

## Coming to terms on sexual abuse is crucial

The Australian Government is about to announce the terms of reference for a Royal Commission (RC) into Child Sexual Abuse: the wording will be crucial to the outcome.

At 28 Nov, there had been 555 email comments and 165 written submissions to government on the terms (media release, AG Roxon 28 Nov). See consultation paper: <http://tiny.cc/o2kgow>

As Kirsty Magarey points out in an article on the CLA website – <http://tiny.cc/ybkfow> – the RC will be a minefield of what evidence law is to apply, and how the rights of religion and religious observance interact with mandatory reporting and the rights of the child. And that's just for starters.

The RC will run for more than a year, absorbing much media attention which otherwise might be devoted to the federal election, likely in October 2013.

At the same time, there will – we hope – be continuing media focus on a major inquiry into abuse and sexual abuse in the Australian Defence Force. The DLA Piper report was released earlier in 2012. It shows a pattern of sexual abuse of young boys, from age 13, in the military dating from 60 years ago, and of rape of women during officer training in more recent decades. These sexual crimes are on top of serious physical and mental abuse, bullying and harassment.

While recent focus has been on the Catholic Church, the sexual abuse in the ADF has been possibly worse,

given that it has occurred in government entities by public servants. It is appalling that the most senior Defence officers in Australia seem to have actively ignored what they knew was happening...because it had also happened to them during their training.

The absence of Defence officers coming out to admit and condemn the practices within the services shows a worrying lack of moral courage among people normally considered to be physically courageous. It's time for the truly brave to speak out, CLA believes. It is their duty.

In both the RC and the Defence Inquiry (DI), perpetrators must be brought to account. For too long, a loud silence has prevailed and authorities have turned a blind eye to what would be serious crime if committed outside an institution, whether religious or government-run.

It is to be hoped that all political parties will listen more closely to what the victims say, and to citizens in general, in the lead-up to an election. Unfortunately, politicians seem more inclined to do the bidding of lobbyists, corporate heavies and bureaucrats, including those with a vested interest in promoting fear in the community, than they do to the citizens who elect them.

The number of disparate 'action' groups springing up, dedicated to improving how Australia is governed, is a clear indicator that there is deep-seated dissatisfaction with politicians across the spectrum from Australians at the top and bottom of the social order, and in between.

**Final report released:** In relation to the two major inquiries, the Tasmanian Law Reform Institute last month released its final report on *Sexual Offences Against Young People*. The topical report makes 16 recommendations. Details: <http://tiny.cc/7e7eow>



Cartoon thanks to John Ditchburn, [www.inkcinct.com.au](http://www.inkcinct.com.au)

## Triggs calls Nauru ‘egregious breach’ of international law

Indefinite detention of asylum seekers on Nauru was “an egregious breach of international human rights law”, Australian Human Rights Commissioner, Prof Gillian Triggs, has said.

She asked for an urgent meeting with Immigration Minister Chris Bowen about Nauru, immediately after her return from a human rights conference in Jordan.

"I have made my view really plain to the Department of Immigration and Citizenship....to detain people on this remote island, and delaying by at least six months their processing, and where they're advised that they will be kept there for five years, is an egregious breach of international human rights law," she said.

"Asylum seekers have a legal right under international law to have their claims assessed in a speedy and appropriate way, and this (the delay of up to five years - ed.) is at risk of being arbitrary detention." <http://tiny.cc/dubfnw>

In a separate evaluation of Australia’s refugee regime, ANU Diplomacy Professor William Maley and human rights and international law expert, Professor Pene Mathew (right, ANU photo), have savaged the Immigration Minister for his lack of respect for the law.



“Mr Bowen has no legal qualifications, but he will doubtless claim that he has acted on the basis of legal advice. It is therefore worth recalling that the last time he claimed to be on solid legal ground – over the government's Malaysia solution – he was humiliatingly disabused of the notion by the High Court of Australia. What he proposes is not just illegal, it is plainly illegal. And here, there is far more at stake than casual observers may think,” the pair wrote in the *Canberra Times*.

“The foundations of the Australian political system are constitutionalism and the rule of law. If these are compromised, we all suffer. Governments that act illegally in dealing with refugees are not just a threat to refugees. In a society that should be based on the rule of law, they are a threat to us all.” <http://tiny.cc/rc3eow>

Interestingly, it is the same argument CLA consistently makes for how governments have abused the rule of law by introducing excessive terrorist and bkie laws, which do little if anything to rein in the guilty, but simply penalise and interfere with the lives of innocent Australians.

## Rayney appeal matches state of justice in WA

In a decision in keeping with the state of justice in WA, the State has decided to appeal last month’s acquittal of barrister Lloyd Rayney over killing of his wife, Supreme Court Registrar Corryn Rayney, in August 2007.

No other state has such a flawed history of miscarriages of justice rippling through its police, DPP and legal system over the past 50 years. One recent case, a murder charge against Johnny Montani, was sent to three trials...even though the judge in the second trial threw the police and DPP case against him out of court without even needing to hear the defence. Still the State went to a third trial, which it lost.

In the Rayney case, the appeal will be decided by three judges of the WA Court of Appeal, but has ostensibly emanated from the DPP in NSW, Lloyd Babb. NSW is involved because Lloyd and Corryn Rayney were both so intertwined with the legal system of WA that it is perceived justice could not be served if the WA DPP handled the case.

The appeal claims:

- The trial judge erred in law in failing to apply the principles enunciated in *R v Hillier* (2007) 228 CLR 618 in assessing circumstantial evidence: that is, the judge assessed the circumstances in a piecemeal and sequential manner, failing to consider them as a whole.

- The trial judge erred in law in finding that the fact that the deceased was attacked at, or in the near vicinity of, her house did not alone establish guilt, for the nature of the circumstantial case was that no fact alone established guilt.
- The trial judge erred in law in concluding that the finding of (Mr Rayney's) dinner placecard near the burial site did not prove guilt for the significance of that fact was not assessed together with the other circumstances, in particular, it was not assessed with the accepted fact that the deceased had been attacked at or near her home.

The case, dubbed the "trial of the decade", was heard before former Northern Territory Chief Justice Brian Martin. He found that Mrs Rayney was essentially a victim of a random attack outside her home and was buried head-first in a grave at Kings Park before her car was dumped nearby.

<http://tiny.cc/m335nw>

## Hawke set to pick over bones of FOI, leaving scraps only



Ex-public service heavy Dr Allan Hawke (left) has just started reviewing the Freedom of Information Act 1982 and the Australian Information Commissioner Act 2010.

