

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL FLAG ASSOCIATION (NSW) Inc.

NEWSLETTER

245 CASTLEREAGH STREET, SYDNEY, 2000
telephone: 02 9264 8188 fax: 02 9264 8497

FOUNDED 1983 by Sir COLIN HINES OBE: PATRON in CHIEF; REAR ADMIRAL PHILIP KENNEDY AO RAN (Rtd)

August 2008



OFFICE OF THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

MESSAGE FOR AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL FLAG DAY

The Australian Flag is a symbol that expresses our unique identity, values and beliefs as a nation, and unites all Australians in times of celebration and sadness.

Australian National Flag Day commemorates and celebrates the first raising of the Australian Flag on 3 September 1901 on the top of the Royal Exhibition Building in Melbourne. Today it is flown from thousands of landmarks, buildings and homes around Australia and the World.

Our Australian Flag is made up of elements that remember our proud past, and look to the future: the Union Jack, the Commonwealth Star and the Southern Cross.

Our Flag epitomises our nation. It is a source of pride to the nation and continues to act as a beacon to those seeking lives in a new land.

I commend the National Flag Association for its promotion of the Australian Flag, and wish it continued success in the future.

Yours sincerely,

Barry O'Farrell MP
NSW Opposition Leader



Alan H. Evans
President

27 June 2008

Mr. R Wilmot
Councillor
Australian National Flag Association (NSW) Inc.
245 Castlereagh St
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Robert

I am delighted to accept your invitation to speak at the ANFA ceremony at Martin Place, Sydney on 3 September.

Every Australia Day at NRMA Motorfest, NRMA provides Australian flags and it is certainly a stand out for me to see everyday people – especially young children - carrying our national flag with pride.

Now in its 23rd year, NRMA Motorfest is a highlight of Sydney's Australia Day Celebrations providing a unique opportunity for motoring enthusiasts to get up close and personal to more than 1,000 veteran, vintage and classic vehicles.

We fly the Australian flag with pride and it certainly contributes to our event being a highlight of our national day.

The Australian flag represents NRMA's values of community, help, quality, speaking out and most importantly – integrity. These are our values and ones that we stand firm to honour.

I look forward to seeing you in September.

Yours sincerely

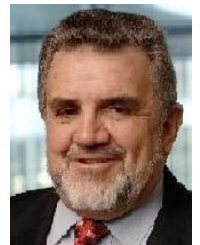
Alan H Evans
President



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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE 2008

During 2008 our distinctive **Australian National Flag of "Stars and Crosses"** has proudly remained the nation's chief national symbol by law, custom and tradition. It is **'the flag of the people as well as the nation'**, it continues to represent the enduring principals on which our nation is based and has served us well in both war and peace.

At the Olympic Games in Beijing, this August, our champion athletes will raise the Australian National Flag in the spirit of friendship and sporting competition when they take Australia to the world.

For 107 years our Australian National Flag has flown **'aloft and free'** and many Australians have actively honoured and protected the flag on behalf of the nation.

ANFA, therefore, wishes to acknowledge the impeccable service, of our popular **Governor General, His Excellency Major General Michael Jeffrey AC CVO MC.**

As our Australian Head of State, Governor General Jeffrey, ably supported by his wife Mrs Marlene Jeffrey, has been 'the chief defender' of our excellent Australian Constitutional System, our popular Australian National Flag and our unique Australian customs and traditions. During his outstanding



career, Governor General Jeffrey has actively served under our Australian National Flag in both war and peace. He served throughout many S.E. Asian theatres of war including Vietnam where he was awarded the Military Cross. He has commanded all combat elements of the Army from platoon to division including the Special Air Service Regiment (SAS).

Governor General Jeffrey and his wife retire, in August, after five years of magnificent service to Australia. We sincerely thank them and wish them the very best of health and happiness into the future.



