



Queensland Law Society 80th Anniversary Dinner
Legends Room, The Gabba
Friday, 6 June 2008, 7 for 7.30 pm



Queensland Law Society 80th Anniversary Dinner
Convention Centre
Friday, 6 June 2008, 6.30pm

The Hon Paul de Jersey AC Chief Justice of Queensland

Your Excellency, Deputy Premier, Attorneys-General,
Madam President, your Honours, ladies and gentlemen.

We value, this evening, the opportunity to acknowledge the effectiveness of the Queensland Law Society over so many years – effectiveness in encouraging high standards of professionalism and competence in Queensland practitioners, and effectiveness in assisting governments, as reminded this evening by the Federal Attorney-General and courts, to optimal outcomes.

Our host is a fine and enduring public institution, to be congratulated for its achievements in the public interest, and to be encouraged to persist with sights on even higher achievement.

The goal, of course, is to entrench the essence of our professionalism: put simply, the very best service of the people.



An 80th anniversary is spare in the sense that no traditional symbol attends it. Someone earlier quipped that this celebration should be regarded as the 75th anniversary held five years late. That rather curmudgeonly sentiment aside, 80 years do warrant celebration.

A 'Google' search militated that an 80th wedding anniversary gift should 'show that you still have the spark to light their flame'. I paused to wonder if there have, in human history, been very many 80th wedding anniversaries.

And there lies a distinction, between the ephemera of the individual human condition and the enduring aspect of significant institutions. These institutions depend on us mere mortals, they are emanations of us, yet they well and truly survive us.

Long may the Queensland Law Society survive any current mortal constituent; and long may the Society continue to serve the people, by inspiring and equipping its members to



seek to do their very best to fulfil the high ideals which inform our professionalism.

I am as ever, and I speak for all the Judges, proud to be associated with the Society, as the corporate reflection of all Queensland solicitors.

I congratulate the Society and all who have led and assisted it, and I extend the very best of wishes as the Society now looks forward confidently to... its centenary.