

A N A R C H I S T W E E K L Y A G E R E V I E W



An Anarchist Society is a voluntary non-hierarchical society based on the creation of social and political structures which allow all people equal decision making power and equal access to society's wealth.

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....."COMMUNALISATION - The Transfer of Power & Wealth

from the Hands of the Private Sector & the State, Into the Hands of the Community".....

Number 784

21st April - 27th April 2008

**"WE SWEAR BY THE SOUTHERN CROSS TO STAND TRULY BY EACH OTHER
& FIGHT TO DEFEND OUR RIGHTS & LIBERTIES" - EUREKA REBELLION OATH 1854**

RUDD'S MORGANATIC MARRIAGE

Rudd's summit reminds me of a fine flimsy cobweb floating in the still air, here today gone tomorrow. Irrespective of the outcomes of a process that seems to have only incorporated the ideas of those who have a history of working up the right channels, the only ideas that will be developed are those that coincide with Rudd's political philosophy and personal peccadillos.

The summit could be described as Rudd's morganatic relationship with the Australian people - the Prime Minister has taken as his partner the summit participants on the explicit understanding that any ideas that are given life as a result of that relationship will not have any claim on the Prime Minister or parliament. If Rudd was really interested in tapping into the vast amount of talent in the Australian community he would be proposing a more tangible practical course than a weekend summit of a thousand hand picked participants.

He could have achieved a much more practical and lasting outcome if he had promoted the idea of holding a referendum that would, if successful, have given the Australian people, like Swiss citizens, the ability to initiate constitutional change through citizen initiated referendums - if 10% of the population signed a petition they wanted a particular issue put to the people in a referendum the government would be obliged to hold a referendum on that issue and if the referendum was successful the decision made would be incorporated into the constitution.

Citizen Initiated Referendums would reinvigorate a democratic process that needs urgent reform, it would put power back into the hands of the people and it would break the constitutional logjam that has developed in Australia because parliament, and parliament alone, has the power to initiate constitutional change by calling a referendum.

TRUTH THE FIRST CASUALTY OF WAR

When Australians commemorate Australia's war dead on 25th April, they will have a great deal of difficulty distinguishing fact from fiction. In the 21st century political ideology dominates how we remember Australia's war dead. The death of the last survivors of World War

One makes it easy to re-write history to suit the governments current foreign policy concerns. Every year we're fed the same stories by a society that wants to believe that men and women died in foreign wars for us to maintain our freedom, our liberty and the Australian way of life - whatever that is. It seems ungrateful to rain on their parade on that one day of the year set aside to remember the war dead.

I don't want to rain on their parade, I know they made the supreme sacrifice and I know that many of those that returned were not the same men and women that left. I know their experiences scarred generations of children who never understood why their parents were so caught up with their own suffering and problems. I remember and respect them. What I don't respect is those governments and businesses that sent them to fight in dirty little wars that had nothing to do with the defence of Australia. I hate those governments that continue to treat military personnel as cannon fodder sending them overseas to military engagements that have nothing to do with us. I continue to hate a media that steadfastly refuses to print the truth, preferring to publish the same tired old stories about Simpson's donkey and his ultimate sacrifice, while refusing to acknowledge Simpson's radical working class ideas.

I hate ANZAC DAY because its been hijacked by the God, Queen and Country brigade to push their one dimensional ideologically putrid foreign policy initiatives. Anzac Day is becoming a state sponsored propaganda exercise that is used to justify the unjustifiable wars so many young Australians have been sent to and continue to be sent to, to satisfy foreign policy initiatives that have nothing to do with Australia's defence.

LEST WE FORGET

On Anzac day I remember the sacrifices of those Australians who died defending this country, I also remember those Australians who died as a result of government decisions that sent Australians to die in pointless, politically motivated wars fought on foreign soil. Over 100,000 Australians have died as a result of armed conflicts stretching from the Boer War at the beginning of the 20th century to the invasion of Iraq at the turn of the 21st century.

Over sixty thousand of those pointless deaths occurred during the first World War in a trade war fought by workers at either end of a bayonet not for freedom, not for liberty, not for equality but for the glory of the God, King and Country brigade. I remember the other thousands who died as a result of politically and ideologically motivated government decisions that had absolutely nothing to do with the defence of this country, its institutions and its way of life. On Anzac Day I remember those millions of Australians who have actively opposed the deployment of Australian Service personnel to theatres of war that have had absolutely nothing to do with the defence of this country and everything to do with the bloated political egos of governments that conveniently forget the effects their decisions have on the lives of generations who have senselessly lost husbands, wives, brothers, sisters, sons, daughters, uncles, aunts and life long friends in pointless military intervention in other peoples affairs.

