



australian
breastfeeding
association

Australian Breastfeeding Association North Canberra

- Breastfeeding Counselor (s) on hand to answer your questions.
- All mums, dads, children and mums-to-be welcome, and you don't need to be a member

If you have a question about breastfeeding please call our
free

National Breastfeeding Helpline:

1800 686 268 or visit

www.breastfeeding.asn.au

to check venues:

abanorthcanberra@hotmail.com

Meg's TOY BOX

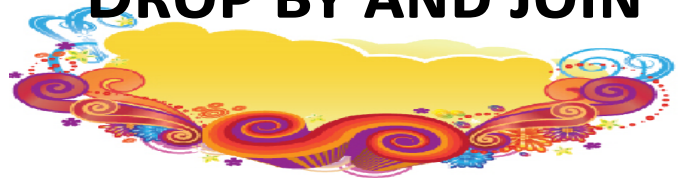
Is a community toy library.
Run as a non profit venture
with the support of
St Margaret's Church

Call—02 6248 7467
(during opening hours only)

Wed 10am—12pm

Sat 2pm—4pm

DROP BY AND JOIN



Canberra Central Combined Probus Club

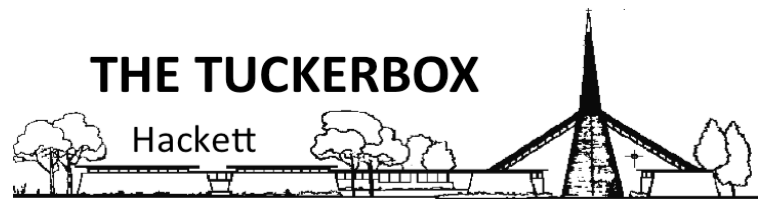
Meets on the 1st Wednesday of the month,
10:00-12:00 at the Ainslie Club.

Gentle Exercise Class

Uniting Church

9:30 – 10:30 am each Friday

Cost \$7.00



THE TUCKERBOX

HOLY CROSS ANGLICAN PARISH

– Opens every Saturday, 2pm to 4pm –

The Tuckerbox is a not-for-profit service which helps those struggling to balance their budget. The Tuckerbox has bread, groceries (*milk, fruit and vegetables when available*).

Those on pensions, are low income families or unemployed will find this service very helpful. As a contribution, we ask a small service fee. Foodbank NSW provides the majority of stock.

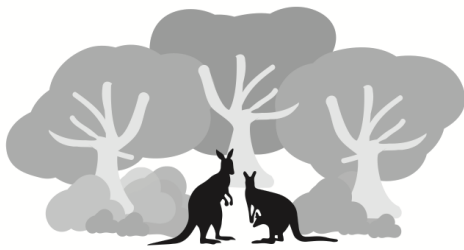
Corner of Phillip Ave & Antill Street,
Hackett—Ph: (02) 6248 5327

www.holycrosshackett.anglicancg.org.au



SUNDAY MORNINGS 10AM
FRIDAY NIGHT YOUTH 7PM-9PM

160 ASPINALL ST WATSON
C3CHURCHWATSON.COM



THE WATZON

Newsletter of the Watson Community Association Inc.

Issue 92 – Summer / Autumn 2017

Message from the Chair

Re-reading my message in the last issue my words seem hollow! I wonder who told me it would be a wet summer... January has been very trying for most of us, with record temperatures and next to no rain. Gardens have struggled and the wind storm created havoc. Fortunately, nobody was hurt. Time now to look forward to our glorious autumn.

The Watzon reflects our community and I'm always pleased when we receive comments, be they praise or blame. I'm delighted to tell you that one resident has reported that she still has her limited edition bi-centenary t-shirt – and occasionally wears it! Ally Grace's article has prompted many "Oh, I remember..." comments and I hope that some of you will put pen to paper so that we can feature more memories. I wonder how many people try the delicious recipes?

