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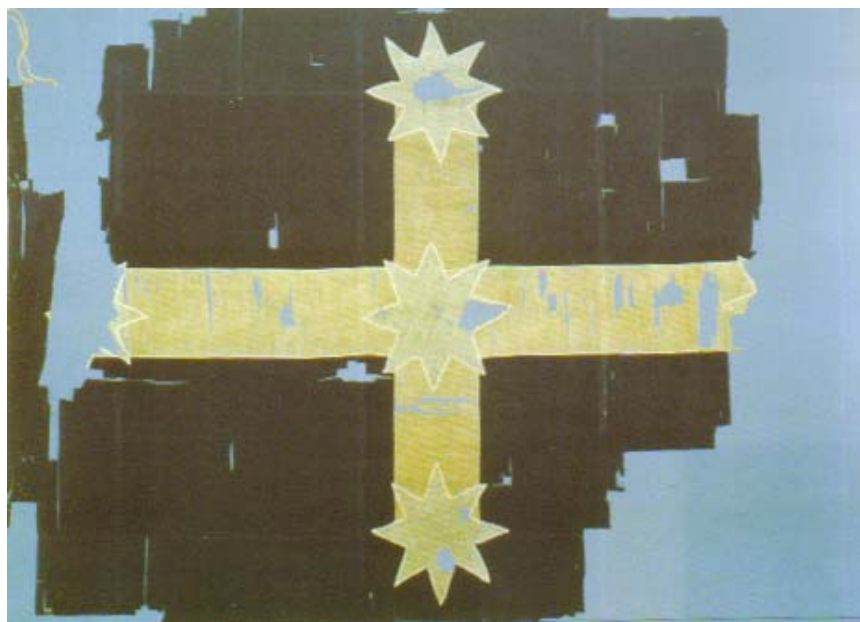
Eureka's Children Executive Committee

President – Eric Howard

Vice President – Phillip Moore, Sharon Keys

Treasurer – Robert Sublet

Secretary – John Ireland
127 Glen Park Rd, Eltham North,
3095



(Courtesy of Ballarat Fine Art Gallery)

EUREKA 2007 COMMEMORATION AND CELEBRATION Nov. 29th - Dec. 2nd

The launch of Eureka 2007 - Commemoration and Celebration, will be held at Ballarat's Regent Theatre on Thursday evening with the film "Eureka Stockade" starring Chips Rafferty.

The full program of Eureka events is published on pages 3 & 4.

The major event for members of Eureka Children is the Digger's March from Bakery Hill to the Eureka Stockade. This year the story of Eureka will be brought alive by a splendid and colourful array of presenters which include: Prof John Molony (pre-eminent historian), Maitin O'Fainin (Irish Ambassador), John Ireland (historian), Val D'Angri and students of St. Alipius School. The students will carry the flags of the 22 nations involved at Eureka and will present a tableau of different scenes at each stopping point.

This year we have been fortunate to gain the interest and involvement of the Irish Ambassador. Not only will he be involved in the Digger's March but also he will be a guest speaker at the Annual Eureka Luncheon at the Colonist Club as well as at St. Alipius Church Hall after the Eureka Mass. Ballarat City Council will honour him with a Civic Reception at the Town Hall. One of the new Eureka events our Association has also facilitated is the Eureka Mass at St. Alipius Church.

Eureka's Children is represented on the Eureka Commemorative Planning Committee and we encourage our members and friends, especially this year, to come and participate in this exciting and interesting program of events. As indicated in our previous Newsletter; great efforts are being made to win matching Federal Government funding to further develop the Eureka Centre to its Stage 2 Plan. A successful Eureka commemoration will help us in this endeavour. We encourage your attendance.

Phillip Moore – Vice-Chairman/Eureka Commemorative Committee



Phillip Moore & Barry Jones at the Eureka Luncheon



A NEWSLETTER FOR EUREKA'S CHILDREN

EUREKA AND DEMOCRATIC TRADITIONS

People came to Victoria and the Victorian goldfields in the early 1850s bringing with them various economic, social, political and religious attitudes. They came from more than thirty countries, particularly from Europe and North America.

