

Googonian Gazette

THE GOOGONG COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER - ISSUE 30 - MARCH 2022

Our
Googong
Hogs!

2022
EVENTS
CALENDAR

RECYCLED
WATER
ALL YOU NEED
TO KNOW

Baby Group
News

WIN THE DAY
CHARITY





A message from Malcolm

GOOGONG'S PROJECT DIRECTOR

Demand for land at Googong continues to be strong. The construction of roads and services continues at record rates with nine separate stages of subdivision underway. Construction of NH2 Stage 8A and 8B is nearing completion with the other stages to follow over the next 12 months.

Construction of Bunyip Park has slowed because of material delays due to COVID and wet weather, which has prevented the lake side decks and performance stage from going ahead. Over the coming months you will start to see structures such as retaining walls, lake side decks, toilet pod, shelters and the performance stage take shape. Progress is still well ahead of schedule with completion expected in spring this year.

Running parallel with Bunyip Park construction is the new permanent sales office. With services installed and the framework erected just before the Christmas break, and the concrete slab was recently poured. We expect the doors to open in October this year.



The DA for the future neighbourhoods 3, 4 and 5 was submitted to Council last October and is currently being assessed. Council placed the DA on public exhibition and some comments were received from the community. The DA will be amended to address the concerns raised. Approval of the DA is critical to the ongoing supply of land for sale and the growth of the Googong community.

The latest two sporting fields, sports fields 3 and 4, are likely to be turfed in February or March. Sports field 3 is primarily an AFL field but has been designed to enable a turf cricket pitch to be retrofitted in future. The concrete terrace seating with shelter, flood lights and all-accessible path connections has been completed and awaits soft landscaping works. Sports field 4 is a dual Rugby League/Union field with a synthetic wicket between the two fields. The skatepark is almost complete with the full-sized basketball court, public WIFI, DJ booth, shelter, cricket net facility and kickabout area to follow. Both fields should be open in spring in preparation for the 2023 winter seasons.



↑ **Image:** Sports Field 3 and 4 construction.

An artist has been commissioned to upgrade the existing Montgomery Creek boardwalk with a viewing deck encompassed by sculptural reeds to allow Googonians to rest and take in the serenity through the marshy creek line. This should also be completed in spring.

The Lion's Club has raised money to supply Googonians with an exercise trail along Montgomery Creek within the Common. Googong has partnered with the Lions Club, QPRC and Glascott to see equipment installed and operational. The trail will be approximately 1.6km in length and include five pieces of exercise equipment. The project should commence in February and be open for use in May.

There are now about 2,020 homes occupied, with the population standing at around 6,000.

← **Image:** Town Centre and Bunyip Park construction.

Cover Image: Josh Ebert, Googong Hogs Club President.



YOUR COMMUNITY MANAGER

We are thrilled for events to return in 2022 after a tough couple of years with COVID restrictions. It will be lovely for our new residents to be able to experience the full events program that Googong has to offer and for our founding residents to re-connect with their community face to face.

Although we won't be hosting Googfest this year, we hope that we can be back bigger and better in 2023 with a new location and exceptional performers. We are hoping this year will see the return of our other regular events (see the events calendar in this newsletter).

Social programs will be coming back throughout the year, including playgroup, seniors group, walking groups and Landcare events. It's important you are registered on the resident database, as some of these events will only be available to Googong residents, so feel free to email me at community@googong.net to ensure your details are up to date.

There are exciting things happening within the township over the next few years, and some important milestones will be met, we can't wait to share them with you.

Samantha

Samantha Remmers
Community Manager



Googong #1 in wellbeing

Googong has recorded the highest **Community Wellbeing Score (78.6)** when compared with 30 other similar community developments across the country, as part of the 2021 Peet National Resident Satisfaction Survey.

In particular, Googong scored very strongly in **satisfaction and pride in the community (85.9)** and the **natural environment (85.4)** amongst other factors. With extensive amenity and a strong community ethos, Googong also topped the **community connection scores nationally (70.5)**.

Go, Googonians!



ENJOYING GOOGONG FORESHORES

Googong Foreshores and Dam is a wonderful place for having a picnic, bird watching, fishing, or going for a walk or ride in summer. Please note that it is a drinking water catchment area so reducing contamination protects the health of our community.

- **NO SWIMMING** (this includes paddling your feet, SUP'ing or wind surfing). You can swim downstream (below the wall) or at the Cascades or White Rocks areas.
- **NO DOGS** in the Foreshores area, or in the water.
- **NO PETROL-POWERED MOTORS** in the dam (to avoid contamination of our drinking water). You can use electric motors and kayaks.
- **LIFE JACKETS MUST BE WORN** by all people in boats and kayaks. This is alpine water and can be colder than you think.

