

# Retrospective

# Young Lawyers Journal – A Photographic Retrospective

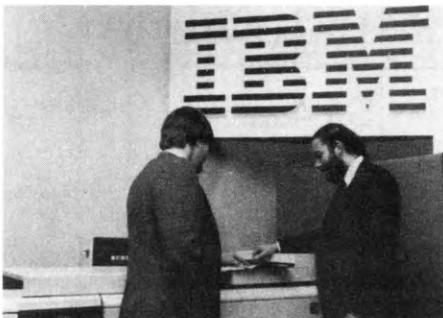
**Julie Barkla, Wisewoulds Solicitors and Sophie Doyle,  
Eugenia Mitrakas & Co**

There is a tremendous amount of fun to be had with some cool refreshments and 20 odd past editions of the Young Lawyers Journal. We can thoroughly recommend the early eighties editions for pure eloquence, elegance and class.

Perhaps the most striking aspect of a small stack of eighties Young Lawyers Journal is their obsession with second-hand dictaphones. Every second page is a full page ad. How can this be economically viable you may ask? One ad by "Dictaphone (the original)" brags that they have a "Showroom Open Saturday Morning"! What's going on here? Were these things the price of a small car? Maybe we really are talking about the days when mobile phones cost \$6000 and wouldn't pass for hand luggage.

Evidence of the computer age generally in outdated Young Lawyers Journal is a source of some mirth. A June 1985 edition proudly informs us that the Victorian court system now has four computers ("micro computers" no less). These four souped-up abaci appear to have been purchased at the bargain price of \$645,000. Marvellous.

Photocopiers also feature prominently. In one edition they are in fact the centrefold. Their size can only be rivalled on Get Smart as can be seen below, with humans with comb-overs indicating scale.



The accompanying article challenges "Have you ever paused amid the environs of your computerized, technologically oriented office to consider life as a solicitor towards the end of the last century?". The truth is – no, but I have paused amid the environs of my office to consider life as a rock star / supermodel / sex God – does that count?

We have to honestly say that the prospect of doing a retro piece on an eighties magazine raised our hopes rather high of finding evidence of some outdated and rather offensive gender politics. In this respect the Young Lawyers Journal was surprisingly well-mannered. Sure there were a few ordinary performances, but all in all, not much to speak of. If your hair isn't curled by the following then stick to old re-runs of Benny Hill, as this is pretty much all the eighties version of Young Lawyers Journal has to offer:

*"Eleven volunteer firemen, including a woman, perished in this truck at Upper Beaconsfield"* (please ignore the necessary bad taste of including this one): Vol 1, No 1, 1983, page 9

It wouldn't be right if a section of this retro wasn't dedicated to all those past and present Articled Clerks who have received a sit-down from Partners warning them not to comment on the Articles wage because "In my day, we were given tuppence to travel from Ballarat to Melbourne each day and an additional sixpence to feed ourselves for the week" We found the below in an April 1985 edition. Hmm.

AVERAGE TOTAL ANNUAL REMUNERATION				
No. Years Working as a Lawyer	Responses from each year	Average	Cash	Allowance
Less than 1 Year	21	\$10,977	\$10,701	\$ 276
1-2 Years	22	\$17,600	\$17,124	\$ 476
2-3 Years	16	\$21,620	\$20,606	\$1,014
3-4 Years	20	\$25,911	\$24,919	\$ 992
4-5 Years	18	\$27,889	\$26,756	\$1,133
More than 5 Years	9	\$32,840	\$31,033	\$1,807

## Fun Run

### Solicitors take Berkeley Boot

Phillip Price of Clements Hutchins survived 36 degree heat and a strong field of runners to set the fastest time in the 1983 Young Lawyers sponsored Legal Niner Fun Run around Albert Park Lake shortly prior to Christmas. Price ran the 9 kilometre journey in 33.01 minutes to collect the winning tankard from Sir Murray McInerney.

He finished just ahead of Tim Henderson from Harwood, Pincott & Co., of Geelong, the winner of the 30-36 age group in a time of 33.12 minutes. Michael O'Bryan from

Blake & Riggall finished third and Andrew Ramsay from the Bar was fourth.

The other age group winners were: Richard Foley (36-40), Nick Galante (41-50), Judge Eugene Cullity (over 50) and Debbie Borger (fastest woman). Debbie completed the 9 kilometre run in 39.59 minutes.

Phillip, Fox and Masel won the teams event after Peter Rashleigh, Michael Cain and Alan Walsh finished in the leading group of competitors.

Judge Cullity defeated his fellow brethren, Mr. Justice Gray, Judge Byrne and Judge Dyett to win the trophy for the fastest judge as well as the over 50 age group.

The Hartog Berkeley Boot for competition between the Bar and the Law Institute was convincingly won by the Law Institute again this year.



