

NTWLA SPONSORS EAST TIMOR JURISTS

Donation to the National Jurists Association of Timor Loro-Sae

I was pleased to be able to meet with Jacinta Correia from the National Jurists Association of Timor Loro-Sae on 14 July 2000 and hand her a donation of \$700 from NTWLA. NTWLA has agreed to sponsor a seminar on gender and the law which the Association will be holding later in the year.

The seminar will considering how to ensure that all legislation and matters of practice have principles of equality at the fore. We hope this is the start of a long term relationship between NTWLA and those involved in the judicial system in East Timor.

Mandatory Sentencing

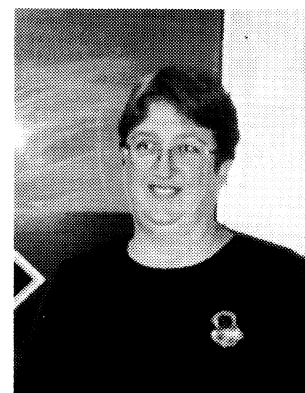
We have now learnt that Cherie Booth QC will be presenting a case to the United Nations Human Rights Committee in Geneva, following a communication to the Committee relating to mandatory sentencing in the Northern Territory. The disproportionate nature of many penalties which must be imposed is likely to be an important part of the submissions made.

Federal Court Meeting with Chief Justice

On 14 July 2000 members of NTWLA meet with the Chief Justice of the Federal Court, Chief Justice Black and Justice Branson. They are both members of the Federal Court Committee working on issues of equality. The meeting was an opportunity for NTWLA members to meet the Judges and to speak on an informal basis. The topics ranged from court sitting times to advocacy tips and was well received by the 15 members present. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Court for providing us with the forum to meet.

Domestic Violence Legal Help

I was asked to speak at the ceremony for the closure of the Domestic Violence Legal Help service on 30 June 2000. NTWLA has long supported the need for dedicated legal services in the area of domestic violence. During the eight years the service operated many practitioners became knowledgeable as to the complexities of domestic violence and domestic violence law. They have been able to take that knowledge, and the skills they learnt, to new workplaces. This will be one of



*Melanie Little, President of the
NT Women Lawyers Association.*

the long term benefits of the service. We are yet to be able to assess the type of service which will be provided by the present allocation of domestic violence funding for legal services.

Freedom of Information Debate

Unfortunately this debate has been deferred. We will advise as to the new date.

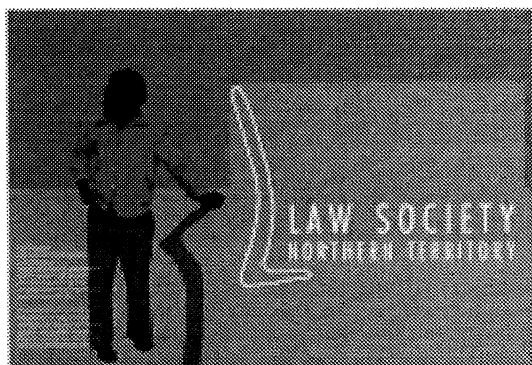
New Committee

Julie Condon who is moving from KRALAS to NAALAS has put her name forward to be on the Committee following the departure of Britt Lardelli. The AGM will be held in the near future, so please let us know if you are interested in being on the 2000/2001 Committee.

Membership

Please forward your membership renewals to GPO Box 3384 Darwin 0801.

PRINT FOR SALE



A limited edition print, featuring the Law Society's new corporate logo, is available for purchase at a cost of \$55.00 (inclusive of GST). The print has been presented to Chief Justice of Western Australia, Attorney General Denis Burke and Chief Justice Brian Martin. It is hanging in law firms both locally and interstate.

Only a limited number are still available. Our first print run has almost sold out. Please contact the Law Society with your order on 8981 5104.