

Volunteers needed in Darwin & Alice

Darwin Community Legal Service operates three drop-in advice sessions each week.

About a thousand interviews occurred last year with about 900 clients at these sessions in Darwin, Casuarina and Palmerston.

The drop-in advice sessions are staffed by solicitors and other volunteers (the others tending to be law students).

Since the Service opened in August 1991 more than 45 lawyers have volunteered to be involved in the monthly roster.

Naturally, the roster changes from time to time as volunteers leave town or find the pressure of work too great to remain involved.

At present there are six to 10 unfilled places on the roster for enthusiastic solicitors.

DCLS would welcome a few who are eligible to hold unrestricted practising certificates.

The Service Co-ordinator, Gordon Renouf, said stray sheep would be most welcome back to the fold.

Each volunteer solicitor is allocated one shift every four weeks.

A shift comprises about three hours

work and is staffed by two or three solicitors and a couple of other volunteers.

Clients present at the sessions with a diverse range of problems, the most common of which are consumer complaints, debts, family law, employment, tenancy, motor vehicle and work injuries.

The Service offers advice, minor assistance (such as helping to draft a letter) and referral to other agencies including the Legal Aid Commission, private solicitors, government agencies and community services.

If you would like to be involved or require further information, please contact Margaret Wearing or Gordon Renouf on 413394.

As noted on page 11 of this issue, the Service is working with volunteers in Alice Springs to establish a similar advice service.

There have been enough volunteers to commence the service in mid-February, but more volunteers are needed.

Interested Alice Springs practitioners should contact Gordon Renouf in Darwin on 413394 or Penny Johnson in Alice on 526400.

New Year resolutions

A person unnamed: "Everyone gives up a bad habit. I'm going to take up a bad habit: after 20 years of marriage, I'm going to have an affair."

A person unnamed: "I used to want to be a politician. Now I'm going to be a poet and philosopher" [and a friend was about to say that politicians were badly paid!].

A judge unnamed: "I'm going to (a) stop smoking & (b) take no notice of myself."

A practitioner unnamed: "I'm not going to jump off Florence or any other Falls: last time I did, I cracked

two vertebra and my co-jumper broke a rib and punctured a lung."

A practitioner unnamed: "I'm going to get to Wimbledon this year because women can be ordained."

A partner unnamed: "I'm going to represent clients in places other than exotic locations such as California, London and Noumea."

A politician unnamed: "I am not going to make statements in the House about dish washers coming out of people's ears."

Another politician unnamed: "I promise not to refer to a person making allegations as the alligator."

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WILL OF NORMAN PETER JENSEN

The beneficiaries of the estate of Norman Peter Jensen, deceased, enquire as to whether or not any legal practitioner knows of the whereabouts of any Will, if any, of the abovementioned deceased. If you have any information please contact Des Crowe at Crowe Hardy Katherine PO Box 1544 Katherine NT 0851. Tel: 721811

SA AGENCY WORK

GROPE HAMILTON, a city-based law firm, is available to undertake agency work in most litigious and non-litigious areas.

Contact Mark Hamilton
ph (08) 2324767 bh, 2673772ah
or fax 2325045
1st Floor, ADC Building, 83 Pirie Street, Adelaide, SA 5000

AVAILABLE

ROBING ROOM lockers and
COURT BOXES at the Supreme Court (Darwin).

Direct inquiries to Julie at the Law Society on telephone 815104.