

nsw  
**YOUNG LAWYERS**  
A Fresh Perspective

*Nsw Young Lawyers  
40th Anniversary Dinner  
2 October 2003  
Dockside Cockle Bay*

## 2003 Officers & Staff

### **President**

Andrew Perry

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Jennifer McVicar (2nd half 2003)

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Amber Cerny - Careers

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Lester Fernandez - Criminal Law

Michael Easton - Employment & Industrial Law

Elizabeth Carroll - Environmental Law

Alexandra Harland - Family Law

Renée Saibi - Human Rights

Craig Glazier - C.E.T.

Brad Watts - Social

### **Staff**

Poppy Drekis - Executive Officer

Elvira Abouhaidar - CLE Co-ordinator

Kirrilly Menser - Executive Assistant

Special thanks to Brad Watts, Poppy Drekis, Elvira Abouhaidar, Kirrilly Menser, Andrew Perry and Ashley Tscalos for their work on this programme.

# Order of Proceedings

**Thursday, 2 October 2003 - Dockside, Cockle Bay**

- 7.00PM Cocktails on the verandah  
Music by Greenway String Quartet
- 7.30pm Guests are seated  
  
Welcome by Brad Watts  
Chair of NSW Young Lawyers Social Committee
- 7.40pm Entree
- 8.00pm Address by Andrew Perry, President of NSW Young Lawyers  
Address by Mahla Pearlman, Patron of NSW Young Lawyers
- 8.20pm Main Course
- 8.30pm Addresses during dinner by the following past presidents:  
  
His Honour Justice William Windeyer (1970)  
Greg Pearce MLC (1983)  
Amber Cerny (2002)  
Laurie Glanfield (1987) and  
Rod McGeoch (1977)
- 9.10pm Cutting of 40th Anniversary Cake  
by Mahla Pearlman and Andrew Perry
- 9.15pm Formal toast to the future of NSW Young Lawyers
- 9.20pm Dessert
- 9.30pm DJ commences
- 12.00pm Close

# President's Message



NSW Young Lawyers has achieved far more over the past 40 years than we can comprehend. Tonight is an opportunity to relive and realise the experiences of almost three generations of "young lawyers" and to celebrate the spirit which keeps us "forever young".

Whether you are a new member learning about our role in establishing the Redfern Legal Centre, a past member hearing about the growth in our committees and their projects, or a family member, finally understanding what all the fuss is about, I am sure that tonight you will go home with a far greater appreciation for this organisation that you are such an important part of.

While we "aged out" (by our own definition) 4 years ago, our organisation and its structure have adapted and developed to ensure we continue to provide "a fresh perspective" regardless of our years. Nonetheless, our 40th anniversary marks a coming of age for NSW Young Lawyers.

Over recent years, the NSW legal profession has grown by almost 10% each year. So much so that now, over a quarter of the legal profession are in their first three years of practice and almost half fit within our definition of young lawyer. These statistics are a reflection of enrolments in law schools across the State - so it is no surprise that our student membership is also enjoying unprecedented growth.

I sometimes get a wry smile when I quote our membership numbers. People ask, "How can you claim someone as a member purely on the basis of their demographics rather than a signed application form?" While these critics may see our membership system as "Hansonesque", this inclusiveness runs at the heart of NSW Young Lawyers - providing every young lawyer with not just an opportunity, but a challenge to get involved and make a difference.

Our success, your success, comes from the efforts of this voluntary membership. Those people who look beyond the next rung in the ladder to accept a "hand up" and are inspired to turn around and offer the same to those around them.

Given the commitment of our ever growing volunteer membership, NSW Young Lawyers' enthusiastic Executive and committees see a whole new range of opportunities to contribute to our profession and the community.

Thank-you for the "hand up" you have given, and continue to give us, as we pursue our shared vision of not only providing a "fresh perspective", but making a real difference.

**Andrew Perry**  
**President, NSW Young Lawyers**  
**Special Counsel, Gadens Lawyers**

## Mahla Pearlman

I congratulate NSW Young Lawyers in the celebration of your 40th anniversary.



Your longevity is something to be admired, but it does not seem to me to be extraordinary. NSW Young Lawyers serves a professional and personal need. The practice of law, unlike the practice of most other professions, is a social undertaking – it almost always involves interaction with other practitioners in order to carry out the professional task. How much better, then, for lawyers who are “young” in the profession to have a forum in which to meet other practitioners on a personal basis and to exchange with them ideas, aspirations, experiences and problems?

NSW Young Lawyers provides the comfort of togetherness, a unified voice in the leadership of the profession, and a chance for individuals to express themselves. May you continue to do so for many more anniversaries.

**Mahla Pearlman**  
**Patron**  
**NSW Young Lawyers**

## Robert Benjamin

For 40 years, NSW Young Lawyers has been a vital part of the Law Society of NSW - in every sense of the word. Operating as a largely autonomous division of the Law Society, NSW Young Lawyers has injected a “ginger” that permeates the Society and challenges those of us with a few more years under our belt, to continue to look beyond the status quo.



The success of NSW Young Lawyers over the past 40 years and the value placed by the Law Society Council on your work, is evidenced by the Council’s proposed amendments to the Society’s Articles of Association. The proposed amendments provide an entrenched position on Council for the outgoing President of NSW Young Lawyers or a delegate of NSW Young Lawyers’ Executive. If accepted, the Law Society will benefit from the increased input of young lawyers into the Society’s formal planning, policy development and governance. It is timely that the proposal coincides with NSW Young Lawyers’ 40th anniversary.

Congratulations on achieving this landmark and the difference you have made to the community and profession over the past four decades.

**Robert Benjamin**  
**President**  
**Law Society of NSW**

## Talking to Poppy Drekis

We interviewed Poppy Drekis, Executive Officer of NSW Young Lawyers:

### How did you come to work for NSW Young Lawyers?

I originally started work in the Community Assistance Department of The Law Society of NSW in 1988. Our office was next door to the NSW Young Lawyers office and they always seemed to have fun and be away on conferences. I decided that this was the place to be and I started doing voluntary work for them in my spare time. In 1990, the then Executive Officer, Pam Williams offered me a job as Administrative Assistant in what was a department of 5 people. It was fun, vibrant; they were always doing interesting things (i.e. launches, cocktail parties, conferences etc) and I was keen to be involved.

### How has the organisation changed over the years?

Administratively, despite the reduction in the early 90s from 5 to 3 staff, there are now more committees and the organisation has grown and flourished and has become more professional. There is now generally more activity - we have grown up!

### What are some highlights of your time with the organisation?

There are so many... organising Will Week, which became a national project, the *Older People and the Law* handbook and the Shadowing Program. I think we do community assistance projects very well and they can be very rewarding. Also, the assemblies are always great, especially the room parties, delegates waking up in boats on lakes and generally getting a bit out of control.

