

WHERE THE WATERS MEET

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- There is no clear rally point amongst Aboriginal people in the Northern Territory and delegates would like to see one but are resolved to wait to see if one emerges. Rather more regular meetings of this kind are envisaged.

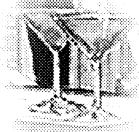
Some things were said quietly and briefly at this conference. Some things were said to people who were very used to hearing youth described in language of this ilk... of "grubs", "scum" and "low life". Maybe the suggestions made by the speaker to the listeners were subtle. But their meaning has not been entirely missed.

The time for change brought by Aboriginal people, for Aboriginal youth is approaching. It is approaching very quickly indeed.

A Cocktail Odyssey

Remember to keep the evening of 21 July 2001 free to join your friends at NTYL on: 2001:

A Cocktail Odyssey
(aka The NTYL Cocktail Party / The Booze Cruise).



This event will take place on the ever so comfortable Sea Cat Ferry 2 as it tours Darwin Harbour at sunset. Upon return the journey will continue via bus to a groovy cocktail bar in Darwin. More details of the night soon! To avoid confusion created by the naming of last years events please note that the NTYL Law Ball, which will be a formal sit down affair, will be held later in the year.

APLA: TERRITORY BRANCH

The Northern Territory branch of the Australian Plaintiff Lawyers Association (APLA) recently elected Ward Keller partner Michael Grove as President and is encouraging Territory lawyers to join.

In the Territory the APLA is represented by President Michael Grove, Treasurer Merridy Gordon, Secretary Markus Spazzapan, and members John Neill, Catherine Spurr and Suzi Kapetas.

The APLA is a national association offering a range of benefits to lawyers who act for plaintiffs in personal injury and public interest litigation. It is the only association in Australia which represents the special interests of lawyers who act predominantly for individuals rather than for corporations, institutions or governments. APLA's aim is to protect and enhance the rights of the injured. Its mission is to redress the imbalance between the ample resources available to wrong doers and their insurers on the one hand and those available to the public on the other.

APLA is associated with the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers in the UK, the Canadian Trial Lawyers Association, and the Association of Trial Lawyers of America.

Why belong to APLA?

APLA members benefit from a range of services, including:

- Expert Data Base
- The Journal, *Plaintiff*
APLA publishes a bimonthly national journal, *Plaintiff*. *Plaintiff* contains material to those who act for the victims of negligence, and recent case notes dealing with substantive law and procedure.
- APLA National Conference and Papers Special Interest Groups
Interest groups established to date include: medical negligence, workers compensation, motor vehicle accidents, representative actions, premises liability, tobacco litigation, breast implant litigation, chemical injuries litigation, commercial litigation, employment law and discrimination.

- Membership Directory
A national directory of APLA members is regularly published and is provided free to all APLA members. The directory is a good source of referrals for members and a reference for those seeking assistance from or wishing to refer to a practitioner interstate.
- Professional Development Forums and Sessions
- APLA web site

Who is eligible to join APLA?

Lawyers who act predominantly for the injured and barristers who are subject to the operation of the "cab rank" rule (even if they do not act predominantly in that way) comprise the bulk of APLA membership. Special membership fees apply to practitioners who have been admitted less than two years. Associated professionals in the fields of health, science, engineering or occupational/public safety are also entitled to join as associate professional members. Others welcome as associate members are:

- Persons who are engaged in the teaching of courses of study relevant to the aims and objectives of the association or elected representatives of an Australian state or Federal Parliament or persons directly employed by such people or employees of government departments or state or community legal aid organisations.
- Persons undertaking a full-time course of study relevant to the aims and objectives of the association.
- Persons employed as law clerks, articulated clerks or paralegals may also join associates.
- Lawyers admitted to practice in jurisdictions outside of Australia who predominantly practice for the injured are entitled to join as international members of APLA.

For further information about the NT branch of the APLA contact President Michael Grove. Michael Grove can be contacted at Ward Keller in Darwin on telephone: 8981 2971 or fax: 8981 1253.