

WLAQ 45TH ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER

The Women Lawyers Association of Queensland Inc (WLAQ) celebrated their 45th Annual Awards dinner on Saturday 14 October 2023.

This prestigious event brought together legal professionals, advocates, and supporters to recognise and honour individuals who have made significant contributions to the advancement of women in the legal field.

Esteemed guests included:

- The Honourable Chief Justice Helen Bowskill
- The Honourable Justice Melanie Hindman
- Her Honour Judge Brassington, Chief Magistrate
- Her Honour Judge Jodie Wooldridge KC
- Professor Therese Wilson, Head of School, Griffith Law School
- Associate Professor Francesca Bartlett, Director of Teaching and Learning, TC Beirne School of Law
- The Honourable Leneen Forde AC
- Ms Jasmina Joldic PSM, a/Director-General, Department of Justice and the Attorney-General
- Deputy President Catherine Hartigan
- Magistrate Dzenita Balic

WLAQ congratulates all finalists for their exceptional achievements and contributions. Their work continues to inspire and drive progress in the legal profession, creating a brighter and more inclusive future for all.

AWARD WINNERS

The WLAQ is proud to announce this year's winners:

- The Honourable Ann Lyons - Woman of Excellence, sponsored by Year 101: Women in Law
- Kara Thomson - Leneen Forde AC Woman Lawyer of the Year, sponsored by TC Beirne School of Law, University of Queensland
This award recognises a woman who is a leader in the profession and who has contributed to the advancement of women by her work and other activities.
- Jerry Tucker - Regional Woman Lawyer of the Year, sponsored by 18 Inns of Court.

This award recognises a woman who has overcome the difficulties related to working in regional Queensland and contributed to the advancement of women by her work and other activities.

- Hannah McNeale - Emergent Woman Lawyer of the Year, sponsored by Griffith Law School, Griffith University.

This award recognises a woman who has been admitted as a legal practitioner for five years or less or, if not admitted, who has completed a law degree not more than seven years ago, who has contributed to the advancement of women by her work and other activities.

WLAQ President Jessica McClymont said, “The 45th Annual Awards Dinner was a resounding success, with attendees joining in celebrating the achievements of these remarkable women, the awards finalists, and all women in law. The event raised almost \$20,000 for Women’s Legal Service Queensland and the Beryl Donkin Memorial Trust Fund.”

The Beryl Donkin Memorial Trust Scholarship is a bi-annual grant offered by WLAQ, named for Beryl Killeen Donkin who was a pioneer woman in the legal profession. Her commitment to the Queensland legal profession was honoured with the award of Order of the British Empire in 1975 for her “devoted and untiring service to the Queensland Law Society”. The Scholarship provides funds for women to advance their careers in a professional or educational endeavour.

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