

Inside This Edition



As the continuing Editor of the CSLS Newsletter it gives me great pleasure to write the editorial for its re-launched edition. Over recent years the Newsletter has been seen as the connecting link between all the members of our Society and I hope that everyone will take the opportunity not only to read it but to also contribute articles, notes on recent cases/new legislation and other matters of interest to the membership. As you can see from the contents of this edition the Society has been extremely active this year and we have many more upcoming events during the course of the next few months to look forward to, apart from the free weekly CLE taking place every Wednesday at the Sydney Mechanics School of Arts.

I should like to thank Ann Parisi for bringing all the articles and news together in this new Edition.

Nea Goodman
Editor

Message from the President

The Society's new Committee for 2009 has now been operational for nearly six months and has been primarily engaged in developing strategies for the future of the Society. It is conscious that it would be recognized as the Regional Society which represents the largest number of solicitors in New South Wales, if not in the whole of Australia. The Committee therefore endeavour to involve members with a vigorous and lively programme of events and activities which have both a professional and social interest. In this respect a Strategic Planning Workshop was held on the 10 June facilitated by Sue Ella Prodonovich, Principal, Business Development Practice, WHK Horwath. The Workshop was principally funded by a grant from the NSW Law Society Grants Committee. All members of the Society will be invited to comment on the draft Business Plan which was one of the principal outcomes of this Strategic Planning Session. The main activity so far this year has been the Society's organization of the successful Breakfast which was the opening event of the New South Wales Law Week. The Society has also continued with its popular programme of regular free weekly Continuing Legal Education Seminars at the Sydney Mechanics School of Arts. As President I have been greatly encouraged by the support offered by membership to the ongoing activities of the Society which can only lead to the enhancement of both its profile and growing reputation as one of the premier Regional Law Societies in New South Wales.

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

CSLS NEWS - JUNE, 2009

2009 has seen a change of leadership as Emeritus Professor, David Barker AM, assumed the Presidency after the three year incumbency of Anthony Restuccia.

The February Committee meeting saw our new President welcome the new Law Society President, Joe Catanzariti, and Law Society Council Member, Pam Suttor, to a discussion of current issues in the profession.

In March the Committee tackled a number of decisions with ongoing significance, being:

- The adoption of the Protocol for the consideration of Life Membership Applications.
- The engagement of W H K Horwath to conduct a consultative workshop of committee members reviewing the current state of the Society and its planning for its future development.

- The adoption of the President's proposal for sub-committees being, budgetary and finance, professional activities, social activities and external affairs.

It was with pleasure that the April meeting noted that the Society's financial membership has exceeded 300 for the first time in many years. It continues to grow.

We were honoured when the Law Society President, Joe Catanzariti, and retired Supreme Court judge, Brian Cohen, accepted nomination to the Life Membership Subcommittee of the Society, responsible for the recommendation of life members.

Support for our weekly seminars continues to increase with an average attendance of 40.

Our first major event for 2009 was the Law Week Breakfast held on 11 May on the topic "Law in the Media".

Insightful addresses were presented by James Evers of the Financial Review, Laura MacIntyre of Lawyers Weekly and the Law Society's Maria Iannotti. Each presented a stimulating paper and responded to questions from the floor.

The consultative workshop held by the Committee on 10 June has led to many suggestions for the further improvement and development of the Society and will now proceed to an action plan.

Our Society seeks to provide a venue at which lawyers from the whole spectrum of legal work and ages can be involved in the richer life of the profession.

