

Busy program helps Open the Door to the Law

Law Week is a national initiative, which aims to:

- * increase public awareness of the law and its role in society;
- * reach a diverse range of people in the community;
- * provide information and legal education programs which focus on less privileged members of the community; and
- * provide opportunities for the legal profession to participate in leadership and advocacy activities.

This year Law Week was held from Saturday 15 until Sunday 23 May (in all jurisdictions except the ACT). In line with many of the other states, the Northern Territory adopted the theme of Opening the Door to the Law.

The busy program of events planned by the Law Society NT included:

- * community education workshops held in Darwin, Casuarina, Palmerston, Katherine, Elliot and Alice Springs;
- * family law workshops in Palmerston and Katherine;
- * walking tours of the Fannie Bay Gaol;
- * Spies, Sleaze and Death in the Afternoon, a bus crime tour around Darwin;
- * an open day at the Supreme Court;
- * an official launch and Tug-of-War competition in the Smith Street Mall, Darwin;
- * a legal issues forum for senior secondary school students;
- * the tradition Law Week lunches in Darwin and Alice Springs, with guest speaker Jim Backwell;
- * a cricket match between the Chief Justice's XI and the LSNT President's XI; and
- * a visit to Don Dale Juvenile Detention Centre to discuss legal issues with students.

There was a mixed reaction from the community to some of the community education workshops, which covered a whole raft of topics, but overall Law Week was well-received.

The Law Society would like to offer a huge thank-you to all volunteers who assisted with Law Week 2004. Planning for Law Week 2005 has already commenced and the program should be bigger than ever and include more activities in regional communities. :)



Susan Cox taking in the NTBA's mock trial.

Laughter at Lucinda's trial

At this year's Supreme Court open day the NT Bar Association presented the mock trial of the defamation of Lucinda Fishwyck MP.

A crowd of people filed into Court One to laugh to hear the Hon Claudius Megma and the Northern Territory Bugle answer accusations of defamation.

This entertaining trial provided the audience with the opportunity to decide whether or not Lucinda Fishwyck MP had been defamed by comments and insinuations made about her treatment of goats.

Despite an unfortunate clash with the V8 Supercars, the Supreme Court open day attracted quite a few

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Peter Barr and Tony Young in the NTBA's mock trial

LAW WEEK 2004: Opening the Door to the Law (15-23 May)

Chief Justice's XI secures another convincing victory

The annual Law Week cricket challenge between the Law Society President's IX and the Chief Justice's XI this year took place at Dinah Beach Oval on Sunday 16 May.

Justice Dean Mildren captained the Chief Justice's XI to a convincing victory again this year.

Representing the Chief Justice were Justice Dean Mildren, Justice Steven Bailey, Justice Trevor Riley, Vincent Luppino SM, Rex Wild QC, Professor Ned Aughterson, Stephen Gray, Chris McGorey, Ben Wild, Jessica Bates, Kate Wickett, O'Neill Padilla and Chris McGorey.

Representing the Law Society were Merran Short (captain), Michael Grant, Bill Piper, Bill Priestley, Daniel Zucchi, Tanya Fong Lim, Danielle Howard, Cathy Spurr, Michael Grove and Graham Bennett.

As this is a seriously competitive, yet social, game of cricket, modified rules were applied. Each player bowled for two overs and each pair batted for four ovals, regardless of the number of wickets. The final score was determined by the total number of runs divided by the total number of wickets.

The Law Society went into bat first. Bill Piper had an impressive innings of 32, including three sixes. Michael Grant also put in a solid innings with the bat. The LSNT's final score was 114, with 11 wickets, giving them an average of six.

Rex Wild QC, Stephen Gray and Chris McGorey all put in solid performances with the bat for the

Chief Justice's team. Jessica Bates and Kate Wickett had a very impressive innings, scoring 23 and 20 respectively without losing a wicket.

The Chief Justice's XI finished with a total score of 184, with 11 wickets, giving them an average of 16.7 and a convincing victory over the LSNT President's XI.



Justice Dean Mildren, victorious captain of the Chief Justice's XI, with LSNT President Merran Short.



LSNT President XI (L-R): Merran Short, Bill Priestley, Bill Piper, Michael Grant, Daniel Zucchi, Tanya Fong Lim, Ian Morris, Danielle Howard, Michael Grove, Cathy Spurr and Graham Bennett.



Merran Short presents Stephen Gray with the Man of the Match award.



