

Googonian Gazette

THE GOOGONG COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER - ISSUE 27 - MARCH 2021

Taylor-Ann's Australia Day Award



Winter Sports

VET OPEN

2021 events PROGRAM



A message from Malcolm

GOOGONG'S PROJECT DIRECTOR

Demand for land at Googong continues to be strong and our team is gearing up to accelerate the construction of the roads and services so these new Googonians can build their new homes as soon as possible. Construction of NH1B Stage 9, NH2 Stage 5A and 5B were recently completed and construction has commenced in NH2 Stages 8 and 9.

Despite COVID-19 there have been a lot of great things happening for the Googong community lately with more on that later in the newsletter. It was fantastic to see Taylor-Ann Cannel recognised as QPRC's Young Citizen of the Year in their Australia Day Awards

for her amazing Googong Dance Cam Series during 2020. A big congratulations and thank you to Taylor!

The Googong Sports Club will be a great community asset and it took a big step closer to fruition recently when John Barilaro announced a \$650,000 grant from the NSW Government. This money will enable the Googong Sports Club to complete he detailed design of the club and be ready for construction.

Googong's first public primary school is on track open from term one 2023 whilst The Anglican School Googong continues to grow in size and repute. It is great that our younger Googonians will soon have two wonderful options for their schooling.

Landscape work is well underway on a new local park within Neighbourhood 2 Stage 5 with completion expected in March. This park will include a small shelter, circular path – great for learning how to ride – kick about area and smart bins and lights.

Bunyip Park lake is being used as a retention basin by the civil contractors building the adjacent stages. If you see the fountains off intermittently and the water dirtier than normal, fear not as our contractor is actively managing the turbidity (dirtiness) and capacity. Once construction moves further south, this water body will return to normal and the fountains turned back on fulltime. We may even have plans to stock it with native fish – stay tuned for more on that in the future.

There are now about 1,850 homes occupied with the population standing at around 5,600.

Googong releases guide for sustainable development

Recognised for sustainability credentials and masterplanning excellence, the township of Googong has now rolled-out Smart City infrastructure, and released its blueprint to support other planners, developers and councils to consider innovative infrastructure design from day one.

The Googong Smart Cities Blueprint was created by developers Peet and Mirvac in collaboration with Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council.

"When we first imagined Googong, we had a goal of building a long-term sustainable community. Having this mindset from the outset provided a framework for the team to adopt innovative technologies and practices which provide long-term benefits to our community," said Googong Project Director, Malcolm Leslie.

"We've incorporated state-of-the-art technologies such as digital-enabled waste and facilities management systems, infrastructure for electric cars, public Wi Fi, lighting and environmental monitoring systems to reduce the town's carbon footprint and overhead costs, and more," said Mr Leslie.



"While Smart Cities infrastructure is not new, Googong is possibly the first development in Australia to roll out the infrastructure on such a scale, and across so many disciplines. Because of this, we took the initiative to develop the Googong Smart Cities Blueprint so that other developers and councils could apply our learnings," concluded Mr Leslie.

Googong's commitment to sustainability includes dedicating 24% of the site to open space and sports facilities, and roads from recycled materials. Design guidelines exceed required BASIX sustainability standards, lot orientation is maximised for solar passive design, and measures have been introduced to mitigate the impacts of Heat Island Effect in the neighbourhood. A community manager fosters environmental education programs and the developers invested in a program to save the vulnerable pink-tailed worm lizard, which also calls Googong home. The developers have constructed an integrated water cycle system for homes, parks and open spaces that ensures Googong's eventual 18,000 residents will use less water than an average community of 6,500 people.

The Googong Smart Cities Blueprint is available for download from googong.net/purchaser-info/helpful-links

THE ANGLICAN SCHOOL GOOGONG



Growing student numbers

This year, The Anglican School Googong welcomed more than 120 new students into our school community—bringing our student population to more than 420. It has been wonderful to meet our new families and welcome them into the school.

