

# OUR CANBERRA

Woden, Weston Creek and Molonglo edition



## ENGLISH SKILLS FOR NEW CANBERRA KIDS



Introductory English Centres are located in selected ACT public schools

above photo: Students learning at Hughes Primary School

Students who are new to Australia can access introductory English classes at selected ACT public schools.

Students spend two terms working on their language and social skills and learning about the culture of Australian schools, before moving into mainstream classes.

There are currently more than 270 children from Canberra's migrant, refugee and diplomat families getting a head start in language and culture at one of Canberra's six Introductory English Centres.

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF MINISTER, ANDREW BARR

Canberrans come from all walks of life and from across the world. We are a diverse and progressive city and that's why the ACT Government has committed to making Canberra even more inclusive.

We are backing up this commitment with practical legislation and support. Canberra is a community that ensures those facing social, health and economic challenges do not fall behind. We will continue to look out for vulnerable Canberrans.




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## NEW DOG PARK COMING TO WESTON CREEK

Construction of the new 1.2 hectare dog park in Weston Creek is planned to start in the coming months

Located on Warragamba Avenue, Duffy the dog park is currently in its final stages of design. It will include two enclosures with recreation areas, seating, a water fountain with dog drinking facility, as well as trees and shrubs to create shelter and shade.

 View the concept design at [yoursay.act.gov.au](http://yoursay.act.gov.au)



## A NEW PUBLIC HOLIDAY FOR CANBERRANS



The ACT will celebrate its first Reconciliation Day in May 2018.

The public holiday will replace September's Family and Community Day. It will take place on the first Monday on or after 27 May each year, the anniversary of the 1967 referendum and the first day of National Reconciliation Week.



## START SOMETHING GREAT IN CBR



Did you know that Canberra is Australia's per capita capital of innovation and entrepreneurship?

Canberra's Innovation Connect Grants are one of the most successful government grants programs for start-ups. Since 2008 over 190 Canberra businesses have received matched-funding support of over \$5 million. Local success stories include Skoolbo, Reposit Power, SmartWard, SignOnSite and Enabled Employment. For more information visit [business.act.gov.au](http://business.act.gov.au)

**i** To find out what Olympia from local start-up Go Terra did with her \$30,000 Innovation Connect Grant go to [youtube.com/user/actgovernment](https://www.youtube.com/user/actgovernment)



## NEW BUS TIMETABLE STARTS 7 OCTOBER



A new bus timetable starts in Canberra on Saturday 7 October.

Key changes include:

- > Extension of the Weston Line (Route 182) into Denman Prospect on weekdays
- > New Green Rapid service between the City to Woden via Barton (Route 6)
- > Free travel on the Green Rapid for the first two months
- > Service improvements across the weekend, including the realignment of Blue Rapid services between Tuggeranong and Woden to travel via Athllon Drive—providing a 7 day a week high frequency service between Tuggeranong, Woden, City and Belconnen

Minor changes have also been made to dedicated school services. ACT schools will receive advice on any changes that affect them.

**i** For more information on other changes to the timetable visit [transport.act.gov.au](http://transport.act.gov.au) or call Transport Canberra on 13 17 10.



## STRONGER TOGETHER THIS MENTAL HEALTH WEEK 8-14 OCTOBER



One in every five Australians experience mental ill-health each year, so it's an issue that directly or indirectly touches most Canberrans.

Throughout Mental Health Week and the month of October, there'll be a series of events hosted by organisations around Canberra to raise mental health awareness, promote wellbeing and provide support.

**i** For more information visit [mentalhealthweekact.org/calendar](http://mentalhealthweekact.org/calendar)

## RENEW YOUR DRIVER LICENCE ONLINE



You can now renew your driver licence online if you've had your licence photograph taken in the last five years.

You will automatically be issued with a valid month-long temporary licence that you can download while a new licence is posted to you.

**i** To renew online, go to [act.gov.au/accessCBR](http://act.gov.au/accessCBR)

## WHAT'S HAPPENING ON YOUR SAY?

A number of consultations are currently open for Canberrans to have their say. You can:

- > help inform a citizens' jury of everyday Canberrans who will consider priorities for our CTP insurance scheme.
- > help choose the name for Canberra's newest public park at Lake Burley Griffin's West Basin.