We now have somebody to keep our Facebook page current and interesting. Welcome and thank you to Richie Merzian. Don't forget to look and like. The Watzon only appears quarterly so Facebook, and soon our website, is an easy way to post quick reminders regarding meetings and other events. For those who rely on the familiar blue newsletter don't worry, it will still be there. Just ask your friends and neighbours to keep you up to date between issues.

Don't forget the AGM in late March. Please join the WCA Inc., it's free, and there is always room on the committee for more opinions.

Liz Grace, Chair

Visit the WCA Inc. at www.watsoncanberra.wordpress.com

Contact us

Chair

Liz Grace 02 6241 6785

Deputy Chair

Richard Larson 02 6241 3024

Secretary

Gillian Helyar 02 6255 0238

Treasurer

Carrie Wright 02 6241 1018

Watson Woodlands Convenor

Richard Larson 02 6241 3024

Annual General Meeting

The WCA Inc. Annual General Meeting will be held on **Thursday, 16 March 2017** at **7:30 PM** at **YWAM, Watson**. Access via Zelling Street and follow the signs.

All welcome.

Next quarterly meeting

The next WCA Inc. meeting is scheduled for **Monday, 10 April 2017** at **7:30 PM** at the **Hall in the Fair on Tay Street, Watson**.

All welcome.

Watson Community Association

The Watson Community Association Inc. (WCA Inc.) aims to promote, protect and enhance the social, cultural and physical environment of the community of Watson, and the welfare, community spirit and quality of life of its residents.

It also aims to inform the community about issues concerning Watson. One way the WCA Inc. does this is through the quarterly production and distribution of the Watson – a community newsletter.

Woodland Working Group report

The Woodlands Working Group was formed as a sub-group of the WCA Inc. to protect, enhance and care for the valuable patch of threatened native Yellow Box/Red Gum Grassy Woodland known as Justice Robert Hope Park. Much work has been done over the past years to decrease the effects of years of commercial use, and increase the component of indigenous species of flora and fauna in the Park.

The WCA Inc. acknowledge the ongoing contribution of John Briggs to our restoration projects in the Justice Robert Hope Park. John has been spraying St Johns Wort and also watering the 90 shrubs planted in August last year through the hot months. The great majority have survived and are slowly growing. We are filling 44 gallon drums and other containers to keep the plants watered and alive.

The weather conditions do not look like improving this month and possibly for the entire autumn. At one stage the park was overgrown because of all the rain in October last year. This is now starting to die down considerably and it is easier to get about.

Working bees in the woodlands restarted in early February. Four hundred shrub and other seedlings are being grown by Greening Australia for further planting events this autumn and winter. Sites for the plantings will be marked out by John Briggs, and we anticipate that the holes will be dug by contractors for the Parks and Conservation Service.

If anyone has spare time to help in any way, please contact Richard Larson (Convenor) on 02 6241 3024.

Clean Up Australia Day

Sunday, 5 March 2017 is Clean Up Australia Day. You can get involved by cleaning up your local area with your friends and family. Visit www.cleanupaustaliaday.org.au/get-involved/ to register a Clean Up site or join an existing site as a volunteer.





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Canberra Music Education School
Singing Teacher –
Leilani Wagner

Canberra School of Music (ANU) educated
singing teacher

Teaching all styles, levels and all ages

Extensive experience as a performer

Preparation for all exam levels (AMEB, ABSRM)

During her time at the ANU, Leilani received
the Christel Larko Music Scholarship for her
outstanding musical accomplishments as a
vocalist

Career highlights include performing the
National Anthem at the ANU graduation
ceremonies, performing as a soloist at
Morpeth jazz festival

Please view the following Youtube videos to
see Leilani perform:

If I Aint Got You - Alicia Keys Cover; *Listen* -
Beyonce Cover

\$33 per ½ hour lesson

Phone 0414 788 380

Or visit www.canberramusicschool.com.au

LUTON

Team McReynolds
Jenny, Michael & Mark

For all your real estate needs
please call your local residents
and Watson area specialists!

