

CITATION

EUREKA AUSTRALIA DAY MEDAL 3rd DECEMBER 2007



DOREEN BURROW is a political social and community activist who lives in Wollongong NSW. She became an activist when her husband was killed in a mining accident in the mid 1950's. Over the last 50 years, she has been involved in numerous campaigns to assist the dispossessed, the marginalised and the exploited. A member of the Australian Communist Party she, unlike many of her political colleagues, has continued to be active despite the collapse of the Communist Party in Australia.

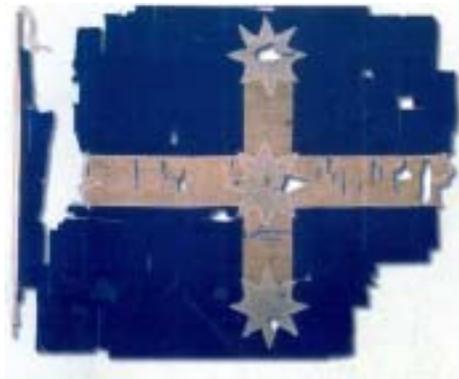
A woman of great courage and determination now in her 80's, she continues to be involved in the struggle to make government accountable to the people, and ensure the commonwealth is used for the common good.

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

- Eureka Oath 1854

CITATION

EUREKA AUSTRALIA DAY MEDAL 3rd DECEMBER 2007



JEAN ELY and **RAY NILSEN** have been involved in the struggle to promote public education for nearly 50 years. They have suffered great personal and financial costs in their continuing struggles to ensure public money is not used to bankroll private education. A thorn in the State's side and a thorn in the side of some of the most powerful religious organisations in this country, they have never taken a step back in their struggle to ensure that public money is used to support public education. Jean Ely and Ray Nilsen were instrumental in launching the unsuccessful High Court case in 1980's that challenged the government's use of public money to support private education. Only the much persecuted High Court Judge Lionel Murphy out of the seven High Court judges supported their arguments. They were forced to pay for the full cost of their challenge. Today they continue to fight for public education. Jean and Ray are part of that dwindling group of activists, voices in the wilderness who continue to fight for public education as more and more public money is set aside for private schools and as State governments enter into private 'partnerships' to fund public schools.

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

- Eureka Oath 1854

CITATION

EUREKA AUSTRALIA DAY MEDAL 3rd DECEMBER 2007



Although only in his 40's, **STUART HIGHWAY** has seen more political activity in his two decades as a radical activist than most activists see in a lifetime. Stuart has always been an anarchist. He lives in Darwin - one of Australia's most isolated communities. He has always eschewed parliamentary politics in favour of direct action. Stuart has been involved in numerous confrontations with the Northern Territory government over issues as diverse as East Timor, Aboriginal rights, the rights of drug users and the struggle for human freedom. He has almost single handedly kept the anarchist flag flying in Darwin. His numerous confrontations with authority have led to him facing numerous charges in the Northern Territory Magistrate and Supreme Court. He has fought each and every charge defending himself, winning many of the court cases he has appeared in. He has also spent periods in jail in Darwin's Casurina Prison as a result of his political activities. He currently has court ordered bans placed on him which prevents him from communicating with fellow political activists in the Northern Territory.

Stuart Highway's activities in the Northern Territory encapsulate the sentiments expressed in the Eureka oath – "We swear by the Southern Cross to stand truly by each other and fight to defend our rights and liberties".

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

- Eureka Oath 1854

CITATION

EUREKA AUSTRALIA DAY MEDAL 3rd DECEMBER 2007



DAVID KERIN has been a political, social and community activist for over 30 years. He has devoted much of his time and energy to the movement to ensure that working people are treated in a decent and just manner in the workplace. Dave has always promoted inclusive anti authoritarian strategies during his involvement in the struggle to achieve justice for working people. A member of the Victorian Builders Labourers Federation before it was outlawed in Victoria, he has always been involved in campaigns and activities that promote workers control and self-management as an alternative to capitalism. Unlike many workplace activists, he has worked not to just humanise capitalism, but to replace it with a system that ensures the commonwealth is used for the common good not for the good of that small section of the community that owns the means of production, distribution and exchange.

