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Eureka –Australia's Greatest
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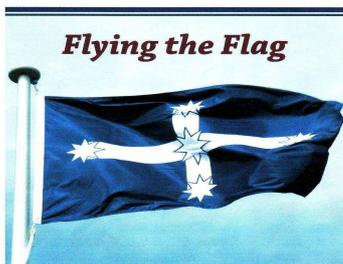
Mary Howlett

John Capp

Please use & view our Website

www.eurekaschildren.org.au

*Eureka's
Children*



Eureka ancestors gather in Ballarat in 1904 to commemorate the 50th Anniversary

I would like to draw member's interest to the various presentations made at the 161 Eureka Commemorations in Ballarat, Canberra and Sydney. These include:

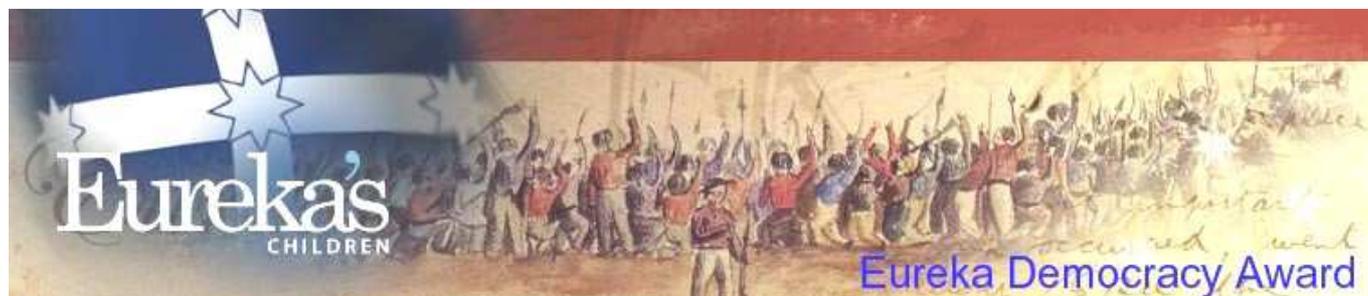
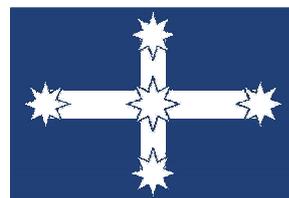
- The Peter Tobin Oration at the Museum of Australian Democracy at Eureka in Ballarat by our President – Eric Howard
- Eureka Children's annual dinner presentation in Canberra by Fr. Frank Brennan
- Sydney's Eureka Group annual dinner presentation by Dr. Patricia Ranald

These presentations can be accessed on our website

www.eurekaschildren.org.au/events2016

Articles in this issue include:

- Presentation of our Eureka Democracy Award to Fr. Frank Brennan
- A Special Eureka Award to Ella Hancock – one of Eureka's Children vigilant guardians who reached her 100th birthday on 30th December
- A pilgrimage story by committee member Mary Howlett – tracing the lives, places and monuments of the leaders of the 1916 Easter Rising in Ireland
- A final farewell to Robert Sublet
- Details of the book "Eureka –Australia's Greatest Story" which was released at our Canberra Eureka Dinner- which you might like to order
- A short plea for your ongoing support and membership for 2016 and encouraging others to join



PRESENTATION OF THE 2015 EUREKA DEMOCRACY AWARD

Each year on 3 December, the Anniversary of the storming of the Eureka Stockade, Eureka's Children presents the Eureka Democracy Award to a worthy individual or organisation to recognise outstanding endeavours that contribute to protecting and strengthening democratic traditions in Australia.

At the annual Eureka dinner at the Southern Cross Club in Canberra to celebrate the anniversary of events surrounding the Eureka uprising, Father Frank Brennan SJ AO was awarded the 2015 Eureka Democracy Award.

The Award recognises the outstanding and tireless work of Father Brennan to both bring to the attention of main stream Australia injustices suffered by a range of minority groups, especially indigenous Australians, those abused by officials of the Church, gay people, and refugees and the need to agitate for change that would see these minority groups treated in the same manner as all Australians.



