



The Francis Forbes Society is pleased to inform members of the Bar Association about a new **Legal history tutorial** by Dr Simon Blount this **Thursday 11 July in Court 13A** ***"The Failed Federation : Why the All Blacks do not play for Australia"***. Dr Ben Chen will chair the lecture.

**Simon's biography:** Simon holds a Doctor of Philosophy in political science from the University of New South Wales, is a former lecturer in political science at the University of Sydney and is currently an Adjunct Associate Professor at the University of Notre Dame, School of Law, Sydney. He has published internationally in fully refereed journals on the subjects of electoral theory, tax policy and, most recently, Austria 1938-1945.

Professionally, Simon is a Barrister of the Supreme Court of New South Wales maintaining a practice in commercial law, administrative law and judicial review, insurance law and common law, equity, and wills and probate. He is the author of *Electronic Contracts 2<sup>nd</sup> ed* (Australia LexisNexis Butterworths 2015) and has published in refereed and non-refereed journals on the subject of electronic commercial law.

We are also pleased to advise that the **2024 Forbes Lecture** *"Francis Forbes and the Parable of the Gown and Wig: a History of Legal Dress in New South Wales"* will be delivered by Daniel Yazdani on **31 July 2024** at 5.15pm in Banco Court, Level 13 Law Courts Building 184 Phillip Street Sydney. Dr Simon Chapple SC will chair the lecture.

**Daniel's biography:** Daniel is a barrister on 13 St James Hall. He contributed to the illustrated history of the Supreme Court *Constant Guardian: Changing Times – The Supreme Court of New South Wales 1824-2024* which may be ordered here <https://constantguardian.info/>. Daniel authored *The Habit of a Judge: A History of Court Dress in England & Wales, and Australia* (Talbot Publishing/ Lawbook Exchange, 2019), with a foreword by the former Chief Justice of WA, the Hon. Wayne Martin AC, KC. He practised as a solicitor in Perth from 2015 to 2019 and then from 2020 to April 2022, was Tipstaff and in 2021, A/Associate, to the Hon. Justice Lindsay, before his admission to the NSW Bar.

**New date for Legal History tutorial by Robert Turnbull** *"The History of Precedents"* This legal history will now be delivered on **Tuesday 13 August 2024 at 5: 15 pm** in Court 13A, Level 13 Law Courts Building 184 Phillip Street Sydney. No registration is necessary for **in person attendance** – if you are unable to attend in person, to receive a link for online viewing please register with this link [Legal History Tutorial by Robert Turnbull - The History of Precedents - 13 August 2024](#). Robert provides this outline:

How did a legal system evolve from 12 to 15 judges sitting at Westminster Hall propounding principles of law for a population of 2 million, to a complex federal system with hundreds of judges sitting at various levels of appeal, in dialogue with judges from around the world?

The history of precedent is bound up with two other institutional pillars: law reporting and appeals. How have those facets of legal history borne upon the development of the common law and the principles of equity?

**Robert's biography:** Robert is a barrister at 8 Wentworth Chambers. He practices in commercial, public law, white collar crime and tax, as well as other areas. Robert was formerly a solicitor at Clayton Utz, and Slaughter and May. He last gave a Forbes Society tutorial in 2014, and delivered the Thirteenth Annual Forbes Lecture in that year.

We are grateful to Chief Justice Bell for his kind permission to use Supreme Court facilities.

**ANZLHS conference:** The next Australian and New Zealand Law and History Society Conference will be held at UNSW on 17-20 November 2024. Conference website: [43rd Annual Conference of the Australian and New Zealand Law and History Society \(unsw.edu.au\)](https://www.unsw.edu.au/anzlhs) Abstracts are due on 31 July.

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL:** Membership of the Francis Forbes Society for the 2024/2025 financial year is now due for renewal. Memberships are renewed annually and will run to 30 June 2025: please see [Forbes Society Membership](#)

The Society is dedicated to studying and documenting the history of Australian law. Its membership includes legal practitioners, academics, journalists and students. Benefits of membership include timely notification of legal history events *via* updates emailed to members from time to time and opportunities to obtain discounts on publications from time to time published or arranged by the Society. Please feel free to forward to others who might be interested in membership of the Society.

**Donating to the Francis Forbes Fund:** One of the Society's objects is to encourage and promote research into Australian legal history, and it maintains a fund for that purpose to which donations may be made. The membership renewal form makes provision for donating to the Fund

**Forbes Fund grants:** Grants have been made from the Fund for **2024** to support the following projects:

- Inma Conde (PhD candidate, University of Sydney Law School): A historical interpretation of Article 7(1) of the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods
- Dr Jeffrey Gordon (Senior Lecturer, University of Sydney Law School): Free speech moments in Australian legal history
- Dr Henry Kha (Senior Lecturer School of Private and Commercial Law, UNSW Law & Justice): *Ne Temere* and the Marriage Law of New South Wales: Religious Sectarianism in the 1920s

In addition, the Society supports an annual **Essay prize** for the best paper presented at the ANZLHS Conference, judged by a panel appointed by the Editor of law & history. The Fund has also supported Sydney Living Museum, noting the approach of the Bicentenary of the Supreme Court and the Legislative Council and the roles of SLM / the State Archives & Records Authority and the Society.

### **Dates for the diary**

11 July	Legal History tutorial by Dr Simon Blount <i>"The Failed Federation: Why the All Blacks do not play for Australia"</i>
31 July	Daniel Yazdani will present the 2024 Forbes Lecture <i>Francis Forbes and the Parable of the Gown and Wig: a History of Legal Dress in New South Wales</i>
13 August	Robert Turnbull's legal history tutorial <i>The History of Precedents</i>