



SENATOR THE HON JAMES MCGRATH
ASSISTANT MINISTER TO THE PRIME MINISTER

Message from Senator the Hon. James McGrath

Australian National Flag Day 2018

117 years ago, on 3 September 1901, a blue flag – 11 metres long and 5 and a half metres wide – was raised for the first time from the main dome of the Royal Exhibition Building in Melbourne, the then home of the Commonwealth Parliament.

Since that day, the Australian National Flag – that blue flag of stars and crosses – has proudly represented our young Federation at home and abroad, and expressed the shared identity of all Australians.

It is a symbol of the values for which our nation stands, and a beacon of the freedoms and liberties for which countless brave Australians have fought.

I commend the great work of the Australian National Flag Association of New South Wales in building community understanding of the Australian National Flag and its history.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'J' followed by a horizontal line and a small dot.

JAMES McGRATH
Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister
Senator for Queensland

13 August 2018