

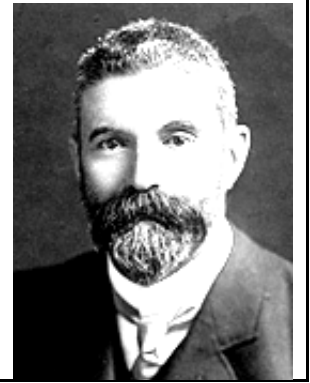
Alfred Deakin Leader of Federation (1856–1919) Federation Square

As a young man I was a lawyer, journalist, philosopher and poet. My first job was as reporter for the **Age newspaper** in Melbourne. I become deputy Premier of Victoria at **Parliament House**. For years I fought to make Australia a Nation. When it happened in 1901, I became Prime Minister three times! One of the secrets to my success was that as Spiritualists my wife Patti and I always sought advice from the dead. Luckily, they were always right. Julia Gillard should have tried it. Repeat our Federation sonnet: (*See Patti*)

United Now

One Nation Great and Free

One Land, One People, One Destiny!

**O'Squizzy Taylor 1888-1927 Presgrave, Bourke St, Chinatown**

They called me Squiz cos I had a drooping eyelid making me 'squint'. I was gang leader of the 'Bourke Street 'push' before Snowy Cutmore and I shot each other dead in 1927. Prohibition and the roaring 1920s was the time to get rich with two up, blackmail, sly grog and robbery. Rumour has it that I hid out under the Americano Bar in Presgrave when I skipped bail for 14 months. The Yanks in the Dugout Basement Café 1941-2, next door in Capitol Arcade certainly were a cash cow for our illegal booze and gambling. (*see Dolly*)

**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 all men received the right to vote. Our **Southern Cross** flag is now the Australian flag. Down with tyranny!

**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. I captured bushranger Mathew Brady and married a runaway convict Eliza. We had six children but one drowned in the Yarra. At Melbourne's first land sale in 1837. I bought the

Young and Jackson Hotel site opposite Flinders Street Station to build a home for my children. It became a schoolhouse in 1839 and today a famous pub. See Chloe upstairs!



Ron Clarke, Runner*Myers, Nova Perio's statue*

I had the honour of carrying the torch into the stadium in the **Melbourne Olympic Games** in 1956. I was also the first man to run three miles in under 13 minutes. They said I was fastest man on the planet when I broke 17 world records and 25 Australian records in 1965. Meyers was covered in the giant 5 rings plus statues of athletes. They even started those legendary windows. After retirement I started a Melbourne sporting business. Want to run against me?

**Sir Frederick Sargood, merchant (1834-1903) 251 Flinders Lane** *(see Marion)*

My huge gold rush hardware store is now Ross House 251 Flinders Lane.

Look up and see all the Flinders Lane gold rush stores in Flinders Lane where bullock carts once carted goods from Enterprize wharf. My wife and I built the famous Ripponlea Mansion for our family home. Go visit! For success just follow my advice: *'In a gold rush don't dig for gold, sell the picks and shovels instead!'*

**Benjamin Baxter, Postmaster and Pioneer (1819–1906)** *GPO*

I arrived with wife Martha only two years after settlement. We had had nine children in all. St Kilda Road was once called Baxter's Track after me. My first job was a convict supervisor. Later Martha and I ran the first **Melbourne Post Office** before becoming graziers. We lived to a great age and founded the town of Baxter, south of Melbourne. Our house Sage Cottage is now Victoria's oldest house. Not a bad effort, eh? I lived to 87, she lived to 94!

