

# Troubie Theatre

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# Referendum

*"A little girl with a fantastic voice led the singing & we sang Beatles songs all the way back. The spirit was tremendous."* – Moree pool. Freedom Ride Diary Curthoys A 1965

Brett Hunt has a degree in acting & has released four music CD's. He most recently appeared at the **Australian War Memorial** receiving a standing ovation for his one-man play *Vietnam. Dusted Off* from an audience of veterans & their families. In **Referendum** Brett uses acting, storytelling, guitar, harmonica & singing to explore the civil rights movement, in both America & Australia, leading up to the 1967 referendum.

An argument for a NO vote had not been formulated as a majority of politicians had favoured the proposal. The amendment passed in a landslide with 90.77 percent voting for change. Aboriginal people would now be counted in the census & the door was open to further legislate to end discrimination & empower Aboriginal people.

**Referendum** looks at the decades preceding this historic vote from the perspective of the white community. It reflects on the evolution of attitudes & public awareness in middle Australia & the rise of the civil rights movement.

## Curriculum Area's Covered

- Attitudes & actions within the White community. The US Freedom Riders
- Rights & freedoms denied pre-1965.
- Stolen generation & assimilation.
- US civil rights movement.
- Freedom rides.
- 1962 right to vote.
- 1967 Referendum.

## Freedom Music performed live

- Elvis Presley
- Swing Low Sweet Chariot
- Buses are a-comin.. Oh Yes!
- Louis Armstrong
- Goanna
- Sam Cooke

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*The Australian Freedom Riders at the Moree pool*

**This presentation makes use of historical primary sources: speeches, songs, poetry, political declarations, reportage, anecdotes, recollection & opinion.**

**Cost per student: \$7.70 (\$7 + .70c GST)**  
**Minimum per session: \$770 (\$700 + \$70 GST) – 100 students or less**  
**Duration: 55 Minutes + 15 Minutes Question Time**