

Tasmanian Law Reform Commission (TasLRC)

- *Suretyship and Guarantee*. Draft report being considered.
- *Minor's Contracts*. Draft report being considered.
- *Workers' Compensation*. In committee.
- *Compensation for Personal Injuries*. In committee.
- *Child Witnesses*. Research being undertaken.
- *Computer Misuse*. Draft report being prepared.
- *Private Trusts*. Draft report being prepared.
- *Occupiers' Liability*. Draft report being prepared.
- *onus of Proof*. Research paper distributed.

Victorian Chief Justice's Law Reform Committee (VCJC)

- *Supreme Court Act 1958, s142-159 (foreign attachment)*. WIH.
- *Exemption Clauses*. WIH.
- *Competence and Compellability of Witnesses*. WIH.

Victorian Law Reform Commission (VLRC)

- *Intoxication and Criminal Responsibility*. WIH.
- *Corporate Crime*. WIH.
- *Role of Juries*. WIH.
- *Medicine, Science and the Law*. WIH.
- *Commercial Sales and Leases of Goods*. WIH.

Victorian Legal and Constitutional Committee (VLCC)

- *Burden of Proof*. The Committee has tabled an interim report on the Burden of Proof in Criminal Cases.
- *Delays in Courts*. Priority is still being given to delays in criminal courts from commission of alleged offence to time of trial.
- *Australian Constitutional Convention*. The Committee will be reporting to Parliament in the 1986 Autumn sitting on the Brisbane Plenary Session and the role and future of the Convention.
- *Human Rights*. This inquiry has now commenced and submissions will shortly be called for as to the desirability of Parliament enacting legislation which defines and protects human rights in Victoria and, if appropriate, the contents of the legislation.
- *Support Services for Victims of Crime*. This inquiry has now commenced and submissions will soon be called for in relation to the terms of reference.

Western Australia Law Reform Commission (WALRC)

- *Local Courts*. Report being drafted.
- *Administrative Decisions: Judicial Review*. Report shortly to be submitted.
- *Limitation and Notice of Actions*. Discussion Paper in preparation.
- *Alteration of Ground Levels*. Report being drafted.
- *Justices Act*. Comments on discussion paper being considered.
- *Privacy*. Report in preparation.
- *Criminal Proceedings and Mental Disorder*. Discussion paper in preparation.
- *Wills: Substantial Compliance*. Report submitted.
- *Problem of Old Convictions*. Report being drafted.

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VLCC

The Legal and Constitutional Committee has appointed Mr Greg Craven as its Director of Research. Mr Craven graduated from the University of Melbourne with a Bachelor of Arts degree and a Bachelor of Laws degree with Honours. He was admitted to practise in Victoria in 1982 and completed his Master of Laws degree in 1984. He is a lecturer in Constitutional and Administrative Law at the University of Melbourne and has been appointed to the Committee for a two year term. Mr Sam Garkawe has been appointed a Research Officer with the Committee to succeed Mr Mark Sneddon who resigned to undertake his Master of Laws degree at the University of Michigan. Mr Sneddon researched and drafted the Committee's recent report on the Burden of Proof in Criminal Cases. Mr Garkawe comes to the Committee from Monash University where he was a Tutor in Criminal Law and Contracts. He has degrees in Science and Laws and completed his Master of Laws in 1984.

The Honourable Mr Justice Muirhead

The Honourable Mr Justice Muirhead has resigned from the Membership of NTLRC prior to his retirement from public life in the Northern Territory. Mr Justice Muirhead was the foundation Chairman of the Committee in 1976 and has served continuously on the Committee since that date as Chairman or, in recent years, as Deputy Chairman. At the time of his retirement he was Acting Chief Justice and Acting Administrator of the Territory. His retirement from the Northern Territory is not a full retirement from public service as he will be serving as an active member of the Federal Court in Perth from the beginning of the 1986 legal year.

