



Comment on objections 35

James Bogle

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From: Jim Bogle
To: [FedRedistribution - VIC](#)
Subject: MACNAMARA
Date: Wednesday, 16 May 2018 4:44:02 PM

Dear Sir/Madam,


I wish to support the honouring of Dame Jean Macnamara, with a federal electorate in the current Victorian Redistribution. Her tireless work in supporting polio patients, plus her urgings in the use of Myxo to deal with the rabbit plague, should be more than sufficient to earn her such an honour.

I did a brief study of ten existing Federal electorates to check for a connection between the electorate and the person whom it was named after. In most cases, the famous person was simply honoured by an electorate in their home state, and the area covered by the named electorate had little or no relevance to the honoured person. I found eight electorates, (Bruce, Calwell, Gorton, Holt, McEwen, McMahon, Menzies and Scullin) that fitted the above pattern, and there would be many more if I kept going. For research purposes, I used the website: www.primeministers.naa.gov.au plus a bit of my own knowledge.

There were two exceptions, (Lyons And Page), where there was a strong connection between the electorate and the person that it was named after. Perhaps significantly, both of these are regional electorates.

Hope this helps in getting Dame Jean Macnamara honoured with a Federal electorate.

Yours faithfully,

James Bogle,


APPENDIX - Details of the selected electorates and the famous people honoured:-

BRUCE - covers outer eastern Melbourne from Glen Waverley to North Dandenong. It is named after Stanley Bruce, PM from 1923-29. His early life was lived in Toorak and England. He won the seat of Flinders in 1918, lost it in 1929, and re-gained it in 1931 until 1933. Flinders then covered the Mornington Peninsula including Frankston. So no connection with Glen Waverley area.

CALWELL - covers outer north western suburbs including Broadmeadows, Keilor and the Airport. It is named after Arthur Calwell, opposition leader in the 1960's, who lived in Ascot Vale and held the seat of Melbourne.

GORTON - covers outer western suburbs from Deer Park to Melton. It is named after John Gorton, PM from 1968 -71. His early life ranged from Port Melbourne to Sydney and the family orchard near Kerang. Started as a Senator, but won the by-election for Higgins so as to become PM. No strong connection with area of the electorate, apart from being a Victorian.

HOLT - covers outer eastern suburbs from Endeavour Hills to Cranbourne. It is named after Harold Holt, PM from 1966-67. He was born in Stanmore in Sydney, then

lived at Nubba in rural NSW, Adelaide, before coming to Melbourne, where he attended Wesley College. His adult life was mainly in Toorak, with holiday houses in Portsea and Bingil Bay, North Qld. He first contested the seat of Yarra (Richmond - Hawthorn) in 1934, before winning the seat of Fawkner (South Yarra - Toorak) in 1935. In 1949, he switched to the new seat of Higgins, which had been carved out of Fawkner. Again, little connection with the Holt electorate.

MCEWEN - covers areas to the north of Melbourne, from Sunbury to Seymour.

It is named after John McEwen, an caretaker PM over the summer in 1967-68. He was born in Chiltern in 1900, orphaned in 1907, and raised by his grandparents in Wangaratta, Dandenong and Balwyn. After WW1, he became a soldier-settler at Tongala and later Stanhope - both in the Goulburn Valley. He entered Federal politics in 1934, winning the seat of Echuca. After its abolition, he switched to the north-east seat of Indi from 1937-1949. From 1949 to 1969, he held the new seat of Murray, which covered the Goulburn Valley, where he lived. So despite living in six quite different places, he didn't live in or near the electorate of McEwen

MCMAHON - covers some outer Sydney suburbs, west of Parramatta.

It is named after William McMahan, PM from 1971-1972. He held the electorate of Lowe, in the inner western suburbs of Sydney from 1949 to 1982. Unclear where he lived initially, but after marriage to Sonia in 1965, they started in a flat, but moved to a large home in Bellevue Hill, when their second child arrived. Both of these residences were not in Lowe. So no connection with McMahan electorate apart from being a NSW person.

MENZIES - covers Bulleen, Doncaster & Templestowe.

It is named after Sir Robert Menzies, PM from 1939-1941, and 1949-1966. His was born in Jeparit, in the Wimmera, but later lived in Ballarat for part of his schooling. The family then moved to Melbourne, where he attended Wesley College. After marrying Pattie Leckie in 1920, they lived in a flat in Kew, followed by more rental houses, before buying a house in Howard Street, Kew, which became their family home for 25 years. From 1929-1941, they had a holiday retreat at Mount Macedon, until it was destroyed by fire. Later in life, they lived in Malvern. Menzies entered state politics in 1928 via East Yarra province (Hawthorn, Kew, Camberwell), and then switched to lower house seat of Nunawading in 1929. In 1934, he switched to Federal politics, taking the seat of Kooyong (Kew, Balwyn etc), which he held until retiring in 1966. So no obvious connection with the Menzies electorate, apart from bordering Kooyong.

SCULLIN - covers outer northern suburbs like Epping and Thomastown.

It is named after James Scullin, PM from 1929-1932. His early life was spent at Trawalla and Ballarat. He first entered Federal politics, winning the seat of Corangamite in western Victoria from 1910 - 1913. Later, he won the safe seat of Yarra (Richmond -Hawthorn) from 1923 - 1949, and died at home in Hawthorn in 1953. Again no special link with the seat that bears his name.

LYONS - covers much of central Tasmania.

It is named after Joseph Lyons, PM from 1932-1939, and his wife Dame Enid Lyons, who was MHR for Braddon from 1943-1951. Joseph was born in Stanley, but in later life lived at Smithton, Ulverstone and Devonport. All these places are in the current electorate of Braddon, which covers north-west Tasmania. However, in politics, Lyons only represented the seat of Wilmot: in the State parliament from 1909 - 1928, and in the Federal Parliament from 1929 -1939. In 1984, Wilmot was re-named Lyons in honour of its former member and his wife. So here, there is a connection between the man and the electorate.

PAGE - covers a stretch of the NSW north coast, and includes both Grafton and Lismore.

It was so named in 1984 after Dr Earle Page, who became a caretaker PM in 1939. He was born and raised in Grafton, and practised as a doctor there, so he does have a strong connection with the electorate that bears his name. He entered Federal politics as MHR for Cowper, which he held from 1919 - 1961. In those years, Grafton was situated in Cowper *, but a redistribution in 1984 created the new seat of Page from the northern part of Cowper. So in this case, there is a very strong connection between the man and the electorate. * I found this from electoral maps in a book by Malcolm Mackerras in the 1970's.