On Anzac Day I shed a tear for the 60,000 young Australian lives that were sacrificed on Mammon's alter during World War One. I also shed a tear for those Australians who were imprisoned, had their organisations banned, their property confiscated and were deported for successfully preventing the Australian government from sending another 60,000 young Australians to be sacrificed on the European killing fields for the glory of God, King and Country by fighting tooth and nail, both in the streets and the workplace, to ensure that the conscription referendum called by the Billy Hughes led government in 1916 and 1917 were defeated.

On Anzac Day I shed a tear for us as a people because on a day when we are asked to remember those who have served in war and those that have died wearing this country's uniform, we are saturated by media and government propaganda that uses their sacrifices to promote short term politically and ideologically motivated agendas.

Lest We Forget!!

WHAT'S GOING ON IN IRAQ?

The United States secretary of State's dash to Baghdad highlights the instability

in Iraq. The major threat the United States faces in Iraq is not from the Sunni insurgency, foreign Muslim fundamentalists or Iran, the major threat the Iraqi government and the United States face is the Mahdi Army Militia. Although Shia Muslims dominate the Iraqi government and the Iraqi Prime Minister, Nuri al-Maliki is a Shia with close ties to Iran the Shia Cleric Muqtada al-Sadr, is in command of a very well armed Militia that acts as a state within a state in Sadr City in Baghdad, the home of over 2 million Iraqis and in Basra in the south.

The Mahdi Armies support has increased as they are the only Shias that (unlike the Shia dominated government) are opposed to the United States invasion. The Mahdi Armies support comes from the poorest sections of Iraqi society. Nearly one in five Iraqis have fled as refugees since the invasion.

Skilled Iraqis mainly Sunni Muslims and Christians have made up the bulk of the refugee population. The poor have not been able to escape and have relied on food parcels and social support networks funded and administrated by the Mahdi Army.

The Mahdi Army has recently been targeted for two reasons, although they are Shias they act as an independent force within Iraq and do not support the Iranian mullahs.

Although they opposed the Saddam Hussein led Ba'ath Party they also oppose United States intervention in Iraq. In the last 6 to 8 weeks the Nuri al-Maliki led government has attempted to wrest control from the Madi Army by force. All attempts to dislodge them both in Basra and Baghdad have failed because they enjoy popular support in large areas of Iraq. The United States State Secretary has come to the Middle East to encourage Arab governments to throw their support behind the increasingly isolated Nuri al-Maliki administration to stop what increasingly looks like a determined attempt by Sheilch Muqtada al-Sadr to force both the United States and Iran out of Iraq.

IT AIN'T OVER YET

Just in case you think the sub prime lending crisis is over, think again. Historically low interest rates set by central banks have not been passed onto bank customers. In Australia, the Reserve Bank's decision not to increase interest rates means nothing to banks that continue to increase interest rates because they're having trouble borrowing money. Despite what the Reserve Bank does or does not do, interest rates continue to rise.

Faced with a financial crisis that could have profound implications around the world, central banks continue to pour money into private bank coffers socialising private financial institution loses. The United Kingdom Central Bank is about to

inject 110 billion dollars into private British banks to supply liquidity to the British banking system. In a move that will make the banks very, very happy the United Kingdom's Central Bank will take about 70 billion dollars of non-performing mortgages off the bankers hands courtesy of the British taxpayer.

The problem is not just confined to the United Kingdom, concerned about the negative effect the liquidity crisis is having on investor confidence, central banks around the world are pumping funds into private bank coffers. The British government will be swapping nearly 70 billion dollars of government bonds to offset the private banks non-performing mortgage portfolios. What at first may seem a win win situation for the government and the private banking sector has profound implications for the British people.

They, and they alone, especially those on fixed incomes and government benefits will be carrying the can for the private banks unethical behaviour and poor investment decisions. Money that was earmarked to look after the welfare of some of the poorest people in Great Britain will now be diverted into the government's corporate welfare slush fund.

It seems the most disadvantaged will be tightening their belts to pay for the mistakes of some of the most wealthy men and women on the planet. That's capitalism for you.

