

WHITLAM

newsletter august 2024



connecting communities
an initiative of the Suburban Land Agency



A community that comes together!

With spring around the corner, Whitlam is blooming with its Floriade in the community plantings and lots of spring activities. I was happy to hear about the group of twenty or so residents who collaborated to design and plant the Floriade in the Community garden beds. These will be in full bloom from mid-September.

Spring gives us a chance to connect with our great outdoors and the Waterwatch and Namarag ranger walks are a fantastic opportunity for the community to learn more about the surrounding natural environment and cultural heritage.

And with a third park in Whitlam coming soon, I look forward to hearing how the Play in the Park activities go. This is a great opportunity for even more outdoor play and community connection.



No matter which activities you're able to join, I hope you're all able to enjoy spring in your suburb.

**Minister for Housing and Suburban Development,
Yvette Berry MLA**

Day and time	Activity and location
Monday 10am – 11:30am	Playgroup Mingle Community Space
Wednesday 10am – 11am	Wednesday Walk Meet near the Heartbeat Café
Wednesday 11am – 12pm	Mega Yoga (Mums Exercise Group Australia) Mingle Community Space Book Here: megamums.com.au
Thursday 11am – 12pm	Exercise Class with Kylee (Bookings essential, scan the QR code) Whitlam Display Village



Day and time	Activity and location
Thursday 1pm – 2:30pm	English Conversation Group Mingle Community Space
Thursday 2:45pm – 3:30pm	Mega Yoga (Mums Exercise Group Australia) Mingle Community Space Book Here: megamums.com.au
Friday 11am – 12pm	Laughing Club Whitlam Pond



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Whitlam



✉ mingle@act.gov.au

☎ 02 6205 0600

📘 @WhitlamMingle

🌐 suburbanland.act.gov.au/mingle

What's on in Whitlam

Namarag Reserve Walks

Ranger walk and clean up

 Sunday 22 September
10 – 11.30am

Help our rangers keep our park clean and also enjoy stops along the way to learn about plants and animals in the Reserve.

Cultural walk

 Sunday 13 October
10 – 11.30am

Learn about the cultural landscape and the significance of the Reserve to the Ngunnawal community.



Platypus Month

August is Platypus Month and Whitlam residents can join Waterwatch all month on walks and surveys in the Namarag Reserve, along the Molonglo River Corridor. Find more information here act.waterwatch.org.au/programs/platypus-month

If you can't make it to the walks, you can still do your bit. Platypus need clean water to live and thrive. What we do upstream really does matter.

- Take care that fertiliser, leaves, grass clippings, soil and pet waste do not wash down the stormwater drain near your house.
- Fertilise with low-phosphorous products and less often.
- When you're out and about pick up any "O" shaped litter such as rubber bands, bottle rings and fishing nets so that they do not trap platypus' legs or beak.
- Keep dogs on leads around lakes and waterways.

Gabori Street Gardens



We have several keen gardeners who have been diligently caring for the Gabori Street Garden area. Would you like to join them? There are 8 large garden beds and residents are welcome to take on either a whole bed or a half bed, sharing the load and creating a great space together to grow fruit, veggies, flowers and herbs.


If you'd like to join the group email us at mingle@act.gov.au.



Play in the Park

Don't miss Play in the Park with Artie the Art Cart!

Over spring Mingle will meet you at each of our parks in Whitlam with activities ranging from kite-making to nature exploring to polaroid photography! Join us and explore your suburb!


-  Sunday 8 September, 1 – 3pm
 Whitlam Park on Maymuru Way, for kite making!
-  Saturday 5 October, 1 – 3pm
 Blue Poles Park
-  Saturday 9 November, 10 – 12pm
 Whitlam's newest Park on Apuatimi Crescent


What's on in the SLA Display Village & Innovation Hub

Save the date!

Join us in the Suburban Land Agency Display Village for two spring festivities. Celebrate the arrival of spring with a picnic, live music, mural painting, fun on the Green and enjoy the tulips blooming as part of our Floriade in the Community.

In October come and learn how to party in your street. We'll host a pop-up Street Party complete with food, outdoor games, a firepit and live music.

 **14 September, 1 – 3pm,**
Spring Celebration:
Floriade in the Community

 **13 October, 1 – 3pm,**
Pop-up Street Party!

Crafting My Story

Women of Whitlam can join Crafting My Story for a range of creative workshops from **1 – 3pm** over three Saturdays.

10 August – Mandala Dot Painting


12 October – Macrame Plant Hanger

7 December – Christmas Cards and Jute Cutlery Pockets

Crafting My Story is running two workshops in November to help women run their own creative businesses. Email admin@craftingmystory.com.au to join the email list for Artisan Pathways: From Craft to Commerce (Capacity Building Program for CALD Women Artisans).



Support Dog Adoption Walk

 **Saturday 31 August**
12pm – 1pm

 **Meet at Heartbeat Cafe**

Are you interested in learning more about adopting a dog? Domestic Animal Services will join us for a “Support Dog Adoption” walk from the SLA Display Village on 31 August. Learn more about the dogs that are currently waiting on a home, how to put your name down to adopt a dog, what to keep in mind when adopting a dog and how you can make a difference by volunteering.

Well socialised dogs are welcome to join with their owners!

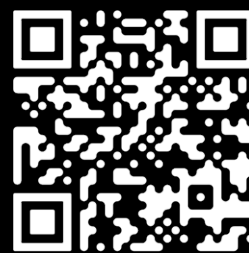


Astronomy Nights

The recent Astronomy Night was a hit in Whitlam! We're lucky to have volunteers from the Canberra Astronomical Society join us again to give us unique views of the night sky on **11 August from 6 – 7.30pm**.

Please support them by bringing a small donation, gold coin or similar. There will be a collection bucket available at the café.

[Register here](#)



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to spark a fire

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Ask Anna

Hi, I'm Anna and I work for Woden Community Service as the Community Development Officer with the Mingle Team in Whitlam.

Woden Community Service (WCS) is one of your primary local community services and has over 50 years' experience working in Woden and other suburbs of Canberra. WCS's vision is a caring community where everyone belongs.

WCS aims to bring connected communities, while enriching people's lives. They offer a range

of services covering children, families, youth and seniors as well as disability, housing and mental health. Add **Woden Community Service on Facebook** to keep up to date with everything happening or visit **Woden Community Service (WCS) | Not-for-profit organisation.**

Do you have a question for Anna for the next newsletter about what's available in your community? Or do you have an idea you'd like to share? Email anna.howell@wcs.org.au, your question could be featured in the next issue!

Mingle Annual Survey!



Share your feedback about Whitlam Mingle and go in the draw to win a \$200 voucher!

A runner up in Whitlam will also receive a picnic pack.

The survey closes at **11:59pm (AEST) on Friday 4 October 2024** and should take no more than ten (10) minutes to complete.

Community Support Fund



Did you know that Mingle has a Community Support Fund available?

This fund is designed to provide financial resources for community initiatives.

If you have an idea to help Whitlam's community thrive, come and talk to the Mingle team or send an email to mingle@act.gov.au. Ideas include a small street party, a street library or an event for the whole community.

Straight to your inbox



Did you receive this Mingle newsletter in your letterbox? If you would like to receive it electronically, complete with links and a format that is easy to scroll through on your device, simply scan this QR code and **sign-up**. We only send 3-4 Mingle newsletters per year and promise not to flood your inbox.



We acknowledge the Ngunnawal people as traditional custodians, and recognise any other people or families with connection to the lands of the ACT and region. We pay our respects to the elders past, present and future.




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