

## Stamp duty abolished for all off-the-plan units up to \$500,000

COVER STORY  
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### Message from the Chief Minister

The ACT Government has been reducing stamp duty on property purchases over the past decade – saving new Canberra homeowners thousands of dollars.

Our next step is to completely abolish stamp duty on the purchase off-the-plan units valued under \$500,000.

This will save first home buyers and Canberrans looking to downsize up to \$11,400 off the up-front cost of buying a home.

Andrew Barr



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MORE OFTEN**

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## Stamp duty abolished for all off-the-plan units up to \$500,000

Stamp duty is now fully abolished on owner-occupier purchases of off-the-plan units valued at \$500,000 or less. This is a significant next step in the ACT Government's ongoing tax reform program and reflects our commitment to improving housing affordability in the ACT.

The next phase of stamp duty reductions will be targeted at the lowest property value thresholds for owner-occupier purchases.

Stamp duty creates a barrier for many people to enter the housing market and that's why the next phase of reform will be targeted at increasing the benefit most for people buying a lower value property to live in.

Whether you're looking to purchase your first home, wanting to upgrade or to downsize, continuing to reduce stamp duty will make it easier for Canberrans to purchase the home that's right for them.

→ Find out more by visiting [revenue.act.gov.au](https://revenue.act.gov.au)

## More improvements at Canberra Hospital

The Canberra Hospital Expansion continues with the opening of a new building housing the Canberra Sexual Health Centre, as well as clinical teaching and training facilities.

100 local jobs were supported during the project, which will help Canberrans in need of assistance and provide valuable training facilities for nurses and doctors.

The new building supports the relocation of services to make way for the construction of the Emergency, Surgical and Critical Healthcare facility, due for completion in 2024.



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

## Frankies makes the switch

Frankies at Forde is backing the ACT Government's ban on selected single-use plastic items.

"It's our responsibility to do business in the most sustainable way possible," says manager Morgan Smith.

The ACT's ban on the sale and supply of single-use plastic cutlery, single-use plastic drink stirrers and expanded polystyrene takeaway containers is now in effect.

→ Learn more at [act.gov.au/single-use-plastics](https://act.gov.au/single-use-plastics)



*Pictured: Morgan Smith, one of the managers of Frankies at Forde in Gungahlin.*

## Driving? Phones down, eyes up!

We urge Canberra drivers to put your phones on 'do not disturb' or out of reach for the safety of yourselves, your loved ones and fellow community members.

If you use your mobile phone while driving, you're ten times more likely to crash and are just as dangerous as a drink driver.

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



## Be COVID-19 alert this winter



Stay up to date with the latest travel and health advice through the ACT COVID-19 website and ACT Health's social media channels.

→ More at [covid19.act.gov.au](https://covid19.act.gov.au)



# New Throsby school being constructed

Throsby's new school, catering for preschool to year six students, is on track to open next year.

Parents Jess and Nathan say they look forward to having their eldest child, Ethan, being a foundation pupil and attending school closer to home.

"Our kids love when we drive past the school site. They feel a sense of ownership towards the new school already," Jess said.

→ More at [education.act.gov.au/Throsby-P-6-School/welcome](https://education.act.gov.au/Throsby-P-6-School/welcome)



*Pictured: Jess, Nathan and Ethan, along with his younger siblings Toby and Kensi.*



## Work starts: Gold Creek school expansion

An extra 200 local students will be able to attend Gold Creek's senior school from the start of 2022, with construction on an expansion now underway.

A mix of large studios, adaptable learning spaces and smaller quiet spaces are being built as part of the school expansion.

The project being delivered by Rork Projects as part of the ACT Government's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Procurement Policy.

→ Learn more at [education.act.gov.au](https://education.act.gov.au)

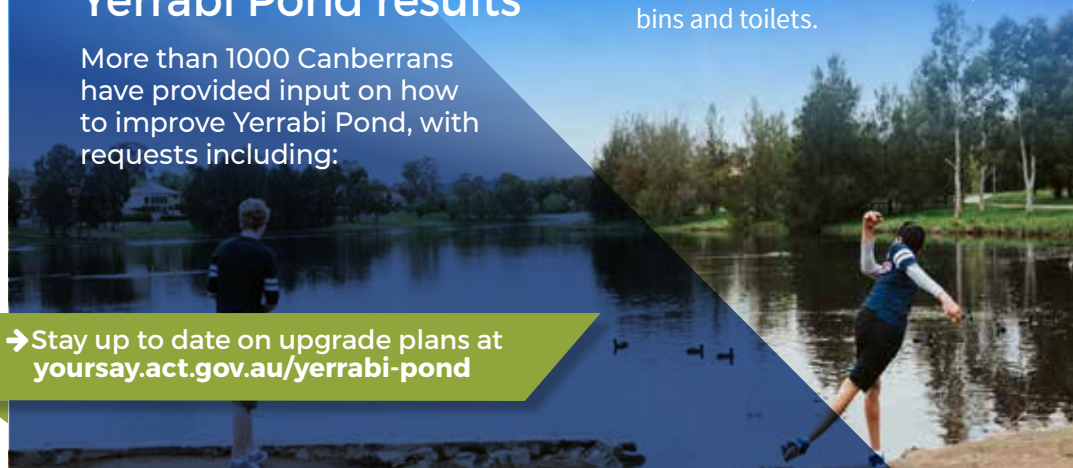
**YOUR SAY**  
CONVERSATIONS

## We heard you Yerrabi Pond results

More than 1000 Canberrans have provided input on how to improve Yerrabi Pond, with requests including:

- ▶ improved general maintenance (e.g. weeding and pond cleaning);
- ▶ more opportunities to sit, dine and socialise outdoors;
- ▶ enhanced lighting to improve visibility; and
- ▶ more facilities such as shelter, bins and toilets.

