

GROUP ENTITIES

The Victorian Bar Inc

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Barristers' Chambers Ltd

Board of Directors

Mark Derham QC, (Chairman),
Michael Colbran QC (Deputy Chairman),
Jacob (Jack) Fajgenbaum QC, Peter Lithgow,
Scott Stuckey, Wendy Harris, Matthew Walsh,
Paul Connor, Katharine Anderson
and Edwin Gill (Member/CEO)

The Melbourne Bar Pty Ltd

Board of Directors

The Honourable Justice David Beach, Mark Settle

OTHER ENTITIES

Bar Fund Pty Ltd

(until 8 June 2009 as trustee for the Victorian Bar Superannuation Fund) Board of Directors

Philip Kennon QC (Chairman), Paul Cosgrave S.C.
(Deputy Chairman), David Collins S.C. (Director),
Stephen McLeish S.C. (Director) and Joseph
Santamaria QC (Director) Alternate directors
Edward Moon and Alistair Pound.

Barristers' Benevolent Association of Victoria Committee of Management

John Digby QC (Chairman, Victorian Bar Council) and
Edvard (Will) Alstergren (Honorary Treasurer, Victorian
Bar Council)

Essoign Club Pty Ltd

Board of Directors

Colin Lovitt QC (Chairman),
Philip Dunn QC (Vice-Chairman),
Christopher Blanden S.C., Michael Richards,
John Saunders, William Lye, Edvard (Will) Alstergren,
Peter Crofts (Honorary Treasurer), and
Simone Bingham (Honorary Secretary)

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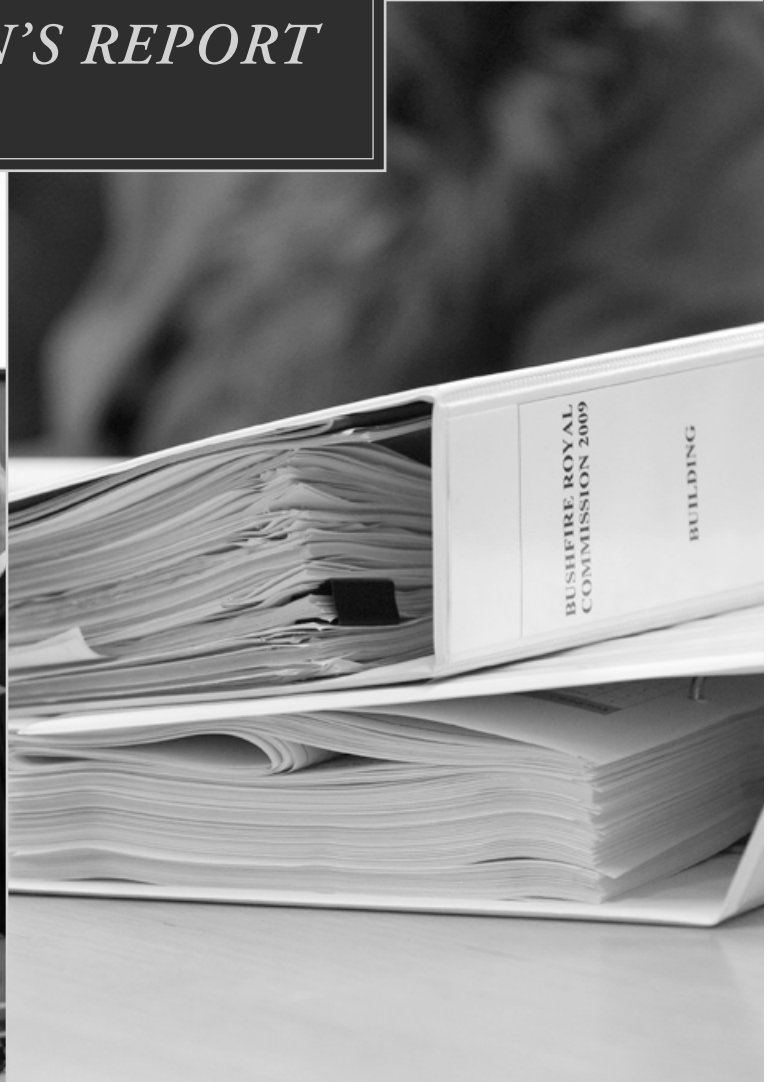
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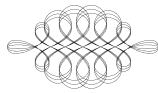
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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



I.O

STRONG FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

The strong financial performances of the last two years have allowed Bar Council to invest in projects that will build the Victorian Bar's strengths and capabilities.

The pre tax surplus for 2008/9 was \$415,073 (\$584,441 2007/8). The pre tax consolidated surplus of \$4,722,715 was also strong although slightly below 2007/8 (\$5,929,715) due to the greater investment in maintenance of the Bar's assets.

Members' subscription rates have remained unchanged from 2005/6. This reflected in a marginal rise in subscription revenue this year, a position expected to be repeated in 2009/10 as the changed basis of levying subscriptions was not aimed at increasing subscription revenue. Interest revenue remained high as a result of the substantial cash injection coming from the refund of BCL tax payments in 2007/8. Grants and reimbursements from the Legal Services Board continued to decline (down by \$225,000 on 2007/8) and the costs of running the Bar's administration was again tightly contained.

Financially BCL has continued to perform well. The Operating Profit for 2008/9 was \$4.3M after tax. This result is down on 2007/08 year, as a result of increases in the investment in building maintenance, but it was only slightly below expectations.

For the group, net cash generated was \$4.9M lifting cash levels to \$17M and adding to the already strong Balance Sheet. BCL cleared its debt of \$2.7M outstanding at the beginning of the year and begins 2009/10 debt free.

MAKING A CONTRIBUTION TO THE COMMUNITY

The 2009 Bushfire Crisis

There is not space here to recognise all who deserve recognition in relation to Bar work and activities. However, I do want to mark the special efforts and contribution the Victorian Bar has made in relation to the devastating bushfires which occurred in Victoria early this year.

The Victorian Bar in conjunction with Victoria Legal Aid, the Federation of Community Legal Centres, the Victorian Law Foundation, and the Public Interest Law Clearing House (PILCH) and last but certainly not least indeed, importantly, the Law Institute of Victoria moved very quickly to co-ordinate

and provide legal assistance to the Victorian community in the wake of this year's terrible bushfires, and created Bushfire Legal Help.

I want to recognise, in particular, the extensive work done by Alexandra Richards QC, Phil Kennon QC, Jane Dixon S.C. and Victorian Bar's Pro Bono Committee generally which co-ordinated the voluntary services of 247 Barristers responding as needed to many of the 1200 calls for assistance received by Bushfire Legal Help.

More than 400 people were assisted in this way with legal advice and referrals. The Bar is also assisting the members of the community interested in the Bushfire Royal Commission; including the Bar's offer of free legal help to people affected by the bushfires who wanted to appear before the Commission. I note that Bar Council member Tim Tobin S.C. has also made a major contribution, and had worked tirelessly in an effort to see that the community is appropriately represented before the Bushfire Royal Commission.

DUTY BARRISTERS' SCHEME

I would also like to make special mention of the Duty Barristers' Scheme. The Scheme's success can be measured by its growth from a pilot operating two days a week in the Magistrates' Court last year to now operating five days a week in the same Court, and extension to all Victorian Courts.

In 2008 the Scheme won a Distinguished Pro Bono Service Award from the Victorian Law Foundation, nominated by the Chief Justice of Victoria and the Scheme also won a Law Council of Australia Australian Young Lawyers Committee Award in conjunction with the New Barristers' Committee.

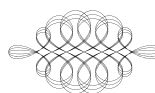
The Scheme is a significant addition to the Bar's work of giving more Victorians access to justice. I congratulate Will Alstergren for his leadership and thank the entire committee including, in particular, Magistrate Leslie Fleming for their efforts in making the Scheme a success.

GOVERNANCE

As I have noted in earlier reports the Bar Council has worked hard to develop an overarching Strategic Plan developed by Mark Moshinsky S.C. which is being continually developed and implemented as best the Bar can, including strategies

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to help and protect the Bar in an exceptionally challenging and changing environment for the practice of law in Victoria.

Over January and February of this year, the Bar Council has extensively reviewed the structure and roles of its Standing Committees and implemented a number of reforms including doing away with some Standing Committees, amalgamating others and in most cases formally refining the role and purpose of such committees. Scores of barristers devote very large amounts of time to these voluntary activities. This work is "the life blood of the Bar" enabling it to operate effectively and to do as much as it does.

At the end of last year the Bar Council also established an Independent Chambers Committee to ensure that the perspectives and views of barristers who have chosen to share chambers outside the BCL system are fully appreciated and appropriately acted upon. There are 14 sets of chambers which are independent from BCL and which accommodate approximately 350 barristers. The Independent Chambers Committee is currently considering the IT and communications synergies which may be feasible as between BCL chambers and independent chambers.

Mark Derham QC has taken over from Paul Anastassiou S.C. as Chairman of BCL. The Bar is very grateful to Paul for his excellent stewardship in the five years he was Chairman and earlier for his years as a Director.

BCL has this year appointed Edwin Gill as Managing Director to succeed the former CEO, Daryl Collins who served BCL so well for seven years.

The Bar Council also worked to update the Bar's Constitution by resolution at a Special General Meeting on 25 May 2009. While substantive change was kept to a minimum, two changes will have immediate benefit – acceptance of contemporary communication methods will expedite future communications with members and the disentanglement of the Constitution from the workings of the Legal Profession Act 2004 (LPA) will pave the way for the separate review of the Bar's Rules. I commend Mark Moshinsky S.C. and Ross Nankivell for their considerable work.

At an historic Special General Meeting of the Victorian Bar on 5 August 2009 it was decided, that it would be in the best interest of our Bar to modify the Chambers Allocation Policy

to increase the flexibility for barristers to register as a "Group". A protocol is being developed to refine the implementation mechanisms needed to effect the new modified Chambers Allocation Policy.

The basic rationale for the change to the Chambers Allocation Policy is to facilitate, to a greater degree than was available, the development and maintenance of "floor communities". By allowing groups of barristers to have a say in who fills vacant rooms within the area occupied by the group, there is likely to be a greater degree of collegiality, and a greater opportunity to develop groups of like-minded barristers or barristers working in a similar practice area.

The Bar has this year reformed the method of levying Bar subscriptions. Subscriptions, the main source of revenue for the Bar, are now more equitably levied by reference to a barrister's income and not on the basis of seniority. This change provides what the Bar Council believes is a more equitable and logical basis for the level of subscription paid by members of the Bar.

REGULATION AND PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

I congratulate Richard McGarvie S.C. on his appointment as Chair of the Ethics Committee succeeding Jennifer Davies S.C. on her appointment as a Judge of the Supreme Court.

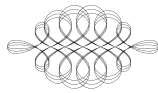
It was pleasing to note that at 30 June 2009 the Victorian Professional Standards Scheme has grown to 527 members. Also, through the work of the Professional Standards Scheme Committee the operation of the Scheme has been extended into New South Wales, Queensland, the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory.

COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

The Bar Council is determined to get the message across to those in particular who can best benefit from our services, that Counsel bring to every task the highly developed legal skills and experience of a specialist independent advocate, and do so in a way which is usually very cost effective and competitive.

The Bar has engaged the service of a specialist Media consultant, Alicia Patterson of House Communications who has been of great assistance, in getting the Bar's message across to the Media in recent months.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



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Pareto BDM was appointed to prepare a Business Development and Marketing Plan for the Bar. The Plan has recently been viewed by the Bar Council and will be progressively communicated in early October.

Flint Interactive was appointed to develop a new website for the Bar. Flint had previously developed the website of the Commercial Bar Association. Though taking a little longer to complete than was expected, the opportunity to freshen the branding of the Bar was considered a necessary first step. Launch of the website is expected in October.

EVENTS

I want to acknowledge Will Alstergren and those many others who worked hard and effectively to arrange for what I think was an absolutely outstanding 2009 Bar Dinner, replete with entertaining speeches including those from the key note speaker, High Court Justice Virginia Bell, Paul Elliott QC, Colin Lovitt QC and Mr Junior Silk, Chris Townshend S.C.

The Bar has this year enjoyed some very good public relations activities like the Anglo Australasian Lawyers Society Dinner, organised by Rodney Garrett QC and Paul Hayes, at which the Master of the Rolls Lord Neuberger spoke.

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS AND LEGAL AID

The Continuing Legal Aid Campaign

The Bar has been very active in endeavouring to have our governments, both State and Federal, provide appropriate levels of legal aid funding. Dr David Neal S.C. and John Champion S.C., the Chair of the Criminal Bar Association, have worked hard with the help of others, to solve what the Bar believes is a paucity of legal aid funding, particularly from the Commonwealth, which is contributing to inadequate access to justice, especially for the most disadvantaged in our community.

The Bar acknowledges that the Victorian Government has, in its most recent budget stepped up to the task with funding improvements for which the Victorian Bar applauds Victoria's Attorney General Rob Hulls and his administration. However, the struggle to secure appropriate levels of legal aid funding from the Federal Government has a long way to go.

In September 2009, primarily through the leadership of Dr David Neal S.C., four bodies led by the Bar and including the LIV, the LCA and the ABA will jointly fund a new Price Waterhouse Coopers study of the need for greater Commonwealth funding of legal aid which will be put before the Commonwealth Attorney to demonstrate the lamentable lack of Commonwealth funding of Legal Aid. This project will run in parallel with the public campaign by the Legal Aid bodies themselves.

COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE ATO

In July 2009, the Victorian Bar and the Tax Office signed guidelines which provide for a single contact point for barristers experiencing tax compliance difficulties. It is anticipated that the Guidelines will facilitate the further development of collaborative measures between the Bar and the ATO. Also, the Bar has put in place measures to provide members with tax and financial assistance in times of financial and personal crisis. I acknowledge the good work undertaken by Helen Symon S.C., Alex Richards QC, and Terry Murphy S.C. to establish this protocol for the benefit of our members.

NEW APPOINTMENT – LEGAL POLICY AND GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

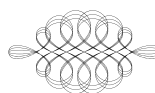
The Bar needs to keep making itself more efficient and sophisticated in its operation. To help effect this objective the Bar has engaged a Manager Legal Policy and Government Relations, Jacqueline Stone, to enhance the Bar's capacity to develop its position on matters of importance to the administration of Justice and the Community, and more effectively communicate with Governments and Government instrumentalities.

EDUCATION

The Bar has on the recommendations of the Readers' Course Committee, chaired by Matt Connock S.C. and the Readers' Course Review Committee chaired by Peter Riordan S.C. initiated an in depth review of the Readers' Course by two independent consultants, Professor Chris Roper AM and Professor the Hon. George Hampel AM QC, the first comprehensive review of the Readers' Course since its inception. The review will deliver

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

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a plan from which to address those areas of the course that require revision with the overall objective of maintaining the course as the exemplar of such courses. It is expected that the consultant's reports will be with the Bar Council by about the end of 2009.

The Bar is constantly assessing the adequacy of, and adding components to its continuing Professional Development Program under the Chairmanship of Jeremy Ruskin QC. Liaison between of the Bar, the Criminal Bar Association, the CPD Committee and the Courts has led to an expansion of the CPD program this year including some weekend sessions. In the coming year it is expected that a broadly based curriculum will be adopted for education at the Bar.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

The Bar has through Phillip Priest QC, and with the assistance of Dr Michelle Sharpe and the Health and Wellbeing Committee upgraded its Health and Wellbeing facilities including engaging new counselling and support services, through Bernadette Healy of the Re – Vision Group which will offer members a number of free consulting sessions to members in need, after-hours support, and education about these matters in the CPD program.

THE CLERKS

The Bar Council has been in dialogue with the Clerks during the year and I believe that it is most important for the Bar Council to upgrade its communications with the Clerks including capturing the Clerks' views and ideas as to what issues and problems the Bar Council should be addressing.

BAR SERVICES

The increased service emphasis and efficiency of the Bar's Administration has been a key enabler of change at the Bar. The Bar's Administration has supported the committees in delivering many of the initiatives I have referred to in this report. The Bar's Administration has also extended administration services to the Bar Associations and the Essoign, and also to the Dispute Resolution Committee in carrying out its role as a Recognised Mediator Accreditation Body.

THANK YOU

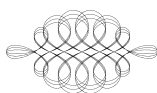
Notwithstanding the difficult environment which has been created for most professions including the law, as a result of the global financial crisis, our Bar remains strong and resilient and as I have outlined above, its Bar Council is working hard to serve the interest of its members and the community and to ensure that it is well placed to deal with the challenges ahead.

It has been a privilege to serve as Chairman of Bar Council. I thank the members of this year's Bar Council for their service to the Bar and for their support of me as Chairman. In particular I thank the two Vice Chairmen Michael Colbran QC and Mark Moshinsky S.C.

On behalf of the members of the Bar I also thank the Victorian Bar's General Manager Stephen Hare and the staff in the Bar Office. I give special mention to Denise Bennett the Bar's Executive Officer, Ross Nankivell and, Simon Pitt and Stewart Maiden, the Honorary and Assistant Honorary Secretaries for their excellent work for the Bar and, in relation to all, for their personal service and support to me as Chairman.

John Digby
Chairman

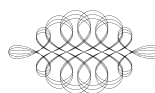
BAR COUNCIL

**2.0**

		CATEGORY
* G John Digby QC	Chairman	A
* Michael J Colbran QC	Senior Vice Chairman	A
* Mark K Moshinsky S.C.	Junior Vice-Chairman	A
* Edvard (Will) Alstergren	Honorary Treasurer	A
Scott W Stuckey	Assistant Honorary Treasurer	B
* Jacob (Jack) I Fajgenbaum QC		A
Phillip G Priest QC		A
Brendan A Murphy QC (from 6 May 09)		A
Timothy P Tobin S.C.		A
Paul E Anastassiou S.C.		A
Cameron C Macaulay S.C.		A
* Richard W McGarvie S.C.		A
Peter J Riordan S.C. (until 6 March 09)		A
* Sara L Hinchey		B
Matthew J Walsh		B
Paul X Connor		B
Kim J Knights		B
* Katharine (Kate) J D Anderson		B
* Dr Michelle R Sharpe		C
Simon J Gannon		C
Benjamin J Murphy		C
Kim M Southey		C
* Simon T Pitt	Honorary Secretary	
Stewart J Maiden	Assistant Honorary Secretary	
* Member of the Executive Committee		

BAR OFFICE STAFF

2.1



OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

General Manager

Stephen Hare

Executive Officer

Denise Bennett

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Manager

Mark Halse

Co-ordinator

Wendy Pollock

Administrative Assistant

Barbara Toohey

ADMINISTRATION

Administrative Assistant – Membership

Daphne Ioannidis

Archivist

Alison Adams

Reception/Administrative Assistant

Courtney Bow

Web Administration/Newsletter Editor

Miriam Sved

FINANCE & ACCOUNTING

Financial Controller

Malkanthi Bowatta

Senior Accountant (Part time)

Bruce Timbs

LEGAL & COMPLIANCE

Senior Legal Officer

Ross Nankivell

Manager, Compliance

Alison Rock

MEDIATION CENTRE

Administrative Assistant

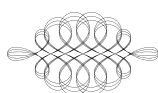
Peta Hansen

Receptionists (Part time)

Pat Brownlee, Helen Henry,
Chris Kellam, Pat Lurye, Sara Pearson



REPORTS OF GROUP ENTITIES



3.0

BARRISTERS CHAMBERS LIMITED

This year BCL continued to invest in both building refurbishment programs and the development of the IT infrastructure. It was also a year of consolidation with BCL clearing all debt in April 2009.

Notable achievements of the year and to the date of reporting include:

- A smooth passing of the baton on the retirement of Daryl Collins on 30 March 2009 after 7 years of loyal and valuable service as Chief Executive Officer, to a new Managing Director, Edwin Gill. His appointment followed a strategic review of BCL by the Bar Council and the subsequent executive search by independent consultants.
- The fit out of levels 33 and 34 Aickin Chambers was finalised. This was the culmination of the fit out of Aickin Chambers, comprising six large floors and two smaller floors, at a total cost of \$7.2M. Aickin Chambers now provides accommodation for over 120 barristers.
- The first stage of the refurbishment of Douglas Menzies Chambers was completed with the installation of new lift and floor security systems. The balance of the refurbishment program is underway and, will be completed in the 2009/10 year.
- The Isaacs Chambers refurbishment, to include all common areas, lift lobbies and recarpeting of all carpeted areas will also be completed in the 2009/10 year.
- New or renewal leases were signed for Isaacs Chambers and Joan Rosanove Chambers
- Australian Building Green Rating assessments were carried out for Douglas Menzies Chambers, Owen Dixon Chambers East and Owen Dixon Chambers West. The ratings were 2.5, 2.5 and 3.5 respectively which was an excellent result.

The average for CBD buildings is 2.5.

Financially BCL has continued to perform well. The Operating Profit for 2008/9 was \$4.3M after tax. This result is down on 2007/08 year, as a result of increases in the investment in building maintenance, but it was only slightly below expectations. The debt of \$2.7M outstanding at the beginning of the year was cleared in April, as planned, with BCL starting 2009/10 debt free.

BCL acknowledges the Victorian Bar's recapitalisation of BCL. This year the final annual capital injection of \$0.5 million was made, completing a \$6m recapitalisation of BCL. The recapitalisation was commenced by the Bar in 1998, when the Council was chaired by Neil Young QC, and was the subject of a firm commitment by the Bar in 2000, when the Council was chaired by Mark Derham QC. That commitment has now ended. As noted in last year's report the Victorian Bar received refunds of \$4.4m in respect of tax paid by BCL for the years 2004 to 2007. The Victorian Bar decided to retain these funds but has indicated that it is prepared to consider a submission from BCL concerning the use of these funds if an appropriate project arises.

