

- Discussion Paper on the Evidence of Children and Other Potentially Vulnerable Witnesses, 1988, DP75.
- Discussion Paper on the Ground for Divorce: Should the Law be Changed? 1988, DP76.
- Research Paper on Evidence from Children: Alternatives to In-court Testimony in Criminal Proceedings in the United States of America, 1988.

United States

Michigan LRC

- Twenty-second Annual Report 1987, 1988.

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what's going on in the LRC's

Australian Law Reform Commission (ALRC)

- *Admiralty*. Work in hand (WIH) on report on the Criminal Admiralty Jurisdiction
- *Class Actions*. WIH on report. Due for tabling late in the Budget session of Parliament.
- *Community Law Reform*. Report on Enduring Powers of Attorney due for tabling in Budget session. WIH on Pre-judgment interest on Damages DP.
- *Guardianship and Management of Property*. WIH
- *Customs*. WIH on papers on the offshore applications of the Act, installations and cargo control. WIH on draft provisions on administration, offshore applications of the Act and passenger processing.
- *Insolvency*. WIH on report. Due for tabling late 1988.
- *Product Liability*. DP 34 was released on August 31, and RP1 was issued in early October. Public Hearings will be held in November.

- *Sentencing*. Report No44 was tabled on 25th August.

Administrative Review Council (ARC)

- *Access to administrative review*. Report No30 (Access to Administrative Review: Provision of Legal and Financial Assistance in Administrative Law Matters) was tabled on 11 October.
- *Review of the AD(JR) Act: Redrafting the Act's Ambit*. More than 40 submissions on the discussion draft report have been received and are being evaluated. A seminar on the draft was held on October 5 1988.
- *Community services and health*. The Council's committee is giving consideration to the organisation of a series of public seminars to elicit comments on the more important issues that the Council might examine in this project.
- *Migration*. The Council Secretariat has been involved over the last few months with an Interdepartmental Committee that has been considering the Report by the Committee to advise on Australian Immigration Policies. The Cabinet is expected to formulate a government response to the report in the near future.
- *Companies*. Discussion with the A-G's Dept. concerning the review issues arising under the proposed new companies scheme followed transmission of the Council's advice on the matter. The amendments to the draft legislation introduced by the A-G in the House of Representatives included amendments relating to the review. The bills have passed through the House and are presently in the Senate.

New South Wales Law Reform Commission (NSWLRC)

- *Criminal Procedure*
 - *Procedure before Trial*. WIH.
 - *Codification and Classification*. WIH.

- *Appeals in Criminal Cases*. WIH.
- *Police Powers of Detention and Questioning*. Report nearing completion.
- *Contempt of Court*. WIH.
- *Sentencing*. WIH.
- *Artificial Conception*
 - *In Vitro Fertilization*. Report released.
 - *Surrogate Motherhood*. DP released.
- *Registration and Certification of Births and Deaths*. Report nearing completion.
- *Evidence*. Report released.
- *Alternative Dispute Resolution*. IP in preparation.
- *Sale of Goods*. WIH
- *Co-operative Law Reform*. WIH
- *Informed Consent to Medical Treatment*. Draft report under consideration.
- *Assurance Fund*. IP in preparation.
- *Community Law Reform Program*
 - *Contribution between Persons liable for the same damage*. WIH
 - *Dog Act*. Report completed.
 - *Disposal of Uncollected Goods*. Report completed.
 - *Dividing Fences*. Final report nearing completion.
 - *Representations as to Credit: Requirement of Writing*. Report with printer.
 - *Jurisdiction of NSW Courts over Foreign Land*. Completed by memorandum to the Attorney-General.
 - *The Rule in Bain v Fothergill*. WIH
 - *Neighbour and Neighbour*. WIH

Northern Territory Law Reform Committee (NTLRC)

- *Administrative Appeals*. DP 'Appeals from Administrative Decisions: Appellate Structure' is under consideration. May be released later in 1988.
- *De facto relationships*. Report No13 adopted on 4 August.
- *Rules Against Perpetuities and Accumulations*. WIH on report. Due to be completed by December 1988.

Queensland Law Reform Commission (QLRC)

- *Real Property Act*. WIH

Tasmanian Law Reform Commissioner (Tas LRC)

- *Child Witnesses*. Draft Report has been prepared.
- *Criminal Law and Procedure*
 - *Criminal Code S323, Alternative Verdicts*. WIH.
 - *Compulsory Identification Parades*. WIH
 - *Regulations relating to the Refrigeration etc. of Blood taken for Blood Alcohol Tests*. WIH
 - *Criminal Code. S157(1)(c), Murder*. WIH
 - *Provisions in the Evidence Act Governing the Competence and Compellability of Spouses to give Evidence*. WIH
- *Civil Procedure*. Occupiers' Liability report released.
- *Shopping Centre Leases*. WIH
- *Insanity, Intoxication and Automatism under the Tasmanian Criminal Code*. WIH
- *Australian Law Reform Commission Draft Evidence Bill*. WIH

Victorian Legal and Constitutional Committee (VLCC)

- *Delays in Courts*. WIH
- *Australian Constitutional Convention and Constitutional Commission*. Re-

ports of these bodies under examination.

- *Law Relating to Charitable Trusts in Victoria*. Draft report awaiting consideration by new Committee
- *Public Liability of Voluntary Organisations*. Draft report awaiting consideration by new Committee. Hopefully will be tabled by end of 1988.
- *Use of Action for Breach of Confidence as a means of Protecting Personal Privacy*. WIH.
- *Freedom of Information Act 1982*. Written Submissions are currently being received. They will be examined by the new committee.
- *Subordinate Legislation*. The Committee had considered up to SR 204/1988 by the time the Committee was dissolved, pending the Victorian State election.

Western Australian Law Reform Commission (WALRC)

- *Criminal Process and Mental Disorders*. WIH on report.
- *Payment of Witnesses in Civil Proceedings*. WIH on report
- *Medical Treatment of the Dying*. DP issued. Comments being considered
- *Medical Treatment of Minors*. DP issued.
- *Police Act Offences*. WIH on DP
- *Medical Research Records*. WIH on DP.
- *Administration of Assets of the Solvent Estates of Deceased Persons in the Payment of Debts and Legacies*. Work on report completed.
- *Local Court Act and Rules*. Work on report completed.

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new references

ALRC

- Community Law Reform for the ACT – Guardianship and Management of Property.

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areas of law currently under review

Administrative law

NLRC *Administrative Appeals*. DP 'Appeals from Administrative Decisions: Appellate Structure' is under consideration. May be released later in 1988.

Admiralty

ALRC *Admiralty*. WIH on report on the Criminal Admiralty Jurisdiction

Animals

NSWLRC *Dog Act*. Report completed

Bankruptcy

ALRC *Insolvency*. WIH on report. Due for tabling late 1988.

Births, deaths and marriages

NSWLRC *Registration and Certification of Births and Deaths*. Report nearing completion.

By-laws and regulations

VLCC *Subordinate Legislation*. The Committee had considered up to SR 204/1988 by the time the Committee was dissolved, pending the Victorian State election.

Charities

VLCC *Law Relating to Charitable Trusts in Victoria*. Draft report awaiting consideration by new Committee
Public Liability of Voluntary Organisations. Draft report awaiting consideration by new Committee. Hopefully will be tabled by end of 1988.