

I used the first Young Lawyers blog in January to set out the three key focus areas of my presidency in 2013.

In essence, these are:

- Professional development;
- Advocacy; and
- Engagement.

By “professional development” I mean offering young lawyers an outlet and tools to build their development skills and fast-track their career. By “advocacy” I mean a renewed focus on advocacy for causes which are important to young lawyers. By “engagement” I mean building friendships and expanding networks through social events.

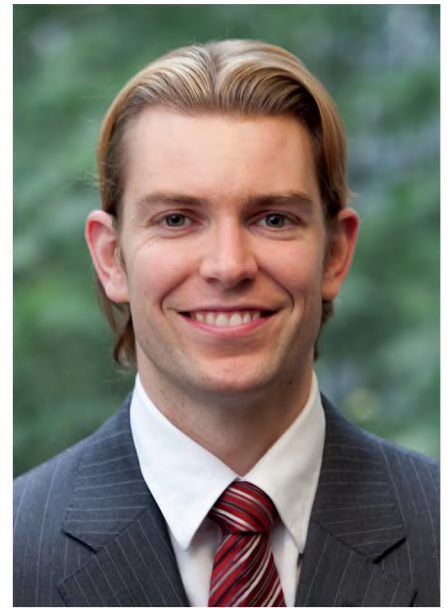
The Young Lawyers network is such a powerful tool to draw on and I encourage you all to increase your involvement to develop contacts and build your profile in the legal profession. The new networking event held in March 2012 was a huge success and the feedback we have received from attendees has been very positive.

It's amazing how social media has changed the way we communicate. We will be continuing our push with social media in 2013 with the aim of broadening our reach to our members! Check out our young lawyers' Facebook page – there's a lot of cool stuff on there (and it has new content almost every day). If you have attended one of our events recently you might see yourself in the photos. You can follow us on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn – yep, we do it all. We will continue to remain at the forefront of social media development so more of our members can share their thoughts with us in real time.

When you next attend one of our events, please come up to me and say g'day. If you have any ideas or issues you would like to raise, I'd love to chat. Some of the best ideas come straight from our members, so I would love to hear from you. ■

Good luck in 2013.

CAMERON FORBES is the YLS president and a lawyer at King & Wood Mallesons. He can be contacted at younglaw@liv.asn.au.



WE WILL CONTINUE OUR PUSH WITH SOCIAL MEDIA.

 facebook.com/LIVYoungLawyers

 liv.asn.au/YoungLawyersBlog

EDITORIAL

A BRIGHT NEW YEAR

OPPORTUNITIES, CHALLENGES, ADVICE. THE YLJ OFFERS THEM ALL.

This year brings new opportunities for the *Young Lawyers Journal (YLJ)*. With an emphasis on engaging our readership and making the journal accessible and relevant to members of the Young Lawyers Section (YLS), we hope this year to see the *YLJ* develop its online presence. In a mobile world, technology is part of our everyday lives. We want the *YLJ* to step increasingly into the online space that is our domain so it is more readily accessible to readers.

Many challenges will confront young lawyers in the year ahead. We face an increasingly difficult legal market. This year, these pages will continue to provide articles that can inform and support YLS members through their early years of practice and the transition from study to work and between legal careers, so that young lawyers can continue to embrace their profession and develop their skills with confidence. The *YLJ* provides an opportunity for young lawyers to contribute ideas and advice to their peers, to profile inspiring, diverse members of the profession, to provide commentary on substantive law and to present a voice on important legal issues affecting the

profession and our broader community – of which there are many.

From practical advice to stimulating legal discussion on issues such as the future of the Victorian Charter of Human Rights, the *YLJ* is a forum for penetrating issues of significant law reform. It also provides an invaluable means by which YLS members can actively engage with their peers and the profession and we encourage all readers who are interested in writing a submission to get in touch. Opportunities abound and we look forward to the publications ahead. ■

SOPHIE ELLIS and **RENA SOLOMONIDIS** are the 2013 co-chairs of the YLS Editorial Committee.

Law Institute of Victoria Ltd
470 Bourke Street, Melbourne 3000,
GPO Box 263, Melbourne 3001,
DX 350 Melbourne
T: (03) 9607 9311
F: (03) 9602 5270
E: lawinst@liv.asn.au
W: www.liv.asn.au

YLS The *Young Lawyers Journal* is published by the LIV Young Lawyers Section (YLS) Editorial Committee. For more information on the *Young Lawyers Journal* or YLS contact the LIV YLS manager Cassandra Piacentini
T: (03) 9607 9379
E: CPiacentini@liv.asn.au
W: www.livyounglawyers.asn.au

Young Lawyers Journal Contributions
All contributions and letters to the editor are gratefully received and should be addressed to:
YLS manager Cassandra Piacentini
LIV, GPO Box 263, Melbourne 3001,
DX 350 Melbourne
E: CPiacentini@liv.asn.au

Advertising and Corporate Partnerships Manager
Greg Cooper
T: (03) 9607 9496
E: gcooper@liv.asn.au
W: <http://bit.ly/IPfmUI>

Cover illustration
iStockphoto

Views expressed by contributors are not necessarily endorsed by the Law Institute of Victoria Ltd. No responsibility is accepted by the LIV, the editor or the printers for the accuracy of information contained in the text and advertisements. Neither the LIV nor the *Young Lawyers Journal* in any way endorses or takes any responsibility whatsoever for any material contained on external websites referred to by the *Young Lawyers Journal*.