

Showing the FLAG



Emblem Book of the
State of New South Wales

FOREWORD

Flags and flag like objects have been in use since the dawn of civilisation. They have been a source of pride and joy and a rallying point leading to acts of great courage and sacrifice.

A nation's flag is an emblem which stands for its people, its history and its ideals. There are other flags besides national ones. New South Wales and all of the other States and Territories each have their own distinctive flags. The purpose of this booklet is to explain some of the history of the New South Wales Flag and Coat of Arms.

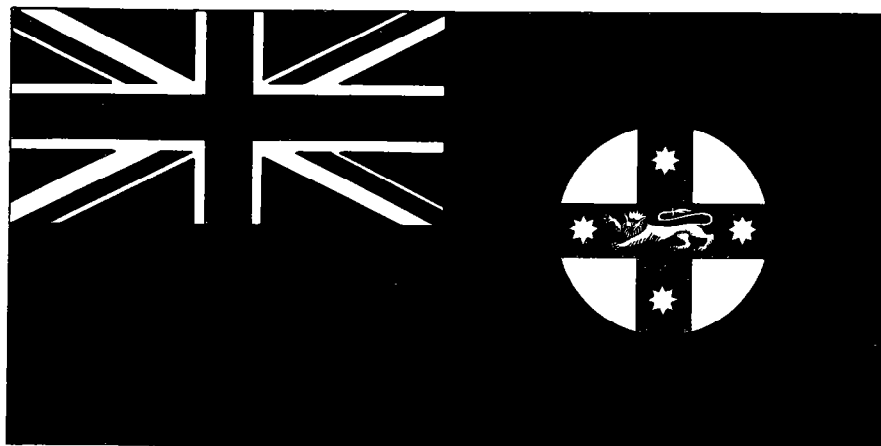
The Government promotes the flying of both the National and the New South Wales State Flags and encourages everyone, especially young people to become familiar with the rules for the correct use of these flags.

This booklet outlines the rules for the flying of flags. It also contains information about other emblems of our State, the Waratq̄h, the Platypus and the Kookaburra.

Premier's Department of NSW

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HISTORY OF THE NEW SOUTH WALES FLAG

By the Colonial Defence Act of 1865 it became lawful for any Colony, subject to certain conditions, to provide and maintain its own vessels of war, and these were authorized to wear the Blue Ensign with the seal or badge of the Colony in the fly.

The earliest badge of the Colony of New South Wales was the Red Cross of St George on a silver field. This was authorized in an Order-in-Council of the British Government dated 7th August, 1869.

On 15th February, 1876, a new badge was proclaimed in the New South Wales Government Gazette.

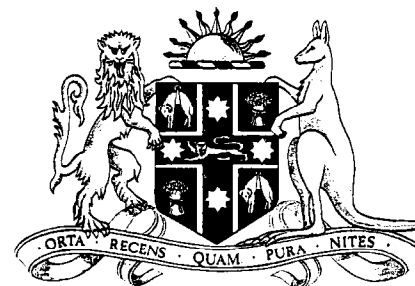
The notice read:

"His Excellency the Governor has been pleased, with the advice of the Executive Council, to direct that, for the future, the badge of the Colony to be emblazoned in the centre of the Union Jack used by the Governor when afloat, and to be inserted in the Blue Ensign by vessels in the employment of the Colonial Government, shall be as hereinafter described —

Argent, on a cross gules a lion passant guardant or, between four stars of eight points also or."

A free translation of this heraldic description is:

"On a silver background, a red cross bearing a golden lion in the centre and an eight pointed golden star on each arm."



HISTORY OF THE NEW SOUTH WALES COAT OF ARMS

King Edward VII approved the Arms in October 1906 with the following words:

"Know ye therefore that We of Our Princely Grace and Special Favour have granted and assigned and by these Presents do grant and assign the following Armorial Ensigns and Supporters for the said State of New South Wales that is to say for Arms Azure a Cross Argent voided Gules charged in the centre chief point with a Lion passant guardant, and on each member with a Mullet of eight points Or between in the first and fourth quarters a Fleece of the last banded of the second and in the second and third quarters a Garb also Or: And for the Crest on a Wreath of the Colours a Rising Sun each Ray tagged with a Flame of fire proper: And for the Supporters On the dexter side A Lion rampant guardant: And on the sinister side 'A Kangaroo both Or', together with this Motto, 'Orta Recens Quam Pura Nites'."

