

Courtroom Comedy

Three days into a criminal trial in Alice Springs recently, one of the jurors asked to be excused from further service due to an unanticipated intestinal disorder. Having discharged the juror, the learned trial Judge turned to the reserve juror and said:

"So, Mr. Reserve Juror, you're now part of the jury proper. Promotion at last!"

Unable to contain his glee or perhaps wanting the last word on the subject, Mr. Reserve Juror replied: "Does that mean I'm off the bench and on the field?"

Congratulations

Congratulations must go to Stephen Southwood for achieving Silk in December 2000.

Lawyer Joke

It has been a while since Muster Room ran a lawyer joke, so at the risk of a few groans, here's one that turned up on our desk:

What do you get when you cross the

Godfather with a lawyer?

An offer you can't understand.

NZ lawyers more trustworthy?

Lawyers in New Zealand must have some talents that their counterparts here in Australia are lacking.

According to a report in the New Zealand Law Society's journal *LawTalk* (553, 4 December 2000), NZ lawyers were ranked 16th on a list of 23 'most trusted professions' in a survey of 2300 Readers Digest readers.

A similar survey carried out in Australia listed lawyers further down the list at 18.

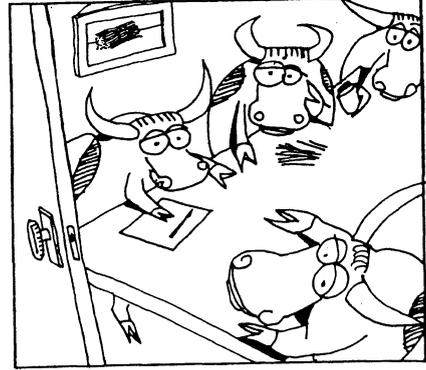
Making up the top five most trusted professionals/organisations in New Zealand were pilots at number one, followed by nurses, pharmacists, the police and defence forces.

Politicians were last on the list while other least trusted professions were car salesmen, marketers, journalists and psychologists.

Does size matter?

In case you missed the humorous

The Muster Room



anecdote in the NT News' *NT and Beyond* on 1 December 2000, Muster Room thought you might enjoy the following repartee between Law Society President and Darwin Magistrate Greg Cavenagh:

"Barrister Jon Tippet, eloquent but known for being a bit on the long-winded side in court, represented Paul Crossin... At the end of his plea he told Magistrate Greg Cavenagh" "That's it in a nutshell, your Worship." "It wasn't a nutshell," said Mr Cavenagh. Mr Tippet, spreading his arms, said: "Perhaps a large walnut?"

PEOPLE AND THE LAW

Britt Lardelli

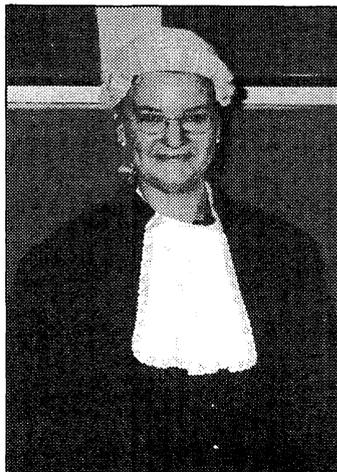
Has taken up a position as solicitor at Budrikis, McNamara in Alice Springs upon return from her six month stint in Vanuatu. Tel: 08 8953 2242.

The Australian Advocacy Institute has relocated to:

Australian Advocacy Institute
Faculty of Law
PO Box 12
MONASH UNIVERSITY VIC 3800

Faculty of Law
Monash University: Clayton Campus
Building No 12, Level 4
Rooms 420 & 421
Wellington Rd
CLAYTON

Tel: 03 9905 1279
Fax: 03 9905 1278
Email: aai@austai.com.au
Website: www.advocacy.com.au



Emily Caldwell has been recently admitted as a solicitor at Clayton Utz in Darwin.

Background: I have lived in Darwin since I was fifteen years old, completed an Arts Degree and graduated in law in 2000.

Why did you want to go into law? I studied constitutional and administrative

law as a unit in my Arts degree and then decided to study law.

What do you see are the key issues facing Australia in the new century? • Which constitutional model Australia should adopt. • E-commerce and Australia's position in the international economy • Regulation of multi-national corporations.

What is your ideal sort of holiday? Sweden in mid-winter.

Where do you go for your regular hit of coffee? The kitchen at work.

Complete this sentence: I couldn't live without ... my daughter.

If you were given a \$50 voucher to spend what would you buy? Books.

Name your top three all time favourite films. *Schindlers List*, *Life of Brian* and *Thief of Baghdad*.