



Submission FOB7

Anonymous 3

Submission to the augmented Electoral Commission

Objection to the Proposed Renaming of the electorate of Franklin to 'Tongerlongeter'

Proposal for the Alternative Name: Electorate of 'Campbell'

To: The augmented Electoral Commission

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1. Introduction and Purpose

This submission is formally lodged in response to the augmented Electoral Commission's announcement on 15 July 2026 inviting further objections regarding the proposed renaming of the federal electorate of Franklin to '**Tongerlongeter**'.

While acknowledging the Commission's intent to retire the name 'Franklin' due to significant boundary reconfigurations, I strongly object to the proposed name 'Tongerlongeter' and the others proposed. Instead, I formally propose that the newly configured southern Tasmanian electorate—which now sits entirely to the east of the River Derwent—be named the **Division of Campbell**, in honour of **Alec (Alexander) William Campbell (1899–2002)**.

I never had the opportunity to meet Mr Campbell but from my reading I am led to understand that he was a very good man, a very good Tasmanian and Australian and his name would be most suitable for adoption as the name of the reconfigured electorate.

2. Alignment with AEC Naming Guidelines

According to the AEC guidelines for naming federal electoral divisions, priority should be given to the names of deceased Australians who have rendered outstanding service to their country. Alec Campbell perfectly satisfies these criteria:

- **National Significance:** As the final surviving Australian participant of the Gallipoli campaign, Alec Campbell occupies an irreplaceable and sacred position in Australia's national identity.
- **Outstanding Service:** He enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force in 1915 at just 16 years old, putting his country before his youth to serve at the front lines.

3. Deep Local Connection to the Reconfigured Electorate

The Commission has justified a name change because the reconfigured seat will encompass the southeast of Tasmania and sit exclusively to the east of the River Derwent. Alec Campbell possesses a profound, lifelong connection to this exact geographic area:

- **Long-Term Lindisfarne Resident:** Alec Campbell spent his twilight years as a deeply respected and long-term resident of **Lindisfarne**, a major population hub on the Eastern Shore firmly situated within the new electoral boundaries.
- **A Local Icon for the Eastern Shore:** His presence in Lindisfarne makes him a contemporary local figure for the exact communities that form the heart of this newly redrawn electorate

4. A Lifetime of Civic and Work Contribution to Tasmania

While famously remembered as the "Last Anzac," naming the division 'Campbell' is equally justified by his extraordinary, multifaceted career and deep commitment to the working people of Tasmania. His diverse work history reflects the very heart of Tasmanian labor, public service, and community endurance:

- **Vocational Foundations:** Upon returning to Tasmania as an injured veteran, he underwent vocational training in motor body building at the **Hobart Repatriation Trade School**. He went on to work extensively as a carpenter, contributing his trade skills across the country,

including building the first Parliament House in Canberra in 1927.

- **Industrial and Union Leadership:** Throughout the 1930s and 1940s, Campbell was a prominent and fierce advocate for industrial workers. He worked as a carriage builder in the railway workshops and rose to become the **State President of the Australian Railways Union (ARU)** from 1939 to 1941, as well as the **President of the Launceston Trades and Labor Council** from 1939 to 1942. He also served as an organizer with the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners.
- **Post-War Public Service:** Demonstrating immense personal resolve, Campbell utilized veteran study loans to attend the **University of Tasmania** by night. He graduated with an Economics degree at the age of 50.
- **Supporting Fellow Veterans:** He spent his later career directly serving the Tasmanian community within the **Department of Labour and National Service**, specifically working as a specialized Disabled Persons' Employment Officer to assist and rehabilitate incapacitated World War II veterans.
- **Community and Recreation:** Campbell's boundless energy saw him work for the **National Heart Foundation** until retiring at age 80. He was also an avid sailor who built his own boats and competed in six or more **Sydney to Hobart Yacht Races**.

5. Commemoration of the ANZAC Legacy

Naming this electorate after Alec Campbell would serve as a powerful national visual anchor to preserve the memory and legacy of the ANZACs.

- **Preserving Living Memory:** With the passing of the First World War generation, naming a federal seat 'Campbell' ensures that the profound sacrifices made by the ANZACs remain at the forefront of our civic structure.
- **A Symbol for All Veterans:** As the last living link to Gallipoli, using Campbell's name honours not just one individual, but acts as a perpetual symbol of gratitude toward all Tasmanian and Australian service personnel who followed in his footsteps.

6. Conclusion

While other names like 'Tongerlongeter' have been advanced, the name **Campbell** offers a unifying, deeply resonant alternative that directly aligns with the geographical heart of the newly redrawn electorate on the Eastern Shore. It honors a man whose life wasn't just defined by wartime service, but by a sprawling, decades-long contribution to Tasmania's industrial, economic, and community fabric; and a perpetual reminder of the ANZAC legacy,

I urge the augmented Electoral Commission to adopt the name **Campbell** for this reconfigured federal division.

Yours sincerely,

(Name Withheld)
Howrah TAS 7018
15 July, 2026