

**JOHN PREBBLE, EDITOR**

Professor of Law, Victoria University of Wellington - Faculty of Law, Gastprofessor, Institut für Österreichisches und Internationales Steuerrecht, Wirtschaftsuniversität Wien, Adjunct Professor of Law, University of Notre Dame Australia - School of Law

[john.prebble@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:john.prebble@vuw.ac.nz)

**HANNEKE VAN OEVEREN, ASSISTANT EDITOR**

Victoria University of Wellington - Faculty of Law

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## Announcements

Public Order Law: Papers By A.T.H Smith, Professor of Law, Victoria University of Wellington

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### "Public Order Law 1974-1983: Developments and Proposals"

(1984) *Criminal Law Review* at 643

*Victoria University of Wellington Legal Research Paper No. 82/2015*

**A. T. H. SMITH**, Victoria University of Wellington - Faculty of Law

Email: [tony.smith@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:tony.smith@vuw.ac.nz)

Over the last decade, a series of events relating to public order have meant that police methods have been more rigorously scrutinised and also that the law relating to large scale disturbance has changed. Recent developments appear to be more reflective than previous changes. Important developments are examined in the areas of breach of the peace, picketing, prevention of terrorism, and the actions of the Law Commission. Abstract by Rose Goss.

### "Public Order Law: The Government's Proposals"

[1985] *Public Law* at 533.

*Victoria University of Wellington Legal Research Paper No. 83/2015*

**A. T. H. SMITH**, Victoria University of Wellington - Faculty of Law

Email: [tony.smith@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:tony.smith@vuw.ac.nz)

The Home Office has recently produced a White Paper, outlining the possibilities of reform in the area of public order law. The paper fails to touch on the broad constitutional implications of the issues it

discusses. This article examines the White Paper, focusing on the common law offenses, the possibility of a disorderly behavior offense, marches and processions, and static demonstrations and meetings. Overall, the document does not provide adequate coverage of the issues in this area.

## "The Public Order Act 1986 - Part 1: The New Offences"

[1987] *Crim LR* at 156

*Victoria University of Wellington Legal Research Paper No. 84/2015*

**A. T. H. SMITH**, Victoria University of Wellington - Faculty of Law

Email: [tony.smith@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:tony.smith@vuw.ac.nz)

The general approach of the working paper is sensible, although the Law Commission does not consider public nuisance and should have been clearer about the nature of the values and interests that public law is intended to preserve. There are issues with the status of affray as a public order offence, and it is proposed that the second of the two types of affray should be replaced with an offence of "fighting in public". Secondly, the offence of riot raises similar issues and the penalty it carries is too high. Thirdly, there is some ambiguity in relation to the offence of unlawful assembly but this could be easily resolved. Overall the report is detailed, but raises a number of issues. Abstract by Rose Goss.

## "The Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 - The Public Order Elements"

(1995) *Criminal Law Reporter* at 19

*Victoria University of Wellington Legal Research Paper No. 85/2015*

**A. T. H. SMITH**, Victoria University of Wellington - Faculty of Law

Email: [tony.smith@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:tony.smith@vuw.ac.nz)

After examining the background of the Act, this article focuses on the main issues that the Act raises. Section 39 allows removal of trespassers, but is unlikely to be more successful than its predecessor. The Act also means that raves may now be subject to criminal regulation. A new offence of aggravated trespass is created, although the existing law relating to breach of the peace could also be used in relation to aggravated trespass. Other issues examined include trespassory assemblies, squatters, unauthorised campers, and the relevant burden of proof. Abstract by Rose Goss.

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The Student/Alumni Series is a subseries of the Victoria University of Wellington Legal Research Paper Series. The subseries started in 2015 and publishes papers by students and alumni of Victoria University of Wellington, comprising primarily work for honours and postgraduate courses. Papers are collected into thematic or general issues.

The Victoria University of Wellington was founded in 1899 to mark the Diamond Jubilee of the reign of Queen Victoria of Great Britain and of the then British Empire. Law teaching started in 1900. The Law Faculty was formally constituted in 1907. The first dean was Richard Maclaurin (1870-1920), an eminent scholar of both law and mathematics. Maclaurin went on to lead the Massachusetts Institute of Technology as President in its formative years. Early professors included Sir John Salmond (1862-1924), still one of the Common Law's leading scholars. His texts on jurisprudence and torts have gone through many editions and remain in print.

Alumni include Sir Robin Cooke (1926-2006), one of the leading judges of the British Commonwealth. As Baron Cooke of Thorndon, he sat on over 100 appeals to the Appellate Committee of the House of Lords, one of very few Commonwealth judges ever appointed to do so.

Since 1996 the Law School has occupied the Old Government Building in central Wellington. Designed by William Clayton and opened in 1876 to house New Zealand's then civil service, the building is a particularly fine example of Italianate neo-Renaissance style. Unusually among large colonial official buildings of the time it is constructed of wood, apart from chimneys and vaults.

The School is close to New Zealand's Parliament, courts, and the headquarters of government

departments. Throughout Victoria's history, our law teachers have contributed actively to policy formation and to law reform. As a result, in addition to many scholarly articles and books, the Victoria SSRN pages include a number of official reports.

Victoria graduates approximately 230 LLB and LLB(Hons) students each year, and about 60 LLM students. The faculty has an increasing number of doctoral students. Ordinarily there are ten to twelve students engaged in PhD research.

Victoria University observes the British system of academic ranks. In North American terms, lecturers and senior lecturers are tenured doctrinal scholars, not legal writing teachers. A senior lecturer corresponds approximately to a North American associate professor in rank.

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