

Googonian Gazette

THE GOOGONG COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER - ISSUE 11 - JUNE 2017



GOOGONG DISPLAY VILLAGE – THE NEXT GENERATION

On Saturday 27 May, we celebrated the opening of the all-new Googong Display Village. In addition to the 15 new homes on display, there was live music, a BBQ, and face painting for the kids.

'This is the biggest display village in the ACT region and a great showcase of new materials, new floorplans and new ideas for homebuyers,' said Googong Project Director Malcolm Leslie. 'And the village is set to get even bigger. There are five more display homes due to open in the coming months, making for a total of 20 display homes.'

'As with our previous display village, many of the best builders in the region have come on board to demonstrate their skills and showcase their latest home designs. The end result is a magnificent collection of homes.

'Building a house is a big decision, and styles change quite quickly, so it's really helpful for people to be able to come to one place and get all the ideas and advice they need.'

'More than 1600 lots have been sold since Googong started in 2014 – that's a lot of new homes with many more to come.

So take a walk to Aprasia Avenue to get up close and personal with the all-new Googong Display – it's open 11am-4pm every weekend, though some builders are open to Wednesday. See googong.net for details.



A message from Malcolm

GOOGONG'S
PROJECT DIRECTOR

Hello once again, Googong,
and welcome to my latest development
update.

The construction of your town continues at a rapid pace, with registration of subdivision Stage NH1B Stage 6 and 7 (153 lots) about to begin. This brings the total number of completed blocks in Googong North to 1,551 and works are underway on a further 177 lots in Neighbourhood 1B Stage 8 and Neighbourhood 1A Stage 7.

There are around 730 homes now occupied and a further 300 under construction.

Construction of the township's first shopping centre in Googong North is progressing well – you should see the centre's first shops opening in late 2017.

A Development Application has been lodged with QPRC for Googong Central—our future town centre—and was on public exhibition until 22 May 2017.

Design of an upgrade to the intersection of Old Cooma Road and Googong Road to include traffic lights is underway and, subject to approvals, construction is expected to commence late this year.

Sales remain strong with plenty of interest in the recent releases of The Borough and The Fields. And no doubt we'll see a further boost to sales following the opening of the all-new Googong Display Village.

OUR FIRST VILLAGE CENTRE

Construction of Googong North Village Centre is progressing smoothly, with completion currently on track for late 2017.

Negotiations with a supermarket tenant are nearing completion and the developers, IQon, will announce the successful operator soon.

Ourplace Childcare, who already operate at Jerrabomberra, have been selected as the childcare service provider for Googong, and will operate from the new village centre.

The medical centre and pharmaceutical group (Discount Pharmacy Group) are awaiting confirmation of the supermarket operator, as this will provide the required statutory obligations in order to commence its service in the development.

The specialty retail operators are also keen to start serving the residents of Googong. Once the supermarket operator is announced, the final mix of retail tenancies will be locked in and updates provided.

Construction activity is continuing well on site, with most of the structural works nearing completion, and we should start to see scaffolds removed and facades visible to the public in the coming months. Internal finishes and external car parks and landscaping will also be commencing in the next two months.



Artist's impression



Parks and Rec

HERE'S WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING IN GOOGONG'S GREAT OUTDOORS.



Landscaping our town

Towards the end of 2016 and the start of this year, we started, completed and continue to work on a number of significant landscape works. As a result, you'll start to see some exciting open spaces and recreation areas appearing as the year progresses.

You'll now see high-quality landscape finishes throughout Montgomery Rise, including the sculptural embellishments and handrails on the bridge, extensive street tree planting, turfed verges, completed driveway crossovers and stone letterboxes. The sculptural embellishments to the bridge are titled "Eridanus" – named for the Eridanus Constellation in the Southern skies – and will soon be recognised with a plaque.

Come out and play!

Yerradhang Nguru (Ngunawal for 'Gumtree Camp') is open for fun times and play at the eastern end of Aprasia Avenue adjacent to the new display village. This park represents the beginnings of Googong Common and will be linked to Montgomery Rise in June 2017 via the path and trail system



of Googong Common. The park includes BBQ facilities, ping pong tables, iconic and challenging play equipment, an established garden and tree plantings, and sculptural seating. While the path and trail system of the common includes a concrete path for all-abilities access, it also provides a bush trail that winds through the more natural areas and includes log bridge crossings of Montgomery Creek.