The central red cross, in a larger silver cross, is the Red Cross of St George, the old badge of the Colony. It is also the Navy flag badge and so recognizes the contribution to our discovery and development of the work of such naval officers as Captain Cook and Governors Phillip, Hunter, King and Bligh.

The four stars on the cross represent the Southern Cross, from earliest time a mariner's guide in the south and referred to so often in our poetry and literature as a national symbol.

The lion in the centre is the English Lion derived from the British Arms.

The first and fourth quarterings are the Golden Fleece a reference to our great achievement in the wool industry.

The second and third quarterings are the Wheat Sheaf representing our second and great primary industry.

The crest, the Rising Sun, continues the use of our earliest colonial crest, representative of a newly rising country.

The right hand supporter, the Lion, is a further recognition of the British origin of our first settlers and the continuing connection between the two countries.

For the left hand supporter, the use of the kangaroo is self explanatory. It is our most distinctive animal, restricted almost entirely to Australia and adopted so often as an emblem of Australia.

The motto of New South Wales "*Orta recens quam pura nites*" may be translated "*Newly risen how brightly you shine*" and, like the rising sun in the crest, is representative of our continuing progress and development.

FLYING THE FLAG

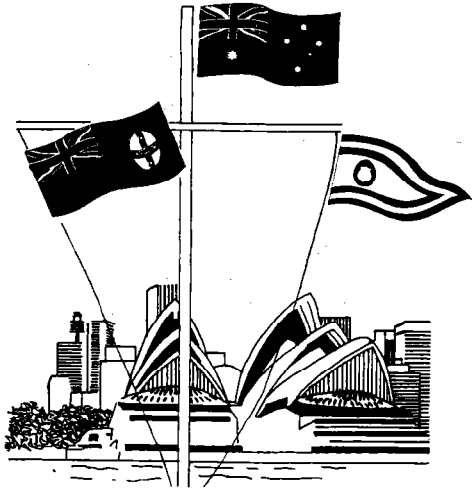
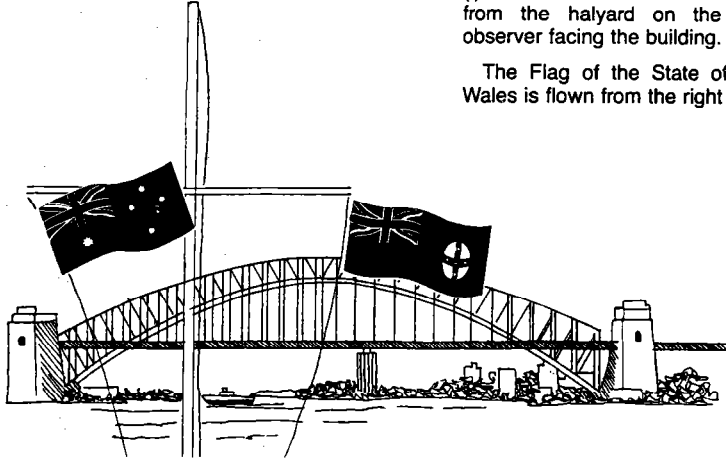
The following is an outline of the general procedure to be followed in flying the New South Wales Flag alone, or in combination with the Australian National Flag and other flags or pennants.

Inquiries about the flying of flags in ways not covered in this section should be directed to the Protocol Division, Premier's Department, Sydney.

(A) ON, OR IN FRONT OF, A BUILDING WITH ONE FLAG POLE WITH CROSS ARMS—

(i) The Australian National Flag is flown from the halyard on the left of the observer facing the building.

The Flag of the State of New South Wales is flown from the right halyard.



OR

(ii) The Australian National Flag is flown from the masthead.

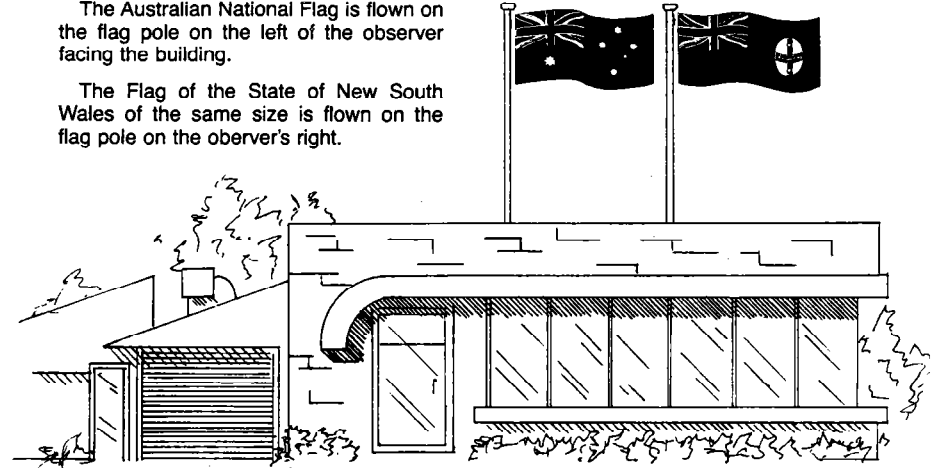
The Flag of the State of New South Wales is flown from the halyard on the left of the observer facing the building.