Hawke – whose career took off as former PM Paul Keating's head apparatchik two decades ago – has been the go-to man for all sorts of Labor governments' inquiries over recent years. He's considered a "safe" pair of hands unlikely to paddle the pot with any vigour in favour of more transparency for the people.

Attorney-General Nicola Roxon said in the announcement media release – <http://tiny.cc/otx8nw> – that about \$41 million of taxpayer money was spent across the Federal Government in 2011-12 processing FOI requests. "In 2011-12, more than 22,000 FOI requests were determined at an average cost of \$1876 per request," the AG said.

CLA says that the "average cost" is a nonsense – it is, or should be, the clearly-articulated responsibility and role of the public service to provide all possible publicly collected and generated information and digital output to the people who pay both for the information, and for the salaries of the people to look after it (and that of Attorneys-General and government reviewers like Hawke).

"The review will consider how the Government's FOI costs could be reduced, including the Information Commissioner's recent recommendations regarding the current charging regime," the AG's media release said.

When an appointee with a track record for producing results for Labor governments is given a brief that basically demands restricting FOI further to save money, the prospects for increasing or even maintaining openness and transparency in government look exceedingly slim, CLA says.

Not publicised in the AG's media release is that Hawke will also review how Prof John McMillan's Office of the Information Commissioner is operating, which means that the administration of privacy protections provided by the federal government is also likely to be savaged.

Under FOI legislation, the review is required two years after the majority of the government's FOI changes began in November 2010.

## Much activity, no convictions...but yet another media release

The federal Minister for Media Releases, Jason Clare, says the Attero Task Force has:

- Arrested/summonsed more than 330 people;
- Laid more than 500 charges ranging from violence related offences including serious assault, stalking, kidnapping and affray to a range of firearms and weapons offences, drug offences, property, street and traffic offences;
- Searched more than 300 premises;
- Seized over 40 firearms, as well as other weapons including knuckle dusters, tasers, a set of throwing stars, machetes, illegal knives and batons; and
- Seized drugs including amphetamines, cannabis, ecstasy and steroids.

“The work of the Aterro taskforce will mean less criminals, less weapons and less drugs on our streets.” Mr Clare said. (CLA thinks he meant to say “fewer”, but accuracy with words is not Mr Clare’s strong point).

“The *Attero* National Task Force includes police from all states and territories as well as the Australian Federal Police, the Australian Crime Commission, the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (ACBPS), the Australian Tax Office (ATO), Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) and Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC).”

Mr Clare “congratulated members of the *Attero* National Task Force targeting the Rebels Outlaw Motorcycle Gang on their work since the establishment of the taskforce in February this year.”

The Minister’s comments would indicate that about 40 people have been working for nine months, targeting one motorcycle mob: that’s 30 person-years of ‘police’ activity for this result. The outcome so far doesn’t look quite so good when analysed for effectiveness...which does not appear to be ever done for such ‘task forces’.

By the way, at the time of the Minister’s media release on 7 Nov 2012, not one conviction had been achieved for all these arrests, summonses, charges and seizures...or he would have mentioned it, surely?

As Minister for Justice, you would think that Mr Clare would be careful, before court hearings, to not use pejorative words in describing the organisation with which the people charged are connected.

He says “Outlaw” with a capital ‘O’, but that appears to be merely a media word, without any legal basis, except maybe in the USA. As there are motorcycle clubs called “Outlaws” in Australia, the Justice Minister is legally confusing in his carelessly-worded media releases. There is a possibility the club might become a “declared” organisation under putative state laws, but it is not formally an “outlaw”.

Mr Clare also describes the group as a “Gang”, whereas the Rebels formal name is Rebels

Motorcycle Club. If a Minister for Justice is so loose with legalese, how accurate is he in other ways?



– Photo: Roy Lister, Sth Aust.

## **Bikies to become real outlaws?**

Meanwhile (see above), Victoria is moving to truly ‘outlaw’ bikie groups under new laws introduced last month.

Police will be able to apply to the Supreme Court to outlaw a gang or place restrictions on members' actions, which may include banning congregating and wearing club colours or patches.

The laws will also allow police “intelligence” to be given in a closed court, if deemed in the public interest. Premier Ted Baillieu said that government would not be involved in the actions and that the court would have to decide beyond reasonable doubt that taking action against a gang was in the public interest and that the gang's activities were "a serious threat to public safety and order".

All orders would be appealable, Mr Baillieu said.

The new law would allow mutual recognition so similar bans on groups made in other states would be recognised in Victoria.

Bikies members in breach of court orders will face up to five years' jail while gangs could be fined up to \$400,000. More new laws will come next year to tackle bikie clubs' headquarters and fortifications, he said. <http://tiny.cc/bx3eow>

## **Tennant sets the record straight**

*An article which appeared here in the original newsletter in December 2012 has been deleted in November 2013 at the request of the person mentioned to ensure an error by a newspaper is not perpetuated by subsequent reporting of the incident by Civil Liberties Australia.*

*CLA understands how such 'secondary' reporting can cause an inadvertent dilemma. We are campaigning for judicial correction in a not-dissimilar case where a person's unusual surname means reporting of his relatively minor offence has caused him to miss out on specialist employment worldwide.*

## **New laws might favour the underlings, IPA fears**

New federal anti-discrimination legislation would skew the process to favour the person making the complaint, the conservative think-tank the Institute of Public Affairs (IPA) says.

IPA director of legal rights Simon Breheny said these changes undermined fundamental legal rights including the presumption of innocence. "The entire complaints process has been skewed towards the person making an allegation of discrimination, and fails to respect the rights of defendants," he said in a statement.

Attorney General Nicola Roxon last month released draft legislation to create a single piece of legislation consolidating five existing statutes covering age, disability, race, sex and other forms of discrimination. The most controversial change relates to the onus of proof.

After the complainant establishes a prima facie case of discrimination, the respondent would then have to show the action was justified or didn't amount to discrimination.

Mr Breheny said the onus of proof should remain on the person making the accusation as it was often very difficult to prove innocence. "Giving complainants an unfair level of power under the legislation raises the threat of dubious claims being made and makes a mockery of Australia's legal system," he said. <http://tiny.cc/q53eow>

Mr Breheny is right that it is difficult to prove innocence, but it is also equally difficult to prove guilt in a corporate setting where all formal power is with management. Final wording of the legislation will need close watching, CLA says.

## **State to tackle discrimination by education**

Meanwhile, in WA, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry says proposed changes to anti-discrimination laws should be tackled through education rather than altering laws.

