

THE SUPREME COURT OF  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

WELCOME TO THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE JANINE PRITCHARD

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

AT PERTH ON MONDAY, 14 JUNE 2010, AT 9.32 AM

14/6/10  
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1

**MURRAY J:** Well, having acted as marshal and got the troops here, I think I will spend the rest of the day resting up. It is with great pleasure that I get the opportunity, in the absence of the Chief Justice who is on circuit in Broome - you see what I have done there. I make that observation not with any rancour, although I was available.

It is just great to have the opportunity to preside at this sitting of the Full Bench to welcome to the Supreme Court her Honour Justice Janine Pritchard. The ceremony is conducted in the presence of members of the Bar and distinguished guests, some of whom I will certainly acknowledge, although in doing so I am immediately conscious of the fact that I will certainly omit some who should be mentioned.

I am pleased to see in court Judges of the Federal Court and I am particularly pleased, as I look up to the Court, to acknowledge the presence of his Honour Judge Martino, the acting Chief Judge of the District Court, upon which Court her Honour served for fully 12 months in the dual capacity of a Judge of that Court and as a Deputy President of the State Administrative Tribunal. I have to congratulate his Honour Judge Martino, and Justice Chaney, on their successful concealment of their chagrin at the current move.

I am delighted to acknowledge the presence of the Honourable David Malcolm AC QC, and the Corruption and Crime Commissioner seated with him, the Honourable Len Roberts-Smith QC. The Solicitor-General, Mr Meadows, is here, as are senior members of the Department of the Attorney-General, Ms Gwilliam, the Director-General, Mr Warnes, the Executive Director of Court Services, Mr Sharp, the State Solicitor, and I think Mr Panegyres, a former Crown Solicitor, and other senior lawyers in the department; her Honour's erstwhile colleagues. Somewhat connected with her Honour in that way, I am delighted to see the Honourable Christine Wheeler QC present.

I do not overlook the presence in Court of the State Director of Public Prosecutions, Mr McGrath, and the Federal Deputy Director, Ms Fogliani. Mr McGrath's position elevates him, as a member of her Honour's family, to the status of "accompanying person".

Of course, finally, it is with the greatest of pleasure that I see members of her Honour's family present in Court, most of whom have come from Canberra, so it is a great pleasure to see you here. Including in that, of course, you see the demonstration immediately of her Honour's courage by the presence in Court of Master Thomas at the ripe old age of four, under some threat of (indistinct).

Your Honour joins the Court as part of an unprecedented process of renewal. The numbers of the Court have not changed of recent times, but as the result of the thinning of our ranks your Honour is thus far the seventh member of the Court to be appointed in 2009 and 2010. The process of rejuvenation is not yet at an end.

I will not name those slightly older members of the Court who might be due to join the list of retirees shortly. I would not wish any of them to think that the sun might be marginally setting over their judicial careers and they might be past their judicial prime ever so slightly.

I cannot, however, stop myself from remarking that your Honour is of an age which might be best described - and here you will see I will be careful not to reveal the numbers, but if I say that your Honour is young enough to be my daughter had I taken my time in deciding to assume the mantle of fatherhood.

Again without wishing to name any numbers, I have the pleasure of being able to wish your Honour every success and fulfilment in a maximum of 28 years that you may serve on this Bench.

I noticed looking at your Honour's CV as I prepared to make a few observations this morning that there are parallels between your Honour's career and mine. Your Honour had a brilliant tertiary education - I don't know why they laughed at that - that culminated in the attainment of the degree of Master of Laws with distinction from the University of London, and along the way you attained a double degree of Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws with Honours and a Graduate Diploma in Women's Studies. The parallel is made manifest if I observe that I graduated Bachelor of Laws, but I do recall that along the way I achieved considerable skill at the billiard table.

When your Honour commenced litigation practice with the Crown, you did so as the professional assistant to the then Solicitor-General, a former Judge of this Court and now a Deputy President of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, his Excellency the Honourable Kevin Parker AC, QC, so what a start, and you then launched from that platform into a career as a public law advocate specialising particularly in administrative law and constitutional law and related areas.

Your rise through the professional ranks of the department can only be described as meteoric. I was around on that side of practise for some time myself, and those who were my mentors suggested perhaps a rather different concentration of specialisation from the esoteric fields in which your Honour was particularly engaged, but we are without doubt most fortunate in this Court to have your Honour join our ranks. We have no doubt that you will add lustre to the work of the Court, both at first instance and at appellate level, particularly in commercial and public law areas.