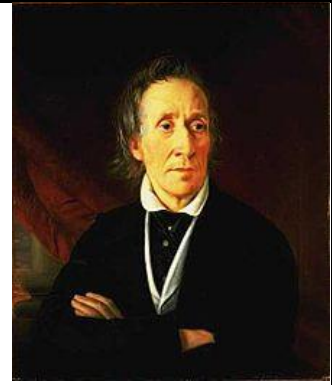
**Edward Cole, Marvellous Melbourne Bookseller (1832–1918) Howey Place** *(See Eliza Tasma)*

I created Melbourne's greatest attraction - the Cole's Book Arcade in **Howey Place** with a million books, a Monkey House, Band, Aviary, Fernery, Indian Bazaar and a Chinese Teahouse I also wrote Australia's most popular children's book '*Cole's Funny Picture Book*' in 1879. I advertised on the front page of the Herald offering 20 pounds reward for anyone who could find me 'A Good Wife'. I wrote often about how all people are equal no matter what religion or colour! I predicted flying planes and the Internet in the future!



Fawkner, John Pascoe (1792–1869)

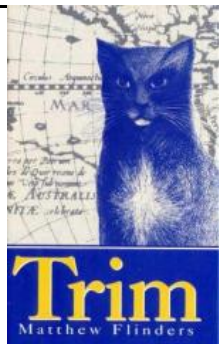
I may have been the son of a convict but in 1835 I chartered the Enterprize ship to settle at Melbourne near today's **Immigration Museum**. I don't care what people say, I was 'numero uno' to settle Melbourne! I also opened the first hotel and newspaper and became a member of Parliament' to look after the little bloke and stop the 'squattocracy'. Beware - you don't want to make an enemy of me! My dear plain wife Eliza Cobb was with me for 50 years. I picked her plain so no-one could steal her. My own looks were not an asset.

**Francis Clapp, 1833–1920 - creator of Melbourne's trams**

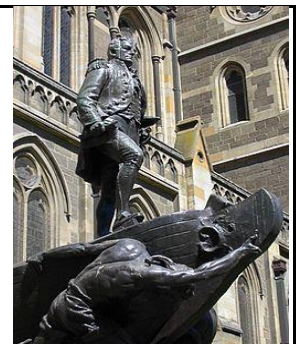
My wife Isabelle and I started with Cobb and Co in the gold rush, then horse trams and horse omnibuses. Did you know there were 18,000 horses in Melbourne? We owned 1600 of them. In 1885 we ran the first tram or cable car in Bourke Street from the Donkey Wheel House at 673 Bourke. Next year we carried sixteen million passengers! Could you imagine Melbourne without trams for 130 years? And for 113 of those years, until 1997, there were 'connies' or 'trammies' collecting fares and punching tickets and shouting '*TICKETS PLEASE!!*'. Bring 'em back I say!

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

I was a founder of Melbourne's greatest chocolate industry. I was a teenager when I started making lollies in my mum's bathroom. In 1933, I invented the **Freddy Frog**. Also the cherry ripe. I gave away millions to fund MacRoberston High School, McRobertson bridge, fountain and The Herbarium. I wanted to get people back to work in the Great Depression and even sponsored Mawson's 1929 Antarctic expedition. Today my company is Cadbury Schweppes. It's the patriotic duty of every Melbournian to eat a chocolate frog a day.

**Captain Matthew Flinders 1774-1814, St Pauls, FS Station, Flinders Street, Flinders Lane (See Trim)**

I sailed all around Australia to prove it was an island with my Aboriginal friend **Bungaree** and my cat '**Trim**'. Ever heard of Flinders Station, Flinders, Street, Flinders town, Flinders Uni? George Bass and I went around Tasmania in a tiny whaleboat called Tom Thumb to prove it was an island. Nowadays I am a pigeon perch at St **Pauls Cathedral**. Explorers today are such pussies. Not like Trim.



Nonda Katsilides, Architect

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. Long live Democracy!



Matt Adnate, Street Artist 1984 -

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.



William Degraives (1821-1883) Town Miller *Degraives Street. Degraives Lane, Flinders Station*

In 1851, the very first year of the Gold Rush, my brother and I built a huge steam-powered flour mill on one acre of land bordering **Degraives Street** (see my bluestone mill wall in Lingham Lane next door). Yes it was my wife Robina and I who fed the gold rush people of Melbourne with bread! In 1854 our company owned Flinders Street Station - the first steam railway in Australia running to Port Melbourne We became a fabulously wealthy squatter and a powerful member of parliament but I opposed voting by the riff-raff. Those Eureka rebels are just troublemakers! Our home was at **182 Collins Street**, just up from the **Melbourne Town Hall**.



