Marrickville Legal Centre
From the inner west, serving NSW

MLC NEWS
March Edition

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In this month's edition of MLC News, we're officially launching our Table Tennis Tournament, celebrating 30 Lawyers Under 30 finalist Sophie Driver, answering common questions about Power of Attorney, and recognising our Volunteer of the Month Patrick McMahon.

Join our biggest Table Tournament yet!

It's back for the fourth year in a row! Join us for our annual Table Tennis Tournament for a fun night of food, drinks, raffles and fierce competition to raise

much needed funds for Marrickville Legal Centre.

Registration through this platform is for General Admission spectator tickets to the event. This ticket includes a meal and a drink. Other drinks, MLC merchandise, and raffle tickets can be purchased at the event.

Get your tickets NOW!

If your organisation would like to register a team to compete in the tournament, please contact our Centre Operations and Communications Officer Danica at dmoore@mlc.org.au.

Congratulations to 30 Lawyers Under 30 finalist Sophie Driver!

Marrickville Legal Centre is proud to announce that our domestic violence solicitor Sophie Driver was named as a finalist in the 2026 Lawyers Weekly 30 Under 30 Awards!

The 30 Under 30 Awards celebrate young Australian legal professionals that drive the legal sector forward, and it was only fitting that Sophie was recognised for her incredible work in the Pro Bono/Community Lawyer category.

We are very proud of Sophie and wish her continued success in 2026 and beyond.

Capacity and legal authority: Power of Attorney demystified

Whether you're considering nominating someone or just want to know your rights, navigating the legal landscape around Power of Attorney can feel daunting.

In our latest article, our team answer some of the most common questions we receive regarding Power of Attorney.

Read more on our website

Vollie Vox: Patrick McMahon

VOLLIE VOX

Patrick McMahon

Volunteers are the lifeblood of Marrickville Legal Centre – their dedication enables us to connect even more people in the community to justice. Vollie Vox is a campaign dedicated to showcasing and interviewing one excellent volunteer a month.

This month we're celebrating Patrick McMahon, who started volunteering at Marrickville Legal Centre earlier this year. Patrick has been nominated because of his outstanding enthusiasm and commitment to MLC and its clients.

What inspired you to start volunteering at MLC, and what keeps you coming back?
I started volunteering at MLC through USYD's "Law and Social Justice Clinic" program in the hopes that my passions for law and social justice would coalesce. After all, although justice is a glue that holds communities together, it can be a potent solvent of that glue, too. Fortunately, MLC helps mitigate some of justice's more "unjust" consequences in NSW; and knowing that I am part of this ameliorating process is what encourages me to come back so often. The kind, smart and amazing people I work with are also lovely bonuses, as are the ping-pong table and coffee machine.

How do you feel your role makes a difference for our clients and community?
Although I may not necessarily change "the" world with my role at MLC, I do believe I change some of the worlds of those whom I help—I know that they certainly change mine. This is through acts as simple as genuinely asking someone about their day in a client intake to being there when someone goes vis-à-vis with the magistrate at Burwood Local Court. Although the legal outcome of our work is important, I think it is also essential to show people that we care about

