

John Clive

JOHN CLIVE 1925-1990

John Clive, William R. Henan Jr. Professor of History and Literature at Harvard University and Honorary Fellow of the Academy since 1985, died on 14 January 1990 at the age of 65.

His first book was Scotch Reviewers: The Early Years of the Edinburgh Review (1957) and his best known work Macaulay: The Shaping of the Historian (1973). He edited selections from Carlyle, Macaulay and Gibbon, and published in 1989 Not by Fact Alone: Essays on the Writing and Reading of History.

He was born in Germany, educated in England and the USA, and was led to discover Australia by Manning Clark, who met him in 1975 during negotiations at Harvard over what became the Chair of Australian Studies and became better acquainted in 1979 while occupying the Chair.

Prompted by Professor Clark, he came to the ANU's Humanities Research Centre as a Visiting Fellow in 1980, and found Australia so congenial that he returned to the ANU in 1984, this time as a Visiting Fellow in the Department of History in the Research School of Social Sciences. He was begetter of Australia: Terra Incognita?, the first issue of Daedalus, Journal of the American Academy of the Arts and Sciences, ever to be devoted to a single country. (Winter 1985, published also as Stephen R. Graubard, ed., Australia: The Daedalus Symposium, Angus and Robertson, 1985). The first and most personal of the essays that make up Not by Fact Alone, 'The Use of the Past', was originally a talk broadcast on ABC radio in 1984. John Clive there speaks of Australia as 'a country I have come to love'. He is sadly missed and warmly remembered by many Australian friends.

K.S. Inglis