From the President

As I write this, it is less than a week since the mid-April earthquake that shook the northern part of the South Island.

As the week unfolded we were reminded that the only certainty about earthquakes is that they will happen, and that in responding, we will, as individuals and as a community, be tested in ways we cannot imagine.

While Wellington suffered, the true brunt was borne by our colleagues to the south. We understand that the earthquakes and associated disruption will have been both personally and professionally stressful and on your behalf I extend to our colleagues in the affected areas our very best wishes as they cope with, and recover from, the damage they have suffered.

Within the branch, activity remains positive however! November closes with the Shirley Smith Address by Professor Ngaire Naffine, and Shirley Smith Address by Stephen Dyerberg. See also page 3 in this issue.

The Solicitors’ Benevolent Fund

THE Solicitors’ Benevolent Fund came into existence 73 years ago when a generous practitioner gifted three hundred pounds to the Wellington District Law Society to help other practitioners in times of need. Since then, hundreds of practitioners, their families/whanau and by extension our community have benefited from one-off grants and interest-free loans in times of urgent need. The SBF is available to assist all practitioners and represents the most important values of our profession: collegiality and supporting those in need.

Practitioners have received support when they or their family have suffered serious illness, to meet funeral expenses and in a myriad of difficult personal circumstances. These are members of our profession whose lives remain positive however. Present partner Richard Brandon is welcomed guests.

Brandons 175th anniversary

THE Wellington Branch of the New Zealand Law Society is delighted to invite practitioners, their partners, members of our extended legal community and friends to a fabulous gala event to be held on 17 March 2017.

This black-tie event is an opportunity to share fine food, wine and fun on a Friday evening while contributing to the well-being of our local profession, by supporting the Benevolent Fund.

Tickets cost $120 per person and include a donation to the SBF. Attendees are also encouraged to take part in the auction which will have very significant prizes. Every dollar raised will be directly directed to the SBF.

How you can help

Tickets will shortly be going on sale, available from all members of the Council. Any practitioner who can assist with ticket selling, donating items for the auction or who would like to assist in organising this wonderful evening is asked to contact: Julia White: julia.white@buddlefindlay.com

More information will be published through Council Brief and E-brief.

The Solicitors’ Benevolent Fund

By Steph Dyerberg

Preparing before disaster strikes will allow your business to recover more quickly. Develop a disaster recovery plan, and keep it under review; even the basic things like backing up files, securing cupboard doors, not stacking stuff too high, knowing where the escape route is, can make a big difference.

With that in mind, the Wellington Branch Council developed a suite of resources in 2015 comprising general information on planning and recovery, specific information on preparing for earthquakes, and other articles and planning tools. Topics include: Planning for disaster – health and safety, protecting documents, insurance and communications, After a disaster – the effect on employees, damaged buildings, paying employees, and getting back to normal, and Earthquakes – knowing how safe your building is, planning what to do, and survival kits. You can find these on the Wellington branch pages of the NZLS website, under Emergency Preparedness.

See also page 3 in this issue.

Life goes on…

Within the branch, activity remains positive however! November closes with the Shirley Smith Address by Professor Ngaire Naffine, and with the awarding of the 2015 Rex Mason award – New Zealand’s longest-established legal writing award. My warmest congratulations to Sarah Croskery-Hewitt. Looking ahead, plans are also well under way for a major fund raising event in early 2017 for the Solicitors Benevolent Fund (see elsewhere on this page).

Appointment to District Court

WELLINGTON barrister Noel Sainsbury has been appointed an Acting District Court Judge with a jury warrant to be based in Manukau.

Judge Sainsbury is a member of the Wellington Crown Prosecution Panel although he predominantly acts as defence counsel. He is currently the President of the Criminal Bar Association.

Judge Sainsbury was sworn in on 18 November 2016.

Brandons, one of Wellington’s oldest law firms, has celebrated its 175th anniversary at a reception hosted by the Attorney-General, Christopher Finlayson QC, in Parliament’s Grand Hall.

