



Colin Parker B.Bus (Acc), FCA, FCPA, MAICD
Principal, GAAP Consulting Services

Member of the AASB (2006-2009)

Head of the GAAP Consulting Network

Specialisation: GAAP and GAAS Advice, and Litigation

Qualifications

Bachelor of Business (Accounting) RMIT
Fellow of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia
Fellow Certified Practising Accountant with the CPA Australia
Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors

Current Role

I am the Principal, GAAP Consulting, and Head of the GAAP Consulting Network. My specialisations are advice on GAAP, GAAS, Ethics and Quality Assurance, and Litigation Support.

GAAP Consulting provides independent financial reporting, auditing, quality assurance reviews, and corporate governance solutions to reduce business and regulatory risks. The vision is to be recognised as the pre-eminent provider of independent financial reporting solutions that enhance economic decision-making and accountability by those charged with governance, preparers, auditors, regulators and users.

The *GAAP Consulting Network* consists of:

- Colin Parker – Head of GAAP Consulting Network and Litigation Team Leader
- Michal Cain – Team Leader Assurance Services
- Judy Cain – Director of Marketing
- Jim Dixon – Not-for-profit and Public Sector Specialist
- Stephen LaGreca – Financial Instruments and Audit Specialist
- Susan Orchard – Team Leader Superannuation Services
- Sandra Prendergast – Web site Design Specialist
- Carmen Ridley – Team Leader Corporate Reporting
- Justin Reid – Auditing and Ethical Standards Expert, and
- David Sauer – Training Team Leader

GAAP Consulting has a client portfolio that covers listed entities, regulators, professional organisations, accounting and legal firms, not-for-profit and public sector entities.

Previous Senior Positions Held

Head of Accounting Policy at *Stockford Ltd*
Director – Accounting and Audit with *CPA Australia*
Senior Technical Manager – *Ernst & Young*

Corporate Development Director – *Centre for Professional Development*
Technical Director – *RSM Bird Cameron*
Senior Manager Audit Standards – *AARF*
Group Audit Manager – *PKF*

Experience

Over 30 years experience in financial reporting and auditing in the following areas:

- Interpretation and advice on generally accepted accounting and auditing principles, and ethical and risk management standards
- Developed, implemented and advocated accounting and auditing policy
- Risk management and quality assurance, and
- Training on accounting and auditing standards, and corporate governance.

Representation activities include:

- Member of the Australian Accounting Standards Board (2006-2009)
- Member of the ASIC's Panel of Financial Reporting Experts (2006-)
- Member of the ICAA Forensic Accounting Special Interest Group (2006-)
- Independent Audit Committee member of the City of Darebin (2005-2009)
- Inaugural Chairman of ICAA Audit Advisory Committee (2002-2005)
- Advisory panelist for the establishment of a graduate certificate in corporate governance for Holmesglen TAFE (2004)
- Member of ICAA IFRS Discussion Group (2004-2007)
- Member and Chairman of CPA Australia's Victorian External Reporting Cell (2000-2003)
- Member of the Urgent Issues Group (1998-2000)
- Member of the Consultative Group to the AASB (1995-2000)
- Member of the Consultative Group to the AUASB (2009-)
- Adviser to the Accounting Bodies' Task Forces, e.g., 'The Financial Reporting and Audit Expectation Gap', and 'Corporations Law and Standard-setting'

Author and speaker of the following:

- Over 200 published articles, and co-author of '*Australian GAAP*' (9 editions)
- Editor of '*e-GAAP Update*' subscription service and the fortnightly '*GAAP Alert*'
- Author of the auditing checklists '*Australian GAAS*' and '*Australian GAAS for SMEs*'
- Popular speaker and trainer on financial reporting and auditing issues having made over 200 presentations; and Press, Internet and video commentator on contemporary financial and corporate governance issues.

Contact Details

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COLIN PARKER B.Bus, FCA, FCPA, MAICD

Colin Parker, Principal, GAAP Consulting

I am an acknowledged expert in financial reporting and auditing, and formed *GAAP Consulting Services* ('Excellence in Financial Reporting') on 1 July 2003 to conduct the following consulting services:

- Independent expert GAAP advice
- Independent expert GAAS advice
- Representation services
- Independent directors and audit committee members
- Tailored in-house training, briefings and public speaking engagements, and
- Litigation support services, including independent expert opinions on GAAP and GAAS; assistance with review of the work of other experts; and assisting lawyers understand the accounting and auditing context.

