



NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2006

Auckland Women
Lawyers' Association Inc.

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This issue's editors:
Stella Joe,
Louise Rooney and
Sophie Anderson

From the President...

It was great to see so many of you at our mid-winter dinner honouring Judge Dale Clarkson. Personally I found it inspiring to hear her candid description of life on the bench and the energy and enthusiasm with which she looks forward to another career after her retirement. Judge Clarkson was the youngest ever appointment to the District Court bench, and she made a point of saying that she had had no career plan: she simply took opportunities that came along.

In this newsletter we report on the outcome of the litigation matter on which the Executive resolved to seek intervenor status (X v X). Justice Heath delivered a full and well reasoned decision, acknowledging that the subject matter of the case was a legitimate concern of the Association pursuant to its constitution. He declined leave, (see the article for details) but left open the possibility of intervention in appropriate cases in future. It is some years since the AWLA undertook litigation of this nature, and we have had very little feedback from members. We would like to hear from you and whether you think we should be proactive about such opportunities in the future.

Jennifer Caldwell, President

UPCOMING EVENTS

●
3 August

Careers Evening at Law School, University of Auckland

●
26 October

An Evening with Ilona Rogers

●
29 November

AWLA Christmas Dinner

HELEN TWENTYMAN – Grey Lynn Neighbourhood Law Office

“The NLO has in the past received kindly donated legal texts. Their library is currently absent of an up to date contract text and Bill of Rights Act text. They would welcome any contributions to the library.”

This is my third year as Head Solicitor at the Grey Lynn Neighbourhood Law Office ('NLO'). For me it has been a challenging time of meeting the demands of family, fully supporting the spirit of community and ensuring the ongoing sustainability of community legal services provided by the NLO.

The NLO has a rich history of provision of community legal services in Auckland and was the first law centre in New Zealand. It has an important role to play in ensuring that people in the community have access to a lawyer and access to justice. It is in this tradition that I have endeavoured to progress the NLO. In doing so I have had the strength of community in support of the law centre and the legal profession who have devoted many hours of time and commitment to the work of the law centre.

The NLO is a generalist law centre. It provides legal advice and representation to people who may have one legal query or many. The work of an NLO lawyer may include dealing with an employment matter, minor criminal, traffic, family, domestic violence, immigration, housing, discrimination and consumer law. This work requires a lawyer to be flexible, adaptable, able to use their initiative, be discerning and to have if not a passion for community law, an empathy for people. Many invaluable skills are gained from working at a community law centre and are skills which have held many past NLO lawyers in good stead in their careers. It is my view that it is a privilege to be able to work at a community law centre and it is also essential that people in the community have access to a lawyer. The NLO has more inquiries than it can possibly meet with the four lawyers that it now employs. My role is as one of those lawyers and I also manage the centre. The lawyers are under my supervision and I place a strong emphasis on ethics and professional accountability whilst continuing to ensure our community receives the best possible service given the available resources.

The NLO gives priority to people who live in Auckland City and particularly to people through the NLO's outreach legal clinics in Glen Innes, Wesley in Mt Roskill and Avondale. These clinics are run one day per week and have been hugely successful. Due to resources, the NLO takes clients who are low income and who cannot otherwise access a lawyer. The support of the legal profession who take referrals from our centre is invaluable and very much appreciated. To ensure the sustainability of the NLO's legal services, the NLO continues to seek full resourcing to maintain the current and future service delivery.

The NLO has an education programme that includes small seminar series carried out at local community centres. It has also completed a Not-For-Profit series with Auckland City Council and runs a seminar series with the Auckland Citizen Advice Bureaus. A smaller number of large one-off seminars are planned in the latter part of the year. In addition the NLO is involved in law reform work as much as time allows.

In final note, it is not without concern that I note the eligibility for legal aid has been increased without an accompanying increase in legal aid rates. This is a cause for concern to the NLO as we rely hugely on our referral lawyers to take this work – we do a small amount of legal aid work where a client may require this for example if there are multi-issues. However, the majority of inquiries that are legally aidable are referred out to private solicitors. We would like to see an increase in legal aid rates and an increase in the hours permitted. It is our view that legal aid presents a barrier for many of the people who make inquiries to our centre for example filling out the application form! Understanding that their lawyer can only commit a certain amount of time to their case because legal aid does not allow for any more time on their case and does not pay for any more time. It is now becoming apparent that lawyers are finding it difficult to progress cases and meet court timetabling orders. In some instances, lawyers are not wanting to take legal aid work because of the cumbersome and bureaucratic maze confronting them. It is concerning to us that legal aid is in many respects acting as a hindrance to access to justice rather than assisting this purpose. It is even more concerning that valuable court time is being devoted to addressing this exact issue. We are now hearing examples where cases are not being appealed and that need to be, for the very reason of legal aid!