A House Flag or Club Pennant is flown from the right halyard.

(B) ON, OR IN FRONT OF, A BUILDING WITH TWO FLAG POLES OF EQUAL HEIGHT—

The Australian National Flag is flown on the flag pole on the left of the observer facing the building.

The Flag of the State of New South Wales of the same size is flown on the flag pole on the observer's right.

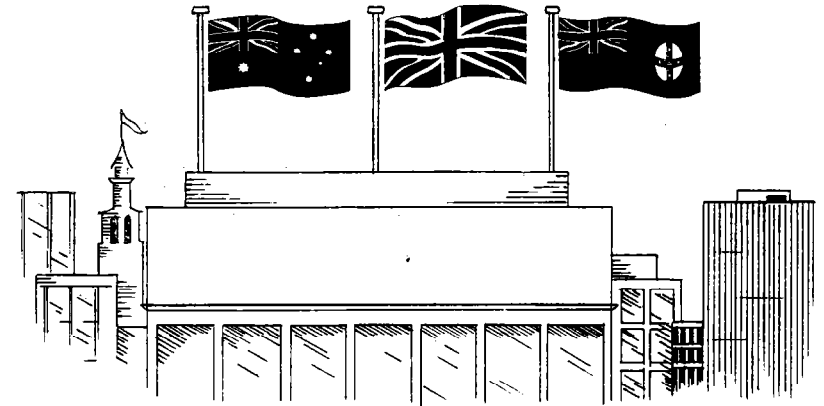


(C) ON, OR IN FRONT OF, A BUILDING WITH THREE FLAG POLES OF EQUAL HEIGHT—

(i) The Australian National Flag is flown on the flag pole on the left of the observer facing the building.

Another appropriate National Flag is flown on the centre flag pole.

The Flag of the State of New South Wales is flown on the flag pole on the observer's right.

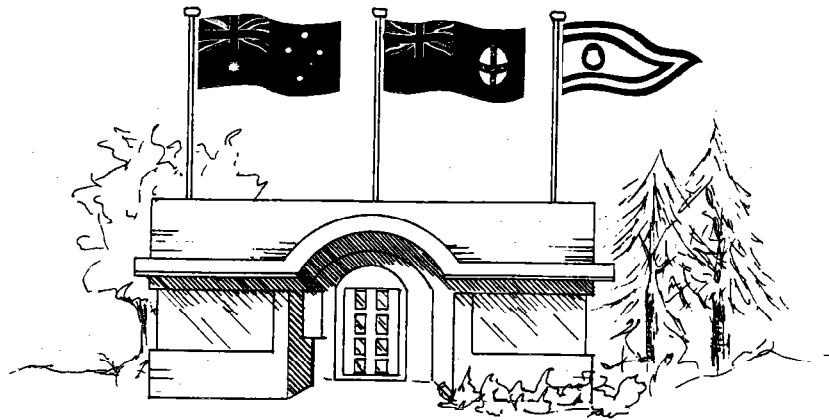


OR

(ii) The Australian National Flag is flown on the flag pole on the left of the observer facing the building.

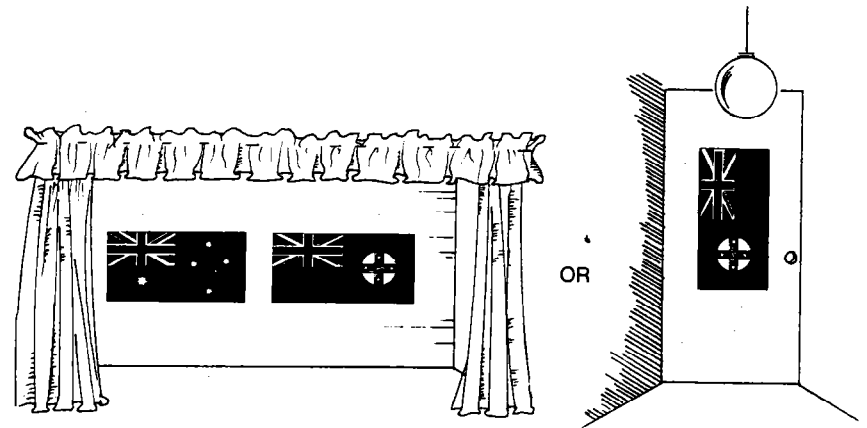
A House Flag or Club Pennant is flown on the flag pole on the observer's right.

