

## Episode 44: Guest bios

**Episode name:** Advocacy in the Local Court, Coroner's Court and Mental Health Review Tribunal

**Guest(s):** Mary Jerram AM

**MARY JERRAM AM**

**Deputy President of the Mental Health Tribunal**

Mary Jerram AM was the first woman to become State Coroner of NSW. Born in NZ, where she completed a BA in languages at Otago University, she came to Australia with two young children, and studied law at Sydney while teaching high school languages and subsequently working as an industrial advocate for the Independent Teachers Union.

She became a criminal defence lawyer for Legal Aid, and in 1994 was appointed as a Magistrate. For two years she was also Deputy Chief Magistrate, before taking an early semi-retirement to farm in New Zealand with her husband, Philip Taylor, an architect, although working in Sydney part time as a magistrate for those years. Finally returning to Sydney she was reappointed in 2006, and as State Coroner in 2007. After retiring in 2013, she works part time as a Deputy President of the Mental Health Tribunal. She was appointed AM in 2018 "for significant service as the State Coroner, and as a role model for women in the law."

**DAVID TURNER**

**Host**

David Turner has a gift for teasing out people's stories, so it's no wonder he is Hearsay's host. With a double Bachelor of Arts and Laws from Macquarie University, he is also an MBA candidate at UNSW's Australian Graduate School of Management.

When he isn't interviewing people on Hearsay, David is a lawyer at Assured Legal Solutions, a boutique financial services law firm located in Sydney's CBD. Prior to joining Assured, he was called to the NSW Bar, and is a former President of NSW Young Lawyers and a former Councillor of the Law Society of NSW.

David spends the little downtime that he has left reading historical fiction and tinkering on home improvement projects.

You can access David's bio on the Assured Legal Solutions website [here](#).