Following the industrial revolution in the early 19th century and the turbulence of many wars in Europe at that time new social theories developed about equitable treatment of working class people and the role of labour and capitalism.

The term socialism was coined in the 1830's in Britain and the first organised labour movement commenced in Britain around 1824. Considerable social ferment was experienced in the 1830's when Chartism first emerged in Britain. Chartism was a movement for political and social reform and a more democratic constitution. It took its name from the People's Charter of 1838 which stipulated the six main aims of the movement as:

- universal suffrage for all men over the age of 21
- equal size electoral districts
- voting by secret ballot
- an end to the need for a property qualification for members of parliament
- payment of members of Parliament
- annual elections for Parliament

In 1846-8 there was considerable unrest in Europe which can be traced back to widespread crop failures; the most severe being the Irish Famine of 1846-9. This distress had the effect of producing mass movements in opposition to governments which, coupled to middle class demands for better opportunities in industry and society, caused government after government across the continent to fall.

And so people came to Victoria, to the gold fields from the early 1850's, undoubtedly strongly influenced by their experience in their home countries. They brought with them a strong belief in social justice wherever they had come from. The ideals embodied in the British People's Charter summed up their aims and were incorporated in the Ballarat Reform League Charter written and adopted by the diggers a fortnight before Eureka. A copy was presented to the Victorian Government a week later. The Government's reaction to the Charter was to send troops to Ballarat.

The diggers had had enough. A monster meeting was held on 30 November at which Government Gold Digging Licences were burnt. The following morning the local commandant staged a licence inspection and diggers who attempted to evade inspection were fired upon by soldiers. That afternoon a large number of diggers resolved to build a defensive 'Stockade' against further government attacks. They swore to defend each other and to fight for their rights and liberties. Then they marched to the Eureka where they erected their 'Stockade'.

On Sunday at dawn, three December, 280 soldiers and police stormed the stockade containing about 120-150 diggers. The police units followed the army with an uncontrolled bayonet charge. Between 22-30 diggers and 5 soldiers were killed. About 120-140 men were arrested and most were shortly released. Only 13 supposed ring-leaders were sent for trial.

In the hotbed of the Ballarat gold fields in November 1854 nothing was done by the Government administration to avoid the awful confrontation. There was no digger representation in the local or state administration. There was no attempt to conciliate with the diggers after the massive Bakery Hill protest meeting on November 30th. Rather there was a move to re-establish 'law and order' and crush any unrest.

It is interesting to note that the diggers' production of a Charter, their monster meetings and their deputations to the Governor were all non-violent and organised in a democratic manner, whereas the government operated quite differently. They instituted secret codes, used spies, planned a secret police network and sent provocateurs among the diggers to stir up trouble, hoping to be able to blame them for any violence that might arise.

In Melbourne the Government administration was clearly not in touch with what was really happening and was not able or was not prepared to respond adequately. They thoroughly deserved the public censure that followed after the stockade slaughter.

The reaction by the Victorian community after the Eureka Stockade was swift and its tone was quite certain. Monster meetings took place in Melbourne in the following week. More than 10,000 people attended peaceful mass meetings in the streets of the city and spoke eloquently of their dismay and sorrow at the events that had occurred. They passed a series of resolutions demanding change.



A NEWSLETTER FOR EUREKA'S CHILDREN

Thirteen diggers were tried for treason and all were acquitted. A goldfields commission was rapidly established (by December 7th) to enquire thoroughly into conditions on the goldfields. Their findings published in late March led to a speedy amelioration of social and political conditions. Very substantial and far-reaching changes granted much local autonomy to the goldfields. Miner's licences were abolished and a Miner's Right at one pound a year was substituted. This entitled the holder of the Right to vote in elections thus effectively bringing in male representative democracy, as the vote was available to anyone willing to pay £1 per year.

