

# NOTICEBOARD

## Federal Court Amendment Rules 2000 (No 5)

Federal Court Amendment Rules (No 5) amends Order 51A of the Federal Court Rules, which deals with "Matters remitted by the High Court of Australia", to make it clear that:

- other Orders of the Rules apply, so far as they are relevant and not inconsistent with Order 51A, to a proceeding that involves a matter, remitted by the High Court to the Court; and
- where the High Court remits an application for prerogative relief to the Federal Court without deciding whether or not to grant the order nisi for the writ, the Federal Court will hear, at the same time, both the application for an order nisi and, if satisfied that an order nisi should be granted, the issue whether to make it absolute or to discharge it.

## Qantas account holders

Members who are already registered with the Qantas scheme may experience difficulties with their September statement.

Due to a computer generated glitch no discount rebate was given on September bookings.

The problems have now been rectified but those who did not get the discount should fax their statement to Mandy Bluett on fax: 8981 4849 to have their rebate credited. Apologies to those who have been inconvenienced.

### **Nation Skilling: an international symposium on immigration and labour law: 23 — 24 November 2000**

Practitioners are invited to the above symposium organised by the International Law Section, Law Council of Australia and the Faculty of Law, University of Sydney. Key note speaker: Minister for Immigration, the Hon Philip Ruddock MP.

For information please contact the Law Council Secretariat: 02 6247 3788.

## The Magistrates' Handbook of Diversionary Programs and Services for Alcohol and Drug Relating Offending

An information handbook has been produced by Territory Health Services as a reference to the agencies that provide assessment and treatment programs for people whose offending behaviour is linked with drug and alcohol use.

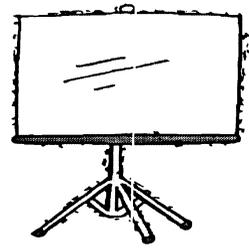
This handbook has been posted on the Law Society website as a resource for practitioners and members of the public. The Law Society website can be found at: [www.lawsocnt.asn.au](http://www.lawsocnt.asn.au). The handbook is available under the Resources section of the site.

## GST treatment of workers compensation matters spanning 1 July 2000

WorkCover has announced that it will advise all licensed insurers of the following interim arrangements for the billing and payment of all legal work for workers compensation matters spanning 1 July 2000:

- only costs and disbursements incurred on or after 1 July 2000 are subject to GST and where bills span this period, applicant lawyers should provide insurers with bills that apportion costs between work performed up to and including 30 June 2000 and work performed on or after 1 July 2000.
- all such practitioners' estimates should isolate the pre 1 July disbursements within their bills;
- in the event that the ATO should rule that all costs in spanning agreements are subject to the GST, practitioners should amend the pre 1 July component of the bill to include GST and submit this amendment as a further tax invoice to insurers for payment.

The Law Society of NSW has sought urgent clarification from the ATO about the GST treatment of workers compensation matters spanning 1 July 2000. Practitioners will be advised of the ATO's views as soon as they become available.



## High Court sitting dates for 2001

The High Court has ruled that in 2001 sittings will be held at the following locations on the dates prescribed:

Canberra	5 February 2001
Canberra	6 March 2001
Canberra	27 March 2001
Hobart*	2 April 2001
Canberra	1 May 2001
Canberra	19 June 2001
Brisbane*	25 June 2001
Canberra	7 August 2001
Adelaide*	13 August 2001
Canberra	4 September 2001
Canberra	2 October 2001
Perth*	22 October 2001
Canberra	13 November 2001
Canberra	4 December 2001

\* No sittings will be held unless there is sufficient business to warrant the attendance of the Court.

Sittings to hear applications for special leave to appeal will also be held on the following dates:

16 February 2001  
6 April 2001  
4 May 2001  
1 June 2001  
22 June 2001  
10 August 2001  
14 September 2001  
12 October 2001  
23 November 2001  
23 November 2001  
14 December 2001

The winter vacation shall commence on 30 June 2001. The summer vacation shall commence on 15 December 2001.