### What benefits have you received from your involvement?

An appreciation of 5-star hotels and good red wine! Seriously, I have met so many wonderful people including past presidents and committee chairs - they are very inspiring and make me want to excel.

### What are our strengths and weaknesses?

Strengths would be the diversity of our activities, from lobbying to community projects, professional development and providing a social network. The office staff are a great team. Nothing would be possible without the brilliance and support of Elvira Abouhaidar and Kirrilly Menser. Weaknesses - I would say there is not enough recognition of the organisation within the profession.

### What does the 40th Anniversary mean to you?

A lot of work! Seriously, it highlights the importance of the organisation, its survival and growth and the dedication of the volunteer lawyers.

### What message do you have for current young lawyers?

Get involved, have fun and get the most out of what NSW Young Lawyers has to offer.

## Social Committee

Organising NSW Young Lawyers' 40th Anniversary Dinner has caused the Social Committee ("SOCOM") (a Rod McGeoch Memorial committee name) to focus on the two fundamental activities which make NSW Young Lawyers a vibrant and rewarding organisation. Engaging the organisation's corporate memory and seeking to define its philosophy - by liaising with past and current members - has itself been an inspirational undertaking and has helped us appreciate the true nature of the organisation and our role within it. The responses herein from past and current members on their experiences with NSW Young Lawyers are an overwhelmingly positive affirmation of the organisation's value and status and define our organisation in terms of two core functions: "professional development" and "socialising" - or, work and play.

If professional development encompasses the formal activities of the practise committees and the provision of CLE to the profession, then socialising covers the informal interaction of committee members and CLE attendees, together with the formal events organised under the NSW Young Lawyers umbrella, which give members the opportunity to let their hair down and party with their peers. These events, traditionally the responsibility of SOCOM, include the evening entertainment at our Assemblies; formal occasions such as Balls and Anniversary dinners; sporting fixtures; and other parties, from the BIG DEAL to the President's Christmas cocktail party.

The professional development side of NSW Young Lawyers is paramount. It is the desire to improve our skills, to be better lawyers, which makes us join a practise committee or attend a CLE seminar. Our active involvement in NSW Young Lawyers reflects that we take our profession seriously and that we are working hard to improve our technical abilities and reach our full professional potential. All young lawyers these days work hard. At SOCOM, we believe you can work hard and still have time to play; that you can be a practising lawyer and have a life. We seek to provide the enjoyable and entertaining yang of the socialising to the rigorous and rewarding yin of professional development. And we seek to do it with a glass in our hand and a smile on our dial.

Nights like the 40th Anniversary are the epitome of what NSW Young Lawyers is all about and why SOCOM exists. It brings together those who have succeeded, long-term, in legal practice, often - as so many of the testimonials herein confirm - partly due to their involvement with NSW Young Lawyers, with those who are striving to emulate that success. It gives the current membership the opportunity to tap into that wealth of expertise; to learn; to engage; to be inspired. It offers the opportunity to renew old friendships and forge new ones.

SOCOM thanks all of our guests and sponsors for their support and exhort all young lawyers to continue to play as hard as they work.

**Brad Watts**  
**Social Committee Chair**  
**bpwatts lawyers**

## Talking to Peter Fisher

### When were you actively involved in NSW Young Lawyers?

1966 – 1975 inclusive.

### Where were you in your legal career during those years?

I was practising in partnership with my now late father Jack Harder Fisher and my two brothers Roderick and Michael.

### How and why did you become involved?

My name must have been proposed by someone already on the Committee whose name has never been revealed to me. I am however most grateful to the person. Jack had been imbued with the ideals of service to the community in general and the Law Society in particular. I was at Avoca Beach on holiday with my wife and young family when Jack telephoned to say that I was required at the next meeting of the Young Lawyers Committee at the Law Society and I drove to Sydney and back for the sole purpose of attending.

### What was your involvement with NSW Young Lawyers?

Committee member. I successfully moved on many occasions that the minutes of previous meeting were accepted and confirmed as a correct record.

### What were the highlights of your time with NSW Young Lawyers?

For several months we debated a name change as some of its members were unhappy with the connotation "Young". This caused some perplexity among the Councillors who observed that they would not have complained if that connotation had been applied to themselves. It caused me some perplexity too because I was by that time "not so young". They settled upon the nomenclature of Associate Committee and the then President General John Broadbent remarked "Sounds like the lady members of the golf club". Tactically I agreed with him about our committee had no cliques or factions and were united in our stance. Thus for some time we became the Associate Committee. The highlight of my time with NSW Young Lawyers was when in 1973 Brian Agnew organised a study tour to Hong Kong which was attended by 60 lawyers and 40 of their spouses and we were treated to sumptuous dinner as the guests of Hong Kong Law Society.

### What benefits did you get from your involvement?

Benefits were a greater sense of belonging and a greater empathy with the Councillors the general camaraderie and the opportunity to attend several functions as a guest of the Law Society and to make and renew acquaintances among the legal profession.

### Where are you now in your legal career?

I have been practising for 40 years but have never been given a promotion.

## **What contact do you now have and what do you think of NSW Young Lawyers and its current activities?**

I have had no contact with NSW Young Lawyers since ceasing my involvement but I believe that they do a marvellous job with CLE and their seminars are the best. I rarely go elsewhere.

## **What does the 40th Anniversary mean to you?**

A great opportunity to celebrate with you and renew old acquaintances.

## **What message do you have for current members?**

Keep up the good work.

## **Events of 1963 (Foundation Year)**

Bogle/Chandler Case: Two boys near the Lane Cove River in Sydney find the bodies of Dr Gilbert Stanley Bogle, a physicist with the CSIRO, and Mrs Margaret Chandler, wife of a CSIRO scientist. The case is still unsolved.

First Secretary of the Soviet Embassy, Ivan Skripov, is expelled as a spy.

Comalco begins full-scale mining of bauxite at Weipa on Cape York.

Wimbledon: Margaret Smith becomes the first Australian woman to win the Women's Singles tennis championship.

Australia becomes the first nation to endorse the Nuclear Test Ban Treaty.

Martin Luther King: "I Have a Dream" speech delivered on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, Washington DC.

Stockholm: Australian scientist Sir John Carew Eccles is awarded the Nobel Prize for Medicine for his work on the central portions of the nerve cell membrane.

Menzies becomes the first Party Leader to make his policy speech on TV and is returned on 30 November - the last of seven consecutive elections he won before his retirement in 1966.

US President John F Kennedy is assassinated in Dallas, Texas.

Darwin: Police evict the Mapoon community on Cape York Peninsula and raze community buildings to allow bauxite mining. This becomes the focus for the growing issues of aboriginal land rights.

Second Royal Tour of Australia by Queen Elizabeth II.

Commonwealth Arbitration Commission grants 3 weeks of paid annual leave.

'Midget' Farrelly wins Hawaiian international surf board-riding championship.

