



# Comment on objections 22

Cr Geoff Ellis

2 pages

As a resident, I have often contemplated the ill-defined boundary between Flinders and McMillan and longed for improvement. As a Shire Councillor I can see that a shire can be disadvantaged if it has two Federal representatives – in the recent Postal Survey legislation outcome the representative for the McMillan part of our shire voted NO whereas the member who represents the Flinders end of the shire voted YES.

I therefore welcome the inclusion of Bass Coast in one single federal electorate and recognise the commonality of interest across the proposed division of Monash.

My only comments in regard of the name Monash are to support the objections that call for Monash to supersede Hotham and the previously suggested Bunjileene-Purrine supersede McMillan.

A strong reason has been provided to rename McMillan.

Choosing a name that has Indigenous significance would be a great gesture of reconciliation.

I would suggest that thorough consideration of Hotham's name would also provide a strong reason to change – it denies the opportunity to acknowledge a worthier name.

In view of the virtual avalanche of submissions asking for renaming of many divisions:

- I am glad to see that so many great people have had their stories told to the broader community.
- As per my earlier submissions I request that the naming guidelines be reviewed and the primacy of ex-prime ministers be removed.
- I ask that, prior to the 2025 Redistribution, fresh guidelines be enacted and every division be reviewed through an eye for establishing a balance that more aptly reflects gender and societal diversity.

- In my opinion the current guidelines disallow many people who have already been marginalised by patriarchal disempowerment.

In closing, I thank the AEC for their efforts and point out that the number of objections received is an accurate measure of this State's desire to honour a wider cross section of society.

Cr Geoff Ellis

(Bass Coast Shire Council)

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