Brandons traces its history back to its founder, Alfred de Barre Brandon, an early Wellington practitioner, who became the first president of the Wellington District Law Society in 1879.

The firm was first based in a small wooden building roughly where the cenotaph is now, and for many years in Brandon Place now called ‘Change House’, on the corner of Brandon and Featherston streets.

Over the years there have been mergers and de-mergers, and partners have come and gone, but a member of the Brandon family has been ever-present. Present partner Richard Brandon is a fifth generation Brandon family representative.
High Court Library closed as result of earthquake

THE NZLS Library in the Wellington High Court building is closed as a result of the recent earthquake. The entire High Court building is being assessed by structural engineers and is closed until further notice.

During the quake the library’s sprinkler system activated leading to water damage on a number of books. Engineers need to assess the floors and ceiling and this has meant that all the books have now been removed and taken to a document warehouse in Porirua where they can be shelved and dehumidifiers can be used.

The library staff are working at the Porirua facility assessing the books for damage and documenting the process for insurance purposes.

International mootng competition

YOUNG lawyers may be interested in the ECC-SAL International internship at Essex Court Chambers in London.

2017.

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See www.nzbar.org.nz for further information.

The winning team will be offered an all-expenses paid two-week

The competiton is to take place in Singapore from 7 to 11 January

MADESIGN

Answers for puzzles from page 6

1 180° and 270°. Bearings are given with reference to a circle (360° degrees) in three digit form with due north marked by 000°. As 360° would occupy the same place as 000°, 360° is eliminated. As neither 45° nor 90° has three digits, each is also eliminated (they would be bearings if written as 045° and 090°).

2 1 D97 KB 2 B92 7 G...? (if 2... B97 3 O#? 4... Bxh6 is not possible as white’s bishop pins black’s bishop) 3 Qxh6 (3... Qxh6 is not possible as white’s bishop pins black’s queen).

Crossword Solutions

From page 7

Cryptic Solutions

Across: 6 Malaise; 7 Oaks; 9 Media; 10 Airlift; 13 Pet semper; 14 Hunger march; 18 Version; 19 Grit; 21 Towa; 22 Take off.

Down: 1 Label; 2 Malice; 3 Use; 4 Tonics; 5 Aviator; 6 Freeman; 11 Carry on; 13 Yule-log; 15 Glad; 16 Enrages; 17 Tram; 20 Box.

Quick Solutions

Across: 6 Vehicle; 7 Other; 9 Taint; 10 Diver; 12 Fraudulence; 14 Hardknocker; 18 Tripod; 21 Scent; 22 Acquire.

Down: 1 Peal; 2 Winner; 3 Dot; 4 Strike; 5 Biscuits; 8 Request; 11 Quaint; 13 Capacitor; 15 Peper; 16 Exudus; 17 Hurry; 20 Act.

The Wellington Branch NZ Law Society will be closed from 5pm Friday 23 December to 8.30am on Monday 9 January 2017 for the Christmas-New Year holiday period.

Members of the Wellington Branch Council, Staff, and the Editor of Council Brief, wish all members season’s greetings and best wishes for 2017.


Law graduate CV scheme

THE scheme to assist law graduates into work is still being operated by the Wellington Branch.

Law graduates seeking work leave their CVs at the Society. These are available to potential employers needing staff who can refer to the CVs and choose appropriate graduates.

The work offered need not be permanent. Any work in a law office will give graduates experience that may be helpful next time they make job applications.
The fate of New Zealand detainees in Australian detention camps

DOES the ANZAC spirit apply?

This was the question asked at a recent seminar organised by the Parole Law Committee on 'Justice for New Zealand Prisoners in Australia'.

The question echoes comments by Prime Minister John Key, who was in Australia in December 2015 to discuss Australia’s deportation policy when he was reported as saying: "There is this ANZAC bond ... essentially this policy... sort of challenges that ANZAC spirit in the minds of New Zealanders".

