

LexisNexis Professional Development Conference Highlights April 2008

Commercial and Retail Leasing

1-2 April, Hyatt Regency, Perth

Commercial and Retail Leasing kicked off a busy professional development month in the west. **Tony Aristei**, author of *Retail Shops Law in Western Australia*, chaired the conference adding valuable commentary throughout the day.

Delegates benefitted from a timely discussion on the 2007 amendments to the *Commercial Tenancy (Retail Shops) Act 1985* and **Peter Beekink's** insights into the future directions in this area. Other highlights included **Shane Sirrett's** update on changes to fair trading legislation and allegations against unconscionable landlords in the SAT.

The potential dangers of pre-lease negotiations were addressed by **Peter van der Zanden** as were safeguarding measures for landlords, tenants and agents and the ever topical issue of lawyer's duties to protect their clients' interests.

And, of course, no leasing conference would be complete without looking at how green leases are developing in WA. **Laurence Iffla** rounded the day off with the latest in Australian Building Greenhouse Rating (ABGR) and the Green Star rating schemes incorporated into leases. The workshop day was also a resounding success thanks to **Tony Fifield's** informative and practical take on the topic.

[Click here to purchase conference papers from this event](#)

Structuring for 'At Risk' Clients

16 April - Melbourne, 30 April – Sydney, 1 May - Brisbane

This intensive one day workshop exclusively presented by **Allan Swan, MooresLegal** was attended by legal, financial planning and accounting professionals. On the day delegates benefited from the practical workshops, specifically designed to help professionals understand the complexities of asset protection.

The focus was on skilling professionals on the key areas of Asset Protection Planning, Family Unit and Hybrid Trusts and Self Managed Super Funds Planning Issues.

The workshop equipped participants with the knowledge and tools to effectively advise clients on their asset protection needs.

You have the opportunity to hear **Allan Swan** at the **Estate Planning Seminar Series** - Perth, Melbourne & Brisbane in July and August. [Click here for program details.](#)

Collaborative Law Training Program

24 April, Portside Centre, Sydney

The outstanding trainer **Lorraine Lopich**, Lawyer & Mediator, **Lopich Lawyers** delivered the final workshop of the Collaborative Law training program; this workshop on 24th April brought together all professional disciplines to work together through intensive role plays and case studies. This internationally acclaimed training program attended by legal practitioners, Accountants, Financial Planners and Dispute Resolution experts proved to be a success with

participants receiving many enquiries, requests and new business opportunities during the course of the program.

The Collaborative Law training program provided participants the opportunity to work as a team and employ problem solving skills to help clients participate in interest based negotiations. The training program was designed to equip professionals to:

- Work together as a collaborative team
- Understand the difference between collaborative law and lawyer negotiated settlement
- Establish the role of the third neutral third party financial adviser
- Determine the role of the collaborative coach, child consultant, mediator and family dispute practitioner
- Work in the interdisciplinary collaborative team

Remember: As a Collaborative Law practitioner you are required to complete 3 days of Collaborative Law training in a CLE year. Keep an eye out on the LexisNexis calendar of events for future CPD Collaborative Law workshops for new and practicing Collaborative Law practitioners.

Personal Injury Law Conference

28-29 April, Hyatt Regency, Perth

LexisNexis' first Personal Injury Law Conference for WA was a resounding success.

An impressive host of colourful local characters covered a range of practical topics, beginning with **Gray Porter**, Partner, **Talbot Olivier** who entertainingly used his own weekend sporting injuries as a basis for his case update on inherently dangerous activities. Later that day delegates benefitted from well-known barrister **Brian Nugawela's** analysis of reasonable foreseeability, providing meaningful insight into the practicalities of the *Civil Liability Act*.

Day Two delegates gained from the differing perspectives of **Dr Aubrey Birkelbach**, Arbitrator, **WorkCover** and **Michael Gething**, Principal Registrar, **District Court of Western Australia**, who gave delegates insightful pointers on conducting arbitration and mediation.

Dr Brenda McGivern of **UWA** delivered a timely discussion regarding consent to medical treatment and the last session of the conference by Barrister **Helen Prince**, claiming damages for persons under disability, was well worth the wait.

With such positive delegate feedback we look forward to making Personal Injury WA an annual event.

[Click here to purchase conference papers from this event](#)

Practical Advocacy for Young Lawyers

15 April, Stamford Plaza, Melbourne

30 April, Rydges Hotel, Perth

The WA Personal Injury Law Conference was closely followed by Practical Advocacy for Young Lawyers which involved a move up the street to the Rydges Hotel.

This convenient new location was enjoyed by an enthusiastic group of young lawyers who sipped their steaming morning coffees and ate chocolate filled croissants lounging on the al fresco balcony...and they learnt a lot too! The chairperson, **Stephen Owen Conway QC**, introduced the delegates to the art of persuasion and **Joel Yeldon** followed this with court procedures and the unwritten rules of the court.

Noelle Hossen had delegates pairing off to conduct mock client interviews before **Paul Nichols** and **Patrick Mugliston** entertained and inspired the group with anecdotal lessons on engaging the bench and making strong legal arguments.

Jeremy Curthoys and **David Howlett** delivered the afternoon sessions. David's presentation on tribunals highlighted the distinct skills lawyers must develop to adapt to tribunal hearings and the growing importance of tribunals in the legal system. Jeremy addressed case theory and then ran the last workshop with **Tim Stephenson**. The workshop offered a civil and a family stream with delegates given the opportunity to put what they learnt to practice in an advocacy role play. Delegates gained much from interaction with such esteemed members of the legal fraternity and this conference promises to be one of the highlights of the year for young lawyers.