

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

This year's Institute Conference was held at the Novotel Twin Waters Resort, Queensland, 25/27 May 1996.

The welcome luncheon was presided over by the President, Mr L.E. James and was followed by the Official Opening by Joan Sheldon, Deputy Premier of Queensland.

A highlight of the Conference was the annual John Keays Lecture delivered by The Hon. Mr Justice Drummond, Judge, Federal Court of Australia. The text of the lecture is published elsewhere in this issue of *The Arbitrator*. Selected papers from the Conference will be published in later issues of the journal.

Following the annual meeting of Institute members on 25 May the Conference dinner in commemoration of Brian Ernst, Solicitor, Brisbane, was held at which Patrick Keane QC, Barrister and Solicitor General, was the occasional speaker.

INTERACTIVE SPECIALIST COURSE

This course, held over two days, which was targetted at Grades 2 and 3 arbitrators, focussed on eight specific areas of evidence, jurisdiction, preliminary conference, misconduct, court reports, appeals and post award litigation as well as an award writing exercise. Held at the Novotel Twin Waters Resort to coincide with the Institute's Conference and General Arbitration Course this course was structured to ensure maximum interaction between Graded Arbitrators and well known and highly regarded lawyers involved in commercial arbitration on a day to day basis. The participation of Mr Justice de Jersey of the Supreme Court, Queensland, was very much appreciated. The course facilitators were Messes L.E. James, J.B. Dorter, Professor Pat Cavanagh and G.H. Golvan QC and their efforts along with those of the Organising Committee were very much appreciated by Council and by all those who attended.

GENERAL ARBITRATION COURSE

The Novotel Twin Waters Resort, Sunshine Coast, Queensland was the venue for this years 3 day General Arbitration Course during May.

The Course was opened by Mr L.E. James, President, and covered a wide range of topics which have been the distinctive hallmark of the Institute's