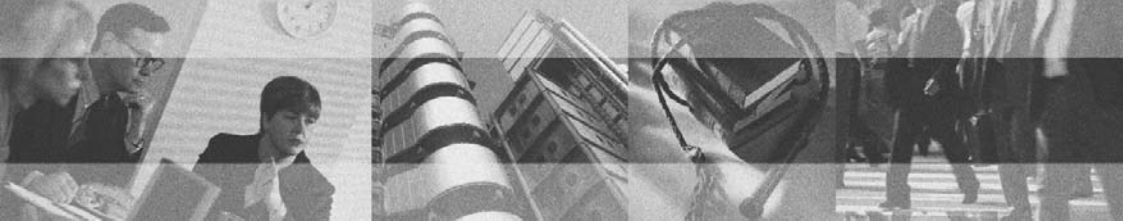

EDITORIAL

This edition of the journal has a strong "insurance law reform" flavour. Chern Tan offers useful insights into the problems (and solutions) that the Australian courts have encountered in interpreting and applying the Insurance Contracts Act 1984. As Mr Tan notes, that Australian Act has been something of a template for insurance law reform proposals in the UK. I have also taken the opportunity to publish a report by Ozlem Gurses and Professor Rob Merkin of the BILA mock trial that took place in November 2007. That trial, based on a scenario provided by the Law Commission, was an opportunity to "road test" some of the possible reforms, for example to the scope of the insured's duty of disclosure.

In keeping with BILA's aim of publishing at least one longer piece in each edition of the journal, Tom DeVecchi and Christopher Carr take an extended look at the Fires Prevention (Metropolis) Act 1774 and ask whether that section still has a function in the current law. The authors tell me that the title is a quote from the Lord Chancellor in *Re Gorely*, decided in 1864 and discussed in the article. Modestly, they say "we had to look up 'pleonastic' and when it transpired he was actually saying 'redundant and redundant' it seemed to us that this was perhaps the sort of thing that constituted a joke for a Victorian judge."

This edition concludes with a typically trenchant article from Jonathan Goodliffe on the scope of FSA regulation.

As always I am very grateful to the contributors and to Stephen Lewis and Marcus Mander for their support on the Editorial Committee.

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26 June 2009