

# MICHAEL PATERSON

**B.Sc. (Comp. Sci.) L.L.B. (Hons.) Notary Public  
Barrister, Solicitor & Software Developer**

## EDUCATION, QUALIFICATIONS & ASSOCIATIONS

### COURT APPOINTMENTS

<b>Admitted as a Barrister &amp; Solicitor WA</b>	<b>2 March 1988</b>
<b>Entered on the High Court Role of Practitioners</b>	<b>22 June 1995</b>
<b>Appointed Public Notary</b>	<b>4 September 2000</b>

### AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

<b>Bachelor of Science</b>	<b>1987</b>
<b>Bachelor of Laws (Honours)</b>	<b>1987</b>
<b>Australian Computer Society Award</b> for the Top Computer Science Undergraduate	<b>1984</b>

### MEMBERSHIP OF ASSOCIATIONS

<b>Australian Computer Society</b> (Member)	<b>1984- Present</b>
<b>Law Society of Western Australia</b> Past convener of the Computerisation Committee Current member of the Intellectual Property & Technology Committee	<b>1987-Present</b>
<b>Public Notaries Society of Western Australia</b> (Secretary)	<b>2007-Present</b>
<b>Australian &amp; New Zealand College of Notaries</b> (Fellow)	<b>2007-Present</b>
<b>WA Society for Computers and Law</b> (Either President or Secretary during that time)	<b>1992-2007</b>

## EXPERIENCE

**Principal then Legal Director** **April 1992 – Present**

**MICHAEL PATERSON & ASSOCIATES** (formerly Picton-Warlow & Co)

### *Business & Succession Lawyers*

- Litigation, Mediation and Dispute Resolution: Federal, Supreme, District and Magistrates Court, SAT, WAIRC, Fair Work Commission
- Advice and Drafting of Commercial Documents
- Wills, Estate Planning & Applications for Probate and Letters of Administration
- Notarial Services: for documents destined for overseas

**Software Development Experience** **January 1996 – Present**

**MICHAEL PATERSON & ASSOCIATES**

**1996-present**

- Document modeling using the Hotdocs program, macros and bookmarks
- DIY Debt Collection Kit – How to guide with forms for collecting debts under \$10,000.00 in the Magistrates Court using Word Macros and forms
- VBA Basic programming - various Numbering and Formatting Macros for legal practice for Microsoft Word and Outlook
- Complicated spreadsheets, e.g. for determining the next of kin entitled to receive a distribution from an intestate estate and how much they each receive



**MICHAEL PATERSON**

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## ACHIEVEMENTS

**1984 ASC Award for top ANU  
Computer Undergraduate**

**Australian National University:**

**BSc (Comp. Sci.) 1987**

**LLB (Hons) 1987, Honours Thesis:**

*“The Feasibility of  
Computerised Legal Reasoning”*

**Admitted to practice:**

**March 1988**

**Admitted as a Public Notary:**

**September 2000**

**Married to Linda for 25½ years**

## SKILLS

- Unique mix of legal and computer skills
- 36 years’ legal experience
- 28 years of Business Administration experience running own business
- Experienced negotiator esp. with court mediations
- Can quickly prepare spreadsheets for analysis of complicated figures and complex calculations of damages, interest, costs
- Document Modeler for automation and semi-automating the production of Word documents
- Good working knowledge of tax and superannuation rules

## Software Development Experience (cont.)

### THE DOCUMENT COMPANY PTY LTD – DIRECTOR & PROGRAMMER 1992 –1996

- Director and main programmer for the Document Company Pty Ltd
- Prepared and won the tender to develop the first computerized version of the Land Titles Office Practice Manual, with a full-text Boolean search facility
- Developed and did all the programming for a package for producing the 66 different forms used by the Land Titles Office and populating the sealing clauses, preparing party and lodging party details, powered by complicated Word Macros
- Continued releasing the Forms package updates until end of 2007, through 21<sup>st</sup> Century Legal Services Pty Ltd, now renamed MPA Law Pty Ltd
- Computerised the Land Titles Office Practice Manual
- LTO Forms package

### COMPUTER POWER (ACT) August-December 1985

- Wrote C program to parse free text queries, convert them into database queries and rank the results in order of relevance, for the “STATUS with IQ” database program, a forerunner to Google

### Computer Services Centre, ANU November – December 1984

- The ANU Economics Department used a Simula program for online training of its first year students. The compiler had run on the University’s DEC-10 computer, but not on its new VAX-11 780. I wrote assembly language and other programs to enable the Simula compiler to run, in time for the start of the new year.

