

GUIDE TO LIVING AND WORKING IN THE ALBURY & DISTRICT REGION



THE LAW SOCIETY
OF NEW SOUTH WALES

Welcome to the Albury & District Region! This guide is designed to help you find out more about what life is like in the Albury & District region and provide you with useful tips and information should you wish to explore what our region has to offer.

As the President of the Albury & District Regional Law Society, I am delighted to introduce this guide. It aims to assist lawyers who are relocating to the Albury area or considering a move. I hope it provides valuable insights into our region and highlights the many wonderful opportunities it offers.

As a local practitioner born and raised here, I am always happy to chat if you have any questions or need assistance settling in.



Eva Medcraft

**President, Albury & District Regional
Law Society**

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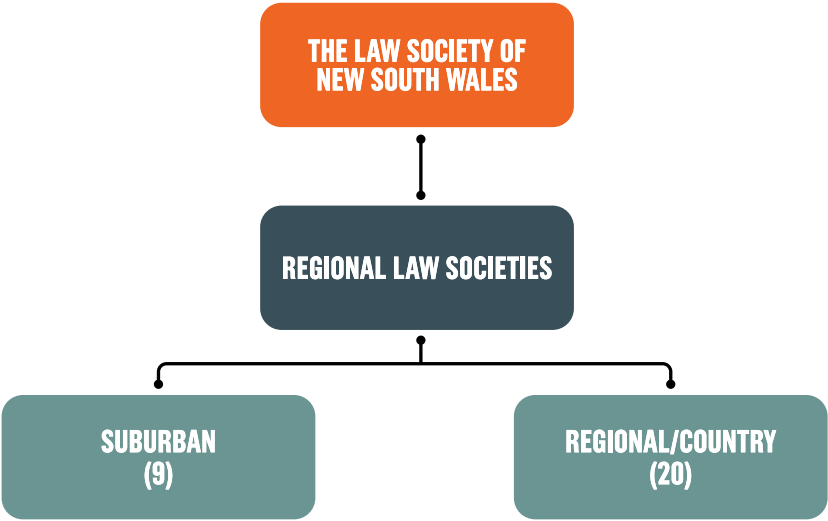
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REGIONAL LAW SOCIETIES

REGIONAL LAW SOCIETIES INFORMATION

The Regional Law Societies (RLS) are professional associations located in each of the 29 regions of New South Wales consisting of both regional and suburban areas. Each RLS focuses on the unique legal needs and challenges faced by its members, facilitating networking events, providing professional development opportunities, and advocating for local legal issues. While each RLS operates as its own independent entity, catering to the specific interest of their respective region, they are connected to the Law Society of New South Wales, which serves as the overarching professional body for all solicitors in the state. The Law Society establishes statewide standards, regulatory frameworks, and resources that the RLS can utilise, while also providing a platform for regional concerns to be communicated at a broader level. This relationship fosters collaboration, ensuring that the interests of local communities and the legal profession are effectively represented.



Check out page 18 to see the list of the Suburban and Regional Law Societies.

WORKING IN THE ALBURY & DISTRICT REGION

ALBURY & DISTRICT LAW SOCIETY INFORMATION

The membership fee is \$120, which includes access to numerous events where members can earn CPD points. The Albury & District RLS also hosts various networking and social events throughout the year, offering members opportunities to connect, learn, and contribute to the local legal community.

Prospective members can look forward to events such as CPD workshops and seminars, guest speaker presentations, community engagement initiatives, and networking and social gatherings.

Events Hosted by the Albury & District Law Society in 2024:

- **Annual Opening of Law Term and Opening of Law Term Dinner:**

This prestigious event marks the start of the legal calendar, celebrating the principles of justice, democracy, and the rule of law. In 2024, the dinner was honoured by the Chief Justice of NSW, the Honourable Andrew Bell, making it a significant occasion for the Albury & District legal community.

- **CPD Days:**

These events offer educational sessions led by experienced legal professionals, covering essential topics such as Ethics, Costs, Complaints, Alternative Dispute Resolution, and Practice Management/ Succession Planning.

- **Christmas in July Dinner Event:**

The Albury & District RLS celebrated the

mid-year festive spirit with a Christmas in July Dinner Event, attended by the 2024 Law Society of NSW President Brett McGrath. This event provided lawyers with a wonderful opportunity to network and share a meal.

- **Early Career Lawyers CPD and Networking:**

This event allows early career lawyers to come together, enhance their knowledge by learning from experienced senior practitioners, and network with their peers. The CPD session is followed by drinks and canapés, offering a fantastic chance to make connections.

The Albury & District RLS offers a diverse range of events, with some occurring monthly or quarterly, and others scheduled at different intervals throughout the year. This variety ensures there's always something exciting and valuable for members to look forward to!

