



THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE ARCHIVES

NAME OF COLLECTION	Fraser, John Malcolm (Rt Hon.)
ACCESSION NO	105/73 (formerly M1274/1)
CATEGORY	Community and Political, individuals
ACTIVITY	Prime Ministers, Politicians, Farmers
DATE RANGE	1954–1967
SIZE OF COLLECTION	17.1 metres (95 boxes)
HISTORICAL NOTE	<p>John Malcolm Fraser was born in Toorak, Melbourne on 21 May 1930.</p> <p>His grandfather, Sir Simon Fraser (1832–1919), had emigrated from Canada in 1853, initially to work as a prospector, but later moving into business, farming and politics. He was elected to the Victorian Legislative Assembly in 1874 and later served as a delegate to the Australasian Federal Convention (1897–1898) and a senator representing the Free Trade Party (1901–1913).</p> <p>Malcolm’s father, John Neville Fraser (1890–1962), studied law at the University of Oxford, but on his return to Australia concerned himself largely with his work as a pastoralist. In 1926, he married Una Woolf. Neville and Una had two children: Lorraine (1926–) and (John) Malcolm (1930–).</p> <p>The Fraser family lived at Balpool-Nyang near Moulamein in New South Wales before moving to ‘Nareen’, a station in western Victoria, in 1943. During this period Malcolm attended Tudor House School in New South Wales (1940–1943) and Melbourne Grammar (1944–1948). In 1949, he was admitted to the University of Oxford to study ‘Modern Greats’ (Politics, Philosophy and Economics).</p> <p>After graduating, Malcolm Fraser returned to Victoria and decided to embark on a political career. He succeeded in being elected as Liberal member for the seat of Wannon in western Victoria at his second attempt in 1955. A backbencher under Menzies for ten years, Fraser gained his first cabinet post as Minister for the Army under Prime Minister Harold Holt in 1966. He went on to become Minister for Education and Science (1968–1969 and 1971–1972) and Minister for Defence (1969–1971). Following the Labor government’s election win in 1972, he served as Shadow Minister for Industrial Relations. He became leader of the Liberal</p>

	<p>Party in March 1975 and in November became caretaker Prime Minister after the Governor-General, Sir John Kerr, dismissed the Whitlam government. He was returned to office through election victories in 1975, 1977 and 1980, before losing to Bob Hawke at the 1983 election. He resigned from politics in March 1983.</p> <p>Following his formal political career, Malcolm Fraser has continued a presence on the world stage, as Chair of the United Nations Panel of Eminent Persons on the Role of Transnational Corporations in South Africa (1985); as Co-Chair of the Commonwealth Group of Eminent Persons campaigning for an end to apartheid in South Africa (1985–1986); and Chair of the UN Secretary-General’s Expert Group on African Commodity Issues (1989–1990). In 1987 he founded CARE Australia, the country’s largest non-political and non-religious overseas aid organisation and was president of CARE International from 1990 to 1995. In 1997, he led a Commonwealth Observer Mission to Pakistan to monitor the national elections.</p> <p>Malcolm Fraser remains actively interested in issues associated with human rights, multiculturalism and reconciliation with indigenous Australians. He has been highly critical of the Australian government’s involvement in the war in Iraq, as well as of its treatment of asylum seekers.</p>
DATE OF TRANSFER	March 2005
ACCESS CONDITIONS	Open
DESCRIPTION	<p>This series is one of two series of correspondence of J M (Malcolm) Fraser relating primarily to representations from individuals or interest groups associated with his constituency, the electorate of Wannon in Victoria’s Western District. However, a significant number of the representations originated from elsewhere and are not, strictly speaking, ‘electorate’. The series covers Mr Fraser’s entire 28 years in federal politics (1955–83), although most records date from the early 1960s. The second series (M1332) is arranged by name of correspondent (alpha-numerical). M1274 is arranged by file title (lexicographical).</p> <p>The series is in three distinct sets. The first of these covers Mr Fraser’s years as a backbencher until his first portfolio appointment (1955–66). The second set covers his Ministerial years in the portfolios of Army (1966–68), Education and Science (1968–69 and 1971–72) and Defence (1969-71), including a six-month period when he was again a backbencher during the Gorton Government (March–August 1971) and a later period when he was a member of the Opposition during the Whitlam Government (1972–75). The third set relates to the period during which Mr Fraser was Prime Minister (1975–83).</p>

