

## DCA E-NEWSLETTER- OCTOBER 2021

Greetings good folk of Downer and friends.

The Downer Community Association usually delivers to your letterbox a quarterly newsletter - but sadly not in the Time of COVID. So to keep you informed of what is happening, - a quick update list with links (sorry lots!).

- Goodwin retirement villages has proposed a 130-unit development on the former Downer Primary School site, on the corner of Melba and Bradfield Streets. The DCA has responded with its own submission to Government on the Goodwin Downer development proposal, which can be found at DCA website

<http://www.downercommunityassociation.org/downer-school-site.html>

It's the link in blue that looks like [goodwin da - dca submission.pdf](#)

- With the rejuvenation of the Downer Village area, there has been lobbying for the reinstatement or replacement the Downer public toilets – which would be a welcome relief in more ways than one! The DCA is exploring options to mount an on-line petition, but if you feel the urge, please write to your local member - Minister Rachel Stephen-Smith, or to Minister Chris Steel - City Services – or go mad and contact them all! Use the line about more people out in the streets being active and well ventilated, noting that the nearest public toilets are located in Dickson!

[https://www.act.gov.au/about-this-site/browse/act-government/chief-minister/act\\_ministers](https://www.act.gov.au/about-this-site/browse/act-government/chief-minister/act_ministers)

- The 15<sup>th</sup> October will give us all a little bit more freedom – a cautious yah!!! It also means that the Downer Community Centre will open up within ACT Gov “Pathway Forward” - so 1 person per 4 sq metres. Contact [downercentre@gmail.com](mailto:downercentre@gmail.com) if you wish to book a room (we have 2 biggish ones).

Here is a link to the Pathways Forward Plan - FYI- for things like “when can I get my hair cut?”

<https://www.covid19.act.gov.au/act-status-and-response/the-acts-pathway-forward>

- Rush now to see the last of the tulips at “Floriade re-imagined “in the Downer Village Square. Grab a coffee at Gang Gang, perhaps a take home wine or local Canberran beer from Peter’s. The tenants in the Downer Village Square are all operating - furry and feathered creatures, humans with yoga mats...
- Downer residents value the garden character of the suburb, and with this in mind, the DCA would like to encourage our parks and green spaces to look lush and loved. So-

DCA will consider proposals from any group of residents who wish to undertake rejuvenation of a park or public open space in Downer. Groups are invited to submit a well thought through proposal to the DCA for up to \$500, and be prepared to acquit expenditure. Submit to [downerassociation@gmail.com](mailto:downerassociation@gmail.com)

For inspiration, check out the Climate Factory, who along with lots of local folk, created the first urban forest right here in Downer - Cole Street Park (formally known as “boob park”) for ideas

<https://climatefactory.com.au/>

And perhaps think about registering for the 1 hour on-line session (\$25) - see <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/how-to-build-a-community-micro-forest-in-8-steps-tickets-170378913918?aff=ebsoporgprofile>

- The Lil Library is going to be upgraded soon with a lower level “Kids Library” where the cactus garden struggled. It will be a drawer style which Jim from the Majura Men’s Shed is kindly constructing.
- Until next time, the DCA wishes you well and encourages you to stay safe! Send any suggestions or ideas in support of the Downer community to [downerassociation@gmail.com](mailto:downerassociation@gmail.com). Check us out on Facebook – last link I promise- <https://www.facebook.com/downercommunitycbr/>

