



City of Sydney Law Society

A Regional Society of the Law Society of NSW

Annual General Meeting

Thursday 19 November 2009
The Castlereagh Boutique Hotel & NSWMC
169 Castlereagh Street Sydney

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City of Sydney Law Society Inc

A Regional Society of
The Law Society of New South Wales
A.C.N. 000 000 699 ABN 88 377 230 477

Notice of 2009 Annual General Meeting of the City of Sydney Law Society Inc.

Notice is hereby given that the 2009 Annual General Meeting of the
City of Sydney Law Society Inc. will be held on

Thursday, 19 November, 2009, commencing at 5:30 pm
at the Castlereagh Boutique Hotel, 169 Castlereagh St, Sydney
(The Rules of the Society do not permit voting by proxy.)

AGENDA

1. Welcome, present & apologies
2. Adoption of Minutes of the previous AGM held on 20 November, 2008
3. President's Report for 2008/2009 – David Barker
4. Treasurer's Report and adoption of audited Financial Report – Nea Goodman
5. Election of Committee of City of Sydney Law Society Inc. (pursuant to Rule 16 of the Objects and Rules)
6. Election of auditor (currently Messrs Lowy Wilcock & Co)
7. Other business
8. Close of meeting

Notes:

- 1: Office bearers will be elected by the committee at the first committee meeting following the Annual General Meeting. This has been agreed by the present Committee be held at the NSW Law Society on 24 November, 2009 at 12:30pm.
- 2: The Annual General Meeting will be followed by a dinner at the Cello Room of the Castlereagh Boutique Hotel – more details to follow.

Dated: 21 October, 2009

Ken Harkness
Hon. Secretary

**CITY OF SYDNEY LAW SOCIETY INC.
MINUTES OF 16th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

held on 20 November, 2008

at the Castlereagh Boutique Hotel, 169 Castlereagh St, Sydney

1. Opening, Present and Apologies

The President, Anthony Restuccia, was unable to attend the meeting due to a family emergency and, in his absence Vice President, John Newton, opened the meeting at 5:45pm

Present: Denis Mockler, Ken Harkness, Nea Goodman, Wendy Fisher, Mahrukh Batliwalla, David Ross, Gerard Dupal, Peter Kelso, Susan Bowrey, John Newton, Stephen Bell, Colleen Donnelly, Allan Blank, John Counter, Romano Di Donato, Robert Eaves, John Gray, Igor Kazagrandi, Akash Lohdia, Telmo Martins, Michael Miceli, Gary Nicolau, Sophia Paras, Sri Pillai, Peter Rosier, David Ross, Denis Bluth, Dom Velcic, Mark Warton, Thomas Williams, Mary Young.

Apologies: Anthony Restuccia, David Barker, Maurice May, Victor Berger and Bryce Bridges.

2. Confirmation of the Minutes

Moved: That the Minutes of the 15th AGM on 5 December, 2007 as tabled be accepted as a true record of the meeting (with the amendments that the name of Colleen Donnelly be added as being present and of Romano Di Donato as an apology).

Moved: Ken Harkness; **Seconded:** Gerard Dupal. **Carried**

3. President's Report

The President's Report was circulated to the meeting.

In the President's absence, the Vice President spoke to Report.

4. Treasurer's Report

The audited Treasurer's Report was tabled at the meeting.

The Treasurer, Nea Goodman, spoke to her report.

Moved: That the Treasurer's Report and the accounts be accepted.

Moved: John Newton; **Seconded:** Denis Bluth. **Carried**

In discussion of the report it was noted that there was a statement that the accounts were prepared on an accruals basis although it appeared that membership fees, at least, were recorded on a cash basis. This was a referred as a matter of enquiry for the committee.

5. Special Business – Constitutional Amendment

Notice of a Special Resolution had been given with the Notice of Meeting at least 21 days prior to the meeting.

The meeting decided as follows:

Special Resolution:

That the Objects and Rules (the Constitution) of the City of Sydney Law Society Inc. be amended by adding a further pre-requisite to qualification for life membership in Rule 4A that:

- (a) ***The person is a member of the association of ten (10) years standing;*** (underlined words to be added)

Moved: John Newton; **Seconded:** Wendy Fisher

There was discussion of the motion.

