

HORIZONS



Guardians of our heritage

Victorian National Trust CEO Martin Purslow readily admits that, while most people have heard of his organisation, not so many are familiar with its role in the community. "Sometimes I'm asked if the National Trust is a bank but more often it's a case of people accusing us of being the people who stopped them changing their letterbox!" The vision of the Trust, which was established in 1956, is for the Australian community to understand, value and enjoy the built, natural and cultural heritage that creates our national identity. Its work is multi-faceted and includes liaising with federal, state and local government departments, developers and other community organisations but it does not have legislative powers like Heritage Victoria. As an independent, privately funded not-for-profit body, the National Trust relies heavily on public and corporate support to enable it to meet its objectives. "The trust hosts numerous appeals each year to benefit a range of significant heritage structures and has more than 20,000 individual members but we're always on

the lookout for new corporate sponsors," Martin Purslow said. Tourist attractions such as the Old Melbourne Gaol, Rippon Lea, Mooramong, Como Historic House and the soon-to-be-re-opened Polly Woodside are managed by the Trust and generate significant income. August this year will see the organisation celebrate 50 years of managing heritage properties: 20 August is the 50-year anniversary of Como Historic House being a Victorian National Trust property and open for the public to enjoy. Logie-Smith Lanyon provides a range of legal services to the Trust but much of its work involves the areas of industrial relations, human resources and OH&S. "Logie-Smith Lanyon is valuable resource for assistance and advice with commercial and tenancy matters but we can't speak too highly of Rima Newman for the expert guidance she has given us with complex staffing issues," Martin Purslow added. If you'd like to become a member/supporter of the trust or find out more about its activities visit www.natstrust.com.au or call 9656 9800

Taking up the challenge

Life in leafy Wheelers Hill is a far cry from the turbulence of Afghanistan but Logie-Smith Lanyon's long-term client Abdul Khaliq Fazal is looking forward to returning to his homeland to contest the country's forthcoming presidential election. During the 60-day period in the lead-up to the 20 August election, Khaliq, leader of the Initiative for National Unity Party, will campaign across most of Afghanistan's 34 provinces. Minister for Public Works in the Afghan Interim Government from 2001 to 2002, Khaliq was President of the Evaluation and Privatisation Commission of Public Enterprises for a number of years prior to his return to Australia in 2008. "My prime objectives for Afghanistan are peace, security and stability but there are many other matters including education, employment, health, the environment and women's issues which need to be addressed, Khaliq said. "We also need to initiate firm action to fight corruption and the widespread drug problem the country is experiencing." If elected, Khaliq and his family will take up residence within the fully-secured compound of the Presidential Palace in the country's capital Kabul. "I certainly won't be able to take a leisurely stroll around the block or spend a Saturday morning at a shopping centre as I do here, but will have a contingent of bodyguards with me wherever I go."


Khaliq, who came to Australia as a 21-year-old in 1971 to study political science at the University of Melbourne, conducts a successful business and investment consultancy from his Dandenong office and has been a client and friend of Logie-Smith Lanyon senior partner Michael Laynyon for many years. "I have never had a moment's hesitation referring clients and friends to Logie-Smith Lanyon because in my view it is one of the Melbourne's most professional internationally recognised law firms with an outstanding reputation for getting the job done efficiently," said Kahliq.



An office away from home

Clarendon on York is a purpose-built, serviced office centre located close to the CBD in York Street South Melbourne. The contemporary, architect-designed building with spaces ranging from 9.5 to 46 square-metres offers a high standard of accommodation for sole operatives through to small and medium-sized companies. "One of the principal advantages for our clients is they do not incur the hefty upfront costs usually associated with establishing an office and they are supported by business solutions including reception facilities," director Bruce Price said. Smaller businesses with up to 10 staff can downsize and save as much as 50 per cent on the cost of traditional office space. A range of quality secretarial, office and administrative services is available to tenants at reasonable cost. The rent is all-inclusive at Clarendon on York and covers GST, furniture, cleaning, power, tea and coffee, kitchen facilities, security system, professional staff, 24-hour document finishing equipment, Cat5 cabling and in-house broadband access with firewall and VPN capabilities. Offices are equipped with modern furniture including a desk, visitor and executive chairs, filing cabinet and a sideboard or bookshelf. "Most of our tenancies are for three to 12-month terms but many have liked it here so much they've stayed for up to nine years." A boardroom as well as meeting and function rooms of varying sizes can be hired by tenants and outside organisations for informal meetings, conferences, corporate functions and training sessions on an hourly or daily basis. Clarendon on York's virtual office facility provides telephone answering and voicemail services for smaller enterprises wanting to convey a professional image by having a business address. Logie-Smith Lanyon partner Michael Lanyon played a pivotal role in the acquisition of the York Street premises more than 10 years ago and was subsequently involved with the contracts for refurbishing and renovating the building. "Michael also worked closely with us to formalise the tenancy rules and both he and the firm have been an invaluable source of advice and assistance on a range of legal issues to us since then," Bruce Price added.