I am a strong supporter of community legal information and education in addition to the provision of legal advice and assistance. However, at some point, people need access to a lawyer and legal representation and that role in our community should be fully supported and properly funded by the Government. A united legal profession into the future is essential if this is to be achieved.

Note: The NLO has in the past received kindly donated legal texts. Our library is currently absent of an up to date contract text and Bill of Rights Act text. We would welcome any contributions to our library. If you would like to be included on our list of friends of the NLO we would also welcome your support.

OBITUARIES

Sadly this month we farewell two female members of the legal profession.

Fiona B Bolwell

BA, LLB (Hons), M.Jur



Fiona Bolwell, a member of the AWLA executive in 2000 died at Auckland on 10 June 2006 aged 52.

Prior to moving to Auckland, Fiona had been a member of the Executive of the Wellington Women Lawyers Association and of the Executive of the Wellington District Law Society. Also, she was one of the women who attempted to form an association for Christchurch women lawyers in the 1980's, but found their recognition of the desirability of such an association was precocious and not widely supported. No doubt their pioneering attempt resulted in the Christchurch association being formed a few years later.

Fiona was born in Dunedin, the youngest of a family of 3 daughters. She graduated LLB (Hons) from Otago University and after being admitted to the Bar in 1976 began work with a Dunedin law firm. In 1980 she moved to Christchurch and worked at Young Hunter and Co. Three years later she was with Russell McVeagh in Auckland for a short period, before moving to Tauranga. During the ten years she lived in Tauranga she was initially at Maltby Hare and Willoughby and then became the litigation partner at Cooney Lees and Morgan, where she had a general civil and commercial litigation practice.

In 1993 she was headhunted by the Solicitor General John McGrath and joined Crown Law in Wellington. She was Crown Counsel in the Public Commercial team and dealt with a variety of commercial matters and disputes. She also assisted the Solicitor General in giving advice to Ministers. She was an adviser to the Minister of Commerce on the process adopted in relation to the establishment of the Energy Companies pursuant to the Energy Companies Act 1992, and appeared as senior counsel in the High Court and the Court of Appeal for the Minister in the Judicial Review applications which arose out of that process. She advised Treasury on a number of matters including the conduct of proceedings against the Crown in relation to asbestos contamination and health related issues. She appeared with the Solicitor General in the Court of Appeal in relation to a case concerning the liability of the Judiciary for negligent acts.

In 1995 she was appointed leader of the Taxation and Public Finance team at the Crown Law Office and in that role for the following four years was required to

advise the Department of Inland Revenue on a variety of issues. She appeared for the Commissioner of Inland Revenue in a number of tax and judicial review proceedings in the High Court and Court of Appeal. She appeared five times before the Privy Council.

While she was with Crown Law Fiona chaired a multidisciplinary committee set up by the Tax Avoidance Unit in the Department to address a wide range of issues in relation to various corporate structures and trusts.

Following her partner, Dan Gardiner, Fiona moved her family to Auckland in 1999 and commenced practice at the independent Bar. Along with John Fogarty QC she was instructed by the Solicitor General to act on behalf of the Commissioner of Inland Revenue in the High Court hearing of the case of BNZ Investments Limited v CIR – a test case in relation to arrangements the subject of inquiry in the 'Winebox Inquiry'. The proceeding concerned the general anti-avoidance provisions of s99 of the Income Tax Act 1976. She also was engaged by the Auckland District Law Society to assist with its investigations regarding complaints made to it under the Law Practitioners Act 1982 about the conduct of partners of a large Auckland law firm. The complaints arose out of the failure of partnerships formed for clients for the purpose of investment in bloodstock, and concerned not only the formation and promotion of the partnerships but also the conduct of the law firm's defence of the proceedings which followed their failure.

