

**NATIONAL PRO BONO RESOURCE CENTRE**

Annual Report 2005

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## Centre key objectives

- (a) To promote pro bono work throughout the legal profession;*
- (b) To provide practical assistance and support to existing and potential pro bono service providers);*
- (c) To make available information and resources to existing and potential pro bono service providers;*
- (d) To promote pro bono law to community organisations and the general public;*
- (e) To effectively plan and manage the operations of the Centre.*

# Chair's Message



## **Tony Fitzgerald AC QC**

Some legal practitioners continue to provide free or affordable legal services to low income and socially disadvantaged people and deserving organisations. The Centre exists to support and extend the range of those services and the number of practitioners involved. Hopefully, other practitioners will over time join in facilitating access to justice by the needy.

The importance of this work is recognised by the core financial assistance given to the Centre by the Commonwealth and by the additional long term funding provided by Ministers of all states and territories to assist the Centre with its activities.

With funding assured for the moment, the Centre has concentrated on strategic planning and plans for tackling some of the difficult issues such as how pro bono might help address legal need in remote, regional and rural areas and with groups of people who are particularly disadvantaged.

The Centre aims to build pro bono capacity across Australia and will continue to promote pro bono possibilities not only to the private profession but also to corporate and government lawyers and law students.

I thank the Centre's directors and staff and those who assisted with the Centre's new Strategic Plan 2005-2009 and encourage all to make it a living document by participating with us to make the Centre's work relevant and useful.

**November 2005**

***' a key difference between law as a business and law as a profession is the obligation of lawyers to undertake legal work for the less fortunate at no cost to them.'***

**The Hon Murray Gleeson, Chief Justice of Australia, quoting Justice Sandra Day O'Connor of the United States Supreme Court.**

# Director's report



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## John Corker

A key focus of the 2004/2005 year was the ongoing sustainability of the Centre as July 2005 marked the end of the first three year funding agreement between the Centre and the Commonwealth.

One of the reasons the Commonwealth agreed to fund the Centre for a further four years was that the Centre continued to deliver significant outputs and outcomes throughout the year, despite the uncertainty of its future.

Key amongst these were: the partnerships brokered by the Centre between four Community Legal Centres based in regional NSW and four private law firms based in Sydney; assistance given in establishing the new pro bono clearing house in the ACT; the research and discussion paper about government lawyers and pro bono published in October 2004; the *Pro Bono Students Australia* trial at the University of Western Sydney which commenced in first semester 2005; the further publication (with the Victoria Law Foundation) of our flagship publication, the *Australian Pro Bono Manual*; an information paper on student pro bono and clinical legal education published September 2004; together with a significant strengthening of relationships between the Centre and the legal profession.

An emphasis was maintained on keeping the visibility of pro bono legal services high amongst the profession and advocating on national systemic issues such as the government conflicts protocol and the possible introduction of aspirational pro bono targets. Many articles were published about the Centre and its work during the year in legal publications and newspapers and I attended and spoke at key national conferences such as the National Community Legal Centres Conference in September 2004, National Legal Aid conference, November 2005 and the Law Asiadownunder conference in March 2005.

Considerable work was done on key reports that were still to be published at the end of the year. These were the mapping project, which provides an overview of the Australian pro bono landscape, the report of the Remote Regional and Rural pro bono project and the Indigenous Legal Organisations and pro bono report.

### State based activity

In learning more about the way pro bono legal services are coordinated and administered from State to State, I was struck by the differences rather than the similarities. The way in which work is coordinated and referred varies widely from State to State as does the pro bono culture among many of the firms. There is still a lack of adequate data about who does pro bono work, where it is done and how much is done. To address this, the Centre spent considerable time developing a strategy for a national survey of the profession which it intends to conduct in 2005/2006.

State visits for the year included South Australia, Victoria, Queensland and the Northern Territory. Where Public Interest Law Clearing Houses (PILCHs) exist, (Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland), the Centre works closely with these organisations. In other States and Territories, the Centre continues to promote the idea of the legal community, identifying focal points around which both referrals and a broader range of pro bono activities and projects can occur, as happens for example around PILCH in Victoria. To this end, the Centre embarked on a Referral Schemes History project which it aims to publish in the 2005/2006 year.

