



TUGGERANONG  
COMMUNITY COUNCIL

# VALLEY VOICE

Tuggeranong Community Council Newsletter

Issue 18: August 2012

## New Town Centre speed limits



An example of the 40km/h speed limit signage that will be used in the Town Centre

The ACT Government will introduce 40km/h speed limits in the Tuggeranong Town Centre by December 2012.

The 40km/h speed limit will apply in an area bounded by Athllon Drive, Reed Street North, Anketell Street and Pitman Street where there are high levels of pedestrian activity throughout the day.

The Government says the new speed limit is being introduced to improve safety for pedestrians, cyclists and other road users.

It says research has found that a 10km/h decrease in speed can re-

duce the risk of death from approximately 80% at 50km/h to 30% at 40km/h which is a 50% reduction in the risk of death for pedestrians and cyclists.

***“implementation of the new speed limits will have little or no impact on existing businesses”***

Signage and traffic calming treatments will be installed throughout the area to create a self-enforcing 40km/h precinct.

The Government says implementation of the new speed limits will have

little or no impact on existing businesses.

Pilot 40km/h precincts were implemented in Gungahlin and Woden Town Centres in 2011. The Government says these projects were recently evaluated and found to have been successful in improving safety and encouraging cycling and walking.

The 40km/h speed limit in Tuggeranong Town Centre will operate 24 hours a day. Evaluation of the new speed limits will occur after the first six months to determine suitability of the boundaries and hours of operation.

The public is being invited to provide feedback on the new Tuggeranong Town Centre speed limits online through [www.timetotalk.act.gov.au](http://www.timetotalk.act.gov.au) or via email to [roads@act.gov.au](mailto:roads@act.gov.au). Submissions close on Friday, 21 September 2012.

### **TCC Annual General Meeting Tuesday, 4 September 2012**

All financial members of the Tuggeranong Community Council are invited to attend the Council's Annual General Meeting to be held on Tuesday, 4 September 2012. The meeting will commence at 7.30pm, upstairs at the Tuggeranong Southern Cross Club, cnr Pitman and Holwell Streets, Greenway.

For more information visit [www.tuggcc.com](http://www.tuggcc.com) or phone 0431 235970.

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## Solar farms for Valley

The ACT Government and National Capital Authority are considering sites for two solar farms in the Tuggeranong Valley.

The sites identified are at Hume and Williamsdale and they are just two of a number of locations being considered for solar generation in the ACT.

The Williamsdale site is alongside the Monaro Highway and land at the corner of Isabella Drive and the Monaro Highway at Hume has been identified as the second location.

This Hume land was previously earmarked for a gas fired power station and data centre and the planned project was the target of strong objections from residents. The land is currently used as horse-paddocks and managed by the Government Horse Paddocks Users Group.

A spokesman for the developer is reported as saying his client wanted to build the proposed solar farm on two parcels fronting the Monaro Highway and did not believe it would affect the horse paddocks or the planned new Southern Cemetery.

Earlier this year the ACT Government called on renewable energy companies to bid to provide large-scale solar energy to Canberra. Companies were invited to submit proposals for up to 40 megawatts.

A spokesman for Environment and Sustainable Development Minister, Simon Corbell, is reported as saying there is a shortlist of 22 companies seeking to provide the first stage of up to 20 megawatts. Public comments close on 21 September 2012 on the proposed Williamsdale Solar Farm.

## Mura re-opens



Joy Burch MLA at the reopening of Mura Lanyon Youth and Community Centre with L to R Benjamin Kane, Monica Mills, Madison Parrott and Ben Foley.

ACT Minister for Community Services and Member for Brindabella, Joy Burch, recently opened the refurbished Mura Lanyon Youth and Community Centre in Conder.

Ms Burch said the \$1.5 million upgrade will allow the YWCA to continue to provide support, youth services, training and advocacy to the people in Tuggeranong,

She said the refurbishment of the Centre includes a community café, a dedicated food service shop, a new community meeting room, storage and a garage for the community bus.