Soon after moving to Auckland Fiona had a busy practice and a wide variety of work, with taxation the main area. At this time she was appointed a Cease and Desist Commissioner for the Commerce Commission.

Fiona assiduously attended to her clients' affairs and there was little which inhibited her industry, including hospitalization. Her Tauranga friends recall that when she went to hospital to give birth she took along with her a pile of her clients' files. Rumour has it she asked for a private room "to ensure client confidentiality"!

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Obituary: Fiona B Bolwell – Continued from page 3

More recently, a visitor who went to keep her company at Auckland Hospital while she was undergoing chemotherapy found her, drip in arm and dictaphone in hand, drafting pleadings.

Concurrent with achieving remarkable success both academically and in practice, Fiona always had other interests outside the law. She married and had a family. Shortly after moving to Tauranga her husband fell ill. Despite being a busy litigation partner and the mother of very young daughters, Fiona assisted her husband to run the commercial orchard they had purchased in Tauranga.

After the death of her then former husband Fiona was a solo mother who strived to manage her practice so as to have as much time as possible with her children. She adored her daughters and the hours after-school and the weekends were for them. Family holidays were a regular event and were carefully planned well in advance, often including a couple of her children's friends. The stories recounted of the holidays gave every indication they were fun-packed days and the stuff of wonderful memories.

Fiona was an energetic homemaker to the extent that she established and maintained a beautiful garden wherever she lived. She pursued a wide range of activities and interests including politics, women's issues, literature, dance, music, drama, theatrical shows, films, and as a proud Otago girl – anything Scottish (especially music and dancing). Fiona and her sisters competed in dancing, music, speech and drama competitions through their school-years and Fiona danced competitively (Highland dancing) until she was in her early 20's. She continued

dancing until well into her 30's. She was an enthusiastic bush-walker and swimmer and enjoyed the gym and yoga. More recently she actively supported Dan with his political interests. Overall, Fiona had an astonishing ability to make and maintain enduring friendships. Friends from all over New Zealand travelled to visit her at the hospice, and to attend her funeral.

From early 2003 Fiona continued to practice as she courageously fought bone cancer. Few were aware of the courses of chemotherapy treatment she was undergoing. Even fewer knew of the invasive and painful stem cell-harvesting procedures she underwent earlier this year. Towards the end of May 2006 it suddenly became apparent nothing could be done to arrest the cancer. She dictated notes for her files, and as best she could made all the necessary arrangements to close her practice and tidy up her affairs. Fiona died 12 days short of the date set for the stem cell transplant it had been hoped would extend her life.

Fiona was survived by her daughters Emma and Meg, her partner Dan, and her sisters Jan and Sue.

Shortly after setting up practice in Auckland, Fiona was described by a recently retired High Court judge as competent, energetic and a tenacious advocate. She will be remembered as such by many members of the Bench and legal profession throughout the country. But more than that, Fiona will be remembered for being a feminist and an inspirational role-model for women lawyers, if not for all law practitioners, who choose to have a multifaceted life as well as a career in law.

– *Sonja Clapham*

OBITUARIES – continued

Olivia Wilkins



Olivia Wilkins was a legal secretary at Bell Gully and had recently qualified with her legal executive training when she died suddenly in early June of this year at the age of 28. A couple of her colleagues at Bell Gully share their memories of her...

Olivia (or Olly as I sometimes liked to call her) was a fun and interesting person to sit with. We shared stories of travelling overseas. I admired that Olivia was so well travelled and independent at such a young age.

I also admired Olivia's never-ending talent – she was an accomplished dancer and very artistic. She would always participate by choreographing a dance or lending her artistic hand to the Department for firm activities.

We liked to sit and talk about our favourite music. She was always very good humoured about my tastes and very patient with me when I would sit there and ask "who? what do they sing" about her music. We did, however, both like Robbie Williams and there were lots of conversations about putting his shoes under Olivia's bed.

Our desk was often decorated by bunches of flowers sent to Olivia by one of her many admirers – another great topic of conversation

Olivia's love for animals was touching, there was usually a new photo of Shelby for me to look at on a Monday. She doted on her kitten Sebastian and did actually bring him into work one day. She longed for a full-time pet at work so we decided that we would share some goldfish. To celebrate their arrival we decided to have a team shout – fish fingers and chocolate fish.

