

Editorial

Technology and the Law

Are you electronically challenged? Don't know the difference between a CD Rom and a CD player? Well this might just be the edition of the Journal to keep on your shelf for times of crisis. Some might think that the juxtaposition of 'Technology' and 'the Law' is just a poor attempt at trying to be humorous. But we assure you - this edition is no laughing matter! A broad spectrum of articles have been included to interest both the beginner and guru computer user. From copyright developments and electronic banking to internet jargon (to make you sound like you're an experienced surfer), it's all here!

Young Australian of the Year Awards

On another note, if you know of a Young Lawyer who has made an outstanding contribution to the community and has shown initiative and exhibited leadership, you might like to consider nominating that person (or even yourself!) for the Young Australian of the Year (for Victoria) Awards. Category winners from the Victorian program automatically qualify as finalists for the National Awards. Please telephone 9874 5455 if you would like more information about the Awards.

Kino Cinema double passes

Congratulations to Emma Fitzsimons and Paul Wong, who won the double passes to any movie at Kino Cinemas by correctly identifying Pablo Neruda as the Chilean poet that won the 1971 Nobel Prize for Literature.

Career Seminars

The Law Institute of Victoria in association with Leo Cussen Institute present a two part seminar series designed for members of the legal profession, articled clerks and law students.

Career Planning	Wednesday, 1 October 1997
Career Essentials	Wednesday, 8 October 1997

For more information and to register, contact Young Lawyers' Section on 9607 9389.

Glen Pauline & Sharne Bryan

Chair's Report

Mid-year Review

We had our mid-year reviews recently at work. That exercise prompted us to think about how closely the Young Lawyers Section has adhered to our stated aims at the start of the year. As a section, we had three major goals for the year. For the sake of those who may have forgotten they were:

- implement the pro bono referral scheme;
- raise the level of debate on constitutional and republican issues; and
- explore ways to link up more with other young lawyer sections interstate.

Here's an update of where we are at:

Pro bono referral scheme:

We hope you have returned the survey forms which were sent out to every practitioner to gauge the level of interest in such a scheme. The results of the survey are being analysed and a report is being prepared for Council's consideration. The indications are that there is a high degree of support for such a scheme and we plan to present the results to Council later this year. Perhaps the most memorable response was from Mr Tom Molomby, senior partner of Molomby & Molomby. Tom thought it was a great idea and he would have no hesitation in doing it if only he was twenty years younger! It's never too late Tom.

The republic:

The Editorial Committee are to be congratulated on the high quality of this journal particularly the last issue devoted to republican and constitutional issues. The quality of the articles in that issue were first-rate and it is an example of what this journal can and should be: a forum for the voice of young lawyers.

Making links:

We had the pleasure of recently hosting a delegation from the Young Lawyers section of the Law Society of New South Wales. They are hard at work planning for the International Young Lawyers Conference to be held at Sydney in 1998. The existence of an International Young Lawyers Association emphasises the need for us to think in more national terms. Already, we are investigating ways in which we could learn more from one another's experience. A particularly relevant issue is how as young lawyers we should be responding to the proposal to introduce nationally uniform entry requirements into the profession.

All in all not a bad report card but as ever there is more to be done. So many things are happening with the move to voluntary Institute membership and the possibility of fees for section membership that it will make for a busy second half of the year. If it was up to us, we'd give the section a pay rise! Would you?

Phoebe Dunn/Vu Tien Vy
Joint Chairs