# My Ginninderry Journal

ISSUE 12, AUTUMN 2023

#### Hello!

I hope you have all been able to enjoy a restful Christmas and New Year period in what has been a relatively cool summer.

Since the first Community Workshop last October, we have since held a further workshop about Roads, Traffic and Parking in January, and will be running another in March which will be a more hands-on workshop where we will ask for your input on the proposed Temporary Dog Park and Community Garden. We hope you can join us on Wednesday 15 March from 6-8pm for this. Complimentary childcare and supper will again be provided.

We continue to have a wonderful community program running at Ginninderry. If you haven't yet tried Fitness in the Park, Afrofusion, Yoga (kids, teens and adults!), choir, a Canberra Environment Centre workshop or even one of our Repair Cafes, then this may be the year to try something new. You can find details for all our local activities on the What's On page on our website.

#### Tulitha King



#### **Construction updates**

#### **TELSTRA TOWER**

ServiceStream, the company delivering the telecommunications tower on behalf of Telstra, has informed us that the tower is expected to be operational by 28 March 2023. For further information, please contact Paticha Vilaihongs (ServiceStream Project Manager) at 08 7071 9614 or paticha.vilaihongs@servicestream.com.au.

#### STRATHNAIRN PRIMARY SCHOOL

An Estate Development Plan (EDP), Development application has been submitted to the Planning Authority to create the school block, open space block and adjoining road connection. The purpose of this application is to create the appropriate zoning so the pond can be managed and ACT Education can proceed with their Development Application for the design of the future Strathnairn Primary School. Ginninderry first consulted on this EDP in February 2022 and held additional consultation sessions in February 2023 to hear from the community. The public representations received during the public notification period will be considered by the Planning Authority.

Should this Development Application be approved, the ACT Education Directorate will submit a separate DA for the development of the school, at which point the community will have the opportunity to comment on proposed design outcomes.

#### MACNAMARA

There has been good progress over the last two months with Stage 1A earthworks now complete and underground services being installed. Stage 1B is also nearing earthworks completion and underground services will commence in March. Stage 1D works have also now commenced.

#### **FUTURE PLAY SPACES**

Some open spaces around the suburb are currently fenced while they go through the handover process with the ACT Government. We cannot guarantee that the areas are suitable for use until Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS) completes its process.

#### **SUBURB MAINTENANCE**

As suburbs are constructed and landscaped, assets are transferred to the ACT Government. All completed roads, verges and public areas are generally managed by TCCS, even before owners start building. As in any suburb, any infrastructure (e.g., footpaths), parking, traffic, noise and other matters should be brought to the attention of TCCS through Access Canberra (www.accesscanberra. act.gov.au). While Ginninderry strives to deliver a high-quality suburb, we are not permitted to act on matters under the government's authority.

#### Suburb savvy

#### **Fencing**

A continual reminder that once you've purchased your block, ownership passes to you, and it is no longer the responsibility of the developer. To ensure your block is protected and to reduce dumping on your site, we recommend installing fencing around your block ASAP. If you need assistance finding a fencing provider, please don't hesitate to contact myself or the sales team.

#### Verges

In the ACT the verge is the responsibility of the residents. This includes grass areas and where there are planted areas & trees. You can find out more about this on the Access Canberra website. We encourage you to maintain your verge to keep Strathnairn beautiful!

#### Rubbish

In Strathnairn, waste collection happens on Thursdays. If you are having difficulties with pick-up, contact Suez on 02 6260 1547. Also, make sure to bring your bins in after they have been emptied.

If you notice any illegal dumping, please contact Access Canberra on 13 22 81.

#### Traffic

If you notice any ongoing issues regarding traffic around Strathnairn, please note the time and location and report the issue to Fix My Street. Drake Brockman Drive can get busy with construction traffic, if you can remind your builder to be mindful of other users of this road, it would assist those living on this primary connector road.

#### **Keep Active**

Ginninderry has been designed to prioritise pedestrians and cyclists with wide paths allowing good connectivity across the suburb. There are electric bikes for hire (free for the first two hours) at The Link building. Go to ginninderry.bykko.net to log in to the hire service.

# What's Happening at Strathnairn Arts Association

#### SHOP LOCAL

Buy studio work directly from artists of Strathnairn. Featuring a selection of glass, ceramics, textiles, stone, wood, jewellery and works on paper.

All works are of original design and handmade in Canberra.



#### WORKSHOPS

Strathnairn Arts hosts a number of workshops over the year including kids activities, adult classes and artist workshops - keep up-to-date at strathnairn.com.au/workshops-2023

#### **BRONZE CASTING COURSE**

15 to 16 and 22 to 23 April

Join artist Alex Kosmas in this four-day workshop (across two weekends). Each individual in this intimate class (five students max) will learn the different aspects in casting a small bronze sculpture. Students at any skill level are welcome.

