

## Scots hospitality

*Private Eye* recently reproduced two extracts from Scottish publications. The first comes from *The Scots* magazine of 26 May this year, which carried a letter to the editor from some Australian tourists, who wrote: *Then, just to prove that Scotland is a home away from home for the weary traveller, we found a bed and breakfast near Kyle of Lochalsh, run by a Mr and Mrs MacMillan at Grianan House. We didn't want to leave. After all this is what we came all the way from Australia to find. We will be back next year. Thank, Donald and Zena, also young Donald, for restoring our faith in Scotland, and in the Scots.*

The authors of this letter might have been interested in an item which appeared on the same day in the *West Highland Free Press*: *An Inverinate man appeared in private at Dingwall Sheriff Court on Monday, charge with the Murder of hillwalker Helen Torbet who disappeared last Summer. He is Donald McMillan (32) son of the owners of Grianan House, Inverinate - the guesthouse where Mrs Torbet had been staying while on holiday.*

*(The Gist,  
The Law Institute Journal  
The Law Institute of Victoria  
November 1994, Vol 68, No 11)*

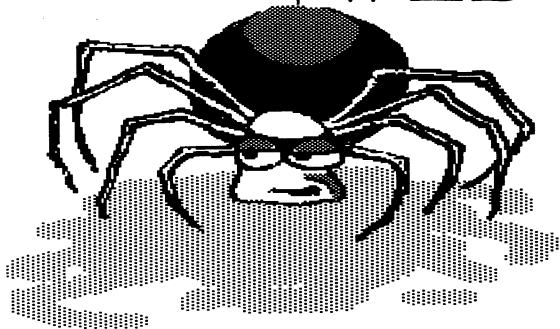
## The NT Bar Association

The Northern Territory Bar Association has advised that direct access to members of the Bar is now available to the Law Society.

## Chairman Elected

Ms Samantha Miles has been elected Chairman of the new Young Lawyers Standing Committee of the Law Council of Australia.

# THE SPIDER'S WEB



## Helping the rich, hindering the poor

Loopholes in the Legal Aid rules in England and Wales allow wealthy people to fund expensive court battles with taxpayers' money. The Law Society of England and Wales has called for the dodge to be ended, reports the *Guardian Weekly*(UK).

The call follows two recent cases in which wealthy people from affluent backgrounds won legal aid, despite cuts last year which deny aid to many people on low incomes.

In one case a wealthy businessman with several luxury homes, received

more than \$8 million to defend a charge of business fraud.

In another case thirteen people, some from comfortably-off families, received more than \$1.5 million to defend themselves against charges of welfare fraud.

The businessman - who lost his case but has been granted further legal aid to appeal - was entitled to aid because of his multi-million dollar assets, which were the subject of the dispute, were excluded when his means were calculated and were frozen by the court.

The president of the Law Society said it was particularly galling to see apparently wealthy people getting legal aid when others living just above the poverty line could not get it.

*(Law Society Journal  
The Law Society of NSW  
Vol 32, No 10, November 1994)*

## Melbourne Magistrates' Court

*Police v John Dorman Elliott  
6 September 1994*

Hammond cross-examining an investigating police witness:

"According to your statement, you say you have been employed by SFO, which is the Serious Fraud Office, since March 1990?... That's correct.

"Now, in fact, the Serious Fraud Office itself was created as a Department of State on 7 September 1989, wasn't it?... Yes.

"Just one question, one last question, you are from the Serious Fraud Office?... Yes.

"Is there an office - the not so Serious Fraud Office?"

*(Victorian Bar News  
Vol 90, Spring 1994)*

## Justice is a lady

Justice has been described as a lady who has been subject to so many miscarriages as to cast serious reflections upon her virtue.

*(Victorian Bar News,  
No 90, Spring 1994)*

## 1996 Churchill Fellowships for overseas study

The Churchill Trust invites applications from Australians, of 18 years and over from all walks of life who wish to be considered for a Churchill Fellowship to undertake, during 1996, an overseas study project that will enhance their usefulness to the Australian community.

No prescribed qualifications are required, merit being the primary test, whether based on past achievements or demonstrated ability for future achievement.

Fellowships are awarded annually to those who have already established themselves in their calling. They are not awarded for the purpose of obtaining higher academic or formal qualifications.

Details may be obtained by sending a self addressed stamped envelope (12x24cms) to:

**The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust**  
218 Northbourne Avenue, Braddon,  
ACT 2601.

Completed application forms and reports from three referees must be submitted by Tuesday, 28 February, 1995.

