



# Press Council News

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## The World Association of Press Councils' First Oceania Regional Conference

An international forum for media professionals

### Brisbane, Queensland

Venue: **Customs House**

Hotel: **Brisbane Marriott**

**22 & 23 June 1999**

**T**he Australian Press Council is, in conjunction with the New Zealand Press Council and the Chairman of the Australian Broadcasting Authority, hosting the first Oceania regional conference of the World Association of Press Councils in Brisbane on 22 and 23 June 1999.

The Conference will be a two-day event bringing together members of Press Councils and similar bodies, media professionals and academics from within Australia and overseas to discuss relevant issues. The conference will consist of plenary sessions, at which invited guests will present formal papers to the conference and respond to questions, and small group discussions which will allow for closer examination of aspects of the topics under discussion.

The two main themes of the conference are:

- the role and responsibility of the media in its coverage of tragedies and of communal conflicts; and
- the ethical responsibilities of the media in their dealings with courts and their coverage of the criminal justice system.

The speakers at the conference bring wide-ranging practical experience to these topics. They are drawn both from Australia and from the Asia-Pacific region. Among the Press Councils who have already said they would be represented at the conference are: Australia, Bangladesh, Egypt, Fiji, Ghana, Honolulu, India, Nepal, New Zealand, Sri Lanka and the South African Press Ombudsman.

Attendance at the conference is essential

for persons interested in these significant issues affecting the press, both in Australia and in the region.

Opportunity has been provided for the exchange of views in small group discussions. The range of persons attending will enable the experience of different countries to be brought to bear on the issues.

Further details on the speakers and other information will be made available through the Internet (<http://www.presscouncil.org.au/pcsite/new/brisbane.html>) or can be sought from the Press Council office .

- **Registration/accommodation** details - page 2;
- the **program**, at the time of printing - pages 4 and 5; and
- a **registration form** - page 12.

## AUSTRALIAN PRESS COUNCIL PRIZE 1998-1999

**Closes 30 June 1999**

**Details - page 3**

# Accommodation and Conference Details

The first Oceania Regional Conference of the WAPC will be held in the Long Room of Customs House, 399 Queen Street, Brisbane. This is a heritage building on the Brisbane River, built in 1886 for the Queensland Customs Department.

The conference hotel is the Brisbane Marriott, 515 Queen Street, about 200 meters up the road from the Customs House. The Marriott is a five-star hotel opened in 1998. The conference has a block-booking for rooms at the Marriott which will also host the conference dinner.

We have reserved rooms at the Marriott on the nights of Monday 21 June, Tuesday 22 June and Wednesday 23 June. Bookings for these rooms will have to be made through the conference secretariat to ensure the special rate of \$135/room/night.

The conference's Registration Fee has now been set at \$A350 (\$US225 or £140). A student rate of \$A150 will apply to full-time students. These fees include the conference dinner. Registrations should be made through the Council on the form provided on page 12 of this issue of the *News*.

Inquiries and registrations can be sent to the Press Council office (see page 16 for details).

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The Australian Press Council notes with appreciation the sponsorship provided by

**Thynne and Macartney**, Solicitors and Notaries, of Brisbane, which has contributed towards the success of *the Media and the Courts* discussions; and

**Minter Ellison**, Solicitors, of Brisbane, which has contributed towards the cost of the Conference Dinner.

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## Conference Airline: Ansett Airlines

Ansett Airlines has been appointed official airline of the WAPC Oceania Conference. Special airfares of up to 45% discount on full economy fares for travel within Australia are available to all delegates. These airfares are subject to availability at the time of booking and will not incur cancellation fees.

Just call 13 1300 and quote masterfile MC01072 for your flight to/from Brisbane.