

DR GEORGE PATERSON BARTON QC 1925–2011

Member of the Faculty of Law, Victoria University of Wellington, 1953–1977, Professor of Jurisprudence and Constitutional Law 1968–1977, Dean of Law 1970–1973.

The passing of George Paterson Barton was a sad and unexpected event. He was with us one day very much active in the community, and gone the next.

The Dean of the Law School and the Editorial Committee of the Victoria University of Wellington Law Review responded immediately to support the initiative of Dr Don Mathieson for a special issue of the Victoria University of Wellington Law Review. We present here a celebration by a wide selection of colleagues and friends of the life and the law of George Barton – the international lawyer, the barrister, the teacher, the legal historian, the administrative and constitutional lawyer. All are honoured here.

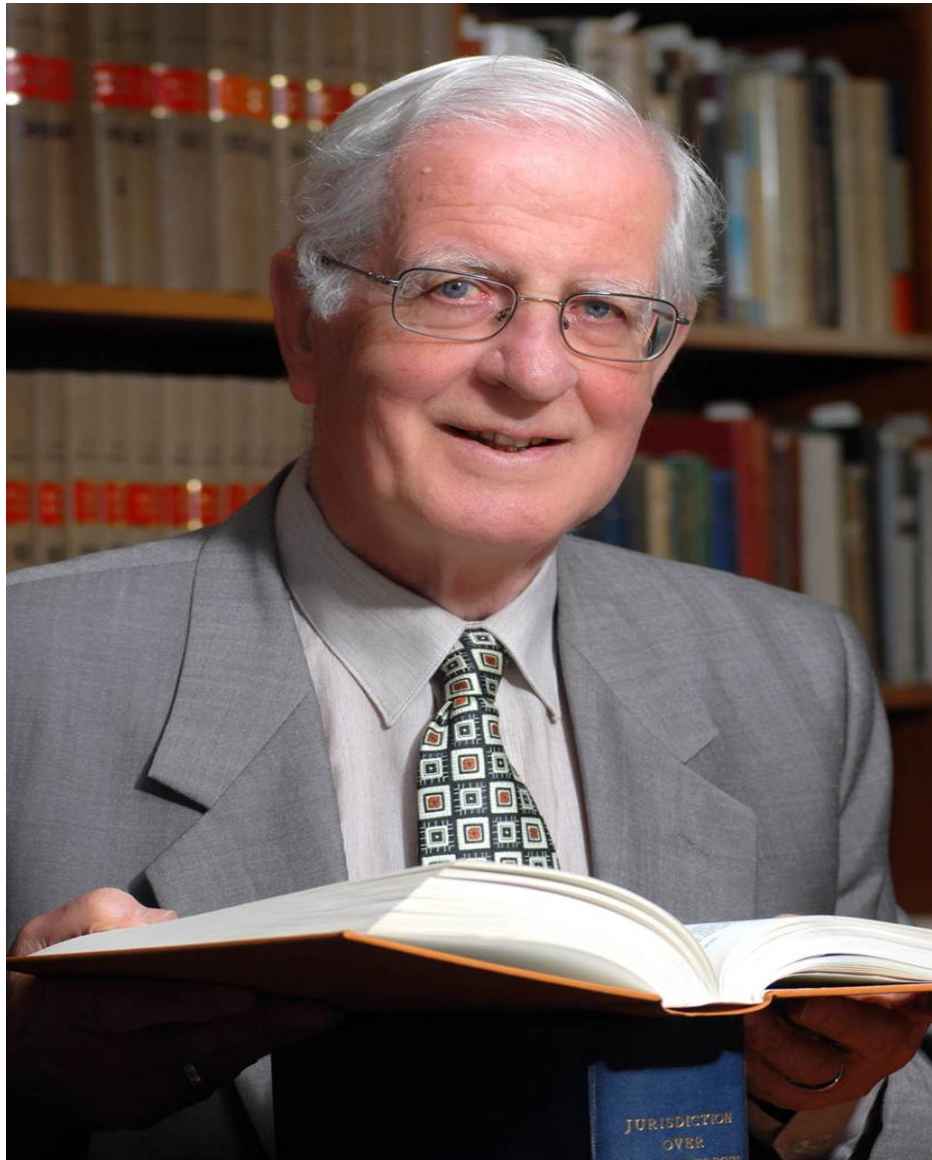
This issue is introduced by the tributes given at the special sitting of the High Court of New Zealand presided over by Dame Sian Elias, Chief Justice of New Zealand.

George Barton, as many editors of this Review and other publications know, had an eye for detail. Barely had there had been time for a publication to be read than there would be a note on the editor's desk pointing out an error of detail whether typographical or of substance. We may, sadly, be spared similar scrutiny with this special issue. In the event of editorial error we plead that we have acted honestly and reasonably and ought fairly to be excused in accordance with the principles of the Equity that was so dear to George's heart.

Our sincere thanks are extended to all who have participated in the making of this edition. It is our hope that it will, by its very nature, provide an appropriate recognition of the many contributions of George Barton to this University, this Faculty and to the law, and be a cause of quiet reflection for those who knew him well and, for others, a source of inspiration.

VUWLR Editorial Committee

June 2012



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