

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

All ideas are ultimately borrowed from someone else. I have the great good fortune to spend my career amongst many people much cleverer than me, and who have shaped and critiqued my arguments.

I started out under Amartya Sen's supervision, and he got me to help John Hicks compile his collected papers whilst I was simultaneously working on my thesis. For me, Sen's deep pluralistic and tolerant version of liberalism based upon justice, in turn grounded in capabilities, is the best way to think about what we owe to other people, and I have used some of his ideas to shape how I think about the legacy we should pass on to the next generation and its citizens. Understandably, despite lots of attempts to persuade him otherwise, he never really worked out the implications for the design of welfare states and the broader economy, and although the environment was important to him, he never wrote much directly on the issues, to the best of my knowledge.

John Hicks made the great years of high theory in the 1930s come alive and he helped me to see through much of what became the Keynesian enthusiasms. He once remarked to me that Keynes was so busy doing so many things that he never really had time to work out his ideas properly.

These are the two biggest influences on me from academic economics and I have borrowed the capabilities approach for my sustainable economy from Sen, and the Labour Standard to develop my Consumption Standard from Hicks.

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and Cameron Hepburn, whose constant comments and criticisms have been an inspiration to me.

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