Professor David StL Kelly

Professor David StL Kelly has been appointed

Chairperson of the Law Reform Commission of Victoria from 4 December 1985. Professor Kelly, who is remaining as Secretary of the Department of Law in Victoria until a new Secretary is appointed, was a full-time Member of the Australian Law Reform Commission from 1976 to 1980 and a part-time Member from 1980 until his appointment to the Victorian Commission. During this time Professor Kelly was Commissioner responsible for the ALRC reports on Privacy and the Census, Insurance Contracts and Insurance Agents and Brokers. He was also the Commissioner-in-charge of the Division on Consumers in Debt which will report in 1986. Formerly a Professor of Law at the University of Adelaide, he holds the Degree of Bachelor of Civil Laws from Oxford University and Degrees in Arts and Laws from the University of Adelaide.

Mr TH Smith QC

Mr Tim Smith, A Melbourne barrister and Commissioner-in-charge of the ALRC Reference on Evidence Law has recently taken silk. Mr Smith was appointed a full-time Member of the ALRC from March 1980 to December 1983. He was appointed a part-time Member of the ALRC from January 1984 to December 1986. He has recently completed an extensive round of public hearings and conferences around Australia relating to the recommendations contained in the two volume Interim Report on Evidence (ALRC26) which was tabled in Federal Parliament in August 1985. After reading at the Bar in 1965 with Mr NM Stephen, now Sir Ninian Stephen, the Governor-General, Mr Smith practised at the Victorian Bar until his appointment to the ALRC. He holds the Degrees of Arts and Laws from the University of Melbourne.

NTLRC

Mr Gerald Galvin, Chief Magistrate, became a member of the Committee in 1980 and served on the Committee until he retired as Chief Magistrate of the Northern Territory. Miss SG Thomas, Acting Chief Magistrate, has been appointed to the Committee to fill the vacancy created by Mr Galvin's retirement. Mr SR Bailey, formerly Director of the Executive and Policy Unit of the Department of Law, has resigned from the Committee upon taking up a position as constitutional advisor to the Government of Hong Kong. Mr PF Conran, Director of the Executive and Policy Unit of the Department of Law, has been appointed to the Committee to fill the vacancy created by Mr Bailey's resignation. Mr MJ Gillooly, a legal practitioner and Secretary of the Law Society of the Northern Territory, has resigned from the Committee upon leaving the Northern Territory to take up an academic appointment in Perth. Mr GM Berner, a legal practitioner, has been appointed as one of the Law Society's representatives on the Committee to fill the vacancy created by Mr Gillooly's resignation. Mr IB Maughan ceased to be Executive Officer of the Committee upon his appointment as Director of the Policy Secretariat Branch of the Department of Education (NT).

QLRC

Mr Alan A Preece MA LLB lecturer in law at Queensland Institute of Technology has been engaged on a temporary basis, beginning January 1986, to assist the Commission in its examination of the Real Property Acts.

NSWLRC

Professor Colin Phegan, who has been a full-time Commissioner since February 1984, is to take up his new appointment as Dean of the Faculty of Law of the University of Sydney in January 1986. Professor Phegan had the carriage of the Commission's Community Law Reform Program. Under his direction, the Program produced a number of reports, the most recent being *Attachment of Money Deposited with Building Societies and Credit Unions*. In addition to his work on the Community Law Reform Program, Professor Phegan had a very substantial involvement in the Accident Compensation Reference, and participated fully and enthusiastically in all aspects of the Commission's activities. Ms Yvonne Williams has returned to private practice upon the completion of her Research Consultancy with the Commission, during which she contributed greatly to the research for the Reference on Artificial Conception. Mr William J Tearle took up his appointment as Research Director in November 1985. Mr Tearle comes to the Commission after 10 years on the staff of the ALRC.

