New South Wales Supreme Court bicentenary events



Sian Pankhurst NSW Bar Association

The Supreme Court bicentenary was marked by two months of commemorative events.

elebrations commenced the launch of Constant Guardian, Changing Times: The Supreme Court of New South Wales 1824-2024 on Wednesday 3 April, which saw the Banco Court filled to capacity. Venerable guests including the Governor of NSW, Chief Justice Andrew Bell and former chief justice, the Hon JJ Spigelman AC KC (see p 28), launched the publication while also inaugurating the new Supreme Court Gallery (see p 34). Justice Spigelman remarked that the book 'is a magnificent testament to the significance of the bicentenary of the court' and thanked the editors, the Hon Keith Mason AC KC and Larissa Reid, for their work.

An ecumenical church service held on Thursday 16 May at St James Church on King Street showcased the diversity of the Bar. while also commemorating both the Supreme Court and St James Church's 200th year.

Following this was the Supreme Court Ceremonial Sitting on Friday 17 May in the Banco Court. A full bench was present, with speakers including the Chief Justice of New South Wales (see p 24), the Attorney-General of New South Wales and the President of the NSW Bar Association. An Acknowledgement of Country by First Nations barrister Andrew Smith was a moving addition to what was a memorable and significant event.

Celebrations concluded with a function at Government House hosted by the Governor of New South Wales, Her Excellency the Hon Margaret Beazley AC KC, on Saturday 18 May 2024.





Supreme Court Ceremonial Sitting

17 May



