



# NTYL UPDATES

## Northern Territory Young Lawyers (NTYL)

**Hugh Bond**  
President  
NTYL

**Great Debate** On 17 May 2016 the NTYL hosted the annual Great Debate. In what has developed into one of the marquee events of Law Week, the Great Debate pits a team of three young lawyers against three of their more senior compatriots, battling over a comedic topic (this year's being: *"Back in my day..." – lawyers today have it so easy*).

This year's proceedings saw a junior team comprised of Isabel Roper (Supreme Court ssociate); Lachlan Peattie (SFNT); and Rachel Gleeson (Pipers Barristers and Solicitors) take on a formidable senior team made up of Jonathon Hunyor (NAAJA) appearing as 'Bruce Tunstall'; Bronwyn Haack (DPP); and Wade Roper (William Forster Chambers). The debate was astutely adjudicated by her Honour Justice Kelly.

Mr Hunyor, showing that his late night improv acting classes have paid off, opened the debate for the affirmative by assuming the character of Bruce Tunstall—an affable, red-wine-soaked pragmatist, straight out of the 'good old days'. Partly advocate, partly an exhibit in support of his own argument, Bruce certainly set the bar high for rest of the speakers.

Miss Roper, first speaker for the junior team, was quick to clarify she was of no relation to the venerable third speaker of the senior team and certainly demonstrated that distinction by showing a level wit and sharpness of which the elder Roper could only ever dream.

Miss Haack, following up for the senior team, confused many of the audience members with her youthful visage,

but promptly put away any doubts as to her vintage as she took us through a legal museum of Teledexes and claims (as yet unverified) of having both sent and received facsimiles.

Mr Peattie, with his newsreader good looks, continued the case for the junior team. Throughout his well-crafted speech, it seemed no members of the profession were safe from Peattie's acerbic wit. Although well-received by many audience members, it is clear that there is no greater fan of Mr Peattie than himself.

Mr Roper wrapped up the senior team's arguments with his trademark droll and deadpan style. With school-teacher-like method, Mr Roper gave us a lesson on facts and figures, drawn from the ever-reliable and oft-cited 'Roper on Statistics'. And thus, the senior team's case was closed with a touch of academic charm.

Miss Gleeson, third and final speaker for the junior team, also brought a touch charm, a peppering of flirtation and, at times, downright salaciousness that the debate, until that point, had been sorely missing. No stranger to comedy, Gleeson seems to be angling again for the prized Golden Gavel this year.

Not to be outdone by any of the speakers, the esteemed adjudicator Kelly J provided pointed critique of each speaker individually. Taking a leaf out of Barr J's book, her Honour also handed out different prizes to each speaker as a measure of their individual merit. Overall, judgment fell in favour of the senior team; although clearly comedy was the biggest winner on the night.



The NTYL wish to thank each of the speakers for participating; her Honour Kelly J for adjudicating; the Supreme Court for making the venue available; the Law Society Northern Territory (particularly Pam Jaenke) for providing refreshments and assistance on the night; and of course the audience for coming out and enjoying the show.

**Golden Gavel 2016** Planning is already underway for the annual Golden Gavel comedy competition; in which young lawyers from across the profession put their reputations (and often civil liability) on the line for the prestigious award. The winner also has the privilege of representing the NT at the national golden gavel competition, which this year will be held in Tasmania.

The NT Golden Gavel will be held in late August or early September, so if you think you're funny or know someone who thinks they are, please send through nominations to [hugh.bond@maleyslegal.com](mailto:hugh.bond@maleyslegal.com).

**Committee involvement** The NTYL Committee always welcomes input from any keen young lawyers (being lawyers with less than five years post-admission experience). If you would like to be involved, please contact the President ([hugh.bond@maleyslegal.com](mailto:hugh.bond@maleyslegal.com)) or Vice-President ([nhi.tran@nt.gov.au](mailto:nhi.tran@nt.gov.au)).

## Executive

**Tass Liveris**, President  
**Candice Maclean**, Vice-President  
**Josine Wynberg**, Secretary  
**Maria Savvas**, Interim Treasurer

## Councillors

**Sally Bolton**  
**David Woodroffe**  
**Emma Farnell**  
**Jeff Collins**  
**Leonique Swart**  
**Andrew Giles**

## Representatives

**Tony Whitelum**, Alice Springs  
**Mark O'Reilly**, Alice Springs (alternate)  
**David Alderman**, Northern Territory Bar Association  
**Hugh Bond**, Northern Territory Young Lawyers  
**Dominic Gomez**, Northern Territory Young Lawyers (alternate)

## Secretariat

**Megan Lawton**, Chief Executive Officer  
**Kellie Grainger**, Manager Regulatory Services  
**Marian Wilson**, Senior Policy Lawyer & Pro Bono Coordinator  
**Julie Davis**, Corporate Services Manager  
**Dagmar Brautigam**, Finance Officer  
**Bella Basilides**, Professional Development Officer  
**Pam Jaenke**, Administration Officer Regulation, Events Coordinator  
**Ella King**, Licensing Officer  
**Yvette Buffon**, Administration Support Officer  
**Rebecca Hamersley**, Executive Assistant  
**Angie Perry-Mansell**, Reception & Administration Assistant