



Michael Robinson, Lionel Robberds and David Bennett

Honouring members with 50 years' service at the NSW Bar – Experienced Barristers Program

On 1 October 2019 the NSW Bar Wellbeing Committee launched the inaugural ceremony of the Experienced Barristers Program recognising senior members of the Bar who have held a Practising Certificate for 50 years or more. This is a significant achievement worthy of commemoration and reflection.

The evening recognised the distinguished and lengthy service of each member as a barrister at the Sydney Bar:

- Michael Robinson – 13 March 1959
- John Gleeson QC (in absentia) – 3 June 1966
- Lionel Robberds AM QC – 29 July 1966
- David Bennett AC QC – 12 May 1967

Each of the individuals has displayed all of the signal qualities of a fine member of the bar. Their continuing careers were recounted by Mr Robert Stitt QC of the 7th Floor of Wentworth Chambers. He introduced each person with recollections, stories and memories which illustrated their distinguished lives in the law.

In the coming year the Wellbeing Committee will host further events to recognise some 15 barristers who will be awarded such a certificate of recognition.

Tim Castle and Kylie Nomchong SC were present from the Wellbeing Committee and the event was well attended by family and friends of the barristers. There were many fond memories shared between the recipients. It was a memorable and special occasion to attend. In the context of barristers nowadays, service of such a kind will become increasingly rare. **BN**