



LAUNCH OF MODEL OF LUCINDA and PUBLICATION 'QUEENSLAND JUDGES ON THE HIGH COURT'

Introduction of Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC, Governor of Queensland Wednesday 3 December 2003, 5.30pm

The Hon Paul de Jersey AC Chief Justice

Your Excellency, your Honours, ladies and gentlemen, I am very pleased formally to welcome you, Your Excellency, to the Supreme Court, on this your first official visit.

There is a long history of close public association between the Supreme Court and the Office of Governor, and that is hardly surprising, acknowledging our complementary and important roles.

There is special interest from our side now, obviously, in having a lawyer in the ultimate executive role.

Our Governor last visited the court, though not in that role, to deliver a most interesting oration to launch the Women in the Law exhibition in November 2000. I express my confidence she will speak to us this evening in a manner of surpassing interest – and this evening, as we know, she is to launch a vessel, or at least a model. But this is no ordinary model, and for its



LAUNCH OF MODEL OF LUCINDA and PUBLICATION 'QUEENSLAND JUDGES ON THE HIGH COURT' Introduction to Ms Quentin Bryce AC, Governor of Queensland

Wednesday 3 December 2003, 5.30pm

uniqueness, we have to thank Mr Dean Claflin FASMA (Fellow of the Australian Society of Marine Artists), its craftsman. Mr Claflin has travelled from Sydney for the occasion, and we welcome him. We also welcome Mr Don Braben ASMA (Vice-President of the Australian Society of Marine Artists), the artist responsible for the captivating watercolour of the Lucinda displayed outside the replica of the smoking room. Justice White, the Chair of the Library Committee – which so fittingly endows the court with these treasures, reminds me that I should say a word about some of our inspiration for the project.

In the year 2000, Transport Queensland provided the court, on a six month loan, with a small scale, exceptionally well-crafted model of the Lucinda, also the work of Mr Claflin. To herald the construction of the replica of the Lucinda's "upper deck gentlemen's smoking room", we displayed that model in the second floor public corridor, and it attracted much interest.

Indeed, it attracted so much interest that with our, I should say my, "connivance", the model became what lawyers term a tenant at will here, remaining well beyond that six month period – or perhaps more like a tenant at sufferance. For his forbearance, I again thank the Director-General of Transport Queensland, Mr Bruce Wilson, who is also here with us tonight. I also probably should thank my then Associate, Ms Eve Wilson, who I suspect



LAUNCH OF MODEL OF LUCINDA and PUBLICATION 'QUEENSLAND JUDGES ON THE HIGH COURT' Introduction to Ms Quentin Bryce AC, Governor of Queensland

Wednesday 3 December 2003, 5.30pm

did much on the domestic level to ensure our continued retention of the model

– she happens, you see, to be Bruce's daughter.

The end point is that having eventually surrendered the model to the Department, and having languished sadly over the vacant spot for many months following, the Library Committee valiantly came to the rescue, with generous assistance from Thynne and Macartney – and how brilliantly they supplied the omission. Not only do we now have our own model, but we have one which Mr Claflin proudly assures me is indeed unique – for unlike the Transport Queensland model, ours has ... electric lighting – wonderfully appropriate in a courthouse of the 21st century!

Your Honours, ladies and gentlemen, I am privileged to invite Her Excellency to launch the model, and also the library's well-received publication: "Queensland Judges on the High Court".

. . .

Thank you Your Excellency. And now, to tell us, or remind us, of a little more of the history of this comely vessel, the convenor of the Supreme Court History Program, Dr Michael White QC.

. . .

I warmly thank both our speakers, and invite all present to some refreshment.