

OUR HISTORY



Left to right: Bruce Mitchell, Laurie Rudd, employee, Betty Shepherd, Jack Garland on the steps of the building at Rudd & Garland Wyndham Street Auckland premise circa 1944

1880 - 2010

Minter Ellison Rudd Watts is one of New Zealand's most established law firms. We are proud of our heritage dating back 130 years.

We are part of the Minter Ellison Legal Group, one of the largest legal groups across Australia and New Zealand and amongst the largest in the world, employing over 2000 people in 13 offices across four countries. Our global reach includes Australia, New Zealand, People's Republic of China, and London.

Today, Minter Ellison Rudd Watts is a local and trusted advisor with offices in Auckland and Wellington. We are proud of our people, past and present, and their contribution to the community and New Zealand society:

- President of the Court of Appeal (former) - Sir Ivor Richardson
- High Court of New Zealand Judges - Justices Allan, Dobson, Keane and MacKenzie
- Inaugural Chairman of the Securities Commission (former) - Colin Patterson
- Chief Executive and Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade - John Allen
- District Court Judges - Burnett, Crosby, and Thomas

Here is a snapshot of our journey so far. We invite you to join us.


ADELAIDE
AUCKLAND
BRISBANE
CANBERRA
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HONG KONG
LONDON
MELBOURNE
PERTH
SHANGHAI
SYDNEY
WELLINGTON

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LAWYERS

- 2010 Minter Ellison Rudd Watts named joint winner of the *New Zealand Deal of the Year* at the annual ALB Australasian Law Awards, for the 2009 Fisher & Paykel Appliances recapitalisation. The firm was also recognised as joint winner of the *Insolvency & Restructuring Deal of the Year* for the ABC Learning Centres receivership deal.
- 2010 Minter Ellison Rudd Watts Chair and partner, Cathy Quinn, named 2010 winner of the Veuve Clicquot Business Woman Award. The Award pays tribute to female achievers in business and industry around the globe, with criteria including corporate social responsibility, entrepreneurial drive, leadership skills and the ability to motivate and inspire others.
- 2009 Minter Ellison Rudd Watts' former partner, John Allen, appointed to the position of Chief Executive and Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade. John Allen takes up the appointment on 20 July 2009.
- 2009 Minter Ellison Rudd Watts appoints partner Cathy Quinn to the role of Chair, replacing David Patterson. David Patterson continues in partnership with the firm.
- 2008 Minter Ellison Rudd Watts appoints Mark Weenink to the role of Managing Partner, replacing CEO Russell Hay. Minter Ellison Rudd Watts becomes the first major New Zealand law firm to create a Latin American practice group to serve the increasing number of New Zealand businesses conducting business in Latin America. Minter Ellison Rudd Watts named inaugural *New Zealand Territorial Forces Employer Support Council (TFESC) Employer of the Year*.
- 2007 Minter Ellison wins *Law Firm of the Year Award* at the 4th annual Australia and New Zealand Insurance Industry Awards. Minter Ellison Rudd Watts forms strategic partnership with business growth centre, The ICEHOUSE (International Centre for Entrepreneurship) as part of our long term commitment to the development and growth of New Zealand business. Minter Ellison Rudd Watts partner Cathy Quinn named a 'Hot 40' lawyer for Australasia in the "The Dealmakers" category in Australasian Legal Business (ALB) magazine.
- 2006 Minter Ellison Rudd Watts wins *International Law Office Client Choice Award (New Zealand)*.
- 2005 Minter Ellison Rudd Watts moves to offices in Auckland's new Lumley Tower on Shortland Street.
- 2004 Minter Ellison Rudd Watts celebrates 20 years as legal advisors to the New Zealand International Arts Festival. Our support continues today with partner John McCay and consultant David Gasgoine in the role as Festival Foundation Trustees. Minter Ellison Rudd Watts appoints Russell Hay to the role of CEO. Minter Ellison Rudd Watts partner, Chris Allan, appointed as a Judge of the High Court. A proud moment for our firm and a celebration of over 40 years of an esteemed legal career with us. Minter Ellison Rudd Watts appoints partner David Patterson to the role of Chair.
- 2003 John Brownlow Horrocks, one of the founding partners of Rudd Watts & Stone passes away at age 83. Awarded 'Special Merit' in *The National Business Review Awards* for Sponsorship of the Arts, acknowledging creativity, commitment and vision in partnerships between business and the arts.

