

School holiday fun this Easter

Looking for ideas to keep the kids entertained these school holidays? Cheer on the Matildas as they take on New Zealand on 12 April, or go on the 'Mushrooms and Mini Beasts' nature walk at the National Arboretum.

Young Raiders fans can discover the team's history at the Canberra Museum + Gallery's Canberra Raiders: 40 Years in the Limelight exhibition. For those who like a challenge, check out the Tuff Nutterz inflatable course at the Parkes Place lawns. Discover more ideas online to keep the kids entertained.

Heritage Festival to spark 'Curiosity'

The Heritage Festival returns this month for a 23-day celebration of local culture and history featuring more than 150 activities.

performances, bushwalks and much more planned, head online to see what the 39th annual festival has on offer.

Heritage Festival: 9 April–1 May 2022 Kid's Week: 18–22 April



Sporting events go plastic-free

Sporting events at GIO Stadium and Manuka Oval have been

They join a wide range of public events including Groovin the Moo, the National Folk Festival and Canberra Day in banning harmful single-use plastic items.

containers as Canberra continues





ANZAC Day 2022

This ANZAC Day we remember the people in our defence forces, past and present.

Canberrans can participate at official events throughout the day. Monday 25 April will be observed as a public holiday. Find out more online.





Gungahlin

APRIL 2022 INSIDE THIS EDITION

- ▶ Local playgrounds get refresh
- ▶ Help design Casey Recreation Park
- ▶ Enrol in your local public school
- ▶ School holiday fun

More nurses coming to Canberra public hospitals



More nurses are being recruited to guarantee nursing and midwifery staffing levels on public hospital wards.



Message from the Chief Minister

The ACT is one of the first Australian jurisdictions to introduce nurse-to-patient ratios in our hospitals.

These ratios will improve the care you and your family members will receive at our hospitals, and improve

occupational safety and job satisfaction for our nurses and healthcare professionals.

With the implementation of these ratios, ACT hospitals have recruited more than 50 nurses this year, with a further 40 nurses to be employed by mid-year.

The upgrades at the Intensive Care Unit at the Canberra Hospital are now complete, providing eight additional beds. Work is also set to get underway in April on a new look emergency department at the Hospital to support our growing city.

Andrew Barr

















Our COVER STORY



More nurses to care for Canberrans

More nurses are being recruited to guarantee nursing and midwifery staffing ratios on public hospital wards.

To ensure the best possible care for patients, more than 50 nurses have been recruited, with more to follow.

Canberra Hospital Emergency Department nurse Pooja Prabhakaran says nursing is vitally important work that leaves a special mark on the people's lives.

"The patients and families might not remember your name but will remember your warm smile, your gentle touch and the care you gave them."

Bigger ICU open at Canberra Hospital

The expanded intensive care unit is now open at the Canberra Hospital and a new-look emergency department is coming soon.

Upgrades to the emergency department will help to better support Canberrans' access to emergency healthcare by streamlining the triage process, enhancing patient privacy and improving access for people with disabilities. Work is due to start in April.

The upgraded facilities will provide better access to lifesaving medical treatment for Canberrans.







More COVID-19 health funding

Additional funding has been provided to support our ongoing COVID-19 health response.

It will allow for the continued rollout of the booster program and vaccination program for 5-11 year olds.

Stamp duty savings

Homebuyers wanting to purchase off-the-plan properties under \$600,000 will no longer pay stamp duty from April 1 2022, saving buyers up to \$15,720.

This will continue to support owner occupiers at the most affordable end of the market.





Local **playground upgrades**

Head online to have your say on a playground upgrade in Ngunnawal, which forms part of Canberra's biggest ever suburban infrastructure program.

A further 11 playgrounds across Gungahlin will also receive upgrades in the coming months, including in Nicholls, Palmerston and Ngunnawal.

This will include a mixture of landscaping, fresh paint and additional mulch or softfall material.

New high school coming to Taylor

Work has started on the design of a new state-of-the-art high school in Taylor and a head contractor for the construction has been appointed. The high school – due to open in 2024 – will be located next to Margaret Hendry School and accommodate up to 800 students.

Its facilities will include general and specialist learning areas, a library and interactive learning centre, as well as performing arts spaces, hardcourts and a large multipurpose hall.

The school's design will take inspiration from the surrounding grassy woodlands and seasonal changes.





Gungahlin locals are invited to contribute to the design of a new community recreation park in Casey.

The park will provide a wide range of outdoor recreation opportunities and contribute to the health and wellbeing of local residents.

Head to the YourSay website to complete a survey or attend a community pop-up session later this month.





Enrol your child for the 2023 school year

Gungahlin public school enrolments for 2023 open on 26 April.

Go online to find your local public school and enrol your child by 3 June to receive an offer from 25 July.