Jenny 0409 300 065
Michael 0419 688 034
Mark 0401 829 087
Office Dickson 6230 0005
Email jenny.mcreynolds@luton.com.au



Evan's
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- Ridge Capping
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- Replace Roofing Tiles
- Flushing • Lead
- Down Pipes
- Leaf Guards
- Water Tanks

*All Work
Guaranteed*

ph/fax 6241 7247
m 0405 816 997

Community notices

Fix My Street is an online reporting facility which provides direct contact to ACT Government Agencies for the reporting of municipal service requests. Residents can submit service requests by choosing from the menu of topics. In addition, residents can create an account on the system to track progress of the feedback provided.

<https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/app/forms/fixmystreet/>

Typical issues covered include:

- **Abandoned Vehicles** – Report vehicles that have been abandoned on Government land.
- **Air Pollution & Noise** – Lodge complaints about activities that result in excessive noise or other air pollution including loud music, building activities, chimney smoke etc.
- **Cycle Paths** – Report damaged pavement or obstructions on cycle ways or on-road bicycle lanes.
- **Footpaths** – Report cracked, lifting or missing pavement.
- **Garbage Bins & Collections** – Report issues with garbage or recycling bin collections. Damaged or stolen bins may be reported on the Canberra Connect website.
- **Graffiti** – Report illegal graffiti on assets located on unleased land.
- **Grass** – Report overgrown grass or weeds on public land.
- **Litter & Illegal Dumping** – Report the location and nature of rubbish and debris dumped on public land.
- **Naturestrips** – Report nature strip concerns such as line of sight, pedestrian or traffic hazards and unapproved structures.
- **Pot Holes** – Report a pothole for repair.
- **Roads** – Submit feedback on roads, road maintenance, bridges or other transport related infrastructure.
- **Road Safety** – Report or submit feedback on road safety concerns in your street or neighbourhood.
- **Road Signs** – Report damaged, faded or missing street signs.
- **Sharps** – Used needles and other medical waste found on public land should be phoned through to Canberra Connect on 13 22 81 for urgent collection and disposal.
- **Stormwater** – Report stormwater concerns in your area.
- **Street Lights** – Report street and public area lighting concerns and outages.
- **Street Sweeping** – Report glass, leaves, gravel and other debris on roadways.
- **Suburban Parks & Playgrounds** – Report damaged and hazardous trees, equipment or other infrastructure in suburban parks and playgrounds.
- **Traffic** – Provide feedback about ‘volume of traffic’ concerns in your street or neighbourhood.
- **Traffic Lights** – Submit feedback on traffic signals in your area.
- **Trees & Shrubs** – Report trees and shrubs located on Government land that require maintenance.
- **Other** – Provide feedback on other ACT Government services.

Watson's high fliers – our precious native birds

We hope you enjoy learning about the beautiful birds that we sometimes see (and hear) in our Watson gardens and neighbouring bushland.

Gang-gang Cockatoo

The Gang-gang Cockatoo, or Gang Gang for short, is the faunal emblem for the ACT. Gang-gangs frequent the gardens of Canberra's inner suburbs – and particularly Watson gardens given our proximity to the bushland reserves.

The Gang-gang is generally unmistakable, but in flight may resemble a galah in shape. The adult male has a distinctive scarlet red head and crest, with the rest of the body slate-grey. The adult female has a dark grey head and crest, with the feathers of the underparts edged pink and yellow. In both sexes, the feathers of the upperparts and wings are faintly edged pale-grey, giving a barred appearance.

Gang-gangs feed mainly on the seeds of native and introduced trees and shrubs, with a preference for eucalypts, wattles and introduced hawthorns. They will also eat berries, fruits, nuts and insects and their larvae. They come to the ground only to drink and to forage among fallen fruits or pine cones.

During summer, Gang-gangs are found in tall mountain forests and woodlands, with dense shrubby understoreys. In winter, Gang-gangs will move to lower altitudes into drier, more open forests and woodlands. They require tall trees for nest hollows and are adversely affected by land clearing and the removal of mature trees.

