

Video link-up for Cannonball case

By BOB WATT

The NT Cannonball inquest continues today with video-conference evidence from a witness in Melbourne.

The Darwin Coroners Court hearing, at the Commonwealth Law Courts, enters its third week with evidence from Confederation of Australian Motor Sport rally manager Bruce Keys.

Coroner John Lowndes announced on Friday that the court would move to another courtroom, which is set up for video-conferencing, to hear the CAMS official's evidence.

Mr Keys' name has come up several times in evidence as the CAMS official involved in discussions with Cannonball organisers on matters including a top average speed limit for competitive sections of the Run.

Confusion

The court has heard that authorisation to grant a CAMS permit for the Run was given after confusion between confederation officials about what had been agreed to.

Other witnesses yet to give evidence include CAMS chief steward Mark Bell who came to the Territory for the event, and Run organisers Allan Moffat and Doug Fraser.

The inquest is expected to continue for most of this week, with about two more days of evidence.

Counsel assisting the coroner Michael Adams QC is then expected to sum up and the five counsel representing families and organisations to make their submissions.

The inquest is into the deaths of Cannonball Run Japanese competitors Akihiro Kabe, 40, and Takeshi Okano, 35, and voluntary Run officials Tim Linklater, 22, and Keith Pritchard, 31.

They died when Mr Kabe's Ferrari crashed into a checkpoint 95 km south of Alice Springs on May 24.



Simon Linklater, a volunteer official in the Cannonball Run, displays a marshal's blue and yellow T-shirt, the visibility of which has been mentioned in evidence during the inquest. Mr Linklater's brother Tim, who was also a Run marshal, died in the accident at a checkpoint south of Alice Springs during the Cannonball Run.



Di laments trees used for stories

WASHINGTON: Princess Diana lamented at the weekend that "so many trees had to be cut down" to print so many stories about her and her shattered marriage to Prince Charles, the heir to the British throne.

Diana is on a private visit to Washington to spend time with her longtime friend Lucia Flecha de Lima, the wife of the Brazilian ambassador.

Lunch

Diana then had lunch with Hillary Clinton.

The princess attended a dinner on Friday at the home of Washington Post chairwoman Katharine Graham and during a toast remarked that her marital woes were contributing to the spread of deforestation.

Her visit coincides with the publication of excerpts of an author-

ised biography of Diana's estranged husband, that includes Charles' assertion that he never loved her.

Dinner at the Graham home was attended by political and entertainment notables, including White House adviser George Stephanopoulos and TV newswoman Diane Sawyer.

© Royal revelations: Pj

Hart case to start today

A defamation action by former drug squad detective Dennis Hart against the Australian Broadcasting Corporation and former police officer Andrew Wrenn begins in the Supreme Court today.

It is believed to be the first civil trial to go before a Territory jury in 68 years.

Civil actions usually are heard by a judge alone. Mr Hart's action, before Justice Dean Mildren and a jury, concerns an item screened on the ABC's 7.30 Report on April 28, 1990.

A civil trial before Justice Roberts and a jury was reported in the then Territory newspaper the Northern Standard on June 15, 1926.

The case, Cook v Darwin Town Council, concerned a claim against the council for 244 pounds, nine shillings and fourpence for overtime and holidays. The result is not known.

AUSTRALIAN RAIL, TRAM AND BUS INDUSTRY UNION (PUBLIC TRANSPORT UNION)

ELECTION NOTICE

The Australian Electoral Commission is to conduct elections for National Offices and for Offices in all Branches and Divisions in the above organisation.

Notices calling for nominations will appear in union journals and newsletters circulated widely throughout work areas in which members are located.

Members are advised that it is a basic requirement of nomination for any office in the union that candidates be financial on the date nominations open.

Nominations will open on 14 November 1994, and will close at 5.00pm on Monday 5 December 1994.

The ballot will open on 6 February 1995 and close at 5.00pm on 27 February 1995. Attendance ballots will also be held on 22 and/or 23 February 1995 for all offices exclusive to the Tram and Bus Division.

All other details will be included in the notices.

Members seeking information and nomination forms should contact the following Returning Officers who are located in capital cities.

Branch:	Returning Officer:	Telephone:
New South Wales	K R Masters	(02) 289 0361
Queensland	J Curtis	(07) 834 3406
Victorian	J Nellor	(03) 285 7147
South Australian/Northern Territory	G J Carey	(08) 237 6549
West Australian	E M Panegyres	(09) 470 7211
Tasmanian	S Gorge	(002) 35 0520
National Offices:	K R Masters	(02) 289 0361

Authorised by Kevin R Masters
Australian Electoral Commission
Sydney

OFFICE OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND FAIR TRADING

Consumer Affairs and Fair Trading Act Part X - Motor Vehicle Dealers

Notice is hereby given of an application for a Motor Vehicle Dealers Licence, the details of which are as follows:

Applicant: Action Motor Dealers Pty Ltd, the directors of which are Desmond The, Victor Lai & Ventura Lai

Trading Name: Top End Car Sales

Trading Locale: Lot 9254 Town of Nightcliff

Objections to the application on the basis of grounds specified in Section 137(1) of the Act shall be made in writing to the Commissioner, GPO Box 1722, Darwin, NT, 0801, Attention: Malcolm Bryant. Such a notice shall clearly state the basis for the objection, together with full particulars, and be forwarded in a sealed envelope marked "confidential". The closing date for objections in relation to this application is 7 November 1994.