



Lunchtime Seminar

Negative Interest Rates: How Low can you Go?

Our June seminar will be held jointly by the ESA and the Lowy Institute and will take place at the Lowy offices. **Booking for this event is via Lowy Institute's website and is essential.**

Date: Tuesday 30 June
Time: 12:45pm - 1:45pm
Location: Lowy Institute, 31 Bligh Street (Note: different venue)
Presenter: Dr Leon Berkelmans

Interest rates are low, but not low enough. Some analysis suggests that, had it been feasible, the Federal Reserve should have cut interest rates to negative four percent at the onset of the financial crisis. The eurozone and Japan are similarly constrained. There are, however, proposals that remove the impediments that these central banks continue to face. An exchange rate between electronic money and paper money, is one such proposal. Leon Berkelmans will discuss how this proposal could be implemented along with some of the challenges the proposal faces.

Before joining the Institute, Leon was a Senior Manager at the Reserve Bank of Australia, where he worked on the Chinese and Indian economies, investment, trade, and financial markets. Prior to the RBA, Leon worked at the Federal Reserve Board of Governors in Washington D.C., where his main responsibilities were macro-econometric modelling of the United States economy. Leon has also spent time working in Kenya, evaluating the efficacy of different methods of giving aid, and has also worked as an economic consultant at the Centre for International Economics. Leon has a PhD in economics from Harvard University.

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CBA Forum 2015 ****DON'T MISS OUT****

Who is benefiting?

Following on the success of last year the Society in conjunction with NSW Trade & Investment will again be hosting a **Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA) Forum** on Friday 17 July on Level 47, MLC Centre, Martin Place, Sydney.

The forum is tailored for both practitioners and users of CBA. It is a unique opportunity to gain an insight into the most topical issues in the application and use of CBA. The forum is designed to encourage networking and give participants the opportunity to meet and discuss issues.

Click [here](#) to view the program.

New South Wales

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Last year's forum was a sell-out so book now to avoid disappointment.

Registration fees

The following pricing options are available:

- **Non Members:** \$220 (incl. GST) – note membership will be included
- **Members:** \$165 (incl. GST) – You must be a financial member to select this rate.

Payment can be made by credit card (via Paypal), cheque or EFT.

The theme for this year will be **CBA: Who is benefiting?** Speakers are confirmed as:

- Peter Abelson, Applied Economics
- Jeff Bennett, ANU
- Peter Dixon, Victoria University
- Simon Draper, NSW Premier & Cabinet
- Hugo Harmstorf, IPART
- David Pearce, CIE
- Brendan Leary, Infrastructure NSW
- Daniel Masters, NSW Trade & Investment
- John Rose, University of SA
- Sam Sangster, Health Infrastructure

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Emerging Economist Series 2015/16

Registration is now [OPEN](#)

We have a fantastic line-up of speakers for this year's program. Pricing remains the same as last year's and registration is now [OPEN](#). This Series provides a great professional development opportunity for staff.

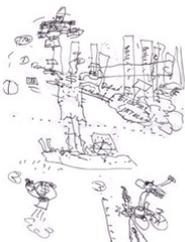
This year's guests are

- Lynelle Briggs, former Public Service Commissioner and Chief Executive of Medicare Australia
- Cristina Cifuentes, Commissioner of ACCC
- Professor Max Corden, Emeritus Professor of International Economics and Distinguished Fellow of ESA
- Peter Costello, former Deputy Leader and Treasurer of the Liberal party
- Bernie Fraser, ex Governor of the RBA
- Robert Gottliebsen, associate editor for Business Spectator and awarded both Walkley and Australian Journalist of the Year
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EES Lunch

Bruce Petty



The final EES lunch for 2015-16 had Bruce Petty drawing insights as well as cartoons based on his 60 years of observing politics and the world economy. A fascination with the way things works, fostered by rebuilding the differential of his father's car as a boy, which he drew as analogous to the workings of supply and demand, has translated into the complex interrelationships in his drawings.

- The role of economists, good bad and holy.
- Differing views of money and how it works.
- Supply and demand balanced like the differential in a 1935 Chevrolet.
- The political balancing act that can be got right - providing perpetual cartoonist fodder.
- Different thinking styles (high level and low) and the role of impressions.

AGM - Reminder

Tuesday 16 June 2015

The next AGM of the Economic Society of Australia (NSW) will be held on Tuesday 16 June at 7pm - venue: 52 Martin Place, Sydney.

Please contact the [Administrator](#) if you would like to attend. We will need to know that you're coming so that you can get into the building.

All positions on Council will be declared vacant. To nominate you must be a financial member and so must your nominators.

Ross Gittins Memoirs & ESA Panel on Economics

Lunchtime, 3 July 2015 at Alphacrucis Parramatta.

You are invited to the Sydney launch of **Ross Gittins Memoirs: A Life Among Budgets, Bulldust and Bastardy** (Allen & Unwin, May 2015) and **Economic Society of Australia Panel on Economics in the Media and Schools**.

For 40 years Ross Gittins has had a ringside seat as the Australian economy has gone through radical change. He's covered 40 budgets and 16 elections and watched 13 treasurers and eight prime ministers wrestle with boom and recession, debts and deficits.

Ross is the Economics Editor of The Sydney Morning Herald and an Economic Columnist for The Age. He is a winner of the Citibank Pan Asia award for excellence in financial journalism and has been a Nuffield Press fellow at Wolfson College, Cambridge, and a journalist-in-residence at the Department of Economics at the University of Melbourne. Ross is frequently called upon to comment on the economic issues of the day and has written and contributed to many books and periodicals. His most recent books are Gittins' Gospel, Gittinomics and The Happy Economist.

Copies of the book will be available for purchasing and signing

For details on the program and how to register for this event, please visit our [website](#).

(Note that speakers are not representing their employers and views expressed are personal and should not be attributed to their employers)

Partner Event

Treasurer's Post Budget Lunch

Australian Business Economists in conjunction with Infrastructure Partnerships Australia are pleased to present a lunchtime briefing with the Hon Gladys Berejiklian MP, Treasurer of NSW.

This briefing includes an update from Mr Stephen Knight, Chief Executive of NSW TCorp on the TCorp borrowing program. The Treasurer and Mr Knight have agreed to take questions from the floor. There will be no live broadcast of this function.

Details

- Date: Tuesday 24 June 2015
- Time: 12:00 noon - 2:00 pm Register from 11:45 am
- Venue: Four Seasons Sydney, 199 George Street, The Rocks
- Cost: \$165 members, \$195 non-members, \$1850 tables (of 10 guests each)
- Lunch includes two courses and beverages.
- Enquiries: info@abe.org.au or call 0419 256 339

To register for this event click [here](#)

Jobs in Economics

The University of Auckland has a fixed term (3 year) position available for a Research Fellow in its Energy Centre. Click [here](#) to read more about this role.