



PRIME MINISTER

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER**

**AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL FLAG DAY 2017**

Each year on 3 September, Australians celebrate the day we first flew our National Flag.

It is a day to remember the history and achievements of our people, and to be thankful for our great fortune to live in a stable, peaceful and prosperous country.

Since our flag was first unfurled, Australians have endured periods of great political, economic and social change.

The 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries have proven to be remarkable periods in history, with scientific and societal advances giving Australians a quality of life unimagined by previous generations.

Though this era also witnessed the unprecedented bloodshed of two world wars, we can say that our people have never been safer, healthier or more hopeful.

Through it all, the Australian National Flag has united us as a preeminent symbol of identity and pride—flown at home and abroad, and in celebration and mourning.

By observing National Flag Day, we honour Australia's proud history, and re-commit to building an even better future.

The Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP  
Prime Minister of Australia

29 August 2017