

# Our CBR

Woden, Weston Creek and Molonglo Valley edition



December 2020

## Support Canberra's jobs this summer

Canberrans have shown our local businesses strong support throughout a tough 2020 and this can continue through the summer months.

Canberrans can get up to \$40 worth of discounts each day if they spend at participating businesses across Canberra.

This will help our local businesses with their economic recovery. Shopping locally over the festive period, or donating to local charities, will also help the Canberra community recover from a tough 12 months.

The pandemic is not over and the ACT Government will continue to support local businesses to keep the economy moving and keep people in jobs. This is one part of our plan to create and protect over 250,000 local jobs by 2025.

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



### MORE INSIDE >

Work is now complete on the **North Weston park** and ride expansion.

*Miss Moss Florals, Weston*



### Message from the Chief Minister

It's been a year like no other, with bushfires, hail and a global pandemic and economic crisis presenting immense challenges.

The pandemic isn't over and we will feel the impacts of 2020 for many years to come.

As we enter the festive period, there will still be many Canberrans working hard to keep our city safe and cared for.

Please be COVID-safe. When you're out and about in Canberra, download the Check In CBR app and check in to the venue you're at. This will help ACT Health with contact tracing.

When you're travelling across Australia, always be mindful of the ABC of COVID safe travel. Avoid COVID-affected areas; behave in a COVID-safe way; and check back when you're home by monitoring the COVID website of the state or territory you visited.

→ Visit [covid19.act.gov.au](https://covid19.act.gov.au) for up-to-date information.

**Andrew Barr**



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MORE OFTEN**

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Sign up for our e-newsletter at [act.gov.au/our-canberra](https://act.gov.au/our-canberra)



## Stay COVID Safe this festive season

Let's keep CBR safe and strong over the holidays.

Whether you're travelling interstate to visit family and friends, or hosting or attending an end of year event, it's important to continue practising COVID-safe behaviour.

Remember to keep your physical distance, practise good hand hygiene, stay home if you are unwell and get tested if you have any COVID-19 symptoms.

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



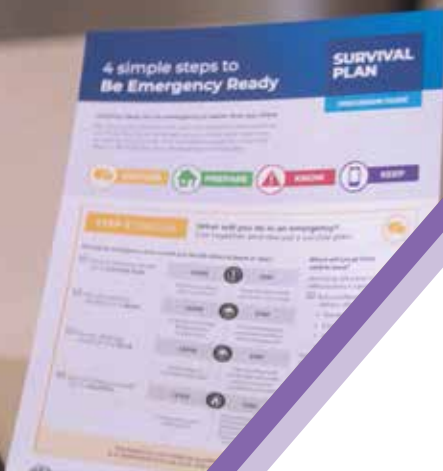
## Preparing for an emergency

A year ago, Canberra was covered in a thick blanket of smoke from one of the worst bushfire seasons on record.

The ACT Emergency Services Agency's new-look Survival Plan will help you prepare not just for bushfires, but for multiple hazards at the same time.

You can edit your plan online – making it easier for you to save a copy on any device, to share it with family and friends, and update it each year.

→ More at [esa.act.gov.au/survival-plan](https://esa.act.gov.au/survival-plan)

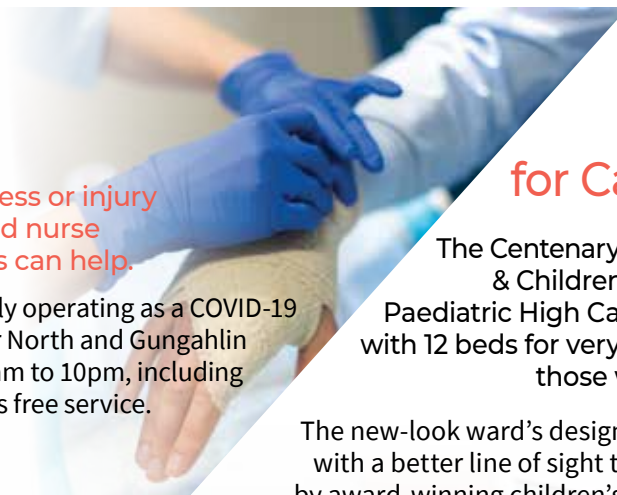


## Walk-in Centres open all summer

If you or a family member face a minor illness or injury this summer, advanced practice nurses and nurse practitioners at Canberra's Walk-in Centres can help.