**i** For more information or to sign up for email alerts visit [yoursay.act.gov.au](http://yoursay.act.gov.au)



## 100 YEARS OF THE CORK OAK FOREST 12 NOVEMBER

The Cork Oak Forest at the National Arboretum is turning 100 and everyone is invited to help celebrate.

On Sunday 12 November come along to the free mediterranean-themed fun day. It will include demonstrations of cork stripping, music, food, guided walks and family activities.

**i** For more information visit [nationalarboretum.act.gov.au](http://nationalarboretum.act.gov.au)



## CANBERRA'S LIGHT RAIL UPDATE

Earlier this year we asked you about your views on the route options for Stage 2 from the City to Woden.

The consultation showed strong support for light rail to travel via City West and through Barton to capitalise on education and employment hubs and the proximity to cultural institutions.

**i** For more information you can read the full report at [yoursay.act.gov.au](http://yoursay.act.gov.au)

## CANBERRA PUBLIC TRANSPORT AREAS NOW SMOKE-FREE



Canberrans can now breathe a little easier with all ACT public transport areas now smoke-free. This includes smoking or vaping within five metres of bus and train stations, light rail transport hubs and taxi ranks.

This change will protect people from exposure to second hand smoke and reduce the exposure of children and young people to seeing people smoke.

**i** For more information search 'smoke free' at [health.act.gov.au](http://health.act.gov.au)



## UC HOSPITAL'S REHABILITATION COURTYARD



A courtyard at the new University of Canberra Public Hospital will provide a new treatment setting to help rehabilitate people after injury.


The new courtyard is now complete and incorporates varying heights, surfaces and textures. This offers patients a realistic setting for rehabilitation. It also has a motionless car for people wishing to practice transferring into and out of a car as part of their rehabilitation.

The hospital will be Canberra's first purpose-built rehabilitation hospital and remains on track for completion in 2018.

# CANBERRA NARA CANDLE FESTIVAL

28 OCTOBER  
NARA PEACE PARK  
LENNOX GARDENS

Enjoy the spectacular visual of 2,000 shimmering candles as we celebrate the 24th year of the sister city relationship between Canberra and Nara. Discover Japanese culture, music and try your hand at calligraphy, lantern making, origami, ikebana and kite flying.

 For more information visit [events.act.gov.au/nara](http://events.act.gov.au/nara)


## Nominate for the 2018 Canberra Citizen of the Year.

Nominate at  
[act.gov.au/cbrcitizen](http://act.gov.au/cbrcitizen)

Nominations close  
15 December 2017

# RUGBY LEAGUE WORLD CUP COMES TO CANBERRA

Canberra will play host to three Rugby League World Cup 2017 matches this spring. France take on Lebanon on Sunday 29 October, our Aussie side tackles France on Friday 3 November and Fiji play Italy on Friday 10 November.

 For more information and tickets visit [RLWC2017.com](http://RLWC2017.com)



# DOGS' DAY OUT RETURNS TO FLORIADE 14 OCTOBER COMMONWEALTH PARK

Enjoy four-legged fun with your pup at Floriade. There will be lots of activities and demonstrations throughout the day. Pose with your pup in the free photo booth, chow down on delicious delicacies at the Pooch Café, or soak up some sunshine as you explore Floriade together.


 For more information visit [floriadeaustralia.com/dogs-day-out](http://floriadeaustralia.com/dogs-day-out)



# SPRING OUT IN AUSTRALIA'S MOST LGBTIQ-FRIENDLY CITY 28 OCTOBER-26 NOVEMBER

Canberra is proud to be Australia's most LGBTIQ-friendly city and we're painting the city rainbow to show it!

SpringOUT kicks off with Fair Day at the Gorman Arts Centre on October 28, featuring performers and a huge range of stalls, where you'll be able to pick up rainbow CBR stickers and pins, among so much more.

 Find the full SpringOUT program at [springout.com.au](http://springout.com.au)