I would like to thank the Board and Advisory Council members for their valuable input. The strategy developed by the Board in relation to the future of the Centre worked and the Advisory Council ably informed the policy direction and priorities of the Centre. The Board thanked Shirley Southgate from WA who stepped down from the Board in January 2005 and welcomed Caitlin Perry from the NT in April 2005. The Board also thanked departing Advisory Council members John Harley from SA and Ellen Johnson from NSW.

The Centre's website grew considerably during the year with a number of new resources being added. During this period hits to the site continued to rise reaching 20,000 hits per month in June 2005. The Centre's bi-monthly eNewsletter *Pro Bono News* reached over 500 subscribers.

### **The future**

Certainty about Commonwealth funding for the next four years has allowed us to plan ahead and a 4 year strategic plan for the Centre was completed in September 2005. This process has given us a fresh view of what our key stakeholders (government, the legal profession and the community sector) expect of us and three year's experience has taught us what works best for the small organisation we are.

The 10 themes emerging from this process are worthy of inclusion in this report as reminders of the task ahead.

The Centre should:

1. Increase its dialogue with government funded legal service providers to ensure that pro bono is a complementary form of service delivery to government funded legal services.
2. Work to raise the pro bono ethos across the whole legal profession with a view to the burden being spread more evenly between lawyers. Particular emphasis should be placed on mid tier firms, in-house corporate and government lawyers and law students.
3. Play an important role in providing leadership on issues concerning the delivery of legal services to socially and/or economically disadvantaged or marginalised people and in coordinating activities that make it easier for pro bono service providers to help in the delivery of these services.
4. Work to achieve better pro bono structures in the States and Territories where the pro bono presence is limited by factors such as the size or capacity of the legal profession or prevailing attitudes.
5. Be a centre of expertise and authority about pro bono practice in Australia and overseas and identify new models of service delivery. It should provide increased information and resources for the legal profession including statistical information and mapping of existing services and identify gaps.
6. Continue to address the difficulties associated with obtaining pro bono assistance in rural, regional and remote Australia.
7. Remain innovative and flexible in approach and activities and not become institutionalised.
8. Over time, shift its emphasis from leadership and promotion to facilitation and brokering of pro bono relationships.
9. Better inform relevant areas of government about legal service gaps, funding issues and the role of the Centre so as facilitate better communication and knowledge within Government about these issues.
10. Resist corporate social responsibility as a substitute for pro bono work on the basis that the pro bono obligations of the legal profession must stand apart from the broader question of how a corporation can be socially responsible.

# Projects & Activities 2004-05

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Reports of the Centre's projects and activities are grouped according to the key objectives of the centre, as detailed in its Strategic Plan:

## 1. Promoting pro bono work throughout the legal profession.....

### Building and maintaining networks and relationships

A major objective for the Centre is to develop and maintain relationships with and between pro bono service providers and individuals and communities in need. Some important relationships developed this year involve:

- the Australian Legal Assistance Forum;
- the steering committee for the Legal Aid Commission of NSW's Co-operative Legal Service Delivery Model (CLSDM) pilots. The Centre is working closely with CLSDM in relation to Centre's RRR project and is on the CLSDM roll out working party for 2005;
- stakeholders in all States NT, & ACT with at least one visit/meeting a year in NSW, Victoria, QLD, SA and the NT;
- representatives of the profession, laws schools, courts, legal aid, CLCs and ATSILS and community organisations. The Centre has met with each of these groups over the last 12 months and has a commitment to ongoing consultations;
- maintaining the Centre's bimonthly e-news service to over 500 recipients;
- meeting and consulting with the Advisory Council.

### Advocacy of formal pro bono targets

Pro bono targets – or 'aspirational' targets - have been a somewhat contentious issue for the legal profession but one to which the Centre has a firm commitment. The Centre is proposing a voluntary minimum target of 50 hours per year averaged over all lawyers in a firm. There would be no sanction or penalty for non-compliance. There has been a sustained push by the Centre to ensure that this issue maintains a profile through articles published in the Australian Financial Review (17 June 2005)

and in Issues & Ideas, the report on the proceedings from the 2nd National Pro Bono Conference which was published and distributed during the 2004/05 year.

### Government lawyers and pro bono (October 2004)

The Centre has this year used its information paper on Government Lawyers to further encourage and assist government lawyers to undertake pro bono work. The paper is the most downloaded resource from the Centre's website and has elicited positive feedback from the Attorney General of Western Australia, who indicated that it was 'most relevant' to the objectives of their plan to manage self-represented persons.