Budawang

Construction of the school is progressing well, and we are pleased to see our newest building, Budawang (affectionately known as the Hub), taking shape. We have moved into the first half of the building, which will give us access to eight new learning areas, including Science, Woodwork, Metalwork and Textiles. The second stage of construction will be ready for occupation during this term, which gives the school a total of 15 learning spaces, staff areas and a café.

New plantings

We were so delighted to receive a gift of trees and plants from the Googong township at the end of last year. It has been great to add more shade and beauty to the school.

Music program

Music education enhances learning skills, communication skills, creativity, teamwork, discipline, cultural awareness, respect for others, and self-esteem through personal accomplishment. The school's music program has grown rapidly over the last 12 months. At the end of 2020, we had 10 tutors delivering private lessons to over 90 students in 12 different instruments. Together with the Year Four Instrumental Program, where each student engages in small group tuition for 12 months, the Private Tuition Program is designed to complement the vibrant and engaging Creative and Performing Arts Program running across all years, from Kindergarten to Year Ten.



SCHOOL TOURS AVAILABLE

The School Principal, Merryn Clarks Smith, is conducting personalised school tours throughout Term One, for interested families to get a firsthand experience of the exceptional learning at TASG. With most Year Groups in Junior School full, we encourage interested families to book a tour and submit an online application, to avoid disappointment.

To arrange your visit, please contact the school office on **02 6154 9400** or email enrolments@tasg.nsw.edu.au

To submit an online application, visit www.googongschool.nsw.edu.au/enrolment/online-enrolment

ICON WATER



Googong Dam's main function is to supply water for Canberra, Queanbeyan and the Googong township, with water quality being the highest priority.

If you visited Googong Foreshores over summer, you may have noticed the presence of algae. When the water is warm, calm, and nutrient rich, the conditions are favorable for excessive blooms of blue-green algae (BGA). These blooms can release toxins that can be harmful to humans and animals, and often produce compounds that cause objectionable taste and odour.



The best climate predictions we have for the ACT Region are that we can expect to have longer, hotter summers.

Foreshore activities, agriculture, and urban runoff all add more nutrients and organic matter into the waterways. This means more opportunities for BGA to grow and bloom, with longer, more frequent threats to water quality.

Icon Water carries out frequent monitoring of BGA in the Googong Reservoir, with a response plan if levels

become harmful to the treatment of drinking water. While concentrations of BGA levels were found to be higher this summer than in previous years, they continue to remain safe.

Part of Icon Water's preventative management is to ensure the risks to water quality are minimised and controlled, to help protect our drinking water supply from people and pollutants in the surrounding land. They also ensure that we can select the best raw water for the treatment process to your tap.

We all have a part to play in helping to protect our drinking water catchments. Icon Water recommends that all recreation users of Googong Reserve follow the rules and regulations that apply to visitors to the Googong Foreshores.

This includes:

- **No primary contact (swimming or wading) with the water at Googong.**
- **Stick to the formed roads and tracks to avoid erosion.**
- **No pets at the foreshores.**
- **Ensure your boat, kayak and watercraft are thoroughly cleaned before travelling to the foreshores from other water sources.**
- **Only electric motors are permissible on powered boats.**

Another gong for Googong

Googong was recently recognised at the prestigious UDIA NSW 2020 Awards for Excellence, winning Best Marketing for the township's brand, sales and community development initiatives since 2012. The judge's comments acknowledged that:

Joint Venture partners, Peet and Mirvac, have gone over and above what good marketing is at Googong North; this is marketing par excellence. Community is the foundation of everything they did from strategy to design to everyday delivery on the ground. It's a fabulous example that focuses on a larger cause delivered consistently with a sense of humour and commitment, such that a 'sense of belonging and community pride' can be the ultimate competitive advantage.

Googonians have a reputation for being enormously passionate about their town. They are the people who have shared the same ideals and vision for the town with us since the earliest sales in 2012, and they have partnered with us to build the thriving and connected community it is today. On behalf of the Googong Joint Venture, Peet Limited and Mirvac, we would like to extend a thank you to all Googonians for their support and commitment to the town, and we look forward to watching the community continue to grow and mature in the years ahead.

