

Greek National Independence Day

Greek Club

Monday 26 March 2001 11am

Chief Justice Paul de Jersey AC

Consul-General, Mr Speaker, your Honours, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen.

I am greatly honoured on this important occasion to have the opportunity to acknowledge the Greek community's distinctive and beneficial contribution to the City of Brisbane, to the State of Queensland, indeed to the Australian nation.

Highly symbolically, on 10 July last, we in the legal profession were very pleased that the traditional service held to mark the opening of the law year could take place, for the first time ever, in the Greek Orthodox Church of St George. I understand this was well received by the Greek community: it was a matter of significance to the whole community.

Our community is greatly enriched by its members of Hellenic descent, and I am very pleased to have the opportunity today gratefully to acknowledge that.

Ladies and gentlemen, would you join with me in drinking a toast to).

"The President of the Hellenic Republic"