


The 50th Anniversary of the Dismissal

Panel session program
Old Parliament House

Tuesday 11 November 2025

Old Parliament House opens to the public at 8:00 am


Session 1

8:30 am – 8:35 am	8:35 am – 8:40 am	8:40 am – 8:50 am	8:50 am – 9:00 am	9:05 am – 9:45 am		9:50 am – 10:55 am	11:00 am
Welcome by the Chair Old Parliament House Mr Barrie Cassidy	Welcome to Country Mr Paul Girrawah House, Ngambri- Ngunnawal Custodian	Remarks Her Excellency the Hon Ms Sam Mostyn AC, Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia	<i>Framing a discussion on the 1975 Dismissal - a political crisis not a constitutional one</i> Speech Mr Kim Williams AM	<i>Ms Niki Savva in conversation with former Prime Minister Paul Keating</i> Pre-recorded interview Ms Niki Savva The Hon Paul Keating		<i>1975: The moment Australian politics changed forever</i> Panel Discussion <u>Mr Barrie Cassidy</u> Prof Jenny Hocking AM The Hon Dr Barry Jones AC Mr Paul Kelly Mr Kerry O'Brien	<i>Remembrance Day</i> Public announcement for 1 minute of silence

Session 2

11:30 am – 12:20 pm		12:25 pm – 1:25 pm	1:30 pm – 1:45 pm
<i>Behind the scenes: Political advisors share their stories</i> Panel discussion <u>Mr Troy Bramston</u> Mr Geoff Briot Dr Elizabeth Cham Mr Russell Schneider AM Dr David Solomon AM Ms Patti Warn		<i>Who else joined Sir John Kerr for lunch on 11 November: Aide-de-Camp candidates at Government House</i> Panel discussion <u>Ms Niki Savva</u> Lt Col Bob Aley (Retd) Mr Rod Allan Lt Col Bill Denny AM BM (Retd) Mr Chris Stephens	<i>Mr Troy Bramston in conversation with Mr Garry McDonald</i> Interview Mr Troy Bramston Mr Garry McDonald AO

Session 3

2:15 pm – 3:05 pm	3:10 pm – 3:40 pm	3:45 pm – 4:30 pm		4:35 pm – 5:25 pm
<i>In the red chamber: The 1975 Senate revisited</i> Panel discussion <u>Mr Troy Bramston</u> Prof the Hon Gareth Evans AC KC The Hon John Faulkner The Hon Nick Minchin AO The Hon Philip Ruddock AO	<i>Friends to the End - The extraordinary friendship between the Hon Gough Whitlam AC QC and the Hon Sir James (Jim) Killen KCMG AC</i> Interview Ms Niki Savva Ms Diana Killen	<i>Mr Barrie Cassidy in conversation with former Prime Minister John Howard</i> Interview Mr Barrie Cassidy The Hon John Howard OM AC		<i>Could the Dismissal happen again?</i> Panel discussion <u>The Hon Justice Michael Lee</u> The Hon Anna Burke AO The Hon Margaret Reid AO The Hon Scott Ryan The Hon Tony Smith

Old Parliament House closes to the public at 5:45 pm