Select a caption: Sir Murray McInerney looking concerned about Mr. Justice Gray after the Fun Run. Send your entries to Jenny Trevitt at the Law Institute.

And what did happen to those crazy Lawyers for Disarmament? Their primary objective was to "educate the legal profession about the threat of nuclear war and advise and represent those directly affected by nuclear issues". Well we guess Melbourne didn't offer much scope, maybe they're re-located to the sub-continent.

In other matters there were a number of contenders for our most amusing heading. It's pretty hard to go past "A Crab Claw for a B.M.W" for clarity and relevance, but heck, if you're offering... We also particularly liked "Your Will IS the Way!". Last time we checked it was the way we left our stuff to our parents, but maybe it's also the way to inner fulfilment and serenity and we're not giving it sufficient credit. Or perhaps, "Where There's A WILL

*There's A Way To Combat Asthma*: Vol 1, No 2, 1983, page 1. We're going to have to reassess this whole will thing.

Aah, yes, so few magazines and yet so many comedic pearls. What about this one ... Grattan Gunson was in the County Court, making his opening address to Judge Moore, who was slightly deaf.

*Gunson* – "At this stage there was an unseemly fracas in the kitchen."

*Judge* – "A what, Mr Gunson?"

*Gunson* – "A fracas, Your Honour" (pronouncing it Fracah)

*Judge* – "Would you spell it please?"

*Gunson* – "F.R.A.C.A.S."

*Judge* – (Anglicising the word) – "Oh, you mean FRAKE-US"

*Gunson* – (with a tolerant air) – "May it please your Honour. I forgot that I was in the County Court".

Who needs Benny Hill?

But most amusing commentary goes to a paragraph in a piece entitled "Innocent Until Proven Guilty?" (Vol 1, No 6, 1983, pg 2) in which Pentridge's Jika Jika was described as having "individual cells with comfortable beds ... and a large outdoor recreation yard." We have had the experience of tramping out to Pentridge since it's been opened, and it looks about as roomy and luxurious as a shoebox would to a doberman.

Winning eighties quote is a toss up between:

### Walsh v. V.F.L – February – Mr. Justice Woodward

Neil McPhee, QC, to Richmond Football Club general manager, in football transfer case:

Most teams who are low on the ladder tend to have a three-year plan, or a five-year plan don't they? Except for Collingwood last year, who had a five-minute plan?

– just for its timelessness; and –

### R v. Bond – April – Judge Forrest

Some discussion about the transcript.

QC: I don't think that was said, your honour, unless I went to sleep during my learned friend's cross-examination.

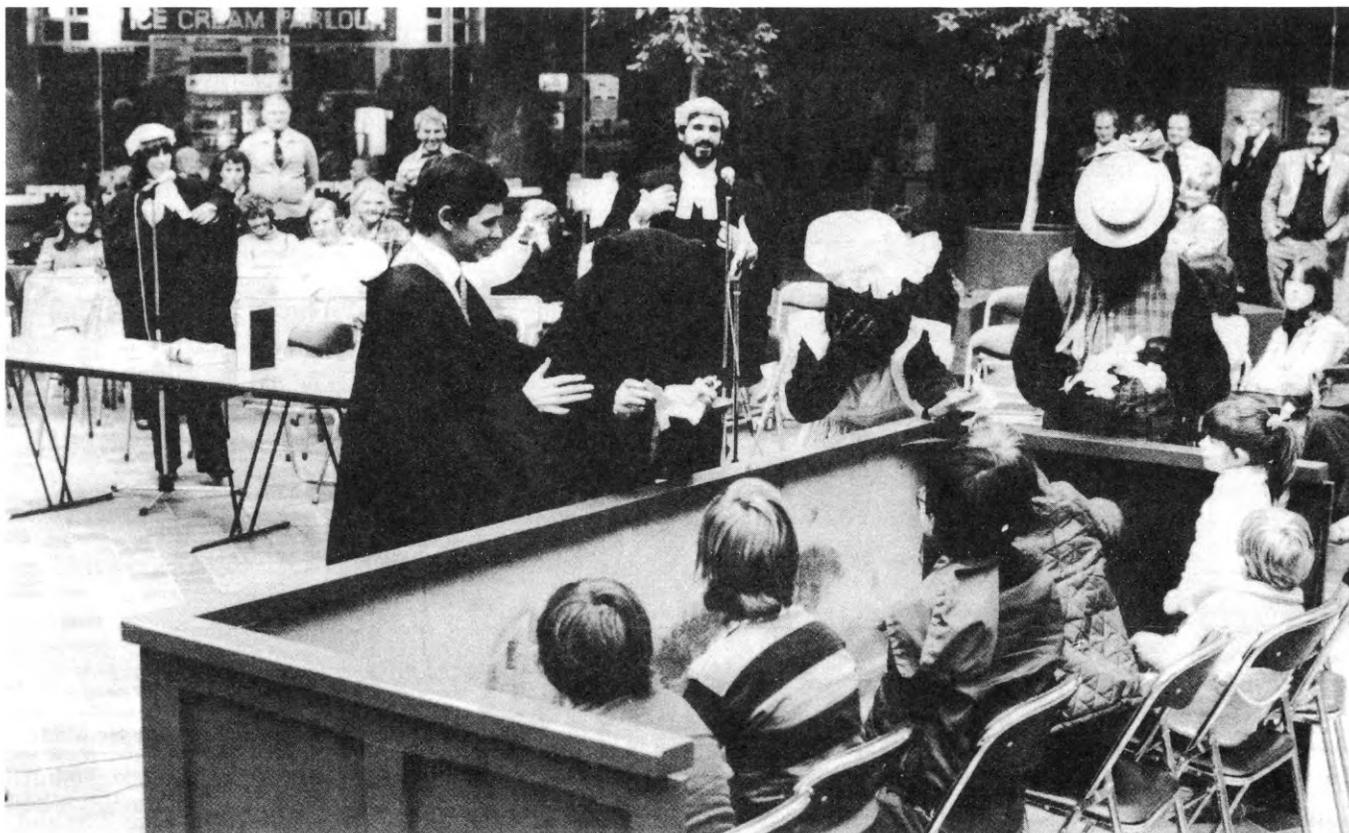
Judge Forrest: You couldn't have done that: that is the prerogative of the judicial bench.

