Heinz Wolfgang Arndt was proud to be called an Australian economist. He was Australian by choice, economist by profession, and excellent in both respects. He was born and educated in Germany, but in the 1930s his family fled from the Nazis and Heinz received his higher education in Oxford. After a short internment in Canada during World War II, Heinz returned to England, married and began his career as an economist. In 1946, that career took him to Australia, where he happily spent the rest of his life.

Just as Heinz’s young manhood exemplified a common European reaction to Hitler’s regime, so his life and career in Australia personified four central elements of the nation’s social and economic development in the second half of the twentieth century. These features were postwar immigration, engagement with Asia, the expansion and maturation of universities and the philosophical and practical shift from state to market authority in the allocation of resources. In this book, we tell, from three different perspectives, Heinz’s story as a young European and then as a leading participant in important aspects of the postwar development of Australia.

Peter Coleman
Selwyn Cornish
Peter Drake