→ Stay up to date on upgrade plans at [yoursay.act.gov.au/yerrabi-pond](https://yoursay.act.gov.au/yerrabi-pond)



## Testing commences at Mitchell light rail stop

The new Sandford Street light rail platform in Mitchell is taking shape, with testing currently underway.

Testing and commissioning is an important stage of the construction to ensure everything is functional and safe before the stop opens to the public later this year.

→ Stay up to date at [transport.act.gov.au](https://transport.act.gov.au)





## COVID-19 vaccinations now open to more Canberrans

Getting vaccinated is one of the best ways to protect yourself, your loved ones and our community from COVID-19. They are free and available at ACT Government vaccination clinics or participating GPs.

Before your appointment, make sure you leave 7 days between the COVID-19 vaccine and most other vaccines.

By getting vaccinated, you're helping to keep Canberra safe and strong.

→ If you're eligible, book now [covid19.act.gov.au/vaccinebooking](https://covid19.act.gov.au/vaccinebooking)

### Annual dog registration begins

Update your dog's details and find more information.

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



## NAIDOC Week to help Heal Country

Canberrans are being called upon to seek greater protections for our lands, waters, sacred sites and cultural heritage, as part of this year's NAIDOC Week theme: Heal Country!

NAIDOC Week runs from 4 to 11 July and is an opportunity for all Australians to celebrate the history, cultures and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

For more information on how to participate in community events and activities, visit [naidoc.org.au](https://naidoc.org.au)



Artwork: Care For Country by Maggie-Jean Douglas (Gubbi Gubbi).

## Calendar of EVENTS JULY

Until **11** **Wintervention**  
Civic Square

FRI **9-10** **I've Been Meaning To Ask You**  
The Street Theatre

FRI **9-15 Aug** **Reflections of My Country**  
Belco Arts Centre

SUN **11** **Kite Flying Festival**  
Exhibition Park

TUE **13-18** **Potted Potter**  
Canberra Theatre Centre

THU **15-17** **Sandsong**  
Stories from the Great Sandy Desert  
Canberra Theatre Centre

SAT **17** **NRL Raiders v Sharks**  
GIO Canberra Stadium

TUE **20-11 Sep** **A journey through French art**  
Gorman Arts Centre

SAT **31** **The John Lennon Song Book in Concert**  
The Street Theatre

Until **31** **Don't forget the Milk: 50 years of Canberra Milk**  
Canberra Museum and Gallery

**SAVE THE DATE - FLORIADE**  
**11 Sep - 10 Oct**  
Commonwealth Park

For more events and details, visit [events.canberra.com.au](https://events.canberra.com.au)





# Our CBR

## Save yourself a trip to the tip!

Are unwanted bulky items taking up space in your home?

Take advantage of the **ACT Government's free bulky waste collection service.**



**Free of charge**

All Canberra residents can now book **ONE FREE COLLECTION PER YEAR** of up to two cubic metres of unwanted bulky household items.



➔ Book your free bulky waste collection at [act.gov.au/bulkywaste](https://act.gov.au/bulkywaste)

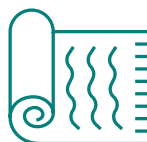


**ACT**  
Government

## What can I include?

### ✓ Acceptable

- ▶ Furniture and household appliances including televisions and computers
- ▶ Tools including garden equipment with fuel and batteries removed
- ▶ Timber up to two metres in length
- ▶ White goods and sinks
- ▶ Building materials/products (excludes rubble)
- ▶ Metal products/scrap metal including hot water systems
- ▶ Electrical equipment with batteries removed
- ▶ Blankets, linen and manchester
- ▶ Lighting
- ▶ Automotive parts with fuel and batteries removed
- ▶ Camping and outdoor equipment
- ▶ Mattresses and ensembles (\$25 fee per mattress and \$25 fee per bed base/ensemble)



### ✗ Not acceptable

- ▶ More than two cubic metres of waste
- ▶ Items weighing more than 25kg
- ▶ Household chemicals or hazardous waste
- ▶ Sheet glass and mirrors
- ▶ Asbestos sheeting or asbestos products
- ▶ Gas bottles or fire extinguishers
- ▶ Soil or mixed fill material
- ▶ Tyres
- ▶ Sharps, needles or sharps containers
- ▶ Timber over two metres in length
- ▶ Garden waste (grass clipping, prunings) or food waste
- ▶ Building and construction rubble
- ▶ Solar panels



Please keep all bulky waste inside your property boundary and do not leave it outside more than 48 hours before your scheduled collection. It must be in an easily accessible location for collection.

## Keeping waste out of landfill

Items collected through the service are sorted and re-purposed where possible, to keep more waste out of landfill and support our local charity partners including GIVIT, Vinnies and The Salvation Army.



## Live in an apartment or townhouse?

If you live in a multi-unit development, contact your body corporate or managing agent to make a booking on your behalf.

## Check the Recyclopaedia to make sure you're recycling right.

Have other items to dispose of?

→ **Recyclopaedia** is your one stop guide on how to correctly dispose of and recycle items in the ACT. Visit [act.gov.au/Recyclopaedia](https://act.gov.au/recyclopaedia)



→ Book your free bulky waste collection at [act.gov.au/bulkywaste](https://act.gov.au/bulkywaste)



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