

# Politics in the Pub

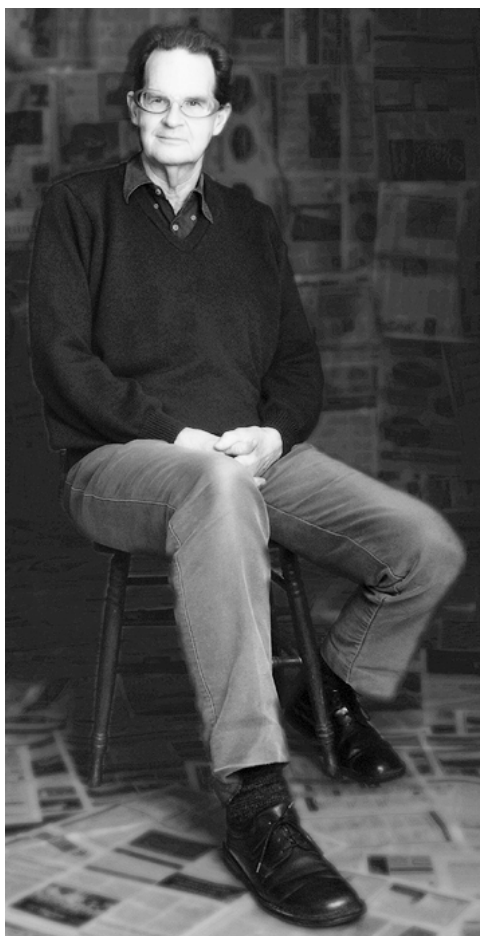
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## Lessons from the History of Labour

NATIONAL  
MUSEUM  
OF  
LABOUR

Saturday, 20 August 2011, 2.30 - 4.30  
Blackburns Family Hotel  
15 Parke St. Katoomba

### Speaker: Humphrey McQueen



*By and large the historian can be 'objective'. That is, he will operate within the premises underlying his society. Only in a crisis will he be forced to declare himself. This constitutes a great set of advantages over the historian who rejects the very root and branch of his society. For a revolutionary the status quo is a crisis. I anxiously prepare for the opportunity to be objective about Australian history.*

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*Connected to the quest for 'social equality' is an appreciation of individualism as all-round development. Our individuality is not a precious jewel located in our breasts or brains. Our ability to discuss individuality is the outcome of our socialisation. Had we never been in groups, we would never have learned to say the word 'individual'.*

*The totalitarianism of 'buy, buy, buy' has given rise to the plea of 'leave me alone so that I can express my true self'. The antidote to that anxiety is not to retreat from social engagement. Rather, the path forward is to alter the quality of our connections away from a culture dominated by market signals.*

Presented with the support of the National Museum of Labour

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