

### His Honour Judge Alexander Street SC

Alexander Street SC was welcomed on 19 February 2015 having been sworn-in as a judge of the Federal Magistrates Court on 1 January 2015.

His Honour attended Cranbrook School in Bellevue Hill before studying law at UTS from where he graduated with a Bachelor of Laws in 1982. His Honour largely attended evening classes and by day was employed at Ebsworth & Ebsworth in the firm's leading maritime practice. Upon admission to the Supreme Court of New South Wales in 1982 his Honour took the bold step of immediately commencing practice as a barrister.

His Honour soon earned a reputation as a fiercely intelligent and highly articulate advocate. In 1987 his Honour appeared in the last appeal from an Australian court to the Privy Council, following which he exercised his lifelong passion for rowing in the Diamond Sculls at Henley. His Honour's High Court appearances notably included *Street v The Queensland Bar Association* (1989) 168 CLR 461 and *Lane v Morrison* (2009) 239 CLR 230.

In *Street* the validity of a rule, which made it difficult for interstate barristers to practise in Queensland, was challenged. The judgment developed constitutional law on the scope and meaning of s 117 of the Commonwealth Constitution providing for non-discrimination as between residents of different states and gave the practical legacy before mutual recognition was achieved of facilitating lawyers from one state to practising in another.

In *Lane v Morrison*, the law with respect to Chapter III of the Constitution and the exercise of commonwealth judicial power was developed and the Australian Military Court invalidated.

His Honour also developed a reputation and affinity for areas as

diverse as equity, commercial, maritime and admiralty law. His Honour was appointed senior counsel in 1997.

Beyond the bar his Honour has given distinguished service in the Royal Australian Navy's legal reserve since 1987. In 2004 he was commissioned a commander, and in 2013 was appointed a commander of a Sydney naval legal panel.

His Honour also served on the Bar Council of New South Wales Bar Association for 15 years, including two tours of duty on the Executive of the association as treasurer, has had editorial responsibilities with the *Australian Bar Review* and has been a part time hearing commissioner with the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission.

The Honourable Bronwyn Bishop, speaker of the House of Representatives representing the Australian Government (on behalf of Attorney-General Brandis) noted that:

all present are aware that the Street family is one of extraordinary legal pedigree. Your Honour's elevation to judicial office see you following in the footsteps of your father, the Honourable Sir Laurence Street, your grandfather, the Honourable Sir Kenneth Street, and your great grandfather, the Honourable Sir Philip Street. All of whom served as chief justices of the Supreme Court of New South Wales. Far from being a birthright judicial appointment reflects mastery of the law. Your Honour's appointment to the Federal Circuit Court is a fitting recognition of the legal aptitude that you have demonstrated over the course of your distinguished career.

### His Honour Judge Ian Newbrun

Judge Ian Newbrun was sworn-in as a judge of the Federal Circuit Court on Wednesday, 11 March 2015. Noel Hutley SC spoke on behalf of the bar.

His Honour graduated from the University of Sydney with a Bachelor of Laws in 1979, and went on to attain a Master of Laws from the London School of Economics in 1981. He was admitted as a solicitor of the Supreme Court of New South Wales in July 1982, then called to the New South Wales Bar three years later. He built up a successful practice, initially with a common law emphasis, but increasingly in Family Provision Act, insurance, administrative law matters.

Since 2010 his Honour was a mediator and an arbitrator in the Supreme, District and Local courts. Between 2005 and 2013 he was on the panel for the Refugee Review Tribunal Legal Advice Scheme. In 2012 his Honour was appointed deputy chair of the

NSW Health Tribunal, which was consolidated into the New South Wales Civil and Administrative Tribunal in 2014, and your Honour became a principal member in the Occupational Division, Health Practitioner List. In the federal sphere, he was the NSW chair of the Federal Medicare Participation Review Committee from 2005 to the date of his appointment.

His Honour is also an experienced referee, at one stage reaching the level of Sydney Grade Rugby.