

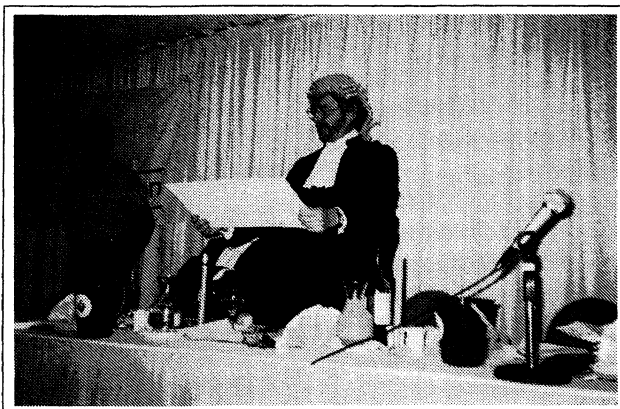
Lawyers Behaving Badly

Leading QC Slams Courtroom Debacle

by Penny Dennis, Heart Foundation

Trevor Riley QC said of the recent Heart Foundation's fund-raiser, *Cardiac Arrest*, "It was a disgrace! It made a complete mockery of the justice system."

The esteemed Queen's Counsel was describing the events which took place at



'Justice' Riley on the Bench

the MGM Grand Casino on the night of Friday 11 October, when a rabble-like crowd of nearly 200 people turned out to witness the dramatic trials of four leading Darwin citizens.

The four felons were Pat Johnson of the MGM Grand, Helen Galton of the Darwin Region Tourism Association, Steve Baker of the Westpac Bank and Jock Bremner of PRD Realty. The Heart Foundation had accused them of various nefarious 'crimes of the heart' and had bought them before 'Justice' Riley QC to mount their defence whilst the public gallery enjoyed a delicious four-course dinner.

One by one, the defendants were lashed by the Prosecutor, Mr Robbie Davies. "It would have been a scathing attack," said Clerk of the Court, Ian Morris, "if only he had not been speaking Gaelic for most of the trial!"

However, Mr Davies was equally disparaging of Mr Morris. "In the enactment of his duties, it was obvious that Mr Morris had imbibed excessive amounts of alcohol. This affected his undertaking of his duties to such an extent that he divested many members of the public gallery of vast sums of money.... no

doubt to pay his bar bill!" Mr Davies concluded. "This, surely, is not a appropriate behaviour for an officer of the Court."

Every year, members of the Darwin legal community come to the aid of the Heart Foundation by 'performing' at *Cardiac Arrest*. They take on

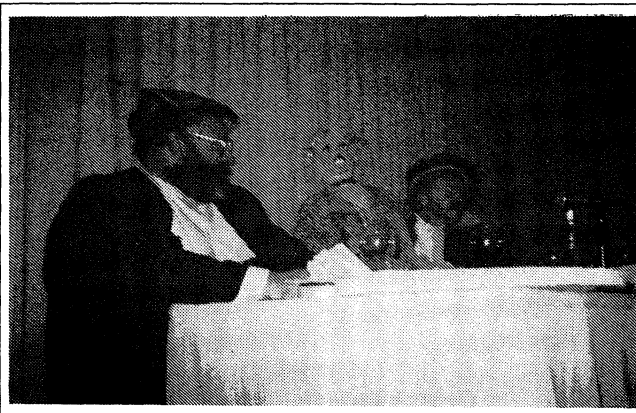
the roles of Judge, prosecutor and Clerk of the Court, and enact a hilarious mock trial. The defendants in the trial may be acquitted if they produce a certain amount of bail (or a high enough bribe) on the night.

This year, *Cardiac Arrest* in Dar-

win raised nearly \$26,000, which is an all time record for the Northern Territory.

"This is a truly amazing achievement," said Penny Dennis, executive director of the Heart Foundation. "We are so grateful to the people of Darwin who contributed, but especially to the wonderful 'jailbirds' and our beautiful bench who devoted so much time and effort to making the event such a success. Trevor Riley, Ian Morris and Robbie Davies put on a great show and had the audience in stitches all night."

Ian Morris of Elston and Gilchrist has been involved in this crazy fund-raising dinner since 1993, as has Tom Pauling, QC and Alistair Wyvill. This was Trevor Riley, QC and Robbie Davies' first *Cardiac Arrest* and they rose to the occasion with ease.



The "High" Court (Rasta Riley's female companion unidentified).



The 'Supreme(s)' Court

The Heart Foundation would like to thank them all very much.



BALANCE

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