

# OUR CBR

Belconnen edition

March 2019



## Renovation ready at Belconnen High



### In this issue

- New MyWay ticketing machines
- Higgins oval upgrades

Students and staff walked into a new look Belconnen High School when term one started last month.

The modernised areas are now in use, with buildings, collaborative learning areas, and outdoor areas upgraded. This included a refurbished external outdoor learning area and a new roof. A new school administration and visitor area was also built.

Improvements were made to indoor and outdoor spaces.

The modernised areas are now in use.



### Message from the Chief Minister, Andrew Barr

The ACT Government is continuing to invest in more health infrastructure to give Canberrans access to high quality healthcare when and where they need it.

The Government has recently announced more plans about our new Surgical Procedures, Interventional Radiology and Emergency (SPIRE) centre, which you can read about in this *Our CBR* edition. This is on top of recent significant expansions of emergency departments at the Canberra Hospital and Calvary Public Hospital, Gungahlin's new Walk-In Centre and more mobile dental services for vulnerable Canberrans.

We're future-proofing our healthcare system to better meet the needs of a growing city.

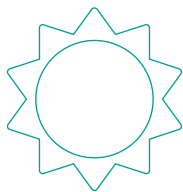


Produced by: Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate.  
For more stories and information from across Canberra, visit [act.gov.au/our-canberra](http://act.gov.au/our-canberra) or follow us on social media.

YOURSAY



## More help with energy bills



Canberrans on low and fixed incomes will be able to access an increased Utilities Concession for energy bills from 1 July 2019.

The Utilities Concession provides eligible concession card holders with a rebate to help meet the ongoing costs of electricity and gas services. The \$46 increase will bring the total payment to \$700.

→ More at [assistance.act.gov.au](http://assistance.act.gov.au)

## Top up with new ticketing machines



Top up your MyWay card using new Transport Canberra ticket vending machines now installed at major bus stations and light rail stops.

Machines are stationed at the Belconnen, City, Gungahlin, Tuggeranong and Woden major bus stations. They have touch screens and are easy to use to check your MyWay card balance, instantly top up, or to purchase a single or daily ticket.

You'll also be able to use your MyWay card on light rail when operations start in the coming months.

→ More at [transport.act.gov.au](http://transport.act.gov.au)



## Water refill options

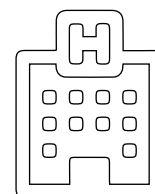
You can now refill your water bottle with free tap water at any participating cafe or business when you see the Refill Canberra sticker displayed in the window.

Cafes across Canberra have already signed up and you can nominate your favourite cafe to consider joining up.

→ More at [health.act.gov.au/refillcanberra](http://health.act.gov.au/refillcanberra)



## More hospital services for the future



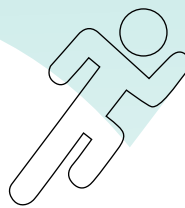
Planning is underway for Canberra's new Surgical Procedures, Interventional Radiology and Emergency (SPIRE) centre at the Canberra Hospital.

The centre will boost acute and hospital-based healthcare services, replace ageing buildings and completely renew the north-eastern end of the Canberra Hospital precinct. Construction is expected to start in 2020.

→ More at [health.act.gov.au/infrastructure](http://health.act.gov.au/infrastructure)



# An upgrade for Higgins Oval



The Higgins neighbourhood oval is getting an upgrade for sporting teams and locals to enjoy.

The works will include new irrigation, turf and a pavilion. Works will soon get underway.



## Get a green bin for autumn



Green waste collections will be in place across the city from 1 April, just in time for Canberra's autumn leaves.

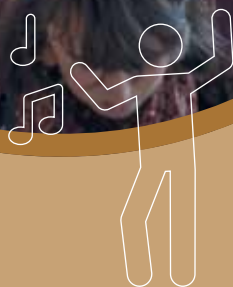
Get some help tidying up your garden by ordering your green waste bin before the first leaves start to fall.

Residents can opt-in to the service for a one-off \$50 payment, with eligible concession card holders exempt from payment. Green waste is collected fortnightly.

→ More at [act.gov.au/greenbins](https://act.gov.au/greenbins)

New facility to be ready in early 2020.

# Arts centre upgrade underway



Construction has started on the second stage of the Belconnen Arts Centre.

The new facility will include a flexible theatre space, dance and rehearsal studio, a new exhibition space and a café.

The Arts Centre will stay open throughout construction with the upgrade expected to be ready in early 2020.

→ More at [belconnenartscentre.com.au](https://belconnenartscentre.com.au)

## Say hello to your neighbours

National  
Neighbour Day  
31 March

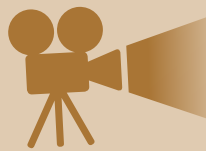
This National Neighbour Day, take the opportunity to get to know the people who live in your neighbourhood, especially the elderly and vulnerable.

Loneliness can have a significant impact on our mental health and wellbeing. So take the first step on Sunday 31 March and introduce yourself to your neighbours.

→ You can also connect with your local Neighbourhood Watch at [nhwact.com.au](https://nhwact.com.au) or on Facebook at [@NHWACT](https://www.facebook.com/NHWACT).



# Get a taste of Enlighten



Eat, see and explore Canberra as our city transforms for the annual Enlighten Festival.

Until 17 March the centre of Canberra is a hive of activity with a range of free and ticketed events, as well as the ever-popular architectural projections in the Parliamentary Triangle until 11 March.

Enlighten Festival is expanding into Civic again this year with illuminations by local artist Hannah Quinlivan on the Sydney and Melbourne buildings until 11 March.


→ More at [enlightencanberra.com](http://enlightencanberra.com)

## Enlighten events

Lights! Canberra! Action!   
8 March

 Canberra Balloon Spectacular  
9-17 March

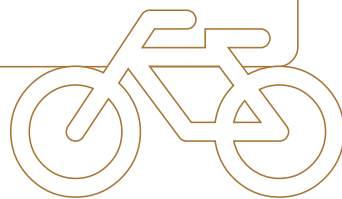
 Symphony in the Park  
10 March

Canberra Day – 11 March  
Hit 104.7 Skyfire   
16 March



National  
Ride2School Day  
22 March

SCHOOL



## Active ways

### to get to school

Active school communities not only help to reduce carbon emissions, they also reduce congestion around our schools, making it safer for children to enjoy riding or walking every day.

Support your kids to be more active in 2019 and take part in National Ride2School Day on 22 March.

→ More at [transport.act.gov.au](http://transport.act.gov.au)

## Get cycling in March

As the weather starts to cool, March is the perfect time to hop onto a dockless bike.

The bike share service, with Australian provider Airbike, is still operating as the original six-month trial undergoes evaluation.

Data on the bike share trial has shown that dockless bikes were hired more than 8,000 times within six months in areas including the ANU, the City bus station and the Inner North.

→ More at [transport.act.gov.au](http://transport.act.gov.au)

## Young CBR Citizen awards

Nominations are open for the 2019 Young Canberra Citizen of the Year Awards.

→ More at [dhcs.smartygrants.com.au/YCCY2019](http://dhcs.smartygrants.com.au/YCCY2019)