Also within Montgomery Rise is Munnagai Woggabaliri (Ngunawal for 'come play') – another centrally located open space, complete with its own playground. The establishment of Yerradhang Nguru and Munnagai Woggabaliri signify the first of many ways that we'll be celebrating the traditional custodians of the land, the Ngunawal, throughout the township of Googong.





The sporting life at Duncan Fields

After its winter renovation in preparation for sport during the colder months, Duncan Fields is ready for some serious winter sports action. The Monaro Panthers club are back and are hoping to make the fields home to some of their premier league games. In addition to the Panthers, QPRC is working with other sporting clubs looking to utilise Duncan Fields. The area is also popular with boot camps – so that's one way you could keep warm on cold mornings this winter!



Another park for the Dogonians

Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council (QPRC) have agreed to establish Barkley Park – Googong's second dog park. The Googong Residents Association, QPRC and Googong Township are working together to deliver this facility for the community at Googong. The GRA will provide updates on the progress of this facility.

GOOGONG COMMUNITY CHOIR

7pm every Wednesday at Club Googong
(except school holidays)

Open to everyone, with a number of musical genres covered. A great place to improve—or discover—your singing voice while meeting new people within our growing community.

ATTENTION Facebookers!

If you are on Facebook there are a few groups you might like to join:

Googong Township page provides updates on the town's progress from the developer, as well as advice on events and activities of interest to residents and the region.

The Googong People Power page is developed by Googonians for Googonians, while the **Dogonians** page includes events and activities for our 4 legged friends. The **Googong Notice Board** includes community events; while **Googong Mumma's Exercise Group**, **Googong Mums and Bubs**, and **Googong Play Group** offer opportunities for our Googonian parents. The **Googong Community Garden** keeps the green thumbs in the community active, and **Googong Buy Swap Sell** is a must for the bargain hunter or tidy-upperer.



Stay up-to-date with the latest Googong news,
facebook.com/googongtownship



Googong Pram Walk, Talk and Exercise Group

Free social walks and exercise for parents with children in prams. Walks are approximately one hour

and include walking and exercise. All walks are lead by a personal trainer for the Pure Will Fitness Studio with post-natal training qualification. Walk are also accompanied by a NSW Child and Family Health Nurse who can assist with any questions or challenges faced by new parents.

TIMES: 9:30am Thursdays – meet at Beltana Park, Googong

And it's FREE!

For more information, call Bernadette on 0435 372 369.

A SENIOR SCHOOL FOR THE REGION, RIGHT HERE IN GOOGONG

For the first time in over 40 years the Queanbeyan and Jerrabomberra region will receive a new secondary school.



The construction of the Senior School at The Anglican School Googong means a new secondary education pathway for students in the area. The Senior School will open in 2018, with two classes allocated for their first Year 7 students.

The school currently has over 150 students enrolled from Early Childhood Learning to Year 4. The opening of the Senior School will not only allow current students to continue their education here in Googong, but it will also offer places for students from other schools in the region. Currently, many Queanbeyan and Jerrabomberra students travel across the border to attend ACT schools, the majority of whom are secondary school students.

Ian Hewitt, Founding Principal of The Anglican School Googong, is excited to see the next stage of growth for the school.

“The construction of a new secondary school is very welcome news for the region, and we are thrilled to be part of this,” says Hewitt. “We’re the Googong community’s only local school, and

we’ve grown alongside this town. We’re delighted to be able to offer families from the region a new secondary school alternative.

“Over the coming years, the school will embark on several building stages to accommodate the growing student and staff population. The first of these new stages will be learning spaces for our first Year 7 cohort, along with new staff administration and office spaces.

“Each year, we’re expecting to welcome an additional 100 plus students. These students will mainly be at Kindergarten and Year 7, with new students across all other year levels expected until each class becomes full. We look forward to seeing our first students graduate from Year 12 in 2023 when we will become the first school in the Queanbeyan region to provide education from Kindergarten to Year 12.”

