

**SOCIAL JUSTICE IDENTITIES 2024**

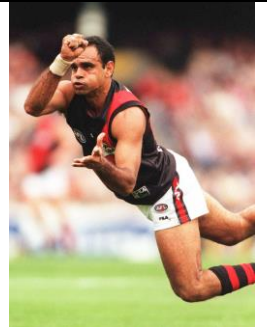
[www.melbournwalks.com.au/city-schools-tour](http://www.melbournwalks.com.au/city-schools-tour)

**Lou Di Gregorio, Tram union secretary 21 years, City Square, Bourke Street**

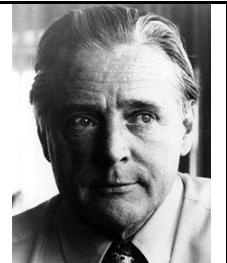
I was a union leader and former connie. I fought for decades to provide just working conditions for the tram conductors, drivers and train staff. In 1990 we fought the Governments attempts to sack hundreds of tram staff. We let passengers go free, occupied tram depots, demonstrated in the City Square and then parked 250 trams in Bourke Street to defy the bosses! Did you know 85% of the staff were struggling migrants like me? The public were right behind us. We extended those jobs for another eight years. Connies make the trams safe. Get rid of Myki and bring them back!

**Michael Long, creator of The Long Walk Foundation. Fed Square**

I was a champion wingman for Essendon: 190 games, 143 goals and two premierships. I championed justice in sport for Indigenous players after I refused to be racially abused, resulting in the AFL racial abuse code. My parents were part of the stolen generation and in 2004 I walked the Long March 650km from Melbourne to Canberra to demand justice for First Nations. Thousands joined me. Every May since then for almost 20 years the annual Long Walk has taken May from Fed Square to the MCG to watch Dreamtime at the 'G'. It is Australia's largest reconciliation event, with up to 14,000 people. Richmond versus Essendon sweaters make up the colours of the Aboriginals flag flying from Fed Square. Today the Michael Long Foundation continues to fund education and football programs for indigenous people.

**Jim Cairns, Anti-war protester, radical politician 1914 –2003 (Bourke Street)**

In 1970 I led **100,000 Melbournians** to sit down and occupy **Bourke Street** in the first Moratorium against the Vietnam War. More followed. We fought to stop a morally wrong war where young Australians were conscripted and dying. Public opinion turned against the war. When the Labour Party was elected in 1973, I became deputy prime minister and we stopped Australia's involvement the next day. And we let all the conscientious objectors out of prison! Its not just to force young men out to war against their will.

**John Chun Sai So 苏震西; Lord Mayor of Melbourne (Town Hall)**

I was born in China and came here when I was aged 17. At Melbourne University in the 1960s I campaigned against the White Australia Policy. A just society does not discriminate against people based on race. In 2001, I was elected and became the longest-serving Lord Mayor in Melbourne history and even won the World Mayor award in 2006. I made people happy and achieved cult status. I even had own fan club – 'John So, he's my Bro!' (repeat three times)

**Alfred Deakin Leader of Federation (1856–1919) Federation Square**

As a young man I was a Melbourne lawyer, journalist, philosopher and poet. My first job was as reporter for the Age newspaper in Melbourne. At Federation in 1901, I became the first justice minister and established the federal court system in Australia. A country can only have justice when all people are equal before the law. I became prime minister of our new nation three times. Repeat Patti's and our Federation sonnet (See Patti)

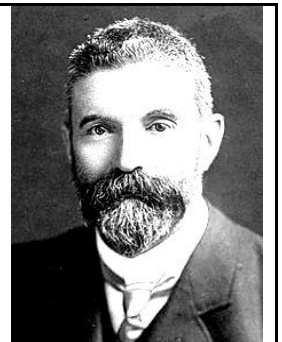
**United Now**

**One Nation Great and Free**

**One Land,**

**One People,**

**One Destiny!**



Try is one where everyone is equal before the law.

**Nonda Katsilides, Architect** (*St Pauls, Atrium deck*)

I am a famous Melbourne architect, born in Athens the home of democracy. Did you know my skyscrapers Eureka Tower and Australia 108 are the story of the Australia flag? Yes, blue and white is the colour of the Southern Cross Miners Flag, gold is what brought them to Australia and the red strip is the blood of the miners who died. The seven-pointed sunburst star on Australia 108 is the Flag's Commonwealth Star representing the unity of seven states and territories. Freedom requires people having a say in their government. Long live Democracy!