Over the last decade Dave Kerin has been at the forefront of the struggle to blunt and overturn the Howard government's assault on working people. A foundation member of Union Solidarity, he has been involved in numerous confrontations with employers and the State in his efforts to assist employees who are victimised by employers. Union Solidarity has been so successful in defending working people, the Howard government in one of its last acts of bastardry passed legislation that is designed to criminalise the activity of groups like Union Solidarity. Dave Kerin, unmoved by this new legislation, has vowed to continue to fight for the rights of working people in Australia.

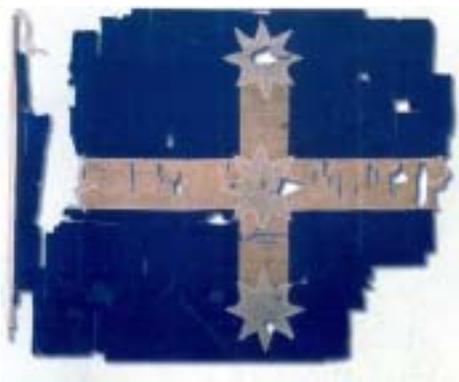
*"We swear by the Southern Cross to stand truly by each other
and fight to defend our rights and liberties"*

- Eureka Oath 1854

CITATION

EUREKA AUSTRALIA DAY MEDAL

3rd DECEMBER 2007



PETER McGREGOR an anarchist and anti authoritarian activist living in Newcastle has been active in Sydney and NSW since the 1960's. Peter has been involved in community, social and political struggles for over 40 years. A foundation member of the Australian anti apartheid movement, he soon found himself under sustained personal and physical attack for spearheading the struggle against South African racially selected teams touring Australia.

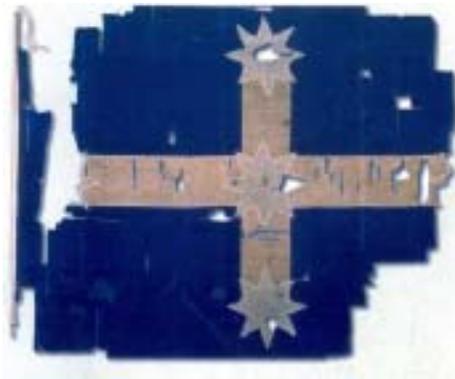
An academic who specialises in media, Peter has a profound knowledge about the unhealthy partnerships that exist between the media – both State owned and capitalist owned - the government of the day, the State and capitalism. A champion of community run and owned media, he has made a valuable contribution to the struggle to expand community media in Australia. He has always been interested in the fight for human liberty and has pursued that struggle with vigour and passion. Peter McGregor is currently involved in a campaign to ensure the war crimes that senior Cabinet Ministers in the Howard government and the former Prime Minister John Howard are responsible for, are brought to public attention and the men responsible for these war crimes are tried in an international court of law.

*“We swear by the Southern Cross to stand truly by each other
and fight to defend our rights and liberties”*

- Eureka Oath 1854

CITATION

EUREKA AUSTRALIA DAY MEDAL 3rd DECEMBER 2007



ALAN PARKER is a prophet who is unrecognised in his own land. An environmental activist for nearly 50 years, Alan has been at the forefront of the struggle for environmental sustainability, cycling as an alternative to the car, solar energy and the need to create an economic system that recognises the central role the environment plays in sustaining life on earth.

He is an avid writer and his ideas are easily accessible on the internet. Alan Parker had the foresight and vision to be raising serious concerns about the profit for profit's sake mentality that was destroying the environment in the 1960's and 70's. He was putting forward solutions in the public arena to the current environmental crises long before most people and governments ever knew, let alone acknowledged, a crisis existed. Thirty five years later, the ideas that Alan raised to try to address the current environmental crisis, are only now being taken seriously by the community, business and government.

Without men and women of the calibre of Alan Parker, the planet would be in a much sorer state than it's currently in.

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

- Eureka Oath 1854