

Editorial

Welcome to the first edition of Te Wharenga - The New Zealand Criminal Law Review.

Te Wharenga translates as “the breaking wave”: an auspicious name, reflecting our hope that its contents will provide new ideas and energy to make a positive contribution to the criminal justice sector of Aotearoa New Zealand. It is planned that there will be three further editions this year, and that a roughly quarterly publication schedule will be followed into the future.

The journal is a collaboration between the various law schools of the universities of New Zealand, which have provided members to the editorial team; the judiciary, several judges being on our editorial advisory board; and the New Zealand Criminal Bar Association, which is supporting the venture as a whole and also providing additional members to the advisory board.

Our aim is to provide a regular outlet for informed discussion of matters of New Zealand criminal law, evidence and procedure and also of wider matters of criminal justice and policy. To that end, we will publish case notes and legislation notes relating to important developments from the courts and in the legislative framework, which summarise and comment on those developments; and articles that consider wider matters of law and policy.

We hope that both practicing and academic lawyers will consider the NZCLR as the first-choice location for their research, whether in the form of a note or an article. The reason for doing this is obvious: research can have a practical effect only if it is read by the audience most likely to be influenced by it.

This first issue includes an article on the important question of the extent of the right to suicide in New Zealand. There are also notes on amendments to the Crimes Act 1961 made in late 2015, and legislation enacted in response to concerns about New Zealand citizens being removed from Australia at the end of a criminal sentence imposed there. It also includes case notes dealing with a number of important criminal cases from the New Zealand Supreme Court. Future issues will also contain notes relating to cases from overseas jurisdictions that might have an impact on New Zealand jurisprudence.

We hope that you will enjoy reading this first issue.

Kris Gledhill
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(for the Editorial Board and the Editorial Advisory Board)