## **Family Law Committee**

The NSW Young Lawyers Family Law Committee has gone from strength to strength this year. We have a lot of new members who have jumped right in and become active and valued members of the Committee - making my job as Chair much easier!

We have also been kept busy making submissions on the Family Court's Exposure Draft rules and responding to the Federal Government's proposals for shared parenting. We are also looking at organising a public forum on shared parenting.

We have, along with other NSW Young Lawyers committees, been looking at the issue of mentoring for young lawyers.

We are as busy as ever organising various CLE topics and we are excited about participating in the Landmark Cases series.

We are also active on the publishing front. We published the second edition of our popular, *A Practitioners Guide to Family Law*, and we are working on a similar publication in relation to de facto law. We are assisting in updating the Law Foundation and State Library's Hot Topics paper on Children and Families.

On a personal note this has been a hectic but fulfilling year for me so far. I sometimes queried the wisdom of becoming Chair of the Committee and studying for my specialist accreditation in family law at the same time - but my Committee came through with me.

I have been a member of the Committee since 2000 and became Chair in March this year. I was hesitant about becoming Chair really because of the commitment to becoming involved in the wider NSW Young Lawyers circle. I thought mid-year and end of year Assemblies would be a dire sacrifice of a weekend for boring speeches etc. How wrong was I?! The Mid-Year Assembly was a fabulous weekend full of exchanging ideas, making contacts, drinking and coming away with new friends. I came away from that weekend feeling invigorated and excited about new initiatives.

I think NSW Young Lawyers has the right mix of being there on the forefront, responding to current issues and promoting young lawyers' interests, and being a bunch of people who are friendly, welcoming and who can hold their liquor (well to a certain extent anyway but that would be another story...).

Thank-you to all the past Chairs and committee members who have blazed a well-lit trail that we can now use to guide our future direction.

**Alexandra Harland**  
**Family Law Committee Chair**  
**Meyer Pigdon, Family Lawyers**

## Talking to David Castle

### When were you actively involved in NSW Young Lawyers?

From memory, about 1968 to 1978.

### Where were you in your legal career during those years?

Partner in a small legal practice.

### How and why did you become involved?

Probably through Forbes Pratt. The reason was to keep in touch with what was happening in the profession and to be involved.

### What was your involvement with NSW Young Lawyers?

A committee member and ultimately chair.

### What were the burning issues during your time with NSW Young Lawyers?

- The name
- Foundation of Redfern Legal Aid Centre
- CLE

### What benefits did you get from your involvement?

Involvement in the profession and life long friendships and contacts.

### Where are you now in your legal career?

Trying to retire gracefully.

### What contact do you now have and what do you think of NSW Young Lawyers and its current activities?

I frequently attend Young Lawyers CLE. Young Lawyers have performed admirably on the Business Law Committee of the Law Society of which I am a long time member and currently chair. I am a great supporter of Young Lawyers and encourage my junior solicitors to join and be involved in committees.

### What does the 40th Anniversary mean to you?

A great achievement.

### What message do you have for current members?

Get involved.

## Human Rights Committee

The NSW Young Lawyers Human Rights Committee has had a pretty good run over its history. From submissions to government inquiries at both levels, to writing letters to try and push the Government to action, to partnering with Government departments on projects aimed at increasing awareness of property rights of gay couples, the Committee works on as broad a mandate as possible.

Most of us would be more active in Human Rights if it were possible (although with the contributions of some of our members, I hardly think this possible). Corporate lawyers, law students, private firm lawyers and government policy makers by day, human rights activists by night and weekend (and occasionally lunchtime!). The Committee's membership is as broad as the work we do, and we try to tap into those varying personalities as much as possible.

Some of our most recent successes have been the Acts of Passion Campaign with the NSW Attorney General's Department, our soon to be released handbook for new migrants - *New Land, New Law*, our joint event with the Criminal Law Committee on sentencing law reform, our subsequent public forum on the issues associated with post war reconstruction and our constant flow of inquiry submissions this year.

As a part of the larger NSW Young Lawyers organisation, the Human Rights Committee seeks to fill a void for young practitioners and law students - allowing them to pursue their career, but also make a valuable human rights contribution to society. I suppose it keeps us grounded and allows us to work on things that really matter to us as people.

It has been a stellar year for the Human Rights Committee, fitting for this 40th year of NSW Young Lawyers.

Happy Birthday NSW Young Lawyers!

**Renée Saibi**  
**Human Rights Committee Chair**  
**Minter Ellison**



## Events of 1973 (10th Year)

Hobart: Australia's first legal casino opens at Wrest Point.

Brisbane: 15 people killed in Whisky A Go Go nightclub fire-bomb attack.

Canberra: Attorney-General Senator Lionel Murphy orders a Commonwealth Police raid on the Melbourne headquarters of the ASIO, after the police told them they believed ASIO was withholding information concerning Croatian extremists in Australia.

Adelaide: Festival Centre Opening.

Canberra: Controversy over National Gallery of Australia's \$1.3 million purchase of Jackson Pollock's Blue Poles.

Sydney: Patrick White wins Nobel Prize for Literature.

Sydney: The Sydney Opera House was officially opened by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The first performance in the complex, in the Opera Theatre on 28 September 1973, was The Australian Opera's production of War and Peace by Prokofiev.

Sydney: Fierce demonstrations in the Rocks area over a longstanding battle by resident action groups and the Builders Laborers Federation to prevent development of an area containing some of Sydney's oldest buildings.

China: Whitlam begins the first official visit to Red China by an Australian PM.

Port Moresby: Australia grants self-government to Papua New Guinea.

Vietnam Peace Agreement is formally signed in Paris.

Watergate scandal emerges in the USA.

Voting age is lowered from 21 to 18.

The winner of a national architectural competition held in 1972 and 1973 for the design of the High Court was announced in October 1973 by Prime Minister Whitlam. The winning design was submitted by the Sydney firm of Edwards Madigan Torzillo and Briggs Pty Ltd.

Warships from Australia and New Zealand protest in French test zone over France's nuclear testing in Pacific region.

## Talking to Anthony Scotford

**When were you actively involved in NSW Young Lawyers?**

1973 to 1976.

**Where were you in your legal career during those years?**

Partner of Ebsworth & Ebsworth - then 7 partners, now 57!

**How and why did you become involved?**

John Bowen, then President and my senior partner, said "Do it!"

**What was your involvement with NSW Young Lawyers?**

Chair.

**What were the highlights/burning issues during your time with NSW Young Lawyers?**

Redfern Legal Centre, Migrant Counselling, Schools Counselling, Overseas Study Tours, Hosting Bob Hawke at a luncheon.

**What benefits did you get from your involvement?**

I grew up as a lawyer. I learnt that we must give back to and work for the community.

**Where are you now in your legal career?**

Senior Partner of Ebsworth & Ebsworth.

