



# The Royal Society OF VICTORIA

Promoting science since 1854

PATRON: The Hon Linda Dessau AC  
Governor of Victoria

PRESIDENT: Mr David Zerman

## This Month's Events...



**13<sup>th</sup> June: Jenny Graves**  
**NorthSTEM Network Event @ Eltham High School**  
*"Future Humans: Sex & Evolution"*



**28<sup>th</sup> June: David Cantrill**  
**2018 Howitt Lecture – Joint Meeting with GSAV**  
*"The Great South Land: Gondwanan Floras of the Antarctic Fossil Record"*

## July 2018 Advance Notice:



**12<sup>th</sup> July: Arthur Lowery**  
**2018 ATSE Joint Lecture**  
*"Bionic Vision: The Brain-Machine Interface"*

# June 2018 Newsletter

*Print Post Approved 100009741*

The Royal Society of Victoria Inc.  
8 La Trobe Street,  
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Tel. (03) 9663 5259  
[rsv.org.au](http://rsv.org.au)



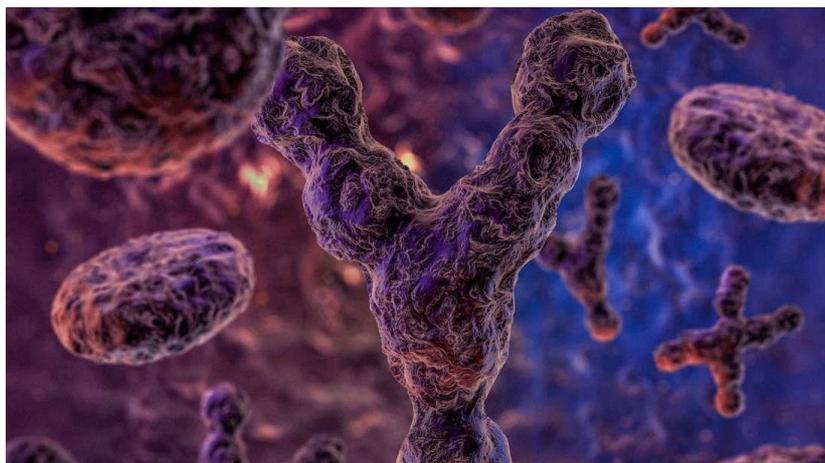
**A NorthSTEM Network Event**  
**Future Humans: Sex & Evolution**

Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> June 2018 at 7:00pm

**Speaker: Professor Jenny Graves AO**

Distinguished Professor,  
**La Trobe University;**  
Professor Emeritus,  
**Australian National University;**  
Thinker-in-Residence,  
**The University of Canberra;**  
Professorial Fellow,  
**The University of Melbourne**

**Venue: Eltham High School**  
30 – 60 Withers Way, Eltham



The presence of a Y chromosome is what determines whether a new human will be a male – and it's disappearing!

Over a long period of time, from generation to generation, the genetic information in the Y chromosome has been degenerating, and one day it will no longer be a functional component of human reproduction.

What will happen to all the men when this day arrives? Will this create an extinction event for humans, or will humans evolve a new way – or several new ways – to assign genders and continue as a successful species? Might there even be more than one species of human in the future?

These are just some of the questions that drive Professor Jenny Graves' amazing genomic and epigenetic research. In this interactive presentation, Jenny will take us on a journey to discover how her work has transformed our understanding of how sex chromosomes work in all vertebrate animals, how they evolved, and how she has predicted the decline of the human Y chromosome.

**About the speaker:**



**Professor Jenny Graves AO** is based at La Trobe University Bundoora. She is an evolutionary geneticist who works with Australian animals; notably, kangaroos, platypus, Tasmanian Devils and dragons (lizards). Her research has contributed to a deeper understanding of the immune system, prion diseases and blood proteins, and helped understand the tumour driving the Tasmanian Devil to extinction. In a collaboration between La Trobe and the University of Canberra, she is studying how bearded dragons change sex in response to temperature, a critical issue as the climate warms.

In 2017 Jenny was the first solo woman to win **the Prime Minister's Prize for Science** for her pioneering work in genetics. She is an Officer of the Order of Australia, a recipient of the Australian Academy of Science's Macfarlane Burnet Medal and was the 2006 L'Oreal-UNESCO Laureate for Women in Science.