“The food service shop will distribute food to low income families,” Ms Burch said.

“The YWCA operates a range of services from the Mura Lanyon Youth and Community Centre including community development, youth services, housing support, family support, training as well as advocacy and organisational support.”

“The refurbishment will allow the YWCA to continue to provide such supportive services,” she concluded.

Source: Media Release

### Tuggeranong Community Council acknowledges its supporters.

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## Libs give bins green light

The Canberra Liberals have promised to introduce 'Green Bins' at no additional cost if they are elected to office in October.

Opposition Leader, Zed Seselja, said the Canberra Liberals are committed to reducing garden waste in landfills and giving residents better local services.

"That's why a Canberra Liberals Government would give Canberra households a Green Bin for garden waste, as is provided in Queanbeyan, Sydney, and Wollongong," he said.

"We would also provide a capital grant of \$10 million for the construction of a garden waste processing facility," he said.

Mr. Seselja said the initiative would save Canberra home owners up to \$400 a year in green waste collection services.

"The green waste would be mulched and sold, offsetting the cost of collection. The policy will cost approximately \$5.5 million per year," he said.

*Source: Media Release*

## Aust Post fails to deliver again

Despite pressure from residents, the Tuggeranong Community Council and politicians of all political persuasions, Australia Post has again rejected calls for a post box in East Greenway.

The latest snub has come in the form of a letter to Member for Canberra, Gai Brodtmann.

Ms Brodtmann approached Australia Post calling for the installation of a post box on behalf of Greens Member for Brindabella, Amanda Bresnan and Greenway residents.

Australia Post has responded saying after its investigations it had determined there was no need for a post box in East Greenway because residents could access a post box in Newman Morris Circuit Oxley or they could give prepaid post to their postman while on his rounds.

It says it believes the current arrangement best suits the needs of the greater community.

However, Australia Post says it will review the request should the needs and structure of East Greenway change in the future.

## ABC personality to host TCC Election Forum



*ABC Radio Canberra personality, Genevieve Jacobs.*

*(Photo ABC)*

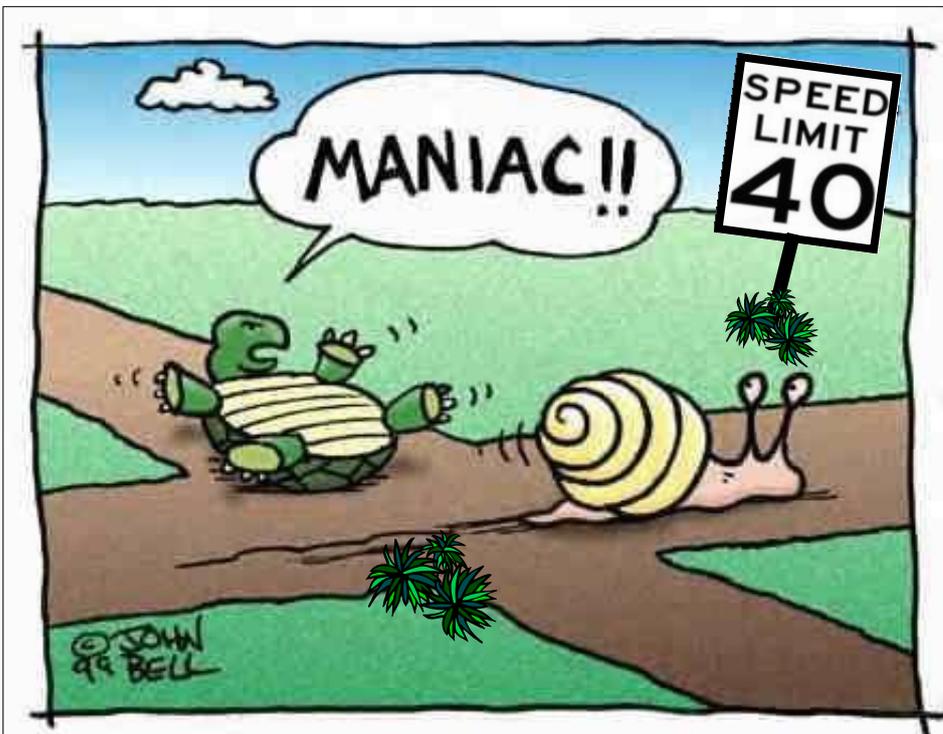
Canberra ABC Radio personality, Genevieve Jacobs, will host the Tuggeranong Community Council's 2012 ACT Election Forum.

