

## **Foreword**

This special issue of the *Law Review* in honour of Sir Guy Powles results from the acceptance, by the Editorial Committee of this review, of a suggestion from the Council of the New Zealand Section of the International Commission of Jurists that such an issue would be an entirely appropriate tribute to Sir Guy.

The International Commission of Jurists is a non-governmental organisation concerned to expound, develop, strengthen and protect the principles of the Rule of Law. It has a central office in Geneva, a governing body comprising distinguished jurists drawn from some thirty different countries, and a large number of national affiliates — including the New Zealand Section.

Sir Guy Powles served as President of the New Zealand Section for the best part of a decade, and was also a member of the international governing body, before tendering his resignation in mid-1986. It was at that time that the Council of the New Zealand Section resolved to mark Sir Guy's contributions to New Zealand and the Rule of Law.

The Council subsequently sought and obtained the willing co-operation of the Minister of Justice and the Editorial Committee, respectively, in organising two tributes to Sir Guy. The first was in the form of a dinner at Parliament Buildings hosted by the Minister of Justice in November 1986. There the second tribute, in the more permanent form of this special issue, was announced. An eloquent review of Sir Guy's several careers was delivered at that dinner by Sir Owen Woodhouse, his successor as President of the New Zealand Section; the text has been reproduced to introduce this special issue.

The other distinguished contributors to this special issue also share friendship, as well as associations with the law, Victoria University, and Wellington, with Sir Guy. All have continuing heavy demands on their time. Their readiness to commit the time and effort involved in producing the essays published here is a further testimonial to Sir Guy. It will be noted that these essays address topics with which his life has been concerned: the law, in both its making and in its application in the criminal context; the office of the Ombudsman; open government; Western Samoa; and India.

The further contribution which makes up this issue, legislation lists for Western Samoa, Niue, and the Solomon Islands, also reflects Sir Guy's interest and involvement in matters relating to our South Pacific island neighbours, and in a very practical manner.

Sir Guy's several careers have touched thousands of people both inside New Zealand and overseas. No doubt they would all join the Council, the Editorial Committee of the *V.U.W.L.R.* and the contributors to this issue in wishing Sir Guy and Lady Powles continued good health and happiness.

December 1987.

The Council,  
N.Z. Section of I.C.J.,  
Wellington.



SIR GUY POWLES

*Photo Jane Usher*