

Friday judged 'ridiculous'

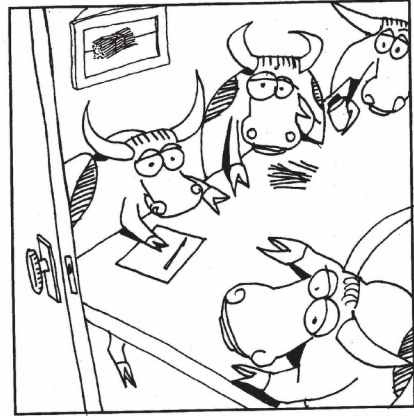
A judge in Italy's Court of Cassation has forced a couple to rename their child after concluding that the baby's given name, 'Venerdi' - Italian for Friday - was "ridiculous".

The *Roman Forum* reported that the name would make the child, "susceptible to irony and scorn,

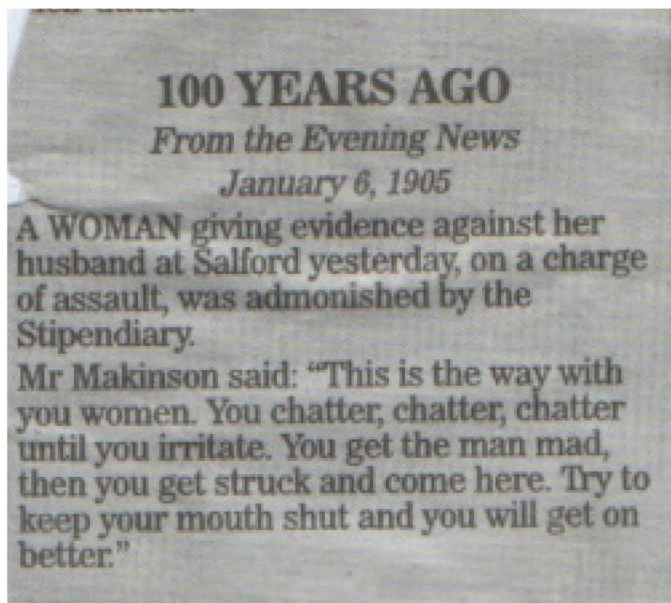
and able to cause great distress to its owner".

The parents were forced to change the child's name to 'Gregorio', after that day's Saint. The child's mother said, "The child will be Venerdi to anyone who loves him, judge or no judge."

The Muster Room



How times have changed!



A friend of the Law Society emailed us this article from 1905 - an interesting perspective of a magistrate regarding how women can get along with their husbands!

A tale of lawyers and pigs

The issue of upgrades to remote Northern Territory Courtrooms has gained media attention recently.

ABC News reported that CAALAS lawyer Mark O'Reilly had a situation involving a "very large pig" walking into the courtroom while he was interviewing a client at Ali Curung.

"It was a big animal and it wasn't going to move except by its own steam, so I suppose that gives some indication of the level of chaos that can be there," Mr O'Reilly told the *ABC*.

Darwin lawyer celebrates her 30th year in Australia

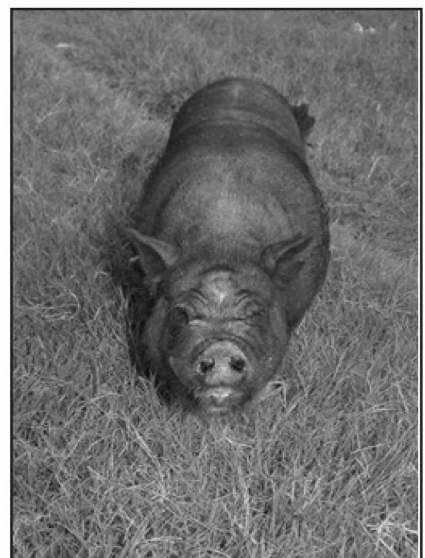


Darwin lawyer, Marguerite Bowen, recently celebrated her 30th anniversary of arriving in Australia with a beer and a pie at the Beachfront Hotel. Marguerite came to Australia (Adelaide) from Poland on 13 October 1978.