	<p>Throughout his political career, Malcolm Fraser took a close interest in a wide range of matters affecting his electorate, regional Victoria and Australia more generally; and received numerous representations from both his own constituents and others outside his electorate. His personal staff estimated he received some 6,000 letters each year as a Minister; as Prime Minister the total number was considerably greater. Responses were frequently based on advice from his own department, from another Commonwealth Minister or a Victorian state Minister. This advice was often directly passed on to the enquirer, but there were also many instances where it was provided more selectively based on Ministerial information obtained in confidence or from a departmental brief. It is clear from the files that, as a backbencher, Malcolm Fraser's access to such information was much more limited.</p> <p>The representations cover a very wide range of subjects including public facilities (e.g. aerodromes, hospitals, provision of flags, television, telephone and postal services), business interests, educational institutions, community organisations, projects and events in Western Victoria; and Commonwealth policy matters relating to primary industry (e.g. wool, export of live sheep), defence, national service and immigration. In many such cases, Mr Fraser's Ministerial and electorate interests were both involved. More personal representations usually relate to a constituent's financial affairs, property, health or social service benefits (e.g. pensions, housing) and include requests for letters of introduction. Some other files relate specifically to the Liberal Party or another organisation (e.g. Australian Conservation Foundation).</p>
NOTE ON COLLECTIONS	Transferred from National Archives of Australia. This accession is continued by 105/73 M1274-2.
NOTE ON LISTING	Listing remains incomplete for this series. It has been subject to a description process involving the allocation of running single numbers to items. Nineteen boxes remain unlisted.
LISTED BY	Peter Bode, Catriona Banks, Caitlin Stone
DATE	24 June 2005

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
	1	Electorate correspondence	1954–1967
1	1	Agriculture	1959–1961
	2	Air	1960–1965
	3	Alfred DEAKIN Lecture Trust	1966
	4	APEX Clubs – Wannon (1)	1960–1963
	5	APEX Clubs – Wannon (2)	1963–1966
	6	APEX Clubs – Wannon (3)	1965–1966
	7	Army (1): 1–12	1959–1962
	8	Army (2): 13–20	1962–1965
	9	Army (3): 21–57	1965–1966
	10	Army (4): 58–76	1966–1968
	11	Attorney General (1): 1–13	1958–1964
	12	Attorney General (20): 14–19	1964–1966
	13	Australia House	1958
	14	Australian Dairy Review	1960
2	15	Australian Institute of Agricultural Science	1962–1965
	16	Australian Institute of Dairy Factory Managers and Secretaries	1959
	17	Labour Party Protest Rally (Vietnam) – Press Cuttings includes press statement: ‘Labour Party Protest Rally’, 21 July 1965	1965
	18	Australian Policy – South-East Asia	1965
	19	Australian Primary Producers Union (1)	1959–1964
	20	Australian Primary Producers Union (2) – Wannon Branches	1965–1966
	21	Broadcasting and Radio	1958–1959
	22	Churches – Wannon	1960–1966
	23	Circular Letter to the Electors includes list of names and addresses	1958
	24	Civil Aviation (1): 1–7	1959–1962
	25	Civil Aviation (2): 8–10	1962–1964
	26	Civil Aviation (3): 11–19	1964–1966
3	27	Civil Defence	1958–1965
	28	CSIRO (1): 1–4	1958–1961
	29	CSIRO (2): 5–7	1964–1966
	30	Customs & Excise (1): 1–13	1958–1964
	31	Customs & Excise (2): 14–22	1965–1966
	32	Condolences	1962–1966
	33	Dads’ Association: Wannon Branches	1960
4	34	Dairy Industry includes several papers by Malcolm Fraser including ‘Soldier Settlement and the Dairying Industry’, ‘Report Prepared for the Universities Commission on the Future of Tertiary Education in Australia’, ‘Impressions of Indonesia’ (8 March 1965), ‘Positive Approach to Australian Defence in the Nuclear Age’ (26 August 1963)	1954–1957