The Bar Council and the Board of BCL have established an Executive Property Working Group to consider projects that will enhance the services to be provided by BCL. The Working Group has met and considered a number of projects and continues to meet regularly.

The Global Financial Crisis, and its economic fallout, has adversely affected the demand for space in the Melbourne CBD, but not to the same extent as in other Australian Capital cities. Space in the court precinct, however, remains relatively tight.

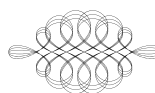
The Victorian Bar completed a strategic review of BCL during the year. After a period of debate in respect of the various recommendations, the Bar Council confirmed its commitment to BCL for the provision of chambers and IT infrastructure to barristers.

The outlook for BCL is positive as it enters its 50th year. Vacancy rates have remained stable. BCL continues to ensure that a range of chambers of varying size, cost and location are available to barristers joining the Bar or wishing to take up chambers.

At the AGM of the Company in 2008, Paul Anastassiou S.C. retired as Chairman of the Board. Mark Derham QC has assumed the responsibilities of Chairman of BCL. Paul served as Chairman from 2003 and before that was Deputy Chairman. He joined the Board in 1994. Under his leadership the Company has managed significant changes whilst maintaining a steadily improving financial position, culminating in the repayment of all debt earlier this year. His commitment to the

REPORTS OF GROUP ENTITIES

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affairs of BCL and the services it provides to members of the Bar was unwavering. Other changes at the AGM included the retirement of John Digby QC upon becoming Chairman of the Bar Council, after dedicated service as Director since 2003 and Deputy Chairman since 2001 and Caroline Kenny S.C. after 8 years of loyal and dedicated service. Jack Fajgenbaum QC, Kate Anderson and Scott Stuckey joined the Board, providing greater direct representation by members of the Bar Council.

The Chairman wishes to place on record his appreciation for the support from all members of the Board and staff. Particular thanks are extended to Daryl Collins for performing so well the role of Chief Executive Officer of the Company during an extended period of office whilst the Bar Council Review was considered and the future Governance of the Company was decided. His management of the Company over his term as CEO, his patience during the period of the Review, and the hand over to Edwin Gill, as the new Managing Director, of a company in a sound financial position, were all significant achievements.

VICTORIAN BAR SUPERANNUATION FUND

Report from the Chairman on the Merger with legalsuper

In March 2009, the directors of Barfund Pty Ltd, Trustee of the Victorian Bar Superannuation Fund reviewed the Fund's position and its future directions.

The Trustee's review took into account major changes in recent years to the regulatory, economic and competitive environment in which the Fund operates. Those changes created a great increase in the regulatory and compliance burden and a rationalization of the superannuation industry that has seen the number of superannuation funds in Australia reduce from several thousand to only a few hundred.

Many funds have merged their operations in order to take advantage of the efficiencies, savings, improved compliance and risk management processes, greater investment choices and benefits including insurance, associated with larger funds. Based on its review, the Trustee formed the view that it was in the best interests of Fund members for the Fund's current operations to be merged into those of another larger superan-

nuation fund that has compatible objectives and features but offers the advantages available from larger funds.

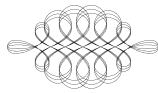
The Trustee identified legalsuper as the best option for this purpose. Following completion of a comprehensive due diligence process, and the approval of the Victorian Bar Council for the Trustee to proceed, the Fund was transferred to legalsuper on 9 June 2009.

In making its decision to transfer to legalsuper, the Trustee considered:

- legalsuper is operated specifically for members of the legal profession;
- legalsuper offers insurance cover including life and total and permanent disablement insurance and income protection. All transferring members are offered life insurance and total and permanent disablement insurance without the provision of evidence of health;
- legalsuper offers members increased ability to choose how their investments are invested (11 investment options);
- legalsuper has appointed myself, and subsequently a person nominated by the Victorian Bar Council to its Board. In addition, John Ames is to continue to deal with queries and to assist members who transfer to legalsuper from the Fund;
- legalsuper currently engages JANA Investment Advisors Pty Ltd (JANA) as its investment adviser, as the Fund has done for many years;
- recent returns achieved by legalsuper's investment options have been broadly comparable to those of the Fund;
- Importantly legalsuper has agreed to a cap on administration fees (being the composite of administration costs and other management expenses) so that they will not exceed \$1000; and
- legalsuper is operated as a "not for profit" fund – that is, it is not operated to generate a financial benefit to any party other than the members.

There have been many challenges and changes during my 17 year association with the Victorian Bar Superannuation Fund. These include the incorporation of the trustee company, Barfund Pty Ltd, the introduction of the Superannuation

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Industry (Supervision) Act (SIS), the establishment of the industry regulator, APRA, the appointment of our investment adviser, JANA, and three administrators, introducing unitisation and various investment choice options including a pension, obtaining an Australian Financial Services Licence and a RSE Licence (APRA Licence), and finally our recent merger with legalsuper.

The achievements of the Fund including, for the most part, above average investment returns at low cost have come from the great contribution made by many directors, alternate directors and fund secretaries.

The Chairman extends his thanks and those of the Board to these dedicated people and his personal thanks to his current fellow directors.

Also, special thanks are due to the Fund Secretary, John Ames, for nearly 10 years of remarkable service.

THE ESSOIGN CLUB

The club continues to be well patronized, providing a range of services both within the premises and outside the core facilities offered within the club walls. Whilst most members think of the club in terms of what happens inside the cafe, bar and restaurant, it is the professional catering service that offers members a range of options from simple, catered lunches, to beverage deliveries, to full 3 course sit down dinners or cocktail parties in the venue of their choice. The outside/inside catering arm is the silent strength of the club,

both in the services it offers members, and the financial stability it has so far ensured.

Our new manager, Leanne Hardy, together with her management team and admirable staff, continue their strong commitment to the club and its members by providing quality food and beverages, plus excellent service, in an ambient and friendly environment. They are keen to promote the club wherever possible, to wit -introducing Thursday afternoon cocktails with live music. We thank them for their efforts, innovation and enthusiasm.

We continue to trade in the black and expect this to be the case over the ensuing year.

Several key changes in staff led to a period late in '08 and early in '09 where service issues arose. Nicholas Kalegeropoulos was initially difficult to replace, and several senior staff followed him to his new employer. The appointment of Leanne has led to staff numbers and experience slowly returning to our requirements. The board is confident that her formidable expertise will eventually lead to further improvement in our overall financial position.

Happily, Suzie has returned, Sion has more responsibilities, Sarah is a brilliant new addition behind the bar, Michael is his phlegmatic self, and the kitchen continues to run smoothly with Lisa at the helm. Well, as smoothly as you'd hope and expect a kitchen to operate! Been watching MasterChef?

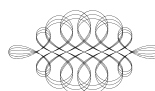
Finally, the Chairman extends his appreciation to the members of the Essoign Board. During our managerial difficulties, Peter Crofts worked tirelessly for the club and deserves a separate accolade. And, as usual, special mention to the Victorian Bar Council for its indispensable support.



REPORTS OF GROUP ENTITIES

Barristers' Benevolent Association of Victoria

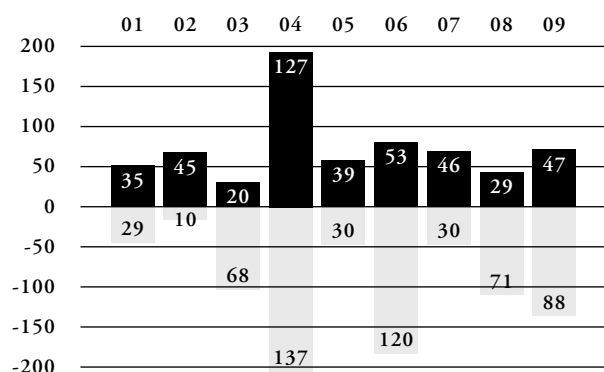
3.0



ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2009

The Committee of Management for the Association is the Victorian Bar Council through its Chairman and Honorary Treasurer.

HISTORY OF SUBSCRIPTIONS (BLACK) AND GRANTS/LOANS (GREY) 2001 TO 2009



During 2008/2009 year, the Association made seven payments to members, totalling \$87,560. Two were interest free loans and five were cash grants.

The summary of assets held by Equity Trustees (at market value) with their rates of return is set out below:

ASSET CLASS	VALUE \$000	ASSET SPLIT	%	YIELD
Cash	352	22	4.2	15
Fixed Interest	689	43	6.6	45
Aust'n Shares	562	35	4.0	23
	1,603	100%		83

Australian Shares are held in the Equity Trustee Flagship Fund which recorded a return of -20.1% for 2008/9 coinciding with a fall in S&P/ASX200 of 24%, its largest decline in 27 years.

Fixed Interest investments are held in the Equity Trustees Mortgage Income Fund (yield around 6.7%) and PIMCO Wholesale Australian Bond Fund (yield around 3.0%).

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009

	2009	2008
	\$	\$

CAPITAL FUND

Opening Balance at 1 July	1,413,459	1,209,828
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RECEIPTS

Subscriptions Received During the Year	47,000	28,700
Loan Repayments Received	0	120,400
Imputation Credits Refund	0	0
Net Income Earned During the Year	125,027	125,332
	1,585,486	1,484,260

PAYMENTS

Grants	58,560	25,801
Loans	29,000	45,000
Total Payments to Members	87,560	70,801
Closing Balance at 30 June	1,497,926	1,413,459

LOANS

Opening Balance at 1 July	128,123	203,523
Add New Loans	29,000	45,000
Less Loan Repayments	0	(120,400)
Less Write Offs (five)	(40,000)	0
Loans at 30 June	117,123	128,123

Total Assets at 30 June	1,615,049	1,541,582
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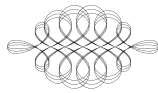
AMOUNTS HELD BY EQUITY TRUSTEES AT 30 JUNE 2009

Flagship Fund	454,900	454,900
Wholesale Mortgage Income Fund	313,938	313,938
PIMCO Wholesale Australian Bond Fund	376,898	376,898
Cash Management Fund	352,190	267,723
Total	1,497,926	1,413,459

G JOHN DIGBY QC AND WILL ALSTERGREN

Sub-Committee of the Committee of Management,
The Victorian Bar Council

THE VICTORIAN BAR



4.0

THE VICTORIAN BAR

is a private, voluntary, self-funded, non-profit professional association of barristers who practise in Victoria. In addition, the Victorian Bar

- has responsibility under the Legal Profession Act 2004 (Vic) for making the legal profession rules that govern barristers;
- performs several functions delegated by the Legal Services Board (the peak legal regulatory body in Victoria) including the receipt and processing of applications for practising certificates by barristers;
- through the Ethics Committee, investigates complaints against barristers referred by the Legal Services Commissioner and reports back to the Commissioner.

THE PUBLIC INTEREST

is served by the Victorian Bar in a number of important ways, including

- maintaining a strong independent Bar as an integral part of our democracy and our system of law and justice;
- promoting the rule of law and the proper administration of justice;
- seeking to ensure that access to the courts is open to all members of the community;
- constructively engaging with governments and with law reform agencies with respect to legislation, law reform, rules of court and the business and procedure of courts;
- working and liaising with the independent Bars and Law Societies in Australia through the Australian Bar Association and the Law Council of Australia;
- providing and organising pro bono representation and legal assistance;
- the establishment and ongoing provision of advocacy training in the South Pacific region.

MEMBERSHIP

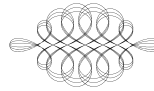
of the Victorian Bar carries with it many real benefits including

- membership of a highly regarded professional association
- protection from unlimited liability under the Bar's Professional Standards Scheme
- inclusion in the Barrister's Search function
- communication of the latest changes and events occurring in the profession through the Bar's website and periodicals, and similarly through the auspices of the Bar Associations
- the opportunity to share and learn from others in a collegiate environment
- the opportunity to participate in Bar Council, committee and representative activities, and functions and events that have broad professional participation
- continuing professional development and legal education;
- the opportunity to seek and receive guidance on ethical matters
- availability of suitable purpose built facilities
 - affordable chambers through Barristers Chambers Limited;
 - the Essoign, library, training and meeting facilities;
- availability of an established administrative support network of licensed clerks that includes provision of trust account facilities;
- the opportunity to access health and welfare support services for members including support for new parents, assistance with tax and financial affairs and financial support in times of financial and personal crisis;
- access to a growing list of commercial benefits, often at reduced member rates
- for intending barristers, specialist training in advocacy and in the ethics of advocacy for practitioners, and a system of pupillage of nine-months, in which, without fee or charge, the pupil while accommodated in the chambers of his or her mentor, receives instruction, insight into the mentor's practice, guidance and support;

THE VICTORIAN BAR

Market Positioning

4. I



COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Sara Hinchey (Chairman), Mark Moshinsky S.C., William Lye, Justin Hannebery and Stephen Hare.

The committee has been extremely active in the 12 months, meeting approximately fortnightly. Projects include:

- coordinating the independent consultant's review and early-stage implementation of the Bar's Business Development and Marketing Plan;
- developing and launching new media protocols for the Bar;
- developing a new website for the Bar including facility for the Associations;
- developing two new Bar publications – The 'new' Bar News and a proposed new Bar Journal;
- improving government relations and identifying government related opportunities with the help of a lobbyist, jointly engaged with the LIV

In March 2009, the Bar engaged Pareto BDM (Libby Maynard) to formulate and assist the Bar in implementing a considered Business Development and Marketing Plan. The project team also includes House Communications (Alicia Patterson) which assists the Bar with its media relations (see below).

In the course of the project the consultant has drawn on the views of key stakeholders, including representatives from each of the Bar Associations, Clerks, Courts and the LIV.

Implementation of the plan will include feedback sessions with key stakeholders and engagement of marketing resources by the Bar.

In November 2008, the Bar engaged House Communications to assist it with media and other communications. House advises the Bar about how best to respond to the media and has begun working on proactive media placement to raise the public's awareness of the work of the Bar, especially its extensive and largely unrecognised pro bono commitment.

On 2 June 2009, the Bar introduced the Bar Associations and others to a new set of media protocols, which were prepared by House in consultation with the Committee.

The media protocols reflect current practise of other leading organisations tailored to the specific needs of the Bar.

House has since engaged with several of the Bar Associations to better understand the media issues affecting their specialisations and to provide insight into how to identify media opportunities.

In March 2009, Flint Interactive was engaged to overhaul and update the Bar's website.

This project was necessarily expanded as it became clear that some of the accepted starting points, such as the Bar's logo and colour scheme, needed updating.

The update of the website will reflect the recommendations coming from the Business Development and Marketing Plan. It is expected that the redeveloped website will be launched in the second half of 2009.

The Committee feels very fortunate to have been offered the services of Gina Schoff and Paul Hayes to become co-editors of the 'new' Bar News. The first issue of this quarterly publication will be launched in late September and promises a new style but with valued elements of the former Bar News.

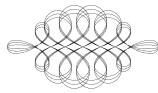
As well as appointing our new Bar News editors, Bar Council resolved to trial a new Bar Journal, to be edited by Dr Ian Freckelton S.C.. The Journal's focus will be on articles addressing practical issues facing advocates in each practice area, rather than being a forum for publication of weighty academic papers. Its circulation is expected to be beyond the Bar, thereby opening up new opportunities for engagement across the profession and beyond.

In conjunction with the LIV, in February 2009, the Bar engaged lobbyists Hawker Britton to assist with developing government relations and identifying government related opportunities for the Bar and LIV.

The particular project focus of the work with Hawker Britton has included better funding for Legal Aid (with some indications of success in the State Budget), provision of Bushfire legal assistance, support of those wishing to appear before the Royal Commission, and the State Government's commitment to alternative dispute resolution.

THE VICTORIAN BAR

Specialisation – Bar Associations



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COMMERCIAL BAR ASSOCIATION

Peter Bick QC (President), Melanie Sloss S.C. (Senior Vice-President), Albert Monichino (Vice-President (Convenor)), John Digby QC (Vice President), and John Dixon S.C. (Treasurer), Maryanne Loughnan S.C. (Editor of CommBar News), William Lye (Website Moderator)

The CommBar website, created by William Lye, Maryanne Loughnan S.C. and Flint Interactive, was launched at the CommBar cocktail party in the Supreme Court Library on 13 November 2008. The website is a framework to be built on in future years. It serves the purpose of a means of communication between CommBar and its members, solicitors, corporate counsel, clients and members of the public seeking or utilising the services of barristers practicing in commercial law.

A new section, Arbitration and Alternative Dispute Resolution, was established during the year, co-chaired by Martin Scott and Albert Monichino, assisted by Robert Heath and Jonathon Redwood.

As the largest provider of Continuing Professional Development seminars to the Victorian Bar, CommBar presented over 30 seminars covering the areas of interest of CommBar's 14 sections and matters of general interest to barristers practising in commercial law.

CommBar has been actively involved in the making of submissions on its own behalf and on behalf of the Victorian Bar to the State and Federal Governments, Courts and Tribunals in relation to numerous aspects of the practice of commercial law. Such matters included international arbitration, the introduction of docket management of all cases in the Supreme Court and various aspects of the management of commercial litigation in the Federal, Supreme and County Courts.

Thirteen editions of CommBar News, edited by Maryanne Loughnan S.C. and Cornelia Fourfouris-Mack, have now been published. Articles for the CommBar News are progressively added to the Section pages on the CommBar website.

The CommBar Annual Cocktail Party was held on 13 November 2008 in the Supreme Court Library, and was attended by 350 persons – comprising judicial officers, barristers, solicitors and corporate counsel practicing in commercial law. In addition to the launch of the CommBar website by William Lye, the Chief Justice of Victoria announced the creation of

the Supreme Court Commercial Court. The evening, organised by Cornelia Fourfouris-Mack, was, in keeping with past years, a great success.

The 14 Sections have conducted activities including presentation of seminars, discussion groups and the circulation of papers on recent developments in section areas of interest.

In its second full year of having membership for individual barristers, membership exceeded 300, representing approximately half of all barristers in Victoria professing to practice in any area of commercial law. Membership continues to grow.

The world economic crisis initially resulted in a contraction of the work available to commercial barristers. The latter part of the year has, however, seen a rise in the number of major commercial cases in Victoria and elsewhere. Victorian commercial barristers also continue to occupy prominent positions in many major commercial cases being conducted in other States and Territories.

COMMON LAW BAR ASSOCIATION

Ross Gillies QC (Chairman), Richard Stanley QC, The Hon James Kennan S.C., Timothy Tobin S.C., Fiona McLeod S.C., Michael Wheelahan S.C., David Martin (Secretary), Simon McGregor, Mary Anne Hartley (Treasurer), Andrew Clements, Andrew Keogh, David Purcell, Michelle Britbart, Bree Knoester.

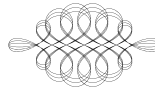
During 2008/2009, activities in which the Common Law Bar Association have been involved include:

- Liaising with Judges of the Supreme Court concerning the conduct, listing and hearing of common law actions in the Supreme Court including discussions leading to the implementation of the differentiated docket system in the Supreme Court commencing the 1st January, 2009.
- Liaising with Judges of the County Court concerning the conduct, listing and hearing of common law actions in the County Court, including the introduction of judicially conducted mediations, the practical effects of the decision by the High Court in Dwyer and the decision of the Court of Appeal in Jayatilake.
- Continuing ongoing discussion with WorkSafe Victoria on a range of issues including, the preparation and conduct of cases, and fees payable to Counsel in VWA matters.

THE VICTORIAN BAR

Specialisation – Bar Associations

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- Continuing the ongoing campaign in an endeavour to have the Wrongs Act thresholds lowered and a narrative test for significant injury introduced.
- Liaising with the Australian Lawyers Alliance concerning a range of issues pertaining to personal injury claims.
- Providing speakers and topics for discussion as part of the ongoing CPD program.
- Providing the Bar Council with advice and information on common law related issues.

At the present time, there are 170 members of Counsel who are members of the Association.

Following the Annual General Meeting, approximately 60 members of the Association enjoyed a convivial dinner at The Essoign Club.

COMPENSATION BAR ASSOCIATION

Michael O'Loughlen QC (Chairman), Stanley Spittle (Treasurer), Anthea MacTiernan (Secretary), Clyde Miles, Michael Richards, Ian McDonald, Timothy Ryan, Bruce McKenzie, Marco Cvjeticanin, (Resigned 3 December 2008) Amanda Ryan

Currently, our Association has some 58 financial members. In August 2008, we sponsored a dinner at the Essoign Club for Judge Michael Strong upon his retirement from the County Court and his appointment at the Office of Police Integrity. Some 40 people attended.

In the County Court, despite listing changes in 2008, a specific "WorkCover" Judge continues to deal with the weekly mentions list and the weekly directions list, and also with (at least) the first WorkCover case listed daily. Ian McDonald and Michael Richards liaised with the County Court.

Bruce McKenzie and Amanda Ryan represented the Association at several Magistrates' Court Users' group meetings.

We made submissions in response to the Government's call for the views of the Victorian Bar upon the proposed Asbestos Amendment Bill (also known as the "Bernie Banton" bill) that was endorsed by the Bar Council.

The Association sponsored a well-attended CPD seminar presented by Mr P Hanks QC and Mr M Fleming, following publication of the "Hanks Report" being a review of aspects of the Accident Compensation Act 1985.

Following a public invitation for further submissions (after publication of the Hanks Report) our Association made submissions opposing two specific recommendations. We opposed recommendation 95 (remove power of conciliation officers to make directions); and also recommendation 109 (remove restrictions on jurisdiction of Magistrates' Court, so that no WorkCover matters remain in the County Court). The submissions were forwarded in October 2008.

