

About Toongabbie Legal Centre Inc (TLC)

TLC is a new community legal centre located in Toongabbie in the heart of Western Sydney. TLC commenced its free legal services from 13 October 2007. TLC is in its seventh year of providing legal advice and assistance to vulnerable people.

TLC offers legal advice and referral services. TLC refers matters needing further examination and case management either to funded community legal centres or to private lawyers or migration agents, who are willing to consider part or full pro bono service, depending on the circumstances of each case. TLC operates on Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings, with the help of over 100 volunteers, with rooms provided by the local Catholic Church. The clients represent diverse backgrounds and TLC has been providing advice on matters involving a range of legal/policy issues, including matters under the migration laws.

TLC now offers legal advice and assistance on Thursdays (6-9pm) and Saturdays (9.30am-1pm).

Community Legal Education

TLC has been promoting community legal education in the Western Sydney region in locations such as Toongabbie, Mount Druitt, Blacktown, Parklea, Quakers Hill, Wentworthville and Parramatta. Of these, one was presented in cooperation with NSW Legal Aid.

TLC run by volunteers

TLC's volunteers include solicitors, barristers, law students, migration agents, educators, financial planners/advisors, Information technologists (IT), sociologists and persons from various other professions.

Our Patron

The President of Court of Appeal, NSW Supreme Court, Her Honour Justice Margaret Beazley AO, is our Patron. She has been a strong advocate for our legal centre and its on-going legal services to the vulnerable and those who are lost when caught in the legal net.

TLC Telephone Service

We have established a 24/7 telephone answering service whereby the callers can indicate their needs and TLC will communicate with them and explain how it can help the caller.

Funding Sources

At the present time, the Centre does not receive any core funding either from the State or the Federal governments.

We need substantial funds to expand TLC's legal service as a fulltime legal assistance to the community and to serve the needy and vulnerable persons amongst us.

We have received a few small grants toward specific projects undertaken by TLC.

In order to raise funds to meet our on-going cost including insurance, we hold our Annual Fundraising Dinners and seek donations.

Our Annual Fundraising Dinner

The First Annual Fundraising Dinner was held on 28 June 2008 in the Hall next to the St Anthony's Catholic Church, Toongabbie, within Holroyd LGA (local government area). Her Honour Justice Margaret Beazley AO, Court of Appeal, NSW Supreme Court was the Chief Guest.

The Second Annual Fundraising Dinner was held in Parramatta within the Parramatta LGA on 13 November 2009 with Her Honour Justice Virginia Bell of the High Court as the Chief Guest.

The Third Annual Fundraising Dinner was held on 15 October 2010 in Blacktown with the Honourable John Hatzistergos MLC, NSW Attorney-General as the Chief Guest.

The Fourth Annual Fundraising Dinner was held on 28 October 2011 in Blacktown with the Chief Guest being The Honourable Greg Smith SC MLA, NSW Attorney General.

The Fifth Annual Fundraising Dinner was held on 27 October 2012 in Blacktown with the His Honour Justice Robert French AC Chief Justice of the High Court of Australia, as our Chief Guest.

The Sixth Annual Fundraising Dinner was held on Saturday 12 October 2013 with The Hon T F Bathurst, Chief Justice of NSW Supreme Court as our Chief Guest.

TLC – Formal Launch

The Federal Attorney General the Hon Robert McClelland MP formally launched TLC and its website on Friday, 8 July 2011 at 27 Aurelia Street, Toongabbie, in the hall next to the St Anthony's Catholic Church. We held the formal launch after our feasibility had been tested and our legal service had been firmly established. The function was attended by over 200 guests including judicial officers, legal practitioners, community organisations representatives and TLC volunteers.

TLC's Outreach Legal Service

On 1 December 2011, TLC opened its Outreach Legal Services in Blacktown with the help of CatholicCare of the Diocese of Parramatta. We have been allocated four interview rooms at their facility in Blacktown. Our legal services in Blacktown maintain the same pattern as in Toongabbie, ie Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings. However, the base of the facility continues at Toongabbie.

On 27 April 2012 this service was formally launched by Sir Gerard Brennan AC KBE, former Chief Justice of High Court of Australia.

Tax Deductible Donations

TLC has tax-deductible status (DGR) with the Australian Tax Office for all donations. Any donation over \$2 is tax deductible.

Our Vision

With huge population increases and many new migrants settling in the Toongabbie-Seven Hills-Blacktown area, our vision is to establish full-time free legal services for vulnerable people in the area.