Gang-gangs form close, monogamous pairs. The female chooses a nest hollow in a suitable tree and both sexes prepare the nest for egg-laying. Both sexes incubate the eggs and care for the young. Parents feed their young for a further four to six weeks after fledging and family groups will be seen feeding together during the breeding season.

For full details – visit the Canberra Ornithologists Group website (<http://canberrabirds.org.au>).



Want to help protect the Gang-gang and other species?

Woodlands Working Group

Are you interested in the neighbouring bushland, or want to become involved with caring for the Justice Robert Hope Park? Contact Richard Larson (Convenor) on 02 6241 3024.

Cat Containment

The Fair is a designated cat containment area. Residents must confine pet cats to their premises at all times. Further information is available at

http://tams.act.gov.au/city_services/pets/cats.

Major developments in progress

As detailed previously in the Watson, major developments are progressing in North Watson – developments which will increase the number of dwellings in Watson by approximately 15%.

Channel 10 site

- The WCA Inc. provided strongly worded comments to the lease variation proposal for Block 2 Section 64 residential development on the Channel 10 site on Aspinall Street.
- The WCA Inc. is willing to support residential use being added to the lease, provided it is restricted to a maximum two storey height limit which matches the immediate surrounding residential developments in North Watson. The proposal as was outlined in community consultations would be only applicable in a CZ5 zone. The zone the lease is currently in is CZ6 which restricts building heights to two stories. The developers have proposed buildings up to four and six stories in height and on a bulk and scale which equates roughly to 70 dwellings per hectare. The WCA Inc. opposes commercial accommodation being added to the lease conditions. The WCA Inc. does not support the remission of fees under the Planning and Development Remission of Lease Variation Charges Economic Stimulus and Sustainability Determination 2014 if this were applicable. Any major change in use should be accompanied by a lease variation charge. The fees would be applicable if this lease variation is approved by the ACT government.

Carotel site

- In February, residents will have received a brochure and invitation to attend an auction event for the sale of 25 single residential blocks on the Carotel site in North Watson – named *Mt Majura Estate*. Block sizes range from 297 square metres to 489 square metres and range in estimated reserve price from \$310,000 to \$391,000. The WCA Inc. notes that an estate development plan has been lodged as DA201731068 and is available on the ACTPLA website at www.planning.act.gov.au. The auction will be held at the Ainslie Football Club on Saturday, 4 March 2017 starting 10:00 am.

The WCA Inc. will continue to work with the developers wherever possible to encourage developments that complement the surrounding neighbourhood and provide community infrastructure – pathways, public gardens and play grounds.



Recipe

On Watson's doorstep each Saturday morning is the Capital Region Farmers Market - held at EPIC and run by the Rotary Club of Hall.

The WCA Inc. are pleased to be able to bring you another recipe from the Rotary Club of Hall's "Capital Region Farmers Market Recipe Book".

This is courtesy of 'forchefs' who worked with the club to produce this book, and who have run many successful demonstration events at the market.

Fig, cracked pepper and goat's cheese tarte Tatin

- 10g butter
 - 8 figs halved
 - 1/2 cup castor sugar
 - 100ml water
 - 1 sheet frozen puff pastry, partially thawed
 - goat's cheese to serve
 - cracked pepper
1. Pre-heat oven to 220C (200C fan-forced).
 2. Make a caramel with the sugar and a little water and remove from heat once the desired colour has been reached. Melt in the butter.
 3. Place the halved figs over the caramel in the base of the pan.
 4. Cut a pastry to fit over the layered figs, tucking in at the edge.
 5. Bake for 12-15 minutes or until golden and puffed.
 6. Stand in the pan for 5 minutes and then turn out onto a plate.
 7. Sprinkle goat's cheese and cracked pepper over the top to serve.

Local services



WATSON

- **EFTPOS is available - no minimum expenditure required**
- **Free home delivery services**

Come in & experience the service for yourself.

Phone: 02 6255 6800



Chaos, overwhelm and clutter in your home, your office, your life?
I can bring calm, order & space back to your day & mind.

