

Worshipful Company of Tax Advisers



HISTORY OF TAX

TUESDAY 20TH FEBRUARY 2018

Professor Martin Daunton will be our next guest speaker discussing:

“The Politics of Land Taxation in the British Empire”

The taxation of land in the British Empire was not just a means of fiscal extraction but a way of shaping the nature of society. Should the colonies follow the pattern of English agrarian society, with a tripartite system of large landowners, tenant farmers and landless labourers as a way of creating efficient division of responsibilities? Or should the colonies return to a system of peasant proprietorship that had been destroyed in England? The issue was fought out in English politics, but was even more central to politics in the colonies. In India, policy veered between creating a class of large zamindars who paid taxation direct to the East India Co and the Raj in return for security of their holdings, and taxation of small peasants in the ryotwari system. Similarly, in Australia and New Zealand, there was a political controversy over the structure of society, between those who favoured large squatters and those who wished to break up their holdings through taxation. The New Zealand tax of 1879, for example, did not tax income from employment but imposed a tax on land even when it produced no income. These colonial debates drew on English political debates over the taxation of land, and were fed back into the Edwardian debates. The talk explores the politics of the taxation of land across the British Empire.

Martin Daunton is Emeritus Professor of Economic History and Head of the School of the Humanities and Social Sciences in the University of Cambridge, where he was also Master of Trinity Hall between 2004 and 2014. Before moving to Cambridge in 1997, he was Astor Professor of British History at UCL. He served as President of the Royal Historical Society and a trustee of the National Maritime Museum, and is currently a Commissioner for English Heritage. He has written two books on the history of taxation: *Trusting Leviathan: The Politics of Taxation in Britain 1799-1914* and *Just Taxes: The Politics of Taxation in Britain, 1914-1979*. He is currently working on a book on the economic governance of the world since 1933.

There will be an optional supper afterwards at the Colosseo Restaurant on a self pay basis on the night. See <http://www.colosseorestaurant.co.uk/alacarte.php>. Please indicate on the booking form whether you would like to join us for supper afterwards.

Provisional bookings may be made by emailing adminwcta@ciot.org.uk but must be confirmed by forwarding the slip below, together with your cheque by 13th February 2018. No tickets will be sent, but you will receive an e-mail confirmation of your booking.

DATE

Tuesday 20th February
2018

TIME

5:45pm for 6pm

PRICE

Members £18/
Non-Members £20

VENUE ADDRESS

CIOT, 1st Floor Artillery
House, 11-19 Artillery
Row, London SW1P 1RT

Supper:

Colosseo Restaurant
79 Victoria Street
London SW1 0HW

CLOSING DATE

13 February 2018

**This event is open
to everyone with an
interest in the history of
tax.**

To: **ANN BAILEY, WCOTA ADMINISTRATOR. 1ST FLOOR ARTILLERY HOUSE,
11-19 ARTILLERY ROW, LONDON SW1P 1RT**

I wish to attend the History of Tax event on Tuesday 20th February 2018

From (please print name) _____

I wish to attend (please tick as appropriate): History of Tax event Supper

Email address _____

I shall be accompanied by _____

@ _____

I enclose my cheque for _____ (£20/£18 per person)

(made payable to the WCTA)