The Centre liaised with the Australian Government Solicitor's (AGS) office on its new staff pro bono policy and believes the policy development process will assist other departments and agencies to develop their own policies..

In June 2005, the Australian Corporate Lawyers Association (ACLA) published an article on in-house pro bono written by the Centre's Director. The article built on other work with the ACLA to promote pro bono to their members, 35% of whom are government lawyers.

### Law student and law school participation in pro bono.

Building on the success of its information and issues paper on law students and pro bono, the Centre continued to support the trial of the Pro Bono Students Australia (PBSA) program at the University of Western Sydney law school. The trial started in first semester 2005. Students have shown great interest in the program and placements have been made at the Federal Magistrates Court and the Blacktown Migrant Resource Centre.

The Director was invited to present at the 8th Australian Clinical Legal Education conference, to further discuss these issues.



### **'best practice' pro bono sessions**

Pro Bono Best Practice sessions were launched by the Attorney-General Philip Ruddock in February 2005 at a Law Society of NSW lunch for managing partners of Sydney law firms. Three sessions focusing on aspects of pro bono practice and service delivery have now been held in NSW.

### **Other promotional activities**

The Centre has coordinated and hosted many events promoting pro bono. Some of these have included; training sessions and workshops for private firm lawyers on drafting an affidavit in family law proceedings; an overview of child support law and financial analysis in child support law. These events have been attended by around 40 practitioners.

One type of event that proved popular was the 'relationship building events', which bring together CLC representatives from regional areas with pro bono coordinators and partners from city firms.

The Centre's 'Pro Bono Family Law Project' aimed at getting pro bono assistance in family law areas led to contact between Allens Arthur Robinson and Illawarra Legal Centre. The aim is to increase pro bono capacity by making available a number of lawyers to assist with child support matters and to provide a pool of pro bono lawyers who can help draft affidavits in family law matters.

## **2. Provide assistance and support to existing and potential service providers .....**

### **Indigenous Legal Organisations**

The Centre has prepared a draft paper that looks at some of the issues associated with the take up of pro bono legal services by Indigenous organisations. The paper describes some existing programs and considers other ways of increasing assistance to often remote and under-resourced Indigenous communities. The Centre plans to finalise and publish the paper in early 2006.

### **Pro bono, conflicts and government**

Discussion and advocacy around this issue has meant that a number of Attorneys-General have publicly stated that firms will not be prejudiced in vying for Government work by reason of doing pro bono work against Government. At least 4 State and Territory jurisdictions indicated their intention to investigate adoption of the protocol. Victoria has considered adopting the protocol into its Government Legal Services Panel contract. We are waiting for the Commonwealth to adopt the protocol in its Legal Service Directions.

### **(RRR) pro bono project**

The Centre is undertaking an RRR pro bono project with some funding assistance from the Law and Justice Foundation of NSW. The project has assisted CLCs and their clients in some RRR areas to gain access to pro bono services. Relationships have been established between Ebsworth and Ebsworth (Sydney) and North and North West CLS (Armidale) NSW; Coudert Brothers (Sydney) and Albury Wodonga CLS; Baker McKenzie (Sydney) and Shoalcoast CLC (Nowra). The Centre arranged a relationship-building event with 14 firms and 9 CLCs at Ebsworth and Ebsworth in Sydney and followed up with a national relationship-building event in Adelaide with RRR CLCs from across Australia. The Centre also brokered a pro bono relationship between Geraldton Resource Centre in WA with Clayton Utz in Perth.

### **Pro bono clearing houses**

The Centre continues to work with and support PILCHs in NSW, QLD and Victoria and is coordinating the preparation of a short history of the establishment of pro bono clearing houses in Australia. It is intended that the history will be published in 2005/2006.

The Centre supported and provided information to assist with the setting up of a new pro bono law clearing house in the ACT. The ACT Pro Bono Clearing House, administered by the ACT Law Society, was launched in November 2004.

### **Building and regularly updating the NPBRC website with information about areas of need, opportunities to assist, pro bono issues, the Centre and its projects**

In June 2004 greater control of website was obtained through staff training in use of appropriate software thus reducing running costs and the need for a new website at this time. Visits to website continue to increase in number. Hits on the www.nationalprobono.org.au website averaged 14,074 per month during 2004-2005 and rose steadily to reach 20,000 in June 2005.

