

THE HIGH COURT'S AMBASSADORS: LATHAM, DIXON AND STEPHEN COMPARED

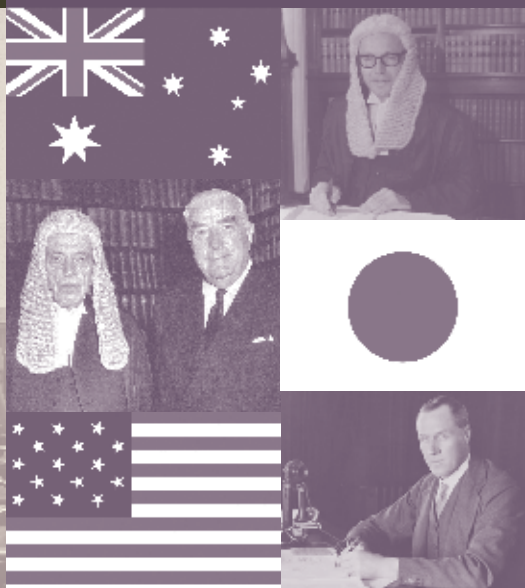
Introduced by the Hon Justice Susan Crennan AC

DR PHILIP AYRES



**HIGH COURT
OF AUSTRALIA
PUBLIC LECTURE**

High Court of Australia
Canberra, Courtroom 1
10 September 2014 — 6pm



RSVP by 3 Sept 2014 bookings@hcourt.gov.au
Inquiries (02) 6270 6893



DR PHILIP AYRES

is the author of two major judicial biographies (Owen Dixon and *Fortunate Voyager: The Worlds of Ninian Stephen*), a Prime Ministerial biography (Malcolm Fraser), the biography of Cardinal Moran (*Prince of the Church*), and the only whole-of-life scholarly biography of Mawson, as well as books on eighteenth-century British culture published

by Clarendon Press Oxford and Cambridge University Press. He is a Fellow of both the Royal Historical Society (London) and the Australian Academy of the Humanities, and a recipient of the Centenary Medal for services to literature. He taught at the University of Adelaide, Monash University, Vassar College and Boston University.

ABSTRACT

On leave from the High Court of Australia, Chief Justice Sir John Latham served as Australia's Minister to Japan from 1940 to 1941. Sir Owen Dixon took similar leave to be Australia's Minister to the United States from 1942 to 1944. Sir Ninian Stephen, following his years on the Court and then as Governor-General, served as Australian

Ambassador for the Environment before undertaking international mediatory roles in Northern Ireland and Bangladesh and leading UN missions to Cambodia and Burma. How ably did these judges perform as ambassadors, and does the judicial role augur well for the ambassadorial role?

Refreshments to follow, *All welcome*

RSVP by 3 Sept 2014 bookings@hcourt.gov.au
Inquiries (02) 6270 6893