

A couple of hoovers

At the CLANT Bali Conference Glen Dooley and Stewart O'Connell received the "Hoover Award" in recognition of their effort in sucking up to the Bench after taking Justice Southwood's and Magistrate Blokland's children out to an all night disco during the conference.

Glen's commitment to duty was such that he stayed out all night and subsequently missed a panel discussion he was supposed to be involved in the next morning.

Wedding season

The legal profession has been struck by wedding season in Darwin recently. Congratulations to Alastair Shields, Jodi Mather, Jodi Pattinson (nee Tomlinson) who all tied the knot during the Dry season.

Media glossary

After the media awards held on Saturday 15 October, Muster Room thought it would publish a glossary of media terms for unsuspecting punters.

According to published reports: We got scooped

Activist: Will talk to press

Allegedly: He did it but we can't prove it

Beautiful: A woman who's been savagely murdered

Beloved: Someone who's been around so long no one can stand them any more

Blonde: See "beautiful"

Brutally raped: Raped

Celebrity: He has a publicist

Choked up: Definitely could have been crying

Confirmed bachelor: see "Flamboyant"

Conflagration: What was a fire in the first paragraph, a blaze in the second and an inferno in the third

Controversial: He did something bad but we're not sure what

Couldn't be reached for comment: The reporter didn't call until after 5pm

Dapper: Hasn't bought new clothes in 20 years

Diminutive: Under 5 feet tall

Dogged by character issue: He



Above: Jodi Mather and her husband Travis. Below: Colleagues from the DPP attended Jodi's wedding.



slept with a floozy

Effervescent: She won't shut up

Elite: See prestigious

Embattled: He should quit

Entrepreneur: Hasn't made it yet, but we're doing a nice story about him.

Exclusive: We were the only ones who returned the PR flack's calls

Exclusive neighborhood/school/club: The reporter can't get in

Family Values: Right wing idiot

Feisty: Short, old female

First in the modern history of ...: No entries in NewsLink

Flamboyant: Homosexual

Full-figured: Tits out to here

Gentleman bandit: He wore shoes instead of sneakers

Good Samaritan: Too stupid to run away

Guru: See "Self-styled"

Heiress: See "socialite", but able to hire a pricey divorce lawyer

Hero cop: He got killed

Hero firefighter: He put out a fire

Highbrow: Boring

Highly placed source: One who would talk

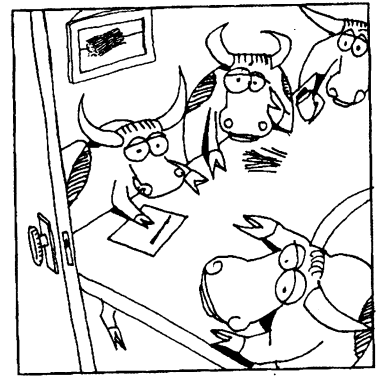
Honor student: Dead kid registered for classes somewhere