I have gained substantial experience with major accounting firms, CPA Australia, the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board of the Australian Accounting Research Foundation (AARF). I was a member of the Australian Accounting Standards Board (2006-9). I have been appointed to the Australian Securities and Investments Commission's panel of experts for the provision of accounting and financial services. I am also a member of the Forensic Accounting Special Interest Group of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia.

In November 2000, I was appointed the inaugural Head of Accounting Policy at Stockford Ltd, then the sixth largest accounting and financial services in Australia. Stockford had over 1300 employees and operated through over 70 offices throughout Australia. In March 2003 the eight principals in the National Audit & Assurance Group purchased the audit practice from Stockford Ltd, and on 30 June 2004 concluded a merger with RSM Bird Cameron.

As the Director – Accounting and Audit with CPA Australia (1990-2000), I was responsible for providing its National Council and Executive with policy advice on accounting, auditing and quality assurance matters. I was the Accounting Bodies' representative to the Urgent Issues Group (1999-2000), and CPA Australia's representative to the Consultative Groups to AASB and PSASB (1995-2000). I was a member of the Accounting Bodies' briefing team to Australian representative to the IASC (1995-2000). I was the CPA Australia's liaison to the Legislation Review Board of the AARF (1995-2000) that had responsibility for preparing submissions on accounting, auditing and corporate governance issues for the Accounting Bodies.

The GAAP Consulting Network

Assisting me in the delivery of the vision and mission of *GAAP Consulting* are seven independent contractor ('Network Members') who are all 'partner equivalents: David Sauer (Financial Reporting and Auditing), Justin Reid (Audit), Jim Dixon (NFP and Public Sectors), Stephen LaGreca (Financial Reporting and Forensic Accounting), Susan Orchard (Superannuation), Carmen Ridley (Financial Reporting) and Michael Cain (Financial Reporting, Audit and Forensic Accounting).

The *GAAP Consulting* Network has extensive experience in standard-setting, regulation, practice, and training in the private and public sectors. We provide a unique blend of financial reporting, auditing and corporate governance skills. Importantly, we provide independent GAAP and GAAS solutions.

GAAP Consulting clients include:

- Listed Entities: ANZ Ltd, AWB Ltd, Telstra Ltd, Crown Ltd, LeasePlan Australia Ltd, WHK Group Ltd, Agenix Ltd
- Other Companies: GE Ltd, Axiom Ltd, Pioneer Road Services Pty Ltd, Task Technology Pty Ltd, Print Solutions Finance Pty Ltd, CPA Australia Ltd, The Institute of Chartered Accountants, National Institute of Accountants
- Public Sector: Australia Post, Victorian Regional Channels Authority, Department of Victorian Communities, Medibank Private
- Not-for-profit: Edmund Rice Education Australia
- Legal Firms: Corrs Chambers Westgarth, Blake Dawson Waldron, Kemp Strang, Cornwall Stodart, Lavan Legal, Maurice Blackburn, Australian Government Solicitor

- Regulators: Australian Securities and Investments Commission, Australian Taxation Office, Productivity Commission
- Auditors-General: Australasian Council of Auditors-General, Australian National Audit Office, Victorian Auditor-General's Office, Audit Office of NSW, South Australian Audit Office, and
- Accounting Firms: RSM Bird Cameron, HLB Mann Judd, Sothertons, McLean Delmo, Hall Chadwick, Lawler Alliance, Accru, and WHK Howarth.

Qualifications

I hold a Bachelor Business (Accounting) degree from the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology. I am Fellow of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia (1991), and an Associate (1978), and a Fellow Certified Practising Accountant with the CPA Australia (1992). I am also member of The Australian Institute of Company Directors (2002).

Member of the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB)

I was appointed to the AASB in December 2005 and completed my three term in 2009. The AASB sets standards for profit-seeking and not-for-profit entities in the private and public sectors. It meets 10 times annually, each of two days with preparation time usually two days per meeting. All meetings are held in public. The AASB agenda contains a wide variety of technical and strategic projects, including development and interpretation of accounting standards, submissions to international standard-setting organisations, responding to issues arising in the Australian environment, and its own corporate governance. I was the Board liaison for the following projects: conceptual framework, transaction neutral reporting, superannuation, intangibles, and financial reporting by Small Medium Enterprises.

