Exhibition

Borella's War: the making of a legend

2 February – 31 May 2015
Northern Territory Library, Parliament House

Albert Borella came to the Northern Territory in 1913 to try his luck on the agricultural fields of the Daly River. Just over a year later he journeyed back to Darwin by foot, on horseback and finally by train, determined to enlist for service in the First World War. Borella served at Gallipoli and on the Western Front with great distinction. Borella's War: the making of a legend is on display at the Northern Territory Library from 2 February - 31 May 2015. Showcasing rare photographic material, this impressive exhibition locates Albert Borella's remarkable personal story within the broader story of Northern Territory development and the significant contribution made by Territorians to the First World War.

Albert Borella was the only Territorian to be awarded the Victoria Cross, the highest honour for valour in combat. Borella's Victoria Cross will be on display to the public from Wednesday 4 March until Monday 30 March at the Northern Territory Library.
From 20 February to 3 March 2015 the Borella Ride will travel 1,000 kilometres of Northern Territory’s outback from Tennant Creek to Darwin.

The Borella Ride is recreating the journey Albert Borella took in 1915 to enlist in the First World War.

For further information about this event visit The Borella Ride.

The Northern Territory Library is supporting the Borella Ride by the development of the Borella’s War exhibition.

**Evening Talk**

**Borella VC - Territory Hero of the Great War, by Dr Tom Lewis OAM**

5 February - 5:15pm
12 March - 5:15pm (To include reflections on the Borella Ride)
Northern Territory Library, Parliament House

Who was Albert Borella? Melbourne fireman, militia soldier, adventurer to the Outback interior, he was working around Tennant Creek when he made the journey to Darwin to enlist in the First World War. He made his way walking, by horse, mail cart and rail.

Borella then had to travel to Townsville by boat to enlist in the Army. Once in Europe he served in Gallipoli with the 26th Battalion; transferred with it to the Western Front, was promoted three times, wounded, commissioned as an officer, and decorated three times - finally with the VC for an infantry action where he led from the front.

Borella survived the war and returned to Australia, he raised a family, and served with Home Forces when once again duty called in the Second World War.

This talk, outlining the detail of Borella’s military service with comprehensive illustrations, is presented by Dr Tom Lewis OAM, the Lead Historian with The Borella Ride, which is recreating aspects of Albert Borella’s ride to sign up, from 20 February to 3 March, along the Stuart Highway.

Dr Lewis saw his own period of military service as a naval officer for nearly 20 years. Dr Lewis is the author of 12 books, the most recent book being Carrier Attack, the most comprehensive analysis yet on the Japanese air raids on Darwin, on 19 February 1942.

Free event, Booking preferred

**Register Here** for 5 February talk

**Register Here** for 12 March talk

**Bombing of Darwin, 19 February 1942**

Mainland Australia came under attack for the first time on 19 February 1942 when Japanese forces mounted two air raids on Darwin. The two attacks, which were planned and led by the commander responsible for the attack on Pearl Harbour, involved fifty-four land-based bombers and 188 aircraft launched from four aircraft-carriers in the Timor Sea.

The Northern Territory Library’s Roll of Honour commemorates the people who died as a result of the bombing on 19 February 1942.

Family members from all over Australia are interested in discovering how their ancestor spent their time in Darwin while serving in World War II.
Step 1: Obtain your ancestors War Record from National Archives of Australia.

Step 2: Search the Northern Territory Libraries Military Units Database which showcases the military units that served in the Northern Territory during the Second World War.

Step 3: Visit or contact the Northern Territory Library to ask questions, view books and other resources or to speak to staff.

For news and information on events commemorating the Bombing of Darwin visit Frontline Australia.

Watch this space

Entries will soon be open for the 2015 NT Literary Awards. This year the Literary Awards is featuring a new category.

Flash Fiction is a 500 word piece which could be a blog post, fan fiction, short story, fictional diary entry or fictional letter.

Entry details will be available in the March eNewsletter and coming soon to the Northern Territory website.

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