



# KICKSTART YOUR CAREER WITH LEGAL OPPORTUNITIES IN RURAL, REGIONAL AND REMOTE NSW



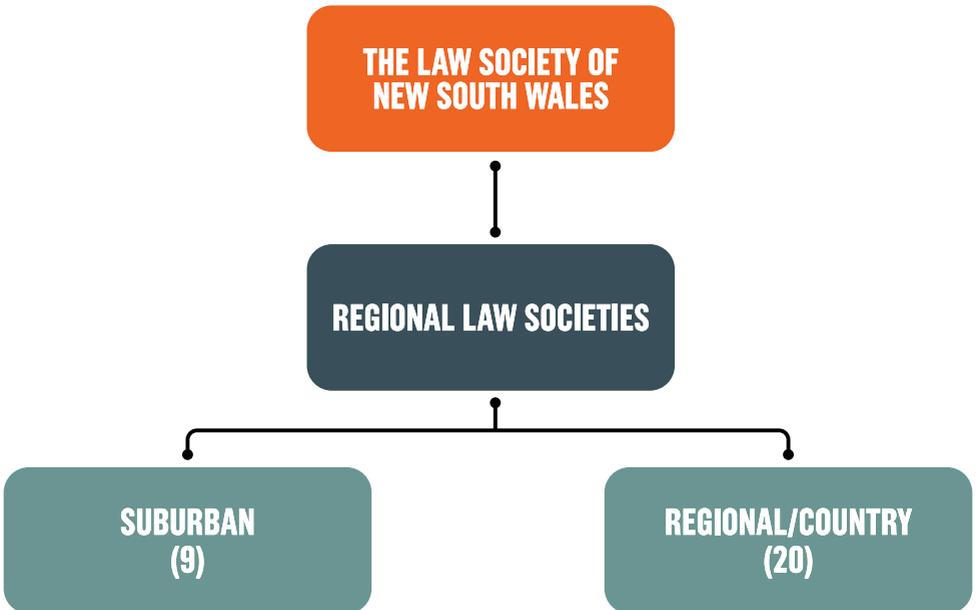
THE LAW SOCIETY  
OF NEW SOUTH WALES

# REGIONAL LAW SOCIETIES

## REGIONAL LAW SOCIETIES INFORMATION

The Regional Law Societies (RLS) are professional associations located across the 29 regions of New South Wales, encompassing both regional (20) and suburban (9) areas. Each RLS addresses the unique legal needs and challenges of its members by facilitating networking events, offering professional development opportunities, and advocating for local legal issues.

While each RLS operates independently to cater to the specific interests of its region, they are all connected to the Law Society of New South Wales, the overarching professional body for solicitors in the state. The Law Society sets statewide standards, regulatory frameworks, and provides resources that the RLS can utilise. Additionally, it offers a platform for regional concerns to be communicated on a broader level. This relationship fosters collaboration, ensuring that the interests of local communities and the legal profession are effectively represented.



## SUBURBAN AND REGIONAL LAW SOCIETIES

A network of 29 Regional Law Societies ensures the Law Society’s work is relevant and accessible to practitioners no matter where you are.

### Regional Law Societies (beyond a 32-kilometre radius from the Supreme Court in Sydney):

- Albury & District Law Society
- Blue Mountains Law Society
- Central Coast Law Society
- Central West Law Society
- Clarence River & Coffs Harbour Law Society
- Far North Coast Law Society
- Far South Coast & Monaro Law Society
- Far West Law Society
- Hunter Valley Law Society
- Macarthur Law Society
- Mid-North Coast Law Society
- Nepean Hawkesbury Law Society
- Newcastle Law Society
- North & North-West Law Society
- Orana Law Society
- Riverina Law Society
- Shoalhaven & District Law Society
- Southern Tablelands Law Society
- South West Slopes Law Society
- Wollongong & District Law Society

### Suburban Law Societies (within a 32-kilometre radius of the Supreme Court in Sydney):

- Bankstown & District Law Society
- City of Sydney Law Society
- Eastern Suburbs Law Society
- Inner West Law Society
- Liverpool & Fairfield Districts Law Society
- Northern Beaches Law Society
- North Metropolitan Law Society
- Parramatta & District Law Society
- St. George-Sutherland Law Society



# 2025 REGIONAL PRESIDENTS

## REGIONAL PRESIDENTS

There are 31 Regional Presidents representing the diverse legal communities across the 29 regions of New South Wales. The Regional Presidents play a key role in supporting and advocating for their regions, ensuring that local legal professionals have the resources and guidance they need. The regional structure helps to connect and strengthen the legal networks throughout the state, facilitating collaboration and growth across the profession.

## REGIONAL/COUNTRY:

### David Allen

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E: [david@haillepaine.com.au](mailto:david@haillepaine.com.au)

### James Bartley

President, Newcastle Law Society  
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### Michala Farrell

President, Shoalhaven & District Law Society  
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### Dannielle Ford

President, Central West Law Society  
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### Matthew Fox

President, South West Slopes Law Society  
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### Kymerlei Goodacre

President, Clarence River & Coffs Harbour Law Society  
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### Jason Goode

Co-President, Riverina Law Society  
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### Elly Manoe

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### Justin Mitchell

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**Roderick Storie**

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**Sarah Newman**

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**Jacqueline Rogers**

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President, Eastern Suburbs Law Society

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## WHY CHOOSE A LEGAL CAREER IN RURAL, REGIONAL, AND REMOTE AREAS?

A legal career in regional areas offers a unique combination of professional growth, affordable living, and work-life balance. Here's why starting or building your legal career outside major cities can be an incredibly rewarding choice.

