

MEDIA ALERT

29 November 2022

What

Fundraising Drive by Gungahlin Village and Canberra Metro Operations for Communities at Work's Christmas Appeal and for Rainbow Paws pet charity

Santa will arrive at the Gungahlin Village shopping centre by light rail. Canberra Metro Operations Customer Service Officers will be dressed up as Santa's helpers and hand over a donation cheque to Communities at Work.

When

11.00am – 11.30am, **Thursday 1 December 2022**

Santa arrives at Gungahlin Terminus at **11.10am**.

Where

Gungahlin Place light rail terminus near Gungahlin Village shopping centre (corner of Gungahlin Place and Hibberston St, Gungahlin). The light rail vehicle will be 'Out of Service', enabling it to park for 20 mins to allow time for photos.

Why

1. To raise awareness of the Communities at Work's Christmas Appeal calling for vital donations of food, gifts and toys for Canberra's vulnerable and disadvantaged, who may otherwise miss out on Christmas. And also calling for donation for The Rainbow Paws Program, a charity to support vulnerable pet owners.
2. To showcase the charity work and community spirit of Canberra's local community organisations – using Gungahlin Village shopping centre and Canberra Metro Operations as examples, and encouraging the Canberra community to participate in the Appeal and run their own donation drives.

Who

- Santa and his helpers.
- Thomas the Tank Engine (to take Santa from the light rail to the Donation Village)
- Communities at Work: CEO Michelle Colefax and Director of Social Programs & Volunteering Ruth Zanker, and clients from its disability program.
- Canberra Metro Operations: Sally Coyle, Community Engagement Manager
- Gungahlin Village: Bri Nix, Centre Manager

A full media release, with accompanying photos, will be issued on Thursday 1 December 2022

FOR GENERAL MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

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