

## **Launch of Commercial List Law Society House Wednesday 29 May 2002, 12.30pm**

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### **Chief Justice Paul de Jersey AC**

The Supreme Court recently experienced something rather unusual: we were congratulated in the local press for being the most efficient superior court in Australia! You will not be surprised to learn that we do continually review our processes to ensure we deliver optimal service. This new initiative is something we can manage, and which we believe should render our service the more attractive for commercial litigants, while in no degree prejudicing the expeditious treatment we offer for all civil cases. The initiative draws on the successful experience of the Commercial Causes List which operated in the Supreme Court in the 1970's and 1980's. The object is expeditious and commercially savvy resolutions. Two Judges of vast commercial experience and acumen will run the List, Mr Justice Muir and Mr Justice Chesterman. I am confident they will seek to cut to the real issues with a minimum of fuss. A particular risk with complex commercial litigation is that it bog down in unduly elaborate procedures – especially in relation to the disclosure of documents. I am hoping the streamlined approach of the Judges running this list will avoid that. We are frequently reassured the State economy is vibrant. This new facility should appropriately complement it. It is, to my mind, an exciting development, and I hope experience will confirm that forecast. I particularly thank the profession for its enthusiastic support, and the Law Society for generously hosting this launch. You will hear shortly from the Judges responsible for the List. I thank you all for your attendance, and for the interest and support you display. We in the court will be doing our best to fulfil your expectations!