

Research Centre services

What is the Australian Prime Ministers Centre?

The Australian Prime Ministers Centre tells the story of Australia's prime ministers and their governments through an exhibition and research centre. It is located on the main floor of the Senate Wing of Old Parliament House.

The exhibition starts with Australia's first prime minister Sir Edmund Barton in 1901 and showcases more than a century of political leadership through multimedia and interactive technologies. Visitors can then find out more about the life and work of Australia's current and former prime ministers in the research centre.

The Australian Prime Ministers Centre aims to provide a national focus for research in the field of Australian prime ministerial history. It collaborates with relevant cultural institutions to improve access to prime ministers' records, both personal and official.

Exhibition

In the Australian Prime Ministers Centre, you can visit the exhibition and discover:

- what is the role of the prime minister
- what it takes to be a prime minister
- the story behind each prime minister and his government
- quirky facts about Australia's prime ministers

Research centre

In the research centre, you can consult a library collection, online resources, expert staff or our *Prime Facts* leaflets to find out about Australia's prime ministers, their lives, governments and achievements.

Collection

You can use the catalogue to search the collection, which includes Parliamentary Papers, Hansards, biographies and other publications relating to prime ministers, or just browse the shelves. Although you cannot borrow the books, you can read them in the research centre at the large groupwork table or an individual study desk.

Online resources

There are several PCs provided for research use which you can use to access a wealth of information online and which direct you to many websites with information about our prime ministers



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PARLIAMENT
HOUSE

Alive

Prime Facts

You can also pick up one of our free *Prime Facts* leaflets. There is one for every prime minister, as well as several on Australia's government. They contain useful information such as details of the political careers and main achievements of our prime ministers, as well as quirky facts about their lives.

Need some help?

If you need help with your enquiry, just ask our expert reference librarian. The librarian is available Monday to Friday 10.00am to 4.00pm, and Saturdays from 1.00pm-5.00pm.

Photocopying service

If you find an item in our collection that answers your enquiry, we will provide copies of up to 10 pages free of charge. To assist with your research, limited printing is also available from the research centre PCs.

Tours and training

We can arrange tours or training for school groups, university students, history teachers and other community groups.

Scholars

The research centre also caters to scholars. With individual study desks, internet access, a seminar room and a research and scholarship program, it provides an ideal environment for scholars to explore this intriguing field of study.

Contact us

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Old Parliament House
King George Terrace
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Opening hours

Exhibition and Research Centre

Open daily, 9.00am-5.00pm [excluding Christmas Day]

Reference assistance available

Monday to Friday, 10.00am-4.00pm

Saturday, 1.00pm-5.00pm

Reference assistance is not available on Sundays or public holidays.