

# Kingsford Legal Centre

## E BULLETIN

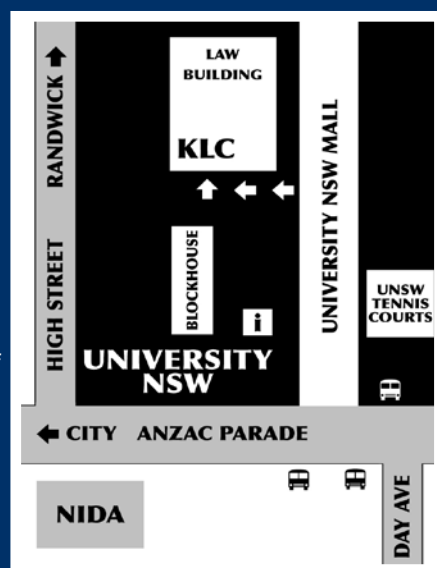
### AUTUMN 07

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#### 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.

## PROJECTS

### UN Shadow Reports

The National Human Rights Network of the National Association of Community Legal Centres (NACLC), together with a coalition of other non-government organisations (NGOs) has embarked on a project to document the state of human rights in Australia, and ultimately to enhance the protection of human rights standards in Australia.

The primary focus of this work will be the preparation of two shadow reports to the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) and to the UN Human Rights Committee under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR).

Teena Balgi, KLC Solicitor, has been involved in this project, as she is a co-convenor of the National Human Rights Network of NACLC. Anyone who is interested in being involved in this project, should contact Teena at [t.balgi@unsw.edu.au](mailto:t.balgi@unsw.edu.au) or 02 9385 9566.

### KLC Consultative Committee

A very productive consultative committee meeting was held on Friday 16 February. The committee consists of staff of local human service providers. The meeting in February was attended by staff from The Junction Neighbourhood Centre, South East Neighbourhood Centre, Sydney Multicultural Community Services, The Shack Youth Service and Eastern Area Tenant's Service. The meeting provides KLC with the opportunity to receive valuable feedback on service provision, ideas for CLE topics, promotion strategies and information on the legal issues that may arise in the local community. The meetings are held quarterly at the legal centre. We would like to extend a big thank you to those services who have agreed to participate in this valuable committee.

## COMMUNITY LEGAL EDUCATION

### DIY Discrimination Kit

A Discrimination Toolkit is being published for people who believe they have been discriminated against and want to do something about it. The toolkit is a partnership project between Elizabeth Evatt Community Legal Centre, Kingsford Legal Centre and Legal Aid NSW. As key public service agencies providing anti-



discrimination advice and casework services in NSW, all three agencies identified a gap in the resources available to clients who have experienced discrimination and wish to make a formal complaint.

A useful and practical publication, the toolkit provides easy-to-understand information and tips on how to run a discrimination

complaint from beginning to end. The kit will be launched by The Hon. Justice Elizabeth Evatt AC on Wednesday 28 March as part of Law Week. Anyone interested in attending the launch should contact Teena Balgi at [t.balgi@unsw.edu.au](mailto:t.balgi@unsw.edu.au) or 02 9385 9566.

## CASEWORK

### Discrimination/Generalist

With a number of staff away over December, January and February, the case load remained reasonably stable, but with a limit on the number of new matters KLC was able to take on.

Over the past 2 months we have had three discrimination matters settle to the great satisfaction of the clients, who were successful in obtaining outcomes that included monetary compensation, apologies and undertaking to provide training on the part of employers. Notably, all matters involved discrimination in the work place.

During the university summer session KLC also had 3 students successfully assist clients by doing pleas in mitigation at Waverley Local Court. In one matter, where a section 10 dismissal was granted, the Magistrate gave the prosecution a dressing down for taking 5 months to issue the infringement and court attendance notice. This, and the "section 10",

ensured that the client felt that the matter had been properly and fairly dealt with.

### New Outreach for KLC Clients

From Thursday 8 February all KLC Thursday night advice sessions are being held at The Junction Neighbourhood Centre, Ground Floor, Bowen Library Building, 669-673 Anzac Parade Maroubra. The Junction has shopfront premises below the busy Bowen Library Building which suit the needs of our clients perfectly. Whilst there will be some teething problems we are very confident the outreach will prove a great success. Many thanks to the staff and management committee of The Junction for providing their premises to our clients and for bending over backwards to help meet our needs. The Coordinator, Barb, is a powerhouse with a real 'can do' attitude and we have all enjoyed working with her to get the outreach up and running. KLC continues to look at its service provision to our community and are currently investigating an outreach at Yarra Bay to assist the La Perouse indigenous community.



STUDENT WILLIAM LEE AND SOLICITOR LINDA TUCKER AT THE FIRST NIGHT OF OUR NEW THURSDAY NIGHT OUTREACH ADVICE SESSION AT THE JUNCTION NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE

## STAFF

### Farewell to Allens Seconded, Sonya Oberekar

The first of our Allens Arthur Robinson solicitor secondees, Sonya Oberekar, completed her 6 months with KLC on February 9. Sonya worked very hard for KLC and our clients during her time with us, particularly in building up our outreach advice sessions at the South-East

Neighbourhood Centre and Maroubra Uniting Church. Sonya made the most of the opportunities presented to her during her time with us and participated in all areas of KLC service. She is a warm, funny, intelligent young woman who built a rapport with all of her clients. KLC staff have enjoyed working with her and are very sad to see her leave. Many thanks to Allens Arthur Robinson for their generous support of KLC – the secondee program is a great asset to KLC and our clients and we hope to maintain the relationship for many years to come.

### Congratulations to Anna Cody on baby boy

Heartfelt congratulations to Meena, Anna and Aasha on the birth of their beautiful baby boy, Rahul. Meena and baby are doing well, and the baby is gorgeous!



ALLENS ARTHUR ROBINSON SECONDEE SONYA OBEREKA

## **Natasha Case New Supervisor of Tuesday Night Advice Sessions**

Natasha Case has agreed to join KLC staff (part-time) once again, taking over the supervision of Anna Cody's Tuesday night advice sessions. Welcome back Tash!

## **STUDENTS**

### **Student Evaluations**

As was the case in past sessions, the Summer Session students thoroughly enjoyed their time at KLC. The students enjoy the opportunity of undertaking real legal work with real clients. They get an opportunity to develop their skills in interviewing clients, assessing and analysing client's problems, legal research, file management, drafting letters and interacting with clients. In addition they have the opportunity to see how a range of solicitors work in applying their skills in assisting people with legal problems. We would like to wish all of our Summer Session students good luck in job seeking and we hope to see you back at KLC as volunteers.

### **2 ex-KLC Students Selected for Legal Aid Commissions Human Rights Fellowship**

Josh Brock (ex KLC staff member and student) and Anthony Levin (ex-student) were selected for the above fellowship. It is an



**ANTHONY LEVIN**

opportunity for graduates to experience the power and the limitations of the law in protecting human rights. Both were outstanding students with a passionate commitment to social justice and we are sure that we will be hearing lots about their achievements in our sector in the future.



**JOSH BROCK**

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