CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Democratic Opposition to War: The 1916-17 Anti-Conscription Campaigns: Impacts and Legacies

Siteworks, 22 Saxon St, Brunswick

20 May 2017, 9am-4.30pm

9.00-9.15 am: Registration and tea/coffee

9.15-9.30 am: Brunswick Secondary College Choir sings WW1 Songs.

9:30-10:30am: Introduction (Chair: Michael Hamel-Green): Keynote Introduction - Professor Barry Jones (Melbourne University); and Conscription Referenda Details and Context - Professor Murray Goot, (Macquarie University).

(MORNING TEA/COFFEE: 10.30-10.45am)

10:45-12:15am: Panel 1: Labour, Socialist and Trade Union roles in the anti-conscription campaigns (Chair: David McMullen): Overview of Socialist, Labour and Trade Union roles - Professor Stuart Macintyre (Melbourne University); Labour Party and Anstey roles - Dr Peter Love; Doris and Maurice Blackburn - Dr Carolyn Rasmussen.

(LUNCH: 12.15-12.45pm) (including information stalls and displays)

12.45-2.15pm: Panel 2: Women’s Groups, Religious Groups (including Catholics and Quakers), Pacifists and Conscientious Objector groups (Chair: Fran Newell): WILPF & Predecessors - Kate Laing, Women and Women’s Groups in the Anti-Conscription Debate - Professor Joy Damousi (Melbourne University), Conscientious Objectors and Pacifist Opposition to the War - Associate Professor Bobbie Oliver (Curtin University), Irish and Catholic Opposition to the War - Dr Val Noone.

2:15-2.30pm: Choir sings “Ghosts Don’t Lie” (commissioned by BCACCC)
2.30-3.00pm: Impact of WWI anti-conscription campaigns (Chair: Marilyn Moore): Impact and Legacy of WW1 Anti-Conscription Campaigns and Debate - Dr Ross McMullin.

(AFTERNOON TEA/COFFEE: 3.00-3.15pm)


3.45-4.30 pm: Panel 3: War making powers in Australia (Chair: Val Noone): War Making Powers in Australia: Key Issues - Paul Barratt, (former Australian Defence Secretary) & Australian War Making Powers – an MAPW Perspective - Dr Jenny Grounds, past President, Medical Association for Prevention of War (MAPW).

4.30pm: Close of Conference

Practicalities: Saxon St is a small street off Dawson St, just facing the Brunswick Library, close to the Dawson St/Sydney Rd intersection at Brunswick Town Hall. The Siteworks Conference venue is accessed half way down the west side of the street in a former school complex north of a large brick Victorian mansion. Due to current roadworks, car parking is limited in the immediate proximity of the conference. Streets off Glenlyon and Dawson include some all day parking at a short walk away. Public transport is available via No.19 Sydney Rd Tram from Elizabeth St in the City, with closest tram stop being at Brunswick Town Hall, cnr Glenlyon and Sydney Rd. Upfield Line rail station is nearby at Brunswick Station.

Notes on Speakers:

Paul Barratt AO, BA, BSc (Hons), FAICD, is President of the Campaign for an Iraq War Inquiry. He has degrees in Physics from the University of New England, and in Arts (Asian Civilisations and Economics) from the Australian National University. He worked for the Australian government for 25 years, mainly in resources, energy and international trade, and in 1992 became Executive Director of the Business Council of Australia. He was Secretary to the Departments of Primary Industries and Energy (1996-98) and Defence (1998-9). He now runs his own consulting business, and is a founder and director of AADI Defence Pty Ltd. He is Chair of Australia21 and is a director of UNE Foundation Ltd.