Carried (by the requisite three-quarters majority).

(Note: The original notice of this special resolution had provided for a period of 5 years rather than 10 but the mover and seconder accepted the proposed amendment made from the floor for a longer period.)

6. Election of Committee

The meeting appointed Denis Bluth as Returning Officer with Mark Warton and Gary Nicolau as scrutineers.

The Secretary, Ken Harkness, reported that at least 7 days before the meeting he had received 25 written *nominations* for positions on the committee, these being:

Anthony Restuccia, Ken Harkness, Nea Goodman, Maurice May, Wendy Fisher, Mahrukh Batliwalla, Gerard Dupal, Victor Bizannes, Victor Berger, John Newton, Stephen Bell, Colleen Donnelly, Peter Rosier, David Barker, Bryce Bridges, Paul Power, Peter Kelso, Denis Mockler, Romano Di Donato, Sue Bowrey, John Barry Gray, Igor Kazagrandi, Sophia Paras, David Ross and Dom Velcic.

Voting papers were circulated to financial members present and the Returning Officer declared the following 20 nominees *elected* to the committee:

Anthony Restuccia, Ken Harkness, Nea Goodman, Maurice May, Wendy Fisher, Gerard Dupal, Victor Berger, John Newton, Stephen Bell, Colleen Donnelly, Peter Rosier, David Barker, Bryce Bridges, Paul Power, Peter Kelso, Denis Mockler, Romano Di Donato, Sue Bowrey, Sophia Paras and David Ross.

8. Appointment of Auditor

Moved: That the current auditors, Messrs Lowy Wilcock & Co, chartered accountants, be re-appointed.

Moved: Ken Harkness; Gerard Dupal. **Carried**

9. Other Business

Votes of Thanks

Peter Rosier moved a **vote of thanks** to the retiring President and his wife, Patricia, The Secretary, Ken Harkness, speaking to the motion noted that the Society was in a significantly better position in terms of membership and financial reserves, than when Mr Restuccia assumed the presidency in 2005. **Passed by acclamation.**

The Vice President recorded his appreciation to Ann Parisi, the Executive Officer, for her dedicated and capable service to the Society over the year.

Ken Harkness expressed his appreciation to the Vice President for his stepping into the chair at short notice in the absence of the President.

Strategic Direction

A brief discussion took place as to the strategic direction of the Society.

The meeting ended at 7:00pm and was followed by the Annual Dinner.

CITY OF SYDNEY LAW SOCIETY
ANNUAL REPORT
2009

2009 has been a period of transition for the City of Sydney Law Society. With Anthony Restuccia our long-serving President for the previous three years standing down, a new President, Emeritus Professor David Barker AM was elected after the Annual General Meeting in November 2008. The other Office Bearers retained their positions – John Newton, Vice-President, Nea Goodman, Treasurer and Ken Harkness, Secretary. Anthony Restuccia replaced Victor Berger as Immediate Past President.

The Society continued to operate a weekly free Continuing Legal Education Programme, the Seminars being held at the Sydney Mechanics School of Arts, with attendance averaging approximately 40 members per session. The success for this programme must be attributed to Ken Harkness, the Society's Secretary and CLE Convenor, who has managed the booking of weekly presenters who have all given their services on a pro-bono basis. A most important outcome of this programme has been an increase in the Society's membership which reached 325 financial members at the end of the 2008/2009 year. It would appear that this number will be increased in the current financial year.

One of the Society's main social events was the Law Week Breakfast which was held at the City Tattersalls Club on 11th May. The focus for the Breakfast was the issue of the negative public perception of the law and lawyers. Christopher Roper AM, Director of the St. James' Centre, presided over a discussion of presenters consisting of James Eyers, the Legal Editor of the Australian Financial Review, Laura MacIntyre, Senior Reporter of Lawyers Weekly, and Maria Ianotti the NSW Law Society's Media Adviser. We were also pleased to welcome Joe Catanzariti, the President of the NSW Law Society, Michael Tidball, the Society's Chief Executive Officer and Anna Katzmann, the President of the NSW Bar Association. The Society was grateful for the efforts of Colleen Donnelly, a member of the Committee who was the convener for the Breakfast, assisted by our Vice-President, John Newton. The Society's efforts with regard to the Breakfast were recognised by the presentation to our President David Barker of a Highly Commended Award by Joe Catanzariti at a subsequent meeting of Regional Presidents on the 30th July.

