

Adelaide Convention Centre,  
South AustraliaThursday, 23 October and  
Friday, 24 October 2025

## Taste of Australia Dinner and 2025 Honour Roll

**The National Wine Centre in Adelaide**

Supported by People First Bank

Experience a night of connection, celebration and co-operative pride – with exceptional food, local produce and inspiring stories.

This standout event honours sector leaders through the BCCM Honour Roll and marks the close of the UN International Year of Cooperatives 2025 – a night to reflect, recognise and reconnect.



Leading Australian author and journalist, Annabel Crabb will MC. Guest speakers include Steve Laidlaw, CEO People First Bank and Kevin Parry OBE, Chairman Nationwide Building Society.



**Annabel Crabb**  
Author and Journalist



**Kevin Parry OBE**  
Chairman, Nationwide  
Building Society

**Join national and international leaders in Adelaide, 23–24 October, for two days of insight, discussion and connection at the co-op and mutual sector's premier event in Adelaide.**

The BCCM Leaders' Summit is Australia's only cross-sector leadership event for co-operatives and mutuals – a unique forum connecting CEOs, directors and senior leaders with top business thinkers, policymakers and researchers.

Held during the International Year of Cooperatives, this exclusive, member-only gathering will explore how our sector is driving positive economic and social change. With a focus on strong, sustainable, purposeful leadership, the Summit highlights the growing influence of co-ops and mutuals in shaping a more inclusive, resilient future.

## Breakfast on the Hill

**South Australian Government House**

Start your Summit experience at Government House with Breakfast on the Hill – a high-profile event celebrating the vital role of co-operatives and mutuals in South Australia's economy and communities. Proudly hosted by Beyond Bank, it's a key opportunity to connect with community leaders and highlight the sector's impact and potential.



## Plenary speakers



### Andrew Pakes MP

**LABOUR (CO-OP) MP FOR  
PETERBOROUGH UK AND CHAIR OF THE  
ALL-PARTY PARLIAMENTARY GROUP  
FOR MUTUALS, UK**

*(presented by Royal Automobile  
Association of South Australia Limited)*

A long-time champion of co-operative housing and mutuals, Andrew Pakes MP now leads the UK Government's engagement with the sector as its official envoy.

In his keynote address, he'll share how strategic partnerships between co-ops and government are helping to double the size of the UK's mutual economy.

His address will be a standout moment for anyone interested in policy-led growth and the future of co-operative enterprise.



### Shirine Khoury-Haq

**GROUP CEO CO-OPERATIVE GROUP**  
*(presented by KeyInvest)*

As CEO of one of the world's largest consumer co-operatives, Shirine Khoury-Haq brings rare, real-world experience in leading purpose-led business.

As part of the conference program, Shirine will share how the co-operative brand delivers tangible value for members and consumers — and why this matters in today's trust-deficient marketplace.

Business leaders in conversation is a must-attend session for anyone invested in the future of people-first business.



### Jeroen Douglas

**DIRECTOR GENERAL INTERNATIONAL  
COOPERATIVE ALLIANCE (ICA)**  
*(presented by Almondco)*

With over 30 years reforming global agricultural systems, Jeroen Douglas is a leading voice on ethical business, sustainability and co-operative transformation.

At the Summit, he'll explore how co-operatives balance profit with purpose — and why the triple bottom line matters.

Drawing on experience across agriculture, finance, and policy, Jeroen will challenge Australian co-ops to rethink growth and make the global case for expanding the co-operative and mutual sector.

**Join dynamic panel discussions with industry leaders, policy experts and co-op and mutual champions. Opened by The Hon Stephen Mullighan MP, SA Treasurer, Minister for Defence and Space Industries, Minister for Police**

This year's plenaries explore how co-operatives and mutuals are shaping a fairer, more inclusive economy. Topics include examining how partnerships deliver better outcomes for members and communities while raising visibility, influencing and turning co-operative values into action and lasting impact, and much more.

Together, these discussions will highlight the sector's strategic relevance and the steps needed to embed co-ops and mutuals more deeply in public policy, business and community life.



