

TIMELINE OF ANNIVERSARIES FOR RADICAL ACTION

1915

21 April

John Manifold (1915-85). Poet and author of *'Who wrote the ballads?'*

A life-long Communist, joining at Cambridge in 1937 in response to the Spanish Civil War.

His 'Ned Kelly':

*And no man single-handed can hope to break
the bars;*

*It's a thousand like Ned Kelly who'll hoist the
Flag of Stars.*

See Rodney Hall, *J.S. Manifold* (1978).



Late April

Tom Barker, Editor of *IWW Direct Action* releases this recruitment poster:



In September, Barker is fined 20 pounds and sentenced to three months, later lifted for want of proof that it had been prejudicial to recruitment.

Let's celebrate Barker's daring and class-based wit by plastering the country with replicas of the original.

And lest we forget the stay-at-home patriots whose prayer was,

*'Would-to-god I were not so rich' or
'Would-to-god I were not so intelligent'*

*(attributed to Menzies), then I too would
volunteer."*

We often hear of the white feathers handed out to workers but less reported were the occasions when the workers harassed 'Mr Fat'. Take the case of the Hobart Master Builders, Alderman Dunn, chased down Argyle street by a builders' labourer shouting out, 'You ought be at the front, and get shot.' The alderman brought before the man the magistrates to teach him manners. The Master-and Servant mentality and the convict stain were strong in Van Diemen's Land.

19 May

Jack Simpson-Kirkpatrick killed on Kanakkale.

*'I often wonder when the working men of
England will wake up and see things as
other people see them. What they want is
a good revolution and that will clear
some of these Millionaires and lords and
Dukes out of it and then with a Labour
Government they will also be able to
make their own conditions.'*

*Jack Simpson writing to his mother in England, 1
September 1912.*

See Peter Cochrane, *'Simpson and the Donkey, the making' of a Legend* (1913 edition).

While Simpson was giving his life to help his mates, the directors of BHP were having to have their fingers prized off the profits from their trading through enemy contracts.

See Frank Carrigan's, 'The Imperial Struggle for Control of the Broken Hill Base-Metal Industry, 1914-1915', *Essays in the Political Economy of Australian Capitalism*, volume 5, 1983, pp. 164-86. Find it on

www.Surplusvalue.org.au

Carrigan concludes: 'Only the establishment of socialism promises a future in Australia free from the shackles of imperialism and war.'

31 May

Birth of Judith Wright (1915-2000), poet, feminist, environmentalist, secretary of the Treaty Committee, who took to signing off her personal letters '... with love and fury'.

Her book *'Coral Battleground'* (1977) calls the ban placed by the Queensland Trades & Labour Council on drilling on the Reef 'spectacular and unprecedented.' Under Gillard's un-Fair Work Act, the unions would be find a million each and every member who

1965

7 February

U.S. Imperialists start bombing of Vietnam.

21 February

Malcolm X murdered.



6 March

Labor needs 55% of the popular vote to get a majority in South Australian Legislative Assembly.

7-21 March

Selma killings and protests.



March

Feminists chain themselves to hotel bars, eg Regatta in Brisbane and the Civic in Canberra.



<http://splash.abc.net.au/home#!/media/1264357/women-rattle-the-chains-in-public-bars>

29 April

Prime Minister Menzies lies to parliament about receiving a request for troops from the South Vietnamese prime minister. See Michael Sexton's, 'War for the Asking' (1981).

Late June

Vietnam Teach-Ins begin in Brisbane and Canberra.



2 July

Victorian Secondary Teachers' Association strikes for higher salaries.

1 October

Indonesian blood-bath begins and is soon directed by the CIA.

See documentary *Act of Killing*.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Act_of_Killing

See Humphrey McQueen's 'How Suharto won Power' under Cold war o/s

www.surplusvalue.org.au

