

Academy event in Darwin

Preparations are well in hand for this year's Academy event in Darwin, the Austin Asche Oration in Law and Governance to be given in Darwin on Thursday 12 September at 5.00 pm at Parliament House.

The Oration is being co-sponsored by the Academy and the University.

The speaker will be Chief Justice Diana Bryant AO of the Family Court of Australia whose topic will be "The Big Picture: responding to challenges arising in international family law".

The Chief Justice will provide an overview of the international family law landscape, identify emerging trends and issues, and discuss what action government and people engaged in the practice of family law in Australia (including family law courts) could take to respond to specific challenges.

This co-sponsorship with Charles Darwin University is an important one for the Academy and, I suggest, the University, and all members of the Academy in the Northern Territory are encouraged to attend

Academy event in Brisbane

Preparations are also well in hand for this year's Academy event in Queensland.

The date is Monday 16 September at 5.15 pm for 5.30 pm and the place is the Banco Court of the Supreme Court of Queensland, Level 3, Queen Elizabeth II Courts of Law Complex, 415 George Street, Brisbane.

The speaker will be Justice Patrick Keane of the High Court of Australia whose topic will be "The Public/Private Divide; and its

implications for the extent of judicial intervention in civil disputes".

Justice Keane has provided the following summary:

"Differing perspectives of what is public and what is private affect the development of the law in many fields of legal practice. Of particular interest is the extent to which the public/private distinction may serve to explain some of the limits of judicial intervention in disputes between parties to voluntary relationships."

Attached is a flyer which explains how to register.

The event promises to be an outstanding one, and all Queensland members of the Academy, in particular, are encouraged to attend.

Patron's Address

As previously advised, the Patron's Address, an annual event which was inaugurated last year, will be delivered by the Hon James Spigelman AC QC on Friday 4 October 2013.

The venue will be the Banco Court of the Supreme Court of New South Wales.

Mr Spigelman's topic will be "Lions in Conflict: Ellesmere, Bacon and Coke—the Prerogative Battles".

The speaker's interest and expertise in this and other topics of legal history are well known.

The lecture will be the third in a series, of which the earlier two are as follows:

"Lions in Conflict: Ellesmere, Bacon and Coke---the Years of Elizabeth" (2007) 28

Aust Bar Rev 254, and "Lions in Conflict: Ellesmere, Bacon and Coke---Treason and Unity" (2008) 30 *Aust Bar Rev* 144

Mr Spigelman has recommended that we come to the lecture having read the two published articles. All three form a chronological series and he will speak on the assumption that the background is familiar to us.

"Tomorrow's Law" Conference

As happened last year, the Academy will be supporting a Conference that is being organised by Macquarie University Law School's Centre of Legal Governance.

The conference this year will be the third annual "Tomorrow's Law" conference held by the Centre. This year's Conference title will be "Reparations and Reconciliation for Victims of Historical Injustice".

The Conference will be held at The Mint, 10 Macquarie Street, Sydney on Friday 25 October 2013.

Fellows will find attached a flyer which will explain how and when to register to attend the Conference. The flyer indicates an impressive array of speakers.

The Academy will sponsor the reception after the last of the sessions and members of the Academy will have various roles to play in the Conference.

Cross-border Insolvency Project

Newsletter No 14 of December 2012 contained the following:

"The Board of Directors recently resolved to ask QUT (Professor Ros Mason) to undertake a research project on behalf of the Academy.

The task is to examine and make recommendations to the Academy on the question whether there may be benefit for Australian courts (and litigants in them) in the

recommendations of the Wessels/Fletcher report to the American Law Institute dated 30 March 2012 on the subject *Transnational Insolvency: Global Principles for Cooperation in International Insolvency Cases*. The research will have regard to the fact that Australia has adopted legislatively the Model Law on Cross-Border Insolvency.

A small committee of Bob Austin, Ros Mason and me will supervise this project.

The Council of Chief Justices of Australia and New Zealand invited the Academy to undertake this task and it is this that has led to the commissioning of the research to be undertaken at QUT."

Professor Mason has provided a draft of her and her team's report which the committee comprising Professor Mason, Dr Bob Austin and me is in the process of considering. The results of the research will be more generally available in the future.

Annual general meeting—preliminary notice

The annual general meeting of the Academy will be held at 4.05 pm on Friday 4 October 2013 at the Federal Court of Australia, Conference Room, Level 18, Law Courts Building, Queen's Square,

As happened last year, the annual general meeting will precede the Patron's Address (referred to above).

A formal notice of the annual general meeting will be sent to all members of the Academy in due course.

Call for new members of the Projects Committee

Professor Ros Croucher, the Chair of the Projects Committee, would like to enlarge the membership of the Committee, an objective I support.

Would any Fellow willing to join that important Committee please let me or Ros know.

The Committee's chief role is that of maintaining and enlarging the Academy's program of "events".

The Committee's meetings are held by teleconference and do not involve a heavy burden.

The "on the ground" organisation of events is handled by local organising committees with the general support, oversight and guidance of the Projects Committee.

Ros's email address is rosalind.croucher@alrc.gov.au and her telephone number at the ALRC is (02) 8238 6319. My own contact details appear below.

New Fellow

I am delighted to report that the Hon Justice Margaret Beazley AO, President of the New South Wales Court of Appeal, has become a Fellow of the Academy since the last Newsletter issued.



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