



## **‘A MODERN MUTINY’ ON NORFOLK ISLAND ‘WITH BLIGH BACK ON DECK’**

The Norfolk Island People, the descendants of the Bounty Mutineers and their Tahitian wives, are locked in a David v Goliath battle with the Commonwealth Government of Australia to retain their freedoms and their homeland - Norfolk Island; a tiny island in the South Pacific Ocean with a community of around 1800 people.

Today, the 25th of April 2016, a Petition has been lodged with the United Nations in New York by Geoffrey Robertson QC on behalf of the Norfolk Island People. The Petition seeks to have Norfolk Island listed as a non-self-governing territory and to have its Parliament and self-government restored to the Norfolk Island People following its illegal removal at international law by Australia on 17 June 2015.

Mr Robertson is accompanied by Albert Buffett and Ken Christian, the President and Vice-President respectively of the Island’s Council of Elders. Mr Buffett and Mr Christian are Norfolk Islanders of Pitcairn descent.

The word ‘MUTINY’ was recently painted on a wall in the World Heritage listed site on Norfolk Island known as KAVHA – the Kingston and Arthurs Vale Historic Area.



There are Norfolk Islanders today of Pitcairn descent who clearly understand the significance of the word ‘Mutiny’ and viewed ‘the graffiti’ as a reflection on their past – on their culture and heritage which had its genesis in the famous Mutiny on the Bounty in 1789; the subsequent settlement in 1790 on Pitcairn Island of the Mutineers and their Tahitian wives; the evolution of a new ethnically distinct race of people – the Pitcairners; a self-governing race of people who in June 1856 were resettled as a whole community on Norfolk Island bringing with them their 39 laws and their own distinct language, customs, culture and traditions.. The descendants of the Pitcairners are the Norfolk Islanders of today.

**It is an undeniable fact that without a Mutiny there would not be a Pitcairn Islander or a Norfolk Islander today!**

So what is a Mutiny? One person might say 'Mutiny is a justified insurrection, necessary to uphold and restore the dignity of man and the civility of civilisation'. Another could be heard to say "Mutiny is a reaction to tyranny and is linked to the core principle in democracy: the consent of the governed. A Mutiny then is a revolt by the governed, a revolt against injustice."

However, the question to be asked today is - has the Mutiny saga concluded? The answer to that question on Norfolk Island lies in the hands of -

### THE NORFOLK ISLAND PEOPLE

Malcolm **BLIGH** Turnbull, Prime Minister of Australia, speaking at the Centre for Strategic and International Studies in Washington DC on 19 January 2016 about China and the islands in the South China Sea, is on record as saying on ABC News 24 that -

"Now, the international order, the Rule of Law, seeks to ensure ... that MIGHT IS NOT RIGHT and that is why we will always work with the United States and our other allies and partners to uphold it."

Does Prime Minister Malcolm **BLIGH** Turnbull really believe the words he is putting out to the world? He says might is not right but was a member of voted-in the Australian Parliament in 2015 which voted in favour of the abolition of the Norfolk Island Parliament and the removal of self-government; an action which—thus ignored ing the wishes of the majority of the Norfolk Island People; a people who, on 8 May 2015 at a legally constituted referendum, requested that they should have the right "to freely determine their political status, their economic, social and cultural development and be consulted at referendum or plebiscite on the future model of governance for Norfolk Island before such changes are acted on by the Australian Parliament" ....

### AND THAT IS NOT RIGHT!

Today, the Norfolk Island People are taking back their power and with the lodgement of their petition to the United Nations are demonstrating to the world they do not accept the perpetuation of injustice by Bligh against the wishes of the majority of the governed on Norfolk Island.



From Robin Adams  
Norfolk Island resident of Pitcairn Descent  
25 April 2016

For background to this article and for further reading –

1. Norfolk Island People for Democracy – Genesis of and journey to the United Nations  
<http://www.norfolkschoice.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/NIPD.pdf>
2. Press releases – Norfolk Island People for Democracy  
<http://www.norfolkschoice.com/press-releases/>
3. Articles released by Dr Chris Nobbs re. current political events on Norfolk Island.  
<http://www.norfolkonlinenews.com/chris-nobbs.html>