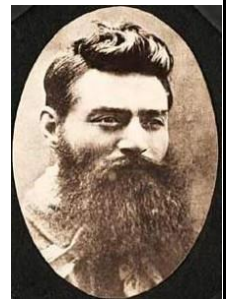
**Callum Neilson-Bridgefoot, (11)** (*Collins Street*)

I was one of the leaders the Big School Strike on 30 November 2018. We came down from Castlemaine on the Bendigo train and were joined by 8000 primary and secondary school students in a march up Collins Street. It spread across Australia and the world. How can there be justice when those people with the most to lose are excluded from decision making? I refused to accept that. We need action on global warming to save this and coming generations.



**Ned (Edward) Kelly, Bushranger (1855–1880)** *Forum Theatre, Collins St banks, Athenaeum Theatre*

The very first film in the world was made in Melbourne about me in 1906, the Ned Kelly Gang. All the old picture theatres such as the 1929 Forum were showing it! Eleven other Ned Kelly films have been made since! I have been described as a horse thief, bushranger and rebel and was captured in my home-made armour at the siege of Glenrowan. I was sentenced to death by Judge Sir Redmond Barry for the murder of three policemen but after they put my mother in jail, they had to pay! I cursed the Judge 'I will see you where I go!' and he died of an infected pimple of the neck 12 days after my execution at **Old Melbourne Gaol**. I was a pain in his neck! Every man must come to judgement someday. The impoverished Irish farmers where I lived, thought I was Robin Hood.



**Sir Redmond Barry, founder of State Library (1813–1880)** *Forum Theatre, SLV,*

I fought for years to create the greatest free library in the world, the SLV. I believed every person no matter how poor should have access to knowledge and education. For the same reasons I created Australia's greatest University: Melbourne University. Instead all people remember is that stupid Ned Kelly curse when I hung a bushranger and murderer!. I died only not long after he cursed me when I sentenced him to death for murder. Go see my statue is on the front lawn of the State Library, corner Lonsdale and Swanston streets.



**John Batman, Founder of 'Batmania' or Colonial Melbourne (1801 –1839)** *Young and Jackson, St Pauls*



I was a Tasmania sheep farmer when I led an expedition to sign a 'treaty' with Aboriginal 'chiefs' in 1835 to found the settlement of Melbourne and the colony of Victoria. We created the Batam Treaty, the first treaty to recognise the rights of Aboriginal people to sell land. Today Aboriginal people are still demanding treaty. Give it to them!



**General John Monash, (1865-1931)** *Princes Bridge, Flinders Station*

Ever heard of Monash Uni, Monash Freeway, Monash suburb? As an engineer, I helped build **Princes Bridge** in 1886. I led our troops to Victory in 1918. I created Anzac Day to seek justice for our forgotten injured, unemployed soldiers as well as impoverished widows, wives and children. Every 25 April we walk across my bridge from Flinders Station to the Shrine Repeat the Ode after me:

*They shall grow not old/ As we that are left grow old/ Age shall not weary the/ Nor the years condemn/ At the going down of the sun/ And in the morning/ We will remember them/ LEST WE FORGET.*



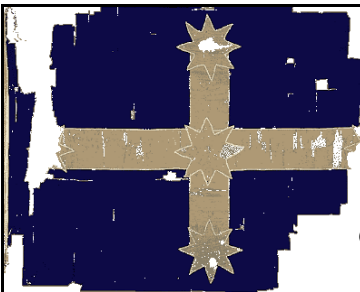
**James Stephens 1821-1889** *Town Hall, Swanston Street*

I spent my life struggling for justice for lowly paid and exploited worker. May Day (today Moomba) celebrates the 21 April 1856 when I led Melbourne's stonemasons in a protest march down the main streets of Melbourne to demand the eight-hour-day. WE WON!! My battle for a living wage helped inspire Australia to elect the first national Labour Government in the world in 1904. Repeat our chant:

*Eight hours work, Eight hours play,  
Eight hours sleep, Eight bob a day!  
A fair day's work, For a fair day's pay!  
Workers of the World!  
Unite!*

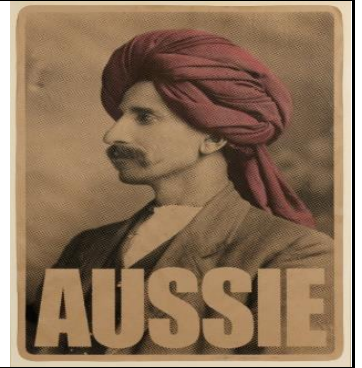


**Peter Lalor, Rebel (1827-1889)** *St Pauls, Eureka tower*  
As Eureka stockade leader in December 1854 I took the oath of the rebel miners: '**We swear by the Southern Cross to stand truly by each other to defend our rights and liberties**'. I lost my arm in that battle yet later became the only outlaw ever elected to parliament! On 24 Nov 1857 men received the right to vote. Our **Southern Cross** flag is now the Australian flag. Down with tyranny!