Ken Harkness
Secretary

2009 Law Week Breakfast - City Tattersalls Club



An attendance in excess of 70 gathered at the City Tattersall's Restaurant for the Law Week Breakfast, organised by the Society as the opening event of Law Week. The Breakfast incorporated a panel of three speakers asked to address the negative public perception of the law and lawyers. Besides Laura McIntyre, the Senior Reporter from Lawyers Weekly and Maria Iannotti, the Law Society's Media Adviser, the third member of the Panel was expected to be Chris Merritt, the Legal Affairs Editor of the Australian. However, James Evers, the Legal Editor of the Australian Financial Review was a late replacement for Chris Merritt who had broken his ankle on the preceding Friday. The Panel was chaired by Christopher Roper, AM, the Secretary of the Judicial Conference of Australia and Director of the St.James' Institute. It was agreed that an excellent breakfast provided by City Tatts contributed to the success of the ongoing lively debate of the Panel with the audience. We were pleased to welcome Joseph Catanzarita, the President of the NSW Law Society, who also spoke at the Breakfast, together with Michael Tidball, the Law Society's Chief Executive and Anna Katzman, SC, the President of the NSW Bar Association. The Society also welcomed former Presidents of the City of Sydney Law Society, including Pamela Suttor, a Law Society Council Member, Nea Goodman (ongoing Treasurer of the CSLS), Denis Bluth and Victor Berger. The main organizers of the Breakfast were Colleen Donnelly the Society's Law Week Convenor, John Newton, Vice President and Ann Parisi, our Administrator.



Each edition this year we intend to highlight the activities of our newly established Sub-Committees. For this issue, the report is from:

External Affairs Sub-Committee - News, Upcoming Events

In my capacity as Chairperson I wish to introduce the External Affairs Sub-Committee to all members of the CSLS. The Sub-Committee has been established to give greater attention to the Society's membership, sponsorship, the newsletter, web-site, advertising and general promotion of the Society's external affairs. I am pleased to be writing this in the first edition of the re-launched newsletter which will be a major focus for the Sub-Committee. We will also be considering those matters relating to our terms of reference which arose out of the discussions at the Society's recent Planning Workshop , particularly with regard to future sponsorship of the Society's activities.

Names of members of the Sub-Committee are the Chairperson, Victor Berger, Paul Power, Sophia Paras, Peter Kelso, Maurice May, David Barker, Anthony Restuccia and Ken Harkness.

It gives me great pleasure to announce Peter Rosier has been appointed as the Society's Publicity Officer.

Victor Berger
Chairperson

Upcoming Seminars

Venue: Sydney Mechanics School of Arts, Level 1, 280 Pitt Street Sydney
Time: 5:30pm 6:30pm

Wednesday 1 July 2009
The Nuts and Bolts of Computer Forensics
Allan Watt, expert witness

Wednesday 8 July 2009
Call Overs and Pre-Trial Reviews in the Local Court
Craig Norman, Downing Centre Registrar

Wednesday 15 July 2009
Law-Cover, How Premiums are Calculated
Paul McGahen, LawCover CEO

Wednesday 22 July 2009
Getting the Best Out of AustLii
David Vaile, AustLii

Wednesday 29 July 2009
Discounts for early Pleas-The New Law
Dr John Bishop, Barrister and author of Criminal Procedure (Butterworths 2nd Ed, 1988)

To obtain a Registration Form for these seminars, contact our Administrative Officer Ann Parisi at
info@sydneycitylawyers.com.au | phone 9266 0012 | fax 9266 0062

2009/2010 Membership Application Form

*Membership subscription City of Sydney Law Society for year to 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010

Personal Details:

Full name: _____

Firm: _____

Address: _____

_____ p/code _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

DX: _____

Email: _____

Mobile: _____

Practicing Non-practicing

Practicing as: Solicitor Barrister Judicial officer

Law Society of NSW member? Yes No Practicing

Date of admission as Legal Practitioner: _____

Payment Method:

Visa Mastercard Cheque (payable to City of Sydney Law Society)

I enclose payment of \$ _____

Credit card No: _____

Expires: _____ / _____

Cardholder name: _____

Cardholder's signature: _____

Fees

Individual Membership \$85

Group discount 10% (applicable when 3 or more solicitors from the same firm join together)

Newly admitted Solicitor (4 years or less) \$45

Executive Committee Members

President: David Barker - David.Barker@uts.edu.au

Vice President: John Newton - jnlaw@telstra.com

Treasurer: Nea Goodman - nea.goodman@community.nsw.gov.au

Secretary: Ken Harkness - kharkness@tebbutts.com.au

Secretariat:

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