

Revealing Secrets: An Unofficial History of Australian Signals Intelligence and the Advent of Cyber *Book Launch*

John Blaxland and Clare Birgin with introduction by Gareth Evans

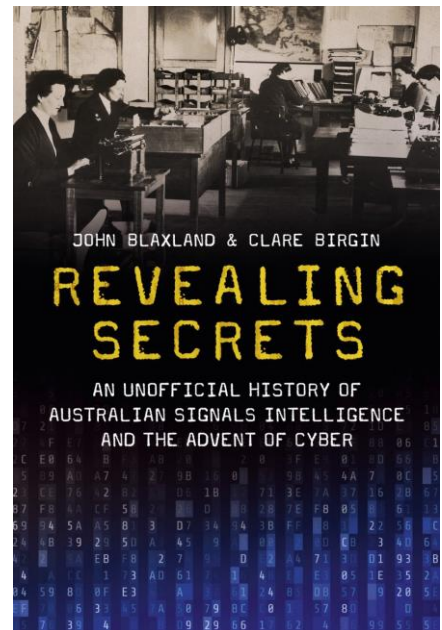
Thursday 6 July: 5.30pm for 6pm – 7pm AEST at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

For a long time, the Australian Signals intelligence (or Sigint) story has been kept secret. Until now...

[Revealing Secrets: An Unofficial History of Australian Signals Intelligence and the Advent of Cyber](#) (UNSW Press, May 2023) is a comprehensive account of Australian Signals intelligence, its efforts at revealing the secrets of other nations, and keeping ours safe.

John Blaxland and Clare Birgin explore the royal commissions and reviews that shaped Australia's intelligence community in the 20th century, reveal what can be told without access to secret records, and consider the advent and the impact of cyber.

Why does Australia have a national signals intelligence agency? What does it do and why is it controversial? And how significant are its ties with key partners, the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada and New Zealand, to this arrangement?



AIIA Victoria welcomes Professor the Hon Gareth Evans to introduce authors Professor John Blaxland and Clare Birgin as they discuss the history of Australian Signals intelligence and the extraordinary challenges posed by the new cyber universe. Copies of the book will be available for sale and for signing.



Professor John Blaxland is Professor of International Security and Intelligence Studies at the Strategic and Defence Studies Centre at ANU. He is a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy and a Fellow of the Royal Society of New South Wales. He has previously been a Chief Intelligence Staff Officer (J2) at HQ Joint Operations Command, defence attaché to Thailand and Myanmar, Head of SDSC and Director of the ANU Southeast Asia Institute.

[BOOK ONLINE HERE](#)

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In-person: AIIA Premium members & Young Professionals free. AIIA Members \$20. Non-Members \$30. Student Non-Members \$10

Webinar: Free for all AIIA members. Student Non-Members \$5. Non-Members \$10



Clare Birgin's career in DFAT spanned 30 years, with a focus on national security and intelligence. She had postings in Warsaw, Moscow, Geneva, and Washington DC as the Liaison Officer of the Office of National Assessments, followed by postings as Ambassador in Hungary, Serbia, Kosovo, Romania, North Macedonia and Montenegro. Subsequently she was a Visiting Fellow at the ANU before joining John Blaxland's history writing team.



Professor the Hon Gareth Evans AC KC FASSA FAIIA was a cabinet minister throughout the Hawke–Keating governments, including as Foreign Minister from 1988 to 1996. After leaving politics, he was President of the Brussels-based International Crisis Group from 2000 to 2009, and Chancellor of the Australian National University from 2010 to 2019, where he is now Distinguished Honorary Professor.