



**Community Legal
Centres (SA)**

CLCSA (CPD) BIG DAY OUT

13 March 2026 | 9:00AM - 4:30PM
UCITY 43 Franklin St

EXCLUSIVE FREE EVENT FOR CLCSA STAFF and INVITED GUESTS ONLY

Booking online

www.clcsa.org.au/members

PROGRAM

8:30

Registrations Open

9:00

(LIVE)
STREAMING
Training
Room 3
Level 3

Welcome

9:15

10:15

1.0 CPD

(A) Drivers of unsafe workplace behaviours and the power dynamics that underpin them, within the legal profession

Emma Ashley & Dharani Rana WWCSA Training Room 301

This session explores the drivers of unsafe workplace behaviours and the power dynamics that underpin them, particularly within the legal profession. Participants will be encouraged to critically reflect on how entrenched power imbalances operate within their own workplaces and in the experiences of the clients they represent.

The session will reference the findings of the 2024 Review of Harassment in the South Australian Legal Profession by the Equal Opportunity Commission, along with the Australian Human Rights Commission's recent report Speaking from Experience. These reports provide current, evidence-based insights into the prevalence and impact of harassment, misconduct, and structural inequality in legal settings.

A focus will also be given to the use of confidentiality agreements and non-disclosure agreements (NDAs) in sexual harassment matters. This topic is particularly relevant following a recent recommendation by the Sex Discrimination Commissioner, which highlights the need for transparency and victim-centred approaches in addressing workplace harm.

(LIVE)
STREAMING

Training
Room 3
Level 3

Room 206
Level 2

10:25

11:25

1.0 CPD

(B) How to conduct a criminal trial in the Magistrates Court - Tips and Traps

Andrew English WestSide CLC

The session will provide participants with the essential toolkit needed to prepare and run a trial in the Magistrates Court. The session will cover pre-trial procedures and rules, obtaining complete prosecution disclosure and managing pre-trial conferences. The trial proper will then be explored, including opening and closing addresses, examination in chief, cross examination and re-examination of witnesses. Important practical evidentiary principles will be traversed including the rule in Brown v Dunn, proving prior inconsistent statements, and when and how to object to evidence. Appropriate court room etiquette and trial counsel's ethical obligations will also be discussed.

10:25

11:25

1.0 CPD

(C) Voir Dire Applications to Exclude Prosecution Evidence

Presenter: Amanjot Sidhu Northern CLC

A voir dire is a pre-trial or mid-trial hearing used to determine whether particular prosecution evidence should be admitted or excluded. It is effectively a "trial within a trial" where the court examines the circumstances under which the evidence was obtained and decides on admissibility. Use of voir dire: Generally used by defence to exclude prosecution evidence that appears prima facie admissible. The court decides questions such as: Whether evidence should be admitted Whether evidence can be used against an accused Whether evidence was improperly or illegally obtained

(LIVE)
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11:30

12:30

1 CPD

(D) Is It Gone... or Just Waiting Patiently in a Database? Criminal history checks and recording of convictions explained

Guglielmo Plain UC Youth Law

Many people assume criminal records simply disappear over time, but much of this information remains stored in police databases and may be disclosed in certain circumstances. This session explains what is recorded, the difference between charges and convictions, how spent convictions work, and who can access this information. Participants will gain a practical understanding of criminal history checks and be better equipped to advise clients and address common misconceptions about whether a record is truly gone—or simply waiting patiently in a database.

11:30

12:30

1.0CPD

(E) CSI: Child Support Investigations — Cracking s106A, s107 & s143

Cheryl Rosales Uniting Communities Law Centre

Ever wondered what really happens when someone says, "I'm not the parent" — and what the law actually does next? If child support parentage issues make your head spin, this session is for you. In "CSI: Child Support Investigations," we'll walk through sections 106A, 107 and 143 of the Child Support (Assessment) Act in a clear, practical way—no jargon, no judgment. We'll chat about what happens when parentage is disputed, how the Registrar's decisions work under the Act and what courts can do when someone turns out not to be a parent after all. With real-world examples and plenty of time for questions, you'll leave feeling much more confident tackling child support matters, even the tricky ones

(LIVE)
STREAMING

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Light lunch 12:30 - 13:00

13:00

14:00

(1 CPD)

(F) From Mentee to Mentor: Strengthening the Future of Our Profession

Presenter: Jessica Wakelam Community Justice Services SA

This presentation reflects on my own journey through the legal profession, from six years of volunteering at the Southern Community Justice Centre as a student, to nearly six years of post admission practice within the same community. Having relied heavily on the generosity, patience, and guidance of the practitioners who trained me, I have seen firsthand how intergenerational support shapes not only individual lawyers but the profession as a whole. Drawing on experiences from community legal centres, particularly in regional and remote areas, this presentation explores how mentorship, structured supervision, and intentional knowledge sharing are essential to sustaining a workforce capable of meeting Australia's growing legal need. It highlights that access to justice cannot be achieved without a deliberate commitment to developing emerging lawyers, especially in regional practice, where resources are limited and demand is high. Through personal reflection and practical examples, the presentation calls for a renewed professional ethos grounded in collaboration, continuity, and a shared responsibility to invest in the next generation of practitioners. Justice.

