



Society News



New South Wales

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held on 6 February 1991 and was well attended. Many say the level of attendance was influenced by the promise of a gourmet meal at The Orient immediately thereafter! Well it worked! The 1991 Committee is one of the largest committees in the Society's history with 27 members. Office bearers for 1991 are Katrina Henty - President, Connie Carnabuci - Vice President, Robert Johnston - Secretary, Les Lawrence - Treasurer, Meetings Officer - Sharyn Ch'ang, Brendan Welsh - Media Officer, Elizabeth Broderick - Newsletter Editor, Lance Dempster - Subscriptions Officer, and Maurice Gonsalves - 1991 Proceedings Editor.

The Committee has already planned a comprehensive series of monthly meetings. Details are listed below. The July meeting will be a joint seminar with the College of Law and the Australian Computer Society entitled "The Total Systems Solution and other Myths - Purchasing a Computer System". This will take the form of a panel discussion starting with the hypothetical purchase of a computer system and to conclude, two speakers will draw together the key points from the panel discussion. This promises to be an excellent session.

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New South Wales Society Calendar 1991

1. Valuing Software: Accounting Standards for Intellectual Property

Date & Time: 5th June, 1991, 12.30pm
Speakers: To be announced

2. Joint Seminar with College of Law

Date & Time: 3rd July, 1991 - 2.00pm (3 hours)
Venue: College of Law, St Leonards
Purchasing a Computer System
Speakers to be announced.

3. Open Systems

Date & Time: 7th August, 1991 - 5.30pm
Speakers: Panel of lawyers and computer industry representatives to be announced.

4. Electronic Security Documents - EDI

Date & Time: 11th September, 1991 - 12.30pm
Speaker: Jim FitzSimons - Clayton Utz

5. Computerised Conveyancing

Date & Time: 2nd October, 1991 - 12.30pm
Speaker: Margaret Hole - Walker Taylor Edwards and Smith

6. International Copyright in Developing Countries

Date & Time: 6th November, 1991 - 12.30pm
Speaker: Michael Saunders - Corrs Chambers Westgarth

7. Gala Seminar

Date & Time: 4th December, 1991 - 5.30pm
Topic to be announced.

Unless otherwise advised, all meetings take place at:

**Level 2, Law Society Building
170 Phillip Street, Sydney NSW**



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New South Wales Cont'd

Brendan Welsh, the Society's Media Officer and formerly a solicitor with Baker & McKenzie, has moved to Tamworth and is practising with Lions, Barnett and Kennedy. Brendan specialises in corporate and technology law (and now a number of other areas!) and can be contacted on 067 - 666688. The Committee thanks him for his support over the last three years and wishes him well.

In our next edition of the newsletter we will examine the use of artificial intelligence and expert systems in law. This will coincide with the 3rd International Conference on Artificial Intelligence & Law, St Catherine's College, Oxford, England. The Editors welcome letters or comments for publication on the potential benefits and dangers of artificial intelligence and its application in a legal environment or the legal issues arising from the use of expert systems.

The deadline for contributions for the next edition of the newsletter is Friday 9 August 1991. If possible, please submit contributions on disk in Microsoft Word or Macintosh Word format together with a hard copy. Where Microsoft Word format is not possible, ASCII text would be helpful. Contributions should be addressed to Virginia Gore, c/- Blake Dawson Waldron, 225 George St, Sydney 2000.

New Zealand

The New Zealand Society for Computers and the Law is in its fourth year, having originally been formed in 1987. Incorporation of the Society under the Incorporated Societies Act 1908 has recently been completed.

There has been substantial interest in the Society from lawyers and computer professionals outside Wellington, particularly in Auckland and Christchurch. At the Annual General Meeting on 26 February 1991, the way was paved for the official formation of branches in Auckland, Christchurch and Dunedin with the election of representatives from these regions. A new committee was elected which included a number of familiar faces. The names of the committee members are listed below.

The first meeting of the Wellington branch on Software Piracy was presented by Peter MacAulay, chairman of the NZ Business Software Association on 30 April, 1991. Mr MacAulay spoke on the role of the Association in combating software piracy.

The first meeting of the Auckland branch was held on 8 April, 1991. The seminar was on Electronic Data Interchange and was presented by Elizabeth Longworth from Rudds Watts & Stone and Phil Brimacombe of Foodtown Supermarkets Ltd. The next seminar for the branch in May will look at the possible applications of artificial intelligence.

New Zealand Society Calendar 1991

28 June	User friendly access to Computerised Legal Information Services
30 July	Business Recovery in Law Firms
27 August	Patentability of Computer Software
10 September	Data Piracy Bill
15 October	Legality of Optical Storage
19 November	End of Year Event

For further information about monthly meetings contact Ann Deane, c/- National Library of New Zealand, PO Box 1467, Wellington, New Zealand. Tel: (04) 743-089. Fax: (04) 743-042.

