

caxton

legal centre inc



**annual report
2014–15**

Contents

President and Director's Report	3
Our Organisation	6
Our Goals	7
Strategic Planning Retreat	8
Thank You!	10
G20 – The Independent Legal Observers Project	12
Justice in Focus Series	14
Our Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan	15
Highlights	17
Marathon case highlights need for vilification laws to protect LGBTI community	23
Statistics	24
Our People	26
Treasurer's Report	27
Funding Sources	27
Financial Report	28



Connect with us ...

Caxton Legal Centre
1 Manning Street
South Brisbane QLD 4101

Tel: (07) 3214 6333

Fax: (07) 3846 7483

Email: caxton@caxton.org.au



www.facebook.com/caxtonlegalcentre



www.twitter.com/CaxtonLegal

www.caxton.org.au

Office hours: 9 am – 5 pm Monday to Friday

Caxton Legal Centre holds free legal advice sessions on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings for people on a low income or who face other disadvantage.

Call us to book an appointment.

President and Director's Report

by Mark Thomas and Scott McDougall

Caxton Legal Centre is a busy organisation, providing vital support to highly vulnerable people.

The daunting nature of overseeing the delivery of generalist legal services in the face of unrelenting demand is, however, dissolved by the enthusiasm and determination of our staff and volunteers to achieve our vision of 'unlocking the law'.

Whilst there is increasing pressure on community-based service providers to be innovative in service delivery, it remains the case that what our clients mostly seek is quality legal advice and advocacy, performed by appropriately qualified and empathetic lawyers or social workers. In this regard, we are proud to say that this year Caxton again rolled up its sleeves and delivered:

- 15 523 information activities (about one third of all of the legal information provided by Queensland's community legal centres)
- 8612 legal advices
- 633 new cases.

The number of legal advices given has increased from last year's 8289, which reflects the overall improvement in the efficiency of our advice work since moving to booked appointments for evening sessions—a change that has resulted in the better pairing of volunteer expertise with client need and substantially reduced follow-up work for daytime staff, consequently allowing for more advice given to more clients.

This year the organisational activities of the centre were dominated by three major projects:

- the G20 Summit Independent Legal Observers Project
- an Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan
- a Strategic Planning and Organisational Review.

G20 Summit Independent Legal Observers Project

In the face of the extraordinary powers vested in police under the *G20 Safety and Security Act 2013* (QLD) and the violent experience of the 2010 Toronto summit, where 1100 people were arrested, Caxton committed to coordinating legal observers for the Brisbane G20 Summit in November 2014, in what became known as the Independent Legal Observers (ILO) Project. The purpose of the project was to monitor, record and be in a position to provide an independent account of interactions between members of the police and public.

Caxton was concerned that the G20 laws created the potential for arbitrary and prolonged detention of protesters, unnecessary escalations and arrests, and the obstruction of

political communication via prohibition of protest paraphernalia such as loudhailers, face coverings and banners.

The G20 laws came into effect on Saturday 8 November and terminated on Monday 17 November and resulted in:

- 4 people being prohibited from attending the G20 Summit
- 27 people being issued with exclusion notices
- 14 people being charged with offences under the G20 laws.

Over consecutive weekends, 31 incidents were recorded by our ILOs. Caxton publicly acknowledged the discipline and professionalism displayed by Queensland police, in particular the key role played by police negotiators.

The ILO Project highlighted some of the key strengths of community legal centres, namely the ability to respond quickly to community needs and to act independently of government, which separate them from other legal assistance providers such as legal aid commissions and pro bono providers.

It was truly humbling to observe the dedication and professionalism of the 51 lawyers who volunteered to carry out 19 four-hour shifts at numerous sites across the Brisbane CBD in the sweltering heat and much-hyped atmosphere of personal insecurity. When asked why they were prepared to make the personal commitment to the project, many of the lawyers indicated that, as occupiers of privileged positions in the community, they were motivated by a sense of civic duty.

The ILO Project was meticulously planned and executed, and benefited from remarkable teamwork across the breadth of the organisation—from the leadership displayed by the Management Committee, in particular Secretary Dan Rogers, and the project coordination of Camielle Donaghey, to the dedication of students and staff who organised the fundraising event at the Caxton Hotel. Special mention should also be made of Noela L'Estrange, outgoing Chief Executive Officer of the Queensland Law Society, who joined staff and management committee members on an ILO Reference Group, which oversaw the project.

The success of the project was demonstrated by the number of people attending G20 assemblies who expressed their gratitude to Caxton Legal Centre for 'making them feel safer' in the presence of an overwhelming, semi-militarised police and security operation.

The G20 Summit also marked a significant high point in the relationship between the Queensland Police Service and the local community in South Brisbane. We look forward to building upon this relationship in the future.

Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan

In September 2014, a gathering of our members, staff and supporters were joined by local elders including Aunty Valda Coolwell and Uncle Sam Watson at the launch of our Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). A smoking ceremony was performed by Raymond Walker, grandson of Oodgeroo Noonuccal.

Through our RAP, Caxton committed to:

- ensuring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander representation on the management committee
- ensuring staff are trained to be biculturally competent
- improving intake procedures and quality of services for Indigenous clients
- working closely with and providing support to Indigenous organisations to help improve the range of services available to Indigenous people
- adopting a formal policy for the acknowledgement of traditional owners and observance of Welcome to Country protocols
- actively encouraging Indigenous candidates for all staff vacancies
- developing a program of support for tertiary law students to encourage Indigenous lawyers to enter the legal profession.

Since the implementation of our RAP, we attended to 51 new Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander clients, and 12 existing Indigenous clients returned to Caxton in the last year. We have developed a database of key Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander contacts and referrals including health, housing, legal, and support and counselling services. Cultural awareness training and development provided to staff has seen a positive reflection in our service delivery and responsiveness to Indigenous clients. There has also been a significant participation of staff at Indigenous events both internal and external to the organisation. Our staff have a much better appreciation of the 'cultural load' carried by our Indigenous clients and this is reflected in our service delivery.

We have also continued our engagement with key Indigenous organisations including the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Service, the Queensland Indigenous Family Violence Legal Service, the Indigenous Lawyers Association of Queensland, the Kummara Indigenous Family Care Centre, the Gallang Place Indigenous and Torres Strait Islander Counselling Service, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Health Service and the Kuril Dhagun Indigenous space at the State Library of Queensland.

We were fortunate to recruit Candice Hughes to our Indigenous Law Clerk position and to secure the involvement of our RAP

Working Group who have overseen the development and implementation of the RAP.

Strategic Planning and Organisational Review

The strategic planning and organisational review undertaken jointly with Performance Frontiers represented another investment in the renewal and strengthening of the centre after years of successive growth.

In March, our staff and management committee generously spent a Friday and Saturday reflecting on the strategic direction of the centre. The planning was conducted in the context of the draft *National Strategic Framework for Legal Assistance 2015–2020*. The key features of that framework can be summarised as:

- providing timely intervention (preventative services)
- providing integrated service delivery
- collaborating with other service providers
- targeting the most vulnerable
- providing an appropriate service mix tailored to the needs and capabilities of clients.

Fortunately, we were already well advanced in targeting vulnerable clients and providing an integrated service. In 2012 and 2013, we invested a lot of organisational time addressing how we could better target low-income clients in order to align our work with our objects. This work resulted in changes to our evening sessions from drop-in advice sessions to booked appointments.

After two days of expertly facilitated discussions and informal fireside chats, we came up with a strategic plan built around the following pillars and strategies:

- **Integrated Services for Clients**—optimise internal resources and strong external networks to deliver holistic outcomes to targeted clients
- **Advocacy and Law Reform**—be a fearless voice working collaboratively on client-driven issues to achieve systemic change
- **Partnerships**—develop strategic partnerships to deliver organisational goals
- **People and Culture**—create a flexible and supportive work environment that allows staff and volunteers to grow and thrive.

Following the strategic planning retreat in May 2015, we engaged Performance Frontiers to conduct a review of the current team structures and resourcing arrangements in order to facilitate effective integrated service delivery and better meet the varying levels of demand across programs.

As a result of the organisational review, the centre has channelled the staff of seven programs into three teams:

- **Administration and Community Engagement**—integrating publications, communications and community legal education coordination with the administration team
- **General Practice**—integrating Park and Village Information Link (PAVIL) with the General Practice team
- **Family and Elder Law**—bringing together team members of the Seniors Legal and Support Service, Duty Lawyer Service and Family Law to create the Family and Elder Law team.

The outcomes of the review reflect the maturity of the organisation and the willingness of our staff to work collaboratively to create a working environment in which we can offer even better services to improve the lives of our clients.

Unrelenting Demand for Employment Law Advice

Once again, this year our frontline staff were buffeted by thousands of requests for employment law advice.

The statistics from the 2014–15 financial year provide compelling evidence of a largely unmet need for employment law assistance:

- Caxton provided 31.3% of all Queensland CLC information services (15 523 out of 49 537).
- 27.2% of all of our information services were employment law related.
- Almost half of Caxton's civil law enquiries were employment law related (4227 out of 8829), yet we were only able to provide 607 legal advices to an even smaller number of clients.

