

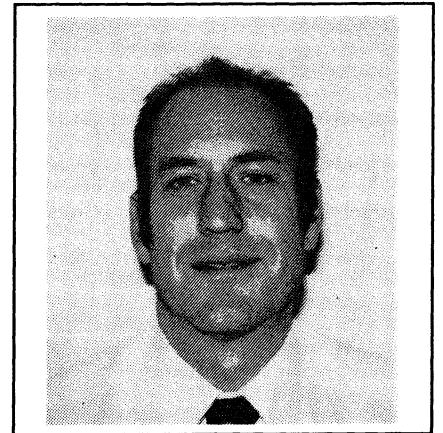
# New Appointments

## Appointment of Registrar of the Family Court

Mr Stewart Brown has been appointed to the position of Registrar of the Family Court at its Darwin Registry. He commenced his duties with the Court on the 31st August 1998.

Registrar Brown was previously employed by the Northern Territory Legal Aid Commission in Darwin and practised primarily within the Family Law jurisdiction. There exists therefore the potential for matters to be listed before him in which he has had some involvement with one of the parties prior to his appointment.

In such cases it may be that the parties will wish that their matter not come before Registrar Brown. The Court is anxious to avoid embarrassment to all concerned and will endeavour to make alternative arrangements for the listing of matters in appropriate cases. As you will appreciate such arrangements pose considerable logistic difficulties for the Court and as such it would be appreciated if as much notice as possible could be given in relation to any situations where it would be sought to make special listing arrangements.



Mr Stewart Brown, Registrar of the Family Court

## Appointment of Deputy Chief Magistrate

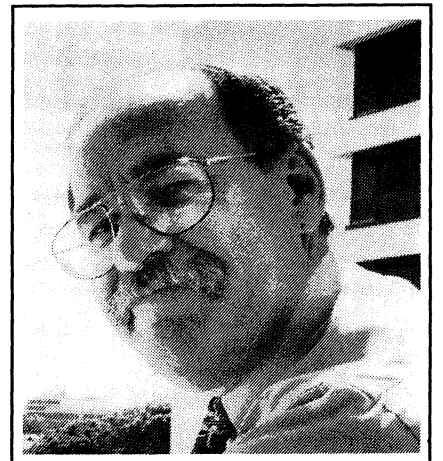
Mr Warren Donald, Magistrate Chambers, Alice Springs, has been appointed as a Deputy Chief Magistrate by the Acting Administrator of the Northern Territory.

The appointment was effective from 31 August 1998, for the period that Mr Donald is located at Alice Springs.

The appointment of a Deputy Chief Magistrate at Alice Springs will enhance the status of the magistracy in the region. It is anticipated that Mr Donald will represent the Chief Magistrate at various meetings and functions and carry out relief duties as required. He will be responsible for allocating

the workload of the magistrates, and will assist the Chief Magistrate with administrative matters at Alice Springs.

Mr Donald was appointed to the Territory magistracy in July 1995, following lengthy experience as a legal practitioner in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory. A member of the Northern Territory Police Force from 1973 to 1978, Mr Donald completed his tertiary education in Sydney, and gained an Honours degree in law from the Australian National University in 1983.



Mr Warren Donald, Deputy Chief Magistrate

## Sketches of Territory Legal History

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<sup>1</sup> See J.M. Bennett, *The Legal Career of Sir Francis Smith* (1975) 49 ALJ 451.

<sup>2</sup> H. Whittington, *Mr Villeneuve Smith Senior's First Years in South Australia*, Law Society Bulletin (SA) Vol 8, No 10, (Nov 1986).

<sup>3</sup> Douglas Lockwood, *The Front Door, Rigby Ltd.*, (1968) pp48-9.

<sup>4</sup> *Ib.*, p45.

<sup>5</sup> *Ib.*

<sup>6</sup> NT Times, 16/1/1874.

<sup>7</sup> see Justice Mildren, *Chief Warden M.L. Connor*, to be published in *Balance 1988*, for further details.

<sup>8</sup> NT Times, 23/1/1974

<sup>9</sup> NT Times, 9/2/1874

<sup>10</sup> NT Times, 27/3/1874

<sup>11</sup> Acting Government Resident, 1883-84

<sup>12</sup> NT Times, 24/7/1874

<sup>13</sup> NT Times, 24/7/1874

<sup>14</sup> NT Times, 15/8/1874

<sup>15</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>16</sup> NT Times, 8/5/1874

<sup>17</sup> NT Times, 15/8/1874

<sup>18</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>19</sup> NT Times, 10/4/1874

<sup>20</sup> They were abolished by the *Local Courts Ordinance 1933*.

<sup>21</sup> NT Times, 26/6/1875

<sup>22</sup> An appeal to the Privy Council was unsuccessful (1876) 10 SALR 248. For an interesting account of the proceedings at trial, see H. Whittington, footnote 2, *supra*.

<sup>23</sup> H. Whittington, *supra*.

<sup>24</sup> William Villeneuve Smith took silk in Western Australia. Francis (Frank) Villeneuve Smith took silk in South Australia, and was at one time President of the Law Council of Australia. For more about Frank Villeneuve Smith, see *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, (1891-1939) pp 642-643.