New Zealand Society Committee Members for 1991

President	Anthony Wong Philips New Zealand Ltd PO Box 14-282, Wellington Tel: (04) 889-788 Fax: (04) 881-071	Librarian	Julia Yeong Govt Printing Office Private Bag, Wellington (04) 737-320 Fax: (04) 734-943
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Secretary	John Terry	Auckland Representative	Richard Osborne
Treasurer	Gavin Adlam	Christchurch Representative	David Rowe
Membership	Ian Perry	Dunedin Representative	Garth Lucas
Seminar Liaison	Ann Deane	Other Committee Members	Ross Johnston Brett Russell
Publication/ Circulation	Mun Chin Telecom Networks PO Box 1092, Wellington Tel: (04) 738-444 Fax: (04) 721-691 Brian Blackford DSIR PO Box 1578, Wellington (04) 729-979 Fax: (04) 724-025	Honorary Auditor	Deloitte Ross Tohmatsu



Society News Cont'd



Victoria

There have been a number of meetings of the Committee for Computers and Law and a busy schedule of meetings has been organised. On 15 April, 1991, the Society held a meeting on "Computers, Privacy laws and Data Matching". On 6 May, 1991, there was a presentation on "Expert Evidence in Computer Litigation" with Dr Peter Thorne from Melbourne University as the guest lecturer. The following meetings have been planned:

- June** Computer Software Copyright - Discussion of the Copyright Law Review Committee Report
- July** Viruses, Hacking and Computer Crime
Dr Gordon Hughes, Partner, Lander & Rogers
- August** Liability of Computer System Vendors
Mr David Standen, NCR Australia

Note: Later dates and speakers will be confirmed. Venue for all meetings is the lower ground floor of the Law Institute. Most meetings are expected to be lunchtime seminars - evenings may be a possibility.

To Join or to find out about dates for seminars: Contact Amanda Bodger at Mallesons Stephen Jacques on (03) 619 0625.

Victorian Society Committee Members for 1991

President	Gordon Hughes Lander & Rogers 114 William St Melbourne Ph: 03 602 5355 Fax: 03 607 2723	Secretary	Amanda Bodger
Vice President	Philip Catania	Public Relations Office	Gigi Cheah
Treasurer	Paul Gleeson	Meetings Office	Doron Karliner
		Publications Officer	Dan Hunter

Western Australia

On 22 May, 1991 the Western Australian Society held a seminar on "Privacy Legislation in WA and Related Topics". The speakers were David Smith, Minister for Justice, Bill Hassel and Wayne Martin. The Society will be holding a seminar on **Legal CD ROMS**. The speakers for this seminar will be distributors and users of Legal CD ROMS in Perth. The meeting will coincide with the Annual General Meeting of the WA Society for Computers and Law to be held on Wednesday 21 August, 1991. For more information please contact Michael Paterson on (09) 322 0321.

Queensland

Seminars

The Society's inaugural seminar - *Desktop Litigation: Live!* - held at the Brisbane Hilton on 3 April, 1991 was a great success. Over 100 registrants witnessed an impressive demonstration by Arch Fletcher and Robert Wensley of the use of a litigation support system in a complex arbitration involving large amounts of evidentiary material. The quality of the seminar reflected the high degree of preparation undertaken by the presenters to whom the Society once again expresses its gratitude. The assistance of Henderson Trout in providing the hardware, software and projection equipment was also much appreciated.

The next seminar will be conducted jointly with the Law Faculty of Queensland University of Technology on 18 June on the topic *An Introduction to Computer Hardware and Software for Lawyers*. As in the case of the first seminar, this will be very much a demonstration of the computer applications presently available for the legal profession. As the title suggests, the seminar will be aimed at an introductory level.

Members' Discussion Groups

A Members' Discussion Group has been formed and will meet on a regular basis to discuss computer-related topics. The object is to provide a forum in which members may discuss current topics. Whilst the Group's agenda will not be limited to intellectual property-related topics, those topics will be better suited to the discussion approach. Attendance at the meetings is limited to members. The first discussion meeting was held on 13 May 1991 to discuss *Copyright in Computers Software: The State of Play*. A further meeting has been planned for 1 July 1991 to discuss *Revenue Law Aspects of Technology Transactions*.

No fee is payable by members wishing to attend these meetings. Any member wishing to attend any meeting should contact **Allan Mason**. Phone 221 3655. Fax 221 3803. Places will be allocated on a first-in, first-served basis.