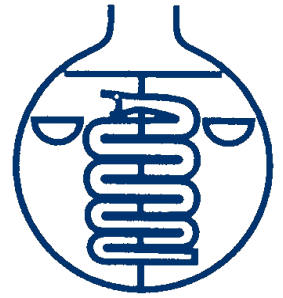


# Notice of Meeting

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**Australian Academy  
of Forensic Sciences  
(Victorian Chapter)**  
c/o  
ANZPAA NIFS Level 6,  
Tower 3, 637 Flinders  
Street, Docklands,  
Victoria 3008  
Ph 03 96287266

Dear Members,

Notice is hereby given that the next meeting of the Australian Academy of Forensic Sciences (Victorian Chapter) will be held at Victoria University, Classroom Q102e (ground floor), 300 Queen St, Melbourne (see maps below) from 5.00 pm on **Wednesday 16 May 2018**.

The meeting will consist of a plenary presentation by **Dr Helen Fraser**, Adjunct Associate Professor, University of New England on the **Indistinct covert recordings: Reforms needed to ensure fairness in their use as evidence in criminal courts**.

Covert recordings provide powerful evidence, allowing a court to hear admissions that would not be made overtly. Unfortunately their contents are often indistinct, in foreign languages, or both. This makes it difficult to be sure what is being said and who is saying it. Over the past thirty years, the courts have developed practices to overcome these difficulties. However this has been done without consultation of the linguistic sciences, and the practices incorporate a number of anomalies that compromise the fairness of our criminal justice system. This talk outlines the anomalies their effects, and a Call to Action recently delivered by Australian linguists to the judiciary. For further background see [forensictranscription.com.au](http://forensictranscription.com.au).

Dr Helen Fraser studied linguistics and phonetics at Macquarie University and the University of Edinburgh, then taught for many years at the University of New England NSW. Since 2008 she has been an independent researcher and consultant in the field of cognitive phonetics. She has undertaken forensic casework since 1993, and researched forensic transcription since 2001, gaining an international reputation as a pioneer in this field.

Time	Program – 16 May 2018	Location
5:00 pm	Light refreshments	Victoria University, Classroom Q102e (ground floor), 300 Queen St, Melbourne.
5:30 pm	Indistinct covert recordings: Reforms needed to ensure fairness in their use as evidence in criminal courts Dr Helen Fraser	
7:00 pm	Dinner Payable on the night	Scugnizzo 558 Little Bourke Street, Melbourne

Please kindly RSVP as to whether you will be attending the meeting and/or the dinner to [aafs.vicchapter@gmail.com](mailto:aafs.vicchapter@gmail.com) by 11 May 2018.

All members and their guests are invited and encouraged to attend the dinner at the conclusion of the meeting.

Yours sincerely,

**John Champion S.C.**

Chairman | Victorian Chapter  
Australian Academy of Forensic Sciences

