

## NEW BOOKS

### Land Law (6th Edition)

by Peter Butt

*Thomson Reuters, 2010; ISBN 978 0 45522 532 6*

It is with keen interest that I review this latest edition of *Land Law*. As an undergraduate student in the 1980s, I had the good fortune not only to study from the second edition of this work, but also to be taught by its author, Professor Butt, at the University of Sydney Law School.

As a practitioner, *Land Law* has never been far from my reach. Why? For the simple reason that the work provides a comprehensive and at times critical analysis of the leading principles of Australian land law. Most importantly, that analysis is provided in a form which not only enables research to be undertaken with comparative ease, but also is readily digestible.

Professor Butt is gifted with a highly structured and disciplined mind and, as a consequence, his lectures were delivered with ruthless clarity and efficiency. The same can also be said of the manner in which this work is written.

There has been a plethora of case law and statutory amendments since the last edition five years ago. This

has necessitated significant changes to the chapters on co-ownership, leases, mortgages, the Torrens system, strata title, Crown Lands title, retail leases and native title.

The text is a virtual “one-stop shop” on land law. It covers such diverse topics as the concept of land, fixtures, the doctrine of estates and equitable interests in land, co-ownership, leases including those regulated by statute (such as the Retail Leases Act 1994 (NSW) and the Residential Tenancies Act 1987 (NSW)), easements and covenants, old system title, Torrens title, mortgages and native title.

This edition, like its predecessors, continues to be, in this reviewer’s mind, the quintessential reference source on land law in New South Wales.



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