### **Publishing the Centre's eNewsletter**

The Centre has, since the advent of its website, published a bi-monthly subscription-based eNewsletter called Pro Bono News. Subscription numbers for the newsletter exceed 500 and continue to grow. There were 6 editions published in 2004/2005.

### **Australian Pro Bono Network on www.ProBono.net**

In September 2004 the Centre together with US-based Probono.net launched the 'Pro Bono Net' website which operates as a web based intranet for Australian pro bono coordinators and the legal community.

Pro Bono Net Service provides news, calendar events, discussion groups and library resources with opportunities for pro bono lawyers nationally. The site may be accessed at: [www.probono.net/au/pbc](http://www.probono.net/au/pbc)

### **Sharing expertise: publishing the Guide to Internet Legal Resources**

The Centre prepared and published on its website a state by state guide to internet legal resources. The guide is intended to assist pro bono lawyers, caseworkers and lawyers working in publicly funded legal services. The guide is topic based and includes links to sites that offer a brief description of available resources where caseworkers may find useful materials for their clients. The material may be accessed at: <http://www.nationalprobono.org.au/publications/legalguide/index.html>.

### **3. Make available information and resources to assist pro bono service providers.....**

#### **Conducting a national pro bono activity survey of firms, individual lawyers and barristers.**

The Centre has compiled a three-part draft national survey of the legal profession and its pro bono activities - for implementation in late 2005 early 2006. This project has attracted pro bono support from a private social research company, the Law Council of Australia and various State and Territory law societies/institutes.

Results of the survey will fill the gap in information about actual pro bono output, and will help the Centre determine where pro bono resources may be more appropriately directed.

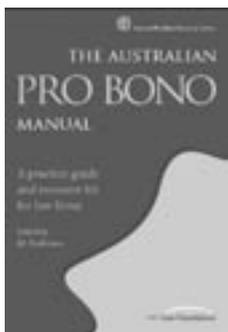
#### **Mapping pro bono services in Australia**

This substantial piece of research has been compiled and is currently being reviewed before publication. Providing an overview of the Australian pro bono landscape – and a detailed look at particular pro bono services - this project has given the Centre a much clearer idea of where its limited resources might best be targeted over the next four years.

#### **Identifying and publishing information about legal need**

The Centre devotes considerable resources to identifying and publishing information about legal need. This is reflected in the relationships developed with community organisations and in the reports and submissions developed and made available by the Centre.

The Centre has developed close relationships with the 3 Public Interest Law Clearing Houses (VIC, NSW, QLD) and CLCs at local, state and federal levels to ensure that initiatives of the Centre are based on empirical evidence of need in the community.



### **The Australian Pro Bono Manual**

A hard copy (paperback) second edition of the Australian Pro Bono Manual, the Centre's flagship product, was launched in March 2005. Published by the Victoria Law Foundation, the new edition has been re-designed and updated. It has been converted to HTML with many navigational links for online use and has been uploaded to the Centre's website. The Manual is one of the Centre's most accessed online resources and the VLF reports that hard copies are selling slowly but surely.

#### **4. Promote pro bono law to community organisations and the general public.....**

##### **Undertaking general promotional activities**

The Centre has continued to increase its profile within the community. Promotional material including copies of the Annual Report, Flyers and fact sheets have been widely distributed. The Centre has also contributed to The Law Handbook (NSW)(9th Edition) and the National CLC Directory on pro bono services.

Articles, commentary and opinion pieces have been published in a range of newsletters and journals, including *Australian Financial Review*, *Australian Corporate Lawyer*, *Law Society Bulletin*, *Lawyers Weekly*, *Ethos*. Presentations promoting pro bono and the Centre have been made at conferences and forums. The Centre continued to Sponsor the Law and Justice Foundation of NSW 'Pro Bono Partnership Award' which celebrates partnerships that improve access to justice for disadvantaged people in the community. The 2004 award went to the partnership between The Shopfront Youth Legal Centre, Mission Australia, the Salvation Army and law firm Freehills.