The seminar was addressed by criminologist Kirsten Gibson who has been collecting data about New Zealanders in detention, and by Labour MP Kelvin Davis, who research revealed the Christmas Island in 2015 with a TV crew, to collect the stories and experiences of New Zealand-born detainees.

New Zealand men make up the largest national group held in Australian immigrant detention centres and most of them are Maori or Pasifika. To date, about 160 have been deported, with about 200 still detained, including about 40 remote Christmas Island. As at 31 July 2016, 206 New Zealand citizen detainees had spent on average 456 days in detention.

The Australian government has been widely criticised with regard to the treatment of New Zealand detainees, who have been held in conditions described by doctors as "barbaric".

Kirsten Gibson noted that while there have been comments in New Zealand about the 'violation of ANZAC spirit' there has been little about human rights violations. The arbitrary nature of punishment undermines human rights, she said, with formal appeal processes cancelled. Sentences over 12 months are counted even if the offender has served only six months, and historical and cumulative convictions are included.

Detention centres are in isolated places, difficult to access for families and lawyers. Medical professionals working in the centres have been gagged. There are no clear legal processes for complaints. The conditions would appear to breach several articles of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

On this side of the Tasman the New Zealand government rushed through legislation to create parole-like conditions for returning deportees, placing them on further supervision even if their sentences in Australia had been completed. The stigma of their labelling on return is likely to hamper reintegration, lessen their chances of employment and further inhibit their rehabilitation.

The fate of New Zealand detainees in Australian detention camps

Kelvin Davis MP recounted his journey to Christmas Island and his surprise at realizing just how remote this detention centre was. He noted the difficulty in getting there, with a four-hour flight from Sydney to Perth followed by a further four-and-a-half-hour flight out into the Indian Ocean.

The island is an 'external territory of the Commonwealth of Australia', and is about 300 kilometres south of Jakarta. There are two flights a week from Perth and the cost is around $4000 return – clearly prohibitive for many families.

Mr Davis was able to talk to 10 detainees who told him of bullying by guards, the constant diet of boiled rice and chicken, and lack of legal support and medical treatment especially for those with mental health issues.

Many of the detainees have been told to become private citizens at 3.00am by riot squads wielding batons and shields, he said. They told him they were held down by the riot shields while their wrists were secured with cable ties, then thrown into padded wagons and flown to Christmas Island. Some spent many hours in wrist ties while in transit.

Mr Davis has maintained contact with some of the New Zealand detainees and has since heard stories of New Zealand detainees witnessing asylum seekers in the camp slashing their wrists or attempting self-immolation. The suffering of these asylum seekers has caused great distress to the detained New Zealanders, further threatening their mental stability. In November 2015 riots broke out – reportedly after the death of an Iranian Kurdish asylum seeker at the prison. Kelvin Davis’ contact at the prison phoned him in the middle of the night and the first news of the riots was reported in New Zealand long before the Australian media got hold of it.

The media furore has faded but it is important to recognise that New Zealanders are still the biggest group in detention. Not only do detainees not know when they will get out, in the meantime they are subject to arbitrary and illegal detention. There seems to be a lack of political will in New Zealand to effectively protest against 'barbaric laws'.

The silence in the New Zealand community in the face of ongoing abuse of their fellow Kiwis holding resident visas in Australia, who have failed the 'good character' test needed to hold that visa, provided the catalyst for this seminar. The Parole Committee hopes that the issue will not continue to be ignored and sidelined as it is central to human rights, both national and international.

Growing up in New Zealand – to inform and influence policy

MEMBERS of the Wellington Medical Legal Society were captivated by the results of pivotal research held in an Auckland longitudinal study, Growing Up in New Zealand study at a recent meeting of the society.

Associate Professor Susan Morton, Wellington, said the results are well known – they show the wellbeing of all children growing up in New Zealand.

