

Ahhh, the old "frog in the toilet" trick..

While in Darwin, Justice Virginia Bell was convinced her Territory hosts were having a serious lend of her. First, during the major heat and humidity of the pre-monsoon period, she was invited for a roast dinner.

Then, during the evening, she returned to the eating area asking somewhat suspiciously: "Is that frog in the toilet real or fake?" It was definitely no consolation for her honour to be told it was real: fortunately there was an alternative venue.

Here's to George

As if lawyers ever needed an excuse to have a drink ... at the Opening of the Law Year in Darwin no one hesitated in raising glasses of red in tribute to George Brown, who died in mayoral office in January.

Muster Room's favourite quote attributed to the late Lord Mayor was that his existence was "a life long search for a bad bottle of red wine". If there is an after-life, we assume a shiraz-

growing vineyard would figure highly in George's paradise.

Happy (hic) birssshhday to you

At the same lunch, lawyers proved themselves to be much worse singers than drinkers as they sang happy birthday greetings to magistrate and coroner, Greg Cavanagh, who turned 50 that day. "Cavs" was heard to remark that at long last his age was at last starting to match his grey-haired appearance.

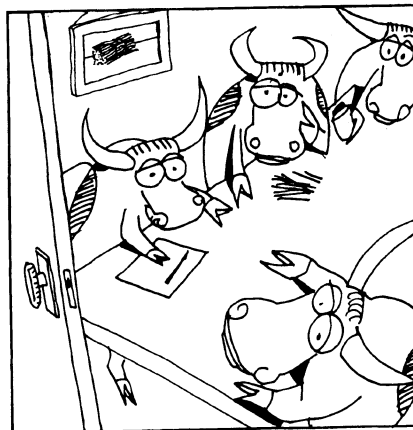
An artful trip

It's a lousy job, but someone has to do it. Justice David Angel and his wife Anita travelled recently to Madrid to attend the ARCO international art fair. It is the first time in ARCO's history there has been a focus on Australian art. The Angels were invited as one of a select group of art collectors, in particular acknowledging his honour's role in the development of the Northern Territory Supreme Court art collection.

Only in the Territory

Conversation between the Law Society and one practitioner on their mobile phone:

The Muster Room



Society: Good Morning, I'm calling from the Law Society in relation to a matter you've raised with us.

Practitioner: Oh, Good Morning, Yes. I wanted to discuss that with you. Just a minute, there's a lizard coming in.

Society: Did you say a lizard?

Practitioner: Yes. Just a minute, I've got him by the tail. I'll just take him outside. Oh dear. there you go.

Society: I gather you're not in your office?

Practitioner: No. I'm at home. Now where were we?

PEOPLE AND THE LAW

Have a laugh

This one is doing the email rounds.

Each year the Washington Post's Style Invitational asks readers to take any word from the dictionary, alter it by adding, subtracting, or change one letter and supply a new definition.

These were the 2001 winners:

INTAXICATION: Euphoria at getting a tax refund, which lasts until you realise it was your money to start with.

REINTARNATION: Coming back to life as a hillbilly.

FOREPLOY: Any misrepresentation about yourself for the purpose of getting sex.

GIRAFFITI: Vandalism spray-painted very, very high.

SARCHASM: The gulf between the author of sarcastic wit and the person who doesn't get it.

INOCULATTE: To take coffee intravenously when you are running late.

HIPATITIS: Terminal coolness.

OSTEOPORNOSIS: A degenerate disease.

KARMAGEDDON: It's like, when everybody is sending off all these really bad vibes, right? And then, like, the Earth explodes and it's like, a serious bummer.

GLIBIDO: All talk and no action.

DOPELER EFFECT: The tendency of stupid ideas to seem smarter when they come at you rapidly.

Law Society footy tipping comp

It's time to put your money where your mouth is and show us all just how good you are at tipping winners. And the prizes will be worth it!

From the start of the AFL season, we will be running an Aussie Rules football tipping comp from the Law Society.

It will cost \$10 per person and details will be sent in a separate mailout soon. All the money "raised" will go directly to the winners "pots".

If you want to register your interest, email us and we'll make doubly sure you're on the list.

Round one of the AFL season starts on March 28 with Richmond vs Collingwood at the MCG.

Let the tipping commence!

Movement at the station(s)

Paul Walsh and Priestleys have joined forces to form Priestley Walsh.

As at 1 January this year David Sweet and Duncan Maclean were named as partners of Cridlands.