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**THE CHARITY LAW & PRACTICE REVIEW**

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**C L & P R**

Volume 9, Issue 1, 2006

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## Editorial

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# EDITORIAL

In the last editorial the author rashly suggested that the various reforms of charity law in the UK were nearing a conclusion. Regrettably, that conclusion is not yet in sight. Although the Scottish Charities Bill received Royal Assent on 14 July 2005, the dates for its full implementation are not yet certain. The House of Lords has concluded its extensive debates on the Charities Bill for England and Wales but the Bill still awaits consideration in “the other place”. And no announcement has yet been made concerning the similar legislative proposals that are expected for Northern Ireland.

In this issue we focus our attention on charity related disputes. First, Debra Morris and Jean Warburton report on their research into the use by charities of alternative means of dispute resolution in general, and mediation in particular. Second, James Kilby discusses the Charity Commission’s approach to granting consent for charities to bring charity proceedings.

The topical subject of ethical investment is reviewed in detail by Charles Scanlan, who compares and contrasts the differing rules for charities and pension schemes, and considers to what extent these can be reconciled where a charity’s own pension scheme is concerned.

It is relatively rare that charity law issues reach the House of Lords, and we are pleased to feature Francesca Quint’s insightful note on the recent case of *Fraser v Canterbury Diocesan Board of Finance*.

This issue concludes with a review by Fiona Dillon of the fifth edition of the leading text “Venables and Kessler on Taxation of Charities” by James Kessler QC.

We hope that these articles will stimulate debate and discussion among our readers. All correspondence should be addressed to the Managing Editor:

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