##### **Online guide to volunteering at Community Legal Centres**

The Centre has been working in conjunction with National Association of Community Legal Centres (NACLC) to develop a website facilitating volunteering at Community Legal Centres across Australia. The site provides general information about volunteering at CLCs. With a searchable database of over 200 CLCs, it indicates which Centres are seeking volunteers, provides information about the Centre and the nature

of the assistance required. Launched in October 2005, the site is accessible at: [www.clcvolunteers.net.au](http://www.clcvolunteers.net.au).

##### **Working with Pro Bono Australia to make non-profit organisations aware of pro bono legal opportunities**

Pro Bono Australia (PBA) is Australia's portal for the Not For Profit (NFP) sector. The Centre has discussed with PBA ways in which better access to pro bono legal services for NFPs might be set up and managed.

##### **Raising the profile of pro bono**

Centre staff attended and participated at State and National CLC conferences, and assisted with training initiatives and relationship-building events at conferences. This has resulted in new productive pro bono relationships between CLCs and private pro bono firms.

##### **Raising awareness about pro bono legal services**

Awareness has been raised by the PBSA program which promotes pro bono law to non-profit community organisations. The Centre has also contributed information to the Law Handbook and National CLC Directory on pro bono services. The Centre has also been interviewed by *The Law Report* on *Radio National* and for articles in the *Australian Financial Review* and *Lawyers Weekly*.

##### **Participating in relevant policy development processes**

The Centre has developed and published policy positions for both government and the profession on how pro bono services can best assist low income and socially disadvantaged persons to obtain access to legal services. Examples include a submission to Joint Review of CLCs in NSW (November 2004) and a submission to the Senate Legal and Constitutional Committee on the *Migration Litigation Reform Bill 2005* (April 2005) as well as submissions to the Senate Inquiry into Access to Justice and the Federal Civil Justice Strategy paper in April 2004. The Centre has also worked on a submission to the Victorian Government Solicitors Committee on issues discussed with ACLA, who have 35% government lawyer members nationally.

## Staff & Interns

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**John Corker** – Director since January 2004, John started his career as a judge’s associate and a barrister in Victoria. He spent 7 years in Central Australia as a lawyer for Aboriginal Legal Aid and then as the sole lawyer involved in the establishment of Australia’s first Aboriginal-owned commercial television service (Imparja). He moved to Sydney where he was employed by the Australian Broadcasting Authority, finally as its General Counsel. He was most recently a senior associate for 3 years in the Sydney office of Clayton Utz.



**Jenny Lovric** – Jenny is the Centre’s Senior Policy and Research Officer. Jenny has worked primarily on the Australian Pro Bono Manual, the ‘Mapping pro bono’ project and the ‘regional rural and remote’ project. A formidable writer and researcher, she has previously worked at the NSW Law Reform Commission, the Federal Court and in the community legal sector.



**Tory Kakoschke** –Tory became the Centre’s administrator in July 2005. She has previously worked in the community legal sector at the NSW Working Women’s Centre. She has completed a degree in Government & International Relations. She is currently completing a graduate law degree at the University of Western Sydney.



**Lynne Spender** – Lynne is an editor and writer who has been involved with legal centres for over 20 years. She is the Centre’s Publications Coordinator, a previous editor of several editions of the Law Handbook NSW. Her most recent book is *Between the Lines: a legal guide for writers and illustrators*.

### INTERNS

In its third year of operation, the Centre has again been fortunate to have had assistance from several interns through its association with the UNSW Law Faculty Social Justice Intern program. The Law Faculty offers an elective subject which provides students with the opportunity to spend one day a week at the research centres affiliated with the University. Students make significant contributions toward the work of the centres, and in turn are able to gain practical experience in research, writing and advocacy about issues affecting social justice.

**Tamar Lopic (2004)**

**Tanya Wong (2004)**

**Vivian Chan (2005)**

**Iris Chan (2005)**

## Photo Highlights



Michael Napier, Pro Bono Envoy to the UK Attorney-General, launching the Centre's paper on Government Lawyers and Pro Bono – with John Corker.

The 'heritage' White House at the University of New South Wales where the Centre is currently housed.



## Photo Highlights

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From left to right: Robert Reed (Minter Ellison), Julian Porter (Queensland Advocacy Inc.), Zoe Rathus (Griffith University), David Hillard (Clayton Utz), Justice Moynihan, Supreme Court of Queensland and John Corker involved in a conference session titled 'Lawyers reaching out to the Margins' at the *International Conference on Engaging Communities* held in Brisbane in August 2005.



