



**Rosalie Shire 125th Anniversary celebrations
Railway Grand Ball
Response to toast
Saturday 8 May 2004, 6:30pm for 7pm
Yarraman Community Hall
Browne Street**

The Hon P de Jersey AC, Chief Justice

It is a great pleasure to be with you to celebrate this important event, both memorable and enjoyable, and I immediately congratulate all who have been involved – a splendid effort, thank you!

My memories of this part of Queensland are I believe the earliest I recall. At the time of my birth, my parents lived at Patrick's Estate where my father ran the one-teacher school. Later we moved to Coolabunia, at a time, I should say, when there was no electricity, and only tank water – the best water! We also had an association with Lowood. As a young boy, I was regularly dispatched to dairy farming friends during school holidays.

As to Yarraman itself, I vividly recall the excitement of taking the "rail motor" from Brisbane to Yarraman, thence a mini-bus which was called the "service car" to Coolabunia. My mother says I was then about two years old, so the rail link we celebrate tonight had been in place for 37 years. I recall being a talkative passenger, to whom my mother patiently responded, rather to the bemusement of the other passengers, none of whom could understand a word I said – I hope that is not now said of my judgments.

So for me, Yarraman denotes the earliest memory of a happy and fulfilling life. For us all, it denotes natural beauty, community stability, lush farming, timber, a comparatively less complicated lifestyle, and those country characteristics so valued: down to earth common sense, decency and friendliness.

As we celebrate this 125th anniversary the people of Rosalie may look with great pride and satisfaction upon achievements past and present.



Presentation of Chief Justice's Cup: barristers/solicitors cricket match
Friday 2 April 2004
Level 10, Inns of Court

Congratulations Yarraman and Rosalie Shire: may you long continue to prosper!