When Mark Twain sat down to record his extensive global travels in 1895, after ‘following the equator’, he found Australia’s Eureka story irresistible—‘the finest thing in Australasian history’, ‘a revolution’, ‘a strike for liberty’, ‘a struggle for principle’ and, above all, ‘a stand against injustice and oppression’. For Twain, ever the uncompromising American democrat, Eureka was ‘the Barons against John’, ‘Hampden and Ship-Money’, ‘Concord and Lexington’ all over again.

But how accurate is this appraisal? Merely American tall story affixed to radical colonial hyperbole? Or was Twain, once again, the pithy observer?

The papers at this symposium, on the 160th anniversary of the Eureka Stockade, will take a fresh look at the Eureka narrative and its ongoing significance.

### Program

**Wednesday 3 December 2014**

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>8.30 am – 9.00 am</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<td>9.00 am – 9.15 am</td>
<td>Welcome Senator Kate Lundy</td>
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| 9.15 am – 10.45 am | Rethinking Eureka  
Prof John Molony  
‘The Next Throb of Outraged Humanity’: Eureka in the Age of Revolutions  
Dr Clare Wright |
| 10.45 am – 11.15 am | Morning Tea                                                         |
| 11.15 am – 1.00 pm | Eureka Brittania: Do as the Canadians Did!  
Dr Benjamin Jones  
Autocrats and Democrats: Eureka’s Wider American Context  
Dr David Headon  
‘By Bloody Oath’: Swearing at Eureka  
Dr James Warden |
| 1.00 pm – 2.00 pm | Lunch                                                               |
| 2.00 pm – 3.15 pm | Contested Museum Memories of Eureka  
Dr Anne Beggs-Sunter  
Eureka in the 1980s  
Assoc Prof Frank Bongiorno |
| 3.15 pm – 3.45 pm | Magna Carta on Trial: Looking Beyond Australian Exceptionalism  
Prof Paul Pickering  
Theorising Eureka  
Prof John Uhr  
Eureka in Song and Verse  
Dr Jeff Brownrigg |
| 7.00 pm | Symposium Dinner  
Vivaldi’s Restaurant  
ANU Arts Centre, Union Court, ANU |

### Symposium Dinner

The Symposium Dinner will be hosted by the Canberra Chapter of *Eureka’s Children*.

Between courses, we will be entertained by **four** members of the Australian Parliament, who will debate which side of politics ‘owns’ the grand Eureka narrative.

**Labor**

Andrew Leigh, Federal Member for Fraser (ACT)

Nick Champion, Federal Member for Wakefield (SA)

**Coalition**

Lucy Wicks, Federal Member for Robertson (NSW)

Michael McCormack, Federal Member for Riverina (NSW)

**Labor** vs **Coalition**
Roll up, Eureka’s heroes, on that grand Old Rush afar,
For Lalor’s gone to join you in the big camp where you are;
Roll up and give him welcome such as only diggers can,
For well he battled for the rights of miner and of Man.

_Henry Lawson_, ‘Eureka’, 1889

Within the Golden City
In the place of peace profound
The Heroes sleep. Tread softly:
’Tis Australia’s Holy Ground.
And ever more Australia
Will keep green in her heart’s core
The memory of Lalor
And the men of ’Fifty four.

_Victor Daley_ (‘Creeve Roe’),
‘A Ballad of Eureka’, 1901

I was a child while still we talked of them,
And, when there came one walking lame, I ran
To my father, and, my hand in his, cried,
Eager for stories, ‘Here comes a Eureka man’!

_Mary Gilmore_, ‘Men of Eureka’, 1954