Opposite photo: John Molony (l) with Father Frank (r)

Father Brennan's talk is available on our web site <http://eurekaschildren.org.au/events>

Father Brennan is a Jesuit priest, professor of law at [Australian Catholic University](http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/other/auclm/auca/) and Adjunct Professor at the [ANU College of Law](http://www.anu.edu.au/college-of-law/) and National Centre for Indigenous Studies (NCIS). He was the founding director of [Uniya](http://www.uniya.org.au/), the Australian Jesuit Social Justice Centre. He is a board member of [St Vincent's Health Australia](http://www.stvincent.org.au/) and [Jesuit Social Services](http://www.jesuit-social-services.org.au/). He is presently Advocate in Residence for [Catholic Health Australia](http://www.catholic-health-australia.org.au/), [Catholic Social Services Australia](http://www.catholic-social-services-australia.org.au/) and the [St Vincent de Paul Society](http://www.stvincentdepaulsociety.org.au/).

The Eureka Democracy Award was established in 2008 by Eureka's Children, a not for profit and politically independent association representing descendants of those involved or associated with the Eureka Stockade events of 1854 and other individuals or organisations who have a special interest in Eureka, its democratic principles and their preservation in modern Australian society.

Previous recipients are Prof. Weston Bate (2008), Emeritus Prof. John Molony (2009), Margaret Rich (2010) Dr. Anne Beggs-Sunter (2011), Museum of Australian Democracy at Eureka (2012) - received by David Battersby – Chair of MADE). Details of previous recipients are available on the Association's website at: http://eurekaschildren.org.au/eureka_democracy_award.html .



GRANDCHILD OF A EUREKA PARTICIPANT TURNS 100

Ella Hancock, the oldest known living grandchild of a Eureka Stockade participant, turned 100 on December 30th, 2015. Ella is a proud member of Eureka's Children.



Ella Hancock with great grand niece Ella Howard

Ella's Hancock's Grandfather (Father of her mother Alicia) - Patrick Daniel Howard - was in the Stockade at the Eureka Lead in Ballarat on Sunday December 3rd 1854, when it was attacked by the British Army and Police without warning at dawn. Thirty two diggers and some attackers died in the violent but brief battle.

Patrick arrived on the Ballarat Goldfields in August 1854 from Dublin, Ireland. He was 26 when he arrived in Australia on the *Carpentaria*.

Patrick was in the Stockade that Sunday morning with some one hundred and thirty others, when the troops attacked out of the dawn light. Among the carnage, Patrick survived and was arrested. The police deposition held today at the Public Records Office stated that "*the prisoner came out of the stockade shooting at Police. I aimed to fire at him but then a mob rushed out of the stockade beside him and I turned to fire at them.*"

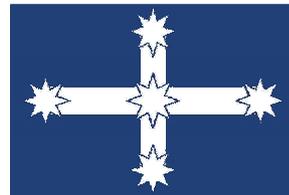
However he was soon released without being sent to trial and told he "had a narrow escape".

Patrick married Eliza D'Arcy in 1855 and they produced 12 children, including their second youngest child, Alicia, Ella's mother.

Patrick spent his working life in goldmining in the Ballarat and Steiglitz districts, as a digger, deep mining company employee, mine manager, and mining company part owner. In 1856 Patrick and 5 others discovered a 263 ounce nugget and on the next day a 30 ounce nugget at Browns Diggings in Ballarat. The large nugget sold for 1000 pounds a few days after its discovery. Soon after, Patrick and Eliza bought a house in King Street, Ballarat. The property lays midway between Bakery Hill and the Eureka Stockade site.

Patrick and family subsequently lived in the Cape Clear/ Springdallah district south of Ballarat for many years before moving to Steiglitz in the Brisbane Ranges.

Patrick took up a position as Mine Manager for the South New Mariners mine at Steiglitz in 1893. He passed away in 1900 in Birregurra, where a number of his family had settled. He is buried near there at Warncoort.



GRANDCHILD OF A EUREKA STOCKADE PARTICIPANT TURNS 100 (Cont.)

Ella Hancock was born in 1915 in Geelong to Alicia and her husband Frederick, and grew up as the youngest of 5 girls and a boy at Murroon near Birregurra.

Ella was married to Ossie Hancock at St. Peters in Birregurra in 1940. They lived in Murroon on a dairy farm for many years and then moved to Melbourne. Ella and Ossie had four children (Mervyn, Bill, Peter and Alecia). They later moved to a dairy farm in the Clyde District before retiring to Berwick where she has lived for the last 20 years, with Ossie passing away in 1996.

Ella has spoken on camera for the Museum of Australian Democracy at Eureka as a grandchild of a Eureka participant, and her video stories can be viewed at the Museum.