The Committee has been determined to use this year as an opportunity to plan for the future of the Society. With the help of a grant of \$800 from the NSW Law Society Regional Society's Fund, Sue-Ella Prodonovitch of WHK Horwarth was engaged to conduct an afternoon/evening Planning Workshop on the 10th June to examine current activities and plan for future opportunities available to the Society. The major outcomes of this Workshop have been an upgrading of the image of the Society ranging from its stationery, logo, brochures and sponsorship, to the future venue and presentation of its CLE Seminars.

Other social activities of the Society have been a CSLS Table at the NSW Law Society's 125th Anniversary Dinner on the 30th July, the re-launching of the Newsletter with a changed format under the editorship of Nea Goodman, a record attendance of 163 at the Cocktail Party on the 16th October as well as the AGM and formal Dinner on the 19th November.

The Society has continued to be responsible for the operation of the Downing Centre Pro Bono Room under the auspices of its Convenor Anthony Restuccia, who is now assisted by

Stephen Bell as Deputy Convenor. The Committee has agreed to appoint a Sub-Committee consisting of Anthony Restuccia, Stephen Bell, Colleen Donnelly and Ken Harkness to review the operation of this service and to make any necessary recommendations for its enhancement. In this connection, arrangements are being made to install an on-line provision for participating solicitors.

The Society was advised by one of its Committee members Denis Mockler that he was in possession of fifteen boxes containing the records of the Society and that it would be appropriate for arrangements for the preservation of these records. The outcome has been that the Society is engaging a professional Archivist to advise on the review and make recommendations as to the future archiving of these records.

Before closing this Report it is appropriate that I should pay tribute to the hard work undertaken by all the office bearers, particularly the Vice President, John Newton, Treasurer, Nea Goodman and our Secretary Ken Harkness, together with Pam Suttor, our 'Paired' Member of the Law Society Council. Mention should also be made of the contribution by the Society's Committee who have met on a regular monthly basis and given sterling support to the activities of the Society.

In conclusion the thanks of all members of the Society must be given to Ann Parisi, our Administrator, who has working unstintingly for the interests of the CSLS, in the administrative arrangements for the Newsletter, Committee meetings, social activities, membership and payment of accounts. We all recognise that without her effort the success of the Society this year would have been much harder to achieve.

Emeritus Professor David Barker AM
President – City of Sydney Law Society

City of Sydney Law Society

Treasurer's Report 2008/2009

I report on the financial position of the City of Sydney Law Society for the year ended 30 June, 2009. Copies of signed audited accounts are circulated. The auditors are the same as last year, Lowy Wilcock & Co, Chartered Accountants 72 Pitt Street Sydney.

The accounts reflect the policy position of the Committee that CLE and forums should be free to members, as a benefit and service. As a consequence of this policy income from activities and non member has remained stable. Sponsorship in past years has been available, and the Committee endeavoured to meet sponsors needs. Income from "spot sponsors" has been limited and it is likely this situation will continue in 2009/2010.

The Committee receives no funding for administrative support or CLE from the Law Society of NSW, save for a minor contribution to the cost of Law Week Breakfast. In the 2008/2009 the Committee retained a book keeper to manage MYOB and this has enhanced the quality of financial reports being presented to the Committee. During the year 2008/2009.

Expenses remain steady. Secretarial/administration support continues to be the largest expense. Given 54% of the profession is in the CBD and number of activities organised by the Committee it is and remains unrealistic to expect members or their firms to contribute large amounts of time or premises to assist running CSLS.

