



PRIME MINISTER

MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER

NATIONAL FLAG DAY

The origin of our national flag is a proudly Australian story: a design competition in 1901 that attracted nearly 33,000 entries, a figure made all the more remarkable by the fact that our population then was scarcely more than 3.8 million.

It was a profound expression of the energy and enthusiasm of a youthful nation, and a victory ultimately shared by five entrants: a school student, an apprentice optician, an architect, an artist, and a ship's officer.

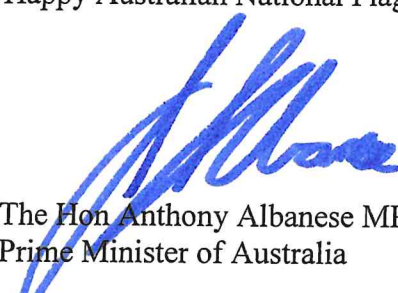
How fitting that the flag that represents our values of fairness, aspiration and opportunity for all was born of such a great collective effort.

It has gone on to fly above us through the good times and the bad, through the gifts of peace and the trials of war. It is a proud symbol of who we are and the great democracy through which we come together.

As we celebrate our flag today, we do so with the maturity to acknowledge that while it is central to our story as a nation, it does not tell the story in its entirety. We can take pride in the fact that this continent is home to the oldest continuous culture on earth just as we take pride in all that we have achieved together since we became a modern nation.

Australia is the best country on earth. Inspired and energised by the hope that our flag embodies, let us renew our determination to make it even better.

Happy Australian National Flag Day.



The Hon Anthony Albanese MP
Prime Minister of Australia

3 September 2025