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Australian Citizen Science Association

11 May 2018

Hi ACSA Community!

This week officially marks ACSA's 4th birthday! 4 years, 3 new chapters, 2 national conferences, 1 inaugural workshop later and here we are! It's amazing to reflect on all the work that has gone into shaping the Australian Citizen Science Association, with so many dedicated people making extraordinary contributions to shape what the organisation is today. We are thriving group of more than 250 members, steered by a dedicated volunteer management committee of 8, striving to deliver on ACSA's strategic goals for 2018 and beyond. What a brilliant citizen science community we have across Australia, achieving great things! Thank you to each and every one of you who have been part of the ride. If you like, have a watch of this [panel discussion](#) from that first May 2014 workshop in Brisbane, and consider if it still resonates with you!

ACSA Strategic Planning Meeting

The ACSA Management Committee came together for two days in Sydney last week for our annual strategic planning meeting. It was wonderful to catch up with everyone again, to properly welcome Sunny Sanderson to the team, and to discuss ACSA's priorities and



An action-packed agenda saw us cover a wide range of topics, with understanding the needs our community and benefitting our members front of mind. From policy position to financial sustainability, communication plans, website content and resources, ACSA membership, regional chapters, #CitSciOz20 as well as things like citizen science global partnerships and international working groups...we covered it all! It was an extremely productive meeting and we look forward to working together to deliver on the tasks we've set ourselves, for the benefit of our members, our community and citizen science at a national and international level.

#CitSciOz18 Content and Resources

It's LIVE!! Our [You Tube channel](#), featuring hours of #CitSciOz18 presentations, is now live! New content is being added daily so jump over to our channel and subscribe now. Feel free to share the channel and your conference presentation as relevant, it's a great opportunity to promote your project.

The public lecture, "[What is Citizen Science?](#)" featuring our keynote speakers Dr Caren Cooper and Amy Sterling is our featured talk for May. Learn more about the extent of citizen science Dr Cooper (@CoopSciScoop) and how to map the brain in EyeWire with Amy Sterling (@amylesterling).



Also, for those that have been eagerly awaiting the final installment of CitSciOz18 Twitter Moments, Day 3 is now ready! You can check it out [here](#).

Competition Winners

BEST BLOG

We are pleased to announce that the winner of the #CitSciOz18 Best Blog competition is NATHAN ODGERS from Manaaki Whenua - Landcare Research in New Zealand. Nathan's [blog](#) provided an excellent summary of the conference, both from a 'what went on' perspective as well as in terms of his own personal learnings. We loved the inclusion of the Twitter pics and commentary, and his ideas about incorporating the technology from other citizen science projects into the soil science space. Congratulations Nathan!! You can read Nathan's blog [here](#). Next month we will feature some more conference blogs; they are too good not to share!

SPOTTERON COMPETITION

Congratulations also to MATTHEW HALL, a PhD student at Sydney University, for winning the Spotteron Competition. Matthew wins a tailor-made geo-locatable citizen science app from [Spotteron](#). Matthew's entry proposed an app to track the movements of Australian Brush-turkeys (*Alectura lathami*) in suburban areas. The app, which will be available for download from the Google Play and Apple App stores, will allow people to report the location they have seen Brush-turkeys, as well as how many, whether they are male or female, adult or juvenile, and where their nests can be found. This will help researchers study their movement ecology, habitat use, and behaviour in the urban environments they have recently moved in to, data which has the potential to



Free Event: "Kings Park Meet + Greet"

The WA Chapter of the Australian Citizen Science Association was officially launched at CitSciOz18, and they are holding a free "Meet + Greet" session tomorrow afternoon 12th May!

This is their first public event and ACSA-WA invites citizen science practitioners, volunteers, scientists and end-users to meet and mingle to learn about the many active and successful projects in Western Australia.

This free event kicks off at 3pm at Aspects in Kings Park, and guests, friends, partners, children and grandparents are all welcome!

For more information, and to register, please click [here](#).

CitSciOz'20

Loved CitSciOz'18? Want to be part of the action in two years time? The ACSA management committee is currently considering venues for the 2020 conference, and we'd love to hear from you! If you are interested in having the event come to your city, and are keen to help out with the hosting, then please get in touch with Amy via [email](#).

Off to ECSA in Geneva, Switzerland

In a few short weeks Jessie Oliver will be heading to Geneva, Switzerland to represent the ACSA management committee at an upcoming meeting about future development of the Citizen Science Global Partnership at the United Nations office, as well as to attend the [European Citizen Science Association Conference](#) and a number of workshops! She looks forward to filling you all in upon her return. Save travels Jessie!

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.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us:

info.acsa01@gmail.com or via our [website](#).

Erin, Stephanie, Sunny, Ellie, Jessie, Kylie, Jenn, Paul, Michelle and Amy

Get connected



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>.

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