Sincerely

Caroline Whitelum
Googong Marketing Manager

Samantha Remmers
Community Development Manager





GOOGONG FAMILY PRACTICE

ACCREDITATION

Googong Family Practice is proud to announce the practice has recently received a national award of accreditation. This award requires the practice to demonstrate its commitment to quality and safety and its compliance with the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) Standards for general practice. The RACGP Standards provide a recognised national benchmark for general practices and general practice services, and a template for quality care and risk management.

DIABETES SERVICES

The practice is pleased to announce the commencement of monthly diabetes services from March. **Isabel Reeves of InRange Diabetes** will be providing care and support in the following areas: Type 1 diabetes, Type 2 diabetes, Type 1 in pregnancy, Gestational diabetes, Type 1 diabetes Insulin pump starts and upgrades, Type 2 diabetes and insulin pumps, and Pre-diabetes. **Appointments can be made during business hours by calling 5104 9595.**

Isabel is an important addition to our growing team, which includes Matrix Physio, Gonzalo Santiago (Psychologist) and the National Hearing Service, in caring for the Googong and surrounding community.

COVID VACCINATIONS

The rollout of COVID vaccination is due to commence in March. No dates have been set as to when general practice clinics will receive supplies. We will provide updates on our website and through the Googong Facebook page as information becomes available.

PUMP TRACK

Googong reached another milestone with the opening of a pump track, providing both kids and adults in the region with more amenities as part of the continued investment in the township. The pump track is located on Heazlett Street, Googong.

The \$40,000 project stretches a combined 320 metres and includes an advanced track (120m), intermediate track (160m, or two 80m tracks), and a kid's track (40m), for all ages and skill levels to enjoy.



NETBALL Courts

Googong Hog's Netball Club has six new home courts that are located adjacent to the towns new pump track, on Heazlett Street Googong.

2020 YEAR IN REVIEW:

Googong Community and Events Program

A message from your Community Manager, Samantha Remmers.

We are mindful that COVID-19 continues to cast a shadow on our lives, making planning of family gatherings, community events and activities complex and uncertain. The national vaccination program roll-out is a welcome step in combatting this disease and will give us all more confidence in the months and years ahead.

Peet/Mirvac continue to be guided by national and state guidelines around events and gatherings, and we have implemented COVID-19 Safety Plans for our Sales Office and community activities.

Over the past 12 months, we have strived to support our community with events and activities that help residents stay connected and safe. These included:

Googong Community Connection Project (commenced March 2020) – Connecting vulnerable or isolated people in our community with local volunteers through a combination of letter writing, phone calls, delivery support, and other physically-distanced means.

Googong Driveway Portrait Series (April 2020) – This included taking 200 photos of residents and their families in their driveways during lock-down, to publish on our social platforms and provide prints to them free-of-charge.

Children and parents Facebook live-streamed events (commenced April 2020) – Included Lucy Sparkles and Friends (drama, music, and dance), Feeding Fussy Toddlers, and Making Food Fun for Kids.

Googong Gigs (April – October 2020) – Eighteen Facebook live-streamed music performances from our region's favourite artists, to support them and provide Friday night entertainment for our fellow Googonians and followers, during this especially difficult period.

ANZAC Day (25 April 2020) – A moving commemoration where the Last Post was performed live, by trumpeter Keydan Bruce, at 6am from Rockley Oval and broadcast across the

town. Residents were asked to join in solidarity, from their driveways, to listen to the performance which could be heard from all corners of Googong as the sun rose, and then share in a minute's silence.

Googong Dam's Nature Trails brochure (July 2020) – We produced a 12-page brochure of the nature trails around Googong Dam to help Googonians get out and about during 2020, which was delivered to all homes in the township. If you'd like a copy of the brochure you can grab one from our Sales Office (see back page for opening times).

Googong Gigs Christmas Carols (December 2020) – Facebook live-streamed carols featuring our very own Googong Community Choir, and the John Agnew Band.

