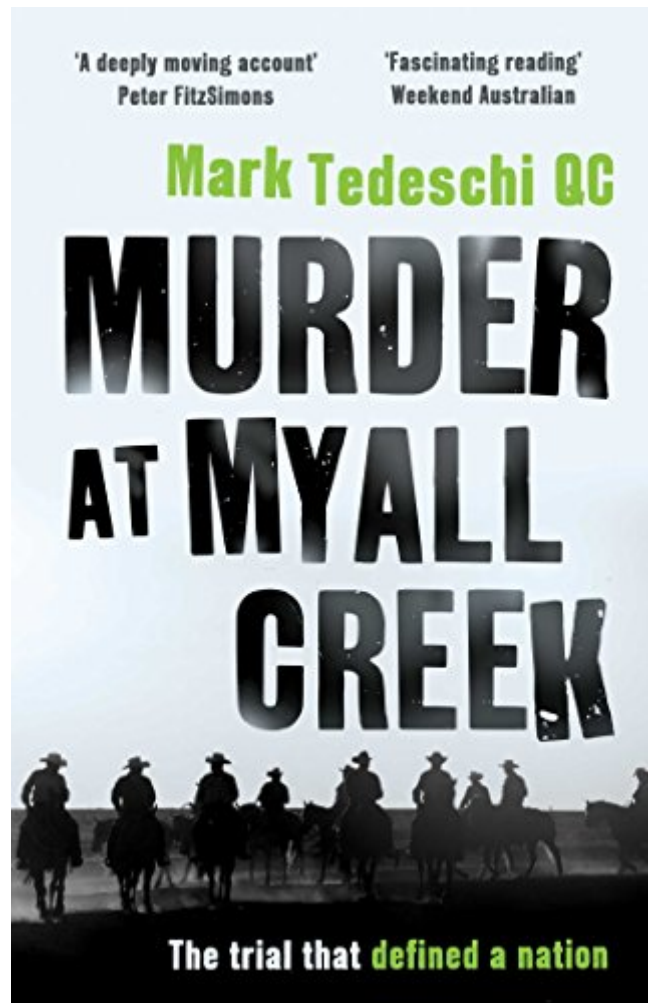




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# Murder At Myall Creek



## Synopsis

'A deeply moving account' Peter FitzSimons 'Fascinating reading' Weekend Australian 'A considered and elegant work' Bookseller and Publisher One of the most shocking murder trials in Australia's legal history, and the tribulations of the man who conducted it In 1838, eleven convicts and former convicts were put on trial for the brutal murder of 28 Aboriginal men, women and children at Myall Creek in New South Wales. The trial created an enormous amount of controversy because it was almost unknown for Europeans to be charged with the murder of Aborigines. It would become the most serious trial of mass murder in Australia's history. The trial's prosecutor was the Attorney General of New South Wales, John Hubert Plunkett. It proved to be Plunkett's greatest test, as it pitted his forensic brilliance and his belief in equality before the law against the combined forces of the free settlers, the squatters, the military, the emancipists, the newspapers, and even the convict population. From the bestselling author of Kidnapped and Eugenia, Murder at Myall Creek follows the journey of the man who arguably achieved more for modern-day civil rights in Australia than anyone else before or since. Praise for Murder at Myall Creek "The Myall Creek massacre is a stain on our nation's soul, with the only positive note being that the law brought the evil perpetrators to justice in a key trial that was a foundation stone for the integrity of our legal system. This wonderful book brings that trial, and the marvellous prosecutor, John Hubert Plunkett, back to life." Peter FitzSimons "A much needed and appreciated historical insight into the profession of a man who gained respect through the colonial era of Australia and his fight for justice through the law for my people, the Kamilaroi." Aunty Noeline Briggs-Smith OAM, Aboriginal researcher

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book opened my eyes to the reasons on going cultural issues exist in our indigenous population. This should be part of every high school curriculum. It would not only enlighten students to why the indigenous population has on going cultural issues but also enlighten many as to why and how our legal system has been shaped the way it is.

OK. A very legalistic coverage by a prominent barrister. Perhaps a little too long.

This is a very hard to put down book by a very well researched writer who despite his legal background, writes clearly and for the reader. This is an account of one of numerous mass murders committed on Aboriginal people during the formative stages of British settlement in New South Wales, Australia. Tedeschi takes us into the background of all the main characters and in particular the Attorney General prosecutor John Hubert Plunkett who had to work with laws that were designed to discriminate against the poor and Aboriginals. It is fascinating reading how you learn what drives the characters. Also the various prejudices towards Catholics, Irish, the poor and former convicts. Approximately 28 Aboriginal men, women and children were murdered at Myall Creek and up until the prosecution of the offenders this type of behaviour from some settlers was not uncommon. Mark Tedeschi writes to give the perspective of all the characters so you quickly get into their mojo. In the end seven of the 12 white settlers were executed for the crime with Plunkett suffering for his dare to prosecute them. The Aboriginals were nothing but savages! This is the book our children should be studying at secondary schools. It is a compelling read although like another reviewer has indicated, it was a bit long but only in some places. The book probably was also about Plunkett and the author is to be commended for bringing this important character in Australian history to greater prominence. It's a great book

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