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### Solicitor & Computer Systems Developer February 1989 – April 1992

#### PARKER & PARKER (now subsumed by Freehills)

- Working in the IP Division on computer-related legal transactions
- R&D work on automated document assembly programs and legal expert systems using the Nexpert Object expert system shell program
- development of semi-automated document production systems within the Wang WP Plus word processing package
- Development of training programmes to introduce the new systems to fee earners and secretaries and training in the use of the new systems
- Involvement on committees dealing with precedent development, precedent retrieval systems and litigation support

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### Articled Clerk, then Solicitor February 1987 – March 1989

#### JACKSON MACDONALD

- Building and Construction Litigation, Banking and Finance, Conveyancing, “Crash and Bash” Litigation

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### Director October 1998 – April 2005

#### SOFTWARE ENGINEERING AUSTRALIA (WESTERN AUSTRALIA) LTD

- Director from inception
- Helped incorporate this non-for-profit company whose purpose was to promote the software engineering industry in WA, with Federal funding

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### Clerical Assistant Grade 4 January – April 1985

#### ATTORNEY GENERAL’S DEPARTMENT, A.C.T

- Worked with the SCALE legal database containing High and Federal Courts and Administrative Appeals Tribunal cases, involving proof reading and formatting
- Wrote training manual and documentation to help the others in the section become more efficient, after discovering every 128<sup>th</sup> character was missing.

## STRENGTHS

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- Logical and analytical thinker and writer
- Business savvy, including ability to read and understand business financial statements and other business records
- Legal skills 37+ years’ experience
- Understand how computers and computer programs work, their uses and their limitations

## PASSIONS AND HOBBIES

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- Going home for lunch and in time for dinner for the last 32 years and otherwise Spending time with my family
- Yoga
- Fremantle Dockers Supporter
- Beach & Pool
- Puzzles : NYT Connections, Phrazle, Worldle & Kakuro

## RECENT CONTINUING EDUCATION ACTIVITIES & MEETINGS

LSWA – Law Society of Western Australia Inc; ACS – Australian Computer Society

Date	Provider	Topic
27/11/24	LSWA	Generative AI – Is it All in the Way We Ask or Prompt? ( <i>coming up</i> )
20/11/24	LSWA	Intellectual Property & Technology Committee AI Policing Working Group Meeting
30/10/24	LSWA	AI: Navigating the Landscape of AI Tools for Lawyers
12/11/24	ACS	Masterclass: AI for Decision-Makers - Data Analysis
29/10/24	LSWA	Intellectual Property & Technology Committee AI Policy Working Group Meeting
29/10/24	Law in Order	Relevant AI features and how to implement into your eDiscovery
28/10/24	ACS	Meeting: Australian Computer Society AI Special Interest Group
15/10/24	AI Legal Assist	AI Legal Assistant Webinar
10/10/24		AI Legal Assistant Training
30/9/24		AI Legal Assistant Onboarding
16/8/24		AI Legal Assistant Webinar
30/7/24	ACS	AI Legal Issues
9/9/24	LSWA	Intellectual Property & Technology Committee AI Policy Working Group
10/7/24	Lexis	Lexis+AI Demonstration
4/4/24	Nexis	Lexis+AI Webinar
26/3/24	LSWA	Ethics in the Digital Age
24/10/23	LSWA	AI Machine Learning & the Disruption of Intellectual Property
20/10/23	LSWA	What's AI got to do with it? Legal & Compliance Masterclass Webinar
9/5/23	ACS	Generative AI / ChatGPT and Beyond

## HOBBIES AND PASTIMES

In my spare time I like spending time with my family, solving puzzles, going to the footy and cricket, relaxing on the beach and playing board games.

### SPORTS

#### Aussie Rules

(played 20+ years, Captain UWA C Grade, Fremantle Dockers Supporter)

#### Rugby Union (played 11 years after Aussie Rules got too tough!

(Mount Lawley Jesters 1995-2003, Captain/Coach 1998-2003  
UWA 2004-2005)

#### Touch Rugby (1981-2007, until the posterior cruciate injury)

#### Mixed Netball (10+ years)

#### Volleyball & Basketball (couple of seasons each at Lord's)

#### Yoga (2008 – present)

### PUZZLES

#### Connections – Work out the 16 word connections (New York Time Online)

#### Phrazle – Work out the phrase

#### Worldle – Work out a country, its neighbours, capital, population and flag

#### Freecell – form of solitaire

#### Kakuro – a step up from sudoku puzzles

### FAVOURITE BOARD GAMES

#### Carcassonne, Scrabble, Risk, Diplomacy, Axis & Allies, Monopoly