



THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE ARCHIVES

NAME OF COLLECTION	Fraser, John Malcolm (Rt Hon.)
ACCESSION NO	107/29 (formerly NAA M2195)
CATEGORY	Community and Political, individuals
ACTIVITY	Prime Ministers; Politicians; Farmers
DATE RANGE	1981–1983
SIZE OF COLLECTION	1.59 metres (9 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).</p>

	<p>Following the Labor government's election win in 1972, he served as Shadow Minister for Industrial Relations. He became leader of the Liberal 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 was highly critical of the Howard government's involvement in the war in Iraq, as well as of its treatment of asylum seekers.</p>
DATE OF TRANSFER	7 December 2006
ACCESS CONDITIONS	Restricted
DESCRIPTION	<p>This series contains correspondence received by former Prime Minister J M (Malcolm) Fraser and his wife, Mrs Tamie Fraser, following the defeat of the Liberal-National Party Government in the March 1983 election. Mr Fraser subsequently resigned as leader of the Liberal Party and from Federal politics.</p> <p>The correspondence is from members of the public; constituents in Mr Fraser's electorate of Wannon; business, church and other community groups; Liberal Party colleagues and some overseas dignitaries. The messages – almost entirely sympathetic and mostly from long-term Liberal Party supporters – convey regret at the 1983 election loss, but also pay tribute to Malcolm Fraser for his leadership qualities and dedication to party and country and congratulate him on becoming Australia's second longest-serving Prime Minister. Most messages include good wishes for the future and a happy retirement. Others praise Mrs Fraser for</p>

	<p>her unfailing support for the Prime Minister and for establishing the Australiana Fund in 1978.</p> <p>The correspondence comprises telegrams, cards, handwritten and typed letters, prayers, homilies and inspirational literature. Items 1–8 (Personal correspondence A–Z) contain original letters and replies, signed by Malcolm Fraser and filed together, although not every letter has a reply. Items 20–53 (Correspondence A–Z) contain original letters only. Papers in these two sequences are arranged by name of correspondent. Items 54–55 contain contact details of the correspondents. Items 9–19 each represent a specific subject. These are:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Item 9: Personal replies: Overseas Item 10: Mrs Fraser: Personal letters following election Item 11: Liberal Party correspondence Item 12: Liberal Party material Item 13: Correspondence not answered (illegible or no address) Item 14: Pre-election correspondence Item 15: Thank you letters to staff, Police Commissioners, hotels, Lodge staff Item 16: Congratulatory letters on becoming second longest-serving Prime Minister Item 17: Letters relating to leadership Item 18: Federal and State Parliamentarians Item 19: Correspondence relating to the electorate of Wannon</p>
NOTE ON COLLECTIONS	Transferred from the National Archives of Australia
NOTE ON LISTING	
LISTED BY	NAA
DATE	4 January 2008

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
		Correspondence relating to the 1983 federal election	1981–1983
1	1	Post election – Personal – Correspondence ‘A–C’ [K Abbott–M Cuthill, including R G Ansett, Australian Security Intelligence Organisation, E Baillieu, Sir G Barwick, Guy Boyd, Dale Budd, Sir J Bunting, Clyde Cameron, Carlton Football Club etc.]	3 Mar 1983–27 Apr 1983
	2	Post election – Personal – Correspondence ‘D–F’ [C Dan–R Fry, including Prof D Denton (Howard Florey Institute, Melbourne), Sir T Duckmanton, Sir Vincent Fairfax, Wool Textile Manufacturers of Australia (Melbourne) etc]	7 Mar 1983–27 Apr 1983
	3	Post election – Personal – Correspondence ‘G–I’ [A Ganim–W Ives, including Australian Retired Persons Association, Australian Olympic Federation, T Halles (Youth with a Mission Australia), Sir Paul Hasluck, Rev Canon Peter Hollingworth (Brotherhood of St Laurence), Victorian Football League etc.]	6 Mar 1983–27 Apr 1983
	4	Post election – Personal – Correspondence ‘J–L’ [D Janes–P E Lucock, including Sir A Joel, Sir W Keys (Returned Services League of Australia), B’nai B’rith District of Australia and New Zealand, Chinese Cultural Centre (Glen Waverley, Victoria), H R Krygier (Quadrant magazine), Rabbi J Levi etc.]	8 Mar 1983–27 Apr 1983
	5	Post election – Personal – Correspondence ‘Mc–O’ [Lady Macarthur-Onslow–S Oxley, including Dr M Mackay, Sir K Macpherson (The Herald and Weekly Times, Melbourne), Dr Spiro Moraitis, Collin Myers (Senior Adviser), Australian Petroleum Exploration Association, St John of God Convent (Warrnambool), Sir G Nossal (Walter and Eliza Hall Institute, Melbourne) etc.]	6 Mar 1983–27 Apr 1983

