

[View this email in your browser](#)



Australian Citizen Science Association

8 May 2017

Hi ACSA Community!

We have a bumper edition in store for you this month, with details on the ACSA conference, a new committee member and a feature on extreme citizen science achieving modern day scientific discovery! For those of you who are jetting off to the US to attend #CitSci2017 next week, we wish you a safe and productive trip. Let us know how it goes!

ACSA Conference - February 2018

We are very excited to share details of the 2018 Australian Citizen Science Conference with you all.

Sharing your Outcomes | A Conference for the Citizen Science Community

When: Second week of February, 2018

Where: University of South Australia, City West Campus, 55 North Terrace, Adelaide, South Australia

Put this in your calendar now!!

With a focus on community, the conferencing organising committee invite YOU to put forward your ideas to help inform the content of the conference.

- * What sort of topics would you like to see included?
- * What would you like the workshops to cover?

1-2 minutes of your time, promise!) Your input will greatly assist us in putting together a conference that is relevant to our community. Please click [here](#) to complete the survey.

Jennifer Loader joins the ACSA Management Committee

With such a busy year ahead and so many exciting things happening, ACSA's management committee thought it would be great to have another pair of helping hands on board. So, we decided to invite a new General Member to join our committee! To inform this invitation we referred back to the results of the General Member election at last November's AGM, and invited the two nominees (who were tied for third place in the General Member votes) to join our team. At this stage one person has accepted, and we are thrilled to have Jenn Loader on board. Welcome Jenn! You can read a short bio about Jenn below.

Inspired by her first Indo-Pacific experience in Palau, Jenn moved to Australia to pursue a career that unites science and education to support healthy oceans. As Director of Programs & Partnerships for [Reef Check Australia](#), she works with a diverse volunteer and partner network to implement community-based reef research using a globally-standardised methodology.



As Coordinator for the [Great Barrier Reef Citizen Science Alliance](#), she supports 12 coastal and marine citizen science member groups to foster collaborative strategies that enhance positive citizen science outcomes for the Reef. She believes in the power of citizen science to unlock practical grassroots solutions to environmental challenges. Jenn is based in Brisbane.

Extreme Citizen Science delivers "Vanessa"

ACSA's very own Paul Flemons recently lead an Australian Museum expedition to Balls Pyramid, the tallest volcanic stack in the world at 560 metres high, to hunt for signs of one of the world's rarest creatures. The Lord Howe

ago. Among Paul's expedition team were six volunteer climbers whose job it was to search for the elusive phasmid on melaleuca bushes high up on the sheer cliff face of Ball's Pyramid...at night! Suspended on ropes, in the dark, with sheer vertical drops of 400m beneath them, scrabbling in the scrub and dirt for the nocturnal stick insect - this was extreme citizen science at its best!

In a great result for the Australian Museum and citizen science, a total of 17 phasmids were found across the island, and a pregnant female phasmid - named "Vanessa" after the climber who found it - will join a captive breeding program at Melbourne Zoo designed to bring the species back from the brink of extinction.

Congratulations to Paul and your team on a fantastic expedition. You can read the full story on SMH online [here](#).



The Lord Howe Island phasmid

Not so Flickr-some?

So it appears our shout-out for some of your awesome citizen science photos may not have hit home. Our Flickr request fell flat! We would love to know why, and hope you can take a minute to let us know so we can try and hit the mark next time.

your pics to info.acsa01@gmail.com)

* Would you prefer not to share your photos?

* How can ACSA do this better?

We would love your feedback as to why the Flickr idea didn't work; please let Amy know via info.acsa01@gmail.com.

If you do have some photos to share (and we'd love to see them) you can either send them by email or upload here [Australian Citizen Science Projects](#).

Project Finder Reminder & New User Guide

Who has checked out the updated [Citizen Science Project Finder](#) yet? Has anyone uploaded their project? If you haven't visited the site yet, it's an amazing resource that you should definitely become familiar with. To help you navigate the site Peter Brenton from ALA has put together a comprehensive User Guide which can be downloaded from here: <https://biocollect.ala.org.au/acsa/home/gettingStarted>.

Do you manage a project? Add yours to the finder today! Are you looking to get involved in citizen science? Give the finder a search! Feel free to share your thoughts about the finder and what you are hopeful to see in the future by emailing Amy at info.acsa01@gmail.com.

National Science Statement 2017

Did you see the Government's newly released [National Science Statement](#)? It is great to see our leaders recognising the importance of Australians being ENGAGED IN and ENRICHED by science, and acknowledging the central place that science plays in Australian society and in our future. A big tick for citizen science right there!

You can read the Statement [here](#).

Please consider helping spread the word about ACSA by sharing this newsletter with people engaged in citizen science!

Thank you for your continued support and interest in ACSA.

Erin, Stephanie, Alexis, Ellie, Jessie, Kylie, Jenn, Paul and Amy



The Australian Citizen Science Association (ACSA) is a developing 'community of practice' which supports researchers, educators, businesses, science communicators, government, community groups and community volunteers in all aspects of citizen science. To learn more visit <http://citizenscience.org.au>.

Copyright © 2017, Australian Citizen Science Association Inc, All rights reserved.

This email was sent to <<Email Address>>

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

ACSA · c/o Faculty of Science · Level 2 Carlaw Building F07, University of Sydney · Sydney, New South Wales 2006 · Australia