2024/2025 REGIONAL LAW SOCIETY COMMITTEE:

President	Eva Medcraft
Immediate Past President/ Vice President	Winona Page
Secretary	Travis Johnson
Treasurer	Suryan Chandrasegaran
Young Lawyers Delegate	Andrew Douglass
Non-office Bearing Member	Lois Mentakis

If you're interested in joining the Albury & District Law Society Committee, please contact the Regional President, Eva Medcraft.
T: (02 6049 4400) E: eva@medcraftlegal.com

NSW YOUNG LAWYERS

NSW Young Lawyers is a Committee of the Law Society of NSW that represents the Law Society and its members on issues and opportunities arising in relation to young lawyers i.e., those within their first five years of practice, or up to 36 years of age.

NSW Young Lawyers supports practitioners in their professional and career development by giving them the opportunity to expand their knowledge, advance their career and contribute to the profession and community.

To be eligible to receive NSW Young Lawyers communications, you must be:

- a member of the Law Society; and
- under 36 years of age; or
- within the first five years of your admission to practice in NSW.

YOUNG LAWYERS EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

NSW Young Lawyers is led by the Executive Council. The Executive Council comprises of the Leadership Team and Executive Council.

View the current members of the NSW Young Lawyers Executive Council here:

lawsociety.com.au/YLExecutiveCouncil

Contact NSW Young Lawyers
young.lawyers@lawsociety.com.au

Each year, the NSW Young Lawyers Committee elects a Patron and Charity to support throughout the following year. In 2025, the NSW Young Lawyers Charity and Patron are:

2025 Patron

Lida Kaban, General Counsel,
Department of Communities
and Justice

2025 Charity

Project Youth

bit.ly/3DULXbE

NSW Young Lawyers has a number of sub-committees each dedicated to a substantive area of law.

Subscribing to a sub-committee is a great way to get involved and meet other early career lawyers.

The sub-committees' activities range from discussing legal developments, preparing submissions to government, producing practice guides, social gatherings, public forums and pro bono activities.

Most sub-committees meet regularly and offer video-conferencing facilities to allow individuals outside of Sydney to attend.

Check out the list of the current sub-committees here.

lawsociety.com.au/YLSC

You can also view upcoming NSW Young Lawyers events on our events page.

lawsociety.com.au/YLEvents





MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Practising law can be stressful. The Law Society of NSW has a range of resources to help you take care of your mental health and wellbeing.

STAYING WELL IN THE LAW

The Law Society of NSW runs a Staying Well in the Law (SWITL) program. SWITL covers a range of topics and features a variety of industry experts to highlight and address issues relevant to wellbeing and mental health including:

- Workplace inclusion
- Importance of sleep
- Vicarious trauma
- Building resilience

lawsociety.com.au/SWITL

SOLICITOR OUTREACH SERVICE

The Solicitor Outreach Service is a confidential counselling service for NSW solicitors. This service is funded by the Law Society of New South Wales but is operated entirely by an independent third-party provider, and solicitor usage is not identified by or reported to the Law Society, to solicitors' employers, or to any other party. The Solicitor Outreach Service provides solicitors with access to:

- Up to three free individual counselling sessions per financial year with a registered psychologist; and
- Unlimited 24/7 telephone crisis counselling with a registered psychologist.

NSW solicitors can access this service through the [link](#) found on the Law Society of New South Wales website or call the Solicitor Outreach Service directly on 1800 592 296.



THE LAW SOCIETY OF NSW MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING WEBSITE

The Law Society of NSW's mental health and wellbeing website has a wide range of information on mental health and wellbeing.

lawsociety.com.au/MentalHealth

FURTHER GUIDANCE

The Law Society of NSW offers several avenues for advice and support.

Ethics Committee:

The Law Society of NSW Ethics Committee can provide guidance to solicitors on ethical issues. Members of the Committee are practising solicitors from a variety of practice types and geographic areas.

Ethics Assistance Line:

The Law Society of NSW's ethics assistance line provides solicitors with practical and confidential guidance to resolve ethical dilemmas and to help avoid complaints from clients or colleagues. This free service is open to all solicitors and operates from 9 AM to 5 PM Monday to Friday. You can reach them at (02) 9926 0114.

To find out more about ethics support, visit the Law Society of NSW website.

lawsociety.com.au/LEthics

Supervised Legal Practice:

The Law Society website offers a wealth of knowledge on successfully completing your Supervised Legal Practice (SLP), including details on remote supervision arrangements.

lawsociety.com.au/SLP

ENTERTAINMENT

WHATS ON IN THE ALBURY & DISTRICT REGION?

Life in the Albury & District Region is more than just work. With a variety of activities and events throughout Albury and its surrounding areas, there's always something to keep you entertained all-year-round.