See: <http://windsy.com.au/howard-family/>

In Claire Wrights book, *The Forgotten Rebels of Eureka*, Ella is recognised as the oldest living Eureka descendant (p. 464) and the book recounts the stories her mother Alicia passed on to her that grandfather Patrick Howard helped design the Eureka Flag and grandmother Eliza d'Arcy had helped to sew it (p. 383).

It is now known from a re - enactment of the sewing of the Flag carried out in 2014 that its production would have taken two to three weeks by a team of women - so clearly, many hands were involved in the original production.

Ella was at the Eureka celebrations in 1988 at Ballarat and walked around at the Stockade site carrying a white placard with HOWARD on it. Ella had travelled to Ballarat and was determined to establish contact with other extended family members. Other descendants saw her placard, established contact with Ella and the rest is history!

Ella has always been supportive of commemorative celebrations of the Eureka Events, and her clear recollections of her mother and her stories of Eureka have provided a great link with the Eureka events for all descendants. She has been a proud member of Eureka's Children and always supported events and commemorations in which Eureka's Children have been involved.

Eureka's Children salutes Ella's link with the story of Eureka as the granddaughter of a participant and with Australian democracy through her active membership of Eureka's Children. All members of Eureka's Children wish her well for her years ahead and thank her for her strong support for the Eureka story over many years. Happy Birthday Ella.

.....
Eric Howard – President Eureka's Children



A NEWSLETTER FOR EUREKA'S CHILDREN
www.eurekaschildren.org.au

A 1916 PILGRIMAGE TO IRELAND – by Mary Howlett

In 1895, after visiting the Victorian Goldfields, Mark Twain wrote, “ *It was a revolution-small in size but great politically: it was a strike for liberty, a struggle for principle, a stand against injustice and oppression...It is another instance of a victory won by a lost battle.*” [Twain, M - *Following the Equator*, Harper and Brothers, New York, 1925]

His reflections about the stand for justice at Eureka, could well be related to the events at the GPO in Dublin seventy two years later.

The Proclamation of the Provisional Government of the Irish Republic calls for the “right of the people of Ireland to the ownership of Ireland and to the unfettered control of Irish *destinies to be sovereign and indefeasible.*” This is an echo of the principles of the Ballarat Reform League of 11th of November, 1854 “*That it is the inalienable right of every citizen to have a voice in making the laws he is called upon to obey, that taxation without representation is tyranny.*”

Both in Australia in 1854 and in Dublin in 1916, the uprisings seemed to fail. There was little widespread support among their own people and they were both routed by the Imperial Forces. And, yet, in Mark Twain’s words, retrospectively they were victorious.

These lines from Henry Lawson’s “Eureka” could also be applied to Padraig Pearse or James Connolly or any of the other signatories to the Irish Proclamation

*’Twas of such stuff the men were made who saw our nation born
And such as Lalor were the men who led the vanguard on
And like such men, may we be found, with leaders such as they
In the roll-up of Australians on our darkest, grandest day.”*

An early memory at my childhood home was a set of postcard sized photos of young men kept in a drawer. My father explained that they were “Irish martyrs.” As Catholic children steeped in the Faith both at school and at home, we knew about martyrs who died for the love of God. As I grew older, I understood that these heroes of my dad’s had been martyrs for their country.

Many years later, I was fortunate enough to visit Ireland and recall my dad’s stories and the songs that recounted the struggles for an independent Ireland. A visit to Kilmainham Jail - Ceapach an Bhais (The Execution Plot) in 2012 inspired me to read what I could of those terrible executions and resolve to honour my father’s memory by visiting the special sites that he, in far off Australia, had learnt of from his parents.

My journey started at Glasnevin Cemetery where I joined a guided tour organised by the Cemetery Trust. Our guide was articulate and informed. First stop was the round tower above the crypt of Dan O’Connell’s family. It is a fitting memorial for the Liberator.

Parnell asked that he be buried simply. A granite rock with the simple inscription “Parnell” sits above the mass grave of cholera victims.

