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Please use & view our Website
www.eurekaschildren.org.au

Eureka's Children



Australia 2004 Eureka Stockade Dollar 150th Anniversary
Eureka Stockade sculpted by Wojciech Pietranik

We will soon be celebrating and commemorating the 161 Anniversary of Eureka, and this year our events and involvement will be in Ballarat and Canberra.

Our President, Eric Howard will deliver the Peter Tobin Oration in Ballarat on Sunday December 6th.

In Canberra on Dec. 3rd our Annual Eureka Dinner, hosted by our Canberra Chapter, will be held at the Southern Cross Club with Father/Professor Frank Brennan as the guest speaker. The Eureka Democracy Award will also be presented and the book "Eureka – Australia's Greatest Story", from our Symposium last year, will be launched.

Our associated Eureka Group in Sydney will hold their Eureka Commemorative Dinner on Nov. 13th.

We recently received a call from the Australian Republican Movement's (ARM) new chair; Peter FitzSimons seeking support for the ARM from our interested members.

Coincidentally the Irish (Celtic) Club in Melbourne are running a competition for people to write a proclamation for an Australian Republic, similar to the 1916 Proclamation of an Irish Republic. (April 2016 being the centenary of the Irish Easter Rising)

The newsletter includes information on both.

Other articles in this issue include a short history of a Eureka Stockade Avenue of Honour planted in 1917 but which unfortunately, was cut down and removed 25 years ago and now it is the endeavour of Eureka's Children in 2015/16 to pursue the development of a new Eureka Avenue of Honour to the Fallen at Eureka.

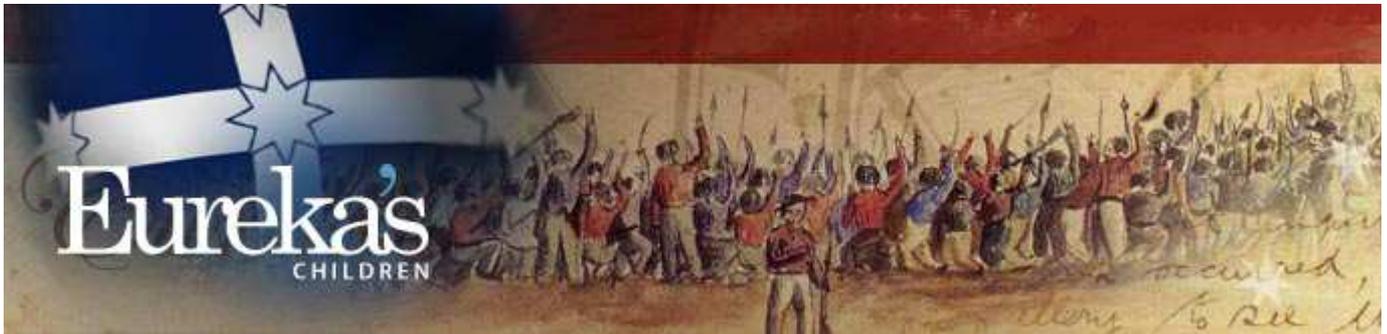
Leigh Callinan presents an article on Governor Hotham and the Eureka Massacre

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A NEWSLETTER FOR EUREKA'S CHILDREN
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Dinner Celebrating the 161st Anniversary of Eureka

Hosted by the Canberra Chapter of Eureka's Children Inc.

The Canberra Chapter of Eureka's Children invites you and your guests to their annual Eureka dinner to celebrate the 161st anniversary of the Eureka Stockade uprising. During the evening, a book titled **EUREKA - AUSTRALIA'S GREATEST STORY**, edited by David Headon and John Uhr, and published by The Federation Press, will be launched. The annual Eureka Democracy Award will also be presented.

