



# LIBERTY!

**WELCOME TO LIBERTY!**  
**Liberty! #68 April 2019**

[www.eurekaschildren.org.au](http://www.eurekaschildren.org.au)

**FaceBook: Eureka's Children**  
**Email: [eurekaschildren@gmail.com](mailto:eurekaschildren@gmail.com)**

## **Eureka's Children Executive:**

President: Eric Howard  
Vice President: (Vacant)  
Treasurer: Leigh Callinan  
Secretary: Peter Gavin  
*420-424 William Street,  
West Melbourne VIC 3003  
Phone 8535 4506*

Phillip Moore (Special Projects Consultant)  
History Adviser (vacant)

## **Committee Members:**

Peter Lalor Philp  
Adele Howard  
Maurice Hanrahan  
John Capp  
Mary Howlett  
Margaret O'Brien  
Rosemary Callanan  
Michael Van Leeuwen

## **PRESIDENT'S COLUMN**

As we head through autumn we have another busy period of activity for Eureka's Children ahead of us.

### **2019 Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

The AGM will be held on **Tuesday 28 May at 4.30pm** at the Celtic Club Administrative Centre 420-424 William Street, West Melbourne, (just north of Dudley Street, near the Queen Victoria Market).

Official Notice of the Meeting with the detailed agenda will be forwarded to members in early May. We are hopeful that a number of our members will attend and we are always looking for talented enthusiastic Committee members.

Anyone considering nomination could always discuss their nomination with the President or Secretary beforehand.

The next meeting of the Committee will be held straight after the holding of the AGM.

## **Eureka Pathway of Remembrance at the Eureka Centre**

I am negotiating a Memorandum of Understanding for the Avenue of Honour with the Ballarat City Council, a project which was initiated by Phillip Moore.

The total cost of this project is budgeted at \$18,550 for 33 trees and plaques for the fallen at the Stockade and a Story Display Board.

All the embassies representing the fallen and the Goulburn Shire (for an Australian born digger killed, who was from Goulburn) have paid their share, except for the United Kingdom. The British bill for 8 deceased is \$2,120 and the Ballarat Mayor is writing again to them.

There are 4 fallen of unknown origin so the Committee of Eureka's Children has agreed to pay for them which will cost us \$1,062. Our payment will further ensure we are listed on the Story Display Board.

We hope the project is completed in time for the 165<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on 3 December 2019.

## **Meeting Eureka Stockade Centre Manager**

I will be meeting with Anthony Camm, Manager of the Eureka Stockade Centre on Tuesday April 23 to discuss our submission about the future of the centre, the Pathway of Remembrance Project and the future relationship between the Centre and Eureka's Children.

We will do all we can into the future to influence the focus of the repositioned Centre to tell the broader story of Eureka including the central events, the lead up to them and the remarkable reverberations and aftermath flowing from Eureka. Its underlying story about dissent, freedoms, human decency and equality that this wonderful component of Australia's history teaches us is central to our purpose and the events that we commemorate each year. We need to do all we can to ensure the centre tells that story in all its depth and breadth, not a simple superficial treatment of events.

## **Eureka's Children Committee Workshop**

We have arranged a half day workshop on Saturday June 1<sup>st</sup> at the Celtic Club Administrative Centre with Chris Wootton, an experienced Facilitator, to lead the afternoon of discussion and forward program development for us. We will gather at 12.30 for a 1pm start and finish by 4 pm.

Unfortunately some Committee members have prior commitments on that day or will be travelling but we plan to continue with those Committee members who are available.

It is a chance to think of our future, identify priorities to strengthen our organisation and our impact in the years ahead, and better serve our membership. I would encourage all Committee members to be there.

**Federal Government Community Volunteer Grant**

Congratulations to Peter and Adele who followed through with an application for a government grant for IT gear (computer and projector) plus an allocation of funds to upgrade the Content Management System (CMS) used to manage our website.

The current CMS is no longer supported and upgrades are difficult.

**Ballarat Heritage Week**

We will be represented at a stall at the Heritage Week celebrations at Ballarat within the Ballarat Town Hall on the 25 and 26 of May and if any members can support Committee members in manning our stall, telling visitors about the Eureka Story and encouraging attendees to sign up as members, we would appreciate it. Please contact Peter Gavin on 0417 135 373 if you can assist, even for a couple of hours on the Saturday or Sunday during operating hours from 10 am to 5 pm.

**Democracy Award Dinner Program**



At the most recent Committee meeting it was agreed that our Awardee was indeed an outstanding choice and remarkable and courageous Australian. Would we be able to speak truth to power in the way that Adele Ferguson has and continues to do?