The story of O’Donovan Rossa, the old Fenian who died in the United States but who was brought home to lie in his own soil is celebrated in the Museum at the Visitors’ Centre. A committee led by Tom Clarke and including Eamon De Valera, Countess Markievicz and James Connolly saw the potential of this funeral to arouse support in the Irish people for independence. It was Padraig Pearse’s oration at the graveside that has resonated for decades. His closing lines were prophetic; “*the fools, the fools, the fools! They have left us our Fenian dead and while Ireland holds these graves, Ireland unfree shall never be at peace.*”



A NEWSLETTER FOR EUREKA'S CHILDREN
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The writer Christy Brown, Poets James Clarence Mangan and Brendan Behan , Patriots, Eamon De Valera, James Larkin, Kevin Barry, Maud Gonne MacBride, Countess Markievicz, Grace Gifford, Kitty Kiernan-all the names I'd heard in song and story lie at rest and are remembered at Glasnevin.

Michael Collins is large in death as in life. His grave is separate and covered in flowers.

BUT, those whose deaths are remembered at Kilmainham with simple crosses in the execution yard, were not there. The guide told me there were many who felt that their remains should be relocated to Glasnevin but, at this stage they are lying where they were buried in the graveyard at Arbour Hill. A bit of detective work and ever helpful Irish strangers pointed me to the Luas (Dublin's very modern tram) and a trip to the Collins Barracks. Further enquiries at this grand Museum indicated a walk up the hill behind the Barracks to Arbour Hill Road and the grey, grim prison walls. At the far end of the compound is a simple graveyard with a few old headstones and a swathe of green where a sprinkle of local people were walking their dogs and a few young families were playing ball. Beyond this space, closer to the prison wall, is a slab on the ground surrounded by fourteen plaques, including Pearse, Connolly, Plunkett and McBride. Their remains were transported from Kilmainham to Arbour Hill where they were buried.

Their graves are now located under a low mound of Wicklow granite in what was once the old prison yard. The gravesite is surrounded by a limestone wall on which their names are inscribed in Irish and English.



In the 18th century, the great Robert Emmet wrote in his poem. Arbour Hill
*"Unconsecrated is this ground, Unblest by holy hands
 No bell here tolls its solemn sound, No monument here stands
 But here the patriot's tears are shed, The poor man's blessing given
 They consecrate their virtuous dead, These waft their fame to heaven."*

It was a very moving experience to be there, almost alone, and to feel that this is truly "holy ground." I doubt that it would not be as powerful a reminder of their sacrifice if they were moved to lie at Glasnevin.

Next day completed my Odyssey. I visited Dublin Castle and saw the very grand room that had been converted into a Red Cross Hospital in 1916 and where James Connolly lay before being transported to Kilmainham. There is now a room in the Castle dedicated to the Declaration of Independence and named, appropriately The James Connolly Room. And then to the beautiful Georgian building that is the Dublin City hall where Michael Collins had lain in state and which now houses a larger than life statue of Dan O'Connell

I had turned those postcards into a real story, of patriotism, of righting wrong and of incredible bravery and dignity. I was truly blessed to have walked down the paths my dad would have dearly loved to have trodden.

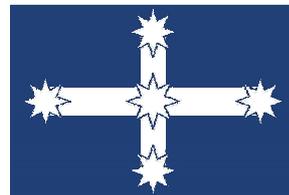
WB Yeats poem Easter 1916 asks *"Was it needless death after all?"*

And then eulogises

*"I write it out in a verse-
 McDonagh and Mac Bride
 And Connolly and Pearse
 Now and in time to be
 Wherever green is worn
 Are changed, changed utterly:
 A terrible beauty is born."*

Statue of Daniel O'Connell





A NEWSLETTER FOR EUREKA'S CHILDREN
www.eurekaschildren.org.au

A 1916 PILGRIMAGE TO IRELAND - continued

The land of my ancestors and the land of my birth, the centuries old struggle for justice in Ireland and the democracy that was fought for at Eureka, the Tricolour of the Irish Republic and the Flag of the Southern Cross are treasures to be cherished. My prayer is that the "terrible beauty" will be nurtured here and in Erin.

=====

THE PASSING OF ROBERT SUBLET - Born 5th March 1936 – Died 1st Nov. 2015 -79 yrs.

We will miss our very dear and loving friend, Robert Sublet who was a Eureka's Children committee member and treasurer from 1998 to 2010. He was a great contributor to our discussions, meetings and events concerning the story of Eureka and his thoughtful insights and wise advice was much appreciated. Robert had a life- long interest in Eureka as he was the great grandson of Charles (de Bougy) Sublet, a miner at Ballarat 1853-1863.

According to family history compiled by Robert's father Frank, Charles Sublet was born on 5th June 1828 in Bougy-Villars, Canton of Vaud, on the slopes of Lake Geneva, Switzerland. The Sublet family had lived in this village since the 1400's.

