

Gungahlin Community Council

JM
PUBLISHING

GUNSMOKE

Newsletter - Edition 133 August 2014



**Another
Resounding
SUCCESS!**

Download the
latest Gunsmoke



Cover photo by Andrew Finch - Edge Light Photography



BlackSpot

Senator Zed Seselja
Senator for the ACT

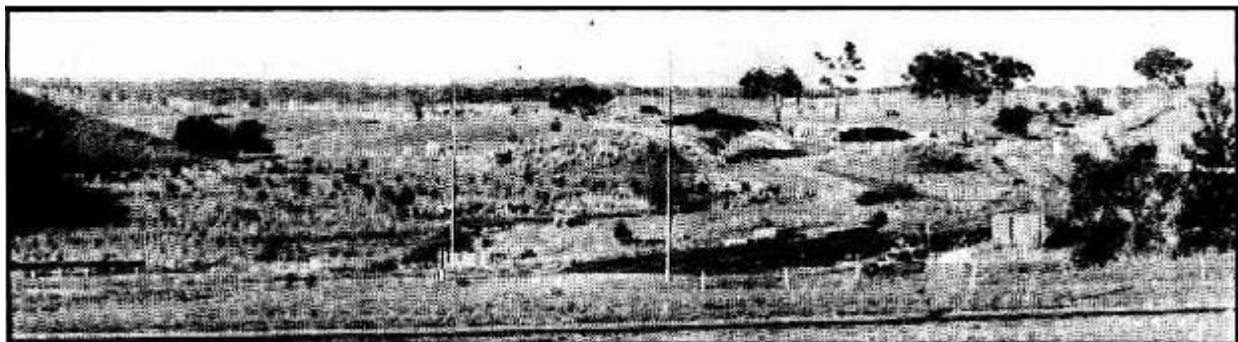
Over the past few months I have been reaching out to local communities to find out if there are any roads in their local area that cause concern and whether these particular roads should be considered under the Federal Government's Black Spot programme. The programme is an important initiative that funds works to improve safety at the worst accident black spot sites, not just in the ACT, but across the country.

Now with the Coalition's announcement that a further \$200 million will be committed to the programme taking the ACT's allocation up to \$1.6 million each year, it is even more important that

Canberrans have a say about the roads they use every day.

In the early 1990's when plans for the Gungahlin area were beginning to take shape the landscape was quite different to what it is today. Around 50,000 Canberrans currently live in Gungahlin so it is understandable that the use of the roads have somewhat changed. The bare land and construction work that can be seen in this photo of Gundaroo Drive from March 1991 are a far cry from what can be seen there today.

Under the Black Spot programme, sites with a history of at least three casualty crashes over a



Source: The Canberra Times, Peter Wells, 13 March 1991

five-year period are addressed. Sites which do not meet the crash history criterion may still receive funding if they are identified as potentially dangerous through road safety audits.

During the 2013-14 financial year the intersection at Gungahlin Drive and Wells Station Road was allocated \$100,000 by the Federal Government for the installation of a high angle approach for left turns out of Wells Station Road and upgrades to the existing traffic lights. I now need your help to identify other dangerous roads to be considered under this year's funding round. If you are aware of any dangerous roads in your area please do not hesitate to get in touch. I hope that together with local Gungahlin residents we can make Canberra roads safer.



www.zedseselja.com.au



GunSmoke is available online, and printed copies are available through key shopping centres. To subscribe to the online edition visit www.gcc.asn.au and click on the "Sign Up For Our Newsletter" button at the bottom of the page. To advertise your business or organisation in GunSmoke, please visit our website.

Disclaimer:

GunSmoke is published to allow residents to keep in touch with their local community. The views expressed in GunSmoke do not necessarily represent the opinion of the editor, or members of the Gungahlin Community Council Inc.