**My name is Monga Khan 1862-1930 Street Art Hero, Hosier**

I became famous when street artist Peter Drew put up 1000 posters of me all over Australia in 2016. He was exploring the idea what is a true-blue Aussie anyway? Then a book about me followed where 36 writers and illustrators imagined my life. I was born in India I lived, worked and died in Australia in the 1900s. My job was travelling all over Victoria as a hawker selling goods from my horse and cart. Like a travelling milk bar! I had to apply for an exemption to the White Australia Policy so I could visit home in India without fear of being kept out of Australia upon my return. It was not fair. That is why Peter had this idea of turning me into a folk hero!

**Mr Mac (McPherson Robertson) The Chocolate King, philanthropist 1849-1955) Block, Royal, anywhere**

I was a founder of Melbourne's chocolate industry. I was a teenager when I started making lollies in my mum's bathroom. In 1933, I invented the **Freddy Frog**. As a philanthropist I gave a way my fortune away to fund MacRoberston High School, MacRobertson Bridge and The Herbarium. I kept my workers work in the Great Depression and even sponsored Mawson's 1929 Antarctic expedition. It's the patriotic duty of every Melbournian to eat a chocolate frog a day. A just society is one where the citizens believe they have a duty to support their community.

**Matt Adnate, Street Artist (Hosier Street)**

Some people said I was only a vandal and graffiti tagger. Perhaps they were right! Despite, I stayed true to my art and today I am a famous Melbourne 'big-wall' street artist and paint around the world: London, New York, Barcelona. My paintings celebrate resilient people like those on the wheat silos in the western district, First Nation people like the giant boy in Hosier and the twenty-story Collingwood flats in 2018. Only street artists get a twenty-story canvas! As a kid in Melbourne I loved street culture like skateboarding, music and graffiti.

**Simcha Baevski, Founder Retail Empire (1878-1934) Bourke Street Mall**

I was born in Russia, youngest of eleven children. When I came to Melbourne I was just a street peddler with no English. I managed to build up a great store in Bendigo with 200 employees. In 1914 I changed my name to Sidney Myer and opened Myers - Melbourne's greatest department store in Bourke Street. Our Myers Foundation has given huge donations to Melbourne arts, science, medicine, writers and culture. We believe in everything Melbourne! Give back to your city!



**Val Eastwood 1910 - 1995, Val's Café, gender heroine (139 Swanston cnr Lt Collins)**

I was working as a model and dancer when, at only 17, when I opened a café opposite the Town Hall. Our famous Val's Café was a haven for people of all genders including artists, dancers, actors, political activists, bodgies and widgies, students, gay women and men. For the first time people who were outcasts of respectable society could be themselves. Yet over fifty years would pass before different genders received justice in the Marriage Equality Bill, passed on 9 December 2017.

**Zelda D'Aprano, Italian-Australian, feminist and political activist (any business)**

I left school at age 14, was married at 16 and worked in many industries where women were underpaid. In 1969 I chained myself across the doors of the Commonwealth building in Lonsdale Street in protest against unequal pay. I also helped to set up the Women's Liberation Centre in La Trobe Street. In 1972 the Government finally agreed to justice: equal pay for equal work. In 2000 I became Doctor of Laws at Macquarie University. My advice: !The right to protest is essential to gain civil rights. Get yourself a protest padlock

**Vida Goldstein, Campaigner 1869-1949 No justice without the Vote! (Fed Square traffic lights)**

I was a suffragette for the Women's movement and proud of it. You are looking at the first woman to stand for parliament in the British Empire. In 1891 we went from door to door collecting 33,000 signatures for the 'Monster Petition' demanding the right to vote and stand for parliament which we won in 1902. A person without principles is nothing! Stand up and be counted! You can all quote from it after me: *Government of the People by the People, and for the People, should mean all the People, and not one-half.*

**Julia Gillard, Welsh-born 27th Prime Minister of Australia (1961 - ) Fed Square**

I migrated with my family to Australia in 1966 and graduated from Melbourne Uni in 1986 as a lawyer. I was elected the first female Prime Minister but unfortunately 2010 was also the first hung parliament in fifty years. Despite minority government we passed an amazing 561 bills including major reforms in education, climate change, pensions and health. And the revolutionary NDIS Disability Insurance Some people didn't like a female PM in a common law marriage without children. Tough! My rant 'I will not be lectured on misogyny by this man' went viral on YouTube. Every citizen is entitled to a fair share of the nation's resources.