The availability of free legal assistance in employment law is very limited, and there exists a considerable need for increased funding in this area.

In response to this demand, we worked with our long-time pro bono partner Clayton Utz Lawyers to establish the Unfair Dismissal and General Protections Advocacy Scheme for the referral of unfair dismissal and general protections matters.

The scheme sees meritorious claims in relation to both unfair dismissal and general protections matters referred to private law firms who, acting in their capacity as volunteers of Caxton, provide pro bono legal assistance to the client up to and including representing the client at their conciliation in the Fair Work Commission. It has assisted clients to recover almost \$50 000 in compensation since its inception in September 2014.

The scheme, which replicates the model developed by Redfern Legal Centre, has been ably implemented by our General Practice lawyer Abbey Richards.

Community Legal Education and Law Reform

The centre had a busy schedule of community legal education events dominated by the Park and Village Information Link program, which conducted numerous workshops across South East Queensland.

In November, we were asked to provide input into the Queensland Law Reform Commission's program for 2014–2019. The breadth of legal issues covered in our response reflects the diversity of the centre's client base and the extraordinary knowledge of our General Practice solicitor Ros Williams.

After nine years of sometimes exasperating litigation, the marathon sexuality vilification case concluded successfully in the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal, and Ron Owen issued an apology to our clients Richelle Menzies and Rhonda Bruce. The case highlighted the importance of maintaining strong vilification laws and contributed to the jurisprudence on appropriate limitations on the right to freedom of speech.

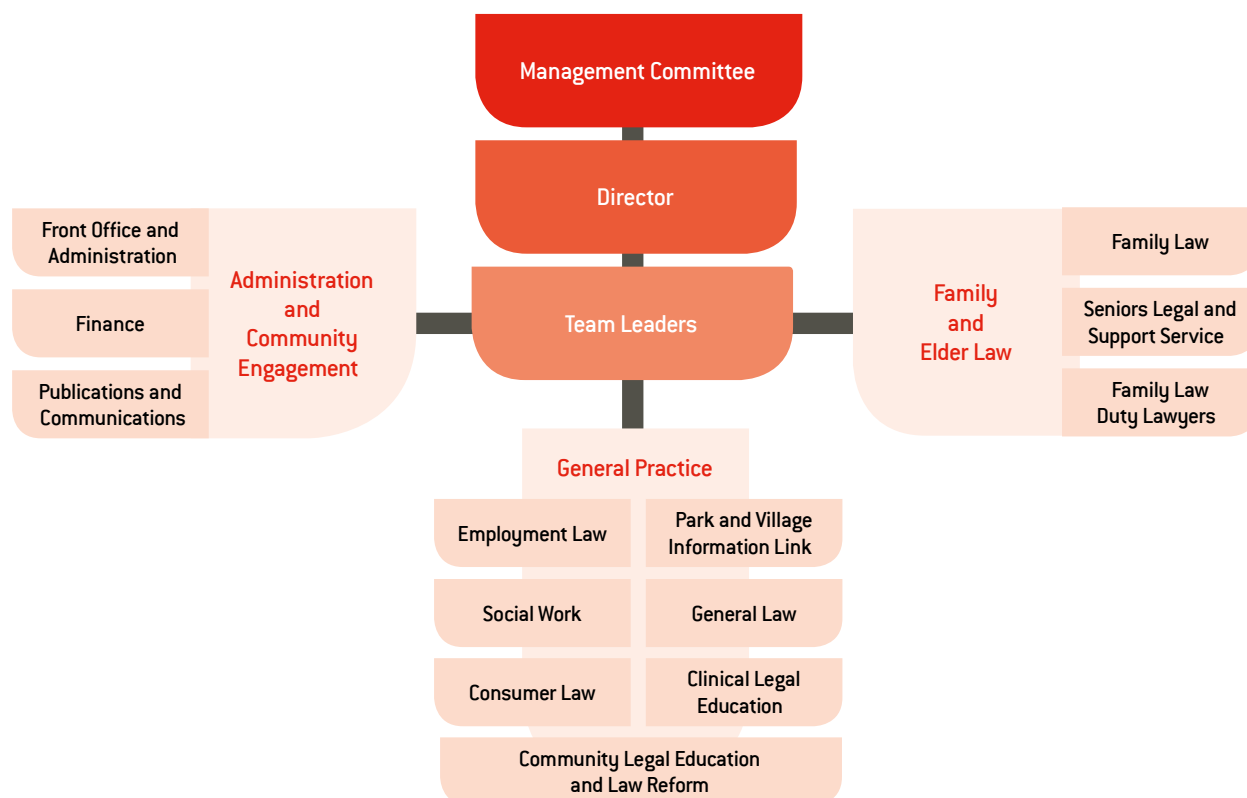
Special Thanks

Special Partnerships

Over many years the success of the centre has rested upon the goodwill of the legal profession and the elaborate web of relationships we enjoy with key stakeholders including our three university partners, fellow community legal centres, national and state representative bodies, courts and government agencies.

We would not to be able to do what we do without our extraordinary team of dedicated staff and volunteers. We thank the talented members of our volunteer management committee who continued to generously give of their time and skill. Our staff and committee this year came up with a six-word 'meta narrative' to articulate our common purpose. It is heartening to reflect that it could have been written by the founding members of Caxton Street Legal Service almost 40 years ago: *Empowering the disadvantaged to overcome injustice.*

Our Organisation



OUR VISION

To build a just and inclusive society that values difference and diversity, and the human rights of all people.

To influence the development of law to recognise the needs of people who are socially or economically disadvantaged.

To assist people who would otherwise be denied access to justice.

OUR GOALS

To promote access to justice.

To provide free legal advice and information.

To empower people to address their legal problems.

To increase community awareness of the law.

To produce clear, easy-to-read publications.

To work to change unfair laws.

WHO WE ARE

Caxton Legal Centre Inc. is Queensland's oldest, non-profit, community-based legal service.

WHAT WE DO

Caxton provides free legal advice and information services, specialist legal casework services, clinical legal education programs and social work support services.

OUR CLIENTS

Our legal service aims to assist people in Queensland who are on a low income or otherwise disadvantaged and in need of relief from poverty, distress, misfortune, destitution and helplessness.

Our Goals

and how we worked to achieve them ...

Promote access to justice

- by appreciating and understanding the needs of those who require legal assistance
- by providing information about the law and legal rights. De-mystifying the law through plain-English drafting of legal self-help material and community legal education, which will enable people to understand their position, to evaluate the options they have and to form decisions on what to do
- by providing accessible services (e.g. ensuring to take and/or return phone calls promptly) and correct/appropriate referrals
- by promoting non-adversarial alternatives to court procedures such as alternative dispute resolution
- by emphasising informal justice and working towards preventing disputes from escalating
- by promoting equity—access to the legal system should not be dependent on the capacity to pay for private legal representation

Provide free legal advice and information

- through our volunteer program. This was possible through Caxton's invaluable team of volunteers who contributed many hours of precious time providing legal support to clients
- through Caxton's various legal and social work programs

Empower people to address their legal problems

- by providing social work assistance
- by providing accessible, inclusive and non-judgemental assistance
- by producing plain-English legal self-help kits, factsheets and brochures
- by promoting alternative dispute resolution processes
- by providing timely and accurate referrals

Increase community awareness of the law

- by conducting regular community legal education seminars
- by organising regular public forums on pressing social and legal issues
- by participating in important community events such as NAIDOC week, World Elder Abuse Awareness Day and World Social Work Day

Produce clear and easy-to-read publications

Caxton publishes a number of plain-English legal self-help kits and factsheets in various areas of law. We are also in the process of producing this material in accessible e-text, compliant with all relevant standards to ensure it is accessible for people using screen reader technology.

Work to change unfair laws

- by producing timely and effective law reform submissions
- by organising regular public forums on pressing social and legal issues

Strategic Planning Retreat

In late March 2015, Caxton Legal Centre staff and management committee attended a two-day retreat at the picturesque Ivory's Rock at Peak Crossing. With the expert assistance of Performance Frontiers we all got down and dirty to consider the centre's strategy for the next five years.

Successful organisations and teams are inspired and guided by clearly defined common purposes and core values that remain in place while strategies are adapted to reflect the changing environment.

Caxton's core purpose, as defined in its original objects of incorporation, is to

provide legal and social welfare services to low-income and disadvantaged people in need of relief from poverty, distress, misfortune, destitution and helplessness, and to educate such people in legal, social welfare and related matters.

During the retreat, Caxton staff identified a number of common core values and beliefs:

- We believe in a client-centred approach where client needs inform our services.
- We take a holistic approach to legal issues.
- We value and focus on teamwork.
- We respect and value each person's contribution, including that of our clients.
- We enjoy self-leadership and have autonomy within our roles.
- We value healthy conflict as a positive mechanism to achieve better outcomes.
- We welcome constructive feedback and evaluation to accomplish innovation and positive change.
- Our work and contribution at Caxton gives us a sense of optimism and hope, pride and satisfaction.



