

Hear

The Hon John Dowd



Faith in the Law

9.30 am
Sunday 26 May 2013

St Ives Uniting Church
Corner of Mona Vale Rd
& Douglas St, St Ives

Former NSW Attorney General & Supreme Court judge, the Hon John Dowd AO QC will give the address at St Ives Uniting Church's second annual Law Service.

This service is for everyone in the law or with an interest in law. We will recognise lawyers for their contribution to society, and reflect on values in law.

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The Hon John Dowd, AO QC

The Hon John Dowd, AO QC, is committed to advancing the global cause of human rights.

Mr Dowd was a Justice of the Supreme Court of New South Wales from 1994 to 2004. Prior to that, he served as NSW Attorney-General from 1988 to 1991. As a member of the Legislative Assembly from 1975 to 1991 representing Lane Cove, he also served at various times as Leader of the Opposition and Leader of the House. While Attorney General, Mr Dowd oversaw significant legal reforms, such as the establishment of the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) and important reforms in criminal, tort and motor accident laws.

In 2002, Mr Dowd served as Chairman of the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ), having been involved with the Australian chapter of the ICJ since 1974. During his time as international chairman, Mr Dowd was involved in missions including to Hong Kong in 1991, East Timor in 2000 and Nepal in 2003. In 1997, he led the Australian government delegation to monitor Palestinian Legislative Council elections and procedures.

Currently, John Dowd is Chancellor of Southern Cross University; Deputy President of the New South Wales Mental Health Review Tribunal; Vice-President of the International Commission of Jurists, Geneva; President, International Commission of Jurists Australia; Goodwill Ambassador, Cerebral Palsy Alliance; and President, ActionAid Australia (formerly Austcare).

In 1977 he was awarded the Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal, in 1982 he was created a Knight Commander of the Filipino Order of the Knights of Rizal and in 1992 was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia. John Dowd was awarded the Centenary Medal in 2001 and the Australian National Service and Defence Jubilee medal in 2008. In August 2009 he was invested with the Insignia of the Order of Timor L'este.