**What contact do you now have and what do you think of NSW Young Lawyers and its current activities?**

Not much contact really, but I think the organisation's current activities are excellent.

**What does the 40th Anniversary mean to you?**

An opportunity to look back and reflect and to look forward and project.

**What message do you have for current members?**

Go for it, lead the way, take chances!

## 1974 Law Society Report Excerpt

### The Young Lawyers' Committee

This committee was formerly known as The Associate Committee. It consists of practitioners of under 12 years standing. It is appointed annually by the President and is intended to assist the Council in a variety of matters and especially to reflect the attitudes and view of young lawyers.

... The legal referral centre at Redfern has continued to function under the co-ordinating control of the committee during the year. There has, of course, been extensive development in this area and the committee has maintained a continuing general interest as well as particular responsibility for the Redfern Centre. A member of the committee, Michael Gill, was appointed Chairman of the Community Law Committee and there has been general liaison between that committee and The Young Lawyers Committee in this area. New centres are to be opened at Marrickville and Drummoyne and this committee's members will be accepting responsibility for the organisation of those centres. Also in the legal aid sphere the committee has looked into the legal aid review committee report and has had the benefit of discussion with Mr. Turner on the implications of that report. An action group is also looking at the question of legal aid advertising and will be preparing a report for the Legal Aid Department on this subject.

Migrant counselling has become an important area of activity with co-ordination between the committee, the Department of Immigration and the Good Neighbour Council. Special attention has been given to the problems of Turkish migrants. The committee is at present looking at the implication of the report of the Commonwealth Commission of Inquiry into Poverty in so far as it deals with the legal requirements of migrants. In this particular sphere of activity, the committee has again worked in conjunction with the Community Law Committee.

...A successful conference was organised at Terrigal last year with about 160 people attending. The speakers were Mr. Justice Bowen and Mr. Gray, the Deputy Commissioner of Taxation. A similar conference is being held in November this year with various speakers, including Mr. Justice Hope...

Following the success of the initial Overseas Study Tour to Hong Kong another tour was arranged to Bangkok and Singapore in March this year with 120 persons attending. Mr. Justice Samuels accompanied the group and the local law societies and bar associations provided generous assistance both socially and in providing speakers. The tour was a resounding success... A further study tour is being organised for 1975 to the west coast of Canada and the United States...

...Some attention is being given at the present time to the possibility of reconstituting the committee on a different basis but, at this stage, the committee feels that its method of appointment and organisation are both workable and desirable.

## Employment & IR Committee

The Employment and Industrial Law Committee was created in the mid 90's by Brett Boon, a past president of NSW Young Lawyers, who realised that while this area of law was a 'niche' market at the time, it would fast become a growing area of practice for younger members of the profession.

Over the years the Committee has accomplished many things including:

- The annual Employment & Industrial Law One Day Seminar
- Facing Termination and Redundancy - A Guide for Lawyers
- Guide to Employment in the Legal Profession
- A free forum for the profession (this years' s106 - The Seven Year Itch)
- Professional Development for Committee Members
- Organising seminars for NSW Young Lawyers' monthly CLE programme
- Draft Law Reform Submissions
- Community Publications "Know Your Entitlements" Booklet

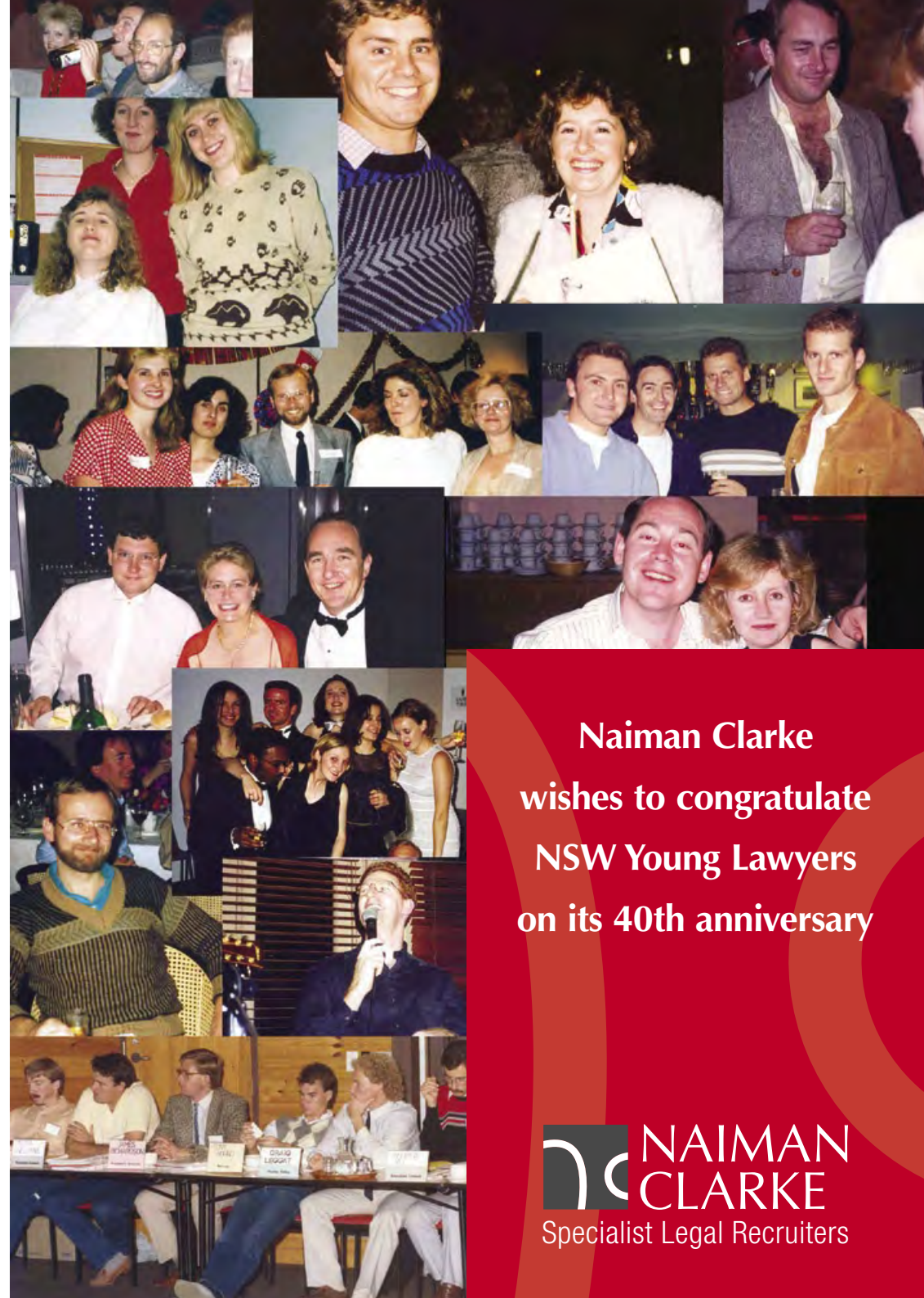
The Committee fulfils an important role for young members of the profession who are able to attend monthly meetings in a relaxed atmosphere, exchange ideas with other young lawyers and have the opportunity to network and socialise with their peers.