In order to develop a strategy to put our vision into practice, we designed a five-pillar structure with a short statement representing the overall goal of each pillar. These are:

Pillar	Goal
Integrated services for target clients	To optimise internal resources and strong external networks to deliver holistic outcomes to target clients
Law reform and advocacy	To be a fearless voice working collaboratively on client-driven issues to achieve systemic change
Partnerships	To develop strategic partnerships to deliver organisational goals
People and culture	To build a flexible and supportive work environment that allows staff and volunteers to grow and thrive
Operations and organisational performance	To implement contemporary and user-friendly systems, processes and infrastructure to enable efficient, flexible and adaptive operations that best apply our resources



Thank You!

An astounding 5092 hours of volunteering have taken place at Caxton Legal Centre this last financial year!

These countless hours of legal advice provided at the evening session and of information given over the phone to thousands of callers have been provided by Caxton's invaluable team of legal professionals and law students. They all went the extra mile beyond their day-to-day work duties! Without this incredible commitment and desire to provide equal access to justice, many clients would have missed out on much-needed assistance to understand and tackle their legal problems.

Our unreserved **THANK YOU** goes to:

Volunteer Lawyers

Baldwin, Janine
Bartlett, Julie
Bassingthwaighe, Ellie
Boehm, Temika Lee
Bonasia, Michael
Bookalill, Sophia
Bostock, Melissa
Braad, Nadia
Brown, Patrick
Cahill, John
Cameron, Kathleen
Cameron, Chloe
Cardiff, Perian
Cariappa, Poonam
Carius, Stephen
Carlowe, Crispian
Carroll, Samantha
Carthew, Glenn
Chan, Joey
Chen, Wei-Loong
Chesnutt, Amy
Clark, Kate
Clayer, Simon
Coker, Stacey
Colclough, Erin
Colditz, Stephen
Cope, Michael
Croft, Sophie
Cullen, Corey
Daley, Hannah
Delpert, Michelle
Donovan, Helen
Doyle, Michelle
Dreger, Sarah
Droguet, Bernadette Julia
Dulley, Yasmin
Ellis, Raelene
Fleming, Andrew
Foran, Neil

Ford, James
Garnett, Adele
Gentile, Mark
Gibson, Tali
Gilmour, Sean
Gladstone, Margot
Griffiths, Erinn
Haas, Graeme
Hall, Phil
Hall, Anita Marie
Hall, James
Hamman, Eibhlin
Hansen, Victoria
Harvey, Elizabeth
Harvey, Robert
Healy, Mark Damien
Hearnden, Julie
Henderson, Neil
Hii, Darius
Hiller, James
Hogg, Louise Mary
Honan, Amy
Hughes, Paula
Hunt, Claudia
Hyams, Michelle
Ivessa, Robert
Jeffreys, Mark
Jenkins, Christie
Jones, Steven
Jones, Kane
Jordaan, Johannes
Judd, Llewellyn
Kaur, Saranjit
Keenan, Ben
Kent, Avalon
Kutija, Kristina
Kwong, Darrell
Lai, Gavin
Lawler, Patrick
Le, Jayne
Le-Huy, Trang

Words rarely match the level of appreciation we would like to show towards our incredible volunteers—it goes far beyond a humble THANK YOU!

We would also like to give a special mention to members of the private bar. Their priceless assistance with a number of matters in court was undoubtedly instrumental to many rather favourable outcomes for our clients.

We are also very grateful to Allens for their continual support in creating the layout for this report.

Lewsey, Emily
Lindbergh-Ostling, Lucy
Lovell, Alison
Ludemann, Cherrie
Luthera, Nader
Lutvey, Gregory
McKenzie, Kate
Mitsis, Tia
Moloney, Siobhan
Monks, Shane
Montgomery, John
Munro, Mahalia
Murphy, Ray
Murphy, Sarah
Murray, Timothy
Newman, Chris
Nicholson, Josephine
Norman, Tony
O'Brien, Bridget
O'Byrne, Yvonne
O'Connor, Caroline
O'Hagan, Emily
Pala, Natalie
Panwar, Priya
Paris, Neil
Parkinson, Matthew
Paudyal, Dilasha
Pennington, Phil
Pergomet, Rene
Pratt, Dan
Quinlivan, Clint
Rajanayagam, Vaishi
Ramsey, Kristin
Ray, Matthew
Ray, Adam
Richards, Eryn Louise
Richardson, Amy
Richardson, Polly
Ridgway, Phillip Nigel
Robinson, Edmund
Russell, Millie

Russo, Ann-Maree
Scandrett, Brendan
Schoenmaker, William
Scott, Leah Lilian
Scott, Sophie
Selic, Brandon
Sit, Will
Smith, Mahoney
Stapleton, Emma
Steel, Luke
Stevenson, Robert
Stower, Candice
Stowers, Brent Jonathan
Tate, Rohan
Thorpe, Karen
Townsend, Darren
Traeger, Carly
Trevanion, Skye
Tropoulos, Steve
Tuffield, Claire
Umashev, Claudine
Unwin, Stuart
Valencia-Forrester, Faith
Vanderstoep, Lynette
Virine, Juliana
Voight, Jason
Walker, Stephanie
Walker, Lisa
Walker, Maxwell
Walsh, Francis
Wedgwood, Zoe
Wheeler, Joseph
Whitmore, Daniel
Wilkinson, Abbey
Wilson, Patrick
Wilson, Elizabeth
Winstanley, Elizabeth
Woolf, Seone
Young, Alexandra
Zabloski, Kailey



Law Firms

Minter Ellison
DLA Piper
Clayton Utz
Herbert Smith Freehills
McCullough Robertson
Ashurst
Allens

Student Volunteers

Allan, Josephine
Anderson, Keilin
Andrews, James
Ash, Lauren
Auld, Fiona
Balaba, Kerri
Ball, Paris
Ballard, Bronson
Bartels, Adam
Beikoff, Jessica
Bell, Jessica
Bennett, Louis
Bischof, Lara
Bisset, Stephanie
Boland, Allison
Bong, Jacqueline
Botta-Stanwell, Inez
Boulton, Ian
Burnett, Amelia
Cameron, Thomas
Canniffe, Thomas
Chan, Yuen Ling Stella
Chang, Ringo
Chen, Jenny
Chesher, Marissa
Colthurst, Jessika
Connolly, Tracy
Covey, Amelia

Cowan, Michelle
Craig, Colin
Creighton, Dannielle
David, Byron
Dawe, Robyn
Djuric, Marija
Edwards, Kate
Elliott, Annabel
Enarbia, Stephanie
Escott-Burton, Miranda
Evans, Jasmine
Farkas, Gertrud
Feletti, Simone
Fussell, Megan
Garland, Peta
Gleeson, Rebecca
Gui, Melanie
Guy, Verdi
Habel, Thomas
Hanley, Emma
Hanlon, Liam
Hasson, Daniella
Hatcher, Naomi
Heales, Paul
Hennessy, Belinda
Hohenhaus, Joy
Hughes, Candice
Husband, Alice
Jenkin, Michaela
Jephcott, Alexis
Jeynes, Roxanne
Jones, Balawyn
Kancherla, John
Khan, Rashed
Khan, Zafar
King, Natalie
Kishore, Paayal
Klaebe, Ben
Kong, Christopher
Kressibucher, Katiji
Kwong, Jasmine

Lam, Jasmine
Lee, William
Limerick, Victoria
Lin, Annie
Lindsay, Nathan
Lloyd, Damian
MacDonald, Hamish
Manley, Laura
Masinello, Luca
Mathas-Carleton, Jordan
McConnell, Holly
McGrath, Kerri
McIlhatton, Liam
McVeigh, Bridget
Mercer, Victoria
Middleton, Geraldine
Montaldo, Crystal
Morrison, Rebecca
Musulin, Jessica
Netscher, Heather
Nuttall, Genevieve
O'Connor, Daniel
Ou, Ange
Paik, John
Parvez, Shareen
Pham, Nguyen
Pittard, Rachael
Pomare, Jessie
Rabbidge, Michelle
Rafty, Isobella
Rattanasuvansri, Vitanya
Robinson, Philippa
Rodriguez, Donny
Rogers, Adam
Rustam, Martin
Ryan, Zoe
Saikouski, James
Sas, Sonya
Schomberg, Nikila
Scott, Mitchell
Simonsen, Anya

Simpson, Anna
Sinnya, Shristi
Solar, Kasey
Spicer, Renee
Tang, Tammy
Thomas, Michael
Thomas, Michael
Thompson, Megan
Tuson, Natalie
Vanenn, Alexander
Verral, Phylli
Waldron, Eluan
Walker, Juliet
Warren, Emily
Werner, Corinne
Whalley, Nicola
Wieden, James
Winters, Daniel
Wise, Matthew
Wu, Aileen
Yassa, Christine

G20 – The Independent Legal Observers Project

MEDIA RELEASE

G20 Legal Observers create safe place for freedom of expression

Caxton Legal Centre has declared the G20 Independent Legal Observer Project a clear success and a demonstration of the importance of strong community-based organisations responding to the needs of the community.