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.



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



I was a hard-working young man who arrived just after settlement and rose to the very top of Marvellous Melbourne. I helped founded Melbourne University and the State Library and became a judge of the Supreme Court. I worked long hours and endured the arduous travel by coach, train or horseback to country courts. I died only not long after Ned Kelly 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.

Benjamin Fink, Land Boomer (1847-1909) *Block*

My family arrived on the ‘*Suffolk*’ in 1861. I was a gold dealer and ‘land-boomer’ during Marvellous Melbourne. One of my expensive schemes was the **Block Arcade** 1891-3, one of the finest shopping arcades in the world modelled on Milan's *Galleria Vittorio Emanuele*. I was ruined in the **Great Crash** of 1893 and lost many other people's money. My advice: if you go broke, run away to England and put your money in your wife's name. It works!



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. In **1956** our family created the Myer Xmas windows display, there were giant Olympic Rings and statues of athletes, all to celebrate the first **Olympic Games in the southern hemisphere!** . Our family has given huge donations to Melbourne arts, science, medicine and culture. We believe in everything Melbourne!



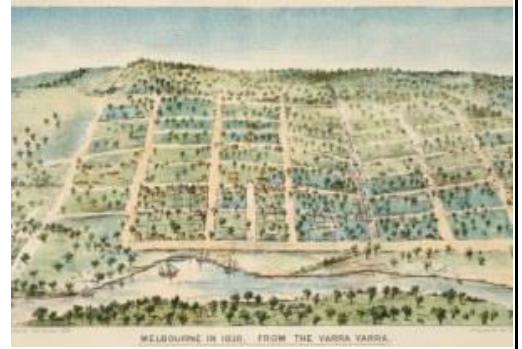
Harry Norris, Inter-war Architect (1888- 1966) *Nicholas bldg, David Jones, Majorca Flinders Lane*

Melbourne is covered with my 27 Art Deco Buildings, the earliest skyscrapers of the city! I built most of them in the Jazz Age or ‘Roaring 20s’ between the two world wars. My favourites are the fabulous **Majorca Building** opposite Degraes Street and the **Nicholas Building** at 37 Swanston, **David Jones** at Bourke Street and Block Court on Collins Street. I built lots of the Coles Stores for the Coles Brothers. I visited America constantly to get inspiration for taller and taller buildings.



Robert Hoddle, Surveyor 1794 -1881

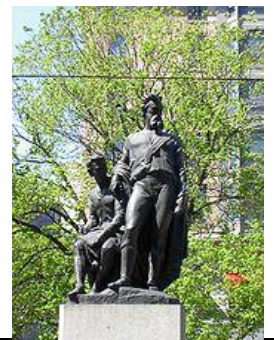
I mapped out the streets of Melbourne in 1837 known as the '**Hoddle Grid**' and the **Golden Mile**. My grid is exactly one mile by half as mile. Why do you think my streets are 30m or 99 feet wide? I figure that's the distance a bullock cart needs to turn around! Unfortunately, I put Elizabeth Street on a rain gully and several people drowned. Hey that's life! Maybe I shouldn't have rushed the plan in time for lunch They later ruined my wide streets with those 200 infernal gold rish lanes!. I also laid out Williamstown, Geelong and lots of other suburbs and towns.

**Robert O'Hara Burke, Expedition Leader (1821-1861) Bourke Street**

Ever heard of Bourke Street? People think its named for me but sorry its Governor Bourke 1837 as we were NSW until 1851 Separation.

I was chosen in 1860 to lead the greatest Melbourne expedition to cross Australia from south to north. Pretty good I reckon for a guy with no experience or sense of direction. Some say I was the worst explorer in history! Rubbish! It is true I managed to kill 7 people including myself, shot at the Aboriginal people trying to help me, and took a gong, a bathtub and a boat into the desert, Hey Ono-one is perfect.

