

Mary Ward Justice Forum 2018

Shouting Across the Divide In Pursuit of a More Just Australia

For years Australian society has been divided by the debate over asylum seekers and it has worsened over time. Twenty-five years ago, the Catholic Social Justice Statement on immigration noted: "underneath the surface of the Australian debate there are often unresolved fears of newcomers, other 'races', pluralism, conflict and change."

The question of how we should respond to strangers is the same as the one posed by the lawyer when he asked Jesus: "Who is my neighbour?"

Australian Catholic Bishops Social Justice Statement 2015-2016

Please join the discussion as we hear from expert panellists

WEDNESDAY 24 OCTOBER 2018

7:00PM – 9:00PM (REFRESHMENTS SERVED FROM 6:30PM)

CURRAN THEATRE, LORETO NORMANHURST
91-93 PENNANT HILLS ROAD, NORMANHURST

RSVP: WEDNESDAY 17 OCTOBER 2018

There is no cost to attend this event, however, please register your attendance for catering purposes at www.trybooking.com/WNJD

Enquiries: Mrs Libby Parker, Director of Mission: mission@loretonh.nsw.edu.au

Our panellists



Julian Burnside AO QC

Julian is well known for his work as a barrister in Australia, as well as a human rights and refugee advocate and author. He is a former President of Liberty Victoria and has acted pro bono in many human rights cases, in particular concerning the treatment of refugees. Julian is an accomplished author having written several publications on law and human rights including *Watching Brief*, and *From Nothing to Zero*, a compilation of letters written by asylum seekers held in Australia's detention camps. In 2004 Julian was awarded the Human Rights Law Award and elected as an Australian Living Treasure. In 2009, he was made an Officer of the Order of Australia and in 2014 he was awarded the Sydney Peace Prize.



Kate Eastman SC

Kate is a leading human rights barrister in Australia. She commenced her legal career working for Allens, where she provided pro bono assistance to asylum seekers and was seconded to Kingsford Legal Centre, a community legal centre providing free legal advice. Kate co-founded Australian Lawyers for Human Rights (ALHR) and served as its president for many years. Over the past 25 years Kate's human rights work has taken her to Burma, Afghanistan and Uganda. Kate received a Justice Award for her pro-bono legal work in 2003 and the Women Lawyers Association Award for her work to promote women's rights and equality for women lawyers in 2017.



Mark Isaacs

Mark is a writer, community worker, campaigner for social justice, and an author. His first book, *The Undesirables: Inside Nauru*, is an account of his work with asylum seekers in Nauru, one of Australia's notorious offshore detention centres. His second book, *Nauru Burning*, follows up *The Undesirables* with an investigative report on human rights abuses on Nauru.



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