From Saturday 8 November until late on the following Sunday, more than 50 volunteer lawyers attended almost all of the 24 scheduled rallies and marches, observing interactions between the police and members of the public. Several incidents were filmed and recorded.

Given the formidable police presence, with police sometimes outnumbering protesters by 6 to 1, numerous members of the public expressed gratitude about the sense of safety created by the presence of legal observers.

Caxton Legal Centre Director, Scott McDougall, noted the benefit of engaging with senior QPS officers more than 12 months out from the event:

“The legal observers provided an increased level of accountability of police actions. The police were trained about the role of observers, and it is clear that the project has influenced both the police’s planning for the G20 and police behaviour over the weekend.”

Mr McDougall also paid tribute to the discipline, goodwill and commitment to peaceful protest displayed by police and protesters alike. “The relatively peaceful outcome results from many months of careful planning, training and dialogue between police and protest organisers. Having personally observed Saturday’s largest rally, it must also be said that the leadership of the Aboriginal protesters was instrumental in ensuring that the entire rally remained peaceful”, he said.

Caxton Legal Centre will prepare a report about the implementation of the G20 Safety and Security Act 2013 to inform the legislative review due to be tabled in Queensland Parliament within 12 months.

Caxton Legal Centre wishes to thank the Queensland Law Society for its support of the project, the 50-odd volunteer lawyers, who braved extreme heat to perform a public duty, and the community who attended our fundraisers to operate the project.





▲ We would like to thank Pete Rogers and Cape Productions for producing an excellent YouTube video that captured the highlights of the ILO project.



Justice in Focus Series

Caxton Legal Centre partners with the law schools at Griffith University, Queensland University of Technology and the University of Queensland to host the Justice in Focus Series, a set of regular public forums that enrich public debate on topics of local and national importance. Each forum features a panel of leading thinkers representing a range of socio-legal views on the respective topic. We would like to thank Paul Barclay, presenter of ABC Radio National Big Ideas program for his involvement in this series.

Past events include:

Brisbane G20: protest and policing in a mature democracy

6 November 2014

The G20 Summit presented an unrivalled opportunity for Australia to display its mature brand of liberal democracy. However, the G20 laws provided expansive discretionary powers to detain and search people, as well as creating a range of new offences that eroded our freedom of political expression. A panel discussion on the implications Brisbane G20 brought to protest and policing in our democracy with panellists Rev. Tim Costello—CEO of World Vision Australia and Australian Baptist minister, Simon Bronitt—Vice-Chancellor Strategic Chair in the TC Beirne School of Law, Dr Tim Soutphommasane—Australia's Race Discrimination Commissioner, Katarina Carroll—Qld Police Service Assistant Commissioner and Walter Sofronoff QC—former Solicitor-General of Queensland.

Boundless plains to share? Recent changes to Australian refugee law

5 March 2015

Changes to refugee law held profound justice implications, from stripping away permanent protection for refugees to empowering the Federal Minister to detain people on the high seas. As the federal government pursues resettlement of asylum seekers in impoverished countries and resistance in detention centres builds, people heard about the effects of the amendments and what can be done to promote a more humane response to those seeking protection on our shores.

For this forum, Caxton Legal Centre and Griffith Law School proudly partnered with the Refugee and Immigration Legal Service. A panel discussion with Professor Penelope Mathew—Dean and Head of School at Griffith Law School, Kon Karapanagiotidis—founder of Asylum Seeker Resource Centre and Erika Feller—Assistant High Commissioner of the United Nations Refugee Agency.

Going home safe: use of force in policing people with mental illness

7 May 2015

The complex reality of policing regularly involves interactions with people experiencing mental illness. Too often, this eventuates in harm—in 2014, half of those shot by Queensland police are thought to have been mentally unwell. This forum canvassed the changes needed in our approaches to both policing and care for people with disabilities in order to reduce the risk to those on both sides of the equation.

Caxton Legal Centre and Queensland Advocacy Incorporated jointly presented this event alongside key note speakers Ian Stewart—Commissioner of Police, Dr Terry Goldsworthy—criminologist and Charandev Singh—lawyer.



▲ Scott McDougall with Benedict Coyne



▲ Guest speaker Kon Karapanagiotidis with Angus Francis



▲ Guest speaker Penelope Mathews with Erika Feller



▲ Guests

Our Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan

A Snapshot

Caxton Legal Centre is committed to building a just and inclusive Australian society. A just society demands recognition, understanding and respect for the richness and resilience of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and the diverse effects resulting from the colonisation of Australia. We are committed to relationship building through taking advice, listening respectfully and talking with members of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

In 2013, the Caxton Management Committee committed to the preparation of an overarching plan to help guide our efforts towards greater engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the form of a reconciliation action plan (RAP). To develop our RAP, Caxton established a voluntary RAP working group comprising a number of talented and emerging leaders of Queensland's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community, the centre's President Mark Thomas and staff.

Caxton's RAP consists of four overarching areas: Relationships, Respect, Opportunities, and Progress and Reporting. Below is an outline of the proposed actions contained in the RAP. The full RAP action plan, including measurable targets, a timeline and responsibilities can be viewed on our website.

▼ Aunty Valda Coolwell chastising Scott McDougall at the RAP launch



▼ RAP Champion Alf Davis's address at the RAP launch



RELATIONSHIPS

Caxton Legal Centre strongly believes it is important to build lasting relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, communities and stakeholders to enhance and ensure equal access to justice is achieved.

Actions:

- Actively monitor RAP development, including implementations of actions, tracking progress and reporting.
- Identify and establish working partnerships to strengthen existing relationships with key Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and stakeholders in legal and other organisations.
- Leverage existing working partnerships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander legal services and associations to increase greater service delivery and access to justice for Caxton's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients.
- Promote and celebrate National Reconciliation Week.
- Raise internal awareness within Caxton to improve internal communications and access to resources regarding the RAP and important Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural and community events/dates.

◀ Raymond Walker performing the smoking ceremony



▼ RAP Champions



RESPECT

We believe it is important to improve Caxton's staff awareness and knowledge of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, cultures and achievements in enhancing our respectful and competent service delivery. We seek to complete this through cultural competency training, respecting Acknowledgement of Country and Welcome to Country protocols, and participating in NAIDOC week activities.

Actions:

- Provide cultural awareness training and development for Caxton employees to increase their understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' culture, history and achievements.
- Engage employees in acknowledging the Traditional Owners of the land and establish culturally safe communication within Caxton.
- Continue shared appreciation, respect and acknowledgement of the unique position Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have in our nation.
- Celebrate and participate in NAIDOC week events.

EMU DREAMING

by Jyi Lawton

The coloured dots throughout the painting represent the colours of the rainbow created by the rainbow serpent on his journey creating the sun, fire, gorges, rivers, creeks and mountains that make up Bidjara country. The brown dots separating the coloured dots represent the dreaming tracks of the emu (the totem of the Bidjara people) across the land, which all align with the emu prints found in the middle of the painting. The painting depicts the land created by the rainbow serpent, the dreaming tracks of the Bidjara people which all connect up to the emu prints found in the middle of the painting, illustrating that through the dreaming tracks the spirit of the emu can never be lost. The painting illustrates the spiritual connection between the Bidjara people and emu. The painting shows through the dreaming tracks the spirit of the emu providing guidance and direction for the Bidjara people walking side by side in emu spirit.

OPPORTUNITIES

We believe it is important to provide opportunities to increase Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander representation amongst our staff, volunteers and students through employment and supplier diversity. This will increase our ability to effectively contribute to First Australian Peoples' achievements and economic prosperity.

Actions:

- Ensure that management of induction processes and subsequent interviews conducted with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are culturally appropriate and flexible.
- Investigate ways within Caxton to increase Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employment.
- Investigate opportunities to increase supplier diversity within Caxton.
- Investigate ways to increase Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Law Student Placements (clinics and/or PLT and/or internship) within Caxton.

PROGRESS AND REPORTING

Actions:

- Publicly share Caxton's Reconciliation Action Plan.
- Review, update and refresh the Caxton RAP.
- Report achievements, challenges and matters learned to Reconciliation Australia for inclusion in the RAP Impact Measurement Report.

RAP Champions

Alf Davis, Bianca Hill, Candice Hughes, Larissa Fewquandie, Lena Lundell, Mark Thomas, Michelle Rabbidge, Scott McDougall



Highlights



▲ Caxton Legal Centre's t-shirts and water bottles have been a real hit at home and as far afield as Myanmar!



◀ Park and Village Information Link Community Legal Education sessions

Throughout the 2014–2015 financial year, PAVIL has run an extensive community legal education program across South East Queensland, providing groups of residents with essential knowledge on the legal risks associated with living in a retirement village or manufactured home park, reaching over 780 participants.

Catherine Wilson from Park and Village Information Link

▼ Cultural awareness training

In February 2015, Caxton invited Mel Brown from Spiritual Dreaming to provide cultural awareness training. The training focused on the central themes of transgenerational trauma, lateral violence and cultural loads.