Guest Speaker Father Frank Brennan, a Jesuit priest, an adjunct fellow in the Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies at the ANU, professor of law in the Institute of Legal Studies at the Australian Catholic University, and professor of human rights and social justice at the University of Notre Dame Australia. Father Brennan has a strong interest in Aboriginal issues and civil liberties and has written many books on these issues



The dinner will be hosted by Emeritus Professor John Molony, Chairperson of the Canberra Chapter, a Eureka descendant and author of "Eureka", MUP 2001.

Event Details:

7.00 pm Thursday, 3 December 2015

**Venue: Canberra Southern Cross Club
Corinna Street, Phillip, ACT**

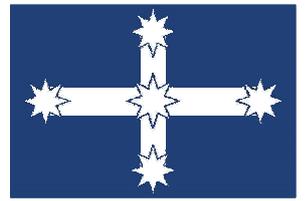
2 Course Dinner \$60 per person

\$50 for Pension Card Holders/Full-time Students

Drinks are available at the bar.

Tickets are strictly limited. If you are interested in attending the dinner or want more information about Eureka's Children please contact Terry Quinane, the Canberra Executive Director on 0411 861-237 or by email to terry@quinane.id.au.

Eureka's Children is a not for profit association representing descendants of those involved in or associated with the Eureka Stockade event and other individuals or corporate bodies who have a special interest in Eureka and its democratic principles. Find out more at <http://eurekaschildren.org.au/>



161st EUREKA ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS AT M.A.D.E. – BALLARAT

December 3rd – Thursday

There will be a 7 am breakfast event to commemorate the Eureka Stockade rebellion. Graeme Innes, former Disability Rights Commissioner, will be guest speaker. As it is also the International Day for People with Disabilities, Mr Innes' presentation will complement M.A.D.E.'s major exhibition this year "*Grassroots democracy: the campaign for disability rights*".

This speech will then be screened in Federation Square and in Canberra at the Museum of Australian Democracy at Old Parliament House.

December 6th - Sunday

There will be a day of activities for all – Detail will soon appear on M.A.D.E. website - Plus

The Peter Tobin Oration will be given by Eureka's Children President, Eric Howard, at 11 am, followed by the launch of the "Songs of Protest" quilt competition for the 20th anniversary of the Ballarat Quilters. See following article – short story on Peter Tobin which was part of the Hon Rob Knowle's Oration in 2014.

Historian Tony Moore, will be premiering his latest documentary "Death or Liberty" which brings to life the forgotten histories of the political prisoners; the rebels and radicals, who were transported to Australia in the 1800s in the convict era.

These prisoners include; 'Irish independence fighters, Chartists agitating for democracy and workers rights in England and Wales, American and Canadian republicans, and trade union pioneers were transported to our shores in chains but far from being out of sight, out of mind, their acts of protest and rebellion helped to create in Australia one of the most robust democracies of the modern age.'

The documentary is an international co-production between Tasmania's Roar Film and Ireland's Tile Film, with investment from Screen Australia, Screen Tasmania, ABC, TG 4 Ireland and S4C Wales.

Viewings of the documentary "Death or Liberty"

At M.A.D.E. – 6th December: There will be music and a Q&A session to accompany the film. This will be a ticketed event of \$10. .

Also at Cinema Screenings- booking essential Yarraville Sun Cinema:

*Featuring panel discussion: Thursday 29 October, 7pm. Additional Screenings: Saturday 31 October 2pm
Tuesday 3 November 7 pm*

<http://www.suntheatre.com.au/component/yco/?view=movie&movie=SDEATHORLIBERTY>

The documentary airs in Ireland in October on TG4 and will broadcast on ABC on 5th January 2016

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THE PETER TOBIN ORATION 2014 - PRESENTED BY THE HON ROB KNOWLES AO

Peter Tobin was born in 1941. His father, Noel, had been a funeral director in Maryborough but relocated to Ballarat to assist with the education of his children. After Peter left school, he worked for a short time with solicitors, Byrnes, Jones and Torney, now known as BJT Legal, and then joined his father in the funeral business. Peter married his wife, Faye, in 1963. They had four children – Maree, Paula, Bernard and Michael.

