

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF THE

Law Society Council member Mr Bob Gosford visited the Katherine court house and met with local Katherine practitioners and court staff on Friday 15 June.

His visit was part of a Law Society commitment to further improve its service to practitioners in outerlying areas.

Mr Gosford met with Aboriginal legal aid staff, court staff, practitioners and magistrate Mr John Birch.

A CLE program specifically for Katherine practitioners has been developed as part of this initiative.

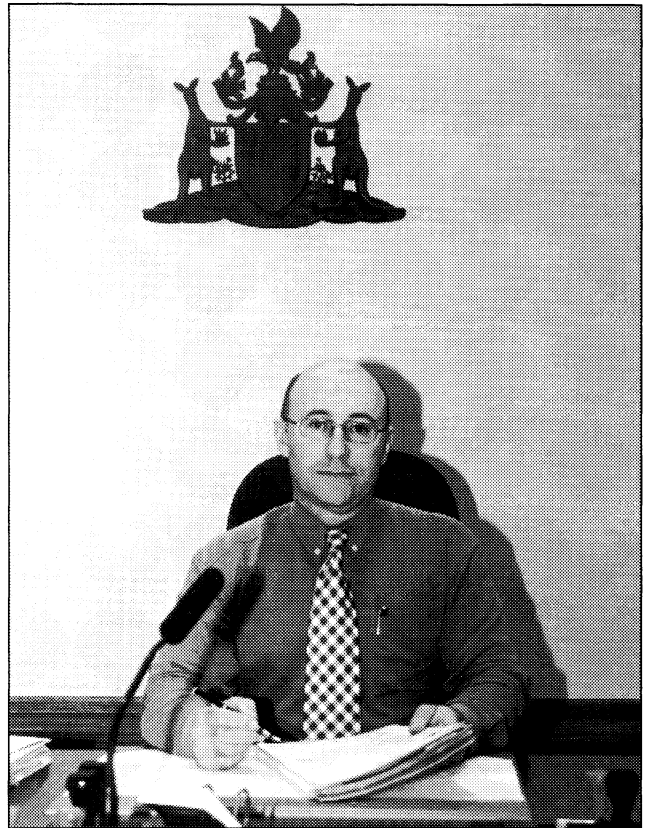
Justice Trevor Riley of the Northern Territory Supreme Court will present a seminar on court etiquette at 5pm on Monday 23 July in the Hearing Room at the Katherine court house. Designed to refresh practitioners on the basics of appearing in court, the CLE is a must for all members of the legal community.

Conflict of interest and advocacy will be the focus of seminars to be presented to practitioners by experienced members of the legal community in August and September.

Katherine practitioners are urged to attend these seminars. Details regarding the times and location of the CLE's will be forwarded to all Katherine practitioners as soon as they are confirmed.

The photos accompanying this article were taken by Mr Bob Gosford on his recent visit to Katherine and capture a day in the life of the Katherine court.

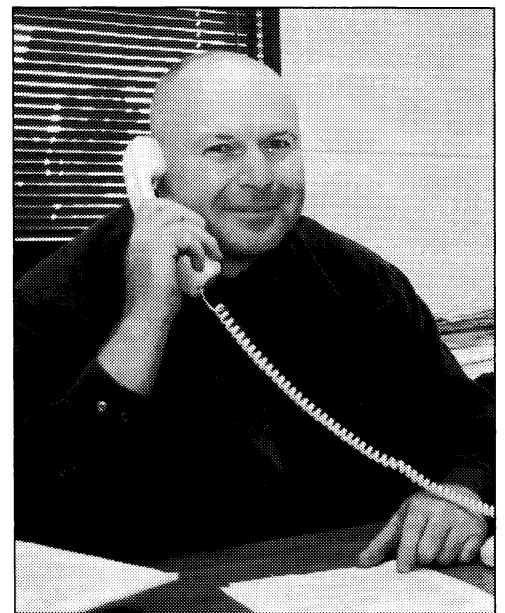
The Society thanks the Katherine legal profession and court staff for the opportunity to meet with them.



Magistrate John Birch at the bench in the court house in First Street, Katherine. Mr Birch was sworn in as magistrate by Chief Justice Brian Martin in Darwin on 6 March 2000. His appointment followed six years working with the DPP in the Northern Territory



Helena Lardy, Vai Walford, the Registrar, and Donna Deboer, the hardworking court staff who keep the wheels of justice rolling at the Katherine court house



Glen Dooley from the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions

KATHERINE COURT HOUSE



Law Society Council member Bob Gosford who visited Katherine court house on Friday 15 June 2001



Joan Pracey, community liaison worker, and Helen Turner, solicitor at Katherine Aboriginal Family Support Unit, referring outside the Katherine court



Director of Public Prosecutions Rex Wild QC with Shirley Rowe from the Katherine Regional Aboriginal Legal Aid Service (KRALAS) and Darwin barrister Peter Elliott. The DPP pay regular visits to Katherine

Police prosecutors Wayne Nayda and Kerry Rigby share the bar table with Koulla Roussos in Katherine court house. There are currently three private law firms and a total of nine legal practitioners in Katherine, including lawyers at Aboriginal Legal Aid, the NT Legal Aid Commission, the Katherine Aboriginal Family Support Unit and the Katherine Women's Legal and Information Service

