

PUBLISHERS' LIAISON

Greig Williams¹

National Publishers' Liaison Coordinator

Allens Arthur Robinson, Melbourne

Ph: (03) 9613 8851 Fax: (03) 9613 8519

Email: greig.williams@aar.com.au

If you have a comment or query on any of the issues raised below or if you have an outstanding issue you think the Publishers' Liaison Committee might be able to assist with, please contact your State representative. Contact details are located at the end of this column and on the ALLG web site

BUTTERWORTHS

New CEO

Butterworths and LexisNexis are delighted to announce that **Max Piper** has been appointed Chief Executive Officer, Australia. Based in Sydney Max assumes responsibility for the Australian operations in the LexisNexis Group's Asia Pacific region, including Butterworths and LexisNexis.

Max has been with the LexisNexis Group for nearly thirteen years in a variety of management positions. He started with Butterworths Australia as a tax editor and ultimately rose to Publishing Manager for Tax. He next served in a variety of sales and marketing positions before being promoted to Sales and Marketing Director for Butterworths Australia. He was then seconded to the Asia operations in Singapore, followed by a period as Managing Director for India where he established the Butterworths operations.

Max's most recent position was Regional Director for Central and Eastern Europe with management responsibilities for Austria, Switzerland, Italy, Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic.

Previous Butterworths CEO, **Tony Kinnear**, has taken a position with Softlaw.

Free trial of new corporations expert system - CorpX

CorpX is an Australian corporations law compliance tool; the first in Butterworths' LawX range of legal expert systems. The publisher says it is ideal for company secretaries, accountants, corporate counsel, lawyers and anyone responsible for ensuring

¹ We are grateful to Greig who put this column together whilst awaiting the (then) imminent birth of her baby; we thank Thomas William for waiting until she had completed the column; and we wish them both all the joys of a new life. Helen Wallace will be responsible for future columns. *Ed*

compliance with corporations law. It will provide step-by-step guidance through the legislation as well as procedure checklists, sample precedents, prescribed forms and resolutions. It will enable customers to ensure compliance with corporations legislation, complete standard ASIC forms accurately and efficiently, and access the text of the legislation and Butterworths commentary for complete understanding of the issues. CorpX investigative procedures (using SoftLaw's STATUTE Expert technology) ask a series of intelligent questions to help customers navigate through the complexities of corporations law, providing the output needed to achieve compliance.

For a limited time, Butterworths has made a small sample of CorpX procedures (updated to reflect the Corporations Act 2001) available for free evaluation, before the release of the full commercial product later this year. Butterworths welcomes feedback to help ensure the product meets the needs of clients before its commercial launch.

To access CorpX, go to the Butterworths website at www.butterworths.com.au and take the link under 'Latest News'. Direct feedback to corpX@butterworths.com.au.

Butterworths acquires key LawNow assets

Butterworths announced the acquisition of key LawNow assets in mid-July. They

include LawNow Consolidated Legislation (formerly Desktop Law), CaseLine, Forms, Online Legal Thesaurus and the National Law Review. Under the terms of the acquisition, LawNow customers will retain access to Consolidated Legislation and CaseLine services.

The LawNow products will be integrated into Butterworths Online so that subscribers can search for information from a single online source. When added to Butterworths Online, subscribers can access current full-text legislation plus commentary, current legislative change information, current case law, encyclopaedic coverage, research and practice tools and CLE.

Butterworths believes it has filled the last remaining gap in its suite of products with the acquisition of this popular service. LawNow's Legislation service is widely recognised as a key supplier of online legislation covering the full Acts and Regulations for the Commonwealth, New South Wales, Queensland and shortly, Victoria. Butterworths believes the acquisition will eliminate customer need to research legislative material elsewhere.

Butterworths acquires Prospect Media

Extending its reach into the legal-to-business market, Butterworths also announced in July the acquisition of legal and business

publisher, Prospect Media. Butterworths suggests that the acquisition means business customers will have greater access to Prospect Media publications, through the Internet, and that this will make research and knowledge-building more convenient. The publisher says it plans to invest heavily in Prospect Media, ensuring business becomes a development centre for future offerings to expand the product range. Butterworths sales force will be used to support these products and services.