When Peter's father became ill, they relocated to the funeral premises and Tobin's funeral business went from being the smallest to the largest funeral home in Ballarat. As well as being a prominent and successful businessman in Ballarat, Peter was a devoted and dedicated family man, and had great pride in his Irish heritage.

He also had a strong commitment to this community. He was proud of Ballarat and was particularly concerned about the lack of respect for the Eureka flag, an iconic symbol of the Eureka Stockade uprising, and was a unique event to Ballarat and a seminal moment in Australia's history. He also was concerned that much of this symbolism had been hijacked and passionately believed it should belong to all Australians.

In 1979, Peter and Doug Sarah, together with a few others, formed the Eureka Commemorative Society to promote the significance of Eureka and to give it its deserved recognition. The society desired to correct the historical perspective and importance of Eureka, encourage discussion and debate and honour the participants in the Eureka event. To this end, it was thought appropriate that a significant monument should be built to honour Eureka and hence the large flagpole at the Bakery Hill roundabout was erected to fly the Eureka flag on the 3rd of December 1979 to mark the 125th anniversary of Eureka. This was later followed by the construction of the building of the first incarnation of this museum in the 1990's and with which I was pleased to be involved.

Peter was also a member of the Board of Directors of Sovereign Hill including serving in the position of President. During his time on the board, he and others organized a series of lotteries to raise funds to further develop the Sovereign Hill precinct and a major proportion of these proceeds enabled the building of the Gold Museum.

Peter said that a major highlight of his life was the privilege of assisting in the repatriation of the Unknown Australian Soldier from Villers-Bretonneux, France in November 1993. The soldier had died at the end of World War One, and Peter and Rob Allison from Allison Funerals were given the responsibility of ensuring the safe passage of the soldier's body from France back to Australia.

Returning to his home country, the Unknown Soldier was interred in the Hall of Memory at the Australian War Memorial on Armistice Day in 1973 with a slouch hat, a sprig of wattle and soil from the Pozieres battlefield. This soldier represents all Australians who have been killed in war and Peter described his repatriation as one of the most moving experience of his life.

Peter's passion and commitment to Eureka, and his work to ensure its respectful and important place in Ballarat's and Australia's history culminated in the staging of the 140th anniversary of the Eureka uprising. After it had successfully concluded, he said the society had met all of its aims for the anniversary of arousing public interest, stimulating public debate and helping restore the miners' and soldiers' graves in the Old Ballarat Cemetery so that future generations can come and see the sacrifice that was made so many years ago.

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He said: "Eureka must rank in the history of this country as an event that has generated more myths and facts, legends and information, passion and disinterest than any other event."

Peter loved Ballarat, and for almost three decades he devoted much of his time, energy and money to ensuring the survival of the city's most treasured institutions and causes, particularly working to restore Eureka to its rightful place in Australia's history.

He was awarded the Order of Australia in 1999.
Sadly, Peter died on 29 March 2000 aged only 59.

I remember him as a warm and compassionate man, passionate, intelligent, opinionated and articulate. His untimely death a sad lost to Ballarat and Eureka. Today's Oration is to honour his legacy and I trust I can do justice to it.



Peter and Faye 1994

161st Commemoration of Eureka Stockade –Sydney

At the Bowler Club 99 York St. Sydney

Friday 13th November 6pm

PROGRAM:

Welcome by Jack Munday – President Commemoration Committee

Distinguished speaker – Dr. Patricia Ranald

Co-ordinator of the Australian Fair Trade and Investment Network, Research Associate – Uni. of Sydney & Lecturer at Uni. of NSW

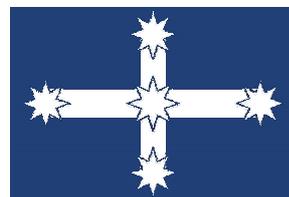
Music and Ballads by Margaret Bradford

Online bookings and payments (credit card, PayPal or direct deposit) go to www.ssec.org.au/eureka

Enquiries Bob Walshe Ph. 02 9528 0444

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AUSTRALIAN REPUBLICAN MOVEMENT HAS A NEW CHAIRMAN AND A RENEWED VIGOUR

Recently Peter FitzSimons was appointed the new Chair of the Australian Republican Movement (ARM) and following his address at the National Press Club on 26th August there has been substantial media coverage and a vigorous campaign to renew interest and increase support for the ARM.

