

MyGinninderry Journal

ISSUE 13, WINTER 2023

Hello!

For the 13th edition of the Ginninderry Journal we have a special focus on our native fauna and flora neighbours. We are so fortunate to enjoy Ginninderry's beautiful natural setting, sunsets, views, walking tracks and scenery – but we must remember that there are some residents who have been here for much longer than us.

It's important that we get to know the creatures and species who call this place home so we can all live in respect and harmony with them, as well as each other. So, enjoy learning about the critters of the corridor and the natural environment in the urban areas and the Conservation area!

I'd also like to extend a welcome to our new Strathnairn residents. If you are new to the suburb, and if you haven't already collected your Welcome Bag, please contact us to organise a time – we'd love to meet you.

If you've been around a little longer, we'd love to hear from you! Please complete our '1 Year at Ginninderry' Survey, using the QR code below, to help us continue to serve our community as best we can.

1 Year at
Ginninderry
Survey →



Sadly, this is my final edition of the Ginninderry Journal. I have loved the past four years working at Ginninderry, helping to support the community as it grows. Ginninderry will soon be welcoming Jessica Buckland as Community Development and Resident Liaison Officer. I wish Jessica all the best and hope you make her feel at home, as you have for me.

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 mid-June 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 (DA) 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 its 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. This DA remains with the Planning Authority under assessment. Should this DA 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

Work is forging ahead despite April being the wettest month this year. Kerbs have commenced in Stage 1A, with asphalt planned for the coming months. Stage 1B earthworks are now complete and underground services are well underway. Stage 1D earthworks have commenced and are progressing well.

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 (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

Winter has arrived and so has our winter stock – choose from a wide range of locally handmade scarves, beanies, gloves and more. If you're new to Canberra, you might be looking at investing in a hot water bottle to keep your toes warm at night – we've got a lovely range of Alfie and May bottle covers upcycled from old woollen blankets that will help too!



WORKSHOPS

LIFE DRAWING WITH MARIE HAGERTY

Saturdays, 10am to 1 pm, 17 June to 5 August

Learn different approaches to drawing the figure, from the classical and historical to the contemporary with activities aimed at developing one's eye and observational skills to improve drawing techniques.



CAFÉ

Café Stepping Stone has released their new winter menu, and new seasonal hours – now open from 8.30 am to 3.30 pm.

EXHIBITIONS

GATHER IN THE SCENE | KATHLEEN POTTS

Woolshed Gallery | 3 to 25 June

Kathleen Potts presents a body of new work in paint and drawings in this solo exhibition exploring impermanency.

REVIVAL | FIONA RICHMOND

Homestead Gallery 1 | 7 June to 2 July

An inaugural exhibition by artist Fiona Richmond of bold, expressive and uplifting work exploring the colour and form of everyday objects and plant life.

COAST | SHARON GODDARD

Homestead Gallery 1 | 5 to 30 July

Sharon Goddard studies the coastline and open sea in her debut exhibition featuring works in pastel.

THE GIFT SHE GAVE | MEAGAN KOPATZ

Homestead Gallery 2 | 5 to 30 July

An exploration of the bond between family generations, Meagan Kopatz exhibition features works in watercolours and acrylics.

Sharing Resources

Have you ever wanted to share that dusty mower taking up space in your shed? Or a kayak you rarely use? You can – and earn a few dollars while you do. Rosella Street has been set up to help people share what they already own, helping to reduce waste and reduce unnecessary consumption. Search for the "Ginninderry Marketplace" under Community Groups to share locally.

Sign
Up →



The Urban Heat Island Effect: an explainer



The Urban Heat Island Effect. It's a term that you may have heard, but what does it actually mean?

The Urban Heat Island Effect (or UHIE) is the result of the surrounding environment absorbing or reflecting heat during the day. Studies have found that urban (built-up) areas are hotter than natural areas, as the hard surfaces of roads, roofs, gravel and concrete absorb heat from the sun.