Register your interest info@strathnairn.com.au

Artwork by G.W. Bot

#### **COMING EXHIBITIONS**



#### SHORELINES | AMELIA MOLLETT

Homestead Gallery 1 | 15 February to 12 March 2023

Using collage and mixed media, Mollett explores how the natural world can mirror her emotions.

Image: Amelia Mollett, Shoreline 1, 2, 3 (2022), acrylic and collage on canvas, 40.5 x 91.5 cm.

#### THE HEARTLAND | CASSANDRA DOVE

Homestead Gallery 2 | 15 February to 12 March 2023

Inspired by a recent visit to Uluru and Kata Tjuta National Park, Dove's abstract representations celebrate the Central Australian landscape.

Image: Cassandra Dove, Sky Dance 3 (2022), acrylic and mixed media on canvas, 30 x 30 cm.

### GLIMPSES OF CANBERRA IN PAINT AND POETRY | ARLENE WILLIAMS AND TONY WILLIAMS

Homestead Gallery 1 and 2 | 15 March to 9 April 2023

A collaboration between artist Arlene Williams and poet Tony Williams. Arlene's paintings in acrylic and watercolour of scenes around Canberra are paired with a response by Tony, who paints with words.

#### CHIAROSCURO | BELLA BLACK

Homestead Gallery 2 | 12 April to 7 May 2023

Mixing street edge with technical calibre, Chiaroscuro explores the inspirations of tattooist and emerging visual artist Bella Black.

#### ATMOSPHERE | CRAIG EDWARDS

Homestead Gallery 1

Inspired by the landscape over Wiradjuri and Ngunnawal country, Atmosphere is an exhibition of recent wood-fired work by ceramicist Craig Edwards





Go to Ginninderry's What's On page at <a href="www.ginninderry.com/whats-on/">www.ginninderry.com/whats-on/</a> to see all the programs on at Ginninderry. Please make sure you check the registration requirements for each program.

On the regular		
Tuesday, 6.30 – 7.30 pm	Songbirds of Belconnen Choir	The Link
Thursday 4.15 – 5 pm	Kids Yoga	The Link
Thursday, 7.15 – 8.15 pm	Yoga	The Link
Friday, 9.30 – 11 am	Playgroup	The Link
Saturday, 8 – 9 am	Afrofusion Dance & Drumming	The Link
Sunday, 8.30 – 9.30 am	Group Fitness Class	Paddys Park
Sunday, 7 – 8 pm	Soccer in the Park	Paddys Park
1st Sunday of every month, 1 – 3.30 pm	Repair Café	The Link

### Canberra Environment Centre workshops

MARCH 4 & 25 Create a Verge Garden APRIL Growing Your Own Mushrooms MAY Making Terrariums JUNE Zero Waste Cleaning











#### **Exhibiting at The Link**



#### STILL

Steven Bryant 28 February – 2 April

Steven Bryant presents a series of still life oil paintings that were completed towards the end of 2022. "The title refers to the still life painting style and the feeling of stillness and being present that painting has given to me."



#### **CRITTERS OF THE CORRIDOR**

Various Artists 4 April – 14 May

The Ginninderry Conservation Trust will be holding an art exhibition called 'Critters of the Corridor' at the Link building. We are excited to include artwork by local residents, including Strathnairn resident Jason Stainthorpe, as part of the show.



#### THE LINK BBQ

Al Phemister, Dinah Vandermeys & helpers 16 May – 19 June

In 2022 Ginninderry invited experienced visual artists to enliven the Ginninderry BBQ area and to engage the community in this process. This exhibition highlights the inputs of 2022 Year 9 and Kindergarten students from Kingsford Smith School and Gold Creek.



Ginninderry's Repair Café has been establishing itself at The Link and is building a community around the culture of fixing and mending.

Fixing and mending what you already own is an easy way to engage in a more sustainable lifestyle. It keeps things out of landfill and reduces the demand for new products, removing the pressure on manufacturing, resource and energy use.

All you need to do is save up your broken items – electrical, material or something else – and bring them along to the next Repair Café.

If you don't have anything to fix then come and learn a new skill! The talented women from the local Kippax Uniting Church also join in at the Repair Café and bring their knitting, crocheting or sewing to catch up on their own projects and are available to share their skills with anyone who is interested.



Find the Repair Café at The Link on the first Sunday of each month between 2 – 4pm. Grab a cuppa, have a chat and learn a new skill. What could be better on a Sunday afternoon?!

