

# Law Week 2000 at Kalkarindji



*The Hon Chris Lugg presented the Attorney General's Medal to Amy Williamson*

Division A. Amy is currently working as Associate to His Honour Justice David Angel of the Supreme Court of the Northern Territory.

Emily Caldwell was awarded the Supreme Court Medal. Emily also graduated the following Friday night with a Bachelor of Laws with Second Class Honours Division A. Emily is currently completing her articles of clerkship with Clayton Utz in Darwin.

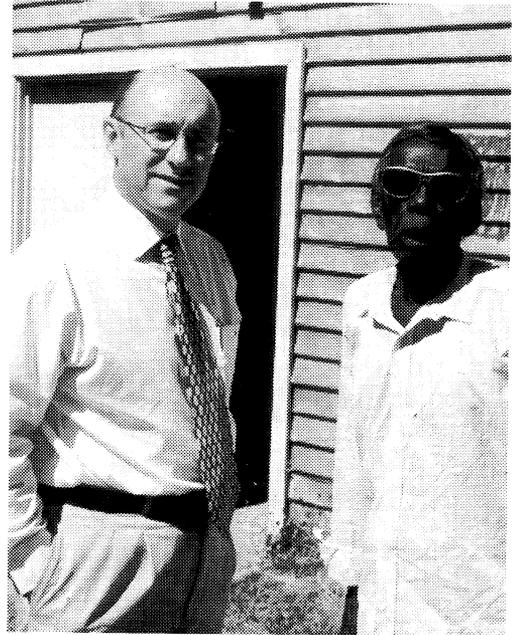
The School of Law congratulates those students for their outstanding efforts and most particularly to thank the prize sponsors for the opportunity to mark the achievements of the students.

Far from the madding crowds of Law Week in Darwin and Alice Springs, John Birch SM was doing his bit on circuit at Kalkarindji. The busy two day court was held in the "court house", which was formerly a school and community store.

Gurindji leader, "Hoppy" Mick Rangiarri welcomed Mr Birch saying it was important for people like magistrates to "be part of the community here."

"He doesn't know much yet, but we're happy kardiya (whitefellas) like this new bloke is sitting down with us and listening about ngumbin (Aboriginal) problems and ideas. He can listen and we can work together," Mr Rangiarri told *Balance*.

Mr Birch has been invited to attend the annual Gurindji Freedom Day celebrations at Daguragu and Kalkarindji this August.



*"Hoppy" Mick Rangiarri meets new Katherine-based magistrate, Mr John Birch.*

*"He can listen and we can work together," says Hoppy.*

## MS ARIEL COUCHMAN AS ALTERNATE CENTRE REPRESENTATIVE



*Alice Springs representatives on the Law Society Council are Councillor Ms Katrina Budrikis and Alternate Representative Ms Ariel Couchman.*

Ms Ariel Couchman has been elected to the Law Society Council as the Alternate Representative for Alice Springs.

Ms Couchman has lived in Alice Springs for the past four years working as a solicitor at the Central Australian Aboriginal Legal Aid Service and the Domestic Violence

Service.

She first came to Alice Springs in 1987 and subsequently visited for locums at Pitjantjatjara Council and the then Australian Legal Aid Office.

Ms Couchman began her legal career colourfully when she was admitted to practice in Melbourne in 1987 wearing pants attracting media attention: "Lady Lawyer makes history." A media release at the time was headed "Who wears the pants in the Supreme Court."

Ms Couchman was admitted as a 'Ms' despite initial objections from the Board of Examiners.

Ms Couchman's interests include social change, Japanese food and watching "The Practice".

Ms Katrina Budrikis is currently the Alice Springs representative on the Law Society Council.