
From the Editor

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I am confident that this issue of the *Australasian Parliamentary Review* will have something of interest for all readers. It begins with two articles offering insightful legal perspectives on key questions of the day. In the first, former Chief Justice of the High Court of Australia, The Hon Robert French AC, places a series of recent court cases involving aspects of Australian federalism into their broader constitutional context. In the second, The Hon. D. L. Harper AM, a former Judge of the Court of Appeal of the Supreme Court of Victoria, examines the recent judgement of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom on the attempt by Prime Minister Boris Johnson to prorogue the UK Parliament.

The next two articles continue the broad theme of relations between Parliament and the Executive, albeit in quite different contexts and with varied foci. Nizam Ahmed and Sadik Hasan analyse recent developments in strengthening parliamentary scrutiny of government budgets in Bangladesh that draw on the resources of civil society organisations. Anthea Howard focuses on three cases of serious policy failure – two from Australia and one from New Zealand – to tease out current expectations surrounding ministerial responsibility and how these expectations might be made more robust.

The next article focuses squarely on New Zealand. Greg Cotmore presents systematic evidence to show that the introduction of Parliamentary TV in the New Zealand House of Representatives has generally been associated with improved behaviour in the Chamber. He concludes that the current restrictions on television coverage could safely be relaxed to allow the House to be presented in a more dynamic way to the public.

Finally, David Clune and Rodney Smith discuss the 2019 NSW state election, a contest which showed, among other things, that the long period during which NSW was a 'Labor state' is over. Despite Gladys Berejiklian's victory, the election results for the Legislative Council mean that her Coalition Government will have a difficult time navigating its legislative program through the upper house.

This issue is rounded off with three book reviews, covering Australian electoral law, possible reforms to the Australian Constitution, and a new appraisal of the 1978 Hilton Hotel bombing in Sydney.

As is always the case, producing the *Australasian Parliamentary Review* has only been possible with the help of a number of article referees, book reviewers and others involved in the production process. I thank them again for their willingness to give their time and labour to support the journal. This issue has been delayed by a number of factors, for which I apologise, but I am also confident that readers will find it has been worth waiting for.