As a result of this turnaround in Government attitude several Chartist points were quickly gained:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|------|---|
| 1. Manhood suffrage | 1855 | with Miner's Right |
| | 1856 | under new Constitution <u>but</u> coupled with residency and literacy qualifications, limiting the universality of the franchise. |
| 2. Secret Ballot | 1856 | First in the world |
| 3. Frequent Parliaments | 1859 | Not annual as Charter demanded but no longer than 3 years. |
| 4. Payment of members | 1869 | So that poor men could represent poor men |

Eureka was a product of its time and circumstance and was driven in large part by the incompetence of the government administration as well as the lack of representative government. It affected many aspects of life in this country for the better especially reaffirming the right of free people to go about their business without fear or coercion. It was high drama with the Bonfire of Burning Licences, the Flag, the Stockade, an Oath and eventual Victory following initial defeat.

Eureka speaks to us of the importance of a free society being prepared to react to oppressive authority while seeking fairness and equity, valuing human rights and respecting human dignity. In short the Eureka diggers by their actions were seeking a more democratic and just society for all.

Compiled by Eureka's Children

EUREKA ANNUAL COMMEMORATION AND CELEBRATION AT BALLARAT – 29th Nov -3rd Dec.

EVENTS:

Thursday Nov. 29th

- 2pm **Raising the Eureka Flag** at Bakery Hill
- 7pm **Launch of the Eureka 2007 Eureka Commemoration and Celebration At Regent Theatre.**
Movie "Eureka Stockade" – starring Chips Rafferty by invitation only.

Friday Nov. 30th

- 9am-3.30 pm **Eureka Schools Day at Eureka Centre**
Bob Allen will facilitate a range of student activities and workshops
- 3.30-4pm **Civic Reception for Mairtin O'Fainin – Irish Ambassador.** At the Town Hall
Entertainment by Irish Dance Group and musicians
- 7.30pm **Annual (ESMA) Eureka Lecture.** Speaker: Prof Western Bate at Aquinas Catholic University. Sponsored by Eureka Stockade Memorial Assoc, Aquinas University and Ballarat University



Saturday 1st December

12pm. **Eureka Graves Ceremony.** Oration by Peter Tobin. At Old Ballarat Cemetery

2pm -4pm. **Digger's March –From Bakery Hill to the Eureka Stockade**

The re-enactment of the Digger's March from Bakery Hill to the Eureka Stockade on the 30th November 1854 will recall all the significant events surrounding the Eureka uprising. Points of historic interest will be brought to life along the march route, by the presentations of pre-eminent historian Prof John Molony, Mairtin O'Fainin-Irish Ambassador and Val D'Angri . Students of St. Alipius school will present tableaux that will interact with these presentations.

The March will arrive at the Stockade Monument at 3.30 pm concluding with an address by historian John Ireland concerning the Monster meetings in Melbourne, the Trials and the political consequences of Eureka.

After the March there will be a B-B-Cue in the Reserve and in the Hall a Display in images and word by St. Alipius School telling of their school's ongoing connection to the story of Eureka.

Sunday 2nd December

7am. **Eureka Dawn Oration.** Speaker – Rod Quantok. At Eureka (Reserve) Monument
(Campfire breakfast)

9 am. **Eureka Mass** at St. Alipius Church ,Victoria Street.

The service, a first, will commemorate the strong connection the Church and School had with early life on the goldfields as well as its links to the Eureka Stockade event. Afterwards, people are invited to the Church hall for a cuppa and to hear a presentation from Mairtin O'Fainin – Irish Ambassador

11am-12.30pm **Eureka Grave Site Remembrance** at Old Ballarat Cemetery and then Lunch at Eureka Reserve. Organised by the Connolly Association, a Republican Group that has been commemorating Eureka in Ballarat continuously for the last 45 years

12 -3.30 pm. **Annual Eureka Luncheon .** Organised by ESMA. At Colonist Club in Lydiard St.
Guest Speaker: Mairtin O'Fainin -Irish Ambassador.
Special Award –City of Ballarat Illuminated Scroll: John Morgan (Posthumously).
Cost \$50. Contact: Kerry Kearney. Mobile: 0408466965

11am-4pm **Eureka Family Day at the Stockade Gardens.** - Contact: 5333 1854

Bring along a picnic to the lawn behind the Eureka Centre for a family day of free music and entertainment.