**Michael Easton**  
**Employment & Industrial Law Committee Chair**  
**Acuiti Legal**



## Past Presidents

Year	President
2001-2002	Amber Cerny
2000-2001	Karen Weeks
1999-2000	Matthew Johnston
1998-1999	Monique Pirona
1997-1998	Michael Antrum
1996-1997	Michael King
1995-1996	Brett Boon
1994-1995	Mitchell Mathas
1993-1994	Kylie Nomchong
1992-1993	Felicity Wardhaugh
1991-1992	Owen Trembath
1990-1991	Chris Hoy
1989-1990	Stuart Diamond
1988-1989	Philip Wallis
1987-1988	Lewis Webb
1986-1987	Laurie Glanfield
1985-1986	Richard Anicich
1984-1985	Andrew Frank
1983-1984	Robyn Druitt
1982-1983	Greg Pearce
1981-1982	Garry Foster
1980-1981	Kim Garling
1979	
1978	Kerry Bryan
1977	Rod McGeoch
1976	
1975	
1974	Anthony Scotford
1973	
1972	B. Williams
1971	David Castle
1970	Justice W. Windeyer
1969	A. R Bricknell
1968	
1967	Peter Fisher
1966	Forbes Pratt
1964-1965	Graham Ireland
1963-1964	Camille Dezarnaulds



**Naiman Clarke**  
wishes to congratulate  
NSW Young Lawyers  
on its 40th anniversary



To help complete the above, please email [poppy@younglawyers.com.au](mailto:poppy@younglawyers.com.au).



THOMSON  
★

## Thomson Congratulates the NSW Young Lawyers on the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

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Thomson brings you the best of Lawbook Co.,  
Westlaw Australia, Centre for Professional  
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## CLE Committee

The provision of CLE to the profession is one of NSW Young Lawyers core activities and provides NSW Young Lawyers' primary source of income. Every month the CLE Committee puts together a CLE programme consisting of a minimum of 4 evening seminars and 1 lunchtime seminar. In 2003, the Committee has run 5 - 10 evening and lunchtime seminars every month.

In addition to the regular CLE programme, 5 One-Day Seminars are held: Property, Litigation, Personal Injury, Family and Industrial Law. For the first time this year a Criminal Law One-Day seminar was added which attracted over 100 solicitors and barristers. We have recently increased our regional seminars by offering seminars in Newcastle, Port Macquarie, Wollongong and Parramatta. We have also exceeded past years sponsorship. We thank our sponsors for their support.

**Luke Brasch**  
**CLE Committee Chair**  
**11th Floor Garfield Barwick Chambers**

## Careers Committee

The purpose of the Careers Committee is to answer the three most important questions asked by young lawyers:

How do I get a job? How do I get a pay rise? How do I move to a better job?

Law as a career still dazzles and befuddles every young lawyer. The Careers Committee is there to help and give a few pointers on the way.

The Committee's community focus has been the award winning "Shadowing Programme" which has become an annual event during Law Week.

Other big hits for the Committee in 2003 have been hosting a stall at the Inaugural Sydney Law Careers Fair at Darling Harbour, the launch of the Bullying Taskforce (to eliminate bullying from the legal profession) and a seminar on how to get work in private practice if you aren't interested in a large corporate law firm. The Careers Fair provided us with an opportunity to tell law students about what we do and that they are already our members! The Bullying Taskforce was established in response to the ongoing reports NSW Young Lawyers has received, including at our last Mid-Year Assembly, about the horrific treatment being experienced by too many young lawyers.

With the profession growing by 10% a year, the Committee will be busy for a while yet!

**Amber Cerny**  
**Careers Committee Chair**  
**Corrs Chambers Westgarth**



## Events of 1983 (20th Year)

Ash Wednesday Bushfires: The highest recorded bushfire death toll in Australia occurred in 1983. The fires that blazed from 16 February (Ash Wednesday) to 18 February throughout Victoria and South Australia killed 72 people, including 15 firefighters, and destroyed more than 2000 homes and huge areas of forest and farmland.

Canberra: Landslide win in Federal election to ALP under Bob Hawke.

Canberra: The Prince and Princess of Wales arrive.

Melbourne: 61 year-old potato farmer from the Otway Ranges, Cliff Young, wins the Sydney to Melbourne marathon.

Canberra: Hope Royal Commission begins into relationship between lobbyist David Coombe & Soviet diplomat Valery Ivanov.

Noonkanbah: Aborigines win agreement to protect sacred tribal land from mining and exploration.

Sydney: Golf champion Jack Newton loses his right arm when he walks into a plane's spinning propeller.

Newport, Rhode Island: Australia II wins Americas Cup (1st non-US winner).

Sydney: Coroner returns open finding on the death of Sydney heiress and activist Juanita Nielsen.

Melbourne: Australian Secret Intelligence Service agents bungle training exercise raid on the Sheraton hotel.

Canberra: Federal Government floats the Australian dollar.

Melbourne: Pat Cash clinches Davis Cup win for Australia over Sweden.

Westpac introduces EFTPOS service.

Australia regains the Ashes with a 2-1 series win v England.

Robert De Castella wins the world championship for the marathon and is awarded Australian of the Year.

Final episode of M\*A\*S\*H airs, viewed by 125,000,000 people.

South Korean Boeing 747 jetliner bound for Seoul apparently strays into Soviet airspace and is shot down by a Soviet SU-15 fighter after it had tracked the airliner for two hours - all 269 aboard are killed.

US invades Grenada.

## Environmental Law Committee

The NSW Young Lawyers Environmental Law Committee is a group of young lawyers with an interest in environmental and planning law issues.

The Committee has sought to make a contribution to the profession through its, *A Practitioner's Guide to the Land and Environment Court* and through its CLE programs. It has a tradition of contributing to law reform through submissions, most recently in relation to corporate environmental reporting. The Committee enhances the community's awareness of environmental and planning issues through forums on a range of matters such as "State Environmental Planning Policy No. 5 - Urban Infill Masquerading as SEPP 5", "A Nuclear Australia? Jabiluka to Lucas Heights and Beyond", "Cash for Trash: Reducing Sydney's Landfill?" and "Maximising Third Party Rights: A Seminar for Community Groups and Environmentalists". The Committee has also carried out practical environmental activities such as taking part in Clean Up Australia Day and National Tree Day.

The Committee has forged links with other professional groups. The Committee last year held a cocktail function with Young Planners at which Commissioner Murrell of the Land and Environment Court spoke and this year is planning a mock on-site hearing also with Young Planners. In 2001, the Committee conducted a series of CLE presentations on Landmark Planning and Environmental Law Cases jointly with the Environmental Planning Law Association. Committee members have invested considerable time in transcribing and editing these cases which the Local Government Law Journal has agreed to publish.

