

OUR CANBERRA

Gungahlin edition



December 2016

LIGHT RAIL STAGE ONE ON ITS WAY



Construction of stage one light rail from Gungahlin to Civic is now underway. The work includes open trenching and under-boring works in Mitchell and Gungahlin along the route.

You can get the latest information on stage one of Canberra's light rail by visiting the new information stop located at the former Canberra and Region Visitors Centre on Northbourne Avenue.

The information centre is open from 9am-5pm, Monday to Friday.

i The full construction schedule can be found at transport.act.gov.au/light-rail-project/construction

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PEDESTRIAN PRIORITY ZONE FOR HIBBERSON STREET



Stay tuned Gungahlin, your final preferred design for the pedestrian priority zone for Hibberson Street between Cozzard Street and Gungahlin Place West can be viewed by early 2017.

This shared zone will create an environment that puts pedestrians first in the busy shopping precinct.

i Keep an eye on www.yoursay.act.gov.au for the final design early next year.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF MINISTER, ANDREW BARR

When the first flight from Singapore landed on a wet Canberra day a couple of months ago, our city changed for the better. We became a globally connected city.

Our young and vibrant city is growing up. We have reached 400,000 people and are growing at more than 5000 people a year. The ACT Government is investing in new city shaping infrastructure while making sure we keep the Canberra we love. Whether it be the new light rail, better healthcare and mental health services or investments in the future of education, Canberra is set for its next exciting phase.

It's been a big year in the ACT and as 2016 draws to a close, I'd like to wish all Canberrans a very Merry Christmas and may 2017 be a happy and prosperous New Year.



For more stories and information from across Canberra, visit act.gov.au/ourcanberra or follow us on social media.



OUR CANBERRA

NEW SECURE MENTAL HEALTH UNIT 'DHULWA' OPENS



Dhulwa, the secure mental health unit in Symonston officially commenced operations in November.

Dhulwa is the first unit of its type in our region and has capacity for 25 residents. This includes 10 acute care beds and 15 rehabilitation beds, as well as 24-hour clinical support.

Dhulwa is a Ngunawal term meaning 'honey suckle', a native plant with healing properties.

 For more information visit health.act.gov.au/dhulwa



SCHOOL UPGRADES ACROSS CANBERRA



Primary schools, high schools and colleges across Canberra will be getting some major upgrades and improvements over the next four years.

An infrastructure upgrade program will provide new classrooms and upgrade existing classrooms, refurbish toilets, new gardens, upgrades to equipment and heating and cooling systems.

NOMINATE FOR CANBERRA CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

This award recognises and celebrates the community's most outstanding contributors. To nominate, go to act.gov.au/cbrcitizen

Nominations close 31 January 2017. The winner will be announced in March 2017.

2016 Canberra Citizen of the Year, Narelle Hargreaves, OAM



ACTION HOLIDAY BUS TIMETABLE

The festive season bus timetable runs 19 December to 6 January 2017 inclusive. There will be a special Christmas Day timetable where travel is free on the day.

Look out for new trial Peak Express services between Gungahlin and Tuggeranong offering three non-stop morning and evening services between the two centres.

 For information visit transport.act.gov.au

IMPORTANT HOLIDAY PERIOD CONTACT INFORMATION



Health services

Cuts, sprains and grazes can be treated at walk-in centres in Belconnen and Tuggeranong. They're free and open 7.30 am to 10 pm every day, including Christmas Day and New Year's Day.



Crisis accommodation

Anyone experiencing domestic violence during the holiday period can contact the Domestic Violence Crisis Service on 6280 0900 (24-hour service).



Priority housing

If you are seeking priority housing, please contact Housing ACT on 133 427.



Bushfire information

Call 000 in an emergency and stay tuned to esa.act.gov.au for alert and updates.



Reporting child abuse & neglect

Notify Child and Youth Protection Services. Phone: 1300 556 729
Email: childprotection@act.gov.au

For information on holiday period operating hours for ACT Libraries, Domestic Animal Services, Yarralumla Nursery and Waste Management Services visit act.gov.au/our-canberra

RECYCLING TIPS FOR THE HOLIDAYS



These items can go in the recycling bin:

- > Christmas cards and envelopes – even with glitter
- > cardboard packaging – even with hard plastic windows
- > wrapping paper – no need to remove sticky tape or gift tags
- > empty wine bottles, soft drink bottles and beer cans
- > containers – no need to rinse, just empty them



These items can't go in the recycling bin:

- > tinsel, Christmas decorations and Christmas lights
- > leftover or unwanted food
- > foil and cellophane wrapping
- > polystyrene
- > Christmas trees
- > crockery or glassware.



