
Judge jails 46 for ringing mobile phone

A judge in the United States has been removed from the bench after he jailed 46 people because no one would admit to their mobile phone ringing during his court session.

According to a *Sydney Morning*

Herald report, Judge Robert Restaino “snapped” during the 2005 court session, when he said, “Every single person is going to jail in this courtroom unless I get that instrument now.” No one

came forward, so the group was taken into custody and sent to the city jail. Later in the day they were released by the judge, who later told the state panel he was under stress in his personal life.

Faces in the law

FACES IN THE LAW ASKS PRACTITIONERS TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ABOUT THEMSELVES, THEIR CAREERS AND THEIR LIFE OUTSIDE THE LAW.

Kelvin Strange, Power & Water Corporation

Brief career history

I graduated from the University of Adelaide in 1986 and was lucky enough to be offered articles by the Department of Law in Darwin. I therefore arrived in the Territory on a two year plan but never managed to quite get away. In that time I have worked for a number of local firms primarily in commercial law including a long stint at Waters James and O’Neil (as it then was). In 2001, I joined Power and Water Corporation as its General Counsel.

What motivated you to start working in the legal profession?

I thought it would be interesting, perhaps exciting, and provide a good lifestyle.

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

I first arrived as a third year law student in 1984 to work through the Christmas holiday period with the Department of Law. This led to an offer of articles, my return to Darwin in 1986 and so on.

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

The lack of crowds, the people and the pace of life generally are all positives.

It’s also nice to go to work and get home in daylight. Like most,

I’m not that fond of the heat in the build up.

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

Climate change - it concerns me that our children and their children will have to face so many challenges. We’ve only got one earth.

What is your greatest achievement?

Callum - my son.

What are your hobbies?

Reading, staying home on weekends and trying not to do too much. The occasional punt on the horses on Saturday.

Describe your perfect weekend.

At home with my family, perhaps dinner on Saturday with friends and the occasional punt on the horses. On Sundays, I endeavour to be as inactive as possible (and generally succeed).

What are you most passionate about?

My family, red wine, the Crows and the Hammers (though not necessarily in that order!).

What was the last book you read?

Who killed Channel 9 by Gerald Stone.

What is your favourite movie?

The Good, the Bad and the Ugly.



Kelvin Strange

What was the last CD you bought?

Probably a latest hits compilation for my son.

What is your favourite holiday destination and why?

Anywhere in Asia as its so close and relatively cheap still, with so much choice.

Describe your perfect meal.

Red wine and food.

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

Not that I’m out much on a Friday these days, but probably a cold beer.

Three words that describe who you are?

Direct, upfront and usually friendly.

Jodi Mather, Department of Justice

Brief career history

Entered the legal world at 19 where I commenced employment as a Law Clerk with a small Law Firm on St Kilda Road in Melbourne. Was lucky enough to work with Counsel on a number of cases in the County Court and through this experience, decided that Law was the career for me.

In 1994 was offered a Clerk of Courts traineeship with the Department of Justice in Victoria commencing work at the Preston Magistrates Court, moving on rotation over the next three years to Broadmeadows, Prahan Night Court, Administrative Appeals Tribunal and Melbourne Magistrates Court. In 1997 was offered a six month temporary contract with the Alice Springs Magistrates Court – saw this opportunity as a working holiday. Met my husband in Papunya on Court Circuit and the rest is history.

1998 – 2001 Darwin Supreme & Magistrates Courts. 2001-2002 Anti-Discrimination Commission / 2002-2003 Associate to the former Chief Justice Brian Martin / 2003 – 2007 DPP Prosecutor. At present my commitment to the Department of Justice still remains strong. I am currently in Gove working tirelessly on the Alcohol Management Plan and praying for a smooth implementation of an Alcohol Permit System. Plan to return to the DPP in 2009, however for now enjoying a wonderfully laid back lifestyle on the Peninsular.

What motivated you to start working in the legal profession?

Year 10 work experience as a Clerk of Courts at the Williamstown Magistrates Court in Victoria. Must have been those young good looking male advocates!

How long have you been in the Territory and what brought you

up here?

I followed my best friend to Alice Springs for a six month working holiday in 1997. A Law Degree, a wonderful husband, a baby in the making and an amazing lifestyle, I still find myself loving everything about this place.

