



Profile of *John Green*

“...one of a dwindling number of Barristers/Solicitors in Tasmania who takes his matters from first instructions to final judgment.”

John Green, our APLA Tasmania Branch President, is a man with a passion for the law and politics.

After graduating from the University of Tasmania in 1968 he commenced practice as a solicitor in the private sector, then with the Crown Law Department and the Public Trust Office.

His active membership of the left wing of the Labor Party saw him elected to the House of Assembly in 1974 where he served until 1980.

Although his blunt speaking and forthright style did not always win him political favour he was highly effective as a law reformer and was a driving force behind reform in areas as diverse as video recording in criminal cases and the registration of property interest in motor vehicles.

Since 1980 John has been in sole practice in the northern suburbs of Hobart as an archetypal labour lawyer. In general practice he has maintained a strong focus on plaintiff based workers compensation, common law, industrial relations and defamation.

He remains one of a dwindling number of Barristers/Solicitors in Tasmania who takes his matters from

first instructions to final judgment, and in several cases to considerable success on appeal in a variety of jurisdictions. He appeared as Counsel in two of the longest running defamation *causes célèbres* in the State and has been described by our current Chief Justice as “a formidable opponent” and as a lawyer who prepares his cases thoroughly and efficiently.

He remains very much a political animal and commands a good deal of respect within the Union movement. I was able to call on this support when he campaigned vigorously last year to protect the common law rights of injured workers against the “ultimately successful” reform proposals, which by that time had gained almost universal parliamentary support.

Apart from being known as a man of some culture with a particular interest in film, John is a somewhat private and enigmatic person. Unfortunately I have been unable to unearth anything of further interest that could be scurilous or salacious.

You will have the opportunity to meet John in Tasmania, the venue of the APLA National Conference in 2002. 