



Traffic law in Western Australia

by Mugliston, Ainsworth and Colebatch

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By Robert K O'Connor QC

think of any aspect of traffic law not dealt with in the book.

Patrick Mugliston is a practising barrister in Perth with considerable experience in District Court and Supreme Court criminal trials, and has taught criminal law, contract law and civil law. Dr Hal Colebatch has practised since his admission in 1981, and is also a well-known author, current affairs journalist, and poet. The third author, Stuart Ainsworth, is a retired sergeant first class, who was an acting superintendent in the Police Service traffic division, with Australia-wide experience in traffic matters. His inside perspectives are particularly valuable.

The comprehensiveness of this book is evidenced by 19 pages of contents, six pages of table of cases, 10 pages of table of statutes, 17 chapters, 303 pages of text, and 14 pages of index. The book has been written in an easy-to-read style and has a practical emphasis.

In his foreword, his Hon Chief Magistrate, Steven Heath, concluded:

'I am sure that this work will not only be of assistance to the prosecutors and defence counsel who work in this area but will also be a useful reference for the increasing number of self-represented litigants who appear before the Magistrates Court of Western Australia.'

The three authors have very generously donated their author royalties to WA Police Legacy. ■

Most people of driving age possess a driver's licence and drive a motor vehicle, and inevitably have some involvement with road traffic matters. Due to the frequency of such incidents, practitioners may find that their current clients will approach them for advice – or to contest – traffic matters.

All practitioners, therefore – not just those who handle traffic law cases – should arm themselves with a detailed traffic textbook that covers every aspect of traffic laws, and provides immediate access to the crucial issues that may arise in contesting alleged offences.

Traffic Law in Western Australia by Mugliston, Ainsworth and Colebatch is the book that will meet all the practitioner's needs on this topic. The book specifically deals with Western Australian traffic legislation, but much of its content would be useful to practitioners in other jurisdictions.

In launching the book, WA Chief Justice, the Hon Wayne Martin, said that the coverage of the subject matter by the book is so extensive and comprehensive that he could not

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