

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 sixth 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). We are often engaged with clients until about 9.30 or 10pm on Thursdays and similarly on occasions up to 2pm on Saturdays.

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

Currently, TLC has over 100 volunteers who work on a roster system. The volunteers include solicitors, barristers, law students, migration agents, educators, financial planners/advisors, information technologists (IT), sociologists and persons from various other professions.

Our Patron

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 hour 7 days a week 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 will be 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.

MARK
YOUR
DIARY



REGISTER
EARLY!

One Day MCLE on
FAMILY LAW
Saturday 2 November 2013
Venue: Level 4, 1 Horwood Place, Parramatta

TLC is pleased to announce its MCLE program in Family Law on **Saturday 2 November 2013** at Parramatta

OPENING REMARKS

8.45am - 9.00am

Her Honour Justice Margaret Beazley AO
President of the NSW Court of Appeal and
Patron, Toongabbie Legal Centre

SESSION ONE

9.00am - 10.00am

Family Violence – getting the drafting right... Affidavits and Notices of Abuse

Alexandra (Sasha) Shearman, Barrister
Arthur Phillip Chambers

Chair: Constantinos (Con) Ktenas

TLC Volunteer-Solicitor & Principal Lawyer,
WorkCover Independent Review Office

SESSION TWO

10.00am - 11.00am

Family Violence – the impact on parents and children

His Honour Judge Harman
Federal Circuit Court of Australia

Chair: Chris Jurd

President Toongabbie Legal Centre Inc

Morning tea/coffee

11.00am - 11.15am

SESSION THREE

11.15am - 12.15pm

The Evidence Act in parenting claims – why it matters

Caroline Dobraszcyk, Barrister
Trust Chambers Sydney

Chair: Susana Staka

Accredited Family Law Specialist
Champion Legal, Parramatta

SESSION FOUR

12.15pm - 1.15pm

Financial Statements – not just ticking boxes

Robyn Druitt, Barrister
Arthur Phillip Chambers

Chair: Dean Bainbridge

TLC Volunteer-Solicitor & Principal,
Bainbridge Legal, Blacktown

Lunch

1.15pm - 1.45pm

SESSION FIVE

1.45pm - 2.45pm

Mediation and negotiation – getting to yes

Paul Bell, Mediator, Legal Aid NSW

Chair: Dennis Wilson

Edmund Barton Chambers

SESSION SIX

2.45pm - 3.45pm

Professional Legal Privilege – The Clients Right and Your Professional and Ethical Responsibility

Amanda Little, Principal,
Amanda Little & Associates

Chair: Mary Nagle

TLC Volunteer -Solicitor-Principal
O'Connell Solicitors, Newtown

Closing Remarks

3.45pm - 4.00pm

Susai Benjamin

Toongabbie Legal Centre

Hon Director & Acting Principal Solicitor

Afternoon tea/coffee/drinks



Registration (includes welcome 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.

Full day: 6 MCL points

Early Bird Registration

(ends on 25 October 2013)

\$350 (General)

\$300 (Members of Parramatta and District Law Society)

Late Registration

\$400 (General)

\$350 (Members of Parramatta and District Law Society)

Refund Policy: If you pay and cancel one week before the event, 50% of the amount paid will be refunded.

REGISTRATION FORM

PLEASE DETACH 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: \$ _____ 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