(LIVE)
STREAMING

Room 206
Level 2

(G) Not Just Legal Problems: Trauma, Trust, and Decision-Making in Women's Advocacy

Reyhaneh Sarbaziha and Lauren Whelan Women's Legal Service (SA)

This presentation examines what it means to work in a trauma-informed way within a non-profit supporting vulnerable women navigating family law, family violence, criminal, migration, and victims of crime systems. It explores how trauma can shape engagement, communication, and decision-making.

(LIVE)
STREAMING

Training
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14:10

15:10

(1 CPD)

(H) A review of consumer AI tools for legal practice

Presenter: Mark Ferraretto

Despite the fact that many legal service providers, including Lexis and Thomsons, offer specialist AI offerings, a large number of practitioners still turn to consumer tools such as ChatGPT, Claude and Microsoft Copilot. This presentation provides an overview of the risk profiles attached to the free and paid consumer offerings, discusses how the presenter uses these tools in his own practice, and delves into some of the more advanced product offerings.

(LIVE)
STREAMING

Room 206
Level 2

(I) Ask a Mediator Anything – The Unfiltered Guide for Referring Lawyers

Presenter: John Steele and Shevaun Irvine UC mediation

Is your client genuinely aggrieved... or just allergic to their neighbour's existence?

In this lively and unfiltered CPD, the UC mediation team pulls back the curtain on what really happens after matters are referred. We will explore what mediators are really looking for in a referral, and how lawyers can position clients for practical, durable outcomes, especially when "winning" still means living next door to their adversaries

(LIVE)
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15:20

16:20

(1 CPD)

(J) SWAP-F (social workers & professionals forum)

This session provides one hour of CPD under the category 'Professional Identity' for social workers who are members of the Australian Association of Social Workers

Room 206
Level 2

(K) Jeremy Duffy (Ethics)
Falling Foul of the Legal Practitioner Conduct Rules - A Case Study

The South Australian Legal Practitioner Conduct Rules regulate the conduct of legal practitioners in this State. Failing to apply them can lead to significant difficulties for a practitioner, including a possible reference to the Legal Profession Conduct Commissioner. It can also lead to practical difficulties in the conduct of the case in which the breach occurs. This presentation will discuss an actual example of an allegation of such a breach and the way in which the relevant parties dealt with its effects. You can be the judge as to the appropriateness or otherwise of those actions and how you might have acted in similar circumstances. The presentation will also highlight and discuss particular aspects of the Conduct Rules of which you may not be fully cognisant.

(LIVE)
STREAMING

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Social Function 16:30 - 18:00

PRESENTERS

Emma is an experienced trainer and assessor with over a decade of expertise designing and delivering impactful adult education programs. Prior to joining the Working Women's Centre, she spent more than seventeen years with the South Australian Ambulance Service, where she developed a strong reputation for clear, practical and engaging facilitation across emergency operations, healthcare communication and complex system environments. Emma holds specialised certifications including Responding to Risks of Harm, Abuse and Neglect in Education and Care and Through Their Eyes Child Safe Environments, and is highly skilled in delivering training on sensitive and complex topics with confidence, care and credibility. A committed feminist and advocate for equity, diversity and social change, Emma brings a trauma informed and inclusive approach to her work. She has extensive experience accommodating diverse learning needs, including those of participants with disabilities, lived experience of trauma and language barriers. Her facilitation style is grounded in respect, collaboration and empowerment, supporting participants to build practical skills while contributing to safer, more inclusive workplaces and communities through education as a driver of meaningful change.

Dharani is lawyer at the Working Women's Centre SA with a focus on casework and outreach. Since joining the Centre in 2023, Dharani regularly advises and represents women and vulnerable workers in matters involving dismissals, sexual harassment, discrimination, etc. She also conducts community legal education sessions on employment law topics and organises regional outreach.

Andrew English has been a legal practitioner for 38 years. He has extensive experience as a criminal trial lawyer in the Youth Court, Magistrates Court, District Court and Supreme Court. Andrew worked for the Legal Services Commission for over 30 years and held the position of Manager of the Criminal Law Practice Division from 2012 - 2019. He has also held senior lawyer positions with the Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement Inc and as prosecutor with the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (State). In recent years, Andrew has worked as a barrister in private practice specialising in criminal law and family law. Andrew is currently a consultant part-time senior lawyer with Westside Community Lawyers, having served as its Managing Lawyer in 2024-2025. For the past 2 years Andrew has conducted the Advocacy Course for the Law Society of South Australia.

Amanjot Sidhu is a solicitor at Northern Community Lawyers Inc., practising in general law and family law. He graduated in 2012 and practised in India from 2012 to 2017; before relocating to Australia. He has previously worked as a prison officer at Yatala Labour Prison for 2.5 years and later as a police prosecutor in the Major Indictable Unit of SAPOL. After requalifying in 2024, Amanjot has primarily practised in criminal and family law. He regularly appears before the Magistrates Court in both civil and criminal matters and has also appeared before the Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia.