After requesting input from all members, the Chairman responded to the Bar Council's request for views upon matters raised by the Law Institute, concerning "serious injury" cases in the County Court.

In June 2009, we held a dinner to mark and celebrate the fortieth anniversaries at the Victorian Bar of Robin Gorton QC, Stan Spittle and John Tebbutt. Historically, all three have held offices upon Committees of our Association. The dinner, at the Essoign Club, attracted some 81 guests.

CRIMINAL BAR ASSOCIATION

John Champion S.C. (Chairman), Michael O'Connell S.C. (Deputy Chair), Thomas Danos (Treasurer), Megan Tittensor (Secretary), John Dickinson S.C., Antony Trood, Lachlan Carter, Daniel Gurvich, Carolene Gwynn, Peter Morrissey, Patrick Bourke (Members) and His Honour Judge Gerard Mullally (Consultant)

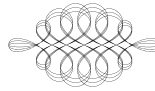
The Criminal Bar Association of Victoria ("CBA") continues to be one of the busiest and most active associations for members of the Victorian Bar. The CBA committee meets each fortnight. Members regularly attended round-table conferences, provided written and oral submissions, and attended Committee meetings dealing with a large number of matters including: the Supreme Court Criminal Users Group; the County Court Criminal Users Group; the Magistrates' Court Criminal Users Group; the Sexual Assault Advisory Committee; the Sentencing Advisory Council; the Police/Lawyers Liaison Committee; the Children's Witness Service, and the Corrections Stakeholders Forum. Members of the Committee met regularly with Victoria Legal Aid; the OPP; Heads of higher jurisdictions; the Attorney-General and Shadow-Attorney General. Close relationships have continued to be built with the Victorian Bar itself, on matters of mutual interest.



THE VICTORIAN BAR

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An ongoing concern for the CBA is the remuneration of our members who are briefed by the OPP and VLA. In real terms, it is now beyond dispute that over time many of our members, who carry out this important work which contributes to the efficient running of the criminal justice system, are being paid less for more work being expected. This situation is aggravated when under resourcing of the criminal justice system results in matters either not being listed, or not reached, resulting in consequent financial loss to members. This and related issues are regularly raised and argued in the forums mentioned above.

The CBA works closely with the Victorian Bar in relation to Continuing Professional Development. This issue has become increasingly important for counsel appearing in criminal matters. We continue to strive to provide a high level of seminars and we thank those presenters who donated their services. We note that some significant changes in the law will occur later this year with respect to the new Evidence Act, and Criminal Procedure Act. We note in this area that significant resources have been devoted to the training of those salaried by the Crown. Discussions are taking place in relation to the OPP providing some training to our members in the spirit of ensuring that there is an 'equality of arms' in the conduct of criminal cases.

Aside from the usual single session CPD's, the CBA conducted two morning seminars to coincide with court conference days. Both seminars were very well attended and confirmed the type of format adopted is popular, and should continue. Full-day weekend seminars have also been held on plea making, and the new Uniform Evidence Act.

Our guest of honour, at the CBA dinner, on 20 August 2008 at Matteo's Ristorante in North Fitzroy, was The Honourable John Coldrey QC, now retired from the Supreme Court. His Honour was on the inaugural CBA committee and we acknowledge his achievements and contribution to the law.

The CBA also celebrated the appointment of the following Senior Counsel in the past year – John Dickinson, Craig Harrison, Doug Trapnell, Michael Tinney and Michael O'Connell – all of whom are members of the Association.

We also acknowledge and applaud the following appointments of CBA members:

- Their Honours Mark Taft, Mark Gamble, Howard Mason and Gerard Mullaly to the County Court of Victoria; and
- Their Honours Michelle Hodgson and Sharon Cure to the Magistrates' Court of Victoria.

The CBA continues to maintain a profile in the community through interviews and comments on justice issues. The increasing interest by the media in issues concerning criminal justice requires the CBA to provide a balanced perspective. The nature of the reporting of a number of high profile cases by both the print and television media continued to cause considerable concern. The Chairman has written to the Attorney-General and the Director of Public Prosecutions to express our concern on a number of occasions.

The CBA website continues to be a valuable resource. It is updated on a regular basis providing important information on current issues to our members and a variety of valuable links.

Finally, the CBA wishes to thank and acknowledge the support and efforts of its members who acted voluntarily throughout the year to attend meetings and write submissions on our behalf. The workload of the CBA continues to grow as we move across periods of considerable legislative change. The extent of change will significantly impact on our members in the years ahead and requires greater levels of work by the CBA committee. We encourage our members to step forward and help meet these challenges by standing for office or by offering their services in the formulation of ideas and responses. Our Association will become even stronger through our members participation.

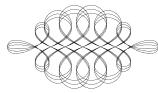
FAMILY LAW BAR ASSOCIATION

Ian Mawson S.C. (Chairman), Rohan Houlst (Vice-Chairman), Noel Ackman QC, Michael Wood (Treasurer), Darren Mort (Secretary), Michael Pavone, Emma Swart, Laura Colla (Secretary) and Patricia Byrnes.

Family Law Bar Elections were held on 4 June 2009. They were not the first but the second only elections in the known history of the Association.

2008–2009 was another busy year. The committee continued to meet on a quarterly basis with members being invited

THE VICTORIAN BAR
Specialisation – Bar Associations



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to put forward agenda items via email in good time for each meeting. Information was relayed to members via a seasonal email newsletter.

The committee continued to develop its relationship with Victoria Legal Aid, the Legal Services Commissioner, the Family Court and the Federal Magistrates' Court. The Association arranged for the Honourable Justice Cronin to speak to barristers about developments in listings at the Family Court and what Judges expect, in the modern era, from counsel. The Legal Services Commissioner spoke to family law barristers at FLBA's request to report on her family law round table discussion on complaints.

The association's secretary devised the 2009 Victorian Bar, Family Law, Continuing Legal Education (CLE) topics including

A number of family law barristers continue to work steadily on various committees within and outside of the Victorian Bar. They were encouraged to relay practical messages and developments to the Family Law Bar Association so information can be passed onto members. The important work of those barristers is gratefully acknowledged here, with thanks.

The committee had the continued benefit of a positive rapport with Martin Bartfeld QC and Minal Vohra who continue to work industriously on the Executive of the Family Law Section of the Law Council of Australia.

I would like to thank the committee for its consistent work in the difficult task of making me look good. The fact is, we have worked hard and we were often under appreciated. We bring

THE EVER-CHANGING LEGISLATION, RULES, PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE IN THE FAMILY COURT CONTINUE TO PRESENT CHALLENGES FOR BARRISTERS WHICH WE AIM TO MANAGE COLLECTIVELY.

mental health for family law barristers, ethics and effective modern mentoring. We have been lucky enough to have engaging presenters agree to speak from within the family law Bar and guest speakers from allied areas of practice. Members were able to socialise at the end of CLE sessions where the guest speaker came from outside of the Victorian Bar.

Ensuring the interests of members, the association took steps to see that all barristers complied with their legislative obligations as to fee disclosure. Members were also invited to express an interest in forming a working group to explore and address "briefing practice" issues to ensure that solicitors and barristers adhere to model briefing behaviours. Also, members were invited to express an interest in forming a committee to develop a practical family law advocacy week-end workshop in 2009 to enhance and develop court advocacy skills.

On the research front, members were again afforded an opportunity to participate in research conducted by the Australian Institute of Family Studies as to parenting amendments to the Family Law Act.

this to the attention of the new committee which replaces us. I would also like to thank those who answered the call to volunteer including Caroline Jenkins, Carmella Ben-Simon, Kaye McNaught, Rohan Hoult, Patrick O'Shannessy and Minal Vohra. The committee always welcomes ideas, suggestions, constructive criticism and the work of anyone who is interested in helping out.

The ever-changing legislation, rules, practice and procedure in the Family Court continue to present challenges for barristers which we aim to manage collectively.

Overall, the Family Law Bar Association aims to be the interface between the family law bar and the different entities connected with it. The 2009 year was a constructive one. Thank you to all involved and every best wish to the new committee.

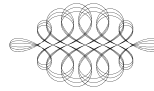
INDUSTRIAL LAW BAR ASSOCIATION

Warren Friend (President), Gerard McKeown (Senior Vice President), Eugene White (Vice President), Jan MacLean (Secretary), Rohan Millar (Treasurer), Philip Ginnane, Timothy Jacobs, Nicholas Harrington, Craig Dowling and Cassie Serpell

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The Industrial Bar Association continued work in its two primary objectives of providing continuing legal education and fostering relationships with others practising in the area.

Continuing Professional Development lectures given during the year expanded to a broader range of employment law related issues, and have also started to come to grips with yet another seismic change in the legislative framework within which industrial law is practised. The Committee thanks all members who have taken the time to deliver papers as part of this important program

The Association participated in two joint social functions with the Law Institute of Victoria in July and March. In November its annual dinner was held at which Chief Justice Black AC, as guest of honour, gave a memorable speech.

Thanks are extended to Frank Parry S.C. who retired as President in November after two years service as President. The Association since its establishment in June 2005 continues to grow and consolidate its useful function for all members of the Bar practising in industrial and employment law.

TAX BAR ASSOCIATION

Alexandra Richards QC (President & Web Convenor), Gregory Davies QC (Vice President), Helen Symon S.C. (Treasurer & Events Co-ordinator), John de Wijn QC, Terry Murphy S.C., Simon Steward, Simon Tisher, John Morgan, Lachlan Armstrong (Secretary), Eleftheria Sotiropoulos (Assistant Secretary) and The Honourable Justice Tony Pagone (Patron)

The Tax Bar Association continues to grow and develop strongly, with active involvement by senior and junior counsel. Its members total 87.

The Association initiates educative and social forums with the broader tax community and invites key note speakers from outside the bar to speak to tax barristers. Of particular note this year was the presentation by Professor David Rosenbloom, New York Law School and renowned international tax lawyer.

The Association is well recognised in the wider tax profession. It receives requests from universities, Australian Taxation Office and other government authorities and associations in other professions to participate in joint activities and provide

cross-promotion for continuing education, conferences and other opportunities. The Association is a member of the ATO convened Legal Practice Working Party.

Forthcoming seminar topics include a joint presentation with the international Commission of Jurists to be presented by Allan Myers AO QC on "Tax Administration and the Rule of Law".

The Association provides a range of continuing legal education on taxation law and related areas for tax practitioners and the legal profession more broadly. Eighteen seminars were presented, covering a wide range of topics at general and specialist level. Contributors included the ATO, judicial officers, academics and taxation officers, as well as members of the Association. Workshops and seminars with solicitors and the Australian Taxation Office were aimed at increasing understanding and knowledge of tax law and the processes which govern taxpayers' rights. In addition, John Morgan chairs monthly "Tax Discussion Group" lunches.

The Association's website enables barristers and other tax practitioners to keep up to date with current developments. The website is updated daily. It includes new papers presented by barristers and other tax professionals, provides an easy reference for practitioners wanting to find a tax barrister, offers links to research materials and advertises forthcoming seminars and social events. The Association publishes a weekly newsletter that is emailed to all members and other subscribers from legal and accounting firms, the ATO and universities. The Association has over 100 external subscribers.

CHILDREN'S COURT BAR ASSOCIATION

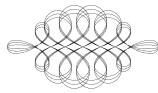
Robert Burns (President), Geoffrey Martin (Honorary Treasurer) and Emma Swart (Secretary)

The members of the Association have been actively involved in organizing and facilitating Court seminars notably regarding the Legal Aid funding of matters in the Court. The Chair of the Association has been in direct correspondence with Legal Aid over the issue of fees paid to barristers.

Members represent the interests of their colleagues at the Court Users' Group Meetings held quarterly and chaired by the President of the Court, Judge Paul Grant.

THE VICTORIAN BAR

Specialisation – Bar Associations



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Further, there has been an on-going commitment by members of the Executive to various sub-committees set up by the Court as a result of the recommendations of the Boston Consulting Group which was engaged by the State Government to analyse and make suggestions regarding the streamlining of the court business in the best interests of all who attend and work in the Children's Court.

As a result of the above, the Moorabbin Justice Centre now conducts a Children's Court in an effort to reduce the number of matters in the Melbourne Court on any given day. Therefore our colleagues now attend this Court.

WOMEN BARRISTERS ASSOCIATION

Joye Ellera (Convenor), Caroline Kirton (Past Convenor) Suzanne Kirton (Assistant Convenor), Sarah Mansfield (Assistant Convenor), Amanda Wynne (Secretary), Sylvia Maramis (Treasurer), Patricia Dobson & Sarah Mansfield (Membership Secretaries), and Committee Members – Fiona McLeod S.C., Kim Knights, Emma Swart, Simone Jacobson, Kaye McNaught, Anne Sheehan, Fiona Ryan, Jennifer Digby.

The Women Barristers Association (WBA) continues to offer female Barristers an opportunity and forum to meet and make friends with other women barristers who all share the demands of addressing work-life balance challenges.

The WBA continues to cater to the younger members of the Bar having held another of our now infamous "Meet & Greet" functions in the Essoign Club in the recent year. This has become an annual event where female solicitors are invited to network with female barristers.

Our annual "Coming to the Bar" functions are similarly well attended and applauded by female solicitors and law students alike, keen to learn the machinations of making a career at the Bar. We, the Association, have found this event provides a forum for women solicitors to ask of women barristers, those questions relevant and pertinent to women only.

The WBA is a constituent body of the Australian Women Lawyers (AWL). Kim Knights is the current WBA representative on the national board of AWL. WBA works closely in Victoria with AWL. Due to the link between AWL and WBA, Victorian

Women Barristers can be assured that their interests and needs are regularly canvassed at federal level.

The WBA link within the Victorian Bar website offers a fascinating and informative look back on many of the achievements made by female barristers including but not limited to the exhibition, "Women Barristers in Victoria – Then and Now" which still tours regional Victorian Courts. This is available in electronic form on the WBA website.

With a grant from the Legal Services Board the WBA has been responsible for the making of a half hour multi-media slide show entitled "And What Do We Have Here?!" The first (25) women to sign the Victorian Bar Roll – some personal reminiscences".

The film was launched as part of Law Week 2009 at the Queen Victoria Women's Centre in Lonsdale Street, Melbourne and members of the Bar can view a live link of the same in the Oral History section of the Victorian Bar website.

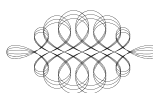
The WBA intends in the future to hold luncheon conferences and seminars relevant to various jurisdictions which members may find of interest, and taking into account preferred scheduling to that of late afternoon meetings. —



THE VICTORIAN BAR

Pro Bono Commitment

4.3



DUTY BARRISTERS' SCHEME

Will Alstergren (Chair), Her Honour Magistrate Lesley Fleming, Ian D Hill QC, William Lye, Anthony Burns, David Turner, John Oswald-Jacobs, Jennifer Digby, Paul White, Amelia Macknay, Amanda Wynne, Sarah Keating, Geoffrey Slater

The Duty Barristers' Scheme started as a three month pilot program in June 2007, coordinated by a Committee including membership from the Bar, Magistrate, Leslie Fleming and the Chief Magistrate, Ian Gray, representatives of Legal Aid from time to time, a coordinator of the Melbourne Magistrates' Court and the unrepresented litigants' coordinator of the Supreme Court of Victoria.

In its first six months, the Scheme operated two days a week in the Melbourne Magistrates' Court with three barristers a day appearing pro-bono in several of the lists in the Court in matters that referred by Victorian Legal Aid or by the Court officers.

The success of the Scheme can be measured by its now permanent operation in the Melbourne Magistrates' Court five days a week and extension to all Victorian Courts.

The Scheme has been introduced as a pilot into the Supreme Court of Victoria in the Practice Court and in the Court of Appeal. More senior barristers have been asked to participate in this jurisdiction (and as needed) to lead more junior barristers. Work coming through the Supreme Court has been significant.

More recently the Scheme was introduced into the commercial section of the County Court. Judges Anderson and Kennedy are introducing a note into the Commercial List of the County Court to enable judges in that list to refer matters to the Scheme. The County Court Scheme is based on the Order 80 Scheme in the Federal Court and is reliant upon the establishment of a list of Solicitors to brief counsel. An Ethics Committee dispensation will be sought for urgent short matters until a solicitor can be found or PILCH engaged. The Scheme is coordinated from the Victoria Bar Office by Mark Halse and Peta Hansen. Ground work done by the Committee includes

- establishing a database of barristers willing to act in the Scheme;

- establishing the criteria, with the help of VLA and the Courts, for the provision of assistance to litigants under the Scheme;
- establishing the protocols for Duty Barristers in Court;
- establishing the protocols for liaison of the Bar with the coordinators of each Court;
- gaining dispensation from the Ethics Committee for Duty Barristers to act in civil cases in the Magistrates' Court and in urgent matters in the Practice Court of the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeal;

Over 100 Counsel have volunteered on a regular basis for the Duty Barristers' Scheme.

The Scheme has been largely complaint-free and is seen by all, Bench and Bar, as a great initiative of the Victorian Bar.

In 2008 the Scheme won a Distinguished Pro Bono Service Award and the Victorian Law Foundation, nominated by the Chief Justice of Victoria and also won a Law Council of Australia Australian Young Lawyers Committee Award in conjunction with the New Barristers' Committee.

Special thanks to Mark Halse, Peta Hansen and Shane Draper of the Supreme Court.

PRO BONO COMMITTEE

Alexandra Richards QC (Chair), Michelle Quigley S.C., Timothy Ginnane S.C., Debra Mortimer S.C., Dr Kristine Hanscombe S.C., Richard McGarvie S.C., John Dixon S.C., Joshua Wilson S.C., Caroline Kenny S.C., Thomas Danos, Michael Wyles, Anna Robertson, Daniel Harrison, Arushan Pillay, Georgina Costello, Esther James, Thomas Ashton, John Emerson AO, Kristen Hilton/Mat Tinkler, Melanie Dye

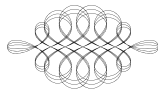
The Victorian Bar Legal Assistance Scheme (VBLAS) is now in its ninth year of operation.

It is administered by the Public Interest Law Clearing House (PILCH) and is overseen by the Pro Bono Committee (formerly the Legal Assistance Committee) of the Victorian Bar.

The core activity of VBLAS is to facilitate pro bono assistance by members of the Victorian Bar to individuals in need of legal assistance.

Over 634 barristers (equates to 35 percent of the practicing list) have volunteered to participate in VBLAS. This strong commitment is reflected across all levels of seniority at the

THE VICTORIAN BAR
Pro Bono Commitment



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Victorian Bar, including those who signed the Bar Roll this year. Many barristers, although not formally registered, welcome requests from VBLAS to assist.

Most applications for pro-bono legal assistance come from individuals, many with complex legal problems and without other options for obtaining legal assistance. Many come from marginalized and disadvantaged backgrounds. These clients are referred to VBLAS from a range of sources, including community legal centres, Victoria Legal Aid and direct referrals from the Courts and Tribunals.

Applications received by VBLAS are assessed on the basis of legal merit, lack of means and whether assistance is required 'in the interests of the administration of justice'. The majority of referrals made to barristers are for advice and appearance work, and less frequently for the drawing of documents.

This year, VBLAS received a total of 573 inquiries – a 10 percent increase on the last reporting period. The number of referrals also rose by 23 percent, from 227 in 2007–08 to 279 this financial year. The estimated financial value of referrals from VBLAS accepted by members of the Victorian Bar equated to over \$1.1 million. A further 44 referrals were made by PILCH to

It is important to note that applicants who are not able to be assisted within VBLAS guidelines are referred to other legal and community-based services. This practice, essential to ensuring that the burden of representing disadvantaged litigants falls in its proper place, accounts in part for the variation between inquiries and referrals as a whole.

During this reporting period, VBLAS was also involved in legal policy work. Specifically, VBLAS contributed to the following submissions made by PILCH:

- Inquiry into Australia's Judicial System, the Role of Judges and Access to Justice
- National Human Rights Charter, and
- Migration Review of Immigration Detention.

Contributing to these submissions was a natural adjunct to the inquiry and referral work, which allowed VBLAS to identify and address systemic legal issues which affect the community as a whole.

VBLAS has also continued to provide administrative support to the Federal Court of Australia and the Federal Magistrates Court of Australia for the purposes of making court appointed referrals under Order 80 and Part 12, respectively.

***THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT IDENTIFIES THE
VERY SIGNIFICANT ROLE OF MEMBERS, THE PRO BONO
COMMITTEE AND PILCH IN LEGAL
ASSISTANCE AFTER THE FEBRUARY BUSHFIRES.***

barristers for 'public interest' and 'not-for-profit' organisations.

In 2008–09, the greatest number of inquiries was in criminal law and family law. In recent years criminal law and migration law have represented the greatest numbers, however in this financial year family law inquiries increased by 71 percent while migration law inquiries declined by 29 percent.

This year, the greatest number of referrals was also in criminal law and family law. Referrals were up by 200 percent in family law. A significant number of referrals also related to migration law, property/planning/housing, traffic/infringements and debt/consumer credit.

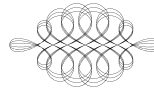
PILCH received 38 inquiries through Bushfire Legal Help from individuals seeking assistance with respect to the Commission, 30 of which resulted in referrals to barristers for assistance with drawing and settling Notices of Application to Appear before the Commission. The estimated financial value of this assistance by members of the Victorian Bar equated to \$150,000. A further 11 referrals were made to barristers on other bushfire related issues such as insurance, housing and tenancy, wills and probate, contracts and family law.

