



Free Three-year-old preschool is now available

Canberra families can access up to 300 hours of free preschool per year, as part of the ACT Government's new Three-year-old preschool program.

Offered by more than 140 Early Childhood Education and Care services across Canberra, the 300 hours equates to about six hours per week of free preschool, generating an average saving of \$1329 per child for eligible families.

Quality, play-based early learning is a powerful way to support children's learning, wellbeing and development, and has life-long benefits.

Find out more at act.gov.au/playandlearn

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.

Resources and Reminders



Organisations and tips you may find useful:

Woden Community Service – our partner in Whitlam and provider of community services in Molonglo Valley and beyond. wcs.org.au

Evelyn Scott School, Denman Prospect is open for Junior AND Senior School enrolments for the 2023 school year. evelynscottschool.act.edu.au/enrolling_your_child

Visit Namarag – A 35 hectare nature space right on Whitlam's doorstep. Plan your adventure at: bit.ly/Namarag

Molonglo Valley Community Forum - Your local community council welcoming your input and participation. mvcommunityforum.org.au

We know that illegal dumping can occur in new suburbs. Be sure to speak to your builder about fencing your block as soon as possible. Please report sightings to Access Canberra **13 22 81** or visit: **Feedback and Complaints** (act.gov.au)

The ACT Government offers a bulky waste kerbside pickup to Canberra households. This is a FREE, once-a-year pickup service. You will need to book the pick up through the City Services website: cityservices.act.gov.au/recycling-and-waste/collection/bulky-waste-collection.

Communities at Work run a thriving hub in Denman Prospect, Whitlam's neighbouring suburb. These include church services and the Rahimoon Prayer Group, Bollywood Dancing classes, the Young at Heart Seniors group and community rooms for hire. Contact communitydevelopment@commsatwork.org for more information on any of these.

Community Noticeboards



Do you have an activity, local business or community announcement to share with the Whitlam community? The Blue Poles Park and Heartbeat Café noticeboards are both available to the community to use. If you have a poster or flyer to share, then drop them off at the Whitlam Community Space in the Display Village, at Heartbeat Café or email mingle@act.gov.au.



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.



ACT
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Suburban Land
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Whitlam



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suburbanland.act.gov.au/mingle

WHITLAM

newsletter may 2024



connecting communities
an initiative of the Suburban Land Agency



A community that comes together!

The Gabori Street garden beds are coming alive with the help of Whitlam residents. I was excited to hear of this great initiative that brings the

community together! I wish the Whitlam residents well as they continue to work together to create a beautiful local garden.

In March I joined the Care, Share, Repair event and really enjoyed catching up with the local community. The Whitlam program of events will continue through the cooler months so please stay tuned to the Whitlam Mingle Facebook page to see how you can join in too!

Please stay warm as we head into the winter months!

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

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.



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✉ mingle@act.gov.au

☎ 02 6205 0600

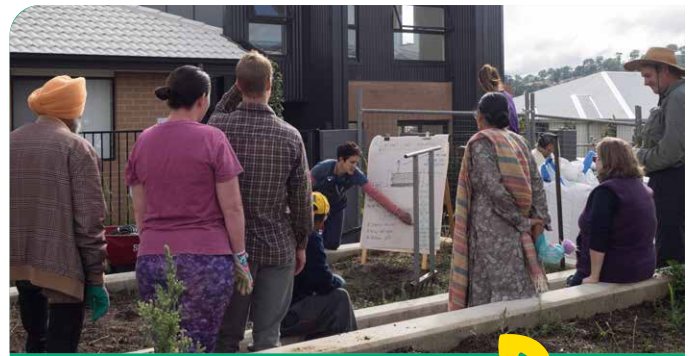
📘 @WhitlamMingle

🌐 suburbanland.act.gov.au/mingle

What's on in Whitlam

Mingle have planned a few activities to support the Whitlam community. We hope you can find something to enjoy in the mix.

