**PEDLEY, Paul.  *Copyright Compliance: Practical Steps to Stay Within the Law*.
London:  Facet Publishing. 2008.
151 pages. ISBN-10 1856046400.  £39.95**

It is one thing to know the letter of the law, the challenge for any professional is to be able to interpret that on a daily basis. Copyright is one of the key legal areas that library and information professionals are faced with interpreting regularly, and this book aims to help information professionals and organisations understand the practical realties of copyright law.

Pedley's bona fides in the area are strong, with several well-regarded texts on the subject already in print.  Therefore the reader can be assured that the author knows the topic very well indeed.

After the early introductory chapters the book is then divided into two logical sections; the first deals with the notion of what copyright infringement actually is in reality, while the second offers practical advice about staying within the law.

In the first section two chapters especially stood out for me; chapter four deals with the risk of copyright breach in an organisation, discussing risk management and the levels of risk that exist within organisations.  Chapter five discusses a series of actual copyright cases, very well selected for their relevance to library and information work.  I can envisage using several of them in teaching as perfect examples of some of the issues.  Section one closes with good discussions on how copyright is actually enforced, and how disputes between parties are resolved.

Section two focuses on the practical; issues dealt with include the process of copyright clearance, and advice on how you can be sure any copying your organisation does is actually authorised.  Other chapters deal with the copyright issues related to freedom of information legislation, and the section finishes with some very useful advice on how to develop an organisational copyright policy.

Overall this is an excellent book, making an ordinarily dense topic understandable and more importantly practical.  It is a book that would be excellent recommended reading for any university course dealing with information law, but would be an equally useful book on the shelves of information professionals who have ever wondered exactly how they should be managing copyright compliance within their organisation.  Highly recommended.

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