ANARCHIST QUESTION AND ANSWER

Q. Security?

A. If I told people I wanted to live in an anarchist society because I wanted to live in an orderly secure community, I'd be laughed out of the room. How could anyone believe you could achieve personal security by abolishing both the state and capitalism? Its easy to mount an argument against capitalism – an economic system based on the creation of profits irrespective of the human and social costs, especially in times of scarcity or disaster. People quickly realise that co-operation and mutual obligation hold the key to physical survival in such circumstances. Its much more difficult to convince people that the state – a body of people, occupying a definite territory, organised under one independent government should be abolished. Who would protect me from my neighbour? Who would protect me from outsiders? How could you feel secure in a nation without centralised authority?

The state maintains order through the monopoly on the use of force it exercises. The greater the inequalities that exist in a society, the more force the state needs to exercise to maintain order. The individual is only able to maintain their security if they accept the authority of that small group that exercises power. The more power is centralised the greater the sacrifices the individual needs to make to ensure they are not targeted by the state. Free individuals are transformed into robots who beg on demand.

The greater the political and economic inequalities that exist in society, the more power needs to be centralised in fewer and fewer hands to maintain order and security. The decentralisation of power and the pooling of wealth creates an environment where individual security is enhanced because inequalities between members of that community no longer exist. The reasons the state needs

to use force to maintain order don't apply in a society where wealth and power is shared.

Next week – What practical measures would an anarchist society put in place to maintain internal order?

ACTION BOX

YOU'VE GOT TO START SOMEWHERE

People keep telling me, you're pushing shit up hill, nothing will ever change. Hope – the offspring of desire and expectation is an important emotion we need to keep alive if we want radical egalitarian change. The destruction of hope is the single most important goal those who exercise power have. A community that believes change is impossible, a community that has lost hope is a community that is easy to control and manipulate. When you're faced with the challenge of "fighting" City Hall and you look at City Hall and you look at yourself, its easy to say what's the point and walk away. We all need to start somewhere. If you don't take that first step because you believe there's no point taking it because you're going to fail, nothing will ever change for you and those around you.

The trick is to take small steps, steps you'll succeed in completing the more steps you take the more confidence you'll develop and next time you decide to fight City Hall, you won't turn on your heel and walk away. There are many small practical steps you can take. Critically look at what you hear and see, if you can't join activities or don't have the confidence to initiate action, then help those who do. Support them whenever you can. Even a note, a telephone call or an email offering moral support goes a long way helping those who's hope has not been extinguished by their experiences. Financially helping those who are involved in activity gives them the scope to concentrate on their activities, not fundraising. The less time activists spend fundraising the more time they can devote to what they can do to change society.

Not everybody needs to be on the "barricades" to create change. Instead of keeping your opinions to yourself, share them with those around you, encourage them to read, hear and see material that challenges dominant ideology and practices. The ball's in your hand you can extinguish that new world in your heart or you can try to convince yourself and others that the struggle for radical change is real, possible and desirable. Nothing will change unless you're willing to take that first step to make that new world in your heart a reality.

AUSTRALIAN RADICAL HISTORY

MELBOURNE MAY DAY SYNONYMUS WITH CHUMMY FLEMING

John "Chummy" Fleming was born in Derby England in 1863. When his mother died he was forced to work at a boot factory in Leicester, just after he turned ten. He arrived in Melbourne in 1884 and began working as a bootmaker. He soon became involved in Melbourne radical circles. A man with tremendous enthusiasm for radical change, he was an inaugural member of the Melbourne Anarchist Club when it was formed on the 1st May 1886.

The idea of an International May Day was conceived in the United States in 1884 at a conference of the Federated Trades and Labour Unions of the United States and Canada. The delegates made a decision to launch an intensive campaign for an eight hour day which would culminate in protests across North America on the 1st May 1886. The Melbourne Anarchist Club, Australia's first anarchist organisation, was formed on the 1st May 1886 to coincide with that date. The United States sent delegates to the inaugural meeting of the second International held in Paris on the 14th July 1889. John Norton, an Australian delegate, attended this conference. This International Labor Congress decided to make the 1st May 1890 "a great day of international demonstration."

