CONTRIBUTORS

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John Boersig PSM is the CEO of Legal Aid ACT and the current Chair of National Legal Aid. Prior to his appointment as CEO, Dr Boersig worked as an Assistant Secretary in the Federal Attorney-General’s Department, responsible for a number of areas including Indigenous law and justice and human rights. Before joining the Attorney-General’s Department, he practised law in NSW, including as a lawyer for the Aboriginal Legal Service. He established the University of Newcastle Legal Centre and was Director of its Professional Program in 1994. He was a part-time Presiding member of the Guardianship Tribunal for many years. Dr Boersig has a Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Sydney, and is an Adjunct Professor of Law at the University of Canberra. He was awarded the Public Service Medal in the 2008 Queen’s Birthday Honours list.

Henry Brodaty is a researcher, clinician, and policy advisor and is a strong advocate for people with dementia and their carers. At the University of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia, he is Scientia Professor of Ageing and Mental Health, Co-Director of the Centre for Healthy Brain Ageing, and Director, Dementia Centre for Research Collaboration. As well as being a prolific researcher, Professor Brodaty is a senior psychogeriatrician and Head of the Memory Disorders Clinic at Prince of Wales Hospital in Sydney. He is Immediate Past-President of the International Psychogeriatric Association, a former Chairman of Alzheimer’s Disease International, President of Alzheimer’s Australia NSW and Alzheimer’s Australia. In June 2016 he was the recipient of the Ryman Prize for the world’s best development, advance or achievement that enhances quality of life for older people.

Margaret Castles is a senior lecturer at Adelaide Law School where she developed, and runs, the Clinical Legal Education Program and the three Free Legal Advice Clinics at that law school. She teaches civil procedure, alternative dispute resolution and legal ethics. Ms Castle’s research interests are primarily in procedural law reform to promote justice access, the pedagogy of experiential learning, and applied legal ethics. She continues to practice as a solicitor and mediator in South Australia.

John Chesterman is Victoria’s Deputy Public Advocate and was a member of the Australian Law Reform Commission’s Advisory Committee in relation to its report on Elder Abuse—A National Legal Response (2017). Prior to joining the Office of the Public Advocate in 2009, John was senior lecturer in the University of Melbourne’s School of Social and Political Sciences. He has written a number of books, including (as co-author) The Politics of Human Rights in Australia (Cambridge University Press).

Rosalind Croucher AM completed her PhD in legal history in 1994 at the University of New South Wales. She has lectured and published extensively, principally in the fields of equity, trusts, property, inheritance and legal history and is a Professor of Law. After two years as Dean of Law at the University of Sydney, and then over seven years as Dean of Macquarie Law School, she was appointed to the Australian Law Reform Commission in 2007, and also served for a time as its President. In 2016 Macquarie University conferred on her the title of Emeritus Professor, and in July 2017 she was appointed President of the Australian Human Rights Commission. Professor Croucher led the ALRC for its landmark report Elder Abuse—A
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Bill Mitchell was admitted to practice as a solicitor in Queensland in 1992. He is the Principal Solicitor and Registered Migration Agent at Townsville Community Legal Service Inc. He has been involved with community legal centres since 1991. Mr Mitchell has been a sessional lecturer on and off for many years is currently responsible for the Clinical Legal Studies program at James Cook University. He was made an Outstanding Alumni of James Cook University in 2012. He has been a Panel Member with the Financial Ombudsman Service in Investments and Advice since 2007, and was awarded the Australian Human Rights Commission Law Award in 2008 for his work in promoting and advancing human rights in Australia through the practice of law. He has represented the National Association of Community Legal Centres four times before the United Nations in New York in debates around a new Convention on the Rights of Older Persons.

Mikaylie Page is a fourth year student undertaking a Bachelor of Laws with a Bachelor of Arts majoring in International Relations, Political Economics and Social Policy at Macquarie University. She is currently an editor of the Macquarie Law Journal and is excited to have made her first contribution to an academic journal. Her academic interests include policy and law reform, particularly as they relate to access to justice issues.

Carmelle Peisah is a psychiatrist of old age. She is a Conjoint Professor at UNSW and Clinical Associate Professor Sydney University. She is former member of the NSW Guardianship Tribunal, co-author of the AustLii e-book Capacity and the Law, and Founder and President of Capacity Australia. Professor Peisah is an expert on elder abuse, having made significant contributions to both the 2016 NSW Legislative Council Inquiry and the 2017 ALRC Report on Elder Abuse.

Teresa Somes is an associate lecturer at Macquarie Law School where she teaches equity and trusts, and property law. She is currently undertaking her PhD through the University of South Australia, examining the legal position of the older person in an asset for care
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