The Committee has also been fortunate to have had a wonderful set of guest speakers at its meetings including former members of the Committee such as Lisa Ogle, then Director of the Environmental Defender's Office, in relation to her experiences in East Timor regarding sustainable development. Most recently our longest serving member, Melinda Murray from the Environment Protection Authority, gave a fantastic insight into the review of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997.

One of the highlights of the Committee's activities was its ten year celebration "Drinks for a Decade" function on 18 April 2002. The Committee was honoured to have the then Chief Judge of the Land and Environment Court, Justice Pearlman, and Susan Hill, a former Chair of the Committee, as guest speakers. The event enabled the Committee to reflect on its role in bringing together young lawyers with an interest in environmental law and the achievements of the Committee.

The Committee congratulates NSW Young Lawyers on its 40th Anniversary and looks forward to contributing to the future success of the organisation!

**Elizabeth Carroll**  
**Environmental Law Committee Chair**  
**Corrs Chambers Westgarth**

## Talking to Felicity Wardhaugh

### **When were you actively involved in NSW Young Lawyers?**

1989 - 1993.

### **Where were you in your legal career during those years?**

Associate then partner in law firms practising in personal injury.

### **How and why did you become involved?**

Wanted to change the legal profession for the better, promote lawyers' views and meet other young lawyers.

### **What was your involvement with NSW Young Lawyers?**

Committee member, Vice President and President.

### **What were the highlights/burning issues during your time with NSW Young Lawyers?**

- Seeking minimum payments for young lawyers.
- Bill of Rights for Australia.
- YL Publications – Older People and the Law.
- Female issues – how do women get promoted?
- Writing wills for single sex partners whose partners are dying of HIV.

### **What benefits did you get from your involvement?**

- Political awareness – how the Law Society worked.
- Advances/changes in the legal profession for the better.
- Enhancement of the image of lawyers in the community.
- I made great friends and learnt a lot from others.

### **Where are you now in your legal career?**

Backwards! By my own choice to a certain extent. I am now a widow with small children, suffering the fate of women lawyers in NSW outside the metropolitan area. Where are all our brave changes? Please continue to fight for lawyers to be more community minded and give back to the community some of their time. For example, from my own experiences I would like to set up a local roster of lawyers here who can visit the families of terminally ill to check that all documents (legally) are in place before their loved one dies. I realised a need after my experiences.

### **What contact do you now have and what do you think of NSW Young Lawyers and its current activities?**

I believe strongly in NSW Young Lawyers and am very proud of their achievements.

### **What does the 40th Anniversary mean to you?**

That even young lawyers get old! A chance to reflect on our progress. A chance to celebrate and see whether our past young lawyers still have spirit, fight and enthusiasm.

### **What message do you have for current members?**

Get involved.

## C.E.T. Committee

Since its inception, the Committee has been heavily involved with the emerging law relating to technology. As the Committee is formed of a group of people in an emerging area of the law, the activities of the Committee have largely been to discuss, critically review and disseminate information on substantive legal issues. Much of the time of the Committee has been taken on updates; utilising the varying specialities of the members of the Committee in order keep abreast of the development of the law.

As new legislation in the area started to emerge in 1998 to 1999, the Committee was vocal in many areas of Internet and technology law, particularly in relation to the impact on intellectual property rights. In addition to forwarding submissions on various bills, and developing and promoting popular CLE seminars, members of the Committee also published an article in the Computers & the Law Journal on new legislation in 1999 to explain the changes in the law.

The pace of change of the law that the Committee deals with has not slowed. Over the past few years, the focus of discussions within the Committee has shifted towards changes in the law affecting communications technology and intellectual property more generally. With the emergence of new issues on the delivery of entertainment through new technology, the Committee has increasingly explored these areas. The activities of the Committee over the last few years, particularly in relation to presenting CLE seminars, has also encompassed far more intellectual property and communications law than in the past. To properly reflect this expanded focus, the Committee recently changed its name from the Information and Technology Committee to the Communication, Entertainment and Technology Law Committee, and will continue to work in development of the law in that field.

**Craig Glazier**  
**C.E.T. Committee Chair**  
**Canon Australia**

## Events of 1993 (30th Year)

Fred Hollows dies.

Labor wins the "unwinnable" election. Australian Greens stand for the first time.

Sir Edward "Weary" Dunlop dies.

Melbourne: Vintage Crop wins the Melbourne Cup, the first non-Australasian horse to do so.

Canberra: Unknown Soldier Memorial installed at the national War Memorial.

First Australian patent for an animal - a genetically engineered pig.

Launch of Optus as a rival to Telstra.

Hobart: Legislation recognises same sex partnerships.

World trade centre bombing

Two police officers convicted in Los Angeles on civil rights charges in Rodney King beating.

Poet Oodgeroo Noonucul (Kath Walker) dies.

The Federal Government passed the Native Title Act to give effect to the principles of the Mabo decision.

President Bush and President Yeltsin sign historic nuclear arms reduction treaty.

Waco Tragedy.

Dick Smith and co-pilot John Wallington become the first to cross Australia by balloon.



## Criminal Law Committee

When asked to contribute to our 40th Anniversary Programme, I asked my Committee members the question: "Why are you a member of the NSW Young Lawyers Criminal Law Committee?" Their responses below highlight the inspiration that committee members draw from their involvement:

"I wanted to meet other criminal law practitioners and get involved in the legal community. I like keeping up to date with criminal law issues and getting involved in a variety of activities such as law reform."

"To better what is mediocre, to improve what is often narrow-minded and to ensure mercy and humanity are the equal parts of justice."

"As a student, playing an active part in the Committee has introduced me to professionals in the field that are motivated and dedicated to legal reform."

"To learn from others and to share opinions, practices and ideas in an area of law that affects us all."

"Our Committee meetings are like hanging out with friends. It's a non-threatening environment where we are all comfortable to express our ideas."

"Being a member of the Committee keeps me informed about important changes to criminal law and offers a wide range of views from members with different professional backgrounds and experiences."

"I particularly like exploring ideas relating to law reform. The Committee provides a means by which we can voice our ideas to the broader community."

"To stay up to date with the latest developments in criminal law, contribute to issues of policy and make friends with other members of the profession."

"I have wanted to be a criminal lawyer since first year law school. It helps me refine my knowledge of criminal law, while engaging in rigorous and stimulating debate. The wine and cheese doesn't hurt either."

"I like the way the Committee works. Everyone here is professional, but friendly, helpful and down to earth. It's great to be part of a professional body which helps you along."

"To see things from different perspectives - through other members eyes."

"To be actively involved in current and live issues in criminal law."

"To voice some serious concerns I have about the criminal justice system in an organisation which is able to do something about it."