It is said for some time your Honour will be precluded from working in the criminal jurisdiction of the Court, and that may be so, but I can immediately reassure your Honour that we would have no difficulty at all in providing you with an unremitting workload which will fill to capacity your days and indeed your nights and, by the way, I should observe, in case anything untoward may be implied in what I have just said, that I do hope that your marriage lasts for a considerable period.

Now that it is too late for your Honour to renege from the commitment, I can tell you what lies ahead. You will be immediately engaged in the work of the General Division of the Court, relieved by occasional secondment for the more studious and contemplative environment of the Court of Appeal.

I suspect that if you stay the distance, so to speak, you will be able to enjoy the full range of unsatisfactory accommodation which we have available to the Judges of this Court. You may even graduate, as I have done, to Chambers with an outside loo which, as I have said on other occasions, has the capacity to fortify the spirit by being boiling hot in summer and freezing cold in winter.

You will have every modern electronic capacity to aid your work, including a digital dictation system the operation of which remains a mystery even to the most highly qualified IT professional.

On the brighter side, you join a Bench which, despite the changes to its composition, remains one which takes seriously its public duty to provide justice efficiently and affordably for the satisfaction of at least 30 or 40 per cent of those who appear before the Court.

We are a collegiate group. We offer each other mutual support and encouragement. You will be sustained by that collegiality, despite the fact that you will perform your work, as do all Judges, in solitary confinement and under the glare of public scrutiny which may from time to time offer unfair criticism to which you will not be able to reply. The prospect must be mouth-watering for your Honour.

I am sure you will make a brilliant contribution to the work of the Court and you will derive much satisfaction and pleasure from the opportunity to do so. Welcome aboard. Mr Mischin?

**MISCHIN, MR:** Thank you, your Honour. May it please the Court. It is my pleasure on behalf of the Government of Western Australia to welcome Justice Janine Pritchard to the Supreme Court. Although a year has passed, it seems almost like yesterday that we were celebrating as a profession your elevation to the District Court and to the task of assisting with the State Administrative Tribunal.

Before addressing the Court on your Honour's many fine qualities, may I first apologise on behalf of the Attorney-General who cannot be here due to parliamentary commitments but he passes on his best wishes upon your appointment to this Bench.

Justice Pritchard has had a distinguished, if relatively short, legal career. After graduating from the Australian National University in 1990 with an Arts degree, you went on to gain a Law degree with Honours in 1993 from the same university. You obviously found university life agreeable because you successfully completed a Graduate Diploma in Women's Studies at Murdoch University in 1997 which was followed by a Master of Laws with distinction from the University of London in 1999.

These academic achievements were complemented by your employment in 1991 and 1992 as a professional assistant to the WA Solicitor-General, his Excellency Kevin Parker AC, QC, and in 1993 you were admitted as a barrister and solicitor of the Supreme Court of Western Australia, so your elevation to the Bench to the District Court and now to this Bench has been in a relatively short space of time and it shows the exemplary qualities that you have displayed both as a professional and as a person and someone with a temperament that is suitable to appointment to the Bench.

Having completed your articles with the then Crown Solicitor's Office, you continued with that office as a lawyer and in 2002 were appointed Senior Assistant State Counsel. Your primary areas of practice have been public law, administrative law, constitutional law, freedom of information and privacy law, industrial law and the prosecution of regulatory offences, and you have appeared in that capacity in a range of courts and tribunals including the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeal, the State Administrative Tribunal and the High Court. You have also been involved in the provision of advice to the government in more difficult and complex areas of the law.

Notwithstanding this busy practice, you have made yourself available for many extracurricular activities including teaching law at three WA universities. Frankly, I don't know where you find the time. You have also contributed to the wider profession as a member and also as a convenor of the Law Society's articulated clerk recruitment scheme monitoring committee and acted as a mentor for young lawyers in the State Solicitor's Office.

In addition to guiding young lawyers, you have also been active in the advancement of women in the legal profession, including service as a board member of the Australian Women Lawyers, the peak body for women lawyers' associations around Australia.

As Deputy President of the State Administrative Tribunal you have presided over many cases in the Tribunal's four streams of work and you have contributed to the Tribunal's management as chair of the technology committee and as a member of the rules committee and the library committee. I am told you have been active in providing leadership to the tribunal's judicial members and have been of great assistance to the president.