A trip to the Cherbourg Historical Precinct, a place of great Aboriginal significance, on 19 March 2015 complemented this training perfectly. After a very informative presentation facilitated by the precinct and followed by a lively discussion, Caxton staff displayed their artistic talents painting boomerangs and exploring individual identity through the use of creative symbolism.



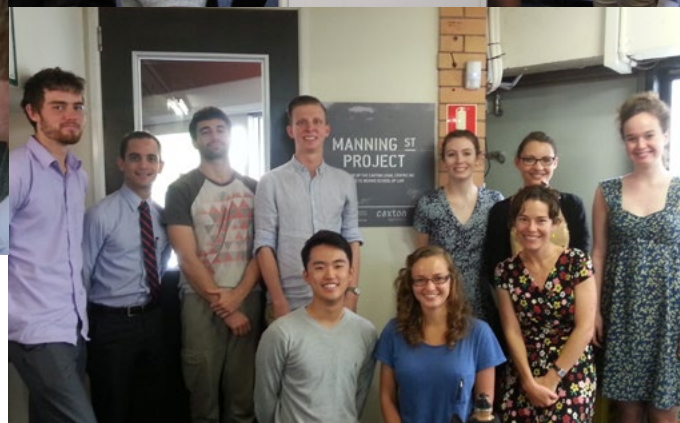
Student Clinics

► Caxton also partners with the University of Queensland Law School's Pro Bono Centre to run a student consumer law clinic advising on the purchase of goods, services and credit for domestic and household purposes.



▲ Currently Griffith University and Caxton operate advice clinics with a focus on family law and general legal matters over three semesters each year.

► UQ and Caxton also operate the Manning Street Project, where students undertake pro bono law reform and public interest research projects on behalf of community legal centres.



Additionally, Caxton partners with the Queensland University of Technology, offering students the opportunity to learn from our evening legal advice sessions. Three nights per week students assist with client intake procedures and observe volunteer lawyers as they provide legal advice.

► National Association of Community Legal Centres conference

Cybele Koning, Klaire Coles and Lena Lundell attended the four-day NACLC conference in Melbourne.



Management Committee Training for Incorporated Associations

In the past year, Ros Williams from Caxton Legal Centre has run a community legal education program aimed at increasing the knowledge of management committee members charged with running incorporated associations.

Committee members are routinely faced with a complex set of responsibilities, and Caxton's education sessions have offered practical guidance on how to comply with charity and associations laws.

Demand from within the non-profit sector promoted the program's kick-off, and participants have consistently expressed their gratitude for the availability of the free training.



▲ National Reconciliation Week

Caxton Legal Centre hosted a National Reconciliation Week barbecue at the Jagera Community Hall for the Brisbane Sovereign Grannies.



◀ Seniors Legal and Support Service Community Legal Education sessions

The Seniors Legal and Support Service conducted a number of Community Legal Education sessions informing seniors about the service available and the importance to recognise and prevent elder abuse.

Some people left determined to take action in areas where they learnt they were vulnerable.



City Hall in purple for World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

▲ World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

The City Hall was lit in purple in solidarity with cities and groups around the globe to mark World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. June 15 represents the one day in the year when the world voices its opposition to the abuse and suffering inflicted on older people.

The Honourable Coralee O'Rourke MP, Minister for Disability Services, Minister for Seniors and Minister Assisting the Premier on North Queensland launched World Elder Abuse Awareness Day and visited Caxton's Seniors Legal and Support Service stall.

► 2015 Seniors Legal and Support Service conference

The 2015 Seniors Legal and Support Service conference welcomed over 50 lawyers, social workers, public servants and others to two days of professional development and networking. The Honourable Coralee O'Rourke MP, Minister for Disability Services and Minister for Seniors opened the conference and met with delegates.

The Honourable Coralee O'Rourke MP (centre) with conference attendees



The Honourable Coralee O'Rourke MP and Helen Wallace from Caxton Legal Centre



Case Studies

Caxton's crisis intervention

Mr and Mrs D lived in their own home in country New South Wales where Mrs D, aged 70 years, was the carer for her 85-year-old husband. She also managed their finances.

Mr D has a son and a daughter from his first marriage, and Mr and Mrs D have two sons together.

Although Mrs D managed her carer role very well, two of the children started to put pressure on Mrs D to put their father into a nursing home.

The couple became very anxious and vulnerable, and ultimately fell victim to their third son's greed.

He convinced the couple to nominate him as their enduring power of attorney (EPOA) and promised to look after them and protect them from the other two children.

He then persuaded them to sell all their property and move to Queensland with his own family.

Once in Queensland, the son rented a unit for his parents and one for his own family in the same block. Shortly after settling in, the couple realised that they had not seen their son for a while and that they had no access to money, so Mrs D contacted Centrelink to ensure their pensions were still being paid.

On advice from Centrelink, Mrs D contacted her bank and was advised that their funds had been moved to a family trust account in her son's name and that it was overdrawn by several thousand dollars.

Realising the grave situation, the bank contacted the Seniors Legal and Support Service (SLASS) at Caxton Legal Centre.

A SLASS social worker and solicitor took on the case and worked hard to firstly make sure the couple was protected from further abuse and secondly to find affordable accommodation once their lease expired. Urgent Aged Care Assessments were arranged because there was no suitable emergency accommodation for older people in the area. The EPOA had to be revoked and it was suggested the couple take out a DVO against their son, which they declined in fear of repercussions.

With the help of another social worker in the area, safe and appropriate accommodation was found in an aged care facility, and the couple are very happy with the arrangements.

The couple are happy to be together in a peaceful environment again and have also had legal advice about recovery of their funds.

Close call for vulnerable Mrs A

Mrs A is a 63-year-old woman on a Disability Support Pension who suffered from a debilitating condition, which severely affects her mobility. She owned a modest house in an outlying suburb worth about \$260 000, which was adapted for her disability and was fully paid off.

Mrs A's daughter asked her mother to act as guarantor for a business loan to help the daughter into a franchise, and Mrs A agreed, believing that her total exposure would be \$11 000.

She said 'I had such a hard life myself, I wanted things to be better for my daughter...'

The bank did not explain the nature of the guarantee to Mrs A. Her daughter fell behind with repayments on the loan, but Mrs A's low literacy levels meant she didn't understand the bank statements and, eventually, the letters from the bank's lawyers.

Mrs A was threatened with having to leave her home as a result of a default judgement made against her following legal action by the bank. A concerned friend put her in touch with the Seniors Legal and Support Service (SLASS).

The SLASS and Consumer Law team at Caxton worked together to have the default judgement set aside. The team prepared evidence demonstrating the bank's failure to ensure that Mrs A understood her financial obligations when signing on as guarantor, as well as the risks involved. SLASS social workers also provided much-needed emotional support throughout the period of uncertainty.

The Caxton team's actions were successful and, as a result, Mrs A was able to stay in her home. Mrs A was extremely grateful for the assistance and glad that she did not have to give up the stability and security of her family home.

Client Tributes

Guess what? It's finally over !!! YAY :)
Four days of intense negotiation
and yesterday at the Court event
#30 final orders were made – see
attached.

So I want to say THANK YOU THANK
YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK
YOU...

You helped me so much when I really
needed it, and there is really nothing
I can do or so that will truly convey
how grateful I am to you—please
just keep doing what you are doing,
your advice and calm support was
invaluable.
All the best,

Dear Yatarla

I would like to thank you, and Gill as well, for
all of that professional help you two have
done for me to win a justice; for the first time
since I have settled to Australia 22 years ago.

There has been a lot injustice done to me; so I
was lucky to have you to assist in this matter
this time. Thank you so, so much.

It is not easy to be self-represented as you
may know. This is not the industry I am
familiar with whatsoever.

I, also, wish to let you know that DOH have
moved me in a much better apartment.

May you want to help me with the other
issues, we have recently discussed of- it
would be highly appreciated.

Dear Manager,

A few weeks back I sought advice from the Financial
Ombudsman Service. They referred me to your Centre
in the first instance.

I am writing to commend the service you gave me and
the attention you provide to your clients. Personally I
was very happy with the experienced barrister and the
information he provided to me. His student sat quietly
and respectfully throughout the session. Despite the
late hour, he was in no rush to finish, making sure I
understood the information given to me.

Because I was the last client called that night, I saw
many clients' interaction with staff and being called for
interview. All were welcomed warmly and with respect.

Congratulations. Should there ever be talk of
government funding cuts, I would be happy to provide
this feedback to the funding body if it is of help.

Warm regards

Dear Helen,

Just a note to thank
you sincerely for your
valued help, support and
audience in our recent
consultation ...

Marathon case highlights need for vilification laws to protect LGBTI community

Caxton Legal Centre welcomed the decision of the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal in *Menzies and anor v Owen* [2014] QCAT 661, which confirms the rights of people with diverse sexualities to live free from homophobic vilification.