On 2 April 2009, the Pro Bono Committee held a function to thank all those who have assisted. The Hon. Michael Kirby

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Pro Bono Commitment

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AC CMG addressed about 150 guests, which included pro bono barristers, members of the judiciary, representatives from the legal community and VBLAS/PILCH staff. Justice Kirby applauded the pro bono commitment of the Bar and its members, and in particular noted its generous response to the Black Saturday bushfires.

The hard work and dedication of Pro Bono Committee members together with the enthusiasm and tireless support

of the VBLAS/PILCH administrators (Melanie Dye, Manager, Michael McKiterick and Belinda Johnson, solicitors, Daniel Jacobs, administrator and Anna Krasnostein (working specifically on bushfire legal assistance)) cannot go unacknowledged: the success and reputation of the Bar's pro bono assistance scheme is entirely attributable to and dependent upon that work and support.

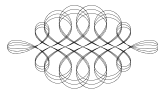
ACCESS TO JUSTICE

VICTORIAN BAR LEGAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME STATISTICS FOR 2008/09

08/09 07/08			08/09 07/08	
BARRISTERS PARTICIPATING IN VBLAS			MAGISTRATES' COURT	
Number of barristers	634	576	Criminal	15
			Traffic/ Infringements	9
			Other	23
AREA OF LAW (INQUIRIES)	INQUIRIES		TOTAL	
			55	56
Criminal	108	90		
Family/ Childrens Court	96	55	CORONERS COURT	3 5
Property/ Planning/ Housing	62	43		
Immigration	54	76	FAMILY COURT	6 1
Debt/ Consumer Credit	41	38		
Administrative	31	23	CHILDRENS COURT	1 3
Traffic/ Infringements	31	24		
			ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS TRIBUNAL	
Commercial	29	37		
Human Rights/ Equal Opportunity	29	31	Property/ Planning/ Housing	15
Employment	19	31	Debt/ Consumer Credit	9
Torts	12	12	Other	23
Social Security/ Welfare	8	10	TOTAL	47 25
Personal Injuries	6	10		

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Pro Bono Commitment



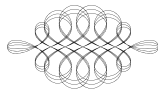
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	08/09	07/08		08/09	07/08
Other	47	43	VICTIMS OF CRIME ASSISTANCE TRIBUNAL	1	1
TOTAL INQUIRIES	573	523			
			AUSTRALIAN INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMISSION	6	4
TYPE OF WORK DONE					
TYPE	REFERRALS		OTHER	26	34
Advice	143				
Representation	179		TOTAL REFERRALS	279	227
REFERRALS BY JURISDICTION					
HIGH COURT	7	4	REFERRAL SOURCE		
			SOURCE	INQUIRIES	
			Community Legal Centre	164	147
FEDERAL COURT			Member of Public	90	72
Human Rights	2		Victorian Legal Aid	55	56
Immigration	2		Solicitor	42	49
Other	5		Court	39	42
TOTAL	9	11	Homeless Persons Legal Clinic	29	21
			Law Institute of Victoria Legal Assistance Scheme	24	18
FEDERAL MAGISTRATES COURT			Barrister	22	13
Family	23		4 Other/ Unspecified	108	105
Immigration	22				
Other	3		CLIENT LOCATION (INQUIRIES)		
TOTAL	48	45	Melbourne Metropolitan Area	425	382
			Regional Victoria	121	114
			Interstate	27	27
SUPREME COURT					
Debt/ Consumer Credit (Appeals)	10		UNREFERRED INQUIRIES		
Administrative	10		REASON FOR CLOSURE		
Other	12		Outside guidelines	87	80
TOTAL	34	17	No Further Contact	70	52
			Referred to Community Legal Centre or Legal Assistance Scheme	37	49
COUNTY COURT			Resource demand prevents possibility of pro bono	27	13
Criminal	9		Eligible for Legal Aid	21	25
Family/Childrens	6		No Further Action Required	19	16
Other	8		Referred to 'No Win, No Fee' firm	15	21
TOTAL	23	14	Other	46	38



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EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY COMMITTEE

Fiona McLeod S.C. (Chair), Philip Dunn QC, Carmella Ben-Simon, Michael Wyles, Jeremy Twigg, Philip Solomon, Kim Knights, Jacinta Forbes, Anne Sheehan, Anna Robertson, Dr Michelle Sharpe, Timothy Donaghey, Ingrid Braun, Meredith Schilling, Hans Bokelund, Paul Higham.

State Court Consultants – The Honourable Chief Justice Marilyn Warren AC, The Honourable Justice Robert F Redlich, The Honourable G (Tony) Pagone, Her Honour Judge Rachelle Lewitan AM, Her Honour Judge Susan Cohen, Her Honour Judge Frances Millane, Chief Magistrate Ian Gray.

Federal Court Consultants – The Honourable Justice Richard R S Tracey RFD (Federal Court), The Honourable Justice Linda M Dessau (Family Court).

Other Consultants – Pamela Tate S.C. (Solicitor General), Michael Shand QC and Alexandra Richards QC.

The Committee has continued its focus on improving the participation opportunities and retention of women at the Bar. Initiatives have included, at the request of the Bar Council, consideration of the entrenchment of places for women in the senior category of the Bar Council and the commissioning of a further work of art of the three women High Court justices.

The Committee has drafted a number of submissions in response to reviews and proposed changes to the law and liaised with relevant parties including

- House of Reps Pay Equity Committee Inquiry (Cth) Submission and Appearance before Committee hearing
- Police, Major Crime and Whistleblowers Legislation Amendment Bill 2008 (Vic)
- Equal Opportunity Act Exemptions and exceptions review (Vic)
- Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Act (Cth)
- National Human Rights Charter (Cth)

The Committee provides continuing professional development seminars, in particular a session on a proposed Human Rights Charter with Fr. Frank Brennan.

It is also considering various ways to provide support for members including

- Review of Educational material provided to Mentors and Senior Mentors
- A Health & Wellbeing presentation by Bernadette Healy
- A proposal to introduce New Equal Opportunity Officers with a confidential advice role.

The EOC has undertaken a number of initiatives aimed at improving equality of opportunity for Indigenous Barristers including discussions with the Law Institute Aboriginal Lawyers Committee and obtaining Bar Council support for students to attend the Indigenous Lawyers Conference to be held in Adelaide in September 2009.

INDIGENOUS LAWYERS COMMITTEE

Colin Golvan S.C. (Chair), Jane Dixon S.C., Sturt Glacken S.C., Michael O'Brien, John Goetz, Franz Holzer, Patrick Southey, Michael Wise, Andrew Phillips, Daniel Gurchich, Paul Hayes, Daniel Aghion, Daniel Star, Angus Frith, Peter Willis, Sharon Moore, Elisabeth Wentworth, Andrew Woods, Patmalar Ambikapathy, Esther James, Hans Bokelund, Brendan Loizou, Munya Andrews and Consultants The Honourable Justice Stephen Kaye, The Honourable Justice David Beach, His Honour Judge David A Parsons.

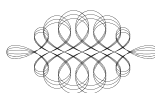
The Indigenous Lawyers Committee (ILC) has been involved in the following activities over the last 12 months:

- formulating a model briefing policy for Indigenous Barristers – Hans Bokelund and Brendan Loizou, two of our Indigenous Barristers, have prepared a first draft of the policy (expected to be finalized by July/August), which has drawn on the model briefing policy for Women Barristers;
- conducted meetings with solicitors towards a joint initiative for the benefit of Indigenous Barristers;
- appointed committee members to liaise with Indigenous law students at Victorian universities;
- conducted its very successful summer clerkship program in February 2009, with three Indigenous students involved. We run this program in liaison with the Supreme Court (in particular Justice Stephen Kaye) and the Judicial College – with each student spending a week with each agency. The program was very well received and it is proposed

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Promoting Access to Justice

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that we host the program again in February 2010. The ILC's involvement in the clerkship program is ably managed by Paul Hayes and Daniel Star;

- arranged for the Bar to assist a number of Indigenous law students to attend the National Indigenous Legal Conference in Adelaide in September 2009;
- coordinated the Indigenous Barristers' Fund, which has collected (and distributed) funds to assist Indigenous Barristers in starting their careers at the Bar. Financial support, which is tax deductible, is being sought from members of the Bar for the Fund;
- has arranged with the Bar to provide subsidised chambers rental for Indigenous Barristers, which is greatly appreciated by our Indigenous Barristers. We have also arranged with the Bar Readers' Course to have one place reserved

RECOGNISING HUMAN RIGHTS

Human Rights Committee

Debra Mortimer S.C. (Chair), Julian Burnside AO QC, Alexandra Richards QC, Glenn McGowan S.C., Dr Ian Freckelton S.C., Stephen McLeish S.C., Sturt Glacken S.C., Toby Shnookal, Simon Mc Gregor, Wendy Harris, Daniel Star, Richard Wilson, Dr Stephen Donoghue, Kristen Walker, Cam Truong, Chris Young, Brendan Loizou.

The Human Rights Committee undertook a substantial piece of work in the first half of this year, in preparing a submission to the National Human Rights Consultation.

The submission was accepted by the Bar Council and lodged with the Consultation on behalf of the Victorian Bar.

Each committee member contributed in a significant way to this document and there were, in the drafting process, many

THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE UNDERTOOK A SUBSTANTIAL PIECE OF WORK IN THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR, IN PREPARING A SUBMISSION TO THE NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS CONSULTATION.

in each intake for an Indigenous Reader, and for the fees to be waived;

- mentoring Indigenous law students. There is less mentoring at present than was the case over recent years, in particular as there are a lot more opportunities for support for the students than was available when the Bar established its mentoring program about 10 years ago. Even so, there are some students who are in contact with us for mentoring support, which we are able to provide;

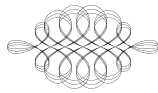
We now have three Indigenous Barristers at our Bar, Hans Brendan and Munya Andrews, and look forward to increasing that number over the coming years.

robust debates and discussions. Ultimately the Committee settled on a proactive and substantive approach, focusing on the Victorian Charter and on the constitutional issues raised by a federal bill. The Chair is most grateful to all Committee members for their focus and dedication in the production of this submission. With that task now completed, in the second half of 2009 the Committee will focus on the Victorian legal community's continuing experiences with the Victorian Charter.

The Committee will consider the prospect of a report to the Attorney on the Bar's experiences from the implementation of the Charter. It will also consider other human rights issues as they arise, such as the situation for the legal community in Fiji, and issues such as access to legal aid and representation in Victorian courts.

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Promoting Access to Justice



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BARRISTERS ANIMAL WELFARE PANEL

Graeme McEwen (Chair), Dr Michelle Sharpe (Secretary), The Hon. Ronald Merkel QC, Richard Kendall QC, Peter Haag, Andrew Phillips, Alexander Albert, Carolyn Burnside, Matthew Barrett, Maya Rozner, Anthony O'Donoghue, Anne Hassan, Joanne Lardner, Frances Dalziel, Francesca Holmes, Jane Treleaven and Georgia King-Siem

The 90 member Panel again addressed multiple diverse national animal welfare matters over the last year, thus maintaining its busy program since its establishment only three years ago. Matters addressed included for example:

- a lengthy submission on national animal welfare law reform to the federal Attorney General, followed by a meeting with him in Canberra by the Panel Chair and Secretary;
- advice on different cases, including an impending proceeding against national companies in an intensive industry: this will no doubt lead to eventual appearances by members of the Panel;
- advices on legal questions attending the live export of animals or the transport of animals over long distances within Australia, including an impending campaign to

raise awareness amongst federal parliamentarians of the animal welfare issues in inter alia the live export of animals: this will be undertaken in concert with and at the request of the World Society for the Protection of Animals;

- participation in the annual Law Week animal law seminar attended by some 200 lawyers and hosted by Mallesons Stephen Jaques: this year the guest speaker was a United States trial attorney specialising in animal law as a partner of a San Francisco law firm (the principal practice of which is commercial law) and the Panel was represented on a small panel offering comments and taking questions at the conclusion of the main speech; and
- participation in the establishment of the Pro bono Animal Law Service as a division of PILCH nationally to specialise in public interest animal law matters, and as a member of its Advisory Board: the Panel has always worked closely with PILCH in legal matters of advice and representation.

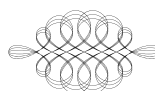
The ANU and Melbourne and Sydney Universities have each agreed to offer 'Animal Law' as part of its Faculty of Law syllabus. Some 12 or so universities now offer the subject in Australia and New Zealand.



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APPLICATIONS TO BECOME COUNSEL

Applications Review Committee

Michael Wheelahan S.C (Chair), Michael Colbran QC, Timothy Ginnane S.C., Caroline Kirton, Peter Booth, Will Alstergren, Gregory Harris, Kevin Lyons, Richard Attiwill, Roisin Annesley, Katharine Anderson, Stewart Maiden (Assist Hon Sec), Penelope Neskovicin, Simon Pitt (Hon Sec), Geraldine Gray, David Turner and Daniel Crennan – with support from Wendy Pollock Professional Development Coordinator

The Application Review Committee considers applications to sign the roll of counsel which in some cases will be accompanied by requests for, dispensation or variation from some requirements of the Reading Regulations, or permission to retain a practising certificate for limited purposes during the Readers Course.

Applicants to sign the Bar Roll are personally interviewed by the Honorary Secretary or the Assistant Honorary Secretary, both of whom are ex officio members of this Committee.

The Committee makes its recommendations to the Bar Council in respect of these matters.

Work formerly done by the Committee in relation to applications for renewal of practising certificates was redirected to the Counsel Committee during the year.

The Committee has met once in the reporting period and conducts much of its business by email to meet short response times.

RENEWALS AND REFERRALS

Counsel Committee

Michael Colbran QC (Chair) Brendan Murphy QC, Cameron Macaulay S.C., Mark Moshinsky S.C., Will Alstergren, Paul Connor, Katharine Anderson, Dr Michelle Sharpe, Simon Pitt (Hon Sec) and Stewart Maiden (Assist Hon Sec) with assistance from Alison Rock (Mgr Compliance)

The Counsel Committee is constituted solely of Bar Councillors and chaired by the Senior Vice-Chairman of the Bar Council.

In August 2008, by agreement, the Bar Council established a protocol for dealing with ethical complaints and disclosures between the Bar Council, the Counsel Committee and the Ethics Committee. Under the protocol the Counsel Committee has responsibility for functions delegated to the Victorian Bar Inc by the Legal Services Board relating to:

1. applications for grant of the renewal of a Practising Certificate, including the consideration of conditions which might attach to such a certificate;
2. consideration of whether or not such a certificate should be amended, suspended or cancelled
3. complaints and referrals to the Legal Services Commissioner on behalf of the Bar

The Counsel Committee also serves the Bar Council pursuant to Section 13 of the Constitution of the Victorian Bar Inc., Removal of Names from the Bar Roll.

The Legal Services Board has begun adopting policy statements for functions it delegates to other bodies. The Counsel Committee assists the Board with reviewing those policy statements from the perspective of the Bar.

Since the establishment of the protocol in August 2008, the Counsel Committee has met seven times and conducted one formal hearing.

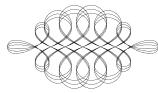
During the 2009/2010 PC renewal period, suitability matters concerning 46 applicants were brought to the attention of the Committee. At 30 June, recommendations had been made to Bar Council concerning 36 of those applicants.

Other matters considered and for which the Committee has made recommendation to Bar Council are a disclosure of a show cause event under s. 2.4.27 of the Legal Profession Act and a suitability matter disclosed by an applicant to sign the Roll of Counsel.

In March of this year, on his appointment as Chairman of the Ethics Committee, Richard W McGarvie S.C. resigned from the Counsel Committee with the gratitude of its members for his service.

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Professional Standards



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COMPLAINTS & RULINGS

Ethics Committee

Richard McGarvie S.C. (Chair), Phillip Priest QC (Deputy Chair), Douglas Meagher QC, Joseph Santamaria QC, Malcolm Titshall QC, Helen Symon S.C., Jeremy St John S.C., James Peters S.C., Aaron Schwartz, Ian Williams, Rozeta Stoikowska, Will Alstergren, Kevin Lyons, Charles Shaw and Rena Sofroniou – with support from Alison Rock (Manager, Compliance)

The Ethics Committee is one of only two Committees established in the Bar Constitution.

The *Legal Profession Act 2004* (Vic) vests exclusive power in respect of complaints to the Legal Services Commissioner. Under that Act, the Commissioner has some limited powers of delegation outside the Commission. The Commissioner cannot delegate outside the Commission the functions of receiving complaints, or of investigation, referral or summary dismissal. Referrals of disciplinary complaints for investigation and report are on a case by case basis – and the referral is limited to investigation and report, and is subject to any directions the Commissioner may give. All determinations are by the Commissioner alone – whether to dismiss, take no further action, or to apply to VCAT.

The Ethics Committee accepts referrals from the Commissioner and investigates and reports on such complaints as are referred.

The Bar Practice Rules are, under the *Legal Profession Act 2004*, binding on all barristers. Under those Rules, the Ethics Committee – or, in cases of urgency, a member of the Ethics Committee – is to rule on any matter not specifically covered by the Practice Rules, and may give dispensation from any Rule.

The Ethics Committee and its members continue to give advice, guidance and rulings on, and dispensations from, the Practice Rules.

Since the last report the Committee has met 22 times (usually fortnightly) and given about 50 rulings and dispensations. In addition, each member of the Ethics Committee has devoted many hours to reading voluminous materials, preparing draft recommendations, responding to countless emails, and giving urgent rulings and guidance to individual barristers as required. Quarterly meetings were held with the Legal Services

Commissioner, from whose office the Committee receives regular referrals of disciplinary complaints against barristers for investigation and report.

In March of this year, the Committee Chair, Jennifer Davies S.C. was appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court and her Deputy, Richard McGarvie S.C. was appointed Chairman in her place. The Committee records its gratitude to Justice Davies for her exemplary service on the Committee for many years and as Chair of the Committee for some 18 months.

During the course of the year, Paul Willee QC, Jeremy Gobbo QC, Richard Manly S.C., Mark Moshinsky S.C. and Caroline Kirton retired as members with the gratitude of the Committee and the Bar for their years of dedication and service. The Committee welcomed as new members Phillip Priest QC, James Peters S.C., Rozeta Stoikowska, Kevin Lyons, and Rena Sofroniou and, most recently, Helen Symon S.C.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS SCHEME

Mark Derham QC (Chair), Robin Brett QC, Michael Shand QC, Caroline Kenny S.C., Gerard Meehan, Paul Hayes, Dr Staniforth Ricketson and Simon Gannon.

The Bar Scheme was approved and gazetted in April 2008 to commence on 1 July 2008. For members enrolled in the Bar Scheme, liability for what the Act describes as “occupational liability” is capped at \$2 million.

At 30 June 2009 there were 527 registered members of the Victorian Professional Standards Scheme.

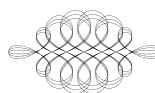
During 2008 the Committee prepared comments on the Professional Standards Amendment (Mutual Recognition) Bill 2008. These comments were relayed by the Bar to the Department. Ultimately that bill was incorporated in the Professional Standards and Legal Professional Act Amendment Bill 2008, which passed in Nov/Dec 2008 and came into operation on 11 December 2008.

In consequence of the passing of the Professional Standards and Legal Professional Act Amendment Act 2008, it was then possible for the Scheme to be amended to permit the operation of the Scheme in New South Wales, Queensland, the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory. An amendment to the Scheme (prepared after consultation with

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the Professional Standards Council) was then submitted to extend the operation of the Scheme to NSW, QLD, ACT and NT.

South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania have not enacted corresponding 'mutual recognition' amendments to their legislation which effectively excludes these States from the operation of the Scheme. Seeking approval of three further and separate Schemes in those States is not practical.

Other matters under development by the Committee include preparing:

1. a submission to be made to the Victorian Attorney General to enable extension of the Act to personal injury practitioners;
2. a submission to the Department of Treasury of the Commonwealth of Australia for the prescription of the Victorian Scheme, by regulations, for the purposes of limiting liability to various actions pursuant to the Australian Securities and Investments Commission Act 2001 and the Corporations Act 2001;
3. a circular to members encouraging membership
4. a CPD seminar explaining the Scheme to members.

The Professional Standards Act requires the adoption of risk management strategies and annual reporting on such strategies, and on findings and conclusions of the committee monitoring and analysing claims against members. The Risk Management Report for the last 12 months of operation of the Scheme has been submitted.

MEDIATION AND ARBITRATION

Dispute Resolution Committee

**Michael Heaton QC (Chair), Henry Jolson QC, Iain Jones S.C., Michael O'Brien, *Julian Ireland, Andrew Bristow, Gerald Hardy, William Lye, Peter Condliffe, Franz Holzer, Mark Hebblewhite, James Kewley, Toby Shnookal, Carmel Morfuni, Carolyn Sparke, *Danielle Huntersmith, Judy Benson, *Dr Elizabeth Brophy, Elisabeth Wentworth, *Carey Nichol, Peter Agardy, *Anthony Elder – with support from Peta Hansen*

**Member of the Accreditation Sub-Committee Chaired by Danielle Huntersmith assisted by Ross Nankivell*

The Dispute Resolution Committee accredits mediators, conducts continuing education programs for mediators and reviews legislation relating to ADR for Bar Council decision.

At 30 June 2009, the Victorian Bar has 235 Nationally Accredited Mediators and has 40 Victorian Bar Accredited Advanced Mediators.

The Dispute Resolution Committee has had another extremely busy year. The accreditation subcommittee under Chair Danielle Huntersmith has bedded down the introduction of the National Mediation Accreditation System with the Victorian Bar as a Recognised Mediator Accreditation Body. Danielle Huntersmith and Ross Nankivell serve on two of the ongoing NMAS subcommittees.