However, the tribunal's loss is the Supreme Court's gain and today marks the start of the next phase of what I am sure will be a distinguished and honourable judicial career. Your career and judicial service make you an excellent appointment to this Court and on behalf of the government and the community to which you will be providing invaluable service, we wish you well. I think that is the best place to end it given that his Honour Justice Murray is probably anxious for his morning lie down. May it please the Court.

**MURRAY J:** Dr Kendall?

**KENDALL, DR:** May it please the Court. On behalf of the Law Society of Western Australia, it is my very great pleasure to welcome her Honour, Janine Pritchard, as a Justice of the Supreme Court of Western Australia. Not all that long ago the Law Society was pleased to welcome

your Honour as Deputy President of the State Administrative Tribunal and a Judge of the District Court. I am delighted to be invited back for an encore presentation for an appointment which is very, very much deserved.

Your Honour, your appointment to this Court comes as no surprise to those who know you personally, those who have worked with you and those who have appeared before you. Your tireless commitment to excellence, your unquestioned dedication to equality before the law and excellence in the law is widely acknowledged and, might I say, greatly admired.

At the Society we have been privileged to witness first-hand your Honour's commitment to the profession generally, particularly your involvement as convenor of the graduate recruitment monitoring scheme as it is now known. The aim of that committee is to coordinate recruitment periods for graduates, articulated clerks and vacation clerks. Its importance is reflected in its membership with representatives from large to small law firms, government, universities, graduates, and of course students.

Your Honour, your ability to relate to all people from all walks of life, to break down communication barriers and relate to people as just that, people, has always made an immediate impression on all who know you. You are highly regarded for your ability to make the inaccessible accessible, the complicated clear, and the mundane interesting; all traits that will, I am sure, serve you well as a Justice of this Supreme Court.

Your Honour, it was during your 16 years at the State Solicitor's Office that you committed yourself to the development of all young lawyers, first as a mentor in that office and then, as I have just noted, as convenor of the society's recruitment scheme.

Your commitment to mentoring and to breaking down the many systemic barriers that all too often make our profession alienating and sometimes removed from the realities of everyday life reveal character traits that more lawyers indeed would do well to emulate. Indeed, I think it is fair to say that we would be a much more welcoming profession if more of us were as approachable, as willing to listen and as accommodating of the diversity that represents the law today, and for that we thank you.

In that regard I particularly note your Honour's significant relationship with the Women Lawyers' Association both here in WA and of course nationally. Your Honour's appointment today says a great deal about the changing face of the judiciary and the expectations of those in our society most affected by judicial pronouncements.



That you have always throughout your career not hesitated to speak for those who have been too quickly silenced by a system of law and justice that has often struggled to accommodate difference and effect change offers hope to all of us who care passionately about diversity and, importantly, equal participation in the law and society generally.

In 2004, Justice Ruth McColl of the New South Wales Court of Appeal was asked to detail what character traits, to her, allow some to excel when appointed to the Bench. Amongst her thoughts, her Honour's views on the meaning and responsibility of leadership stand out, and I quote. Her Honour said:

All members of the legal community play a vital role in addressing unequal participation in the profession, but it is the leaders of the profession who act as critical change agents to demonstrate the rejection of factors which limit participation, whether by women, the indigenous community, or indeed any minority.

Some factors may be relatively easily change, for example, by the provision of adequate funding to redress economic inequality. Yet experience tells me that comprehension does not speedily turn into action. Leaders of the profession must drive the process of change from the very top.

Equally, those who must give practical effect to the changing face of the legal profession, whether that be in employment or in the briefing practices, also act as real forces of real social change, and those who are given the opportunity to participate must of course grasp it and make the very most of it.

Your Honour, I think it is fair to say that you personify what it means to be a leader in this profession. You have long promoted diversity and social inclusion and in doing so you have allowed and will allow others to follow in your footsteps. I know I speak for many when I say that your appointment as a Justice of the Supreme Court of Western Australia has been and will continue to be met with much enthusiasm, and might I say that I am personally indeed privileged to stand here today to welcome you to this honourable Court. On behalf of the Law Society of Western Australia, I wish you all the very, very best as its newest member. May it please the Court.

**MURRAY J:** Thank you, Dr Kendall. Mr Donaldson?

**DONALDSON, MR:** May it please the Court. In particular it's a pleasure to appear before your Honour's judicial father today, as opposed to brother, although I thought, I must say, that your Honour Justice Murray was going to say "grandfather".

