woodgate, Senior Partner, Woodgate & Co

The firm's senior partner is Giles Woodgate, who has in excess of 36 years experience as a Chartered Accountant. During the last 33 years Giles has specialised in business recovery services including reconstruction, insolvency and business consulting services. He has Big Four insolvency experience and has extensive overseas experience, having worked on a number of foreign assignments and having been a director of a New Zealand insolvency practice. Much of Giles' work has involved business turnarounds, reconstructions, corporate & personal insolvencies and providing specialist advice to directors, corporates and lenders in the early stages of a business problem.



Doug Whelan, Executive Director, Litigation Funding Solutions

- Financier and investor with 20 years-experience
- Chartered Accountant
- Experienced in debt recovery
- Experienced in risk management and recovery group of Big Four Australian Banks



Stephen Bonner, Assistant Director - Regulation, AFSA

Steve Bonnor is a CA/CPA who has worked for the past 6 years as Assistant Director – Regulation at AFSA. Dealing primarily with Complaints and reviewable decisions and other aspects of the AFSA Compliance Program including inspections of practitioners. Prior to joining AFSA Steve was Director of Financial Audit in the UAE and Auditor General in Tuvalu.



Michelle Castle, Barrister, 13th Floor, St James Hall

Michelle Castle worked as tipstaff to Justice Simon Sheller in the NSW Court of Appeal before commencing practice as a solicitor in Construction & Arbitration in 1992 at Allen, Allen & Hemsley. Through this work Michelle was first introduced to the world of insolvency.

Since being called to the Bar in 2007 Michelle has practised extensively across areas of commercial law, including insolvency, and usually acts for trustees and liquidators. She has been involved since 2009, for various parties, in the long-running Coshott litigation. Michelle now practises at 13th Floor, St James hall.



Michael Lhuede, Partner, Piper Alderman

Michael specialises in corporate and personal insolvency law and is recognised as one of Australia's leading insolvency lawyers.

With thirty years' experience acting in insolvency matters Michael mixes his high level of technical skills with his commercial experience in identifying and achieving the optimal outcome for his clients. In workouts and restructuring Michael will set out the framework for a successful restructure and then work closely with our commercial and property teams on execution of the plan. Michael is also regularly involved in the bringing and defending of a wide range of insolvency actions including preference claims, insolvent trading and avoidance of property transfers. Michael is regularly engaged to assist in the forensic investigation through the undertaking of public examinations of directors and related parties.

Michael is a past National Chair of the Law Council's Insolvency and Reconstruction Committee. As a member of that committee he has actively participated in the reform of the Bankruptcy Act over recent years.



David Topp, Barrister

David Topp is a Barrister at the private bar in Brisbane. Admitted as a solicitor in 2002 and having commenced practice as a barrister during February 2006, David has many years of practical experience in all aspects of property, commercial, insolvency, debt recovery and wills, estate and family provision litigation and dispute resolution. David is an accomplished speaker, having presented seminars on many prior occasions for Lexis Nexis, Step Qld, Step Tasmania, Queensland Law Society, Television Education Network and Legalwise, and has had written work published by *Proctor*, the Tasmanian Law Society's quarterly Law Letter, *CCH Online* and *Lawyers Weekly*. David is also the author of two *Security for Costs* textbooks and the property law themed *Tennyson Breach*



Steven Golledge, Barrister, 3 St James' Hall Chambers

Expertise

Administrative, Banking, Bankruptcy, Commercial, Contracts, Corporate Insolvency, Equity, Industrial/Employment, Insurance

Admissions + Appointments

Admitted as a Solicitor 1984

Admitted to the Bar 2005 (NSW)



Sally Nash, Consultant Solicitor, O'Neill Partners Commercial Lawyers

Sally is acknowledged as a leading insolvency lawyer in NSW. She was admitted to practice in 1977 and has practiced in insolvency, dispute resolution and litigation and debt recovery litigation since that time.

Sally practices in all New South Wales State and Australian Federal Courts involving debt recovery, commercial and insolvency litigation and acts for creditors, Trustees, Liquidators, bankrupts and directors. She also has extensive experience acting for secured creditors in the enforcement of their securities. Sally has been involved in many leading cases and is highly regarded by the profession, her clients and fellow practitioners.

Sally is a member of the Law Society of NSW, Law Council of Australia and the Commercial Insolvency and Reconstruction Committee; Australian Restructuring Insolvency & Turnaround Association. Sally also lectures to clients and the profession and is a regular conference speaker.



Michael Murray, *Principal, Murrays Legal*

Michael Murray has been closely involved with personal insolvency law and reform for some years, both in legal practice and in later roles.

He writes for all the law publishers on the ILRA 2016 changes in bankruptcy and corporate insolvency, and on the one year bankruptcy – for Keay’s Insolvency, CCH, Lexis Nexis, and By Lawyers; and he advises government, the courts and practitioners on the implementation of the new laws. Michael’s views are offered through his Murrays Legal website – on codes of practice, AFSA and ASIC, replacement of trustees, offence referrals and remuneration, as well as mental health, stigma, and overseas developments.

He is the Attorney-General’s nominee on trustee registration committees. As a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Law, Michael works with judges, academics and practitioners in organizing conferences and events on issues including law and technology, ethics, and standards. He is also a fellow of the UNCITRAL Coordination Committee and as a QUT academic is judging international insolvency moots in Vancouver in 2018.



Stephen Mullette, *Principal, Matthews Folbigg Lawyers*

Stephen is a specialist insolvency and financial restructuring practitioner. He has extensive experience in all forms of both corporate and personal insolvency, including bankruptcy, liquidations, voluntary administrations, receiverships, as well as informal and formal financial restructuring. He regularly advises and represents insolvency practitioners and also personal and corporate creditors and debtors in relation to insolvency and restructuring matters. Stephen regularly appears in Federal, Family and State Supreme Courts on behalf of insolvency practitioners in respect of legal issues involved with insolvency administrations, including trust and property disputes and the recovery of voidable transactions under the Bankruptcy and Corporations Acts.

He also advises on asset protection and acts for individuals and corporations in dealings with insolvency practitioners, negotiating deeds of company arrangement, personal insolvency agreements and compositions, and claims for the recovery and sale of real property as well as disputes over voidable transactions., insolvent trading, and director’s duties as well as the interaction of Family Law with insolvency.



Bob Cruickshanks, *Personal Insolvency Consultant*

Bob Cruickshanks is a consultant to number of firms and provides guidance on personal insolvency administration and associated investigations. He was a former Deputy Official Receiver for NSW and the ACT and retired after 34 years during which time he worked in all the front line sections of AFSA. Prior to his retirement he had a long standing association with registered trustees throughout Australia.

