

# OUR CANBERRA

Belconnen edition



ACT  
Government

August 2017

## CLEAN & GREEN INITIATIVES AT NEW HOSPITAL

The hospital is on track to open in mid-2018.

Environmental and sustainability initiatives have been a driving force in the design and construction of the new University of Canberra Public Hospital (UCPH).

Green and clean initiatives include solar panels, rain water harvesting for reuse in the facility, LED lighting and a facade specifically designed for the Canberra climate.

The design of UCPH was inspired by Canberra's bush landscape, with the rolling hills and colours of the Brindabellas being incorporated into the design.

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- > Better schools for Belco kids
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## BIKING AROUND BELCO

Over the next few months we'll be starting the design for the new Belconnen Bikeway.

The bikeway will make getting around our suburbs even easier by connecting Bruce, Aranda, Macquarie, Lawson, Page and Florey with the Belconnen Town Centre and nearby educational institutions.



Visit [act.gov.au/ourcanberra](http://act.gov.au/ourcanberra) for updates.

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF MINISTER, ANDREW BARR

Recently-released data from last year's Census shows the ACT population grew faster than any State or Territory over the past five years, adding more than 40,000 new residents – an increase of 11 per cent.

We are now a Territory of 400,000 people and another eight suburbs' worth of people – the equivalent of Weston Creek – are expected to make Canberra their home over the next four years.

We understand the importance of renewing and boosting our essential transport, health, housing and education services now so we're ready as more people call Canberra home. It will also help us avoid the gridlock and stretched services experienced in cities like Sydney or Melbourne.



For more stories and information from across Canberra, visit [act.gov.au/ourcanberra](http://act.gov.au/ourcanberra) or follow us on social media.

YOURsay

For information on community consultations in Canberra, visit [yoursay.act.gov.au](http://yoursay.act.gov.au)



## If you see a fault or outage report it & avoid it!

Like electrical devices in your home, Territory-owned electrical assets can become faulty and potentially become a safety risk. Faulty fixtures such as streetlights, barbecues and power outlets should be avoided and faults reported so we can fix it as a priority.

If you see a fault please call Access Canberra on 13 22 81.

## FIRST YEAR OF TREATMENT ROOMS FOR KIDS

Close to 20,000 of Canberra's youngest patients have had a more comfortable wait for treatment in the ACT's first Paediatric Streaming area, which is part of Canberra Hospital's Emergency Department.

Splashes of bright colours, native fish and birds are part of the design in the triage and treatment areas. The facility has now been operating for a year and includes six beds, two consultation rooms and a private waiting area.

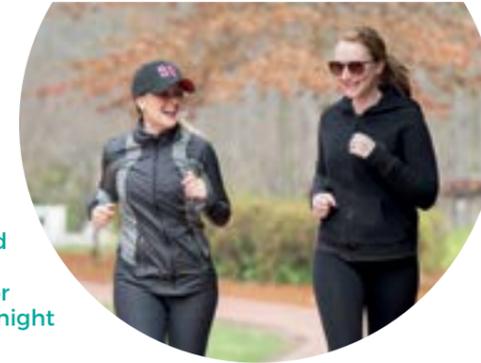


## WINTER WORKOUTS IN BELCONNEN

We've got your workouts all worked out in Belconnen. Start your spring fitness program early using outdoor exercise stations located at John Knight Memorial Park.

Remember to warm up, stretch, and include a range of exercises to improve your strength, cardiovascular fitness and flexibility.

To download workout guides or search for other outdoor exercise stations across Canberra, visit [act.gov.au/fitness](http://act.gov.au/fitness)



## SAVE TIME & PAY YOUR REGO ONLINE

When it's time to renew your car rego, avoid the queues and do it online.

In a few simple steps you can easily pay your renewal, rather than waiting in the queue at an Access Canberra Service Centre.

To pay your rego visit [act.gov.au/accessCBR](http://act.gov.au/accessCBR)

While there, take a look at the 250 other ACT Government services you can also do online.