After more than eight years of litigation, including successful outcomes in the former Anti-Discrimination Tribunal, the Supreme Court of Queensland and the High Court of Australia, the matter was ultimately re-heard in the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal. There, complainants Ricky Menzies and Rhonda Bruce succeeded in establishing that various homophobic publications made by former Gympie Councillor Ron Owen breached Queensland's vilification laws. In the publications, which included a report tabled in Council, a newsletter distributed to constituents and a letter published on a website, Mr Owen promulgated homophobic views including:

... that you should not allow sodomites anywhere near schools, scouts, churches or government, or railways in fact I cannot think of anywhere on this planet I could recommend them to ...

Mr Owen, a proprietor of Owen Guns, was ordered to provide private apologies and retractions to the complainants. Some nine and a half years after the original complaint, he did.

The outcome of this case demonstrates the importance of legislative protections against the inciting of serious contempt and hatred of vulnerable people in our community. Witnessing the enforcement of vilification laws under the Anti-discrimination Act gives confidence to people with diverse sexualities.

Endless thanks are extended to Simon Hamlyn-Harris, Sally Robb and Carla Klease of Counsel for their enormous contribution to Caxton's representation of the complainants in this matter.

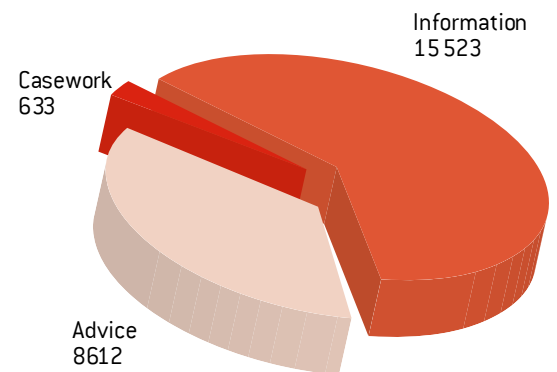
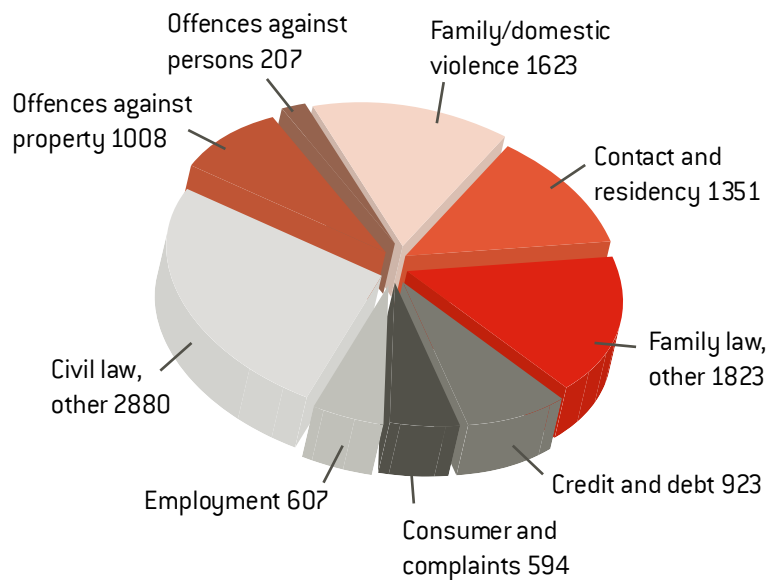
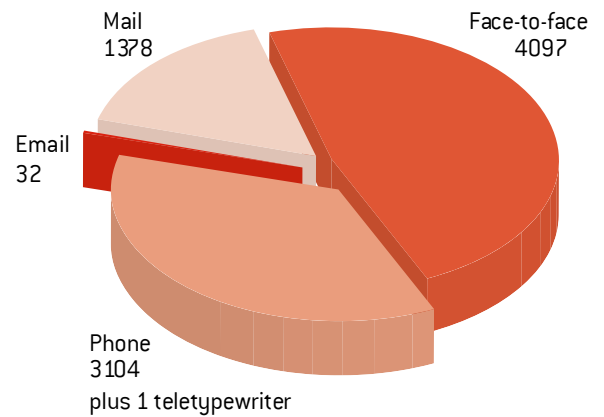


Photographed by Gilbert Baker

Statistics

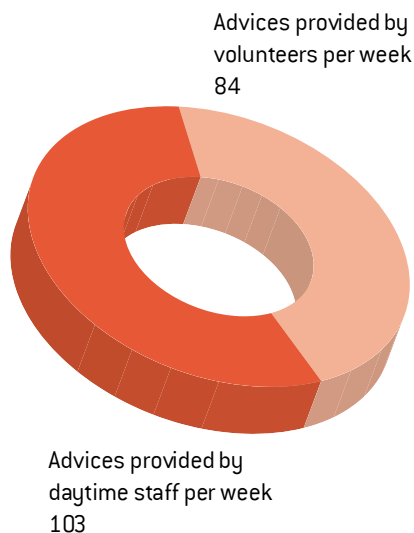
How we helped

During the 2014–2015 financial year, the number of legal advices provided amounted to **8612**—an improvement over both last year's figure of 8289 and the 2012–2013 figure of 8515. The most common means of client interaction providing legal advice was through **face-to-face** appointments with our staff and volunteers at **4097**, followed by **3104 phone appointments**. The phone lines at reception were as busy as ever with administration staff providing information to **15 523 callers**. Our legal staff opened **633 new cases** during the 2014–15 financial year.



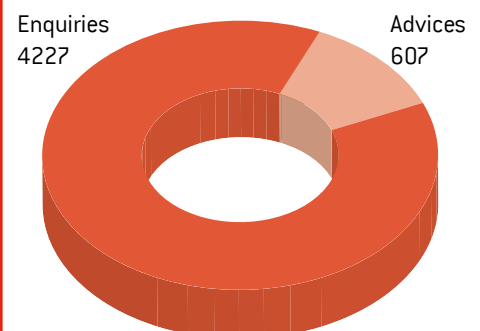
Who helped

On average, Caxton Legal Centre provided 187 free legal advices per week over a 48-week period during the 2014–2015 financial year. One hundred and three of these advices were provided by daytime staff while volunteer lawyers provided 84 legal advices to clients per week. This reflects the improvement in efficiency of the evening advice sessions, resulting in less follow-up work for daytime staff, which in turn has led to increased capacity to provide advices during the day.



Unmet demand in employment law

In the 2014–15 financial year, Caxton Legal Centre Inc. received 4227 employment law related enquiries, however, due to limited resources we were only able to give 607 legal advices to an even smaller number of clients.

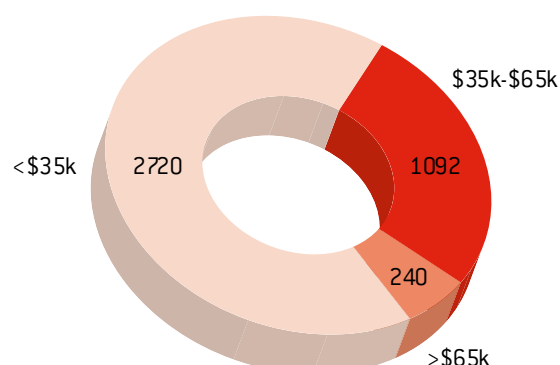


Our clients

In an effort to direct our services to the most vulnerable members of the community, Caxton staff and volunteers provided legal advice to:

- 126 clients with low English proficiency
- 64 Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people
- 570 clients with a disability
- 2720 clients who were on a low income of less than \$35 000 p.a.

Income scale of clients



The Table below shows a detailed breakdown of the areas of law our clients required advice in. (Please note that the total number of advices given is smaller than the sum of specific advices given as clients sometimes presented with more than one problem type. The same applies to cases opened and closed.)

Breakdown of major problem types and respective client numbers for each service type

Major problem type	Information	Advice	Cases open at start	Cases opened during period	Cases closed during period	CLE activities completed	LRLP activities completed
TOTAL ACTIVITIES	15 523	8612	144	633	602	29	8
Family Law	6432	4797	68	465	449	8	5
Child support	668	203	5	25	25	0	0
Child/spousal maintenance	455	65	0	4	3	0	0
Contact and residency	713	1351	6	85	81	0	0
Divorce and separation	757	319	4	33	35	0	0
Family/domestic violence	499	1623	42	178	172	8	5
Property	610	579	3	49	45	0	0
Child protection	113	37	0	1	1	0	0
Other family law	2617	620	8	90	87	0	0
Civil Law	8829	4976	97	326	293	22	3
Tenancy	616	365	2	21	11	0	0
Credit and debt	698	924	37	64	74	1	0
Immigration law	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Govt/administrative law	31	303	4	16	13	1	0
Govt pensions and benefits allowances	44	11	0	0	0	0	0
Consumer and complaints	831	594	12	60	58	0	0
Motor vehicle	480	255	4	13	15	0	0
Wills/probate	452	265	2	25	22	0	0
Environment	24	0	0	0	0	0	0
Injuries	94	68	0	2	2	1	0
Discrimination	116	59	5	8	7	1	0
Employment	4227	607	3	21	7	0	0
Neighbourhood disputes	598	233	1	11	10	0	1
Other civil law	572	1319	27	85	74	18	2
Criminal Law	262	1215	8	56	52	0	0
Offences against persons	106	207	3	7	9	0	0
Offences against property and other offences	156	1008	5	49	43	0	0