Googong's Giant Chair Family Portrait Series (December 2020) – To celebrate the Christmas season, the Giant Chair (installed in our Giant 19-home Display Village late last year), became the perfect backdrop for 200 free family portraits of Googonians.

EVENTS IN 2021

We have put together an events program for 2021 on the following pages, and encourage you to save the dates in your diaries. This will include a range of residents events, and some of our smaller public events.

Public events will be promoted via our Googong township Facebook and Instagram pages, and via email to our database.

Resident-only events will be via email invitation only, so it's important you are on the community database to receive these invitations.

If you would like to check that your details are up-to-date, please contact me, Samantha, via email at community@googong.net.

To ensure you receive notifications, we encourage you to whitelist emails from enquiries@googong.net and community@googong.net



Save the date: 2021 EVENTS



Googong Thai Street Food Night

Saturday 13 March 2021

Time 6.00-9.00pm

This is a ticketed, residents-only Thai night featuring the amazing flavours of Pen's Bangkok Bean Thai Food Van. The Googong Sales Office Carpark will be transformed into a casual street food themed venue. Tickets are \$10pp (which includes a drink voucher on arrival), and guests will be asked to order and pay for their food and additional drinks on the night. Tables of 6 and 12 will be available, and payment will be required to secure your booking. Numbers are limited. Invitation will be sent via email to our residents' database.*



ANZAC Day

Sunday 25 April 2021

5.55am – 6.05am

Please join your fellow Googonians (and the rest of our country) in your driveways at 5.55am to remember all those who have served and sacrificed for our nation. We stand together in spirit.

The Last Post will be performed live within Googong from 6.00am sharp, and broadcast across town. To ensure social distancing, we ask that you listen from your own driveways. It will also be live-streamed from the Googong township Facebook page.

Outdoor Movie Night

April/May 2021

7.30pm-10.00pm

Details are to be confirmed. This is a FREE, ticketed, residents-only movie night and numbers are limited. Invitation will be sent via email to our residents' database.*



Mother's Day Cocktail Party

Saturday 8 May 2021

6.00pm – 8.00pm

Relax, unwind, and meet some like-minded women in Googong. Champagne and sweet delights will set the menu, with chilled tunes to set the mood.

This is strictly a resident-only event. Tickets are \$15 pp, with payment required to secure your booking. Numbers are limited. Invitation will be sent via email to our residents' database.*





GooGala

Saturday 12 June 2021

7.00pm – 11.00pm

This event is not to be missed. Googong residents will party the night away. Food, wine and live music are included, so there will be plenty of dancing and lots of new friendships to be made.

This is strictly a resident-only event. Tickets are \$45 pp, with payment required to secure your booking. Numbers are limited. Invitation will be sent via email to our residents' database.*



Defence Families Picnic

Saturday 14 August 2021

From 12 noon

Beltana Park, Beltana Avenue Googong

Bring your own picnic and enjoy meeting your fellow Defence residents. Enjoy free live entertainment and yard games on the lawns. Invitation will be sent via email to our residents' database.*



Kitefest

Sunday 5 September 2021, Father's Day

11.00am – 2.00pm

Rockley Oval, Rockley Parade Googong

A fun day out for the family, with spectacular kites and entertainment. This is a free public event.



Rural Fire Service Open Day

Saturday 9 October 2021

10.00am – 2.00pm

Beltana Park, Beltana Avenue Googong

This will be a free public event.

Googong Christmas Carols

Saturday 11 December 2021

6.00pm – 8.00pm

Beltana Park, Beltana Avenue Googong

This is a free public event.



OTHER GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES

Contact community@googong.net to learn more about, or sign up to, the following groups.

- **Googong Seniors Group**

We have some new and exciting things planned for 2021, including a walk and chat group, art classes, games clubs and book clubs. Not to mention regular social catch ups and events, including a wine and cheese night.

