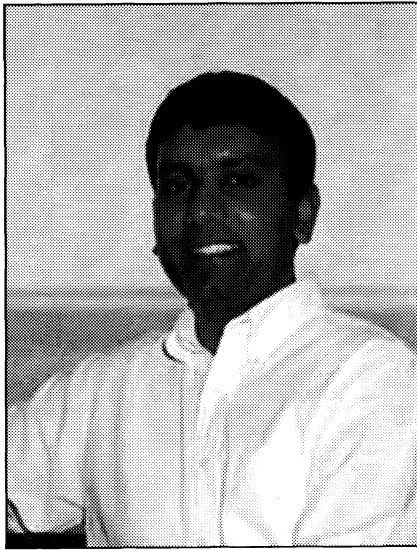


*Faces behind the law* is a new column, which will take a look at the lives of local members, both inside and outside the law.

## **Leon Loganathan - Ward Keller (Darwin)**



### **Brief career history**

I did my articles with T.S. Lee & Associates back in 1994 and followed this up with two years at the Northern Territory Revenue Office. After this I decided to see if I could cut it in the "big smoke" and I joined Ernst & Young in Sydney. I spent a total of six years with E&Y in Sydney and Brisbane and ended up running the State Taxation practice for the firm. I returned to Darwin in March 2003

(after the birth of my daughter) to take up a position in the Commercial Division of Ward Keller.

### **What motivated you to start working in the legal profession?**

I remember the exact moment in my life when I wanted to be a lawyer. It was watching Arnie Becker drive to work in a white convertible Porsche in the first episode of L.A. Law (and after 10 years in the legal profession I still haven't done that! Talk about misleading and deceptive advertising!!).

### **How long have you been in the Territory and what brought you up here?**

I arrived in the Territory in 1990 from WA after finishing an Economics degree at UWA. I came up here because a friend from UWA said it was a great place to study law and have a good time. As my fellow graduates were delivering pizzas (Perth was going through a terrible recession at the time) I thought "why not?", I had nothing to lose. So a friend and I threw all our stuff in my

1981 sky blue Corolla and drove up here. All I had was \$300 in bank account.

### **What is the best, and the worst thing about living and working in the Territory?**

The best thing is that this is still a country town even though it is a capital city. After living in Sydney, here are some of the things I don't take for granted in Darwin; hardly any traffic jams, much cheaper housing, easy to organise things to do and places to go with friends and family and much more balanced lifestyle.

The worst thing is probably the humidity during the wet season but heck, it's not that bad with air-conditioning and I just love the thunder storms.

### **If you had the power to change one thing in the world, what would it be?**

This is a tough one. I suppose something that would make the world better than it is now - like reversing

*continued next page*

## **Nardine Collier - Collier and Deane (Alice Springs)**

### **Brief career history**

I started uni straight after high school in 1987, the first year law was offered in the NT. During a summer break in 1988 I took a job as a Court Orderly at the Magistrates Court. I loved this job so much I took a full-time position and continued my studies on a very part-time basis. Practitioners around at the time will probably confirm that the court staff at the Magistrates Court were (and still are, I hear) a fun lot and so the law degree definitely took a back seat. Finally I had to "bite the bullet" and finish my degree so I crammed three years into two and went back to (very) full-time study. I was at that stage working for the NT Legal Aid Commission as a librarian (Richard Coates took pity on me, I wasn't much of a librarian). I then worked for the Commission as an

articled clerk and then as a solicitor. In 1996 I came down to Alice Springs to work as a locum for NTLAC. I fell in love with the Alice on my first day and with the man I later married on my second day. Much to the disgust of Susan Cox I rang her and resigned. "But I'm in love Susan!" (I think she forgave me).

Very luckily for me Turner and Deane, as it then was, were looking for a civil solicitor. I had done very little civil work and so was probably totally unsuitable but told Michael Deane I barracked for Richmond (never have) and I started work soon after. I became a partner sometime in early 1998 and have spent these last years developing ulcers.