Call Virginia Wells – 0422 490 131

E: virginia@getwellsorted.com.au

W: www.getwellsorted.com.au

FB: www.facebook.com/getwellsorted

Important Contact Details

Police, Fire, Ambulance - 000 (24hrs)

Police Attendance - 13 1444 (24hrs)

Storms and Floods - 13 2500 (24hrs)

Crime Stoppers - 1800 333 000 (8am to 9pm)

A master plan for Watson

The last edition of the Watson included a copy of the letter the WCA Inc. sent to the Chief Minister, in July 2016, requesting a comprehensive master plan for Watson. Still no substantive response has been received.

The WCA Inc. firmly believe a master plan is needed to ensure developments as a collective complement our suburb, and public amenity is developed for the increased population. It cannot be presumed that the infrastructure that currently exists in our suburb will be sufficient with the number of households set to rise by a further 15 per cent in North Watson.

In 2017, the WCA Inc. will focus its efforts on advancing a comprehensive master plan for Watson – working with residents to identify community infrastructure needs and ramping up efforts to lobby members of the ACT Legislative Assembly.

- ***What do you want for Watson?***
- ***Do you have suggestions for improving community connectedness?***
- ***Can you think of existing shortfalls in community infrastructure?***

There is always room for more ideas and opinions. If you have experience in advocacy or lobbying, or just want to help, please contact a committee member.

Local services

The Academy of Interactive Entertainment has rooms for hire.

Why not contact them about hiring rooms for your organisation?



**Canberra Technology Park
49 Phillip Avenue
Watson ACT 2602**

Contact details:

Phone: +61 2 6162 5131

Fax : +61 2 6207 3759

Did you know?

There is now a **Buy Nothing gifting group** for Watson and surrounding suburbs.

The group is a good way to pass on things you don't need like excess vegies, old furniture or tiny baby clothes. And you can receive things you might need from around your local area, and meet the neighbours too.

The Buy Nothing project is in many countries and runs on Facebook. There are ten groups in Canberra and anyone over 18 who lives in Watson, can join the local group. The idea behind the Buy Nothing project is to build community through the giving of gifts. Our local group is thriving, with new members joining every day.

Gifts that people are offering to their neighbours include books, basil seedlings and fresh bay leaves, a brand-new letterbox or an antique dollhouse. Everything but the kitchen sink really - although we did have a laundry sink on offer this week.

If you'd like to join just search on Facebook for Buy Nothing Dickson/Watson, ACT and request to join the group. Let the gifting begin!



Canberra Carotel Motel

Relatives coming to visit? Friends or family coming to Canberra for an event?

The Carotel Motel is an ideal place for them to stay. It has a wide variety of room styles that offer affordable, comfortable and convenient accommodation for their stay in Canberra.

Check us out online at www.carotel.com.au or call us on 62411377.

Watson Pharmacy

Pharmacy hours:

Monday to Friday : 9am–6:00pm
Saturday: 9am—1pm

Licensed Post Office & Sub-Newsagency

A selection of affordable gifts & wrapping, greeting cards & stationery items available

Post office hours:

Monday—Friday: 9am—5:30pm

Watson Pharmacy is a Quality Care Accredited Pharmacy and a member of The Pharmacy Guild of Australia. We have many services on offer:

- Pain management
- Webster packs
- Health checks and advice
- Medication checks
- NDSS diabetes scheme

Come in and talk to a Pharmacist to find out **WHAT WE CAN DO TO HELP YOU.**

Phone: (02) 6241 1506



The WCA Inc. particularly wishes to thank the Australian Catholic University (ACU), Signadou Campus in Watson, for printing this Newsletter as a community service.

The Campus has about 1,000 students and is conveniently located 5km from Canberra's city centre.

For more information on courses available please call them on 02 6209 1100—Mon to Fri 8:00 am – 5:00 pm or visit www.acu.edu.au.

Watson property sales

Ever wondered about house prices in Watson?

We've compiled a list of Watson sale prices for the period 1 October – 31 December 2016 for you.

