

Opportunity Committee in the design and implementation of a similar strategy for the Bar Association. His Honour was also responsible for setting up the Pynn Scholarship at UNSW to enable students to study law later in their working life.

His Honour was, for many years, a vocal critic of sensational, inaccurate reporting by the media of criminal trials and sentencing. He wrote a number of articles on the way in which the criminal justice system has become increasingly driven by the anger of victims and their calls for vengeance. He warned of the futility of the scramble for political popularity by imposing tougher sentences and steadily increasing the prison population.

At the swearing-in ceremony, Walker SC, speaking on behalf of the Bar, recalled the time in February 2001, when his Honour spoke to the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee of the Legislative Council about a Bill of Rights. Walker SC said:

The comments your Honour made there managed to summarise, capture and debate in your Honour's well known style many of the themes which dominate your reported words and private work over the last many years. In particular your Honour's insistence on a fair trial where a trial is between the state and the accused and where the trial is not an adjustment of some other more diffuse set of social rights and obligations came over clearly.

...

You have graced the profession with your energetic advocacy for what can only be described as a robust civil rights approach to the practice of law and the development of policy concerning it. You will not be forgotten for your gallant but unsuccessful attempts with respect to dock statements. You will not be forgotten for the manner in which you joined in what eventually became the High Court's condemnation of the legislation with respect to Kable.

For all those reasons the public interest in New South Wales is greatly enhanced by the appointment of your Honour to this bench and the Bar in particular wishes you well in the challenge you have set yourself and looks forward to participating with you in meeting that challenge.



His Honour Judge Stephen Walmsley SC

Stephen Walmsley SC was sworn in as a judge of the District Court of New South Wales in August 2001. His Honour was born in Sydney and educated in the public school system in Yass. He later attended Canberra Grammar School and the Australian National University. His Honour practised as a solicitor at Messrs Allen Allen & Hemsley and then as a partner in Macphillamy Cummins & Gibson, solicitors in Canberra. He also tutored and lectured in the Law Faculty and Legal Workshop of the ANU. His Honour was called to the Bar in Canberra in 1981 and practised there until returning to Sydney in 1988.

His Honour played a large part in the life of the Canberra legal profession as a solicitor and barrister, becoming a member of the Bar Council and one of two directors of the chambers in the Territory. As well as being a highly respected and fearless advocate, His Honour gave generously of his time and skills to assist the Bar Association and the junior Bar. He served on the Supreme Court Common Law Users Committee and was the Bar's representative on the working party on medical negligence established by the Minister for Health. He also assisted *ex-officio* in the work of the Common Law Committee as well as serving on the Professional Conduct and Education Committees and assisting the advocacy training programme, including training aspiring advocates at the fledgling bars of Bangladesh and Tonga.

After some gratuitous references to His Honour's taste in jackets and ties, Katzmann SC, speaking on behalf of the Bar, recalled two of his Honour's more interesting cases in the following terms:

Some of Your Honour's cases have been as colourful as Your Honour's jackets. The most obvious example is *Fasold v Roberts*, the so-called *Noah's Ark case*, where Your Honour appeared for the applicants seeking various remedies for allegedly misleading and deceptive conduct and for breach of copyright arising out of some public statements about the supposed site of the remnants of Noah's Ark. My favourite, however, is a recent appeal case in which Your Honour appeared for a man who felt that his work injury, which caused him to fracture his hip, was a punishment from God for his peculiar sexual practices involving as they did a *ménage à trois* with his wife and the family dog.



His Honour Judge Nigel Rein SC

Judge Nigel Rein SC was recently appointed to the District Court after a distinguished career at the Bar.

After emigrating from England with his family at the age of eleven, Judge Rein attended Vaucluse Boys' High School where he became Head Prefect and was an outstanding debater. He obtained Arts and Law degrees from Sydney University and undertook postgraduate articles at the then Minter Simpson & Co. After working as an articulated clerk in Israel, he was employed as a solicitor by Stephen Jaques & Stephen in Sydney. He commenced employment with Dudley Westgarth & Co in 1981 and became a partner of the merged firm of Westgarth Baldick in 1983.

He was admitted to the Bar in 1984 and immediately developed an excellent commercial practice, appearing in many professional liability, building and construction law and maritime cases. His main interest was however in insurance and he became a 'guru' in that field.

His appointment as senior counsel in 1999 was a popular one and his appointment to the District Court Bench has been widely acclaimed.



