

Kingsford Legal Centre

E BULLETIN

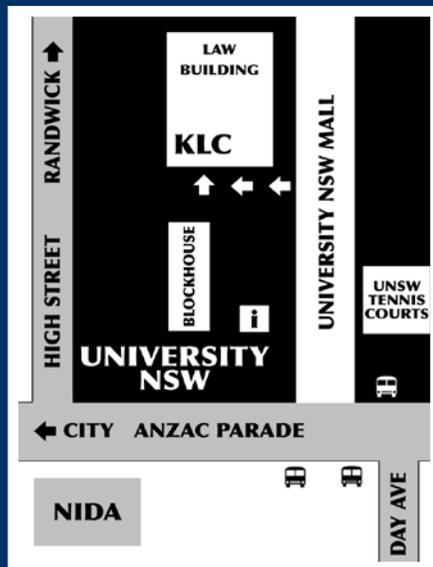
SUMMER 06

Kingsford Legal Centre
The Law Building
University of New South Wales
Kensington campus
Building F8, Union Road
Ground Floor
(Car access via Gate 2 off High Street)

Telephone: 9385 9566
TTY: 9385 9572
Facsimile: 9385 9583
Email: legal@unsw.edu.au

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

- City bus routes 392, 394, 396, 397, 398
- Central Station bus routes 391, 393, 395
- Bondi Junction/Burwood bus route 400, all stop at the main Anzac Parade entrance to the UNSW.



Kingsford Legal Centre is located to the left of The Mall, approximately 75 metres from the entrance. We are on the ground floor to the rear of the Law Building.

STAFF

New Freehills Secondee

We were very saddened to say goodbye to Mark Gillard whose secondment to KLC from Freehills ended in early November. Mark is a wonderful, warm, fun colleague who connected with all who came in contact with him – especially his clients. His work with clients and students was of the highest order and he will be missed by all.

We are delighted, however, to welcome back Susan Wan. Susan has practised in the litigation and stamp duty areas at Freehills and was previously a student at Kingsford Legal Centre in 2003. She joined the KLC team in late October and we are all looking forward to working with her over the coming 6 months.



FREEHILLS SECONDEE SUSAN WAN

Annual Volunteer Solicitor Xmas Dinner

All KLC volunteers are invited to attend our annual Xmas Dinner. This year it is to be held at Bodhi Restaurant at Cook & Phillip Park, College Street, Sydney at 6:30pm on Wednesday 13 December. RSVP to Denise on d.wasley@unsw.edu.au

Locum Solicitor Cath Whiddon Leaves KLC (again...!)

The wonderful Cath Whiddon is moving to Melbourne so she is leaving us, for the second time. Cath has been locuming at the Centre 1 day a week for a year now. We are all saddened to see Cath go but hope she will be back again in the future.

Christmas Closure

In line with UNSW closure, KLC will be closed at 1pm on Friday 22 December 2006 and reopen at 9am on Tuesday 2 January 2007. Our last advice night for the year will be held on 21 December and the first for 2007 will be on 9 January.

CLINICAL LEGAL EDUCATION

Law Retreat

KLC participated in a Faculty wide, 2 day retreat during October to plan and discuss the Law Faculty changes and possibilities. KLC is pleased to welcome David Dixon as the new Dean. Other changes in the Law Faculty include the approval of an Honours degree for the first time since the Law Faculty began. The final model for this will be developed in the coming months.

Clinical exchange

KLC was very pleased to welcome Helen Yandell of Springvale Legal Centre of Monash University and Faye Gertner of Monash Oakleigh Legal Service to exchange ideas of models of clinical teaching in October. This proved a very fruitful exchange and we hope to be able to visit them in the first half of next year to gain a deeper understanding of their clinical programs with the aim of enriching KLCs programs.

GAJE conference

Anna Cody presented a workshop on Indigenous Legal education, the challenges and ways forward at the Global Alliance for Justice Education, bi-annual conference in Cordoba Argentina. The conference was a

fabulous 6 days program with participants from Nigeria, USA, El Salvador, England, Australia, Russia amongst 20 other countries. The variety and range of clinical programs was huge and provided some new ideas for KLC as well as showing how well we work.

Indigenous pre-law program

KLC hosted 10 Indigenous students from around Australia in the Law Faculty's pre law program in mid November. This program prepares students for studies in law and an alternative entry scheme to study law.



ANNA CODY (3RD LEFT) WITH PRE-LAW STUDENTS

Academic Women in Leadership

Anna Cody finished the year long course which the UNSW has been running throughout 2006 with renewed skills and energy for leadership within a changing University environment.



PARTICIPANTS IN THE ACADEMIC WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP PROGRAM – CENTRE FRONT, ANNA CODY AND MARIE BASHIR

COMMUNITY LEGAL EDUCATION

Matraville High School

KLC was invited to speak at Matraville High School on 19 October by Marcia Ella Duncan of the Wanderers Aboriginal Outreach Service at La Pouse. The Wanderers are conducting a program at Matraville High targeting "at risk" Year 8 students. The program focuses on family and community violence. We were one of a number of speakers who discussed legal issues.

KLC focussed on rights and responsibilities in relation to Police and security guards. KLC hopes to work with the Wanderers and Matraville High School in the future.

