Society News

• New South Wales

The last three months have been rather hectic for the Society.

On 4 July the Society in conjunction with the College of Law is presenting an afternoon seminar entitled "the Computer in Court". For details of the speakers and venue, see page 15. Details of the Society's forthcoming meetings appear on page 23.

The Minister for Trade Negotiations, Neal Blewett has fowarded to the Society a copy of a checklist of issues paper prepared by the GATT Secretariat. A draft agreement on trade related aspects of Intellectual Property Rights has also been forwarded to the Society. Details of the paper are listed on pages 19 to 20. If any members have comments that they wish to forward to the delegation, they should contact the GATT Secretariat.

The Society is now actively seeking student members and contact has been made with a number of Universities. Application forms are available from our Secretary, Connie Carnabuci, Mallesons Stephen Jaques.

You may notice that we have altered our June Newsletter slightly. Our layout and design consultant felt that by having the text in two columns rather than three, it was easier to read. We hope you agree.

• New Zealand

The Society would like to welcome the new Committee members. The 1990 Committee members are Anthony Wong (President), Gavin Adlam (Treasurer), Lisa Holt (Secretary), Phil Shattky, Julia Yeong, Robin Anderson and Ann Deane.

A legal retrieval demonstration was held in April featuring KIWINET legal databases. KIWINET databases contain one of the largest repositories of online legal information in New Zealand. For more information, see page 18.

The Society hosted a forum on protection of computer intellectual property rights and copyright in New Zealand on 30 May. The forum was well attended by computer and legal experts working in the area. The aim of the discussions was to assist the New Zealand Department of Justice in covering the options for computer copyright law reforms. A second forum in July will cover some of the issues raised. The issues include educational copying, parallel importing, term of protection, ownership and protection of computer generated works.

A forum on "Databases. What do you want?" organised for 25 September will provide some ideas and discussions on what databases lawyers and law librarians can access. The forum will include discussions on LAWNET the New Zealand Law Society's electronic mail and gateway products. The gateway provides access to a number of databases using a user friendly menu.