



NOTICES

GENERAL

Centre for Plain Legal Language

The Centre for Plain Legal Language is located at the Faculty of Law, University of Sydney. The Centre was set up in 1990 to promote the use of plain language in documents with legal effect. It provides consultancy, research and training services in writing and designing documents and forms.

The Centre is seeking to build an international network of members who are interested in the use of plain legal language. Members receive an information pack about plain language, a subscription to the newsletter, discounts on functions and training courses, an internet subscription to the Centre's plain language information service and free telephone advice on plain language issues and research.

Membership costs \$40 for individuals and \$65 for organisations each year. Contact the Membership Coordinator at the Centre, Level 6, 175 Phillip Street, Sydney NSW 2000, DX 983 Sydney, tel (02) 225 9323, fax (02) 221 5635.

Public Interest Law Clearing House, Victoria (PILCH Inc)

PILCH is a non-profit association of private law firms, the Victorian Bar Council and community legal centres. It provides access to the most powerful legal resources in Victoria for public interest causes, and aims to improve private lawyers' awareness of public interest legal issues. The project was launched by (then) Chief Justice of the High Court, Sir Anthony Mason, in September 1994.

PILCH members are currently assisting a number of individuals and community organisations, including the following cases:

- Mallesons Stephen Jacques is acting on behalf of Ms Le Huray, whose family payments were cancelled by the Department of Social Security on the basis that she was in a 'marriage-like' relationship with her companion. They lived together but each was completely financially independent. Ms Le Huray was successful in the AAT and the DSS is appealing to the Federal Court. [See Brief in this issue by Craig Semple.]
- The Henry Street Child Care Cooperative is being advised by Cornwall

Stodart on new compulsory competitive tendering procedures put to them by the City of Melbourne.

- Advice on leasing premises is being given to the Noah's Ark Toy Library (for children with special needs) by Dunhill Madden Butler and to the Carers Association of Victoria by Aitken Walker & Strachan.
- Tax exemption advice is being given to the Victorian Council for Social Services by Clayton Utz and to Animal Liberation by Wisewoulds.
- Advice has also been given on fingerprinting by employers, defamation, criminal law and the discharge practice of acute care hospitals.

PILCH is at 11th floor, Flinders St Melbourne, GPO Box 2786Y Melb 3001, tel (03) 9629 6177 fax (03) 9629 6898

Women's Law Section

In a new service, Maurice Blackburn & Co. in Melbourne has established a Women's Law Section staffed entirely by women lawyers to advise women in all major areas of law. The service was opened by Kathleen Townsend, Head of the Office of the Status of Women, on 14 July.

CONFERENCES

Aspects of Australian Multiculturalism achievements, disappointments, prospects

Date: 18-19 September 1995

Venue: Rotunda Theatre, Monash University, Clayton Campus

Cost: Whole Conference: Full registration \$125, Student/unemployed \$65

Single day: Standard \$60, Student/unemployed \$30, Dinner \$30

Contact: Ms Connie Giannicos, Centre for Migrant and Intercultural Studies, Monash University, Wellington Rd, Clayton 3168, to register by 4 September.

Conference is organised by the Centre for Migrant and Intercultural Studies and will focus on 21 years of multiculturalism as a policy, together with the themes of language; multiculturalism, citizenship and Australian identity; racism; and multiculturalism and the law.

Women and Law Conference: Working for Women? Discrimination, Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity

Date: Friday 22 September 1995

Venue: Women's Studies Centre, University of Sydney, NSW

Contact: tel (02) 351 3638, fax (02) 660 5300, email jan.larbalestier@social.su.edu.au

Focus on law in practice, keynote speaker Sue Walpole, sex discrimination speaker.

Clinical Legal Education National Conference

Date: Thursday 28 September 1995

Venue: La Trobe University, Bundoora

Contact: Mary Anne Noone (03) 9479 2195 or Helen Brown (03) 9479 1133

The conference will focus on current issues for clinical legal education including the supervision and assessment of students, current trends, the philosophy and objectives and the future of clinical legal education.

Environmental Defender's Office: Commonwealth Environmental Impact Assessment Conference

Date: 19-20 October 1995

Venue: Taronga Centre, Sydney

Contact: Tessa Bull or Maria Comino tel (02) 261 3599 fax (02) 267 7548

Conference will address key issues and the latest developments in Commonwealth EIA, including a series of workshops. A final opportunity to influence the government in its preparation of this important legislation.

First National Conference on Violence Against Gays and Lesbians

Date: 27-28 October 1995

Venue: Holme Building, University of Sydney

Contact: Conference Administration, Australian Institute of Criminology, GPO Box 2944, Canberra, Act. 2601, tel (06) 274 0224 fax (06) 274 0225