

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.