In this second edition of Bruce’s text, a complete revision has taken place, to reflect the changes following the introduction of the Competition and Consumer Act 2010 (CTH).

The author introduces the reader to the key concepts of competition law in Australia and does so in a way that is accessible and practical. The text is both a useful reference and a comprehensive guide to competition law in Australia and the cases and legislation it comprises.

The introduction of two new chapters as well as a complete revision to update the text means that the second edition is both highly relevant and useful for those studying and/or practising in competition law in Australia.

Chapter 5 is one such new chapter and provides a framework for reading and understanding, as well as analysing and assessing, competition law cases in Australia. This chapter is particularly useful due to the practical questions and examples provided and the methodologies adopted by the author, an academic who has a highly detailed knowledge of this area.

The text provides a useful discussion of the legal principles surrounding competition in this country. Of particular relevance are the five chapters which deal with cartels, market power, exclusive dealing, resale price maintenance and mergers and acquisitions, respectively, in relation to which the text provides a most useful and relevant discussion.

The text is well written and comes from a background of deep understanding and is therefore a useful tool not only for lawyers advising in this area but also for businesses and their internal management who wish to have a practical and easy to use reference to the competition law in Australia.

Nicholas Tebbey, Snedden Hall & Gallop

I first came across Justice in Tribunals when I was a newly admitted practitioner looking for a user friendly text to guide me through the maze of tribunal and military inquiry procedures. It proved more than equal to the task then, and the current edition of this popular text more than lives up to the high standard set by its predecessors.

The book deals with the courts’ application of jurisdictional limits and procedural fairness to other bodies, private and public, that decide the rights of individuals. This includes tribunals established by statute and those that exist from what the author describes as a consensus of the members.

Examples of the latter include sporting and social organisations, political parties and churches, and are what the author describes as ‘domestic tribunals’.

A central and helpful feature of this book is its wide ranging and detailed consideration of the principles of natural justice, including legitimate expectation, the right to be heard, public and private hearings, the onus and standard of proof, the extent to which a tribunal is bound by the rules of evidence, a person’s right to legal representation, apprehended and actual bias, and various avenues of appeal.

There is a separate chapter that deals comprehensively with remedies. There is also a chapter that deals with Royal Commissions and other public inquiries.

This text has been noted with approval in courts of all Australian states and the ACT, the federal courts and the Supreme Court of New Zealand. It should be an essential part of the library of any practitioner who has an interest in administrative law, including the regulation of professionals, and administrative inquiry practice and procedure in the Australian Defence Force. One’s understanding of this important area of law is measurably increased by Dr Forbes’ contribution.

Don Malcolmson

R v Milat: A Case Study in Cross-Examination provides a unique insight into the forensic and legal facets which helped secure the guilty verdict delivered by the jury on 27 July 1996 against Ivan Milat for the ‘backpacker murders’.

The textbook includes the full transcript of the cross-examination by Mark Tedeschi QC and colour photographs of the evidence collected by the NSW Police Force. It is annotated by Dan Howard SC who, at the trial, was Tedeschi’s junior.

A lengthy introduction sets the scene and explains the relevance of the evidence and how the prosecution mounted its case. This provides meaningful context for the reader when reading the transcript, much of which could not be ascertained whilst watching a criminal or civil trial in a courtroom. All of this is enriched Dan Howard SC’s annotations of the transcript which exemplifies the intricacies and techniques involved in successful cross-examination of witnesses.

Including the whole transcript as opposed to snippets was a conscious decision by Dan Howard SC. His rationale for this is that it highlights how the lead-up to the milestones in the transcript is very important in cross-examination. The annotations throughout the transcript touch on the critical elements and techniques of cross-examination, such as how to set the tone and establish authority; when to close the gates; knowing when to move on; confronting the witness; timing; and finishing strong.

Many will say that advocacy is a skill which is not learnt through a textbook but through experience and watching great advocates at work. I agree. However, this textbook provides such an insightful analysis of cross-examination that I would recommend it to both civil and criminal lawyers who would like to further hone their skills in advocacy.

Rahul Bedi, Maliganis Edwards Johnson