



**Land and Environment
Court**
of New South Wales

The Hon Jerrold Sydney Cripps QC (1933-2015), a former Chief Judge of the Land and Environment Court, has died.

A funeral service will be held at St James Church, King Street, on Tuesday, 5 January 2016 at 10.00am.

Jerrold Cripps was appointed as one of the foundation judges of the Court on 18 August 1980. He was appointed Chief Judge on 3 June 1985 and served until 1 April 1992, when he was appointed to the NSW Court of Appeal.

Both as a judge and the Chief Judge, Jerrold Cripps was instrumental in shaping the Court as a specialist environmental court and in developing a body of environmental jurisprudence. For instance, many of his decisions established the law on environmental impact assessment, particularly by government agencies undertaking public projects. He promoted public participation in environmental decision-making and access to justice. He was influential in securing legal aid for environmental matters and funding for the Environmental Defenders Office, the first such aid for a community legal centre in NSW.

His decisions upheld the public's rights of access to environmental information, rights to participate in decision-making, and access to the courts. He has left an important legacy for present and future generations.

The Hon Justice Brian J Preston, Chief Judge