

Special Topics 2019

For a more comprehensive treatment of specific areas of Tax Law – our Special Topics are practical yet detailed analyses of topical areas of tax law or practice.

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JANUARY

Tax advice – managing a risky business

- When the advice turns out to be wrong
- How to get some certainty
- When certainty is not achievable – try risk mitigation
- The safe harbours

FEBRUARY

Superannuation guarantee – looking back and moving forward

- When and how the obligation to make SG contributions falls on employers
- Making use of the SG amnesty
- Reporting obligations
- Consequences of non-compliance – the ATO's increased enforcement powers

MARCH

Tax and the three Rs – repairs, renovations and replacements

- The statutory deduction for repairs
- When repairs are capital – the perennial income/capital conundrum
- Apportioning expenditure on repairs

APRIL

Trustee reporting obligations – casting a wider net

- The reporting and withholding obligations on trustees making distributions
- Whether family trust elections provide compliance savings
- Reporting the correct information in the Trust's tax return

MAY

Taking stock of the changes from 1 July 2019

- Working out what needs to be done before 30 June 2019 to benefit from proposed legislative changes
- Getting ready for the changes due to commence on or after 1 July 2019

JUNE

Small business CGT concessions – selling shares and units

- The additional basic conditions that must be satisfied when the asset is a share or a unit
- The legislative changes imposing further basic conditions
- The new modified active asset test for sales of shares and units
- The additional conditions when a replacement asset is a share or a unit

JULY

Taxing cars

- The tax treatment of different types of vehicles under the Tax Law
- The methods available for claiming car expenses
- Substantiating deductions claimed
- FBT implications if a car is used for private purposes

AUGUST

Property development: GST

- Identifying when a property development constitutes an enterprise
- The GST implications for the enterprise
- When a change of intention in relation to a property development has GST consequences
- The new GST withholding rules and property development

SEPTEMBER

Property development: Income tax

- Distinguishing between property held as trading stock, a capital asset or a revenue asset
- Implications of changing intention in relation to a property
- Dealing with property development costs for tax purposes

OCTOBER

Mystery Topic

- This space is reserved for a topic that will be taxing most people's brains

NOVEMBER

Company directors: Tax responsibilities

- An overview of the general law duties imposed on directors
- The responsibilities imposed by the Tax Law on directors personally
- Understanding the limited defences available to directors regarding their tax exposure
- Tax treatment of directors of companies engaging in phoenix activity

DECEMBER

PAYG Revisited

- When the Tax Law requires a withholding from a payment
- When and how a rate of withholding can be varied and penalties for getting it wrong
- When a taxpayer must pay income tax by instalments
- When and how instalments can be varied
- Penalties for shortfalls on assessment