These are just some of the memories that I will recall often and of course Olivia's beautiful smile, big heart and vitality. Olivia, you will be sadly missed, but fondly remembered. Sleep well.

– *Paula Hendy*

When I started in the litigation department at BG nearly three years ago, my first-day buddy happened to be Olivia. I couldn't have wished for a better person to show me the ropes... I mean it was scary coming to a big firm like BG but Olivia made the transition so easy. I remember thinking, wow, what a stunning girl and what a vivacious personality she has.

Olivia and I shared the same interest of horses which I realised after seeing all the horse pictures affixed to her wall. I remember her face lighting up when I told her I too had a horse. Well, you guessed it, we were instant great friends and the real friendship begun. Within a month Olivia's horse Shelby and my horse Monty were neighbours, grazing only 100m away from each other. We quickly arranged for Shelby and Monty to meet for the first time one weekend soon after Shelby moved in down the road and I agreed to ride over to Olivia's paddock. I remember thinking "I bet she's got the best gear", after all she had been riding in the US. Anyway I thoroughly cleaned my horse gear and spent over an hour and a half grooming Monty. He must of thought I was putting him into Horse of the Year show or something. I arrived at Olivia's paddock to find her in trackies and her gear was pretty much the same as mine. What a relief! I like to just hack around these days and have fun and so did she. We spent many weekends going for rides and within a couple of months Olivia moved Shelby in with Monty and we would meet up at the paddock every weekend and just hang out and go riding. I don't think Olivia could have cared for Shelby any more than she did – he was spoilt rotten. Whenever I go riding now I will always feel that I have Liv riding next to me, chatting, giggling and joking around.

– *Jennifer Mein*

“Judge Clarkson retains the honour of being the youngest-appointed judge and told of the difficulty of being a young female appointed to the Bench.”

AWLA Mid-Winter Dinner Review

The AWLA Mid-Winter dinner was held this year on 29 June. After the success of the 2005 mid-winter dinner at Romfords Restaurant, Tamaki Yacht Club the executive decided to hold the function at the same venue this year. This venue choice turned out to be a fortuitous coincidence as the theme of the dinner was celebrating the career of, and fare-welling into retirement, District Court Judge Dale Clarkson of the Family Court.

At Judge Clarkson's appointment to the Bench, AWLA decided to host a dinner celebrating her appointment. This dinner (unbeknownst to the Executive) happened to have been held at the Tamaki Yacht Club. Upon her retirement, we again decided to honour her achievements by asking her to speak at our annual mid-winter dinner. In accordance with the symmetry of the two events, Anne Hinton QC introduced Judge Clarkson as she had also done when she was appointed. Anne Hinton spoke of a strong woman who had confronted both cynicism and opposition to her appointment as such a “young” woman.

Judge Clarkson retains the honour of being the youngest-appointed judge and told of the difficulty of being a young female appointed to the Bench. Judge Clarkson was also the first mother appointed to the Bench – an event captured by the front page of the Herald on what Judge Clarkson modestly described as a “slow news day”.

Prior to her appointment, Judge Clarkson was a founding member of the “Newmarket Legal Centre” – which was soon forced to change its name.

Judge Clarkson described important partnership decisions such as purchases of heaters and fighting for full partnership equity while on maternity leave (which turned out to be a full partnership share in a loss...).

The main impression Judge Clarkson gave throughout her speech was that of a well-balanced person in a challenging position, who manages to maintain a sense of the importance of family, her own well-being and contributions to society beyond her role as a Judge. Judge Clarkson showed her human side and gave us an insight into Dale Clarkson, the woman, with photo slides of her family and important (non-legal) events in her life.

Judge Clarkson spoke with compassion about the many awful things she had witnessed, heard and read in her time with the Family Court and spoke with respect of the health professionals who have to deal with much worse in the same situations.

With her husband supporting “the enemy” – as team psychiatrist for BMW Oracle – Judge Clarkson is retiring to spend more time with her family, to take the opportunity to travel to Valencia and to focus more on the mediation and counselling role she has taken up alongside her husband.

The Mid-Winter Dinner was an entertaining and enjoyable evening and we all enjoyed the opportunity to celebrate the achievements of an Auckland Woman Lawyer who appears to have come close to achieving the elusive, and all important, work-life balance.