The study has accumulated 140 million pieces of data to date.

The study includes 89 ethnicities.

Four hundred of the 6,853 children are now overseas, having moved in their first two years of life.

Forty percent of the babies born into the study were unplanned.

Twenty percent of the cohort live with their parents and extended family.

Between birth and two years of age around 45 percent of the children had moved house at least once.

While there are significant inequalities shown for different factions of society (for example respiratory illness is 10 times more common in those of Maori and Pacific ethnicity than Pakeha) earlier research is more likely to set a good outcome trajectory and is economically beneficial. The study has shown that triaging every mother according to a series of risk factors at birth, together with the provision of integrated care, is more likely to identify the gaps than only targeting certain risk factors. The early study results have also pointed to the need for changes in policy. Only six percent of mothers achieve the target of exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months of life. This should cause a re-evaluation of the likely success of this health policy and whether it is working for the many mums who must return to paid employment.

Associate Professor Morton emphasised that the study had an explicit objective to inform and influence policy. As she pointed out, it is not enough to understand risk factors – we need to understand why we see patterns of risk. Working closely with government agencies is enabling the identification of gaps between the intention of the policy and what has actually happened for families.

The effects of deprivation are complex and cannot be solved with money alone. The continuation of the study will ensure societal awareness of how to facilitate all children “growing up in New Zealand” in a safe and healthy environment.

From ‘Emergency Planning’ published in Council Brief March 2015

Are you ready?

Wellington is a risky place to live in. Our location in an active tectonic zone exposes us to damaging earthquakes and tsunami; our long and narrow islands can be subject to major storms from north and south. Disastrous storms and earthquakes have happened in the past and will happen again. The Wellington Branch Council encourages members to prepare for these events so that recovery is both possible and timely.

To this end the Council has set up a web page with information about planning for and dealing with disasters. The web page is hosted by the New Zealand Law Society and can be found here: http://www.lawsociety.org.nz/law-society-services/law-society-branches/wellington/emergency-preparedness

You will find advice on managing your employees, dealing with damaged premises and safeguarding your files following an emergency. Also remember to prepare for an emergency at home too – see http://www.getprepared.org.nz/households

Have you:

✔ Planned how to leave the building in an emergency
✔ Planned how you will communicate with your staff on the day and then later about changes to their work place/time
✔ Planned how you will communicate with clients if you cannot access your premises
✔ Considered options for getting access to your files and key documents if you cannot access your premises
✔ Considered possible alternative premises in the short to medium term
✔ Planned how you will deal with court or other deadlines, your trust account, completing transactions etc
Consultation on the reform of Trust Law

By John Greenwood

THE recent release of a consultation draft by the Ministry of Justice on the long awaited Trusts Bill following the special government appointed group to assist with finalisation of the Bill is most welcome. The release follows from numerous papers produced on reform leading to the excellent Law Commission Report 130 in August 2013.

The draft consultation includes feedback sought by the Ministry of Justice, listing a number of questions, with submissions to be made within the usual ridiculous time-frame by 5.00pm, Wednesday 21 December 2016.

There is no doubt that trust law in New Zealand is in need of reform and it is hoped that the following key objectives can be achieved when the new law is finally passed:

- Codifying significant case law finally passed:
  - There is a purpose and scope statement, clause 3(1) of the Bill, which provides that one of the purposes is to enhance access to the law of trusts, is perhaps too vague and unhelpful as a purpose statement.
  - There is a definition of express trusts in the proposed Bill; references made to one of the characteristics of an express trust set out in clause 9(1)(a) is that it is a fiduciary relationship in which a trustee holds or deals with trust property for the benefit of the beneficiaries or for a permitted purpose, such as a charitable purpose.
  - If the Trust Bill is to act as an education tool, it would be useful to provide a definition of the meaning of “fiduciary relationship” or at least some guidelines. Also, in clause 9(1)(c), which states that a trustee has those duties imposed under the terms of the trust and at law, it would be better to say “duties imposed on the trustee by this Act and otherwise at law” rather than duties imposed “by law”.