### **What motivated you to start working in the legal profession?**



Firstly my mother. I couldn't decide between law or music so Mum said "Law sounds better dear". So that was that.

Secondly, Eric Hutton. In 1991 when I was seriously considering giving up the law, Eric gave me a very stern lecture and told me to stop being

*continued page 15...*

## **Leon Loganathan**

**cont...**

all the environmental damage of the last 200 years?

**What is your greatest achievement?**

Without a doubt, being a dad.

**What are your hobbies?**

Spending time with my extended family, listening to music, reading and playing soccer on the PS2.

**Describe your perfect weekend**

I just had it last weekend. A bungalow on Lake Bennett with the family and friends.

**What are you most passionate about?**

Living a contented life. I think that to be content you need to spend a fair bit of time understanding yourself - eg. how you think, what motivates you and how you are affected by the people around you.

**What was the last book you read?**

Status Anxiety, Alain De Botton

**What is your favourite movie?**

Probably 'Tuesdays With Morrie' closely followed by 'When Harry Met Sally'

**What was the last CD you bought?**

Michael Buble

**What is your favourite holiday destination?**

Malaysia, my birth place and the food is just sensational.

**Describe your perfect meal**

That's easy - Penang char keoy teow.

**After a long week at work it is finally Friday, you walk up to the bar and order a...**

I don't drink much but I may order a gin and tonic or Cinzano Rosso and lemonade.

**Three words that describe you are...**

Relaxed, Measured, Responsive.①

## **Bill Piper - Pipers Barristers and Solicitors (Darwin)**

**Brief career history:**

Associate to Sir William Forster in Federal Court (Adelaide), solicitor at Elston and Gilchrist Adelaide and Darwin, in-house solicitor at TIO, then three years as in-house counsel in an Adelaide firm. Since 1998 I have run my own practice in Darwin.

**What motivated you to start working in the legal profession?**

Long history of lawyers in the family - lacked imagination.

**How long have you been in the Territory and what brought you up here?**

Had a three-month secondment to the Darwin office of Elston and Gilchrist in 1990.

**What is the best, and worst, thing about living and working in the Territory?**

The best is the laid back lifestyle (cliche) and it is a relatively classless place.

The worst is the beaches could use more waves and the architecture is going to the dog-house.

**If you have the power to change one thing in the world, what would it be?**

I'd give Mindil Beach a three-foot swell.

**What is your greatest achievement?**

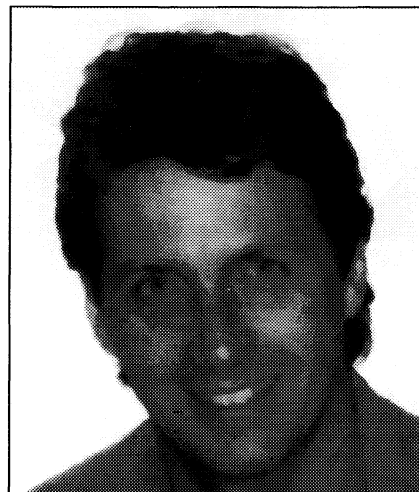
My breeding achievements are my most proud - Annie (10), Jack (9), Samantha (7) and Jimmy (0).

**What are your hobbies?**

I play a lot of sports and like watching sport, especially watching and coaching the kids.

**Describe your perfect weekend?**

On Saturday catch a barra, break par at Marrara, back the



card at Fannie Bay. On Sunday sleep in then coach the kids to a win at soccer (all equally far-fetched).

**What are you most passionate about?**

I'm really into these Mars rover missions. I think it heralds the first inkling that we will be a two-planet species and I think that's exciting.

**What was the last book you read?**

The Territory, by Ernestine Hill

**What is your favourite movie?**

Casablanca

**What was the last CD you bought?**

Twelfth Man - it came with a KFC commentary box.

**What is your favourite holiday destination?**

Any long drive with the family.