The WA government has released draft legislation which aims to merge and simplify existing laws. Discrimination on age, race, disability, sexual orientation and gender identity will become grounds for seeking compensation. The changes would shift the burden of proof onto the accused party which must justify its conduct once a complainant's case is established.

The CCI's Paul Moss says it would be better to tackle the issue with education rather than new laws. "From our perspective, the issue of discrimination is probably best tackled through cultural change," he said. <http://tiny.cc/rzg4nw>

## **Traditional owners retain rights after mining**

The Federal Court has ruled in favour of traditional owners, the Ngarla, over miners after a five-year native title dispute in the Pilbara.

Their 2007 native title claim covered thousands of sq km of land and water in the East Pilbara, but there was a dispute over whether a mining lease had completely extinguished native title rights. The full Federal Court has now ruled the Ngarla people do retain their native title rights on land when mining has ended.

The Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation's Simon Hawkins says it is a significant win. "What it's actually saying is that mining interests and pastoral interests are obviously leases, and tenements; they're not there forever and don't extinguish rights and interests," he said. <http://tiny.cc/oibfnw>

## **ODD SPOT: An island by any other name shall smell as sweet...**

*By CLA's special underwater correspondent*

The Minister for Media Releases, Jason Clare, last month said: "Submarines are our most important strategic defence asset. Submarines are like underwater snipers."

Unsurprisingly, he was at the time wearing his Minister for Defence Materiel hat (one of three on his rack), and speaking to the Submarine Institute of Australia's 6th Biennial Conference in Canberra. "Australia is an island," he told his audience, sagaciously yet insularly\*.

He apparently forgot about Tasmania, and a few other surrounded-by-water bits. Australia is actually a number of islands – with Tassie a fairly large one – but that doesn't seem to have registered yet with the Minister.

Being even more accurate, Australia is mostly a collection of "excised offshore places", to quote the Department of Immigration *Fact Sheet 81: Australia's Excised Offshore Places* – <http://www.immi.gov.au/media/fact-sheets/81excised-offshore.htm>

Soon the big island 'Australia' which Mr Clare referred to will itself be excised from the migration zone, as the Labor Caucus has decided. So we'll be in the silly situation of paying billions of motza for new submarines to protect island(s) that actually aren't there, legally.

Mr Clare (right) is sometimes called the Minister for Media Releases for issuing 1-2-3 releases a day of the latest refugee tourist boats, and the number of people on them, to arrive off some of Australia's other islands (which have apparently been 'excised' from Mr Clare's mind).

At or near those islands, the Jason Clare taxi service, also known as the Australian Customs and Boarder\*\* Protection fleet, incorporating the Australian Navy, provides a free ferry service to another choice of island: Christmas, Manus, Nauru. Which holiday island they go to is a lottery. Perhaps we should call Mr Clare the Minister for Island Tourism instead...if only he knew that Australia comprises more than one island.

With speech-making of such quality, we look forward to more Clare-ity from the Minister for Talking Nonsense.

*\* using 'insular' in its 'narrow' or 'provincial' meaning.*

*\*\* using 'boarder' to indicate that the Australian Government puts the refugees up, providing their 'board', for a period of many, many months, maybe five years or so.*

*Reference - speech: "This is a plan for the nation and it needs the nation to back it", to the Submarine Institute of Australia, 6th Biennial Conference, Academy of Science "Shine Dome", Canberra, 14 November 2012 by The Hon Jason Clare MP, Minister for Home Affairs, Minister for Justice, Minister for Defence Material <http://tiny.cc/0vgsnw>*



## **Parliament legislates a testing time...for others**

Parliament has passed the Law Enforcement Integrity Legislation Amendment Bill 2012.

Officers of the Australian Federal Police, the Australian Crime Commission and the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service will be subject to "targeted integrity tests", or 'entrapment', as CLA calls it.

According to the Minister for Justice, Jason Clare, "integrity tests are covert operations that are designed to test whether a public official will respond to a simulated situation in a manner that is illegal or would contravene an agency's standard of integrity".

He gave examples including:

- a covert operative handing a wallet containing cash to officers and observing that correct handling protocols are observed;
- leaving valuable goods at a simulated crime scene to test whether an officer steals the item; and
- a covert operative offering a Commonwealth officer a bribe.

The legislation doubles the number of agencies oversighted by the corruption watchdog, the Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity (ACLEI).

Staff from CrimTrac, the Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC), and prescribed staff in the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry will now be subject to the jurisdiction of ACLEI – media release, 26 Nov 2012.

CLA commented that recent revelations in regard to the NSW Ministry would suggest that federal politicians might usefully be similarly tested, to an equal opportunity entrapment regime with the people who work for them. The federal parliament declined to include politicians in the legislation.

## **Coroner calls stun-death police thugs and liars**

NSW Coroner Mary Jerram said – in the stun gun-related death of Brazilian Roberto Laudisio Curti earlier this year – "the actions of a number of the officers were ... reckless, careless, dangerous and excessively forceful".

"They were an abuse of police powers [and] in some instances even thuggish," she said.

Ms Jerram said many officers had lied to the inquest and "conveniently forgotten" evidence. She said the most senior officer present during the violent struggle, Inspector Gregory Cooper, gave evidence so conflicting and self-serving it "hardly deserves narration". He claimed that he told the junior officers to stop using their Tasers. None of those officers heard the order and the Coroner said it was likely he never made it but was seeking to shift the blame on to other officers in court.

Mr Curti was chased by police down Pitt Street in Sydney's city centre, stunned several times, sprayed with almost three cans of OC spray, and handcuffed and restrained by seven officers on the ground during the incident in March this year.

NSW Police Commissioner Andrew Scipione said he accepted the Coroner's recommendations and said the force would "carefully examine" the issues Ms Jerram asked them to. However, he stood by the use of stun guns as a weapon for officers, saying they "save lives".

Ms Jerram, in her 35 pages of findings in Glebe Coroner's Court last month, recommended five officers, including Probationary Constable Daniel Barling, who stunned Mr Curti five times after he was handcuffed, be disciplined. She said the actions of police during the pursuit and restraint of the Brazilian were being referred to the Police Integrity Commission for investigation. The Police Commissioner said that all five officers referred for further investigation to PIC remain "in the workplace" but that would be reviewed.

Ms Jerram also called for an immediate review of the vague and confusing standard operating procedures relating to the use of OC (capsicum) spray, Tasers, handcuffs, restraint and positional asphyxia, particularly the use of multiple stun gun shots and its "drive stun mode" as a pain compliance tool.