The formulation of a Victorian Bar Alternative Dispute Resolution commitment is an important initiative of the Committee and the Bar A committee chaired by George Golvan QC was formed to respond in a short time frame to a National Alternate Dispute Resolution Advisory Council – Alternative Dispute Resolution in the Civil Justice System – Issues Paper on a reference from the Commonwealth Attorney General the Honourable Robert McClelland MP. The response was forwarded in late May 2009. NADRAC is due to report in September 2009. A subsequent meeting took place with the Honourable Justice Kellam JA and NADRAC members involved in the inquiry.

The Committee has had input to the ADR initiatives in the Magistrates' Court and has met with Ms Nerida Wallace who is putting together a business plan for ADR in the Magistrates' Court.

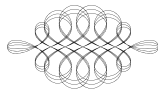
The Committee is reviewing the recently released report of Professor Sourdin and her Committee on Mediation in the Supreme and County Courts of Victoria, and the State Law Reform Committee Inquiry into Alternative Dispute Resolution and Restorative Justice published in May 2009.

Continuing Professional Development Seminars have been organised by the CPD subcommittee under Peter Condliffe regularly throughout the year. The seminars included an interesting seminar on Judicial Mediation at which former Madam Justice Louise Otis of the Quebec Court of Appeal spoke.

The marketing subcommittee under chair Tony Elder has produced a newsletter for Bar Mediators. Other broader initiatives are planned. The Committee is also proposing the Bar website list Barristers who are qualified Adjudicators under the Building and Construction Industry Security of Payment Act 2002.

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INTRODUCING NEW BARRISTERS (READERS COURSE)

Matthew Connock S.C. (Chair), Ian Hill QC, David O'Callaghan S.C., Neil Clelland S.C., Fiona McLeod S.C., James Mighell S.C., Rodney Randall, William Lye, Darren Mort, Caroline Kirton, Carolyn Sparke, Will Alstergren, Gregory Harris, Peter Fox, Cornelia Fourfouris-Mack, David Klempfner, Anthony Burns, Panayiotis Panayi, Michael Borsky, Jennifer Digby, Kim Southey and Judicial Consultants The Honourable Justice David Harper, The Honourable Justice John (Jack) Forrest, His Honour Judge David Parsons, His Honour Judge Mark Taft, His Honour Magistrate Martin Grinberg – with support from Mark Halse (Mgr Professional Development) and Wendy Pollock (Coordinator Professional Development)

The first Bar Readers Course began on Monday 3 March 1980 with 27 Readers. Using a participative course model, advocacy skills are learned through actual performance by the reader of simulated court appearances, followed by detailed assessment and instruction relating to the performance.

Instructors are drawn from Victorian Judges, Masters and Magistrates of every court both State and Commonwealth, and barristers, both senior and junior. Members of the Victoria Police participate in criminal moots.

Since 1987, the Bar has provided places in each Readers Course to lawyers in the South Pacific Region. More than 100 lawyers from Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu, the Solomon Islands, Fiji and Indonesia have now taken the Victorian Bar Readers Course.

The Readers' Course Committee monitors the operation of the Course and the reading requirements.

Together with the Professional Development Team, the Committee's work has been concentrated on preparing for and running of the March and September 2009 Readers' Courses. The workload for some has been substantial involving all aspects of preparing and running of the course. By way of example, the work includes the following:

- developing a 'how to' manual for continuous improvement of the course;
- introducing a framework for periodic reporting to the committee by the Professional Development Team;

- developing a teacher database of those interested in teaching, with their teaching background and specialist skills;
- building the teaching numbers;
- developing systems for performance feedback, session by session and at the end of the course;
- identifying areas where communication can be improved and implementing systems and processes to respond
- reviewing, and improving the quality of pre course material provided to readers;
- evaluating proposals for the independent review of the Readers' Course received through the dedicated working group;
- introducing new course elements and sessions;
- conducting the assessment moots and liaising with the judges;
- developing the administrative team capable of meeting the operational requirements of the Readers' Course;
- dealing with issues and concerns raised by readers and responding to feedback;
- responding to requests for reports that relate to current and future educational requirements (e.g. the LACC Consultation on Statutory Interpretation and the Roper Report regarding standards for approving practical legal training courses);
- engaging with the Executive, Bar Associations and others about specific needs such as additional sessions in relation to criminal law and sex offences;
- evaluating the potential for online delivery of course material and sessions;

The September 2008 course had 50 readers including four from Papua New Guinea. The March 2009 course had 46 readers. The involvement and contribution of the judiciary, mentors and instructors from the Bar is fundamental to the success of the courses.

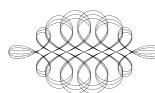
Future plans include:

- Implementing advocacy teacher training.
- Improving assessment and feedback.
- Improving the presentation and content of course materials.
- Documenting the operational requirements of the course.

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Education

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CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Jeremy Ruskin QC (Chair), Robert O'Neill (Honorary Secretary), Matthew Connock S.C., Christopher Caleo S.C., Paul Hayes, Stephen O'Meara, His Honour Judge Gerard Mullaly, Dr Stephen Donaghue, Patrick Over, Samuel Hooper and Michael Rush – with support from Mark Halse (Mgr, Professional Development)

The Bar's Continuing Legal Education ("CLE") program was launched by Chief Justice Michael Black AC of the Federal Court of Australia on 31 July 2002 with the Compulsory CLE program of universal application to all practising barristers launched on 17 December 2003 and operational on 1 February 2004.

The current Bar CPD Rules, came into effect 1 April 2008, changing the terminology from CLE to CPD (Continuing Professional Development). They are binding on every barrister under the Legal Profession Act 2004.

Every practising barrister is required to keep a record of CPD activities and to certify compliance for the previous CPD year (ending 31 March) in the application for annual renewal of his or her practising certificate.

CPD is divided into four areas of study

- Ethics and Professional responsibility
- Professional Skills
- Substantive Law
- Practice Management and Business Skills

Points must be obtained in all categories, with the overriding requirement that barristers obtain 10 points (subject to any application for dispensation) in total for the CPD year – ends 31 March. Only one point will be accredited in Practice Management.

The Bar program is of direct relevance to practice as a barrister, comprehensive in its scope and of extremely high quality. The Bar program of CPD activities is open to all members of the Victorian Bar without charge.

The CPD Committee meets every three weeks to deal with applications for accreditation and requests for dispensation – for reasons such as illness, pregnancy and absence from the jurisdiction – with respect to continuing professional development at the Victorian Bar.

The CPD programme is prepared in about November/December for the following CPD year. Spaces are always retained so that new developments in the various areas of the law can be subject to lecture as the year progresses.

The Committee accredits lectures outside the formal Bar programme at very short notice. That may occur by reason of a visit by an eminent legal person whose lecture is only notified at the last moment.

The Committee has responsibility for ensuring the high quality of 'in house' CPD lectures and for accreditation of outside lectures to ensure conformity with the Bar CPD rules according to the following criteria:

- They have significant intellectual or practical content dealing primarily with matters related to the practice of the law;
- They are conducted by persons who are qualified by practical or academic experience in the subject covered;
- They extend the barrister's knowledge and skills in areas relevant to the barrister's practice; and consist in such matters as lectures, publication of a learned book, teaching, membership of important committees, participation in advanced study courses and reporting for Commonwealth Law Reports, Victorian Law Reports and the like.

Each year there is a talk to the Readers about the importance of CPD, both to point out the necessity for completing CPD and also to encourage attendance at lectures well beyond the 10 points compulsorily required.

Streaming of CPD activity over the web was a new innovation during the year.

MAINTAINING PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

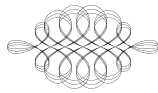
Professional Standards Education Committee

Paul Willee RFD, QC (Chair), Ian Hill QC, Gerald Lewis S.C., Cameron Macaulay S.C., Richard McGarvie S.C., Stephen Moloney, Daniel Aghion, Judy Benson (Ex-officio), Pat Zappia, Susan Gatford and Tyson Wodak.

The Professional Standards Education Committee was established as a specialist committee on education in standards of professional practice – education to Bar Readers and to

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the Bar at large through the Bar CLE/CPD program – and, in particular, to produce and publish the Good Conduct Guide: Professional Standards for Victorian Barristers – which was published and launched on 18 October 2006.

In the period, the committee met on five occasions. Its primary functions have been:

- The compilation, testing and administration of a survey of a selected group of readers and mentors designed to assist the Bar Council in gauging the effectiveness of current arrangements in supporting both groups – special thanks to Cameron Macaulay S.C. and Tyson Wodak for leading this activity.
- Liaising with the Ethics committee in the provision of CDP lectures with particular emphasis on ethics, staffing and in some instances conducting the same.
- Providing two sessions to the Readers' Courses, on Court Formality and Etiquette and the other on Counsel Conduct Rules.
- Preparing for the production of a second edition of the Good Conduct Guide (which awaits the new model rules of conduct) such as identifying the areas requiring inclusion and their development for the new edition; costing and editorial matters.

LENDING A HAND IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC

South Pacific Education Committee

Ian Hill QC (Chair), Geoffrey Steward, Caroline Kirton, Will Alstergren, Anthony Burns and Amanda Fox

In the past 12 months the South Pacific Education Committee has been active in the performance of its teaching role and in assisting lawyers from Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu to participate in the Readers' Course. In addition the Committee has had the pleasure of hosting visiting Judges from the Region.

On 12 July 2008 Justice Elizabeth Hollingworth of the Supreme Court, Judge Chris O'Neill of the County Court, Ian Hill QC, Peter Rose S.C., Will Alstergren, Mandy Fox, Tony Burns and Deborah Morris (administration) travelled to Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea. There, over the course of one week, an Advocacy Skills Workshop was conducted for the Papua New

Guinea Legal Training Institute. Some 63 Trainees attended the workshop which has become a compulsory requirement for their admission to practice.

The Workshop which was sponsored by AusAid through its Law and Justice Sector Program was considered by all who attended to be highly successful. A similar Workshop is to be conducted in July 2009.

The Committee has also received requests from the Solomon Islands Bar Association for assistance in advocacy training.

At this time the Committee is preparing such a program and it is hoped that in October or November 2009 a suitable advocacy workshop can be staged in the Solomon Islands.

KNOWLEDGE RESOURCES – LIBRARY

Gordon Ritter QC (Chair), Stephen McLeish S.C., Richard Brear, Barry Fox, Romauld Andrew, Liza Powderly, Benjamin Murphy, Daniel Crennan.

New shelving has been added in the Griffith and McPhee rooms to house new volumes of reports (about 150 per year), the acquisition of new series of reports (about 500 volumes this year), and the acquisition of new textbooks (about 200 volumes this year).

In addition to the bi-monthly meetings (on average) of the Committee this year several working bees were required to move thousands of volumes in readiness for the works

A third computer was installed in the Griffith room. Members have access to the Lexis Nexis Online service on one of the computers.

The textbook collection has been, and will continue to be, substantially extended and updated and once again this year has been complemented by several texts generously donated by individual members of the Bar. The numbering of all texts is virtually completed for easier location. A list of law reports, and a complete index of texts will soon be available on the Bar website and on the library computers.

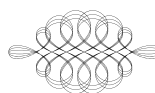
Signs and location plans now ensure that law reports and textbooks can be more easily found in the bar library.

Thanks go to those members of the Bar who have added to the collection during the year.

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Health and Well Being

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HEALTH AND WELL BEING

Phillip Priest QC (Chair), David Curtain QC, Richard Maidment S.C., Timothy Tobin S.C., Debra Mortimer S.C., Fiona McLeod S.C., Richard McGarvie S.C., Dr Ian Freckelton S.C., Joshua Wilson S.C., Joye Elleray, Franz Holzer, Robert Cameron, Mark Robins, Will Alstergren, Sara Hinchey, Peter Fox, Daniel Aghion, Carrie Rome-Sievers, Charles Shaw, David Starvaggi, Sarah Fregon, Dr Michelle Sharpe and Daniel Crennan – with support from Stephen Hare (General Manager)

The Health and Well-Being Committee promotes cultural change conducive to good mental and physical health and provides support to members of the Bar suffering stress or similar difficulties.

A new service provider has been appointed this year. Psychologist Bernadette Healy of the Re-Vision Group will assist the Health and Well Being Committee in guiding the Bar's cultural change and also provide a counselling service to members and their immediate family.

Bernadette began the new service by presenting a very well received seminar in May 2009 – Taming the Beast: Developing ways that work for you in dealing with stress. She also met with the clerks in June to outline the new service, to speak of the need for cultural change and to give the clerks strategies to recognise barristers in need of help. Another exciting innovation was the introduction of free relaxation sessions before court hours.

Other work undertaken by the Committee has involved pastoral care with respect to a number of members.

THE BAR CARE SCHEME

The Bar Care Scheme was established in 2002 and recognises that the Victorian Bar has a role to play in ensuring that assistance is available to members whose health and well-being is adversely affected by the pressures of professional and personal life.

The Scheme provides for six free confidential counselling sessions conducted in the CBD but away from the legal precinct and spaced to avoid people running into one another prior to or just after attending a counselling session.

Through the service a psychologist is also available, 24 hours, seven days a week, to assist members in dealing with crisis if it arises.

The counsellor provides assistance in the initial course of consultation and also determines what follow-up services or treatments are needed. The counsellor may then arrange for subsequent consultations or referrals to other service providers.

Members, or their immediate family, wishing to access this service are encouraged to call 1300 849 908. The rooms are located at Suite 41/42, Level 3, 12 Collins Street, Melbourne. Thirty one members obtained assistance under the Scheme in the year to 30 June 2009.

SUPPORT FOR NEW BARRISTERS

New Barristers Committee 'NBSC'

Samuel Hopper (Chair), Dugald McWilliams (Deputy Chair), Vassiliki Theoharopoulou (Secretary), Emily Porter, (Social Co-ordinator), Robert O'Neill (CPD Co-ordinator), Dr Michelle Sharpe, Simon Pitt, Fiona Ryan, Bree Knoester, Michele Brooks, Ruth Hamnett, Amelia Macknay, Gabrielle Crafti and Sarah Keating.

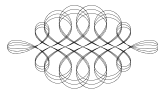
The Bar encourages new members to get involved in life at the Bar and provides formal structures and activities to assist new members to become accustomed to, and get established at, the Bar. It is also most important that new barristers have the opportunity to establish networks and support structures. Many of the associations formed in these early years will endure throughout their careers.

The New Barristers Committee facilitates the orientation of new barristers by providing training and guidance, relevant publications and opportunities for sharing experiences and support with colleagues of similar age and time in the profession through social and other activities. This years activities have included:

- reviewing the results for the Victorian Bar Exit Survey;
- representing the Bar at Law Council of Australia meetings and functions, including the Golden Gavel competition in Hobart;
- assisting with the growth of the Duty Barristers' Scheme, communicating with interstate Bars about its operation

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and on behalf of the Bar accepting an award from the Law Council of Australia for implementing a programme for young lawyers (refer later);

- organising several successful social functions for new Barristers, being "Bond with the Bar" social networking function and two "Welcome Readers" functions;
- ensuring that the Victorian Bar CPD program remains relevant to new Barristers by arranging several seminar topics aimed directly at new barristers;
- producing an updated version of its popular "NBSC Guide to the Bar" circulated to readers;
- presenting to the Readers' Courses in November 2008 and May 2009; and
- making detailed submissions to review of the Bar Chambers Allocation Policy

The exit survey is the product of 2 years' work and is a particularly noteworthy achievement. The survey identifies factors influencing barristers to leave and will provide valuable insight into matters affecting the Bar generally and the junior Bar in particular. This will in turn guide the NBSC's plan for assisting future new Barristers. Review and analysis of the results of the survey is in progress.

TAKING TIME OUT FOR CELEBRATION

This year's Victorian Bar Dinner was in the Great Hall at the National Gallery of Victoria held, for the first time on a Friday night. It is high praise to say that the event exceeded the very high standards set by the previous year.

The excellent food and wine catered by Peter Rowland Catering was enjoyed by record numbers of barristers (475). Importantly, there were a record number of barristers under 2 years seniority who attended (6 tables).

Thanks are due to Will Alstergren whose flair and evident indefatigability was ably supported by Denise Bennet who was once again marvellous in her management of the event demonstrating her trade mark efficiency and attention to detail.

BROADENING INTERESTS

The Arts and Collection Committee

Kate McMillan S.C. (Chair) Peter Jopling QC Scott Stuckey, Sara Hinchey, Ingrid Braun

The Arts and Collections Committee is a new standing committee of the Victorian Bar. The purpose of this committee is to manage the Bar's collection of artworks and other artefacts and to propose the commissioning of further artworks to honour members and past members from time to time.

The committee commissioned the design and construction of four cabinets for display of some of the Bar's memorabilia previously either located in the Bar Council Chamber or in storage.

John Larkins QC, a retired member of the Bar, kindly donated his services in making the cabinets which, thanks to the cooperation of the Essoign Committee, are located in the Essoign making it possible for all members to view the memorabilia.

The committee has its sights on completing the last two stages for the setting out and surrounds of the Selwood sculpture in the foyer of Owen Dixon Chambers East which it is hoped will be completed by the end of June.

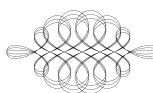
Late last year the committee arranged for another Chairmen's Honour Board to be made. John Larkins QC made the new Honour Board and it was then given to the Victorian Bar by Mr Paul Connor, a member of the Victorian Bar. Paul's father, the Honourable Mr Justice Connor, gave the first Chairmen's Honour Board to the Bar in 1975. The Chairman, Mr John Digby QC, accepted the Honour Board at a gathering of current Bar Council members and members of the Bar, some of the former chairmen of the Bar Council, the Connor family, John Larkins QC and Dr Pandora Kay on 17 December 2008.

The ongoing projects of the committee include archiving and publication of the Bar's extensive portrait collection and obtaining expert advice on the possible re-hanging of the portrait collection.

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CRICKET

The annual Christmas Bar v LIV contest for the Henry Winneke Trophy moved to Como Oval in 2008. The solicitors batted first and made 171. Geoff Bloom scored 69 for the solicitors and was ably assisted by a hard-hitting 40 from "Gerry" Maguire. Captaining the Bar for the first time, Justin Hannebery took the bowling figures with 4/36. Peter Rozen took 2/34.

A fine 74 by the Bar's Greg Connor (including a reverse sweep for 6 over square leg), 14 from Cam Troung and sundries 17 were the only double figure scores. M. Harry was the destroyer for the solicitors with 6/17 off eight overs. The Bar made 136.

Geoff Bloom won the Brendan Keilar memorial trophy for man of the match.

GOLF

The Law Institute of Victoria has ceased its formal involvement in the Sir Edmund Herring Trophy golf day. It was thought by

HOCKEY

The Victorian Bar hockey team played its usual two fixtures last year, both in October.

Our first game was against the NSW Bar team and was played in Sydney as they were not able to raise a side to travel to Melbourne. In the end we had only just enough travellers to Sydney and could certainly have used some interchanges.

The game was played at the pretty Kyeema ground just near the airport but the beauty of the ground was not matched by the result.

Despite having most of the play we failed to score and lost 2-0, our first ever defeat in the fixture. We will seek to reverse the outcome when they visit this year.

Our second match against the LIV saw us at closer to full strength but the LIV were also at full strength, including our regular nemesis Ben Schokman.

Despite playing well we were beaten by three goals by a much younger side. Tweedie was a worthy winner of the

THE GAME WAS PLAYED AT THE PRETTY KYEEMA GROUND JUST NEAR THE AIRPORT BUT THE BEAUTY OF THE GROUND WAS NOT MATCHED BY THE RESULT.

several of the Bench and Bar golfers that the event should not be allowed to die. After several meetings and discussion it was decided to conduct an event for the Sir Edmund Herring Trophy at the Royal Melbourne Golf Club on 19 December 2008.

The event was advertised as usual to the Bench and Bar and attracted 12 members of the Bench and Bar and 10 solicitors.

The event took place on the east course of the Royal Melbourne Golf Club and the competition was won by the solicitors who retained the Sir Edmund Herring Trophy.

A similarly formatted informal tournament is expected to be conducted in December 2009 to keep the event alive. The 2009 event details will be publicised later in the year.

Rupert Balfe plate for best on ground. Burchardt proposes to go on playing until Schokman retires or comes to the Bar or we otherwise win a game, whichever comes first.

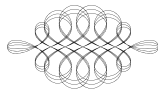
TENNIS

The Bar strove mightily in fine weather, to maintain its four year streak and hold onto the JX O'Driscoll Perpetual Trophy awarded to the winning team in the annual Bench and Bar vs. Solicitors tennis match conducted in December 2008.

Readers may recall that in the intervention of rain narrowly saved the Bar from a loss during the preceding year. Similar relief was not forthcoming this year, and the Bar had

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to concede defeat; losing 2 sets to 11 in the A section, whilst winning the B section 10 sets to 6, for an overall 12 to 17 loss.

The form of some players may be a matter of concern to the selectors. In the "A's" Patrick Montgomery could not match his previous high standards putting greater weight on partner Michael O'Brien in the clinches. Ray Gibson and Chris Beale took some time to find their groove, Shaun Cash and Howard Mason struggled to match the voracious attack of the Law Institute, whilst Ben Lindener and Simon Tisher found the going much tougher than previously in B Section.

Strong showings in the Bs from Ted Fennessy and Jonathon Redwood, as well as from Anthony Klotz and Julian Snow, will see both those pairings strongly pressing their claims for promotion to the As next year. Both pairs won all 4 sets for the afternoon. Richard Smith and Daryl Brown fought brilliantly all afternoon and game performances also were put in by Nemeer Mukhtar, Christine Boyle, Elspeth Strong and Chris Thomson.