Board members Andrea Durbach and Peter Stapleton with Professor David Weisbrot (centre), Chair of the Centre's Advisory Council, at the launch of the Centre's paper on Government Lawyers and Pro Bono at Blake Dawson Waldron, November 2004.

# Board & Advisory Council

## Board members

### **Chair: Tony Fitzgerald AC QC**

Tony held the position of President of the Queensland Court of Appeal (1991-1998) and was a member of the NSW Court of Appeal (1998-2001). He works as a commercial mediator and arbitrator from 7 Wentworth Chambers in Sydney.

### **Michael Cole**

Manager, Community Services, Law Society of Western Australia, managing Law Access Public Interest Law Clearing House, the Litigation Assistance Fund (WA), the Francis Burt Law Education Centre and Law Week in WA. Admitted as a Barrister and Solicitor in Western Australia in 1980. Former Regional Director of the Australian Government Solicitor's Western Australian Office.

### **Andrea Durbach**

Associate Professor in the University of New South Wales Law School and Director of the Australian Human Rights Centre, Andrea was previously the Director of the Public Interest Advocacy Centre (PIAC). She was a member of the Federal Attorney-General's National Pro Bono Taskforce and oversaw a successful tender by PIAC to establish the National Pro Bono Resource Centre (NPBRC). She was a former Chairperson of the Board of NPBRC, a member of the Board of LawAccess, a part-time commissioner of the NSW Law Reform Commission and a part-time judicial member of the Administrative Decisions Tribunal (Legal Services Division).

### **Michelle Hannon**

Michelle has been the Pro Bono Co-ordinator for Gilbert + Tobin since joining them in 1997. She has conducted a number of human rights and discrimination cases and has been an executive member of Australian Lawyers for Human Rights for a number of years. Previously, Michelle worked in industrial and employment law and litigation at Freehills. She then went on to be the founding principal solicitor at the NSW Disability Discrimination Legal Centre, undertaking test case and public interest litigation, as well as policy work and community legal education in the area of disability discrimination.

Michelle has been nominated by the Sydney based pro bono co-ordinators to be appointed to the NPBRC Board, in consultation with the Melbourne co-ordinators. Her alternate director for 2005/2005 has been Lucy McKernan of Allens Arthur Robinson in Melbourne.

### **Emma Hunt**

Co-Executive Director of the Public Interest Law Clearing House (Vic) Inc. PILCH Vic administers its public interest referral scheme, the Law Institute of Victoria Legal Assistance Scheme, the Victorian Bar Legal Assistance Scheme and the Homeless Persons' Legal Clinic. Emma represents PILCH Vic, PILCH NSW and QPILCH on the Board of the National Pro Bono Resource Centre. She has been a Co-Director of PILCH (Vic) Inc. for four years and has worked as a Judge's Associate, solicitor at two community legal centres and legal aid for seven years prior to PILCH.

### **Jane Hutchison**

Currently Manager of the Hobart Community Legal Service Inc, Jane has been involved with community legal centres for over 15 years. She was a Board member of the Financial Services Consumer Policy Centre from the mid 90s (helping to establish the Centre) until 2003 and previous Chair of the Australian Financial Counsellors and Credit Reform Association.

### **Aleecia Murray**

Aleecia has continued her work on the Board after taking up a position with a United Nations Development Program, enhancing access to justice through the Lao Bar Association. In Australia, she was a solicitor at Minter Ellison Lawyers specialising in industrial and employment law and was previously Associate to the Honourable Justice Perry, Supreme Court of South Australia. Aleecia has a strong history in the community legal sector, including being the founding coordinator of the Refugee Advocacy Service of South Australia (RASSA) and coordinator of the Youth Crime Prevention Program delivered to high school students.

### **John North**

John North is the President of the Law Council of Australia and a Partner of North & Badgery Solicitors in Dubbo and Sydney. He is a member of the Legal Aid Commission of NSW, and former President of the Law Society of NSW. He has a continuing interest in pro bono, legal aid, Indigenous, prison and child care issues and in streamlining court procedures.

### **Caitlin Perry**

Caitlin is the coordinator of the Darwin Community Legal Service and a member of the NT Law Society's legal aid and pro bono committee. She replaced Shirley Southgate as the National Association of Community Legal Centres' (NACLCC) representative on the

Board from May 2005. Caitlin has a B.Ec from Sydney University and was previously a coordinator at Redfern Legal Centre.