**Michelle Payne, Jockey**

The Nation stops for Melbourne Cup Day 1st November. I am the first female jockey (2015) to ever win the Melbourne Cup. It was on Prince of Penzance. Actress Rachel Griffiths made a film about my journey. But I have been fighting chauvinistic attitudes towards women in racing for a long time. Women want equal pay and equal work! My winning speech did shock some people (you can repeat it if you like): "*I want to say to everyone else, get stuffed, because women can do anything and we can beat the world*".



**Kirsty McKenzie, Pay It Forward Coffee shop, Hosier, (Soup Place, 14 Centre Pl)**

I started our coffee shop in Hosier Lane in 2014 for work experience for young homeless people. By 2022, we had shared over 7,500 'pay-it-forwards' for homeless people and created employment pathways for 45 young people. Our profits help Youth Projects in Hosier Lane provide free food, doctors, legal aid, training and jobs. Did you know over 50 cafes in Melbourne cafes now 'pay-it-forward'? Go Girl! Justice for Homeless People!


**Anastasia Hayes – Eureka rebel (1818 - 1892) St Pauls, Eureka tower**

I was a fiery, blue-eyed and red-head Woman of Eureka. After arriving at the diggings in October 1852. I taught 90 children in tent at Bakery Hill, Ballarat. When Peter Lalor was shot at Eureka, I helped to amputate his left arm and then threw it down a mineshaft. I sewed the giant Eureka flag with Anastasia Withers and Anne Duke as a symbol of the battle for people's rights. I wasn't alone - 5000 people protested for the miners at **St Pauls Cathedral**, got rid of Governor Hotham and started democracy in Victoria. Our flag of liberty is now on the Aussie flag.

**Constance Stone, first doctor 1856 – 1947 Walking women lights**

Despite great opposition I became the first woman doctor in Australia. In fact I inspired my sister, cousin and daughter all to become women doctors as well and together we dispensed free treatment to the poor in La Trobe Street in Melbourne. We campaigned for every woman in Victoria to give us one shilling each and with the Shilling Fund we built Australia's first Women's Hospital!

**Patti Deakin, Reformer 1863-1934 Fed Square**

I was 19 when I married Alfred Deakin who wrote me hundreds of love poems. My parents opposed the marriage. Obviously they didn't know Alfred was going to be Prime Minister three times! I worked for children's welfare, particularly establishing the kindergarten, crèche and playgrounds movements, and also to help servicemen in World War suffering poverty, unemployment and disability. A just nation ensures that all people are entitled to dignity and a decent standard of living.

**Mary Reiby, Cross-dressing convict horse thief 1777-1855 – On \$20 note 271 Collins, Westpac**

At age two, I was an orphan. Age 13 I stole a horse and ran away disguised as a boy. Age 15 transported to Australia with a seven-year sentence. Transportation was just slavery by another name! Age 17 married Thomas Reibey. Age 34 widow with 7 children. Invested in whaling, property, shipping. Age 40 founded the Bank of NSW, now Westpac (Melbourne branch 1851) in my cottage! Age 60 wealthy philanthropist. Age 78 deceased. Age 204 on the \$20 note. Not bad huh for a cross-dressing horse-thief convict? Never believe that a person's past determines their future. A free democracy means equal rights for all.



**Mina Guli of Thirst, Melbourne athlete and water advocate**

I was born in Glen Waverley and have been honoured as one of Australia's 100 most influential women. In seven weeks in 2016, I ran 40 marathons across 7 deserts on 7 continents including Antarctica. In 2017 (aged 46) I ran 40 marathons in 40 days on 6 continents down 6 of the world's great rivers. I did it to persuade young people to save water. My organisation Thirst has educated two million students in China alone.

**Germaine Greer, Author, radical, commentator, member of the Drift**

I was born in Melbourne and went to Melbourne University and associated with the bohemian 'Drift' group which often gathered at the **Swanston Family Hotel**, cnr Lt Bourke and Swanston Streets, such as Barry Humphries, Arthur Boyd, Leonard French, John Perceval, Clifton Pugh, Justus Jorgensen. My first book put me on the map - *The Female Eunuch* (1970) was an international best-seller. It urged women to define their own values, order their own priorities and decide their own fate. Many said it changed their lives. Some thought it was outrageous heresy. I tried to change the world. Perhaps I succeeded. Too many people accept the role in life that people with power give to them.