The Bar welcomes your Honour's appointment and it is a privilege for me to represent the Bar at this special sitting of the Court. It is occasionally said that the Bar rejoices more when one of its own as opposed to a practitioner from outside the Bar is appointed to judicial office. The falsity of this proposition is proved by the recent response to your Honour's appointment to this Court, as it was by the response to your Honour's appointment to the District Court and to SAT.

To each of these appointments, but in particular to this appointment, the Bar adds its congratulation to your Honour and to the Executive Government in again ensuring appointment to this Court of a candidate of the highest quality and suitability.

Your Honour's suitability for appointment ought not, however, to conceal certain imperfections. Your Honour is from Canberra, though this fact in itself proves that it is wrong to contend that Western Australia has never got anything good out of Canberra. We have your Honour and we have QF719, the direct daily flight from Canberra to Perth.

As we have heard, your Honour commenced your career as the professional assistant to the Solicitor-General, Kevin Parker QC, as his Excellency then was. The position of professional assistant to the Solicitor-General is one of great prestige and your Honour in serving in that position joined an illustrious group that includes, among others, Christine Wheeler QC, as Her Honour is again, Judge Yeats, Allanson SC, Pettit SC and Mitchell SC.

Your Honour made a great impact in that role and it was shortly after it that your Honour was described in admiring terms by that well-known legal talent scout, Justice Gummow, as, "You know the one, the tall one who's just like Christine Wheeler." That description was taken at the time, no doubt with great perception, as a reference to your Honour and not to Rob Mitchell.

Not long after serving with Kevin Parker QC, your Honour attended and excelled at the University of London. You read at the UCL, the alma mater of Christine Wheeler. You achieved the highest distinctions in the masters degree offered by the University of London, as did Christine Wheeler. That you achieved this distinction was quite literally doubly remarkable as your Honour in undertaking that course did the work of two. Your Honour's sometime boyfriend was also enrolled and was carried through the course by your Honour.

Upon your return to the State Solicitor's Office, your Honour undertook work of great importance. You were a favourite of the then Crown Solicitor, Peter Panegyres, who I am glad to see here today in all of his Byzantine greyness, and you were a favourite of his successor, Tim Sharp, and quite obviously your Honour was much favoured by the Solicitor-General, Robert Meadows QC.

Until your Honour's appointment to SAT along with Rob Mitchell, your Honour pretty much shared the junior briefs for the State in all of the notable constitutional law matters over the past 12 or so years and your Honour's many appearances in constitutional matters in the High Court gave rise to renown and to a national reputation, but at the Crown your Honour did more than just ponce around with the fancy constitutional law briefs. You appeared for the state in a wide range of matters and took responsibility within the State Solicitor's Office for many important and difficult areas of law and policy.

Although I mentioned earlier that the Bar has rejoiced in your Honour's successive judicial appointments, in one respect these appointments are a source of some misgiving. You were one of the ones who got away from us. Many of us tried for years to entice you to the Bar. Indeed, I thought that my various offers were not only generous but my pitch persuasive. Happily for my reputation, Zelestis QC tried just as hard and failed just as dismally. That you were able to resist the seductive charms of Zelestis says much about your Honour.

One of the things that it says is that your Honour showed great loyalty to the State Solicitor's Office and to legal practice and public service in the highest traditions of that office. Another thing it exemplified is that your Honour enjoyed and excelled in the difficult work, particularly the advisory work that your practice at the Crown entailed.

Of course, it is excellence in the timely provision of precise written work that is essential, if not the best qualification, for service on this Court. Whatever might be said of your Honour's practise prior to appointment, it is undoubtedly the case though that your Honour's contribution to the community as a Judge of this Court, along with the contribution that you have already made as a presidential member of SAT, will exceed anything that you could have contributed as a practitioner and the community can have complete confidence that you are supremely qualified for this role.

Evidence of this suitability is that your Honour has accepted this appointment with some trepidation as to what lies ahead. This disposition establishes that your Honour will be of that type who before judgment recites as if the rosary Oliver Cromwell's plea prior to the second Battle of Dunbar, "I beseech you in the bowels of Christ think it possible that you may be mistaken."

Of course, it is Judges of this type who ultimately are rarely mistaken, but to the task of judging your Honour will bring not only humility and great gifts of intellect and industry but qualities honed by features of your Honour's life that are indeed more impressive than those of intellect, industry and professional prominence.

These features can be expressed thus: that all that your Honour has so far achieved in your career, and this has been much, has been done while being the supportive partner of a busy practitioner, an adoring and attentive mother, a devoted daughter, daughter-in-law and sister, a tireless mentor and supporter of countless junior practitioners and a kind, thoughtful and considerate friend to innumerable many. These are qualifications indeed. The Bar looks forward to assisting your Honour in the important work that lies ahead. May it please the Court.

