

# QUEENSLAND CONFERENCE PROGRAM 2026

Day 1: Thursday 12 February 2026

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2:00 –	<b>Early name badge collection</b>	
4:00pm	📍 Reception Foyer – Sheraton Grand Mirage Resort, Gold Coast	
6:00 –	<b>Welcome reception</b>	<b>Sponsored by:</b>
7:30pm	📍 By the Oasis Pool – Sheraton Grand Mirage Resort, Gold Coast ↳ Host: Peter Gibson, Queensland President, Australian Lawyers Alliance	 <b>Equity Trustees</b>

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## Day 2: Friday 13 February 2026

7:00am **Optional Pilates Session**  
📍 Sheraton Grand Mirage Resort



8:30am **Registration**  
📍 Sheraton Grand Mirage Resort

**Coffee cart sponsored by:**



Chair: Peter Gibson, Queensland President, Australian Lawyers Alliance

Plenary Sessions 📍 Mirage Ballroom

9:00am **Welcome to Country**  
\_NATIVE

9:05am **Welcome and introduction**  
👉 Peter Gibson, Queensland President, Australian Lawyers Alliance  
👉 Ian Murray, National President, Australian Lawyers Alliance

9:20am **Civil Justice Award ceremony**  
👉 Peter Gibson, Queensland President, Australian Lawyers Alliance

9:30am **Keynote Address:**  
👉 The Honourable Deb Frecklington MP, Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Integrity.



10:30am	<b>Morning break</b>		
	Chair: Michelle James, Director, Head of North Injuries and Queensland Injuries, Maurice Blackburn Lawyers		
11:00am	<b>The Paramount Principle: <i>Stewart v MNHHS</i></b> ⌚ Joshua Liddle, Barrister, Jeddart Chambers	SL	
11:45am	<b>The shifting sands of non-delegable duties: <i>AA and BYM</i></b> ⌚ Charlotte Campbell, Barrister, Darrow Chambers	SL	
12:30pm	<b>Networking lunch</b>		Sponsored by:
			 <small>GOLD COAST · AUS 14-16 AUG</small>
	<b>Stream A: Annual case reviews</b> 📍 Ballrooms 2 & 3	<b>Stream B: Superannuation / TPD</b> 📍 Ballroom 1	<b>Trial school</b> 1:15pm–3:30pm 📍 Lagoon Room
	Chair: Sarah Singh, Executive Practice Leader, Splatt Lawyers	Chair: Keith Howe, Barrister, Level 10, Inns of Court	
1:15pm – 2:00pm	<b>Review of 2025 motor vehicle cases</b> ⌚ Beth Rolton, Partner, Travis Schultz and Partners ⌚ Jemma Stutz, Lawyer, Trilby	<b>AFCA Determinations: Life insurance in 2025</b> ⌚ Hayley Stokes, Senior Associate, Maurice Blackburn Lawyers	⌚ Gerard Mullins KC, Barrister, Darrow Chambers ⌚ Clare Eves, Barrister, Darrow Chambers

<p>Misso Lawyers</p> 	<p>¶ Kyle Peart-Corr, Associate, Maurice Blackburn Lawyers</p> 	
<p>2:00pm – 2:45pm</p> <p><b>Review of 2025 public liability cases</b></p> <p>¶ Travis Schultz, Managing Partner, Travis Schultz and Partners</p> 	<p><b>In good faith and fair dealing</b></p> <p>¶ Emma Gregg, Senior Associate, Aussie Injury Lawyers</p> <p>¶ Ben Ruback, Managing Legal Counsel, Australian Retirement Trust</p> 	
<p>2:45pm</p> <p><b>Review of 2025 WorkCover cases</b></p> <p>¶ Seané Shalev, Associate, Shine Lawyers</p> <p>¶ Rebecca Thomas, Special Counsel, Shine Lawyers</p> 	<p><b>2025 Superannuation &amp; Life Insurance case reviews</b></p> <p>¶ Rebecca Nichols, Barrister, More Chambers</p> 	

3:30pm	Afternoon break		
	Stream A:	Stream B:	Stream C:
	<p>📍 Ballroom 3</p> <p>Chair: Tamara Splatt, Senior Associate, Maurice Blackburn</p>	<p>📍 Ballroom 2</p> <p>Chair: Elspeth Ledwy, Senior Associate &amp; Regional Partnership Specialist, Maurice Blackburn</p>	<p>📍 Ballroom 1</p> <p>Chair: Sophie McKenzie, Associate &amp; Regional Partnership Specialist, Maurice Blackburn</p>
4:00pm – 4:45pm	<p><b>Consumer guarantees in medical law claims</b></p> <p>_SPE Clare Eves, Barrister, Darrow Chambers</p> <p>_SPE Geoffrey Diehm KC, Barrister, Jeddart Chambers</p> 	<p><b>Four things to know about Commonwealth workers' compensation schemes</b></p> <p>_SPE Peta Miller, Senior Associate, Slater and Gordon Lawyers</p> 	<p><b>Wearable technology: Establish liability through objective data when hazardous manual handling is at issue</b></p> <p>_SPE Simon Rosalie, Principal, SR Performance</p> 
4:45pm – 5:30pm	<p><b>Beyond the biopsy – clinical and legal strategies for mesothelioma cases in an aging population</b></p> <p>_SPE Dr Maurice Heiner, Respiratory &amp; Sleep Medicine Physician, Themis Medico-Legal</p> <p>_SPE Sean Sweeney, Legal Counsel, Asbestos and Dust Diseases, Slater</p>	<p><b>Cashie culture and the common law: Issue Estoppel and worker status in light of <i>Cagney v D&amp;J Building Contractors</i></b></p> <p>_SPE Melissa McGarrity, Barrister, Darrow Chambers</p> <p>_SPE Jennifer Kratzmann, Senior Associate, Hede Byrne &amp; Hall Lawyers</p>	<p><b>Dependency claims – is it maths or nuance?</b></p> <p>_SPE Matthew Holmes, Barrister, Clashfern Chambers</p> <p>_SPE Michael Lee, Director, Forensic &amp; Litigation, Vincents</p>