**The NorthSTEM Network:**

This event is generously hosted by **Eltham High School** in support of a new **NorthSTEM Network**, a "Science and Innovation Hub" in Melbourne's northern suburbs for the Victorian Inspiring Australia program. Proceeds from the evening will be directed to building an open and inclusive new community program for people of all ages and cultural backgrounds in Melbourne's northern metropolitan region to engage with exciting new skills and emerging knowledge in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).



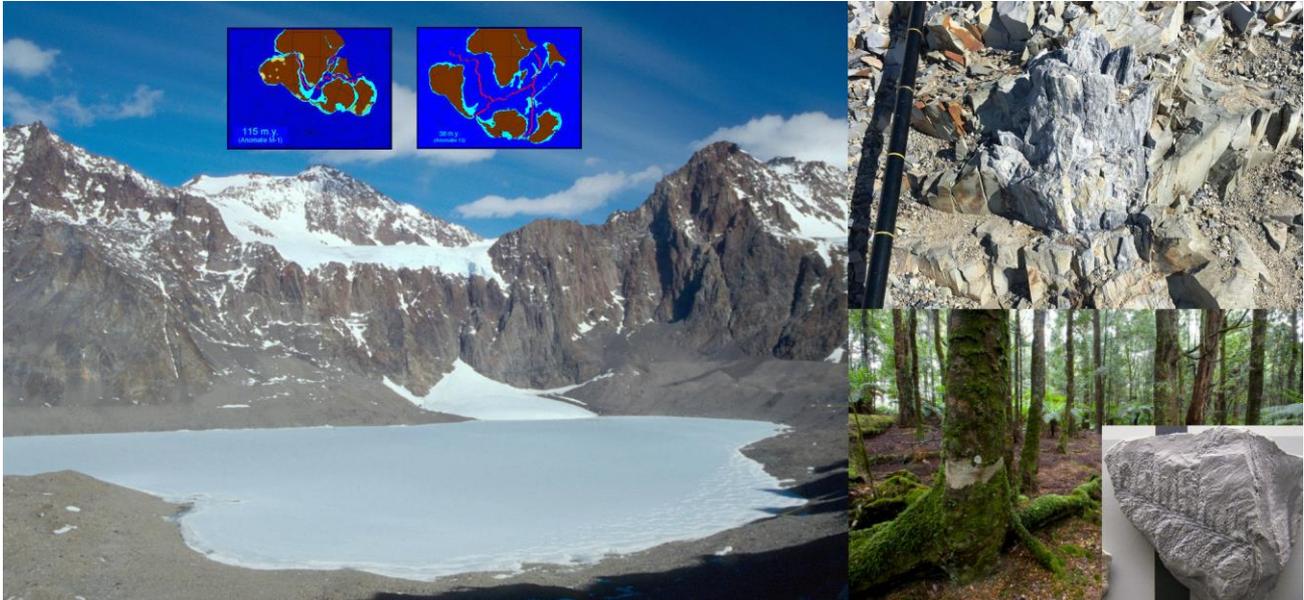
**Places limited, bookings essential! Register online now at**  
<https://rsv.org.au/events/future-humans/>, call or email the RSV office to secure your place:  
9663 5259, [rsv@rsv.org.au](mailto:rsv@rsv.org.au)

## The 2018 Howitt Lecture

A Joint Meeting with the **Geological Society of Australia Victoria Division**

# The Great South Land: Gondwanan Floras of the Antarctic Fossil Record

Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> June 2018 at 7:00pm



### Speaker: Professor David Cantrill

**Executive Director of Science, Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria  
Chair, Geological Society of Australia Victoria Division**

Today Antarctica is one of the most inhospitable terrestrial environments in the world, with a handful of plant species adapted to survive its harsh conditions. However, our southernmost continent once lay at the heart of the supercontinent Gondwana, and played an important role in the expansion and contraction of flora across the planet's southern continents.

Modern molecular methods enable us to understand the development of current-day patterns of biodiversity, but rely on the presence of living species to analyse. The lack of current-day Antarctic biodiversity has precluded the inclusion of this region in these types of studies, making the fossil record an important tool. This talk explores the discovery of new fossil floras and the implications these have for Southern Hemisphere biogeography.

#### About the speaker:



Professor David Cantrill is the Executive Director of Science at the Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria (RBGV), and the Chair of the Geological Society of Australia's Victoria Division. At RBGV, David is responsible for managing and leading the Plant Science and Biodiversity Division, with further responsibility for the State Botanical Collection, comprising the 1.5M specimens in the herbarium and the rare books and artwork in the Library.

