



MANNING CLARK HOUSE
A home for contemporary debate and discussion

Author talk and discussion

Tomorrow there will be apricots: An Australian diplomat in the Arab world **by Bob Bowker**

**on Thursday 9 March 2023 at 5.30 for 6.00pm
at Manning Clark House, 11 Tasmania Circle, Forrest**

After 50 years as an Australian diplomat, UN official, intelligence analyst, academic and company director working in and on the Middle East, Dr Bob Bowker enjoys unique insights into the challenges, professional and personal, of representing Australia in the Arab world. In this occasionally light-hearted professional memoir, revealing something of the person behind the diplomat, he sets out his views and reflections on major Middle East issues and into what makes diplomacy in the Arab world effective. *Tomorrow there will be apricots* captures the complexity, the drama, the ambiguity and sometimes the absurdity of certain situations he faced as an Australian ambassador in the Arab world.



Dr Bob Bowker served as a diplomat in Saudi Arabia and Syria and he was Australian Ambassador to Jordan, Egypt, as well as non-resident ambassador to Syria, Libya, Tunisia and Sudan. He also held senior roles for the UN Relief and Works Program for Palestine Refugees in the Near East in the 1990s, based in Gaza and Jerusalem. His experience of the Middle East underpins his research, publications and professorial roles at the Centre for Arab and Islamic Studies at the ANU.

Please join us for light refreshments following this lively book discussion

We will have copies of the book available for sale and Bob has kindly agreed to sign them

MCH members \$10; Concession \$15; General admission \$20

Bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/CFMYW>

Manning Clark House, 11 Tasmania Circle Forrest