



Bar Association of Queensland Annual Conference  
Sheraton Mirage, Gold Coast  
Saturday 8 March 2014

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

I expect this will be the last annual conference I will attend as Chief Justice, though we recall that what makes God laugh is “people making plans”. But subject to ordinary human fallibility, I am absolutely confident in that expectation.

The President has kindly allowed me a very short time to say something, maybe nostalgically, and what I want to say is how very much, over the last 16 years especially, I have appreciated my, and the courts’, relationship with the Bar. While our views have not always coincided, you have always treated mine with courtesy and measure, and we have, I believe, jointly secured some most worthwhile outcomes.

I presently expect to resign from judicial office as from 8 July. My appointment as Governor having been announced, my forthcoming sittings should so far as practicable be confined to civil work not involving the State, and I have requested the Senior Judge Administrator to list me substantially in the Applications jurisdiction. I hope that does not lead to a fall off in listings!

I have actually generally enjoyed sitting in that jurisdiction the most, largely because of the variety of work, and because the judge gets to see so many practitioners – as indeed at this Conference.

The Conference, which is so well attended, and attracts such a stellar array of speakers, including from overseas, provides an annual demonstration of the vibrancy of our Bar, a Bar of which I am very proud: of substantial proportion, independent, efficient, ethical and nationally respected.

At this point in my own career, I am reminded that while the players come and go, the great institutions, of which the Bar is one, endure. I will, in due course, enter that new field



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with the reassuring confidence that we are in this State served by a Bar of the highest calibre.

It is my pleasure now to introduce our acclaimed keynote speakers, Justice Steven Gageler of the High Court of Australia and Lord Justice Alan Moses of the Court of Appeal of England and Wales, and their companions on the podium, the first-law officers the Attorneys-General of the Commonwealth and the State.

There was a time when our State housed two Chief Justices, but then Chief Justice Keane left the Federal Court for the High Court. It is a matter of considerable State pride, especially within our profession, that we can boast the Attorneys from both jurisdictions.

Neither of them needs further introduction, and neither does Justice Gageler nor Lord Justice Moses. But may I say just a little of our distinguished guests from outside the State?

Justice Gageler was appointed to the High Court in October 2012. At the time of his appointment he was Solicitor-General of Australia. He is a graduate of the Australian National University and has post-graduate qualifications from Harvard University. He was admitted as a barrister of the Supreme Court of New South Wales in 1989 and was appointed Senior Counsel in 2000. Before his appointment as Solicitor-General in 2008, he practised as a barrister extensively throughout Australia principally in constitutional law, administrative law and commercial law.

Lord Justice Moses was educated at Bryanston School and University College, Oxford. He was called to the Bar by the Middle Temple in 1968, was a Member of the Attorney-General's Panel of Junior Counsel to the Crown, Common Law from 1981 to 1990 and was Junior Counsel to the Inland Revenue, Common Law from 1985 to 1990. He took silk in 1990. He served as a High Court Judge (Queen's Bench Division) from 1996-2005; Presiding Judge of the South Eastern Circuit 1999-2002 and was appointed as a Lord Justice of Appeal in 2005.