In a recent letter to Eureka's Children Peter wrote seeking our support from interested members. Following is an extract from Peter's letter.

As you may know as a progressive Australian, I have taken over as Chair of the Australian Republican Movement.

I recently did a speech on the Republic to the National Press Club, which sets out our position: <http://goo.gl/YBk4oF>
If you don't have time to watch it, here is a transcript of that speech: <http://goo.gl/Vfs5vq>

While we have received a lot of good will since, we need more than that. We need membership. Could you please encourage your strong network to join us on this link:
<https://goo.gl/jVwReA>

We want a new Australia, not reduced to finding our Heads of State from one family of aristocrats, living in a Palace in London. We want an Australia where any one of us can be Head of State. As to what kind, we will democratically decide.

My own model, however, can fit in a tweet. **Current system: PM chooses GG, asks Q.**
New system: PM chooses GG asks Parliament. And that is it

Nothing else need change, not even the name "Governor-General," and we can remain also "The Commonwealth of Australia." Others prefer the Direct Election Model, and that too is very possible. If that is the one we Australians democratically decide on, I will support it.

Please feel free to pass this email on, with my email address, to your network. We are doing this transparently, and have no need to hide anything.

We are very grateful for your support, I am, you are, we are Australian, and we are on the move!

JOIN us! Peter Sydney Morning Herald Tweet: [@Peter_Fitz](https://twitter.com/Peter_Fitz)

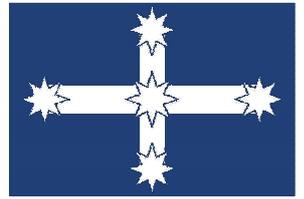


PETER FITZSIMONS – Chair ARM

ARM – [our identity.org.au](http://ouridentity.org.au)

TIMOTHY MAYFIELD CEO - ARM





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JOHN MOLONY SUPPORTS PETER FITZSIMON'S APPEAL

He writes to Liberty

For many years I have been convinced that Eureka and the Australian Republic are handmaidens in our development as a truly democratic and independent nation. Thus I am deeply honoured to invite you all to confirm your commitment to Eureka by active participation in the Republican Movement.

That ever precious and lapidary document the Charter of Bakery Hill expressed the ideal of republican as Australia lying at the heart of Eureka. The diggers who, supported by their women, fought and died at the Stockade on 3 December 1854 under the Southern Cross demanded the fundamental right of a free people to have a direct role in the making of our then infant nation.

One hundred and sixty years later the diggers' legacy shamefully remains unfulfilled. Rather than in the keeping of the people of Australia the ultimate source of all direct power is still the prerogative of the British monarch. To change that is neither premature nor vexatious. It is to act justly with foresight and determination.

Now is the time to take that step towards a Republic. Let us do it together

John Molony is Chair of Eureka's Children Canberra Chapter and Professor Emeritus of History, ANU; Adjunct Professor, Australian Catholic University; Visiting Fellow, Department of Applied Mathematics, ANU

.....

A COMPETITION TO WRITE A PROCLAMATION FOR AN AUSTRALIAN REPUBLIC

SIMILAR TO IRELAND'S 1916 PROCLAMATION OF AN IRISH REPUBLIC

2016 is the centenary of Ireland's Easter Rising and the proclamation of the Irish Republic at the Dublin GPO on 24 April 1916. Consequently the Melbourne Celtic Club, through its Cultural Heritage Committee is holding a series of commemorative events which includes a competition to write a Proclamation for an Australian Republic.