President: Ewan Brown - president@gcc.asn.au

Vice President: Peter Elford - 0401 890 387
vicepresident@gcc.asn.au

Communications Director: James Milligan - 0418 599 167

Secretary: Tony Ozanne - secretary@gcc.asn.au

Treasurer: Brad Kane - treasurer@gcc.asn.au

Web Administrator: Prasad Tipirneni - webmaster@gcc.asn.au

Public Officer: Kevin Cox - publicofficer@gcc.asn.au

GCC Committee: Michael Norfor, Stuart Todd



From the President

Ewan Brown

Gungahlin scored 5 new projects in the last ACT Budget with the only major items being the signalisation of the William Slim Drive/Barton Highway roundabout and construction of an access road into the new suburb of Throsby. We missed out on the duplication of Gundaroo Drive and relief of parking problems at Yerrabi – both in our top 5 list. Seven more projects were classified as work in progress and one, the completion of Horse Park Drive, was achieved in mid-July. Another GCC priority issue – intersections in the eastern end of the Town Centre – is under consideration.

However the ‘waiting game’ continues with little relief in the Town Centre. We can tick-off the Oval and the Leisure Centre (open) and work has commenced on the office block, Commonground premises, the Park’n’Ride and the mosque. Still ‘in the queue’ are the Bunnings development, Raiders Club extensions and Woolworth’s site extensions. There is silence over the long awaited cinema development and little info on the new club proposal.

It is likely that the lack of current progress on most of those projects will result in huge disruptions to users and residents of the Town Centre if they come on stream together. By far the biggest impacts will be on traffic flow and parking. In fact lack of parking, already at critical levels on the northern side of the Town Centre, will become much worse when the above projects are commenced. Add to this the ‘uncertainty’ about Light Rail and its impact on the Town Centre and we have a situation where residents, businesses and visitors to Gungahlin will be faced with significant inconvenience for long periods.

Surely several of these projects could be kick started immediately to alleviate some of the expected disruptions.

More consultation has taken place about the proposed Gundaroo Drive duplication project with the most relevant factor identified as safety issues. This resulted in discussion about fast-tracking time-critical elements that contributed to improved safety as well as getting an early start on issues that could cause major hold-ups to the full project. These measures could include

widening the bridge just past the Gungahlin drive intersection, installing traffic lights at the point where the Valley Ave extension will intersect with Gundaroo Drive, moving the bus stops closer to those lights to improve pedestrian crossings and erected noise barriers before major construction work commences.

The NBN has featured in the media due to the 1st stage switching-off of the standard telephone service. Three more areas of Gungahlin will go through the same process this year in late July, late September and late October. More large areas, formerly due for switch-off in December, will get some ‘breathing space’ until February 2015. NBN Co has put a lot of effort into seeking to contact and advise residents/businesses of the need to sign up with the NBN if they want to maintain a fixed-line telephone service. Focus has been placed on the elderly, people with medical alerts and those with other types of monitoring services.

There seems to have been little emphasis, mainly by the end service deliverers (the ISPs or RSPs), to advise that telephony-only plans are available for a reduced cost for those users who do not want an internet service. This would enable them to retain their numbers, continue the other services they currently use and be in a position to add an internet service at a later stage if required. GCC is maintaining a watch on progress in Nicholls (Fibre to the Home), the provision of a solution for businesses and occupants of Multiple Development Units and the gradual transition of TransACT services to the NBN. The plight of residents in Casey 1 is still unknown.

GCC is seeking increased engagement with the local community in coming months with a second Business Breakfast (22 July), participation in an Enquiry by Design project on Light Rail and the conduct of a major regional survey in conjunction with the University of Canberra. Through these processes we hope to gain a far greater understanding of the needs and wishes of Gungahlin residents, businesses and visitors relating to the Town Centre and surrounding suburbs.



FROM THE POLLIES

Simon Corbell MLA
Minister for Capital Metro

According to recent Housing Industry Association figures; Crace, Bonner and Casey, all suburbs in the Gungahlin area, have the fastest growing populations in the country. This supports the ACT Government's commitment to delivering the first stage of light rail between Gungahlin and City.

