

Chair's message

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It is my privilege to welcome readers to this 2018 edition of Resolution Institute's *The Arbitrator & Mediator*.

In an address given earlier this year on the topic *Alternative Dispute Resolution - A Misnomer?*, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Western Australia, the Honourable Wayne Martin AC, wrote:

"The rapid development and success of ADR belies any inference that it is some kind of lesser, or inferior, or less frequent system of dispute resolution. Its place as the primary means of dispute resolution is well established and it is inevitable that the role of ADR will be developed and expanded, particularly with developments in the area of IT"

Testimony to that sentiment is how governments of Australia and New Zealand, the courts and the wider communities are increasingly looking for non-litigious ways of resolving disputes. It is in that context that Resolution Institute continues to play a leadership role through training, accreditation and grading, professional membership and learning as well as bringing together the collective wisdom of the authors whose articles and case notes appear in this edition of the journal.

The authors, who are drawn from across the dispute resolution and restorative justice profession, provide insightful observations and share a wealth of experience covering topics such as the challenges facing domestic and international arbitration, what it is like to be a restorative justice practitioner and the findings of a survey on the conduct and technique of mediators.

The publication of this journal would not have been possible without the support and assistance of several people. To the authors, I would like to express the appreciation of Resolution Institute for supporting the journal, for your contributions and for being so generous with your time. To the staff at Resolution Institute, lead by CEO Fiona Hollier, and the staff at McCullough Robertson under the guidance of the journal's General Editor, Russell Thirgood, my sincere thanks for the work and effort that has gone into the production of this journal for which you should feel very proud.

I would like also to especially acknowledge the work of Russell Thirgood who this year celebrates fifteen years since he was first appointed editor of the journal. It is no small task to produce a publication such as this and to do it for fifteen years is an enormous commitment and tremendous achievement for which the Board of Resolution Institute is truly grateful.

¹ Chair, Resolution Institute

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This 37th edition of *The Arbitrator & Mediator* is another significant contribution to the body of work on the subject of dispute resolution, and I commend to you the articles and case notes in it and trust that you will find them as informative as I have.