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS HELD THROUGHOUT THE YEAR INCLUDE:

Albury Gold Cup Racing Carnival

A prestigious horse racing event featuring exciting races, fashion, and entertainment, drawing crowds from all over the region.

bit.ly/3BWVChr

Albury Wodonga Farmers Market

A vibrant market showcasing local produce, artisanal goods, and fresh ingredients, perfect for a Saturday morning outing.

bit.ly/40iLbNh

Billson's Distillery

Discover the art of craft distilling at Billson's Distillery, where you can tour the facility, learn about the distillation process, and enjoy a tasting of a variety of spirits crafted from local ingredients.

bit.ly/428VcPH



Parkrun

Join the Albury Wodonga community park run every Saturday morning, where you can enjoy a scenic 5K walk or run followed by a post-park run coffee at the Riverdeck Kiosk.

bit.ly/4gSsy9M

Made by Me Market

A monthly gathering of local artisans and crafters held at Junction Square in the heart of the CBD. The market features 50 stalls showcasing handmade goods, food, and family-friendly activities.

bit.ly/40uxsnP

Live music at pubs

Experience the vibrant atmosphere of local bands performing at various pubs. Check the Albury Wodonga music calendar to discover upcoming live music events within the community.

bit.ly/42dMhfD

Local wineries

Explore the beautiful wineries of the region, renowned for their breathtaking views, perfect for tastings and tours.

bit.ly/426YD9v

Festivals on the Murray

Celebrate the Murray River's beauty with festivals featuring food, music, and cultural activities, highlighting the region's rich heritage.

bit.ly/426YD6x

Trivia weekly

Test your knowledge and enjoy a fun night out at the local pubs hosting weekly trivia competitions.

bit.ly/40w9ybp

Winter Solstice

Survivors of Suicide & Friends hosts a meaningful event to unite our community in remembrance of those who have died by suicide. Featuring exceptional speakers and heartfelt performances, it's a night to reflect, honour, and cherish our loved ones.

bit.ly/3PwyERp





MUST SEE ATTRACTIONS

Albury and its surrounding areas offer a variety of cultural activities, sporting events, and tourist attractions.

Lake Hume

A 15-minute drive from Albury Wodonga that offers a range of recreational activities, including fishing, boating, and scenic picnic spots.

Local Wineries

Explore renowned wineries like All Saints, Morris Wines, and Pfeiffer's, each offering tastings and beautiful vineyard views.

Murray Art Museum Albury (MAMA)

A contemporary art museum showcasing Albury Wodonga and national artists, providing engaging exhibitions and community events.

Murray River

The heart of the region, offering stunning views, water sports, and serene spots for relaxation along its banks.



COMMUNITY GROUPS AND ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Get to know and immerse yourself in the community by joining any of the groups listed below.

Albury Business Connect

A community focused on networking and professional development, offering regular updates and ongoing support to help members grow and the community thrive. As part of this initiative, members can access events hosted by Business Women Albury Wodonga (BWAW).

bit.ly/3DQL2c9

Albury Wodonga Women in Business

A supportive network for women entrepreneurs and professionals that provides mentorship, resources, and opportunities for growth.

bit.ly/3PxvCMu

Sporting Teams

Join the exciting sports scene in Albury by participating in the Ovens and Murray League for AFL, netball, and rugby, as well as the Albury Wodonga Soccer Club. Be part of a community that celebrates sportsmanship and nurtures a strong sense of community spirit. To learn more, visit:

bit.ly/40f30wL

Discover all that Albury has to offer by visiting the Albury Hub. It provides a comprehensive guide to the best places to eat and drink, must-see attractions, activities, and local events, including top restaurants, cafes, bars, and pubs. You will also find useful information on getting around the region, along with insights into its rich history, vibrant culture, and outdoor experiences.

bit.ly/4aeMdyA



TIPS FROM EARLY CAREER LAWYERS

Q. What is the one thing you wished you had known before moving to the region?

- A.**
- The region is close to beautiful places such as the snow and wine country.
 - The welcoming nature of regional and rural communities eased my transition, knowing this earlier would have reduced my anxiety about the move.
 - Making connections and forming friendships has been surprisingly easy through dog walking groups, neighbours, cafe regulars, local society groups, and endless welcoming group hobbies.
 - You naturally run into everyone you meet around town (though it can be awkward when you're in the supermarket, completely unsure of what you're buying).
 - Living in a rural region is a fun experience, thanks to the closeness of a small and open community.

Q. What is the best kept local secret?

- A.**
- The food and drink venues are very metropolitan and multi-cultural.
 - While many regional towns have their outdoor gems, I'm always amazed by the Eastern Hill Reserve in Albury.
 - It offers an incredible view over the entire town, making it perfect for watching the sunset or sunrise and observing the planes flying in and out from Albury Airport.

