



Swearing in of the Hon Justice Alan Wilson  
as a Judge of the Supreme Court, Trial Division  
Banco Court  
Tuesday 27 October 2009, 9am

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**The Hon Paul de Jersey AC  
Chief Justice**

In welcoming all present this morning, I acknowledge with pleasure the presence of the Honourable the Attorney-General, Her Honour the Chief Judge, Judges of the District Court, Federal Court and Family Court, Magistrates, tribunal members and retired Judges.

Some Judges of the Supreme Court cannot be here because they are on leave and out of the State. They would all wish to be associated with my following remarks, and the Senior Judge Administrator Justice Byrne and Justice Mullins have both specifically asked that I do so.

It is with great pleasure that we welcome Justice Wilson to the Supreme Court. His Honour is the 105<sup>th</sup> appointee to this court in its 148 year history.

While speaking of history, the Bible upon which His Honour took the oaths this morning is inscribed as follows:

“With this Bible, I administer the Oaths of Allegiance, Office and Secrecy to the Honourable John Edmund Duggan MLA, on his appointment to the second Gair Ministry on 16 March 1953 (signed)  
John Lavarack, Governor of Queensland.”

Many present will remember Magda Wollner, who with Maureen Schubert ran the Two Seasons Restaurant for many years. When Ms Wollner died, I think last year, this Bible was found by her bedside. Her executor, Mr Michael Klug, asked the family what they wished done with it, and they, very generously, gave it to him, as a token of their appreciation for his administration of the estate.



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When I turned 60 years of age, quite some time ago, my friend Mr Klug gave me this Bible as a birthday present. Of course I in turn have given it to the Supreme Court, and I have determined that while I remain Chief Justice, this Bible will be used for the administration of oaths upon the appointment of judges to the court. I am pleased to acknowledge that His Honour Justice Wilson is the first judge to have taken the oath on that basis.

While for the next three years His Honour will be substantially devoted to his duties as President of the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal – to which he will bring his considerable organizational skills evident especially in his management over the last five years of the lists of the Planning and Environment Court, we look forward to his sitting from time to time over that period in the Supreme Court, and of course following the completion of his Presidency of the Tribunal. From the points of view of the courts, the legal profession and the public, one of his very important roles as President of the Tribunal will be to constitute the Legal Practice Tribunal.

His Honour is well-qualified for appointment to this court. He comes to the Supreme Court after eight years as a Judge of the District Court, sitting predominantly in the civil and planning and environment jurisdictions, where his work was highly respected. He had previously practised successfully for 18 years at the bar, specializing in succession law, equity and mediation.

He is a member of the Council of the National Judicial College of Australia, and has been a presenter at National Judicial College courses on judgment writing, in Australia and Papua New Guinea.

We welcome Justice Wilson to the court, and his wife Lynda to the court community.