Relevant Experience

Litigation Engagements

One of my specialisations is litigation support, engagements have included:

1. Engaged by *Maurice Blackburn* to provide an independent expert's report on financial instruments in a class action
2. Engaged by *Lillas and Loel* to provide an independent independent's report on financial instruments in a commercial dispute
3. Engaged by *Australian Securities and Investments Commission* to provide a consulting expert's report on possible breaches of auditing standards of a Big 4 accounting firm
4. Engaged by *Australian Securities and Investments Commission* to provide a consulting expert's report on possible breaches of accounting standards by a listed entity
5. Engaged by *Kemp Strang* to provide an independent expert's report on the application of accounting standards in a disputed insurance claim
6. Engaged by *Corrs Chambers Westgarth* to provide an independent expert's report on external and internal auditors alleged failure to detect a fraud
7. Engaged by *Lavan Legal* to provide an independent expert's report on an alleged failure by the auditor to detect a fraud
8. Engaged by *Blake Dawson* to provide litigation support services in relation to commercial matter regarding financial instruments
9. Engaged by the *ASIC* to provide an independent expert's report on a CALDB matter regarding auditing and accounting standards, and related matters, including testimony before the CALDB
10. Engaged by the *Australian Government Solicitor* to prepare an independent expert's report on accounting matters related to tax consolidations
11. Engaged by *Cornwall Stodart* as a consulting expert to assist with the preparation of the cross-examination of an expert witness that included review of Statement of Facts and Contentions and the witness statement, review and assessment of independent expert's report, review of financial reports, and research into relevant GAAS and GAAP
12. Independent expert advice on accounting issues in a sale agreement dispute between two listed companies
13. Independent advice on lease accounting at the request of *ASIC*
14. Independent advice on revenue recognition at the request of a listed company in a dispute with *ASIC*, and

15. Independent advice on leasing accounting and related issues at the request of CPA Australia for the Victorian Audit Commission.

Accounting Standards

In addition to my role as a member of the AASB, my consulting practice has given me significant experience with the Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (AIFRS) and ongoing advice on Australian GAAP. Such recent experience includes:

- Advice including public private partnerships, business combinations, intangibles, leases, joint venture accounting, financial instruments, investment property, consolidations, grant accounting
- Advice re AIFRS for an initial public offering
- AIFRS diagnostics reviews for several listed entities and statutory authorities
- AIFRS assurance reviews for government departments and statutory authorities
- AIFRS transition advice for listed, unlisted and not-for-profit entities
- AIFRS training and advice for accounting firms and credit unions, and
- Litigation engagements.

Audit and Quality Assurance

I have had approximately 10 years field audit experience, including as a Group Audit Manager, with second tier accounting firms. My major client responsibilities included, Carlton and United Breweries Limited (now Fosters Ltd), Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation Limited, T&G Mutual Life Society Ltd (now AXA Australia Ltd) and Elders IXL Ltd.

As Director Accounting & Auditing with CPA Australia, I was responsible for the policy development and implementation of the national quality assurance program for members in public practice. This entailed setting standards, development of a Quality Assurance Manual, design of an audit methodology and programs, and investigation and disciplinary procedures. I led a team a series of national 'road shows' on the roll out of the quality assurance program.

As National Technical Director with RSM Bird Cameron, I established the firm's internal quality control procedures and undertook a number of quality assurance reviews of individual offices. My role as Head of Accounting & Auditing Policy with Stockford Ltd encompasses quality assurance and risk management practices, including conducting quality assurance reviews.

I have provided the following audit related services:

1. Quality assurance review of several audit practices for compliance with the profession's quality control standards, and legally backed auditing standards
2. Review of 'QA Self-assessment Manual' of the Australasian Council of Auditors-General
3. Review of the Audit Independence policies for three tier accounting firms
4. Review of the Audit Module of the CPA Program for CPA Australia
5. Presentation to second tier accounting firms on the CLERP 9, and in a particular audit independence issues
6. Advice on audit independence, audit reporting, auditing standards
7. Training to several accounting firms, and behalf of the ICAA and the NIA, on the legally-backed auditing regime
8. In-house training for accounting firms on individual auditing standards, and periodic auditing updates, and
9. Training to accounting firms on Quality Assurance and the ASIC Audit Inspection Program.