11am Frank Callahan's One Man Band

11.30am Band TBC

12pm Blinky Bill

12.45pm The Australian Irish Dance Company

1.30pm Entertainers Anonymous

2.30pm Chelsea Donoghue and Georgia Grant
(2007 City of Ballarat Young Citizens of the Year)

A variety of Kids' Activities

9-5pm **Eureka Centre and Ballarat Fine Art Gallery** – Free open Day

Visit the Eureka Centre and experience the drama of the Eureka Rebellion. At the Ballarat Fine Art Gallery, house of Australia's largest and oldest regional public art collections, you can view the original Eureka Flag in its special gallery

Monday 3rd December

9-5pm **Eureka Day** –Eureka Centre and Ballarat Fine Art Gallery - Free



The Eureka Stockade Diggers' March
Saturday 1st December 2007
Draft Program

Registration Point and Assembly: 1.45 p.m. -2.00 p.m.
@ Entrance Lane in Victoria Street to St. Paul's

Participants collect Eureka kit and register Eureka connection
Distribute-Diggers March Certificates incorporating copies of Diggers Oath & a Miner's License

- Copies of Eureka Information Sheet
- Eureka (Competition) Question Sheet
- Eureka hand waver flags
- etc.

Start Point : Bakery Hill (Car park.behind St.Paul's Church)

2.00p.m.-2.10p.m. Eureka's Children President, Eric Howard welcomes participants & introduces the March Commentators Prof. John Molony, Mairtin O'Fainin-Irish Ambassador, John Ireland and Val D'Angri

2.10p.m.-2.25p.m. John Molony gives brief background to:

- the events of 29 & 30 November 1854.
- the Monster Rally of Wed. 29 Nov.'54 at Bakery Hill
- the two Diggers Meetings at Bakery Hill onThurs. 30 Nov.'54 & for the purposes of this event brings these 3 meetings together.

As part of Molony's commentary there will be a re-enactment of the 'swearing of the Diggers Oath' by a teenage descendant and then the Diggers March commences - led by Presidents of Eureka's Children and Eureka Stockade Memorial Association and students from St Alipius school dressed to represent each country or in colonial attire carrying the flags of the 22 participant nations represented at Eureka. They will be followed by general participants.

Points of Interest and Stopping Points
Refer Site map

1. - **Bakery Hill** -**Start Point**
2. - Catholic Chapel - St.Alipius Church
3. - **Hayes' tent site behind St.Alipius** - **Stop Point 1** (Vacant block Cnr. Hopetoun & King Sts.)
4. - Carboni's vantage point
5. - **Bentley's Eureka Hotel** plaques - **Stop Point 2** (Cnr. Otway & Eureka Sts.)
6. - Site of Bentley's Eureka Hotel
7. - Attack on government reinforcements
- 7a - **Crossing the Eureka Lead** - **Stop Point 2a**
8. - **Eureka Stockade** - **Stop Point 3** (Adjacent to 150th Anniversary sculpture-Contemplative Space - Cnr. Eureka & Rodier Sts.)
9. - **Eureka Stockade Monument** - **Stop Point 4**



A NEWSLETTER FOR EUREKA'S CHILDREN

Commentary & Presentations:

Commentary at Start Point and Stops 1 -3 by Prof. John Molony with re-enactment/ presentations on:

- [Diggers'Oath' on Bakery Hill \(Start Point\)](#)
- [Women of Eureka \(Val D'Angri at Stop 1\) and](#)
- [Students 2-3 minute. Tableau re-enactments at Stop Points 1-4.](#)

Stop Point 2a – Eureka Lead - Major site for Irish diggers

Irish Ambassador will comment on the Irish involvement at Eureka

Stop Point 4: Conclusion at the Eureka Stockade Monument

3.45p.m.-4.00p.m. John Ireland concludes with commentary about Monster meetings in Melbourne, The Trials and the political consequences of Eureka

