

OUR CANBERRA

Gungahlin edition

December 2018



HAPPY CBR CHRISTMAS

12 days
of festival fun
in the heart
of CBR

Christmas in the heart of Canberra will be bigger and better this year with 12 days of festivities.

A week of free outdoor movies in Glebe Park, backyard cricket, a long-table dinner and a family fun day form part of a program of events from 13 December to Christmas Eve.

City Walk, Garema Place and Petrie Plaza will be dressed for the season, with street art, decorations, lighting,

a Christmas forest and entertainment to get Canberrans into the holiday spirit.

WHAT'S ON

- > **Canberra Christmas Markets, EPIC, 16 December.** Uncover Christmas gifts from speciality items to gourmet foods.
- > **New Year's Eve in the City, 31 December.** Ring in the New Year with family-friendly celebrations and fireworks at 9pm and midnight.



More on Christmas events at cityrenewalCBR.com.au

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF MINISTER, ANDREW BARR

A dry winter has left Canberra with a significantly increased risk of bushfires this summer.

Our hardworking Emergency Services are reminding all Canberrans to prepare their home and discuss action plans with family, friends and neighbours. Trimming trees, mowing grass and removing flammable materials are simple tasks that can prepare your home for the summer.

This edition of *Our Canberra* has more information on how to be Bushfire Ready.



More on at the ACT Emergency Services website at esa.act.gov.au



Be **Bushfire**
Ready

> See page four

SPORTS FIELDS for TAYLOR



New community playing fields in Taylor will be ready to use in early 2019.

The two full-sized natural grass fields are next to the new Margaret Hendry School and will have lighting, a synthetic cricket pitch, goal posts and line marking for soccer, rugby union and rugby league.

During school days the school will use the ovals. Sporting groups can hire out the ovals during after school hours and on weekends.



OUR CANBERRA

CRICKET BIG BASH



Canberra's best and biggest summer of cricket is here.

Manuka Oval will host four more matches this summer including Canberra's inaugural cricket Test Match from 1 to 5 February 2019, when Australia takes on Sri Lanka. If the Big Bash is more your style, head to Manuka Oval on 21 December and 9 February.

i More at manukaoval.com.au/events



HOLIDAY SERVICES



Most Access Canberra Service and Specialised Centres will close from 4pm on Monday 24 December 2018 until Wednesday 2 January 2019.

If you need to check opening hours, pay your car or trailer rego, renew your driver's licence or do more than 300 other transactions with the ACT Government, just go online.

More information on access to services during the holidays relating to crisis accommodation, dogs and animal care, waste collections and emergencies can be found online too.

i More at act.gov.au/accessCBR



ONE TICKET ONE FARE ONE NETWORK



Commuters will be able to use their MyWay cards on buses and light rail.

The new and expanded network will feature a convenient, efficient and fully integrated MyWay ticketing system where passengers can transfer seamlessly from light rail to buses under the same rules that currently apply to bus users.

i More at transport.act.gov.au



HELPING WOMEN



GIVE TRADES a GO

More support is now being offered to help Women in Canberra interested in traditional trades to give it a go.

New grants are now available for projects across Canberra that support an increase in the promotion and take up of women in male-dominated trades, as well as projects that help to retain women in trades.

If you think your project or business is eligible, contact a Skills Canberra Manager by emailing skills@act.gov.au.

Applications close 20 December.



LOCALS LOVE NEW WALK-IN CENTRE



Gungahlin residents are enjoying access to free treatment and health advice at Canberra's newest Walk-in Centre. An average of 46 people a day sought treatment in its first six weeks of operation.

People are making use of the centre from when it opens at 7.30am, until it closes at 10pm, meaning they're getting treatment at a time that suits them.

Walk-in Centres provide free treatment of minor injuries and illness. They're open every day, including Christmas and New Year's Day, and you don't need an appointment.



More at health.act.gov.au/walk-in-centre



THANK YOU SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS



Thank you to more than 140 volunteers who have mentored Canberra kids across 42 ACT public schools in 2018, through the School Volunteer Program.

Ann Donovan volunteers at Palmerston District Primary School because she finds volunteering rewarding. "From February to December the children's learning improves so much," she said. We will celebrate all Canberra volunteers on International Volunteer Day on 5 December.

Pictured is Ann Donovan at Palmerston District Primary School.



a DOG'S SAFE SUMMER



Canberra dog owners are reminded of the importance of having a secure yard and ensuring pet registration and microchip details are up to date this holiday season.

Make sure your yard or premises is secure and your dog cannot escape.

If you need to access emergency and after-hours services for lost and injured dogs contact Access Canberra 24/7 on 13 22 81.



More at act.gov.au/accessCBR



HIBBERSON STREET OPEN for BUSINESS



Construction on the Hibbersson Street one-way shared zone from Gungahlin Place to Gozzard Street is complete.

This project has delivered a safer space for pedestrians including improved landscaping, bike racks and places to sit and relax under the shade.

Construction in the Gungahlin Town Centre has made the area more people-friendly and linked the light rail terminus with the bus station and local shopping centres.



CANBERRA BE BUSHFIRE READY



Canberra can expect a long hot summer ahead with an increased risk of bushfires. Right now is the time to prepare your home and discuss an action plan with your family. A written Bushfire Survival Plan saves lives and means decisions have been made ahead of any possible bushfire threat. **Download a plan today at esa.act.gov.au**

FOUR SIMPLE STEPS TO CREATING YOUR BUSHFIRE SURVIVAL PLAN



1. DISCUSS

With your household what you will do in a bushfire.



2. PREPARE

A plan and your home for bushfire.



3. KNOW

The bushfire alert levels.



4. KEEP

Information, numbers, websites, and the App.

DO YOU KNOW YOUR RISK?

Where you live is one of the things that determines if both you and your home are at risk of bushfire, and what kind of fire you might experience. Think about the area you live in:

BUSH



If you live in an area that's close to or surrounded by bush, you're at risk. Bushfires can be hot, intense and throw burning embers towards your home.

PADDOCKS



If you live on the outskirts of the city or near paddocks you're at risk. Fires can spread quickly over great distances.

GRASSLANDS



If you live in an area where grasslands meet built up areas or homes, you're at risk. Grass fires can start easily and spread quickly.

ON A HILL



If you live at the top of a hill, you're at risk. Fires travel uphill faster. For every 10 degrees of slope, the fire can double in speed.

THE TOP 5 ACTIONS TO MAKE YOUR HOME SAFER



1. TRIM

Trim overhanging trees and shrubs. This can stop the fire spreading to your home.



2. MOW

Mow grass and remove the cuttings. Have a cleared area around your home.



3. REMOVE

Remove material that can burn (e.g. door mats, wood piles, leaves, paint, furniture).



4. CLEAR

To prevent embers setting alight clear and remove debris and leaves from gutters.



5. PREPARE

A sturdy hose or hoses that will reach all around your home. Have a reliable source of water.

KEEP KEY INFORMATION



In an emergency call: **Triple Zero (000)**. For information on bushfires call Access Canberra: **13 22 81**



For Fire Danger Ratings visit the ACT Emergency Services website: **esa.act.gov.au**



Install the smartphone '**Fires Near Me**' App



Local radio, local ABC/emergency broadcaster frequency, TV and news websites.



Stay up to date at: **facebook.com/ACTESA** and **twitter.com/ACTESA** and **esa.act.gov.au**

Do not rely on just one source!



Produced by: Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate.
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YOURSAY

