

# OUR CANBERRA

Belconnen edition



ACT  
Government

September 2017



## NEW WORLD CLASS BASKETBALL COURTS AT BELCO



Book the courts  
and find out more at  
[basketballact.com.au](http://basketballact.com.au)

**New outdoor basketball courts have transformed vacant land next to the Belconnen Basketball Stadium.**

The new facility is the only International Basketball Federation three-on-three (3x3) accredited court in Australia.

The adjustable hoops make these courts perfect for junior programs, wheelchair basketball, a shoot around with friends or social competitions.

With its shorter, less structured format, 3x3 is a great new way Canberrans can play basketball for fun and fitness.

The courts are located at 42 Oatley Court, Belconnen.

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- > Cooler playtime ahead of summer
- > Community raises funds for *The Cottage*
- > Upgrades to Belco dog park

### FUTURE HEALTH PROFESSIONALS TOUR



### NEW HOSPITAL

Health students from across Canberra have toured the state-of-the-art education and training facilities at University of Canberra Public Hospital (UCPH).

UCPH is Canberra's first purpose-built rehabilitation hospital, where students studying in the fields of rehabilitation, recovery and research will receive hands-on, practical training producing the highest standard of care. UCPH will open in mid-2018.



For more information [health.act.gov.au](http://health.act.gov.au)

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF MINISTER, ANDREW BARR

Housing affordability and homelessness are important topics for many Canberrans and we want to hear from you about what more the Government can do.

We're working on a new housing strategy that will aim to reduce homelessness, strengthen social housing assistance, increase affordable rental options and improve pathways to affordable home ownership.

Suitable and secure housing is an important foundation for full and active participation in our community. Without it, individuals and families may become isolated and excluded and the adverse consequences of this can be long-term and intergenerational.

We want your ideas to help shape our thinking.

Visit [yoursay.act.gov.au/affordablehousing](http://yoursay.act.gov.au/affordablehousing) to have your say.



For more stories and information from across Canberra, visit [act.gov.au/ourcanberra](http://act.gov.au/ourcanberra) or follow us on social media.

**YOURsay**

For information on community consultations in Canberra, visit [yoursay.act.gov.au](http://yoursay.act.gov.au)





## YOU CAN HELP IMPROVE THE COMPULSORY THIRD PARTY INSURANCE SCHEME

Everyone who registers a motor vehicle in the ACT pays Compulsory Third Party (CTP) insurance.

How much do you know about CTP? Did you know that if you hit a kangaroo and are injured, you are not covered under CTP?

We're holding the ACT's first citizens' jury in October to consider improvements to the CTP scheme. The jury of everyday Canberrans will be helped by experts and will consider the views of the wider community.

**i** Have your say at [yoursay.act.gov.au/ctp](http://yoursay.act.gov.au/ctp) and learn more about our current scheme and how citizens' juries work.

## CBR IS AUSTRALIA'S EDUCATION CAPITAL

Canberra has been ranked in the top 20 student cities in the world. Our city is also home to the top-ranked university in Australia.

Around 64,000 tertiary students are educated in Canberra, including about 14,000 international students and a similar number from interstate. One in six people in Canberra, study or work in tertiary education.

In this year's Budget, there's more resourcing to promote Canberra as Australia's study destination of choice, in partnership with our strong tertiary institutions.



## CANBERRA STUDENT COMPETES ON THE WORLD STAGE

Narrabundah College student Claire Yung recently represented Australia at the International Science and Mathematical Olympiad in Indonesia. She was the first female representative from Canberra in 16 years.

Claire was one of 17 Australian students selected to compete against more than 5,000 other students from more than 300 schools.

Claire says she finds inspiration in the courage and passion of female scientists, such as chemist Rosalind Franklin and astrophysicist Jocelyn Bell.



## CBR NEEDS FOSTER CARERS



Foster carers come from all walks of life. Couples, families, singles, LGBTI and all religions and cultures.

