

Report from AGM

I was anticipating that there would be a new President and Committee after our AGM. I am pleased to announce that I was re-elected again as President, and most of the previous years Committee agreed to stay on.

I extend a warm welcome to the new members of the Committee, Marguerite Bowen, Shirley Rowe and Danielle Howard.

I would also like to thank Sally Gearin our outgoing Treasurer for her support and assistance during the year.

A big thanks to Melanie Little for agreeing to be our Public Officer again this year.

COMING EVENTS

The first matter for the new Committee is the amendments to the Constitution, and we are calling a General Meeting on Tuesday 1 October 2002 at 5.30pm in the boardroom at Hunt & Hunt, 13 Cavenagh Street, Darwin. Everyone is welcome to attend.

The major amendment to the Constitution is to change our financial year from June to July in line with most other institutions. Currently it is March to October. Other minor amendments will modernise the Constitution and improve the running of the Association.

We will also be meeting to plan activities for the next year and provide a calendar of events and meetings for the year. This will ensure that everyone has plenty of notice and can attend our events.

MEMBERSHIP

Memberships are due and we will be sending reminders to members and firms. Please join. It is a great way to meet other women lawyers and network, and it also fun. The Committee can only do so much, and we rely on your support for fundraising and ideas throughout the year. WE CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU.

I am open to any ideas, views, and activities, that you may wish to raise, both local and national.

We have membership on the National Women Lawyers body and have been involved in many issues during the year.

One those issues is a report by the Victorian Women Lawyers Association about working mothers and part time work or job sharing in firms.

These work arrangements have been available in Government positions, but not in private firms, and the report aims to encourage firms to adopt a more flexible approach to working hours.

NEW COMMITTEE for 2002/03

President: Sandra Robinson
Secretary: Danielle Howard
Treasurer: Frieda Evans
Committee Members:
Megan Lennie, Sylvia Tomazos, Jo Tomlinson, Marguerite Bowen, Shirley Rowe

I would also like to extend the Committee's best wishes to Samantha Miles and her family. Sam is currently interstate undergoing treatment and we wish her a full and speedy recovery.

My contact phone number is 8981 3133 and please feel free to contact me with any ideas, or even if you just want to have a chat and find out more about us.

I have reproduced my report for the past year. I have enjoyed myself and now that I know what I am doing (!) I am sure it will be a good year.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

What a busy year! Seems like only yesterday I was appointed as President and its voting time again. I would really like to thank Frieda, Megan, Jo, Sylvia and Sally for their great support during the year.

We have had some fun times, and some stress times, but we have managed to keep it all together and still like each other.

I have also appreciated the help I have received from Justice Sally Thomas, our Patron, she is always so willing to help us in anyway she can.



Sandra Robinson, WLA President

It has been a good year and I would commend it to all members, it is a year where you meet many new people, and get invitations to functions, and it looks good on the CV!

The year in review

The dinner for Laurene Hull, was a useful opportunity for women to meet with Laurene who was standing as the Candidate for Solomon at the last election, and to ask some of the tough questions.

Christmas drinks were enjoyable, do not think we made any money that night, I think we drank the profits!

The Quiz Night was successful and we raised \$750.00 towards our aim to send one of our members to the National Conference.

Justice Thomas kindly hosted Patron's Drinks on the verandah at the Supreme Court. This event was well attended and Ian Morris gave us an interesting and thoughtful speech on the topic of the reputation of lawyers and how to improve it.

Capitation Fees are still an issue that is being debated at the National level. This would bring some benefits to us in the Territory, as it anticipated that the National Body would provide some financial assistance to members to travel to interstate meetings.

On a final note, I wish the new Committee success in their venture and I am sure they will enjoy the year as much as we have. ①