



## Public suggestion number 12

The Hon Justice Duncan Kerr Chev LH



PRESIDENT'S CHAMBERS
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28 November 2016

Mr Tom Rogers Chair Redistribution Committee for Tasmania GPO Box 520 HOBART TAS 7001

## ELECTORATE OF DENISON CHANGE OF NAME TO INGLIS CLARK

I write to support the proposal to change the name of the Electorate of Denison to Inglis Clark, after Andrew Inglis Clark (1848-1907).

Inglis Clark's achievements as a parliamentarian, legislator, scholar, reformer, lawyer and, in later years, a judge of the Supreme Court of Tasmania are detailed in the biography *Andrew Inglis Clark* by F M and L J Neasey, University of Tasmania Law School, 2001.

The Hon Peter Heerey AM QC, then a Justice of the Federal Court of Australia, in a letter to a previous Redistribution Committee for Tasmania in 2008 observed that:

Next to Prime Minister Joseph Lyons (already honoured in the name of a Tasmanian electorate) Inglis Clark is probably the Tasmanian who has played the most significant role in Australia's political and constitutional history... The time has come for the appropriate recognition of Inglis Clark, one of Tasmania's greatest sons, and a founder of our nation.

Sir William Deane, as a Justice of the High Court, described Inglis Clark as 'the primary architect of the Australian Constitution' (*Theophanous v Herald and Weekly Times Ltd* (1994) 182 CLR 104, 172). Ill health prevented Inglis Clark accepting appointment to the High Court of Australia.

Each of Griffith, Deakin, Kingston and Barton who worked with him in the debates leading to Federation justly has been honoured by a Federal Electorate in their respective states being named for them.

Inglis Clark's entire life was lived in Hobart. It would be entirely fitting for the original federation seat whose boundary includes that city to be renamed in recognition of one of its greatest sons, and a founder of our nation.

Yours sincerely

DUNCAN KERR