

## CHAIR



### **Brett Gould, Gibson Sheat, Masterton**

Brett has a strong commercial and rural practice across several farming types, based on guiding parties into the most appropriate governance, management, operational, dispute resolution and succession provisions. For the last decade he has been closely involved in farm syndications. He acts for a number of professional syndicators, closely held syndicates and represents parties in the same when legal and practical issues arise. Brett is well experienced in the company arena and has had considerable experience with limited partnerships since 2008. His expertise in Shareholder Agreements has seen him author an ADLS precedent for the same.

## SPEAKERS



### **Scott Abel, Buddle Findlay, Auckland**

Scott specialises in insolvency and debt restructuring, corporate and secured finance, and specialist personal property security and credit recovery advice. He advises and has acted for domestic and foreign banks, financial institutions, insolvency professionals and other organisations on receiverships, liquidations, administrations and workouts. Scott is particularly recognised by the market for his leading expertise in Personal Property Securities (PPS) law, often advising banks, insolvency practitioners and other firms and barristers on complex PPS matters. He regularly writes and presents papers on a range of insolvency and credit enforcement topics, and is a contributing editor to Heath & Whale on Insolvency, New Zealand's leading insolvency law text. In 2015, Scott became the first New Zealander to pass the INSOL Global Insolvency Practice Course and be recognised as a Fellow of INSOL International.



### **Janet Copeland, Copeland Ashcroft Law, Invercargill**

Janet is the Managing Partner of Copeland Ashcroft Law, and president of the Southland branch of the New Zealand Law Society. With over 25 years' experience in employment and health and safety law, she also has extensive governance experience having been involved in governance roles across a range of sectors including national sporting codes, netball franchises, tertiary education and local government. Janet predominately acts for employers and has significant experience in the aged care, transport, tourism, education, construction, health, non-profit, agriculture, local government, trades and professional services areas. She is Invercargill based but frequently travels to the firms offices in Dunedin and Queenstown, as well as around New Zealand, to resolve client matters.



### **Sarah Donaldson, Rural Support Trust, East Coast**

Sarah lives on a sheep and beef farm in South Wairarapa with her three children. She has been a Clinical Psychologist for 20 years. Sarah is passionate about supporting the rural community and in particular the health needs of farmers and their families. Currently Sarah works as a Wellness Coordinator for the East Coast Rural Support Trust alongside running her business Tea Health & Wellbeing Consultants Ltd. She travels to farms to provide one on one support to individuals and their families or via video link to those further afield. Sarah provides training to farm discussion groups and rural professionals, alongside consultation and content to Farmstrong, the District Health Board, Ministry for Primary Industries and media regarding rural health. Sarah still enjoys working part time casually on local farms, hunting, playing various sports and coaching rugby

## SPEAKERS



### **Andrew Freeman, Rural Support Trust, East Coast**

Andrew has a diverse background: originally practising as a commercial lawyer in Wellington, teaching, and over 15 years of commercial farming. He is an Accredited Mediator (Resolution Institute NZ) and an approved Farm Debt Mediator for the Farm Debt Mediation Scheme administered by the Ministry for Primary Industries. Andrew is also co-chair of the Wairarapa Primary Sector Advisory Group.



### **Olivia Lund, Duncan Cotterill, Wellington**

Olivia is a litigation and dispute resolution specialist, and leads the Wellington employment and health and safety teams. She is regularly instructed on complex workplace incidents involving fatalities and serious harm across the country in range of industries including agriculture, construction, education, forestry, hospitality, manufacturing, and transportation. Olivia has defended at least 75 PCBUs in WorkSafe investigations and prosecutions. She appears in the District Court and High Court and a number of specialist Tribunals, including coronial inquires.



### **Lee Matheson, Perrin Ag, Rotorua**

Lee came to agribusiness consultancy via the unlikely pathway of a suburban Wellington upbringing, an Honours degree in plant science and a six-year career in the financial markets. In his role as the firm's MD, Lee doesn't get out on-farm as much as he would like but makes the most of it when he does. Despite feeling like he's swapped the paddock for the boardroom, Lee still provides dairy and dry stock farm systems advice, as well as being involved with farm business strategy, corporate governance, investment analysis and economic research. Outside of Perrin Ag, Lee loves to spend his time refereeing rugby, watching his three kids play sport, gardening with his wife, Haidee, and indulging his seasonal passion, game bird shooting. He tries to collect more wine and single malts than he enjoys and harbours a secret ambition to be a jazz pianist.



### **Phil Ome, Orme & Associates, Timaru**

Phil has been involved with the forest industry since 1980 through every aspect from seed collection through to planting, thinning, harvest, logistics and export operations, most recently as a Woodnet ETS Specialist and South Island Manager for a nationwide company before forming his own company to better service the rural community's needs. The single biggest change during this time has been the introduction of the ETS and the opportunity for landowners to be rewarded for doing the right thing by the land, with an ongoing income stream that has never existed before. It does however come with obligations that, if not fully understood, can make life interesting, with some very serious consequences.

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