The performance of Klotz and Snow was so scintillating that they became the proud holders of the Smith Flatman Perpetual Trophy awarded each year to the outstanding pair from either team.

As usual, the grass courts at Kooyong were in superb condition, and all participants enjoyed themselves immensely. Players joined in after match festivities on the terrace at Kooyong as the process of unwinding prior to Christmas took hold. Warm thanks to the Institute's Peter Mayberry and Peter Price for their part in organising their usual strong team.

Those interested in participating in the match later this year are encouraged to contact one of; Tom Danos, Richard Smith or Chris Thomson to register their interest.

SNOWSPORTS

The Victorian Bar Snowsports Club committee members are Michelle Florenini (President), Jack Rush RFD QC (Vice President), William Houghton QC (Secretary), Will Alstergren (Treasurer), Andrew Ramsey, Ben Rozenes Sara Hinchey and

Bronia Tulloch. We are delighted to have Professor the Honourable George Hampel AM QC as the club patron.

In September 2008 the annual "Buller Bash" – a weekend of skiing at Mt Buller for barristers, their families, friends and instructing solicitors – was held. The frivolity commenced with welcome drinks at Pension Grimus on the Friday night. Blue skies and sunshine greeted us when we awoke on Saturday morning and the group headed out for either a ski lesson or guided mountain ski tour. Lunch was held on the balcony at Koflers Restaurant. After a day of spring skiing we enjoyed après-ski drinks at the new Mt Buller wine bar "Snow Pony". On Saturday evening the festivities continued when we went to the Koorora Hotel where the Mt Buller Ski Instructors' end of season Wild West party was in full swing.

Simon Wood tackled and conquered the Summit run. He deserves a mention for the most improved skier. Robert Dyer is to be commended for his athleticism down the bumps on Wood run and Powder Keg. Birthday boy Phil Skehan was seen to "get some air" in the terrain park and later distinguished himself in the art of après-ski.

Thanks to all those who participated in the weekend. We look forward to seeing you again next year.

WIGS ON WHEELS

There are about 120 members of Wigs on Wheels, most of whom are members of the Victorian Bar. Once again members enthusiastically participated in the Ride to Work Day on 15 October 2008, followed by a breakfast in the Essoign Club. Members raised over \$3,000 to assist in bringing aboriginal schoolchildren from Alice Springs to the Great Victorian Bike Ride in December 2008.

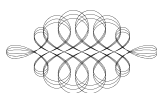
A number of members took part in the W.A. Great Escapade ride, organized by Bicycle Victoria from late March 2009.

Members follow with interest the improvements to facilities afforded to cyclists around the metropolitan area and keep BCL aware of issues affecting cyclists.



BAR COMMITTEES

not elsewhere reported



4.8

INDEPENDENT CHAMBERS COMMITTEE

John Digby QC (Chair), Remy van de Wiel QC, Norman O'Bryan AM S.C., Brian Walters S.C., Prof David Denton RFD S.C., Gerald Lewis S.C., Michael Sifris S.C., Glenn McGowan S.C., Nicholas Robinson S.C., Mark Mulvany, Gerard Maguire, Steven Grahame, David Colman, David Klempfner, Antonius Vriends, Sergio Petrovich, Daniel Crennan.

IT & T COMMITTEE

Michael Colbran QC (Chair), Glenn McGowan S.C., William Lye, Will Alstergren, Tom Pikusa, with assistance from Stephen Hare (General Manager).

PAST PRACTISING CHAIRMEN'S COMMITTEE

Andrew J Kirkham AM, RFD, QC, John T (Jack) Rush RFD, QC, David E Curtain QC, D Mark B Derham QC, Ross Ray QC, Robin A Brett QC, Michael W Shand QC Kate F McMillan S.C. and Peter J Riordan S.C.

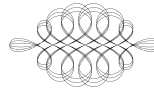
CHAIRS OF LIST COMMITTEES

Chairman	Michael J Colbran QC
List A	Dr Clyde E Croft S.C.
List B	Hon James H Kennan S.C.
List C	Ronald K J Meldrum QC
List D	Ross H Gillies QC
List F	Philip A Dunn QC
List G	Paul J Cosgrove S.C.
List H	John (Jack) T Rush RFD QC
List L	Patrick Tehan QC
List M	David M Clarke
List P	Andrew P Phillips
List R	Barry J Hess S.C.
List S	Michael Thompson S.C.
List W	Brendan A Murphy QC

JUDICIAL AND OTHER APPOINTMENTS

For 2009

5.0



The following members of the Victorian Bar were appointed to judicial office. The Chairman of the Victorian Bar Council or his representative welcomed the appointees to the Supreme Court, County Court and each of the Federal Courts at the special sittings of each court.

STATE

Supreme Court

The Honourable Justice David Beach

The Honourable Associate Justice Simon Gardiner

The Honourable Justice Jennifer Davies

COUNTY COURT

His Honour Judge Mark Taft

His Honour Judge Mark Gamble

His Honour Judge Gerard Mullaly

His Honour Judge Frank Saccardo

His Honour Judge Howard Mason

MAGISTRATES' COURT

Her Honour Magistrate Sharon Cure

Her Honour Magistrate Michelle Hodgson

CHILDREN'S COURT

Her Honour Magistrate Jane Gibson

CORONER'S OFFICE

State Coroner – John G Olle

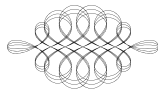
FEDERAL MAGISTRATES COURT OF AUSTRALIA

His Honour Federal Magistrate Terrance McGuire (Interstate member)



JUDICIAL AND OTHER APPOINTMENTS

Bar Appointments and Representatives



5.1

NATIONAL LEGAL PROFESSION REPRESENTATIVE BODIES:

Law Council of Australia

Michael Colbran QC (Director)

Access to Justice Committee

Dr David Neal S.C.

Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee

Henry Jolson QC

Australian Young Lawyers Committee

Samuel Hopper

Client Legal Privilege Committee

Suzanne McNicol

Equalising Opportunity in the Law Committee

Fiona McLeod S.C.

Federal Court Liaison Committee

Frank O'Loughlin

Indigenous Legal Issues Committee

Tom Keely

Legal Education Committee

Ross Ray QC

National Criminal Law Liaison Committee

Phillip Priest QC, Dr David Neal S.C.

National Harmonisation of Laws Committee

Dr David Neal S.C.

National Profession Harmonisation Committee

Michael Colbran QC

Section Executive or Committees

Martin Bartfeld QC, Minal Vohra, Philip Crutchfield, Michael Sweeney, Elisabeth Wentworth, Frank O'Loughlin, David Turner

Working and Referral Groups

Jacob (Jack) Fajgenbaum QC, Paul Willee RFD QC, Ross Ray QC, Michael Colbran QC, Michael Heaton QC, Peter Hanks QC, Dr David Neal S.C., Fiona McLeod S.C., Caroline Kirton

Australian Bar Association

Peter Riordan S.C. (Vice President)

COURT AND TRIBUNAL COMMITTEES & WORKING PARTIES:

Commonwealth Courts and Tribunals

Federal Court of Australia

Corporations List Users' Group

David O'Callaghan S.C. and Kim Knights (Alternate)

Intellectual Property Users' Group

Bruce Caine S.C.

Migration List Users' Group

Debra Mortimer S.C., Thomas Hurley, Richard Niall

Native Title Committee

His Honour Judge David Parsons

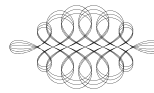
Users' Committee

Garry Bigmore QC, Charles Scerri QC, Helen Symons S.C., Bruce Caine S.C., Debra Mortimer S.C.

JUDICIAL AND OTHER APPOINTMENTS

Bar Appointments and Representatives

5.1



State Courts and Tribunals

Supreme Court

Academic Course Appraisal Committee

Jacob (Jack) Fajgenbaum QC

Board of Examiners

Ronald Meldrum QC (Deputy Aileen Ryan),

Peter Jopling QC (Deputy Kate McMillan S.C.)

Joseph Santamaria QC (Deputy Ian Waller S.C.)

Building List Users' Committee

John Digby QC, David Levin QC and Richard Manly S.C.

Chief Justice's Computer Committee

Julian Burnside AO QC, Paul Willee RFD, QC and David Levin QC

Chief Justice's Library Committee

Melanie Sloss S.C. and Stephen McLeish S.C.

Chief Justice's Rules Committee

Nemeer Mukhtar QC

Civil Litigation Committee

Peter Murdoch QC, Peter Riordan S.C., David O'Callaghan S.C., Cameron Macaulay S.C., Dr Kristine Hanscombe S.C.

and Philip Solomon

Commercial Causes Users' Committee

Julian Burnside AO QC, Simon Wilson QC, Timothy North S.C. and Stewart Anderson S.C.

Commercial Court Users' Committee

Peter Bick QC, David Collins S.C., Paul Santamaria S.C.,

Melanie Sloss S.C., James Peters S.C., Mark Moshinsky S.C.,

Michael Osborne, Philip Solomon, Wendy Harris,

Philip Crutchfield and Daniel Crennan

Costs Co-ordination Committee

Timothy Tobin S.C.

Legal Education Committee

Jacob (Jack) Fajgenbaum QC

Personal Injury Users' Group

Ross Gillies QC, John (Jack) Rush RFD QC, David Martin

Probate Users' Committee

Richard Boaden and Shane Newton

County Court

Building Cases Users' Group

Richard Manly S.C.

Rules Committee

Michael Corrigan

WorkCover Users' Group

Michael Richards

Commercial List Users' Group

Steven Grahame, Peter Lithgow, Robert Cameron,

Simon Gannon

Magistrates' Court

Civil Rules Committee

Christopher Gilligan, Frank Ravida and Franz Holzer

Occupational Health and Safety User Group

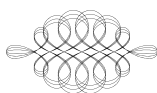
Christopher Gilligan and Franz Holzer

WorkCover Users' Group

Anthea MacTiernan and Amanda Ryan

JUDICIAL AND OTHER APPOINTMENTS

Bar Appointments and Representatives



5.1

Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal

The Legal Practice List – Advocate Members

Peter Jopling QC, Anthony Southall QC, David Levin QC, Jeremy Rapke QC, Aristomenis Garantziotis S.C. and Christopher Ryan S.C.

Consultative Users' Groups

- Anti-Discrimination List

Herman Borenstein S.C. and Melanie Young

- Credit List

Julian Snow

- Domestic Building List

John G Bolton and Hugh Foxcroft S.C.

- General List

Mark Klemens and Jason Pizer

- Guardianship List

Carolyn Sparke

- Occupational & Business Regulation List

Edward Bryant, John Larkins, Thomas Hurley, Mary Anne Hartley and Jason Pizer

- Planning List

Michael Wright QC and Christopher Wren S.C.

- Retail Tenancies List

Dr Clyde Croft S.C. and Georgina Grigoriou

COURT LIAISON MEMBERS

Federal Courts and Tribunals

Commonwealth Administrative Appeals Tribunal – (Melbourne) Liaison Committee

Charles Gunst QC

Migration Review Tribunal & Refugee Review Tribunal – Community Liaison

Miguel Belmar Salas

Statutory Appointments

Council of Law Reporting

Charles Gunst QC and Michael Pearce S.C.

Council of Legal Education

Jacob (Jack) I Fajgenbaum QC and Kate McMillan S.C.

Legal Services Board

Hugh Fraser

Legal Services Board – Legal Costs Committee

Peter Murdoch QC and Nicholas Green QC

Legal Services Board – Legal Practice Committee

Kevin Lyons

Victoria Legal Aid – Community Consultative Committee

Dr David Neal S.C.

Victorian Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders (VACRO)

Philip Dunn QC

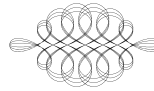
Victorian Law Reform Commission Advisory Council

Robin Brett QC

JUDICIAL AND OTHER APPOINTMENTS

Bar Appointments and Representatives

5. I



Representatives on Educational Bodies

La Trobe University Law School – Legal Profession Consultative Council

Ross Macaw QC

Leo Cussen Institute for Continuing Legal Education

Helen Symon S.C.

Monash University Law Faculty Advisory Panel (Integration of Skills and Ethics Project)

Brind Zichy-Woinarski QC,

Monash University Law Faculty Board

Paul Willee RFD QC (Gerard Nash QC, Alternate)

University of Melbourne Law Faculty

Neil J Young QC and The Honourable Justice

Elizabeth J Hollingworth

Victoria University School of Law Program Advisory Committee

David Denton RFD S.C. and Terrence Murphy S.C.

Other Representative Bodies

Firearms Appeal Committee

Carolyn Sparke,

International Bar Association – Human Rights Liaison Officer

Jacob (Jack) Fajgenbaum QC

Law Institute of Victoria – Fee Disputes Conciliator

Jeremy Ruskin QC

Legal Aid (Bar/LIV)

The Honourable Justice David Beach (Chair),

John Noonan S.C., His Honour Judge Frank D Saccardo

and Mary Anne Hartley

Medico-Legal Standing Committee (Bar, LIV & AMA)

Tim Tobin S.C. and Mary Anne Hartley

Police/Lawyers Liaison Committee

Ian Hill QC (Chair) and Warwick Walsh-Buckley

(Criminal Bar Assoc Representative)

Public Interest Law Clearing House (PILCH)

Josh Wilson S.C.

Victorian Heritage Council

Susan Brennan

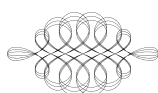
Victoria Law Foundation – Justice Museum Legal Reference Group

Dr David Neal S.C.

Department of Justice Civil Procedure Advisory Group

Mark Moshinsky S.C.

ROLL OF COUNSEL



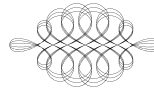
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The following is a statistical profile of membership of the Bar Association and a listing of those joining, leaving or transferring their membership during the year ended 30 June 2008. There are 2482 members of the Victorian Bar at 30 June 2009.

STATISTICS	FEMALE	MALE	TOTAL
DIVISION A, PART I			
Victorian Practising Counsel			1777
Victorian Practising Counsel – Queen’s and Senior Counsel	17	210	227
Victorian Practising Counsel – Junior Counsel	398	1152	1550
DIVISION A, PART II			
Crown Prosecutors and Public Defenders	5	20	25
DIVISION A, PART III			
Interstate and Overseas Counsel	9	117	126
DIVISION B, PART I			
Governors			0
DIVISION B, PART II			
Judges	41	144	185
DIVISION B, PART III			
Ministers of the Crown and Members of Parliament	1	4	5
DIVISION B, PART IV			
Solicitors-General and Directors of Public Prosecutions	1	4	5
DIVISION B, PART V			
Masters and Judicial Registrars		6	6
DIVISION B, PART VI			
Magistrates and Full-time Members of Statutory Tribunals	29	60	89
DIVISION B, PART VII			
Crown Counsel and Parliamentary Counsel	3	1	4
DIVISION B, PART VIII			
Other Official Appointments			5
DIVISION C, PART I			
Retired Judges and other Judicial Officers			98
DIVISION C, PART II			
Retired Holders of Public Office other than Judicial Officers			12
DIVISION C, PART III			
Retired Counsel			121
DIVISION D			
Academics			24
TOTAL			2482

ROLL OF COUNSEL

6.0



THE FOLLOWING PERSONS SIGNED THE ROLL OF COUNSEL AND WERE INCLUDED IN DIVISION A

Re-signed

John Ralph Wallace, Randall J Kune, Glen A Pauline, Elizabeth M King, Christopher G Wallis, Justin Brerton, Anita R C Spitzer, Thomas Gyorffy, Austin Parnell

Signed

Donald Ben Gardiner, Adrian Duffy, Samuel J H Ure, Marc C A Testart, Andrew P Downie, Naomi C Smith, Cameron Baker, Daniela Hannan, Mark A J McKillop, Samantha J Poulter, Cecily B Hollingworth, Moya E O'Brien, Adam E Hill, Christopher S Nehmy, Daniel T Cash, Samuel B Rosewarne, Aphrodite Kouloubaritsis, Ruth Shann, Justin P Tomlinson, Paul G Liondas, Thomas J Clarke, Elissa J Watson, Nicola Collingwood, Sharon Marshall, Jonathan Korman, Natalie T Sheridan-Smith, Douglas C Gratton, Eliza S Holt, Zero S Partos, Christine Melis, Amy Brennan, Kerry D Stephens, Daniel J Wallis, Adam P Bandt, Anna B Goldthorp, Marita C Ham, Valentina Stoilkovska, Samuel M Stafford, Rebecca M Davern, Margaret Taaffe, Evelyn E Goldberg, Tamara A Leane, Andrew M J Meagher, Dawne E Galbally, Diarmaid D McGann, Katrina J Gillies, Luisa F Alampi, Andrew M Barbayannis, Guy Sara, David Yarrow, Tania N Bolton, Shawn R Brown, Hulya Donmez, Elizabeth A Bennett, Toby J Cogley, Philip R Bender, Emrys M Nekvapil, Jacquelyn L Varsavsky, Ian C Lloyd, Charles O H Parkinson, Johnathan S Rattray, Christopher R Brown, Roslyn L Kaye, Craig H Smith, Alison M Ubers, L Andrew Wallace, Lisa A Hespe, Ashlee Cannon, Phoebe C Knowles, Peter J A Atkinson, Daniel J Cole, David C Morgan, Duncan U Robertson, Matthew R Page, David W Podger, Erin E Ramsay, Jonathan H Kirkwood, Kathleen E Foley Lowe, Amy L Wood, Catherine J C Parkes, Zoe E Broughton, Rodney Hepburn, Teri D O'Toole, Alexandra J Golding, Susannah R Portelli, David W Gibson, Olivia A Trumble, Samantha L Dixon, Thomas P Warner, Caroline Ratcliffe-Jones, Grant W Reynolds, Bradley L D Wright, John R Sutton, Jeremy C J McWilliams, Richards G Pentony, Simon J Loftus, Christopher Nowlan, Andrew H Swindells

DIVISION A PART I (VICTORIAN PRACTISING COUNSEL)

Transfers from this division

Samuel (SEK) Hulme AM QC, John V Kaufman QC, Jane C Gibson, Jason M Harkess, Michael W Houlihan, Margaret M Lodge, Graeme J McEwen, Pauline Shiff, Christine Haag, David F R Beach S.C., John G Olle, Mark Taft S.C., David C Munro RFD, Irving A Miller, Julie Van Dort, Justin M Brereton, Simon P Gardiner, Michelle T Hodgson, Sharon E Cure, Larissa Andelman, Andrew Grant, Anne Hassan, Howard T Mason, Tim Falkiner, Frank Saccardo S.C., Kenneth McGowan, Michael Shatin QC, Michael Scarfo, Peter B Kidd, Alex Johns, Jennifer Davies S.C., Gerard P Mullaly, Magda Karagiannakis, Victor J Perton, Karen Streckfuss, Robert T Barry, Francis B Healy

Transfers to this division

Peter Kidd, Julie Condon, Peter C Heerey QC, Trevor C Wallwork, Peter S Kilduff, Graeme McEwen, Joseph P Carney, Damien J Cremean

Removed from this division

Stephen Roseman, Karen Alexander, Georgina Tsirmbas, Clifton S Baker, John F Fish, Claudio Bozzi, Mayada Dib, Kurt W Esser, Brendan J McIntyre, Michael Vellas, John W Thwaites, E Michael Kingston, Julie Van Dort, Warren Swain, Georgina Thomas, Andrew D Halse, Douglas W Parker, Bianca Dukic, Nandi Segbedzi, Niki R Wilson, Peter J O'Connor, James C Conquest, Shane Barker, Brett, Powell, Benjamin Fitzmaurice, Daryl C Dealehr

DIVISION A PART II (CROWN PROSECUTORS AND PUBLIC DEFENDERS)

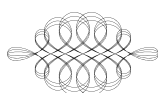
Transfer from this division

Mark Gamble S.C.

