



PRIME MINISTER

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER**

**AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL FLAG DAY 2019**

For 118 years, the Australian Flag has been our foremost national symbol, proudly proclaiming to the world our history and identity as a free and democratic people.

Australian National Flag Day commemorates the anniversary of the day that our flag was first flown.

The Australian Flag was the result of a national competition. Of the more than 32,000 entries to the competition to design the flag, the winning entry reflected five almost identical designs. They became joint winners. Two of the five winners were teenagers, reflecting that the Australian flag was designed by Australians of many backgrounds.

Today, the Australian Flag flies high on flagpoles, is waved by patriotic crowds, and sewn proudly onto the uniforms of men and women serving our nation. It is hoisted high on days of celebration, and it sombrely unites us in times of commemoration, sadness and mourning.

The flag unites us all in pride for our country, and it flies in respect of all who have toiled “with hearts and hands” to make us who we are today.

This National Flag Day, I encourage all Australians to fly our national symbol and to celebrate not just our flag but all it has come to represent.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Scott Morrison'.

The Hon Scott Morrison MP  
Prime Minister of Australia

3 September 2019