The Forum will be held at the Tuggeranong Arts Centre at 137 Reed Street, Greenway on Wednesday, 12 September 2012 commencing at 7.00pm. All ACT Election candidates for the seat of Brindabella have been invited to participate.

The Forum will be run along the lines of the ABC's Q&A program with questions coming from the audience and via Twitter. The event will also be broadcast live on the TCC's website.

Genevieve is well known in the Canberra community and hosts the afternoon radio talk program on ABC 666 Canberra. She has worked as a rural journalist and written for national gardening and fine arts magazines, and lectured widely on artists and their gardens.

**Anyone wishing to attend the TCC Election Forum is advised to reserve seating by contacting the Tuggeranong Arts Centre Theatre on 6293 1443.**



# “Lake closed more than any other”



Closure and health warning signs have become a common sight around Lake Tuggeranong.

“Lake Tuggeranong, closed more than any other Lake.” That was the message from Dr Ian Falconer in his recent talk at the second ‘Save Lake Tuggeranong’ Forum.

More than 50 people attended a community forum on Wednesday, 22 August, organised by the Southern ACT Catchment Group to hear more about the health of Lake Tuggeranong.

A DVD produced by the President of the Tuggeranong Community Council was screened graphically showing issues of rubbish and images of blue green algae outbreaks around the Lake.

Dr Falconer spoke about the potential adverse health impacts of Blue Green Algae, commenting that Lake Tuggeranong was closed more often than any other Lake in the ACT.

His address was followed by Jennie Gilles, former coordinator of Sullivan's Creek Catchment. She spoke about issues in the North of Canberra and how the community got together to develop a plan to overcome the problems.

Plans were presented and the ACT government acted upon them, developing a series of wetlands in the north.

Attendees then collaboratively worked together on issues of *Who* should be involved in such a program; *What* should we do and *How* we should do it.

The *Who* included Local Community Groups, Sporting Groups, Schools and Colleges, Local Businesses and Local Residents. It was also felt that the ACT Government, ACTEW Water, federal and local politicians, the media should become involved. It was also felt that we needed to try to get on board local experts and local champions.

The *What* covered the same areas mentioned in the July meeting: Planning, Cleanups, Wetlands and raising community awareness.

It was felt we should form a new group, to be called TLC, later TLCC for Tuggeranong Lake & Catchment Carers, who would work to develop an Action Plan to be presented to government.

Attendees felt that we could start with an emphasis on cleaning up around the Lake and adding that Gross pollution traps be better monitored and cleaned.

They continued to support the ideas of developing a wetland system to take pressure off the lake and filter water upstream, particularly important as Lake Tuggeranong is a drinking water catchment. Last but not least, it was stressed that we need to continue to raise awareness of the problems of the lake to residents, businesses, schools and government employees who work in the area.

The *How* led to people coming up with ideas to achieve the above. These included : Creating the TLCC and developing such programs as Adopt a section of the Lake.

It was felt there should be more regular cleanup days and we should look at the series of wetlands developed in the north to learn lessons about how to organise them along the creeks leading into Lake Tuggeranong to filter the water leading into the Lake.

Again, community awareness was also stressed as was the need to publicise and get the word out further to the community.

So in essence this meeting achieved the desired result:

- The public was informed health issues connected to the lake.
- They learnt what others have done in the north, so they know it can be done.
- They became united and volunteered to form a committee, the TLCC to develop a charter and an Action Plan to solve the problem. It may take many years to solve but we are now on the path.