Community Workers Workshop Series

KLC series of free monthly legal workshops for community workers is continuing. Workshops were held on Powers of Attorney & Enduring Guardianship in September, and on Welfare to Work & Social Security in October. Big thanks to Mark Gillard, former Freehills Seconded Solicitor to KLC and Dianne Anagnos of the Welfare Rights Centre for presenting those workshops. The workshops were very well attended and well-received.

We are also putting together our schedule of workshops for next year. If you have any questions about the workshops or would like to see particular topics covered, please do not hesitate to contact Teena on (02) 9385 9566 or email her at t.balgi@unsw.edu.au.

Volunteer and Service Training

KLC conducted a half day training on Thursday 21 September 2006 at the request of VAST. VAST is auspiced by the Junction Neighbourhood Centre and provides a referral and training service for Home and Community Care (HACC) agencies in the Eastern Region. The training looked

at a range of issues affecting older people including powers of attorneys and enduring guardianships, elder abuse, neighbour disputes and going guarantor. The training was very well received.

CASEWORK

Outreach services

Since our move from Rainbow Street onto the UNSW Kensington Campus, KLC has been looking for opportunities to provide legal advice on a regular basis at venues off campus, in order that we retain and improve our accessibility for our target client groups, and to maintain a local profile in our geographic community.

To date we have commenced two weekly outreach services. The first operates from the South East Neighbourhood Centre (SENC) at Eastlakes Shopping Centre each Friday morning, and the second from the Maroubra Uniting Church each Thursday morning. Both SENC and the Maroubra Uniting Church have been fantastically supportive in getting these services up and running and the legal advice service offered by KLC seems to complement the other community services offered by both these agencies. The legal advice appointments have proved very popular, and do seem to be accessed by clients who might find it a little difficult to get to UNSW.

KLC is currently having discussions with Guriwal Aboriginal Corporation to conduct a regular outreach service at La Perouse. The service will probably start in March 2007 and will include providing free legal advice and community legal education sessions on topics requested by the community.

We are continuing to explore other opportunities to provide services at different venues and in alternative ways.

Advice and casework

In addition to our new outreach appointments, our advice and casework services have continued as usual.

The demand for employment law advice and discrimination law advice continues to outstrip our capacity to meet it. As expected, since the industrial relations law changes, we have seen an increase in the proportion of our discrimination cases that occur in employment, with 75% of our current discrimination files involving discrimination in the workplace.

Employment Clinic

In the past two months, the employment clinic has continued to be extremely busy with a high volume of callers seeking advice. We are getting referrals from around NSW but would like to emphasise that the catchment has only

expanded from Bondi to Waterfall and west to Hurstville and we would like to discourage the callers from Bourke and thereabouts. We will always try to refer callers to closer legal centres and are happy to provide employment law assistance to those centres.

The clinic has also finalised a number of matters successfully for clients. An unfair dismissal application against a housing corporation was successful in the NSW Industrial Relations Commission. Our client, Vincent Simms, had worked for the employer for almost 10 years when he was dismissed following a mistake made in refuelling a truck. While Mr Simms was 64 years old at the time of the dismissal he has since obtained new employment which limited the compensation available.

Our matter *Belinda Maree Morley v Qantas Holidays Limite*, reported in the September e-bulletin, was subject to an appeal to the full bench of the AIRC by Qantas. The appeal was, however, withdrawn as part of a last minute settlement agreement and it is hoped this long running matter is almost at an end.

Two other unfair dismissals recently filed with the AIRC have settled after conciliation. In one, our client was working for a smallgoods manufacturer for almost 10 years. He was dismissed for an alleged workplace error without being paid notice or his pro

rata long service leave. Fortunately the unfair dismissal and entitlements claims were settled together and again our client was quickly in new employment. The second matter is still in the process of settlement.

The clinic also assisted a client in a small claims matter in the Chief Industrial Magistrates Court. While we could not appear in the matter, the client had significant language difficulties and a Kingsford student was given leave on the day to assist our client, Luis Lambert, in the hearing. Mr Lambert had been summarily dismissed by the Crowne Plaza Hotel at Coogee for taking food from the staff canteen. He had not sought advice in relation to the dismissal but came to Kingsford after several months to see if he could obtain his pro rata long service leave. Kingsford assisted Mr Lambert with the application and other preparation. As the respondent did not attend the hearing, the matter proceeded ex parte and the Chief industrial Magistrate ordered that Mr Lambert be paid his long service leave, termination notice and interest.

In other news, the NSW Legislative Council's report 'Impact of the Workchoices legislation', referred to in the September e-bulletin has now been released.

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Kingsford Legal Centre is a non-profit community based organisation providing free legal advice to people in the eastern suburbs of Sydney. It is a part of the University of New South Wales Law Faculty and provides clinical legal education to its students. The Centre aims to provide high quality teaching for law students and a high quality legal service to the community.

If you would like to subscribe (free) to this bulletin or would like further information please email Denise Wasley at: d.wasley@unsw.edu.au.

If you would like to unsubscribe to this bulletin please email Denise Wasley at d.wasley@unsw.edu.au with "unsubscribe E-Bulletin" in the subject field.

Feedback on the KLC E-Bulletin

We'd like to receive your feedback on the KLC E-Bulletin. Please email your comments and suggestions to d.wasley@unsw.edu.au.