- A new statutory requirement that trustees must keep core documents, including any accounting records and financial statements prepared during their trusteeship.

- There is a new provision which provides that the maximum duration of a trust is 125 years, but that of course will not alter existing trust deeds which traditionally provide for an 80-year term. Helpfully, the old common law rule known as the rule against perpetuities will be repealed once the Trust Bill is passed;

- A useful list of duties expected of trustees as well as general default duties. Of interest are new duties such as the imposition on trustees of a duty to actively and regularly consider the exercise of a trustee’s powers. Other duties which flow principally out of case law include:
  - Not to fetter future exercise of powers;
  - To avoid conflicts of interest;
  - To act impartially;
  - To invest prudently;
  - To exercise power for own benefit – self-dealing rule;
  - To act unanimously.

- The draft Bill covers many aspects of trust law and those practitioners involved in giving legal and practical advice to trustees and their advisers with understanding the unique role of trustees in looking after the interests of others, rather than themselves, and to provide a platform which promotes discipline in the delivery of transparency and accountability;

- A recognition that there is a need to reduce the incredible number of trusts that exist in New Zealand, not just those trusts that are idle or redundant but those where abuse exists.

The Trust Bill covers many aspects of trust law and those practitioners involved in giving legal and practical advice to trustees should take the time to respond to the Ministry of Justice’s request for feedback if possible. I know this is difficult given the run up to Christmas and the effects of the recent earthquakes, and even though Select Committee Hearings will provide an opportunity later.

A random selection of some of the features from the draft Trust Bill includes the following:

- Although the Bill will not require existing trustees to be changed, the opportunity to revoke and vary or settle trusts is reasonably well set out in clauses 108 to 113 of the Bill, although practitioners may look to see more transparency around the process involved;
The Shirley Smith Address is an annual address presented by the Women in Law Committee of the NZ Law Society’s Wellington Branch in honour of pioneering New Zealand woman lawyer Shirley Smith.

Some reflections on Professor Naffine’s address will appear in the next issue of Council Brief.

Professor Ngaire Naffine, third from left, and on her left Shirley Smith’s daughter Helen Sutch, with members of the Wellington Branch Women in Law Committee, Georgina Leslie, Maretta Twentyman, Karen Feint and Ruth Nichols.
Supporting transgender students in a changing legal environment

By Amelia Jeffares, Rosie Jimson-Healey, Kate Scarlet and Johanna Rubbert

New Zealand students deserve a great school experience. At Community Law Wellington and Hutt Valley we recognise the need to make sure our children stay in school and that our schools are positive, progressive learning environments.

With this in mind, this year we published Problems at School, our brand-new resource on education law in Aotearoa. The book provides students, parents and advocates with knowledge about their rights when facing any problems they might have at school, such as suspensions, stand-downs, truancy, bullying, fees and special education issues. Formerly published as Schools and the Right to Discipline, it is an established source of practical and reliable information about legal issues in our schools. This edition features completely updated general information and new sections on issues such as cyberbullying, health and safety, and transgender Māori in schools.

Transgender students

“Transgender students are those whose gender assigned at birth does not match their gender identity. Around Aotearoa, thousands of transgender students walk through our school gates every morning; about four percent of secondary school students in New Zealand identify as transgender, unsure of their gender.” Outside of home life, schools have the most impact on a young person’s development. For transgender students, the barriers they face at school can also make it a primary site of trauma, and many drop out of education altogether.

New Zealand’s legal protections against discrimination toward transgender people have their basis in the Human Rights Act 1993, which provides the right to be free from discrimination on the basis of sex. A particular area of focus for this edition of Problems at School has been transgender students’ rights. Transgender students face a number of formidable barriers to their enjoyment and success at school, including contending with gendered school uniforms, use of inappropriate pronouns, barriers to their participation in sports and cultural activities, vulnerability to bullying and social exclusion and, as is the focus of this article, a lack of access to appropriate and comfortable toilet facilities.

