

Profile

on

Rob Davis

BY GEOFF COATES, BALLARAT

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"Everything about APLA is important. It is a bastion for preservation of the rights and liberties of ordinary Australians."

APLA National Vice President



Age: 45 years

Practice and Work:

Managing Partner at Atwood Marshall, Lawyers.

Practises in:

Product liability, SCUBA litigation, school bus litigation and medical malpractice.

Outside Interests:

"I had only recently rediscovered that I had outside interests. I now know they are my family, horses, rock climbing, sketching, designing D-Base applications, swimming and running and occasionally writing for text books and law journals. I proudly state that I have never been interested in gardening, do not mow lawns, do not clean cars, do not watch any sports (except rugby union which I played until I was too old to do it anymore) and I utterly detest cricket and tennis (which I feel are an infernal punishment visited on those who have too much time and too high boredom thresholds). Past interests, which are out of the question now because of my age and other demands on my time are surfing and SCUBA diving.

Schooling:

Correspondence on a property in remote Western Queensland until Grade 6, then St. Brendan's Catholic Boarding School at Yeppoon until Grade 9, then boarding at a hostel in Longreach while attending Longreach State High School for a year, then (when family went broke after four generations on the property where we lived) moved to Miami State High on the Goldcoast. There I was introduced to the joys of surfing, girls and late night parties which is why I turned out like I did, twisted.

Career:

Partner at Attwood Marshall, Lawyers for 20 years. In that time I have practised in crime, family law, commercial litigation and personal injuries work. Admitted to practice after 5 years articulated. Since then I have obtained Bachelor of Social Sciences (Psychology) and two Master of Laws, one in "Corporate and Commercial Law". I have served on various committees for different groups. I was a member of the first Queensland Law Society Personal Injury Specialist Accreditation Committee, founding member of APLA,

past Secretary and immediate past President for APLA Queensland, member of QLS Accident Compensation Committee, was a founding member of the Queensland Workers Rights Coalition. I am the Australian Governor of ATLA.

I received the 1998 APLA Civil Justice Award for work in improving school bus safety for kids.

What is important about APLA:

Everything about APLA is important. It is a bastion for preservation of the rights and liberties of ordinary Australians. It fights for the respect of the rule of law. It seeks to preserve the unique rights and freedoms that ordinary people enjoy at common law, rights and freedoms that are constantly under threat of erosion by politicians, who as Oscar Wilde once said "know the price of everything, but the value of nothing".

Where you would like to see APLA in 10 years:

The largest Law Association in Australia with overwhelming political influence in its lobbying activities. I would like to see an APLA member as Australian President!

What are you going to do about getting us there?

Slogging away like everyone else in APLA against the common enemy (apathy).

What is the single most important thing for you right now?

My family.

Favourite music:

I like strong female singers, like Annie Lennox, the Cranberries, Marianne Faithfull, Aretha Franklin. I also like good music with social meaning, such as Midnight Oil and U2. I like rhythmic head banging music like The Cure. I like classical when it is done well, particularly Pachibell, Mozart and Vivaldi. I also like Gilbert & Sullivan. I like Chris Isaaks, Roy Orbison, Elvis Presley and I loved Talking Heads (I have nearly every disk). I do not have any favourites, I listen according to my mood. 