Jessica Wakelam is a Senior Solicitor at the Southern Community Justice Centre, where she has been practising since shortly after her admission in February 2020. Jessica's connection to the Centre began long before that, having volunteered on and off with the organisation throughout her six years of study. Jessica has built her career on a deep commitment to community legal practice and improving access to justice. Now approaching six years post admission, Jessica's work continues to be shaped by the mentorship and generosity of the practitioners who guided her. Jessica is passionate about strengthening the profession by investing in emerging lawyers, ensuring that future generations, including those serving regional and remote communities, are supported to deliver fair and accessible legal services for all Australians. Her presentation aims to reinvigorate the profession to invest in the generations of lawyers that follow us to ensure there is access to justice for all, including regional Australians.

Reyhaneh Sarbaziha graduated from Adelaide University and holds a practicing license in both South Australia and Ontario, Canada. Reyhaneh works as solicitor within Increased Women's Legal Assistance Program at the Women's Legal Service, providing free family and criminal law advice and advocacy to women survivors of family violence and / or sexual assault. Reyhaneh approaches each case with empathy and determination, striving to empower her clients and ensuring that every woman feels heard and understood.

Lauren Whelan graduated Flinders University with a Bachelor of Laws and Legal Practice in 2021. Lauren commenced her legal career at Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement as a criminal solicitor in 2021 before joining Women's Legal Service (SA) in 2022 where she practices Family Law where she provides advice and assistance to vulnerable women regarding property settlement and children's matters. Lauren is very passionate about providing access to justice within the public sector. Lauren grew up in Adelaide, and enjoys spending time with her three children, partner and cat.

Jeremy Duffy has been a practitioner for over 40 years as a salaried lawyer and partner in medium sized legal practices, as an in-house counsel and as a sole practitioner. His areas of practice have included personal injury law in his earlier years, estate planning and administration, equity, commercial law and property law, mainly for private clients. His work has involved both litigious and non-litigious matters. Jeremy has also always had an interest in the use of technology in the law and developed his own software to assist him in his sole practice. He is the current chair of the Legal Technology Committee of the Law Society of South Australia.

Mark Ferraretto is a sole practitioner and the principal of Mark Ferraretto Legal Practice. He has operated his practice since 2023 and, in late 2025, decided to focus on legal practice full time. Mark was previously a Senior Lecturer in Law at Flinders University, where he was responsible for developing and delivering the Law School's legal technology curriculum. His responsibilities also included coordinating Flinders Law's compulsory legal clinic placement topic, and he regularly supervised students at the Flinders Legal Centre. Since 2024, he has also volunteered his services with Westside Lawyers' legal clinic. In addition to his legal career, Mark has an extensive IT background, with a 25-year career in information technology that predates his legal studies. He now runs Digital Law Lab Inc, a not-for-profit focused on enabling access to justice through technology and providing technology services to legal practices. Mark is also a passionate recreational pilot, a member of the South Australian Aviation Museum Inc, and a committee member of Adelaide Soaring Club Incorporated.

Cheryll Rosales began her career as a special education teacher before pursuing legal qualifications at both UniSA and the University of Adelaide. She later completed an LLM in Access to Justice, strengthening her commitment to supporting vulnerable communities. With experience spanning NDIS appeals and systemic advocacy, Cheryll now also works within the UCLC family law team. Outside of her legal work, she loves quiet moments and exploring new cafés and spending time with family. She has one very lucky daughter and a spoiled puppy named Poppy.

Matthew Donnellan joined UCLC's family law team just over a year ago and has quickly become the go-to person for all things child support. His sharp analytical skills and calm, client-focused approach have made him an invaluable part of the practice, and he's rapidly integrating into UCLC's culture and community. Outside the office, Matt is a devoted dog dad to Kobe and an avid traveller who's always planning the next adventure.

Shevaun Irvine is a dedicated mediator specialising in neighbour and community disputes. For the past four years, she has worked at Uniting Communities Law Centre, in the mediation service, supporting neighbours to resolve conflicts and helping communities reach constructive, lasting solutions.

John Steele is former teacher, TAFE lecturer and retired solicitor, John Steele currently works as a part-time community mediator with Uniting Communities Mediation Service. He spent much of his working life as a lawyer in community legal centres. This included periods of several years as Coordinator and Principal Solicitor at the former Bowden Brompton Legal Service, Training and Development Officer with the then Community Mediation Services of SA and Disability Discrimination Solicitor with the then Central Community Legal Service. He has also worked at a CLC in Melbourne and briefly volunteered at CLCs in Hobart and London. He helped found several legal centres in Adelaide with local community activists. Over a number of years he served in different positions in SACCLS and NACLCL. In 1987 he was elected as one of two national representatives of CLCs to the National Legal Aid Representative Council. He was appointed to the National Alternative Dispute Resolution Advisory Council in 1998 and served two terms. Neighbour law, mediation and community legal education have been significant professional interests: he rewrote a guide to the Fences Act notices into the current form of the booklet "Fences and the Law" and wrote the original "Trees and the Law"

Access via Streaming

You are required to register with correct email
Please make sure your name is displayed to confirm attendance.



Microsoft Teams
Link to be provided
24 hrs before the event



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