The Capital Metro Agency has recently completed an extensive six week community consultation on its early designs. This was an excellent opportunity for the community to see and help shape the proposed design and operations for the first stage of light rail in Canberra.

Hundreds of Canberrans provided specific input and a summary of these contributions will be published on the Capital Metro website by the end of August. The strong response from the community will help us to prioritise stop locations, refine the customer experience, guide urban design and consider future extensions.

Capital Metro has recently begun utility services investigation along the City to Gungahlin corridor. This will provide a detailed mapping and analysis of the gas, electricity, water, communications, storm water and sewer assets along corridor to help inform the design of the light rail system. A Canberra survey company, Leach Steger, will deliver these works, which include visual survey and careful potholing and trenching to confirm utility locations. This work began at the Gungahlin end of the corridor and it is expected to take about three months to complete. These works will be completed alongside and within the roadway. Any works affecting major traffic flows will be delivered in off peak times.



FROM THE POLLIES

Shane Rattenbury MLA
Minister for Territory and Municipal Services

I was really pleased to pick up the Sport and Recreation portfolio in the recent cabinet reshuffle. Not only do I have a personal passion for sport, both as a sports fan and a participant in my own sports of triathlon and long distance running, I also think sport plays a big part in keeping our community healthy and connected.

As a Greens Minister I am keen to focus on building community sport and recreation opportunities for people of all ages and fitness levels. In a country where sedentary lifestyles are becoming more common, participation in sport and recreation is a great preventative health strategy, and also a way for people to get to know each other in the community.

Sport is an important tool for young people to develop leadership skills, self confidence and to learn how to work in teams. I know from my own experience that being involved in sport can help build skills for life, not just for the sporting field.

I know that community sport is an important part of life for many families and young people in Gungahlin, and that sports clubs are really helping to build a strong sense of community in the region. Of course, Gungahlin has some great new sporting facilities, including the newly opened Gungahlin Leisure Centre and the Gungahlin Enclosed Oval.

I will be visiting as many sporting clubs as I can over the coming weeks and months, and listening to their issues and concerns. If you or your club have an issue you would like to raise that relates to sport and recreation, or if you would just like to invite me to drop by and say hello, please contact my office on 6205 0005 or rattenbury@act.gov.au



FROM THE POLLIES

Jeremy Hanson MLA
Leader of the opposition

It was terrific in July to attend and address the Gungahlin Community Council's Business Breakfast at the Kamberra Wine Company. It was great to see more than 70 local businesses represented and many from the Gungahlin region.

The Canberra Liberals have a plan for Gungahlin and for Canberra.

Firstly, I want to grow Gungahlin. At the moment the region is a hub of construction activity and the opportunities need to continue for business. The restrictive rules like the lease variation charge, commence and complete fees and land release need to be relaxed so Gungahlin can reach its full potential.

Secondly, Gungahlin should be better connected. Better road infrastructure is needed to the town centre from other areas of Gungahlin. ACT Labor has let the region down through delays and a cost blowout to the GDE while dragging its feet on Horse Park Drive and Gundaroo Drive. For the area to reach its full potential Gungahlin must be better connected.

Finally, Gungahlin as with all of Canberra should be more liveable. I will make the delivery of services a priority so people can

get what they need in Gungahlin. The region has grown up and people should be able to both live and work in the area, like has been the case with other town centres.

Light rail is not the right decision for Gungahlin or for Canberra. Over \$600million is too much for a tram where the number of residents living within walking distance of tram stops is incredibly low. Light rail is an ideological brainchild of the ACT government, not a practical solution to make life better for Canberrans.



Specialising in quality

6260 1436

- ✓ **Roof Trusses**
- ✓ **Wall Frames**
- ✓ **Floor Trusses**
- ✓ **HyBeam**
- ✓ **HySpan**
- ✓ **Flooring**
- ✓ **Attic Ladders**

52 Sheppard St Hume ACT, 2620. office@universaltrusses.com.au



Another Resounding SUCCESS!