– also for its timelessness.

# Retrospective .....



While part of the caption read "The seminars were well attended and attracted considerable interest from the students", we're still – magnifying glass in hand 'Where's Wally' style – trying to spot the interested student.



Humphrey B Bear QC looks on as Mrs Bear uses emotive tactic a la The Practice to influence an impressionable jury.

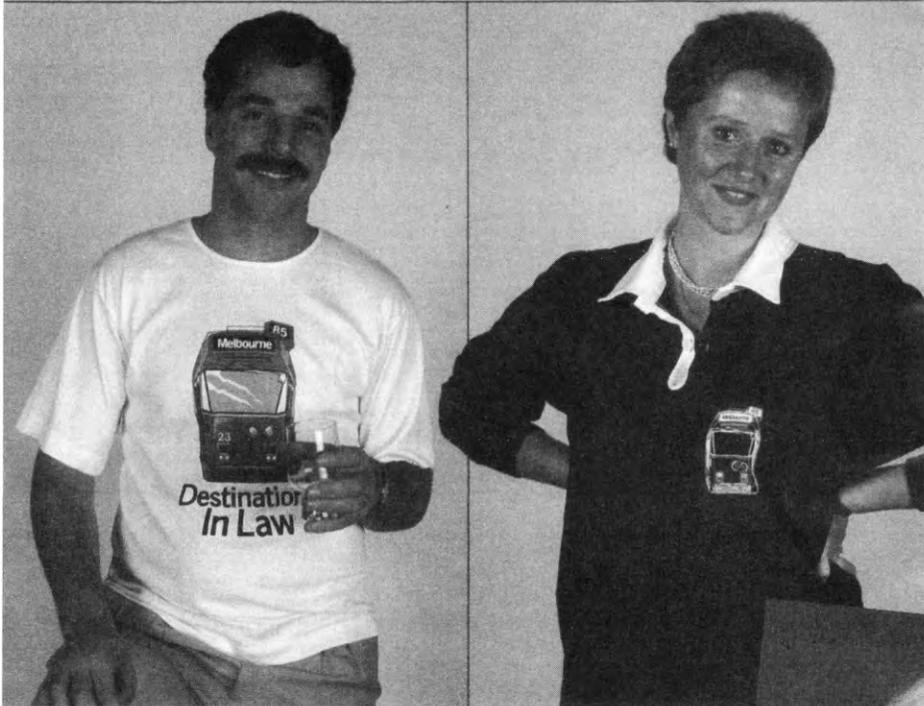


What about lunch???

## Abolish Articles says Assembly

Great idea. Do away with First and Second year while you're at it.

# So you were wondering what you could pick up at the Australian Legal Convention?



Mr. Peter Szabo, May lecturer.

Oh Yeah! We know it cannot be proved, but we're voting that that tie is technicolor.

This one had to get a run just for its sheer relevance.

Well with that fabulous tram motif – yes of course we were. Ties, glasses and assorted ruby jumpers (do some of you feel uncomfortable?) all with a tram on the left breast. Direct all enquiries to the Law Institute.



Our sentiments exactly.



Mr. Ian Dunn, first Chairman of the Section.

Oh Yeah! Curiosity Show? Anyone, anyone....