In 1853 **Charles Sublet** sailed to Australia on "The Earl of Charlemont" with 40 other Swiss people and after arriving in Geelong walked to Ballarat with 15 of his Swiss associates and arrived at the Ballarat diggings in July 1853. Charles worked on a number of claims around the *Gravel Pits* and the *Eureka Lead* and at the time of the Eureka uprising was in partnership with "Father" Duprat, the leader of the French speaking miners at Eureka.

Charles fought in the Eureka Stockade battle and was amongst a group, who had firearms, sent out to occupy shallow mining shafts on the Camp side of the Stockade; they were there to act as an outpost and sound the alarm if and when the troops advanced on the Stockade. When the soldiers stormed and overthrew the Stockade on 3rd December 1854, his mate, known as German Charlie, was shot dead by his side. Charles and others were covered under a slab where they remained hidden till the trouble had somewhat subsided, when they left their arms and mingled with onlookers while arrests were being made.

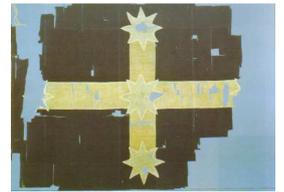
Robert Sublet started work with HSV Channel 7 in 1956 and became their engineer for Studio and Outside Broadcasts which to his great enjoyment included televising football from the MCG, International Golf tournaments and various theatre performances. In 1969, as a career change, he joined the Australian Institute of Management as Deputy Director. Robert was also a Councillor for the City of Camberwell 1978-81. In 1985, at the invitation of Sr. Margaret Noone and Roger Nicholson, Robert became honorary treasurer of "Very Special Kids" a charity which cares for kids with life threatening conditions, giving ongoing support to child and family through to recovery or bereavement.

It is no coincidence that Robert's Memorial Service was on the 11TH November; the date of Robert and Pamela's 51st wedding anniversary and as son Pete expressed in part of a poem he read at the memorial service:

*"Well it was never too hard to remember the 11th November
Ned Kelly came to grief
Gough Whitlam made a speech
There was a Monster meeting on Bakery Hill
And Robert and Pamela said
I will, I will, I will, I will"*

Our condolences to Pamela; his wife and to Anna,
Pete and Charlie his children and their families.





DEATH OR LIBERTY

An International film co-production

At the Celtic Club - Melbourne

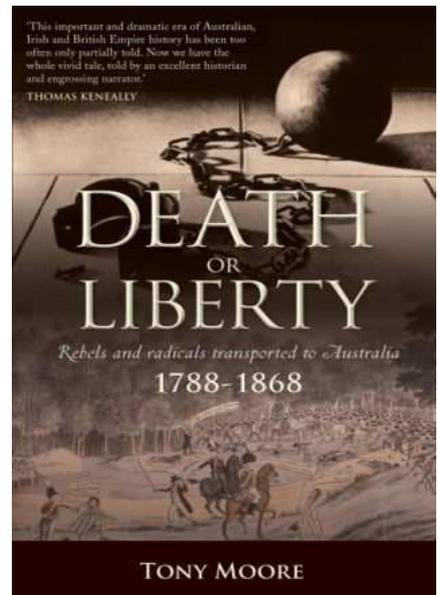
Wednesday 2nd March 7-9.30 PM

316 -320 Queens St. Melbourne

The rebels and radicals the Empire banished to the end of the earth, were political prisoners that included Irish independence fighters, Chartists agitating for democracy and worker's rights in England and Wales, as well as American and Canadian republicans and trade union pioneers. 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.

This new and powerful docudrama features Billy Bragg, Mick Thomas and Lisa O'Neil and revered historians and experts headed by Thomas Keneally and Dr. Tony Moore.

The film is based on the book "Death or Liberty" by Tony Moore which was recently shown on the ABC



This is a Free Event

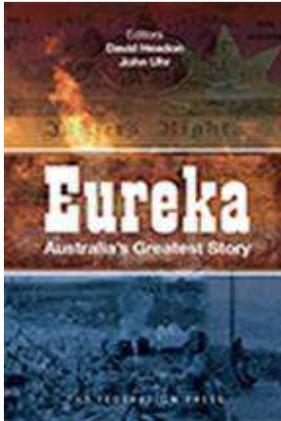
The Evening begins

With an Introductory Presentation by Tony Moore (historian) and Mick Thomas (Co-director) in conversation with Dr. Val Noone

