

EDITORIAL

Since our last issue, I moved into new chambers in Melbourne. It has been a labour of love: We purchased Stawell Chambers in June and have undertaken a meticulous renovation of this landmark building since then. The building was built as the first home of the Victorian Bar Association and has been barristers chambers since its construction in 1890. Other than a brief period in the 1950s, Stawell has always been the home to members of the legal fraternity.

For me, it is interesting having 22 barristers as neighbours. Until now, my legal career has always been in the hall of academia. With this transplantation to the world of practice, I have the wonderful opportunity of new insights into how the professional world really works.

I observe that barristers are creatures of habit. It surprised me that few of them have computers and virtually none use digital research tools, like WestLaw or Lexis. Instead, couriers come everyday with stacks of briefs and printed case reports. This surprises me in so many ways, particularly because *The Journal Jurisprudence* is distributed both electronically and in print. The bulk of our readership is electronic, but we still receive old-fashioned cheques and distribute seemingly antiquated printed copies to all corners of the globe.

Four years ago, I created this journal to bridge the growing gap between theory and practice. In some small way, co-locating our offices with practitioners allows me to bring a bit of the academy to the real world.

There have been many small milestones in this journey, one of which is this new home. Another is the growing number of citations our journal has received in judicial opinions and academic writing. I notice that more universities have articles from our journal as required reading, which truly gives credence to the task we have undertaken.

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