Our People

2014–15

Management Committee

President: Mark Thomas
Secretary: Dan Rogers
Treasurer: Louise Cox

Committee members

Barbara Kent
Kevin Lambkin
Margaret Arthur
Matt Woods
Wendy Mulcahy
Alf Davis
Tim Alexander

Director

Scott McDougall

Manager, Seniors Legal and Support Service

Vivienne Campion

Administration & Finance

Anne-Maree Elliott, Business Manager
Karen Nyberg, Front Office Coordinator
Symone Wilson, File Management
Michelle Ecclestone, Administration Officer
Jeff Poole, Administration Officer
Bill Kyle, Accountant
Megan Pearce, Finance and Volunteer Coordinator

Publications and Communication

Camielle Donaghey, Media and Communications
Ana Oertel, Publications

Solicitors

Yatarla Clarke, Coordinating Lawyer, General Practice
Bridget Burton, Coordinating Lawyer, General Practice (on secondment at LAQ)
Ros Williams, Law Reform and Community Legal Education
Abbey Richards, General Practice
Klaire Coles, General Practice
Amanda Hess, General Practice
Gillian Welsh, General Practice
Melody Valentine, General Practice
Joseph Ho, Family Law
Anthony O'Sullivan, Seniors Legal and Support Service
Glenys Haren, Seniors Legal and Support Service
Kirsty Mackie, Seniors Legal and Support Service
Catherine Wilson, Park and Village Information Link
Joanna Abraham, Park and Village Information Link
Cybele Koning, Family Law Duty Lawyer Service
Stephanie Ewart, Family Law Duty Lawyer Service
Barbara Fox, Family Law Duty Lawyer Service

Indigenous Law Clerk

Candice Hughes

Social Workers

Lena Lundell, General Practice
Frances Privitera, Seniors Legal and Support Service
Su-Lyn Lee, Seniors Legal and Support Service
Helen Wallace, Seniors Legal and Support Service

PLT Students

Phylli Verrall

Social Work Students

Jessica Harris

Casual Staff

Genevieve Nuttall
Andrew Kennedy
Adam Bartels
Robyn Dawe
Isobella Rafty
Rose Brown

Staff who left

Justine Meyer, Administration Officer
Jennifer Townsend, Social Worker
Ariane Wilkinson, Solicitor

Treasurer's Report

by Louise Cox

Caxton Legal Centre Inc. will complete the 2014–15 year with a surplus of \$66 743 and an income increase of around 8.7% to \$2.78 million.

The increased income was mainly due to the Park and Village Information Link (PAVIL) pilot program operating for a full financial year for the first time. We also received a one-off top up of \$79 000 from the federal Attorney-General's Department.

Overall expenses increased by around \$389 000 for the year due to additional services including the full-year delivery of the PAVIL program and a general increase in paid staff hours by 13.7% to nearly 43 000 hours. This increase in staff hours reflects our continued focus on service delivery.

Expenses relating to wages and clinics still account for nearly 80% of our total expenditure and other expenses continued to be well controlled. Positive cash flow in the year has enabled Caxton to again reduce its mortgage debt in 2014–15. The Caxton mortgage was reduced by more than 25% in the year and facilitated a second consecutive year decrease of 20% in mortgage interest and fee expenses.

One expense area that increased in the year was consultant expenses as a result of Caxton's strategic planning and

organisational review. The finalisation of the review and its implementation will occur in 2015–16.

Further provisions have also been made in 2014–15 to ensure Caxton remains in a good position to complete necessary repairs and maintenance work on the building over the next 12 months without impacting on our service delivery.

A bequest from the estate of Vera Raymer was also finalised in 2014–15. A total of \$132 129 has been received. The bequest was finalised late in the year and has been accrued into the 2015–16 financial year to match the timing of its intended use when that is finalised.

Overall the financial position of Caxton remains strong and our cash position remains sufficient to meet our ongoing commitments. The 2014–15 financial year saw further increases in service delivery, and the centre remains financially healthy and well placed to continue our work into the future.

Again, the management committee congratulates our finance team in their great work in providing great financial transparency and maintaining our costs to budget.

Funding Sources

Caxton Legal Centre acknowledges our funding sources

The Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department and the Queensland Department of Justice and Attorney-General provided funding through the Community Legal Service Program (CLSP) for our General Law Service, Family Law and Child Support Service, Clinical Legal Education Program, Family Law Duty Lawyers Service and partial funding for our Seniors Legal and Support Service. The Griffith University Student Representative Council provided funding for a weekly legal advice clinic for students at the Nathan campus, and the University of Queensland funded the Consumer Law Student Clinic and the Manning Street Project. Queensland University of Technology funded our evening advice student clinic.

The Queensland Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services provided funding for the Seniors Legal and Support Service and the General Social Work Service. The Queensland Department of Housing and Public Works provided funding for our Park and Village Information Link.

Funded by



THE UNIVERSITY
OF QUEENSLAND
AUSTRALIA



Student Representative Council
Griffith University



Australian Government
Attorney-General's Department

Financial Report

1.

CAXTON LEGAL CENTRE INC.
QUEENSLAND LAW HANDBOOK AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS
TRADING ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

		<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Sales		29,639.82	54,797.83
Royalties		16,315.34	18,148.47
		<hr/> 45,955.16	<hr/> 72,946.30
<u>Cost of Publications</u>			
Stock on Hand 1 July 2014	33,000.00		2,105.30
Publication Costs			
- Production	<hr/> -		<hr/> 46,720.00
		33,000.00	48,825.30
Less Stock on Hand 30 June 2015		<hr/> -	<hr/> 33,000.00
		(33,000.00)	(15,825.30)
<u>GROSS PROFIT/(LOSS) ON TRADING</u>		<hr/> \$12,955.16	<hr/> \$57,121.00

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

2.

CAXTON LEGAL CENTRE INC.
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
<u>INCOME</u>		
Gross Profit/(Loss) on Trading B/F	12,955.16	57,121.00
Department of Communities	977,735.00	946,958.00
Legal Aid Office (Queensland)	345,402.00	221,197.00
Office of Legal Aid & Family Services - Commonwealth		
- Community Legal Centre Grant	410,908.00	320,729.00
- Child Support Service	146,489.00	143,900.00
- Clinical Legal Education	133,173.00	130,816.00
- FRC	29,625.00	29,100.00
- Duty Lawyer	213,950.00	210,168.00
Legal Practitioner Interest on Trust Accounts Fund	-	113,235.00
Department of Housing and Public Works	314,805.07	110,194.93
Donations	11,793.44	13,853.02
Interest	14,850.17	17,364.24
Membership Fees	610.00	630.00
Sundry Income	7,452.76	10,804.23
Clinic Fees	108,099.99	109,600.00
Fundraising Income	8,586.20	-
Gambling Community Benefit Fund	-	31,290.00
Jupiters Casino Community Benefit Fund	-	20,000.00
	<u>\$2,736,434.79</u>	<u>\$2,486,960.42</u>
<u>LESS EXPENDITURE</u>		
Total Expenditure (Schedule Attached)	\$2,669,690.89	\$2,280,071.05
<u>NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR YEAR</u>	<u>\$66,743.90</u>	<u>\$206,889.37</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

3.

CAXTON LEGAL CENTRE INC.
INCOME & EXPENDITURE STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
Accountancy & Audit	8,600.00	8,600.00
Advertising & Publicity	8,859.85	4,352.19
Amenities - Staff & Volunteer	12,548.73	11,556.53
Bank Charges	2,067.67	1,806.67
Cleaning	11,296.98	11,909.96
Client Outlays	15,416.50	3,051.24
Computer Supplies & Maintenance	26,730.57	27,819.17
Consultant Fees	55,170.00	12,642.00
Depreciation	71,110.26	65,643.64
Electricity	16,879.96	19,329.47
Fundraising Expenses	2,602.37	-
Griffith University Expenses	56,363.64	55,363.64
Insurance	9,275.85	8,394.68
Law Books & Journals	31,652.93	28,162.73
Loan Interest & Fees	42,597.52	53,321.75
Meeting Expenses	3,973.06	1,091.98
Minor Equipment	18,129.67	7,304.93
NACLC & QAILS Levy	7,015.00	7,015.00
Office Printing	25,330.64	21,524.16
Office Stationery	9,250.41	7,247.90
Postage	12,666.70	17,311.46
Professional Association Fees & Practicing Certificates	15,089.49	14,357.18
Project Expenses	2,328.54	2,079.14
Rates	13,188.64	13,538.91
Repairs, Maintenance & Gardening	40,000.00	66,217.33
Security	6,159.18	6,129.67
Seminars & Conferences	15,489.96	4,458.64
Staff Recruitment	530.27	315.00
Staff Training	37,089.06	19,370.00
Sundry Expenses	3,466.75	1,002.27
Superannuation	170,752.17	142,484.05
Supervision	6,882.27	4,950.00
Telephone & Internet	46,771.30	42,860.50
Travel	16,314.22	10,890.07
Wages & Salaries	1,848,090.73	1,577,969.19
<u>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</u>	<u>\$2,669,690.89</u>	<u>\$2,280,071.05</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

4.