It is a privilege that we are permitted to access the Googong Dam and Foreshores areas. Please follow the rules so we can all keep using and enjoying it!



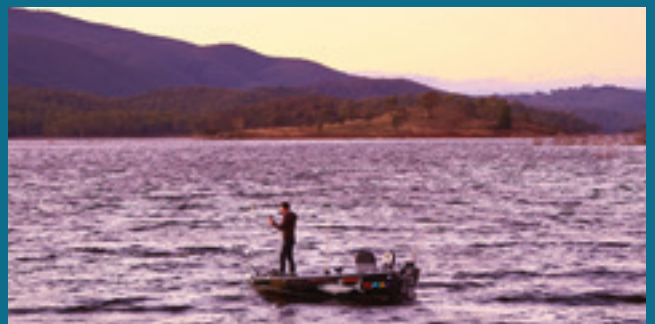
FLOAT YOUR BOAT AT GOOGONG DAM

With the warmer days, the Googong Dam is particularly popular. Help protect the water you drink by following the recreational guidelines.

You can enjoy the dam by boat if your vessel is not petrol-powered. Electric-powered vessels, kayaks, and canoes with minimal body contact to the water are all permitted on Googong Dam.

Before putting your boat into our community's drinking supply:

- ◆ **Complete the Access Canberra Boat Permit Application form** at accesscanberra.act.gov.au/s/article/boating-on-canberras-lakes-tab-power-boats
- ◆ **Know where you can boat and fish** on the Googong Dam. The restricted areas for all vessels, boats, and kayaks are the area north of the boat ramp near the de-stratification units, the intake tower, the dam wall, the spill ways and the saddle dam. Penalties apply.
- ◆ **Clean your vessel**, especially if you have come from another water source. This will stop your boat from spreading harmful bacteria and aquatic weeds.
- ◆ **If you are using an electric motor**, make sure it has been serviced. Inspect and test your electronic equipment such as radios, GPS, and depth sounders to ensure your safety. This will help prevent emergency retrievals on the dam.
- ◆ Cast a careful eye over your vessel and **ensure aquatic algae or weeds are not hitchhiking** on your boat, or equipment such as fishing gear, the hull, trailer and wheels, anchor well and anchor, propeller and shaft, and all water inlets and outlets.



- ◆ **Please use the toilet facilities** located near the carpark before launching your boat.
- ◆ When launching your craft, **minimal human body contact with the water is key**. No body contact reduces harmful pathogens from entering the drinking water.
- ◆ Remember to **return to the boat ramp 30 minutes before reserve closing time**. This allows time to load your boat and ensures you don't get locked in!
- ◆ NSW Maritime conduct inspections of boats at Googong Foreshores, so please ensure you **familiarise yourself with NSW boating requirements**.

Find out more information about permitted recreation at Googong Dam and Foreshores at parks.act.gov.au

icon
WATER



GOOGONG HOGS:

From the Navy to our township



Googong is home to the Hogs sports club. With the region growing quickly, it's no surprise the Hogs have adapted and continued to thrive, providing Googong locals with sport and recreation to build stronger, healthier, happier, and safer communities.

This month we spoke with Josh Ebert, Googong Hogs Club President, who is excited to continue the Hogs' legacy and aims to significantly grow the club with more players, volunteers, sports, and social events bringing the community closer together.

"Once they get a taste for the club, they don't leave...it's phenomenal going down to the local IGA and seeing little kids running around in Googong Hogs jumpers."

The Hogs originally started in 1976 as the Harman Hogs, a predominantly Royal Australian Navy team that trained on the Harman base in the ACT. With security tightening at the base for non-navy members, the club hopped from Hughes, to Queanbeyan, before settling in Googong in 2016.



When the club settled in Googong, the committee agreed a name change was appropriate, and so the Googong Hogs were born.

The club currently offers netball and AFL, and has previously offered women's football. Ebert stated the club is very open to more sports, such as touch football, cricket and basketball, when enough people are interested.

"If we can find someone who's excited and really passionate to make something like that work, then there's certainly opportunities and we can provide the support."

The Googong Hogs also offer non-playing memberships for those who still want to be part of the social aspects and support their local team. Our non-playing members

can also volunteer through umpiring, tuck shop, first aid or running the social events. The Hogs social calendar includes the popular 'No Talent' talent show, trivia nights, award nights and the competitive netball vs AFL netball game.

