

professional development

committee report



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JANE LIBBIS

2000 is going to be a busy year in Professional Development!

Young Professional Network

The first event for the year, the Young Professional Network cocktail evening, was co-hosted by the Law Institute together with the Australian Institute of Banking & Finance, the Leo Cussen Graduate Association, the Institute of

Entry into the Mooting Competition is limited. The entry fees, which are donated to Hanover Welfare Services, are as follows:

- Firms with more than 40 solicitors: \$2,500 per team.
- Firms with 20-40 solicitors: \$1,500 per team
- Firms with less than 20 solicitors: \$1,000 per team

Payment of the entry fee is required to secure a position in the competition. There is a maximum of one team per firm. A firm or sole practitioner may enter a team in conjunction with solicitors from another practice (entry fee pro-rata).

To enter a team, please contact Darren Hogeboom at the Law Institute on 9607 9385. For more information contact Richard Kervin, Chair, Young Lawyers' Section on 9634 7062 or Mary Pearce, Hanover Welfare Services, on 9699 6388.

Chartered Accountants and the Property Council of Australia. The evening was held on 16 March at Manchester Lane Jazz Club with a talk by Naomi Milgrom, CEO of the Sussan group of companies. It was a very successful night, providing valuable insight on how to succeed in business and an opportunity for contact with other young professionals from the finance, accounting and property sectors. The next YPN event will be held on Thursday 15 June and will feature a talk by David Gold, CEO of dstore.com.

Annual Lecture Series

The Young Lawyers Section annual lecture series kicks off on Tuesday 4 April 2000, with a session lead by Suresh Senathirajah, barrister, on Drafting & Understanding Pleadings.

All of this years lectures will run from 6:00pm -7:00pm in the Snail n Bottle Restaurant at the Law Institute. The series will run weekly, every Tuesday night until 14 November and is an excellent way for young practitioners to obtain a concise and inexpensive run-down on a variety of fundamental practise areas. The cost is \$30.00 before 1 July 2000. Come to one lecture, or come to the series.

Weekend Conference at Hepburn Springs

On 13 May, the Professional Development Committee will host a Young Lawyer conference in the country, to be held at Balinzona Grange in Hepburn Springs. See the advertisement in this edition of the journal and the enclosed brochure for details.

Hanover Mooting Competition

The Hanover Mooting Competition will be held on Thursday evenings at the

Supreme Court, Banco Court from 6:00pm -7:30pm between 1 June and 10 August, with the Grand Final on 24 August 2000. The event was a great success last year with the proceeds going to Hanover Welfare Services. Hanover is a leading non-denominational welfare agency and each day it assists over 450 people through the provision of meals, accommodation, financial counselling, medical assistance, work skills and employment placement. To enter a team contact Darren Hogeboom at the Law Institute on 9634 7062 or Mary Pearce at Hanover Welfare Services on 9699 6388. This event can be enjoyed by all members and their friends and family.

ADR Skills Workshop

On 15 September and 13 October 2000, the Young Lawyers Professional Development Committee, in conjunction with the Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee, will hold a Negotiation Skills workshop at VCAT. We highly recommend your attendance as it will assist in saving you and your clients' time and money.

Other Events

Later in the year there will be another series of information technology seminars, together with more social functions. The committee is also focusing on a "Healthy Balance" campaign for lawyers this year.

All in all, a busy year, with the opportunity for practitioners from all firms - big or small, city, suburban or country, to find something to suit their practice and areas of interest.

Anthony Beck-Godoy
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*Professional Development Committee
Co-Chairs*