

SUBMISSION FOR NAMING THE NEW INTERNATIONAL TERMINAL AT THE  
NANCY BIRD WALTON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

**LAWRENCE HARGRAVE INTERNATIONAL TERMINAL**

**To the Minister for Urban Infrastructure,**

**The Hon Paul Fletcher, MP,**

[paul.fletcher.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:paul.fletcher.mp@aph.gov.au)

Dear Minister,

On behalf of the Lawrence Hargrave Society, I would like to ask that consideration be given to honouring Lawrence Hargrave, by naming the International Terminal at Nancy-Bird Walton International Airport , '**The Lawrence Hargrave International Terminal**'.

The Society saw the naming of the Airport in Nancy-Bird Walton's honour as a wonderful recognition of Australia's first female aviation pioneer and is hoping that a similar recognition of Australia's first aviation pioneer, **Lawrence Hargrave**, could also be made in the naming of the International Terminal.

**Lawrence Hargrave** is recognised the world over for the contribution that he made to the development of the first flying machines. His experiments and work all took place in the Greater Sydney Region in the suburbs of Rushcutters Bay, Roslyn Gardens, Woollahra and Stanwell Park, just South of Sydney.

He contributed significantly to the development of the radial engine and the aerofoil. The radial engine was the engine that powered the first flying machines. The leading thickened wing edge, the aerofoil, is still an important component of modern aircraft. Most importantly, **Lawrence Hargrave** invented the box kite. On the 12th of November, 1894, while attached to four box kites on Stanwell Park Beach, he was lifted 16 feet into the air and became the first person in history to achieve heavier than air lift off, using a stable aircraft. This was the great breakthrough that demonstrated the stability and lift produced by the box kite could be harnessed to develop a flying machine that could safely take off, fly and land. The early flying machines can be seen to have used the box kite concept in their construction. **Lawrence Hargrave** did not believe in patents and shared his ideas freely with those in Europe and America who were working to unlock the secrets of heavier than air flight. As a result, **Lawrence Hargrave** had a significant influence on the work of others, including the Wright Brothers.

The **Lawrence Hargrave** story is a great Australian, Sydney and Illawarra story of which we can all be proud. However, it can be argued that **Lawrence Hargrave** and his works are better known overseas than here in his own country. The naming of the International Terminal in his honour at Nancy-Bird Walton International Airport would be a fitting and appropriate recognition of our **Nation's First Great Aviation Pioneer Lawrence Hargrave.**

Yours Sincerely,

Name.....

Address.....