

From the Editor...

This edition of the journal, *The Future for Community Justice*, looks to the various legal services and schemes that struggle to provide legal advice and representation to those in the community who cannot otherwise afford it.

As many of the authors note, the role of community legal services is changing, in large measure because of changes in funding policies. It is, in some senses, under threat. The Commission believes that community legal services play a vital role and hopes these articles will stimulate further debate.

This Spring 1998 issue on the future of community legal services will be followed in April 1999 by an edition focusing on the Australian Constitution.

The Commission thanks *Reform's* Editorial Advisory Committee for its input into this edition of the journal. The Committee met for the first time in April, and during a lively discussion on various issues of law reform, selected the themes of the next two issues.

We particularly thank the Hon. Justice Michael Kirby, who formally launched Issue 72 of *Reform* at a cocktail function at Sydney's Town Hall in April.

As the founding editor of *Reform*, Justice Kirby recalled the "accidental" birth of the publication, noting that, even if the format was much improved, the basic structure of *Reform* had remained remarkably unchanged since that first edition more than 20 years ago.

"There is news on the nation and on the world of law reform. There is reference to High Court and other relevant authority. There are reports on the activities of law reform agencies throughout Australia and overseas. Some book reviews of relevance to law reform are noted, together with items on the people playing a part in law reform."

We have seen no reason to alter the fundamental structure of the journal, and hope you enjoy this edition.

Finally, I would like to remind you that *Reform* welcomes the input of its readers. Please contact me if you have an article to contribute, or wish to comment on the journal itself.

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Contributions to *Reform* are welcome and should be sent to:

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When preparing contributions, contributors should note the following points:

- 1/ Articles can be sent via fax or E-mail or, if submitted on a disc, should be in WordPerfect, or Word 6, both for Macintosh or in RTF format. A hard-copy should also be forwarded to the Commission. (E-mail or disc are preferred.)
- 2/ All articles submitted on paper should be typed in double-space on one side only of A4 paper.
- 3/ The name, address and phone number of the author must be attached to the article.
- 4/ Articles should be between 1000 and 3500 words in length. Shorter articles are welcome. Contributions to 'Reform Roundup' should be under 1000 words.
- 5/ Articles submitted to *Reform* should be in final form as corrections on proofs will be limited to literal errors or changes necessitated by legal developments.
- 6/ Articles submitted to *Reform* for publication must be original and not currently under consideration for publication elsewhere, except by prior arrangement.
- 7/ The Australian Law Reform Commission (ALRC) reserves the right to republish all material on its homepage on the Internet and to use all accepted articles for promotion of the journal.
- 8/ The ALRC reserves the right to edit submitted articles so they conform with *Reform's* writing style. The Editor will seek to contact contributors to verify changes before publication.

Style

- 1/ All articles must be written in clear, accessible language.
- 2/ Contributors should seek to minimise the use of end-notes. Where possible, citations should be included in the body of the text.
- 4/ All legislation, international instruments, organisations and cases referred to should be clearly identifiable.
- 3/ Gender neutral language should be used.
- 4/ Avoid unnecessary punctuation. Abbreviations should not be followed by a full stop.