A lawyer's reasoning

A lawyer in Germany is facing possible charges of abuse after she was seen cycling around Munich with her naked 18-month-old baby in her child seat, in 11 degree temperatures.

AFP.com reported that the mother told police officers the child had refused to be dressed and that she was only respecting the child's wishes.



SEND YOUR GOSSIP OR NEWS TO MUSTER ROOM publicrelations@lawsocnt.asn.au

Secretariat news

Law Society Chief Financial Officer, Julie Davis, has recently commenced four months of long service leave. In Julie's absence, Law Society Trust Account Supervisor, Shamus Morton, will act as Chief Financial Officer.

Bridget McDermott has commenced as the new Project Officer, Research and Policy, replacing Angus McDonald. In

other staff changes, Leonie Hastie will commence as Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Officer in mid-November, and Qarenne De Vere has recently commenced as Personal Assistant to the Professional Standards solicitor.

Roxy Campbell will soon commence as the new Receptionist at the Law Society.

Tis (nearly) the season to be jolly!

The November-December edition of *Balance* will include photographs from various legal profession Christmas parties, and we would love your contributions!

Send your pics for publication to publicrelations@lawsocnt.asn.au.

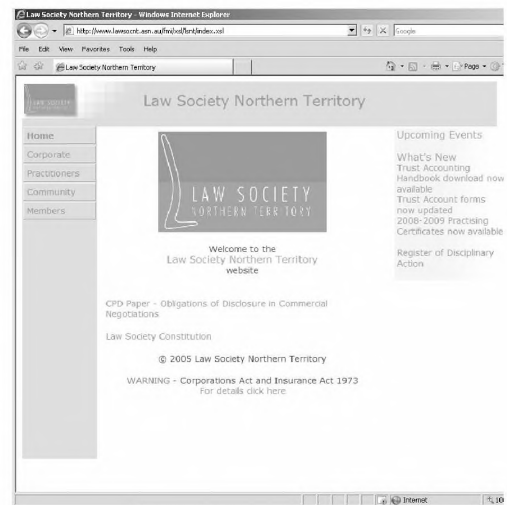


Law Society website to be upgraded in early 2008

The Law Society is currently planning an upgrade of its website. The Society's current website was launched back in 2005, and is in desperate need of a refresh.

Tenders have been put out to local web design companies, but now we need to know what you, our members, want from the Society's website.

We would welcome any suggestions or comments to help guide the redevelopment of the site, which we hope will become a comprehensive resource and representation of the NT legal profession. Contact Rebecca at publicrelations@lawsocnt.asn.au.



Justice Jokers are legal profession golf champions

By Ian Morris, NT Bar Association

This year's Quixotic Challenge on 22 August was another successful golfing afternoon with the main prizes going to the "justice twins", Justice Jokers (Mark Johnson, Peter Wilson, Geoff Shervill and Tom Crosby) winning the NT Bar net score and Justice Jocks (Terry Dreier, Bill Church, Pogo Warren and Scott Groth) within the LSNT gross score. Individual prizes went to Tigress Wu (Peggy Cheong, Pam Tregear, Jill Morris and Cheryl Richardson) for longest putt, Weed Killer (Alan Krajsek, John Stewart, Robert Perry and Geoff Clift) longest drive, Justice Jokers nearest the pin and Rust Never Sleeps (Nikolai Christrup,

Craig Smyth, Stuart Reid and Simon Coulter) winning the NAGA award and featuring as the only team which was unable to return with the magic golf ball.

Thanks to the sponsors, Marsh Insurance Brokers, Skycity, Drummond Golf and QBE. Without their support we would not be able to have such an enjoyable event.



Volunteer Lawyers

Volunteer lawyers are needed for the free Legal Advice Sessions run by Darwin Community Legal Service:

- * Monday in Palmerston 6.30-7.30pm
- * Thursday in Darwin 5.30-7.00pm
- * Saturday in Casuarina 10.00-11.45am

Lawyers usually commit to monthly or bi-monthly sessions. Support the community that supports you. Please contact DCLS on 8982 1111.