We have determined that we will not have a guest speaker at our Democracy Award Dinner in future but rely upon the Awardee's presentation as sufficient for the evening. This will allow some

more time for discussions at tables.

**Members**

All members are encouraged to sign up a new member as a particular challenge during 2019. I ask you all to look to do this to build our membership.

Our workshop in June will consider the membership issues particularly how we can attract younger members to sustain the organisation into the future. Your thoughts would be appreciated on this matter (and any other issue) via email to Peter would be appreciated.

**Eric Howard  
President**

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**See YouTube for Speeches by Adele Ferguson & Clare Wright**

The speeches by Adele Ferguson and Clare Wright at the 2018 Eureka Democracy Dinner held late last year can be uploaded by entering Eureka's Children in the query area box. You will also find other speeches from previous Eureka Democracy Dinners.

## TV DRAMA SERIES FOR THE FORGOTTEN REBELS OF EUREKA

Dr. Clare Wright's Stella Prize-winning book 'The Forgotten Rebels of Eureka' will be adapted for the small screen, after winning funding for the development of an eight-part television series.



La Trobe University invested \$200,000 for a pilot script and treatment for a drama series about the women of the Eureka Stockade.

Hollywood screenwriter and producer Anne Kenney, whose credits include *Outlander*, *ER* and *LA Law*, has written the pilot script. Clare will be co-producing the series and will be working as part of the creative team with Anne Kenney and Ruby Entertainment.

The film and television rights were optioned in late 2015 by Ruby Entertainment, a Melbourne company that previously produced the miniseries adaptation of 'The Secret River' written by Kate Grenville, and published by Text Publishing.

'The Forgotten Rebels of Eureka' which tells true stories of women during the 1854 rebellion was published by Text Publishing in 2014.

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## DEMOCRACY STOPPED DECLINING IN 2018 ACCORDING TO THE DEMOCRACY INDEX BY PETER GAVIN

2018 saw the publication of the 11th edition of the Democracy Index, which began in 2006. It records how global democracy fared in 2018. The results are mixed. For the first time in three years, the global score for democracy remained stable. This result disguises some movement across regions and across categories. One country, Costa Rica, moved from a flawed democracy to a full democracy; at the other end of the spectrum, one country, Nicaragua, moved from a flawed democracy to an authoritarian regime.

The index rates 167 countries by 60 indicators across five broad categories: electoral process and pluralism, the functioning of government, political participation, democratic political culture and civil liberties. It is stricter than most similar indices: it concludes that just 4.5% of the world's people live in a "full democracy". However, the overall global score remained stable in 2018 for the first time in three years. Just 42 countries experienced a decline, compared with 89 in 2017. **The Democracy Index for 2018 by regime type categories lists Full democracies 20, Flawed democracies 55, Hybrid regimes 39 and 53 Authoritarian regimes.**

A total of 42 countries experienced a decline in their total score compared with 2017; 48 registered an increase in total score. But as a percentage of the world's population, fewer people lived in some form of democracy (47.7%, compared with 49.3% in 2017). Very few of these (4.5%) were classified as living in a full democracy. Just over one-third of the world population lived under authoritarian rule, with a large share represented by China.

Fortunately for us, Australia is ranked 9<sup>th</sup> and is in the full democracy category. But the latest Scanlon Foundation Mapping Social Cohesion Survey released in December 2018 said that since 2009 respondents have consistently identified “the quality of government and political leadership” as the second or third “most important problem facing Australia today.” In 2018 only 29 per cent of respondents believed they could trust the government “almost always” or “most” of the time. Is that a sign of a healthy scepticism or a sign of a major problem?

Two of our regional neighbours South Korea and Japan (ranked 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>) just fail to be categorised as full democracies with failings in political participation and political culture. The improvement was most significant for Malaysia (currently ranked 52<sup>nd</sup>) as they successfully held major elections in 2018. Voter turnout for Malaysia’s general election in May was close to 80%, and despite having a serious gerrymander it delivered a surprise upset for the incumbent.

2019 will see elections in the region’s two largest pluralist but flawed democracies, India (ranked 41<sup>st</sup>) and Indonesia (ranked 65<sup>th</sup>). Both countries fail badly on issues dealing with political culture and predicting a result and whether improvements will happen this year is impossible.

A particular focus of the Democracy Index report is political participation, with good reason. In 2018 it was the only one of five categories in the Democracy Index to register an improvement. At a global level, political participation has in fact been improving in the index throughout the past decade. In 2018 the improvement was enough to halt the slide in the Democracy Index, for the first time in three years. The growth of political participation is, moreover, a trend that is evident in almost every region of the world. Only the Middle East and North Africa registered a decline in political participation in 2018; here the Arab Spring revolt in the early 2010s has had far-reaching repercussions, with the reassertion of power by authoritarian or hybrid regimes in all but one (Tunisia) of the countries affected.