Followed by - The Screening of the Film

And then a – Q & A

MEALS AVAILABLE AT THE CLUB FROM 5.30PM
Further information Ph. Phillip 03 9850 4468 or Helen 9670 6478



EUREKA Australia's Greatest Story

David Headon * John Uhr (eds)

This publication is the result of a Symposium "The Finest Thing in Australasian History – Eureka's Significance Then and Now", held on the 3rd Dec. 2014 which coincided with Eureka's Children Annual Eureka commemorations in Canberra.
Publisher: Federation Press. ISBN 978 1 76002 045 3 * PB * 224pp

rrp \$59.99 - ****Special Price \$40.00****

The Book

The editors of this book boldly proclaim that Eureka is Australia's 'greatest story', and they have gathered together some of our country's finest historians to prosecute the case. Collectively, they compile a strong argument. In the late 19th century that acute American observer, Mark Twain, called the Ballarat rebellion 'the finest thing in Australasian history' and, like all such milestone moments in any country's expanding tale, Eureka challenges because of the sheer number of interpretations that have been imposed upon it, both before Twain and after. During the sesquicentenary year of Eureka, 2004, one journalist rightly observed that Eureka 'is not so much history as many versions of history'. The question of who 'owns' the Eureka story is destined never to be answered, but one thing is certain: the superb Charter of Bakery Hill, an irresistible sequence of goldfield events leading to tragedy, a cast of characters drawn straight from a classic novel, violence and murder on an early Sabbath morning in December 1854, and a never-ending aftermath that arguably has had more energy within it in the 20th and 21st centuries than it had in the 19th – these extraordinary elements of a grand narrative will forever stimulate the Australian imagination. Eureka: Australia's Greatest Story is certain to stoke the fires.

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ISSUE 56
January 2016

LIBERTY!



A NEWSLETTER FOR EUREKA'S CHILDREN
www.eurekaschildren.org.au

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FOR 1916 - January to December

Dear Member

Your membership and involvement is vital to the ongoing role and future success of Eureka's Children and its programs. I have included below some of Eureka's Children key objectives, as listed on our web page, to illustrate our efforts and hence need for support. We welcome any further suggestions from you; our member.

KEY OBJECTIVES OF EUREKA'S CHILDREN

- To gain Australia-wide recognition and acceptance of the view that the events of Eureka - the Stockade, the Monster Meetings at Bakery Hill, the Charter demanding democracy and the Oath under the Flag of the Southern Cross are of national significance in the history of this country.
- To recognize the importance of those other earlier events of disenchantment with government impositions across Victoria's goldfields such as at Castlemaine, Chewton and Bendigo which culminated in 1854 at the Eureka Stockade in Ballarat
- To gain greater recognition of the democratic ideals of the Ballarat Reform League Charter and its importance nationally and internationally as a democratic document; the principles of which are enhanced in the Australian Constitution and which is entered on the UNESCO Memory of the World Heritage Register
- To gain endorsement for the proposal that the Eureka Flag belongs to the people of Australia and should be included on the Australian Heritage Register and also recognized as an official Flag of Australia.
- Continued involvement and regular meetings with The Museum of Australian Democracy at Eureka (MADE), including the chairman and director. Eureka's Children's recognition and involvement with MADE is essential to the future of both entities.
- To identify as far as possible all those who were involved directly or indirectly in the Eureka Stockade events and make this information and any related stories generally available, particularly through our Ancestor Database: The Eureka Directory.
- To generate publicity, discussion and debate in relation to all aspects of Eureka events, and in doing so promote the further development and greater understanding of Australian democratic traditions and practices.
- To become more significantly involved in the political narrative of democracy at home and abroad, to be ever vigilant, to speak out against threats to democracy, to promote democratic change, and to promote political awareness within the education system and cultural spheres.
- To utilise advocacy to encourage citizens to exercise their fundamental rights and to defend fairness, human dignity, equity and community interests.

I believe that our democracy is intrinsic to the national identity of Australia and that Eureka; its legend and importance today, is central to our Australian nationalism; standing for those distinctly Australian values such as egalitarianism, mateship and fairness – together with democracy, freedom, multiculturalism and republicanism interest.

These values which we hold so dear merit our interest and engagement – Eureka's Children look for your support.

Membership now also offers Family Membership and Life Membership which some people prefer. Detail is on the Web Site &/or the attached form – (included for those members yet to pay their 2016 membership)