No matter how much time you have to give—from one weekend a month, one year, or indefinitely, you can change a child's life.

ACT Together is looking for foster carers in the Canberra region to provide safe and stable homes for children and young people.

**i** Call 1300 WEFOSTER or visit [acttogether.org.au](http://acttogether.org.au)



Photo: Local foster carers Rachel and Todd Wright.



## SUPPORT FOR OUR STUDENTS

Canberra public school students are getting better access to mental health support. Five more school psychologists will join ACT public schools in 2018, and an extra 15 school psychologists will be employed over the next four years.

School psychologists play an important role in student learning, wellbeing and mental health. The increase will help address the social, emotional and learning needs of Canberra students and our school communities.



## UPGRADES AT BELCO DOG PARK

Canberra's six dog parks have received improvements to increase safety, comfort and fun for Canberrans and their pets.

The Belconnen dog park had two water stations repaired and improved, eight new shade trees planted and ground resurfacing works to reduce trip hazards.

Thank you to the 580 Canberrans who provided feedback during consultation to identify dog park upgrade priorities.



For more information visit [yoursay.act.gov.au](http://yoursay.act.gov.au)



## CBR NIGHT CREW KEEPING REVELLERS SAFE

A new ACT Government program run by volunteers will help young people have a safer night out in our city.

The CBR Nightcrew Safe Space sets up near the City Bus Station on Friday and Saturday nights. Volunteers provide advice and assistance for safe transport options, basic first aid, water for hydration, and mobile phone charging, so that revellers can contact friends or arrange a lift home.

The marquee is staffed between 10pm and 4am on Friday and Saturday nights until April 2018.



## COMMUNITY RAISES FUNDS FOR THE COTTAGE

The Canberra community has raised \$100,000 through the Canberra Hospital Foundation to refurbish The Cottage, an adolescent mental health day program, located on the Calvary Hospital campus at Bruce.

The Cottage aims to reduce the severity of mental health symptoms experienced by young people in Canberra. The refurbishment provides a safer and more welcoming environment for young people to receive treatment, foster life skills, improve at school, and manage social interactions and relationships.

**i** For more information search 'The Cottage' at [health.act.gov.au](http://health.act.gov.au)



## NEW ACT LAW COURTS CLOSER TO COMPLETION



The ACT Law Courts project continues to take shape with the roof now installed on the Supreme Court building.

Stage one of the project, to be completed in early 2018, includes new courtrooms, chambers, jury facilities, cafe and new dedicated vulnerable witness zones.

Stage two of the project, which focuses on the refurbishment of the existing Supreme Court heritage building, is expected to be completed in late 2018.

**i** For more information visit [actlawcourtsproject.com.au](http://actlawcourtsproject.com.au)

## COOLER PLAY TIME AHEAD OF SUMMER



New shade sails have been installed in playgrounds at Beaupaire Crescent in Holt, Kesteven Street in Florey, Ashburton Circuit in Kaleen and the Spence shops. Get outdoors and enjoy your local playground today.







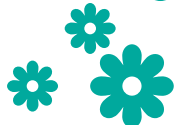
# IT'S FLORIADE'S 30<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY IN 2017

16 SEPTEMBER TO 15 OCTOBER, COMMONWEALTH PARK

Floriade will be celebrating its milestone birthday in style this year.

Explore more of the one million bulbs and annuals with extended opening hours from 10am to 7pm each day. Discover stunning sculptures around every corner. Enjoy exclusive access to the festival at an inaugural opening night concert, as the Canberra Symphony Orchestra take to the stage with the Ziggy Band to showcase the best of David Bowie.

 For more information and tickets visit [floriadeaustralia.com](http://floriadeaustralia.com)



## RECEIVE YOUR RATES & LAND TAX NOTICES BY EMAIL

Register online at [act.gov.au/rateselectronic](http://act.gov.au/rateselectronic)

For ACT driver licence and vehicle registration email renewals register at [act.gov.au/regoelectronic](http://act.gov.au/regoelectronic)

Note: Adobe Reader is required to save and view your bill.