CAXTON LEGAL CENTRE INC.
ASSETS AND LIABILITIES STATEMENT
AS AT 30 JUNE 2015

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>		
<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>		
Cash at Bank, on Deposit and on Hand (Note 2)	621,181.08	585,531.66
Debtors & Prepayments	18,505.09	8,783.59
Stock (Note 3)	-	33,000.00
<u>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</u>	<u>639,686.17</u>	<u>627,315.25</u>
<u>FIXED ASSETS</u> (Note 4)	<u>2,740,687.58</u>	<u>2,777,799.13</u>
<u>TOTAL ASSETS</u>	<u>3,380,373.75</u>	<u>3,405,114.38</u>
<u>LIABILITIES</u>		
<u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>		
Creditors & Accruals	212,485.64	180,808.16
GST Control Account	46,803.52	54,959.85
Provision for Leave Entitlements	156,860.48	134,500.98
Grants Received & Unexpended (Note 6)	168,132.36	84,333.07
Loan - Westpac	116,976.00	116,976.00
<u>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>	<u>701,258.00</u>	<u>571,578.06</u>
<u>NON - CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>		
Loan - Westpac	506,378.95	731,072.43
Provision for Long Service Leave	95,189.04	91,660.03
<u>TOTAL NON - CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>	<u>601,567.99</u>	<u>822,732.46</u>
<u>TOTAL LIABILITIES</u>	<u>1,302,825.99</u>	<u>1,394,310.52</u>
<u>NET ASSETS</u>	<u>\$2,077,547.76</u>	<u>\$2,010,803.86</u>
<u>ACCUMULATED FUNDS</u>		
Balance at 1 July 2014	\$2,010,803.86	1,803,914.49
Net Surplus/(Deficit) for Year	66,743.90	206,889.37
<u>TOTAL ACCUMULATED FUNDS</u>	<u>\$2,077,547.76</u>	<u>\$2,010,803.86</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

5.

CAXTON LEGAL CENTRE INC.
CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Receipts		
Sales	29,002.54	54,160.55
Interest	14,850.17	17,364.24
Other	142,272.90	260,824.55
Cash flows from Government Grants	2,655,886.36	2,245,631.00
Payments		
Suppliers and Employees	(2,505,387.84)	(2,163,969.02)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	<u>\$336,624.13</u>	<u>\$414,011.32</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Payment for purchase of plant & equipment	(33,998.71)	(26,611.00)
Payment for purchase of property	-	(69,137.02)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	<u>\$(33,998.71)</u>	<u>\$(95,748.02)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES		
Payment of borrowings	<u>(266,976.00)</u>	<u>(116,976.00)</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	<u>(266,976.00)</u>	<u>(116,976.00)</u>
Net increase (decrease) in cash held	35,649.42	201,287.30
Cash at beginning of the reporting period	585,531.66	384,244.36
Cash at end of the reporting period	<u>\$621,181.08</u>	<u>\$585,531.66</u>
RECONCILIATION OF NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT TO NET CASH PROVIDED BY (USED IN) OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Operating Result	66,743.90	206,889.37
- Depreciation	71,110.26	65,643.64
- Interest	42,282.52	52,481.75
- Increase/(Decrease) in Payables	23,521.15	41,345.98
- Increase/(Decrease) in Provisions	25,888.51	14,381.14
- Increase/(Decrease) Unexpended Grants	83,799.29	31,292.84
- (Increase)/Decrease in Stock	33,000.00	(30,894.70)
- (Increase)/Decrease in Receivables	(9,721.50)	32,871.30
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	<u>\$336,624.13</u>	<u>\$414,011.32</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

CAXTON LEGAL CENTRE INC.
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirement of the Associations Incorporated Act (Qld). The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The report is also prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following significant accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report.

(a) Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated on the prime cost basis and is brought to account over the estimated economic lives of all Fixed Assets.

(b) Employee Entitlements

Liabilities for Wages & Salaries and Annual Leave are recognised and are measured as the amount unpaid at the reporting date at current pay rates in respect of employees' services up to that date. Other employee entitlements payable later than one year, have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those entitlements.

Contributions are made by the association to an employee superannuation fund and are charged as expenses when incurred.

(c) Comparative Figures

Comparative figures, where necessary, have been reclassified in order to comply with the presentation adopted in the figures reported for the current financial year.

(d) Inventories

Inventories consist of publications and are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Costs are assigned on a specific identification basis and direct costs and appropriate overheads if any.

(e) Economic Dependence

The Caxton Legal Centre Inc. is dependant on government funding to operate. As at the date of the report the committee has no reason to believe the government will not continue to support the organisation.

7.

CAXTON LEGAL CENTRE INC.
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTD.)**(f) Income Tax**

The Association is exempted from tax under section 50-10 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
2. CASH AT BANK, ON DEPOSIT & ON HAND		
Petty Cash	200.00	200.00
Westpac - Cheque account	53,877.43	41,723.95
Westpac - Cash Reserve Account	566,888.53	541,792.59
Pay Pal Account	215.12	1,815.12
	<u>\$621,181.08</u>	<u>\$585,531.66</u>
3. STOCK		
"Qld Law Handbook"	-	33,000.00
	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$33,000.00</u>
4. FIXED ASSETS		
Land & Buildings - At Cost		
- 1 Manning Street, South Brisbane	2,717,675.25	2,717,675.25
- Depreciation Building	(75,000.00)	(50,000.00)
	<u>2,642,675.25</u>	<u>2,667,675.25</u>
Office Equipment & Furniture		
Written Down Value 1 July 2014	110,123.88	55,019.50
- Additions	33,998.71	95,748.02
- Depreciation	(46,110.26)	(40,643.64)
	<u>98,012.33</u>	<u>110,123.88</u>
	<u>\$2,740,687.58</u>	<u>\$2,777,799.13</u>

Land and buildings are included in the Financial Statements at cost. However, this does not necessarily represent the market value or recoverable amount, as the association is a non-profit organisation, and the service potential of land and buildings is not related to the land and building's ability to generate net cash inflows.

8.

CAXTON LEGAL CENTRE INC.
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
5. CHARGE ON PROPERTY		
The following mortgages have been given over freehold premises at 1 Manning Street, South Brisbane:-		
First Mortgage - Westpac Bank		
- Balance of Mortgage	623,354.95	848,047.43
	<u>\$623,354.95</u>	<u>\$848,047.43</u>
6. GRANTS RECEIVED & UNEXPENDED		
Brisbane City Council	1,003.00	4,528.00
Estate Vera Raymer	132,129.36	65,000.00
Department of Housing	-	14,805.07
Legal Aid Queensland	35,000.00	-
	<u>\$168,132.36</u>	<u>\$84,333.07</u>

7. AUDITOR'S REMUNERATION

Apart from the remuneration disclosed the auditors received no other benefits.

9.

CAXTON LEGAL CENTRE INC.

STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

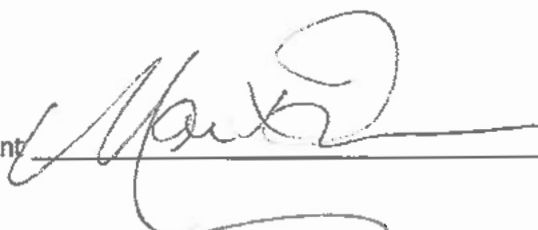
The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the committee the financial report as set out on pages 1 to 8:

1. Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Caxton Legal Centre Inc. as at 30 June 2015 and its performance for the year ended of that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Caxton Legal Centre Inc. will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:

President



Treasurer



Dated this 23rd day of September 2015.

10.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF
CAXTON LEGAL CENTRE INC.

Report on the Financial Report

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Caxton Legal Centre Inc. which comprises the assets and liabilities statement as at 30 June 2015, and the income and expenditure statement, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the statement by members of the committee.

Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The committee of the association is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and has determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, which form part of the financial report, are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (Qld) and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The committee's responsibilities also includes such internal control as the committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, as described in Note 1, are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the committee, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

11.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the committee's financial reporting under the Associations Incorporation Act. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report of Caxton Legal Centre Inc. presents fairly, in all material respects the financial position of Caxton Legal Centre Inc. as of 30 June 2015 and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, and the requirements of Association Incorporation Act (QLD).



HAYWARDS CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS



PETER GESCH - PARTNER

23 SEPTEMBER 2015
BRISBANE

Caxton Legal Centre
1 Manning Street
South Brisbane QLD 4101

Tel: (07) 3214 6333

Fax: (07) 3846 7483

Email: caxton@caxton.org.au

www.caxton.org.au

www.facebook.com/caxtonlegalcentre

www.twitter.com/CaxtonLegal

Office hours: 9 am – 5 pm Monday to Friday

Caxton Legal Centre holds free legal advice sessions on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings for people on a low income or who face other disadvantage.

Call us to book an appointment.