As the temperature cools at night, these built-up areas retain their heat and cool down much, much slower than those areas with more trees, grasses and shrubs. This makes these areas hotter during the day. This effect has seen some inner city areas reaching above 50 degrees Celsius in summer – a heat that can be life-threatening!

SO, WHAT HAS GINNINDERRY DONE TO HELP IMPROVE OUR UHIE?

We've mandated light-coloured rooves to help reflect the sun's heat during the day.

We've also planted a significant number of trees that will eventually cover our roads, preventing them from absorbing so much sun.

We provide free landscaping for your home, creating cooler, greener front yards which help cool your home, saving your energy costs.

We've also kept important tree habitat areas. When we built the suburb, we retained 80% of all the existing trees. These areas, or 'pocket parks', have different planting treatments under them – some have mown, grassed areas underneath; others have been planted with shrubs or wildflowers. These plantings serve multiple functions: to increase biodiversity, provide habitat for the species who share our suburbs, cool the surrounding environment, keep people away from trees that might drop branches, and provide a peaceful environment to enjoy.

The water systems of rain gardens, ponds and dams through the suburb also help to reduce our UHIE. Water is a great cooler! Wind traveling across water cools down much faster than over grassland or hard surfaces. What's more, areas like Paddy's Park and Pro Hart Avenue which have large areas of grass are also irrigated, cooling them down even further!

Don't forget that the water that runs into our dams eventually makes its way into the Conservation Corridor, supplying

water and habitat for many, many creatures. You can help them by being careful about what you put down the storm water system (e.g. don't empty your engine oil into a stormwater vent).

HOW YOU CAN HELP

You can contribute to lowering the air temperature around your home by growing a garden!

Astroturf, gravel and concrete will all increase the temperature around your home, meaning your air conditioner will have to work harder to keep your house cool, and it will be less enjoyable in your own yard.

If you don't have a green thumb, there are lots of low-maintenance native plants that you could grow as groundcovers or small shrubs.

Don't forget that you also have a rainwater tank collecting free water that can be used to keep all of those plants alive! This will also help to save you money. And, if nothing else, a lawn or even mulch can really help keep your outdoor areas, and your home, cooler.

Stay Connected

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

Ginninderry Resident:
Join the group GinninderryLocals
(@ginninderylocals)

The Conservation Corridor:
Ginninderry Conservation Trust
(@ginninderrytrust)

Ginninderry Community:
Ginninderry Community
(@ginninderry)

What's On?

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

2023

Special Event

**Operation Food Rescue –
manage your food waste!**
Canberra Environment Centre workshop

WHEN
Wednesday
21 June

WHERE
The Link

TICKETS
Eventbrite →



On the regular

Tuesday 6.30pm – 7.30pm Songbirds of Belconnen Choir The Link

Wednesday 10am – 11am Kangatraining The Link

Thursda 4.15pm – 5pm Kids Yoga The Link

Thursday 7.15pm – 8.15pm Yoga The Link

Friday 9.30am – 11am Playgroup The Link

Saturday 8am – 9am Afrofusion Dance The Link

Sunday 8.30am – 9.30am Group Fitness Class Paddy's Park

Sunday 7.30pm – 8.30pm Soccer in the Park Paddy's Park

1st Sunday of every month 2 – 4pm Repair Café The Link

Save The Date

**Celebrate NAIDOC with the
Ginninderry Conservation Trust.**

Enjoy weaving, music and a damper seed workshop. Details will be released on their Facebook Page closer to the date.

facebook.com/GinninderryTrust

WHEN
9 July

WHERE
The Link

Continue to keep an eye on the What's On Page on the Ginninderry website or the Ginninderry Facebook page for upcoming events.

If you'd like to be added to our email list, feel free to reach out to community@ginninderry.com. We send out monthly emails with updates relevant to the community.

