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## Personal Profile

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Date of Birth : **10 April 1950**

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## Professional Qualifications

- 1999**            **Doctor of Laws (HC)**  
University of New South Wales
- 1998**            **Doctor of Letters (HC)**  
University of Technology Sydney  
**Mediator**  
LEADR (Leaders engaged in Alternative Dispute Resolution)
- 1981**            **Readers Course**  
Attended 9-month readers course conducted by the Victorian Bar Council in conjunction with the Leo Cussen Institute. Read with Mr John Coldrey and Mr John McCardle of counsel.
- 1976-78**        **Articles of Clerkship**  
Victorian Aboriginal Legal Service, Principal, Mr Len Brear
- 1978**            **Bachelor of Laws**  
Monash University, Clayton Victoria
- 1974**            **Bachelor of Jurisprudence**  
Monash University, Clayton Victoria
- 1970**            **Matriculation**  
Monivae College, Hamilton Victoria

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## Professional Experience

### **2003 - Director - ANU National Centre for Indigenous Studies**

Professor of Law – ANU College of Law - Australian National University

Major responsibilities

- To foster and encourage excellence in training, professional activities and research in the general field of Indigenous Studies within the Australian National University.
- To develop links between the University scholarly community and outside organizations within the general area of Indigenous Studies
- To work effectively and collaboratively with other staff across a broad range of disciplines to further enhance the University's overall reputation and standing in Indigenous Studies
- Supervise and mentor students at Honours and Post-graduate level.

### **1999- Director – Dodson, Bauman & Associates Pty Ltd – Legal & Anthropological Consultants**

Dodson, Bauman & Associates provides consultancy services in a range of areas including:

- native title,
- NT Land Rights Act,
- arbitration,
- mediation, (principals are accredited mediators)
- negotiation,
- facilitation,
- research and;
- education.

Also engaged in a broad range of public speaking appointments at seminars, conferences etc.

Recent consultancy contracts include:

- Office of National Tourism – researcher/writer/education

- Kistler Aerospace P/L - negotiation native title agreement
- NSW State Land Council - arbitration
- European Union/Saami Council – Facilitator Human Rights training workshops – Baguio City – Philippines, Chiang Mai – Thailand & Arusha - Tanzania
- Arctic Council – chairman/facilitator international meeting of stakeholders - Copenhagen
- Indigenous Land Corporation - mediation and public speaking education
- National Native Title Tribunal - mediator
- ATSIC - Human Rights Adviser
- ATSIC Racism Conference - Report writer/researcher
- Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation – consultant/writer/ researcher final report
- Alliance of Aboriginal Medical Services NT - Chair/facilitator AGM
- State of Western Australia - consultant/negotiator Ord River project
- Facilitator New South Wales National Parks & Wildlife Service – Koszioscko National Park Plan of Management Review.
- Mediator Pitjantjatjara Land Rights Act – South Australia.
- Federal Court appointed mediator – Victoria
- Facilitator/Mediator - Native Title Services Victoria
- Facilitator/Chair Victorian Native Title Settlement Framework Agreement Steering Committee.

**1998-1999**

**Director – Indigenous Law Centre – Faculty of Law University of New South Wales.**

**Major responsibilities:**

- Act as the public face of the ILC
- Supervise staff and manage the Centre
- Provide advice on policy and strategic directions to the Advisory Committee, the Management Committee and Centre staff
- Provide advice and support to ILC research projects and activities.

Presently retained as special adviser to the ILC and member of the Advisory Committee.

**1993-1998**

**Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner  
Human Rights and Equal Opportunities Commission  
Sydney, NSW**

**Major Responsibilities:**

- Managing and supervising all human, physical and financial resources.
- Taking collegiate responsibility for all aspects of the Commission.
- Producing an annual report to the Federal Parliament on Social Justice under the provision of the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Act 1986
- Producing an annual report to the Federal Parliament on Native Title under the Provision of the Native Title Act 1993.
- Implementing the National Community Education Project pursuant to recommendations of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody Report.
- Implementing the National Indigenous Legal Curriculum Project pursuant to a recommendation of the Royal Commission into Aboriginals Deaths in Custody Report.
- Providing expert advice to government, government agencies, non-government organisations and other policy units of the Commission on indigenous human rights issues.
- Raising awareness of the general public through education on indigenous human rights issues.

During 1996 acting Race Discrimination Commissioner for 5 months.

1996 – 1997 - Major carriage as Inquiry Commissioner, together with Commission President, Sir Ron Wilson of the National Inquiry into the Forced Separation of Aboriginal Children from their Families and Communities

During the term of appointment sat as a hearings commissioner hearing and determining complaints of human rights abuse, race, sex and disability discrimination.