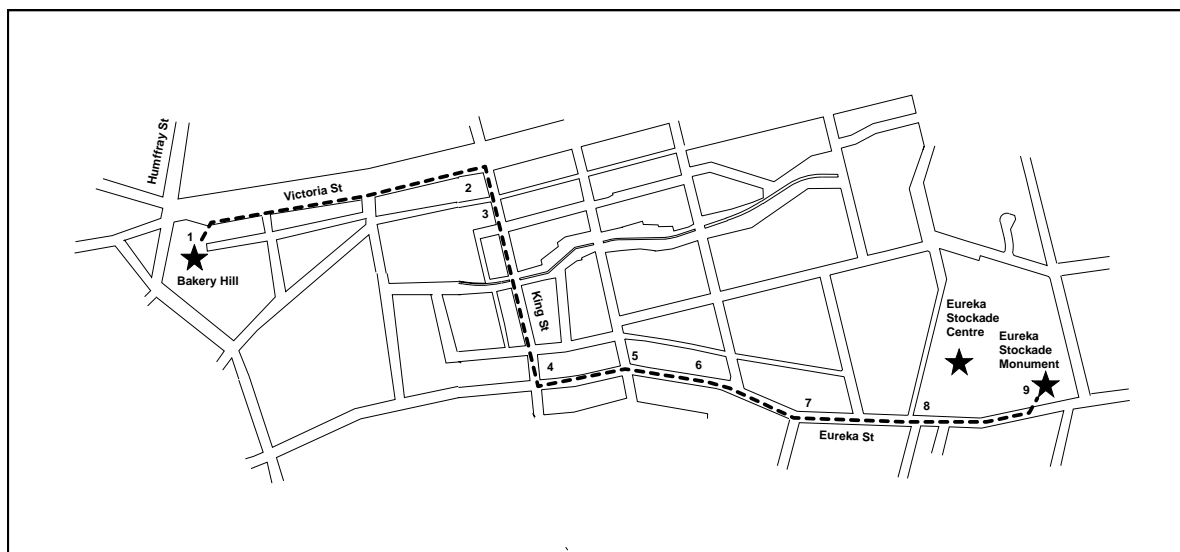
4.00p.m.-4.05p.m. Frank Williams (as president E.S.M.A.) moves 'Vote of Thanks' to Prof. John Molony, Irish Ambassador & John Ireland. He thanks people for their involvement in the March & the sponsors' of the Diggers' March i.e. City of Ballarat & others, as appropriate.

OTHER :

Eureka Hall for student Eureka Display, and 'Register your Eureka Connection' etc,

Bar-B-Cue and Drinks after March at Eureka Reserve provided by ESMA. Gold coin

Route of the Diggers' March



Points of Interest

- | | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Bakery Hill | 4 Carboni's vantage point | 7 Site of attack on troops |
| 2 Site of Catholic chapel | 5 Bentley's Eureka Hotel plaques | 8 Site of London Hotel |
| 3 Site of Hayes' tent | 6 Site of Bentley's Eureka Hotel | 9 Site of Eureka Stockade |

Note: Eureka Lead runs along part of Eureka Street

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LIBERTY!



A NEWSLETTER FOR EUREKA'S CHILDREN

EUREKA'S CHILDREN WEB SITE

www.eurekaschildren.org.au

We expect our Web Site to be up and running by December. Some highlights include:

- The story of Eureka and Democratic Traditions
- Eureka's Children –Who we are, Membership and Benefits
- Ballarat Reform League Charter
- Eureka Descendants List and Register Your Eureka Connection
- Travelling the Eureka Trail from Bakery Hill to the Eureka Stockade
- Liberty Newsletter and Upcoming Events
- Eureka Web Links

So don't forget to log on come December.

A LIBRARY FOR EUREKA'S CHILDREN

Starting December 1st the Celtic Club in Melbourne will be opening their new library 5 days a week: Monday 11am-5pm, Tuesday 4-6pm, Wednesday 11am -5pm, Thursday 11am-5pm, Friday 10.30-5pm. The library is situated in the basement of the Celtic Club, Cnr. Queen and Latrobe Streets. Melbourne. Ph 9670 6472

The Celtic Club has welcomed Eureka's Children and has not only provided a venue for them to hold their monthly meetings and other activities but has also encouraged them to develop a special section in the library on "Eureka and Democracy".

The Club library has over 1000 books including periodicals and magazines and we encourage Eureka members to call in and browse and also to consider donating some books (don't have to be new) to expand and enhance our special collection on Eureka and Democracy.

For further information and Donations: Contact Phillip Moore: PH. 9850 4468



(Courtesy of Ballarat Gold Museum)