



# Objection 75

Karl Gordon

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**From:** Weston Daimler  
**To:** [FedRedistribution - ACT](#)  
**Subject:** Comment on ACT redistribution  
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To the Redistribution Committee for the Australian Capital Territory, Canberra

I wish to comment on the proposed name for the new ACT electorate, in which I am enrolled to vote.

The proposed name "Bean" cannot be seen as appropriate. It was not among those put forward during the earlier consultation. It is unclear how it came to be proposed, invoking a tenuous link to the electorate through his residence at Tuggeranong Homestead while writing about the war. His antisemitism, as reprehensible then as it is now, and narrow backward-looking view of empire, the war and its importance for Australia do not qualify him for this recognition. See the National Museum of Australia's interesting publication "Glorious Days" (2013) on the nation flourishing in 1913 before it was traumatised by the war, whose origins and consequences Bean neither comprehends nor explores in his selectively-written military history. Kit Cullen is one example of a researcher who has recently questioned Bean's motives and writings.

As a contrast, Bean's contemporary the forward looking, inspirational and brave Stella Miles Franklin deserves such an honour. She has close links to the region, having grown up in Brindabella. Since there already is a Franklin electorate, I suggest either Brindabella or reviving the name Namadgi.

Alternatively, if it must be a person's name, then Cullen. Ngingali Cullen was another inspirational figure for the ages.

Karl Gordon