She also said the police should review "communication procedures to ensure that signs of mental disturbance in any person who is the subject of a police report be communicated and officers trained further to respond accordingly". And she urged an examination of the NSW Police VKG (police radio) procedures be undertaken "to ensure accurate categorisation of any incident reported". <http://tiny.cc/sazqnw>

## **'14-years-old'...and stunned**

The ABC 7.30 program last month covered the story of a 14-year-old boy being stunned by police in another case that raises questions whether officers adhere to operating protocols.

Solicitor Kevin Henshaw, from Kempsey Aboriginal Legal Service in NSW, says footage recorded by a stun gun shows one of the worst cases of police brutality he has seen in a long career.

"Watching the tape, watching the child crying and screams (sic), and the fact that police weren't really concerned, that was the most distressing part of this incident," he told the ABC. "His treatment is akin to torture... no-one deserves to be treated like that."

The incident occurred at Crescent Head on the NSW mid-north coast. The region has big social problems fuelled by the toxic mix of youth, alcohol and drugs among a high Indigenous population.

Footage: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2012-11-13/lawyer-slams-police-for-tasering-14yo/4369976>

## **'Armless, legless'...but he overpowered a police officer, and was stunned**

A disabled Newcastle NSW man has told a Canberra court he was stunned by police at his parents' home during his mother's 60th birthday celebrations, ABC Radio reported last month.

Anthony Gilkes, 35, got into an altercation with his father during the birthday party in 2011 at a house in Palmerston in Canberra's north. ACT Policing, an arm of the Australian Federal Police, were called and Gilkes slapped a policeman on the cheek before being stunned, police say.

Gilkes has a deformed right arm and no right hand. He also has a prosthetic right leg.

Police have previously told the ACT Magistrates Court that Gilkes resisted arrest and was stunned because he was straddling an officer on the ground. They also say that Gilkes may have used a broken pot plant as a weapon.

But Gilkes told the court that his prosthesis makes it impossible for him to kneel on the ground, and that he could not have used his deformed arm to hold the officer down or to grab the broken pot.

<http://tiny.cc/ehzqnw>

## **Police stun man 28 times...but no need for disciplinary action**

A coroner has found no grounds for disciplinary action against Queensland police who stunned Antonio Galeano 28 times just before he died at Brandon, near Townsville, in 2009.

Deputy state coroner Christine Clements has introduced the extremely dubious American term, "excited delirium", into Australia as a "cause of death". It is a "cause of death" highly disputed by reputable US and Australian medical bodies, and is a fabricated explanation produced by US medical examiners (coroners with some medical knowledge).

US television shows have imbued medical examiners with inflated attributes, knowledge and powers of observation. In some US jurisdictions, Wisconsin for example, you don't need any qualifications to be appointed.

Clements found Mr Galeano had a heart condition and was suffering from drug-related complications. However, in her report she found the application of a Taser stun gun also contributed to the 39-year-old's death.

Ms Clements made 18 recommendations but added there was no basis for disciplining any of the officers involved in Mr Galeano's death.

Qld Police Union spokesman Ian Leavers said: "What the coroner rightly found was that it was not police who caused this, it was not a Taser, but it comes down to drug use, which destroys lives within the community," he said. <http://tiny.cc/q1csnw>

## **Google ogled by Australian governments**

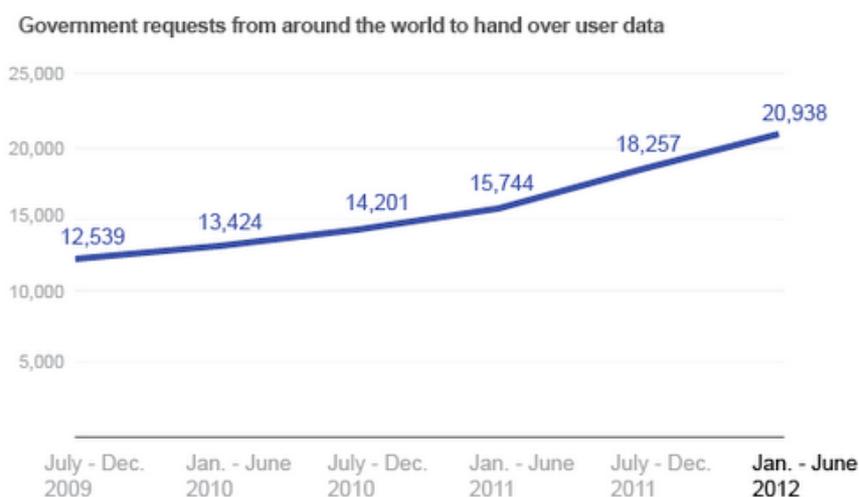
Australian governments have increased their surveillance of citizens' internet usage over the past six months, according to Google.

In the first six months of 2012, Australian governments and their agencies made 523 requests to access Google users' data, including information contained in Gmail and YouTube accounts. It was the ninth highest number of requests in the world over the same period, with the US recording the most (7969).

The figures, in Google's latest Transparency Report, show a steady rise in the number of requests for access from Australian governments since it first began publishing the data in July 2009. Most requests in 2012 were from law enforcement agencies for criminal investigations, Google said. The company complied with 64%, a 1% fall in compliance from the previous six months. Globally, there were 20,938 requests from governments to hand over data, a big rise on the 12,539 requests recorded in July 2009.

Australian governments also made 92 requests to remove items from Google websites, including YouTube and search engine results, most for "privacy and security" reasons, or over defamation and copyright issues.

Google highlighted one instance where a state government, which it did not name, asked to remove a YouTube video of "statements made against police officers". <http://tiny.cc/fiyqnw>



Source: <http://tiny.cc/v4dsnw>

## CLCs get slightly more funding, youths get the boot

The Queensland Government has given an extra \$500,000 to 12 state community legal centres.

AG Jarrod Bleijie said the funding came through the Legal Practitioner Interest on Trust Accounts Fund. Grant recipients are: Cairns CLC, Central Queensland CLC, Gladstone Community Advice Legal Program, Gold Coast Legal Service, Logan Legal Advice Centre – Youth and Family Service Inc., Mackay Regional CLS, Nundah Community Legal Service, Prisoners' Legal Service, South West Brisbane CLC, The Advocacy & Support Centre – Toowoomba, Townsville CLS and the Youth Advocacy Centre.

The AG also announced changes to the state's Youth Justice Act so. "Our \$2 million boot camp trial aims to stop the cycle of youth crime and give offenders an opportunity to make positive choices and turn their lives around," he said. "The trial will include a sentenced youth boot camp in Cairns and an early intervention youth boot camp on the Gold Coast."

It will also involve new "naming and shaming" provisions – from AG Qld media releases.