Prospect Media's Managing Director, **Oliver Freeman**, is confident Butterworths can help to strengthen Prospect Media's offering and broaden its distribution avenues. He suggests the acquisition provides Prospect Media with the opportunity to move into the next stage of development; expansion of its online offerings. Prospect Media subscribers will be able to select electronic versions of publications and have greater access to information links and databases as a result of the acquisition.

CCH

Web-only subscriptions now available

CCH Australia is offering clients the option of subscribing to a range of subscription services in a Web-only format. This is designed to give clients the flexibility to

receive the relevant information in the media format that best suits their needs. Existing print subscriptions will continue as normal, with special pricing offers to be made available for those clients seeking to subscribe to both print and online services. Subscription services provided on CD will also continue as normal. The web-only subscriptions have commenced on a wide range of products across the entire CCH Australia range and can be accessed through www.cch.com.au.

New CCH web portal

CCH Australia recently launched a brand new web portal at www.cch.com.au. This allows users to find the latest source information, analysis, commentary, solutions and tools available on the Internet.

Free daily email legal alerts are also available and keep users up to date with the CCH WebGuide. The CCH WebGuide is a new service where CCH Australia provides editorial reviews and links to the best and most relevant free information currently available on the Internet. The WebGuide will be continually updated and access is free to all registered users of the CCH website.

Looseleaf currency concern: CCH Australian Workers' Compensation Guide
Julie Fisher, the Publishers' Liaison representative for the Northern Territory,

reports on members concern regarding the currency of a range of provisions in the AWCG looseleaf service. CCH editorial staff have been made aware of this problem and the PLC is awaiting a response, but meanwhile users of the service should be aware of this problem. Julie offers the following as an example: paragraphs 4-000 to 4-700 have not been updated in the majority of instances since 1984. As these paragraphs deal with the general entitlement provisions common to most of the legislation this is a concern. This means for example that paragraph 4-100 which states the 'current test' for an injury 'arising out of employment' (one of the base tests for entitlement to workers compensation) is incorrect because the High Court restated (and altered) the principles for the test in a case called *Hatzimanolis* in 1992. The case is referred to under the NSW tab but not in the general tab where it should also be located.

RMIT PUBLISHING

New product – AGIS Plus Text

This new product provides access to 400+ legal journals from Australia and other selected international law journals via the Attorney General's Office. The selected full text will come in a PDF format as a direct copy of the journal article with URL links. The intended market includes universities,

government departments, the legal profession and the corporate sector.

In June, RMIT Publishing invited interested parties to assist in finding a name for the new product. The publisher reports that the response was great with many people submitting several suggestions, although gaining trade mark clearance proved to be a challenge. The most popular name submitted was LawFull Text with other notable suggestions being Legal Ease and Legal Matters. However, according to **Paul Dourlay**, RMIT Publishing AGIS Plus Text stood up to both trade mark clearance and popular opinion. The first entry close to AGIS Plus Text was submitted by **John Neuhas** from Knowledge Management in NSW whose choice was AGISPlus. John received six bottles of red wine for his contribution.

Beta testing of AGIS Plus Text is expected in August-September 2001. Contact Paul Dourlay on telephone (03) 9925 8212 for further information.

THOMSON/LAWBOOK

Lack of price list for online products

ALLG members have raised concerns that while price lists are available for hard copy law and tax products via a published catalogue and the new online catalogue

www.lawbookco.com.au, there is no apparent price list for online products, e.g. Lawbook Online and Westlaw. The web site section 'Lawbook Online's Research Titles' describes products but prices are only available on application. The lack of a founding price list for customer referral gives rise to an unfortunate perception among ALLG members that the publisher could be making up prices as it goes, so to speak. As a comparison, both Butterworths and CCH provide at least base prices for their online offerings.