Find out more at act.gov.au/recycling/home



HARRISON TEACHER NAMED NEW EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

Harrison School teacher Laura Pardoe has been named New Educator of the Year as part of the ACT Public Education Awards.

Laura was recognised for her contribution in reshaping Harrison's Learning Support Unit programs in Kindergarten to Year 4, personalising the learning program for a dynamic group of students.

Read more about Laura and other ACT Public Education Award winners at education.act.gov.au



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE ACT AUSTRALIANS OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to the four ACT Australian of the Year recipients, ACT Australian of the Year Alan Tongue, ACT Senior Australian of the Year Dick Telford, ACT Young Australian of the Year Heidi Prowse, and ACT Local Hero Stasia Dabrowski.

You can learn more about these remarkable Canberrans and their contribution to our community at australianoftheyear.org.au. They will represent Canberra on the national stage on 25 January 2017.



GUNGAHLIN ROADS UPDATE

What's the latest on Gungahlin roads?

- > Works on the Barton Highway/ Gundaroo Drive/William Slim Drive roundabout will be finished early 2017.
- > The duplication of Horse Park Drive continues with traffic soon to be diverted to the new road lanes between Anthony Rolfe Avenue and Well Station Drive. This allows for work on the existing road lanes.
- > The next stage of the Horse Park Drive duplication starts early next year between Anthony Rolfe Avenue and Mulligans Flat Road. This will be done at the same time as construction between the Federal Highway and Well Station Drive.
- > Work is almost finished on the extension of Manning Clark Crescent and The Valley Avenue.

For more information visit tccs.act.gov.au



TRACKING CANBERRA GUNGAHLIN HERITAGE TRACK



Discover Canberra's tracks with a new app that uses augmented reality technology to bring the tracks to life.

The Gungahlin track features 100-year-old border markers to historic villages and homesteads.

Visit canberratracks.act.gov.au to download the app or learn about tracks in other regions of Canberra.



CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS IN THE CITY

Christmas in the City is back in 2016 and as well as the giant Christmas tree on City Walk, the Christmas Food Markets will be on in Civic Square.

Featuring a number of delicious culinary themed nights, as well as live music, Christmas in the City runs from 16 to 24 December.

 For more information visit inthecitycanberra.com.au

LONG-TERM CANBERRANS SHAPING OUR CITY

The Canberra Gold Awards recognise the unique contribution made by individuals and groups who have lived or operated in the ACT for 50 years or more. Nominate a family member, colleague, friend, or group who has helped to shape our city.

Nominations close in early February with the awards to be presented in March as part of Canberra Day celebrations.

 Nominations can be made online at act.gov.au/CBRgold



FIREWORKS & FREE ENTERTAINMENT FOR NEW YEAR'S EVE IN THE CITY

Canberra is set to ring in 2017 in style with a fantastic line-up of free entertainment and state-of-the-art fireworks this New Year's Eve.

Kick start your evening with music from the Brass Knuckle Brass Band. Potbelleez will also heat up the stage, performing energetic sets which will get your body moving. Nostalgia and Heuristic will feature, making sure there's no stop to the celebrations. Fireworks displays will light Canberra skies at 9pm and midnight, with best viewing from Civic Square.

 For more information visit events.act.gov.au or phone Access Canberra on 13 22 81.

Civic Square hosts an all ages concert line-up while Garema Place brings in the new year with bass beats and high-energy dancing.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN AT THE ARBORETUM & TIDBINBILLA NATURE RESERVE

There are plenty of free activities at the National Arboretum during these summer school holidays.

Let the kids have fun in Pod Playground or fly a kite in the amphitheatre. The Arboretum grounds will be open until 8.30pm every night in summer.

 Visit nationalarboretum.act.gov.au

Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve has lots of activities for the whole family.

Discover the natural wonders of the sanctuary daily with a volunteer guide, feed the pelicans, spot an elusive platypus or maybe just go for a walk through the koala enclosure to see the latest addition – 'Ghanbi'.

 Visit tidbinbilla.act.gov.au



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