By Tony Ozanne

More than 70 business leaders and local MLA's attended the second Gungahlin Community Council Business Breakfast on 22nd July at Kamberra Winery. The keynote speakers for the event were Jeremy Hanson MLA and Chris Faulks, from Canberra Business Council.

In addition guests included Steve Doszpot, MLA, Giulia Jones MLA and Andrew Blyth CEO ACT Chamber of Commerce.

James Milligan (Master of Ceremony) welcomed all guests and outlined the formal proceedings for the business breakfast, then introduced GCC President Ewan Brown as moderator for speeches and Q&A to follow. Ewan opened the discussion with current GCC priorities including: roads duplication, development of the Town Centre away from the 'village' mindset, the recent oval and leisure center openings, Common ground development, park and ride planning, the new Mosque, Bunning's development, new cinema, new club site and shopping centre extensions to come. This clearly shows the area as progressing with speed and shows exciting times ahead for business growth potential.

Jeremy Hanson commenced his speech with the three focus areas relevant to business and the community as a whole.

Growth in Canberra

Gungahlin and Canberra as a whole need to become vibrant, a destination, and business the vehicle for growth in Canberra. Mr. Hanson said the Liberal party is here to help in any way but sometimes the best way to do so is to get out of the way and to make it easier for business to do business.

Better Connected Canberra

We must have the best roads- Gungahlin has always been strangled by the roads i.e. the GDE and Horse Park Drive (until recent opening). However the lessons of the GDE have not been learnt as Horse Park Drive is still a single lane road

More needs to be done in the area of parking (especially access to your businesses) as a critical barrier to growth i.e. Hibberson St,

Make Canberra more livable

Our health system is the best in the nation, Canberra needs to be more affordable and the recent carbon tax repealed federally, will go about helping stimulate this.



This movement removed the burden of \$9M per day being taken out of economy, and now over \$500 per family will be available to stimulate spending, something business will benefit from. Instead of money previously going to business it was paying services to survive.

In regards to growth potential, Mr. Hanson emphasised that government fees and taxes were hindering growth. With Gungahlin being the highest growth area it simply needs infrastructure to support it and make it easier for hotels, restaurants and bars etc. to establish. Business will create growth only with government support.

The public service has recently seen a strong desire and trend from both sides to move jobs out of Canberra to support other electorates for political gain, something Mr. Hanson has been strongly lobbying against.

The Light Rail sounds attractive but doesn't stack up- as far as Mr. Hanson is concerned. Canberra simply does not have the adequate population density not only in his opinion, but according to independent studies from Infrastructure Australia and the productivity commission. Buses are much more effective and affordable.

Mr. Hanson's final 2 thoughts were: - he is committed to business and committed to Gungahlin, especially based on potential for growth

Chris Faulks

CEO Canberra Business Council (CBC)

Chris opened her speech by commenting on what a pleasure it was to see 70+ bright eyed business owners so early in the morning. Gungahlin's high profile, driven via the GCC, has often come across as whingeing, but this has been very successful and Gungahlin is a highly vibrant place in comparison to other southern areas which did not get at least 5 projects allocated in the last budget.

The recent highlights of 6 new schools, town centre development, the new College, Leisure Centre, Park and Ride, Horse Park Drive, the Mosque, the NBN, planned cinema, increased child care etc. all add major impact to the growth potential for the area.

Chris went on to focus on 3 areas of interest to the business community.

The Coming together of Chamber and Business Council

This is not a merger, but a new business venture by combing the 2 organisations... The most common questions Chris gets is "what's the difference and why have 2 business support areas?"

She stated, "there was a 98% member support for the merger which delivered a strong message that the community wanted this change. The new organisation is set to start 1st Oct with 2 boards in charge for a year, then annual elections. Both groups have been very successful in lobbying business and by combining they will bring together the best of both organisations with a strong policy focus for business as their key objective."

Chris believes this is a true case of 1+1=5, not 2 as the value that will be added to business will be incrementally enhanced. The other key objective is to provide services to business as both currently do already, as well as continually leading debate on economic growth in Canberra.