The prize is \$470 for a Proclamation that is approximately the same number of words as the 1916 Proclamation.

A major highlight of these events will be the 1916 Easter Rising Commemorative Dinner to be held on Saturday 19 March and our guest speaker is the notable author Tom Keneally a Booker Prize winner. Other commemorative events and presentations will include theatre, seminars, conferences, poetry, etc.

The Award for the Australian Proclamation competition will be announced at the Commemorative Dinner and presented to the winner (if they can attend).

Entry to the competition is free and closes on Australia Day Tuesday 26 January 2016.

Click here for entry form and rules of the competition and copy of the 1916 Proclamation.

www.celticclub.com.au/content/competition-proclamation-australian-republic-prize

THE CELTIC CLUB HOPES YOU CAN PARTICIPATE

A EUREKA STOCKADE AVENUE OF HONOUR - PLANTED IN 1917

Michael Taffe, a professional historian and past committee member of Eureka’s Children has submitted the following article for Liberty

.....
A Eureka Stockade Avenue of Honour was planted in 1917 and consisted of *Cupressus macrocarpa*, of which one remains. These trees carried plaques and commemorated those descendants of Eureka Stockaders who were killed in the Great War. The planting was undertaken by the Township of Ballarat East under the direction of Mr J. S. Edwards, curator of the Town Hall Gardens.

Even before Ballarat’s renowned Avenue of Honour in Sturt Street was started, the Eureka Stockade Committee decided to incorporate a progress association into the committee for further improvements in the Eureka Reserve which resulted in the Eureka Stockade Avenue of Honour in 1917



Photo (1949) - Courtesy of Michael Taffe

This avenue also included a tree for General Birdwood who was held in high regard by his men. One, Mrs Rashleigh planted a tree for both her son and the general. Birdwood wrote to her from the front, thanking her for ‘planting a tree at the Eureka Stockade for me’.

Another, ‘Thomas Rowlands, or Titch as he was known, was the grandson of a Eureka Stockader who later died from the Spanish Flu pandemic.

=====

Note Avenue of Honour on the right hand side

When the newly amalgamated City of Ballarat re-landscaped the Eureka reserve following a consultant’s report approximately 25 years ago, many of the historic trees including these memorials to the Great War connections to Eureka, were cut down and removed. The consultants, it seems, considered many plantings needed to be removed as too old and/or, of ‘no historical significance’.

Such is the temporary nature of corporate memory and I trust with the publication of my current thesis, “First World War Avenues of Honour: Social History through a Cultural Landscape”, such travesties will not occur again.

.....
Michael is an authority on Avenue of Honours both in Australia and overseas and has published several books and presented papers to national and international conferences on this topic.

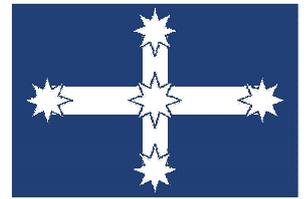
...../
COMMENT

Michael’s article is of historical importance and timely as Eureka’s Children, who had been advocating for a Memorial to the Fallen at Eureka and the redevelopment of the Pikeman’s Dog Memorial, had planned an event for Eureka 2014 commemorations titled “Demanding Democracy”. The event was to include a walk and link from the “Eureka Circle” site down a Pathway to the Fallen at Eureka and onto the two Memorials.

See story following.

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AN AVENUE OF HONOUR TO THE FALLEN AT EUREKA - 2014

In 2014 at the 160th Eureka Commemoration and Celebrations in Ballarat, Eureka's Children presented a new event titled "Demanding Democracy"

The event started in the Eureka garden precinct where people gathered at the magnificent bronze "Eureka Circle" that was commissioned in 2004 and which captures the sacrifice and noble cause at the Stockade and which through its 20 individual panels depicts aspects of the Eureka story.

