

OUR CANBERRA

Gungahlin edition

October 2017



ENGLISH SKILLS FOR NEW CANBERRA KIDS

Introductory
English Centres
are located
in selected
ACT public
schools

Students who are new to Australia can access introductory English classes at selected ACT public schools.

Students spend two terms working on their language and social skills and learning about the culture of Australian schools, before moving into mainstream classes.

There are currently more than 270 children from Canberra's migrant, refugee and diplomat families getting a head start in language and culture at one of Canberra's six Introductory English Centres.

above photo: Students learning at Palmerston District Primary School

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF MINISTER, ANDREW BARR

Canberrans come from all walks of life and from across the world. We are a diverse and progressive city and that's why the ACT Government has committed to making Canberra even more inclusive.

We are backing up this commitment with practical legislation and support. Canberra is a community that ensures those facing social, health and economic challenges do not fall behind. We will continue to look out for vulnerable Canberrans.



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- > Construction progressing on Gundaroo Drive
- > A new public holiday for Canberra
- > 100 years of the Cork Oak forest

CANBERRA'S LIGHT RAIL UPDATE



Intersection closures and diversions are in place as work continues on light rail between Gungahlin and the City. To keep on top of the changes you can subscribe to our light rail construction update via transport.act.gov.au.

Earlier this year we asked you about your views on the route options for stage 2 from the City to Woden. As part of the consultation, close to 5,000 people were reached via Your Say and almost 40,000 people via social media.



To read the consultation summary report visit yoursay.act.gov.au.



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A NEW PUBLIC HOLIDAY FOR CANBERRANS

The ACT will celebrate its first Reconciliation Day in May 2018.

The public holiday will replace September's Family and Community Day. It will take place on the first Monday on or after 27 May each year, the anniversary of the 1967 referendum and the first day of National Reconciliation Week.



RENEW YOUR DRIVER LICENCE ONLINE

You can now renew your driver licence online if you've had your licence photograph taken in the last five years.

You will automatically be issued with a valid month-long temporary licence that you can download while a new licence is posted to you.

i To renew online, go to act.gov.au/accessCBR

START SOMETHING GREAT IN CBR



Did you know that Canberra is Australia's per capita capital of innovation and entrepreneurship?

Canberra's Innovation Connect Grants are one of the most successful government grants programs for start-ups. Since 2008 over 190 Canberra businesses have received matched-funding support of over \$5 million. Local success stories include Skoolbo, Reposit Power, SmartWard, SignOnSite and Enabled Employment. For more information visit business.act.gov.au

i To find out what Olympia from local start-up Go Terra did with her \$30,000 Innovation Connect Grant go to [youtube.com/user/actgovernment](https://www.youtube.com/user/actgovernment)



WHAT'S HAPPENING ON YOUR SAY?

A number of consultations are currently open for Canberrans to have their say. You can:

- > help inform a citizens' jury of everyday Canberrans who will consider priorities for our CTP insurance scheme.
- > help choose the name for Canberra's newest public park at Lake Burley Griffin's West Basin.

i For more information or to sign up for email alerts visit yoursay.act.gov.au

**YOUR
say**



100 YEARS OF THE CORK OAK FOREST 12 NOVEMBER

The Cork Oak Forest at the National Arboretum is turning 100 and everyone is invited to help celebrate.

On Sunday 12 November come along to the free mediterranean-themed fun day. It will include demonstrations of cork stripping, music, food, guided walks and family activities.

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



CANBERRA PUBLIC TRANSPORT AREAS NOW SMOKE-FREE

Canberrans can now breathe a little easier with all ACT public transport areas now smoke-free. This includes smoking or vaping within five metres of bus and train stations, light rail transport hubs and taxi ranks.

This change will protect people from exposure to second hand smoke and reduce the exposure of children and young people to seeing people smoke.

i For more information search 'smoke free' at health.act.gov.au



UC HOSPITAL'S REHABILITATION COURTYARD



A courtyard at the new University of Canberra Public Hospital will provide a new treatment setting to help rehabilitate people after injury.

The new courtyard is now complete and incorporates varying heights, surfaces and textures. This offers patients a realistic setting for rehabilitation. It also has a motionless car for people wishing to practice transferring into and out of a car as part of their rehabilitation.

