

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL FLAG DAY

We should always take pride in the fact that our flag resulted from a design competition open to all Australians. Likewise the fact that there were nearly 33,000 entries – at a time we only had a population of 3.6 million.

It's a story we can take pride in as Australians, without ever making the mistake of letting the flag become a laurel to rest on. We can also pause to reflect on the fact that not every Australian has a straightforward relationship with the flag, not least many of our First Nations people.

We should think of our flag not just as a reminder of all that we have achieved and all that we have as a nation, but as an invitation to us all to do even better and achieve more of Australia's rich potential.

We mark National Flag Day this year during a time of pandemic. We are all in this together. Let us be as bold and ambitious as that invitation and come out of the pandemic even more together than we went in.

Yours sincerely,

Anthony Albanese

Leader of the Australian Labor Party Federal Member for Grayndler

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