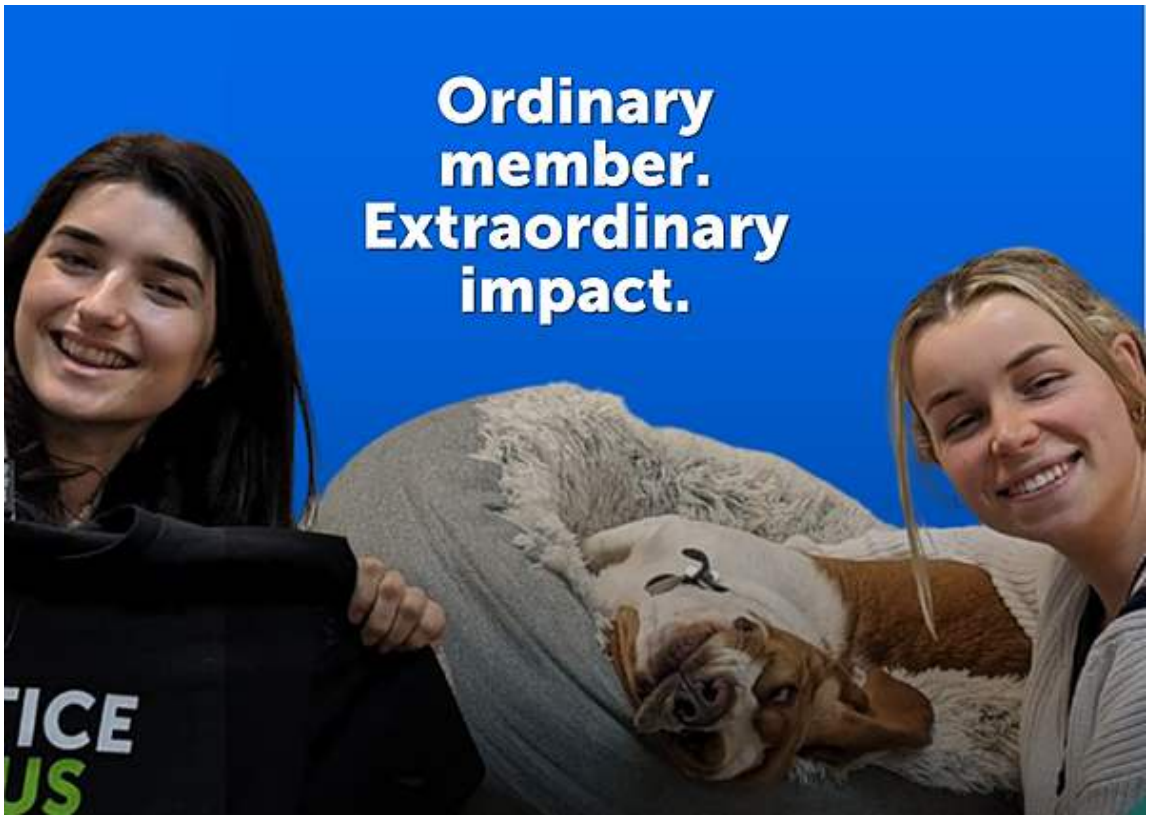
them, particularly when they navigate Law's treacherous domains.

What skills have you gained while volunteering at MLC?
My time at MLC has been invaluable. This is because universities tend to focus on blackletter law; however, this is far from the reality of practice. In my first two months at MLC, I have already learnt how to, inter alia, draft and chronologise affidavits, speak to clients effectively and confidently manoeuvre the local courts. More importantly, though, I've become more aware of the inequities in NSW and of how to be more sympathetic and compassionate toward peoples' plights.

What's something that surprised you when you first started volunteering at MLC?
How much everyone is willing to help you! Before starting at MLC, I believed the trope that lawyers were, for the most part, arrogant and intimidating; however, there is not an iota of either of those "qualities" at MLC. Because everyone—and I literally mean everyone—has been so accommodating and willing to give me the time of their days, it has made learning and volunteering so seamless, fruitful and fun.

How would you describe MLC to someone thinking about getting involved?
It's an incredible space made so by incredible people. Everyone really does care about the centre itself and the importance of helping those less fortunate than themselves. Moreover, as the world becomes increasingly tumultuous, day-to-day life may feel more futile; however, volunteering at MLC will consistently illuminate the goodness and kindness that exist in our society. This weekly reminder yields myriad fruits of contentedness; and if that isn't enough to encourage involvement, I'm not too sure what is.

Ordinary Member, Extraordinary Impact



You don’t need to be a lawyer to change someone’s life.

Joining Marrickville Legal Centre as an Ordinary Member not only grants you access to exclusive perks, but also empowers you to shape the impact our organisation has within the community:

- Members have the opportunity to vote at general meetings, allowing you to directly influence decisions and policies that affect the direction and initiatives of Marrickville Legal Centre.
- Members gain access to exclusive MLC events, such as seminars, workshops, and networking opportunities.
- Members receive a copy of our comprehensive Annual Report, offering transparency into our achievements, challenges, and financial performance throughout the year.
- Members have the privilege to review and provide input on the MLC Constitution, the foundational document that outlines our mission, values, and governance structure.

Join us today and be a part of the positive change we’re making together.

Become an MLC Member today

Thank you for all of your support so far! If you haven't yet, please make sure to follow us on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and TikTok to get more updates on

the Centre and our services.

Warm regards,

The MLC team

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