

# GOOGONIAN GAZETTE

CELEBRATING  
**NAIDOC**  
WEEK 2023

**RESIDENTS**  
Survey Results

**KITEFEST**  
ON FATHER'S DAY

**EVENTS**  
CALENDAR



## A MESSAGE FROM MALCOLM GOOGONG'S PROJECT DIRECTOR

The subdivision works in Googong Central are now complete with homes in the final stages starting to spring out of the ground.

The first 4 Stages of Googong West are under construction with work on the 1st stage nearing completion. The 4th stage, which is due for completion in May 2024, will include a signalised intersection onto Old Cooma Road, with this being the 3rd and final entry road to Googong.

The pace of development has been rapid over the past couple of years but will now be tempered for a while by reduced demand for new homes as rising interest rates affect the borrowing capacity of would-be new homeowners.

Council approved the Structure Plan for the Googong Town Centre in May 2023, and we anticipate DA approval for the first Stage of the Town Centre in August 2023. This will be a major milestone and we hope to be able to announce a more specific program for Stage 1 of the Town Centre in the next few months.



*Googong Town Centre artist's impression.*

*Cover photo: Gungung, a commissioned artwork to celebrate NAIDOC Week 2023, was applied as a temporary installation on the Googong entry sculpture. See also pages 5–7.*

We understand Council is well advanced on the assessment of the DA for the Pub and the Stevens Group will be lodging their DA for the fast-food outlets, petrol station and childcare centre in the next couple of months.



*Googong Town Centre artist's impression.*

The Sports Field 3 temporary fence has been removed in preparation for hand over to council. We thank everyone for their patience and hope you can now enjoy Bunburung Thina north as a whole with solid connections established between the netball courts, the 2 fields, basketball court, cricket nets and skatepark.

The lookout structures atop Nangi Pimble Reserve have been completed with only the integrated seating to be complete. The view is spectacular from the lookout, particularly on these cold misty mornings! The reserve has been revegetated over the last 5 years with trees that are the main food source of the vulnerable Glossy Black Cockatoo, and the lookout shelter design is inspired as such. In addition to the Nangi Pimble Reserve, construction is well underway on the 3rd dog park. This dog park has been split into 2 sections to separate bigger dogs from smaller dogs and both sections will include an array of dog play equipment. It is planned to be open to the public by the end of Spring 2023.



*The view from the new Nangi Pimble lookout.*

Works on the Old Cooma Road Buffer are almost complete, linking the most northern end of Googong through to the western side of Nangi Pimble. As Neighbourhood 3 develops, this 2.5m wide footpath connection will extend to the southern boundary then east linking to the footpath network within Bunburung Thina.

National Tree Day was on the 28th of July, to date Googong has planted 21,986 trees throughout the streets and parks.

There are now about 2,340 homes occupied, with the population standing at around 6,900.

# Kitefest



**11AM–2PM, SUNDAY 3 SEPTEMBER (FATHER'S DAY)**

Googong's utterly uplifting kite festival is back with a host of flying friends including a giant whale shark, dragons, bunny rabbits, a stingray, astronauts and a flying pig! Treat your father to a gourmet beer and burger or bring along a picnic. Relax and enjoy the kite spectacle while our DJ provides the inflight entertainment.

So bring your kite – and your Dad – to Rockley Oval, Googong NSW. It's free!

A JOINT VENTURE BETWEEN PEET AND MIRVAC

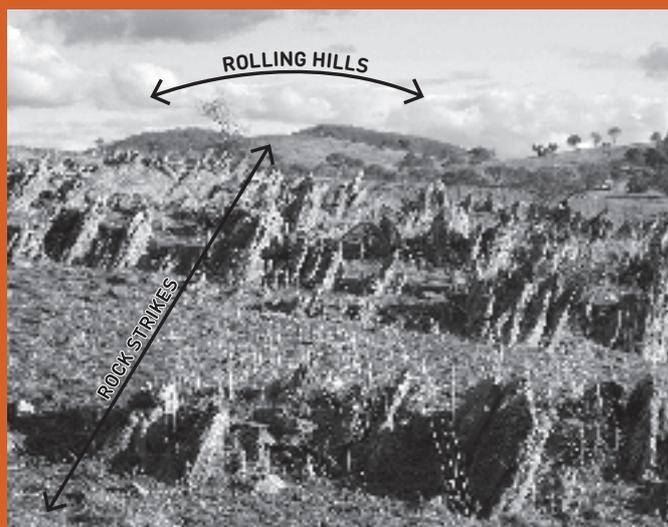
 **GOOGONG** belong

# GOOGONG ENTRY SCULPTURE, TERRAFORMIS.

The Googong entry sculpture was commissioned in 2020 to welcome visitors and mark the entrance to the township.

