

volunteers guide 2001

By Selina Sawaya, Russell Kennedy and Community Issues Committee

In 1997, the Young Lawyers Community Issues Committee put together a *Volunteers Guide*. The guide is a list of community organisations requiring the services of legal and non-legal volunteers.

The current committee has just completed updating the *Volunteers Guide* and the updated guide is now available. The guide can be accessed on the LIV website by going to: www.liv.asn.au/sections/younglawyers/about-Publicat.html

The guide lists a number of legal and non-legal community organisations. The guide is user-friendly as it provides a brief outline of the type of work required of volunteers, the time commitment involved and the name of a contact person to speak to. At

the beginning of the guide, there is a listing of the organisations by alphabetical order, by location and by specialisation.

Many of the organisations rely heavily on volunteers in order to provide their service to clients. A large number of clients that use the services do not have easy access to legal advice and assistance, either due to socio-economic factors or language barriers. Usually, the community organisation is their first point of contact when seeking legal advice.

Apart from providing legal advice to clients, many of the organisations take part in community legal education, play a part in law reform and provide community information and referrals.

For young practitioners wanting to get involved in community work but who are not sure of how to get started, the guide is a great starting point. For those of you concerned about fitting voluntary work into a busy working life, you will be pleased to know that many of the organisations provide a night service so that you can volunteer after working hours.

Voluntary work is an invaluable way to contribute to your local community, to make numerous legal and non-legal contacts, to provide advice in your area of legal expertise, or alternatively to gain experience in an area of law that interests you.

For any queries, please contact Jacqui Boymal on 9607 9379 or Selina Sawaya on 9609 1580.

get fit for Summer

Young Lawyers' Running & Power Walking Group



By Abby Thorbecke (Robert Walters) and Philippa Moorfield (Baker & McKenzie),
Co-chairs of the Social Committee

This year saw the Young Lawyers' Social Committee kick off its new initiative designed to try to keep members fit and healthy as well as providing the ever popular quarterly drinks evenings, comedy debate and social get togethers.

With this new initiative came the Young Lawyers' Running and Power Walking Club. The idea is to provide any person in the legal profession, including secretaries, paralegals, partners etc with an opportunity to get out doors, meet new people and get fit and healthy in the process.

The first session was held on 21 June 2001 and since then the club has been constantly changing and developing to meet the different needs of all of its members. There are currently over 60 members of the club, including 12 walkers and 50 runners. Unfortunately not all of these members can make it down to each training session but we hope that the club can come up with some new and innovative measures to increase participation. Also, with the onset of summer and daylight savings we are confident that we can increase the group attendance even further.

The club is proudly sponsored by Henry Bucks Department store and a monthly prize has been kindly donated in order to encourage members to come along to as many sessions as they can. The winner of

the monthly prize is announced in our monthly e-mail newsletter which contains details of upcoming fun runs and events, as well as providing some handy training tips from our personal trainer, Tory Trewitt.

This club is open to people of all ages and fitness levels and, is a fantastic way to get

to know some new people, or just to kick start that fitness regime you have been putting off. We train near the city and the length and intensity of your session is entirely up to you. Whether you want a hard training session to sweat out the stresses of the day, or a light session to chat with others about how unreasonable

your boss is, then this is the club for you!

Please contact Philippa Moorfield (philippa.moorfield@bakernet.com) if you would like any further details about our club and the training times and places. We look forward to seeing you all out there soon.

Young Lawyers' Assembly

17 November 2001 – Lindenderry Estate, Red Hill

By Jacqui Boymal, Manager, Young Lawyers' Section

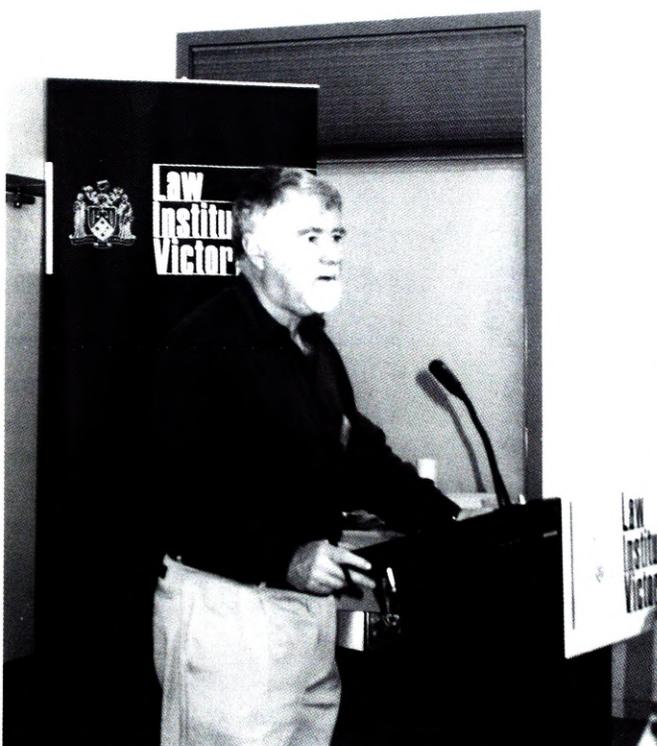
It is hard to concentrate when you are surrounded by 30 acres of rolling gardens and vineyards. This was the distracting backdrop of this year's Young Lawyers' Annual Assembly. Young Lawyers' Section Committee members and special guests of the Section, escaped to the tranquillity of Red Hill to discuss some of the pressing issues and concerns shared by Victorian Young Lawyers.

Discussions focused on how to make continuing legal education more accessible to junior practitioners in regional areas, working conditions and the future direction of the Victorian legal profession.

However, as the day progressed some minds were off dreaming of the myriad of wineries just down the road and indulging in a 'post Assembly' massage.

Amidst all of the heated discussions and intense brainstorming sessions shared at the Assembly, we all found time to sample some of the local wines and cheeses, breath in some fresh air and shake a tail feather or two into the evening with our own private DJ.

After immersing ourselves in the beauty Red Hill, we didn't want to come home.



IAN DUNN, CEO LAW INSTITUTE OF VICTORIA.



GEORGINA COSTELLO AND ANNA STEWART.