

PEOPLE AND THE LAW



Tom Svikart is a superintendent with the NT Police in Alice Springs.

Background: Of German, Slavic, English, Sicilian mix started life as a displaced person in Austria. My luck improved when my mother brought me to Australia at three. A product of the Catholic education system and I have no complaints. Commonwealth Public Service and Queensland Police before getting smart and coming north. Northern Territory Police officer for over 20 years. Lots of time as a prosecutor. Studied law at QUT & NTU. Spent a year out of policing in 95/96 and practised as a legal aid lawyer with West QLD ATSIC for Legal Aid in Mt Isa.

Most memorable case/file? My first win as a defender — I pole vaulted all the way back to the office.

Who are your role models? Number one is Jesus of Nazareth — hard man, genuine feminist (no snag), compassionate and a genuine revolutionary. Number two is Ian McKinlay, a former colleague, who opened my eyes to policing as an holistic exercise.

Your favourite place in the NT? Alice Springs — the landscape, the air and the night sky — you can see forever.

Community involvement: Give me a break I have only just got back to Alice!

Complete this sentence... *I couldn't live without...* Janet, Cicily & Saara.

If you were down to your last \$50 what would you buy? A bottle of red, a bunch of flowers and some beef to make tribal food (old Fijian recipe).

What book are you reading at the moment? Martin Luther — *Documents of modern history*.



Peter Boyce is the Ombudsman for the NT and Commissioner, Health & Community Services Complaints Commission

Background: Spent time as prosecutor in Papua New Guinea, a Senior Investigator Police Complaints with the WA Ombudsman, the Head of Police Complaints Authority in SA and since 1995 have been Ombudsman for the NT. I'm a permanent statutory member of the Legal Practitioners Complaints Committee and member of the Law Reform Committee.

Most memorable case/file? In PNG, whilst doing a prosecution for receiving stolen property, the case became more challenging when it was discovered that prior to the case police had sold the exhibits relating to the prosecution at auction. Panic ensued during the course of the trial when police had to track down the exhibits from the persons who had purchased them. A conviction was obtained.

Who are your role models? My brother-in-law Rob, who has a great work ethic, great sense of humour, makes fantastic wine (in NZ) and enjoys life to the fullest.

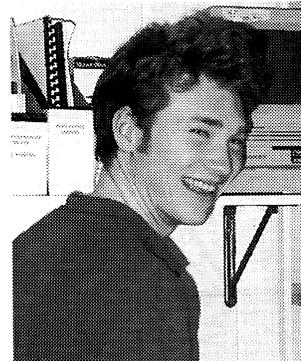
Your favourite place in the NT? Any good restaurant that sells good wine; Litchfield Park for its great variety of places to visit.

Community involvement: Chairman of the NT Chapter of Australian Institute of Administrative Law and Council Member of the NT Branch of the Institute of Public Administration.

Complete this sentence: *I couldn't live without...* My children, a good book, the All Blacks beating the Wallabies soon to win the Bledisloe Cup.

If you were down to your last \$50 what would you buy? I am often down to my last \$50 but never get to spend it because my two boys often find better ways than I can think of, and far quicker.

What book are you reading at the moment? *In the Fall* by Jeffrey Lent.



Anthony Nicholas is a volunteer at Darwin Community Legal Service.

Background: Science/law student at Melbourne University (3rd year). Born and always lived in Melbourne: same street, same house, same room.

Most memorable case/file? Recently... Gunner and Cubillo (stolen generation) case (I was a watcher, didn't participate). Too young to run my own cases yet!!

Who are your role models and why? Geoffrey Robertson — a good lawyer who has fun!! Ron — my guitar teacher — because he tells the best stories, always with a twinkle in his eye.

Your favourite place in the NT? Ubirr — it has nice rocks.

Community involvement: Darwin Community Legal Service, Victorian Environmental Defenders Office.

Complete this sentence: *I couldn't live without...* my indoor soccer team — we will win one day.

If you were down to your last \$50 what would you buy? A cheap guitar, a mouth organ, some dancing toys and a hat.

What book are you reading at the moment? Harry Potter — *Borrower* — honest!!

Balance is on the look out for People in the Law. Suggestions and nominations are welcome. Telephone 8981 5104.