Areas of Special Competence

Principal GAAP Consulting Services

- Litigation support
- Interpretation of Australian GAAP and GAAS
- Advice on the transition to international accounting standards
- Training on GAAP and GAAS for accounting firms, including preparing for an ASIC inspection
- Training for a regulator on the adoption standards and training seminars for CPA, NIA and other seminar organisations

- Preparation of script for DVD/Video on AIFRS 2005
- Internal risk management assignments focusing on corporate governance, risk management and fraud

Head of Accounting Policy & Training (Risk Management & Assurance Services Pty Ltd/Stockford Ltd)

- Financial reporting advice to Stockford and clients
- Litigation support services to regulators and lawyers
- Preparation of internal policy papers, technical newsletters, and *Stockford Insights*
- Corporate governance reviews
- Training both internal and external on financial reporting, corporate governance and auditing
- Internal risk management and quality assurance reviews (including engagement file reviews)

Director - Accounting and Audit (CPA Australia)

- Policy advice on external financial reporting, auditing, quality assurance (design and rollout of inspection program)
- Development of business plans
- Preparation of policy submissions to National Council, e.g., approval of accounting and auditing standards
- Designated CPA Australia spokesman of financial reporting, auditing and related issues
- Increased the profile of the CPA Australia's technical competence by presentations, articles and representations on accounting concepts and accounting standards
- Advice to members on the application of accounting concepts and accounting standards, including the ASX, ASIC and the Victorian Commission of Audit and large corporate

Senior Manager - National Accounting and Auditing Research (Ernst & Young)

- External financial reporting and auditing matters (particularly in relation to in-house technical manuals and technical advice to partners, staff and clients)
- Emerging issues (both accounting and auditing) assessment and communication
- External presentations on accounting issues with a strong emphasis in emerging issues
- Submissions on financial reporting and auditing

National Technical Director (RSM Bird Cameron)

- Research into accounting, auditing and other technical issues
- Development of internal quality control standards and programs (including performing engagement file reviews)
- Provision of technical advice and special client services, including forensic accounting engagements
- Presentation of technical papers

Senior Project Manager – Auditing Standards (Australian Accounting Research Foundation)

- Research into auditing, accounting and other technical issues
- Development of auditing standards and provision of technical advice, and
- Submissions to governments and professional organisations.

Author and Speaker

I have co-authored the annual financial reporting publication '*Australian GAAP*' (nine Editions) and the major contributor to '*e-GAAP Update*' subscription service. I was the Technical Editor of the Accounting Bodies' publication '*The Accounting and Auditing Handbook 1992-2001 (Volumes 1 & 2)*'. I also authored the *Australian GAAS 2007 Checklists*.

I have overseen the publication of the following by my *GAAP Consulting Network* colleagues:

- 'The Clarity Auditing Standards – An Introduction' (November 2009)
- 'Clarity Auditing Standards – The Detailed Analysis' (June 2010), and
- 'The Reduced Disclosure Regime – A Practical Guide to Implementation' (July 2010).

I have a public profile in relation to emerging accounting and auditing issues through over 300 speaking engagements. I am often quoted in the financial press on current issues and have written many technical papers for the CPA Australia and other bodies, numbering well over 200. I have made numerous presentations to

international guests on Australian standard setting, the Corporations Act as well as given presentations on contemporary issues in Singapore, Hong Kong, United Kingdom, Kuala Lumpur, and Fiji.

Professional Experience

GAAP Consulting Services

Principal (July 2003-now)

On 1 July 2003 I formed my own consulting practice to provide financial reporting and auditing solutions to reduce risk by: independent expert advice; representation assistance; publication and email update services; and tailor-made training.

Risk Management and Assurance Services

Head of Accounting Policy (March 2003 –30 June 2003)

The antecedent firms to Risk Management and Assurance have a long and proud history of providing audit, assurance and others services within Australia over a seventy-year period. Previously as part of HLB Mann Judd and then the core of the Stockford national audit and assurance group, the partners reacquired the audit practice in March 2003. The audit practice was the fifth largest in Melbourne with 8 partners and over 50 staff. We offered a broad range of audit, assurance, and corporate advisory services to private, public and not-for-profit entities. These services encompass statutory audits, internal audits, risk management, compliance audits, review and agreed-upon procedures engagements, forensic accounting, training, and advice on accounting standards and corporate governance.

Stockford National Audit and Assurance Group (Stockford Ltd)

Head of Accounting Policy (Nov 2000 – March 2003)

From November 2000, Stockford Ltd, a newly listed company, brought together 45 Australian leading accounting, financial planning and advisory firms located in the capital cities and regional centres on the eastern seaboard. Stockford employed over 1300 people servicing the SME sector and private clients; it also had a number of listed company clients, and significant public sector expertise.

