### **OUR** CANBERRA

**TUGGERANONG EDITION** 

NOVEMBER 2015



# ERINDALE GETS A FRESH NEW TRANSPORT HUB



Artist Geoffrey Filmer works on the Erindale Bus Station art

The Erindale Centre's revitalised bus station and new transport hub is almost ready for action. Residents have seen the site really come to life with wall art brightening up the blank facade.

The artwork, designed and developed by local artist Geoffrey Filmer, features iconic Australians after who Tuggeranong suburbs, including Gowrie and Monash, are named,

The new bus station will have a new 12 metre long bus shelter with

comfortable seating and protection from the elements. It's expected to be ready for passengers at the end of this month, weather permitting.

The transformation of the Erindale Centre into a new transport hub will provide better bus connections for Tuggeranong residents to other town centres and transport hubs.



What do you think of the new Erindale bus station? Tell us on Facebook **@ACTGovernment** 

#### NEW FUN OUTDOOR FITNESS IN TUGGERANONG

Get your 30 minutes of exercise each day at the new outdoor fitness stations at Tuggeranong Town Park in Greenway and at Theodore oval.

Both stations offer a wide range of exercise equipment catering for people of different ages and abilities.



For tips on how to use the equipment, or to share your fitness journey, visit www.act.gov.au/outdoorfitness





#### MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF MINISTER, ANDREW BARR

Since becoming Chief Minister of the ACT, I have been speaking to Canberrans about how we can improve services to their community.

The ACT Government is unique in Australia because it provides state level services such as health, education and public transport, and also municipal services such as mowing, cleaning and rubbish collection. We've been working hard to

deliver the services Canberrans need. In recent months we've regulated ridesharing, finalised plans for a new hospital at the University of Canberra and have reached an agreement with the Federal Government to continue providing 15 hours of preschool for Canberra's children.

I hope you will find this a useful update on the work going on in your community.









## OUR CANBERRA TUGGERANONG EDITION



#### GOOD PROGRESS ON EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT UPGRADE

Work on the new emergency department at Canberra Hospital is progressing well, with the first stage almost complete.

The new Emergency Medical Unit and the Mental Health Short Stay Unit will open later this year, and a new paediatric area will follow in January 2016.

Other new areas will open progressively throughout 2016.

When complete, the expanded emergency department will have extra beds, three more ambulance bays and an extra 1,000 square metres of floor area.



For more information visit www.health.act.gov.au





#### **VOICES IN THE FOREST**

Enjoy performances by world-renowned sopranos, including Australia's own Cheryl Barker AO and Mexico's Diego Torre, at this year's Voices in the Forest at the National Arboretum Canberra.

The ticketed event will be held from 5.30pm to 9.30pm on Saturday 21 November 2015.



For more information visit www.voicesintheforest.com.au



or follow Voices in the Forest on Facebook





#### ARE YOU CANBERRA BUSHFIRE READY?

The 2015-2016 bushfire season runs until 31 March 2016.

The ACT is facing a higher than average risk of bushfires this summer according to expert analysis.

Now is the time to get your home and family bushfire ready.



Visit www.esa.act.gov.au/bushfireready for tips on how to prepare. A few simple actions could make all the difference to surviving a bushfire.

# FASTER TRAVEL BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH

Tuggeranong residents will soon have another fast travel option to north Canberra with construction of the new northbound Molonglo River bridge almost complete.

The bridge is part of the Majura Parkway, which will link the Federal and Monaro Highways to ease congestion and save travel time.

The \$288 million Majura Parkway is one of Canberra's largest ever infrastructure projects and has been jointly funded by the ACT and Australian Governments.

The next major milestone will be the opening of the southbound Molonglo River bridge in coming months.

The overall project is on track for completion by mid-2016.





#### ASHLEY DRIVE DUPLICATION STARTS EARLY 2016

Peak periods on Ashley Drive will soon get easier for Tuggeranong commuters when the road is transformed from one lane to two, in both directions.

The duplication of Ashley Drive from Erindale Drive to Ellerston Avenue will ease peak-time traffic congestion in the area.

