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following two years working in a law firm in her home town Bamberg completing the German equivalent of articles.

"There is a program available in my state, the state of Bavaria, for people to spend three months in a law firm anywhere in the world after they have completed their articles," said Ms Trager.

"Some people go to the USA, some to places like Saudi Arabia, and I chose to come to Australia.

Before arriving in Darwin Ms Trager spent six months travelling around Australia. "Everywhere you go is interesting and new — no place is the same.

"I would really like to get to a bush court while I am in the Territory as we have nothing like that in Germany," she said.

Ms Trager has an interest in criminal and tax law and would like to work for the Bavarian Government when she returns to Germany.

"Working for the government is a good job for women. Many law firms don't engage women because they have children etcetera. The government allows for more flexible working arrangements, like work share," she said.

Ms Trager says she has been well looked after during her stay in Darwin and has enjoyed her time so far.

## New references for the ALRC

Federal Attorney General Daryl Williams has issued three new references to the Australian Law Reform Commission for separate reviews of the *Marine Insurance Act 1909*, the *Judiciary Act 1903* and *Civil and Administrative Penalties*.

The Commission will examine the extent to which the Marine Insurance Act can be modernised to reflect contemporary reality in the shipping and insurance industries.

As shipping is essential to Australia's international trade, the Commission will also look at current international practice in marine insurance to ensure Australian consistency with international standards.

The Judiciary Act deals mainly with the jurisdiction and powers of the High Court. It specifies the jurisdiction which can be dealt with only by the High Court and the jurisdiction which is shared with the State and Federal Courts. The Act also deals with claims

against the Commonwealth. The Commission will examine these provisions of the Judiciary Act to ensure that the most appropriate arrangements are in place for the efficient administration of federal jurisdiction in civil matters.

The third reference to the Commission relates to Civil and Administrative Penalties. Breaches of civil law result in a financial rather than a criminal conviction. They generally carry heavy fines and are targeted at corporate crime and white collar crime and offences.

The Commission will compare how these penalties have operated so a best practice model can be developed and used as a benchmark for future legislation.

The review of the *Marine Insurance Act 1909* is to be completed by 31 December 2000, the review of the *Judiciary Act 1903* is to be completed by 28 February 2001 and the review of the *Civil and Administrative Penalties* is to be completed by 1 March 2002.

## Rounds

### Ms Mary Bryant QC

has been selected as Australia's first Chief Federal Magistrate.

### Mr John Duguid

is now at NAALAS:

1 Gardiner St, Darwin NT 0800

Tel: 8982 5151

Fax: 89812395

Email: [legalservice@naalas.org.au](mailto:legalservice@naalas.org.au)

### Ms Sally Pfitzner

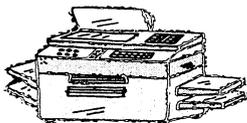
has become a partner at Withnall Maley & Co.

Ron Lawford advises that he practices in the area of aviation law.

He can be contacted on telephone: 8948 3766 or fax: 8948 1377.

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