

800th Anniversary of Magna Carta

→ Her Excellency Mrs Menna Rawlings CMG

Friday 19 June, 12.15pm to 1.15pm • Main Committee Room, Parliament House



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June 15 represents the 800th anniversary of the sealing of Magna Carta at Runnymede. In her lecture, the newly appointed British High Commissioner, Mrs Menna Rawlings CMG, will explore why a bargain struck between a hated king and his rebellious barons eight centuries ago has resonated throughout history and become a byword for the rule of law. She also looks ahead to how Magna Carta serves as an instructive example for how we might develop the rules-based international system that will be required to ensure global peace and prosperity in the 21st Century.

Mrs Menna Rawlings CMG has been British High Commissioner to Australia since April 2015. Mrs Rawlings joined the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in 1989 and has served in a wide range of Diplomatic Service roles. She was mostly recently a member of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office Management Board as Human Resources Director. This followed postings to Washington DC, Ghana, Israel, Kenya and Brussels. In London, she has served as Private Secretary to the Permanent Under Secretary as well as in the Press Office and the Africa and European Union Directorates.