David Speers,  
Senior Business  
Correspondent,  
Journalist and Host

## The Leader Dialogues

The Leader Dialogues – a series of five facilitated, in-depth discussions grounded in real-world industry case studies – offer co-operative and mutual leaders a unique opportunity to engage in the critical conversations shaping the future of our sector

*Please note: Numbers are strictly limited and allocated at online booking and registration.*



### National Agricultural Co-operatives Roundtable – Navigating internal and external threats to co-operative success

*(presented by Almondco)*

An opportunity to tackle the key challenges facing agricultural co-operatives – from trade and capital to climate, governance and member engagement. With global insights from Jeroen Douglas, this strategic roundtable offers practical guidance to strengthen resilience and secure success.

**Invited guests:** Jeroen Douglas, Director General, ICA



### Talking Shop – Understanding the mutual value to the member/customer

*(presented by Barossa Co-op)*

What do members really value – and how can co-ops and mutuals build deeper connections? This interactive session features real member perspectives and contributes to Monash University's *What Matters to Members* research. Gain practical insights to strengthen engagement and better communicate your mutual value.

**Invited guests:** Shirine Khouri-Haq, Group CEO The Co-operative Group, Cathy Main, CEO Barossa Co-operative



### Mutual growth through tactical acquisition: The Nationwide Building Society case study

Hear directly from the Chairman of Nationwide on the £2.9 billion acquisition of Virgin Money – a landmark deal that reshaped UK finance and positioned it as the second-largest mortgage lender. This Chatham House dialogue offers rare insight into the strategy, risks and lessons for co-ops and mutuals pursuing growth through acquisition.

**In conversation:** Peter Hunt, Managing Partner, Mutuo UK with Kevin Parry OBE, Chairman, Nationwide Building Society



### How to maximise impact from community partnerships

As 2025 marks the UN International Year of Cooperatives, this roundtable explores how co-ops and mutuals can amplify their impact through collaboration with the communities they operate in. Featuring real case studies and practical insights to strengthen community outcomes.



### Mutual investment in affordable housing: Co-operating around housing

With Australia facing a growing housing shortfall, how can the mutual sector step up? This roundtable explores how co-operatives and mutuals can finance and support shovel-ready projects – delivering secure, affordable homes for Australians locked out of the market. Gain insight into funding models and practical pathways to scale co-operative housing.

**Thursday, 23 October 2025**

11:45 am – 2:30 pm	21st CME 100 Chairs' Forum and Luncheon.
3:00 – 4:00 pm	Launch of the Co-operative and Mutual Women CEOs Network, Eliza's Project, <a href="#">presented by BCCM</a>
6:30 – 10:30 pm	2025 Taste of Australia Dinner and Honour Roll <a href="#">presented by People First Bank</a>

**Friday, 24 October 2025**

7:30 – 9:00 am	Breakfast on the Hill <a href="#">presented by Beyond Bank</a>
9:10 – 9:30 am	Registration and welcome tea and coffee
9:30 – 9:40 am	BCCM Leaders' Summit – Welcome to Country
9:40 – 10:00 am	Conference opening
10:00 – 10:10 am	Opening keynote <a href="#">presented by Royal Automobile Association of South Australia Limited</a>
10:10 – 10:30 am	Opening keynote: Growing the co-op and mutual economy in partnership with government
10:30 – 11:15 am	Opening panel: Why mutuals matter: Partnering with co-operatives and mutuals for inclusive growth and prosperity
11:15 – 11:40 am	Morning tea <a href="#">presented by CEHL</a>
11:40 am – 1:00 pm	The Leader Dialogues – five deep-dive discussions with industry case studies
1:00 – 2:10 pm	Networking lunch
2:00 – 3:10 pm	Business leaders in conversation <a href="#">presented by KeyInvest Limited</a>
3:10 – 3:30 pm	Afternoon tea
3:30 – 3:55 pm	Power of Co Campaign launch
3:40 – 4:05 pm	Closing keynote: Taking co-ops and mutuals to the next level of influence, traction and action <a href="#">presented by Almondco</a>
4:05 – 4:55 pm	Closing panel: The co-operative and mutual difference: Leveraging mutuality for sustainability and success
4:55 – 5:00 pm	Closing remarks
5:00 – 6:00 pm	Networking drinks

**Saturday, 25 October 2025**

Full day site visit	2025 Leaders' Summit site visit <a href="#">presented by the Barossa Co-operative: Lunch in the Vines</a> <a href="#">presented by KeyInvest</a>
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