Albert Borella to be remembered with new suburb

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The Northern Territory’s only Victoria Cross recipient, Albert Borella, will in the future be remembered with the naming of a new suburb in his honour.

“I am thrilled to announce today that the Place Names Committee has approved Albert Borella’s name for use when a new suburb is developed,” Chief Minister Adam Giles said.

“This is a fitting way to honour a true Territory hero and keep his memory alive.”

The 12-day, 1000km re-enactment of Albert Borella’s journey to fight in World War I draws to a close today after touching the hearts of Territorians from Tennant Creek to Darwin.

“It’s fantastic to see Albert Borella’s story brought to life for a new generation of Territorians through this historic ride,” Mr Giles said.

The event has retraced Borella’s steps from Tennant Creek to Darwin where he travelled to enlist, stopping off at Banka Banka, Renner Springs, Elliott, Dunmarra, Daly Waters, Larrimah, Mataranka, Katherine, Pine Creek and Adelaide River along the way.

“Hundreds of Territorians turned out to see the Ride pass through their towns and communities and I’m particularly thrilled that the Borella family have been able to get so involved,” Parliamentary Secretary Lia Finocchiaro said.

“I know the Borella family have all been touched by the response from the community and have loved the opportunity to share their story.”

Albert Borella’s son Rowan and his wife Mary followed the Ride up the track, while Albert’s Grandson Richard joined in the re-enactment on foot, horseback, buggy and train.

“We’re over the moon about the Borella Ride and the commemoration of my father’s life. We are very appreciative of the Northern Territory and Federal Governments and all they’ve done to remember Australian values at their best,” Rowan Borella said.
“The difficulty of this journey has made me understand a little of how determined my Grandfather was to succeed in any aim: soldiering; life; family,” Richard Borella said.

The public is invited to walk with the Borella Ride from the Esplanade down to the Waterfront from 4pm.

There will be a special ceremony at Stokes Hill Wharf at 5.30pm this evening to officially mark the end of the Ride. Albert Borella’s Victoria Cross will be on display. Free parking is available at the Convention Centre underground car park from 5pm.

The Borella Ride is the Territory’s flagship event for the ANZAC Centenary and is jointly funded by the Federal Government.

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