



Welcome to Canberra . . .

'It's Summertime in the Capital'

After a fantastic Christmas we are now enjoying summer here in Canberra. Summer is generally hot and sunny and luckily not far to the beautiful south coast beaches. Most of the migration team spent time down at the beach over the holidays. It's only a 2 hour, very pleasant drive and just the perfect time of year to enjoy walks along the beach or in the national parks, reading, relaxing, enjoying the sun, eating ice cream and fish and chips.

For me, I have a very exciting event happening in my personal life: I am expecting a baby in March 2011! I am very excited and very much looking forward to being a mum and looking after my beautiful baby. In the last months I have realised how lucky I am to live in Canberra where all the medical support you can possibly need is available. Having several hospitals here in Canberra gives our residents the certainty of being well cared for, whatever issue they might have. Also, in Canberra we have our new Walk-in-Centres. They offer fast, free treatment for minor injury or illness. No appointment is necessary. Patients can see a specialist nurse for advice, assessment and treatment for cuts and bruises, minor infections, strains, sprains, skin complaints and coughs and colds, etc. If necessary, patients will be redirected to the most appropriate healthcare professional. For more information have a look at www.health.act.gov.au

My last day at work will be 04 February 2011 and I have to admit I am leaving with mixed feelings: I will certainly miss my job as I really enjoy working with you, processing your applications, answering your questions and especially meeting you on arrival here in Canberra. Being a migrant myself, I can so much sympathize on what a big move it is to migrate to a new country and how daunting it is at times. Luckily my lovely colleagues will be looking after you just beautifully and I am happy to know that Pat, Michele and Julianne and now Parveen will do their very best to help you with your migration process and settlement. Hopefully, in February 2012 I will be back in the office and continuing my work.

Until then, I wish you all the very best with your migration process and hope it all goes well. I will hopefully see some of you who might be arriving after February 2012 and already look forward to welcoming you to Canberra then.

Jeannine

What's Happening in January?

There is plenty of entertainment happening here in the Nation's Capital:

- **Summernats Car Festival:** ↗ An annual festival of the street machine lifestyle. 6-9 January 2011
- **Australia Day Live:** ↗ This concert held on the lawns of Parliament House is a national tribute to everything that is great about Australia and being Australian. 25 January 2011
- **Australian Day:** ↗ Enjoy Australia Day in the Park. An action packed day out for the entire family. 26 January 2011

HOT SPOTS

National Gallery of Australia ↗

Admission is free to the permanent galleries, however admission prices may apply to special exhibitions.

Be sure to see Fujiko Nakaya's Fog sculpture.

Open daily (closed Christmas Day)

QUICK LINKS

- [ACT Skilled Migration Program](#) ↗
- [Visit Canberra](#) ↗
- [Live in Canberra](#) ↗
- [Arts Around Canberra](#) ↗
- [Map of Canberra](#) ↗
- [Events in the ACT](#) ↗
- [Canberra Kids](#) ↗

SETTLEMENT SERVICES

The ACT Government offers a range of free settlement services to help new migrants move to Canberra. These include:

- a dedicated 'Welcome to Canberra' team member who will be in contact with you throughout the whole process;
- a meet and greet service on arrival;
- a two-hour guided tour of Canberra; and
- accommodation assistance and employment support.

For further information contact Jeannine or Pat at: welcometocanberra@act.gov.au

THE MIGRATION TEAM



Left to right Jeannine, Julianne, Pat and Michele.

Canberra Highlights

Canberra is the bush capital of Australia and Canberrans love their parks. More than 70% of the ACT is open space and every year Canberra residents visit their city parks in excess of 12.2 million times. Parks are a natural part of living in Canberra and, as such, a valued asset to the local community. Canberra is about the same physical size as Greater London but has the population of only about 350,000 people compared to about 7.2 million in Greater London



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