

April 2023

# Our CBR

Belconnen

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## Umbagogong's new bridges underway



Find out more inside

Artist's impression

### Message from the Chief Minister

With the ACT's population projected to reach half a million by 2027, the ACT Government will continue to invest in an infrastructure program that supports the needs of a growing city.

In Belconnen, that means upgrades to the town centre, better bike and pedestrian access with the new Belco Bikeway, new schools in growing suburbs, road duplications and safety improvements, local shop and playground upgrades and brand new bridges at Umbagogong Park.

Andrew Barr



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# Milestone for Canberra Hospital Expansion

Exactly 15 months since breaking ground, the main structure of the Canberra Hospital's new critical services building has reached full height.

The highest point of the building now stands at 40.35 metres tall, with construction on track for completion in 2024.

The new state-of-the-art Critical Services Building is set to boost healthcare capacity by delivering more medical imaging facilities, a new Coronary Care Unit, operating theatres and an Intensive Care Unit and Emergency Department.



## Energy-saving advice for ACT renters

If you are renting, there are some easy things you can do to make your home more comfortable and save money.

The ACT Government's Renters' Home Energy Program provides free in-home energy assessments tailored for all renters.

The assessment identifies where energy is being used in your home and provides simple solutions to help you save on your bills.

For a limited time, participants will receive a free heated throw rug as part of the assessment.

Find out more by scanning the QR code.

## Investing in local cancer research

A new cancer research centre at Canberra Hospital will offer better access to clinical trials and improve care for patients.

It will be co-located with a new wellbeing centre to provide treatment, research, therapy and support in one purpose-built facility.

Construction will begin later this year with the centre due to be finished in late 2024.

Find out more at [builtforcbr.act.gov.au](https://builtforcbr.act.gov.au)



Artist's impression



## Read more online.

Scan this QR code for all your Our CBR articles in one place, or visit [linktr.ee/ourcanberra](https://linktr.ee/ourcanberra)





## Construction begins on new bridges

Construction is underway on three new pedestrian bridges in Umbagog District Park. All three are expected to open in the middle of the year, weather permitting.

The new bridges will provide more recreational opportunities for pedestrians, wheelchair users, cyclists and those on mobility scooters. One bridge will feature a lookout with seating, allowing members of the community to sit and enjoy the natural surroundings.

The suburbs of Latham, Holt, Higgins, Macgregor, Charnwood and Flynn border the park, which provides over 50 hectares of open space for recreation.

Two of the bridges are jointly funded by the ACT and Australian Governments and the third bridge, with the lookout, is ACT Government funded.



## Education equity fund helps Belconnen families

Belconnen families experiencing financial stress can access support via the Future of Education Equity Fund. This provides eligible families with one-off payments to help cover education costs – from uniforms to tuition.

Payments for students are \$400 (preschool), \$500 (primary), \$750 (high school and college). The fund is open to all students living in the ACT from preschool to year 12 who are financially disadvantaged.

Scan the QR code for details.

## Wheely good track for Belco

Members of the Belconnen community have come together to design and build a bike track suitable for all abilities behind Evatt Primary School.

The track was a partnership between Abilities Unlimited Australia and Evatt

Primary School, supported by the ACT Government's Bumps and Berms Volunteer Program.

Learn more about increasing recreation opportunities in your community at [cityservices.act.gov.au](https://cityservices.act.gov.au)



## Acknowledgement of Country



The ACT Government acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land, the Ngunnawal people. We acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and contribution to the life of this city and region.



Accessibility  
Ph 13 22 81



Ph 131 450





# Mobile device detection cameras now in use

Mobile device detection cameras are now being tested on ACT roads, with 3899 Canberrans detected using their mobile phones whilst driving in the first month of operation.

The three transportable cameras and two fixed cameras, which will be located on Hindmarsh Drive and Gungahlin Drive, aim to

reduce driver distraction and make Canberra's roads safer. Drivers will not receive fines during this initial commissioning phase, with warning notices and infringement notices to commence in the second half of 2023.

For more information, visit [act.gov.au/roadsafety](https://act.gov.au/roadsafety)



# School holiday fun this Easter

There is no shortage of options to keep the kids entertained these school holidays. Head to the Heritage Festival, enjoy a fairy hunt at the Arboretum's Stories in the Forest, or spend the day exploring Tidbinbilla.

Plus, ACT Libraries have a host of school holiday activities on offer to keep the kids entertained.

Find more ideas online.



# What's on in April

**6–10 Apr** **National Folk Festival**  
EPIC

**8–21 Apr** **Playful Endeavour**  
Glebe Park

**9 Apr** **Meet the Easter Bunny**  
Old Bus Depot Markets

**11–30 Apr** **Canberra and Region Heritage Festival**  
Multiple locations

**16 Apr** **Canberra Times Marathon Festival**  
John Dunmore Lang Place, Parkes

**21–23 Apr** **Karen's Diner on Tour**  
The Clubhouse Kaleen

**25 Apr** **Anzac Day Dawn Service**  
Australian War Memorial

Canberrans can also cheer on the Raiders, Brumbies and Giants at GIO Stadium and Manuka Oval this month.



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

**YOUR SAY**  
CONVERSATIONS

# How would you feel about your home or business being powered by 100% renewable electricity?

The ACT is preparing to transition away from the use of fossil fuel gas by 2045. An all-electric Canberra will help power the

city's homes, businesses and transport in a cleaner, cheaper way. Share your thoughts at **YourSay Conversations**.