



Suggestion 24

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Submission re Name Change for the Electorate of MacMillan

I am concerned to change the name of the Electorate I live in. The current name reflects the ways characters were honoured and history recorded when there was little insight to the Aboriginal population of Gippsland. There was scant regard for people who had other cultures than the dominant white male culture of the 19th and 20th Centuries.

There is now a better understanding of the damage inflicted to the Gunai-Kurnai people who bear the scars of the murders and dispossession.

Angus MacMillan is remembered as one of the leaders of this widely accepted behaviour, often illegal and more recently regarded as unethical by anyone's standards.

This is now understood as a misplaced honouring, we should do what we can to correct it:

1. The renaming of the Electorate is an important step in this process of correcting a biased view of our history.
2. The choice of name I believe should take into account what the Aboriginal Communities of Gippsland put forward. This would remind us all of the Traditional Owners, the restoration of the good health of these people, and help in the Reconciliation process.

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Sincerely yours,

Elizabeth Ann Buckingham

Member of Bass Coast South Gippsland Reconciliation Group