**Lester Fernandez**  
**Criminal Law Committee Chair**  
**Legal Aid Commission of NSW**

## Talking to Phillip Gibson

### **When were you actively involved in NSW Young Lawyers?**

1995-1999.

### **Where were you in your legal career during those years?**

Private practice in Wollongong – mainly crime.

### **How and why did you become involved?**

Great opportunity to meet colleagues and have a few drinks - oh and of course to exchange ideas and be up to date with the law.

### **What was your involvement with NSW Young Lawyers?**

Member of the Criminal Law Committee, Chair Criminal Law Committee, Executive Council Member.

### **What were the highlights/burning issues during your time with NSW Young Lawyers?**

The usual law and order auctions at election time – organising a law and order forum.

### **What benefits did you get from your involvement?**

Fantastic network – friendships – being at the forefront of legislative changes – great parties.

### **Where are you now in your legal career?**

Senior partner of Nyman Gibson Stewart, Criminal Defence Lawyers.

### **What contact do you now have and what do you think of NSW Young Lawyers and its current activities?**

NSW Young Lawyers is doing a great job, your CLE programme is very good.

### **What does the 40th Anniversary mean to you?**

It shows that NSW Young Lawyers is still going strong and is a body that has longevity and relevance to the practice of law.

### **What message do you have for current members?**

Keep up the great work.

## Civil Litigation Committee

The Civil Litigation Committee was founded in 1999. Committee membership includes lawyers practising in the area of civil litigation, barristers, academics and students with an interest in civil litigation.

The primary objectives of the Civil Litigation Committee are to:

- monitor & seek to have input into changes in litigation law & procedure.
- promote access to justice & the fair & efficient administration of justice.
- provide a peer support network for legal practitioners in civil litigation.
- promote issues which are of relevance & concern to young lawyers.

The Committee meets monthly to discuss its current projects, recent legal developments and any concerns its members may have. The Committee has a very active email discussion list which acts as an invaluable means of facilitating communication between committee members. The list is a means of generating discussion, providing information about recent legal developments and publicising upcoming social and professional events hosted by the NSW Young Lawyers.

The focus of the Committee is the dissemination of ideas and legal developments, the planning of CLEs and government lobbying. The Committee is currently drafting a submission in relation to changes in the Local Court listing procedure. The Committee has previously made submissions in relation to the Civil Liability Act 2002 (NSW) and cost assessors in the Local Court.

Earlier this year the Committee decided that there was a need in the broader professional community, for a handbook directed at new lawyers dealing with basic information on going to Court, jurisdictional issues, different heads of damages and where to get further information. The project is progressing along nicely and we hope to have the handbook published by the beginning of 2004.

The Committee recognises that CLEs are a vital part of NSW Young Lawyers and each committee meeting we attempt, if time permits, to come up with new CLE ideas. We also organise the annual One-Day Litigation Seminar. Throughout the year, members of the Committee chair and present various CLE seminars.

The Committee welcomes new members and any expressions of interest should be forwarded to me (8281 4424 or [civillit.chair@younglawyers.com.au](mailto:civillit.chair@younglawyers.com.au)) or Poppy Drekis at Young Lawyers (9926 0269 or [poppy@younglawyers.com.au](mailto:poppy@younglawyers.com.au)).

**Susannah Maclaren**  
**Civil Litigation Committee Chair**  
**Colin Biggers & Paisley**

## Community Services Committee

The Community Services Committee ("CSC") was re-formed in 1998 after a hiatus of several years. Jennifer McVicar took over the Chair with a handful of members and one crazy idea for a mentoring project for disadvantaged people. Today the CSC possesses a vibrant and great mix of "old guard" members who are veterans of many Committee projects, and enthusiastic new members who are contributing new energy, effort and ideas into the various CSC projects.

Over the last 6 years, the CSC has gone from strength to strength and its committed and talented members have contributed to a diverse range of important projects such as:

- **Community Reach Pilot Program** - This was the re-formed CSC's first big project and set us all on a steep learning curve. Conducted in partnership with Sydney City Mission, Community Reach was a mentoring project where our volunteer lawyers provided assistance to underprivileged people.
- **Pro Bono** - Pro Bono is an important standing item on the CSC's agenda. Members of the CSC have been approached by the National Pro Bono Resources Centre to consult with them over development of a Best Practice Pro Bono Manual and other pro bono issues.
- **Older People and the Law Handbook** - In 2002, a comprehensive, high-quality user-friendly handbook was published with the assistance of the NSW Attorney-General's Department and distributed free of charge to older people in the community.
- **"Getting Out of Debt/Staying Out of Debt" Handbook** - The CSC will soon launch its new publication, which is a user-friendly guide for people in financial difficulty, and a resource for community workers, CLC's and the like.
- **Indigenous Law Student Mentoring Program** - In March 2001, the CSC commenced a pilot program in partnership with UNSW. The program received the 2001 Australian Young Lawyers Award for Best Community Project from the Law Council of Australia and was expanded to UTS in 2002. We are now looking to extend the program to all law schools in NSW.
- **School Student Mentoring Program** - In 2002 the CSC, in partnership with the NSW Department of Education, ran a pilot school student mentoring program which received the 2002 Australian Young Lawyers Award for Best Community Project. In 2003, two law firms adopted the program and more law firms are set to follow. The CSC and NSW Department of Education will launch an Indigenous School Student Mentoring Program in 2004.
- **Other projects** currently being investigated by the CSC include access to employment for lawyers and law students with disabilities and submissions on relevant community law issues.

A HUGE vote of thanks must go to Jennifer McVicar, all the fantastic CSC

members and of course to Elvira Abouhaidar, who has been the driving force behind the CSC's success. As one CSC member comments:

"My advice to any young lawyer who is feeling jaded with their place in the NSW legal profession is to come along to a CSC meeting and take on a project. For my own part, spending time with dedicated, passionate young lawyers who are committed to making a difference in the lives of others energises me and (it's trite to say) makes me proud to be a lawyer."

**Albert Yuen**  
**Community Services Committee Chair**  
**Coudert Brothers**

## Business Law Committee

Good evening and thank you for your support of NSW Young Lawyers in attending this function.

I have been actively involved with NSW Young Lawyers for 3 years and have recently been appointed to the Chair of the Business Law Committee and to the Executive Committee. In my 3 years of involvement I have seen that NSW Young Lawyers is a friendly and approachable organisation which provides support and relevant assistance to young lawyers where needed and also takes a proactive role in assessing and improving the employment opportunities and conditions of young lawyers in NSW.

The NSW Young Lawyers Business Law Committee is a committee for young lawyers who either work or are interested in business law. The Committee concerns itself with a diverse and interesting range of areas relevant to business law including corporate law, commercial law, trade practices, government law and extending to IT/IP and environmental law.

