

Centenary of the High Court commemorative dinner

History of the High Court of Australia

Although the High Court of Australia was established in 1901 by Section 71 of the Constitution, the appointment of the first Bench did not occur until the Judiciary Act was passed in 1903.

The first sitting of the High Court took place in the Banco Court of the Supreme Court building in Melbourne on 6 October 1903.

There was an opinion held by many at the time that the High Court would prove to be a redundant tribunal, with little work to do and no real status.

However, the Court quickly gained an international reputation for judicial excellence.

Over time the Court's bench was increased to seven judges to deal with the increased workload.

In the early 1970s, a national competition was held for the design of a permanent home for the High Court, in Canberra.

Construction of the building began in 1975 and it was opened by Her Majesty The Queen on 26 May 1980. The Court and its Principal Registry were immediately transferred to the new building and the first sitting in this location took place in June 1980.

On Friday 27 June 2003, the Law Society of the Northern Territory hosted a commemorative dinner for the High Court of Australia.

Chief Justice of Australia, the Hon Murray Gleeson AC and his wife, Mrs Robyn Gleeson, and the Administrator of the Northern Territory, John Anictomatis AO, and his wife, Mrs Jeanette Anictomatis, attended as guests of honour.

Held in the picturesque surrounds of Government House in Darwin, the evening featured a divine three-course meal and was sponsored by Goundry Fine Wines.



Tom Pauling QC and Mr Austin Asche AC QC

Members of the local legal profession, and their partners, attended the dinner to mark the centenary of the High Court of Australia.



Phil Jameson, Gail Jameson, Robyn Laever, Helen Findlay, Tony Young, Peter McNab, Raelene Webb, Nula Murphy and Colin McDonald.



Kathie Luppino, Vince Luppino, Ian Morris, Brenda Lord, Michael Grove and Peter Barr