AWLA Website Launched!

www.awla.org.nz

From the 1st of August 2006 AWLA's website will be moving from its current home on the website of the Auckland District Law Society to its new site at: www.awla.org.nz

The website has been significantly expanded to include:

- Archived back issues of AWLA's newsletter
- Information on Scholarships and Awards available from AWLA
- Events and Functions Calendar
- Information on recent AWLA news and events
- Links to other regional women lawyer groups in New Zealand
- Information on AWLA's Mentoring Programme

The new website is designed to be a resource for members, providing information on AWLA's scholarship and mentoring programmes, details of upcoming events (including the ability to download RSVP forms), and giving members access to past newsletters and submissions.

The website is very much a ‘work in progress’ and will continue to grow and grow over the new few months as additional features are added.

We welcome input and feedback from members. If you have a suggestion for the website please contact us at: awla@xtra.co.nz

“Justice Heath accepted AWLA’s proposed intervention reflected a genuine view that the issues are of importance to those to whom its mandate extends.”

X v X: AWLA’s application to intervene

In a judgment dated 4 July 2006, Justice Heath declined AWLA’s application to intervene in the relationship property case, *X v X*.

Background

The substantive case turns on section 15 of the Property (Relationships) Act 1976 (that section being enacted in early 2002) – in particular the correct legal test to apply to the economic disparity provisions. One of the points to be aired on appeal is whether the Family Court Judge was right to hold that it was necessary to embark upon an inquiry into the reasons for the respective roles undertaken by each spouse at the time of separation. This is not a point of law that has been tested at appellate level to date.

AWLA considers that the court should not be required to look behind the parties’ respective choices that have led to the situation where there is a significant disparity in the standard of living likely to be enjoyed by each of the parties post separation. Indeed, it would be undesirable for the court to have to do so.

AWLA has previously intervened in cases in this area – notably in *Z v Z* – where the Court’s decision to refuse to extend claims to future earnings could be seen as a catalyst for the introduction of section 15. *X v X* provides the court with an opportunity to articulate the tests to apply to section 15, the factors to take into account and the weight to be given to those factors.

After vigorous debate by the Executive, the Executive saw the case as an excellent opportunity to influence the development of the law in this area. AWLA’s constitution outlines that one of our purposes is the reform of the law in the interests of women and children and our intervention was designed to advance those interests, given that in the majority of cases women are still the primary caregivers.

Inevitably few cases go to appeal in this area, because few individuals are in a position to fund litigation, even at first instance. AWLA felt that by assisting the Court to clarify the law, a greater range of women and children would benefit, because the law would be more certain.

The Judgment

Justice Heath recognised that AWLA sought only a limited involvement in the proceedings. Two specific questions were posed:

- Was the Family Court correct to inquire into the reasons for economic disparity?
- If the Family Court was right to hold that an inquiry into the reasons for disparity was required, what factors are relevant to that inquiry?

AWLA did not seek to have any evidence released to it and did not intend to make submissions on the application of section 15 to the facts of the case. AWLA was prepared to limit its speaking time to a maximum of 30 minutes and would have avoided any duplication with the other parties’ submissions.

Mr X opposed the application. His chief concern was a perception that AWLA, as a “women’s organisation” sought to promote the cause of Mrs X to his detriment. He was also concerned at extra costs and delay that might result from AWLA’s involvement (although we had sought to minimise this).

Justice Heath accepted that AWLA’s proposed intervention reflected a genuine view that the issues are of importance to those to whom its mandate extends.

Justice Heath’s summary of the principles applicable to the grant of intervener status identified that it is appropriate in cases where development of the law is likely and the proposed intervener has special expertise to assist the court on wider public policy issues to which counsel for the parties may not have referred. Where a particular intervener might not be seen to be impartial, the court will appoint *amicus curiae*, to give independent submissions, or appoint an intervener with a contrary policy perspective.

Justice Heath declined to grant intervener status because in his view:

- The section 15 issue may not, in fact, fall to be determined in the appeal once the relevant factual findings have been made (in other words, if on appeal it was held that the threshold elements of s 15 were not satisfied, the Court may not consider the point of law AWLA had articulated)

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X v X: AWLA's application to intervene – Continued from page 7

- The case involves statutory interpretation, so broader public policy considerations do not necessarily fall to be considered;
- AWLA's arguments can be made by Mrs X's counsel;
- In the absence of another group presenting the contrary policy perspective, Mr X could legitimately feel that AWLA was partial to Mrs X's interests; and
- The appropriate time to intervene might be at a second or third tier appeal, once findings of fact have been settled.

