

AUGUST 2020 NEWSLETTER



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It has been some time since we last provided a newsletter, and like all other businesses, 2020 has proven to be a busy, at times disruptive, and occasionally unsettling time. It feels as though we've all been picked up, thrown about, and returned to earth (normality) much like a cyclone creates its own havoc. We do hope that you've all managed to weather your own storm successfully, from both a business and personal perspective.

KJK LEGAL NEWS

VALE CARMEL PREECE – 1963 – 2020

It is with great sadness we announce our great friend and longstanding work colleague Carmel Preece lost her three-year battle with cancer in June, aged 56, after a sudden deterioration in her health. She passed away peacefully at the Mary Potter Hospice.

Carmel was one of a number of junior lawyers who started their legal lives at Aldermans in late 1985, and who all carved out their initial careers at what was then the Industrial Court. She went on to have a long and successful career in the legal profession, practicing in the various workers compensation jurisdictions in South

Australia. She enjoyed many years working at Piper Alderman, Duncan Basheer Hannon, Gun & Davey, and finally at KJK Legal – coming full circle to again work with some of those lawyers she had commenced her career with many years before.

While she often flew under the radar at times, and was never a great self-publicist, Carmel was by far and away one of the most conscientious, thorough and reliable lawyers we had the privilege of working with. She gained the respect of her many clients, the judiciary, and other lawyers over the years with her calm, empathetic and focussed demeanour. Many of those people she counted among her friends.

It is a sad time for us here at KJK Legal, and for many others in the profession. We will miss her extraordinarily.





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TEAM MEMBER UPDATE

MELANIE CONROY



We welcome back Associate Melanie Conroy, who has returned from a period of maternity leave.

Melanie and her husband welcomed baby Jack into their family on 27 June 2019. Jack is adored by his big sister Lillian. He is already causing chaos as he toddles around with a healthy amount of reckless abandon.

Melanie is continuing to support the KJK Legal Team, working three days a week from Tuesday to Thursday, in all manner of legal work, as well as our external editorial consulting work.

KJK Legal also welcomed on board two new solicitors in July, both working full time and assisting in all areas of practice.

SUZANA JOVANOVIC



Suzana brings with her a wealth of experience from being on the “other side of the fence”. She has practiced in numerous areas of law including workers compensation, CTP, public liability, and medical negligence.

Over the years she has devoted a lot of her spare time to volunteer work which has included mentoring law students, providing them with placement opportunities, and guest lecturing. She also supports and mentors people in the virtual mentoring program TLF Connect.

In 2018 Suzana was a finalist of the South Australian Law Society’s Young Lawyer of the Year Award and she was also a nominee for the 7 News Young Achiever of the Year Awards in 2019 and 2020.

Suzana is a thrill seeker and enjoys skydiving, mixed martial arts, and gun shooting.

OLIVER FRAGNITO



My name is Oliver “Ollie” Fragnito. I was admitted to practice at the start of 2019 and recently joined KJK Legal after having previously worked as a lawyer for a plaintiff-based law firm.

I am an avid cyclist, and love to cook and travel.

Editor’s note: Ollie is our first male team member appointed since the firm commenced in 2011. Therefore, he gets to blaze his own trail, without having to fill anyone else’s shoes!



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KJK LEGAL SEMINAR SERIES - SAVE THE DATE

Following on from last year's success, we will be hosting a further series of topical seminars in November and December at the Majestic Roof Garden Hotel. Keep an eye on your Inbox in September for further details.

DOYLES GUIDE RANKING RECOGNITION

KJK Legal has again been recognised in the Doyles Guide publication, with our most recent rankings including:

2020

- **Leading** Workplace Health and Safety Law Firms – South Australia, 2020
- Neville John – **Leading** Workplace Health and Safety Lawyers, South Australia 2020

2019

- **Leading** Workers Compensation Law Firms (Defendant) – South Australia, 2019
- **Recommended** Leading Workplace Health and Safety Law Firms – South Australia, 2019
- Tracey Kerrigan and Mark Keam – **Leading** Workers Compensation Lawyers (Defendant) – South Australia, 2019
- Neville John – **Recommended** Leading Workers Compensation Lawyers (Defendant) – South Australia, 2019
- **Leading** Dust Diseases Law Firms (Defendant) – South Australia, 2019
- Tracey Kerrigan – **Recommended** Leading Dust Diseases Liability Lawyers (Defendant) – South Australia, 2019.

Doyles Guide rankings are peer-assessed, and list firms and lawyers who have been identified by their legal profession peers for their expertise in a particular practice area.

THANKS FOR STICKING WITH US

As we mentioned at the beginning of this Newsletter, 2020 has been interesting to say the least; between the 2019/20 bushfires that ravaged many parts of Australia, to COVID-19 which has impacted on all facets of life, and its more recent resurgence in Victoria and New South Wales.

We wish to thank you for your continued support, and please remember that we're always available to you for advice on complex and delicate issues such as WHS concerns relating to re-opening your business, correct procedures for allowing staff and customers back on-site, ensuring COVID clearances are obtained, and other general WHS, employment, or industrial related matters.

KJK Legal are proud to have given back during these times, by supporting various organisations/charities, and clients/contacts, including:

- Supporting Mandy Madgen in the 2019 Variety Car-Put Bash;
- Hutt Street Centre;
- Cancer Council SA;
- Mercy Ships Australia – sponsoring Emma Burton (theatre nurse) in her Mercy Ship Africa tour;
- Australian Red Cross Bushfire Emergency Appeal;



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- Country Fire Service Bushfire Emergency Appeal;
- Fauna Rescue of SA Inc
- Supporting Tim O'Callaghan in the Hutt Street Centre Walk a Mile in my Boots.

OTHER IMPORTANT INDUSTRY NEWS AND EVENTS

- Don't forget to take advantage of the early bird registration for the upcoming Both Sides of the Fence Workers Compensation seminar scheduled for **Friday, 9 October 2020** at the Adelaide Oval. This seminar proves ever popular, with numbers continuing to exceed the organisers' expectations. KJK Legal are proud to again be a sponsor for this year's event. Further information and registration details can be found at [Both Sides of the Fence 2020](#).