The accounts for income and expenditure for the year ended 30.6.2009 disclose:

1. Total income for the year was \$43,125.66 compared to \$52,473.64 for the year ended 30.6.2008.
2. Total expenditure for the year was \$40,807.02 compared to \$49,488.74 for the year ended 30.6.2008.

Accordingly I report a profit of \$1,623.40 (after tax) compared to a profit last year of \$2,089.40 (after tax). Retained profits for the year ended 30.6.2009 are \$50,670.47 (up from \$49,047.23 for the year ended 30.6.2008)

Monthly bank reconciliations, financial statements, profit and loss statements and accounts to be paid are circulated at each Committee meeting together with number of attendees at each function held during the preceding month.

The voluntary assistance of members of the Committee and their firms is much appreciated and I thank the President, Vice President, Immediate Past President and Secretary for support and assistance during the past year. I have special thanks for Ann Parisi, our secretariat and administration power house – thank you.

Nea Goodman, Treasurer 19 October, 2009

CITY OF SYDNEY LAW SOCIETY Inc

A.B.N. 88 377 230 477

FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
30TH JUNE 2009

CITY OF SYDNEY LAW SOCIETY Inc

A.B.N. 88 377 230 477

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CITY OF SYDNEY LAW SOCIETY Inc
A.B.N. 88 377 230 477

COMMITTEE'S REPORT

Your committee members submit the financial report of the CITY OF SYDNEY LAW SOCIETY for the financial year-ended 30th June 2009.

Committee Members

The names of the committee members throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

Prof D Barker - President
J Newton - Vice president
A Restuccia - Immed. Past President
N Goodman - Treasurer
K Harkness - Secretary
V Berger
S Bell
S Bowrey
B Bridges
R Donato
C Donnelly
G Dupal
W Fisher
P Kelso
M May
D Mockler
S Paras
D Ross
P Power
P Rosier

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were: continuing legal professional education.

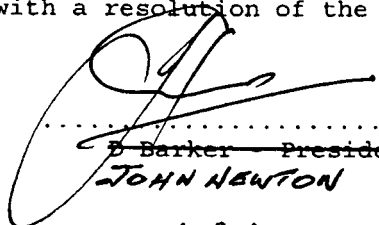
No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the financial year.

Operating Result


The profit from ordinary activities after providing for income tax amounted to \$1,623.24.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the committee members:

Committee member


.....
~~D Barker President~~
JOHN NEWTON VICE PRESIDENT

Committee member


.....
N Goodman Treasurer

Dated this 20 day of October 2009

CITY OF SYDNEY LAW SOCIETY

INCOME STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2009

	Note	2009 \$	2008 \$
INCOME			
Non Member's Activity Fees		3,179.16	3,508.45
Membership Fees		25,211.56	14,645.07
Function Income		9,612.60	7,682.73
Other Income		2,727.28	25,636.36
		<u>40,730.60</u>	<u>51,472.61</u>
OTHER INCOME			
Interest Received		2,395.06	1,001.03
		<u>2,395.06</u>	<u>1,001.03</u>
		43,125.66	52,473.64
EXPENDITURE			
Accountancy & Audit Fees		6,976.88	2,845.00
Advertising-Newsletter		1,480.00	3,296.44
Bank Charges		800.11	663.11
Casual Contract Work-Secretarial Fees		12,165.28	19,564.21
CLE Seminar Costs		1,952.82	2,058.39
Depreciation		595.00	731.00
Donations-Salvation Army		200.00	-
Filing Fees		108.00	-
Function Expense - Law Week Breakfast		2,146.36	1,731.82
Function Expenses - Sydney Lawyer's Dinner		-	636.36
Function Expenses - Cocktail Celebration		4,067.17	3,729.39
Speakers Gift		732.22	583.59
AGM Catering		4,704.55	2,606.82
General Expenses		2,069.32	1,549.14
Audit Adjustment		-	5,506.10
Postage		369.56	480.73
Printing & Stationery		847.85	2,377.08
Repairs & Maintenance		-	190.00
Staff Training & Welfare		1,000.00	-
Telephone		582.81	939.56
Travelling Expenses		9.09	-
		<u>40,807.02</u>	<u>49,488.74</u>
Profit before income tax		2,318.64	2,984.90
Income tax expense		695.40	895.50
Profit from operations		<u>1,623.24</u>	<u>2,089.40</u>
Retained profits at the beginning of the financial year		49,047.23	46,957.83
Total available for appropriation		<u>50,670.47</u>	<u>49,047.23</u>
Retained profits at the end of the financial year		<u>50,670.47</u>	<u>49,047.23</u>

The accompanying notes form part of this financial report.