Hot-button issue: Only editors care about it

Informed source: Reads the newspaper

Innocent bystander: Too slow to run

The Muster Room



away

Intensely private: Not promoting anything right now

Knowledgeable observer: The reporter

Knowledgeable observers: The reporter and the person at the next desk

Legendary: About to die

Long-time companion: They had sex

Mean streets: Slums

Mega-mogul: Has made it, and is in process of losing it

Modest, well-kept home: At least the cockroaches are dead

Moderate: Fence-straddler

Mogul: Has made it, and we're doing a hatchet job

Never: Not in NewsLink or Google

Outspoken: Rude man

Petite: Emaciated

Plucky: Someone who is very young, very old, or very short who is ambulatory

Police task force: Cops who were working on no-publicity cases yesterday

Political Action Committee contribution: Bribe

Prestigious: Has indoor plumbing

Progressive: Left wing idiot

Rarely interviewed: Promoting something right now

Recently: We lost the press release

Reportedly: We stole this bit of information

Savagely murdered: Murdered

Scandal-plagued: Guilty

Scrappy: A runt

Screen Legend: Reporter is too young to remember his movies

Self-styled: Phony

Sexy: Better looking than

reporter's mate

Shapely: Face like the back of a bus

Shocking revelation: Leaked on a slow news day

Socialite: Unemployed woman who lives in Toorak

Source who spoke on condition of anonymity: PR flack

Statuesque: Tits out even further

Street-wise: Hasn't been hit by a bus so far

Strident: Rude woman

Stunned: Couldn't give a decent quote

Supermodel: Her picture was printed somewhere

Superstar: He has a publicist and an agent

Tearful: Could have been crying

Teen idol: Reporter is too old to have heard of him

Towing industry expose: Editor got a parking ticket

Troubled youth: Arsonist

Unclear, uncertain, unknown at press time: No one will tell us

Venerable: Should be dead but isn't

War-torn: We can't find it on a map

Weeping: Tear spotted in one eye

With news wire services: No original reporting whatsoever

Odd laws from around the world

This list is continued on from Muster Room in the last edition of *Balance*.

In Florida: Women may be fined for falling asleep under a hair dryer, as can the salon owner. A special law prohibits unmarried women from parachuting on Sunday or she shall risk arrest, fine, and/or jailing. If an elephant is left tied to a parking meter, the parking fee has to be paid just as it would for a vehicle. It is illegal to sing in a public place while attired in a swimsuit.

In Rhode Island: Any marriage where either of the parties is an idiot or lunatic is null and void. -SECTION 11-40-1. It is illegal to coast downhill in your car with your transmission in neutral, or with the clutch disengaged.

The Netherlands: It is semi-legal to smoke pot. Prostitution is legal but the prostitutes must pay taxes like any other business. It is not legal to

sell beer and wine on Sunday, but mixed drinks are available by the glass.

Alabama: It is illegal to impersonate any type of minister, of any religion

South Carolina: Merchandise may not be sold within a half mile of a church unless fruit is being sold

Fort Madison, Iowa: The fire department is required to practice fire fighting for fifteen minutes before attending a fire.

China: Every office must have a view of the sky, however small. It is illegal to wear a mask. A pillow can be considered a "passive" weapon. You may only have one child, or you will have to pay a fine. To go to college you must be intelligent.

Contributions

If you've got some gossip, heard a good story, or seen something funny, let Muster Room know. Tip-offs and rumors can be sent to Zoe at publicrelations@lawsocnt.asn.au.

NOTICEBOARD

High Court Notes: August 2005

Prepared for the Law Council of Australia and its Constituents by Thomas Hurley, Barrister, Vic., NSW, ACT (Editor, Victorian Administrative Reports)

Migration - Citizenship - Whether PNG national who was an "Australian citizen" prior to Independence of PNG in 1975 is an alien

In *Re MIMIA; ex p Ame* ([2005] HCA 36; 4.08.2005; A was born in Papua 1967 at a time when the provisions of the *Australian Citizenship Act 1948 (Cth)* granted him citizenship but the *Migration Act 1958 (Cth)* obliged him to obtain an entry permit to enter Australia. He claimed that by virtue of this he was not an "alien" for the purposes of the *Migration Act* from September 1975 when PNG became an independent sovereign state. All members of the High Court concluded that A was an "alien" for the purposes of the *Migration Act* and the provision in Constitution s122 concerning acquisition of external Territories authorised the *Papua New Guinea Independence Act 1975 (Cth)* and Reg 4 of its Regulations to provide that persons such as A ceased to be Australian citizens [37]: Gleeson CJ, McHugh, Gummow, Hayne, Callinan, Heydon JJ jointly; Kirby J sim. Questions in Case Stated answered accordingly.

Criminal law (Cth) - Whether ultimate fact in prosecution can be proved by averment

In *Chief Executive Officer Customs v El Hajje* ([2005] HCA 35; 3.08.2005) Sec 134(1) of the *Excise Act 1901 (Cth)* provided that in the prosecution of an excise offence the averment of the prosecutor is prima facie evidence of the matters averred. The Respondent was prosecuted by Customs for driving a truck carrying a quantity of cut tobacco and thus being in unlawful possession of excisable goods. In proceedings in the Supreme Court of Victoria seeking a declaration that an offence had been committed Customs filed a statement of claim which averred that the appellant had in his possession a quantity of cut tobacco. The primary Judge found the offence proved. The Court of Appeal (Vic) allowed an appeal concluding that the averment provision did not authorise averring the ultimate fact in issue. The High Court allowed the appeal by Customs concluding that an averment which related to material facts and not the conclusion, or an allegation of law, was permitted [39]: McHugh, Gummow, Hayne, Heydon JJ jointly; Kirby J sim. Appeal allowed,.