Chief Justice's XI: (backrow) Chris Rowe, Rex Wild QC, Ben Wild, John Martin (umpire), Justice Trevor Riley, Justice Dean Mildren RDF, Professor Ned Aughterson, Justice Stephen Bailey, Vincent Luppino SM (frontrow) Chris McGorey, O'Neill Padilla, Jessica Bates, Kate Wickett and Stephen Gray.

Big crowds for *Spies, Sleaze and Death in the Afternoon*

The ever-popular Law Week crime tours were a feature of the program again this year. Hosted by Dr Bill Wilson from Charles Darwin University, there were walking tours of the Fannie Bay Gaol and a bus tour around Darwin - '*Spies, Sleaze and Death in the Afternoon*'.

The Darwin crime tours have become a Law Week tradition and again proved popular with tourists and locals alike.

Spies, Sleaze and Death in the Afternoon, the hour-long crime tours involved a guided tour around Darwin and surrounding suburbs telling tales of death, snakes and spies.

The crime tour celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Petrov Affair – Australia's greatest spy story. One of the many stories along the route was of Mrs Petrov's famous landing in Darwin.

The bus tours left from the Supreme Court after work on Monday and Thursday.



A tour group examines the old hanging facilities at the Fannie Bay Gaol.

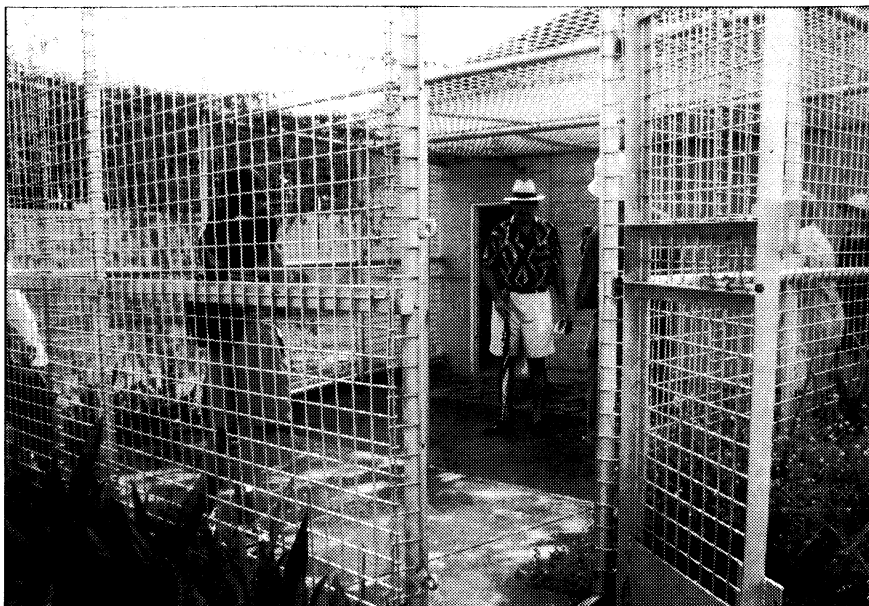
There were also walking tours of the historic Fannie Bay Gaol. These guided tours included tales of recent and not-so-recent inmates in the famous gaol.

The Law Society would like to offer a special thank-you to Dr Bill

Wilson who kindly organised and hosted the Law Week crime tours again this year, with financial assistance from the Law Society Public Purposes Trust.



Dr Bill Wilson leading a Law Week crime tour at the Fannie Bay Gaol.



Dr Bill Wilson shows a group what life behind bars was like in the women's section of the Fannie Bay Gaol.

LAW WEEK 2004: Opening the Door to the Law (15-23 May)



LSNT information stall at the Law Week launch



Michael Grove and son at the Law Week cricket match.



Jacek Karczewski QC and Michael Carey at the Darwin Law Week lunch.



David Alderman in the NTBA mock trial at the Supreme Court open day.



The LSNT team takes a drinks break at the Law Week cricket match.



Justice Trevor Riley takes the crease in the cricket match



Chris Osborne sworn in at the NTBA mock trial.

