



GREENWAY CHAMBERS

Ian Roberts SC

“Measure twice, cut once.”

Solicitor 1990 / Barrister 1996 / Silk 2001

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Ian Roberts SC is a senior counsel with more than 30 years of experience as a lawyer including more than 25 years at the NSW Bar. His successful practice focuses on construction and infrastructure law, commercial law, professional negligence, transport law and appellate proceedings. He appears regularly in the NSW Supreme Court Technology & Construction List and Commercial List and the Federal Court of Australia. Ian accepts appointments as a mediator, referee and expert in expert determinations and also facilitates expert witnesses' conclaves.

Ian is also interested in the role technology can play in preparing and conducting litigation, particularly since the effects of Covid-19 restrictions have changed the way we practice. He enjoys the teamwork involved in litigation and case management and values the input of solicitors, junior counsel, clients and experts. In doing so, he understands that every person in the team brings something beneficial to the case, whether that involves investigating evidence, discovery, communicating with witnesses, drafting or researching and “Measure twice, cut once.” developing a case theory.

Ian's clients include infrastructure project companies, building owners, developers, builders, construction consultants and insurers, especially professional indemnity and marine insurers. Before becoming a barrister, Ian worked in Minter Ellison's insurance practice group, where he specialised in defending professional indemnity claims brought against building industry professionals such as architects and engineers.

Ian was a founding director of Greenway Chambers and was heavily involved in its creation and development. He regularly participates as chair and speaker at Greenway's Continuing Professional Development seminars, particularly the Super Series.

Qualifications

Bachelor of Laws (QUT)

Professional Recognition

Doyles Guide, Leading Senior Counsel, Construction and Infrastructure (NSW) - Leading, 2020 -2026

Doyles Guide, Leading Senior Counsel, Construction and Infrastructure (Australia) - Recommended, 2020 - 2026

Best Lawyers Australia, Construction and Infrastructure, 2021 - 2027

Areas of Expertise

Appellate

Building and Construction

Commercial Law and Equity

Professional Indemnity and Insurance

Transport

Notable Cases

Parkview Constructions Pty Ltd v Futuroscop Enterprises Pty Ltd [2023] NSWSC 178
Larsen v Tastec Pty Ltd [2023] NSWCA 39
Comptroller-General of Customs v Alstom Transport Australia Pty Ltd (2022) 293 FCR 381
Glencore Coal Pty Ltd v Franks [2021] FCAFC 61
TFM Epping Land Pty Ltd v Decon Australia Pty Ltd [2020] NSWCA 118
TFM Epping Land Pty Ltd v Decon Australia Pty Ltd [2020] NSWCA 93
Alstom Transport Australia Pty Ltd v Comptroller-General of Customs [2020] FCAFC 43
Acciona Infrastructure Australia Pty Ltd v Chess Engineering Pty Ltd (No 2) [2020] NSWSC 1788
Owners - Strata Plan No 87231 v 3A Composites GmbH (2019) 369 ALR 315
Nuance Group (Australia) Pty Ltd v Shape Australia Pty Ltd [2018] VSC 362
The Owners Stata Plan 66375 v King [2018] NSWCA 170
Skyworks NSW Pty Ltd v 32 Drummoyne Pty Ltd [2017] NSWSC 343
The Owners Corporation Strata Plan 76841 v Ceerose Pty Ltd [2017] NSWCA 140
Fitz Jersey Pty Ltd v Atlas Construction Group Pty Ltd [2017] NSWCA 53
CJD Equipment v A & C Constructions [2009] NSWSC 1362
Rail Equipment Leasing Pty Ltd v CV Scheepvaartonderneming Emmagracht [2008] NSWSC 850
CV Sheepvaartonderneming Ankergracht v Stemcor (A/sia) Pty Limited [2007] FCAFC 77

Notable Cases

Big Choice in Rotten Apples: to pay or to rectify (2018) 29(7&8) ACLB 70
Lewence Construction: end of the last chance cash grab for insolvent contractors? (2017) 29(1) ACLB 5
Negligence of builders for latent defects that arise long after completion (2014) 26 ACLB 134
Agridpower Australia – the end of SOP claims on mining leases? (2013) 25 ACLB 66
Security of Payment Act claims by insolvent contractors (2013) 24(10) ACLB 154
Carbon Tax price increases in construction projects (2012) 24 ACLB 86
Completion of residential construction work: When does the clock start ticking? (2011) BCLJ 30
Quo Vadis? Towards an effective predatory pricing provision (2009) 17 TPLJ 82
Act Reigns in Corporate Bullying Adelaide Advertiser 15 January 2008
The Big Chill from Birdsville (Nov 2007) LSJ 64
Sovereign Immunity and Equitable Rights Against the Commonwealth (2007) 81 ALJ 406