**MURRAY J:** Your Honour?

**PRITCHARD J:** Justice Murray, fellow Judges of the Supreme Court, Judges of the Federal and District Courts who are present here today, including the Acting Chief Judge of the District Court, Mr Mischin, Mr Donaldson and Dr Kendall, other distinguished guests and the members of my family and my friends who are here today, can I extend to you all my

deepest thanks for turning out in such a great number to witness me starting this next phase of my judicial career. I must say it really is wonderful to see so many of you here today.

When I was appointed to the District Court and the State Administrative Tribunal last year, I said virtually all I wanted to say in my address to the Court in my welcoming ceremony. For that reason, my welcome to this Court so soon after my address on that occasion has left me in something of a quandary about what to say in my address today.

I am very conscious that there are few, if any, bigger sins, certainly for a counsel and I think perhaps even more so for a judicial officer with a captive audience, as repetition of one's earlier remarks. For that reason, I have to confess that I was tempted to try to set a record by giving the shortest ever speech given by a Judge at a welcoming ceremony by confining my remarks by reference to my speech last year to, "I agree and have nothing to add."

As a solicitor and as a counsel, and let me assure you it is no less the case as a Judge, there are no words so welcome when you are reading a judgment and one Judge says just that about another's learned observations. I have, however, resisted that temptation both because there are some new things to say and because, I hope you will forgive me, some things do bear repetition.

May I start by speaking of the new things that there are to say? First, may I thank each of the speakers today. Mr Mischin, thank you for your kind words on behalf of the Government and the people of Western Australia. It is a great honour to be asked to serve on this Court and I am very grateful for the opportunity to do so. You can rest assured that I will endeavour to carry out my role to the very best of my ability.

As for you, Mr Donaldson and Dr Kendall, each of you has performed the role of counsel today with typical distinction in grossly over-exaggerating the merits of the case you have been asked to present and managing very deftly not to mention the obvious flaws and faults in that case. I appreciate your efforts very much, particularly as I understand that my husband Joe claimed to have dished up all the reportable dirt on me for the addresses last year.

Secondly, may I say something about the past year? I consider myself very lucky to have spent the first year of my judicial life on the SAT for three reasons: first, the work of the Tribunal to which I was party is extremely diverse, interesting and can be very intellectually challenging. I very much enjoyed the diversity of that work.

Secondly, it has been a pleasure to witness and to participate in the procedures which set the Tribunal apart from more formal Courts but which permit it to resolve an enormous and increasing number of matters each year with speed and with minimal costs to the parties.

In many ways, I think the Tribunal's processes represent something of the way forward for the legal system, a focus on mediation at the earliest opportunity and before the parties have the opportunity to dig in the trenches and become inflexible in their approach and a focus on informality in the sense of identifying as quickly and as simply as possible the issues of dispute between the parties, rather than to spend much time and money on arguments about pleadings and interlocutory matters.

Thirdly, in very large part the success of the Tribunal is due to the people who work there. I am very grateful to Justice Chaney and to Judge Eckert for their kindness to me during the past year and for their generosity and patience in sharing their knowledge with me I am also very grateful to the members of the Tribunal, each of whom impressed me from the outset with their extraordinary talents in each of their areas of expertise, their capacity for relentless hard work and for their sense of collegiality.

Finally, I would like to recognise the administrative and support staff of the Tribunal who quietly go about the task of listing, processing and organising the thousands of separate matters which come before the Tribunal each year. In particular can I mention two of the administrative staff who have been of particular assistance to me: John McNaught, the Judge's orderly who is so efficient that he manages to assist three Judges, rather than just one. I never did have to ask him to pick up Thomas from school but I am sure it would only have been a matter of time, so perhaps this appointment came just in time as far as he was concerned.

May I express my thanks also to my associate Alex Turner who came to work with me just after I started, who has witnessed a baby Judge learning the ropes and who, nevertheless, wanted to join me at this Court and to do it all over again as it were.

The third matter that I wanted to mention is that I am very conscious that I am notionally filling the position on this Court vacated by his Honour Justice Hasluck. It is somewhat daunting to follow in the footsteps of someone with such legal and literary ability. I am in awe of anyone who can work as a Judge day in and day out and still find the time or inclination to write for pleasure and with such elegant prose.

