

Dear Friend,

Greetings and salutations!

Welcome to *The Tuggeranong Tribune*: November edition (I think it's now officially a thing). This edition is, I reckon, the Infrastructure edition. If you are a Tuggeranong citizen who likes news about significant pieces of Tuggeranong or Tuggeranong-adjacent infrastructure being opened or switched on, then THIS is the edition for you. If you are short of time;

1. The Monaro Highway flyover can be driven over.
2. The South Tuggeranong Health Centre is open.
3. The Big Canberra Battery has been switched on.
4. Plans are out for three of the eight new and upgraded Tuggeranong playgrounds.
5. There is some ACT Legislative Assembly inside goss and a petition-signing opportunity, and…
6. Your invitation from me to wave off 2026.

My one duty is to ensure Tuggeranong gets the interest and investment we need and deserve. Please keep telling me your ideas, concerns and suggestions for Tuggeranong when we meet out and about, at a street stall, by phone (02 6205 4466), via email (taimus.wg@parliament.act.gov.au), or on Facebook and Instagram.

Brindabella Front Page

Monaro Highway Flyover Open!

The new 196-metre southbound flyover at the Lanyon Drive interchange was opened by the ACT Government very early the Wednesday morning - 4th November. More than 30,000 vehicles use this stretch of road every day, including mine and those of plenty of other Tuggeranong residents. Southbound traffic (on the way home) now bypasses the intersection entirely, meaning less congestion and fewer delays on the Monaro Highway. This big piece of work is a key element of the $260.5 million Monaro Highway Upgrade Program.

Work on the wider interchange upgrade continues. I expect the northbound Dog Trap Creek Bridge (where the temporary traffic lights currently are) to open before Christmas, while the ACT Government is progressing further improvements, including extending David Warren Road and removing the traffic signals near the Alexander Maconochie Centre.



Celebrating the opening of the South Tuggeranong Health Centre with Health Minister Marisa Paterson, Health Infrastructure Minister Rachel Stephen-Smith and fellow Brindabella MLA Caitlin Tough.

South Tuggeranong Health Centre Open Day

The ACT Government opened the South Tuggeranong Health Centre in Conder on Thursday 5 November. It brings appointment community-based health care closer to home for local residents, and perfectly complements the ACT and Federal Government's free healthcare precinct in the Tuggeranong Town Centre. It’s a modern, accessible new building providing a range of services, including:

- community paediatrics,
- walk-in pathology collection,
- diabetes services,
- community nursing,
- allied health community programs, and
- multidisciplinary exercise and education programs.

The ACT Government invested $17.3 million to build the centre and has committed a further $4.1 million over four years to keep it running. This is the first healthcare facility of

its kind in the ACT and will serve as the model for three more similar centres across Canberra.

To watch such an important government investment in Tuggeranong go from sod-turning (my first) to opening and operating (I will be having my blood tests there from now on!) in 18 months was a very positive experience. Tuggeranong is back on the map!

Canberra Health Services is hosting a **community open day tomorrow, Saturday 21 November from 10am-1pm**. Find out more and register for a tour here. I'll see you there.

The Big Canberra Battery is humming! (surprisingly quietly)

Also earlier this month, I joined Chief Minister Andrew Barr, Minister Caitlin Tough and some very proud Eku Energy officials to metaphorically flick the switch on the largest battery energy storage system in the Territory's history.

The Battery Energy Storage System at Williamsdale (in southern Brindabella!) is delivering 250 megawatts, enough to supply one-third of Canberra's electricity needs for up to two hours during peak demand. It can also respond to changes in the grid within milliseconds, storing renewable energy and releasing it when it's needed most.

It does look like the future.



An aerial view of the Big Canberra Battery at Williamsdale, which is preparing our energy network for the future.

Eight new and upgraded playgrounds are coming to Tuggeranong

Hot off the press. The designs for the new and upgraded playgrounds in Conder, Gilmore and Wanniassa were released this morning!