**Describe your perfect meal?**

Lunch is a vegemite sandwich. Dinner is a roast.

**After a long week at work it is finally Friday, you walk up to the bar and order a...**

Beer.①

## **Nardine Collier cont...**

bloody silly and made me cry. But, I went on to finish my degree. Thanks Eric (I think).

**How long have you been in the Territory and what brought you up here?**

I was born in Darwin. So the answer to brought me here is pretty obvious - though I could be rude and say the back of Mum and Dad's panel van.

**What is the best, and worst, thing about living and working in the Territory?**

Having never lived anywhere else I can't really compare, but having visited and spent time in large cities I am always glad to come home. Territorians are a friendly lot! I especially enjoy working in Alice Springs. As a group, the practitioners here seem to get along well.

**If you had the power to change one thing in the world, what**

## **Please Don't Fiddle with my document cont...**

the original document. Comments on PDF documents operate in a similar manner.

PDF documents can also be interactive through the use of hyperlinks. For example, if you refer to a website, you can make that reference a "hot" spot which if clicked on, will take the reader to the website.

Tip: One thing you might not realise is that you can usually copy the text from a PDF document. Using the "Text Select" tool on the Adobe Acrobat Reader tool bar, you can highlight and copy all or part of the document and past it into your word processing package. You will lose the formatting, but you will have the text.

**Links:**

CutePDF (<http://www.cutepdf.com>)

Adobe ([www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com)) ①

**would it be?**

I should say "world peace", however what I really want is a Spotlight store in Alice Springs.

**What is your greatest achievement?**

My daughter Becky and my very soon to be born son.

**What are your hobbies?**

Nowadays - watching "Shrek" (Becky's favourite movie, so I've seen it about 200 times), reading, cooking, and the old favourites of wine and dining (though not so much lately). Recently I've taken up sewing and churn out weird clothes that Becky is too young to realise are awful.

**Describe your perfect weekend**

A little house on a beach, good food, good wine and a SLEEP IN.

**What are you most passionate about?**

My family and in recent times the

necklines of little girl's t-shirts.

**What was the last book you read?**

Seriously - The Cat in the Hat.

**What is your favourite movie?**

Shrek

**What is your favourite holiday destination and why?**

At the moment Adelaide. We have great friends there and I can indulge my taste buds and catch a glimpse of the ocean.

**Describe your perfect meal**

Thai or maybe Japanese or maybe Malaysian... fish and chips.

**After a long week at work it is finally Friday, you walk up to the bar and order a...**

Pink champagne, but I've forgotten what bars look like.

**Three words that describe you...**

Tired and more tired. ①

## **Hardie victims pursue justice denied to others**

The Jackson inquiry into James Hardie has been a potent reminder of the fundamental importance of protecting an individual's right to sue and recover compensation for personal injuries, according to the Law Council of Australia (LCA).

"James Hardie victims have kept their right to be fully compensated only because the New South Wales Government hasn't seen fit to take away their common law rights, as they have done for so many others," LCA President-elect Steve Southwood QC said.

Without such rights, particularly the right to sue for pain and suffering, the victims of asbestos supplier James Hardie would be in a far worse position. Although the victims of the negligent use of asbestos have tragically lost their health and years of life, compensation will provide them with medical care and will allow them to live the rest of their lives with dignity.

Mr Southwood said that the "thresholds" imposed on the right to claim damages in public liability cases by the NSW Government had deprived many people of their rights to sue for compensation.

"The NSW Government recognised that just compensation should be available for asbestos victims. However, there is no valid reason why other victims of negligence should not have the same right to be compensated," he said.

Mr Southwood was speaking as the Law Council this week made its second submission to the Special Commission of Inquiry, chaired by David Jackson QC, into the Medical Research and Compensation Foundation, established by the James Hardie Group.

"The James Hardie inquiry is a wakeup call, showing that it is time to review some of the tort law reforms that have been introduced throughout Australia", Mr Southwood said.