



**A MESSAGE FROM THE
CHIEF OF THE DEFENCE FORCE**

This year marks the 121st anniversary of the first flying of the Australian National Flag (ANF) on 3 September 1901. On this important occasion, we reflect on the significance of our chief national symbol, including the unique values, heritage and national character it represents.

Over the past few years, our nation has endured much, including bushfires, extreme flooding, and the continuing effects of COVID-19. Yet, throughout it all, we have responded to these challenges as a nation, united under our national flag.

For Australian Defence Force personnel, the ANF holds particular significance. It is a symbol of the nation we are sworn to defend, and the high representational standards that are expected of us by the Australian people. When we look to the ANF, we are reminded of the extraordinary heroism and immense sacrifices made by our forebears while defending the ideals our flag embodies.

On ANF Day, I encourage all Australians to reflect on what our flag represents, and to honour the legacy of the brave men and women who have served under it to secure the peace and prosperity our nation enjoys today.

Angus J Campbell, AO, DSC
General
Chief of the Defence Force

11 August 2022