Address by Law Council of Australia President, Tim Bugg to the Darwin Law Week Luncheon cont...

And it's quite interesting that in that process you understand more what it is like being a lawyer and I am proud to have had the opportunity to be in this role and I encourage all of you to be involved. It's a great delight for me to be here because I have so many good friends in the Territory despite the poor advice I get from at least one of them on a regular basis. And I will look forward to coming back when I'm no longer having to spend my time on an aircraft becoming moderately grumpy, to spend some time wandering around.

In closing, I want to mention AustLII. AustLII is in financial difficulties. And I suspect many in this room make use of AustLII as a form of research. And I can assure you that the Law Council will do what it can to help AustLII through this difficult time. I've had meetings with their directors, they came to our executive meeting in Canberra last week. I've invited them to see our board in a few weeks time, and it seems to me that it's a critical service not just for the legal profession in the more remote areas, but also for the public at large. With self representation on the increase, and I discussed this topic with

Justice Thomas in Alice Springs the other day because she has been in a case where she has had to deal with self represented defendants, it's important that such people have access to a good research vehicle such as AustLII. And it's interesting for me to make another comparison to my early days of practice to where we now are. In my firm in Burnie I had, as a very junior partner, reason to go to a place called Smithton which is a long way out in the North West of Tasmania, because my then partners resolved to buy a practice there. On my first day there I was somewhat surprised to see there was a first edition Halsbury which was in the shelves, contained only the odd numbered volumes. Intrigued by this I enquired why that was the case and it seemed that some years before the only two firms in town combined to buy a set of Halsbury, with one taking the odd and one taking the even. Times have moved on. We now have AustLII. We must continue to have AustLII, and I urge you to speak out on behalf of AustLII. Thank you very much.

The Law Week Luncheons

Darwin, Friday 1 June, Skycity



The team from Clayton Utz enjoy the lunch



Duncan McConnel, Nerys Evans and His Honour Mr Ted Egan



Members of the legal profession catch up at the Law Week lunch

Alice Springs, Wednesday 30 May, The Lane Restaurant



The team from CAALAS at the Alice Springs Law Week lunch



Local Court personnel meet Law Society and Law Council representatives

Cover story:

LAW WEEK

Law Week 2007

Taking law to the community, across the Territory

Law Week 2007 was launched with much activity in Raintree Park on 28 May.

Chief Magistrate Jenny Blokland officially launched the fortnight of legal events, and Hot100 FM DJ, Joel Gelding provided expert Tug-of-war commentary.

Participants in the great Tug-of-Law included Legal Aid, Morgan Buckley, Power and Water, Cridlands, and the Maley's Mud Pigs became the 2007 champions. The Magnificent Media team also gave the lawyers a run for their money. Aside from some bruising and a few big spills, the launch was a fantastic start to a big week of activities.

At the launch, members of the public were able to browse a number of legal services information stands, and were also treated to an excerpt of Lethal Cross Examinations.

Whilst there was plenty happening in Darwin, events were also planned around the Territory. Katherine hosted a successful Darwin Family Pathways Network and Department of Justice Mega Services Expo, which promoted the legal services available to residents in the area, and also a DCLS workshop on duty of care.

In Tennant Creek, the new Cop This! education kit was launched, and in Alice Springs residents were treated to a free Historical Crime Tour taken by local legal identity, John Stirk. The team from the Central Australian Women's Legal Service/Domestic Violence Legal Service and the Central Australian Aboriginal Family Violence Unit also promoted their important services at a Todd Mall market stall.

Chief Magistrate Jenny Blokland gave an educational talk to Nhulunbuy High School. The Law Society hopes to further improve the community legal education program in regional areas in 2008.



Joel Gelding from HOT100FM looks on as Chief Magistrate Jenny Blokland launches Law Week



The Legal Aid team shows some muscle



The Power and Water team, Power Play in action



An excerpt from Lethal Cross Examinations was performed at the launch by Gail Evans and Mary-Lyn Griffith



The Magnificent Media Team taking on the lawyers



The Tug-of-Law champions for 2007, the Maley's Mudpigs.

PHOTOS BY SHANE EECEN



Magistrate Melanie Little teaches students how to read legislation

Cop This! launched in Tennant Creek

By Fiona Hussin, Legal Aid

The NT Legal Aid Commission launched the Cop This! Curriculum Kit in Tennant Creek on 7 June as part of Law Week.

The NT Legal Aid Commission's Cop This! Curriculum Kit aims to achieve a greater understanding by youth of police processes such as search, arrest, and bail. This understanding will improve the relations between police and the community, particularly young people.