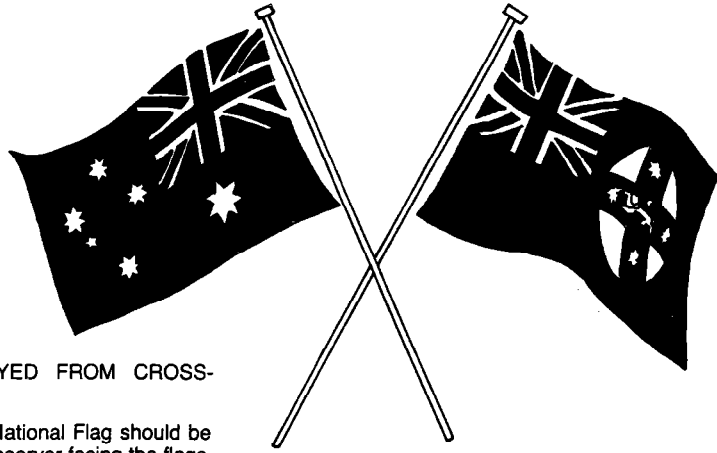
The Flag of the State of New South Wales is flown on the centre flag pole.



(D) WHEN DISPLAYED AGAINST A WALL—

The top left quarter of the flag is to be placed uppermost on the observer's left, as viewed from the front.





(E) WHEN DISPLAYED FROM CROSS-STAFFS—

The Australian National Flag should be on the left of the observer facing the flags. The staff should be in front of the staff of the other flag.

The Flag of the State of New South Wales is flown on the other staff.

USE OF THE STATE FLAG BY PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS

There are no restrictions to the use of the State Flag by private individuals and in fact the New South Wales Government encourages private individuals, companies and organizations to fly the New South Wales Flag.

HALF-MASTING OF FLAGS

Flags are flown at the half-mast position as a sign of mourning.

The Flag is brought to the half-mast position by first raising it to the masthead and immediately lowering it slowly to the half-mast position. The flag should be raised again to the top before being lowered for the day.

The position of the Flag when flying at half-mast will depend on the size of the flag and the length of the flagpole. It is essential that it be lowered at least to a position recognizably "half-mast" so as to avoid the appearance of a flag which has accidentally fallen away from the mast-head owing to a loose halyard. A

satisfactory position for half-masting would normally be when the top of the flag is one-third of the distance down from the top.

In regard to the half-masting of flags on

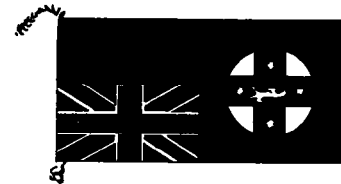
Anzac Day and Remembrance Day, please refer to the section of the booklet headed Special Occasions on which Flags should be Flown.

STORAGE OF YOUR FLAG

Unless it is properly illuminated, the Flag should not be displayed at night but should be lowered no later than sunset and stored in a proper manner.

The following diagrams will assist with the proper folding of your flag.

TO PREPARE THE FLAG



1. Start like this.



2. Fold it lengthwise once and then once again.



3. Bring the two ends together.



4. Now concertina by folding backwards and forwards.



5. Until it is neatly bundled.



6. It is kept bundled by winding the rope under itself.

SOME POINTS TO REMEMBER

(a) National flags of sovereign nations should be flown on separate staffs and at the same height. If possible, all flags should be the same size. The Australian national flag should be hoisted first and lowered last.

(b) The flag should always be flown or displayed in a dignified manner and flags should never be used for the unveiling of a monument or plaque, or used as a table or a seat cover, or let fall onto or lie upon the ground. If a purely decorative effect is desired without the involvement of precedents, it is better to confine the display to flags of lesser status, e.g., house flags, or pennants of coloured bunting.

(c) Flags should never be flown at night unless properly illuminated.

(d) It is desirable to avoid flying more than one flag from the same halyard.

(e) It is undesirable that a tattered or dilapidated flag be flown or displayed. When a flag is no longer suitable for use it should be destroyed privately.