The club is always on the lookout for more members so if you, or your family, would like to sign up, try out or help out with the Googong Hogs, email googonghogs@gmail.com





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 member interests to various entities such as Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council, government bodies, the township's developers, and community and corporate organisations.

The association 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 please email googongra@gmail.com

Join our Facebook group at facebook.com/GoogongRA



Googong Baby Group

Googong's Parent Child Mother Goose baby group, aka "Goo's Coos and Cuddles" welcomes mini Googonians.

A FREE weekly group for new Googong parents and their 0–12-month-old babies. For 45 minutes to an hour, enjoy a time to relax and share in songs, rhymes and stories with your baby and meet other new parents living in Googong.

Time: 9.30am Friday mornings (25 February through to 8 April).

Location: Initially meeting outdoors in Beltana Park so we can sing (COVID friendly style), then moving to Googong Community Centre (corner Gorman Drive and McPhail Way) when it is safer to do so.

Registration: Numbers are strictly limited, so please register your interest or touch base to find out more.

Contact: Please contact **Alison Coster** (group facilitator) on **0411 205 638** or email alison@keyworkers.com.au

For more information about Parent Child Mother Goose Australia groups, visit their website at parentchildmothergooseaustralia.org.au





Win The Day Charity

LAUNCHING SUPPORT PODCAST

Win the Day Charity has been developed with a clear mission to alleviate the financial and emotional stress and worry that families experience when they are already in chaos.

"I dream of the day that no family, particularly a rare childhood cancer family, will ever have to worry whether they can afford to care for their sick child," says Kristy Giteau, Founder of Win the Day Charity.

One of the key elements of Win the Day Charity is not only the financial help through meals, accommodation or relapse grants, but its ability to form social connections with other families. In March, Win the Day Charity will be launching the podcast **Storms and Rainbows: Life of an oncology parent**. It will be released across several platforms including Listner, Spotify and Apple Podcasts.

The podcast will feature three oncology parents including the founder, Kristy Giteau.



Kristy developed the podcast idea because "carers of oncology children want to hear stories that they can relate to. They want to hear the quirky ways they kill time in hospital, how to keep sane in what can be a really challenging time in our lives and what services we tapped into. What better way to get advice than three parents that have lived it or are currently going through it! We all wished there was something out there for us when we were in that situation, so we thought it would be great to share our experiences, tips and strategies with other families to help win their day."

Towards the end of 2021, Win the Day Charity have had some fantastic success in the community, with over \$32,000 raised when they asked the community to virtually chase the rainbow, and \$50,000 raised at the Win the Day Queanbeyan Whites rugby day. This money was used to support local families with meals whilst attending to their sick child in hospital.

If you are an oncology family and you would like help or become a charity partner, please contact Kristy at info@wintheday.org.au

Recycled **Water** AT GOOGONG

Recycled water is available through the 'purple pipe' network in Googong. Using recycled water is a great way to keep your gardens green and outdoor areas clean.

By using recycled water correctly, you can help reduce consumption of potable (drinking) water by approximately 60% (when compared with an equivalent area that does not have recycled water available).

The 'purple pipes' network connects recycled water to your property that can be used for:

- Flushing toilets
- Watering lawns and gardens
- Washing cars, brickworks, and windows
- Fighting fires
- Watering your fruit and vegetable gardens
- Watering sports fields and parks

Recycled water cannot be used for:

- Drinking
- Cooking and other kitchen uses
- Bathing (baths, showers, and hand basins)
- Filling pools and spas
- Cooling systems
- Hot water systems
- Playing (sprinklers or filling water toys)
- Household cleaning, including washing machines



For more information on recycled water in Googong, please see our webpage at qprc.nsw.gov.au/Services/Water/Googong-Recycled-Water



DANCE CLASSES

ENROLMENTS ARE OPEN FOR 2022.

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

We have classes for all ages, including our Mummy and Me style lesson for children aged 18 months.

Styles include: Jazz | Ballet | Ballet Exams | Tap | Hip Hop | Acrobatics | Lyrical | Tumbling | Performance Troupe | Preschool Classes | Private Tuition |

Enrol now to secure your place in one of our fabulous classes!

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



The team at Cannons Googong

We're thrilled to welcome new team member, Greg, to our fresh produce department. A local in the region, Greg has a wealth of experience and is working closely with producers to source the best and freshest produce on offer.

It's always our goal at Cannons Googong to supply our community with exceptional fresh produce, and we're really excited to have Greg as part of our team to continue and maintain our efforts.

