

# **NEWSFLASH**

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Great news this week for people with HECS and other student debts. The government has announced it will index the up lift of the debt by the lower of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) or the Wages Price Index (WPI). So, the uplift on 1st June this year is expected to only be 4.2%. Last year the uplift was 7.1% based on the CPI. The changes are back dated to 1<sup>st</sup> June 2023 when the WPI was only 3.2% so that uplift for last year will be more than halved. Note how the uplift for the whole year happens on the balance you hold at 1<sup>st</sup> June. HECS instalments deducted from your wages do not reduce your balance until your tax return is lodged. If this is the last year you will be paying HECS it is worth paying it down before the 1<sup>st</sup> June and replenishing your savings when all your employer deductions are refund when you lodge your tax return.

## Sale of 1.47 Hectares found to be a One Off Profit Making Scheme



A good example of things not to do if you are hoping to cover a small acreage with your main residence exemption or at least qualify for the 50% CGT discount and avoid the GST.

https://www.bantacs.com.au/Jblog/sale-of-1-47-hectares-one-off-profit-making-scheme/#more-1448

## **Investment Bonds**



Julia is on her soap box against investment bonds. Also called insurance and education bonds. The key issue is they are not tax free the tax is paid out of your investment and on capital gains it will be at a higher rate because companies do not qualify for the 50% CGT discount. <a href="https://www.bantacs.com.au/Jblog/what-you-need-to-know-about-insurance-and-investment-bonds/#more-1459">https://www.bantacs.com.au/Jblog/what-you-need-to-know-about-insurance-and-investment-bonds/#more-1459</a>

## **Negative Gearing**



Negative gearing is explained and the real inequity revealed. It is not negative gearing genuine expenses but the artificial non cash flow deduction for building depreciation.

https://www.bantacs.com.au/Jblog/negative-gearing-whatis-the-real-problem/#more-1460

## Got A Tax Question – Askbantacs <a href="https://taxquestions.com.au/">https://taxquestions.com.au/</a>

Thanks to the very generous Asksbantacsers who allowed their question and answer to be published on our notice board.

https://taxquestions.com.au/tax-consequences-of-buying-a-rental-but-to-subdivide-and-sell/

https://taxquestions.com.au/cgt-implications-of-divorce/

https://taxquestions.com.au/to-sell-your-home-or-not-when-moving-overseas/

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