It is certainly an exciting time to be working in business law with the corporate law reform program, the renewed focus on the Trade Practices Act, large scale international corporate collapses and increasing regulation in business dealings and corporate management.

In the past 12 months the Business Law Committee has published the Corporate Law Handbook (which is available on the Internet at [businesslaw.younglawyers.com.au](http://businesslaw.younglawyers.com.au)) and has put on more than two CLE seminars for NSW Young Lawyers.

The Committee meets monthly on the last Tuesday of every month at 1:00pm for a lunch meeting (sandwiches and drinks provided) at the Law Society of NSW. The membership consists of a regular group of around 12 but in excess of 15 often attend and our email discussion list comprises over 75 members. New members are always welcome.

**Scott Alden**  
**Business Law Committee Chair**  
**Tress Cocks & Maddox**

## Animal Rights Committee

When I look at the status of animal law in Australia, I see us sitting on the edge of a movement which is only just beginning. When NSW Young Lawyers was formed 40 years ago, there was no real concept of animal law. Indeed, the concept of animal rights or animal liberation was barely even emerging.

One of the things that I find inspiring about the Animal Rights Committee (ARC) is the fact that it has come so far in such a short time. I have been fortunate to Chair the Committee through a large part of its growth period. However the Committee owes much to the past presidents (especially Monique Pirona) and executives of NSW Young Lawyers who have had the courage and the insight to support the work of the Committee through its fledgling stages.

Since ARC was established in December 1997, we have done our best to act as legal advocates for animals in Australia. Our current projects, which cover a wide range of issues that affect animals, demonstrate that. A sample of those projects include the pro bono/animal law project, layer hen housing project, case law project, media watch project and tenancy booklet project.

In addition to our significant work in progress, ARC has completed a number of projects over the last 12 months. These ranged from organising a public forum on the legal status of non-human animals to the virtual overhaul of ARC's website which continues to evolve and will in time serve as a one stop shop for Australian animal law.

Looking back, ARC has come a long way since December 1997. That would never have happened without the wonderful, talented and conscientious members who serve as a constant inspiration to me. I am grateful to NSW Young Lawyers staff and our long-standing members for their tireless efforts and continued support and to our many new members who are a source of energy and new ideas.

As a Committee, ARC is maturing. With each month that passes, we learn more about how we can effect positive change in the emerging area of animal law. At both local, national and international levels, ARC has made a name for itself. It is not uncommon for us to be asked to comment on legal issues that affect animals in this country. Our invitations to participate in international conferences concerning animal law confirm that we have also received recognition from our colleagues overseas.

Thank you again to all ARC members who have given their time and energy to the Committee and made it what it is today. I hope that you will all still be involved in the field of animal law at NSW Young Lawyers 50th Anniversary so that we can reflect on how far we have come.

**Katrina Sharman**  
**Animal Rights Committee Chair**  
**Minter Ellison**

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## Talking to Jon Prowse

**When were you actively involved in NSW Young Lawyers?**

1992 – 2000.

**Where were you in your legal career during those years?**

Employed solicitor, then partner.

**How and why did you become involved?**

Regional delegate, St George Sutherland as the previous delegate was unavailable.

**What was your involvement with NSW Young Lawyers?**

- Executive Councillor from November 1993 – November 2000
- Secretary in 1995
- Chair of the Criminal Law Committee in 1994

**What were the highlights/burning issues during your time with NSW Young Lawyers?**

- Resolutions regarding workplace discrimination and Mabo.
- Too many issues to record
- Publishing Children's Court Guidebook

**What benefits did you get from your involvement?**

- Contact with other committee members
- Free food and alcohol

**Where are you now in your legal career?**

Partner in private practice.

**What contact do you now have and what do you think of NSW Young Lawyers and its current activities?**

I still do CLE, but not too much otherwise.

**What does the 40th Anniversary mean to you?**

A chance to catch up with old friends.

**What message do you have for current members?**

Keep the social conscience of the profession strong.

## Events of 2003 (40th Year)

Bushfires across ACT, Victoria, NSW, SA & Tasmania destroy homes and live-stock throughout January and into February. Hundreds of people evacuate alpine towns in Victoria and NSW. On January 18 - January 21 bushfires in Canberra destroy more than 100 homes, mainly in the western suburbs, and most of the historic Mount Stromlo observatory and telescope.

Canberra: High Court rules that the Federal Government's 'Tampa Laws', which restrict appeals from asylum seekers, are valid.

SA: Police apprehend all 6 detainees who escaped from Woomera Detention Centre on February 3.

Hundreds of thousands of people participate in peace rallies across the country in protest against likely Australian involvement in a war against Iraq.

Canberra: Prime Minister John Howard formally pledges 2000 Australian defence personnel to US-led attack on Iraq.

Australian cameraman, Paul Moran, is killed by a car bomb in Iraq.

SA: Woomera Detention Centre closes.

The Therapeutic Goods Administration orders an urgent recall of 219 products made and supplied by Pan Pharmaceuticals. Pan's licence is suspended for 6 months.

Sydney: Stockbroker Rene Rivkin found guilty of insider trading. He is sentenced to 9 months weekend detention and fined \$30,000.

Australia's front line troops officially welcomed home from Iraq with the nation's leaders describing them as one of the finest forces in the world.

Canberra: Dr Hollingworth announces his resignation in a statement that says remaining in office could diminish the integrity of the position of Governor-General. On May 28 he publicly apologises for failing in his former position as Archbishop of Brisbane, to sack a paedophile priest.

Washington: USA suspends legal action against alleged Australian Taliban fighter, David Hicks, currently being held at Guantanamo Bay.

Canberra: Major-General Michael Jeffery sworn in at Parliament House as Australia's 24th Governor-General.

Brisbane: Former One Nation Party leader Pauline Hanson and former One Nation Director David Ettridge sentenced to 3 years in prison after being found guilty of electoral fraud.

Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia: Death sentence for Bali bomber Amrozi as the panel of trial judges find him guilty of criminal acts in carrying out terrorist crimes.

*Notes and Autographs*

The organisation we now know as NSW Young Lawyers began in October 1963 as a committee of the Law Society of NSW. First called the Young Members' Committee, in 1964 the name was changed to the Associate Committee. Ultimately, NSW Young Lawyers emerged as an autonomous division of the Law Society comprising lawyers under the age of 36 or in their first 5 years of practice and all law students. The NSW Young Lawyers Office is located on Level 6 of the Law Society Building, 170 Phillip Street, Sydney.

The Constitution of NSW Young Lawyers provides for delegates at the Annual Assembly to vote for Office Bearers - being a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer - and for an Executive Council. NSW Young Lawyers currently has 13 committees, the Chairs of which themselves meet frequently with Office Bearers. Administration, especially co-ordination of committee projects and CLE, is undertaken by three permanent staff.

The membership of NSW Young Lawyers currently stands in excess of 15,000 with over 9,000 lawyer members and 6,000 student members.