

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The majority of the papers in this collection had their origin in the 2001 Australasian Association for History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Science annual conference, held at the University of Melbourne, where streams of papers on the themes of scientific realism and commonsense were organised. It soon became apparent that many of the papers in these streams were of unusually high quality and that there was a strong case for organising a new volume of the *Australasian Studies in History and Philosophy of Science* series based on these papers. The collection was further strengthened when Herman De Regt, Harold Kincaid and Keith Hutchison were invited to submit papers relevant to the combined themes of the collection.

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