Deanna Lane, Marketing Director, Asia Pacific at Thomson, offers the following in response to this issue:

...our Lawbook Online subscriptions have been tailored specifically to customers needs depending on which products they wish to include in their subscriptions and therefore the prices may differ according to different needs. Pricing may also include site licences which will vary according to the size of the firm and how many sites/users are accessing product.

While clearly each potential customer has differing requirements based on their product needs, the number of sites and the number of users, many members of the ALLG would like to see all publishers, including Thomson/Lawbook, make their base price list available to the profession so that customers at least have a starting point to work from.

The Publishers' Liaison Committee will continue to discuss this issue with Thomson/Lawbook in order to reach a resolution

Lawbook Online's Research Titles

Thomson/Lawbook recently launched a campaign for Lawbook Online which commenced with the research suite of products. Customers have eagerly awaited the availability of many of Lawbook's products in online format so it is good to see a significant number of products now becoming available. The Australian Case Citator PLUS, Australian Digest, Australian Legal Monthly Digest, Commonwealth Law Reports, Federal Law Reports, The Laws of Australia and the Commonwealth, New South Wales and Western Australian legislation are all listed on the site as being available in online format. For further information click on the jigsaw piece on the www.lawbookco.com.au site to take you through to the online product details.

New Sales Director – Asia Pacific

Scott Mooney, formerly Sales Director for the Asia Pacific, has completed his two year period with Thomson Legal & Regulatory in Australia. Scott has returned to Thomson's head office in the U.S. He is replaced by **John Belleville**, who is the former Regional Sales Manager for Victoria.

TIMEBASE

Legislation with Case Link upgrade

TimeBase has announced a massive upgrade of the *Legislation with Case Link* online service. Some of the features are:

- **Legislation Alert Service.** This is available online and as a weekly email service. It includes assent, notification and commencement details for Acts and Regulations as they are passed, proclaimed, amended and repealed. Seven jurisdictions are included, extending back to 1998;
- **Clearer layout and design** making navigation easier;

- Improved functionality for the Table of Contents;
- Searching across seven jurisdictions; and
- Help tours to show how to get the most out of the product.

www.timebase.com.au/tour

TimeBase Newsletter

TimeBase has a free monthly publication called *TimeBase Newsletter* which includes articles, research materials and information about TimeBase products. To subscribe send an email to newsletter@timebase.com.au with the word 'Subscribe' in the subject field.

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PUBLISHERS' LIAISON COMMITTEE STATE REPRESENTATIVES

The ALLG and PLC thank Christine Hawke (ACT), Jennifer Jordan and Sue Green (Qld), Lorna Hartwell (SA), Greig Williams (Vic.) and Monica Smith (WA) for their contributions as State PLC representatives and welcomes each of the new State representatives aboard.

Australian Capital Territory

Rosemary Castle

Federal Court of Australia

Ph: (02) 6267 0603 Fax: (02) 6267 0508

Email: actlib@fedcourt.gov.au

South Australia

Jenny D'Arcy

Supreme Court Library

Ph: (08) 8204 0491 Fax: (08) 8204 0461

Email: jenny.darcy@courts.sa.gov.au

New South Wales

Jan Robertson

Commonwealth DPP

Ph. (02) 9321 1285 Fax: (02) 9264 8224

Email: j.robertson@cdpp.gov.au

Tasmania

Merrilyn Evans

Commonwealth Law Courts Library

Ph: (03) 6232 1779 Fax: (03) 6232 1887

Email: merrilyn.evans@aat.gov.com.au

Northern Territory

Julie Fisher

NT Attorney General's Library

Ph: (08) 8999 7372 Fax: (08) 8999 7130

Email: julie.fisher@nt.gov.au

Victoria

Angela Jenkins

Macpherson & Kelley

Ph: (03) 9794 2682 Fax: (03) 9794 2560

Email: angela.jenkins@mk.com.au

Queensland

Claudia Rank

Legal Aid Queensland

Ph: (09) 3238 3350 Fax (07) 3238 3340

Email: library@legalaid.qld.gov.au

Western Australia

Andrew Lavender

W.A. Bar Association Library

Ph: (08) 9220 0558 Fax: (08) 9325 9111

Email: alavender@francisburt.com.au