## YOUTH INTERACT GRANTS NOW OPEN

Young Canberrans aged 12-to-25 years with ideas to strengthen social inclusion in Canberra can apply for grants for up to \$1500.

Applications close Sunday 3 September 2017.

To apply, visit <https://dhcs.smartygrants.com.au/2017-18YouthInterACTGrants>

For further information, please contact the Youth InterACT team [youthinteract@act.gov.au](mailto:youthinteract@act.gov.au) or 6207 8698.

## WAITING AREAS GO SMOKE FREE

Public transport waiting areas will be smoke-free from October this year. These areas include all bus and taxi stops, bus interchanges and transport platforms.

Creating more smoke-free areas in public spaces will protect the community from the harms associated with smoking and exposure to second-hand smoke.

Consultation earlier this year showed overwhelming community support for this initiative.



For more info visit [health.act.gov.au](http://health.act.gov.au)

## BETTER SCHOOLS FOR BELCO KIDS

Because every Canberra student deserves the best possible start, we'll be investing more money to build better schools for Belconnen kids.

We're modernising facilities at Belconnen High School, Aranda Primary and Lake Ginninderra College and providing devices to connect students with the digital world.

We're also making it safer for kids to walk and ride to school by upgrading signage and footpaths. These upgrades will also make sure students with disability have better access at their local public school.

Keep an eye on [act.gov.au/ourcanberra](http://act.gov.au/ourcanberra) for updates on schools in Belconnen.



## PREPARING STUDENTS FOR A GLOBAL FUTURE

Children across all Canberra public schools can learn a language as part of their school's language program.

Learning a language helps students develop critical thinking, analysis and problem solving skills. It also gives them cultural understanding, which equips them for their journey into the world that awaits them.

For more information on which schools teach which languages visit [education.act.gov.au](http://education.act.gov.au)



Students at Evatt Primary in their Japanese language class.

## RAIDERS CADETS SUPPORTING STUDENTS

17 of the Canberra Raiders' under 20s squad are working as casual Learning Support Assistants in 11 ACT public schools to mentor and support students.

The Canberra Raiders' career and development program has produced a number of qualified youth workers and learning support assistants.

These athletes along with all learning assistants across Canberra, do a wonderful job in shaping the future of our students.



## BE THE BEST DOG OWNER YOU CAN BE

Canberra is a dog-friendly city, with many spots where dogs and their responsible owners can exercise and play.

Community feedback is telling us that not all dog owners are acting responsibly, so here are some tips:

- > register your dog – to be reunited quickly if they go missing
- > pick up after your dog – nobody wants to step in dog poo
- > exercise your dog regularly – to keep them physically and mentally healthy and minimise nuisance behaviour
- > keep your dog on leash – when walking on paths and in shared public spaces.

For more information visit 'city living' at [tccs.act.gov.au](http://tccs.act.gov.au)



# TOP 3 BUSHWALKS IN NAMADGI NATIONAL PARK

Canberra's outskirts have plenty of scenic bush walks for all levels. Try these three popular walks in Namadgi National Park.

- 1 Square Rock Walking Track** - this 9km bushwalk is relatively easy for the whole family.
- 2 Booroomba Rocks** - as you make your way up to the summit, this track has a smorgasbord of native flora along the 4km round trip.
- 3 Yankee Hat walking track** - the best known Aboriginal art site in the ACT. As you trek through the stunning grasslands, kangaroos are a common sight on the 6km return walk.

Remember to always let someone know about your plans. Also wear comfortable shoes and carry food and water.

 For maps and more information visit [act.gov.au/bestbushwalks](http://act.gov.au/bestbushwalks)

## NOMINATE A GREAT CANBERRAN

Is there a Canberran who inspires you? Someone who makes an exceptional contribution to their field or the Canberra community? Then nominate them for the Order of Australia.

The Order of Australia formally recognises Australians from all walks of life who, every day, make outstanding contributions to our communities and our nation. Nominations are open all year round.

