



Chief Justice portraits unveiled

His Honour, The Administrator, Mr Tom Pauling QC, officially declared the five Northern Territory Chief Justices "hung" on Friday 31 October at the Supreme Court.

The personalities behind the five magnificent portraits were spoken of by the Administrator. Formal proceedings were followed by drinks supported by the Law Society and the NT Bar Association.

The portraits, which now hang outside Court 1, were painted by accomplished Australian artist, Danelle Bergstrom.

The portraits were commissioned as a prelude to the Supreme Court of the Northern Territory's Centenary on 30 May 2011.

The portraits feature the five Chief Justices who have presided over the Court during its first 100 years - The Honourable Sir William Edward Stanley Foster, The Honourable Kevin Frederick O'Leary, The Honourable Keith John Austin Asche AC, The Honourable Brian Frank Martin AO MBE, and current Chief Justice,

The Honourable Brian Ross Martin.

A program presented to guests at the unveiling included a message from the artist, Danelle Bergstrom, who said of the portraits, she "sought to portray the men who have held the position of Chief Justice in the first century of the Court, as I see them today and with the benefit of the personal insights of the family and friends of the first Chief Justice."



Chief Justice Brian Martin stands below the portrait of himself and his predecessors



His Honour, the Administrator, Mr Tom Pauling QC declares the Chief Judges "hung"!



The unveiling of the Chief Justices portraits was well attended

Alice Springs lawyer takes home conference case management prize

Allison Phillis of Povey Stirk in Alice Springs recently won first prize in a case planning competition at the Australian Lawyers Alliance conference in New Zealand.

As part of the conference, held in mid-October, participants in one stream of seminars had to submit case plans to a panel for judgement.

Allison was, singularly, a joint winner with a team entry from Blumers law firm in the ACT.

The first prize was a

scenic sunset flight over Auckland and champagne.

The Case Planning Workshop and Competition on Thursday 16 October, involved a review and investigation into efficient case planning methodology and tools. Entries were judged by Australian Lawyers Alliance National President, Clara Davies.

Colleague Rennie Anderson, said of the win, "Allison is a part-time employee and



Allison Phillis at Povey Stirk

mother of two children, and was competing with others from larger firms or organisations. The

achievement is spectacular and she should be congratulated."



Left and below: Pictures of Allison Phillis' New Zealand scenic flight adventure thanks to her win in a case planning competition

Far left: Allison's first prize certificate



New admittees to the law

Thirteen new lawyers were admitted to the profession in a ceremony at the Supreme Court on 21 July.

The admission ceremony was presided over by Martin CJ and Mildren J. The Law Society welcomes the following admittees to the Territory legal profession:

- Adam James Fenton
- Jessica Mary Copley Black
- Maria Liberata Darby
- Karina Alice Natt
- Christopher Brian Platt
- Shane Gerald McMaster
- Agnieska Alexander Jolanta Rados
- Raelene Karen Fryer
- Lia Finocchiaro
- Danial Terence Kelly
- Robert William Fletcher
- Simone Yongsung Lee
- Allison Jane Land.



Raelene Fryer



Agnies Rados



Above: Jessica Black, Above right: Simone Lee, Right: Robert Fletcher



Allison Land



Above: Danial Kelly. Left: New admittees



Adam Fenton



Above left: Lia Finocchiaro

Above middle: Christopher Platt

Above right: Shane McMaster

Left: Karina Natt

Far left: Maria Darby

BOOK REVIEW

Queensland Evidence Law by David Field

Published by LexisNexis Butterworths.

Review by Martin Fisher

Queensland suffers under a similar hybrid system of evidence law to the Northern Territory. We both have a common law base with a silly *Evidence Act* dating back to Queen Victoria, and even sillier legislation regarding evidence from police, sexual offence victims, business records and children as icing on the top. These Acts have gone through hundreds of revisions and amendments, and the best that can be said is that these amendments keep legislators, draughtspersons, and academics off the streets.

David Field is an academic from the well

named Bond University. He has written this book from his lecture notes as a text book for his students, with hypothetical fact situations and appropriate questions on both criminal and civil evidence law. In it he tries to make sense of the convolutions and leaps of logic and faith of the semantically challenged, mismatched and confusing morass that is evidence law in Queensland.

This is a top effort. It nearly makes sense, and this book will be a great help to Queenslanders, and no doubt his students. It is unfortunately not as great a help to us in the

NT. The Common Law bits are, of course, the same, and Professor Field uses all the usual common law cases, (with of course a Queensland emphasis, as opposed to our rather touching reliance on Victoria and South Australia), but the differences become apparent in the statutory regimes that both jurisdictions, obviously without any help from each other, have variously enacted. These differences, as shown for example, by our opposite stance on the uses to be made of evidence from adverse witnesses, and the Queensland Statutory provisions on the Hearsay rule, make the book of



academic interest only, and not much help to our dazed and bewildered practitioners. There is, dear reader, a yawning gap to be filled by a book attempting the same thing here.

Oh for the Uniform *Evidence Act*.