CITY OF SYDNEY LAW SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 30TH JUNE 2009

	Note	2009 \$	2008 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash assets		52,000.56	55,507.03
Receivables	2	170.00	115.00
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>52,170.56</u>	<u>55,622.03</u>
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Fixed assets			
Plant and equipment	3	892.80	1,487.80
Intangible assets	4	1,990.91	1,990.91
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		<u>2,883.71</u>	<u>3,478.71</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>55,054.27</u>	<u>59,100.74</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Deposit Clearing Account			2,310.00
Trade Creditors		3,527.48	5,285.81
Other Creditors		2,999.92	1,899.00
GST payable		365.00	734.00
Provision for Income Tax		(2,508.60)	(175.30)
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>4,383.80</u>	<u>10,053.51</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>4,383.80</u>	<u>10,053.51</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>50,670.47</u>	<u>49,047.23</u>
MEMBERS' FUNDS			
Retained profits	5	50,670.47	49,047.23

A handwritten signature and initials, possibly 'MGS', are written in the bottom right corner of the page.

The accompanying notes form part of this financial report.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2009

1 Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 1984 of New South Wales. The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

This financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirement of the Associations Incorporation Act 1984 of New South Wales and the following Australian Accounting Standards:

AASB 112 Income Taxes
AASB 1031 Materiality
AASB 110 Events after the Balance Sheet Date
AASB 117 Leases

No other Australian Accounting Standards, Australian Accounting Interpretations or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been applied.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historic costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following material accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report.

a. Income Tax

The change for current income tax expenses is based on the profit for the year adjusted for any non-assessable or disallowed items. It is calculated using tax rates that have been enacted or are substantively enacted by the balance sheet date.

b. Fixed Assets

Property, plant and equipment are carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

The depreciation amount of all fixed assets are depreciated over the useful lives of the assets to the association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

CITY OF SYDNEY LAW SOCIETY
A.B.N. 88 377 230 477

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2009

	2009	2008
	\$	\$
2 Receivables		
CURRENT		
Trade Debtors	170.00	115.00
	<u>170.00</u>	<u>115.00</u>
3 Plant & Equipment		
Office Furniture & Equipment	2,379.80	2,379.80
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	1,487.00	892.00
	<u>892.80</u>	<u>1,487.80</u>
Total plant & equipment	<u>892.80</u>	<u>1,487.80</u>
4 Intangible Assets		
Website	1,990.91	1,990.91
	<u>1,990.91</u>	<u>1,990.91</u>
5 Retained Profits		
Retained profits at the beginning of the financial year	49,047.23	46,957.83
Net Profit attributable to members of the Company	1,623.24	2,089.40
	<u>1,623.24</u>	<u>2,089.40</u>
Retained profits at the end of the financial year	<u>50,670.47</u>	<u>49,047.23</u>

CITY OF SYDNEY LAW SOCIETY Inc
A.B.N. 88 377 230 477

STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

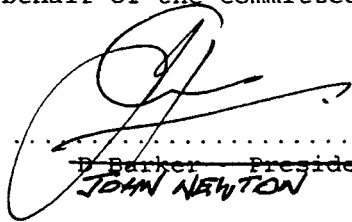
The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the committee the financial report:

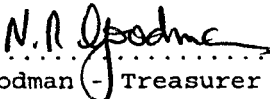
1. Presents fairly the financial position of City of Sydney Law Society Inc as at 30th June 2009 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that City of Sydney Law Society Inc will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:

Committee member


.....
~~D. Barker - President~~
JOAN NEWTON VICE PRESIDENT.

Committee member


.....
N Goodman - Treasurer

Dated this 20 day of October 2009

