



**The
Twenty Ninth Conference
of
The Samuel Griffith Society**

25th - 27th August, 2017

**Novotel Perth Langley
221 Adelaide Terrace
Perth, Western Australia, 6000**

Friday, 25 August 2017

2:00pm - 3:00pm: Special Pre-Conference Event

Tour of Government House, St George's Terrace, Perth

4:30pm - 5:00pm: Early Registration

6:15pm: Pre-Conference Cocktail Party

7:30pm: Dinner (Chair - Stuart Wood QC)

Ms Peta Credlin - *"The Constitution and other thoughts on our present discontents"*

Vote of thanks: Professor David Flint AM

Saturday, 26 August 2017

8:30am: Registration

8:45am: Opening Remarks - Eddy Gisonda

Session 1: "Federalism and the Nation" (Chair - Honourable Michael Mischin)

9:00am: Honourable Justice Robert Mitchell - "Federalism in the High Court"

9:30am: Discussion

9:45am: Associate Professor Michelle Evans - "Subsidiarity and Federalism"

10:15am: Discussion

10:30am: Morning Tea

Sir Harry Gibbs Memorial Oration

11:00am: Honourable Patrick Keane AC

"The Constitution and the Zeitgeist"

With an introduction by Mr Peter Quinlan SC, Solicitor-General for WA

11:30am: Break

Session 2: "Indigenous Affairs and Federalism" (Chair - Bevan Lawrence)

11:45am: Honourable Wayne Martin AC - "Passing the Buck: Has the diffusion of responsibility for the Aboriginal people in our federation impeded closing the gap?"

12:15pm: Discussion

12:30pm: Lunch

Session 3: "The Senate" (Chair - Jeffrey Phillips SC)

1:45pm: Honourable Tony Abbott MP - "Government not Gridlock"

2:15pm: Discussion

2:30pm: Senator James Paterson - *“In Defence of the Senate”*

3:00pm: Discussion

3:15pm: **Afternoon Tea**

Session 4: “The Protection of Rights” (Chair - Ben Davies)

3:45pm: Professor Neville Rochow SC - *“Lessons from the European Union”*

4:05pm: Discussion

4:15pm: Daniel White - *“Workplace Rights and the States”*

4:35pm: Discussion

4:45pm: Dr Augusto Zimmermann - *“The Unconstitutionality of Outlawing Political Opinion”*

5:05pm: Discussion

5:15pm: **Free time**

Saturday Night Dinner (Chair - Honourable Ian Callinan AC)

7:00pm: Pre-Dinner Drinks

7:30pm: **Dinner**

Mr Chris Kenny - *“Fake News, Federalism, and the Love Media”*

Vote of thanks: John Roskam

Sunday, 27 August 2017

Session 5: “Federalism and Western Australia” (Chair - Bill Hassell AM)

9:00am: Honourable Dr Michael Nahan - *“Western Australia and the G.S.T.”*

9:25am: Discussion

9:40am: Senator David Leyonhjelm - *“Western Australia and Secession”*

10:05am: Discussion

10:20am: **Morning Tea**

Session 6: “Indigenous Affairs and the Constitution” (Chair - Rebecca Weisser)

10:45am: John Stone - *“Enough is Enough”*

11:15am: Discussion

11:30am: Keith Wolahan - *“A Colour Blind Constitution”*

12:00pm: Discussion

“The 25th anniversary of the Samuel Griffith Society”

12:15pm: **Special address**

Honourable Nicholas Hasluck AM

12:45pm: Concluding Remarks (Honourable Ian Callinan AC)

Speakers:

The Hon Patrick Keane AC Justice of the High Court of Australia

The Hon Wayne Martin AC Chief Justice of Western Australia

The Hon Justice Robert Mitchell Judge of the Supreme Court of Western Australia

The Hon Nicholas Hasluck AM Former Judge of the Supreme Court of Western Australia

The Hon Tony Abbott MP 28th Prime Minister of Australia

The Hon Dr Michael Nahan Former Treasurer of Western Australia

Senator David Leyonhjelm Senator for the State of New South Wales

Senator James Paterson Senator for the State of Victoria

Professor Neville Rochow SC Professor of Law and Senior Counsel in South Australia

Associate Professor Michelle Evans Deputy Head of School, Curtin University

Dr Augusto Zimmermann Law Reform Commissioner, Western Australia

Chris Kenny Editor and Columnist (*The Australian*) and Television Host (*Sky News*)

Peta Credlin Former Chief of Staff to the Prime Minister of Australia

John Stone Former Secretary to the Treasury and Co-Founder of the Society

Keith Wolahan Barrister at Law in the State of Victoria

Daniel White Special Counsel, Mills Oakley

As certified by the Legal Practice Board of Western Australia, practitioners in Western Australia may claim a total of 5 CPD points for attending all of the Saturday day sessions, a total of 3 CPD points for attending all of the Sunday sessions, or a total of 6 CPD points for attending both days. Practitioners in other states may be entitled to claim one unit for one hour of attendance if relevant to their professional development or practice. Please consult local rules and requirements.

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