Eureka Flag Style Guide

The Eureka Centre
BALLARAT VICTORIA
AUSTRALIA

2003 Interpretation
This 2003 scale drawing is an interpretation of the intention of the designer/s of the “Flag of the Southern Cross” – 1854 Eureka Flag.

Although flagmakers were common on the goldfields during the 1850s, the irregularly shaped stars and finely woven seams indicate that the flag was more than likely to have been sewn by several women of Eureka.

The stars were placed over the cross making them very hard to discern. The materials used for the stars and for the cross were different – perhaps due to the unavailability of suitable material or the haste with which the flag was made.

This specification follows the belief that the flag was meant to be symmetrical:

- the top and bottom arms of the cross were meant to be identical in length, as were the left and right arms,
- the eight pointed stars were also intended to be the same size, shape and point direction, and
- the stars were meant to be clearly identifiable.

Note: In this drawing, the middle star has been enlarged to overcome the optical illusion of it being smaller than the other stars due to its location at the intersection of the arms of the cross.

Eureka

The battle at the Eureka Stockade on 3rd December 1854 was a defining moment in Australia’s development as a nation.

Although the diggers were defeated in the battle, their stand led to political reforms which were the basis for the introduction of representative government in Australia.

The Eureka Flag was a rallying point for the diggers.

The specification for this drawing is based on the original Eureka Flag which is housed in the Ballarat Fine Art Gallery.

Please reproduce the Eureka Flag accurately, using the correct colour, proportion and detail as shown here. An Illustrator EPS file is available from The Eureka Centre’s website www.eurekaballarat.com

Acknowledgement is given to Norm & Val D’Angri of Ballarat for their assistance with providing much of the detail for this specification.