(f) Special rules have been promulgated covering the flying of the United Nations Flag. All members of the United Nations have agreed that on United Nations Day, 24th October, if one position only is available, the United Nations Flag should be flown.

SPECIAL OCCASIONS ON WHICH FLAGS SHOULD BE FLOWN

1st of January

Anniversary of the establishment of the Commonwealth of Australia.

26th of January

Australia Day.

6th of February

Anniversary of the Queen's Accession.

21st of April

Queen's Birthday.

Flags should be flown also on the day appointed for the official celebration of the birthday, usually the second Monday in June.

25th of April

Anzac Day (Flags are half-mast until twelve noon, then at masthead until sunset).

Usually the nearest Saturday to the 29th of April

Anniversary of Captain Cook's Landing in Australia.

Flags to be flown only on day on which the commemoration ceremony is held — which will be notified in the press by the Trustees of Captain Cook's Landing Place.

2nd of June

Anniversary of the Coronation of Her Majesty the Queen — June Monday Holiday of Queen's Birthday weekend.

10th of June

Duke of Edinburgh's Birthday.

4th of August

The Queen Mother's Birthday.

24th of October

United Nations Day (United Nations Flag should be flown if available).

11th of November

Remembrance Day. (Flags at masthead from 8.00 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.; are half-mast from 10.30 a.m. to 11.03 a.m.; at masthead from 11.03 a.m. until sunset.)

14th of November

The Prince of Wales Birthday

In addition, Flags are flown on special occasions such as Royal Visits, and at half-mast for State Funerals and Funerals of Heads of State of other countries.

WARATAH

The botanical name for this plant, which has been adopted as the Floral Emblem for New South Wales is (*Telopea speciosissima*), which comes from the Greek "Telopos" — seen from afar; and "Speciosissima" from the Latin — very beautiful. No one knows the meaning of the native name "Waratah".

The Waratah bloom is actually a collection of small individual flowers, arranged in a dense cluster at the top of the stem and surrounded by bright red bracts. This colour and design attracts many native birds, which perch on the blossoms to drink the nectar, and pollinate the flowers in doing so.

In Aboriginal myth, the Waratah with its nectar was much loved by the great hunter Wamili. When Wamili was struck blind by lightning, the Kwinis, tiny bush spirits, made the cluster of small flowers of the Waratah more rigid so the blind hunter could distinguish it by touch.



M. CRISP/Australian National Botanic Gardens

The Waratah's stiff, elongated leaves enhance its beauty. The leaves — like those of gum leaves — turn sideways to the sun to escape the full blaze of its heat.

The Waratah is also greatly prized by gardeners. Under cultivation, it flowers even more richly and is a favourite at exhibitions. However, it should be noted that Waratahs are protected by law and no part of the plant may be picked.

KOOKABURRA

One of the most familiar sounds in the bush is the extraordinary chorus of laughter of the Kookaburra or "Laughing Jackass" as it is sometimes called. It is usually heard in the morning and evening but also at any time through the day. The true function of this famous call is to advertise their territory. Unlike most of its kingfisher relatives, kookaburras occupy the same patch of country all year round.

(*Dacelo novaeguineae*) the great brown kingfisher is a bird of the forest edges and clearings as well as the more open savannah woodland country. They have probably benefited from clearing of the country by the white man (one of the few species which have) and

have certainly adapted well to life in our towns and suburbs. They are quick to learn when easy "tucker" is available and will become quite tame if fed on raw meat. Unfortunately, they will also help themselves to fish in garden ponds and tend to frighten off the smaller birds.

Platypus

Platypuses live in rivers and streams of eastern Australia as far north as Cape York in Queensland and south to Tasmania. They are one of the two egg-laying mammals or monotremes (the other is the echidna or spiny ant eater) which are only found in the Australasian region. They are well adapted for a life in water, since they have close, plush-like fur, a flattened tail and webbed feet.

They feed on freshwater yabbies, worms, insects and their larvae, and snails, nosing in the mud and gravel with their sensitive bills.

The adult male has a poison spur on the heel of each hind foot. A person struck by the spur can become very ill displaying symptoms similar to a snake bite.

Platypuses were killed for their beautiful fur and the numbers and range of the animals fell alarmingly. Since given legal protection in the 1920's, their decline has been halted and they are now re-established in many areas. (*Ornithorhynchus anatinus*) "The creature with a bill like a duck" is no longer in danger of extinction.



R.H. GREEN/NPIAW



G. THRELF/NPIAW