Titled Terraformis (from the Latin 'Terra' meaning earth, and 'Formis' meaning form), the work celebrates the geology and ecology of the site. Rusted steel blades form a backdrop to precast concrete lettering and interpret the major rock strikes prevalent throughout Googong and the unique direction they protrude from the earth. The arches illustrate the rolling hills and rugged peaks which form a backdrop to the township. The arches themselves celebrate the unique pattern of the wing of the Golden Sun Moth, etched into the surface of the sculpture.

Terraformis was designed by AECOM in collaboration with Googong Township and Fleetwood (June 2020).



## LIGHTING TERRAFORMIS

We have decorated Googong's' entry sculpture, Terraformis, to celebrate special events and community milestones. Recently we decorated the concrete letters with temporary vinyl overlays to celebrate NAIDOC Week 2023 (2-9 July 2023) with the theme 'For our Elders', and a rainbow for World Pride (17 February 2023 – 5 March 2023) along the theme of 'Belong'. You may have also noticed that at other times of the year we project coloured lights onto the Googong letters to commemorate events such as these (see also <https://www.googong.net/purchaser-info/helpful-links>):

WHEN	COMMEMORATING	LIGHTING COLOUR(S)
All August 2023	Cancer Council fundraising & Daffodil Day (31 August)	Yellow
28 August – 3 September 2023	Father's Day (3 September)	Pale Blue
4 – 7 September 2023	National Threatened Species Day	Green
15 – 21 October 2023	Pink Ribbon Day (21 October)	Pink
25 – 31 October 2023	Halloween (31 October)	Blood red
6 – 11 November 2023	Remembrance Day (11 November)	Red
1 – 25 December 2023	Christmas (25 December)	Red and Green
31 December – 1 January	New Years Day	Multi-colour
29 January – 2 February 2024	World Wetlands Day	Green and Blue
8 – 14 February 2024	Valentines Day (14 February)	Red
16 February – 3 March 2024	Mardi Gras	Rainbow
2 – 8 March 2024	International Women's Day (8 March)	Purple
11 March 2024	Canberra Day	Blue and gold
15 – 17 March 2024	St Patrick's Day (17 March)	Green
18 – 21 March 2024	Harmony Day (21 March)	Orange
23 March 2024	Earth Hour	Turn lights off
25 – 31 March 2024	Neighbour Day (31 March)	Orange
Friday 29 March – Monday 1 April 2024	Easter	Purple
8 – 15 April 2024	International Dark Sky Week	Turn lights off
24 – 25 April 2024	ANZAC Day (25 April)	Yellow to signify honour
6 – 12 May 2024	Mother's Day (second Sunday in May)	Pink
13 – 20 May 2024	World Bee Day	Yellow
27 May to 3 June 2024	Reconciliation Week	Twinkle warm
1 – 5 June 2024	World Environment Day (5 June)	Green and gold
3 – 8 June 2024	World Ocean Day (8 June)	Blue
7 – 14 July 2024	NAIDOC Week	Gugung overlay artwork
24 – 30 July 2023	National Tree Day (30 July)	Green

# GUGUNG, BY LYNNICE LETTY CHURCH COMMISSIONED TO CELEBRATE NAIDOC WEEK 2023

The beautiful artwork, Gugung (presented in full over the page), was designed by Lynnice Letty Church of the Ngunnawal, Wiradjuri and Kamilaroi Tribes of ACT/NSW, and in consultation with her Elders. It was commissioned by Googong Township to celebrate NAIDOC Week 2023 which commenced on Sunday 2 July 2023, on the theme of 'For our Elders'.



The artwork depicts the Googong landscape as a place to connect with Country and community. The nearby ranges are identified by the line along the top of the artwork, and the Queanbeyan River is traced with the line along the bottom of the artwork, framing and connecting the community groups within.

Googong (Gugung) in Ngunnawal Language means relax and traditionally this area was used to camp, fish, and hunt. Evidence of the Ngunnawal peoples' ongoing and continual connection is still here today, and as you explore the landscape there are numerous important sacred sites and scar trees.

