

Craig Borley

Year of Call: 2026

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Overview

Craig Borley is a family law pupil barrister, based in 3PB's Bournemouth office. He started the "first six" of his pupillage in October 2026.

Craig comes to the Bar following a successful journalism career as a broadsheet news journalist in New Zealand, and as a communications specialist in both New Zealand and the UK. He was the health reporter at two of New Zealand's biggest newspapers; the New Zealand Herald, and the Otago Daily Times. He also provided specialist communications advice and support to New Zealand's biggest public hospitals and the University of Otago's Health Sciences division.

Journalism's constant interviewing and conferencing honed his ability to sit face to face with people from all walks of life, from Prime Ministers to prisoners, communicating calmly and clearly while truly listening to people. It also instilled in him the vital importance of high-speed research, focusing on vital points and intended outcomes while working and delivering accurately and to deadlines – skills he has shown with his legal casework.

As part of his transfer to the Bar Craig was awarded scholarships from Gray's Inn, for both his GDL and Bar Course studies. Both courses were passed with distinction.

Craig was selected for Gray's Inn's Vis Moot team following a robust and competitive advocacy assessment. He participated in weekly barrister-led seminars on written and oral advocacy, as well as participating in constant oral advocacy practice and competition. This culminated in Craig winning the prestigious Best Speaker Award at the international Vis Moot London Pre-Moot, 2025.

Outside work, Craig enjoys playing the guitar, making music, and spending as much time as possible walking Wiltshire's countryside with his family. He is also an avid permaculture no-dig gardener.

Academic qualifications

- PGDip Bar Practice, Distinction, Inns of Court College of Advocacy, 2026
- GDL, Distinction, University of Law, 2025
- Certificate in Anthropology, First, University of Auckland, 2012
- Graduate Diploma in Journalism, Distinction, AUT University, 2006
- Bachelor of Arts, English Literature, First, University of Auckland, 2005

Scholarships

- Jean Southworth Bar Course Scholarship, Gray's Inn, 2025
- David Karmel Scholarship, Gray's Inn's most prestigious GDL scholarship, 2024
- Winner, Best Speaker Award, Vis Moot London Pre-Moot, 2025
- Statistics NZ National Student Journalism Award, 2006

Professional bodies

- Honourable Society of Gray's Inn
- Family Law Bar Association