Although he declined the application, Justice Heath made no order as to costs, recognising AWLA's genuine concerns.

Comment

AWLA will watch with interest the outcome of the High Court appeal in *X v X*. We are hopeful that by bringing to the fore the policy issues surrounding the interpretation of section 15, the parties' counsel will include some discussion of these issues in their argument and that this will be reflected in the High Court's judgment.

The case does raise the issue when AWLA would ever be granted intervener status, particularly as a similar application was also declined in another case, *D v C*. Whilst recognising that having an intervener

involved in a case will raise the costs for the parties, the law does provide for interested parties to apply for intervener status and if limited in the way AWLA had proposed, the parties' costs would not have been greatly increased.

AWLA does represent a particular policy perspective and the constitution provides a clear mandate to engage in this kind of advocacy. If this judgment reflects the position in New Zealand, it can be contrasted with Canada, where LEAF (Women's Legal Education and Action Fund), a national, non-profit organisation committed to using the provisions of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms to promote equality for women, has since its inception in 1985 intervened in over 140 cases. LEAF recognises that everyone benefits from a good Court decision and LEAF helps to inform the Courts on issues that are relevant to women and children in particular. See www.leaf.ca.

AWLA would like to acknowledge and thank Antonia Fisher, who acted as Counsel for AWLA, on a pro bono basis, together with AWLA Committee members Veronica Lobao, Tammy McLeod, Katherine Anderson and Lucy Riddiford.

“Laughter is the best medicine and has been shown to improve immune function and relieve stress, as well as making life more enjoyable.”

TIPS ON AVOIDING WINTER AILMENTS

Now that winter has arrived with vengeance, it is almost inevitable that the winter ailments follow. Here are some tips to keep your immune system functioning at optimal level to avoid viral and bacterial illnesses.

Reduce Stress

It is well known that stress has a negative impact on the immune system. Prolonged stress can burn up Vitamin C as adrenaline is made from Vitamin C. Therefore increasing your intake of Vitamin C at times of stress can be helpful.

Take up stress reducing hobbies like yoga or meditation and laugh more. Laughter is the best medicine and has been shown to improve immune function and relieve stress, as well as making life more enjoyable.

Exercise

Regular exercise stimulates the release of “fuel goods” hormones to reduce stress. Exercise also increases levels of white blood cells. However, excessive strenuous exercise can also deplete the immune system so don't over do it. Everything in moderation is the key.

Sleep Soundly

Try to get a good nights sleep as sleep deprivation has a negative effect on immune function.

Diet

You can help your immune system by eating certain foods such as fresh, brightly coloured fruit and vegetables, garlic, onions, ginger, green tea, manuka honey, whey protein, shitake mushrooms, eggs, natural yoghurt and fish.

Try and reduce your sugar intake as sugar compromises the function of the white blood cells. Drink plenty of water or herbal tea to keep mucous membranes hydrated.

Decrease Toxic Habits

Yet another reminder to stop smoking, limit alcohol intake and leave junk food alone. These habits can cause toxic build up and oxidative damage which impairs immune cell function and lowers vitality.

Here's to a healthier and happier winter!



Auckland Women Lawyers' Association Inc.

EVER CONSIDERED BECOMING A MENTOR FOR THE AWLA MENTORING PROGRAMME?

WE NEED YOU!

The AWLA Mentoring Programme now urgently requires more practitioners with five or more years' experience to join our programme and mentor less experienced women lawyers.