One of many sites of distress for transgender students can be access to bathrooms consistent with their gender identity. Transexual student can face serious difficulties from being made to use the bathroom of a gender they do not identify with, including bullying, harassment, and medical issues. In one study, over half of transgender students reported physical problems from avoiding using gendered bathrooms, including dehydration, urinary tract infections, and kidney problems.

Earlier this year, Stefani Muollo-Gray, a 16-year-old transgender student, enrolled at Marlborough Girls’ College. Naturally, she used the girls’ toilets. However, she was swiftly confined to the toilets by staff who told her to use the boys’ facilities. Stefani started an online petition to be able to use the girls’ toilets and gained almost 7,000 signatures. After approaching the school, the school decided that it would provide several toilet options and that all students could use the toilets for whichever gender they identified with.

Currently, many schools offer mainly single-sex bathrooms, meaning many transgender students will be facing the same problem as Stefani. Not all students will be able to advocate for themselves in the same way, so it is important that schools are proactive in their approach. This is supported by the Ministry of Education, which has stated that schools should consider reviewing their toilet facilities to ensure all students have the choice of a safe space.

There are two main options for schools. The first is to keep separate male and female toilets, but to allow transgender students to use the toilet of the gender with which they identify. This is in line with best practice in Canada and the United States. There has been some opposition to this option, with claims that it would enable students to engage in inappropriate behaviour. However, a US survey of school districts found no reported incidents of harassment or inappropriate behaviour following transgender students to access their chosen facilities.

The second option is to provide gender-neutral (unisex) toilets at school. There is no requirement for schools to offer separate male and female students’ toilets. The New Zealand Building Code requires gender-neutral toilets to be self-contained with floor-to-ceiling walls and doors, minimising privacy and harassment concerns.

According to the Ministry of Education, self-contained toilets are easy to install and maintain, and are increasingly common. A major advantage of this option is that transgender students are not singled out; the same rules apply to everyone. This ensures that transgender students are not excluded or disadvantaged, which would violate discrimination protection under the Human Rights Act 1993.

Problems at School offers schools with equal opportunity, transgender young people depend on schools to ensure that their rights to education and to learn in a safe and accepting environment are protected. Opposing discrimination against transgender students has positive consequences for all students: all young people benefit from a school culture that encourages diversity and champions human rights.

Role of the Ethics Committee – seminar on the way early 2017

THE Wellington Branch of the Law Society has a range of resources for practitioners to use to resolve difficult issues. One of them is the Ethics Committee, whose principal objective is to give guidance on the highest ethical standards of practice, while ensuring those standards might not have been achieved. The standards apply in relation to clients, other lawyers, the court and society generally.

Laws are of course also bound to follow the statutory requirements of the Lawyers and Conveyancers Act 2006, the Rules of Conduct made under that Act and the guidance issued from time to time by the Law Society, such as the rules on e-dealing. How lawyers’ ethics is discussed in articles and has also been the subject of case law.

Lawyers should, however, be aware that the views of the Ethics Committee have no particular standing. The Committee is only there to make sure the principles referred to are followed correctly. A lawyer who would like to refer a matter to the Committee should contact the Committee Convenor, Paul Barnet, at p.barnett@bartnetlaw.co.nz , or telephone 04 498 4932. Paul will pass the matter to the Committee and a distillation of the committee members’ views will be passed back to the enquirer.

The Committee also holds seminars where questions of ethics are considered live. The next one is planned for the first quarter of 2017, and the Committee invites practitioners to suggest issues they would like to see discussed. Please send your suggestions to the Convenor, Mark Golbi, at adman@paradise.net.nz.
Catastrophic imprisonment rates for Australia’s indigenous populations


The report has found that while there has been some improvement in the areas of health, economic participation and education, the national imprisonment rate is “alarmingly high” and has increased 77 per cent over the last 15 years. It also found that while Indigenous juvenile detention rates have decreased, they remain 24 times higher than for non-Indigenous youth.

