

HISTORY PROGRAM,
RESEARCH SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES,
ANU COLLEGE OF ARTS & SOCIAL SCIENCES PRESENTS:

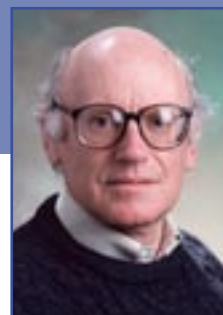


ALLAN MARTIN MEMORIAL LECTURE 2006

LABOR'S PART IN AUSTRALIAN HISTORY: A LAMENT

Dr John Hirst

La Trobe University



Tuesday 9 May, 5.30pm

Coombs Lecture Theatre, Fellows Road, ANU

This lecture is free and open to the public.

A reception will follow in the foyer of the H.C. Coombs Building Extension, 7-8pm.

RSVP and Enquiries to T: 02 6125 2354 or E: history@coombs.anu.edu.au

For most of his life John Hirst has voted for the Australian Labor Party – and he may do so again.

In this lecture he will reflect on his unease with some of the Labor traditions. For instance, he does not think that Labor parliamentarians should be compelled to vote as Caucus directs. He does not think that Billy Hughes and Joseph Lyons were 'rats', or that Labor was right in refusing to join national governments in both world wars. And he believes that Labor's elevation of anti-conscription into a shibboleth was damaging to the party and the nation. In this lecture he will lament these and other aspects of Labor history.



Allan Martin (1926-2002) was an intellectual, institutional, and social pioneer whose career as a historian spanned the second half of the 20th Century. When most Australians went to England for their postgraduate work, he chose ANU, where he was the first doctoral student in History in the Research School of Social Sciences. He accepted the Foundation Chair in History at La Trobe University in 1966 and returned to the Research School of Social Sciences as a Senior Fellow in 1973.

Dr John Hirst is Reader in History at La Trobe University, Melbourne. He has written widely on Australian history and the republic, as well as a guide to government and law in Australia, which was distributed to each school in the country. His most recent books are *Australia's Democracy: a short history*, and *Sense and Nonsense in Australian History*. He writes regularly for *The Australian* and *Quadrant*.

Dr Hirst was founding Convenor of the Australian Republican Movement in Victoria and a member of Prime Minister Keating's Republic Advisory Committee. He was the chair of the Howard Government's Civics Education Group, and is currently a board member of Film Australia and deputy chair of the Council of the National Museum of Australia.