One of the main reasons for the lack of growth of global democracy has been a surge of young democratic countries who employ rigged elections, intense intimidation of any opposing political party, and unstoppable expansion in executive power. What makes it worse is that many of these countries are often mistakenly being accepted as democracies by western states. Due to the growth of these corrupted hybrid regimes which is often referred to as **electoral authoritarianism**, there has been a worldwide fall in the confidence in democracy since the 1990s, especially in developing countries.

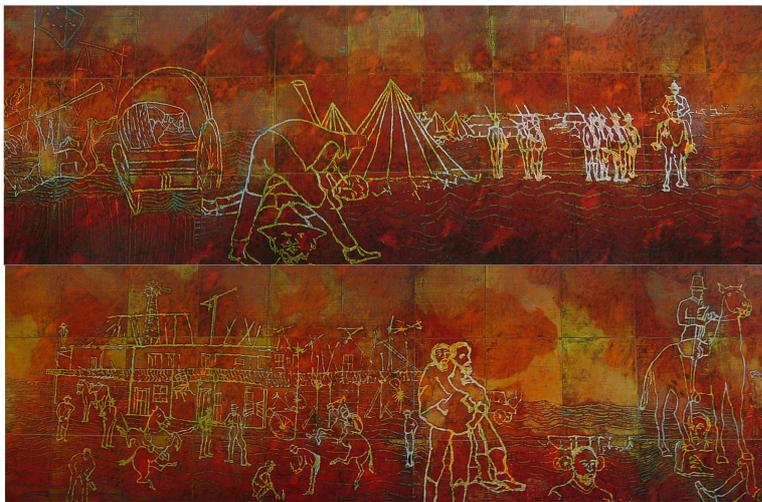
Larry Diamond, a professor of Sociology and Political Science at Stanford University and a notable researcher on democracy reviewed the democratic progress in the most populous countries as follows: “if you look past the seven advanced industrial democracies among the 27 largest countries, you find four democracies straining under the weight of corruption and crime (Brazil, Mexico, the Philippines, and South Africa); four countries where elected leaders have stifled democratic institutions or possibilities (Russia, Turkey, Bangladesh, and Tanzania); four countries where, in different ways, the military effectively dominates (Pakistan, Thailand, Myanmar, and Egypt); three entrenched dictatorships (China, Vietnam, and Iran); three huge arenas of political pluralism (India, Indonesia, and Nigeria); one African country where the door to democratic reform seems to be closing again (the DRC); and one—just one—with a real but tenuous possibility of democratic progress (Ethiopia)”.

The Democracy Digest in its 2nd April 2019 edition noted recent improvements in Malaysia, Ethiopia, Angola & Ecuador (though all coming from a low base) and that it shows ‘that democracy has enduring appeal as a means of holding leaders accountable’.

The very recent popular uprising against Algeria's President Bouteflika must worry the Authoritarian regimes forming an **arc of instability** across North Africa, from Egypt and Eritrea to war-torn Libya and restless Sudan, who will contemplate Bouteflika's fate with foreboding. It may not yet be Arab Spring II, but the Algerian example of a successful popular revolt could prove highly contagious and maybe lead to a better outcome than the first Arab Spring of 2010-2012, though there would be no quick fix for the endemic economic problems that fuelled the upheavals, but democratic reforms would help.

It is worth noting that the Nobel Laureate economist Amartya Sen famously asserted in his 1999 book, [Development as Freedom](#) while reflecting on the differences between democratic India and authoritarian Bangladesh, he proclaimed that "No famine has ever taken place in the history of the world in a functioning democracy." Democracy did not cure hunger, he said, but it beats authoritarianism.

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**Sidney Nolan's Huge Eureka Stockade Mural that was in the Reserve Bank Building in Collins Street Melbourne**

The Reserve Bank has shifted premises from 60 Collins Street and this Eureka Stockade mural - which depicts the events of the Stockade its immediate prelude and the aftermath - is 20 metres long (which is

almost the length of two double-decker buses) by 3.6 metres high in 66 panels - a total area of 74 square metres has been gifted to Kambri a new cultural centre in the Australian National University in Canberra.