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES IN THE REGIONS

A legal career in rural, regional, and remote areas (RRR) offers unique opportunities for professional growth, learning, and leadership. In these settings, legal professionals often work across a wide range of practice areas, gaining experience that is hard to come by in larger urban environments. With diverse responsibilities and hands-on involvement in cases, lawyers in regional areas can develop a well-rounded skillset early in their careers, which can result in accelerated career progression.

The close-knit nature of regional legal communities fosters an environment where mentorship and collaboration thrive, providing invaluable learning opportunities

and a solid foundation for career advancement. Additionally, these regions offer opportunities to grow a personal client base and build a reputation quickly, which can provide strong job security and professional recognition within the community.

### LIVE WELL AND SPEND LESS

One of the major benefits of working in RRR areas is the significantly lower cost of living. Housing, transportation, and day-to-day expenses are much more affordable than in major cities. This financial advantage often allows for a better work-life balance, enabling you to enjoy a more comfortable lifestyle without the financial pressures that come with living in larger metropolitan areas.

Additionally, these areas also offer a strong sense of community and close-knit relationships. The supportive environment fosters meaningful connections and a sense of belonging, which can enhance your overall wellbeing.



## PRACTICES OFFERING LEGAL WORK EXPERIENCE OPPORTUNITIES IN REGIONAL NSW:

### **Commins Hendriks**

- 23 Gurwood Street,  
Wagga Wagga NSW 2650

### **Culleton Lawyers**

- 2/150-154 Crown Street,  
Wollongong NSW 2500

### **Elliot Tuthill Solicitors**

- 119 – 121 Cronulla Street,  
Cronulla NSW 2230

### **Farrar Legal**

- Suite 15, 36-40 Victoria Street,  
East Gosford NSW 2250

### **Helen Volk Lawyers**

- L2, 1 Rawson Street,  
Wollongong NSW 2500

### **Legal Aid NSW**

- 64 Talbragar Street,  
Dubbo NSW 2830

### **Nelson Keane & Hemingway**

- 22 Church Street,  
Dubbo NSW 2830

### **Regional Business Lawyers**

- 77 Gurwood Street,  
Wagga Wagga NSW 2650

### **Wendtman Legal**

- Ground floor Suite 3 199-201 Union Street,  
The Junction NSW 2291

To find out more information, please visit:

[lawsociety.com.au/work-experience](https://lawsociety.com.au/work-experience)

## RESOURCES

The Law Society provides a range of valuable resources to support those interested in pursuing a legal career in rural, regional, and remote areas.

For more information, please visit the Regional Law Society home page:

[bit.ly/3CLRzF3](https://bit.ly/3CLRzF3)

# A DAY IN THE LIFE: RURAL, REGIONAL AND REMOTE LEGAL CAREERS

Rural, regional and remote practice offers a variety of opportunities for the graduate lawyer.

You will be able to work with and learn from lawyers who know their community, and their legal needs, in depth.

**You can become:**

## THE 'FAMILY' LAWYER

Supporting families over multiple generations and in a variety of areas from conveyancing, wills and estates, minor criminal matters, and simple family law matters.



## THE SPECIALIST COURT LAWYER

Working across family law, criminal law, negligence and general commercial litigation.

## THE ALTRUISTIC LAWYER

Serving the community by taking up a role with Legal Aid, the Aboriginal Legal Service or the Department of Prosecutions.



### **THE AGRIBUSINESS LAWYER**

Specialising in rural property law, irrigation law and general commercial law. There is a world of possibilities in this time of renewable energy and transition to a carbon free world.



### **THE SUCCESSION SPECIALIST**

Working in succession, estate planning and contested estates. Even the tax experts are catered for.

### **THE COMMERCIAL LAWYER**

Supporting a variety of businesses in rural, regional and remote areas such as property development, industry and mining.



An invitation from David Pheeneey, a sole practitioner working in Dubbo and across the Central West:



*Why wouldn't you come out to the regions? Yes, there are some challenges, but there's also the lifestyle. And the social, professional, and family connections you make give you that sense of closeness to your client and their families. You don't get that in the anonymity of a city. The beauty of being a regional lawyer is the relationships practitioners have. We act only in areas where we're competent. We refer our clients to each other. Together we help people to resolve multiple legal needs. That's the profession of working together, supporting each other.*

Michala Farrell, Regional President, Principal Solicitor and Family Law Accredited Specialist in the Shoalhaven & District Region



*In my view, it is an absolute privilege to practice law in the Shoalhaven region. To be able to have a professional career whilst raising my children in the beachside town that I grew up in is just fantastic. Having built a career from being an employed graduate lawyer to establishing and running my own boutique firm and becoming an accredited specialist, I can say that there are plenty of opportunities for success, experience, and growth in regional areas. Working in the regions has so many benefits including work-life balance, community connections and opportunity for impact, amazing mentorships and collegiate comradery, wide exposure, and more.*



Isabella Gallant, Young Lawyer in the Shoalhaven & District region:



*Starting out as a young lawyer in a regional town has been a fast-track to handling a diverse range of legal matters. Growing up and now working in our close-knit community on the South Coast has made me feel particularly valued as a professional and inspired me with a strong sense of belonging. It has also allowed me to build meaningful connections with local professionals and receive invaluable mentorship both inside the office and out, meaning the learning experience has been unparalleled. While the demands of working in law are high across the board, the South Coast lifestyle offers a great work-life balance and has afforded me the opportunity to progress at my own pace, which is a refreshing change from what we come to learn and know as the fast-paced hustle of working in cities.*

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