The hospital will be Canberra's first purpose-built rehabilitation hospital and remains on track for completion in 2018.

NEW BUS TIMETABLE STARTS 7 OCTOBER



A new bus timetable starts in Canberra on Saturday 7 October.

Key changes include:

- > New Green Rapid service between the City to Woden via Barton (Route 6)
- > Free travel on the Green Rapid for the first two months
- > The introduction of services through the new Dickson Interchange
- > Service improvements across the weekend, including on the Red Rapid 7 day a week high frequency service between Gungahlin and the City

Minor changes have also been made to dedicated school services. ACT schools will receive advice on any changes that affect them.

i For more information on other changes to the timetable visit transport.act.gov.au or call Transport Canberra on 13 17 10.



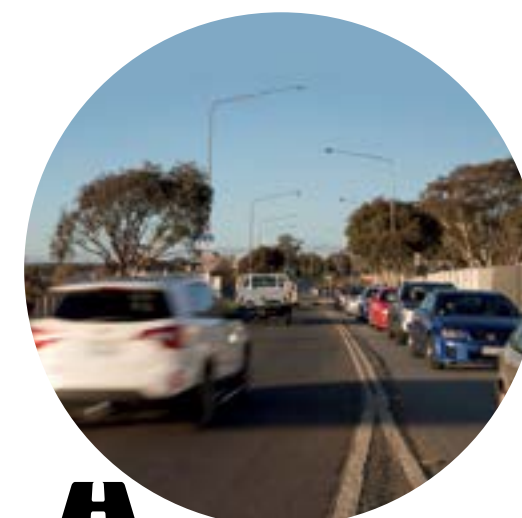
STRONGER TOGETHER THIS MENTAL HEALTH WEEK 8-14 OCTOBER



One in every five Australians experience mental ill-health each year, so it's an issue that directly or indirectly touches most Canberrans.

Throughout Mental Health Week and the month of October, there'll be a series of events hosted by organisations around Canberra to raise mental health awareness, promote wellbeing and provide support.

i For more information visit mentalhealthweekact.org/calendar



A CONSTRUCTION PROGRESSING ON GUNDAROO DRIVE

Works are continuing at the Gundaroo Drive/ Mirrabai Drive/ Anthony Rolfe Avenue intersection to deliver new traffic lights.


Earth works, stormwater and utility adjustments are now underway. The Gundaroo Drive Stage 1 duplication will also reach a key milestone in coming weeks with an upcoming traffic switch scheduled.

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

iii CANBERRA NARA CANDLE FESTIVAL

28 OCTOBER
NARA PEACE PARK
LENNOX GARDENS

Enjoy the spectacular visual of 2,000 shimmering candles as we celebrate the 24th year of the sister city relationship between Canberra and Nara. Discover Japanese culture, music and try your hand at calligraphy, lantern making, origami, ikebana and kite flying.

 For more information visit events.act.gov.au/nara


Nominate for the 2018 Canberra Citizen of the Year.

Nominate at
act.gov.au/cbrcitizen

Nominations close
15 December 2017

RUGBY LEAGUE WORLD CUP COMES TO CANBERRA


Canberra will play host to three Rugby League World Cup 2017 matches this spring. France take on Lebanon on Sunday 29 October, our Aussie side tackles France on Friday 3 November and Fiji play Italy on Friday 10 November.

 For more information and tickets visit RLWC2017.com

DOGS' DAY OUT RETURNS TO FLORIADE

14 OCTOBER
COMMONWEALTH PARK

Enjoy four-legged fun with your pup at Floriade. There will be lots of activities and demonstrations throughout the day. Pose with your pup in the free photo booth, chow down on delicious delicacies at the Pooch Café, or soak up some sunshine as you explore Floriade together.

 For more information visit floriadeaustralia.com/dogs-day-out




SPRING OUT IN AUSTRALIA'S MOST LGBTIQ-FRIENDLY CITY

28 OCTOBER-26 NOVEMBER

Canberra is proud to be Australia's most LGBTIQ-friendly city and we're painting the city rainbow to show it!

SpringOUT kicks off with Fair Day at the Gorman Arts Centre on October 28, featuring performers and a huge range of stalls, where you'll be able to pick up rainbow CBR stickers and pins, among so much more.

 Find the full SpringOUT program at springout.com.au



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

YOURSAY



ACT
Government