A portrait of Jenny He, a Chinese lawyer, smiling in an office setting. She is wearing a white blouse and a dark blazer. In the background, there is a computer monitor displaying a website and a window with blinds.

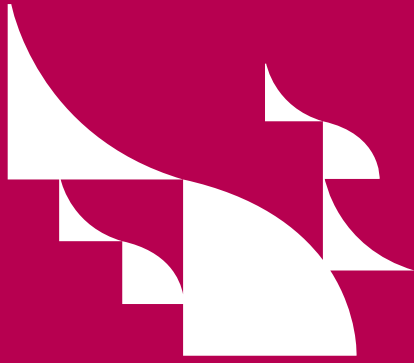
Jenny is a welcome addition to the team

Chinese lawyer Madam Jennifer He, or Jenny as she prefers to be known, is spending three months with Logie-Smith Lanyon under the Australia - Chinese Legal Profession Development Program. The program - a joint initiative of the Federal Government and the legal profession - is designed to develop links between the legal professions of both countries, promote understanding of each other's legal system and provide assistance to China in its process of legal reform. Chinese lawyers who visit Australia spend the first month on a study tour and official visits, and then work with a law firm in one of the capital cities for the remainder of their stay. "Young lawyers come here to learn additional skills which they take back to China and put into practice in their particular legal discipline." Jenny said. Since completing a one-week orientation program to introduce her to Logie-Smith Lanyon, Jenny, who has bachelor and masters law degrees, has been included in internal discussion sessions and client meetings. "I've been made to feel so welcome by everyone at Logie-Smith Lanyon and my supervisor Hyder Gulam is marvellous, arranging training sessions and meetings with other law firms, and generally making me feel part of the firm." During her stay Jenny will concentrate predominantly on three areas of law: commercial, litigation and property. "As a smaller firm, Logie-Smith Lanyon has a more friendly, laid-back culture than its larger counterparts so I am involved in a more diverse range of legal issues and able to learn more while I'm here," said Jenny. "I even have a special "buddy" within the firm, Amanda Durinck, who looks after me in every way imaginable." Married with a nine-year-old daughter, Jenny is sharing a Docklands apartment which she says is not only within walking distance of the office but also very central. "I really like Melbourne because of its classical architecture and am enjoying visiting the various attractions, especially Queen Victoria Market which is really something unique."



The law firm and the hit musical

Logie-Smith Lanyon sponsored the four-week season of Spontaneous Broadway at this year's Melbourne Comedy Festival. Spontaneous Broadway, which premiered in New York in 1995 and has been a regular event on the Australian entertainment scene for almost a decade, formed part of the festival's Opening Night All - Star Gala at the Princess Theatre and followed this up with 16 performances at the Trades Hall. Under the direction of musical director John Thorn, a Melbourne-based professional musician with more than 25 years' experience, Spontaneous Broadway involves the improvised performance of five or six randomly selected, imaginary song titles thought up by members of the audience, written on slips of paper and put in the "Bucket of Dreams" on the stage. After interval, the imaginary song nominated as the most popular by an audience vote, is performed as an entire musical by the cast of Julia Zemiro, Geoff Payne, Genevieve Morris and Ross Daniels together with host Russell Fletcher. "Spontaneous Broadway has appeal for all age groups and because of the off-the-cuff improvised performance of made-up song titles, no two shows are ever the same," John Thorn said. Perennially popular with audiences, Spontaneous Broadway will be performed at the Sydney Opera House from June to July this year and has a Victorian regional tour scheduled for October and November. "The cost of staging live shows is considerable, consequently the performing arts rely heavily on corporate support and we are indebted to Logie-Smith Lanyon for their generous sponsorship of Spontaneous Broadway at the Comedy Festival."



Logie-Smith Lanyon directory

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- defence contract procurement
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- mergers and acquisitions
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- international trade and investment
- banking, finance and investment
- capital raising
- business structures
- franchising

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- debt collection
- insolvency
- securities enforcement
- professional negligence claims
- contractual disputes
- insurance claims
- corporation law disputes
- property
- ASIC enforcement actions & s 19 hearings

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- unfair dismissal claims
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- workplace codes of conduct
- workplace strategy reviews
- employment benefits
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- structuring
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- regulatory compliance
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- land tax
- tax effective business structuring
- tax effective succession and estate planning
- tax dispute resolution
- tax litigation
- accountants'/tax agents' registration and regulation
- superannuation

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