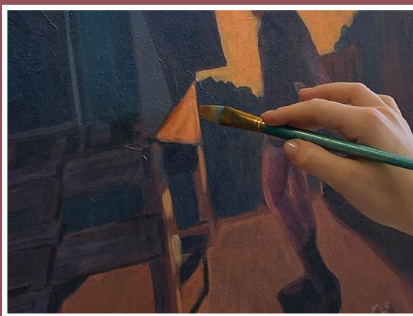
Exhibiting at The Link



THE LINK BBQ

Al Phemister, Dinah Vandermeys and helpers
16 May – 25 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. While you're visiting the exhibition, check out the new BBQ space at The Link!



CIT STUDENT EXHIBITION

CIT Students
27 June – 8 August

An exciting exhibition of Students from the Canberra Institute of Technology Certificate 4 and Diploma of Visual Arts programs. This exhibition will include Drawing, Painting, Print-making, Sculpture, Digital Art, Mixed Media.

Meet The Neighbour

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 forward to meeting you!



Snakes are another of our unique local creatures that are not well understood. Canberra Snake Catcher Gavin Smith is passionate about protecting and understanding snakes, and we invited him to share some facts about the common Eastern Brown & Red-Bellied Black Snake.

Both species are timid, curious and sensitive in nature, and their survival instincts make them keen to avoid an interaction with you and your domestic pets.

While they both are highly venomous, they would rather use their venom to immobilise and digest things to eat, such as rodents, frogs, lizards, small birds and snakes. The freshwater-loving Red Bellies will also eat fish! These snakes play a vital role in our ecosystems controlling native and introduced species' populations. They are also a source of food for predators further up the food chain.

It is important to be cautious of snakes as they can and will defend themselves if you encroach on their personal space or try to hurt or threaten them. If you see them around, give them lots of room and respect. They will move along voluntarily, as they are nomadic within their ranges.

These snakes are protected by law, and it is a criminal offence to injure or handle them. If you see one around your home, keep clear of its location and call a licensed snake catcher if they are causing a hazard or are injured.

If you are bitten, you will need to administer snake bite first aid and urgently seek emergency medical assistance as their venoms can have fatal consequences.

Gavin Smith is a local Snake Catcher who can be contacted through [actsnakeremovals.com](https://www.actsnakeremovals.com)

Conservation Corridor

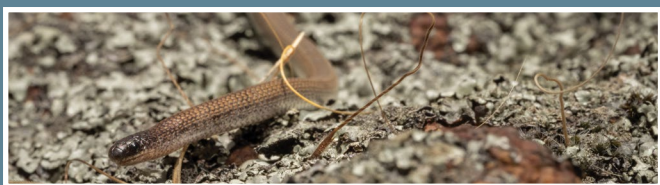
Meet the Neighbours in the Corridor!

The Conservation Corridor is home to many species, some of which are endangered. Protecting these is one of the reasons why dogs are not permitted within the Corridor and why Strathnairn is a Cat Containment suburb – meaning all cats must not go outside their premises. Meet some of these critters below.



TAWNY FROGMOUTH

Hello, my name is Tony, and I am a Tawny Frogmouth! Lots of people get me confused with an owl because of my nocturnal habits and owl-like appearance, but I am actually more closely related to the Nightjars. I get my name because I have a very wide and frog-like mouth to help me catch lots of insects! I have silver-grey feathers on my belly and head, but my wings are streaked and marked with spots of black and brownish red. During the day, you may see me perched on a tree branch, but make sure you look closely because my colourings make me very hard to see. I often choose broken tree branches and perch upon them with my head thrust upwards to emphasise its resemblance. I have been seen doing this in the gum trees around The Link dam, so make sure to keep an eye out! I am found in many types of habitats, including forests, woodlands, scrub and savannahs. I am abundant in my range, but we are often killed or injured on the roads while chasing insects to eat. Make sure you are careful at night-time not to hit us!