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
	35	Defence (1): 1–16	1962–1966
5	36	Development Bank	1960–1966
	37	Development Bank (2): 20–21	1966
	38	Education	1966
	39	Education (1): 1–22	1958–1960
	40	Education (2): 23–43	1961–1963
	41	Education (3): 44–57	1963–1964
	42	Education (4): 58–70	1964
	43	Education (5): 71–80	1964
6	44	Education (6): 81–94	1964–1965
	45	Education (7): 95–126	1965–1966
	46	Address List (Education related?)	1966
	47	Electricity Supplies: SEC	1958–1965
	48	Export of Birds (1)	1959
	49	Export of Birds (2)	1958–1964
	50	External Affairs (1): 1–17	1958–1963
	51	External Affairs (2): 18–36	1961–1964
	52	External Affairs (3): 19–37	1965–1966
7	53	External Affairs (4): 38–48	1966–1967
	54	Forest Department	1960–1961
	55	M. Fraser – Personal – 1966	1966
	56	Graziers Association of Victoria – Wannon Branches	1961–1966
	57	Health (1): 1–12	1956–1959
	58	Health (2): 13–25	1959–1961
	59	Health (3): 26–34	1961–1962
	60	Health (4): 35–50	1962–1964
	61	Health (5): 51–64	1965–1966
8	62	Housing (1): 1–20	1958–1964
	63	Housing (2): 21–40	1964
	64	Housing (3): 41–53	1963–1965
	65	Housing (4): 54–75	1966
	66	Immigration (1): 1–12	1957–1959
	67	Immigration (2): 13–24	1959–1961
	68	Immigration (3): 25–34	1961–1962
9	69	Immigration (4): 35–47	1962–1964
	70	Immigration (5): 48–60	1963–1965
	71	Immigration (6): 61–76	1965–1966
	72	Import Licensing	1958–1964
	73	Interior (1): 1–18	1959–1964
	74	Interior (2): 19–24	1965–1966
	75	Invitations: 1967	1967
	76	Labour and National Service (1)	1956–1962
	77	Labour and National Service (2): 13–27	1965–1966
10	78	Labour and National Service (3): 28–48	1965–1966
	79	Labour and National Service (4): 49–53	1966
	80	Lands and Survey (1): 1–10	1959–1964

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
	81	Lands and Survey (2): 11–15	1964–1966
	82	Legacy, Wannan	1965
	83	Letters of Introduction (1): 1–20	1958–1960
	84	Letters of Introduction (2): 21–40	1960–1962
	85	Letters of Introduction (3): 41–60	1962–1964
	86	Letters of Introduction (4): 61–80	1964–1965
	87	Liberal and Country Party – Trade and Economics Affairs Committee	1958–1959
	88	Liberal and Country Party – Trade and Economics Affairs Committee	1962–1966
11	89	LCP Liberal and Country Party – Federal Rural Committee	1965–1967
	90	Liberal and Country Party (3)	1963–1966
	91	Liberal Party – Federal Executive	1966
	92	Miscellaneous (1): 1–22	1958–1959
	93	Miscellaneous (2): 23–60	1959–1960
	94	Miscellaneous (3): 61–100	1960–1961
	95	Miscellaneous (4): 101–130	1961
	96	Miscellaneous (5): 131–163	1961–1962
	97	Miscellaneous (6): 164–187	1961–1963
12	98	Miscellaneous (7): 188–225	1962
	99	Miscellaneous (8): 226–251	1962–1963
	100	Miscellaneous (9): 252–280	1963
	101	Miscellaneous (10): 291–318	1963
	102	Miscellaneous (11): 319–347	1963–1964
	103	Miscellaneous (12): 348–380	1964
	104	Miscellaneous (13): 381–414	1964–1965
	105	National Development	1958–1964
	106	National Service Training	1958–1962
13	107	Navy	1958–1966
	108	Parliamentary (1)	1959–1961
	109	Parliamentary (2)	1961–1964
	110	Parliamentary (3)	1963–1967
	111	Portland Harbour Opening	1959–1960
	112	PMG Postmaster General – Eisa (1)	1960–1961
	113	PMG Postmaster General – Eisa (2)	1961–1963
	114	PMG Postmaster General – Increase in Postage Rates	1959
14	115	PMG Postmaster General – Mail Services: 1–20	1958–1960
	116	PMG Postmaster General – Mail Services (2): 41–70	1959–1962
	117	PMG Postmaster General – Mail Services (3): 71–100	1962–1964
	118	PMG Postmaster General – Mail Services (4): 101–129	1964–1966
	118a	Report – Community Telephone Service –	1960