- 2001 Rudd Watts & Stone became Minter Ellison Rudd Watts on 1 September, with a celebration at the National Portrait Gallery.
The name change reinforces the firm's international profile and recognised the fifteen year partnership between Rudd Watts & Stone and the Minter Ellison Legal Group.
The firm remains a partnership owned and operated business in New Zealand with strong trans-Tasman and Asia Pacific connections.
Awarded 'Finalist' in *The National Business Review Awards* for Sponsorship of the Arts.
- 1986 The Auckland office moves to BNZ Tower at 125 Queen Street, Auckland.
- 1984 The firm becomes Rudd Watts & Stone formed by a merger of Rudd Garland Horrocks Stewart Johnston in Auckland, Stone & Co, and Watts & Patterson both of Wellington, creating the first of New Zealand's 'mega-firms' with a significant presence in both Auckland and Wellington.
- 1983 Rudd Watts & Stone forms an association with the Minter Ellison Legal Group in support of the growing economic relationship with Australia and to enhance the Firm's international profile.
- 1982 Rudd Garland & Horrocks and Stewart Johnston Campbell Drummond & Co amalgamate their practices on 1st July. The new firm is named Rudd Garland Horrocks Stewart Johnston.
- 1981 Rudd Garland & Horrocks moves to Quay Tower, Corner Customs Street West and Lower Albert Street, Auckland on 2nd February.
- 1976 The Hon Justice Dobson becomes a partner in Stone & Co until 1990 when he is appointed Queen's Counsel in 1998 and returns to the Bar. He was president of the New Zealand Bar Association from 2002-2004 and appointed a High Court Judge in 2007.
- 1974 Jack Garland (of the former Rudd Garland & Horrocks) passes away.
- 1973 Laurie Rudd (of the former Rudd Garland & Horrocks) passes away.
- 1971 Justice Alan MacKenzie becomes a partner of Stone & Co and continued as partner when the firm becomes Rudd Watts & Stone in 1984, 13 years later.
- 1970 Jack Watts, founding partner of Watts and Patterson, one of the founding firms of Rudd Watts & Stone circa 1960, passes away. He was an MP in the 1950s and served as Minister of Finance in the Holland and Holyoake governments.
Justice Chris Allan becomes a partner of Rudd Garland & Horrocks and continued as partner when the firm became Rudd Watts & Stone in 1984.
Stone and Co formed by Kempthorne Stone.
- 1963 Justice Christopher Allan joins Rudd Garland & Horrocks.
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1960

Watts and Patterson, one of the founding firms of Rudd Watts & Stone formed in Wellington by Jack Watts and Colin Patterson.

Pamela Mitchell (one of the first women lawyers in New Zealand, having started as a Law Clerk in 1942) becomes a partner in Rudd Garland & Horrocks. Pamela Mitchell passed away in 1985, still in Partnership with Rudd Watts & Stone. The firm library carries her name and continues her tradition with a high percentage of female partners including our Chair, Cathy Quinn.

1948

Rudd & Garland takes John Horrocks into partnership and becomes Rudd, Garland & Horrocks.

1944

John Horrocks wins the Military Cross near Casale, Italy, while serving as a Captain with the Royal New Zealand Artillery. After the war he becomes Commanding Officer of the 9th Coast Regiment and served as Aide-de-Camp to Governor-General Sir Willoughby Norrie. On his return to New Zealand, Horrocks establishes his talent as a lawyer, serving as a partner with Rudd Garland & Horrocks and succeeding practices for 40 years.

1938

Rudd & Garland formed by Jack Garland and Laurie Rudd.

From 1939 – 1946 Laurie Rudd serves overseas in the New Zealand Forces. For his overall wartime services he is awarded DSO (Distinguished Service Order) for leadership and OBE (Officer of the Order of the British Empire), and attains rank of Colonel.

1880

Mr Stewart forms the practice that will become Stewart Johnston Campbell Drummond & Co with a proud history going back to the 1880's, and which influenced early New Zealand history.

Co-founder J B Johnston was a leading Auckland lawyer in the business and commercial area for many years in the 1920's to 1960's.

For general enquiries about Minter Ellison Rudd Watts we invite you to contact us at moreinfo@minterellison.co.nz

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