If you're also looking for a meaningful place to volunteer, talk to the team about how you could contribute.

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### Conservation Corridor

### Restoring and reviving farm dams in the Corridor

Since the end of 2022, the Trust has been working on a project which aims to restore and rehabilitate two farm dams located in the Conservation Corridor. This has involved various planting sessions by Ginninderry Trust staff and volunteers.

Planting native vegetation in and around farm dams has many benefits for both water quality and biodiversity. A well-vegetated dam can help reduce erosion, filter out excess nutrients, create structural diversity and provide food and habitat for native wildlife (including frogs and waterbirds!).

Different plant species have been planted in and around various parts of the dams. Native grasses such as weeping grass, tussock grass, and kangaroo grass are important in the inflow and spillway areas of a dam because they create dense ground cover which helps with drought resilience and keeping water clean. Semi-aquatic and aquatic plants such as softstem bullrush, common reeds and swamp lilies are important for shallow-water and deep-water zones because they provide excellent habitat for native wildlife and help shade dam water, providing a cooling effect that helps oxygen levels.

A large part of the project has involved excluding cattle from dam banks, allowing planted and current vegetation to grow without the impact of grazing, pugging, erosion and water pollution. The Trust is in the process of constructing a hardened access point on one of the dams which will provide the cattle access to water in one zone of the dam, excluding them from the rehabilitated dam banks. The second dam is fully fenced with no cattle access at all.

This project is ongoing, with continued maintenance required to ensure that the planted vegetation grows and is unaffected by cattle disturbance. In the coming years, these two exclusion methods will be monitored for success with the goal of improved water quality, well restored and revegetated dam banks and a thriving habitat for our native plants and animals.

Keep up with Trust news on their Facebook page: facebook.com/GinninderryTrust

From the Trust team

(Jason, Ange, Tyson, Rachel, Bridie, Kye, Leigh and Violet)



Did you know?

Did you know.... Gang-gang cockatoos' pair for life! They nest in the deep hollows of trees where pairs will usually return every year to breed. Keep your eyes and ears out for their distinctive red

heads, beautiful grey fluffy chests and their endearing "creaky gate" chatter on your next walk in the Conservation Corridor.

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# Meet the Neighbour!

Christine, Zac and their children, Liam & Kaya, moved from Sydney to Strathnairn one year ago for Christine's work as a nurse. They were looking for an affordable suburb in Canberra with a strong community spirit. Friends recommended Strathnairn and they were sold!

We love the space and the serenity. The green suburb with lots of nature and water among the houses reminds us of Africa where the houses are often surrounded by trees. It's just a beautiful place to live. We love getting involved in the community too, joining in on the Afrofusion classes, the early morning exercise classes and the community events at Paddys Park whenever we can. It's very important to us to be connected to our local community.

Every evening you might find us walking out in the suburb. Our children love to wave hello to people walking their dogs. It's very serene to walk past lawns being watered, enjoying the peaceful park and walking just down the road to our friend's houses. But our favourite thing is driving the children to daycare in the morning and seeing the cows and ducks. That is the best experience in Ginninderry. This also

reminds us of Africa where we could drive 30 minutes out of the city and see giraffes, zebra and warthogs just on the edge of the city. The cows are our favourite thing about Ginninderry!

In the future, we're looking forward to seeing how Ginninderry keeps developing. The sustainability improvements on our home changed our quality of life so much compared to where we lived previously. These days we sometimes don't even need to turn on the air conditioner, we are saving on our water bills because of our rainwater tank and are even paid by the electricity providers for the energy we generate! It's very reassuring to know that we are not wasting water or energy and still don't have to compromise on our lifestyle. "Today I baked a cake through the power of the sun," adds Christine, "how good is that!"

It's great to see more awareness of sustainability through good design. We love being a part of that and sharing our experiences. Some friends, in other suburbs, have even installed solar panels and had their homes retrofitted after being in our home.

For us, sustainability is about living harmoniously with our environment and looking after mother nature. After living in Ginninderry for over a year we now see the value of that and treasure it so much.



Meet the Neighbour is all about embracing and celebrating our friendly and diverse community. We would love to share your story as we build this community together. If you'd like to put your hand up for a future Meet the Neighbour use this QR code to submit your name and email and we'll be in touch.

We look forwarding to meeting you!



## Stay Connected

Stay up to date on Facebook and Instagram with what's happening around Ginninderry:

Ginninderry Resident:
Join the group Ginnindery Locals
(@ginninderylocals)

The Conservation Corridor: Ginninderry Conservation Trust (@ginninderrytrust)

**Ginninderry Community:** Ginninderry Community (@ginninderry)



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