



Frencham Place, Downer ACT 2602

# Around Downer

Downer Community Association

Newsletter March 2019

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## DCA MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, 2019

**Co-convenors:** Miles Boak,  
Sam Hussey-Smith

**Secretary:** Jacqui Pinkava

**Treasurer:** Stephen Sedgwick

**Public Officer:** Simone Gray

**Centre Liaison Officer:**  
Greg Mulvaney

## Other Committee members:

Kerry-Ann Hugo, Suzanne  
Pitson, Robyn Rennie, Sam  
Roggeveen

You can contact the Committee on our email address:  
[downerassociation@gmail.com](mailto:downerassociation@gmail.com)

## DOWNER@50

The book has been re-printed and copies are available for sale. You can get a copy at Gang Gang Café, or email [downerassociation@gmail.com](mailto:downerassociation@gmail.com). The cost for both the book and the follow-up CD is still \$10. However, we are running out of CDs, so don't wait too long!

## DOWNER@50



The Suburb and Community,  
Past and Present

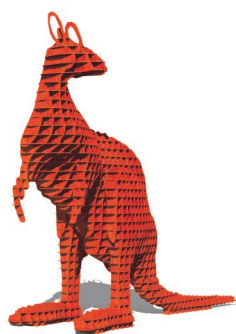
Compiled and edited by Jennifer Garden, Miles Boak, Derys Garden  
Downer Community Association

## IMPORTANT DATES

**Friday 22 March, 6 pm at Downer Square:** Picnic in the square - Unveiling of Kangaroo Sculpture by Minister Rachel Stephen-Smith

**Monday 1 April, 7 pm at Downer Community Centre:** Downer by Design workshop - follow up to 'Don't Dump on Downer' Campaign

**Wednesday 10 April, 7-8:30 pm at Downer Community Centre:** Transport Canberra Information session



## Unveiling of Kangaroo Sculpture Downer Square, Friday 22 March 6 pm

A function will be held in Downer Square, at which Minister Rachel Stephen-Smith will speak about the background of community involvement in the recent refurbishment of Downer Square, and the bronze kangaroo sculpture previously located in the Downer Primary School courtyard. The ACT Government has commissioned WA artist April Pine to provide a kangaroo sculpture as part of the Square refurbishment, and the new sculpture and a commemorative plaque will be unveiled at the function.

Come along and have a pleasant time in the square! Bring a picnic, or eat at Gang Gang café, who have organised live music for the evening. Note that there will be a media event at 9 am on the same day, at which the artist will be present in addition to the Minister.

## DOWNER BY DESIGN

### Downer Community Association COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

**Monday, 1 April 2019, 7-8:30pm  
Downer Community Hall**

**Bring yourself and your ideas  
for the future of Downer**

Having told the ACT Government what we don't want for Downer, it's now time to work out what we do want for Downer (go to [www.downercommunityassociation.org](http://www.downercommunityassociation.org) for an update on the DCA's submission, related media articles and an update on the process).

What is important to you for the future suburb of Downer – Social and physical infrastructure? Public and green spaces? Density and building height? Ageing in place? Community facilities and meeting spaces? Transport links? Building design and energy efficiency? Sound planning? Streetscapes? All of the above? None of the above and something else instead? What are we willing to trade-off?

This workshop is the beginning of a conversation on 'Downer by Design'. It will not have all the answers by the end of the night, but it will be the start of a process to develop a more cohesive plan for Downer. **And we need you, your ideas and your input! Please join us if you can!**

## COMMUNITY CENTRE

For room rentals and any other issues to do with the Centre, contact the Centre Coordinator on [downercentre@gmail.com](mailto:downercentre@gmail.com), or leave a message on **0404 758 576**.

For further information about Centre facilities see our website (address below).

## DOWNER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

To reach the Management Committee by email for other matters, use [downerassociation@gmail.com](mailto:downerassociation@gmail.com)

## DCA WEBSITE

[www.downercommunityassociation.org](http://www.downercommunityassociation.org)

The website has information about the Community Centre, room rentals, membership and other forms, etc. There are also copies of previous Minutes and Newsletters, information on planning issues, and photos from previous Fairs.

## DCA ON FACEBOOK

The address is <https://www.facebook.com/downercommunitycbr>

## DO YOU GET OUR EMAILS?

If you are a DCA member (and give us an email address) we can send you more frequent information.

Joining is easy. Forms are on the DCA website. You can also contact us by email.

## Transport Canberra Information Session Downer Community Centre, Wednesday 10 April, 7-8:30 pm

Come along to a Transport Canberra information session on the new public transport timetables and how they will affect Downer residents.

As you may be aware, Transport Canberra is designing a new system to integrate buses and light rail timetables in our area. This has implications for the bus route through Downer (new bus 50 will run through the suburb), and making connections via the new Dickson Bus Interchange and the Light Rail stop on Northbourne Avenue for travel to and from Civic or Gungahlin. Downer residents can also access 2 adjacent rail stops (Swinden St and Phillip Ave) and the new Rapid 9 bus to Belconnen.

The main part of the session will provide information about the new timetables, which should be available online and in hard copy by the time this newsletter is distributed (if not by then, they will be available by 10 April – please check <https://www.transport.act.gov.au/>).

Session attendees will be able to raise questions about the new travel journey routes, timetables for our area and getting to their destinations across Canberra. Large route maps of the whole new network will also be available for inspection.

## Clean-up Australia Day (and a surprise find!)

Patricia (pictured) of Tardent Street would like to thank Michael L very much for finding her wallet under bushes at the oval nearest the western carpark. Certainly the find of the Clean Up Oz day in Downer! Well spotted Michael.

Patricia had her wallet stolen from her house on 22 December. While the thieves took all the money, they appear not to have any interest in her drivers licence and other cards. With a bit of detective work, Miles Boak tracked down Patricia's phone number and she was soon reunited with her wallet, which looked a little worse for wear after its three months outdoors. Unfortunately, Michael the eagle-eyed finder, had departed, so other "pickers" got to share in Patricia's delight. While replacing some of her cards, Patricia had thankfully put off replacing the costly ones.

And for the record, this year's haul of 11 bags by 22 volunteer pickers indicates that the good folk of Downer are dumping less rubbish - 'Don't Dump in Downer' seems to be working on one level!



## Peter's Wine Shop, Shop 2, Downer Shops

Open 7 days: Monday to Thursday 10 am to 7 pm, Friday & Saturday 10 am to 8 pm, Sunday 10:30 am to 5:30 pm  
**Regular wine tasting Every Sunday Afternoon 2-5 pm. All welcome**