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# Australian Citizen Science Association

17 June 2020

Dear <<First Name>>,

As we head towards August and [National Science Week](#), this year, perhaps more than ever before, we have an opportunity to reflect on the life saving work done on our behalf by STEM professionals. This includes the medical researchers and health professionals combating the pandemic, as well as the fire propagation modellers, meteorologists and others who worked behind the scenes during the bushfires last summer. National Science Week will be a little different this year, with online events, virtual tours and stay-at-home science experiences. If your favourite project is doing a presentation make sure you add it to the events on the National Science Week website.

With the second wave of the virus hitting Victoria and NSW we are also reminded that many of our readers have gone back into lockdown. Now more than ever people are turning to [citizen science](#) to help them get through the hours they spend at home, taking the opportunity to do something meaningful and fun. There are plenty of citizen science projects you can do at home and with kids - check out the list our Management Committee put together [here](#).

Plenty more in our July newsletter, including some exciting partnership news, our citizen science stamp winner and a link to our latest Publications List - read on!

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**ACSA partners with NSW Natural Resources  
Commission**

[their Forest Monitoring and Improvement Program connect with the NSW citizen science community.](#)

Together we have drafted a citizen science strategy which sets out the objectives and actions for facilitating opportunities for citizen science to contribute to the Forest Monitoring and Improvement Program. We are keen to hear what you think about the draft strategy ([link to strategy found here](#)) and you can provide feedback via [nrc@nrc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:nrc@nrc.nsw.gov.au). Furthermore, we are working with the Commission to identify citizen science data and projects that can support the Program. A [short survey](#) was developed to collect this information and was designed to identify relevant citizen science projects and initiatives. We welcome your input!

Survey submissions and feedback on the strategy need to be submitted by August 7th.

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## Call for Papers: Disaster, Infrastructure, and Participatory Knowledge

There are many empirical cases of citizen and community science that start in response to disasters, but there is a dearth of analyses on its interaction with socio-technical infrastructures.

Our sister association, the [Citizen Science Association](#), is producing a special issue of their journal, [Citizen Science: Theory & Practice](#), which is inviting papers that bring attention to the ways infrastructure shapes how citizen and community science unfolds over longer periods of disaster recovery, whether and how infrastructure supports citizen and community science in translating participatory knowledge into meaningful and lasting institutional changes, and more.

If you are interested in submitting a paper, [full details are available on CSA's blog](#), including an overview of the topic and purpose of the special issue, dates and deadlines for submissions, and details on how to submit. [Please also see author guidelines](#) for information on the journal's structures and fees.

The abstract deadline for the first round of papers is **16 August 2020**.

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Congratulations to **Rebecca Clancy** and family for winning our Citizen Science stamp competition! For telling us which Australian citizen science project should be made into the next Australia Post stamp, Rebecca has won a prize pack of collectible Citizen Science series postage stamps.

Rebecca and her family suggested that a "[Bees in the 'burbs in a biodiversity hotspot](#)" postage stamp would help spread awareness about the crucial role that bees play in our environment. "A massive portion of our agricultural production benefits from bee pollination, therefore we simply MUST care for these beautiful creatures who provide us with so much" said Rebecca. Thank you so much for your entry Rebecca; your prize pack will be on its way shortly!

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## ALA Presentation: Underpinning Citizen Science in Australia

ACSA-ACT & Region invites you to join a special online presentation by Peter Brenton of the Atlas of Living Australia (ALA).

This presentation will provide an overview of the ALA, including the tools, services, and information it provides. It will also cover the benefits to data providers in making their data freely available through the ALA. Time will also be allocated to a Q&A session where your ALA questions will be answered. All welcome to attend!

**Date: 30 July 2020 | Time: 7:30PM | Format: Online (Zoom)**

[More information and registration](#)

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## Discounted registration for ECSA Conference

members receive a 20% discount on ECSA membership fees, you will also receive an automatic **DISCOUNT CODE** for registration to the conference! This code will ensure that your conference registration fees are cheaper than the nominated supporter rate.

[Click here to join & register](#)

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## The SEED Citizen Science Hub has launched!

The [SEED Citizen Science Hub](#) is a one-stop-shop for citizen scientists in NSW to explore, connect and contribute with projects, people and data.

It has been co-designed with citizen scientists, for citizen scientists to support and grow citizen science in NSW, improve the quality, aggregation and availability of citizen science data and facilitate communication of the real impact citizen science can have.

Data gained through the efforts of citizen scientists can be as valuable as those obtained by scientists working in research institutions, natural history collections, government agencies and industry. The hub harnesses the enthusiasm, interest and efforts of citizen scientists to enrich the range and depth of data available, to be used as part of the rigorous evidence base for scientific and government decision making.

Learn more about the hub on the [SEED website](#) and discover the impact your contributions can have by being openly available to communities, scientists and decision makers.

[Read more](#)

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## National Youth Science Forum: Q&A with John Pring

**By ACSA-ACT & Region Chair, John Pring**

Well, what was supposed to be a live presentation on Citizen Science to the National Youth Science Forum (NYSF) in January, the coming together of a group of Year 11 and 12 students from around Australia to encourage their

then Covid.

In order to provide an opportunity for the cohort of students to get at least some of the information and opportunities that they would normally have gotten, the NYSF decided to move online with a series of presentations and activities. In place of my presentation I was asked to participate in an interview followed by a question and answer session.

Here are the links for those sessions if you are interested:

- [Interview with Melanie Bagg\\_\(CEO NYSF\)](#)
- [Question and Answer session with Georgia Hadlow\\_\(Programs and Communications officer NYSF\)](#)

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## June Publications List now available

Thanks to everyone who submitted their articles for the June publications list - it's a bumper edition! Now available on our website.

### June 2020 Publications List

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**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:

[coordinator@citizenscience.org.au](mailto:coordinator@citizenscience.org.au) or via our [website](#).

Erin, Stephanie, Rosemary, Michelle, Jenn, Patrick, Cobi, Rosalinde, Maxine, Alice, Amy & Jessie



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Australian Citizen Science Association  
c/o Faculty of Science, Partner Engagement & Outreach  
Level 2 Carlaw Building F07, The University of Sydney, NSW, 2006

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