Transfers to this division

Andrew Grant, Anne Hassan, Peter B Kidd

ROLL OF COUNSEL



6.0

DIVISION A PART III (INTERSTATE AND OVERSEAS COUNSEL)

Transfers from this division

Terrence J McGuire, Peter Kidd, David Porter QC, Julie Condon, Trevor C Wallwork, Graeme McEwen, Joseph P Carney

Transfers to this division

Graeme J McEwen, Larissa Andelman, Alex Johns, Robert T Barry

Removed from this Division

Peter Garling S.C., Robert W Richardson, Christopher Branson QC, Richard McCormack, Larissa Andelman

DIVISION B PARTS I – VIII (GOVERNORS, JUDGES, MINISTERS OF THE CROWN & MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT, SOLICITORS-GENERAL & DIRECTORS OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS, MASTERS & JUDICIAL REGISTRARS, MAGISTRATES & FULL-TIME MEMBERS OF STATUTORY TRIBUNALS, CROWN COUNSEL & PARLIAMENTARY COUNSEL, OTHER OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS)

Transfers from this division

The Honourable James V Guest MLC, Peter C Heerey, His Honour Judge Wodak, His Honour Judge Barnett, Damien J Cremean

Transfers to this division

Jane C Gibson, Christine Haag, David F R Beach, John G Olle, Terrence J McGuire, Mark Taft S.C., Simon P Gardiner, Michelle T Hodgson, Sharon Cure, Howard T Mason, Mark Gamble S.C., David Porter QC, Frank Saccardo S.C., Jennifer Davies S.C., Gerard P Mullaly, Victor J Perton

DIVISION C PARTS I – III (RETIRED JUDGES AND OTHER JUDICIAL OFFICERS, RETIRED HOLDERS OF PUBLIC OFFICE OTHER THAN JUDICIAL OFFICERS, RETIRED COUNSEL)

Transfers to this division

Samuel (SEK) Hulme AM QC, John V Kaufman QC, Michael W Houlihan, Margaret M Lodge, Pauline Shiff, David C Munro RFD, Irving A Miller, The Honourable James V Guest MLC, Tim Falkiner, Kenneth McGowan, Michael Shatin QC, Michael Scarfo, His Honour Judge Wodak, His Honour Judge Barnett, Francis B Healy

DIVISION D (ACADEMICS)

Transfers from this division

Peter S Kilduff

Transfers to this division

Jason M Harkess, Magda Karagiannakis, Karen Streckfuss

Removed from this Division

Andrew J Field

OTHER

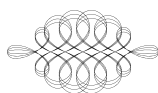
The following Readers signed the Overseas Roll of Counsel

George Kumai Koi, Isaac Umbu, Howard Maliso, Daniel Nauri Bidar



PERSONALIA

Year ended 30 June 2009



7.0

OBITUARIES

The Bar Council records with deep regret the deaths of the following members and past members of the Victorian Bar:

Philip Henry Napoleon Opas OBE QC
 Daniel Julius Pollak
 Sir John Young AC KCMG QC
 John M E Sutton
 Geoffrey William Colman QC
 Thomas B Shillito
 Samuel Edward Keith Hulme QC
 Shirley E Dennehy
 Peter McLoughlin
 The Honourable Justice Timothy Alexander Hinchliffe CBE
 Francis (Frank) Xavier Costigan QC
 Judith Mary Loren

FAREWELLS

The legal profession met to pay tribute on the occasion of the retirement of the following judicial officers.

State

The Honourable Justice Murray Kellam AO
 His Honour Judge Thomas Wodak
 His Honour Judge John Barnett

Federal

The Honourable Justice Heather Carter
 The Honourable Justice Peter Heerey

HONOURS

During the year, the following Victorian judges, members and past members of the Victorian Bar were recipients of the following honours:

Australian of the Year 2009

Professor Michael Dodson AM

Australia Day 2009 Honours List announced on 26 January 2009

The Honourable Justice Ronald Sackville AO (Acting Judge) (Interstate member)

Julian Burnside AO QC

Philip Opas AM OBE QC posthumously

The Queen's Birthday 2008 Honours List announced on 8 June 2009

The Honourable Geoffrey Eames AM QC

Shirley Dennehy AM posthumously

SENIOR COUNSEL

On 26 November 2008 The Honourable Chief Justice Warren AC appointed as Senior Counsel in and for the State of Victoria the following members of the Victorian Bar:

William Ross Middleton
 Philip Anthony Jewell
 John Paul Dickinson
 Craig Warwick Harrison
 Joshua Douglas Wilson
 Douglas Andrew Trapnell
 Maryanne Beatrice Loughnan
 Michael Harry Tinney
 Caroline Majella Kenny
 Adrian James Ryan
 Michael Glennon O'Connell
 Samuel Richard Horgan
 Sturt Andrew Glacken
 Christopher John Townshend





OFFICERS' REPORT

The officers, members of the Council of the Victorian Bar Inc, submit herewith the annual financial report of the association for the financial year ended 30 June 2009. In order to comply with the provisions of the Associations Incorporation Act 1981 (Vic) and generally appropriate good practice disclosure, the officers report as follows:

The names of the officers of the association during or since the end of the financial year are included on page 8 of the annual report under Bar Council, except for the following who retired from the previous Bar Council during the year.

Terence M Forrest QC	P Justin Hannebery	Daniel J Crennan
Fiona M McLeod S.C.	Anthony G Burns	Miguel A Belmar Salas
Jennifer Davies S.C.		

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The Victorian Bar Inc is a professional association for lawyers practising solely as barristers. As well as serving its barrister members, the Bar serves the public interest through its activities in improving access to justice and law reform and its pro-bono work. The Bar has two wholly owned subsidiary companies, Barristers Chambers Limited which owns and leases buildings which are provided as chambers to barristers and provides office services to members of the Bar and, The Melbourne Bar Pty Ltd which is a non-operating nominee company. There has been no change in these activities during the year.

REVIEW OF OPERATIONS

During the financial year ended 30 June 2009 the association achieved a profit from ordinary activities of \$447,849 (2008: \$4,483,173) after an income tax benefit of \$32,776 (2008: \$3,898,732). Its consolidated profit from ordinary activities was \$4,755,491 (2008: \$10,808,166) after income tax benefit of \$32,776 (2008: \$4,878,448)

During the financial year, as it has done each year since 1998, the association subscribed \$500,000 for a new issue of 1,000,000 shares in Barristers Chambers Limited.

CHANGES IN STATE OF AFFAIRS

Except as set out in the accompanying financial statements, there was no significant change in the state of affairs of the association during the financial year.

SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Except as set out in Note 18 of the accompanying financial statements, there has not been any matter or circumstance occurring subsequent to the end of the financial year that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect, the operations of the association, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the association in future financial years.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

Changes in the operations of a professional association are ordinarily determined by a vote of members which are communicated other than through the Annual Report.

ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS

The association is not subject to any significant environmental regulations under Australian law.

DIVIDENDS

The association is incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act (Vic). It is precluded under the Act and its constitution from paying a dividend to its members.

INDEMNIFICATION OF OFFICERS

During the financial year, the company paid a premium in respect of a contract insuring the officers of the association (as named above and on page 8 of the annual report) and all executive officers of the association and of any related body corporate against a liability incurred as such an officer or executive officer to the extent permitted by the Associations constitution. The contract of insurance prohibits disclosure of the nature of the liability and the amount of the premium.

The association has not otherwise, during or since the financial year, except to the extent permitted by law, indemnified or agreed to indemnify an officer or auditor of the association or of any related body corporate against a liability incurred as such an officer or auditor.

PROCEEDINGS ON BEHALF OF THE ASSOCIATION

No person has applied for leave of court to bring proceedings on behalf of the association or to intervene in any proceedings to which the association is a party for the purpose of taking responsibility on behalf of the association for all or part of those proceedings.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Council made pursuant to the Victorian Bar's Constitution.
On behalf of the Officers

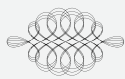


G John Digby QC
Chairman



E (Will) Alstergren
Honorary Treasurer

Melbourne, 30 September 2009



INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009

	NOTES	CONSOLIDATED		PARENT	
		2009	2008	2009	2008
		\$	\$	\$	\$
Revenue	3	25,547,310	24,711,170	4,482,116	4,762,958
Employee Benefits Expense		(1,977,890)	(1,948,304)	(1,121,926)	(1,233,235)
Depreciation and Amortisation Expense	4	(2,057,056)	(1,736,187)	(40,996)	(36,002)
Finance Expense		(162,231)	(281,667)	—	—
Rent & Fitout Expenses		(8,476,551)	(7,015,256)	(1,018,529)	(1,032,267)
Utilities Expense		(1,439,843)	(1,002,955)	—	—
Other Expenses		(6,711,024)	(6,797,083)	(1,885,592)	(1,877,013)
Profit Before Income Tax Expense	4	4,722,715	5,929,718	415,073	584,441
Income Tax Benefit/(Expense)	5	32,776	4,878,448	32,776	3,898,732
Profit for the Year		4,755,491	10,808,166	447,849	4,483,173

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.





BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2009

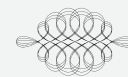
	NOTES	CONSOLIDATED		PARENT	
		2009	2008	2009	2008
ASSETS		\$	\$	\$	\$
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash and Cash Equivalents	6	17,137,548	12,202,248	7,243,816	6,734,238
Trade and Other Receivables	7	1,063,452	1,261,616	180,426	178,583
Other Assets	8	130,709	235,067	—	—
Total Current Assets		18,331,709	13,698,931	7,424,242	6,912,821
NON-CURRENT ASSETS					
Other Financial Assets	9	—	—	6,016,314	5,516,314
Property, Plant & Equipment	10	57,600,697	56,576,144	229,617	175,567
Loan to Essoign Club		62,749	87,749	62,749	87,749
Total Non-Current Assets		57,663,446	56,663,893	6,308,680	5,779,630
TOTAL ASSETS		75,995,155	70,362,824	13,732,922	12,692,451
LIABILITIES					
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Trade and Other Payables	11	7,296,875	4,744,976	2,537,084	1,955,318
Borrowings	12	—	2,700,001	—	—
Provisions	13	225,451	194,683	157,685	142,208
Current Tax Liabilities	14	—	—	—	—
Total Current Liabilities		7,522,326	7,639,660	2,694,769	2,097,526
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Provisions	13	12,040	16,660	12,040	16,660
Deferred Tax Liabilities	14	2,584,150	2,495,680	—	—
Total Non-Current Liabilities		2,596,190	2,512,340	12,040	16,660
TOTAL LIABILITIES		10,118,516	10,152,000	2,706,809	2,114,186
NET ASSETS		65,876,639	60,210,824	11,026,113	10,578,265
EQUITY					
Issued Capital		—	—	—	—
Reserves		14,467,398	13,557,074	—	—
Retained Earnings		51,409,241	46,653,750	11,026,113	10,578,265
Total Equity		65,876,639	60,210,824	11,026,113	10,578,265

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009

	NOTES	CONSOLIDATED		PARENT	
		2009	2008	2009	2008
		\$	\$	\$	\$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES					
Receipts from Members and Customers		25,051,920	22,492,237	3,718,329	3,155,055
LSB Reimbursements and Contributions Received		832,646	979,655	832,646	979,655
Interest Received		705,911	854,034	373,733	544,280
Payments to Suppliers & Employees		(16,768,098)	(16,743,130)	(3,877,862)	(3,853,762)
Finance Expense		(162,231)	(281,667)	—	—
Income Tax Paid		—	(32,776)	—	(32,776)
Income Tax Refund		32,776	3,931,508	32,776	3,931,508
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	15(a)	9,692,924	11,199,861	1,079,622	4,723,960
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES					
Proceeds from Sale of Property, Plant & Equipment		16,818	9,731	—	—
Payments for Property, Plant & Equipment		(2,099,441)	(6,138,553)	(95,044)	(54,676)
Purchase of Additional Shares in Subsidiary		—	—	(500,000)	(500,002)
Amounts Advanced to Related Parties		—	—	—	—
Proceeds from Repayment of Related Party Loan		25,000	32,135	25,000	32,135
Net Cash Used In Investing Activities		(2,057,623)	(6,096,687)	(570,044)	(522,543)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES					
Repayment of Borrowings		(2,700,001)	(1,533,335)	—	—
Proceeds from Issue of Shares		—	—	—	—
Proceeds from Amount Owing to Subsidiary		—	—	—	—
Net Cash Used in Financing Activities		(2,700,001)	(1,533,335)	—	—
Net (Decrease)/Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents		4,935,30	3,569,839	509,578	4,201,417
Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Financial Year		12,202,248	8,632,409	6,734,238	2,532,821
Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Financial Year	15(b)	17,137,548	12,202,248	7,243,816	6,734,238



STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009

	CAPITAL PROFITS RESERVE	ASSET REVALUATION RESERVE	GENERAL RESERVE	RETAINED EARNINGS	TOTAL
PARENT	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2007	—	—	—	6,095,092	6,095,092
Profit for the Year	—	—	—	4,483,173	4,483,173
Total Recognised Income and Expenses	—	—	—	4,483,173	4,483,173
BALANCE 30 JUNE 2008	—	—	—	10,578,265	10,578,265
Balance at 1 July 2008	—	—	—	10,578,265	10,578,265
Profit for the Year	—	—	—	447,849	447,849
Total Recognised Income and Expenses	—	—	—	447,849	447,849
BALANCE AT 30 JUNE 2009	—	—	—	11,026,114	11,026,114
CONSOLIDATED					
Balance at 1 July 2007	249,680	13,179,934	127,460	35,845,584	49,402,658
Net Income Recognised Directly in Equity	249,680	13,179,934	127,460	35,845,584	49,402,658
Profit for the Year	—	—	—	10,808,166	10,808,166
Total Recognised Income and Expense	—	—	—	10,808,166	10,808,166
BALANCE 30 JUNE 2008	249,680	13,179,934	127,460	46,653,750	60,210,824
Balance at 1 July 2008	249,680	13,179,934	127,460	46,653,750	60,210,824
Revaluation Increment on Freehold Land and Buildings	—	998,794	—	—	998,794
Related Deferred Tax	—	(88,470)	—	—	(88,470)
Net Income Recognised Directly in Equity	249,680	14,090,258	127,460	46,653,750	61,121,148
Profit for the Year	—	—	—	4,755,491	4,755,491
Total Recognised Income and Expense	—	—	—	4,755,491	4,755,491
BALANCE 30 JUNE 2009	249,680	14,090,258	127,460	51,409,241	65,876,639



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 1 GENERAL INFORMATION

The Victorian Bar Inc (the association) is incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act 2001, Victoria and operating in Australia.

The registered office and the principal place of business of the association is:

Level 5, 205 William Street
Melbourne Victoria 3000

NOTE 2 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Financial Reporting Framework

The association is not a reporting entity because in the opinion of the officers there are unlikely to exist users of the financial report who are unable to command the preparation of reports tailored so as to satisfy specifically all of their information needs. Accordingly, this 'special purpose financial report' has been prepared to satisfy the Victorian Bar's constitutional requirement to keep accounts.

Statement of Compliance

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the Associations Incorporation Act 2001, the basis of accounting specified by all Accounting Standards and Interpretations, and the disclosure requirements of Accounting Standards AASB 101 'Presentation of Financial Statements', AASB 107 'Cash Flow Statements' and AASB 108 'Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors'.

The financial report includes the separate financial statements of the association and the consolidated financial statements of the group.

Basis of Preparation

The financial report has been prepared on the basis of historical cost, except for the revaluation of certain non-current assets and financial instruments. Cost is based on the fair values of the consideration given in exchange for assets. All amounts are presented in Australian dollars, unless otherwise noted.

Critical Accounting Judgements and Key Sources of Estimation Uncertainty

In the application of the company's accounting policies, management is required to make judgments, estimates and assumptions about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

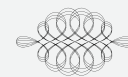
Adoption of New and Revised Accounting Standards

In the current year, the association has adopted all of the new and revised Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (the AASB) that are relevant to its operations and effective for the current annual reporting period. There were no material impacts from adopting the new and revised Standards and Interpretations.

The following significant accounting policies have been adopted in the preparation and presentation of the financial report:

2(a) INCOME TAX

Subscription income received by the Victorian Bar from its members is non-taxable through the mutuality principle. Rental and other income received by Barristers Chambers Limited, a subsidiary company of the association, from members of the Victorian Bar is also non-taxable through the mutuality principle. Receipts from non-members are regarded as assessable income for income tax purposes. Member expenses are non-deductible. Other expenses which are not directly deductible from assessable income are apportioned between non-tax deductible and tax deductible expenses according to taxation regulations.



The charge for current income tax expenses is based on the profit for the year adjusted for any non-assessable or disallowed items. It is calculated using tax rates that have been enacted or are substantively enacted by the balance sheet date.

Deferred tax is accounted for using the balance sheet liability method in respect of temporary differences arising between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts in the financial statements. No deferred income tax will be recognised from the initial recognition of an asset or liability, excluding a business combination, where there is no effect on accounting or taxable profit or loss.

Deferred tax is calculated at the tax rates that are expected to apply to the period when the asset is realised or liability is settled. Deferred tax is credited in the income statement except where it relates to items credited or debited directly to equity, in which case the deferred tax is adjusted directly against equity.

Deferred income tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that future tax profits will be available against which deductible temporary differences or unused tax losses and tax offsets can be utilised.

The amount of benefits brought to account or which may be realised in the future is based on the assumption that no adverse change will occur in income taxation legislation and the anticipation that the economic entity will derive sufficient future assessable income to enable the benefit to be realised and comply with the conditions of deductibility imposed by the law.

Tax Consolidation

The Association and its subsidiary, Barristers' Chambers Ltd are part of a tax-consolidated group under Australian taxation law. The Victorian Bar Inc is the head entity in the tax-consolidated group. Tax expense/income, deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities arising from temporary differences of the members of the tax-consolidated group are recognised using the 'group allocation' approach by reference to the carrying amounts in the separate financial statements of each entity and the tax values applying under tax consolidation. Current tax liabilities and assets and deferred tax assets arising from

unused tax losses and relevant tax credits of the members of the tax-consolidated group are recognised by The Victorian Bar Inc (as head entity in the tax-consolidation group).

2(b) PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

Property

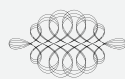
Freehold land and buildings are considered to be property accounted for under AASB 116 'Property, Plant and Equipment' as opposed to investment property accounted for under AASB 140 'Investment Property' because they are held to provide a service to members of the Bar rather than for investment purposes for profit. Accordingly they are shown at their fair value (being the amount for which an asset could be exchanged between knowledgeable willing parties in an arm's length transaction), based on periodic, but at least triennial, valuations by external independent valuers, less subsequent depreciation for buildings.

Any accumulated depreciation at the date of revaluation is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the net amount is restated to the revalued amount of the asset.

Increases in the carrying amount arising on revaluation of land and buildings are credited to the asset revaluation reserve in equity. Decreases that offset previous increases of the same asset are charged against the asset revaluation reserve directly in equity; all other decreases are charged to the income statement.

Plant and Equipment

Plant and equipment, and leasehold improvements and equipment under finance lease are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment. Cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the item. In the event that settlement of all or part of the purchase consideration is deferred, cost is determined by discounting the amounts payable in the future to their present value as at the date of acquisition.



The carrying amount of plant and equipment is reviewed annually by directors to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount from these assets. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash.

Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all property, plant and equipment including buildings and capitalised leased assets, but excluding freehold land, is depreciated on a straight-line basis over their useful lives to the economic entity commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets are.

CLASSES OF PLANT AND EQUIPMENT	DEPRECIATION RATE
Buildings	2%
Leasehold Improvements	4–10%
Plant and Equipment	5–33%

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each balance sheet date. An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains and losses are included in the income statement. When revalued assets are sold, amounts included in the revaluation reserve relating to that asset are transferred to retained earnings.

2(c) LEASES

Leases are classified as finance leases whenever the terms of the lease transfer substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to the lessee. All other leases are classified as operating leases.

Lease payments for operating leases where substantially all risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are charged as

expenses on a straight line basis over the lease term, except where another systematic basis is more representative of the time pattern in which economic benefits from the leased assets are consumed.

2(d) EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

A liability is recognised for benefits accruing to employees in respect of salaries, annual leave, and long service leave when it is probable that settlement will be required and they are capable of being measured reliably.

Liabilities recognised in respect of employee benefits expected to be settled within 12 months, are measured at their nominal values using remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of settlement.

Long service leave liabilities which are not expected to be settled within 12 months are measured at values which are the present value or approximate the present values of the estimated future cash outflows to be made by the group entities in respect of services provided by employees up to reporting date.

2(e) PROVISIONS

Provisions are recognised when the entity has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured.

2(f) CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within short-term borrowings in current liabilities on the balance sheet.

2(g) REVENUE

Revenue from subscriptions is recognised in the period that the subscription relates to. Revenue from leased properties is recognised on a straight-line basis over the lease term in accordance with lease agreements.



Revenue from the rendering of a service is recognised upon the delivery of the service to the customer by reference to the stage of completion of the service being provided.

Interest revenue is accrued on a time basis, by reference to the principal outstanding and at the effective interest rate applicable, which is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the financial asset to that asset's net carrying amount.

2(h) BORROWINGS

Borrowings are recorded initially at fair value, net of transaction costs.

Subsequent to initial recognition, borrowings are measured at amortised cost with any difference between the initial recognised amount and the redemption value being recognised in profit and loss over the period of the borrowing using the effective interest rate method.

Bills of exchange are recorded at an amount equal to the net proceeds received, with the premium or discount amortised over the period until maturity. Interest expense is recognised on an effective yield basis.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

Borrowing Costs

Borrowing costs directly attributable to the acquisition, construction or production of assets that necessarily take a substantial period of time to prepare for their intended use or sale, are added to the cost of those assets, until such time as the assets are substantially ready for their intended use or sale.

All other borrowing costs are recognised in the income statement in the period in which they are incurred.

2(i) GOODS AND SERVICES TAX (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the balance sheet are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the cash flow statement on a net basis. The GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities, which is recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is disclosed as operating cash flows.

2(j) COMPARATIVE FIGURES

Comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year where required by accounting standards or as a result of changes in accounting policy.

2(k) IMPAIRMENT OF TANGIBLE ASSETS

At each reporting date, the company reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any). Where the asset does not generate cash flows that are independent from other assets, the company estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. Where a reasonable and consistent basis of allocation can be identified, corporate assets are also allocated to individual cash-generating units, or otherwise they are allocated to the smallest group of cash-generating units for which a reasonable and consistent allocation basis can be identified.

Recoverable amount is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and value in use. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset for which the estimates of future cash flows have not been adjusted.

If the recoverable amount of an asset (or cash-generating unit) is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset (cash-generating unit) is reduced to its recoverable amount. An impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss immediately, unless the relevant asset is carried



at fair value, in which case the impairment loss is treated as a revaluation decrease.

Where an impairment loss subsequently reverses, the carrying amount of the asset (cash-generating unit) is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount, but only to the extent that the increased carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset (cash-generating unit) in prior years. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss immediately, unless the relevant asset is carried at fair value, in which case the reversal of the impairment loss is treated as a revaluation increase.

