



Opening of 31 West Chambers  
Level 31, Santos Place, 32 Turbot Street  
Friday 20 August 2010, 5pm

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

I am very pleased to have been invited to open these fine new chambers.

One source of personal pleasure is my long-standing friendships with some of the members. Ian Hanger and I, for example, go back to the Ansett Building in the early 1970's: now the Ibis Hotel. Some of you then experienced the name change from MLC to Hitachi, and now your peregrinations have led to these superb premises.

Another source of pleasure is one I share with all my judicial colleagues, and that is our satisfaction in witnessing the evolution of a distinctive legal precinct at this end of George Street, a legal precinct elegantly complemented by some impressive commercial outlets.

It is a rather regrettable necessity that the entire bar cannot be housed in the same building, but with so many counsel gathering together in this building especially, that important feature of collegiality is nevertheless fairly well assured.

The capacity to service chambers of this material quality itself bespeaks success in practice. My own experience of the courtroom performances of our 13 hosts this evening, is consistent with that, and I am confident their success in their practices is complemented by the cordial personal interrelationships which have traditionally characterized chambers groupings.

In thanking our hosts for their hospitality this evening, and wishing them all continuing professional success and fulfilment, I am very pleased now formally to open, "31 West Chambers".