They are all jealous because I have so many statues, artworks and films about me.

**William Barak Wurundjeri Leader and Artist***KHT, NGV*

As a boy, I was present at the signing of the Melbourne Treaty with John Batman in 1835.

As a man, I became leader of the Wurundjeri people and a fighter for social justice.

Today the Koorie Heritage Trust continues the struggle!

Many of my famous paintings are in the NGV.

Walk to the top end of Swanston Street and you will find the 30-story Barak building with my image! I wish they had done stuff for me like that when I was alive!

Repeat Welcome to Country after me:

We acknowledge the traditional owners of the Wurundjeri people and the Kulin Nation and their elders past, present and future.

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

Ever heard of Monash Uni, Monash Freeway, Monash suburb? My parents were German Jewish storekeepers in country Victoria. As an engineer, I helped build **Princes Bridge** in 1886. In WW1 1914-18,, I led the Australian Army to victory. Why on **25 April** does Melbourne 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.



William Buckley or Murrangurk (1780-1856) First European resident of Victoria

They nicknamed me 'the wild white man', after I escaped as a convict from Sorrento in 1803 and lived with the Aborigines in Victoria for 32 years before the settlement was founded at Melbourne. I crossed the Birrarung at the Falls. Being six foot and seven inches tall I think I gave them a scare when I walked out of the bush to meet John Batman's party in 1835. John Batman gave me a job as a translator and I built the chimney of his first house near Spencer Street Station. I proved it is possible to live as both a white man and a black man. Call me Murrangurk. That was my name for 32 years.



苏震西; **John So** - Lord Mayor of Melbourne 2001-2008

In 2001 was the first Chinese-born Lord Mayor of Melbourne, I was so popular that in 2006 I won the World Mayor Award.! In fact I had my own fan club with the motto: '**John So, he's my Bro!**' Chant it out! Check out our historic 1867 Town Hall, home of local government, comedy festival, orchestras and events. **Nelly Melba** sang here! What are the four figures on our 1842 Crest? What does our Latin motto '**Vires acquirit eundo**' mean? ('*She gathers strength as she goes*').



Tom Roberts, 'Father of the Australian Landscape' (1856 - 1931)

Me and my mates - Streeton, McCubbin and Condor - were determined to paint Australia in its REAL light and colours. So we created a new art movement called the Heidelberg School. In 1889, we staged the radical 'Impressionist' exhibition in **Swanston Street**, opposite the Melbourne Town Hall, painted on 9 by 5 inch cigar box lids. Here is my painting of Bourke Street. I painted it near the *Buckley and Nunn* store at **310 Bourke Street** (today David Jones).



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

I was born in Wales but spent my life struggling for the rights of every lowly paid worker. Every heard of May Day? This 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 fair pay helped to inspire the first national Labor Government in the world in 1904. Repeat the chant:

***Eight hours to work, Eight hours to play,
Eight hours to sleep, Eight bob a day!
We want a fair day's work, For a fair day's pay!
Up the Workers!***



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 three-time Prime Minister of Federation! I worked for children's welfare, particularly kindergarten, crèche and playgrounds movements, and also to help servicemen in World War. I helped found the famous women's Lyceum Club in **Little Collins Street**. Repeat our Federation sonnet:

United Now

One nation Great and Free

One Land, One People, One Destiny!

**Isabelle Clapp, - founder of Melbourne's trams**

People rave about electric cars of the future. Guess what, my husband Francis and I created electric cars over 100 years ago! They are called trams! And guess what? Not only are they electric but now they are solar as well! We started with Cobb and Co horse trams in the gold rush. Did you know there were 18,000 horses in Melbourne? In 1885 we ran the first tram or cable car in Bourke Street from the Donkey Wheel House at 673 Bourke. A year later we carried sixteen million passengers! Some of them were our 11 children. And by the way: **BRING BACK THE CONNIES!!**

