



An Australian Government Initiative



national science week 2010

NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2010 www.scienceweek.gov.au

WELCOME TO NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK 2010!

August 14 – 22 2010

www.scienceweek.gov.au

LESS THAN TWO WEEKS UNTIL NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK 2010 BEGINS!

Greetings science enthusiasts!

National Science Week 2010 is now less than two weeks away, so start marking the days off your calendar. As you start your countdown, people across Australia are super busy planning all the fascinating events and exciting initiatives that will take place during this year's National Science Week.

This month, we would like to take the time to fill you in on the latest news from The Big Blog Theory and other happenings in our social media world and feature some of the exciting events that will be taking place. For all our hardworking event organisers, this newsletter will provide you with helpful hints to make your events a great success. We will also feature the most recent news from our National Science Week partners.

We would love to hear any other exciting news that you may have, so if you would like to share anything, please email details to kym@shaccommunications.com

AND THE WINNER OF THE BIG BLOG THEORY IS...

We are excited to announce the winner of The Big Blog Theory is Bec Crew, author of the animal behavioural science blog *Save Your Breath for Running Ponies*.

By popular vote, Bec takes out the title of Australia's best science blogger with her blog, which aims to get people excited about the fascinating, often left-field discoveries that are being made every day.

Inspired to write about bizarre animal, insect and dinosaur discoveries, Bec said she hoped to show the public that it is important to challenge ourselves with science, but also to have fun with it.

Bec was chosen as one of 10 national finalists by a panel of four judges with Running Ponies then attracting the most online votes from the public.

As the official blogger for National Science Week 2010, Bec will tour National Science Week events to blog about the activities, the people she meets and what she learns. She will also receive a Huawei U8230 Android Smartphone with \$100 prepaid credit.

In the microblogging category, chemistry PhD candidate and lecturer Corri Baker, was voted Australia's best science microblogger with her Tweetstream [@cbsquared_](https://twitter.com/cbsquared_).

The Big Blog Theory science blogging competition was created in the lead up to National Science Week to celebrate Australian bloggers who contribute to the communication and understanding of science online, and to inspire other science enthusiasts to give blogging a go.

We were overwhelmed by the response to the competition from you, our fellow science lovers, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has been involved in making this competition such a success.

Why not check out the blogs of our [finalists?](#)



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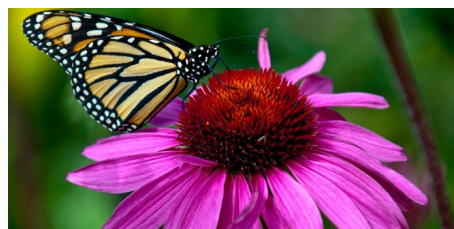
IN OTHER ONLINE NEWS...

Inspired by the recent microblogging phenomenon, we have created a National Science Week Twitter account. Click [here](#) to visit the National Science Week 2010 Twitter page and make sure you follow us to be the first to find out about National Science Week events and initiatives.



While we are on the topic of social media, we have also recently launched a unique Facebook event - [Stop World! Take a look around....](#) 2010 is the International Year of Biodiversity, so we decided to set up this event to celebrate biodiversity and more importantly, to celebrate all that is wonderful about our planet. The Facebook event will run during National Science Week, 14-22 August.

To participate in this event, simply click 'attending' on the [event page](#), and see it as a reminder to STOP and take a look around you. While you're at it, why not join the [National Science Week Facebook page](#).



SOME OF THE FAST APPROACHING NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK EVENTS

Since we last wrote to you in June, Australians across the country have been busy planning over 1 000 National Science Week events. A majority of the

events have been locked in and we are pleased to be able to share some of their details with you. Most of the National Science Week events are free for people of all ages and there are certainly enough events to cater to a wide range of interests. Our National Tour guests, Dr Hazel Barton, Dr Chris Smith, Tim Jarvis and Dr Jan Herrmann, will be making appearances at some of these events, so make sure you keep an eye out for them too!

A full list of National Science Week events can be found at www.scienceweek.gov.au

Tasmania

A range of events will be held across Hobart, Launceston, and Burnie as part of the Tasmanian Science Festival. One of these free events, Hands-on Minds-on Engineering, will be run by the University of Tasmania's School of Engineering's School Education Outreach Team at the Imaginarium Science Centre in Devonport on 16 – 17 August. This event will feature hands-on and minds-on sessions including balloon powered cars, electric powered cars, electromagnetism, electronics, light and optics, renewable energy, rockets, simple mechanical machines, and sound.

Arctic explorer Tim Jarvis will be visiting the University of Tasmania Cradle Coast Campus on Sunday 22 August.



To find out more about this event and other events in Tasmania, click [here](#).

Queensland

Queensland's inaugural Gold Coast Science Fair will be held on Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 August at Broadwater Parklands. The Gold Coast Science Fair will feature a range of events for all ages including exhibitions, science shows, workshops, hands-on activities and lectures. Designed as a free community event to encourage understanding of and participation in science and technology, the event will have a strong educational focus on topics such as astronomy, earth science, health science and physics.

Dr Chris Smith aka The Naked Scientist will be conducting public lectures and presentations during The Gold Coast Science Fair.



To find out more about this event and other events in Queensland, click [here](#).

Australian Capital Territory

The Microscopic Worlds: A 3D Exploration event will be held on 20 August at the CSIRO Discovery Centre's Optus Theatre in Acton. The event will feature a science show and lecture, exploring things such as how spiders and flies find lunch and avoid becoming someone else's lunch, whether plants really hunt insects, and the different aspects of mould, fungi, and poisons. A scanning electron microscope will be used to show you the amazing things that cannot be seen by the human eye.