Joy Damousi is Professor of History at the University of Melbourne. She has published widely on aspects of women’s history, memory and war, the aftermath of war and the history of post-war migration. She is the author of numerous books which include The Labour of Loss: Mourning, Memory and Wartime Bereavement in Australia (Cambridge, 1999) and Memory and Migration in the Shadow of War: Australia’s Greek Immigrants after World War II and the Greek Civil War.
Brunswick-Coburg Anti-Conscription Commemoration Campaign (BCACCCC)
Supported by: Labour History Society (Melbourne), Victorian Trades Hall Council and Moreland City Council, and Radio 3CR

(Miss) Ann-Mari Jordens is a Canberra-based consultant historian. From 1983-89 she was Principal Research Officer in the official history unit at the Australian War Memorial, researching and writing on the political, social and cultural impact of Australia’s involvement in the Vietnam War. She is the author of numerous articles and chapters in books on conscription, conscientious objection, anti-war dissent and cultural responses to this conflict, as well as articles on the liberal anti-war movement 1905-18. In recent years she has published three books on migrant and refugee settlement in Australia since 1947 and has recorded over 100 interviews for the National Library of Australia’s oral history collection.

Anita Jones is a PhD candidate at Latrobe University. Her thesis looks at the history of women’s internationalism in Australia through a study of the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom. She completed a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) and a Master of US Studies at the University of Sydney, and was a National Library of Australia Norman McCann Summer Scholar in 2014. She was a member of the Lilith Journal collective from 2013-2015, and has published in peer-reviewed journals including the Latrobe Journal 2015, and History Australia forthcoming in 2017.

Dr Peter Love, whose ANU PhD thesis was a political biography of Frank Anstey, taught politics and history in universities, mostly Swinburne, for some thirty years until his recent retirement. He has been an active member of the Labour History Society since the early 1970s, a foundation...
member and office bearer of the National Tertiary Education Union, a life member (for his sins) of the ALP and a Trustee of the Melbourne Trades Hall and Literary Institute.

Stuart Macintyre is Emeritus Laureate Professor of the University of Melbourne and a Professorial Fellow of the School of Historical and Philosophical Studies. He was president of the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia from 2007 to 2009 and has written on various aspects of Australian history. His book on Australia's Boldest Experiment: War and Reconstruction in the 1940s discussed the conscription issue in World War Two (2015); his next, No End of a Lesson: Australia’s Unified National System of Higher Education (later in 2017) deals with a less successful reconstruction.

Dr Ross McMullin is an award-winning historian and biographer. His books Pompey Elliott (which won awards for biography and literature) and Will Dyson: Australia’s Radical Genius have illuminated those very significant identities and also the impact of WWI on Australia. Ross’s multi-biography about Australia’s lost generation from that conflict, Farewell, Dear People, was awarded the Prime Minister’s Prize for Australian History and the National Cultural Award. His books of political history include So Monstrous a Travesty: Chris Watson and the World’s First National Labour Government and also his acclaimed ALP centenary history The Light on the Hill. www.rossmcmullin.com.au

Dr Val Noone, who lives in Fitzroy has been active for many years in the peace movement. He is a fellow of the School of Historical Studies at the University of Melbourne and the author of Hidden Ireland in Victoria. In 2013 the National University of Ireland awarded him the degree of Doctor of Literature for his contribution to Irish Studies in Australia.

Associate Professor Bobbie Oliver teaches and researches Australian History at Curtin University, Perth. She is the author of a number of books and papers, including several works on conscientious objectors to military service. Her main work in this area is Peacemongers (Freemantle, 1997). She has also written on the Peacemaker journal (Deery & Kimber, eds, Fighting Against War, Melbourne, 2015) and on war resisters in the Vietnam War period (Oliver & Summers, eds, Lest We Forget? Perth, 2014).

Dr Carolyn Rasmussen's work as a public historian since 1985 has ranged over the history of Victorian public institutions, labour history, the history of science and technology, education history, the involvement of women in all of the above, and biography. She is chair of the Victorian Working Party of the Australian Dictionary of Biography and a member of the National Editorial Board. Currently she has put aside her Australia Council-supported joint biography of progressive politicians, Maurice and Doris Blackburn, to up-date the history of the University of Melbourne which she co-authored in the early 1990s with John Poynter. Maurice and Doris Blackburn have featured in work of Carolyn Rasmussen since the mid 1970s when she began work on the history of the Coburg Branch of the ALP. Her current joint biography is the culmination of many years of deep engagement with their work and family.

Bookings: $20/$30 Try Bookings https://www.trybooking.com/PGRV

Queries: anticonscription1916@gmail.com
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