Glenys Patulny  
Chair  
Southern ACT  
Catchment Group

## Govt accused of downgrading environment

The ACT Greens claim the recent downgrading of the Commissioner for the Environment's job classification as yet another attempt by the Government to weaken the office's important oversight role.

Greens Environment Spokesperson, Shane Rattenbury, says the position has been downgraded while other senior executive positions in ACT Directorates are being upgraded. He says other Government actions are also undermining the Commissioner.

He says the failure to release the 2009 review into the role, and the reluctance to table reports authored by the Commissioner – including on energy use in ACT Government directorates – are only two further examples of the Government undermining the role of the Commissioner.

"On top of this, we've seen a series of weak or non-existent responses to many of the Commissioner's recommendations, including the 2010 Investigation into the Government's tree management practices and the 2011 Canberra Nature Park Investigation," Mr Rattenbury said.

"The Government's behaviour to date suggests that it either feels threatened by the Commissioner's oversight powers or it simply doesn't care enough about environmental sustainability to take the office's work seriously," he said.

Source: Media Release

## Libs oppose gaol needle exchange

Canberra Liberals say the ACT Chief Minister's announcement that she will establish a needle exchange at the ACT gaol gives Canberrans a clear choice at the upcoming election in October.

ACT Shadow Health and Corrections Minister, Jeremy Hanson, said a vote for Labor or the Greens is a vote for a needle exchange at the gaol and only a vote for the Canberra Liberals will prevent this flawed policy.

Mr Hanson said the ACT Government's own report found that a needle exchange will lead to the 'quasi-legalisation of drug use within the correctional centre' (*Hamburger Report 12.1*) and this is now a major point of difference between the parties as we go into the election.

Mr Hanson said Labor and the Greens support the quasi-legalisation of drugs at the ACT Gaol and the Canberra Liberals don't.

"Given 75 per cent of prisoners are in gaol for drug-related crimes, we have a golden opportunity to break their cycle of drug dependency while they are in gaol."

"A needle exchange simply condones and maintains their ongoing drug use and will see prisoners released with the same drug habits that led to their crimes," Mr Hanson said.

Source: Media Release

## More community gardens

The ACT Government has promised to fund more community gardens if re-elected on 20 October.

Fourteen community gardens are already operating in the ACT.

The ACT Labor Government says if re-elected in 2012, it will fund 10 more community gardens across Canberra with an additional \$200,000 over four years in capital funding through a new Community Garden Funding Program.

Source: Media Release

## ALP promises Wi-Fi

Tuggeranong Town Centre will be the first to 'go hot' under a plan announced by the ACT Labor Party to provide free Wi-Fi in Canberra's town centres if re-elected in October.

ACT Labor has announced it will invest \$2.9 million in funding to provide free Wi-Fi in Canberra's town centres, bus interchanges and on all ACTION buses with Tuggeranong Town Centre the first in the rollout.

It says this will not only make doing business in Canberra even easier and further cement Canberra's business friendly reputation, it will help connect our students with their educational facilities, and the services they need on the go.

Source: Media Release



## Burn right tonight

Smoke from domestic wood heaters is the largest source of air pollution in Canberra. Woodsmoke pollution is an environmental issue and is linked to a number of serious health conditions.

Using your wood heater correctly, will improve our air quality, save you money and keep your home warm this winter.

For hints on reducing smoke pollution and saving money visit [www.environment.act.gov.au](http://www.environment.act.gov.au) or call Canberra Connect 13 22 81.

### Tips for better burning:

- Burn dry, well-seasoned, untreated wood.
- Use plenty of kindling to start a hot fire quickly.
- Open the air control fully when starting your fire.
- Use smaller logs to maintain a vigorous fire.
- Don't let your heater smoulder overnight.