People are represented in the painting with a 'u' shape (being the shape left in the ground after sitting cross legged). In this work, the larger shapes are the Elders who are depicted as being central to our communities (the various large circles of the artwork). Lynnice explains, "Our Elders share their cultural wisdom, knowledge, and stories to help us to understand our responsibilities in caring for country and each other as one people. Our Elders are our leaders and the pillars of our families and communities. They connect us with our past, present, and future by guiding us and growing the next generation of Elders and Leaders, she said."

**"Gugung was adapted to suit the Googong entry sculpture as a temporary installation to celebrate NAIDOC Week 2023."**

The artwork is dominated by a striking colour palette of purples, blues, and greens complemented by subtle creamy ochre. These colours are found in the local landscape – in the colours of earth pigments, the local flora, and the way the light reflects off the bush backdrop of the nearby mountain ranges.

The creamy ochre colour (used as a pigment in cultural ceremonies), identifies the circles to the far right and left of the artwork as being Ngunnawal family or community groups. The circles in the middle remind us of the diverse and complex family and community groups that we all come from. These various groups are connected to one another, and to Country, by the black lines that link them and by the circle in the middle (Nguru) that invites us to camp and care for Country, together.



GUGUNG BY LYNNICE LETTY CHURCH, OF THE NGUNNAWAL, WIRADJURI AND KAMILAROI TRIBES OF ACT/NSW, AND IN CONSULTATION WITH HER ELDERS. COMMISSIONED BY GOOGONG TOWNSHIP TO CELEBRATE 2023 NATIONAL NAIDOC WEEK ON THE THEME OF 'FOR OUR ELDERS'.



# GOOGONG RESIDENTS SURVEY

Many of you would be aware that we email residents with an annual survey (via Survey Monkey) asking questions about their household make-up, places of work, community issues or concerns, and more. We use this data to assist lobbying council and NSW Government for services (such as buses), and infrastructure (like schools) that might otherwise be outside of our control. We also use the information provided to deliver additional facilities and opportunities for you as best we can. Thank you to those of you who helped us out by completing the survey. Keep an eye out for the next one!

Some interesting information that came from the recent survey (n. 317 respondent) includes:

- 48% of adults are aged between 31-40 years and 33% are aged 41-50 (81% are aged 31-50 years).
- 22% of households with children have 1 child, and 31% have two children.
- 38% of children are aged 0-4 years, 28% of children are aged 5-9 years, 19% of children are aged 10-14 years of age (84% are aged less than 14 years).
- 40% of Googonian households, earn \$200,000 or more.
- 20% of household earn between \$160,000 – \$200,000.
- 60% of Googonian households earn \$160,000 + per annum.
- 28% intend to send their children to childcare.
- 39% do/or intend to send their children to public primary school.
- 22% do intend to send their children to a public secondary school.
- 17% do/or intend to send their children to a private primary.
- 24% do intend to send their children to a private secondary school.
- 80% of respondents have a dog.
- 25% have a cat.
- 4% of respondents own an electric vehicle.
- 64% of respondents intend/hope to purchase an electric vehicle within the next 2–5 years.
- Almost 1 quarter of Googonians work from home, and most (55%) work in central Canberra.



- 23% of respondents came to Googong from North Canberra, 28% from South Canberra, and 38% came from Queanbeyan/Jerrabomberra/Googong region, and 10% from elsewhere in NSW.
- 65% of Googonians indicated feeling connected or very connected to their community.
- 98% of respondents are likely or very likely to recommend Googong.
- 70% of respondents built with the Googong Builders Guild.
- 74% of respondents follow Googong on Facebook, Instagram and/or YouTube.

You also gave us some additional feedback with lots of recurring themes, and so we have put some responses together to hopefully address some of these.

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## DUNN'S CREEK ROAD

QPRC have considerable information available on their website regarding Dunns Creek Road. The following is an extract (see <https://www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/Major-Works-Projects/Dunns-Creek-Road>): “With significant population growth to occur in Queanbeyan over the coming years, Council has undertaken extensive planning to ensure the city's road network is capable of coping with the increased population. While the key piece of infrastructure required to keep Queanbeyan's road network functioning is the Ellerton Drive Extension, the proposed Dunns Creek Road has also been identified as a useful inclusion to the traffic network. The Googong and Tralee Traffic Study (2031) and the updated plan from 2014 both showed that Dunns Creek Road would be a useful inclusion, however construction would not be required until at least 2041, provided development continues at the predicted rate.”