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
		Wannon Electorate	
	119	PMG Postmaster General – Miscellaneous (1): 1–20	1959–1961
	120	PMG Postmaster General – Miscellaneous (2): 21–33	1961–1963
	121	PMG Postmaster General – Miscellaneous (3): 34–48	1963–1965
	122	PMG Postmaster General – Miscellaneous (4): 49–58	1965–1966
15	123	PMG Postmaster General – New Post Offices	1959–1961
	124	PMG Postmaster General – Radio	1958–1964
	125	PMG Postmaster General – Telephones (1): 1–30	1958– 1961
	126	PMG Postmaster General – Telephones (2): 31–50	1959–1960
	127	PMG Postmaster General – Telephones (3): 51–70	1959–1961
	128	PMG Postmaster General – Telephones (4): 71–90	1960
	129	PMG Postmaster General – Telephones (5): 91–100	1959–1961
	130	PMG Postmaster General– Telephones (6): 101–117	1961
	131	PMG Postmaster General– Telephones (7): 118–130	1961–1965
16	132	PMG Postmaster General – Telephones (8): 131–141	1959–1962
	133	PMG Postmaster General – Telephones (9): 142–159	1961–1962
	134	PMG Postmaster General – Telephones (10): 160–169	1960–1962
	135	PMG Postmaster General – Telephones (11): 170–185	1962–1963
	136	PMG Postmaster General – Telephones (12): 186–200	1960–1963
	137	PMG Postmaster General – Telephones (13): 201–218	1963
17	138	PMG Postmaster General – Telephones (14): 219–230	1963–1965
	139	PMG Postmaster General – Telephones (15): 231–240	1964
	140	PMG Postmaster General – Telephones (16): 241–256	1964–1965
	141	PMG Postmaster General – Telephones (17): 257–265	1963–1965
	142	PMG Postmaster General – Telephones (18): 266–282	1964–1965
	143	PMG Postmaster General – Telephones (19):	1965–1967

