

Editorial

New Look Journal

Welcome to the first of the "new look" Young Lawyers Journals for 1996. The journal's "face lift" includes photographs, new type face and "artistic" content, thanks to our resident graphic designer and committee member, Trevor Choy. This is just a taste of what the journal could look like. By making the journal more glossy we hope to attract ongoing sponsorship and keep up the standard set by this issue! Hopefully, this will translate into a more enjoyable experience for you - the reader.

Thanks Anna!

Many thanks to Anna Domine, Chair of the Editorial Committee during 1995. Anna's hard work and enthusiasm for the journal encouraged the rest of us to keep coming up with new ideas and make the journal even better! It is an indication of Anna's commitment that she has been replaced by two people! Anna remains a member of the Committee for 1996.

Pro bono Submission

Our cover story concerns the adoption by the Council of the Law Institute of the pro bono submission "Bridging the Gap". This will see a pro bono referral register set up to help address the need in the community for free or reduced fee legal advice.

The adopted submission also deals with developing a greater pro bono ethic in the profession. So please, read on!

Minimum Wage Case

Some of you will know that the hearing in the Employee Relations Commission continued in February. Young Lawyers have been represented at the hearing, and Elizabeth Bishop has been negotiating with the employer group on the issue of minimum wages for articulated clerks and junior solicitors. However at the time of printing, negotiations with the employer groups have not resulted in any agreement.

The hearing resumed on 27 February. Young Lawyers made its own submission, independent of the employer group and Australian Services Union submissions. As this is an important issue which will affect most young lawyers, the Young Lawyers Section will keep its members fully informed of further developments as they come to hand.

In addition to all this, the journal has a heap of articles on different topics which may be of interest to you.

Bon Appetit,
Glen Pauline & Vicki Bolton

Chair's Report


I usually don't read introductions or messages from the chair at the beginning of legal publications, so having read this far you're doing better than I ever have.

activities and projects. The following is just a sample of some of those enterprises:

- A pro bono referral scheme, linking lawyers with clients in need of legal assistance, which was recently approved by the Law Institute Council and should be running this year.
- The Fun Run, late last year, which had over 300 registrations.
- The Young Lawyers ball, which was attended by a less health conscious 300 or so people (judging by the bar tab for the night)
- Representation of members' interests at the Employee Relations Commission and negotiating with employers over the proposed minimum wages decision.
- Two conferences on Multimedia, the Internet and the law, which were well attended and reasonably priced.
- The ever popular lecture series, which has given countless young practitioners, myself included, access to some fountains of practical legal knowledge in the profession.

The enthusiastic and energetic people that made the above activities possible are still giving their time and energy to make sure Young Lawyers continues to be a viable and valuable organisation into the future, we hope we can count on your support.

Jason Newman
Chair, Executive Committee
Young Lawyers Section



You are now holding the result of our deliberate grab for attention, the new Young Lawyers Journal. One of the reasons for this subtle marketing exercise is the new changes to the Law Institute that everyone with a practising certificate (and even those with forged ones!) can't have failed to notice. Like all the sections of the Institute, the Young Lawyers will have to justify their existence in the new deregulated environment. We are hoping that by making this publication more attractive we can get some advertising, sorry 'sponsorship' for both the

Journal and some of the other projects Young Lawyers undertake.

The other effect we hope to have is to raise awareness of Young Lawyers actually does and attract/keep members for the uncertain fiscal future we face.

The Young Lawyers have been and are involved in many varied