

NSW SOCIETY FOR COMPUTERS AND THE LAW

Extracts from the President's Report

1989 has certainly been a successful year for the Society.

It was most successful in terms of further consolidation of the Society as a regular and reliable provider of seminars on topics touching upon computers and the law. The Society has provided an active forum for discussing current topics and we have certainly seen some lively debates during the year at our seminars. Our seminars continue to be accredited with MCLE points.

The year was also successful from the point of view of "bedding in" some new and very hardworking members of the committee. All members of the committee have contributed to one extent or another, however without the tireless efforts of a few members, the Society simply would not function.

We have seen over the last couple of years, and in particular the last year, some excellent consolidation in a number of particular areas. Our Newsletter during the last year, under the stewardship of Liz Broderick has been highly regarded.

We are gradually getting our publication of "Proceedings of the Society for Computers and the Law" up to date. Last year, the 1987 "Proceedings" was published and work has commenced on the 1988 and 1989 volumes. Both of these will be published this year so that membership of the Society this year will include the free receipt of two volumes of "Proceedings".

Our calendar of seminars has been well organised and included a very interesting selection of topics.

You will have noticed that our AGM this year has been called a little earlier than usual. This is in order to have the new committee elected and the calendar for the year confirmed at an early date to permit an earlier publication of our calendar.

Although the Society has certainly provided an excellent series of seminars and debates through the year, I must highlight one shortcoming, that is attendance at our seminars.

For a special interest group such as this Society, we have an excellent membership. Not many of you would be aware that our membership is in fact over 250. However, we only see ten to twenty members at our seminars.

With that in mind, and with a view to increasing membership generally, we are undertaking two "special projects" this year. First, a membership drive, through the publications of the Law Society and through the universities. Secondly, an increased media drive.

I trust that the new committee will embrace the resolve of the old committee with the same enthusiasm.