His Honour Judge Anthony Blackmore SC

Anthony Blackmore SC was sworn in as a judge of the District Court of New South Wales on Monday, 4 February 2002

His Honour was educated at Normanhurst Boys High School where he is remembered for both his academic achievements and enthusiasm for sport. He excelled at squash, playing at a State level while at school and competitively for many years after that.

In 1975 at just 19, His Honour commenced work in the Attorney General's Department, in Magistrates Court administration. In 1979, he took up a position as a legal clerk at the Corporate Affairs Commission of NSW. It was during his time at the CAC that he was admitted as a solicitor (in 1980) and admitted to the Bar (in 1984).

His Honour set up chambers at ground floor Wentworth Chambers, principally practicing in criminal law, administrative law, company law and taxation, appearing in a full range of civil and criminal cases including Local, District and Supreme Court trials and appeals. He was often briefed to advise and appear in complex corporate criminal cases. For example, in the *Cambridge Credit* litigation as junior counsel for the prosecution and in relation to the prosecutions that flowed from the failed *Balanced Property Management Trust*. He also appeared for the defence in such cases as the alleged conspiracy charges flowing from the 'bottom of the harbour' tax investigations. His Honour's appearances extended to a number of administrative cases, particularly those related to the development of corporate

regulation under the Companies Acts and Australian Securities Codes.

In 1991, His Honour accepted an appointment as a Crown Prosecutor, appearing in many trials in both the District Court and Supreme Court often prosecuting police officers, lawyers and other public officials. Such cases are frequently the subject of appeal, however His Honour holds the enviable record that no conviction was ever overturned in any of the cases in which he appeared.

In September 1997, he was appointed to act as Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions and subsequently appointed as the Deputy Director in January 1998. In 2001, he was appointed Senior Counsel.

His Honour's contribution to the law has not been limited to the pursuit of a career as prosecutor. For a number of years, he was an active member of a Professional Conduct Committee of the Bar Association; gave talks to the Bar Readers' course on the role of the Director of Public Prosecutions; regularly attended and presented papers at both local and international fora relating to criminal law issues; and, is a co-author of the one of the leading legal services in criminal law.

The Attorney General concluded his remarks with the following observations:

I trust that your judicial appointment will be performed with the same skill as your performance on the fairway in your new sport of golf. Your acquaintances have asked me on this occasion to advise you to work on your putting which I hear is more closely reminiscent of your earlier downhill slalom exploits – veering here and there and always on the verge of complete loss of control.

You possess the personal qualities and ability desired of a District Court judge, and in that role, Your Honour will preside with integrity, fairness and independence, and continue to earn the respect of the legal profession. I welcome your experience and expertise, which I believe will enrich the District Court Bench to the advantage of all those who appear before you...

The Hon Justice Mark Le Poer Trench

Mark Le Poer Trench was sworn in as a judge of the Family Court of Australia on 15 October 2001.

His Honour began his Bachelor of Law degree at The Australian National University in Canberra in 1967 before moving to Sydney in 1969. He obtained articles with Dunhill Barker under the supervision of Keith Robinson and was admitted as a solicitor of the Supreme Court of New South Wales in 1974.

His Honour was called to the New South Wales Bar in 1980 and moved to chambers in Parramatta. There he practised with Ian Coleman, now the Hon Justice Coleman of the Family Court. In 1985, along with Peter Maiden, Lynn Judge and others, his Honour established Lachlan Macquarie Chambers and later Arthur Philip Chambers, also at Parramatta.

At the Bar, his practice focused principally on family law, appellate advocacy, children's matters and de facto relationships. A notable case in which his Honour appeared in 1992 involved the removal of children from the Family of God religious sect.

In addition to running a busy Bar practice, his Honour was a long-serving member of the Legal Aid Commission's Family Law Review Committee, a lecturer in advocacy at the College of Law and a member of the Bar Association's Family Law Committee.

Ian Harrison SC, speaking on behalf of the Bar, made the following observations which reflected the esteem in which his Honour is held:

Over time, your Honour took a leading role in the growth and development of the family law Bar at Parramatta. They are, and remain, a tightly knit group of practitioners. That closeness was historically forged, at least in part out of the violent and tragic events involving, or at least directed at some members of this court, in the early 1980s.

Your Honour's appointment comes with a certain air of inevitability. You have for many years been highly regarded, both by the Bench and your colleagues, as a competent and effective counsel in this court.