My responsibilities included:

- Principal in the National Audit and Assurance Team
- Development of accounting, auditing and risk management policies
- Communication of financial reporting and auditing developments and implications to staff and clients
- Spokesman on financial reporting and related issues, and
- Providing consulting advice on financial reporting and auditing issues to Stockford principals and staff as well as to external parties.

CPA Australia Ltd

Director – Accounting and Audit (Aug 1990 – Oct 2000)

CPA Australia is the largest professional association in Australia with over 150,000 members. As the Director – Accounting and Audit, I was responsible for establishing and maintaining an internal consultancy service with a view to:

- Providing technical and policy advice on various accounting, auditing, governance, professional standards and legislative issues to National Council, the Executive Director and various National Committees/Centres of Excellence
- Preparing relevant policy statements and submissions to the appropriate bodies, and
- Assisting in the development and enforcement of accounting, auditing and other professional standards nationally and internationally.

My responsibilities include the following:

- Assisting the AARF in the development of professional standards
- Preparation policy and position statements and submissions to appropriate bodies
- Providing technical advice on professional standards and legislative issues to National Council, the President, Executive Director and National Committees/Centres of Excellence

- Enhancement of the perception of the CPA Australia in relation to the development and enforcement of accounting and auditing standards
- Liaison with the press on accounting, auditing and legislative issues, and
- Assisting members with the interpretation of accounting and auditing standards.

Ernst & Young

Senior Manager – National Accounting and Audit Research (Mar 1989 – July 1990)

Ernst & Young is one of the largest firms of accountants both internationally and in Australia. As a Senior Manager – National Accounting and Auditing Research, I was responsible for providing accounting and auditing advice to the partners and staff of Ernst & Young in addition to research into accounting standards, financial reporting legislation and emerging issues.

The Centre for Professional Development

Corporate Development Director (Aug 1988 – Feb 1989)

The Centre for Professional Development (CPD) (now part of the Thomson group) is a publisher of an extensive range of highly practical and topical loose-leaf subscription services, annual publications, self-study courses, and step-by-step instruction manuals in the fields of accountancy, taxation, finance and business law. As the Corporate Development Director I was responsible for leading and managing the product development and marketing activities of CPD. The PD division is the engine room of CPD being responsible for loose-leaf subscription services, newsletter production, annual publications, seminars, and the Accountant-on-line.

RSM Bird Cameron, Chartered Accountants

National Technical Director (Aug 1986 – Aug 1988)

Bird Cameron is a medium-sized firm of Chartered Accountants, at that time had over sixty offices throughout Australia, 80 partners and approximately 850 staff. The firm is a financial services organisation offering accounting and related financial services to entrepreneurs and investors. As National Technical Director I was responsible for national activities associated with technical advice to staff and clients, quality control, staff training, marketing and specialist client services.

Australian Accounting Research Foundation

Senior Project Manager – Audit (Apr 1983 – Aug 1986)

The Australian Accounting Research Foundation (AARF) was a research organisation jointly funded by the CPA Australia and the ICAA. AARF was responsible for, inter alia: research into accounting, auditing legislation and related issues and preparation of accounting and auditing standards, and statements of auditing practice for the public and private sectors. I was responsible for research and development of auditing projects specifically and assisting in the development of accounting projects in general.

Pannell Kerr Forster, Chartered Accountants

Audit Manager (July 1978 – Apr 1983) Audit Supervisor (July 1977 – June 1978) Audit Senior (July 1976 – June 1977)

Pannell Kerr Forster is a medium-sized firm of Chartered Accountants. I was responsible for administering a designated client portfolio. This involved the effective planning, administration and staffing of engagements, the managing and training of subordinate staff and keeping the partners informed of developments on a timely basis. I led an audit group of fifteen staff including assistant managers, supervisors, seniors and other staff. Major client responsibilities included, Carlton and United Breweries Limited, Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation Limited, T&G Mutual Life Society Limited (now AXA Australia Ltd) and Elders IXL Limited.

Wallace Mc Mullin and Partners, Chartered Accountants

Audit Senior (Jan 1976 to June 1976) Audit Assistant (Jan 1975 to Dec 1976) Audit Trainee (May 1974 to Dec 1974)

Wallace McMullin and Partners was a medium-sized firm of Chartered Accountants specialising in liquidations and receiverships, the firm had a significant audit section during my period of employment and is now incorporated into Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu.