# Head to Head — Ban the Bag Ban?



The Canberra Liberals support sensible environmental measures, but don't believe rhetoric should rule logic when it comes to government decision making. We looked at all of the evidence behind the plastic bag ban, and it just didn't stack up.

That's why if elected, we'll overturn the ban and give choice back to businesses and customers. Local and international research

shows the use of plastic bags doesn't have the environmental affects that have been used to support the ban. We believe this research shows the ban was premature and based on perceptions rather than evidence.

When asked whether shopping bags were an environmental issue, our local Environmental Protection Agency responded they *'cannot say it has been one of any great significance.'*

Britain's Environmental Protection Agency found that shoppers would have to use the same cotton bag every working day for a year to have a lesser impact than a lightweight plastic bag.

The Productivity Commission, found that *'based on the evidence available to the Commission, it appears that the Australian, State and Territory Governments do not have a sound case for proceeding with their proposed phase out of plastic retail carry bags.'* The ACT Chamber of Commerce calls the ban *'a solution looking for a problem.'*

In South Australia, bin liner sales have doubled the national average

since free plastic shopping bags were banned more than two years ago.

Yet despite these facts, the ban is met with the severest of penalties. Shopkeepers who don't charge for bags can be fined \$27,500 - as big a criminal offence as selling alcohol to a minor or taking a minor to a brothel.

Under a Canberra Liberal Government, businesses which have adapted to the ban and would like to continue charging for bags are welcome to do so. But if they don't, they won't be lumped with an unreasonably hefty penalty.

Our commitment to overturn the ban is about bringing sense and evidence back to government decision making. Perception shouldn't trump outcomes, and shoppers and businesses shouldn't be adversely affected because of over regulation in an area where there is no environmental benefit.

*Zed Seselja MLA  
Member for Molonglo  
Leader of the Opposition*



The ACT Greens support the plastic bag ban. It has been ACT Greens policy for a number of years and has been implemented due to the ALP-Greens Parliamentary agreement.

The ACT Greens see plastic bags as an environmental problem, not only in terms of the waste and pollution that comes from their use but also

because they are made from fossil fuels. Australia uses about 4 billion plastic shopping bags a year, throwing away more than 7000 bags a minute. Millions of them become litter where they pollute waterways and injure wildlife. A car could also drive about the equator 1275 times using the petroleum used to produce the plastic bags Australians use in a year.

A number of places around Australia have had plastic bag bans in place for several years so in banning plastic bags the ACT is just following the rest of Australia.

Coles Bay in Tasmania was the first town in Australia to ban plastic bags back in 2003. South Australia introduced a ban in 2009, with Northern Territory and the ACT following in 2011. Tasmania has just decided to ban plastic bags.

Research by the University of South Australia showed that the SA ban was well received by the community and achieved positive changes. Nine in 10 shoppers took reusable bags to do their shopping, compared to about six in 10 before the ban took effect.

In the absence of any monitoring on plastic bag use by the ACT Government, the ACT Greens conducted their own survey with a number of supermarkets across the ACT. Findings showed that there has been an overall reduction in plastic bags since the introduction of the ban with most supermarkets saying they thought the plastic bag ban was working well.

Ian Kiernan, Chairman of 'Clean Up Australia' agreed with the ACT Greens' environmental concerns

*Continued on page 7*

From page 6

about plastic bags on ABC Canberra talkback radio recently when he was asked what he thought about the ACT Liberal's promise to repeal the plastic bag ban if they became Government in the upcoming ACT Election in October.

Ian said "Well let's hope they don't win – because plastic is made largely from oil and a very small amount of plastic singlet bags get recycled, they go to landfill. We are squandering our oil reserves and again we've got to change our behavior."

The ACT Greens see the need to reduce waste and improve environmental outcomes for the ACT and are glad to see that the ACT community has taken up the challenge of a plastic bag ban.

