



BICENTENARY STATEMENT: **JUDGING THE MACQUARIES**

Read in the NSW Legislative Council chamber by President Matthew Mason-Cox, **10 May 2022**

I am pleased to advise that on 30 April 2022, the Legislative Council hosted a special event which critically examined the legacy of Major General Lachlan Macquarie, CB, who served as the fifth Governor of NSW. The event comprised a full day of re-enactments of Parliamentary debates, a mock trial of Governor Macquarie and a dinner book launch of “Judging the Macquaries” by acclaimed author Rev Dr John Harris.

I inform the House that the event was the first of a number of formal events scheduled to celebrate the Bicentenary of the NSW Legislative Council of NSW, marking 200 years since the Council was established in 1823 and first sat in 1824. As members would be aware, Governor Macquarie was a central and influential figure in our early colonial history and his 12 year reign as Governor was the subject of the Bigge Report, which directly led to the establishment of the Legislative Council through the passage of the NSW Act through the UK Parliament in 1823.

I congratulate and commend the staff and students from Alphacrucis College, Champion College, the Lachlan Macquarie Institute and Burrundi Theatre for Performing Arts for a powerful theatrical performance and a stunning, innovative and unique educational event.