

Downs and South Western Qld Law Association 75th Anniversary Ball Gabbinbar Homestead, Toowoomba Saturday 19 May 2012, 6pm

The Hon Paul de Jersey AC Chief Justice

Well, ladies and gentlemen, you have reached an important milestone, and how wonderful to celebrate it in these truly glamorous surroundings: glamorous people in a glamorous setting. Congratulations Lisa, Adrian, Andrew and your team: a most memorable achievement.

The Association, founded in July 1937, is now 75 years of age, an obviously substantial achievement. Yours, the most senior of the District Law Associations, as Lisa rightly acknowledges, reaches its second diamond anniversary, because as we are reminded with Her Majesty the Queen, the 60th is also styled a diamond anniversary. The Association reaches a point where it is one-half of the age of the Supreme Court itself.

All of this denotes great commitment over so many years, on the part of many practitioners, commitment to regional cohesion within the profession, to the support of junior practitioners, to the maintenance of high standards in the delivery of legal services, and to support of the court to which we owe our professional legitimacy.

And as these events wonderful social events have consistently demonstrated, the Association has been particularly effective in drawing Downs' practitioners together in a friendly environment sometimes a little removed from the rather more competitive atmosphere which may otherwise from time to time obtain...and that is a good thing!

I warmly congratulate the Association, and you, ladies and gentlemen, for your support of a most commendable initiative which has subsisted for so long, and which I sanguinely forecast, will persist for a long time more.



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I should say that Kaye and I greatly relish the annual prospect of being with you all at this always glittering event, but especially this year, where the celebration is even more memorable and wonderful: including for the record attendance. Congratulations Lisa, all of us are here by enthusiastic choice: no one has been corralled!

Ladies and gentlemen, would you join me please in drinking a toast to ... "The Downs and South Western Queensland Law Association",