The kit includes:

- a booklet which outlines the rights and responsibilities of people when they have contact with police;
- a learning sequence to be used by schools which links into the NT curriculum framework;



Young people at the launch



L-R: Magistrate Michael Carey, Constable Craig Cassidy, Senior Sergeant Megan Rowe, Fiona Hussin and Matthew Wickham

and

• a DVD which demonstrates the situations that people are likely to encounter when having contact with police.

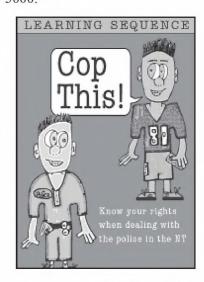
The artwork for the Curriculum Kit is the winning entry from a Youth Week competition which was won by Tinnesha Assan, a student at Alyangula Area School. Senior Sergeant Megan Rowe of the Tennant Creek Police Station officially launched the Kit. Also in attendance were staff from the Tennant Creek Legal Resource Centre, Magistrate Carey, court staff, NTLAC and CAALAS lawyers and teachers from the Tennant Creek High School.



COP THIS!

LAUNCH

The Kit will then be available for use by Schools across the NT. For more information about the Kit contact Fiona Hussin on 8999 3000.





A show produced for Law Week 2007

By Mary-Lynn Griffith

Starring The Honourable Justice Steve Southwood QC as Max Steuer, Suzan Cox QC as Francis Wellman and Tom Pauling QC as Clarence Darrow, the Lethal Cross Examinations Show brought to life the trickiest part of advocacy over two nights – 6 and 7 June – in Court One of the Supreme Court, for Law Week 2007.

The stellar performances of these prominent members of the legal community were further enhanced by those of Ken Conway, Yoris Wilson, actor/writer Gail Evans and daughter Ciella Williams, and the Show Band comprising Yoris (vocals, double bass), Gail (vocals, mandolin), Mary-Lynn Griffith (vocals, guitar) and Mat Cunliffe (keyboards, accordion).

Throughout the show, the Ghost of Cross Examinations Past (Yoris Wilson) rattles around ancient halls haunted by the one question he didn't ask, and finds solace in looking to the Masters of Cross Examination including: Max Steuer in the Triangle Shirt waist Company Fire Case, Francis Wellman in the Bellevue Hospital Case, Barwick in the infamous Case of William Dobell (aka 'The Caricature Case'), and Clarence Darrow in his astounding cross examination of William Jennings Bryan, prosecutor, in the Scopes Monkey trial.

The effect of the cross examination on the witness in each of the cases selected was lethal, resulting variously in insanity, physical and mental deterioration and, disappearance, in one case, death.

The theme song "In Every Ivory" and musical links played by the show band brought together the major theme of the Show- exposing the tools of the cross



The cast of Lethal Cross Examinations - Ciella Williams, The Honourable Steve Southwood, Mary-Lynn Griffith, Tom Pauling QC, Gail Evans, Duncan McConnel, Suzan Cox QC, Ken Conway; with Yoris Wilson above. (Mat Cunliffe absent).

examiner and advising caution – "Beware the traps once set - even when you're suing it could be your undoing – a noose, a net, hammer or drill.

"You may choose to say too much or nothing at all - lips remaining sealed, but if you enter the arena with wits which are keener, prepare to be revealed." The Show drew a large audience from legal and non-legal backgrounds, which numbered 342 persons over the two nights. Written and directed by Gail Evans, conceived and produced by Mary-Lynn Griffith, Lethal Cross Examinations was made possible thanks to a grant from the Public Purposes Trust.



Audience members watch the second performance of Lethal Cross Examinations



Mat Cunliffe, Gail Evans and Mary-Lynn Griffith performed the musical accompaniment for Lethal Cross Examinations

MARSH LAW WEEK CRICKET CHALLENGE

The Chief Justice's XI was victorious over the Law Society President's XI at the Marsh Law Week Cricket Challenge on Sunday 3 June at Dinah Beach Oyal.



The Chief Justice's XI receive the perpetual trophy from the Law Society President, Allison Robertson, who captained their opposition



Stewart Boland and Ben Wild

Junior Darwin lawyers took on their senior colleagues in an amusing debate on 7 June at the Supreme Court.

The teams debated the topic, "the Northern Territory should become a nuclear waste dump."

Justice Angel called the

SENIOR V JUNIOR LAWYERS DEBATE

debate a draw, however when judged by audience noise, the 'experienced' team were named the winners.



Tony Young argues for the 'experienced' team



Justice Riley, Glen Dooley and Justice Southwood



Kate Booth and Kate O'Fathartaigh enjoy the cricket



Fiona Justin debates with the junior lawyers