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

Best Things:

1. My wonderful friends
2. The dry season
3. Saturday morning Laksa's and Tropical Lime & Honey's at the Parap Markets.
4. Afternoon drink at the sailing club
5. Thursday night grazing at the Mindil Beach Markets.

Worst Things:

1. Not enough days in the dry season.

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

Natural disasters!

What is your greatest achievement?

Marrying the best looking cop in the Police Force and conceiving our first little Territorian. Must be the Gove Peninsula air or perhaps the lack of extra curricular activity! Bub due: 1 March 2008.

What are your hobbies?

I'm ashamed to say and thankfully I'm not alone Astar is all the craze out here.

Describe your perfect weekend.

No phone, no work, no cleaning.

What are you most passionate about?

The introduction of an Alcohol Permit System for the East Arnhem



Jodi Mather

Region.

What was the last book you read?
Ross on Crime (seriously!) and the Astar TV Guide.

What is your favourite movie?
Legally Blonde.

What was the last CD you bought?
I'm a Kylie fan from way back!

What is your favourite holiday destination and why?

Turkey – Love the culture, the people, the food, the beaches and I can't get enough of the history! The shopping in Istanbul is pretty good too!

Describe your perfect meal.

A freshly basted Peking Duck thinly sliced and served on rice paper with hoisin sauce, cucumber and a sprig of spring onion. Heaven!

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

Bloody cold and very alcoholic drink – I'm not fussy, just give me something strong and make it a double!

Three words that describe who you are? Ambitious, hard working and loyal.

Faces in the Secretariat

ALL YOU'VE EVER WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT MEMBERS OF
THE LAW SOCIETY SECRETARIAT

Rebecca Mitchell, Public Relations Officer

Brief career history

Worked with Richmond Football Club in Administration and later as Communications Assistant for 3 ½ years before changing from part-time to full-time uni. I did a uni placement as Marketing Assistant at a local Council in Melbourne and ended up staying for three years. Most recently I've spent a year in Jabiru working for the Council producing Kakadu's community newspaper.

What motivated you to start working in the legal profession?

My job came about at the time I was hoping to move to Darwin, so I was lucky.

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

Almost two years. I came up early last year (on my way to Broome) because I was restless after returning from a trip to Europe, and it felt like time for a change from Local Government. Turns out I stayed in Local Government, however it was a big change working in the middle of a National Park. I'd been here twice as a teenager and was very impressed, particularly with Kakadu.

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

I love living near the water, but hate not being able to swim. I also love that there are so many places to visit on weekends, and that the place is conducive to meeting a range of interesting people. I hate the lack of shopping options and no late night trading on Thursdays

– it's no good having it on Friday's because I'm usually enjoying the after works drinks I missed out on living in the bush.

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

Darwin would be much closer geographically to Victoria, and we'd all have three months annual leave a year to explore this great country!

What is your greatest achievement?

Probably finishing uni, because I was initially told I couldn't do my double degree part-time because no one ever finished it. I finished it, and now I'm doing my masters. Also moving up here on my own was probably an achievement because I never thought I'd have the guts to do it.

What are your hobbies?

Camping, travel, spending time near the water, home improvements, cooking, going out with my friends.

Describe your perfect weekend

One without study. A road trip around the Top End, plenty of tunes on the Ipod, and testing out country pubs. I had this planned in February when friends came up from Melbourne, and due to the whole Top End being severely flooded we were unable to go further than the pubs in Darwin.

What are you most passionate about?

Food, unfortunately, and exploring Australia.

What was the last book you



Rebecca Mitchell

read?

Road to Paradise by Paulina Simmons, I'm not quite sure why I bothered to finish it.

What is your favourite movie?

The two Bridget Jones movies and Zoolander.

What was the last CD you bought?

Slim Dusty's Greatest Hits.

What is your favourite holiday destination and why?

Mallacoota in Gippsland Victoria, because I've only missed one year in twenty, it feels like one of my many 'homes'. The Czech Republic is another favourite but I haven't been there quite as regularly.

Describe your perfect meal

Any sort of pasta, Mum's Golden Syrup Dumplings for dessert and plenty of wine.

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

Three words that describe who you are? Ambitious, restless, down to earth.