## Police chastened by criminal taunts...but taunter is in jail

The Queensland Police Union says criminals are taunting officers because of the state's 'no pursuit' policy.

QPU president Ian Leavers says in one incident, a criminal phoned the police communications centre after speeding away from police, and played back the scanner, saying there was nothing they could do to stop him.

Mr Leavers says crime rates and the road toll have increased since the introduction of the pursuit policy in December. "We can't do our job - we might as well just respond to reported crime," he said. "Unless criminals hand themselves in, we just almost give up. We allow them to continue to steal cars and make people's lives a misery. Under the current policy, if you're a criminal, come to Queensland and run from the police and there's not a thing we can do."



New Queensland Police Commissioner Ian Stewart (left) said there was flexibility in the policy and it was not a case of police not being able to do the job because they cannot chase speeding criminals.

"This is about balancing the risk of serious injury or even death to members of the public, to even our officers, with the impact on the public of the offence being committed," he said. "In many cases, it's just a simple traffic offence that starts

these things."

Mr Stewart said the QPU criticism may have more to do with upcoming union elections.

"There is a recent case where an offender was taunting police by ringing the Police Communications Centre as he was involved in a pursuit situation and trying to taunt the police to chase him," he said.

"That offender is now in custody. He's been charged with multiple criminal and vehicle offences, including evading police, and that was done without a pursuit." <http://tiny.cc/64sxnw>  
(See item, **Runners cop automatic fine/suspension**, under Australian briefs, below).

## **MP laments youth not being sent to the “culling fields” of war**

A West Australian MP last month told state parliament that more violent people are on the streets because they are not being sent off to war.

During debate about classifying video games, the Labor member for Forrestfield, Andrew Waddell, said the people who commit violence would have in the past been sent off to war. "The reality is we are not culling the young anymore," he said. "We are not sending them off to a foreign battlefield to actually kill other people and so consequently that is why they are on our streets. That's the reality, we haven't had a major conflict in a very long time."

Mr Waddell holds the seat of Forrestfield, which includes the apparently aptly named Gooseberry Hill and Maddington. <http://tiny.cc/O6kunw>

## **New mandatory sentencing ‘stupid’, criminal lawyers say**

The president of the NT Criminal Lawyers Association says the government's new mandatory sentencing laws for serious assault are "stupid".

Attorney-General John Elferink has announced mandatory three-month jail terms for people found guilty of serious assault and 12 months for repeat offenders.

Association president Russell Goldflam says the government should let legal professionals do their jobs. "These laws are just like the last lot were, stupid," he said. "They will cause great injustice, they will cost us a fortune, they will tie up the courts in endless legal debates, which we don't need. Worst of all, they stop judges and magistrates doing their jobs. Their job is to sentence.

"This is sentencing, in effect, by partisan politicians."

Mr Elferink says the laws are an important way to ensure minimum standards are met. CLA says that, if standards are to be set, they should be set by a public inquiry which establishes community benchmarks, not by a political direction. CLA believes mandatory sentencing is like employing a computer to sit on the court bench – you could get rid of the judge entirely. <http://tiny.cc/l1sxnw>

## Australian briefs

**Why no perjury charges?** CLA is puzzled why police and corrective services people, shown by video recording to have lied to courts, are not charged with perjury. Instead, in most cases, any disciplinary action or punishment is left to the police or prison authorities...and usually either nothing happens, or the mildest slap on the wrist is handed down. See this case for an example of when we think perjury charges might be appropriate: <http://tiny.cc/vo16nw>

**Medical cannabis for NSW?:** A NSW Legislative Council Committee will inquire into the use of cannabis for medical purposes. Submissions close on 15 Feb 2013, there will be two hearings in Sydney in March, with a final report to be published on 14 May 2013. <http://tiny.cc/he38nw>

**Repeal has appeal:** WA last month held the state's Repeal Day to start removing obsolete acts of parliament. Premier Colin Barnett said the move aimed to cut red tape: he has promised an annual Repeal Day if re-elected. Five acts dating back to 1952 were being removed from the statute books on the day. CLA congratulates Mr Barnett and the Liberal government on the initiative. The five Acts being repealed are: the Broken Hill Proprietary Company Limited Agreements (Variation) Act 1980; Broken Hill Proprietary Company's Integrated Steel Works Agreement Act 1960; Broken Hill Proprietary Steel Industry Agreement Act 1952; the Iron and Steel (Mid West) Agreement Act 1997; Nickel Refinery (Western Mining Corporation Limited) Agreement Act 1968. <http://tiny.cc/8j5gnw>

**Mercury fined for naming rape victim:** A Supreme Court judge has fined the Hobart Mercury newspaper publisher Davies Brothers \$10,000 for naming a rape victim in July, the second time in 2012 the Mercury had committed the same offence. Editor Andrew Holman was also charged with contempt of court for naming the victim but avoided conviction. Justice Peter Evans was told six people dealt with the story during the publication process: he commented it was "startling" the error was not detected but accepted it was a mistake. <http://tiny.cc/a3s5mw>

**Sentencing by weight:** Proposed changes to the Commonwealth Code's serious drug offences. Article by Ian Leader-Elliott (2012) 36(5) [Criminal Law Journal](#) 263. Major increases in the punishment for Criminal Code offences of trafficking, commercial cultivation and manufacture of controlled drugs are under consideration by the Commonwealth government. New model schedules of controlled drugs would have two effects: 1. extend the penalties of imprisonment for life and imprisonment for 25 years to a range of substances currently attracting comparatively minor regulatory penalties; 2. extend penalties of imprisonment for life and imprisonment for 25 years to far smaller quantities of existing controlled drugs. The model schedules are proposed for uniform adoption in all Australian jurisdictions: they have been adopted in SA. The article discusses the lack of evidence or argument to justify the dramatic increases in penalties proposed – from *Qld Legal Updater*, 5 Nov 2012

**Tasman-hoppers snared by swap deal:** An original six-month trial of sharing of criminal history information for employers, about potential employees, between Queensland and New Zealand is being extended to July 2013. An Australian Privacy Impact Assessment of the trial to ensure it complies with requirements of the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth) has just been posted on the Attorney-General's Department's website. Ministers Clare and Collins (NZ) joint media release, 15 Nov 2012.