If you're new to the Googong area, we invite you to discover our wide range next time you drop in—from fresh produce to our bakery, deli, café, and everything in-between. And, if there's something you're looking for that we don't currently have in stock, please speak to a team member and we'll try our best to source it for you.

Don't forget, if you see Greg in the store, say hello and give him a big Googong welcome!



Say, G'day!

Join the Googong Community Connection Project and stay connected to your fellow Googonians.

If you'd like someone to check-in with you from time to time, or you want to volunteer to join the project, call **1300 446 646** or email community@googong.net



EVENTS *in* 2022



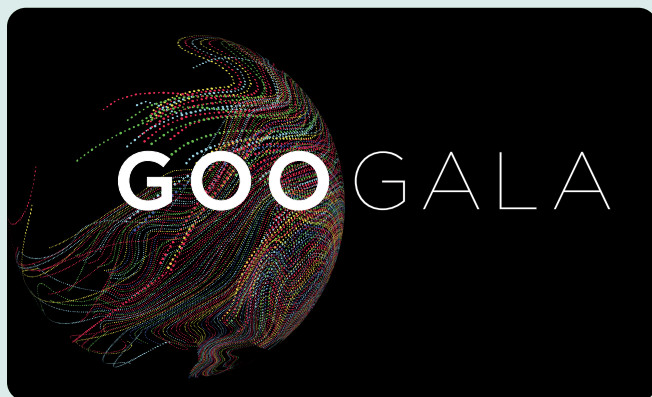
Anzac Day

Monday 25 April

6am, sharp

ROCKLEY OVAL

We will repeat a gesture we introduced for the first time in 2020, with the Last Post being played at 6am sharp on Anzac Day. It will be performed LIVE at Rockley Oval Googong, so that the sound may carry across the township. It will also be live-streamed from the Googong Township Facebook page.



GooGala*

Saturday 18 June

7–11pm

GOOGONG COMMUNITY CENTRE

Resident-only cocktail party.

Invitation to follow via email to our residents' database*.



Mother's Day Cocktail Party

Saturday 7 May

6–8pm

GOOGONG COMMUNITY CENTRE

Relax, unwind, and meet some likeminded 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 and is ticketed at \$20pp. Payment is required to secure your booking, and numbers are limited.

Invitation to follow via email to our residents' database.*



Defence Families Picnic

Saturday 13 August

2–4pm

BELTANA PARK



KiteFest

Sunday 4 September

11am–2pm

ROCKLEY OVAL



Googong Christmas Markets

Saturday 3 December

10am–2pm

BUNYIP PARK



RFS Open Day / Bunyip Park Opening

Saturday 8 October

10am–2pm

BUNYIP PARK



Afternoon Christmas Celebrations / Carols

Saturday 10 December

6–8pm

BUNYIP PARK

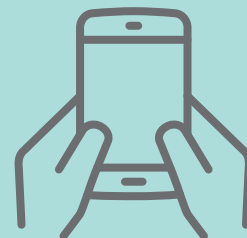


Boogong – Halloween at Googong

Saturday 29 October

5–9pm

ROCKLEY OVAL



***Be sure you've joined the resident 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 so they appear in your inbox.



ABC News presenter, **Jeremy Fernandez**, Goes Googonian

ABC News presenter, **Jeremy Fernandez**, recently spent the day at Googong visiting the Googong Water Recycling Plant, touring our Smart City Infrastructure*, interviewing a local Googonian (Evelyn Le Pavoux), our Project Manager (Malcolm Leslie) and QPRC CEO (Peter Tegart); and, yes, having a giggle on the Giant Chair in our Giant Display Village!

Jeremy and his team are producing a five-part documentary series about Australia's suburbs and the way we live and work. The series looks at urban planning and design, pressures on infrastructure and population growth, and how innovation and technology can present solutions.

The program is called 'How to Build A Suburb' and centres around the building of a planned suburb on the outskirts of Sydney called Oxley Ridge. They started filming at Oxley Ridge before they broke ground and will continue to film the suburbs development until the first residents move in at the end of this year.

We are thrilled that the Googong segment has been included to demonstrate best practice in urban design. We will let you know when this doco-series goes live!



*Googong's Smart Cities Infrastructure includes digital-enabled waste and facilities management systems, infrastructure for electric cars, public Wi-Fi, as well as lighting and environmental monitoring systems to reduce the towns carbon footprint and overhead costs, and more.

This was delivered with support from a \$1.1 million grant from the Federal Government's Smart Cities program. Googong prepared the Smart Cities Blueprint to assist other planners, developers and councils to incorporate Smart City infrastructure.



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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 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