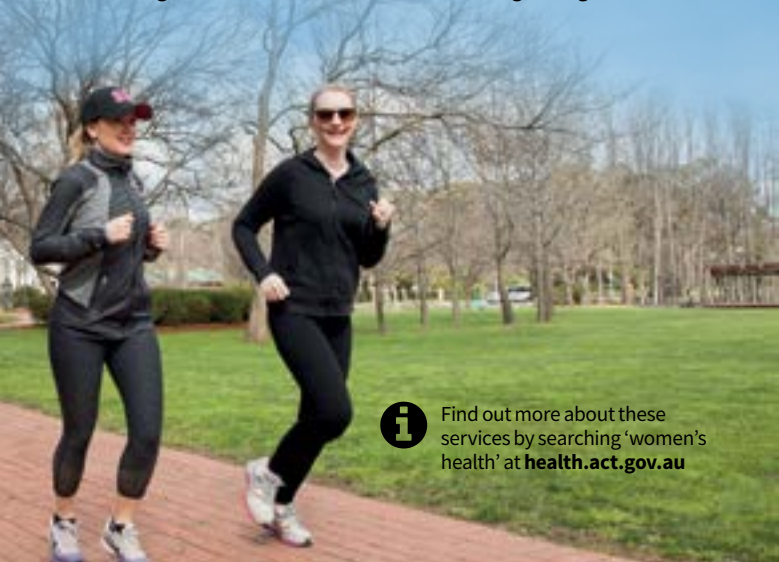
## THIS WOMEN'S HEALTH WEEK— FIND TIME FOR YOU


4-8 SEPTEMBER

This Women's Health Week, mothers, daughters, aunts and sisters are being encouraged to put themselves first and dedicate some time to their health and wellbeing.

If you have any health appointments or matters you've put to the side, make this week the time follow up.

The ACT has a dedicated Women's Health Service offering free nursing, medical, nutrition and counselling to eligible women.



 Find out more about these services by searching 'women's health' at [health.act.gov.au](http://health.act.gov.au)



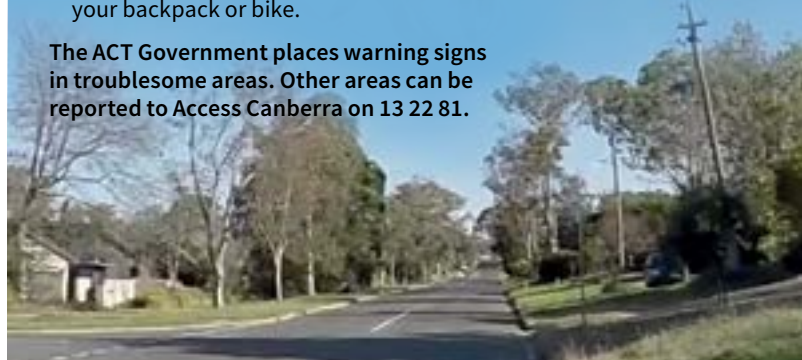
## IT'S MAGPIE SWOOPING SEASON

Spring is in the air and so are the magpies.

During breeding season magpies may swoop people and animals in the area of their nests. Follow these simple precautions to help avoid being swooped:

- > walk through the magpie's territory quickly, but don't run
- > take a different route next time
- > protect your head with an umbrella, hat or helmet and your eyes with glasses
- > look towards the magpie
- > attach flags or streamers on a stick to your backpack or bike.

The ACT Government places warning signs in troublesome areas. Other areas can be reported to Access Canberra on 13 22 81.



For more stories and information from across Canberra, visit [act.gov.au/ourcanberra](http://act.gov.au/ourcanberra) or follow us on social media.