**Voluntary euthanasia has influential supporters:** If NT politicians get to vote on re-introducing voluntary euthanasia law, both Attorney-General John Elferink and Opposition Leader Delia Lawrie say they would vote yes for reintroducing it. The NT's voluntary euthanasia legislation was overturned by a specially-passed federal law 15 years ago. The Greens in both the ACT and NT

want to vote on the issue. "My personal view is that I would be inclined to support people making a decision for themselves," AG Elferink said. <http://tiny.cc/tcq0nw>

**Runners cop automatic fine/suspension:** A man from Hervey Bay and another in Caboolture have paid the first \$5500 fines and suffered the first automatic two-year loss of licence for trying to run from police in Queensland. The court sentences follow the Newman Government upping the fines and making penalties mandatory in August. Police claim about 1500 motorists ran away from them in the first six months of the year. <http://tiny.cc/hi6zrw>

**Magistrates become circular judges:** There is now a new Federal Circuit Court of Australia, staffed by Judges. It replaces the Federal Magistrates Court, which was staffed by Federal Magistrates. Parliament passed the enabling legislation last month AG's media release, 21 Nov 2012.

**Twice-acquitted man convicted over same crime:** A Sydney man has been sent to jail, creating history as the first person in NSW to be tried three times over the same crime. In late November, a jury found Phillip Leung, 51, guilty of manslaughter of his long-time partner, Mario Guzzetti, at their home in Alexandria in 2007. Leung was tried for murder in 2009 and acquitted when the judge directed a jury to find him not guilty. The Crown used NSW's new "double jeopardy" laws to have the verdict quashed, and charged him with manslaughter. Then he was again acquitted on a judge's directed verdict, the first person to be acquitted twice on directed verdicts. In March 2012, the NSW Court of Criminal Appeal upheld a second Crown appeal and ordered a trial for manslaughter. A jury has decided the man acquitted twice by judges is guilty. He will be sentenced shortly. <http://tiny.cc/fngchow>

## **CLA report – for November 2012**

Board meeting 18 November: Particular issues: marketing, trial employment of person for membership, eAGM election timetable confirmed, use of social media, media issues, adopted business plan, investigation of use of 'info-graphics', WA Justice project. NOTE: WA-based Director Rex Widerstrom joins the board via Skype.

### **Networking meetings:**

Estelle Blackburn re WA Justice project

Rebecca Prior re media spokesperson role

Margaret O'Callaghan re her Africa project and human rights in mining work

Senator Alan Eggleston re Justice project, gene patents, bill of rights, euthanasia

Ali Khan, John-Paul Dzirba and Herschel Hurst re membership and public relations

### **Meetings representing CLA:**

- Electoral Redistribution in Australia, Prof Brian Opeskin, CIPL, ANU
- Smart Justice, ex-judge Peggy Hora, ACT Government
- Prof Nikifomros Diamandouros - European Ombudsman, Rule of Law, Democracy and the Ombudsman, National Europe Centre ANU
- Lecture: Prof Donald Rothwell, Diplomatic Protection of Australians Abroad, ANU
- Prof John McMillan, Information Commissioner
- U3A AGM and Dying with Dignity ACT AGM

### **Parliamentary Inquiry hearings and similar:**

COAG review of counter terrorism legislation

Chris Hayes MHR re 'classification' of CLA supplementary submission by the Law Enforcement Committee, which he chairs

### **Submissions:**

Copyright: Australian Law Reform Commission (Tim Vines)

Supplementary to Law Enforcement Committee - definition of 'criminal intelligence' (Bill Rowlings)

Sub on the Draft 5th Report by Australia on the Convention Against Torture (CAT) and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Rhys Michie)  
Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Bill 2012 (Rhys Michie)

#### **Media:**

Tim Vines

Point to Point Cameras in ACT:

- Canberra Times
- Prime7 News
- 2CC Radio
- WIN TV

Phone interception figures released - The Advertiser, Adelaide

Rebecca Pryor

2CC interview

Rex Widerstrom

Lloyd Rayney murder trial: Rex issued quick media release immediately after not guilty verdict, with CLA calling for an inquiry in the practices of the WA Police and the DPP procedures in the case:

- 6PR
- Channel 9 News
- The West Australian (print and online)
- Who Weekly

GPS Tracking of Sex Offenders: ABC Radio and online

#### **Gene Patents Campaign:**

Submission to ALRC Inquiry into Copyright and the Digital Economy on copyright/patent issues;  
Read it

here: [http://www.alrc.gov.au/sites/default/files/subs/cla\\_alrc\\_copyright\\_submission\\_final.pdf](http://www.alrc.gov.au/sites/default/files/subs/cla_alrc_copyright_submission_final.pdf)

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/freegenes>

Twitter Feed: <https://www.twitter.com/freegenes>

## **INTERNATIONAL**

### **Ex-police chief celebrates end to 'war' on marijuana**

In the US election on 6 November, nine states and localities voted for measures legalising or decriminalising marijuana, an outcome celebrated by former Seattle police chief Norm Stamper, an international campaigner for common sense on drugs.

"I cannot tell you how happy I am that after 40 years of the racist, destructive exercise in futility that is the war on drugs, my home state of Washington has now put us on a different path," Mr Stamper told the *New York Times*.

Washington State will now regulate and tax marijuana instead of criminalising the plant, after initiative 502 won approval as a public health approach. <http://tiny.cc/rd6gnw>



*Photo shows CLA President Dr Kristine Klugman and former Police Chief Mr Stamper in Canberra.*

### **Anti-gay law will be Ugandan Christmas gift**

Uganda's anti-gay bill will pass this month despite international criticism of the draft legislation, the parliament's Speaker, Rebecca Kadaga, said last month.

Ugandans "are demanding it," she said last month, reiterating a promise she made before a meeting recently of anti-gay activists who spoke of "the serious threat" posed by homosexuals to Uganda's children. Some Christian clerics at the meeting in the Ugandan capital, Kampala, asked the speaker to pass the law as "a Christmas gift." <http://tiny.cc/69snnw>

## 'Electronic fence' prevents women slipping over the border

Saudi Arabia has been accused of behaving like Big Brother after introducing technology that alerts males by text whenever women under their guardianship leave the country.

The kingdom bans women from driving, excludes them from most workplaces, and disapproves of women's sport. Now it operates a new electronic system that tracks all cross-border movements.

The system functions even if a woman is travelling with her husband or male "guardian", with a text sent immediately to the man. Saudi women must get formal approval from their guardians to travel abroad, and have to hand in an infamous "yellow slip", signed by a male, at the airport or border.

<http://tiny.cc/ilagow>

## Organs to be donated, not harvested from people executed

China is phasing out its reliance on organs from executed prisoners for transplants from early next year as a new national donation system is implemented, a government-appointed expert has said.

Chinese officials acknowledge that a transplantation system that uses mostly organs from death-row prisoners is neither ethical nor sustainable, Wang Haibo said in an interview in the November edition of the World Health Organisation's journal, *Bulletin*.