His research focus has been the history of Antarctic vegetation and, in particular, the role that Antarctica has played in developing present day patterns of plant distribution in the Southern Hemisphere. David has worked extensively in the Antarctic and more recently in South Africa and New Zealand, concentrating on fossil floras from the Cretaceous and early Cenozoic eras.



**Places limited, bookings essential! Register online now at <https://rsv.org.au/events/great-south-land/>, call or email the RSV office to secure your place: 9663 5259, [rsv@rsv.org.au](mailto:rsv@rsv.org.au)**

## Fourth Members' Briefing & Forum:

### The Future of the Royal Society of Victoria

Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> June from 5 to 7pm



All fully subscribed RSV members (including student members) are asked to attend this special briefing and discussion forum to address the future of the Society.

As canvassed at the Annual General Meeting held on 26 April, while we are making fantastic progress towards the goals articulated in our Strategy, [Concord & Progress](#), the Society's ambitions significantly outweigh its capacities. Thanks to the generous legacy of earlier members such as Dr Phillip Law, we have a small resource base to underwrite our activities for the medium term; however, our ability to serve the Victorian community and sustain our concern with science engagement and literacy beyond the next decade is contingent on securing a significantly higher revenue stream.

The RSV Executive Committee and Council have been working with partners over the past three years to develop a proposal to substantially improve the Society's capacities for impact in Victorian communities, as well as securing much-needed structural work, refurbishments and refitting of our lovely old building, which turns 160 next year.

Following the three briefings held over the month of May, our attending members have requested more time, and more detail, to enable a more thoroughly informed vote on the night of the SGM. Consequently, the RSV Executive has agreed to reschedule the Special General Meeting to **5pm on Thursday, 21st June**. The related Notice and Proxy form have been distributed with this newsletter, along with an information pack, featuring a more targeted motion for endorsement at the June SGM. Those who had already registered to attend the SGM as originally scheduled night have earlier been advised of the date change; if you hadn't yet registered to come along, please [register](#) as soon as possible so we can expect you for the evening of the 21st June. For those who have already submitted proxies, I hope the new date will provide a fresh opportunity to attend in person; otherwise, I fear we will need to call upon your forbearance in resubmitting your proxy once again.

**RSV members only please.** Your subscription to membership of the Society must be current (financial members only). Please register online using the link below to attend the briefing.

**Eventbrite**

**Places limited, bookings essential! Register online now at** <https://rsv.org.au/events/fourth-members-briefing/>, call or email the RSV office to secure your place: 9663 5259, [rsv@rsv.org.au](mailto:rsv@rsv.org.au)

## Nominations for RSV Membership

Nominations for membership of the Society have been received on behalf of:

Miss Lara **RIJKMANS**, PhD Student, RMIT University  
Mr Quezada Rojas **SEBASTIAN ALONSO**, PhD Student, Monash University  
Mr Peter James **CORKILL**, Principal, John Monash Science School  
Professor Cordelia **FINE**, History & Philosophy of Science, The University of Melbourne

### **Young Scientist Research Prizes Applicants:**

Mr Chenkai **MA**, PhD Student, The University of Melbourne  
Miss May Lin **YAP**, PhD Student, The University of Melbourne  
Ms Hayley **CAMERON**, PhD Student, Monash University  
Dr Howard Ho-Fung **TANG**, PhD Student, The University of Melbourne  
Mr Mohammad **TAHA**, PhD Student, The University of Melbourne  
Mrs Rose **CROSSIN**, PhD Student, The University of Melbourne  
Mr Matthew **SNELSON**, PhD Student, Monash University  
Mr Thomas Jacob **McGRATH**, PhD Student, RMIT University  
Miss Noor Hidayatul Aini Bte **SUANI**, PhD Student, The University of Melbourne  
Ms Marice **ALCANTARA**, PhD Student, Federation University  
Ms Tanjina **KADER**, PhD Student, The University of Melbourne  
Miss Jacinta Dara **KONG**, PhD Student, The University of Melbourne  
Mr Marios **KOUTSAKOS**, PhD Student, The University of Melbourne  
Mr Michael Grant **BERTRAM**, PhD Student, Monash University  
Mr Desmond Ofori **ANIM**, PhD Student, The University of Melbourne  
Mr Lachlan Brian **MCMILLAN**, PhD Student, Monash University

Unless Members request a ballot, these will be considered for election by Council and if elected, will be announced at the Ordinary Meeting of the Royal Society of Victoria to be held on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2018. Recently elected members who have not yet signed the Society's membership book are warmly invited to attend the 14<sup>th</sup> June meeting to be formally welcomed as members. **Please**

inform the office if you plan to attend, so we can prepare your membership certificate for collection.