Susai Benjamin

Hon. Director & Acting Principal Solicitor



MCLE – Mandatory Continuing Legal Education
New Solicitors' Rule 57 – Legal Profession Regulation 176
SEMINAR
Venue: The Hub, St Anthony's Primary School, Cnr of Targo & Girraween Roads, Toongabbie
Saturday 29 March 2014

**TLC is pleased to announce a MCLE – seminar on
New Solicitors' Rule 57 – Legal Profession Regulation 176
Saturday, 29 March 2014 Venue: The Hub, St Anthony's Primary School,
Corner of Targo and Girraween Roads, Toongabbie**



Doors open 8.00am
Breakfast Tea/Coffee

OPENING THE MCLE

Welcome
8.30am – 8.45am
Chris Jurd, Solicitor
President Toongabbie Legal Centre

SESSION ONE

8.45am – 9.45am
**Topic: New Solicitors' Rules Effective
1 January 2014**

Speaker: Amanda Little, Solicitor
Amanda Little and Associates, Penrith
Chair: Holly Morgan, Senior Solicitor
Crown Solicitor's Office

SESSION TWO

9.45am – 10.45am
**Topic: Equal Employment Opportunity
and Discrimination**

Speaker: Kate Eastman SC, Barrister
St James Hall, Sydney
Chair: Pouyan Afshar, Barrister
Sixth Floor Selbourne/Wentworth Chambers

Morning Tea/Coffee
10.45am – 11.00am

SESSION THREE

11.00am – 12.00 noon
**Topic: Preparing Your Client for Mediation
– Challenges Ahead**

Speaker: Katherine Johnson, Barrister
Ryde Chambers, Ryde
Chair: Ian Coleman SC
Culwulla Chambers, Sydney

SESSION FOUR

1200 noon – 1.00pm
**Topic: Practice Management and
Business Skills**

Speaker: Dean Bainbridge, Solicitor
Bainbridge Legal, Blacktown and Solicitor-
Volunteer at TLC
Chair: Frank Mersal, Solicitor
Mersal & Associates Pty Ltd, Parramatta

Lunch
1.00pm – 1.30pm

SESSION FIVE

1.30pm – 2.30pm
**Topic: Ethics: Hypothetical
(This session is compliant with
rule 57.1.6 (i) Ethics)**

Speaker: Linden Barnes, Ethics Solicitor
NSW Law Society
Chair: Christopher Dunn, President
Parramatta District and Regional Law Society

**MCLE – one-day program on
FAMILY LAW
Saturday 29 November 2014**

Registration (includes welcome breakfast
coffee/tea; morning tea/coffee; buffet
lunch and afternoon tea/coffee).

If this programme is relevant to you and
accepted by your professional body, then
you may claim one 'unit' for each hour of
attendance.

MCLE points: tba

Early Bird Registration
(ends on 30 September 2014) \$250
(ends on 30 October 2014) \$350
Late Registration \$450

**TLC and other
Community Legal Centres** \$100
Webinar option \$150
(joining from remote locations)

Refund Policy: If you pay and cancel before 15/11/14,
50% of the amount paid will be refunded.

**Registration (includes welcome breakfast tea/coffee; morning
tea/coffee; light lunch).**

If this programme is relevant to you and accepted by your professional
body, then you may claim one 'unit' for each hour of attendance.

***Program offers 5 CLE Units**

Early Bird Registration (ends on 26 March 2014)..... \$200
Late Registration \$275
TLC and other Community Legal Centres \$75
Webinar option (joining from remote locations) \$100

**Free parking for attendees and 5 minute walk
from Toongabbie Railway Station**

Refund Policy: If you pay and cancel before 27 March 2014, 50% of the amount paid will be refunded.



REGISTRATION FORM

Name: Mr Mrs Ms Miss Dr Prof _____

Phone (day): Work: _____ Home: _____ Mobile: _____

Address: _____ Suburb _____ Postcode _____

Email: _____ Barrister Solicitor Other _____

Credit card payment: Please debit my credit card: Mastercard Visa Expiry date: ____ / ____

Authorised payment: \$ _____ Donation: \$ _____ Credit Card No. _____

Name on card _____ Signature _____

Payment by cheque:
Enclosed cheque for: \$ _____ payable to: **Toongabbie Legal Centre Inc (TLC), PO Box 232, Toongabbie NSW 2146**

* Receipts will be issued for all payments