**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.

**Eliza Batman, Convict and City founder 1802-1852**

Do you know what Melbourne's first name was? Batmania after my husband John and I. Our block and house is now the **Young and Jacksons** pub opposite Flinders Street Station. In 1820 I'd been caught using counterfeit money and was sentenced to Australia for 14 years. My jail report was one word: 'Bad'. Rubbish! I escaped into the bush in 1823 and met John Batman who hid me. Together we helped found the City of Melbourne. We had six daughters and one boy who drowned in the Yarra. It drove me to the demon drink. *See John*



Marion Sargood, Pioneer 1838-1878, founder of Ripponlea
 251 Flinders Lane

My husband and I were the founders of Ripponlea and owners of Melbourne's beloved historic Ripponlea Mansion. Our great hardware store is now **Ross House in the Rag Lane, 251 Flinders Lane**. I died in 1878 on my 40th birthday while giving birth to our twelfth child Frederick. It was a risky business in those days. The National Trust has bought my home. Please visit my house, gardens and lake in Hotham Street that I was so passionate about.



Eliza 'Tasma', Bookshop owner and medium, Coles Bookshop *Howey Place (see Edward Cole)*

I was 29 when I answered an advertisement by Edward Cole offering a twenty pound reward for wife in 1884. I agreed to marry if her turned up at the corner of Spring and Collins Street on time. We raised six children. I assisted in the running of the Coles Book Arcade in **Howey Place**, the biggest book store in the world. I also acted as 'medium' receiving messages from the spirit world as did many other leading persons at the time.



Martha Baxter, Postmistress 1812 - 1906

I was the first postmistress of Melbourne and ran the first **Melbourne Post Office**. **St Kilda Road** was once called Baxters Track because it led to our cattle run at St Kilda. My husband Benjamin and I had nine children and founded the town of **Baxter** on the Mornington Peninsula. After a lifetime of hard work. I lived to the age of 94. Not bad achievements, eh?



Eliza Cobb, Founding Pioneer 1800-1879

For 51 years I was the devoted partner of John Fawcner, a founding settler of European Melbourne. We built our house on the corner of **Flinders Lane** and Williams Street. I was sentenced to 7 years transportation to Tasmania in 1818 for kidnapping a baby. Men rushed to my ship to choose a wife. My husband said he chose the plainest woman on board because someone stole his first choice. However, when he finally died I became a wealthy woman, plain or not!



Mary Reiby, Cross-dressing convict horse thief 1777-1855 – On \$20 note 333 Collins, 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. 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? When opportunity knocks you have to be hungry!



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

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! Go see my building – the Womens Centre at **210 Lonsdale Street**.



Vida Goldstein, Troublemaker 1869-1949 (see Constance Stone)

Have you seen the **Walking Women Traffic Lights** at Flinders Station? In 1891 we were **walking women** who spent thousands of hours walking door to door collecting 33,000 signatures for the 'Monster Petition' requesting that women have the right to vote. I was a proud suffragette for the Womens' movement. In 2001 Australia became the first national government to grant the right to vote and to stand for parliament. Read the petition: '**Government of the people, by the people, for the people and not one half the people.**' *Vote for Vida!*

Nellie Stewart, Actress (1858–1931) *Federation Square, Regent Theatre, Melbourne Town Hall*

My reviews described me as '*a beautiful woman with expressive eyes, a finely tilted mouth and dimpled smile, a talented, considerate and versatile actress*'. When the Duke and Duchess of York came to Australia in 1901 to open the **first Federal Parliament**, I sang the ode "Australia" at the beginning of the musical programme.

I was certainly a darling of the Australian public in many plays and films in the **Bourke Street** theatres. In 1911 I was one of the first performers ever to be filmed when I acted in the hit Australian film: *Sweet Nell of Old Drury*.



Dame Nellie Melba, Opera Singer (1861–1931) *Melbourne Town Hall. Regent Theatre, Scots*

I was Australia's very first international star! I sang opera at many Melbourne theatres and the **Melbourne Town Hall**. I called myself Melba because I loved Melbourne and Melbourne loved me! From 1904 I produced over one hundred records for the gramophone invention. My real name was Helen Porter Mitchell, the eldest of ten children. *Peach Melba* a delicious dessert is named after me. My funeral was at **Scots Church in Collins Street** which my father David Mitchell built as well as many other Melbourne buildings.



