

Tired of Wills and probate?  
Getting stressed with  
multi-million dollar litigation?

**Why not come on down and  
be a volunteer with the  
Darwin Community legal  
Service.**

**Volunteering is fun,  
varied and rewarding.**

We are looking for Solicitors to take  
part in our advice sessions.

**We run three sessions per week:**  
**Palmerston**

Monday nights – 6.30pm to 8pm

**Darwin**

Thursday evenings – 5.30pm to 7pm

**Casuarina**

Saturday morning – 10am to 12noon.

If you become a volunteer you would  
be rostered on at the venue of your  
choice once a month.

**If you would like to volunteer  
please ring Colleen on 413394.**



**Advocacy  
Skills  
Workshop**

**ALICE SPRINGS  
31 May – 2 June 1996**

The Australian Advocacy Institute will  
present an advocacy skills workshop at  
the Court House in Alice Springs.

Communication skills are one of the  
most important tools to achieve success  
in the courtroom.

This course provides the opportunity to  
improve these skills in a supportive  
and learning environment.

The Workshop will be led by Brian  
Donovan QC of the NSW Bar who has  
over 15 years extensive advocacy  
teaching experience in Australia,  
England, Scotland, Singapore and  
Bangladesh.

The registration fee for this three day  
course is \$450.00. Phone the Law  
Society on 815104 for your registration  
form.

## Tasmanian research on women lawyers

*The Law Letter*, newsletter of the  
Law Society of Tasmania, reports that  
the Women Lawyers Association of  
Tasmania has obtained a grant from the  
Law Foundation of Tasmania to research  
career paths of women lawyers in Tas-  
mania. The research is aimed at tracking  
the careers of women law graduates  
over the last 25 years.

In light of a recent study in NSW  
identifying gender bias in the legal pro-  
fession as a main reason why women  
are not represented in greater numbers  
at senior levels, this Tasmanian study  
hopes to "identify influences on the ca-  
reer paths of women lawyers in Tasma-  
nia and propose strategies to address any  
factors which may be identified as bar-  
riers".

Women who graduated from the  
University of Tasmania between 1970  
and 1995 with law degrees and who are  
not currently practising are asked to  
contact Jane Goodluck, PO Box 676,  
Sandy Bay, Tasmania, tel 002 24 0553  
with details of their address and date of  
graduation.

## Children and the law – inquiry

The inquiry into children and the  
legal process currently being undertaken  
by the Australian Law Reform Commis-  
sion and the Human Rights and Equal  
Opportunity Commission has produced  
an Issue Paper entitled *Speaking for  
Ourselves. Children and the legal proc-  
ess*.

The Commissions have supplied the  
Law Society with a copy and seek any  
comments and suggestions.

Public hearings and consultations  
will be held in capital cities and major  
centres during May and July. The in-  
tended date for Darwin is 17 July and for  
Alice Springs is 18 July.

Those interested are advised to check  
local newspapers closer to the date or to  
contact either Commission for verifica-  
tion.

## A Ruff time in court

St John's College narrowly defeated  
Kormilda College on points in the first  
scoring round of the Inter-school Mock  
Trial Competition which took place on  
Wednesday 27 March at the Darwin  
Magistrates' Court.

Both teams put on a sterling per-  
formance before Mock Magistrate Eliza-  
beth Morris as they argued the case of  
Steptoe & Son v Rufus Diamond.

The case was a dispute between two  
one-time mates over repayment of a  
loan and payment for a non-functioning  
stereo.

Kormilda argued for the plaintiff,  
one Fraser Henchman, a second-hand  
goods dealer played very shadily by  
Cherie Cooper.

Kormilda barristers Katie Burke and  
Tamara Johansen, (ably assisted by so-  
licitor Luke Andrews) presented their  
own evidence with aplomb, but had the  
very difficult task of cross-examining  
the elusive Rufus (Ruff to his mates)  
Diamond.

Mr Diamond, owner of a Top End  
bar and self confessed Lee Kernaghan  
fan was played almost too well by Peter  
Walker of St John's College.

Troy Roberts and Richard Griffith  
were effective and hard-hitting defence  
barristers for St John's and worked well  
in their roles.

Mock Magistrate Morris decided the  
case for the plaintiff in the matter of  
payment for the non-functioning stereo  
- *caveat emptor*, Ruff must pay up.

In the matter of the \$10,000 loan she  
was persuaded that Ruff should have  
time to pay.

In Alice Springs the two teams from  
St Philip's College argued the same case  
with Mock Magistrate Murray Preston  
deciding for the plaintiff, whose case  
was argued by St Philip's Team 1.

The two St Philip's teams will con-  
tinue to square off in the coming  
rounds.

Competition for who will face whom  
at the Grand Final on 6 June heats up as  
the teams now prepare to argue the sec-  
ond round on 27 April - a civil case  
involving a rather interesting tattoo.