



*The Northern Territory  
Women Lawyers Association  
wishes one and all a very  
Merry and Safe Christmas  
and a great New Year.*

(We'll be in touch in 2003 with a list of events for the year.)



Sandra Robinson, president, NTWL

## **Should the NTYL de-register? A discussion for the AGM**

By Ally Loftus, President NT Young Lawyers

The Northern Territory Young Lawyers AGM will be held at The Crownie Bar at Rydges Hotel on 28 November 2002\* at 5.30pm. The evening will start with membership sign up and committee nominations at 5.30pm followed by general business, President's Report and Treasurer's Report.

There will also be a discussion to consider whether the NTYL should continue as an incorporated association or whether it should look at de-registering and come under the umbrella of the NT Law Society.

The NTYL is currently an association incorporated under the *Associations and Corporation Act (NT)*.

There are administrative requirements associated with being an incorporated association, including having a balance sheet audited by a person who is independent of the NTYL, and notifying the Registrar of Associations of changes of name, address, details of public officer and amendments to the constitution etc.

There are also the administrative costs associated with the running of the NTYL committee such as photocopying, stationery and postage. To date the law firms who employ the committee members have generally borne these costs.

If NTYL were to become part of the Law Society, it has indicated that the Committee would have access to the Law Society's resources, including

access to stationery and office supplies, photocopying, the Law Society Court Box and staff to assist in updating the NTYL website.

This would help to increase efficiency especially in relation to receiving postage and Court Box facilities as postage tends to be sent to the last known President.

The Law Society has informally indicated that they are willing to suggest to members at the next AGM that the constitution be amended to allow a representative of NT Young Lawyers to sit on the Council.

However, this position will not be ascertainable until the Law Society elections in September 2003. Until that date a representative of NTYL may sit on the Council without voting rights. This is a huge step forward for NTYL members who will have a voice in the Law Society. There will also be a discussion on the proposed name change from "NT Young Lawyers" to "NT New Lawyers".

NTYL held a general meeting on 19 July this year to discuss changes to the constitution which were kindly put

forward by the NTYL sub-committee of 2001 comprised of Mark Wallbridge, Sarah Hawke, Susie Slade, Simone Menz, Amy Williamson and Jason Schoolmeester.

The changes to the constitution were adopted in their entirety except for the change from NT Young Lawyers to NT New Lawyers. If anyone would like a copy of the amended constitution please do not hesitate to contact a committee member.

Since the general meeting the committee members have received a lot of feedback in relation to the name change and are therefore putting it before the members again at the annual general meeting.

NTYL has been presented with a great opportunity for members to develop NTYL its relationship with the Law Society and I therefore encourage all members to come down to the NTYL AGM on 28 November 2002 at Crownie Bar and have a say on the future of NT Young Lawyers. ①

\*as at time of printing