Enrolments are now being taken for Year 7 and all other year levels. Visit www.googongschool.nsw.edu.au for further details.

Community Garden

The first Googong Community Garden is well on its way with the minimum deposit requirement of 25 households achieved.

If you stroll over towards Montgomery Rise you will find the orchard is already planted and fruiting nicely.

The garden is located on Helen Circuit within Googong North and will be the first of possibly three community gardens at Googong.

The garden will feature multiple plots for North Googonians, including a special area for our little Googonians to plant and play. There will be a BBQ and picnic area for Community Gardeners to meet and already there has been keen interest for Swap Meets to share produce, seeds and conversations between like-minded gardeners.



We have some other big ideas in the pipeline which have been voted on, and we are currently working with Googong Township Pty Ltd to see if these can be incorporated without losing too much planting space for our residents who are yet to build and move in. The vote also passed for the garden to be organic and we are now discussing exactly what that will entail and drafting the Garden Rules.

So if you’re interested in growing plants, veggies and maybe even friendships, join the **Googong Community Garden Facebook page** and start getting involved. You’ll also find plans for the garden on this Facebook page. If you’re not on Facebook, you can email **Diana Barnes** instead at googongcommunitygarden@gmail.com.

Fingers crossed – we could be eating our Googong Fresh produce by Christmas! Happy Gardening!

GOOGONG RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION – GET INVOLVED IN YOUR TOWN

The Googong Residents Association (GRA) is now registered, incorporated and meeting monthly at Club Googong.

Monthly meetings

We encourage all residents to come to our meetings on the first Monday of every month to keep up to date with the happenings of the township, or to raise any issues or concerns you think our community should address.

Join the GRA Facebook group (which has 700+ followers and is growing daily) for meeting dates and current issues, or email us and we can add your email to our database list.

Latest GRA news

One of the main focuses for the GRA at the moment is the public primary school. Googong Township have gifted land to the NSW Government for the school, but now we need a commitment from government. To make this happen, we're gearing up to lobby the state government for the construction of the school. Googong would benefit from all its residents' input and ideas to help get our school under way, so if you're interested in this issue, let us know.

In other news, we've successfully secured funding for Googong's new dog park, 'Barkley Park'. We're also set to tackle the Old Cooma Road upgrade and address the 'verge issue'.

Contact us via email at GoogongRA@gmail.com for more info.



Everyone's going Googonian

You might have noticed Googong's playful new advertising campaign on the air and in the local press. The mock-tourism ads invite Canberrans to visit Googong for the day to experience firsthand the town and the Googonian lifestyle that goes with it. With tongues lodged firmly in cheeks, the ads explore our Googonian 'culture' and local customs as viewed through the eyes of 'tourists' visiting the town. You can find the TV ads on the Googong Township Facebook page, and the print ads in local press.

SAVE THE DATE

RESIDENT COCKTAIL FUNCTION

Saturday, 15 July from 6:00pm to 9:00pm

Drinks, canapes and a live band – what more could you want to meet your fellow Googonians?

Join us for this enjoyable resident only event – so save the date. Details to follow.

FLYING HIGH IN THE GOOGONG SKY

Sunday, 13 August from 11:00am to 2:00pm

Bring the kids and your kites along for a **FREE** fun day of kite flying at Rockley Oval in Googong. There will be some amazing **BIG** kites on show, including a whale, cat, teddy bear and grub. Why not bring a picnic to make the most of the day? Everyone is welcome, so bring your friends along and enjoy a great day out with the family.



Just moved in?

If you've recently made the move into your new home at Googong, don't forget to let our Community Manager, Samantha, know so that she can give you your welcome pack and gift. You can contact her via email to community@googong.net or by calling her on **1300 446 646**. You don't even need to make the trip to Club Googong, she will come to you! You can also drop in to see her in the **Googong Sales and Information Centre** from Tuesday – Friday.



The Googong Newsletter is distributed quarterly. To ensure you are receiving up-to-date information, please ensure we have your current email address and contact details. Contact your Community Development Executive or email community@googong.net

Disclaimer: While care has been taken to ensure that information contained in this newsletter is true and correct at the time of publication, changes in circumstances after the time of publication may impact on the accuracy of this information.