David Reid



THE CANADIAN FLAG EXPERIENCE

An Australian minority voice will occasionally promote the Canadian experience as an example we should follow. It is a voice (or view) which totally ignores or does not understand the background of Canadian history or the disunity and disharmony in that nation. Unlike Australia, Canadians, after their national Federation, did not have their own flag, other than a Canadian red ensign, a British red ensign with a small Canadian Badge on it, right up to 1965. Also Canada was first founded by the French and became British only after the defeat of Montcalm at Quebec in 1759. Powerful French minorities remained in Montreal and Quebec and in the 1960s were threatening to withdraw from the Federation. In a desperate effort to retain the Federation, the Pearson Government in 1965 proclaimed overnight, a new flag to appease the French. No competition, no referendum, no debate or consultation. It was a desperate move which has brought much disharmony to the people.

It has also failed to appease the French minority which is still pursuing separatist activities. Australia must avoid this sort of damage at all costs!

MASTHEAD PROJECT - REPLICA FLAGSTAFF AT OBSERVATORY HILL

Vexillographer, Mr John Vaughan had his dream come true this Queen's birthday week-end.

After actively lobbying for 30 years a new 30 metre, fully rigged timber flagstaff has been dedicated at Sydney Observatory on the site of the Fort Phillip Signal Station. The magnificent flagstaff built by George Oxenbridge and rigged by Ross Pearce is traditionally of the finest native timbers from NSW north coast and was made possible by the generosity of the Bruce and Joy Reid Foundation through their son David and the Reid family.

The prominence of Observatory Hill was ideal for relaying flag messages from South Head Signal Station to inform the residents of old Sydney what ship was off the coast, the cargo she might be carrying, from where she has set sail and whether friend or foe. The first signal flags were flown in 1808 and the Observatory is now celebrating its 150 anniversary. The signalling system, devised by Captain John Nicholson RN, Sydney Harbour Master, in 1830, once extended as far as Government House Parramatta, then a vital and high-tech means of communication. *Cont. page 4.*



GUEST OF HONOUR

HON. BARRY O'FARRELL

**LEADER OF THE
OPPOSITION
PARLIAMENT OF NSW**

GUEST SPEAKER

**MR ALAN EVANS
PRESIDENT NRLM**

FLAG DAY 2008: 12 NOON

WEDNESDAY, 3RD SEPTEMBER MARTIN PLACE

**(BETWEEN PITT & CASTLEREAGH STREETS) HOSTED
BY DIANNA HAMMOND WITH ENTERTAINMENT
PROVIDED BY WOOLLAWARE HIGH SCHOOL BAND**



Woollooware High School Senior Concert Band

Since inception the band has a wonderful record. Highlights include Winners 1997, 1999, 2000 and 2007 in the Youth Marching Band Section of the Sydney Anzac Day Parade. Engaged to open the Sydney Anzac Day March 06 and 07 and by the Sydney Olympic Committee for the Southern Sydney Olympic Promotion. In 1997, 1998, 2002-2008 they were the chosen official band for Australian National Flag Raising Ceremony in Martin Place, Sydney. 1998, 1999 and 2000 finalists in Sydney Eisteddfod. Toured the West Coast USA 1999 performed at Universal and Disneyland, also in 2003 performed in Hollywood, Phoenix, Las Vegas, Grand Canyon. July 2006 placed third in prestigious Vienna Arts Festival. Recordings 1996, 1998, 1999 and 2000 plus a fine studio recording 2006 at Trackdown Studios - Fox Studio complex.

The next Annual General Meeting of The Australian National Flag Association will be held in the Boardroom, 7th Floor, ANZAC House, 245 Castlereagh Street, Sydney. Monday 29th September 2008 commencing at 2pm

Obituary:

**Sir Colin Joseph Hines OBE (1919-1992)
Founder Australian National Flag Association**

Born 16th February, Lyndhurst, NSW,
Died Orange 29 Dec.

