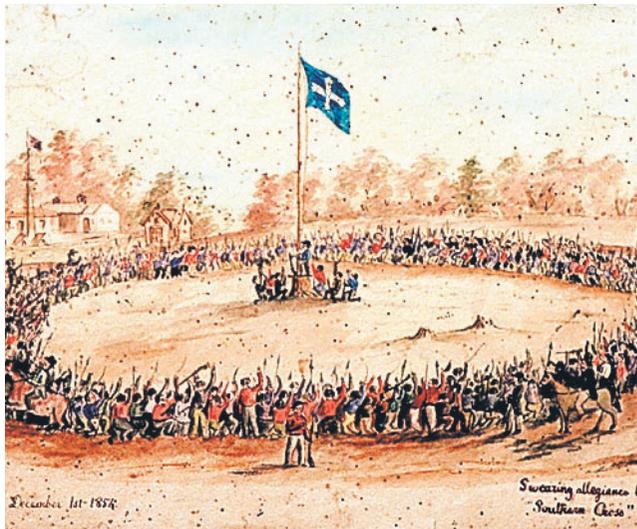


EUREKA STOCKADE

Explore this celebrated event in Australia's history.



THE STORY

The Eureka Stockade is an important event in Australia's history.

The battle began after a group of gold miners took a stand against the government over what they believed were inequities and injustices against prospectors.

The governor of the day agreed to meet a deputation but also sent troops to the goldfields, causing a violent clash in which 22 miners were killed and 128 arrested.

Interpretation of the events often varies, but one thing remains: the events of 1854 were a milestone in Australian history.

Read more about the events leading to the Eureka rebellion in 1854.

- Note the key government decisions that led to the diggers feeling victimised.
- Find out what specific event triggered the violence.
- Write 2-3 sentences each about James Scobie and Peter Lalor. Explain who each of these men were and the role they played at Eureka.
- Use your notes to make a time-line illustrating the events of Eureka. Begin with the discovery of gold at Ballarat and end with the storming of the stockade.

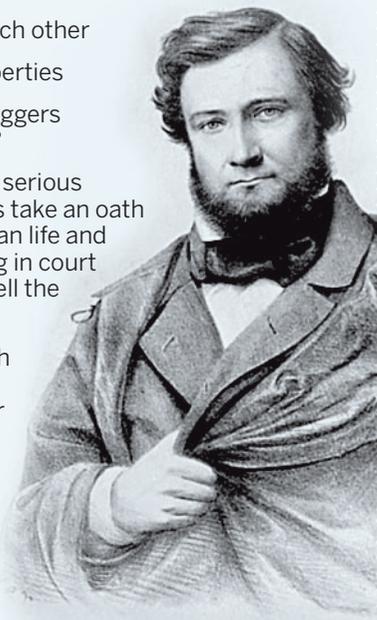
www.eurekaballarat.com

SWEARING ALLOWED

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

This oath was sworn by Peter Lalor (below) on behalf of the Ballarat diggers.

- Explain what you think is meant by:
 - > swear by the Southern Cross
 - > stand truly by each other
 - > our rights and liberties
- What were the diggers promising to do?
- An oath is a very serious promise. Doctors take an oath to preserve human life and people appearing in court take an oath to tell the truth.
 - > Compose an oath suitable for the members of your class.
 - > In what ways would your class function better if everyone honoured your oath?

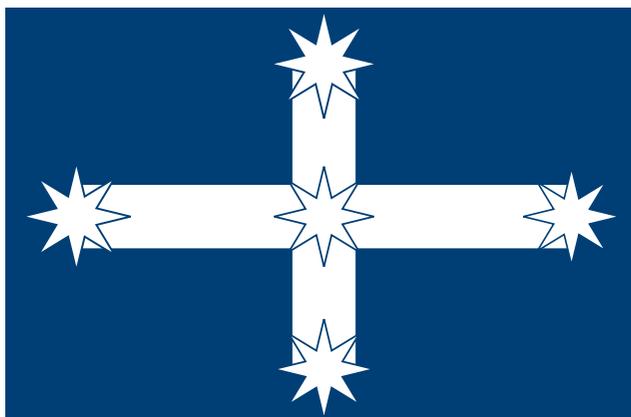


SIZING IT UP

The proportion of the Australian flag is 1:2, meaning its length is twice its width. In contrast, the official proportion of the Eureka flag is 13:20.

- Beginning with a rectangle 13cm by 20cm, draw your own version of the Eureka flag. Can you devise a way of making the points of each star the same size?

www.ausflag.com.au/eureka.html



FLAG IT

Since the rebellion the Eureka flag has become a powerful symbol in Australia.

- Find out more about this famous flag by matching each sentence part with its correct mate.

It is believed the Eureka flag was designed
The five stars of the flag
Today the flag is often used as
On the morning of December 3, 1854
The torn and tattered remains of the original flag
The white cross joining the stars
The blue shirts worn by many miners

Constable John King tore down the flag at the stockade.
represents unity in defiance.
are housed in the Ballarat Fine Art Museum.
by a Canadian gold miner named Ross.
probably inspired the flag's blue background.
a symbol of rebellion against authority.
is assumed to represent the Southern Cross.



BOUND FOR BALLARAT

Ballarat is proud of its Eureka heritage and its vital role in Victoria's gold rush era. Find out more about Victoria's largest inland city.

- Trace or download a map of Victoria.
- Mark the route from Melbourne to the centre of Ballarat.
 - > How many kilometres is the journey? _____ km.
 - > Name three towns you would pass through.

 - > How long would the trip take by car? _____
 - > Name three popular Ballarat landmarks.

- Did you know that if you see the word Ballarat spelt Ballaarat, it is not a spelling mistake? Find out why two spellings have been used throughout the years.

www.visitvictoria.com ... travel planner ...
www.visitballarat.com.au

RIGHTS AND WRONGS

Some people say the diggers at Eureka were heroes, putting their lives on the line to fight for their democratic rights. Others think they were unruly rebels and the government had every right to bring them to order.

- What three arguments would you use in support of the miners?
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
- What three reasons could the government of the day have used to justify its actions?
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 - > Who was right and why? Hold a class debate.