Designs for playgrounds in Bonython (two to come, Marquet Retreat playground is complete), Isabella Plains and Kambah aren't far away either (keep your eyes on my Facebook page if you want to see them 👀).

Playgrounds will include:

✅ Inclusive play equipment, including basket swings and all-abilities spinners
✅ New shaded seating and picnic areas
✅ Accessible pathways and soft-fall surfacing
✅ More trees and canopy cover over time

I expect all of the playgrounds to open in 2027. You can view the designs here: Conder, Gilmore and Wanniassa.



Spectacular unveiling last Saturday of the Mandji at the Tuggeranong Arts Centre. The four-metre-long Murray cod sculpture was created through the combined efforts of more than 60 local artists, welders and weavers.

ACT Legislative Assembly Back Page

Bees Motion

A double-sitting fortnight in October meant the Assembly was as busy as a well-known yellow and brown pollinating insect. I successfully moved a motion in the second week

that recognised the importance of bees and other pollinators to our survival, and gave the ACT Government a bit of a rocket about delivering on ACT Labor's 2024 bee-positive election promise.

The motion called on the ACT Government to:

- continue supporting beekeepers managing Varroa mite,
- promote pollinator-friendly plants through environmental restoration and the review of the Municipal Infrastructure Standards,
- support pollinator projects through ACT Environment Grants, and
- develop practical guidance for households, schools, gardeners and community groups.

You can read the motion here and watch my speech here. So many puns - which I am not resiling from - and even some poetry from Thomas Emerson and my good self.

Lend us your autograph! Please sign the petition for Accessible Skate and All-Wheels Facilities in North-East Tuggeranong!

I'm still delighted to be sponsoring Jessica and her kids' petition for better, more accessible skate and all-wheels facilities at Macarthur Playground and Fadden Pines District Park. I don't skate (I can't), so there's no conflict of interest, just my commitment to helping citizens improve our community. It's self-evident that both parks lack the infrastructure young people and beginners need to build their skills and progress.
We need more signatures.

Please sign Jessica's petition here!



Improvements to the Mount Taylor Nature Reserve track near Colquhoun Street in Kambah are now complete, with a new 8-metre pedestrian bridge and upgraded crossings improving access, safety and

year-round enjoyment of this popular walking route through endangered Box Gum Woodland.

The Gossip Pages

I invite you to celebrate the end of the year with me!

I'm hosting a free end-of-year community Park Party at Kambah Adventure Playground, 10am to 12pm on Sunday 6 December.

Come along to reflect on the year and chat about what might come along in 2027. I'll share a few personal reflections from the Assembly, but I'm keen to hear your feedback and what you want to see from me next year.

Friends, family, little ones and animal companions are all very welcome. If you're coming, **please RSVP here** so we can make sure there's enough catering.



On Wednesday, I joined Sport Minister Chris Steel at the lower Gowrie Playing Fields to test out the new cricket nets. The ACT Government has invested $270,000 to build three new grade-standard nets and upgrade four existing community nets, creating better facilities for local clubs, junior cricketers and casual players alike. The community nets are open for six-hitting 24/7. The grade-standard nets can be booked through ACT Sportsgrounds.

That's it! We're done for another month. Thank you for reading.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch anytime about anything. My contact details are taimus.wg@parliament.act.gov.au, 0494 106 717, and 02 6205 4466. Together, we're making Tuggeranong an even better place to live.

Sincerely Yours,



Taimus Werner-Gibbings MLA
Member for Brindabella

PS. Know someone who might enjoy my regular updates? Feel free to forward this email and invite them to subscribe here.

Authorised by Taimus Werner-Gibbings MLA for ACT Labor

Our mailing address is:
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Taimus Werner-Gibbings acknowledges the traditional custodians of country throughout Australia and recognises their continuing connection to land, waters and community. He pays his respects to them and their cultures; and to Elders both past and present.

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