

The Research School of Humanities
and the Arts, ANU

and

The Centre for the Study of
Australian Politics (School of Politics
and International Relations), ANU

present

'The Finest Thing in Australasian History'?

Eureka's Significance, Then and Now



A Symposium at
**The Research School of Humanities
and the Arts, ANU**

Theatrette (Room 2.02, entry level),
Sir Roland Wilson Building, McCoy Circuit, ANU

Wednesday 3 December 2014

to commemorate the

160th Anniversary
of the Eureka Stockade

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.

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)

vs

Coalition

Lucy Wicks, Federal Member for Robertson (NSW)

Michael McCormack, Federal Member for Riverina (NSW)

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Program

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Theatrette (Room 2.02, entry level)
Sir Roland Wilson Building, ANU

8.30 am–9.00 am: **Registration**

9.00 am–9.15 am: **Welcome**
Senator Kate Lundy

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 Britannia: 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

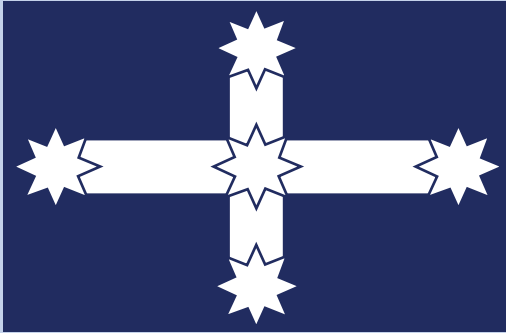
1.00 pm–2.00 pm: **Lunch**

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



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Enquiries to:

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Centre for the Study of Australian Politics, ANU
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EMAIL: shaun.crowe@anu.edu.au

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

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Registration form

Registration includes morning and afternoon teas, and lunch

Please fill in and return to:

Eureka Symposium

c/o Shaun Crowe

Centre for the Study of Australian Politics, ANU
Canberra ACT 0200

Name _____

Address _____

Name _____

Tel [B-H] _____ Mobile _____

Email _____

Type of registration [tick as appropriate]:

Symposium participation

Full – \$40 Student/Unwaged – \$25

Dinner

Vivaldi's [excluding drinks] – \$60

Cheques must accompany registration and are payable to:

- Research School of Humanities and the Arts, ANU

Please direct all enquiries/registrations to:

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