

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN

By Nick Xenophou

If opinion polls are to be believed, South Australia will have a new government on 11th December:

As a consequence, plaintiffs' lawyers can expect a number of legislative changes effecting injured workers.

The state's Workcover Scheme has been particularly criticised by plaintiffs' lawyers for December 1992 amendments that abolished common law rights and retrospectively reduced a large number of impairment benefits. The Liberal Opposition has promised to substantially alter the scheme, with details of specific changes yet to be announced.

APLA in South Australia is confident that with concerted effort by its local membership, the concerns and rights of injured workers will be persuasively put to South Australian legislators, both before and after 11th December.

If you would like further information on **APLA South Australia** please call me on (08) 336 8888.

APLA REMEMBERS A FRIEND

The legal community lost a valued member in September with the passing of Peter Channell of Channell and Associates.

Peter was our Queensland **APLA** state convenor and a great supporter of the **APLA** cause.

Peter was also an active Labour lawyer and will be greatly missed by **APLA** and the Labour movement.

VICTORIAN UPDATE

By Angela Sdrinis

Like **APLA** nationally, **APLA Victoria's** work during 1993 was done mostly behind the scenes. As state convenor for Victoria I have participated in a phone conference with the other state convenors.

During the phone conference we made plans for the future of the state bodies. These included membership drives, fundraising and the need for **APLA** state branches to lobby for the maintenance of legal rights.

The highlight of 1993 was the visit to Australia of the president of ATLA Barry Nace and his wife Andrea. Barry Nace spoke at both the Australian Legal Convention and Labour Lawyers Conference in Hobart.

I was pleased to be the host at the **APLA** cocktail party, which was organised on the Friday night between the two conferences at which Barry Nace was the guest speaker. I spoke briefly about **APLA** and there was an enthusiastic response from the attendees.

APLA Victoria also hosted a lunch for Barry and Andrea Nace which was well attended and was a good finish to their visit to the southern states.

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