An organ donation system run by the Red Cross Society of China had been piloted for two years in 16 regions and was scheduled to be rolled out nationwide by early 2013, Wang said.

<http://tiny.cc/gid5mw>

## Prisoner swap? Here's a proposal to the point!

It seems CLArion, like most other media, was fooled into reporting that Canadian Omar Khadr was the "last" Western captive held in Guantanamo Bay before his recent release.



There's apparently another, a Russian, whose story is told by Andy Worthington in *'The Black Hole of Guantánamo: The Sad Story of Ravil Mingazov'*. Mingazov's (left) release has been ordered by a court, but the US Administration has appealed, so he remains in Gbay limbo.

Few people are aware that there is an American held by the Taliban: US Army Sgt



Bowe Bergdahl (right), was captured by them in June 2009. Roger Fitch Esq, the erstwhile US correspondent for the Australian legal blog site, Richard Ackland's *'Justinian'*, suggested back in June 2010 that Mingazov and Bergdahl be swapped...for the sake of the arts!

In a twist stranger even than the "war" in Afghanistan, Mingazov and Bergdahl are both ballet dancers. <http://tiny.cc/uni2mw>

## EU wants to wind back apps' surveillance

Lawmakers in Europe are planning stringent data protection rules to give consumers new legal powers to better control information being collected on them, for example through apps.

Proposed revisions to the European Union's General Data Protection regulation before the Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs Committee of the European Parliament would require web businesses to get explicit consent from consumers to collect data. A proposal would also give consumers the ability to choose what information an app can store on them without losing the ability to use the software.

Drafting the revisions, which are not expected until late 2013 at the earliest, has set off a concerted lobbying battle by global technology companies, most based in the USA, to weaken consent

requirements which could undermine the advertising-financed business models driving many of the free applications. <http://tiny.cc/3hu5mw>

## **Drug varieties on market are exploding**

A record 57 new legal highs have been detected so far this year in Europe, with the EU's early warning system reporting more than one new psychoactive drug on the market every week.

The rise and rise of legal highs is being driven by an explosion in the number of online retailers selling the new drugs in Europe, which has risen from 170 in 2010 to a record 693 internet "head shops" identified in a snapshot earlier this year.

The rapid spread of the market in legal highs, partly driven by organised crime, is revealed in the annual report from the Lisbon-based European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction published last month.

Drug experts say that, while cocaine, ecstasy and amphetamines continue to be the main players for those taking stimulants across Europe, they are now competing with a growing number of emerging synthetic drugs.

The EU's drug agency says nearly 10% of 15-to 24-year-olds in Britain have used a legal high at some time – twice the European average of 5% for this age group. This is exceeded only by the 16% recorded for this age group in Ireland and matched by similar levels in Poland and Latvia.

<http://tiny.cc/2yftnw>

## **Mobile phones result in court misconceptions**

US lawmakers and judges are wrangling over whether and when law enforcement authorities can peer into suspects' cellphones, and the cornucopia of evidence they provide.

A Rhode Island judge threw out mobile phone evidence that led to a man being charged with the murder of a 6-year-old boy, saying the police needed a search warrant. A court in Washington compared text messages to voice mail messages that can be overheard by anyone in a room and are therefore not protected by state privacy laws. In Louisiana, a federal appeals court is weighing whether location records stored in smartphones deserve privacy protection, or whether they are "business records" that belong to the phone companies.

"The courts are all over the place," said Hanni Fakhoury, a criminal lawyer with the Electronic Frontier Foundation, a San Francisco-based civil liberties group. "They can't even agree if there's a reasonable expectation of privacy in text messages that would trigger (US Constitution) Fourth Amendment protection."

A US Senate committee is considering changes to the US Electronic Communications Privacy Act, a 1986 law that regulates how the government can monitor digital communications. Courts have used it to permit warrantless surveillance of certain kinds of mobile phone data. A proposed amendment would require the police to obtain a warrant to search e-mail, no matter how old it was, updating a provision that currently allows warrantless searches of e-mails more than 180 days old.

As technology races ahead of the law, courts and lawmakers are still trying to figure out how to think about the often intimate data that cellphones contain, said Peter P. Swire, a law professor at Ohio State University. Neither the 1986 statute nor the Constitution, he said, could have anticipated how much information mobile phones may contain, including detailed records of people's travels and diagrams (or images) of their friends. <http://tiny.cc/qiieow>

## **Call for genital mutilation to be banned globally**

A UN committee has endorsed a resolution calling for a global ban on female genital mutilation (FGM).

The consensus endorsement by the UN general assembly's human rights committee calls the practice harmful and a serious threat to the psychological, sexual and reproductive health of women and girls.

It calls on the UN's 193 member states to condemn the practice and launch educational campaigns for girls and boys, women and men, to eliminate it. It also urges all countries to enact and enforce legislation to prohibit FGM, to protect women and girls "from this form of violence" and to end impunity for violators.

With 110 sponsors the resolution is virtually certain to be approved by the full general assembly in the second half of December. Although not legally binding, assembly resolutions reflect international concerns and carry moral and political weight. <http://tiny.cc/osmfow> and AP.

## International briefs

**Beware of Greeks bearing gifts:** A hacker has been caught holding a staggering nine million pieces of data on Greek citizens – enough to cover almost the entire population of the country. The batch of stolen information included ID card data, personal addresses, tax ID and car registration numbers, accounting for some 83% of all Greeks. Authorities are investigating whether the 35-year old computer programmer was working alone or had an inside man funneling him the files: he is suspected of trying to sell his amazing haul of Greek information. <http://tiny.cc/4jqdow>

**Large rump wants to keep the death penalty:** 75 nations have voted against a resolution calling for a moratorium on the death penalty, or abstained, in a UN vote last month. Only 110 voted for the resolution, which is strange as 150 nations have either abolished the death penalty or do not practice it – UN media release, 21 Nov 2012

**Irish female eyes not smiling:** Protestors are now regularly on the streets of Ireland and outside Irish embassies worldwide demanding abortion law reform following the death of Savita Halappanavar, 31. She died of septicemia after doctors at a Galway hospital refused to terminate her 17-week pregnancy even knowing a miscarriage was inevitable and there was no chance the fetus would survive. In 1983, an amendment to Ireland's constitution banned abortion completely, but the Irish Supreme Court has ruled it is permitted in some circumstances. The EU Court of Human Rights in 2010 demanded that Ireland pass a law to give effect to the Supreme Court ruling, but the Irish Government has so far procrastinated. <http://tiny.cc/mnxsnw>



