

## CHAIR



### **Mark Tavendale, Goodman Steven Tavendale Reid, Christchurch**

Mark's experience includes property and business acquisitions and divestments, project developments and finance, unlisted securities offerings, joint ventures and shareholder arrangements. He acts for various developers, agri companies and private investors. Mark has considerable expertise on New Zealand's overseas investment laws and was the chair of the 2010 Rural Law Conference.

## SPEAKERS



### **Tim Black, Anderson Lloyd, Dunedin**

Tim heads the firm's rural sector practice group. He practised in a small rural town for 14 years before joining Anderson Lloyd in 2005. Tim has experience in property matters affecting farming clients and also has extensive experience in advising farming and other clients in relation to succession issues particularly where relationship property issues are involved. He has presented at a number of conferences in relation to trust and succession planning issues.



### **Matt Fountain, PwC, Wellington**

Matthew has over 5 years' experience providing tax compliance and consulting advice on a wide range of tax and emissions trading issues to large multinationals and small local enterprises. In August 2011, Matthew was a member of the national presentation team for PwC's seminar series "Emissions Trading Scheme unwrapped for you".



### **Brett Gould, Logan Gold Walsh Lawyers Ltd, Masterton**

Brett has a commercial and farming practice, a major portion of which has recently involved managed and closely held dairy farm and commercial property syndications. He has considerable experience acting in completing shareholder agreements for syndicate investors. Brett is a member of the NZLS Property – Rural Committee and has previously delivered papers at NZLS CLE seminars and intensives.



### **Matt Hanna, Lewis' Law, Hamilton**

Matt was admitted in 1986 and is a partner of Lewis' Law, a small firm with a long history in advising rural business clients. He is the author of Forestry Rights in New Zealand and advises forest owners, managers and local authorities on commercial forestry issues.

## **SPEAKERS**



### **Rob Hart, Tompkins Wake, Hamilton**

Over the past three years Rob Hart and his colleagues have acted for The Lake Taupo Protection Trust and developed bespoke documentation for a number of transactions securing nitrogen leaching reductions in the Taupo catchment. The Trust is funded by the Ministry for the Environment, Waikato Regional Council and Taupo District Council.



### **Mark Heer, ASB, Auckland**

Mark is National Manager Rural Corporate and Head of Major Commercial Groups, ASB Bank. He has 25 years' of banking experience in the Rural and Corporate banking markets in both the South and North Island.



### **Professor Mark Henaghan, University of Otago, Dunedin**

Mark specialises in family law and is a barrister and solicitor of the High Court of New Zealand. He is sole author of *Care of Children* (2005), co-author of *Family Law Policy in New Zealand* (2009), joint author of *Family Law in New Zealand, Relationship Property Consolidated Legislation and Analysis* (2001) and also of *Relationship Property on Death* (2004). He is an author and member of the editorial board for *LexisNexis Family Law Service* and the *New Zealand Family Law Journal*.



### **Rodney McKenzie, Staples Rodway, Hamilton**

Rodney has over 25 years' experience in the chartered accounting environment, with a client base predominantly of dairy farmers including a number of large farm equity partnerships. Consequently he has developed expertise on the accounting and taxation challenges faced by farm equity syndicates.



### **Sean O'Sullivan, DLA Phillips Fox, Wellington**

Sean has been a partner at DLA Phillips Fox and its predecessors for over 25 years. He is a commercial litigator and also leader of the employment law team. His practice involves him in all aspects of the employment relationship and any subsequent litigation. DLA Phillips Fox are the legal advisers to Federated Farmers. Sean is responsible for the provision and updating of the legal contracts and agreements available to farmers through the Federated Farmers website.



### **Richard Parkes, Cavell Leitch Law, Christchurch**

Richard acts for developers, companies and private investors with a particular interest in rural law, and acts for Canterbury, Otago and Southland farmers. His work is mainly in the rural sector involving farm equity partnerships, farm sales and purchases, dairy farming matters, asset protection and succession planning.



### **Alastair Sherriff, Buddle Findlay, Wellington**

Alastair has been a partner at Buddle Findlay and its predecessor from 1978-2003 and a consultant for the firm since 2004. He has a wide area of practice. Alastair has advised numerous individual and corporate clients in general employment-related matters including the Health and Safety in Employment Act.



### **Chris Spargo, Blackman Spargo, Rotorua**

Chris specialises in the rural sector and has significant expertise in the issues surrounding Fonterra as it affects rural transactions and suppliers.



### **Chris Taylor, Christopher Taylor Lawyers, Auckland**

Chris is a commercial lawyer who has been in practice for over 30 years. He has extensive experience in advising insolvency practitioners, and has advised receivers and liquidators in a number of recent significant rural insolvencies.



### **Frazer Weir, Polson Higgs, Christchurch**

Formerly Agribusiness Manager in North Canterbury, for the Bank of New Zealand Frazer now specialises in providing financial consultancy, succession planning and accountancy services to clients, predominantly in the agricultural sector throughout the South Island. He advises several corporate farming ventures with multiple shareholders, or acts for individual shareholders investing in these companies.



### **Dennis Wood, Rural Insolvency & Investigations, Auckland**

After nine years in insolvency, Dennis now operates New Zealand's only specialist insolvency business focusing totally on farm, viticulture and orchard receiverships and investigations. He is a retired police veteran, formerly officer-in-charge of Auckland Central Fraud Squad and was an Auckland Detective Inspector in charge of many serious crimes.

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