 For more information and to nominate visit [gg.gov.au/australian-honours-and-awards](http://gg.gov.au/australian-honours-and-awards)



# REGISTER YOUR DECISION FOR ORGAN DONATION

81% of Australians believe that registering your decision to be an organ donor is important, but only one-in-three have actually done it.

Make your decision count by joining the Australian Organ Donor Register.

 For more information and to register your decision visit [donatelife.gov.au](http://donatelife.gov.au)

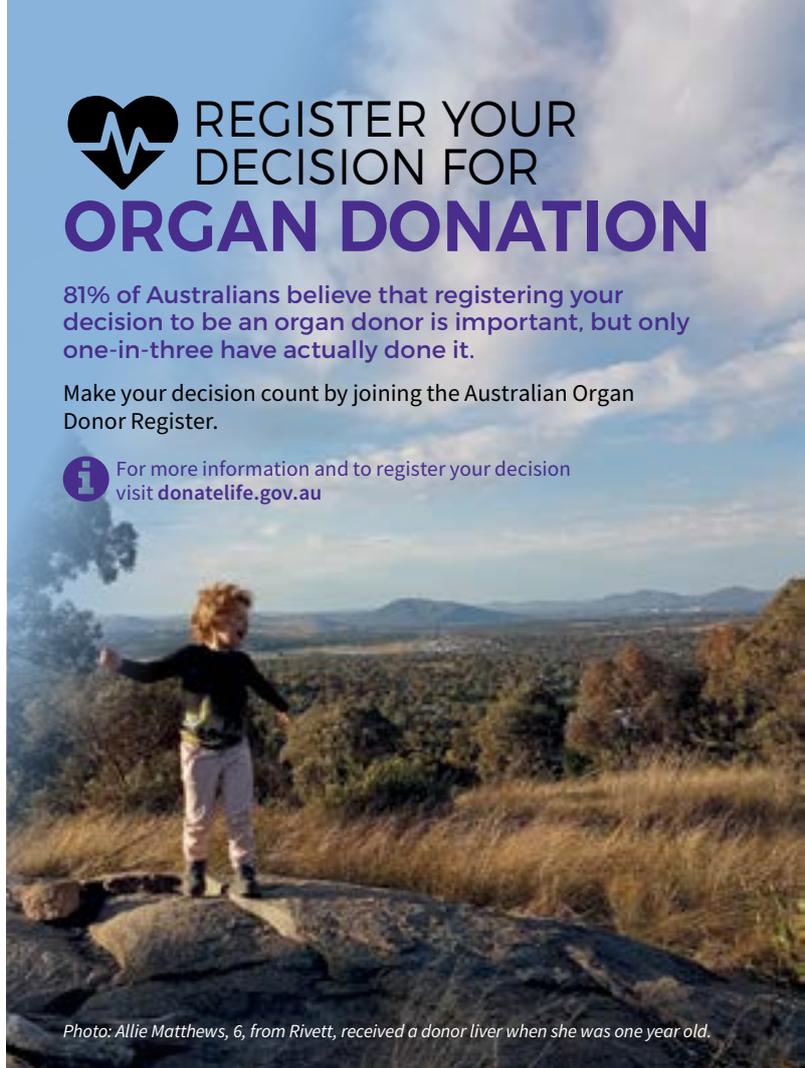


Photo: Allie Matthews, 6, from Rivett, received a donor liver when she was one year old.

## SPRING IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER: FLORIADE 2017

**15 SEPT  
FLORIADE OPENING NIGHT  
CONCERT UNDER THE STARS**

The Canberra Symphony Orchestra will be joined on stage by The Ziggy Band, at the inaugural Floriade Opening Night Concert. Hear all your favourite Bowie hits, from *Let's Dance* through to *Starman* and enjoy exclusive access to Floriade before gates officially open the next morning.

**TWO WEEKENDS OF NIGHTFEST**

To celebrate Floriade's 30th birthday, NightFest will be held on two weekends for the first time ever. 22-24 September and 29 September - 1 October.

Tickets available via Ticketek. For more information visit [floriadeaustralia.com](http://floriadeaustralia.com) 



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**YOURSAY**

