

## The Hon Justice Mark Leeming

Mark Leeming SC was sworn-in as a judge of the Court of Appeal on 3 June 2013.

His Honour was one of three children; his brother and sister are both now officers in the police force. He attended Sydney Grammar School, where he discovered classical music, which became an abiding interest. He then attended the University of Sydney, from which he graduated in 1992 with first class honours in law.

After law school, Leeming JA became an associate to the Honourable Justice WMC Gummow, then to the Honourable Sir Anthony Mason. While in Canberra he met his future wife, Professor Anne Twomey, with whom he has a son, James. At about this time he also found time to obtain a PhD in pure mathematics.

After completing his two associateships, Leeming JA came directly to the bar – he did not ever practice as a solicitor. He joined the Eighth Floor of Selborne Chambers. He quickly established a diverse and busy practice, specialising in commercial, administrative and constitutional law matters.

Despite a heavy workload as a barrister his publications during his eighteen or so years at the bar were prodigious. He produced a large number of legal articles, reviews and case notes; two books on his own account, *Resolving Conflicts of Laws* and *Authority to Decide – The Law of Jurisdiction in Australia*; and, in conjunction with the Honourable JD Heydon QC, editions of *Meagher, Gummow and Lehane's Equity: Doctrines and Remedies* and *Jacobs on Trusts*.

In addition Leeming JA has been Challis Lecturer in Equity at the University of Sydney since 2004, a member of the editorial board of the *Journal of Equity* since 2005, a director of the Federation Press since 2011, and a member of the editorial board of the *Australian Bar Review* since 2012.

He also found time to be a convivial and popular member of the Eighth Floor, and a great support to junior members of the floor – to whom he was always inordinately generous with his time and advice, not to mention a great provider of work.



In his speech at Leeming JA's swearing in on 3 June 2013 the attorney general, the Honourable Greg Smith SC MP said:

I am confident that you will make a marvellous addition to the Supreme Court.

Your vast legal knowledge, your desire to contribute to the development of the law, your even temper and your reputation for integrity are the hallmarks of a fine judge.

You are indeed a model of what the people of NSW might hope for in a judge.