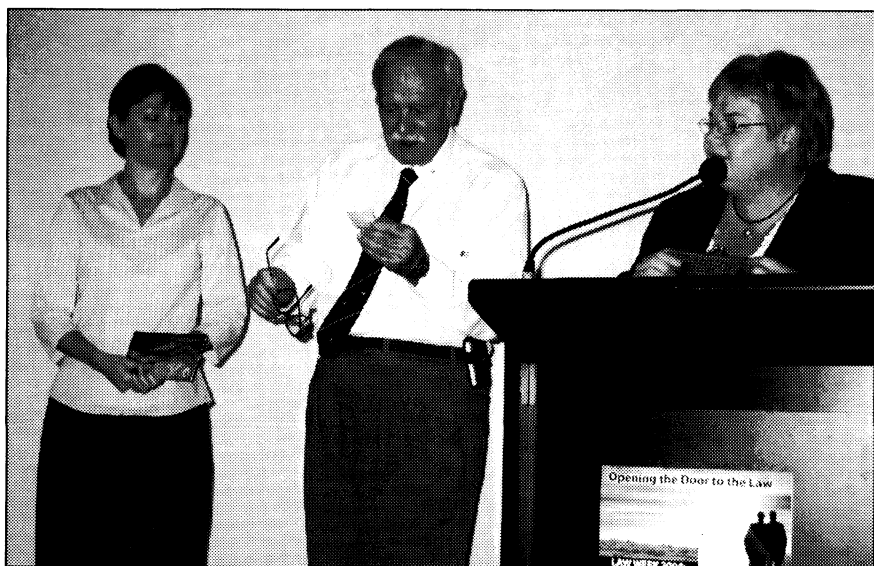


Department of Justice table at the Darwin Law Week lunch.

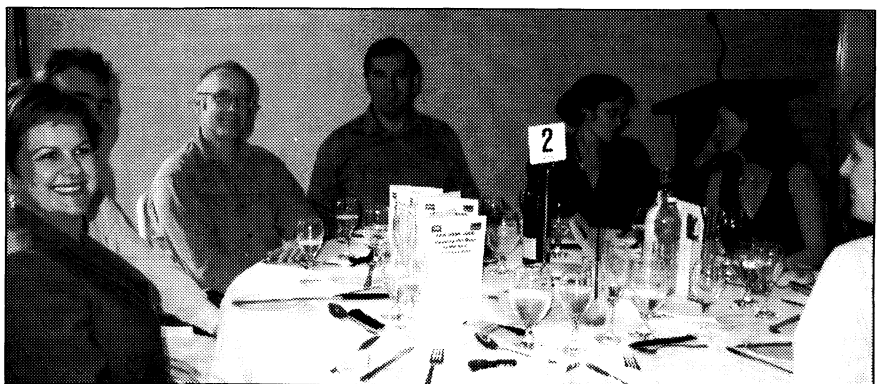


Terry Handley and Paul Ewens

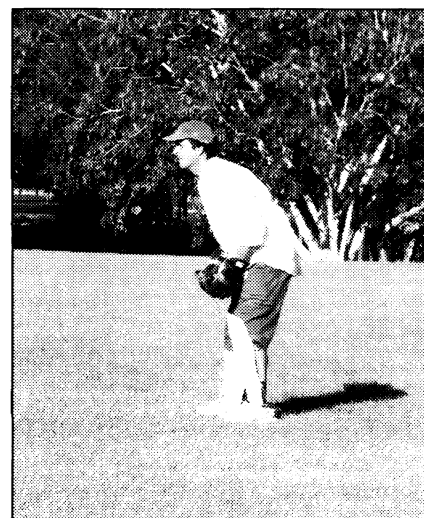
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The Hon Austin Asche AC QC draws the door prize at the Darwin lunch.



Cheryl Richardson, Matthew Storey, Michael Grove, Ned Aughterson, Caroline Edwards and Elisabeth Armitage at the Darwin lunch.



Bill Piper behind the wickets at the cricket



ABOVE: De Silva Hebron's Tug-of-War team the Scummy Dogs; Emma Fowler, Paul Rojas, Sophie Kassaras, Sonny Deo, David De Silva and Matthew Garraway.

LEFT: (clockwise) Phil Timney, Allana Chong-Fong, Gabrielle Martin, Martin Fisher, Matthew Garraway, Craig Smyth, Sarah Wilke and Kathryn Gleeson.

BOTTOM LEFT: The NT Police team in the Tug-of-War competition

BELOW: Justice Steve Bailey completes his innings at the cricket



Backwell addresses Law Week lunches

'International Humanitarian Law: the laws of war' was the topic at this year's Law Week lunches, with guest speaker Jim Backwell from the Australian Red Cross (Victorian Division).

