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# Australian Citizen Science Association

**11 November 2020**

Dear <<First Name>>,

Phew! What a big month it was last month with #CitSciOzOnline. Thank you to all our speakers, sponsors and participants for helping make our first foray into the world of online events such a success. More on that below, as well as our Seed Grant winners, AGM reminder and a moving tribute to John LaSalle.

It's also time to get excited about the Eureka Prizes! With the entire event being conducted live via an interactive broadcast award show, you can ALL attend this years award ceremony! Who will take out the Innovation in Citizen Science Award prize? Will it be [Astroquest](#), [Team Brush Turkey](#) (who you might remember won the Spotteron Competition at #CitSciOz18, to develop a new citizen science app) or the [Victorian Coastal Monitoring Program](#)? Register [here](#) to attend the award ceremony and find out!

## And that's a wrap! #CitSciOzOnline

More than 200 logins from all over the world over 4 Wednesdays in October!  
20 new videos added to our [YouTube Channel](#)!

Speakers from so many fields, including grass roots environmental justice, indigenous project learnings, universities, astronomy / space, government, health, private industry, managers, directors, CEOs, Royal Botanic Gardens, social scientists, liasions, Fellows, citizen scientists, and more!

With four fabulous sponsors, more than 81,000 Twitter impressions & 568

We'd love to know what you thought of our event? If you signed up to attend #CitSciOzOnline you would have received your feedback survey. We would love for you to respond and tell us what you thought. Should we do this again? Drop us a line via our website and let us know.

*A bit of fun in the #socialnetworking stream - attempting to sign the letters C i t S c i O z!*

With a huge THANK YOU to our sponsors Theo Murphy Initiative (Australian Academy of Science), Minderoo Foundation, The Environment Institute (University of Adelaide) and the Australian Museum. A particularly warm thank you to the Australian Academy of Science's Laura Navarro for making sure all of our sessions went off without a hitch plus schooling our presenters and session chairs in the finer points of Zoom.

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## ACSA Seed Grant Winners!

Congratulations to the recipients of ACSA's Seed Grants for 2020! The Seed Grants were designed as a way of giving back and investing in our members, with two \$1,000 grants available to ACSA members to seed their professional or project's growth in line with ACSA's strategic goals of Participation and Practice.

With 12 high quality applications for just 2 grants, our judging panel had a tough time indeed! Congratulations to our two winners:.

- **Jordan Gacutan - UNSW / Tangaroa Blue Foundation:** The Seed Grant will be used to produce a 5 part video series on scientific sampling and their utility in marine debris monitoring. The videos will consist of theory and field demonstrations, and will aim to increase the scientific skill-set of citizen scientists working with marine debris across Australia.
- **Karen Guymer - Wingecarribee Shire Council:** The Council will use the Seed Grant money to fund professional development and training in the Rapid Appraisal of Riparian Condition (RARC) monitoring. The skills and knowledge gained through the RARC training will then enable council staff to educate/train the citizen scientists involved in their programs.

Congratulations again Jordan and Karen. We look forward to hearing how your

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## Committee Nominations extended till Friday

There is still time to nominate for a role on the ACSA Management Committee! If you've ever thought about joining our team, now is the time. And to help you out we've given you 2 more days!

We are looking for people with diverse skills and experience who can contribute at a strategic and practical level to build a strong, sustainable and dynamic Association, so that it grows into the hub for citizen science in Australia.

There are five positions available:

**Chair | Vice Chair | Treasurer | Secretary | General Member x 1**

You must be an ACSA member to nominate or be nominated. The terms of reference and basic responsibilities for these positions are [available here](#).

We'd love for you to submit your application!

[Nominate Now](#)

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## Reminder...

Calling all members to register to attend [here](#)! Please note the zoom login details will be sent to you via email prior to the meeting.

If you can't attend, we encourage you to fill out and return the proxy form ([download here](#)), to enable someone else to represent you at the meeting.

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## Membership interface changing

ACSA is currently in the process of transitioning to a new membership and engagement platform '[SupporterHub](#)'. We hope this will provide a simpler and more reliable membership platform for both you to use and us to administer. As part of this transition, you will notice a few changes shortly with our website

### What will change:

- The membership sign-up and renewal page will look different. The information collected will remain the same, but the interface will be different. Please be assured that no data will be lost during this transition, and all memberships held will be simply transferred to the new system.
- The special interest groups and member directory currently housed on our website will be phased out, as we introduce the new SupporterHub membership module.
- Our e-newsletters will look a little different in the new year - stay tuned!

If you have any questions or concerns about this transition, please let Amy know via [coordinator@citizenscience.org.au](mailto:coordinator@citizenscience.org.au).

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## Tribute to John LaSalle

The [Journal of Natural History has published an obituary summarising](#) John LaSalle's life. John was the former Director of the Atlas of Living Australia and many of you will remember that John was crucial in spearheading ACSA's [early days as a member of our establishment committee](#). The Natural History obituary [includes a full](#) list of his many publications and achievements. We especially love this reference to citizen science, as it speaks volumes of his pioneering vision for the role of both technology and the general public in science. "By the mid 2000's John was coming to the view that taxonomy needed to radically embrace new technologies if it had any chance to contribute significantly to sustaining and conserving biodiversity. To this end, he started to engage in technologies that could 1) speed up species identification; 2) capitalise on largely inaccessible data stored in collections, and 3) could incorporate citizen science into its knowledge base."

A [new species of wasp \*Cerobarcon lasallei\*](#) has also been named after him in celebration of his career. ACSA member Dr Erin Fagan-Jeffires is an author on this work.

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## September Publications online

of publications on this page as well.

## September Publications

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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



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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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