

There was a group who joined my floor at around the same time as myself: my friends Poulos, Maconachie, Hoeben, MacFarlan, Sullivan, Collins, Gray, Holmes and the late Paul Donohoe. We have spent innumerable hours in and out of each other's chambers developing professionally and in other convivial ways. The late Justice Dennis Needham of the Equity Division and Theo Simos QC, later a judge of the Equity Division, who unfortunately is too unwell to be here today, took a particular interest in me as a young equity junior. They were exemplars. Both possessed the grand judicial qualities of great learning, sound judgment and invariable courtesy and patience. Justice Needham would get the best out of an advocate by raising an eyebrow but never his voice.'

His Honour also acknowledged the influence of a former chief judge of the Equity Division, the Hon Malcolm McLelland QC, describing him as having had 'an enduring influence on my generation because of the elegance, wisdom and conciseness of

his judgments and the atmosphere of calm he generated in his court, an atmosphere which I believe to be in the best interests of the participating public as well as practitioners.' He also paid tribute to Justice Andrew Rogers as one who 'had a significant influence on the administration of justice by pioneering in the 1980s in the cauldron of the Commercial List of the Supreme Court, where I practised, a standard of efficient case management that has been widely influential.'

After acknowledging his love and support of members of his family, his Honour concluded:

The oath of judicial office taken this morning 'to do right to all manner of people according to law without fear or favour, affection or ill will' has been sworn by judges for almost seven centuries. It gives me as a new judge a powerful focus as well as a sense of humility about the tasks that lie ahead.

## In memory of the late Justice Peter Hely

An appeal to raise funds

At the instigation of an eminent group of close friends of the late Justice Peter Hely, there has been launched an appeal to raise funds to honour his memory.

In early May 2006, their Honours Justices Heydon, Jacobson and Allsop, together with T F Bathurst QC, J N West QC and Messrs Besson and Sinclair issued the following statement:

The professional skills of the late Justice Peter Hely attracted much admiration and his personal qualities much affection. Those skills and qualities will long live in the memories of those who experienced them at firsthand. They include the lay clients whose affairs he brought into order and whose interests he advanced; the many solicitors who relied on his lucid and shrewd advice; the barristers who, whether they led him, or were led by him, or opposed him, never failed to appreciate his talents as an advocate; the judges who appreciated the flawless economy of his work as an advocate and, later, when he joined the Federal Court of Australia, as a judge; the friends, within and beyond the above categories, who appreciated his wit, cheerfulness and companionship.

We have thought it desirable, however, to seek to ensure a more permanent memorial to Peter Hely. Peter Hely was one of the finest products of the University of Sydney Law School. It is therefore fitting that the Dean has agreed to the University of Sydney receiving contributions with a view to the furthering of any of the following purposes:

- ◆ a Justice P G Hely Visiting Distinguished Scholar Scheme, to support visits to Australia of overseas experts in commercial law and equity;
- ◆ a Justice P G Hely Scholarship to be held either by undergraduates who would not otherwise be able to attend the University of Sydney Law School for financial reasons, or graduates of that law school seeking to engage in postgraduate studies at an overseas university and requiring financial assistance;



The late Justice Peter Hely.

- ◆ prizes or scholarships in commercial law and equity.

Questions as to the precise manner in which the university would apply the funds raised, which of these purposes would be carried out, and the frequency with which payments in furtherance of these purposes would be made, would be questions for the university. The answers would depend in part on the amounts raised.

Any members of the Bar wishing to honour the late judge's memory in this way may do so by completing a form which may be downloaded at [www.nswbar.asn.au/circulars/giftform.pdf](http://www.nswbar.asn.au/circulars/giftform.pdf)