and Gordon Lawyers



5:30pm **Conference close**

7:30pm **Conference Dinner**

📍 Mirage Ballroom  
Sheraton Grand Mirage Resort, Gold Coast  
↳ Host: Peter Gibson, Queensland President, Australian Lawyers  
Alliance

**Sponsored by:**



11:00pm Conference Dinner concludes

**After-dinner drinks**

📍 Pearls Bar  
Sheraton Grand Mirage Resort, Gold Coast

## Day 3: Saturday 14 February 2026

8:30am **Registration**

📍 Sheraton Grand Mirage Resort

Chair: Greg Spinda, Partner, Travis Schultz & Partners

Plenary Sessions 📍 Mirage Ballroom

9:00am **"Privacy is dead, and social media holds the smoking gun" – Litigation in the world of social media**



/by Toby Nielsen, Barrister, Sunshine Coast Barristers Chambers

9:30am **AI in personal injury law: Cutting through the noise**



/by Harry Raworth, Co-Founder, Mary Technology  
/by Sarah Grace, Special Counsel & Brisbane Leader, Travis Schultz & Partners  
/by Melinda Moseling, Head of Delivery & Operations, Alterspective

VINCENTS

10:00am **Material Facts under S31 of the *Limitation of Actions Act***

/by Scott Keft, Special Counsel, Maurice Blackburn Lawyers



Leah Vida, Special Counsel, Maurice Blackburn Lawyers

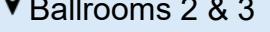
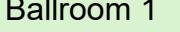
10:30am

**Morning break**

	<b>Stream A</b>	<b>Stream B:</b>	<b>Stream C</b>	<b>Trial school</b> 11:00am–12:30pm
	📍 Ballroom 3	📍 Ballroom 2	📍 Ballroom 1	📍 Lagoon Room
	Chair: Catherine Cheek, Special Counsel, Kennedy Spanner Lawyers	Chair: Nickelle Morris, Partner & Gold Coast Lead er, Travis Schultz & Partners	Chair: Alan Watkins, Associate, Maurice Blackburn	
11:00am – 11:45am	<b>Cases you opened that you wish you hadn't</b> Jane Bowes, Director & Founder, Bowes Legal	<b>A hodgepodge of legal odds &amp; sods</b> Chris McManus, Principal, Murphy's Law Accident Lawyers	<b>Youth worker claims 101 – navigating claims in the residential youth care industry</b> Christopher Murphy, Special Counsel, Cooper Grace Ward	Gerard Mullins KC, Barrister, Darrow Chambers Clare Eves, Barrister, Darrow Chambers



11:45am – 12:30pm	<b>Discrimination in Queensland personal injury legislation</b>  Michelle Wright, Partner, Accident Legal	<b>Commercial Damages: Untangling the financial questions that matter</b>  Jennifer Veitch, Director Forensics, Pilot Chartered Accountants  Dean Strati, Associate Director, Forensic, Pilot Chartered Accountants	<b>Putting the ‘personal’ back in personal injury</b>  Jeremy Roche, Founder & Director, Gain Lawyers  <b>Equity Trustees</b>
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12:30pm	<b>Networking lunch</b>		
	<b>Solicitors Practice Management</b>  Ballrooms 2 & 3  Chair: Sarah Grace, Special Counsel & Brisbane Leader, Travis Schultz & Partners	<b>Barristers Practice Management</b>  Ballroom 1  Chair: Gerard Mullins KC	
1:15pm – 2:15pm	<b>Bridging the generational gap: Speaking each other’s language – Lingo and the Law</b>  Georgia Coen, Lawyer, Travis Schultz & Partners  Shelby Bennett, Lawyer, Travis Schultz & Partners	<b>Objections to Evidence</b>  Chair: Gerard Mullins KC, Barrister, Darrow Chambers	

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2:15pm	<b>Examining Legal Professional Privilege and implications for personal injury law</b> † Claire Bruggemann, Barrister, Callinan Chambers † Kara Thomson, Barrister, Callinan Chambers Plenary ♀ Mirage Ballroom
3:15pm	<b>Closing Address</b> Peter Gibson, Queensland President, Australian Lawyers Alliance
3:30pm	<b>Conference close</b> The program is subject to change without notice.

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Practical Legal Ethics



Practice Management and  
Business Skills



Professional Skills



Substantive Law