The Melbourne Anarchist Club was the only Australian organisation that celebrated May Day in 1886, 1887, 1888 and 1889. In 1890 the first Australian May Day demonstration was held in Ipswich and Barcardine in

Queensland. At the height of the shearers strike over a thousand men and women, six hundred mounted on horseback, some waving Eureka flags, took part in Australia's first May Day demonstration.

In 1890 and 1891 Victorians celebrated May Day at a meeting held in the offices of radical labor activist and parliamentarian Dr. Maloney. Victoria's first outdoor May Day celebration was chaired by Chummy Fleming at the Yarra Banks in 1892. The Yarra Bank meeting was preceded by a March from the Burke and Wills Monument near parliament which was led by two workers carrying two huge red flags. In 1893 over 5,000 people attended the May Day March organised by delegates from Melbourne's main radical groups (Knights of Labor, Single-Tax League, Democratic Club and a number of Unemployed groups) Chummy Fleming, the Knights of Labor delegate, had the following motion approved by the 5,000 people who participated in the 1893 celebrations.

"That this meeting demands legislative recognition of the absolutely equal rights politically of every adult member of the community; strenuously protests against monopoly and privilege in every guise; and that while declaring the solidarity of the interests of all workers everywhere, pledges itself to strive for the substitution of a co-operative for the present immoral wage system of labor."

No one has matched the consistency of Chummy Fleming's participation in May Day Marches in Melbourne. In 1898 he led the May Day Procession down Melbourne's footpaths because of a Melbourne City Council ban on street marches. In 1899 Chummy Fleming, with the help of the unemployed committee, the Village Settlers Association, Our Fathers Church, Women's Land Reform League and the Sunday Free Discussion Society, organised the May Day March. In 1901 Chummy Fleming's central role in May Day activities was publicly acknowledged when he was given the honour of moving the 1st resolution in the main platform.

He was expelled from the Trades Hall Council in 1904 for attacking Labor parliamentarians. In 1905 Chummy Fleming led the Melbourne May Day March carrying a red flag with the word ANARCHY diagonally emblazoned across it. He also carried a bell to attract peoples attention. The Communist Parties domination of radical activity in Melbourne did not stop Chummy "leading" Melbourne's May Day Marches. When the May Day March was revived in 1924 Chummy, waving his Anarchy flag and ringing his bell, started marching a block ahead until the bulk of the marchers caught up with him, others years he started at the back of the march and gradually worked his way to the front. He participated in the May Day Marches well into the 1940's, carrying his Anarchy flag and bell.

He died aged 87 on 26th January 1950. His death did not end his participation in Melbourne's May Day Marches. On the eve of the May Day March in 1950 March organisers recalled he wanted his ashes scattered on the Yarra Bank on May Day. A member of the Butchers Union obligingly provided a large biscuit tin full of ashes to be scattered at the 1950 celebrations. Percy Laidler made a speech about Chummy Fleming while throwing handfuls of ashes in the air, which in the strong winds on the day, blew all over the May Day crowd - "...to the very end he was respected and esteemed by the radical elements in the labor movement because he was sincere, courageous and indelible"

LONG LIVE THE SPIRIT OF CHUMMY FLEMING AND MAY DAY!!



BOOK REVIEW



'REBEL JOURNALISM'
The Writings of Wilfred Burchett
Edited by George Burchett and Nick Shimmin
Foreword by John Pilger
Cambridge University Press 2007
ISBN 13978-0521-71826-4

George Burchett and Nick Shimmin have as editors gone through Burchett's enormous output as a war correspondent choosing to publish thirty of the thousands

of articles he wrote during his lifetime in this book. Burchett, a communist sympathiser, gave the other side of the story to a world that was hungry for real news. Some of his most spectacular articles were written behind "enemy" lines.

As a communist leaning war correspondent, Burchett had access to events and people nobody else was able to talk to. He brought the other side of the conflict to a population that was becoming increasingly sceptical about the reasons behind the Cold War. Burchett portrayed as a traitor in Australia, was a courageous man. He was the first reporter to tell the world of the horrors of the American atomic bomb attack on Hiroshima in 1945. During the next forty years he met some of the most influential people in the world, escaped impossible situations (including several assassination attempts) while continuing to pound out stories on his old typewriter.

Burchett's writing highlights there are no heroes in war, just men and women manipulated for personal ambition and ideology. Burchett's reporting was both honest and poignant. His books gave an insight into the minds of men and women the west treated as one dimensional cardboard cut outs. I enjoyed Rebel Journalism, not because of its content, but because the articles published in this book gives the reader an insight into the mind and heart of a man who chose to deal and write about reality even when it contradicted his ideological perspective. Burchett was a great war correspondent who, although burdened by the rod of ideology usually (not always) dealt with what he saw and heard, not what he believed he should see and hear.

