

BUTTERWORTHS
"CIVIL PROCEDURE QUEENSLAND" LAUNCH
Wednesday 21 July 1999, 5.30 p.m.

Hilton Hotel

Chief Justice's Remarks

Just as the public needs lawyers, so lawyers need publishers. Although, as Dean Roscoe Pound once pointed out, the rules which comprise "the law" are "merely the skeleton of the social order", they are inevitably by now, in this sophisticated society, just so complicated that the place of lawyers in understanding and applying them is absolutely assured. And it is dismay at the effective entrenchment of lawyers which no doubt lies at the base of much of the criticism which is so fashionable.

But just as society needs lawyers, so lawyers need publishers. It is sometimes said that lawyers principally need to know only where to find the law: that is of course something of an exaggeration, but nevertheless the role of legal publishers like Butterworths is necessarily as entrenched as the role of lawyers themselves. In "Civil Procedure Queensland", we see the well developed expertise of Butterworths yet again brought to bear providing vital support of not only the legal profession, but more generally, litigants. My purpose this evening is not to review the work, but I cannot help noting that it is in friendly form, and I am impressed by the extent of the annotations already there. We have in the Court a mechanism to ensure that practice rulings are collected expeditiously, and that any problem which develops with the implementation of the new rules is identified and addressed by the Rules Committee in a timely way. In these circumstances, the involvement of Justice Moynihan, the Senior Judge Administrator, as advisory editor renders the publication especially attractive, also aided as His Honour will be by expert experienced practitioners: as editors, two Queen's Counsel, Mr Douglas and Mr Jackson, as consulting editors, two widely experienced solicitors, Mr Abernethy and Mr Bartley, and as manager editor, Ms Helen Drew. In addition, there is a splendid array of highly qualified contributors, including I particularly notice His Honour Judge Robin, a member of the Rules Committee, and Mr Kempin, Senior Deputy Registrar of the Supreme Court. No doubt as the practice decisions start coming through, the value of the work will correspondingly increase even further.

In launching this valuable work, I warmly congratulate Butterworths as publisher, His Honour Justice Moynihan and the members of the profession as editors, and the other contributors, and have great pleasure in commending it to the profession and to the public as an initiative to be warmly and gratefully acknowledged.

