

OUR CANBERRA

Belconnen edition



June 2018

NEW HOSPITAL OPEN DAY 16 JUNE



Located on the corner of Ginninderra Drive and Aikman Drive in Bruce

Canberrans are invited to visit our city's brand new hospital before it opens.

The University of Canberra Hospital: Specialist Centre for Rehabilitation, Recovery and Research, will hold an open day on Saturday 16 June between 11am and 4pm.

See the purpose built therapy gyms and rehabilitation facilities. Meet specialist health professionals. Enjoy a sausage sizzle and live music.

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

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AGE-FRIENDLY PAGE



Path upgrades are underway in Page as part of the Age-Friendly Suburbs project.

These upgrades will make paths safer and more accessible for the whole community, but especially for seniors and people with limited mobility.

A new path will be constructed on Birrell Street between Burkitt Street and Knaggs Crescent, and on Knaggs Crescent between Burkitt Street and Dallachy Street. A new path will also connect Thozet Place and Bynoe Place through the open space area.

 For more information visit yoursay.act.gov.au



MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF MINISTER, ANDREW BARR

Access to affordable housing is an important part of a caring society. As Canberra continues to grow, we're making sure everyone can access the right housing choices for their stage of life.

A new government program will soon be offering affordable new homes at capped prices in Coombs, Wright, Greenway, Lawson and Taylor.

To ensure these homes go to the people who need them most, applicants must meet a set of criteria.

You can find out more or register your interest at act.gov.au/affordablehomepurchase



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

YOURsay

For information on community consultations in Canberra, visit yoursay.act.gov.au

PROTECTION AGAINST the FLU

Now is the time to get your yearly flu vaccination.

It's the best way to protect yourself, your family and friends against the flu.

The flu vaccine is recommended for everyone 6 months of age and older and is free for people who are at higher risk of complications from flu..

 For more information visit health.act.gov.au

If you have flu-like symptoms, visit your GP or a Walk-in Centre.



ELECTRIC by 2021

A new action plan has been prepared to support the transition to zero emission vehicles.

The plan calls for the set-up of charging infrastructure in new buildings and an all-electric vehicle fleet for the ACT Government.


Zero emissions vehicles emit less air and noise pollution and have lower running costs. In the ACT, they also don't incur stamp duty and receive a 20% discount on registration fees.

 Read or download the e-vehicle action plan at environment.act.gov.au

NEW SMARTER STREETLIGHT NETWORK

Streetlights across the ACT are being upgraded under a new streetlight arrangement.

Electrix is now contracted to maintain, upgrade and power the ACT's 80,000 streetlights. Electrix will replace old and inefficient incandescents with LEDs, vastly improving the energy efficiency of our streetlights.

 To report damage or faults with streetlights, lodge a 'fix my street' request form at act.gov.au/accesscanberra



MENTAL HEALTH COMMUNITY CARE SPACE

Canberra's Wellways 'Adult and Youth Step Up Step Down' service is helping people stay closer to their families, while receiving mental health support.

The Wellways service offers two homes, one on the northside and the other on the southside of Canberra. These homes provide flexible mental health support for up to three months for people who have been discharged from hospital, or don't need hospital based care. It means they can stay closer to their family and friends in a more comfortable environment, rather than a clinical setting.

 For more information visit wellways.org



QUALITY BUILDING for OUR VIBRANT CITY

Building licence requirements will be strengthened to support construction quality and community confidence across the sector.

From next year, up to 20 per cent of all builders seeking to renew their licences will need to pass a test. This will ensure their skills and technical knowledge are to the standard expected by government, regulators, industry and the community.

Builders subject to complaints about building quality will also be targeted.



 For more information visit act.gov.au/cbrqualitybuilding



QUICKER & MORE FREQUENT BUSES

As part of community consultation last year, you told us you want quicker and more frequent public transport and more services.

You also told us you want transport information available via mobile apps and digital displays.

We've listened and we're now working on a more frequent seven-day network that will integrate light rail and nine Rapid bus routes, connecting town centres and major employment hubs.

i For more information on the consultation findings visit yoursay.act.gov.au



JOIN THE DISCUSSION on BETTER SUBURBS



Results on last year's consultation on the Better Suburbs Program have been released, shedding light on the community's priorities.

You told us you want to easily access local shops, parks and amenities that are located together in your suburb, with well-lit, well-maintained, well-connected footpaths, cycle paths and roads. You also prefer higher quality facilities and service over more infrastructure. The next phase of consultation includes citizens' forum and the release of a Kitchen Table Discussion Guide later this month.

i For more information on the results visit yoursay.act.gov.au/BetterSuburbs




TRIM TREES AND BUSHES

Residents must ensure trees, bushes and branches within properties do not overhang nature strips, paths and verges.

Overhanging foliage can be unsafe if they block access and line of sight. Fines may apply if residents don't comply.

i For more information visit tccs.act.gov.au



GREEN BINS FOR SPRING

Green waste collection services start in Belconnen just in time for spring gardening, from September 2018.

More information on how to get a green bin will be available in the next few months.

You can continue to drop weeds, prunings, grass clippings, branches, flowers or leaves for free at the following two locations:

1. Mugga Lane Resource Management Centre
2. Canberra Sand and Gravel (Parkwood Yard)

i For more information visit tccs.act.gov.au/recycling-and-waste



LIGHT RAIL WORK PEAKS



As the city prepares for light rail, works have now peaked on Northbourne Avenue.

Staged closures of all intersections along Northbourne Avenue will continue over the coming months. These closures allow for important works to be completed, including construction of pavement, traffic signals and stormwater drainage.

Thank you for your patience during construction.


BATTERY REBATES LOWER BILLS



Combining battery storage with your rooftop solar system is a fantastic way to have a supply of clean energy when the sun isn't shining, and reducing your energy bills.

With battery storage, you can save at peak times when it's most expensive to buy from the grid.

The Next Generation Energy Storage program is supporting the installation of up to 5,000 battery storage systems in homes and businesses across Canberra. The program provides around \$4000 in support for the average residential system, but can vary depending on the size and type of system installed.

 For more information visit actsmart.act.gov.au



WINTER ENERGY SAVING

Reduce energy use this winter by opening curtains during the day and closing them at night, and closing doors to rooms that don't need heating.


 For more handy tips, visit actsmart.act.gov.au

10C REFUND for DRINK CONTAINERS

Start collecting Canberra. From 30 June you can receive a 10 cent refund for any empty eligible drink containers.

The new ACT Container Deposit Scheme reduces litter and rewards consumers who recycle their containers through the scheme.

Charities, schools and community groups can also use the scheme to raise funds for their organisation. Collection points will be located across Canberra.

 For more information visit actcds.com.au




GROWING SERVICES in OUR CITY

As Canberra grows, the Government is working hard to make sure the key services you rely on, get better.

These services will be at the heart of the 2018/19 ACT Budget, which will be released on Tuesday 5 June.

Also keep an eye out in your letterbox during June for more information on how this year's Budget benefits your region.

 For more information visit act.gov.au/budget



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