

Honour does not offer a view on the *Voice Referendum* he extols the importance of the opportunity presented by the debate over the *Voice Referendum* as a means to educate the broader community.

In the second part of his speech his Honour shares his personal experience in the “world of construction and engineering disputes”. Prior to his appointment, his Honour’s career spanned many years as a commercial litigation partner during which time he confesses to having received “a jolt of enthusiasm when a client called to deliver fresh instructions on an infrastructure project or a mining contract or a building dispute”.

A copy of his Honour’s speech is available [here](#).

BOOK REVIEWS

David Brennan, *Copyright Law* (The Federation Press, 2021)

In *Copyright Law*, Dr David Brennan sets out on, and succeeds in, the imposing task of providing a thorough summary and analysis of the body of copyright law as it exists in Australia today. In reading Dr Brennan’s expansive work, the respect and attention paid not only to recent developments in the field, but also the historical development of the law, is clear. What the author achieves is then somewhat remarkable; an up-to-date treatise on copyright law which also allows the reader to predict where the field may develop in the future in Australia.

The book instils a strong sense of awareness of the role copyright law plays in protecting the interests of creators which is particularly relevant in light of the many challenges presented by emergent technologies, not the least of which is generative AI (ie. Chat GPT).

The structure of *Copyright Law* would be recognisable to anyone who has read a monograph style textbook, whether it be in practice or as a student. It differs from a traditional textbook in the sense that, rather than covering a breadth of topics (under the umbrella of “intellectual property”), it instead takes a deep dive into the specific, and often dense, area of copyright law. Starting with an introduction to Australian copyright law, the book defines “works” as they relate to the field, the subsistence of copyright in subject matter other than works, through ownership, derivation, rights and licences and finally litigation with respect to copyright law. The end result is a thorough and, one would imagine for a practitioner who practices in this field, useful “field guide” to the area of law.

In his preface, Dr Brennan opines about the dearth of textbooks dedicated to the area of copyright law. Indeed, it appears that Dr Brennan’s book remains the only text on the market which specifically relates to this body of law in Australia, outside of looseleaf or commentary which are accessed via databases. It is therefore easy to recommend this book to anyone who might have a passing interest in copyright law, but moreover, to anyone who practises in the area.

L Gamble of Counsel

Editors’ Note: *Copyright Law* is one of the recommended texts in the [Model Law Library](#).

PRACTICE DIRECTION

On 14 June 2023 the Supreme Court of Queensland issued Practice Direction Number 14 of 2023 – [Wills and Estates List](#).

EDITORS’ SELECTION OF NEW QUEENSLAND CASES

- ★ *selected for reporting*
- ☆ *not selected for reporting, but otherwise noteworthy*