Wilfred Burchett had the unfortunate experience of living through events in history that challenged everything he believed in. Despite those personal challenges he maintained his humanity when he could have easily chosen ideology over reality.

Try your local bookshop for a copy of Rebel Journalism. I'm sure they'll order a copy in for you if they don't have one on the shelves.

PERSONAL OBSERVATION

Twenty five degrees perfect Melbourne autumn weather, the sun tickles the skin, the haze obliterates the horizon. The gulls and black swans couldn't care less, the rock pools at Ricketts Point, Melbourne's Marine National Park at Beaumaris make a perfect meeting place for both birds and humans. As they play, the Dutch dredge widens the entrance to Port Phillip Bay and the Port of Melbourne so super tankers can continue to fill Australian stores with overseas trinkets.

As I said, a perfect day for a stroll along the bay, sniffing the air, dreaming about nothing in particular, ducking and weaving out of the way of Sunday cyclists draped in lycra, the men showing off their family jewels, the women lycra stretched tightly over their shaved mons pubis, pedal up and down Beach Road. As I said a perfect day if you don't count stepping into the ice cream dropped by a two year old who is howling like a banshee who's had a stake driven through its heart.

Ah the glories of nature, the seagulls and black swans are oblivious to the insignificant lives of the mass of humanity that parks their cars on the asphalt car park less than three meters from the sand and the sea. Nature, wonderful isn't it, the rock pools are isolated from each other, the swans and gulls are feasting on the sea creatures trapped by the receding tide. A very nice sight as you sip your weak latte from the Ricketts Point teahouse. A Kodak moment if there ever was one, pity I didn't have a camera with me. Before you throw up your hands in horror the sea creatures in the rock pools have a fighting chance, they can hide under the rocks, burrow under the sand and wait for the tide to come back so they can make a break for it. Nature isn't in the job of mass destruction, she leaves that little job for her errant human child.

We fish the seas till supplies are exhausted, put the sea creatures in tanks in restaurants so their flesh remains

tasty for the diners. Every lobster, every crab, every barramundi behind glass will die, unlike our friends in the rock pools exposed by the receding tide. Nature's errant child has had things its way for far too long, too bad we haven't noticed the ice cream we've been gorging ourselves on has fallen on the sand and the seagulls are having the time of their lives. It seems nature has plans for its errant child that will make the pain suffered by a banshee with a stake driven through its heart look like a minor inconvenience.

STOP PRESS

INDONESIAN MILITARY BEHIND EAST TIMOR PUTSCH

The arrest of three of the rebels involved in the assassination attempt on Xanana Gusmao and Ramos Horta in West Timor have raised serious questions about the Indonesian Militaries involvement in attempts to destabilise East Timor. The three rebels who were captured were found to be under the personal protection of Joao Tavares, the supreme commander of the Indonesian Militias that were responsible for the deaths of 1500 East Timorese and the destruction of 70% of East Timor's infrastructure in 1999 when the country achieved independence.

Evidence is slowly filtering out that Alfredo Reinado and his men were bankrolled and supported by Indonesian backed militias. Emboldened by the fact that not one Militia leader has been convicted in an Indonesian court for the part they played in the destruction of East Timor, the pro Indonesian militias with active support from elements of the Indonesian armed forces (which treated East Timor as their personal fiefdom) have continued to conduct a campaign of murder and intimidation in East Timor.

The Indonesian government concerned about the power the military still exercises in Indonesia has been unable to exercise any restraint on elements of the Indonesian military who are still smarting about East Timor's independence. The euphoria that accompanied the independence struggle has evaporated as the Fretlin led government was not able to exercise authority over the new East Timor Military. Under pressure from Australia as well as Indonesia, most of the East Timorese resistance fighters who came down from the mountains were ostracised from both the military and the political process in East Timor. The power vacuum in the armed forces was filled by pro militia elements who owed allegiance to the pro Indonesian militias not the East Timorese government.

