

**Curriculum Vitae of
the Honourable Sir William Gillow Gibbes Austen YOUNG, KNZM, KC**

1. Personal Background

Sir William Young is a New Zealand citizen. He was born in New Zealand on 14 April 1952. He and his wife now live in Christchurch.

2. Education

Sir William Young was educated at Christ's College, the University of Canterbury and the University of Cambridge. He obtained the degree of Bachelor of Law (with first class honours) at the University of Canterbury in 1974 and the degree of Doctor of Philosophy at the University of Cambridge in 1978.

3. Legal Experience

In 1975, Sir William Young was admitted as a barrister and solicitor of the then Supreme Court (now known as the High Court) of New Zealand. He practised as a barrister and solicitor in the family firm, RA Young Hunter & Co, from 1978 (following his study in Cambridge) until 1988. Between 1988 and 1997, he practised as a barrister. He was appointed Queen's Counsel in 1991. His practice was very general and included crime (defending and also prosecuting for the Serious Fraud Office), competition law and tax (acting mainly for the Commissioner of Inland Revenue).

4. Judicial Experience

Sir William Young became a Judge of the High Court of New Zealand in December 1997. He was appointed a Judge of the Court of Appeal in 2004 and became the President of the Court of Appeal in 2006. In 2010, he was promoted to the Supreme Court of New Zealand¹, New Zealand's final court of appeal, as a Permanent Judge until April 2022

¹ The Supreme Court of New Zealand is the highest court in the judicial system of New Zealand.

(when he reached the statutory retirement age) and as an acting-judge from April 2022 for another two years.

Since his retirement as a Permanent Judge of the Supreme Court of New Zealand, he has sat on the final appellate courts of Seychelles, Samoa and Fiji.

5. Services and Activities related to Law

While in legal practice, Sir William Young participated extensively in the activities of the New Zealand Law Society and served on its Council. He was also President of the Canterbury District Law Society.

As a Judge, Sir William Young was heavily involved in judicial training and education. He was the primary author of Criminal Jury Trials Bench Book published by the Institute of Judicial Studies of the Judiciary of New Zealand.

6. Other Activities

Sir William Young was the chair of the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the terrorist attack on two Christchurch mosques in New Zealand on 15 March 2019 which reported in November 2020.
