

Darwin.

### Member services

The Secretariat recently revamped *Practitioner* and *Balance* is scheduled for review.

Surveys for practitioners are being developed to determine member preferences.

### Law Week

Planning for what should be a particularly successful Law Week from 26-30 May 2008 is well underway.

Under the theme of "Law in Society" a busy program including hypotheticals on the Intervention and a Salem Witch Trials reading are planned. The cricket match has also been improved with a family fun day, so families wondering how to entertain their children can bring them down for a jumping castle and face painting whilst they either participate in the match or socialise with friends. Importantly, the President is keen for his "11" to beat the Chief Justice's

"11", so prospective cricketers should contact Rebecca Mitchell at [publicrelations@lawsocnt.asn.au](mailto:publicrelations@lawsocnt.asn.au). A practice and sign up has been organised for 15 May 2008.

One again, we would appreciate any ideas on how to improve member services, and our Committees are always interested in new members. Please contact me on 8981 5104 if you have any ideas.

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## Judicial milestones celebrated

By Barbara Bradshaw, Law Society CEO

It was a pleasure to attend the Judicial Milestones Dinner held for Justice David Angel and Justice Sally Thomas AM on 12 April 2008.

Angel J became the longest serving NT Supreme Court Judge, and Thomas J celebrated 30 years as a Judicial officer in the Territory (initially as a Magistrate, then Chief Magistrate, and from 1992 a Supreme Court Judge).

Those in attendance included the Administrator of the Northern Territory, His Honour, Mr Tom Pauling QC and Mrs Tessa Pauling, former Administrator Austin Asche and Dr Val Asche, the Chief Justice Brian R Martin and other Judges of the Supreme Court, the Master, the Attorney-General, Dr Chris Burns and Mrs Burns, the Chief Magistrate, Jenny Blokland and a good selection of current and former Magistrates, including

former Chief Magistrates Gerry Galvin and Ian Gray. The Chancellor Richard Ryan, and Vice Chancellor Helen Garnett headed up the contingent from Charles Darwin University. The President of the Bar Council, Peter Barr QC, and President of the Law Society, Duncan McConnel, headed up a large delegation of practitioners and their partners. Not the least were a good collection of family and old friends. We particularly noted former NT Solicitor and Sally's son, Chris Rowe, who is, perhaps thankfully for the Society, now living in Adelaide, and is therefore unable to be on the Chief Justice's Cricket team at the coming Law Week Cricket Match with the Law Society President's 11.

Very interesting material on both Justices was provided by Chris Cox, Director of Courts, and both justices gave impressive speeches.



*Justice Sally Thomas and Duncan McNeill*



*Anita Angel and Justice David Angel*

It was interesting, sitting in the luxury of the new Supreme Court, viewing the beautiful artwork, to note both Angel J's

late father and Thomas J's late husband (my predecessor as Execu-

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# Judicial milestones celebrated...cont.

tive Officer of the Law Society) were in Darwin during the bombing raids in February 1942.

Angel J, unlike his relative, who in the 19th century organised an expedition to an area north of Alice Springs in search of elephants (because elephants were in similar latitudes in Africa) has had a successful time in the Territory. His Honour has been involved in many significant cases, one mentioned being the Murdoch appeal. He has had a major role in the Aboriginal art area, including in the development of the Supreme Court display (with his

wife Anita). From a Law Society point of view, I have noted he has been the force behind the prestigious Kriewaldt lecture series, and it is noted that Gleeson CJ, the retiring Chief Justice, has made time available to deliver the lecture this year on 12 August. Being a current or future High Court Judge seems a prerequisite for delivery of this lecture!

Thomas J has spent a productive 30 years in the Territory, and it's sometimes hard to see how she has managed to fit in her other interests, including University, Masters Swimming, NORFORCE, NT Cancer

Council, canoeing and Rotary, with a busy judicial career. Particularly most recently as the Territory's (so far) only female Supreme Court Judge, and one who can run a court with both firmness and fairness. It would be very illuminating if she could write her memoirs, but based on her Judicial Anteced-

ents document, and the speech she gave at the dinner, she may be too busy joining a women's rock band, becoming an environmental scientist or writing an opera. I think the dinner was a fitting tribute to these two senior Judges, and congratulations should go to Chris Cox and others involved in its organisation.



*The Supreme Court foyer looked resplendent*



*Sharon McGregor, Brian Warren & Daniel McGregor*



*Terri & David Lisson*



*Jodi Truman & Jason Finley*



*Lucy Lindbergh-Ostling, O'Neil Padilla & Chrissy McConnel*



*Rachael & Greg Shanahan & Sue Oliver SM*



*Chrissy McConnell, Sophie Cleveland, Judith Kelly and Duncan McConnell*



*Eva Christou, Beverley Aitken, Helen McGregor & Marianne Warren*



*Justice Southwood and Jenny Blokland CM*



*Tanya Fong-Lim, Melanie Little SM & Jan Riley*



*Justice Trevor Riley and Sally Gearin*



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