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## personalia

### The Hon Justice Peter Nygh

Justice Peter Nygh, a judge of the Family Court of Australia, has been appointed a part-time member of the Australian Law Reform Commission from 6 February 1989 to 31 December 1991. Justice Nygh, who is the author of *Conflict of Laws in Australia*, was appointed a judge of the Family Court of Australia in 1979. Before that he was Head of the School of Law and Foundation Professor of Law at Macquarie University, Sydney. From 1983 to 1986 he was a part-time member of the New South Wales Law Reform Commission and also a consultant on the Evidence reference to the Australian Law Reform Commission from 1981 to 1984.

### Professor David Hambly

Professor David Hambly has been reappointed a part-time member of the Australian Law Reform Commission until 30 June 1989. He was a full-time member from 1983 to 1986 and has been a part-time member since. Professor Hambly was the Commissioner-in-charge of the reference on Matrimonial Property. He was also a member of the Division on

Community Law Reform. His reappointment enables him to continue work on the Product Liability Reference.

### Professor Michael Chesterman

Professor Michael Chesterman has been reappointed a part-time member of the ALRC from 6 February 1989 to 30 June 1990. Professor Chesterman was the Commissioner-in-charge of the Division on Contempt which produced the Report (ALRC 35) *Contempt* and Access to the Courts (Standing) which produced ALRC 46 *Grouped Proceedings in the Federal Court*. His reappointment will enable him to participate in work on the Customs Reference.

### Mr Patrick Brazil

Mr Pat Brazil resigned from his office as Secretary of the federal Attorney-General's Department on 6 March 1989. He had a distinguished career as a senior legal adviser to federal governments in a career spanning more than 35 years in Canberra, the last five and a half as Secretary to the Attorney-General's Department. Mr Brazil has a reputation both in Australia and overseas, particularly in the field of international law and was the agent for Australia in the Nuclear Tests Case in the International Court of Justice in 1974. Among Mr Brazil's significant contributions were the reconstructing of the Attorney-General's Department following the assumption of office by the Hawke Government in May 1983 and in bringing the various elements of the expanded Attorney-General's portfolio together following the July 1987 election. Mr Brazil has accepted an offer from the member firms of the Australian Legal Group to work with each of them as a consultant.

### Federal Attorney-General's Department

The former Associate Secretary of the Attorney-General's Department, Mr Alan Rose, has been appointed Secretary to the Department following the resignation of Mr Pat Brazil. Other senior appointments recently

announced are Mr Stephen Skehill as Deputy Secretary; Mr Henry Burmester as Special Adviser on International Law; Ms Mary Finn as Senior Assistant Secretary, Justice Division; Mr Kevin Rogers as Senior Assistant Secretary, Protective Services Co-ordination Branch; Ms Dianne Stafford as Senior Assistant Secretary, International Branch; Ms Jean Baker as Senior Assistant Secretary, Commercial and Drafting Division.

### **Trade Practices Commission**

Mr David Round, a Reader in Economics at the University of Adelaide and Dr John Braithwaite, a Senior Research Fellow at the Research School of Social Science in the Australian National University, have been reappointed as Associated Members of the Trade Practices Commission. The reappointments are for terms of three years. Mr William Coad, formerly the Deputy Chairman of the Commission has been appointed as an Associate for one year. Mr John Pascoe, Chief Executive and Deputy Chairman of George Weston Foods Limited, who has been an Associate Member of the Commission for the past 6 years, had his term extended for three months from January 1989 to enable him to complete the work he is currently doing for the Commission.

### **Judicial Registrars, Family Court**

Mr Andrew Forbes and Mr Kenneth Haines were recently appointed as Judicial Registrars of the Family Court of Australia. Mr Forbes is attached to the Adelaide Registry of the court and Mr Haines is attached to the Melbourne Registry. Mr Forbes was admitted to the Bar of South Australia in March 1968 and to the Bar of the Northern Territory in 1983. He has specialised in family law since the inception of the Family Court in 1976. He has been a member of various committees of the Law Society of South Australia and was the Chairman of the Social Security Appeals Tribunal from 1977 to 1983. Mr Haines was admitted to the Bar of Victoria in 1950 and has practised extensively in family law since

his admission. Mr Haines is a member of the Law Institute of Victoria and is the Chairman of the Law Council of Australia, Federal Costs Committee. Mr Forbes and Mr Haines are the first Judicial Registrars to be appointed. They will perform work of a kind similar to that performed by Masters of the State Supreme Courts.