Economic Issues

Deloitte and Comsec reports released this month showed the Canberra economy rated 2nd in the country 1 year ago, but now we are 6th. Confidence in business has been falling (which is not unexpected as we have had several years of fears of job cuts, election freeze, fears of job losses, then the election and actual job cuts announced). Although there are only 40% of all public servants in Canberra, it is the region which will incur the greatest impact when losses occur.

There has been no impact on business highlighted in the 2 reports released, but the next 12-24 months will be more challenging as job losses take effect

Ms. Faulks went on to state that 'the CBC believes business is more resilient than in 1996 with exporting strong and having massive opportunity to grow, so selling online is a vehicle to reduce public sector cuts impact and grow business if you can develop into this space'

Opportunities

Recently the Business Council held multiple business task forces meetings (by sector and interest group) and a report is being produced for government. Some learning's showed that the Building and Construction sector is ready to grow but approval timelines are delaying growth potential, Likewise the Tourism sector, especially the Asian target market, doesn't have enough focus on destination ACT. We all know brand CBR is good, but we need to this market more to the outside world

Ms. Faulks strongly believes there will be challenges, but there are still ample opportunities for business to establish, grow and prosper in the Gungahlin area and Canberra as a whole.

Q&A-Panel

Q- What would your reaction be to putting a new convention centre in Gungahlin?

JH- The right place is in the city on City Hill based on users. - this is the logical choice. ACT Liberals are fully behind Convention Centre as a part of connecting Canberra.

CF- A recent \$750k business study was held on this matter and Chris agrees with Jeremy. Perth built theirs out of city and it was a disaster. We need the right building in the right place, which will benefit the overall city and all areas.

Q- How will the Liberals foster business growth and development?

JH- We won't re-invent the wheel, but will continue to support and grow with business. The ACT has great minds and we need to network, collaborate and commercialise what is already happening. We need to keep business growth in Canberra.

In what was another successful event, the winner of the Lucky Door Prize of a position in the www.smallbusinessmba.com.au program donated by Tony Ozanne 'Business Coaching Canberra' was Stephen Trump – Telstra Store Gungahlin.

Our next Business Breakfast will be later in the year and will be a workshop-based program, follow GCC on Facebook for more details.

It's about you. Always!
Communities@Work

DO GOOD IN GUNGAHLIN

Communities@Work's Social Programs empower people to create better futures and help foster independence, resilience and social connection.

Key services include:

- Communities@Work's food pantries in Gungahlin and Tuggeranong enable clients to shop for healthy food and essential items;
- Food rescue service which distributes to over 50 charities/refuges/schools which support people in need;
- Community Cooking and Cooking Mentoring programs;
- The provision of free clothing, shoes and accessories for job interviews, re-entry to the workforce and special events;
- Employment readiness education.

To find out more about the rest of our Social Programs call 6293 6500 or commsatwork.org

355%

Demand for Communities@Work's Social Programs has increased substantially. In 2013-14 the number of clients of the Care&Share program in Gungahlin increased by 355%.



“I need to thank you for the support your team has offered to me. I am welcomed with a smile every time I visit and I can now afford to feed my children three meals every day. Before Care&Share, my children ate stale bread that I learnt to toast so they didn't notice. Fruit was never available and I could only do vegetables once a week. We are now all eating meat each night, the children have fruit and fresh bread for school, and we have milk and cheese in the fridge. The school teacher pulled me aside to tell me how great my child was doing at school - she is now awake, alert and wanting to learn. I only have Care&Share to thank”.

(Care&Share client)

68,000

In 2013-14, Care&Share Gungahlin distributed over 68,000 food and essential items to people in need, and now receives over 700 client visits each month.

How You Can Help

Communities@Work Social Programs rely on strong community and corporate support for their ongoing sustainability. Without the generosity of donors and the dedication of over 120 volunteers we simply could not operate.

