

PREFACE

We are grateful as ever for the efforts of the editorial staff at Sweet and Maxwell who have expertly shepherded us through the various stages of publication with a minimum of fuss, particularly Clare McMahon and Alexandra Hirst.

Sadly, as noted in the Second Supplement to the last edition, Rodney Percy died in April 2008. He had inherited responsibility for editing this book after his former master in the law, Dr Charlesworth, himself died suddenly in 1957. He then continued single handed until 1996 and remained actively involved up to the last edition. We work in Rodney's shadow but are committed to his vision of a text accessible and helpful to student and practising lawyer alike.

The law is stated at July 1, 2010.

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