Law Council of Australia President, Stuart Clark AM, said that three per cent of the general population is Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, yet this group makes up 27 per cent of the prison population.

“We know the corrosive effects of incarceration, both on the individual serving time, their families, and their communities. Unfortunately, imprisonment is now simply part of the Indigenous experience and forms an integral aspect of the cycle of disadvantage.

“The good news is we know there are a myriad of constructive ways to start driving this rate down.

“Laws which have a disproportionate impact on Indigenous people should also be reformed.

“Bail and remand laws must be reformed to ensure Indigenous children are not held in detention unnecessarily.

“We must stop imprisoning people who simply can’t pay fines and mandatory sentencing should be abolished across the board.

“The actions we need to take are clear and very achievable. The Law Council will continue to work with decision makers to make this change a reality.”

Mr Clark also said that today’s report made the recently announced Australia Law Reform Commission inquiry into Indigenous incarceration even more crucial.

Register of Presenters for Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

The Wellington Branch is creating a register of practitioners prepared to volunteer their time presenting CPD to their colleagues.

We all recognise that CPD comes with a cost both in time and money so we are creating a register of practitioners and educators who would be available to present CPD if requested at no or low cost to their colleagues.

We remind you that CPD presenters can get time in their own right. Time is claimable for preparation of CPD presentations (usually at a ratio of two hours preparation for each hour of presentation) and time spent delivering. A typical one hour presentation would allow the presenter to claim three hours of CPD, ie, two hours for preparation and one hour for the delivery.

Any practitioners prepared to go on the Branch register please contact the Wellington Branch, email wellington@lawsoociety.org.nz

Please include your name, your area of expertise, your telephone number and your email address.

Quick Clues

2. Victor (6)
3. Former (3)
4. Contend (6)
8. Petition (7)
11. Fall out (7)
12. Swindle (11)
14. Colliar (11)
15. Inquire inside to obtain an engine part (6)
16. The number increases in emergencies (6)
17. People in office? (5)
20. Don’t allow a section to be played (3)

COUNCIL BRIEF CROSWORD

You can use this diagram for either the Quick or Cryptic Clues, but the answers in each case are different. This month’s solutions are on page 2.

ACROSS
6. Sea mail going astray causes unpleasantness (7)
7. Possibly loves to work out (7)
8. Agencies that inform me before I elect to leave a bequest to the Cancer Society (5)
10. Possibly train as a mechanic (7)
11. Continue to flirt? (5,2)
12. Hostility to dogs, for example? (7)
13. Possibly loves to work out (5,2)
14. A procession of empty protest (6,5)
15. An all-round measure (5)
16. The number increases in emergencies (6)
17. People in office? (5)
18. Is the parson shortly back on form? (7)
19. An all-round measure (5)
21. It gets wetter as it dries (5)
22. Have a flying start? (4,3)

DOWN
1. It goes on record (5)
2. Figure a girl is showing ill-will (6)
3. Finally refuse custom (3)
4. If run down they will pick you up (6)
5. A flighty individual (7)
6. Sea mail going astray causes unpleasantness (7)
9. Agencies that inform me before I elect to leave a bequest to the Cancer Society (5)
10. Possibly train as a mechanic (7)
11. Continue to flirt? (5,2)
12. Hostility to dogs, for example? (7)
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Book early for Law Society events!

Wellington lawyers are very keen to attend events presented by the Wellington Branch office. For several recent events demand has outstripped the number of places and long waiting lists have resulted. The answer is to please book early or you risk being disappointed.

https://bookwhen.com/wellington-branch

COUNCIL BRIEF

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Book early for Law Society events!