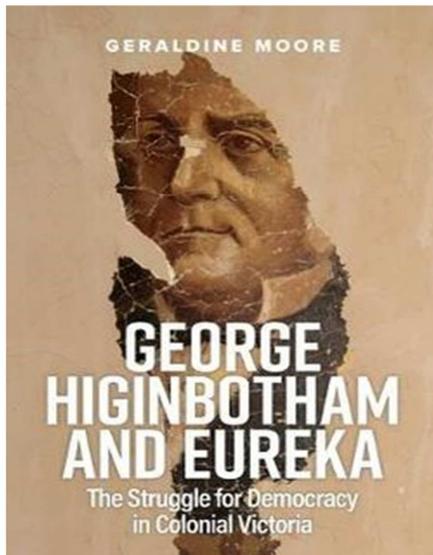
The mural, which Sir Sidney Nolan (1917 – 1993) completed in London in 1965, was executed in jewellery enamel on copper. 102 kg of transparent jewellery enamel was fired onto 1.5 tonnes of heavy gauge copper sheet.

As the mural is a line drawing in enamel – a completely different approach to the medium from the more usual painting technique – a full-size photocopy of the drawing was made, in panels corresponding to the size of the copper panels. The design was then traced onto the metal, and the complete line drawing in enamel was applied by Sir Sidney Nolan himself with finger and thumb, in the manner of primitive 'sand painting'. This was then fired on at a heat of 800 degrees centigrade. The panels were then carefully cleaned and married up one with the other and overall transparent enamel laid on. The whole mural was then re-fired, piece by piece, at temperatures in accordance with Nolan's wish for a rich, varied background effect.

There is an article in the Ballarat Courier of 16 February about the move of the mural.

One wonders why the mural was not offered to the Ballarat Council and put in Eureka Centre.

## **GEORGE HIGINBOTHAM AND EUREKA: THE STRUGGLE FOR DEMOCRACY IN COLONIAL VICTORIA**



Another book on aspects of Eureka was published late last year. It was written by Geraldine Moore and titled 'George Higinbotham and Eureka: The Struggle for Democracy in Colonial Victoria', and published by Australian Scholarly Publishing, North Melbourne.

Higinbotham was a barrister at the time of Eureka who wrote anonymously for the Melbourne Morning Herald. He visited Ballarat in October 1854 about the time of the burning of the Eureka Hotel and following the trip he wrote an editorial detailing the scandalous state of the administration of the law on the goldfields and warned of imminent bloodshed if the government did not immediately reform the administration of the Goldfields.

He then warned the governor that 'worse would follow if the diggers' grievances were not addressed'. And in another editorial Higinbotham praised the diggers as 'the salt of the earth' and defending their right to assemble, yet pleading with them to refrain from illegality. Two days before the battle he urged the immediate discontinuation of the gold licence fee 'before many a poor fellow has been unnecessarily sacrificed'.

Higinbotham was deeply troubled by the conflict at Eureka and viewed it as a consequence of a seriously defective political system. He believed the governor had been motivated by a desire to please the Colonial Office in London rather than serve the Victorian population. He devoted the rest of his life to advocating for a truly democratic form of colonial government, independent of the Colonial Office.

He later became the editor of The Argus, a Member of Parliament, the Attorney General, a Supreme Court judge and finally the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

All local libraries allow purchase recommendations for books published in the last 3 years from users, so if you cannot afford to buy it, that is the easiest way to read the book.

## A JOHN MOLONY ORATION



John Molony is second on the left in this photo with other members of Eureka's Children. It was taken at the Eureka Stockade Centre.

Following the recent death of Emeritus Professor John Molony, Phillip Moore proposed that a John Molony Oration be established to celebrate and commemorate the life, stories and academic writings of this great man. Phillip had contacted John Molony's sister and 4 children who gave enthusiastic support for this proposal.

Subsequently and because of John Molony's early childhood, education and life as a priest in Ballarat, Phillip called an initial planning meeting in Ballarat in February. The meeting agreed that because of his life in Ballarat, his Eureka connections and his academic life at ANU in Canberra that an annual Oration occur; starting in Ballarat followed by Melbourne and Canberra in consecutive years.

Phillip circulated a list of publications (see below) to illustrate John's life contribution of ideas.

A Ballarat Committee of 14 people have met and are planning a John Molony presentation/oration in October with speakers and workshops. Phillip is the facilitator of this group.

In Canberra the ANU (facilitated by Prof. Frank Bongiorno) held a special Tribute presentation/occasion in early April to honour and celebrate the distinguished contributions of Emeritus Professor John Molony to the historical profession, to scholarship, education and ideas, and to the Australian National University, and the Australian community. Speakers were: Emeritus Professor Barry Ninham, Dr Justine Molony, Professor Nicholas Brown, Father Frank Brennan SJ, Professor Melanie Nolan and Emeritus Professor Brian Lees.