While the Weston Creek Walk-in Centre is currently operating as a COVID-19 testing clinic, the Tuggeranong, Belconnen, Inner North and Gungahlin centres are open every day of the year from 7.30am to 10pm, including Christmas Day. No appointment is needed for this free service.

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



## Better care for Canberra kids

The Centenary Hospital for Women & Children's newly refurbished Paediatric High Care Ward has opened with 12 beds for very unwell children and those with complex needs.

The new-look ward's design provides clinical staff with a better line of sight to patients. An artwork by award-winning children's book illustrator Freya Blackwood adds some sparkle.

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



## Free travel on Christmas Day

Bus and light rail services are free on Christmas Day. There is a reduced bus timetable in place over the summer holiday period.

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







## More park & ride spaces for Weston

Work is now complete on the North Weston park and ride expansion.

The site on Kirkpatrick Street, which has been popular with the local community, now has an additional 46 car spaces that will help accommodate commuters as the residential area expands.

Park your car for free and connect with the Rapid 7 or Rapid 10 to the city.

→ Stay up to date at [cityservices.act.gov.au/infrastructure-projects](https://cityservices.act.gov.au/infrastructure-projects)

## Upgrades to Arawang Primary School

Arawang Primary School in Waramanga has received modifications to two classrooms and a library upgrade as part of the ACT Government's fast-tracked infrastructure and maintenance works across Canberra.

These projects protect local jobs during our COVID-19 recovery and deliver better services for our community.

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

## Better walking and cycling paths in Woden

Walking and cycling between Weston Creek and Woden is easier with stage one of the Heysen Street link now complete.

Make use of the off-road shared path from the intersection of Devonport Street and Derwent Street, through the Oakey Hill Nature Reserve, along Heysen Street, ending at its intersection with Hilder Street.

Stage two is an off-road shared path from the underpass near the Lyons shops, along Launceston Street to Burnie Street. Works on this stage are expected to be complete by the end of the year.

→ Stay up to date at [cityservices.act.gov.au/infrastructure-projects](https://cityservices.act.gov.au/infrastructure-projects)



## Free training through the JobTrainer Fund

School leavers, young people and job seekers in the ACT can now apply for fee-free training through the JobTrainer Fund, which will help Canberrans build new skills that lead to future job opportunities.

With a range of full qualifications, pre-apprenticeships and short courses on offer, you are sure to find a course that will suit you. JobTrainer can give you a qualification for free and set you up for success.

→ Enrol in JobTrainer today and visit [act.gov.au/jobtrainer](https://act.gov.au/jobtrainer)





# Christmas fun in Civic

Celebrate Christmas in Civic!

Canberra's very own unique kaleidoscopic Christmas tree and summer decorations will deck the city centre. There will also be performances by local artists, family activities, giveaways and more.

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



## Free entry this December at Tidbinbilla

If you're excited to spend time outdoors this summer, then be sure to visit the newly-opened Rock Wallaby Wander at Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve.

It's an easy 1km walk through an open woodland, where you'll wander past Brush-tailed Rock-wallabies in their rocky habitat. Tidbinbilla is the only place in the ACT where this threatened species can be found.

The Tidbinbilla team have also recently upgraded the Nil Desperandum Track, Cascades Trail and Xanthorrhoea Loop so there are plenty of other places to explore. And there's free entry until the end of December.

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



### Services available during the holiday season

Some ACT Government services will be closed, or have restricted opening hours, during the festive period.

→ More [act.gov.au/xmas-shutdown](https://act.gov.au/xmas-shutdown)

## Boost for mowing operations

Canberrans will see more mowing happening over the summer to tackle a particularly challenging season due to record rainfall.

This additional investment will create 24 new jobs and provide more equipment as teams on the ground continue to work seven days a week to keep up with increased demand.

Grassed areas near roads and intersections will be prioritised to maintain line of sight for motorists.

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



## Celebrate New Year's in the capital

This year Canberra will ring in the new year with three nights of delicious meals and musical performances at some of our city's favourite eat streets.

While fireworks won't form part of this year's New Year's Eve celebrations, Canberrans can count down to 2021 across multiple nights from 29 to 31 December.

And your celebratory meal will taste all the sweeter because you're choosing local. By supporting one local business, you are supporting many, including local producers, their suppliers and regional growers.

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



Get COVID-19 updates directly to your inbox.  
Sign up to our newsletter via [act.gov.au/our-canberra](https://act.gov.au/our-canberra)

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