Jim Backwell is a lawyer who graduated from Melbourne's Monash University. He is currently undertaking post-graduate study at the University of Melbourne.

He joined the Australian Red Cross Victorian Division in 1998 as the Coordinator of International Humanitarian Law (IHL). Jim was the acting National IHL Manager in 2001 before leaving for the Middle-east as the Legal Coordinator for the International Council Red Cross (ICRC) Israel, Occupied and Autonomous Territories Delegation. This delegation was based in Tel Aviv but Jim regularly worked in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Before working for the Red Cross, Jim was an Industrial Officer and the General Secretary of the Campaign for International Cooperation and Disarmament.

The Law Week lunches were Jim's last official function for the Australian Red Cross Victoria. He is moving on to take up the position of Community Campaigns manager for Amnesty International Australia.

The Alice Springs Law Week lunch was held at the Purple Shades of Mary on Wednesday 19 May. Circuit courts and court cases meant that attendance was down. The cosy gathering appreciated Jim Backwell's thought-provoking speech.

In Darwin, the Law Week lunch was held at the Novotel Atrium on Friday 21 May. The lunch was booked to capacity, which was limited to 110 due to a clash with the V8 Supercars.

Qantas kindly provided a door prize of two return flights from Darwin to Cairns. The Hon Austin Asche AC QC drew the prize and the lucky winner was Helen Finlay from the Department of Justice.

Cheryl Richardson from Marsh Insurance Brokers, a major supporter of Law Week, also attended the lunch.

Providing quality guest speakers for the Law Week lunch would not be possible without the support of the Law Society Public Purposes Trust.⁽¹⁾



Law Week guest speaker Jim Backwell.



Qantas representative Nicola Haynes, LSNT President Merran Short and Darwin door-prize winner Helen Finlay (Department of Justice).



David Bamber and Danielle Loy

Tug-of-War battle draws a big crowd

'Law Week 2004: Opening the Door to the Law' was officially launched by Attorney-General Dr Peter Toyne in the Smith Street Mall, Darwin, on Monday 17 May.

During the official launch, Dr Toyne announced \$100,000 in funding for the Community Justice Centre to continue its pilot program offering mediation for a range of issues before they reach the court system.

The launch attracted a fairly big crowd, many of whom came down to see the traditional Law Week Tug-of-War competition.

Five teams entered the Tug-of-War competition: the Scummy Dogs (De Silva Hebron); Coalition of the Unwilling (Department of Justice); Hunt and Hunt; the NT Police Crime Prevention Unit; and the DPP.

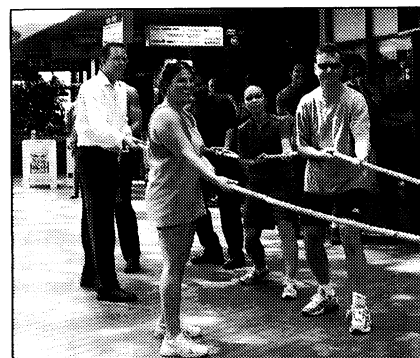
Justice David Angel judged the competitions, but there were no really close outcomes that caused controversy.

After a few preliminary bouts, the NT Police Crime Prevention Unit came up against the reigning champions the DPP. Not even the hectic schedule caused by the start of the infamous "Falconio Case" could keep the enthusiastic (and slightly cocky) DPP from fielding a

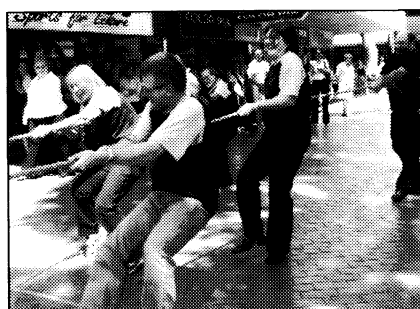
team.

The final was a closely fought battle, but the enthusiastic coaching of team manager Jacek Karczewski QC spurred the DPP team on to victory.

The Law Society would like to send a big thank-you to all teams who participated in this year's competition. It is always a popular event with the legal profession the public alike.



DOJ's coalition of the unwilling prepares for battle in the Tug-of-War



Hunt and Hunt's team in the Tug-of-War



Jacek Karczewski QC coaches the DPP team to victory in the Tug-of-War.



A large crowd turned out to cheer on the teams in the Tug-of-War competition.



The Scummy Dogs kept their sense of humour after being dragged across the line in the Tug-of-War competition.