



PRIME MINISTER

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER**

**AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL FLAG DAY 2018**

On 3 September Australian National Flag Day is celebrated, marking 117 years since our flag was first flown.

As the chief symbol of our nation, the Australian National Flag welcomes our newest citizens and celebrates our achievements. It has flown on battlefields far from home and solemnly marked our times of mourning.

The Australian National Flag was chosen through an international competition, an early sign of our creativity and steadfast belief in giving each other a fair go.

As a young nation, we have achieved an extraordinary amount since the flag was first unfurled at Melbourne's Exhibition Building in 1901.

Under this flag we have grown into a prosperous and peaceful modern nation, and forged unique Australia values, underpinned by democracy and egalitarianism.

Today, our flag flies proudly atop our institutions, homes and schools, the only national flag to fly across an entire continent. It is often accompanied by the Australian Aboriginal Flag and Torres Strait Islander Flag, in a powerful reminder of the richness of our great country.

Australian National Flag Day is an enduring reminder of our history and an opportunity to affirm our commitment to an even stronger future for all Australians.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mal Turnbull'.

The Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP  
Prime Minister of Australia