

**Sydney Branch Meeting Monday 15 November 2010
(Held in conjunction with NSW ALP)**

**100 Years of Labor Government in NSW
6pm for 6.30pm Monday 15 November, 2010
Trades Hall Auditorium 4 Goulburn St**

In 1910 the first Labor Government was elected in NSW, led by James McGowen, a boilermaker by trade, who represented the seat of Redfern. To mark this event the Sydney Branch of the ASSLH and the NSW ALP Central Policy Branch hosted a talk by two eminent Labor historians, Michael Hogan and Lucy Taksa.

Labor Politics before Factions *presented by Michael Hogan*

Michael Hogan retired from teaching in the Department of Government, University of Sydney, in 1997. He was a member of Bob Carr's Committee for the Sesquicentenary of Responsible Government in NSW. He is the author of *Local Labor. A History of the Labor Party in Glebe, 1891-2003* (2004). He is co-editor of the four volumes of *The People's Choice* (2001, 2007) which chronicle NSW elections from 1843 'til 1999. He is editor of three volumes of *Labor Pains. Early Conference and Executive Reports of the Labor Party of NSW* (2006, 2008); the final two volumes, which will bring the record up to 1939, are in press.

Remembering "Honest" Jim McGowan *presented by Lucy Taksa*

Professor Lucy Taksa is Head of the Department of Business in the Faculty of Business and Economics at Macquarie University. Lucy has served on the executive of the Australian Society for the Study of Labour History (ASSLH) in various capacities between 1990 and 2009. In the interim she was also Associate Editor of the Society's journal, *Labour History* between 1994 and 2003. She has published on labour culture, labour and industrial history and heritage, and management history. Her interest in James McGowen, the first Labor Premier of NSW arose from her research on the history of the NSW Eveleigh railway workshops, one of the most significant sites of Australia's labour heritage and its tradition of active citizenship.

There were about 45 people in attendance, the overwhelming number were not members of Sydney Branch. Members of the McGowen family were in present. The Sydney Branch members in attendance were Nick Dyrenfurth, who chaired the meeting, Sue Tracey, Greg Ashton and Lawrie Daly. The vote of thanks was given by Johnno Johnson. A raffle was conducted with the prize being the recent history of J J Cahill *They called him old smoothie : John Joseph Cahill : a belated biography of a rather exceptional politician* by Peter Golding. The book, was signed by all living NSW premiers.

The talks were well received and a lively question session followed.

Back issues of Hummer were on sale for \$1 and \$15 was raised through sales.

Meeting closed at 8pm