The works will include north and southbound on-road cycle lanes; additional footpaths to link with existing off-road paths; the duplication of existing underpasses near Statton Street and Bugden Avenue; as well as the addition of a pedestrian bridge over Monks Creek.

A public tender is now open, with the successful builder to be announced soon. Construction will then begin soon after.



#### FIFTEEN HOURS A WEEK OF

#### FREE PUBLIC PRE-SCHOOL IN 2016

Public pre-schools will continue to offer 15 hours per week of free pre-school in 2016.

The ACT is one of few jurisdictions in Australia to offer free public pre-school for 15 hours per week to all four-year-old children in the year before they start formal schooling. Enrolments are now open for 2016.



For information about the wide range of pre-school and support services available in the ACT, as well as tips about how to get involved in your child's pre-school education, visit www.preschoolmatters.act.gov.au



#### LET'S SUPPORT

#### ORANGE IS THE NEW BLACK ON WOW DAY

Show your support for our ACT State Emergency Service (ACTSES) volunteers by dusting off your best orange outfit on Wednesday 18 November 2015.

The annual Wear Orange To Work (WOW) Day is an opportunity for all Canberrans to say thank you for the selfless dedication our ACTSES volunteers provide during storms,

floods and other emergencies.

WOW Day is one of several activities as part of ACTSES Week 14-20 November.

You can participate in WOW Day by wearing orange, or dressing up workplaces and cars in orange.



Share photos of your WOW Day efforts on social media using #WOWDay as a hash tag.









#### **MORE TRANSPORT OPTIONS** FOR CANBERRA

Canberrans now have access to more transport options with ridesharing businesses such as Uber now operating legally.

Ridesharing is a service that uses smartphone apps to connect drivers who use their own cars, with passengers who want to get around. Every driver will have to have police and driving history checks and their car will have to have a safety check.

Ridesharing trips can only be booked through an app or over the phone. Canberra is the first city in Australia, and the first capital city in the world, to make ridesharing legal. As part of making ridesharing legal, the ACT Government has also reduced costs for taxi drivers.



For more information on the taxi reforms, please visit

www.act.gov.au/taxi-industry-reforms



#### TWO YEAR TRIAL TO IMPROVE **ROAD SAFETY**

A two-year trial of new road safety laws has started in the ACT to improve safety for cyclists and other road users.

Motorists must now provide a minimum distance of one metre when overtaking a cyclist in speed zones at or below 60km/h and 1.5 metres in

speed zones above 60km/h.

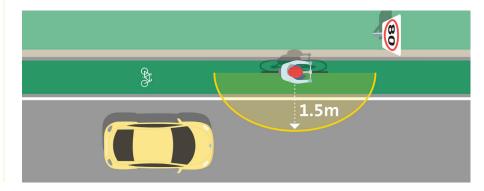
This metre matters because it provides a practical measure for drivers when overtaking cyclists, and will help reduce collisions between cars and bike riders, by changing driving behaviour.

Motorists who fail to comply with the rule may be issued a \$215 fine and accrue two demerit points.



For more information on the new rules for motorists and cyclists, and how to follow these new rules effectively, visit

www.tams.act.gov.au/road-safety



#### 66 HAVE YOUR SAY 99

#### **ON FOOD AND DRINK MARKETING IN CANBERRA**

We'd like to hear from Canberrans including local businesses and industry on ideas to better promote healthy food and drinks in the ACT, and on how we can reduce the unhealthy items we eat and drink.



Visit www.timetotalk.act.gov.au for details on how to have your say.





## **GET OUT THIS SUMMER ON THE** CENTENARY TRAIL

Enjoy Canberra's great outdoors by exploring the Centenary Trail this summer. It's a 145 kilometre off-road self-guided walk and cycle loop trail where you'll discover some of Canberra's most spectacular sights, scenery and hidden treasures.

Get your pedometers working hard by trying one or more of the seven sections. You can even take the dog on some sections.



Need some inspiration before your trek? Watch the trail video

at www.tams.act.gov.au