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
	6	Post election – Personal – Correspondence ‘P–R’ [Sir John and Lady Pagan–A Ryrie, including Dame A Rankin, Mobil of Australia Ltd. Australian Bicentennial Authority, Catholic Women’s League of Victoria and Wagga Wagga (Ballarat Diocese), PICCA (Press, Information and Cultural Corps of Australia) etc.]	2 Mar 1983–27 Apr 1983
	7	Post election – Personal – Correspondence ‘S–T’ [P Saidey–H B Turner, including Jim Short, Dick Smith (entrepreneur), United Nations Association of Australia, Australian Institute of Sport, Sir L Street (Chief Justice of NSW), D Tonkin etc.]	6 Mar 1983–27 Apr 1983
	8	Post election – Personal – Correspondence ‘U–Z’ [J Utz–M Zitterschlager, including Australian Opera, Australian Retailers’ Association, R J White (Westpac Banking Corporation), National Farmers Federation, Australian Federation of Women’s International Zionist Organization, Victorian Jewish Board of Deputies, Sir Geoffrey Yeend etc.]	6 Mar 1983–29 Mar 1983
2	9	Post election – Personal replies – Overseas ‘B–T’ [R Bonham-Carter–H C Templeton, including Pacific Forum Shipping Line, B’nai B’rith International (Washington DC), Melanesian Alliance (Papua New Guinea) etc.]	6 Mar 1983–9 May 1983
	10 Part 1	Post election – Mrs Fraser – Personal letters following election ‘A–L’ [Miss Alexander–I Lyons, and other members of the public]	6 Feb 1983–11 Apr 1983
	10 Part 2	Post election – Mrs Fraser – Personal letters following election ‘Mc–W’ [J McCall–M Wright, and other members of the public]	6 Mar 1983–12 Apr 1983
	11	Post election – Liberal Party – Correspondence [relating to Liberal Party State divisions and branches, includes speech by John Valder at reception for Malcolm Fraser on becoming second longest serving Prime Minister (Sydney, 25 February 1983)]	25 Feb 1983–4 May 1983
	12	Post election – Liberal Party material [includes ‘1983 Election: Preliminary report’ (10 March 1983) and ‘1983 Election: Final report’ (23 March 1983) by Tony Eggleton (Federal Director)]	10 Mar 1983–23 Mar 1983

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
	13	Post election – Correspondence not answered, illegible or no address [unsorted letters and telegrams from members of the public]	Mar 1983–Aug 1983
	14	Pre election – Correspondence [J Anderson–H Young, telegrams of best wishes for March 1983 election from political colleagues, includes message from Michael Somare (Prime Minister, Papua New Guinea)]	4 Feb 1983–9 Mar 1983
	15	Letters of thanks to staff members, staff references, Police Commissioners, hotels, The Lodge staff	9 Mar 1983–5 Apr 1983
	16	Post election – Congratulatory letters on becoming second longest serving Prime Minister [from Liberal Party colleagues and personal staff]	25 Feb 1983–2 Mar 1983
	17	Post election – Letters relating to leadership [I Barby–P Woods, includes list of correspondents]	2 Mar 1983–29 Mar 1983
3	18	Post election – Correspondence – Federal and State Parliamentarians [A E Adermann - Sir H Young, includes list of letters to Senators who retained their seats]	21 Feb 1982–15 Apr 1983
	19	Post election – Correspondence relating to Electorate of Wannon [D Baudinette–G Tippet, and other constituents]	5 Mar 1983–12 Apr 1983
	20	Post election - Correspondence ‘Aa–Am’ [C Aabling-Thomsen–L Ament]	6 Mar 1983–15 Aug 1983
	21	Post election – Correspondence ‘An–Ay’ [L Andersen–L Ayre, including Latvian Officers Association (Adelaide Branch), R Ansell, Mrs A Anton (Edelweiss Bread and Cakes (Bright, Victoria))]	6 Mar 1983–8 Aug 1983
	22	Post election – Correspondence ‘Ba–Be’ [F Backhouse–F R Beynon, including Venerable Archdeacon F C Bastian]	6 Mar 1983–4 Apr 1983
	23	Post election – Correspondence ‘Bi–Br’ [M Bibic–D Bryden]	6 Mar 1983–4 Apr 1983
4	24	Post election - Correspondence ‘Bu - By’ [E M Buchanan - A Byron]	3 Mar 1983–27 Apr 1983
	25	Post election – Correspondence ‘Ca–Cl’ [S Cabral–A Clynes]	5 Mar 1983–6 May 1983
	26	Post election–Correspondence ‘Co–Cy’ [D Coade–N Cyres]	5 Mar 1983–28 Mar 1983

