

DAVID SCUTTS, chairman of partners at Sydney corporate and communications law firm Truman Hoyle, has just chalked up 50 years there.

Joining the then P. G. Truman, Stocker & Co in 1956 after leaving school, David Scutts completed articles and was admitted as a lawyer in 1961.

Reminiscing about that time, Mr Scutts observed, "In those early years, there were no mega-legal firms or specialist boutique firms like there are today. Legal firms were more typically general practices and were often dominated by one or two personalities". Truman Hoyle is now a seven-partner firm with a total staff of 36, practising corporate, communications, technology, energy, industrial and property law.

During the course of his half-century at the firm, David Scutts has acted as a mentor to scores of young lawyers. Truman Hoyle managing part-



ner Shane Barber told *LSJ*, "A key focus of David's mentoring activities involves assisting young lawyers to understand that technical excellence and ethical conduct are the given characteristics of any good lawyer, but the ability to build genuine personal relationships with clients is what builds both the firm and a satisfying career".

Mr Barber noted that while David Scutts is planning to retire as a partner in June this year, Truman Hoyle looks forward to his continuing as a consultant. □