Survived by Lady Jean Hines and sons Richard and Malcolm. He was President of the Leagues NSW Branch 1971-1990; Deputy National President and Vice President for 14 years. Prior to WW11 he served in the Light Horse Mounted Rifles (NSW) then in the Australian Army Instructional Corps as an Instructor at Eastern Command Training School at Narellan till 1942. He covered operational areas at Lae, Finschhafen and Madang and Northern New Guinea. Sir Colin was awarded OBE , 1973 & Knight Bachelor 1976; during the Royal Tour 1977, he was invested by Her Majesty The Queen at Canberra with The Queen's Jubilee Medal. He was always ready with challenging comments on many topics ie: National Flag, Defence, Immigration, retention of the Westminster System et al; He directed the RSL Youth Clubs Association Day Care for Senior citizens; also the RSL Insurance Plan in NSW. Foreign honours were bestowed on him with impressive regularity; his own words on his retirement were "I trust my small contribution to both National and State will enable this love of mine, the RSL, to flourish and grow. I know that those of you left to nurture it, will see to it"



FREE FLAG BOOK

For all of us who love and treasure our national flag of "Stars and Crosses" there is an impressive flag protocol book available published free of charge by the Commonwealth Government.

Write, ring or email your local Federal Member of Parliament and request a copy of AUSTRALIAN FLAGS to be posted out or collected.

Another recommended Government publication and

yours for the asking is "Australian Symbols".





ROYAL STATE COACH "Britannia"

Designed and Built in 2008 by Mr Jim Frecklington OAM at the former School of Artillery North Head Manly; "Britannia" is the ancient name of the island of Great Britain pre-dating the 1st Century BC and through the ages has been personified as the female figurehead of Britain.

The Royal State Coach "Britannia" is preceded by the "Australasian State Coach" also designed and created by Jim and presented to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth 11 in 1988, now residing in the Royal Mews at Buckingham Palace and used regularly by the Queen for the State Opening of British Parliament.

No other coach has been built since then. This magnificent new coach is the combination of many crafts, long disregarded and the brilliant expertise of Jim's modern artisans and artists.

The body of the coach is essentially aluminium which is relatively impervious to extreme changes in temperatures; the Perch, main support beam, is laminated spotted gum and the wheels and springs of high-graded metal from Whyalla.

The interior is lined with Silk brocade of the finest pastel gold colour decorated with the heraldic representations of England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland and fitted with all necessary modern conveniences.

An amazing list of historic timbers etc drawn from sources as varied as they are important has produced an invaluable "Time Capsule" Overall Jim and his band of leading crafts-people have produced a treasure which is non pareil.

To visit and view this wonderful Coach and listen to Jim's lecture is a must for all who value excellence and tradition. Ring on 02 9977 1086

Ring for an appointment to the lectures which are most mornings during the week, except Sundays. From near the Manly wharf visitors centre, take a 135 bus to a stop past the Manly hospital at the former School of Artillery. Enquire at their visitors centre for directions.

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In addition to the original numeral and descriptive colonial signal flags, new designs representing the planets, phases of the moon and constellations will feature with the daily maximum temperature and always the flying of our chief national symbol, the Australian National Flag at masthead.

Mr Vaughan arranged a spectacular "Dress Ship" display on 7th June for the dedication of the impressive new flagstaff which now gracefully dominates Observatory Hill.

Historian Peter Poland, yachtsman Robert Wilmot and Les Dudman, President of the Australian National Flag Association "hoisted the colours" with great enthusiasm to mark the special occasion. For further information contact:

JOHN CHRISTIAN VAUGHAN,
VEXILLOGRAPHER T02 9958 3246
john@australianflags.com.au

This booklet on the birth of our flag is available from ANFA for \$2.50 including postage.



FLAG DAY PARRAMATTA 2008

A ceremony commemorating Australian National Flag Day at Parramatta Public School, 177 Macquarie Street on Wednesday 3rd September, commencing at 2pm. Members of the RSL, Army Lancers, Parliament and local groups will be in attendance.

HELP!! We are in need of retirees to volunteer help, 1 day per week, to answer phone and mailing. Please contact us on 02 9264 8188 ext. 363 or 02 99880411

When in the city, you are invited to visit us at the ANFA office.

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL FLAG PROMISE

I promise allegiance to Australia & our flag of "Stars & Crosses",... to serve my country and all its people faithfully, ... and to uphold Australia's laws, values & traditions.

Email: nsw@australianflag.org.au

Website: www.australianflag.org.au