### **Master William Windeyer**

The immediate past President of the New South Wales Law Society, William Victor Windeyer, has recently been appointed to the office of Master of the Supreme Court in the Equity Division (NSW). He was educated at Sydney Grammar School and the University of Sydney and he was admitted as a solicitor in 1961. He is the sixth generation of a family devoted to the legal profession.

### **Mr Trevor Bennett**

Mr Trevor Bennett recently retired as Secretary-General of the Law Council of Australia. Mr Bennett, a former Deputy Secretary of the federal Attorney-General's Department, played a large part in the transformation of the Law Council of Australia in the two and a half years in which he was Secretary-General.

### **Australian Law Reform Commission**

The appointment of Mr Richard Fisher as a part-time member of the Commission expired in April. Mr Fisher was appointed a part-time member of the Commission in April 1986 and made a significant contribution to the Division which produced the Report (ALRC 45) *General Insolvency Inquiry*. He was also a member of the Division on Access to the Courts (Grouped Proceedings). Delia Rickard, a former ALRC senior law reform officer, has been appointed Assistant Private Secretary to the Minister for Justice, Senator Michael Tate. Mr Chris Peters, who was on secondment from the Office of the Australian Government Solicitor in Sydney, has been appointed a senior law reform officer and is working on the reference on customs law. He has

a Bachelor of Jurisprudence and a Bachelor of Laws from Monash University. Heather Armstrong has been appointed a senior law reform officer. She was formerly a law reform officer on the Commission's staff. She is working on the Reference on Product Liability. Heather has a first class Honours Degree in Arts and a Degree in Law from the University of New South Wales. She has completed the course work for a Masters of Law at Sydney University. Janelle Stevens (nee Roberts) has rejoined the Commission's staff as a personal secretary.

### Federal Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs

The Australian House of Representatives' Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs now consists of the following Members: Mr AG Griffiths, Chairman; Mr PM Ruddock, Deputy Chairman; Hon AE Adermann, Mr DE Charles, Mr PR Clelland, Mr DJ Kerr, Mr PJ McGauran, Hon JC Moore, Mr WL Smith, Hon GGD Scholes, Mr RE Tickner, Mr KW Wright. The Secretary of the Committee is Mr Jon Stanhope. The Committee's current inquiries are listed in 'what's going on in the lrc's' in this issue.

### VLRC

The Victorian Law Reform Commission has three new researchers on its staff. They are Mark Duckworth, Linda Weatherhead and John Groningen. Mark Duckworth is on secondment from the Victorian Public Service Board. He is a Barrister and Solicitor and a Melbourne City Councillor. Linda Weatherhead has been working with the Consumer Credit Service and has also been involved in community legal work. John Groningen is a criminologist on secondment to the VLRC. He was an adviser to the Victorian Attorney-General on criminal justice.

### WALRC

Ann Blake commenced as a research officer on the staff of the Western Australian Law Re-

form Commission in February. She has been appointed for a period of three years.

### QLRC

The Hon Mr Justice GN Williams, who has served on the Queensland Law Reform Commission as a part-time Commissioner since 1976, retired from the Commission in March 1989. The Hon Mr Justice RE Cooper has been reappointed to the Commission after resignation upon his recent appointment to the Supreme Court of Queensland. He has been appointed Deputy Chairman.

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### areas of law currently under review

#### Administrative law

NTLRC *Administrative Appeals*. Work in hand (WIH).

ARC *Pharmaceutical Benefits Incentive Payment Rules 1988*. Letters of advice provided to the A-G.

*Draft Ordinance for the Proposed ACT Vocational Training Authority*. Letters of advice provided to the A-G.

*Industrial Chemicals (Notification and Assessment) Bill 1989*. Letters of advice provided to the A-G.

*Draft Ordinances in the Administrative Law Package for ACT Self Government*. Letters of advice provided to the A-G.

*Recommendations of the Veterans' Entitlements Act Monitoring Committee*. Letters of advice provided to the A-G.