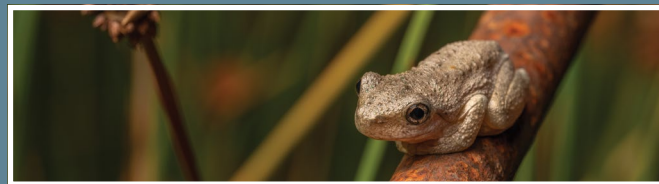


PINK-TAILED WORM-LIZARD

Hi, my name is Pinkie! I am a Pink-tailed Worm-lizard. Interesting name, I know, but it describes exactly what I look like! I am small enough to look like a worm, I have a pink tail, and I am a legless lizard (even though some people think I look like a snake). I live in burrows under surface rocks. The burrows are constructed by ants, and I feed on the eggs and larvae of the ants. I am a declared vulnerable species, meaning my population is under threat. This is why it is very important that I am taken care of! My biggest threat is the removal of rocks and loss of vegetation cover, so when you are in the Conservation Corridor next, make sure you leave rocks where they are. Luckily the Ginninderry Conservation Trust team is making sure I am protected, and my habitat is being expanded.

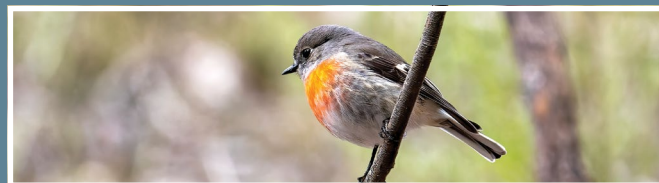
From the Trust team

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



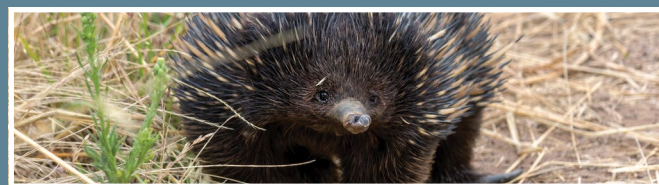
PERON'S TREE FROG

Hi, my name is Perry! I am a Peron's Tree Frog. I have dark green speckles on my back, with the rest of my body being grey or light brown – except for my thighs which are a bright yellow with black patches. Something impressive that I can do is change the colour of my body in seconds! Depending on temperature, time of day and humidity, I can appear brown, green or white. I can live in a variety of different habitats, including forests, woodlands, shrublands and open areas (often very far from water sources). I am the nosiest in November because it's in the middle of my breeding season! This is around this time you will see lots of us! Keep an eye out in your backyard, The Link dam or the downpipes in your house (I use them to amplify calls to potential mates).



SCARLET ROBIN

Hello! My name is Scarlet, and I am a Scarlet Robin! I am a small bird with a black head, a white forehead patch and white stripes on my wings. Females of my species are pale brown with a white throat. Males have a bright scarlet-red chest, and females have a dull reddish chest. We live in dry eucalypt forests and woodlands that have fallen logs and timber – these are very important components of our habitat because they have lots of insects and grubs in them that we like to eat. In spring and summer, I am mainly found at higher altitudes in the foothills of the ranges, in open forests and shrubby habitats. In autumn and winter, I like to move back to lowland woodlands at lower altitudes (keep an eye out for me in the Conservation Corridor during these seasons!). We are threatened by the loss of our open forest habitats, which means there are fewer places for us to breed and forage. This is why it is a priority that woodland habitat is managed and protected, particularly those that have complex habitat structures (like the fallen logs and timber where I find my food!).



ECHIDNA

Hi there! My name is Ellie, and I am an Echidna! Some people also call me a spiny anteater, mainly due to the fact that I love eating ants and that I am spiky! I am a monotreme, meaning that I am a mammal that lays eggs. I breathe and eat through a bald tubular beak which helps me dig into soils and eat little insects that are hard to get at. Probably my most unique feature is my dome shaped body covered in spines. These spines are my main line of defence against predators (I tuck my body into a ball to make myself extra spiky). I am considered an ecosystem engineer, meaning I contribute to healthier ecosystems by digging and moving around lots of soil! This improves soil mixing, water penetration and reduces run-off and erosion, ultimately leading to healthier soils where plants can grow more effectively. I have been spotted many times in the Conservation Corridor, even on the walking track. Make sure to keep an eye out!