

Editorial



By Lucy Davis, Solicitor and Andrea Drobnik, Solicitor, Editors 2004

This edition of the Young Lawyers Journal, the second for the year, is focused on the law and matters affecting young lawyers at national level. We intend to complement the first edition, which focused on state issues, by looking at some issues in a broader context. In the third edition, we will broaden the focus again and look at international issues.

There are a lot of topical issues currently facing Australia, responding to world events as well as local events. We have articles which look at some of these issues – for example, the article by Gustav Lanyi regarding amendments to *Criminal Code* which introduce some arguably draconian rules in regard to members of declared terrorist organisations. We have also included an analysis of the progress of the Australian case concerning the airlines and deep vein thrombosis.

Some of your colleagues have given their views on how the national legal system should be developing, both in the area of industrial relations and qualification for legal practice. This is food for thought and may lead you to consider whether there are aspects related to your practice that could be better dealt with at a national level.

For those whose practice is affected by federal law, the new *Spam Act*, *Designs Act* and *Family Court Rules* mean new legislation to familiarise yourself with. Fortunately for you, we have included articles which provide overviews of the major changes.

For those of you considering a career change within the law, check out the organisation focus on the National Australia Bank which looks at the working life of an in-house lawyer or, if you want to move interstate, some of your many questions will be answered by our Career Doctor. You may also be



inspired by the interviews with Professor Baxt and Georgie Costello – two practising lawyers who have contributed to society.

See if you fit the stereotype in Antonella's analysis of office politics and test your knowledge of national issues by taking the quiz – did you do better than in the first edition?

The Young Lawyers' Section has been busy this year and there are plenty of events in the pipeworks. We encourage you read about what's happening in the calendar (see opposite) and also the reports from the committees (towards the end of this Journal).

We hope that you enjoy this edition. ■

Join the Young Lawyers' Section

Membership of the Young Lawyers' Section is free to all members of the Law Institute and allows you to become involved in a wide variety of events and committees. To join the Young Lawyers' Section, you must be a practitioner who is under 36 years of age or with less than 6 years experience.

For more details go to www.liv.asn.au/sections/younglawyers/about-Get.html.

Contributions Welcome

The theme for the third edition of the *Young Lawyers Journal* is international issues. If you are interested in contributing, please email us at younglaw@liv.asn.au. We welcome your ideas!

Upcoming Editorial Committee Meetings

Editorial committee meetings will be held at the LIV between 1pm – 2pm on the following dates:

- Monday, 30 August 2004
- Monday, 11 October 2004

Teleconference is available if necessary.

If you would like to attend a particular meeting, please notify us by emailing younglaw@liv.asn.au.

The views expressed in the articles contained in this publication are the views of the authors and not the editors or the Young Lawyers' Section of the Law Institute of Victoria.