

Magistrates take Law Week to remote NT

Darwin Magistrates made a particular contribution to Law Week 2008, taking the law to remote Northern Territory communities on their court rounds.

On 23 May, Greg Cavanagh SM spoke to Middle School Students at Alyangula School (Groote Eylandt) regarding the law and legal careers.

Chief Magistrate Jenny Blokland CM and Court Officer Rob Hall gave a careers in the law talk at Nhulunbuy High School on 3 June.

The Chief Magistrate made a similar presentation with the assistance of Marija Dhamarranji, an interpreter and senior community member, at Shepparton College (Galiwink'u). With the assistance of Wayne Kirk (Community Corrections) and Court Officer Rob Hall, the Chief Magistrate spoke to Yirrkala CSC, and she also hosted a morning tea coinciding with Galiwink'u court on 4 June.

Magistrate Vince Luppino SM will conduct a postponed schools talk at Nguu in the coming months. Mr Luppino also conducted a CPD on the *Mental Health and Related Services Act* in Alice Springs on 28 May as part of Law Week.

The Law Society greatly appreciates the assistance of the NTs magistrates in bringing Law Week to remote communities.



Galiwink'u Court morning tea hosted by the Chief Magistrate as part of Law Week. Photo includes: Maraja Dhamarranji, Mary Ryan, Va Va Mawili, Damian Jones, Rob Hall, Sharon Morris, Mr Wunungmurra, Harold Dewis and Jenny Blokland CM



Nhulunbuy High School Careers in Law talk with Jenny Blokland CM and Court Officer Rob Hall. Photograph includes: Emma McLaren-Alexander, Larissa Ellis, Andrew Blundell, John Zak (teacher), Ian Williams (Police Officer) and Jenny Blokland CM

LawCare program launched

A LawCare service to help LSNT members deal with situations of serious stress was launched for the profession at the Darwin Law Week Lunch on 30 May 2008.

An initiative of the Law Society Member Services Committee, the service will be free to Law Society members and their families, and will help address issues such as

depression, alcoholism and other stresses.

A Beyond Blue/Beaton Consulting survey of 17,000 respondents, released in April 2007, showed that 16% of lawyers who responded displayed moderate or severe symptoms of depression, and respondents from firms were the most likely to use alcohol or other

drugs to reduce or manage sadness and depression.

According to BeyondBlue, each employee with untreated depression or related conditions will cost their organisation around \$10,000 a year.

Law Society President, Duncan McConnel, said law is acknowl-
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