*Caroline Le Couteur MLA  
ACT Greens Spokesperson for  
Planning, Territory and Municipal  
Services. Member for Molonglo.*

## Traffic hazards



*Traffic islands installed in front of the bus stop in Benham Street Chisholm*

The Tuggeranong Community Council (TCC) has expressed concerns over traffic flow following the installation of traffic islands.

TCC President, Darryl Johnston, has raised the issue with Director Roads ACT, Tony Gill. Mr Johnston said the traffic islands installed in front of bus stops in Benham Street, Chisholm and Clift Crescent, Richardson are traffic hazards. He said they block traffic every time a bus pulls up at the stops.

Mr Gill has agreed to investigate the issue.

## C@W CEO addresses TCC

Communities@Work Chief Executive Officer, Lynne Harwood, will be guest speaker at the next meeting of the Tuggeranong Community Council.

Ms Harwood will address the Council on the role of one of the largest community service organisations in the ACT.

She has extensive experience in the not-for-profit sector having previously served as CEO of Galilee Inc,

an organisation supporting disadvantaged children and youth, and CEO of Home Help Services ACT Inc, which provided in-home support to 3,500 elderly and disabled clients.

The meeting will be held on Tuesday, 4 September commencing at 7.30pm in the upstairs formal dining room of the Southern Cross Club at Greenway.

It will be followed by the TCC Annual General Meeting.

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## Video shows Tralee under flight path

Canberra Airport has released a video graphic it says confirms the proposed Tralee residential development is under a flight path.

Canberra Airport has posted the video and an accompanying statement on its website at; [http://www.canberraairport.com.au/air\\_noise/noise\\_NoResidentialAtTralee.cfm](http://www.canberraairport.com.au/air_noise/noise_NoResidentialAtTralee.cfm)

The statement says Village Building Company Executive General Manager for Land Development, Ken Ineson, is reported in the *Sydney Morning Herald* on 7 July 2012 as saying "it was completely false to argue the development jeopardised the airport's expansion plans.

The Statement says Mr. Ineson is further reported as saying, "Tralee was not under 'a designated flight path' and the proposed suburb would have fewer over flights than most of Sydney."

The Canberra Airport statement warns "residential development proposed at Tralee would be within the High Noise Corridor, directly under a Standard Instrument Departure flight path."

It says if people were to live at Tralee under this departure flight path they would:

- experience significant aircraft noise;
- insist aircraft fly over the homes of others; and
- call for operational constraints to be placed on the Airport.

"Canberra Airport, airlines, and the ACT and Australian Governments are opposed to residential development under flight paths at Tralee because we know from years of experience that aircraft flying over homes presents a poor outcome for residents and they will complain and lobby for noise sharing," the statement concludes.

## 55Plus Club plans seniors courses

The Tuggeranong 55Plus Club Management Committee has had positive discussions with University of the Third Age over possible courses being run in the Tuggeranong Seniors Centre, and efforts are also being made to organize a weekly Fitness activity for our members.

Plans are in hand for the Combined Seniors Day, to be held at the Seniors Centre on Sunday, 28 October. The Seniors Clubs will provide a variety of tasty food for lunch and there will be a wide range of activities for all to enjoy. We look forward

to showing off our beautiful Club rooms, in the delightful setting in the park beside Lake Tuggeranong.

Our active Social Committee has planned a number of events, from our usual Social Sundays on the last Sunday of each month, another Country Music Night, a trip to the Tulip Farm and a Melbourne Cup Day Lunch.

*Maggie Watts  
Publicity Officer  
55Plus Club  
Management Committee*



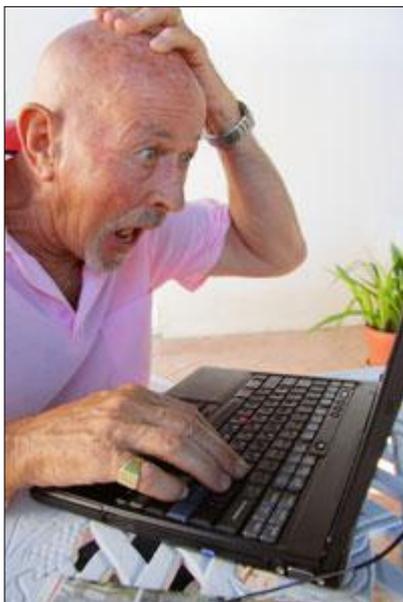
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## Off Beat

### Silver surfers



Many seniors experience problems with new technologies and especially personal computers.