#### **Paul Redmond**

Paul Redmond is a Professor of Law at the University of New South Wales, a former Dean of the Faculty and Chair of the Council of Australian Law Deans. He is Chair of the Board of Directors of the Diplomacy Training Program, a regional human rights education provider for NGOs. He has a particular interest in how law schools nurture their students' justice consciousness and orientation towards public service in professional work.

#### **Carolyn Sappideen**

Carolyn is a Professor of Law and Head of the Law School at the University of Western Sydney. Professor Sappideen is the Director of the Centre for Elder Law specialising in research into legal issues affecting older Australians. Her teaching interests include Medical Malpractice Law, Property Law and Law of Torts. She is a recipient of a number of research grants including a joint grant from the Commonwealth government on Transactional Learning in the Law of Contracts. She is also the new author for Fleming, The Law of Torts (10th ed) and has published numerous articles and co-authored several books.

#### **Peter Stapleton**

Peter was instrumental in establishing Blake Dawson Waldron's national pro bono practice. He was chair of Redfern Legal Centre for many years in the 1980s. Since joining the firm in 1983, Peter Stapleton has practised in the area of commercial and corporate law, specialising in asset and share acquisitions, joint ventures and foreign investment laws and regulations. Apart from acting for Australian corporations, Peter has acted for many overseas corporations in connection with their business operations in Australia, particularly Chinese, Japanese and European corporations.

#### **Advisory Council members**

Professor David Weisbrot (Chair)

President, Australian Law Reform Commission;

Professor Don Chalmers

Head of School, Faculty of Law, University of Tasmania;

Mr Simon Cleary

Secretary, Queensland Public Interest Law Clearing House;

Mr Ian Dodds

President, NSW Council of Social Service;

Ms Deej Eszenyi

Partner, Camatta Lempens Solicitors, Adelaide;

Mr Chris Gabelish

Coordinator, Geraldton Resource Centre;

Mr Ian Govey

Deputy Secretary, Civil Justice and Legal Services Group  
Attorney General's Department;

Ms Jenny Hardy

Deputy Director, Northern Territory Legal Aid Commission;

Ms Kathy Laster

Director, Victoria Law Foundation;

Ms Fiona McLeay

Director Community Connect Program, Clayton Utz;

Mr Dennis Nelthorpe

Consumer Consultant, Melbourne;

Ms Alexandra Richards QC

Barrister, Victorian Bar.

# Financial reports

<b>STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE</b>	2005	2004
	\$	\$
Revenue from ordinary activities	275,727	427,013
Expenses from ordinary activities		
Printing	5,970	6,244
Employee benefits expense	242,594	238,540
Depreciation expense	6,815	6,239
Audit fee	2,112	2,200
Insurance	3,995	4,273
Computer and Communications	16,260	16,115
Library	1,231	427
Travel	10,773	14,000
Conference expense	-	144,412
Other expenses from ordinary activities	12,403	14,467
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) From Ordinary Activities</b>	(26,426)	(19,904)
Income tax expense relating to ordinary activities	-	-
<b>Net Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	(26,426)	(19,904)

<b>STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION</b>	2005	2004
	\$	\$
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash assets	94,710	142,368
Receivables	4,745	75,200
Other	1,295	3,566
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	100,750	221,134
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>		
Property, plant and equipment	9,345	15,243
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>	9,345	15,243
<b>Total Assets</b>	110,095	236,377
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Payables	6,035	30,559
Provisions	16,988	11,469
Other	-	80,851
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	23,023	122,879
<b>Net Assets</b>	87,072	113,498
<b>Equity</b>		
Retained Earnings	87,072	113,498
<b>Total Equity</b>	87,072	113,498

## **NATIONAL PRO BONO RESOURCE CENTRE**

The National Pro Bono Resource Centre is an independent non-profit organisation that supports and promotes pro bono legal services.

The Centre receives financial assistance from the Federal Attorney-General's Department and accommodation and other support from the Faculty of Law at the University of New South Wales.

Further information about the Centre including details of other publications, how to subscribe to the Centre's bi-monthly e-newsletter and current programs and projects can be found on the Centre's website at [www.nationalprobono.org.au](http://www.nationalprobono.org.au)



### **NATIONAL PRO BONO RESOURCE CENTRE**

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