

Food', by Coombs QC. This decision is causally quite unrelated to the High Court's recent decision in *John Fairfax Publications Pty Ltd v Gacic* [2007] HCA 28. Coombs never described a 'square of pig's paunch' as 'texturally, bringing to mind the porcine equal of a parched weetbix' nor a 'dismal pyramid of sorbet' as 'jangling the mouth like a gamelan concert': *ibid* at [161]. His restaurant reviews have been characterised by the irrepressible *joie de vivre* of a true raconteur, conversationalist and bon vivant. Thanks to the former president (affectionately 'Coombsy') for the pleasure, fun, tips and recipes that he has shared over the years.

On a final note, *Bar News* records its appreciation to outgoing Bar Association President Michael Slattery QC for his keen support of this publication over many years as well as for the energy and dedication he has brought to the discharge of his office.

Andrew Bell

## Letter to the editor

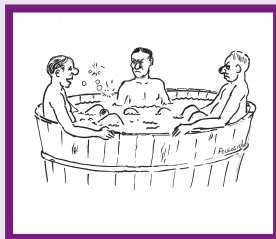
Dear sir,

In Elizabeth Cheeseman's 'Hot tubbing: concurrent expert evidence',

the author says that the practice of taking the evidence of experts concurrently appears to be an Australian innovation (*Bar News*, Summer 2006/2007, p55).

An interesting answer appears in the autobiography of former Federal Court judge Sir Edward Woodward, where it is said 'the original idea [for the practice] had come from John Kerr, in an article he wrote in response to the refusal of economists to give evidence at a national wage case because of Bob Hawke's aggressive cross-examination': *One Brief Interval: A Memoir*, The Miegunyah Press, Melbourne, 2005, p129.

David Ash,  
Frederick Jordan Chambers.



## THE HEART OF THE CITY ST JAMES CHURCH

### CHRISTIAN MEDITATION GROUPS

Four ecumenical Christian meditation groups meet each week in the crypt of St James' Church at the top of King Street in the city. The groups are part of a worldwide network of over 1500 groups meeting in about 110 countries.

The ancient Christian tradition of meditating on a simple sacred phrase was revived by the English Benedictine monk, John Main (1926-1982). Meditation involves coming to a stillness of spirit and a stillness of body. It is the aim given by the Psalmist ("Be still and know that I am God"). Despite all the distractions of our busy lives, this silence is possible. It requires commitment and practice. Joining a meditation group is a very good start.

Anyone who already meditates or who is interested in starting to meditate is welcome. You may quietly join the group and slip away afterwards or stay around to talk or ask questions.

**When** Tuesday: 12.10pm – 12.50pm  
 Wednesday: 7.45am – 8.30am  
 Friday: 12.15pm – 1.00pm  
 Sunday: 3.00pm – 3.30pm

**Where** Crypt of St James' Church  
 176 King Street, Sydney  
 (enter under the spire)

**Websites** [www.christianmeditationaustralia.org](http://www.christianmeditationaustralia.org)  
[www.wccm.org](http://www.wccm.org)

**Enquiries** [richardcogswell@hotmail.com](mailto:richardcogswell@hotmail.com)