

the book advocates the circulation, prior to the moot, of the expectations of the marker. Constructive feedback is encouraged: the authors even provide examples of *how* to give constructive feedback so that it does not come across to the student as offensive or tactless. A supervisor is also provided with a sample 'Moot Marking Guide'. Certainly, no detail is overlooked. Two chapters have been dedicated to outlining the moot programme at Bond University and the University of Queensland (the authors hail from these respective Universities), which may prove valuable to staff actually wanting to set up a new moot programme at their University, as it explains the systems used there in some detail.

There is very little to be critical of in the *Mooting Manual*. This compact, well-presented textbook has sought to fill a void in the market, and for the most part has done it admirably.

*Alexandra Purvis**

Butterworths Casebook Companions: Torts

By Danuta Mendelson

Butterworths, 1997, pp 328, \$38 (pbk)

Torts, written by Danuta Mendelson, a Senior Lecturer in Law at Deakin University, is part of the Butterworths Casebook Companions series. It introduces the law of torts from an historical perspective, including its history, principles and policies. The Introduction states that it is intended to 'cover the major areas of tort law, including intentional interference with the person (battery and assault); trespass to land; the tort of negligence; nuisance; breach of statutory duty; vicarious and concurrent liability'.³

The book is aimed at students, with emphasis on developing the reader's legal reasoning and problem-solving skills. It provides historical and conceptual background to important cases, which students must read and analyse for themselves. Questions are asked in each chapter but no answers are provided. It is intended to be used in

* BA/LLB (Tas).

3 Mendelson D, *Torts* (Butterworths, 1997) p v.

conjunction with a casebook, and gives further reading and additional relevant cases for each area.

Torts has several strong points. The links between the areas of the law are well explained by effective use of tables and diagrams. Examples given are both clear and informative. Difficult areas are explained with simplicity, and Latin terms are informatively translated. Where terms are defined, they are defined well. The section on damages is of practical application.

Although *Torts* is clearly written for students, there are some inadequacies which make it likely that *Torts* would be no more than the first and most fleeting port of call for anyone learning the law or answering problem questions. The histories, general overviews and policy considerations stated are clear, concise and interesting, but the book lacks the depth and detail needed for problem-solving. It also fails to adequately cover other important areas, such as worker's compensation, liability for animals, medical treatment without consent and even defamation, acknowledging the fact that the content of the course on tort law in various Australian universities may differ from one another. In this regard, there is little by way of discussion of the differences between jurisdictions, which is essential in textbooks intended for Australia-wide use if students are to properly understand the significance of 'local' cases and legislation. The Table of Cases gives full and accurate citations, but does not refer to page numbers of the book where the case is mentioned. This can make searches difficult for the reader. The index is set out under subject headings, which means that the reader looking up a specific area of the law has to know which general heading it comes under.

In conclusion, *Torts* provides an interesting starting point and good overview for the study of tort law, and would indeed be helpful if used in conjunction with a casebook that combines comprehensive cover and clear statements of the law in each jurisdiction with direction as to the important judgments and sections of judgments. However, given that most students are too impecunious to buy all relevant material, a more comprehensive textbook, although probably more expensive, would be of greater use.

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