**1990-1993**

**Director  
Northern Land Council  
Darwin, NT**

**Major Responsibilities:**

- Co-ordinating the financial and personnel management of the staff of the Council.
- Implementing Council policy relating to Aboriginal land matters.
- Providing timely and comprehensive advice to the Council on matters affecting Aboriginal land-based issues in the Council's region of responsibility.
- Representing Council publicly in the media, conferences, and seminars. Locally, regionally, nationally and internationally.

**1988-1990**

**Counsel Assisting  
Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody  
Perth, WA/Darwin, NT**

**Major Responsibilities:**

- Preparing and presenting cases for hearing by the Commissioners in Northern Territory & Western Australia.
- Researching cases, interviewing and taking statements from potential witnesses.
- Preparing submissions and appearing as counsel before the Commissioners.

**1984-1988**

**Senior Legal Adviser  
Northern Land Council  
Darwin/Katherine, NT**

**Major Responsibilities:**

- Negotiating Lease and License agreements on behalf of Traditional Aboriginal owners of land under The Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976.
- Obtaining instructions from in many cases hundreds of traditional owners on proposals on use of their land by others.
- Negotiating Excisions on Pastoral Leases for living areas for Aboriginal people including negotiating with the Northern Territory and commonwealth governments and their agencies as well as pastoral leaseholders which included many large corporations.
- Preparing and presenting land claims under the Land Rights Act.
- Representing the council at conferences seminars and speaking engagements.
- Managing the Council's Katherine office, supervising about 15 staff (1984-1986).

**1981- (Current)**

**Barrister  
Victorian Bar  
Melbourne, VIC**

**Major Responsibilities:**

Appearing as counsel in the magistrates and county court predominantly as defence counsel in criminal law matters as well as some Family Law and Civil Law appearances.

**1978-1981**

**Barrister and Solicitor/Executive Officer  
Victorian Aboriginal Legal Service Co-operative Ltd  
Fitzroy, VIC**

**Major Responsibilities:**

- Appearing in courts for clients of the Service; principally in Criminal law matters.

- Appearing for clients in the county court both as counsel and instructing solicitor in criminal trials, appeals, pleas, adjournments and bail applications.
- Extensive magistrates court experience during this time.
- Appearing as Instructing Solicitor in the Supreme Court and in the Federal and High Courts.

*Additional Role:*

**Executive Officer (1979-1980)**

**Major Responsibilities:**

Managing the overall administrative, financial and personnel matters of the service.

**1976-1978**

**Articled Clerk**

**Victorian Aboriginal Legal Service Cooperative Ltd**

**Fitzroy, VIC**

**Major Responsibilities:**

- Undertaking general legal work and training under the tutelage of Mr Len Brear.
- court attendances with my Principal Mr Brear, taking instructions from clients of the Service.
- Performing work in Environmental and Local Government Law.
- Appearing on some bail and adjournment applications.
- Drafting and filing documents on all matters some conveyancing work.
- Sending and attending to correspondence.

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## Professional Affiliations

**Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait  
Islander Studies**

Member/ Current Chairman

**Reconciliation Australia Inc.**

Board member – Co-Chair

**National Aboriginal Youth Law Centre Advisory Board**

Former Chairman

**National Children's & Youth Law Centre Board.**

Former Member

**Advisory Panels of the Rob Riley and Koowarta Scholarships**

Former Convenor

**Technical Committee for the 1993 International Year of  
The World's Indigenous People.**

Former Co-Deputy Chairman

**United Nations Advisory Group for the Voluntary Fund  
For the Decade of Indigenous Peoples**

Former Chairman

**Board of Trustees of the United Nations Indigenous  
Voluntary Fund**

Former Member

**Indigenous Law Reporter:**

Publications Committee – Current member

University of New South Wales

**Board of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education and  
Training**

Former Chairman: The University of Newcastle

**United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues**

Community nominated member for the Pacific & Rapporteur

**National Archives of Australia Advisory Council**

Member

**National Board of Ethics**

Former Member: Cooperative Research Centres for the Discovery of Genes for Common Diseases

**Indigenous Development Fund Board (later Indigenous Community Foundation – now merged with Lumbu Indigenous Community Foundation.)**

Former Chairman

**National Centre for Child Protection Advisory Committee.**

Member

**Lumbu Indigenous Community Foundation**

Former Chairman

**Australian Indigenous Leadership Centre**

Former Chairman

**Minerals Council of Australia**

**EEAG**

Former Member

**Minerals Council of Australia**

**Indigenous Leaders Group**

Current co-chair

**Diplomacy Training Centre – UNSW**

Former Board member – now special adviser

**Our Community.com.au**

Current Board member

**New South Wales Judicial Commission**

Former Community Member

**Law Reform Commission of Western Australia**

Former Special Commissioner – customary Law inquiry

**Academy of Social Sciences in Australia.**

Elected Fellow 2009.

## Referees

Mr Russell Taylor,  
Principal  
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Lawson Crescent  
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Acton ACT 2601  
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