- **Googong Playgroup**

- **Googong Craft Group**

- **Googong Community Choir**

- **Googong Pram Walking Group**

- **Googong Landcare**

*Be sure you have joined the residents' database, so you don't miss out on our special resident-only events. Email community@googong.net to update your details, and be sure to whitelist emails from enquiries@googong.net and community@googong.net



HAVE YOU MOVED
INTO YOUR HOME
AT GOOGONG?

Hello Googonians!

We are very fortunate to have a Community Manager, Samantha, whose job is to help foster community connections for residents. She can help to connect you and your family members to likeminded individuals, groups, clubs and others within the community. Her role also includes running events and activities (some public and some resident-only); supporting local sporting clubs and associations; assisting local businesses to establish themselves in the community; developing education programs to assist our stakeholders regionally; and helping the community come together at this time of COVID-19 in virtual ways—like our live-streamed Googong Gigs, children's dance and music classes, and organising the Googong Driveway and Christmas Photo Series.

Samantha invites residents to join our residents' database so you're always across what's on in our township. If you think you may have unsubscribed, changed your email address, or are otherwise not on our residents' database, drop her an email with your details to community@googong.net and be sure to whitelist emails from enquiries@googong.net and community@googong.net

GOOGONG WINTER SPORTING CLUBS ENROLLING NOW



Googong Hogs AFL

Home Ground: Rockley Oval,
Rockley Parade Googong.
Visit googonghogs.com.au or
facebook.com/GoogongHogs



Googong Hogs Netball

Home Courts (6): Heazlett Street,
Googong.
Visit googonghogs.com.au or
facebook.com/groups/GoogongNetball



Googong Monaro Panthers FC (Men's and Women's teams)

Home Ground: Duncan Fields,
Duncan Loop Googong
Visit monaropanthers.com.au or
facebook.com/MonaroPanthersFC



Queanbeyan Whites Rugby (Men's and Women's teams)

Home Ground: Campese Oval, Yass Road
Queanbeyan.
Visit: facebook.com/whitesrugby

WHITE RHINO PROPERTY



Market update: Googong sales reaching record highs.

It's been a great start to 2021 for Googong. Houses are selling within a few weeks and above the listed price. We've seen happy buyers move into the neighbourhood and very happy vendors.

The market is extremely strong, just like the community here in Googong. We hear from people every day wanting a piece of this real estate gem.

We all live close to fantastic amenities—the shops, pub, school, parks, Aquatots, tennis courts, community garden and awesome sporting facilities, including the new pump track and netball courts.

Just like here in Googong, house prices across the country are consistently rising despite the challenges for many people during 2020.

People are looking for houses with dedicated space to work from home, and luxury living and entertaining options. If COVID-19 has taught us anything, it's that families have reassessed their priorities, including their lifestyle.

So, this means Googong is still the perfect place to live, invest and grow your asset wealth.

Check out the latest homes for sale on our website, like us on Facebook or contact Googong's agent of the year in 2020, **Gavin van Zyl** on **0429 269 260**.





Googong Veterinary Centre

Googong Veterinary Centre is a fresh new veterinary practice on Caragh Avenue, located in the Googong North Village Centre.

Founded on the philosophy of happy people and pets, the dynamism behind this new and exciting venture is driven by Dr. Mark Carter, a veterinarian who brings with him over 20 years of experience. Mark knows all about community, having grown up on a farm near the small township of Barraba, northern NSW. He also comes to Googong having spent 20 years in the NSW Western Plains city of Dubbo. A role he served passionately for the city and surrounding regions.

Supported by both Jerrabomberra and Queanbeyan Veterinary Hospitals, Googong Veterinary Centre is an essential element to the Googonian way of life. They are very excited and look forward to sharing it with you and your pets.

From brand-new purpose-built facilities, Googong Veterinary Centre is part of Googonian life, providing veterinary services to the communities of Googong, Burra, Royalla and surrounding areas.

