

Submission ID: O-0003
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Submission Topic: Electorate Names
Electoral District: Flinders (formerly Traeger)

Submission:

Traeger Electorate is named after Alfred Traegar, engineer and inventor of the pedal radio used by many rural and remote stations in the north west of Queensland to summons the Royal Flying Doctor Service for healthcare in the bush - the mantel of safety that Reverend John Flynn tirelessly campaigned for. Traeger is a name synonymous with the bush and the communication channels his inventions opened up for those living in rural Australia. It would be sad for north west Queensland to be renamed and to lose the connection and history that is unique to this part of the world.

In contrast, Flinders Shire is only a very small area of the proposed redistribution of the electorate that is currently known as Traeger. I cannot see that renaming the electorate Flinders will provide any better recognition of the unique region of north west Queensland than Traeger. Those who live in the electorate know, and that's all that matters.