Date	Activity Name
Monday (from 6 May) 10am-11:30am	Playgroup Mingle Community Space
Wednesday 10am-11am	Wednesday Whitlam Walk Meet near the Heartbeat Café
Wednesday 11am-12pm	Mega Yoga (Mums Exercise Group Australia) Mingle Community Space Book Here: megamums.com.au
Thursday 10:30am-11:30am	Exercise Class with Kylee (all welcome) (bookings essential, click here to book now) Whitlam Display Village
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
1st and 3rd Friday of the Month 10am-11am	Giggle and Wiggle with Libraries ACT Mingle Community Space (3 May, 17 May, 7 Jun, 21 Jun and 5 Jul)



Gabori Street Gardens



The Mingle team is working with community to rejuvenate eight large garden beds in between Gabori and Bass Becking Streets in Whitlam. Work is continuing to restore the soil and establish good systems for gardening success that will ultimately benefit residents!

At the first working bee in April, Fiona Buining from Ainslie Urban Farm taught residents about the importance of soil for plant growth. If soil is deficient in nutrients, or resistant to water, plants can become unwell and will not grow well. Water is also important as it allows plants to access the nutrients in the soil.

After a short education session, approximately 15 residents worked to add lime, blood and bone as well as compost to the garden beds. Pavers were laid the middle of the bed to help with access and to stop soil compaction, then covered in mulch to help with water retention.

Two hours of work in the fresh air, and a sprinkling of rain, resulted in four garden beds ready to rest over winter in preparation for the spring planting season.

Further workshops will be held so please keep an eye on the [Whitlam Mingle Facebook page](#) for more details.



Lids4Kids

Have you picked up your Lids4Kids bucket!?

Whitlam residents are eligible to claim one bucket per household. Use these to collect all those hard to

recycle bits and pieces (there's a guide to help you out), and bring your full bucket to the Whitlam Display Village when the sorting station is open. Sort it with our team!

We're looking for volunteers so that we can open the sorting station more often! Email the Mingle

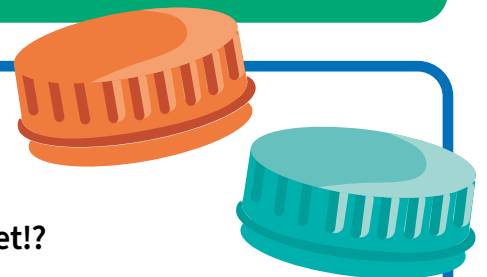
team if you're interested, or come along to a sorting session and find out more.

We'll be running Lids4Kids pop up sorting sessions each month.

Sunday 2 June – 11:30am – 12:30pm

Saturday 6 July – 12pm – 1pm

Sunday 4 August – 12:30pm – 1:30pm





Save the date!

1 June 2024

**Care, Share, Repair:
Transform Your Trash**

In the SLA Display Village

Whitlam Community Space



The Mingle office is open **Wednesday to Fridays** from **9.30am – 2.30pm**, feel free to drop in and meet the team during these times.

Building defect drop-in session

Challenges can arise with a builder, landowner or neighbour, so it's best to resolve them early with clear communication. For a range of reasons, sometimes the matter cannot be resolved and complaints can be referred to Access Canberra.

The Access Canberra Construction and Planning Regulation team will host a drop-in session for Molonglo Valley residents in May. If you have encountered issues with building defects, and you have not been able to resolve them through clear and direct negotiations with your builder, this session is an opportunity to seek support with the regulator.

Access Canberra manages complaints regarding non-compliance with ACT building and planning laws. This includes issues like building defects, unlicensed work and unauthorised building activities.



For more information on building disputes and complaints, visit the Planning website, planning.act.gov.au/contact/disputes-and-complaints.



Saturday 18 May, 1pm - 3pm



**Mingle Community Space,
in the SLA Display Village
3 Klaus Moje Street, Whitlam**

A MEGA Opportunity!

Are you passionate about fitness and making a positive impact in your community?

Mingle are offering TWO Whitlam mums the opportunity to become fitness instructors through a sponsorship with Mums Exercise Group Australia (MEGA). This financial support can help you gain a new qualification in your chosen fitness course (yoga, pilates, Certificate of Fitness, or other). All that is required in return is for you to commit to running local classes for MEGA for an agreed period of time.

Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity to turn your passion for fitness into a fulfilling career while positively supporting your neighbourhood. Apply now and take the first step towards becoming a certified MEGA instructor!

For more information and to apply, email directors@megamums.com.au



Walk your dog with us in Whitlam!



Sunday 2 June – 10am – 11am

Saturday 6 July – 1:30pm – 2:30pm

Sunday 4 August – 11am – 12pm



Meet next to Heartbeat Café

