

The Forbes Society is pleased to inform members that on Wednesday **11 June 2025** in Court 13A, Level 13 Law Courts Building at 5.15 pm, the **Hon Arthur Emmett AO KC** will present a legal history tutorial on “The significance of Roman Law in the Western Legal Tradition.”

The Hon Arthur Emmett AO KC has taught Roman Law part time for more than 40 years at Sydney University, where he has been Challis Lecturer in Roman law since 1990. He has also taught Roman law as Adjunct Professor at the University of NSW.

He is the author of *Roman Law Under the Southern Cross - Sidere Ius Civile Mutato* recently published by Federation Press. Copies of the book will be available for purchase on the night from representatives of Federation Press.

If you are unable to attend in person, to receive details for **online viewing** please register here [Roman Law - 11 June 2025](#) – the viewing link will be in the emailed confirmation you will receive after registering.

Other events: The annual **Forbes Lecture** will be given on 22 July 2025 by [Professor Kathy Bowrey](#) of the Faculty of Law UNSW in Banco Court (Level 13 Law Courts Building 184 Phillip Street). Professor Bowrey’s title is “The Diva, her Lover and the Recording Company scheme to “get Melba”: Introducing Dame Nellie Melba (1861-1931), the business woman.”

The 14th Annual **Plunkett Lecture** will be delivered by the NSW Solicitor General, Michael Sexton SC on 23 October 2025, in Banco Court.

Other presenters include the Hon Joe Campbell KC (a legal history tutorial on the History of equity) and the Junior Vice-President of the Society, Professor Mark Lunney, (on 11 August 2025) –further details will follow.

The Forbes Society, and the annual Forbes Lecture sponsored by the Society, are named after Sir Francis Forbes (1784-1841), the first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of NSW, 1824-1837.

The Society is very grateful to the Chief Justice of NSW, the Hon. Andrew Bell, for his permission to use Supreme Court facilities.

If you have any queries, please email secretariat@forbessociety.org.au.

The 44th **Annual Conference of the Australian and New Zealand Law and History Society** will be held in the week commencing 24 November 2025 at The University of Melbourne, with the Conference Theme: ‘Currency’. See the Call for Papers [CFP – ANZLHS Conference](#). Through the **Francis Forbes Fund** the Forbes Society supports a prize awarded for the best presentation by a higher degree research student or an early career researcher at the Annual ANZLHS conference. This paper may be published in *law&history*.

Upcoming dates

- 11 June Legal history tutorial – the Hon Arthur Emmett AO KC - “The significance of Roman Law in the Western Legal Tradition” (Court 13A) – 5.15 pm
- 22 July Forbes Lecture – Professor Kathy Bowrey of the Faculty of Law UNSW (Banco Court) – 5.15 pm
- 29 July Legal history tutorial – Inma Conde (Sydney Law School) (Court 13A) – 5.15 pm
- 11 August Professor Mark Lunney (Court 13A) – 5.15 pm
- 18 September Legal history tutorial – Associate Prof Marina Nehme (UNSW) (Court 13A) – 5.15 pm
- 14 October Legal history tutorial – Associate Professor Alecia Simmonds (UTS) (Court 13A) – 5.15 pm
- 23 October Plunkett Lecture – NSW Solicitor General, Michael Sexton SC (Banco Court) – 5.30 pm
- 30 October Legal history tutorial – Associate Professor Gabrielle Wolf (Deakin University) (online) – 5.15 pm
- Week of 24 Nov - ANZLHS Conference 2025 at The University of Melbourne