

## NT Women Lawyers Association

### Women in Custody

We have recently become aware of the statistics of women sentenced to imprisonment in the Northern Territory, revealing a dramatic increase in numbers in the past 2 years. It is greatly alarming to see that there has been a four-fold increase in the numbers of indigenous women sentenced to terms of imprisonment, and a doubling of non-Indigenous women. This is unacceptable and an issue which I believe NTWLA should be prepared to take on board. Please contact Committee members with your views on the issue.

### Lunch Time Speaker

The Committee is planning another lunch time speaker in early December, after our successful lunch on the 'Image of Lawyers'. We will notify members when the next lunch is planned.

### International Humanitarian Law

On 20 October Jim Backwell, Co-ordinator International Humanitarian Law, Australian Red Cross, spoke at a forum convened by NTWLA. Jim gave the attendees a thumb nail sketch on IHL and included some information about the East Timor situation. We thank him very much for his time.

Jim welcomes anyone interested in International Humanitarian Law to contact him at the following email address to be placed on the email bulletin list. Once a week you will be forwarded news, articles and current information.

The address for the IHL email bulletin is: [jbackwel@vic.redcross.org.au](mailto:jbackwel@vic.redcross.org.au)

### Jane Mahoney Memorial

If you did not get to the dedication ceremony for the Jane Mahoney Memorial section of the Supreme Court Library on 24 November, I hope you get the opportunity to call by in the near future. The section is part of the reading area near the



*Melanie Little, President*

main entrance to the Library and will be added to each year. Thanks to all those involved in the memorial.

### Issues for 2000

While risking the ire of the pendants who tell us it is not the new millennium until 2001, I was reflecting on the issues confronting lawyers in the next millennium...I am of the view that the key challenge for the law will be keeping up with science - DNA, IT, IVF - it seems it can all be reduced to abbreviations. Not so the complexity of the issues and the impact on the law.

I take this opportunity of thanking everyone who has assisted NTWLA in 1999, ensuring we have had a successful year. I hope that you have a safe and happy break over Christmas and the New Year.

The Committee for 1999/2000 is:

Melanie Little - President  
Janelle Martin - Vice President  
Britt Lardelli - Secretary  
Sharon Burnett - Treasurer  
Cassandra Goldie  
Jacqueline Presbury  
Therese Austin  
Kate Halliday

Membership - please forward your membership renewals to GPO Box 3384 Darwin 0801

## Invitation

### Northern Territory Chapter Australian Institute of Administrative Law

### Inaugural Meeting

You are invited to attend the first meeting of the Northern Territory Chapter of the Australian Institute of Administrative Law kindly hosted by The Honourable Terry McCarthy, MLA, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

Date:  
Tuesday 30 November 1999

Time: 6.00- 8.00pm

Place: Stranger's Lounge  
4th Floor  
Parliament House

Guest Speaker:  
The Honourable Justice  
John Toohey

Guests and new members welcome.

Admission is free and light refreshments will be served.

Membership information will be available at the meeting or inquiries may be made to the contact numbers below.

Anyone interested in nominating for a Committee position please advise when responding to this invitation.

RSVP:  
Marian, telephone 8999 1818  
Facsimile: 8999 1828  
E-mail:  
[marian.trobbiani@nt.gov.au](mailto:marian.trobbiani@nt.gov.au)