One day 75-year-old silver surfer, George, had a problem with his new PC. He called Tom, the 11 year old next door, whose bedroom looks like Mission Control. George asked him to come over.

Tom clicked a couple of buttons and immediately solved the problem. As he was walking away, George called after him, 'So, what was wrong?'

He replied, 'It was an I-D- ten-T error.'

George didn't want to appear stupid, but nonetheless inquired, 'An, I-D-ten-T error? What's that? In case I need to fix it again.'

Young Tom grinned ... 'Haven't you ever heard of an I-D-ten-T error before?'

'No,' George replied.

'Write it down,' he said, 'and I think you'll figure it out.'

So George wrote down,

**"ID10T"**



- Sept** 4: TCC Annual General Meeting, 7.30pm Tuggeranong Southern Cross Club
- 9: Lions Club, Tuggeranong Homestead Markets
- 12: TCC ACT Election Forum Tuggeranong Arts Centre
- 15: [Floriade opens.](#)
- 25: [Tuggeranong Festival](#) planning meeting, 6.30pm Tuggeranong Library
- Oct** 2: TCC General Meeting, 7.30pm Tuggeranong Southern Cross Club
- 14: Lions Club, Tuggeranong Homestead Markets
- 27: [Canberra Nara](#) Candle Festival
- 30: [Tuggeranong Festival](#) planning meeting, 6.30pm Tuggeranong Library
- Nov** 6: TCC General Meeting, 7.30pm Tuggeranong Southern Cross Club
- 16 to 18: Canberra Country [Music Festival](#), Hall Grounds
- 23 Nov to 2 Dec: [Tuggeranong Festival](#)
- Dec** 1: [Tuggeranong Festival](#) Family Day. Tuggeranong Town Park
- 4: TCC General Meeting, 7.30pm Tuggeranong Southern Cross Club
- 2013**
- Jan** 1: [Centenary of Canberra](#)
- Feb** 5: TCC General Meeting, 7.30pm Tuggeranong Southern Cross Club

## Valley Voice



Tuggeranong Community Council's newsletter, *Valley Voice* is designed to inform Valley residents of issues that impact on them and to act as a vehicle for other community groups and organisations to communicate with residents.

*Valley Voice* is produced on a regular basis and is circulated amongst TCC members and friends. If you wish to receive copies of *Valley Voice* in the future please email [info@tuggcc.com](mailto:info@tuggcc.com).

Meanwhile, if you have articles or images you wish to contribute to *Valley Voice* please email them to [info@tuggcc.com](mailto:info@tuggcc.com) by the 20th of each month.

Please feel free to pass *Valley Voice* on to those who you think may be interested in its contents.

*Valley Voice* is published by the Tuggeranong Community Council (TCC). Material in this publication comes from a variety of community and government based sources and therefore does not necessarily reflect the views of the TCC.

Material submitted to the TCC for inclusion in *Valley Voice* may be subject to editorial changes. Material that includes dates, times and contact details is correct at the time of publishing. Therefore, the TCC cannot be held responsible if it is not informed of any changes to that information prior to publication.

Tuggeranong Community Council.  
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W: [www.tuggcc.com](http://www.tuggcc.com)

*Tuggeranong Community Council Inc. (TCC) is an incorporated, voluntary, not for profit, non political, community based association operating within the Tuggeranong district of the Australian Capital Territory.*

*TCC is formally recognised as the peak community representative body in Tuggeranong promoting the goals and aspirations of local residents and other community groups and organisations within the Tuggeranong Valley. TCC receives partial funding from the ACT Government.*