



The
Thirty-Third Conference
of
The Samuel Griffith Society

25th - 27th August, 2023

**The Park Hyatt
1 Parliament Square
East Melbourne, Victoria 3002**

Friday, 25 August 2023

- 4:00 pm:** **Special Pre-Conference Event**
Tour of Victorian Parliament House and Reception at the Ray Evans Institute
- 6:30 pm:** Pre-Dinner Drinks
- 7:00 pm:** **Dinner** (Chair - Stuart Wood AM KC)
With an introduction by The Honourable Amanda Stoker
Speaker: The Honourable John Anderson AC
 Vote of thanks: Scott Hargreaves
- 10:30 pm:** After-Dinner Drinks

Saturday, 26 August 2023

- 8:00 am:** Registration
- 8:45 am:** Opening Remarks - Xavier Boffa
- Session 1:** **“The ‘Voice’ and the Constitution”** (Chair - Robyn Sweet KC)
- 9:00 am:** Associate Professor Scott Stephenson - *“Is the Voice Constitutionally Conservative?”*
- 9:30 am:** Discussion
- 9:45 am:** Professor Nicholas Aroney - *“The Constitutional Implications of Recognising Australia's First Peoples”*
- 10:15 am:** Discussion
- 10:30 am:** **Legacy Society Morning Tea**
Tributes to Dr Nancy Stone
- 11:15 am:** **The 13th Sir Harry Gibbs Memorial Oration**

With an introduction by The Honourable Justice Steward, High Court of Australia
Speaker: Allan Myers AC, KC
Vote of thanks: The Honourable Justice Anderson, Federal Court of Australia
- Session 2:** **“The Rule of Law”** (Chair - Georgina Downer)
- 12:15 pm:** Fr Tony Percy - *“The Calvary Hospital Takeover: Unjust Compulsory Acquisitions”*
- 12:45 pm:** Discussion
- 1:00 pm:** **Lunch**
- Session 2:** **“The Rule of Law” cont.** (Chair - Amy Wood)
- 2:00 pm:** Louise Clegg - *“Losing our Legend: Why our Washminster is Vulnerable to Entrenching Identity”*
- 2:30 pm:** Discussion
- 2:45 pm:** The Honourable Neil Brown KC - *“The Voice and the Rule of Law”*
- 3:15 pm:** Discussion

3:30 pm: **30th Anniversary Society Afternoon Tea**
Presentation of the original research of the Society’s secretariat in 2023

Session 3: **“The ‘Voice’ in Context”** (Chair - Morgan Begg)

4:00 pm: John Storey - “*The Voice in Context: International Research and the New Zealand Experience*”

4:30 pm: Discussion

4:45 pm: The Honourable Douglas Drummond KC - “*The Reconquest of Australia*”

5:15 pm: Discussion

5:30 pm: **Free time**

6:30 pm: Pre-Dinner Drinks

7:00 pm: **Dinner** (Chair - The Honourable Nick Minchin AO)
With an introduction by The Honourable Dan Tehan MP
Speaker: The Honourable Dr David Kemp AC
Vote of thanks: The Honourable Rod Kemp AM

10:30 pm: After-Dinner Drinks

Sunday, 27 August 2023

Session 4: **“Referendums”** (Chair - Jessica Keir)

9:00 am: Paul Jeffreys - “*Constitutional Limitations on an Australian Referendum Question*”

9:30 am: Discussion

9:45 am: Stuart Wood AM, KC - “*The 1967 Referendum: Five Myths*”

10:15 am: Discussion

10:30 am: **Morning Tea**
Presentation of the 2023 John Nethercote Prize

Session 5: **“Australian History”** (Chair - The Honourable David Davis MLC)

11:00 am: Keith Windschuttle - “*Truth-telling about Samuel Griffith*”

11:30 pm: Discussion

11:45 am: **The Inaugural Sir David Smith Memorial Oration**

With an introduction by The Honourable Nick Minchin AO

Speaker: The Honourable Eric Abetz

Vote of thanks: Michael Smith and Richard Smith

12:30 pm: Concluding Remarks - Professor James Allan

The Society’s next conference will be held 24-26 May 2024 on the Gold Coast

Speakers:

The Honourable Eric Abetz Former Senator for the State of Tasmania

The Honourable John Anderson, AC 11th Deputy Prime Minister of Australia

Professor Nicholas Aroney Professor of Constitutional Law, University of Queensland

The Honourable Neil Brown, KC 8th Deputy Leader of the Federal Parliamentary Liberal Party

Louise Clegg Barrister at Law in the State of New South Wales

The Honourable Douglas Drummond, KC Former Justice of the Supreme Court of Queensland

Paul Jeffreys Barrister at Law in the State of Victoria

The Honourable Dr David Kemp, AC 53rd Vice-President of the Federal Executive Council

Allan Myers, AC, KC 22nd Chancellor of the University of Melbourne

Fr Tony Percy Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Canberra-Goulburn

Dr Scott Stephenson Associate Professor, Melbourne Law School

The Honourable Simon Steward Justice of the High Court of Australia

John Storey Director, Legal Rights Program at the Institute of Public Affairs

Keith Windschuttle Historian and Author

Stuart Wood AM, KC One of His Majesty's Counsel for the State of Victoria

The Samuel Griffith Society

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