You can help in a number of ways:

- Make a donation
- Fundraise on our behalf
- Volunteer for one of our programs such as community cooking
- Organise a community fundraiser
- Organise a 'can drive' collection of non-perishable foods and essential items for the program
- Offer corporate sponsorship
- Leave a bequest

**For more information
call 6293 6500 or visit
commsatwork.org**

It's about you. Always!
Communities@Work
DO GOOD FEEL GOOD REAL GOOD



Cat containment

by Shane Rattenbury MLA

One of Gungahlin's greatest assets is the nature reserves that surround its suburbs. These reserves are home to an abundance of birds and animals. Unfortunately, one of the biggest risks to this wildlife is roaming domestic cats, with an ACT study showing that domestic cats are responsible for killing a total of 67 different species of birds and animals.

Cat containment areas have been implemented across the ACT, many of which are located in the suburbs of Gungahlin and its adjoining nature reserves. These areas have been put in place to protect neighboring wildlife and the cats themselves.

Already established cat containment areas in Gungahlin include Bonner, Crace, Forde, Mulligans Flat Nature Reserve and Gorooyarroo Nature Reserve.

People living in cat containment areas need to ensure their cats are confined to their premises at all times. This can be achieved by keeping cats inside the house or creating a purpose built enclosure.

To increase community awareness, signage will be installed at the entry points to cat containment areas with a symbol showing a cat inside a house, an image some residents already identify with cat containment areas.

The benefits of cat containment areas in the Gungahlin region are extensive.

The Mulligans Flat and Gorooyarroo Nature Reserves are important ecosystems for over 100 species of birds and animals.

Declaring cat containment areas around these reserves reduces the number of attacks by cats on this wildlife. The Mulligans Flat Nature Reserve is also of national significance as the home to research which monitors the effects of removing foxes and cats on native animals. The outcome of this research is expected to see the return of native animals that have not been seen in the area for over 100 years.

Cats kept within their keepers' or carers' premises have fewer injuries and related vet bills. A 2011 study revealed that uncontained cats are four times more likely to suffer significant injuries at least once a year, compared to those that are contained at all times.

Contained cats are not at risk of being killed by motor vehicles, snakes or diseases caught from other roaming cats.

Domestic Animal Services' rangers will be conducting targeted blitzes in Gungahlin's cat containment areas in the coming months. Cats found roaming in these areas may be seized by the rangers and an infringement notice issued to the cat's keeper or carer.

Looking to the future, the ACT Government has committed to declaring new developments and reserves within north Gungahlin as cat containment areas. Any area where cats are a serious threat to native flora and fauna will also be looked at as a possible cat containment area.

At the end of the day, cat containment areas are there to protect our native flora and fauna and the precious cats who are important members of the family.

BIG

Broadband In Gungahlin

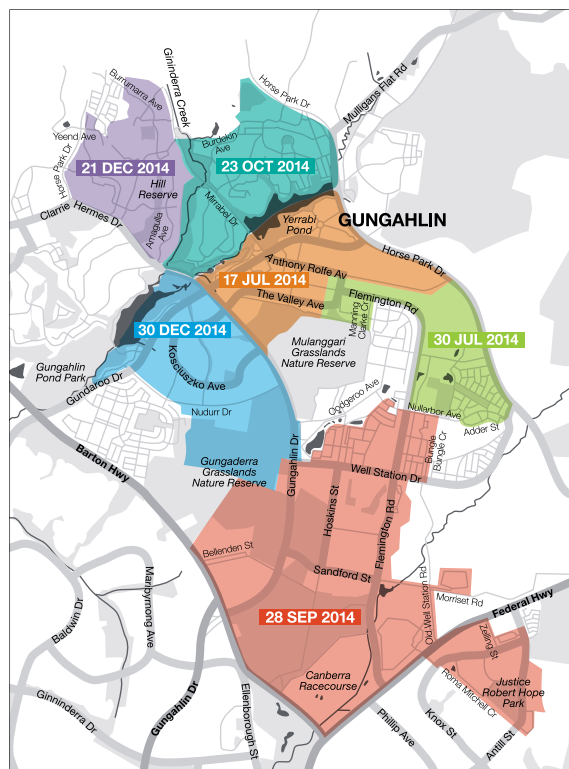
by Peter Elford GCC Vice President.