Australia, Indonesia and the United Nations, concerned about the establishment of a radical government that could act as an example to other Asian and Pacific Island countries, are to a large degree responsible for the current instability in East Timor. Although the East Timorese have to some degree achieved national independence and have their own flag, national anthem and parliament, their resources are still held in the hands of a small group that continues to dominate political activity in the country. The growth of the influence of the pro Indonesian militias in East Timor today, is directly related to the destruction of a radical East Timorese political movement that aimed to not just achieve national independence but redistribute power and wealth to the people.

Joseph TOSCANO /
Libertarian Workers For A Self-Managed Society.

POEM – Stephen Roberts

"MUTE" DALMATIAN

He fervently tries to talk
Reaching me with his distended paw
Eyes afire, trying to form
phrases syllables
not doggy talk
but real communication
To penetrate my blankness
Mouthing to no avail
moans, squeals are emitted
but words that fall
from humans like waterfalls
elude the panting Dalmatian
The failed attempt is more than enough
Words except for the poet

are cheap currency
The Dalmatian's spirit is stuck

in his gullet
His particular triumph I can never emulate



ANARCHIST PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED THIS WEEK

REBEL WORKER Vol 27 No.2(199), APRIL-MAY '08, Paper of the Anarcho-Syndicalist Network, PO Box 92, Broadway 2007, Sydney, Australia. Email : rworker@chaos.apana.org.au
UMANITA NOVA Vol 88 No.13 13th APR 2008, Settimanale Anarchico, C.50 Palermo 46, 10152, Torino ITALY. Tel/Fax : (011) 857850, Mobile : 338-6594361, Email : fat@inrete.it

**** SIGN THE SEDITION CHARTER - www.seditioncharter.org ****

**** JOIN DIRECT DEMOCRACY NOT PARLIAMENTARY RULE - www.rulebythepeople.org ****

**** JOIN US RECLAIM THE RADICAL SPIRIT OF THE EUREKA REBELLION 4am - 4pm WEDNESDAY 3RD DEC 2008. EUREKA PARK (Cnr STAWELL & EUREKA ST, BALLARAT) ****

****URGENT* *URGENT****

DEBT ELIMINATION APPEAL

****URGENT* *URGENT****

Costs are increasing as we venture into new campaigns, money is always an issue - you can help by: i) Sending 50cent stamps as we still have a significant number of people who receive the AAWR by snail mail. ii) You can receive the AAWR by email - this decreases our postage costs by \$25 per year per person who receives the AAWR by Email. iii) You can make a weekly, monthly or yearly contribution to help us out. If sending less than \$50 - send us 50cent stamps - this saves you money order and cheque costs. If sending more than \$50 - make out cheques and money orders to LIBERTARIAN WORKERS, P.O. BOX 20 PARKVILLE 3052, Melbourne, AUSTRALIA. iv) Buy a subscription for a friend or local library. v) Even a voluntary organisation as small as ourselves needs ongoing financial support to survive. We need your continued support to bring anarchist ideas to an increasing number of people through the printed word, radio, the World Wide Web and hopefully in the near future through film and television.

27 - 04 - 2008

\$359.42 DEBIT

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THE ANZAC MYTH

Joseph TOSCANO

Publisher - Anarchist Media Institute 2008

This pamphlet written and published for the 2008 Anzac Day celebrations by the Anarchist Media Institute, highlights that World War One was fought by soldiers at either end of a bayonet for the glory of God, King and Country.

This exciting new pamphlet examines the successful World War One anticonscription movement. The pamphlet is a breath of fresh air in an era when telling the truth is a revolutionary act.

Pamphlet available for 20 / 50cent stamps.

Send orders to:

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AUSTRALIA

ANARCHIST MEDIA INSTITUTE EUREKA AUSTRALIA DAY MEDAL NOMINATIONS 2008

Know someone you believe should receive the Eureka Australia Day Medal, then why not nominate them today. If you don't, chances are nobody else will. The criteria used to choose recipients is reflected in the spirit of the Eureka oath -

"We swear by the Southern Cross to stand truly by each other & fight to defend our rights & liberties"

NOMINATION CLOSE - 31ST OCTOBER 2008

Send in one nomination or as many as you like. Send us the following information:

* The name of the person nominated

* A few sentences outlining why they should receive the award

* A contact address for the nominee (We need to contact them if they wish to receive the award)

* The person you nominate can be a public figure or somebody only known to a few people.

