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Editorial

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We are pleased to publish the first edition of the Plymouth Law and Criminal Justice Review 2011-2012. Following on from three successful volumes of the Plymouth Law Review, the re-named journal now incorporates articles and reports contributed by staff and students from both the Law and Criminal Justice disciplines. This and future editions will now be published as the calendar year edition (ie January 2012) rather than the academic year when the contributions were written (November 2011). Although this produces a hiatus for 2011 it means that each issue will remain current for at least 12 months.

The newly christened Review marks a watershed in the progress of the Law and Criminal Justice Research Centre within Plymouth Law School. It recognises both the varied and dynamic nature of Law and Criminal Justice as discrete subjects, as well as celebrating the cross-over between the two. The Review also acknowledges the importance of discipline-related referencing systems; in this edition, Law articles adopt the OSCALA/Chicago method of referencing, whilst Criminal Justice articles utilise the Harvard method. This year’s edition is without doubt the most extensive and varied yet published by Plymouth Law School. Headlined by the venerable Sir Nicholas Wall’s 18th Pilgrim Father’s Lecture, the Review includes an admirable breadth and depth of subject matter from high-flying undergraduate students through to widely respected academics.

Staff articles include an in-depth exploration of bigamy offences between 1850 and 1950 by former Law and Criminal Justice Centre Research Fellow, David Cox – yet more evidence of the Law School’s leading role in historico-legal research. Alongside this, Dean Wilson presents a fascinating and topical examination of the inter-play between protestors and the police, and the role of surveillance in this.

This edition also includes an unprecedented number of post-graduate and undergraduate articles, covering a wide range of topics. These include religious freedoms, human rights, organised deviance, insanity, probation, prisons and policing, as well as several other engaging subjects. In addition, the Review includes several reports relating to the work of the Law and Criminal Justice Centre, including a major Youth Justice Conference, and the Student Law and Criminal Justice Society’s highly successful student mooting activities. In particular we would advise all students thinking of, or who have already taken part in mooting, to read winner Josh Lintern’s wise words of advice about how to become a successful mooter.

Hopefully, the content of this edition of the Plymouth Law and Criminal Justice Review speaks for itself. The Editorial Team would like to congratulate all contributors on their excellent efforts, representing a vibrant and stimulating body of work in the fields of Law and Criminal Justice.

Tom Smith
Assistant Editor, December 2011

(General Editors: Law - Kim Stevenson; Criminal Justice - Lesley Simmonds)