



ALAANZ COUNCIL MEMBERS



Duncan Ferrier – President ALAANZ, New Zealand Branch

Duncan practices as a Barrister at Capital Chambers in Wellington, New Zealand. He graduated in 1992 from Canterbury University with a BA and an LLB and in 2002 from Victoria University of Wellington with a Masters degree in law. While his practice incorporates a broad range of civil and public law litigation issues, his particular focus is on matters of transport and liability. He acts for the New Zealand aviation and maritime regulatory entities, and has, from time to time, provided in-house legal services to both of these organisations. Duncan advises and acts for insurers and other participants within the aviation and maritime industries.



Mark Gray-Spencer - Immediate Past President ALAANZ, NSW Branch

Mark has represented Underwriters and direct clients in many Australian, Asian and South Pacific jurisdictions in a variety of aviation related matters for over 15 years. These include civil claims, product liability claims, Coronial Inquests, Royal Commissions and prosecutions arising from breaches of occupational health and safety laws and environmental prosecutions. Underwriters have also regularly consulted Mark in relation to coverage and indemnity issues and policy and endorsement drafting. Mark has also since admission in 1986, had an extensive commercial litigation practice in most Australian jurisdictions including two appeals to the High Court of Australia. Further, due to his post graduate qualifications in Trade Practices law, he has advised clients specifically in respect of Part IV and V of the *Trade Practices Act 1974* in both civil claims and prosecutions. In particular, manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers in product liability claims. His Masters degree also incorporated an extensive review of the ongoing difficulties with international carriage under the Warsaw Convention. Mark has been consistently named in *Euromoney Legal Group Guide to the World's Leading Aviation Lawyers* since 1998.



Robert Burns – Victoria Branch

Robert T Burns (Robbie) has been in practice at the Victorian Bar for over 18 years. He has a general law practice which covers Family, Civil and Crime (with the odd Aviation matter). He is a pilot with nearly 2000 hours flying experience gained in military, airline and general aviation. He has been a member of the National Council for many years and has held the positions of Victorian Branch Chairman and Secretary.



John Ribbands - Victoria Branch

John was admitted to practice in 1987 and came to the Bar in 1988. He has an extensive practice in commercial and administrative law appearing regularly in the Federal Court and the Supreme Court in all states. Through his own prior experience in aviation (a little bit of flying and a lot of skydiving) he has developed an extensive practice in aviation related matters. John has obtained a Masters in Aviation (Human Factors) from Swinburne University. He advises and appears regularly in the AAT and Federal Court in regulatory and licensing disputes. His aviation practice involves appearing in inquests and inquiries. He has acted for both plaintiffs and defendants in numerous insurance, negligence and contract actions. He has appeared in aviation inquests for interested parties as well as acting as Counsel assisting. John is the current president of the Victorian Branch of ALAANZ.



John Dawson - New South Wales Branch

John was admitted to practice as a lawyer in 1985. He joined Carney Lawyers in 1985. John's background is in aviation, employment and workplace relations. For nearly a decade he worked in Air Traffic Services with the then Civil Aviation Authority. He has also been the State Secretary of the registered association representing employees engaged in the aviation industry and the Professional Radio and Electronics Institute of Australia. John's success in his legal practice comes from his qualifications and unique experience in these two areas. He's represented stakeholders in commissions of inquiry including the Independent Review of the Australian Advanced Air Traffic System and the Commission of Inquiry into Relations between the Civil Aviation Authority and Seaview Air.



Patrick Hornby - ACT Branch

Patrick is the Manager, Legal Services, at the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB). He practises across a wide range of areas that encompass coronial inquests, civil litigation, commercial matters, administrative matters and legislative development and drafting. Working with the ATSB, he has particular subject matter expertise in transport accident investigation. Patrick was responsible for developing the amendments to the *Transport Safety Investigation Act 2003* which created the Bureau on 2 July 2009. He also negotiated and drafted the Casualty Investigation Code for Maritime Investigations which is annexed to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea.



Chris McKeown - ACT Branch

Chris came to the Bar in 1989. He was a solicitor for 6 years from 1983. Chris appears in all mainland State jurisdictions and all Commonwealth jurisdictions. He can, in some circumstances, deal directly with clients in aviation matters. Chris practices in a number of areas of the law including Criminal Defence work, Administrative Appeals, Negligence law and Damage Claims, Family Law and Commercial Law. He specialises in Australian Aviation Law.





Andrew Mansfield - Queensland Branch.

Andrew was admitted to practice in 2005. He is a senior associate in The commercial insurance team at Sparke Helmore in Brisbane, Practicing in aviation law, professional indemnity and regulatory matters involving professionals. His aviation practice encompasses Policy coverage and interpretation advice (both hull and liability), civil Litigation including subrogated recovery actions, manufacturing and product liability claims, coronial investigations and inquests, and acting on behalf of aviation professionals in disputes with CASA. He acts for underwriters and their insureds across a variety of aviation fields, including recreational flight training, fire-fighting, tourism, charter and agriculture. Whilst predominately focused on Queensland, Andrew also conducts the defence of claims litigated in the Supreme Courts of the Northern Territory and New South Wales.



Shannon O'Hara – ALAANZ Vice President, Queensland Branch

Shannon is an Associate in Carter Newell Lawyers Aviation Team. Shannon acts for a range of aviation clients including national and international insurers, national and regional airports, airlines, companies providing ancillary support to the airline and airport industry, licensed aircraft maintenance engineers and various government agencies. Shannon has acted in defence of claims across Australia including: Queensland, New South Wales, South Australia, Western Australia in addition to Papua New Guinea and the Asia-Pacific region. Shannon has a special interest in representing the interests of parties at Coronial inquests but also provides a range of legal advice to clients within the aviation industry on issues such as jurisdiction and procedure, policy interpretation and indemnity, liability and quantum and subrogated recovery actions.



John Parnell - New Zealand Branch

John is a born and bred Wellingtonian, but whose family have strong links across New Zealand and Australia. John has practiced law for 18 years, first as Barrister and then as a Barrister and Solicitor in Private Practice and later in government. He has been a lawyer with the New Zealand Civil Aviation Authority for 10 years and is currently in the role of Principal Solicitor