## SNAKES

Many of you have indicated concerns regarding snakes in the area during the warmer months. The most commonly occurring snakes in the Googong area are the Eastern Brown Snake and Red-Bellied Black Snake.

If you come across a snake, please don't panic — snakes are likely to move away on their own accord and are best left alone.

If one visits your yard, it's likely to just be passing through and will generally only remain if there is a consistent food and water source.

Remember, it is illegal to harm any native animal, including snakes.

If you are concerned about a snake on your property, you can call Wildcare for advice on 02 6299 1966. We also encourage you to attend our Rural Fire Service Open Day (see back page) and chat to our local rangers who can give you helpful advice.

## GRASSY PLANTS AND VISIBILITY

If you have concerns about pedestrian visibility on roads due to overgrown plants, we encourage you to use QPRC's Snap Send Solve App to report maintenance issues.

## GOOGONG PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL

In addition to The Googong Public School (K-6), and The Anglican School Googong (EL- 12), a public high school is proposed for Googong Central. Googong Township is currently in the process of gifting this site to the NSW Government. The NSW Government will determine when this school will be built, but NSW Labor promised to deliver it in their first term of Government if they were to win the 2023 election.

## CLUBS, SPORTING GROUPS

Googong has several active clubs in the township, including: Googong Hogs AFL, Tigers Junior AFL, Googong Hogs Netball, Monaro Panthers Soccer, Queanbeyan Junior Cricket, Googong Performing Arts (dance school), Zanshin Martial Arts, BreakPoint Tennis and Aquatots Swim School. Queanbeyan Whites are building a Sports and Recreation Club in Googong Central and more clubs and opportunities are being introduced all the time.



## MORE INFORMAL COMMUNITY EVENTS

We are in consultation with the Googong Residents' Association to facilitate some additional informal community events. Please also refer to our Googong events program on the back page.

## ACTIVITIES FOR TEENAGERS

The Googong Skate Park opened in 2022 and includes a DJ booth and basketball court.

Duncan Fields features another half-court basketball court and you'll find a small rock-climbing area at Rockley Oval.

Discover 3 temporary pump tracks of different grades, (adjacent to the netball courts) and over 15km of bike paths and bush trails in the town.

Tennis courts are available at Beltana Park and a tennis centre, pitch and putt course, BMX track and adventure playground will be delivered in the years ahead. There are 6 ovals currently open with another 5 to come. An indoor pool and sports centre is under design and scheduled to open around 2026. The town centre shops and Googong Hotel are due to open in 2025, and will provide shopping, entertainment and employment opportunities.

We are also working with QPRC to identify youth programs that might be made available in the town.



## SHOPS

Googong North Village Centre currently includes an IGA, café, chemist, GP, vet, beautician, hairdresser, pizza shop, pub, grog shop, gym, community centre and childcare. Googong Town Centre is on track to open in 2025 with Coles, 25 shops, a medical centre, gym, childcare, fast food outlets, petrol station, a pub with entertainment and function facilities, and more. Future stages are proposed to include a second major supermarket, more shops, residential apartments, a fire station, a community centre with library and an aged care facility is proposed. See also <https://www.googong.net/news-and-events/news>

## CAT CONTAINMENT

In 2021 Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Council introduced a Cat Containment Policy at Googong. For details of the policy visit: <https://www.googong.net/environmental-responsibility/pets-feral-animals-and-weeds>.

## RETIREMENT VILLAGE

An aged care facility is proposed in Googong Central, adjacent to the town centre.



# CANNONS

MARKET PLACE + CAFÉ  
GOOGONG VILLAGE

CANNONS GOOGONG IS TURNING

# 5

SATURDAY 14TH OCTOBER

JUMPING CASTLE, PETTING ZOO,  
FACE PAINTING, LOCAL PRODUCERS,  
IN STORE SPECIALS, GIVEAWAYS  
AND SO MUCH MORE.

FROM 10AM

195 GORMAN DRIVE, GOOGONG

Cannons Googong and Liquor & Co. are turning 5 years this October.

We're excited to share this milestone with our wonderful community.

On Saturday 14 October, we'll be celebrating with a jumping castle, petting zoo, face painting, local producers, instore specials, giveaways and so much more. The celebrations will kick off at 10am and continue into the afternoon. Expect a fun day out for the whole family.

Save the date!

