



ICLC Newsletter

26.02.2024

@InnerCityLegalCentre

Edition 1

WELCOME TO OUR NEW LOOK NEWSLETTER

ICLC Out & About



February and March is an extremely busy time of year at the ICLC. This month you can come and say hi to us, check out our newly launched merchandise and have a chat to us at:

Mardi Gras - Saturday 2nd March

Bunnings Alexandria Sausage Sizzle -

Saturday 9th March

TDoV City of Sydney Swim Day -

Sunday 31st March

Follow our Facebook page for up to date info on our whereabouts.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Mardi Gras Theme 2024

"Our Future" is this years Mardi Gras theme. We want to secure a future that is free of discrimination, without exemption. NSW's once progressive anti-discriminations laws are now out of date and lagging behind all other Australian jurisdictions. Under the current laws, trans people have different access to legal protection based on whether or not they have had expensive and often unnecessary surgeries. Sex Workers have no protections at all. We will change this in 2024 - join us to demand equality without exemption!





Message from the Managing Principal Solicitor

I am delighted to relaunch the ICLC Newsletter in time for Mardi Gras season! We very much looking forward to hitting the streets, fairs and parade with our message of equality without exemption.

You can get involved by writing to your local MP via [Equality Australia](#) in support of NSW Parliament passing Alex Greenwich MP's Equality Legislation Amendment (LGBTIQA+) Bill 2023 as a matter of urgency.

The ICLC was consulted in the drafting of the bill, which removes the right to discriminate against LGBTQI+ people on religious grounds, allows trans people to update their birth certificates without unnecessary medical interventions and creates a new suite of rights for sex workers, who currently have no protection under the existing anti-discrimination laws in NSW. We call on NSW Parliament to pass this bill as a matter of urgency – Justice delayed is justice denied. Help us get the bill passed [here](#).

The Australian Communities Foundation has thrown its support behind our LGBTQ+ specific domestic violence legal service. The Safe Relationships Room at the Downing Centre Local Court is the only one of its kind in NSW and each week we see many of our community seeking non-discriminatory and appropriate assistance for domestic and sexual violence matters. The ACF campaign seeks to make up the difference in funding a full-time solicitor position for this essential service.

You can read more about the safe room and the campaign to keep it open on the Australian Communities Foundation Website:
<https://communityfoundation.org.au/making-a-difference/projects/keep-the-safe-room-door-open-lgbtqi-specific-court-safe-room-for-victims-of-domestic-and-sexual-violence>

We look forward to sending another update on the other side of Mardi Gras. Stay safe!

Katie Green



Meet our Team

Each newsletter we will introduce you to one of our team members - this edition meet Edna

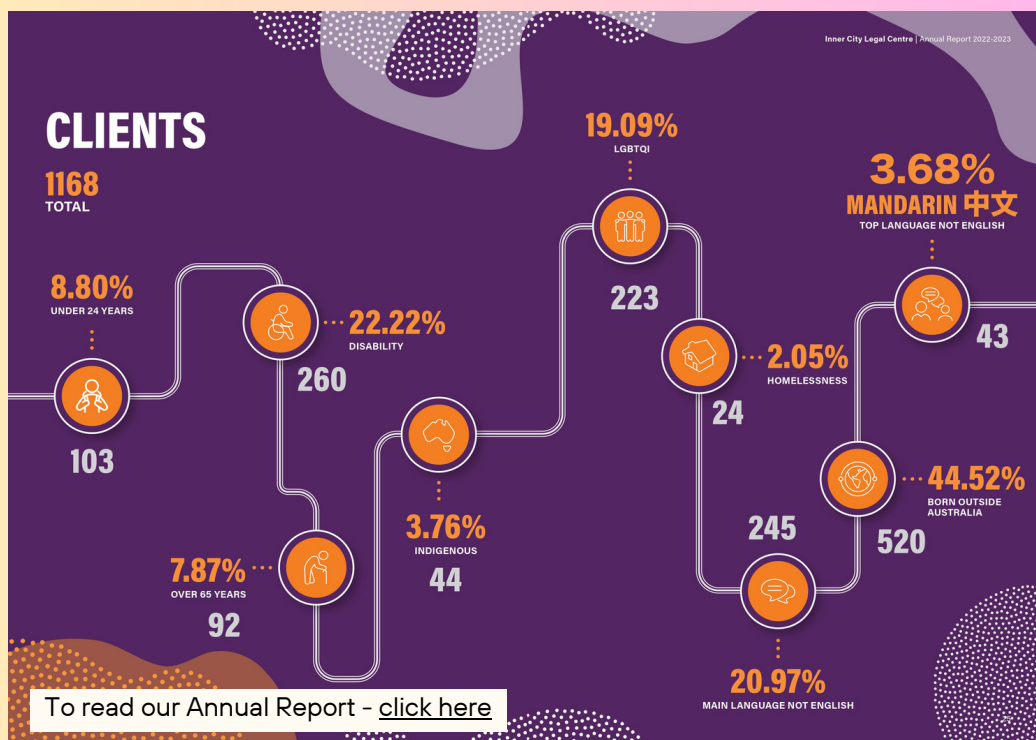
Edna, ICLC's Client Intake Supervisor, made a fascinating switch from studying medical science at UWS to post-graduate law at the University of Sydney. Outside of her shared role here, Edna is kept busy with her three young boys.

As supervisor, Edna manages legal student volunteers at the front desk and answers calls from potential clients. As she describes it, the ICLC front desk is a bit like a filter. She explains, "What we get from clients is the raw materials. They tell us what is going on and we filter that and assign them to a corresponding type of law. We don't have the capacity to cater to all legal concerns and so in my time here, I have also learnt about other services that can or are better equipped to help those people. A lot of emotion is involved, with clients talking about how they feel but unfortunately the law does not really take that on."

With a newborn, Edna applied for the post-grad law option, applying to three unis and being accepted into the University of Sydney. In her final year, a friend suggested they volunteer at ICLC.

"I train the front desk student volunteers when they start but a lot of it is on the job. Of course, we've read hundreds of cases but it is so unpredictable, what someone can come to us with. Sometimes people call and they don't have a legal problem at all. In saying that, we listen. I have yet to completely grasp the skill of cutting off a client when they go on a tangent because I want to hear it! But as a lawyer in practice I think that skill is quite important when it comes to time and efficiency. You need to be able to master how to redirect a client back to what is important for their case. And it can be tough to switch between calls – absorbing one issue and then switching so quickly to another. Nothing can prepare you completely for what people have to tell you in terms of their legal problem."

Who did we help last year? A snapshot of our clients

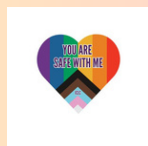


TOTE \$10



TATTOO \$10

PIN \$10



STICKER \$2



Launching ICLC Merchandise

Introducing our new merchandise range. The funds from these items help us continue and grow the reach of our valuable state wide specialist services

- Safe Relationship Project - Court assistance for LGBTQI+ Community experiencing domestic and sexual violence
- TGDLS - Trans & Gender Diverse Legal Service
- LGBTQI Family Law Advice
- SWLS - Sex Worker Legal Service
- ERLS - Employment Rights Legal Service

Purchase them today from our [WEBSITE](#)