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
	27	Post election – Correspondence ‘Da–Dj’ [W M Dale–Djorjevic]	6 Mar 1983–4 Apr 1983
	28	Post election – Correspondence ‘Do–Dy’ [W B Dobbyn–C Dyson, including Do Huu Dung (Vietnamese refugee)]	5 Mar 1983–27 Apr 1983
	29	Post election – Correspondence ‘E’ [D L Eades–A Ewers]	6 Mar 1983–7 Apr 1983
5	30	Post election – Correspondence ‘F’ [F Faddoul–C L Fury, including J Forbes (Federal President, Liberal Party of Australia)]	6 Mar 1983–8 Apr 1983
	31	Post election – Correspondence ‘Ga–Gl’ [J and M Gaal–E D Glover]	2 Mar 1983–28 Mar 1983
	32	Post election – Correspondence ‘Go–Gy’ [G Godber–A E Gyory]	6 Mar 1983
	33	Post election – Correspondence ‘Ha–He’ [R H Hacking–E Heydon]	25 Feb 1983–28 Mar 1983
	34	Post election – Correspondence ‘Hi–Hy’ [D Hicks–S Hynes]	3 Mar 1983–16 Apr 1983
	35	Post election – Correspondence T [M Ibbotson–M Ivanac]	6 Mar 1983–26 Apr 1983
6	36	Post election – Correspondence ‘J’ [R Jacka–M Juliana]	1 Mar 1983–28 Mar 1983
	37	Post election – Correspondence ‘K’ [S Kalmar–M Kummer]	2 Mar 1983–8 Apr 1983
	38	Post election – Correspondence ‘L’ [H Lacey–P Lyons, including J Lewis (Headmaster, Geelong Grammar School)]	9 Jul 1981–6 May 1983
	39	Post election – Correspondence ‘Mac–May’ [D McAdam–G Mayne]	6 Mar 1983–7 Apr 1983
	40	Post election – Correspondence ‘Me–My’ [Anne Meagher–P G Mytton]	3 Mar 1983–1 May 1983
7	41	Post election – Correspondence ‘N’ [M Naismith–K P Nunn, including Catholic Education Commission of Western Australia, New South Wales Jewish Board of Deputies, Australian Film Institute, S Nikintes (Papua New Guinean)]	5 Mar 1983–30 Mar 1983
	42	Post election – Correspondence ‘O’ [J Oakes–J Ozols]	6 Mar 1983–28 Apr 1983
	43	Post election – Correspondence ‘P’ [R Pagett–M Pye]	7 Mar 1983–9 May 1983
	44	Post election – Correspondence ‘Q’ [Quartermain Family–C E Quinton]	6 Mar 1983–29 Mar 1983

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
	45	Post election – Correspondence ‘R’ [J Rabl–V L Ryan, including Right to Life Association Victoria, Port of Devonport Authority (Tas), Council of Estonian Societies in Australia, Bishop B Rosier, photographs (attached to C Roberts letter)]	5 Mar 1983–26 Apr 1983
8	46	Post election – Correspondence ‘Sa–Sl’ [E A Sacic–B F Sloper, including Sacred Heart Convent, Kensington (NSW), Santamaria family members, G Sargood (Melbourne Church of England Grammar School), Zionist Federation of Australia]	5 Mar 1983–29 Mar 1983
	47	Post election – Correspondence ‘Sm–Sy’ [J Smiley–C Szacsual, including Young National Party of Australia, Federation of Polish Organisations in South Australia]	6 Mar 1983–6 Apr 1983
	48	Post election – Correspondence ‘T’ [B and M Taafe–L Tyrrell]	7 Mar 1983–4 Apr 1983
	49	Post election – Correspondence ‘U’ [D Underwood–ML Urquhart]	6 Mar 1983–29 Mar 1983
	50	Post election – Correspondence ‘V’ [F Valkenburg–R Voss]	6 Mar 1983–29 Mar 1983
9	51	Post election – Correspondence ‘Wa–Wh’ [M Waddell–D E Whittingham]	23 Feb 1983–9 May 1983
	52	Post election – Correspondence ‘Wi–Wy’ [P Wicks–E J Wynn]	6 Mar 1983–29 Mar 1983
	53	Post election – Correspondence ‘XYZ’ [T Xipell–T Zouch]	7 Mar 1983–29 Mar 1983
	54	Post election – Lists of letters received from general public following 1983 Federal election	Mar 1983
	55	Post election – Lists of letters to general public following 1983 Federal election	Mar 1983

END