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
		283–301	
	144	PMG Postmaster General – Television (1)	1959–1962
18	145	PMG Postmaster General – Television (2): 16–30	1959–1962
	146	PMG Postmaster General – Television (3): 31–44	1962–1965
	146a	Loose Material Related to Television: 36–40	1963–1964
	147	PMG Postmaster General – Television (4): 45–58	1965–1966
	148	Primary Industry (1): 1–20	1953–1961
	149	Primary Industry (2): 21–35	1960–1961
	150	Primary Industry (3): 36–50	1961–1962
	151	Primary Industry (4): 51–66	1962–1963
	152	Primary Industry (5): 67–73	1963–1964
19	153	Primary Industry (6): 74–100	1964–1966
	154	Primary Industry (8?): 101–123	1966
	155	Prime Minister’s Department – Australian National Flags	1963–1964
	156	Prime Minister’s Department – Australian National Flags (2): 25–55	1963–1965
	157	Prime Minister’s Department – Australian National Flags (3): 56–86	1965–1966
	158	Public Service Board: 1–4	1962–1966
	159	Repatriation (Pensions etc) (1): 1–15	1958–1959
	160	Repatriation (Pensions etc) (2): 16–30	1958–1962
20	161	Repatriation (Pensions etc) (3): 31–40	1960–1962
	162	Repatriation (Pensions etc) (4): 41–50	1960–1962
	163	Repatriation (Pensions etc) (5): 51–68	1962–1963
	164	Repatriation (Pensions etc) (6): 69–80	1963–1965
	165	Repatriation (Pensions etc.) (7): 81–89	1964–1965
	166	Repatriation (Pensions etc.) (8): 90–100	1965–1966
	167	Repatriation (Pensions etc.) (9): 101–110	1966
	168	Restrictive Trade Practices	1963–1965
	169	Rotary Clubs – Wannon	1959–1964
21	170	R.S.S.A.I.L.A. – Sub Branches, Wannon (1)	1958–1961
	171	R.S.S.A.I.L.A. – Sub Branches, Wannon (2)	1961–1963
	172	R.S.S.A.I.L.A. – Pension Plan and Onus of Proof	1963
	173	Shipping and Transport: 1–12	1958–1962
	174	Shipping and Transport (2): 13–19	1964–1966
	175	Social Services (Pensions etc.) (1): 1–15	1958–1959
	176	Social Services (Pensions etc.) (2): 16–45	1959–1960
	177	Social Services (Pensions etc.) (3): 46–65	1960–1961
	178	Social Services (Pensions etc.) (4): 66–85	1961
22	179	Social Services (Pensions etc.) (5): 86–100	1961
	180	Social Services (Pensions etc.) (6): 101–115	1961–1962
	181	Social Services (Pensions etc.) (7): 116–135	1962–1963

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
	182	Social Services (8): 138–151	1963
	183	Social Services (9): 152–164	1963–1964
	184	Social Services (10): 165–173	1964–1965
	185	Social Services (11): 174–185	1964–1966
	186	Social Services (12): 186–190	1966
	187	Social Services	1965
	188	Social Services – Grants	1964–1966
23	189	Soldier Settlements (1): 1–20	1958–1959
	190	Soldier Settlements (2): 21–29	1958–1960
	191	Soldier Settlements (3): 30–31	1963–1964
	192	State Rivers and Water Supply Commission	1958–1962
	193	Supply Department	1958–1966
	194	Taxation – Income Tax (1): 1–17	1958–1961
	195	Taxation – Income (2): 18–40	1961–1962
	196	Taxation – Income (3): 41–60	1962–1966
24	197	Taxation – Income (4): 61–62	1965
	198	Taxation – Income Tax Bill: 1–12	1964
	199	Taxation – Payroll Tax (1): 1–15	1959–1963
	200	Taxation – Payroll Tax (2): 16–25	1966
	201	Taxation – Road tax (1): 1–21	1959–1964
	202	Taxation – Sales tax (1): 1–12	1959–1961
	203	Taxation – Sales tax (2): 13–42	1961–1966
	204	Territories (1): 1–16	1959–1966
	205	Territories	1965
	206	Trade (1): 1–10	1958–1961
25	207	Trade (2): 11–17	1961–1962
	208	Trade (3): 18–35	1963–1966
	209	Trade (4): 36–41	1961–1966
	210	Trade – Miscellaneous Letters	1961
	211	Treasurer (1) – Miscellaneous: 1–12	1959–1961
	212	Treasurer (2) – Miscellaneous: 13–15	1961–1963
	213	Treasurer (3): 26–43	1963–1965
	214	Treasurer (4): 44–55	1966
	215	Treasurer – Miscellaneous Letters	1959–1962
26	216	Treasurer – New Currency (1): 1–6	1963–1965
	217	Victorian Dairyfarmers Association (1) – Wannon	1960–1966
	218	Victorian Wheat and Woolgrowers' Association – Wannon Branches (1)	1960–1965
	219	Victorian Wheat and Woolgrowers' Association – Wannon Branches (2)	1963–1966
	220	War Service Homes	1959–1963
	221	Workers' Compensation Board	1960–1961
	222	Works and Housing	1958

END