After a short presentation the gathering then walked down the Pathway to the Fallen through a Guard of Honour of individuals standing in front of the 33 recently planted trees representing those people who lost their lives as a result of the Stockade battle.

At the end of the Pathway the gathering then stopped for reflection and a 2nd presentation at the Memorial to the Fallen and the nearby Memorial to the Pikemen's Dog; both being recent constructions.

After this the gathering then proceeded to the Eureka Museum for a theatrical performance; a narrative of how the diggers and their representatives pursued democratic actions in their Demands for Democracy.

What I want to emphasis in this story is that whilst the Museum, the Memorials to the Fallen and the Pikeman's Dog and the Eureka Circle are permanent structures, the Avenue of Honour of trees have not all grown successfully and have not been replaced. In fact some of those trees in 2014 were just pot plants. Whilst the intention was good, the commitment has waned.



Michael Taffe has reminded us that an important Eureka historical site, the Eureka Avenue of Honour of 1917 was abolished some 25 years ago.

We don't want to see this happen again and consequently we need to encourage the City of Ballarat to renew and act on their recent commitment to establish a Eureka Avenue of Honour to the Fallen.

It is the wish of Eureka's Children that eventually 33 healthy trees be established and that individual plaques representing the Fallen be placed appropriately. Furthermore, Eureka's Children will endeavour to contact descendants of the Fallen and encourage their interest and involvement in such events that honour their ancestors.

Such an Avenue of Honour would develop a perfect and respectful link and pathway between an attractive and informative Eureka Circle with the Memorials to the Fallen and the Pikeman's Dog as well as with the Museum of Australian Democracy.



GOVERNOR HOTHAM AND THE EUREKA MASSACRE

By Leigh Callinan

The first eye witness account¹ of the Massacre at the Eureka Stockade in December 1854 was published just a year after the event, by Raffaello Carboni. He was a principal Rebel, multilingual and better educated than most. He was in no doubt that the man most responsible for the massacre was Lieutenant-Governor Charles Hotham.

On 30 November 1854, Carboni, Father Smyth and George Black (newspaper editor), from the Central Council of the Eureka Rebels, asked Ballarat Goldfields Commissioner Rede to call off the licence hunts which had intensified on Hotham's secret orders and which were enraging miners. Rede said that 'the licence is a mere cloak to cover a democratic revolution'. Carboni wrote that Rede was 'only a marionette ... before us. Each of his words, each of his movements, was the vibration of the telegraph wires directed from Toorak' p. xiii. H. V. Evatt, that esteemed legal mind of mid 20th century puts the blame for the massacre on Hotham's deliberate duplicity p. xvi. Mr. Black told Rede 'that the licence fee and especially the disreputable mode of collecting it at the point of the bayonet, were not the only grievances the diggers complained of. They wanted to be represented in the Legislative Council {hitherto it was filled with squatters and other rich men}²; they wanted to 'unlock the lands' {originally stolen by the squatters}'.

Carboni, with 18 others, was subsequently put on trial for his life. Hotham directed that American Rebels, some of whom were very prominent, not be prosecuted. He gave them an amnesty; but not quite all, the African American John Joseph was abandoned by Hotham and American officials. The prisoners appealed to Hotham, 'There is a paragraph in our petition to the effect, that if 'His Excellency had found sufficient extenuation in the conduct of American citizens', we thought there were equally good grounds for extending similar clemency to all, irrespective of nationality it is a violation of the very principle enunciated by His Excellency in his report, viz. 'That it is the duty of a Government to administer equal justice to all'. p. 134.



Of course, there was a Royal Commission into the Massacre and Hotham wasn't blamed, probably because Hotham's critics were not heard.

Charles Hotham was honoured with lots of things named after him, eg. a mountain, a Federal Division, a town, a road, an avenue, several streets, hotels and a horse race. Peter Lalor is the only Eureka Rebel, nearly as well honored.

1. The Eureka Stockade, Raffaello Carboni 2. My (.....)