Rather than attempt to fill his Honour's shoes, a task which I am sure would be beyond me, I can but hope that my own shoes, generally high heels and in a variety of colours, will eventually fit in. I am also very conscious that I am following in the footsteps of four other women who have been appointed to this Court - Justices Wheeler, McLure, Johnson and Jenkins - who have set extraordinarily high standards, and yet who have performed their work with apparent ease. They have set the bar very high.

I am also conscious that regrettably it remains the case that there is something slightly out of the ordinary about the appointment of a woman Judge, and in my case the appointment of a comparatively young woman. While I think that the appointment of women to Courts and Tribunals is generally well received within the profession itself, in the broader community it is interesting that it remains something unusual or worthy of comment.

Three things have brought this home to me in the past year. The first is that when I was appointed, one of my friends who is a lawyer and who is married to a lawyer recounted that her son who was about six years of age at the time had told her that I couldn't possibly have been appointed as a Judge "because girls can't be Judges".

Thomas, my son, came home very confused because the tennis coach who goes to his day-care centre to teach tennis had asked the kids what their parents do. He dutifully responded that Mummy is a Judge and Daddy is a lawyer, only to be told, "No, darling. I think you must be wrong. Daddy's the Judge and Mummy's the lawyer."

More recently I was bemused to see that my appointment to this Court warranted media attention, not because it increased the number of women represented on the Court or for anything to do with my individual merits but because I have a husband with a senior position in the legal profession and how I would be able to manage my new position in view of my hubby's role - that was the term used. My hubby's role was apparently a matter of some concern.

There are now a few things I want to say very briefly which repeat the sentiments I expressed last year. I hope you will indulge me in doing so because they involve expressing my gratitude to the colleagues, family and friends without whose support and encouragement I wouldn't be here, because I simply cannot thank them enough, especially publicly, for all they have done for me.

In my career as a solicitor and counsel at the State Solicitor's Office, I was the recipient of the encouragement, the example and the opportunities to learn which were given to me by Kevin Parker, Peter Panegyres,

Tim Sharp and Robert Meadows. I am very pleased to see three of the four of them here today and I continue to be very grateful to them for all that they have done for me and my career.

In addition, I was very lucky to have the opportunity to work with very many extremely talented lawyers in the State Solicitor's Office who shared their knowledge with me in a spirit of great generosity and who shared their friendship with me as well over so many years.

I have said on a previous occasion, and in reflecting on my career, it is the men with whom I have worked who have given me the opportunities to do interesting and challenging work and to develop my skills and demonstrate my abilities as a lawyer, but in many ways it is the women I have worked with who have ensured my survival in the legal profession.

I had the good fortune to be mentored, supported and encouraged by a number of very clever, hardworking, down-to-earth and truly inspirational women. I won't mention you again by name today but you know who you are and I am very grateful for the support and encouragement that each of you has shown me and continued to show me since my appointment to the Bench.

I was also very lucky to have the opportunity to mentor a number of young lawyers during my time at the SSO, especially young women. I have reaped far more rewards from that experience than I am sure I have passed on. I would also like to acknowledge the support I have received from other women Judges since I was appointed last year. I am very grateful for their expressions of encouragement and for their friendship.

Can I mention now the very dear friends, both in the legal profession and outside it, who have been there to enjoy the good times with me, to share the burden of some of the more challenging times in my life and who helped importantly to remind me of the importance of keeping a balance in my life and of pursuing interests outside the law. I have known many of you for many years back to my time at university and to my earliest days in Western Australia. There are too many of you to name individually but I hope you do appreciate my gratitude and how much I treasure your friendships.

Now, most importantly can I thank my family. My mother and father, John and Carolyn, thank you again for all that you have done for me and the sacrifices that you have made for our family and most importantly for the love, support and encouragement that you have always shown me and continue to show me.



To my two sisters Annie and Nanette and to my brothers-in-law Chris and Pete, who can't be here, I thank you too for your love and support, for your friendship and for your good-natured send-ups of me.

Finally, to my husband Joe and to my son Thomas, thank you for your love, your friendship, your wise counsel and your willingness to support me in everything I have done professionally and personally over the years that we have been together. To Thomas, my beautiful son, the greatest privilege in my life has been to be your mother and the happiness and meaning that you have brought to my life can't be measured. Words cannot express the love I have for both of you.

Once again, to all of you present today, can I say thank you very much for your attendance and your continued support of me.

**MURRAY J:** The court will now adjourn.

AT 10.09 AM THE MATTER WAS ADJOURNED ACCORDINGLY