For more information Visit www.nbnco.com.au/switch Phone the NBN Co Contact Centre on 1800 687 626. If you need an Interpreter, please call Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS National) on 131 450 and ask for the NBN Co Contact Centre. To find information in other languages: www.nbnco.com.au/translation

NBN Landline Disconnections Continue

ACTION REQUIRED! Almost every Gungahlin resident has work to do in the next few weeks and months regarding the National Broadband Network (NBN), regardless of where they live.

As part of the arrangements between NBN Co and Telstra, home phone and internet services based on landline copper connections will be disconnected and replaced by the NBN fibre network. This process began on 17th July, 2014 for areas around the Gungahlin Town Centre, and will continue through the remainder of 2014 as shown on the map. To avoid disconnection of your landline home phone and/or internet they need to be moved to the NBN.



Even if you do not have and do not want broadband Internet, and just use a normal phone, you need to get the phone service moved over to the NBN – you will not need to change your number.

NBN Co strongly recommend you order your service **8 weeks** before disconnection date to allow enough time to install and connect the equipment before disconnection. Don't leave it to the last minute. Make sure you avoid disconnection.

Don't let any of your neighbours get left behind without a home phone or internet access. If you live in an area in Gungahlin shaded orange or green on the map make sure your neighbours also know about the deadlines. We don't want anyone in Gungahlin left without a home phone or internet access.

Other Issues

Don't forget the ACT

Digital Hub at the Gungahlin library provides free, easy training to all members of the community and showcases the National Broadband Network (NBN) – for more information visit <http://www.library.act.gov.au/ACTDigitalHub>, email digitalhub@act.gov.au or call 6140 4990.

The GCC continues to lobby to get fibre-to-the-home (FTTH) NBN connections into Nicholls and Casey 1 and every GCC meeting provides an update on progress regarding the NBN Co (second Wednesday of every month at the Gungahlin Library).

What do you need to do?

If your address in Gungahlin is shaded in orange, the NBN service is now available and your existing landline home phone and ADSL internet are scheduled to be disconnected SOON on the dates shown- **July and September 2014**. Likewise if your address is in the areas shaded blue, green or purple your existing landline phone and ADSL internet services are scheduled to be disconnected starting from **October 2014**. You should contact whoever you get your phone service from now, or an alternative phone service provider, to arrange the transfer to the NBN.

IS YOUR BUSINESS ONE OF THE 86% THAT GET IT WRONG?

STOP

86% OF BUSINESSES DO NOT HAVE A GOAL, DON'T HAVE A PLAN TO EXECUTE, DON'T HAVE A DEFINED SALES PROCESS, DON'T KNOW WHO THEIR TARGET MARKET IS, DON'T HAVE ROLES AND PERFORMANCE PROCESSES FOR THEIR PEOPLE AND DON'T MONITOR FINANCIALS

The good news is there is a solution for you if you are one of the majority. The Small Business MBA (Making Business Awesome) program is designed to get you working 'on' your business to fill the voids that may be evident.

Over 7 weeks you will learn not only the theory, but have practical tasks to complete and submit to add process to your business. This is what makes this unique compared to other programs making like promises of change.

The Small Business MBA is a 7 week LIVE webinar series which includes:



FOR ONLY \$597

- 7 weeks access to a coach
- Develop a goal and plan
- Build Job Roles and Processes
- Develop a Sales Process
- Identify Your Target Market
- Build a Marketing plan
- Pricing development
- Know the key financial tools
- plus more....

ALL GUNSMOKE READERS AND GUNGAHLIN BUSINESS OWNERS CAN ACCESS THE SMALL BUSINESS MBA FOR ONLY \$447

<http://www.smallbusinessmba.com.au/gcc/>

Tony Ozanne

+614 4761 0279

tony@tonyozanne.com

Business Coaching
Canberra

www.tonyozanne.com

Small Business
MBA

www.smallbusinessmba.com.au