Eureka's Children could hold the Melbourne event next year with the collaboration of the Celtic Club thereby expressing a Eureka and an Irish interest in topic and attendance. Apart from engaging a speaker on Eureka, Dr. Val Noone who knew John personally and professionally for decades, has enthusiastically offered to speak more broadly on his many publications and writings concerning our Australian (and Australian Irish) history. John Molony is well known to members of the Celtic Club as he visited and spoke there on many occasions.

## **JOHN MOLONY- Publications**

### **HIS LIFE**

**1969 - ABC Interview - John and Denise tell their story – On documentary series:**

**Chequer Board**

**2004 - Luther's Pine – Auto Biography**

**2010 – By Wendouree - Memories 1951-63**

### **AUSTRALIA**

**1973 – An Architect of Freedom: John Hubert Plunkett in NSW-1832-1869**

**1984 & 2001 – Eureka \***

**1980 – I am Ned Kelly and 1989 & 2001 – Ned Kelly**

**1987 – The Penguin (Bicentennial) History of Australia**

**2000 – Native Born –The First White Australians**

**2003 – Eureka and the Prerogative of the People – Part of “The Distinctive Foundations of Australian Democracy”- Lecture series 2003-2004**

**2005 – Australia – Our Heritage**

**2016 – Captain James Cook: Claiming the Great South Land**

### **IRISH HISTORY**

**1995 – A Soul came to Ireland: Thomas Davis**

### **RELIGIOUS**

**1960 - Towards an Apostolic Laity**

**1969 – The Roman Mould of the Australian Catholic Church**

**1977 - The Emergence of Political Catholicism in Italy: Partito Popolare**

**1991 - The Worker Question –A New historical Perspective on Rerum Novarum**

**2016 - Don Luigi Sturzo: The Father of Social Democracy**

# Eureka's Children Merchandise

Mugs with captions 'Eureka's Children' or 'Eureka Democracy'.



\$20 each, including postage

Flag Pins & Fridge Magnets

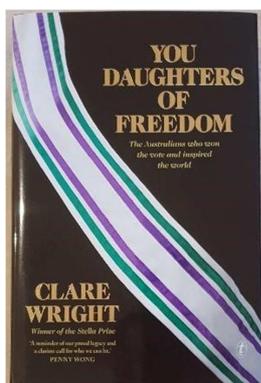


\$5 each, including postage

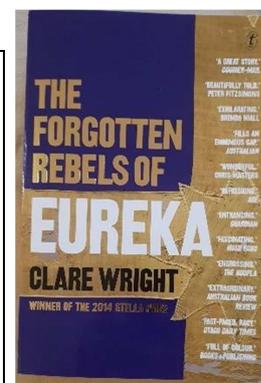
T-shirts for men, women and children (in best quality cotton)



\$24 adults, \$20 children, including postage.



Purchase Clare Wright's *FORGOTTEN REBELS OF EUREKA* for \$39.99 incl. postage and/ or Clare's: *YOU DAUGHTERS OF FREEDOM* for \$54.99 incl. postage (her recently published book in hardback)



Members, we need you to renew in 2019 the 165<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Eureka –an important Anniversary

**EUREKA'S CHILDREN INC.**

**Membership Application/Renewal for 2019 (Jan-Dec)**

*Please print all details and  where appropriate.*

Surname:			
Other Names:			
Address:			Postcode:
Phone No			
Email			

*Membership of Eureka's Children Inc. operates on a calendar year basis.*

- **Ordinary Membership** – Includes descendants of those connected with the Stockade event, its prelude and its aftermath as well as those who support the Eureka story and its ideals of democracy
  - Full \$40.00 per annum
  - \*Concession \$20.00 per annum
- **Family Membership Full** \$40.00 +\$20 = \$60 per annum
- **Family M/ship Concession** \$20.00 + \$20= \$40 per annum
- **Life Membership** Full \$300, Concession \$150

*Note: Concessional Subscriptions include Pension Card Holders.*

*For Family Membership please list each other name and their contact details  
All amounts include GST*

DONATION WELCOME \$.....  
TOTAL CHEQUE/MONEY ORDER \$.....

*EFT Payments can be made to: “Eureka’s Children - (BSB) 704 191 (A/C) 90789”*

*Please include ‘EC MEMB’ as well as your name on the internet transfer*

To send cheque or money order please print, complete this form and return with your cheque/money order to: Eureka’s Children. C/O. Celtic Club, Level 1, 420-424 William St, West Melbourne, Vic. 3003. **If paying by EFT** and you are a new member you would need to also complete and return this form as an initial record of your membership.