Can't wait? Same here. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram to stay up-to-date with the latest news and announcements.

GOOGONG LANDOWNERS

# FIVE & FIVE

LAND OFFER

**\$5k rebate and a 5% deposit for your next Googonian land purchase.\***

If you already own your own slice of Googong, then here's a deal worth some serious consideration!

Right now, current Googong landowners will get a big \$5,000 rebate and a tiny 5% deposit on a new block of land at Googong.

Whether you're looking to upgrade to a bigger block, or you're considering investing in a second property, this is a deal you just can't go past.

**For more information visit the Googong Sales and Information Centre or call 1300 446 646 – it's for a limited time only!**



\*Googonians who have purchased land from GTPL or a member of the Googong Builders Guild, Googong Partner Builders or Terrace Home Builders may apply for this offer. The 'Five & Five' offer applies to land purchased from GTPL. It does not apply to terrace purchases.

# BYE BYE BOOGONG

**It is with a heavy heart that Googong Township Pty Ltd (GTPL) has decided not to host Boogong in 2023, or beyond.**

This decision has not been taken lightly.

Our annual public events program is extensive, and has included Googfest (February), Kitefest (September), RFS Open Day (October), Boogong (Halloween), Christmas Carols & Markets (December). Of all events, Boogong presents the greatest complexity. There is increasing pressure to expand the event to offer more variety and entertainment, and we do not believe it is feasible to do so while maintaining safety and quality for the large number of people who attend.



GTPL is working with the Googong Residents' Association to develop a more grass-roots celebration of Halloween. We envisage competitions for house decorations and best costume as well as street-to-street trick or treating encouraged within the township. This would be promoted within the resident population to encourage connection between neighbours.

GTPL maintains its commitment to building a strong and connected community at Googong and we believe this revised approach will better reflect our existing and potential resident interests, while at the same time, maintain the quality and safety of the events which we have become known for.

We take enormous pride in our events program — both our public events program and our residents' only events program. We look forward to continuing to deliver these regionally significant events for your enjoyment and to showcase our vibrant community to the wider region.

Networking Group

## GOOGONG BUSINESS NETWORK

Build your business network, connect with local businesses and meet your objectives.

EVERY THURSDAY  
1 HOUR

07:00 AM

GOOGONG COMMUNITY CENTRE



Connect, Build, Grow  
A casual networking experience

Join for free:

<https://googongbusinessnetwork.eventbrite.com.au>

# UPCOMING EVENTS: SAVE THE DATE



## Googong Playgroup

9.30am – 10.30 Friday mornings (during school term)

Googong Community Centre, corner Gorman Drive and McPhail Way Googong. Free to ACT Playgroup Members.



## Kitefest 2023

11am – 2pm Sunday 3 September (Father's Day)

Rockley Oval, Rockley Parade Googong

BYO picnic (and kite) or enjoy a gourmet burger and beer from the vendors. Free live DJ Music, giant kites on display and bags of family fun for Father's Day 2023. Free event!



## Rural Fire Service Open Day 2023

10am – 2pm Saturday 7 October

Bunyip Park, Glenrock Drive Googong

Free family fun where kids (and adults) can climb the fire trucks, play with the fire hoses, and dress up in fire gear. Meet your local Parks and Wildlife Rangers, Googong Dam's ICON Water, Googong Landcare, and more. Live music. Food vendors. Free event!



## Defence Families Picnic

2pm – 4pm Saturday 4 November

Bunyip Park, Glenrock Drive Googong

Meet fellow Defence Families from Googong and the region. Enjoy free live music and yard games. BYO picnic. An email invitation will be sent to our Googong Residents Database (check if you are on this by emailing your details to [enquiries@googong.net](mailto:enquiries@googong.net) and be sure to whitelist this email address also).



## Christmas Carols and Markets

5pm – 8pm Saturday 9 December

Bunyip Park, Glenrock Drive Googong

Free family fun with carols – just carols. Sing along with the Canberra City Brass Band and the Queanbeyan Choir (song books provided). Browse the Christmas themed market stalls, and BYO picnic or enjoy the food vendors on display. If you would like to host a market stall, email [enquiries@googong.net](mailto:enquiries@googong.net).

The Googong Newsletter is distributed quarterly. To receive current information, please ensure we have your current contact details including email address. Contact your Community Manager or email [community@googong.net](mailto:community@googong.net)

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.



A JOINT VENTURE BETWEEN PEET AND MIRVAC