VLRC

The Commission has undertaken a review of its office structure and research requirements and accordingly has appointed its first Secretary Ms Robin Jackson. Ms Jackson comes to the Commission with a background highly suited to the call. Her most recent position was as Office Manager and Acting Executive Member of the Social Security Appeals Tribunal Victoria— a semi-judicial body which makes recommendations to the Department of Social Security on appeals by DSS clients against DSS decisions. Prior to that she was Manager of the Richmond Regional Office of the Department of Social Security. Her career with the Department of Social Security spans some 17 years, five being spent with the SSAT. In her spare time her studies include psychology and media studies, and she is a registered cytotechnologist. She is on secondment to the Commission from the Australian Public Service with a two year appointment. The Commission has appointed four researchers Ms Bronwyn Nalor and Ms Loane Skene as Senior Research Officers and Ms Alison Champion and Ms Kate Sanders as Research Officers. Ms Bronwyn Nalor and Ms Loane Skene were previously appointed to the position of Legal Assistant to the Law Reform Commissioner. Bronwyn Nalor holds a BA and LLB from Monash University and is completing her LLM from that University. She completed articles with Messrs Blake and Riggall and remained practising as a solicitor at that firm for some 18 months prior to commencing research for the Law Reform Commission-

er, Professor PL Waller. She is working on the Murder reference and completed research on the reference on Unsworn Statements in September 1985. She is to undertake higher degree studies at Cambridge University from late 1986. Loane Skene holds the degrees of LLB from Melbourne University and LLM from Monash. After admission to practise as a barrister and solicitor of the Supreme Court of Victoria in 1970, she practised law for three years in Victoria and also in England. She worked as researcher to the Nova Scotia Law Reform Advisory Commission for 14 months and with the Law Reform Commissioner for some three years before her appointment as Senior Research Officer. She is working on the Commercial Sales and Leases of Goods reference and the reference on Intoxication and Criminal Responsibility. With its Research Officers the Commission adds to its legal expertise in appointing a former pharmaceutical chemist and a social worker. Ms Alison Champion graduated from the Victorian College of Pharmacy in 1967 working as a pharmacist in retail and hospital positions in Melbourne between 1968 and 1983, and in London from 1969 to 1971. Alison Champion graduated with first class honours, second in the year, from the Faculty of Law within Monash University. She was article clerk and solicitor with Baker and McKenzie before taking up the position of Research Officer to the Inquiry into Prostitution in Victoria. She is working on the Higher Purchase Act aspect of the Commercial Sales and Leases of Goods. Ms Kate Simpson holds a Diploma of Social Studies, BA and MSW from Melbourne University. Her Masters thesis was on "Participatory Design in Public Housing". In her profession as social worker she worked in many hospitals and other institutions, including the Alfred Hospital, St Vincents Hospital and Royal Melbourne Hospital; and the University College Hospital and Hammersmith Hospital London (from 1964 to 1966); as well as the Clinical Research Unit, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute, and the Lady Gowrie Child Centre Research Committee. Kate Simpson is working on Medicine Science and the Law reference, concentrating upon the issues of informed consent and that of ethic conditions.

VCJC

The Victorian Chief Justice's Law Reform Committee, one of the first law reform bodies in Australia, was established by the then Chief Justice of the Victorian Supreme Court Sir Edmund Herring. Its activities are not directly funded and all who work for it do so on an honorary basis. It works through sub-committees and deals with comparatively self-contained topics suitable for consideration by ad hoc sub-committees. Having regard to its nature, the Committee's work is, in the main, of an uncontentious character. The VCJC works alongside the newly constituted Law Reform Commission of Victoria which evolved from the Law Reform Commissioner of Victoria. In addition there is the Legal and Constitutional Committee of Victoria, a Victorian Parliamentary law reform committee, which evolved from the State Law Revision Committee of Victoria also a Parliamen-

tary Committee. The Committee is made up of lawyers from all branches of the profession and is chaired by the Chief Justice of Victoria Sir John Young. Also on the Committee are six Supreme Court Judges, two County Court Judges, the Chairperson of the Law Reform Commission of Victoria, the Solicitor-General of Victoria, three barristers, three solicitors, three members of the Monash Law Faculty and three members of the Melbourne Law Faculty. Recent changes to the personnel of the VCJC are as follows: Law Institute Representatives, Mr R Earl and Mr FB Lewis have resigned and their places have been taken by Mr R Beazley and Mr R Riordon. University of Melbourne representative, Professor D Lanham resigned and Mr M Weinberg has replaced him. On the death of Judge Wright, Judge Fricke was appointed and Sir George Paton, a long serving member of the Committee, recently died.