Anna Longdill
Auckland

Anna Longdill is this year’s recipient of the New Zealand Law Foundation’s Ethel Benjamin Prize for Women.

The prize commemorates New Zealand’s first female lawyer and is made to outstanding women law graduates from a New Zealand university to help fund post-graduate law studies.

Anna studied at Auckland University and graduated in May with a BSc and LLB (Hons). Her honours dissertation, on the disclosure of rape complainants’ counselling records to the defence in criminal trials, was published in the 2002 Auckland University Law Review. While at university she received a Chapman Tripp Research Scholarship, Prime Minister’s Scholarship and a Freemason’s Undergraduate Scholarship as well as a senior prize in law.

She will put the $30,000 grant from the Law Foundation towards study for an MSc in Criminal Justice at Oxford University in England, beginning in October. The course takes a year to complete.

She has been working as a junior at Shortland Chambers since November 2002 and presently is combining work with attending the professional legal studies course. She hopes to be admitted before leaving for Oxford.

This year’s selection panel comprised NZ Vice-Chancellors Scholarship Committee Convener Professor David Parry, Professor Tony Angelo from Victoria University and Law Foundation representatives Rae Mazengarb and Christine French.