To find out more about this event and other events in the Australian Capital Territory, click [here](#).

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The Northern Territory

After Hours at the Dinosaurs Museum, an interactive show for children, will be held at the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory in Fannie Bay. At this event, children will embark on a night-time expedition, guided by torchlight, through the museum to explore the dinosaurs and other prehistoric creatures and their keepers. After Hours at the Dinosaurs Museum, will take place from 20-22 August.

To find out more about this event and other events in the Northern Territory, click [here](#).



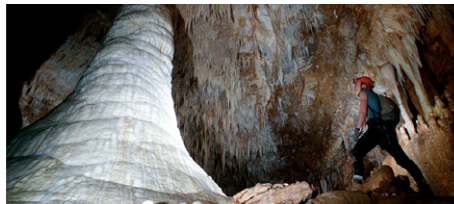
South Australia

In South Australia, the CSI Capri-Scientists Solving Crime event will be taking place at the Capri Theatre in Goodwood. At the event, forensic scientists will conduct a 90 minute mock murder investigation using modern scientific techniques. While solving the crime, the scientists will describe their work, the tests they are using, and their conclusions. Held on 17 and 18 August, the event is open to everyone, with a special show for students Year 10 and up.

To find out more about this event and other events in South Australia, click [here](#).

Victoria

On 14 August, Dr Hazel Barton will present Amazing Caves: Amazing Microbes at the Kaleide Theatre in Melbourne. As a caver with over 20 years experience, Dr Barton will present interesting findings from her unique research on the relationship between antibiotics and cave microbes.



Also on 14 August is Family Science Night. This event will be held at Pyramid Hill and will begin with a barbeque where there will be water and chemical rockets, along with carbon dioxide car races. After the barbeque, families will have the opportunity to participate in various science experiments and activities.

To find out more about these events and other events in Victoria, click [here](#).

Western Australia

A community science fair, A Dance of Science, will be held at the Canning River Eco Education Centre in Wilson on 15 August. The event will focus on the 'movement' in science, and will include western science and Indigenous knowledge. Topics such as balance, joint motion and acceleration, rapid and slow plant movements, animal movements, earth tectonics and astronomical movements will be covered. Participants will also be able to attend various discussions and will be invited to 'learn by doing' through a range of hands-on interactive and movement experiences. The event will also feature a competition, prizes, native plant giveaways, and displays.

To find out more about this event and other events in West Australia, click [here](#).

New South Wales

Residents of Sydney will have the opportunity to get in touch with nature at the Biodiversity in the City events during National Science Week. At the event, local residents will join scientists and experts in exploring the biodiversity that surrounds them, such as birds, bugs, barnacles, and bacteria. From the Australian Museum to Ultimo and Darling Harbour, Biodiversity in the City will be Australia's largest single celebration of the International Year of Biodiversity. During the event, residents will be able to consult scientists, from Sydney-based scientific institutions, at six different discovery stations in the city on their surroundings.

To find out more about these events and other events in New South Wales, click [here](#).

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A FEW TIPS FOR EVENT ORGANISERS

As we count down the days until National Science Week, we are all excited but busy making sure that everything is in place. Below, are a few useful tools which can be found on the [National Science Week website](#) to help make event organisers' lives a bit easier.

Promotional material

National Science Week promotional collateral is now available, including posters, bookmarks and banners. These are available for download directly from the site for self-printing. A limited number of hard copy items are available on a first in, first served basis. Please contact the coordinating committee in your state/territory to request these. Click [here](#) for Coordinating Committee contacts.

Logos

A range of National Science Week related logos are also available for download. Please refer to the style guide found on the [resources page](#) for information on use of logos.

Event templates

The website also has a range of templates to help you organise your event including event budgets, run sheets, community notice board listings and certificates of appreciation.

LATEST NEWS FROM NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK PARTNERS

COSMOS

Australia's leading science magazine, COSMOS, is one of National Science Week's long-standing partners. We partner with COSMOS because they share our passion for science by addressing issues from climate change to robotics, from how the brain works to why the stars shine.

Free COSMOS magazines will be available at many of the National Science Week events, so you will be able to enjoy excellent scientific writing and stunning photography of all things science related. To join COSMOS on their journey of discovery [subscribe online](#) or call 1300 797 763. If you quote 'National Science Week' when you order your subscription, you will also receive a stylish [COSMOS watch](#) along with every issue delivered straight to your door.



Macleans

Become a Bright Spark for a chance to win a \$20,000 Science Safari.

To help celebrate National Science Week and show the world how science makes us smile, Macleans is running a huge promotion with three amazing Science Safaris worth up to \$20,000 to be won.

The three lucky winning Bright Sparks and their families could be digging for dinosaurs in Wyoming, USA, experiencing archaeology in Egypt, learning about everything at the Smithsonian Institute, stargazing in Hawaii, visiting Einstein's

home in Switzerland, experiencing evolution on the Galapagos Islands or seeing biology and geology in action in Australia. Plus, one lucky Bright Spark will win \$50,000 for their school.

The promotion runs until 15 November, so there's plenty of time to get involved. The winning Bright Sparks and the winning school will be drawn on 16 December.

For your chance to win, just purchase a tube of Macleans toothpaste featuring the big red promotional circle, then visit www.macleans.com.au to enter your unique Bright Sparks code. Good Luck!

Macleans is really happy to support National Science Week, with specific Bright Sparks branded events. There's even a unique promotional website where you can discover a world of science. You can take a world of science quiz, discover who were the brightest Bright Sparks in history and download some fun scientific activity sheets.



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