



Member Services Column

Contrary to earlier advice, the BP Plus Fuel Card offer from BP Australia is still available to members.

BP Plus Fuel Card holders will automatically be charged the cheapest price for fuel at the time of purchase.

If you find that a site is charging more than the BP Card price, you will only pay the card price. On the other hand, if a member refuels at a site where fuel is being heavily discounted - reducing the price to below your BP Card price - you will only pay the pump price. There is a small transaction fee each time the card is used. There are no surcharges or account fees on your card.

If you are interested in joining the BP Scheme or have any queries, contact the Law Society on 815104.

Practice Direction No 2/94

Full Court Documents

The Full Court usually sits in relation to matters arising under the Legal Practitioners Act and Rules thereunder s21 of the Supreme Court Rules.

There shall be filed in all matters to come before the Full Court, in addition to the original, three copies of all documents.

In any contested matter, not later than 48 hours before the hearing is scheduled to commence in the Full Court, each party shall file three copies of (a) a list of authorities; and (b) a summary of submissions.

Rules 84.18; 84.19; 84.20; and 84.22 of the Supreme Court Rules shall mutatis mutandis apply to applications or referrals to the Full Court.

*Chief Justice B F Martin
Supreme Court of the NT*

Ad Nauseum

An item of this genre would normally appear in Spider's Web but the Balance scribes felt this recent piece from the June edition of Brief (The Law Society of WA) was such a gem it deserved a place all of its own. But be warned, this story is not for those with weak stomachs.

A young lawyer from a small firm specialising in Criminal Law recently flew to Eucla to interview witnesses for a trial, accompanied by two Queen's Counsel, her boss and clients.

On the night before her return, the party had a celebratory dinner at a local restaurant. Knowing how important it is to mix well with your clients and fellow lawyers, Ms X joined in the celebrations ... which continued until about midnight.

In order to return to Perth, it was necessary to fly from Eucla to Caiguna, then catch a connecting plane to Kalgoorlie.

The first flight departed at the unkind hour of 3am and somehow Ms X managed to catch it.

Perhaps it was something she ate during the few hours earlier, perhaps it was the uncomfortable motion of travelling in a small plane or perhaps it was the raging hangover she was suffering from. Whatever the reason, Ms X was soon overcome by very strong symptoms of nausea.

Attempting to retain as much dignity as possible through what was inevitably going to be a humiliating moment, she discreetly inquired of the pilot about availability of a sick bag. The pilot kindly obliged and handed her an envelope with a bag folded up inside.

Unfortunately, in her distressed state, Ms X failed to notice that the bag was inside the envelope and mistook the envelope itself as the relevant receptacle. As you can imagine, being of a much smaller volume than the real bag, the envelope had difficulties containing the contents of her stomach and, much to Ms X's embarrassment, some "matter" found its way on to the shoes of one of the eminent QCs.

Sadly, this sorry tale does not end there. Ms X's nausea continued. Desperately her eyes searched the contents of the small cabin for another receptacle.

In a moment of pure panic she grabbed the one item that could possibly serve this purpose her handbag and soon this makeshift sick bag was also filled. This caused additional problems because everyone's plane tickets for the connecting flight were also inside the bag.

Enough said about that. Luckily Ms X was able to make good use of the airport toilets on arrival in Caiguna.

Upon her return to Perth, Ms X, in a state of embarrassment and tiredness, had one thing on her mind: getting home and having a shower. Regretfully fate was about to deliver yet another cruel blow, as on arrival back at the office she received further instructions from her boss to leave immediately for Carnarvon to appear on an urgent application.

Quickly purchasing a new handbag at the airport but not having time to change, Ms X boarded another plane, still burdened by her old handbag which by now was wrapped inside a plastic bag.

Sincere sympathies are offered to the passenger sitting next to Ms X who could not have failed to notice the strange odour emitted from the hand luggage compartment above him in which the handbag was stored throughout the journey, as well as from his neighbour's clothes.

Ms X can take comfort in the knowledge that if she ever becomes famous, she will have a good story to share with viewers during the obligatory chat.