Date	Address	Price =	Type
02/11/2016	83 Irvine Street	\$945,000	House
12/11/2016	24 Mary Kitson Street	\$940,000	House
22/12/2016	27 Blair Street	\$858,000	House
23/11/2016	321 Antill Street	\$840,000	House
23/12/2016	13 Burnside Street	\$785,000	House
26/11/2016	22 Kerferd Street	\$780,000	House
04/11/2016	11 Dodds Place	\$740,000	House
10/10/2016	20 Bettie McNee Street	\$700,000	House
29/10/2016	15 Burnside Street	\$690,000	House
21/12/2016	10 Dobson Street	\$650,000	House
03/11/2016	32 Simpson Street	\$565,000	Land
08/12/2016	87/215 Aspinall Street	\$625,000	Townhouse
19/12/2016	10/14 Federal Highway	\$452,000	Townhouse
13/12/2016	131/395 Antill Street	\$409,950	Apartment
10/10/2016	7/23 Aspinall Street	\$350,000	Apartment
21/12/2016	15/35 Tay Street	\$325,000	Apartment
17/10/2016	7/62 Knox Street	\$248,000	Apartment
31/10/2016	1/18 Whitmore Crescent	\$370,000	Unit
22/12/2016	6/20 Federal Highway	\$330,000	Unit
12/10/2016	11/8 Irvine Street	\$190,000	Unit

The contents of this list and other ACT house sale prices and information are freely published online.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General meeting of the WCA Inc. will be held on Thursday, **16 March 2017**.

All welcome.

Please consider joining the WCA Inc., it's free and a simple way to contribute to your local community.

Membership and nomination forms can be obtained from the Secretary, Gillian Helyar, on 0404 915 449.

Our new logo

With the financial support of the North Canberra Community Council, the WCA Inc. engaged Donna from Capital Design to create a logo for us.

Our new logo appears on page 1.

What do you think?

The WCA Inc. hopes that through the consistent use of our logo we will build recognition of our role and the work we do.

Hints for your autumn garden – with Cedric Bryant

This summer has been the hottest on record. As I write this in early February we can still expect more 30-40 degree days. The great winter and early spring rains lulled us into a sense of false security, with hot weather to continue at least until March.

Standing with a hand-held hose watering your plants is *a complete waste of time* and will just give you an increased water bill. Drip irrigation systems cannot be beaten. If you must use the old-fashioned sprinkler on the end of the hose, give the garden a really good soaking once a week. Leave the hose on for at least an hour to enable the water to soak down to the roots. Dig a few holes to see how far the water has penetrated. However, plants in pots must be watered every day.

Whilst the heat persists *do not even think about trimming* any plants, shrubs, hedges etc. This will expose the tender new growth that will almost instantly be burnt off by the sun. Likewise, if leaves have already been burnt *definitely no cutting back* until cooler autumn weather.

Finally, autumn is feeding time for all plants applying March to May with certified organic plant food, not chemical fertilizers. For weekly information on what to do in the garden including plant food recommendations, read my weekly garden page in the *Canberra CityNews*, great gardening advice for free.



Report Summernats 2017

As the WCA Inc. representative for this event, I was once again afforded the opportunity to set foot behind the fence at Summernats 30.

I attended operational meetings on Friday and Saturday evenings. I heard first-hand about the day to day running of the event and provided feedback as to the impact on our suburb. As in previous years I found the organisers to be cordial and interested in what I had to say.

Attendance was the highest it has ever been, this being reflected to a certain extent by an increase in illegal parking in streets closest to EPIC despite obvious signage. The weather was kind throughout the weekend with a light breeze to dissipate the burnout pollution and to some extent the noise. Historically this tends to be the major issue affecting Watson residents. There were no reported incidents of antisocial behaviour however there was evidence of burnout activity in suburban streets. Litter along the Northbourne Avenue verge was attended to promptly by the relevant service authority.

The event has a polarising effect on Watson residents. As the suburb most impacted it is a positive outcome that there is a forum where residents views can be represented and acted upon.

Rod Lestone