Wellington lawyers are very keen to attend events presented by the Wellington Branch office. For several recent events demand has outstripped the number of places and long waiting lists have resulted. The answer is to please book early or you risk being disappointed.

https://bookwhen.com/wellington-branch
COUNCIL BRIEF, DECEMBER 2016

Crown Law presents: Counsel in Concert – A Celebration of Shakespeare in Music

The quality of mercy is not strain’d; It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven upon the place beneath…

Shakespeare was not a lawyer but loved to include law in his plays. Legal references appear throughout his work. One of the wonderful things about Shakespeare is the universality of his themes. This applies to his legal themes – justice, mercy, natural law, precedent and advocacy are just a few examples. While the most famous legal scene is surely the trial in The Merchant of Venice, there are many others.

Shakespeare was a keen commentator on society and had a lot to say about legal systems, both good and bad. In the field of law and literature, Shakespeare is the number one most studied subject. Lawyers need to know their Shakespeare so as 2016 is the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare’s death, lawyers are leading the celebrations, including our very own lawyers’ choir and orchestra: Counsel in Concert.

This year’s entertaining programme will feature music inspired by Shakespeare, including Falstaff and the Fairies by Vaughan Williams, Prokofiev’s Montagues and Capulets and songs from West Side Story. Counsel in Concert is based at Crown Law and has been running since 2009. The choir and orchestra are comprised of lawyers and other legal professionals from throughout the Wellington region as well as law staff from Crown Law, augmented by members of the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra and Orchestra Wellington.

The organisers of the concert are very grateful to the sponsors: Simpson Grierson, Thomson Reuters, Tripe Matthews Feist, Greg Kelly Law, Rachael Dewar Law, Lambton Chambers Barristers, Lambton Goods, New Zealand Law Society, Fyfe & Doherty, Sue Brown Solutions, Duncan Cotterill and WCM Legal. Their generosity means that all proceeds from the concerts will be donated to the Child Cancer Foundation.

Where and when:

Entry by donation, all proceeds to the Child Cancer Foundation.

‘Des Deacon’ Criminal Bar Dinner

The Annual “Des Deacon” Criminal Bar Dinner was held in the Wellesley Boutique Hotel on 4 November. The sold out event allows for practitioners and the judiciary to enjoy an informal evening together. We were honoured to be joined by Sir Mark O’Regan, President of the Court of Appeal Justice Kós, Justice Ellis, and many District Court Judges.

This year Brett Crowley toasted fallen colleagues before Judge Noel Sainsbury introduced the main speaker, Her Honour Judge Barbara Morris, emphasising her contribution to the law and legal education. The largely well-behaved crowd heard Her Honour reminisce hilariously on her early career.

There was then time for Liz Hall to present the year’s awards.


An unusual opportunity

The untimely death of our long serving and respected Resident Solicitor in Foxton has created a vacancy.

The ideal person for the job would be a person with a young family who wishes to settle in a semi-rural area with all its advantages including, but not limited to, an interesting variety of legal work, low cost housing, easy access to work from home, no traffic, a slow pace of life, stable supportive staff, small schools and easy access to recreational facilities.

Foxton is 45 minutes drive from the High Court at Palmerston North and 25 minutes from the District Court at Levin.

A practitioner with some experience in conveyancing, estates and family law would be preferred however we will consider all applications.

We have excellent experienced office staff at Foxton and our support and supervision systems are efficient and well established. We have 14 staff working from four offices; Foxton, Otaki, Paraparaumu and Porirua. Our expertise extends to all areas of general practice from Courts and tribunals, through to company and commercial work, family law, wills, estates and conveyancing.

A suitable candidate would be well rewarded and have an exceptional opportunity to expand the practice and remuneration from a well-established base.

In the first instance please reply with references by email to:

j.c.simpson@simco.co.nz

Where and when:


Entry by donation, all proceeds to the Child Cancer Foundation.