2(1) STANDARDS AND INTERPRETATIONS ISSUED NOT YET EFFECTIVE

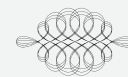
At the date of authorisation of the financial report, the following Standards and Interpretations listed below were in issue but not yet effective:

Initial application of the following Standards will not affect any of the amounts recognised in the financial report, but will change the disclosures presently made in relation to the company's financial report:

STANDARDS	EFFECTIVE FOR ANNUAL REPORTING PERIODS BEGINNING ON OR AFTER	EXPECTED TO BE INITIALLY APPLIED IN THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING
AASB 101 'Presentation of Financial Statements' (revised September 2007), AASB 2007-8 'Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 101', AASB 2007-10 'Further Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 101'	1-Jan-09	30-Jun-10

The initial application of the expected issue of an Australian equivalent accounting Standard/ Interpretation to the following Standard/Interpretation is not expected to have a material impact on the financial report of the company:

INTERPRETATION	EFFECTIVE FOR ANNUAL REPORTING PERIODS BEGINNING ON OR AFTER	EXPECTED TO BE INITIALLY APPLIED IN THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING
IFRS 1 'First-time Adoption of International Financial Reporting Standards'	1-Jan-09	30-Jun-10
Improvements to IFRSs (2009)	1-Jan-10	30-Jun-11



2(m) BASIS OF CONSOLIDATION

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the financial statements of the Parent and entities (including special purpose entities) controlled by the Parent (its subsidiaries) (referred to as the Group in these financial statements). Control is achieved where the Parent has the power to govern the financial and operating policies of an entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities.

There have been no subsidiaries acquired or disposed of during the year.

Where necessary, adjustments are made to the financial statements of subsidiaries to bring their accounting policies into line with those used by other members of the Group.

All intra-group transactions, balances, income and expenses are eliminated in full on consolidation.

There are no minority interest in the subsidiary companies.

NOTE 3 REVENUE

CONSOLIDATED

PARENT

2009	2008	2009	2008
\$	\$	\$	\$

REVENUE FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

Subscriptions	2,637,517	2,615,842	2,637,517	2,615,842
Rent and Joinery Revenue	19,258,472	17,872,984	—	—
Readers Course, Mediation & Seminar Fees	544,236	480,994	544,236	480,994
Other Revenue	1,571,730	1,848,817	97,186	83,343
	24,011,955	22,818,637	3,278,939	3,180,179

REVENUE FROM NON-OPERATING ACTIVITIES

Interest Revenue	722,728	854,034	390,550	544,280
Legal Service Board and Commissioner, Contributions and Reimbursements	812,627	1,038,499	812,627	1,038,499
	1,535,355	1,892,533	1,203,177	1,582,779
TOTAL REVENUE	25,547,310	24,711,170	4,482,116	4,762,958



	CONSOLIDATED		PARENT	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	\$	\$	\$	\$

NOTE 4 PROFIT BEFORE INCOME TAX EXPENSE

(a) Profit before income tax expense has been arrived at after crediting / (charging) the following gains and losses:

Gain / (Loss) From Sale of Assets	190	(168,135)	—	—
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FINANCE COSTS

Interest on Mortgage	136,197	238,461	—	—
Other Finance Costs	26,034	43,206	—	—
Total Finance Costs	162,231	281,667		

DEPRECIATION OF NON-CURRENT ASSETS

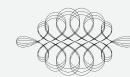
Buildings	1,099,397	1,099,397	—	—
Plant, Equipment & Improvements	951,657	628,298	40,996	36,002
Motor Vehicle	6,002	8,492	—	—
Total Depreciation	2,057,056	1,736,187	40,996	36,002

BAD AND DOUBTFUL DEBTS

(Decrease) / Increase in Provision	(24,856)	(23,530)	—	—
Minimum Lease Payments on Operating Leases	8,476,551	7,015,256	1,018,529	1,032,267

AUDITORS REMUNERATION

Auditing or Reviewing the Financial Reports	67,144	56,160	34,644	21,500
Taxation Services	47,016	55,277	33,516	36,277
	114,160	111,437	68,160	57,777



	CONSOLIDATED		PARENT	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	\$	\$	\$	\$

NOTE 5 INCOME TAX

(a) Components of income tax expense/(benefit)

Tax Expense comprises:

Current Tax Expense/(Income)	(464,373)	(16,872)	22,645	82,015
Tax Refund from Prior Years	(32,776)	(3,931,508)	(32,776)	(3,931,508)
Deferred Tax Expense / (Income) Relating to Timing Differences	—	(551,470)	—	—
Unused Tax Losses not Recognised as Deferred Tax Assets	464,373	(378,598)	(22,645)	(49,239)
	(32,776)	(4,878,448)	(32,776)	(3,898,732)

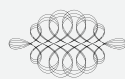
(b) INCOME TAX EXPENSE/(BENEFIT) CALCULATED

The prima facie Tax Expense/(Income) on Pre-Tax accounting profit from operations reconciles to the Income Tax Expense/(Income) in the financial statements as follows:

Operating Profit from Operations	4,722,715	5,929,718	415,073	584,441
Income Tax Expense/(Benefit) Calculated at the corporate tax rate in each year, 30%	1,416,815	1,778,915	124,522	175,332
Tax Effect of Timing Differences not Recognised	13,022	31,770	13,022	31,770
Non-Assessable Mutual Income	(7,207,369)	(6,878,813)	(817,442)	(801,380)
Non-Deductible Mutual & Other Expenses	5,313,160	4,928,032	375,808	306,846
Non-Deductible Expenses Within Group	—	—	326,735	369,447
Tax Refund Arising from Change to Mutuality Principle	(32,776)	(3,931,508)	(32,776)	(3,931,508)
Overprovision of Tax in Prior Year	—	(428,246)	—	—
Utilisation of Tax Losses	464,373	(378,598)	(22,645)	(49,239)
Income Tax (Benefit)/Expense	(32,776)	(4,878,448)	(32,776)	(3,898,732)

NOTE 6 CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash on Hand	250	250	—	—
Cash Deposits with Banks	4,739,216	4,900,946	1,286,344	704,799
Short-term Money Market Deposits	12,398,082	7,301,052	5,957,472	6,029,439
	17,137,548	12,202,248	7,243,816	6,734,238



	CONSOLIDATED		PARENT	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	\$	\$	\$	\$

NOTE 7 TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

Trade Receivables	951,485	934,769	165,086	178,583
Provision for Doubtful Debts	(23,984)	(48,820)	—	—
	927,501	885,949	165,086	178,583
Other Receivables	135,951	375,667	15,340	—
Total Current Receivables	1,063,452	1,261,616	180,426	178,583

NOTE 8 OTHER CURRENT ASSETS

Prepayments	130,709	235,067	—	—
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NOTE 9 OTHER FINANCIAL ASSETS

Investment in Subsidiaries	—	—	6,016,314	5,516,314
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Barristers Chambers Limited is a public company incorporated in Australia and operating in Australia. It is wholly owned by the Association. It is a member of the tax-consolidated group of which the Victorian Bar Inc is the head entity. The Melbourne Bar Pty Ltd is a private company incorporated in Australia.

It has not operated. It has acted as a nominee of the Victorian Bar Inc in being the registered owner of shares in Barristers Chambers Limited and entering into license agreements with approved clerks.

NOTE 10 PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

FREEHOLD LAND & BUILDINGS

Land at Valuation (June 2009)	9,600,000	9,400,000	—	—
Buildings at Valuation (June 2009)	37,450,000	38,850,000	—	—
Less Accumulated Depreciation	—	(1,099,397)	—	—
Total Freehold Land & Buildings	47,050,000	47,150,603	—	—

PLANT, EQUIPMENT & REFURBISHMENTS

In Freehold Buildings at Cost	1,155,726	939,752	—	—
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(456,857)	(398,963)	—	—
	698,869	540,789	—	—



	CONSOLIDATED		PARENT	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	\$	\$	\$	\$
In Leasehold Premises at Cost	24,166,038	22,429,794	1,045,266	978,970
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(14,391,094)	(13,611,976)	(876,934)	(845,642)
	9,774,944	8,817,818	168,332	133,328
Art Works at Cost	133,442	105,091	117,843	89,492
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(56,558)	(47,253)	(56,558)	(47,253)
	76,884	57,838	61,285	42,239
Motor Vehicle at Cost	—	33,965	—	—
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	—	(24,869)	—	—
	—	9,096	—	—
Total Plant & Equipment	10,550,697	9,425,541	229,617	175,567
TOTAL PROPERTY, PLANT, EQUIPMENT & REFURBISHMENT	57,600,697	56,576,144	229,617	175,567

The land and buildings were revalued at 30 June 2009 based on a valuation by Charter Keck Kramer. Valuations were made on the basis of open market value. The valuation which conforms to Australian Valuation Standards was effective from April 2009.

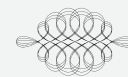




MOVEMENTS IN CARRYING AMOUNTS

Movement in the carrying amounts for each class of property, plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year.

	FREEHOLD LAND & BUILDINGS	PLANT, EQUIPMENT & REFUR- BISHMENT	ART WORKS	MOTOR VEHICLE	TOTAL
PARENT	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
2008					
Balance at Beginning of Year	—	107,927	48,966	—	156,893
Additions	—	54,676	—	—	54,676
Assets Written Off	—	—	—	—	—
Depreciation Expense	—	(29,275)	(6,727)	—	(36,002)
Carrying Amount at the End of the Year	—	133,328	42,239	—	175,567
2009					
Balance at Beginning of Year	—	133,328	42,239	—	175,567
Additions	—	66,693	28,351	—	95,044
Assets Written Off	—	—	—	—	—
Depreciation Expense	—	(31,689)	(9,305)	—	(40,994)
Revaluation	—	—	—	—	—
Carrying Amount at the End of the Year	—	168,332	61,285	—	229,617
CONSOLIDATED					
2008					
Balance at Beginning of Year	48,250,000	4,019,491	64,565	17,588	52,351,644
Additions	—	6,138,553	—	—	6,138,553
Assets Written Off	—	(177,866)	—	—	(177,866)
Depreciation Expense	(1,099,397)	(621,571)	(6,727)	(8,492)	(1,736,187)
Revaluation	—	—	—	—	—
Carrying Amount at the End of the Year	47,150,603	9,358,607	57,838	9,096	56,576,144
2009					
Balance at Beginning of Year	47,150,603	9,358,607	57,838	9,096	56,576,144
Additions	—	2,071,090	28,351	—	2,099,441
Disposal/Assets Written Off	—	(16,023)	—	(605)	(16,628)
Depreciation Expense	(1,099,397)	(939,861)	(9,305)	(8,491)	(2,057,054)
Revaluation	998,794	—	—	—	998,794
Carrying Amount at the End of the Year	47,050,000	10,473,813	76,884	—	57,600,697



	CONSOLIDATED		PARENT	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	\$	\$	\$	\$

NOTE 11 TRADE & OTHER PAYABLES – CURRENT**PAYABLES**

Deferred Revenue	4,597,563	3,796,302	1,696,047	1,301,612
Trade Creditors and Accruals	583,657	424,328	359,782	246,671
Owing to Subsidiary – Barristers Chambers Limited	—	—	80,176	74,109
Related Party – The Essoign Club	2,511	5,081	2,511	5,081
Other Creditors	2,113,144	519,265	398,568	327,845
Total Trade & Other Payables	7,296,875	4,744,976	2,537,084	1,955,318

Other creditors includes membership fees received on behalf of Bar Associations, \$23,727 and the Essoign Club \$22,247 for the 2009–2010 financial year. The Essoign Club amount has been paid to it subsequent to balance date.

NOTE 12 BORROWINGS**CURRENT**

Bills – Secured	—	2,700,001	—	—
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A Bank loan including interest capitalised to completion was fully repaid in April 2009. The balance outstanding at balance date is NIL (2008: \$2,700,001). At balance date the bank holds a first registered mortgage over the freehold land and buildings.

NOTE 13 PROVISIONS**CURRENT**

Employee benefits	225,451	194,683	157,685	142,208
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NON-CURRENT

Employee benefits	12,040	16,660	12,040	16,660
(a) Aggregate Employee Entitlement liability	237,491	211,343	169,725	158,868
(b) Employee Number				
Average number of full or part time employees during the financial year	27	27	19	19
Number of employees at reporting date	26	25	18	17



	CONSOLIDATED		PARENT	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	\$	\$	\$	\$

NOTE 14 TAX ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CURRENT

Income tax payable	—	—	—	—
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NON-CURRENT

Deferred income tax assets	(772)	(772)	—	—
Deferred income tax liability	2,584,922	2,496,452	—	—
Net Deferred tax liability	2,584,150	2,495,680	—	—

NOTE 15 CASH FLOW INFORMATION

(a) Reconciliation of profit for the year after income tax to net cash from operating activities

Profit for year after income tax benefit/(expense)	4,755,491	10,808,166	447,849	4,483,173
Depreciation & amortisation of non-current assets	2,057,056	1,736,187	40,996	36,002
(Gain)Loss on disposal of assets	(190)	168,135	—	—
Decrease in bad and doubtful debts provision	(24,836)	(23,530)	—	—
Changes in net assets and liabilities:				
(Decrease)Increase in trade & other receivables & other assets	321,290	(120,333)	(1,843)	167,001
Decrease in deferred tax liability	—	(551,470)	—	—
Increase/(Decrease) in trade and other payables and provisions	2,588,733	(390,853)	597,240	35,979
Decrease in Current tax liabilities	—	(428,246)	—	—
(Decrease)Increase in non-current liabilities	(4,620)	1,805	(4,620)	1,805
Net cash provided by operating activities	9,692,924	11,199,861	1,079,622	4,723,960

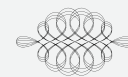
(b) Reconciliation of Cash

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash includes cash on hand and in banks and investments in money market instruments, net of outstanding bank overdrafts. Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to the related items in the balance sheet as follows:

Cash & cash equivalents (see Note 6)	17,137,548	12,202,248	7,243,816	6,734,238
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NOTE 16 OFFICERS' REMUNERATION

No member of the Council received any remuneration from the association. A premium was paid for Directors' and Officers' Liability insurance, details of which are set out in the Officers' Report.



	CONSOLIDATED		PARENT	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	\$	\$	\$	\$

NOTE 17 CAPITAL AND LEASING COMMITMENTS

LEASE COMMITMENTS

(a) Leasehold premises

Non-cancellable operating leases contracted for but not capitalised in the accounts

Payable

- not later than 1 year	9,721,110	8,835,130	1,025,863	1,059,112
- later than 1 year but not later than 5 years	39,381,952	35,229,855	3,784,785	4,026,705
- later than 5 years*	77,570,033	86,624,599	803,196	1,580,684
	126,673,095	130,689,584	5,613,844	6,666,501

* Includes Owen Dixon Chambers West lease payments until 26 January 2027

Operating leases relate to premises with remaining lease terms of 2 to 21 years. All operating lease contracts contain market review clauses in the event that the entity exercises its option to renew. The entity does not have an option to purchase the leased assets at the expiry of the lease term.

(b) Office Equipment

Payable

- not later than 1 year	21,297	31,444	21,297	31,444
- later than 1 year but not later than 5 years	78,586	44,386	78,586	44,386
- later than 5 years	—	—	—	—
	99,883	75,830	99,883	75,830

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE COMMITMENTS

Non-cancellable commitments contracted for but not capitalised in the accounts

Payable

- not later than 1 year	—	1,561,525	—	—
- later than 1 year but not later than 5 years	—	—	—	—
	—	1,561,525	—	—



NOTE 18 EVENTS AFTER BALANCE SHEET DATE

There are no matters or circumstances, other than the matters set out below, that have arisen since the end of the financial year which have significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the economic entity, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the economic entity in future financial years:

Barristers' Chambers Limited has made commitments or offers in relation to the following:

- (a) Douglas Menzies Chambers – Expenditure approved for refurbishment is \$1,379,000. The works commenced in late July 2009.
- (b) Isaacs Chambers – Expenditure approved for refurbishment on this project is \$525,000. The building owner will complete complementary works totalling approximately \$163,000.





OFFICERS' DECLARATION

The Officers have determined that the association is not a reporting entity because in the opinion of the Officers there are unlikely to exist users of the financial report who are unable to command the preparation of reports tailored so as to satisfy specifically all of their information needs. Accordingly this special purpose financial report has been prepared to satisfy the Officers' reporting requirements under the Victorian Bar Inc's Constitution and the Associations Incorporation Act 1981.

The Officers of the association declare that:

1. The financial statements and notes thereto, as set out on pages 56 to 75:

(a) comply with accounting standards, the Associations Incorporation Act 1981 and the reporting requirements under the Victorian Bar's Constitution; and

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Council of the association
On behalf of the officers

G John Digby QC
Chairman

E (Will) Alstergren
Honorary Treasurer

Dated: 30 September 2009

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of the Victorian Bar Incorporated

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of The Victorian Bar Incorporated, which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2009, and the income statement, statement of cash flows and statement of changes in equity for the year ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the Officers' declaration of the consolidated entity comprising the Association and the entities it controlled at the year's end or from time to time during the financial year as set out on pages 56 to 75.

The Responsibility of the Officers for the Financial Report

The Officers of the entity are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies described in Note 2 to the financial statements, which form part of the financial report, are appropriate to meet the financial reporting requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Act 1981* and the *Constitution* and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The responsibility of the Officers also includes establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, as described in Note 2, are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Officers, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to the members for the purpose of fulfilling the Officers' financial reporting requirements under the *Associations Incorporation Act 1981* and the *Constitution*. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Auditor's Independence Declaration

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies.

Auditor's Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report gives a true and fair view, in all material respects, of the financial position of the Association's and consolidated entity's financial position as at 30 June 2009 and of their financial performance, their cash flows and its changes in equity for the year ended on that date in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 2 to the financial statements.

Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu

DELOITTE TOUCHE TOHMATSU

Alison Brown

Alison Brown
Partner
Chartered Accountants
Melbourne, 30 September 2009

DISCLAIMER TO THE MEMBERS OF THE VICTORIAN BAR INCORPORATED

The additional financial information, being the attached detailed income statement for the years ended 30 June 2009 and 2008, has been compiled by the management of The Victorian Bar Incorporated.

No audit or review has been performed by us and accordingly no assurance is expressed.

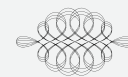
To the extent permitted by law, we do not accept liability for any loss or damage which any person, other than The Victorian Bar Incorporated may suffer arising from any negligence on our part. No person should rely on the additional financial information without having an audit or review conducted.



DELOITTE TOUCHE TOHMATSU



Alison Brown
Partner
Chartered Accountants
Melbourne, 30 September 2009



THE VICTORIAN BAR INC
DETAILED INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009 (UNAUDITED)

	NOTES	2009 \$	2008 \$
REVENUE			
Subscriptions		2,637,517	2,615,842
Legal Services Board & Commissioner		812,627	1,038,499
Readers Course Fees		315,392	301,680
Mediation Fees		210,258	165,608
Seminar Fees		18,586	
Interest		390,550	544,280
Bar News Advertising		14,064	20,950
Bar Dinner & Other Functions Receipts		57,396	54,665
Other		25,726	21,434
Total Revenue		4,482,116	4,762,958
EXPENSES			
Employee benefits and expenses		1,121,926	1,243,362
Rent		761,967	745,556
Amortisation & Fitout		268,770	286,711
Rent Subsidy, Member Parental Leave		27,699	51,376
Australian Bar Association & Law Council of Australia		262,727	260,541
Audit & Tax Compliance & Advice Fees		73,800	183,465
Depreciation		40,996	36,002
Legal Assistance Scheme		380,004	380,293
LSC Complaints		1,785	95,103
Bar News Expenses		52,685	71,280
Media Consultant		64,396	
Project Costs		312,377	219,092
Health & Well Being Programs		30,418	10,242
Bar Dinner & Other Functions		121,990	127,105
Catering For Meetings Expense		31,888	37,842
Computer System Software, Support & Website		178,631	63,284
Continuing Professional Development, including Readers Course, Expenses		64,207	78,123
Other Admin		270,777	289,140
Total Expenses		4,067,043	4,178,517
Profit For Year Before Income Tax Benefit/(Expense)		415,073	584,441
Income Tax Benefit/(Expense)		32,776	3,898,732
Profit For Year		447,849	4,483,173
Accumulated Funds at the beginning of the financial year		10,578,265	6,095,092
Accumulated Funds at the end of the financial year		11,026,114	10,578,265



NOTES TO THE DETAILED INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009

1. LSB/LSC REIMBURSEMENT AND CONTRIBUTION

The Legal Services Board or the Legal Services Commissioner reimburse the Victorian Bar for the costs of the roles delegated to it in relation to regulation and registration of barristers in Victoria. The Board also makes a contribution towards the cost of certain legal education programs at the Bar. The Board's financial support for the Bar's legal education and access to justice programs is appreciated.

	2009	2008
	\$	\$
Regulation	114,653	185,217
Registration	130,708	197,786
Bar News	37,000	36,000
Readers' Course and Legal Education	97,736	98,496
Library	52,530	51,000
Other		90,000
Legal Assistance Scheme	380,000	380,000
	812,627	1,038,499

In addition to the amounts stated above, the Legal Services Board made a contribution of \$50,000 during the year towards the Bar's future costs of carrying out the LawCast project.

2. RENT AND REFURBISHMENT COSTS

In July 2002, an agreement was entered into with Barristers' Chambers Limited under which the Victorian Bar Inc agreed to rent certain space from Barristers' Chambers Limited and to pay for the fit out of that refurbished space over a ten year term. Part of the rent and fit out cost relates to the space occupied by the Essoign Club Limited in Owen Dixon Chambers East.