- **Flexibility:** The AWLA scheme is flexible, and can develop in a way that suits our members. Some people will want regular meetings to discuss career development. Some will just want a sounding board at the end of a telephone to discuss specific problems. You can organise it however you like. We offer guidelines but have no rules.
- **Voluntary:** The scheme is voluntary for all participants - mentors and mentees.
- **Mentors:** Generally mentors will be women practitioners with more than five years' experience. We welcome mentors from the whole range of careers within our membership: private practice, public sector, corporate sector etc.
- **Same Sector:** We will try to link each mentee up with a mentor who works in the same sector. So for example, a mentee who is practicing mainly in matrimonial law might be linked to a barrister who has a matrimonial practice. A new graduate who has a job in the corporate sector could be linked to a senior in-house solicitor. A newly qualified practitioner who hopes to specialise in the tax area might be linked to a tax practitioner. We will try to cater to individual wishes as far as possible (depending on the availability of suitable mentors).
- **Purpose:** The purpose of the mentoring relationship is to maximise the mentee's development. The aim of the relationship is to empower the mentee. Mentors should encourage mentees to overcome difficulties and discover solutions to problems themselves.
- **No fault way out:** If the relationship doesn't work, either party can take advantage of a no fault way out.
- **Confidentiality:** Information exchanged between mentors and mentees must be treated in confidence unless permission is given. Additionally, the fact that the relationship exists may be confidential in itself, if the participants wish it to be.
- **Duration:** The duration of the relationship will be agreed between you. Either party can terminate the relationship at any time. Mentees may choose a new mentor through AWLA at this time, and mentors may make themselves available for a different mentee.

**Become a Mentor and give something back to the profession
– it is sure to be a rewarding experience for both of you!**

If you would like to join please contact either the AWLA Mentoring Programme Coordinators:

Sophie Anderson: sophie Leah@xtra.co.nz

Seshani Bala: seshani.bala@gazeburt.co.nz

Or email Deidre Bourke the AWLA Secretary at awla@xtra.co.nz to request an application form.

AWLA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2006 – CONTACT DETAILS

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			Sally Morris Student Representative	Tel: 336 7500 Fax: 336 7629 Mobile: 021 054 0734	Meredith Connell Level 17, Forsyth Barr Tower 55-56 Shortland Street PO Box 2213 DX CP24063 Auckland sally.morris@meredithconnell.co.nz



Auckland Women
Lawyers' Association Inc.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

1 January 2006–31 December 2006

PO Box 6568,
Wellesley Street,
Auckland

www.adls.org.nz/prof/awla.html

New Application

Renewal of Membership

To assist us in maintaining accurate records please staple your business card (if available) here:

OR Provide the following details:

Name: _____

Email: _____ **Fax:** _____

Telephone (w): _____ **(h):** _____

Contact Address: _____

Work Title: *(please tick)*

Solicitor Associate Partner Consultant Barrister Corporate Counsel
 Government Counsel Student Legal Executive Other: _____

Employer Name: *(if applicable)* _____

Practice Area (eg commercial, family): _____

Signature: _____

We would like to be able to include details of new members in our newsletter and a membership directory.
 If you would prefer to have your details unpublished please tick here.

Amount Paid:	Full membership (including donation to the AWLA Margaret Wilson Scholarship)	\$ 55.00 + \$ _____
	Full membership	\$ 55.00
	Full membership (discounted if paid by 31/12/2005)	\$ 50.00
	Student/financial hardship	\$ 20.00
	Associate membership (non-lawyers)	\$ 55.00
	5 year membership	\$200.00

Cheque enclosed for \$ _____

Please make cheques payable to Auckland Women Lawyers' Association Inc. and send with this form completed to:

The Treasurer
AWLA
P O Box 6568
Wellesley Street
AUCKLAND

A receipt will be sent. No GST is payable.



Auckland Women
Lawyers' Association Inc.

Careers Evening 2006

Thursday, 03 August 2006

The Law Faculty, University of Auckland

Wine and nibbles @ 6.00pm in the Staff Common Room
Speakers will begin @ 6:30pm in the Stone Lecture Theatre

This year we are pleased to invite:

- o Judge Anna Johns, District Court Judge
- o Anne Hinton, QC
- o Kelly-Ann Stoikoff, Crown Prosecutor
- o Rachel Paris, Senior Associate, Bell Gully

To speak about their different career paths and experiences based on the common phenomena of having a law degree.

Afterwards take the opportunity to meet and mingle with the speakers and other women practitioners from the AWLA executive.

STUDENTS: join AWLA on the night for the discounted price of \$10.00

FREE for Students

\$5 charge for members, **\$10** charge for non-members

Sponsored by:

 **Chapman Tripp**
Barristers & Solicitors NEW ZEALAND