

Zargatt



By Susan Ng, Manager, Young Lawyers Section

My first experience of Zargatt, was when the venue played host to the opening night party of Australian Centre of Moving Image's RESfest. The place was packed with young film student types. Scenes from the documentary were projected on the two screens, while the band "Architecture in Helsinki" lent some "too cool" sounds to the space.

When I agreed to review Zargatt, the thought arose that it was not the ideal venue for a quiet dinner as it seemed to comfortably accommodate the cocktail crowd. However, this thought was quickly put to rest.

Zargatt effectively has three spaces. The restaurant is split into two levels: the top level seems to be set up for conversations, with lush and comfortable sofas on one side and the bar stretched along the other; whereas the bottom level has a more traditional dining set-up. The third space is a glass house attached to the side of the restaurant. It can be used as a separate space or to extend the capacity of the restaurant.

My dinner companion and I were seated at the dining area. We perused the chef's menu which leant towards Mediterranean flavours, offering a fine selection of antipasto, Kingfish carpaccio and even a grilled quail for the entrée. Desserts on offer were caramelised figs and nougatine parfait. Although tempted, I had to forgo the starters and desserts due to an extensive flirtation with the canapés served at the Art of Networking event held earlier at the Ian Potter Centre.

Instead, I jumped straight to the main courses and opted for the mysteriously named "A Trio of Beef". It turned out to be three beautiful interpretations of beef, served on a long white plate. The trio comprised a dark and rich beef risotto, a rare fillet of beef served with Dutch carrots and spinach and a light and fluffy pastry parcel of beef with a mushroom and cheese sauce. It was perfect for me as I got to sample three different dishes in one. Each interpretation complemented the other. The risotto was rich but it was balanced by the fillet steak, cooked to rare perfection, with the beef parcel

adding texture and crunch to the trio. I also ordered a green salad and was impressed that care was obviously taken when preparing the humble side salad: crunchy, fresh leaves perfectly covered with a light sprinkling of balsamic vinegar and olive oil. My dining partner had the roasted pumpkin and sage gnocchi with truffle cream. His verdict? "Sometimes gnocchi just sits in your stomach like liquid concrete. It's hard to get it right. But on this occasion, they have. Light fluffy pasta with a divine sauce."

Spacious and warm, Zargatt sits loud and proud among the throng of eateries at Federation Square. With its floor to ceiling windows affording contrasting views of the classic Forum Theatre and the modern construction of Federation Square, it is a perfect venue for after-work drinks with a group of friends that segues into a late night dining experience which would satisfy even the most discerning of diners.

Right now, Zargatt seems like an undiscovered gem. But it won't be long before the word gets out. ■

Later Lawyers Committee report



By Carol Geyer, Chair of the Committee

Greetings to all "later lawyers". Just in case you didn't catch the first edition of the *Young Lawyers Journal*, the newest branch of the Young Lawyers' Section was launched in October 2003. As the title suggests, later lawyers are those lawyers with less than six years practical legal experience or law students, whose career in law is not their first. We intend to support later lawyers and promote them to the profession by conveying and emphasising the advantages that a later lawyer can offer a law firm.

The committee has met twice this year, and has focused on the following:

Mission statement: the Later Lawyers Network aims to empower and support lawyers and law students who come to the law as a subsequent career, by providing advice and education about admission pathways and employment opportunities, by promotion of the advantages of later lawyers to law firms and by contribution to networking opportunities.

Survey of law firms: the survey requests information about whether law firms have employed later lawyers and the advantages and issues this has raised. The survey will be reported in general terms only, with details of individual firms

remaining confidential.

Later Lawyers Network Evening will be held on Wednesday, 25 August at Zargatt Restaurant, Federation Square, with John Denton as guest speaker. John is a Partner, Chief Executive Officer and the leader of Corrs Chambers Westgarth's Organisational Advisory and International Division. John is a former diplomat with considerable international negotiation experience.

We look forward to seeing many later lawyers at the event, and to members' contributions and feedback. ■