Googong Veterinary Centre

Phone: (02) 6147 5555

Email: vets@googongvets.com.au

Web: www.googongvet.com.au



GOOGONG RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

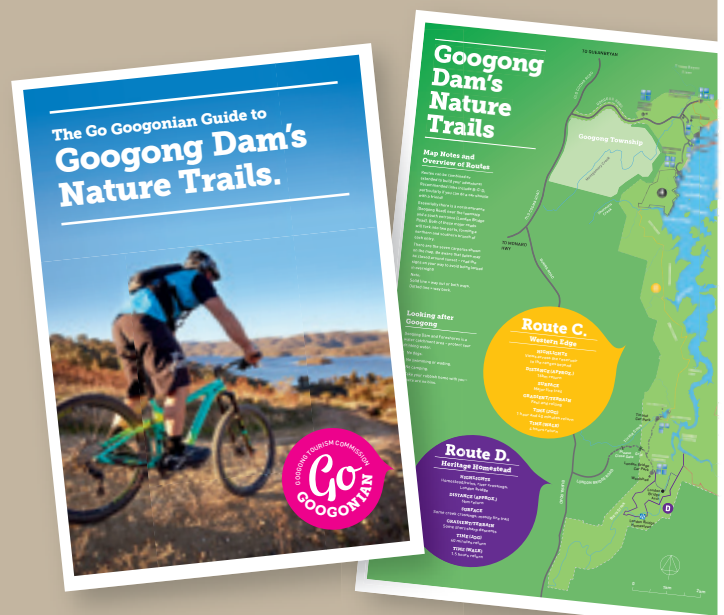
The Googong Residents' Association represents its members in matters that impact Googong residents.

The Googong Residents Association Executive is a committee of volunteer residents that work to advocate members interests to various entities such as Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council, government bodies, and community and corporate organisations.

The association also aims to create a sense of unity and inspire community spirit, as well as develop, encourage, and foster community engagement among residents, sporting clubs, facilities, and other social interests.

If you'd like to become a member of the Googong Residents Association, volunteer to join the committee or would like further information about the group, please email googongra@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/GoogongRA>



GOOGONG DAM TRAILS BROCHURE

Have you received your copy of the Googong Dam's Nature Trails brochure? We produced this 12-page guide to Googong's local trails last year and delivered it to all Googonian homes. It includes detailed information on terrain, as well as maps, multiple (linkable) routes, and advice on carparks, toilets, BBQs, bird hide viewing areas, and more. You can pop into the Sales Office to pick up a copy, if you missed it (see back page for opening times).

EPA Dance

EPA Dance is excited to be offering 4 weekdays of Googong dance classes in 2021!

With the continued support of Googong, EPA Dance is thrilled to be able to offer even more Googong classes this year. Lessons are running on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons AND Saturday mornings, at the Googong Community Centre.

So, what's new in 2021?

MINI MOVERS – 18 MONTHS TO 3 YEARS

Our Tiniest dancers yet! The perfect class filled with fun and excitement to start your little one moving and grooving.

ACROBATICS – 3 YEARS+

Learn the basics of forward rolls and cartwheels, all the way up to back flips and front aerials. You don't need to leave Googong to do it!

SPECIALTY CLASSES – ALL AGES

Performance Opportunities, Private Tuition and Advanced Tumbling programs. Students can quickly develop high level skills in specialty classes.

OUR OLD FAVOURITES

Tiny Tots, Ballet, Jazz, Lyrical, Hip Hop and Tap are here to stay with over 50 classes each week to choose from.

Get in touch now to book in for a trial and join a dance school where your child's talent and confidence grows.

www.epadance.com | hello@epadance.com | 0434 847 783



GOOGONG'S SALES OFFICE

Located at 12 Courtney Street,
Googong

**Open from 10.00am to 5.00pm,
Saturday to Wednesday.**
(except some public holidays)

1300 446 646
enquiries@googong.net



[googongtownship](https://www.facebook.com/googongtownship)



[googongtownship](https://www.youtube.com/googongtownship)



[googong_township](https://www.instagram.com/googong_township)

googong.net

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 Manager or email 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.



GOOGONG

A JOINT VENTURE BETWEEN PEET AND MIRVAC