Mary Gilbert, first European Woman 1817-1878

When I arrived on the schooner 'Enterprize' on the **Yarra River** on 30 August 1835, I was just 18 and the only European woman in Melbourne. Later that year I gave birth to James, Melbourne's first white child. My boss John Fawkner gave me Melbourne's first cat for company! The Lady Mayoress unveiled a statue of me in **Fitzroy Gardens** in 1975.



Fearless Girl

My name is Fearless Girl. I may be only 1.3 metres high but my statue created by sculptor Kristen Visbal stands in Fed Square since 2019 as reminder of the fight for equal pay and representation for women in the workplace. The 1969 equal pay decision saw Australian women win the right to be paid the same as men for doing the same work.

Don't be afraid.

Step up and ensure your rights are respected!

And take a photo with me!



Trim the Cat Explorer *St Pauls, Flinders street, FS lane, FS station*

I was the first cat to circle Australia. I was born in 1799 on Her Majesty's voyage to Botany Bay. In 1801-1803 I sailed with Mathew Flinders (ever heard of Flinders Street?) on the first ever ship to circle Australia. My owner Mathew Flinders was the one who suggested the name 'Australia.' I had a better suggestions: Pussygalore or Catastrophe. So much better but those naming guys were such a bunch of pussies!



Robina Degraives, Flour Miller, *Degraives st, Lingham La, Tomassetti Bldg 277 Flins Lane,*

I was the daughter of the Melbourne Mayor when in 1855 I married William Degraives who owned the giant steam-powered flour mill on an acre of land bordering Degraives Street. You can see our mill wall in Lingham Lane. Yes it was us who fed Melbourne's people in the gold rush with bread from our flour! We opened more mills and began trading in wool, gold, land and railways. Eventually we became fabulously wealthy squatters. Our home was at 182 Collins Street, just up from the Melbourne Town Hall. William died in 1855 but left a fortune. I had a lot of afternoon teas with it.



Meg Lanning TBM (captain of Australia's Women's Cricket Team) *Metro tunnel*

Hi, my name is Meg. I am very very boring! Underneath your feet are four giant Tunnel Boring Machines (TBMs) called Meg, Alice, Millie and Joan. We are digging the \$12b, nine-kilometre Melbourne Metro underground from Kensington to South Yarra. The others are named for Alice Appleford (wartime nurse), Millie Peacock (Victoria's first women MP) and Joan Kirner (first women Premier). How about a cheer for strong boring women?



Nova Peris Athlete, MP *Myers, Nova Peris*

In 2021 I came to Federation Square to unveil my statue. I won a gold medal at the 1996 Olympics in the Hockeyroos, changed to Running and won two more gold medals at the Commonwealth Games. Julia Gillard asked me to stand for parliament and I was the first Aboriginal women to enter federal parliament. In my first speech I raised the issue of the Stolen Generation of Aboriginal people removed from their parents in the bizarre idea of Assimilation. Believe in yourself, try as hard as you can and you can go far!



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!

youth projects



Dolly Grey, shoplifter, blackmailer, good-time girl

The gangster Squizzy Taylor was my husband in the Roaring 20s when you could make a fortune from two-up, slygrog, blackmail and shoplifting. Squiz and I made money from a 'honeypot' scam, blackmailing men in the back lanes of **Little Bourke**. I also starred in a film made by Squizzy called 'Bound to Win' We hit it big with a jewellery robbery at Fitzpatrick's 39 Collins Street. When I visited the Fitzroy 'push', I had all my jewels stolen. Within three weeks, eighteen bullets had been extracted from the Fitzroy rats. I had a spell in Melbourne Hospital to remove a bullet from my head. Things got hot s9 we had to hide out for a while under the Americano bar in Presgrave lane. A girl has got to look after number one, right?