SEND YOUR NOMINATIONS ASAP TO

**EUREKA AUSTRALIA DAY MEDAL, P.O. BOX 20, PARKVILLE 3052, VIC, AUSTRALIA
or email your nomination to anarchistage@yahoo.com**

MABO BAY CELEBRATIONS

Celebrate the 16th anniversary of the Mabo High Court decision delivered on the 3rd of June 1992 which acknowledged indigenous Australians had rights to land in law because of their continuous occupation of this land for over 40,000 years.

11:30am - 12:30pm

TUESDAY 3RD JUNE 2008

FEDERATION SQUARE - MELBOURNE

ALL WELCOME - Keep Terra Nullius at bay join us on 3rd June.

THE UNCONVENTIONAL CELLIST

KRISTEN RULE - 'DARE TO BE DIFFERENT TOUR 08'

23 Week tour through Victoria, NSW, Qld and SA

Over 6 free performances per week in metro and regional schools and regional communities. Updates on tour: - www.theunconventionacellist.com

ANARCHIST MEDIA INSTITUTE OBSCENITY OF THE WEEK

The papal-president television extravaganza - talk about pomp and ceremony.

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

"Our hopes, our aspirations, our blood, our sweat our tears, our pain, our disappointments their success"

- Joseph TOSCANO - APRIL 2008

RECLAIM THE RADICAL SPIRIT OF THE EUREKA REBELLION

4am - 4pm WEDNESDAY 3RD DECEMBER 2008

154th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS AT EUREKA STOCKADE SITE

(Corner Stawell & Eureka Streets, Ballarat, VICTORIA)

Download poster from anarchistmedia.org

Email poster to your friends, print it off, distribute it around your community.

JOIN US - Celebrate the past by reclaiming the present & changing the future

ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS - (ATNTF)

Companies would be allowed to intercept employees' emails without their consent under legislation proposed by the federal government. Attorney-General, Robert McClelland says that he is considering the legislation, on the grounds that it would curb attacks from hackers and terrorists. Deputy Prime Minister Julia Gillard said that "I promise we are not interested in the email you send out about who did what at the Christmas party." However Dale Clapperton of Electronic Frontiers Australia claimed that "a network supervisor in a company or local government authority may not have the same honourable intentions." Asha Rao, an information security expert at RMIT University in Melbourne, said the policy was little more than a Band-Aid to a more pervasive problem. "Basically, these companies need to get their information systems up to scratch," said Dr Rao. "I'm worried that this law removes the onus from companies to have up-to-date security systems." Another leading information technology expert, who asked to remain anonymous because he had work pending with the Government on cyber-security, said that viruses and other threats to computer security are "growing faster than anyone can catch them." He added that "these sectors need to build new systems that are independent of the internet." However, he said, "that's going to cost a lot of money". (Source: Sydney Morning Herald)

Melbourne Lord Mayor John So appeared in advertisements costing a total of \$800,000 of public money over three years. The council paid for a series of television ads between 2005 and 2007, along with weekly ads in local newspapers and magazines published by a former colleague of the Lord Mayor. The Lord Mayor claims that he thought many of them were free because they were "community announcements" promoting Melbourne. (Source: The Age)

A government enquiry has heard that Aboriginal children were used as 'guinea pigs' in medical experiments. Kathleen Mills from the Stolen Generations Alliance told a Senate enquiry that the Australian public did not know the full extent of what happened to some children who were taken from their parents and institutionalised under removal policies. She also said that efforts to obtain records that support the claims, such as that children were injected with serums to gauge their reaction to the medication, had been hampered. "These are the things that have not been spoken about," Ms Mills told the inquiry. "As well as being taken away, they were used...There are a lot of things that Australia does not know about." Outside the inquiry, Ms Mills said her uncle had been a medical orderly at the Kahlin Compound in Darwin. She said he told her that children were used as "guinea pigs" for leprosy treatments in about the 1920s. "He said it made our people very, very ill...the treatment almost killed them," she said.

"It was a common experience and a common practice...People are very inhibited to speak about their experience and it is not a nice subject...I don't want them to be shamed." At least one similar experiment was carried out in the United States. Up until 1972, the 'Tuskegee Study of Untreated Syphilis in the Negro Male' involved withholding treatment for syphilis from 399 black men in order to study the progress of the disease. By the end of the study, nearly half of the men had died of syphilis or related complications, 40 of their wives had been infected, and 19 of their children had been born with congenital syphilis. (Source: The Age, Wikipedia)

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