**Those eyes really do follow you:** Italian mannequin maker Almax is promoting a new range of models with seeing eyes. Using surveillance camera recording equipment in their heads, they monitor such proclivities as where customers look, who looks at what time of day, how tall people are relative to the mannequin: all this feeds into optimising the store displays to make more sales. Next time you're looking at a mannequin, give it a knowing wink. Left: An Almax 'seeing eye' mannequin. <http://tiny.cc/9dr7nw>

**Jamaica puts the cat to bed:** Jamaica is to abolish a slavery-era law allowing flogging and whipping to punish prisoners, the country's justice ministry has said. The punishment had not been ordered by a court since 2004, the ministry said, but the statutes remain in the island's penal code. It was administered with strokes from a tamarind tree switch or a cat o'nine tails, a whip made of nine knotted cords. Justice Minister Mark Golding said the punishment was an anachronism that violated Jamaica's international obligations and prevented the government from ratifying the UN convention against torture. <http://tiny.cc/tbavnw>

**A weasel by any other name, like 'secret trial':** The UK is planning to extend secret hearings, known as "closed material procedures" (CMPs), into the main civil courts in England and Wales in a major threat to open justice. The bill would restrict access to some sensitive intelligence to the trial judge and special advocates, who would be cleared for security and would represent claimants. The bill follows public airing of evidence during litigation brought on behalf of Binyam

Mohamed and other former Guantánamo Bay detainees. The court of appeal agreed to disclose CIA information. This showed MI5 and MI6 knew that Mohamed, a UK resident, had been abused. <http://tiny.cc/wjewnw>

**Heats on nasty tweets:** Prosecutions in Britain for electronic communications – phone calls, emails and social media posts – that are "grossly offensive or of an indecent, obscene or menacing character" rose from 1263 in 2009 to 1843 in 2011. The number of convictions grew from 873 in 2009 to 1286 last year. <http://tiny.cc/hxp0nw>

## DATES

### DECEMBER:

**4 Dec, Melbourne:** 'Integrity in Government', public search conference, keynote speaker: Senator John Faulkner, U. Melb. Law School, 9.30-5.30 free, prior registration required: Contact: Howard Whitton – [hwhitton@gmail.com](mailto:hwhitton@gmail.com)

**4 Dec, Brisbane:** Centre of Excellence in Policing and Security (CEPS), Griffith Uni, Qld. International Workshop on Responses to Drug Crime in China. 9am-4.15pm, Eco Centre, Nathan Campus. Info: [melanie.davies@griffith.edu.au](mailto:melanie.davies@griffith.edu.au)

**5-7 Dec, Gold Coast, Qld:** 2012 National Indigenous Health Conference: *Many Pathways, One Outcome*. Conference website: [www.indigenoushealth.net](http://www.indigenoushealth.net) or email [admin@indigenoushealth.net](mailto:admin@indigenoushealth.net)

**11 Dec, Sydney:** Comparative Constitutional Law – 2012 Final Courts Round-up seminar, 5.30pm, Court 18B, Federal Court of Australia, Queens Sq. Details: Gilbert and Tobin Centre, <http://tiny.cc/tfw8kw>

**13-14 Dec, Sydney:** International workshop on '[States of Surveillance – Counter-Terrorism and Comparative Constitutionalism](#)'. Gilbert and Tobin Centre, UNSW. Info: [f.davis@unsw.edu.au](mailto:f.davis@unsw.edu.au)

### 2013:

**19-20 Jan, Hobart:** Animal Law Conference, UTAS. Keynote speaker Prof Marsha Baum, U. New Mexico USA. <http://www.utas.edu.au/law/utas-animal-law-conference> Register online by 19 Dec 2012.

**14 Feb, Sydney:** Prof Geoffrey Lindell's delivers the 4th Annual George Winterton Lecture, 6pm, Banco Court, Supreme Court of NSW. Free but register via: [sydney.edu.au/law/events](http://sydney.edu.au/law/events)

**15 Feb, Sydney:** 2013 Constitutional Law Conference and Dinner, Art Gallery of NSW, Details: Gilbert and Tobin Centre. Details: <http://www.gtcentre.unsw.edu.au>

**25 Feb, Sydney:** 3rd Human Rights Tertiary Workshop, 9.30–5pm, Faculty of Law, UNSW. Register by 14 Dec at <http://tiny.cc/5rlgow> Attendance is free.



**25-26 Feb, Melbourne:** Media and Communications Law. Keynotes: Dr Mark Andrejevic (Centre for Critical and Cultural Studies, UQ) on *Pre-emptive security: Policing, Security, and the Big Data*; Professor Tanya Aplin (Dickson Poon School of Law, King's College London) on *Privacy Reform Post Leveson*; and Dr Alana Maurushat - pictured at left - (Cyberspace Law and Policy Centre, UNSW) on *Piratage*. Details and to register: <http://tiny.cc/x6cgow>

**12-14 Mar, Brisbane:** NatStats Conference, "A better informed Australia: the role of statistics in building the nation". <http://blog.abs.gov.au/Blog/natstats.NSF/>

**4-5 April, Geelong:** Leadership for the Next Generation in PNG. Details: <http://www.deakin.edu.au/alfred-deakin-research-institute/png/>

**30-31 May, Sydney:** Biometrics Institute Asia-Pacific conference 2013. Details: <http://tiny.cc/l66eow>

**25-28 August, Adelaide:** 8th Australian Women and Policing Conference. Deadline for abstracts/blogs is 25 Feb 2013 to [conference@acwap.com.au](mailto:conference@acwap.com.au) Info: <http://www.acwap.com.au>

**11-13 Dec, Parramatta, Sydney:** Trans-Tasman Domestic Violence Conference, Rydges Parramatta Hotel, website: <http://www.gcadv.net/2013dvconference.htm> Call for papers (first closing 30 Oct 2012) or details and registration form, email: [chairman@gcadv.net](mailto:chairman@gcadv.net)

### 2015:

**June, England:** 800th anniversary of Magna Carta  
**Date, Place TBC:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Global Domestic Violence Conference

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*CLArion* is the monthly e-newsletter of Civil Liberties Australia A04043, Box 7438 FISHER ACT 2611 Australia. Responsibility for election comment in *CLArion* is taken by CLA's Public Officer, Bill Rowlings, of Fisher, ACT. Please feel free to report or pass on items in *CLArion*, crediting CLA and/or the original source. We welcome contributions for the next issue: please send to: [mailto:secretary\[at\]cla.asn.au](mailto:secretary[at]cla.asn.au)

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