Q. What is your advice for early career lawyers who have recently moved?

- A.**
- Make connections with your colleagues and put yourself out there.
 - It is always important to prioritise friendships and connections wherever you are. This includes friends from back home, university mates, or past friends from different cities. I maintain these connections through social media, and I call a few friends regularly.
 - It's nice to have close friends who stay in touch, as they know you the best and can provide sound life advice when needed. Just because you've moved regionally doesn't mean you can't bring family and friends along for the ride; it also gives them a great excuse to visit!
 - Another piece of advice is to always try new things. Moving to a new place often requires you to adapt your routine and hobbies. In my experience, this is one of the best aspects of relocating, it allows you to reset your interests and pastimes.
 - Over time, you naturally find hobbies and activities that genuinely serve you and pique your interests, rather than sticking to what you've always done or induced into doing by past routines and friends.
 - Lately, I've been helping friends on their farms, joining Landcare groups, raising bees, and gardening, which I would have never done had I still been in the city.

Q. Who do you trust to clean your suit?

- A.**
- Albury 60-Minute DRY Cleaners.
 - I don't often wear a full suit however, I get my slacks, and any jackets dry-cleaned at Gouge in town.

Q. What exciting road trips would you recommend in your region?

- A.**
- Being on the border gives you plenty of options to explore on both sides.
 - I love visiting Jingellic, Tumbarumba, and Tumut on the New South Wales side. On the Victorian side, I highly recommend a drive through Yackandandah, Beechworth, and Stanley for a great day trip or weekend away. You can also drive through Rutherglen and Milawa. It's a lot of fun, with delicious food and an abundance of great beer and wine.

Q. Where is a great coffee place?

- A.**
- As Thick as Thieves: They serve beautiful coffee with fabulous latte art and have a solid understanding of subtle temperature preferences.
 - Guru's Cafeteria.

Q. Where is the best place for after work drinks?

- A.**
- Temperance & General.
 - Two Fingers Whiskey Bar.
 - Public House.
 - Yard Bird.

Q. Where is the best place for a meal?

- A.**
- Bullring Restaurant.
 - Norma.

DIRECTORY

ALBURY & DISTRICT LOCAL AND DISTRICT COURT HOUSES

All Courts in NSW can be contacted by phoning 1300 679 272.

Court Registries at each Local Court will generally only be open when the Court is operating.

Corowa Local Court

- Corner of Church and Queen Streets
- Corowa NSW 2646
- Phone Number: 02 6033 1169
- Email: local-court-corowa@justice.nsw.gov.au

Holbrook Local Court

- Albury Street
- Holbrook NSW 2644
- Phone Number: 02 6036-2071
- Email: local-court-holbrook@justice.nsw.gov.au



Who sits where?

- **Corowa Local Court -
Her Honour Magistrate M Humphreys**
- **Holbrook Local Court -
Her Honour Magistrate S McLaughlin**



LOCAL FIRMS

We have a large number of firms that can be found on the “Find a Lawyer” page of the Law Society of NSW website. This resource allows you to search for legal firms and practitioners by region, providing access to a comprehensive register of lawyers and their current practices.

lawsociety.com.au/localfirms

SUBURBAN AND REGIONAL LAW SOCIETIES

A network of 29 Regional Law Societies (RLS) ensures the Law Society's work is relevant and accessible to practitioners no matter where you are.

Regional Law Societies
(beyond a 32-kilometre radius from the Supreme Court in Sydney):

- Albury & District Law Society
- Blue Mountains Law Society
- Central Coast Law Society
- Central West Law Society
- Clarence River & Coffs Harbour Law Society
- Far North Coast Law Society
- Far South Coast & Monaro Law Society
- Far West Law Society
- Hunter Valley Law Society
- Macarthur Law Society
- Mid-North Coast Law Society
- Nepean Hawkesbury Law Society
- Newcastle Law Society
- North & North-West Law Society
- Orana Law Society
- Riverina Law Society
- Shoalhaven & District Law Society
- Southern Tablelands Law Society
- South West Slopes Law Society
- Wollongong & District Law Society

Suburban Law Societies
(within a 32-kilometre radius of the Supreme Court in Sydney):

- Bankstown & District Law Society
- City of Sydney Law Society
- Eastern Suburbs Law Society
- Inner West Law Society
- Liverpool & Fairfield Districts Law Society
- Northern Beaches Law Society
- North Metropolitan Law Society
- Parramatta & District Law Society
- St. George-Sutherland Law Society



RESOURCES FOR YOUR REGION'S LEGAL COMMUNITY

The Law Society offers a range of resources to support the diverse legal communities in the regions. For more information, please visit the Regional Law Society page.

lawsociety.com.au/LSResources

AUTHORS

This guide was carefully curated by the passionate and dedicated Albury & District Lawyers as part of the Albury & District Regional Law Society. Thank you to the following Lawyers who contributed to this booklet.



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