

# Emerging Economist Series

2017/18

The Economic Society of Australia (NSW Branch) proudly sponsors the Emerging Economist Series. The series of six luncheons, held at the Reserve Bank of Australia in Sydney, gives young economists the opportunity to discuss critical issues with prominent Australian policymakers, as well as network with colleagues in business, academia and the public service. The luncheons include an interview-style discussion with the key-note speaker, exploring the issues they have faced during their careers and highlighting Australia's key economic challenges going forward. A brief outline of our guest speakers for the 2017/18 program is below.



**The Hon. Paul Keating** left school at 15, joined the ALP, became President of the party's NSW Youth Council and was elected in 1969 to the House of Representatives as the Member for Blaxland. In 1975 he became the youngest ever federal Minister, as Minister for Northern Australia in the Whitlam Cabinet. When the ALP was returned to Government in March 1983, Mr Keating became Treasurer, a position he held until 1991 when he became Prime Minister then led the ALP to an historic fifth term of Government. While in government Mr Keating implemented far-reaching economic reforms, including: deregulation of the financial sector; the float of the Australian dollar; extensive tax reform; and the dismantling of protectionist barriers. Other reforms included, deregulating the airline and telecommunications industries and establishing a national framework for power, the National Training Authority, a national superannuation scheme, the review of the Sex Discrimination Act, the historic Mabo legislation and protection of endangered species, and focusing Australian external policy towards Asia. Following the defeat of the ALP in March 1996, Mr Keating resigned from Parliament. Mr Keating is Visiting Professor of Public Policy at the University of New South Wales and has been awarded multiple Honorary Doctorates. Mr Keating's book, "Engagement: Australia Faces the Asia-Pacific", examines Australia's foreign policy objectives and achievements during his term as Prime Minister and was published in March 2000.



**Dr Matthew Butlin** Victorian Red Tape Commissioner since September 2015, working with businesses to identify and reduce red tape and regulatory inefficiency. His career covers both public and private sectors, in many roles including Chair of the Victorian Competition and Efficiency Commission, Commissioner of the Productivity Commission and senior executive roles in mining, management consulting and in several Commonwealth Departments. He is currently a Professorial Fellow at the Monash Business School and the Chair of the Advisory Board of the Melbourne Institute for Applied Economic and Social Research. He is a graduate of the Australian National University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and currently the national President of the ESA.



**Professor Deborah Cobb-Clark** is Professor of Economics at the University of Sydney. She is Director of the Program in Gender and Families at the Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA) in Bonn, Germany; a Chief Investigator in the ARC Centre of Excellence for Children and Families over the Life Course; and an elected Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia. Deborah has a PhD in Economics from the University of Michigan (1990). She has also held senior positions at the Melbourne Institute, US Labor Department, Illinois State University, and the Australian National

University where she was the founding director of The Social Policy Evaluation, Analysis and Research (SPEAR) Centre. Her research agenda centres on the effect of social policy on labour market outcomes including immigration, sexual and racial harassment, health, old-age support, education and youth transitions. She has published more than four dozen academic articles in leading international journals and is a former co-editor of the *Journal of Population Economics*.



**Ross Gittins AM** has been Economics Editor of The Sydney Morning Herald since 1978 and is an economic columnist for The Age, Melbourne. His journalistic experience includes editorial writing and stints in the parliamentary press galleries in Sydney and Canberra. Before joining the Herald he worked as an auditor with the national chartered accounting firm Touche Ross & Co. He is a winner of the Citibank Pan Asia award for excellence in finance journalism. In 2008 he was made a member of the Order of Australia for service to journalism as a commentator on economics. He holds a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Newcastle and is a fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia. He has been a Nuffield press fellow at Wolfson College, Cambridge, and a journalist-in-residence at the Department of Economics of the University of Melbourne. He has been awarded honorary doctorates by Macquarie University and the University of Sydney. He is author of 'Gittins' Guide to Economics', 'Gittinomics', 'The Happy Economist', 'Gittins' Gospel' and now 'Gittins: A Life Among Budgets, Bulldust and Bastardry' (all Allen & Unwin) and co-author with Professor Rodney Tiffen of 'How Australia Compares' (Cambridge University Press).



**Tom Parry AM** has an extensive career as an academic, in business and public policy, in the financial sector and as a regulator. He has been Head of the School Economics, UNSW and Dean, Faculty of Commerce, University of Wollongong. For 12 years from 1992, he was Foundation Executive Chairman of IPART, the first utility regulator in Australia. He has been a director and chairman of numerous organisations including First State Super and Sydney Water and was foundation Chairman of the AEMO as well as the Foundation NSW Natural Resources Commissioner. In 2015 he was Deputy Chairman of the NSW Government's "Uber Inquiry. He has worked with many of Australia's leading companies in the areas of economic regulation, banking, business strategy and trade practices, and access regulation and competition policy. He has a BEc(Hons) and MEc from the University of Sydney and a PhD from the London School of Economics.



**Helen Silver AO** is a Chief General Manager at Allianz Australia, with a major role in the oversight and delivery of Workers' Compensation services for Allianz across Australia. Helen has had a long and distinguished career in both public and private sectors including as Secretary of the Department of Premier and Cabinet from 2008 to 2013. Prior to her role as DPC Secretary, Helen had Senior Business roles in the National Australia Bank. Helen's public-sector career covered both State and Commonwealth Governments. Helen is a National Fellow of the Institute of Public Administration Australia. Helen is a Director of the MSO and a Trust member of the Arts Centre Trust and a member of the Judicial Commission of Victoria. Helen has a B.Ec (1st class honours) and M.Ec both from Monash University. In 2015 Helen was made an Officer of Australia (AO) for distinguished service to Public Administration; Business and Commerce and the Victorian Community

Subscription is for one person to attend all six lunches in the Series – this can be shared with your colleagues.

Two or more registrations - \$660 (incl. GST) | Individual registration - \$880 (incl. GST)



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