A number of established members have indicated they have never had an occasion to 'sign in' – again, please let us know at the office if you'd like to rectify the situation, and we'll make sure you get the opportunity!

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## Citizen Science – Collaborations between Scientists and Communities

*The article below follows an excellent presentation to the Society on the evening of Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018 from **Dr Ken Walker**, Senior Curator of Entomology at Museums Victoria on "Citizen Science: the New Force in Biodiversity Data."*

**By Catriona Nguyen-Robertson and Scott Reddiex**

Science is about understanding the amazing universe in which we live. It involves making observations, developing hypotheses based on data, testing them with experiments, and using the results to gain a better understanding of the world – from an infinitesimally tiny scale to the size of the universe itself. A central component of the scientific method is the collection of data, the "life blood of science", which can involve something as complex as colliding atoms in a particle accelerator, or simply taking a photo of an insect in your backyard.



**Dr Ken Walker with RSV President David Zerman**

The [Atlas of Living Australia](#) (ALA) is an online repository of scientific information that tracks biodiversity in space and time. Akin to an online museum, the ALA comprises data from a variety of sources, such as biodiversity atlases,

collections, museum records, and many others. While museums contain copious quantities of data in the form of samples and records, their data is limited to snapshots of the past, leaving gaps in our knowledge about the current composition of ecosystems. When you capture a photo of a native bee in your backyard, the quick snap with your digital camera records three key pieces of data: the appearance of a particular insect, in a specific location, at a precise moment in time. All from a single photograph, these pieces of information can inform our understanding of that insect, and the broader ecosystem we share. This simplicity is the power that citizen science has.

Citizen science is the collection and analysis of scientific data by anyone and everyone, with collaboration from professional scientists. One of the professional scientists who has embraced the use of citizen science in Australia, particularly in the area of biodiversity and entomology, is Dr Ken Walker.

Dr Walker is an entomologist and passionate taxonomist and has been the Senior Curator of Entomology at Museums Victoria for over 36 years. Like many of our speakers, his love for science was sparked at a young age. Every weekend he went birding with his father and travelled often as part of his father's work, which fostered his love of nature and a desire to work out in the field. Dr Walker went on to study agricultural science, during which time he realised that entomology and taxonomy was his calling in life while writing an essay on the two-spotted mite. He found that he genuinely enjoyed researching, learning and writing about the mite, and hasn't stopped researching insects since, having now personally named over 200 insect species.

Our picture of biodiversity is a jigsaw puzzle with many missing pieces – with 74 million records, the ALA lists many species with no images or additional information. It's a puzzle that Dr Walker is aiming to solve, with help from the increasing number of citizen scientists around Australia. Having previously created the Museum Victoria Bioinformatics website (making more than 500,000 of the museum's data records available to the public) and the Pests and Diseases Image Library ('PaDIL', providing images and information of over 4,000 plant and insect pests for quarantine and biosecurity), and with a passion for scientific engagement, Dr Walker was perfectly skilled to create a new citizen science

platform. In 2013, with funding from Museums Victoria and the Atlas of Living Australia, Dr Walker created an Australian citizen science repository website called BowerBird ([www.bowerbird.org.au](http://www.bowerbird.org.au)).

BowerBird is a repository website for people to upload photos they take of wildlife, where they are viewed by entomologists, ecologists, and other scientists to identify the species, assess biodiversity in specific areas and to record sightings over time. The information gathered from both museum data, accessible through the ALA, and citizen science repositories, such as BowerBird, together can provide the missing pieces and keep our knowledge of ecosystems up-to-date. One exciting example of the strength that BowerBird has involves a little ladybird, *Micraspis flavovittata*, which only had museum records from 1874 and 1949. With no documented sightings in over 50 years, the species was assumed to be extinct. That was until one day in 2016, when an image taken by a photographer in Portland, Victoria, was uploaded to BowerBird and identified as being the "extinct" *Micraspis flavovittata*. As far as our scientific knowledge was concerned, the ladybird had come back from the dead – an example of a record righted by citizen science.



**Dr Ken Walker with RSV Outreach Chair, Pam Borger**

Photos uploaded to the repository not only record the existence of particular species, but also how they interact with each other and their environment. A fascinating example that Dr Walker gave was of a species of leafcutter bees (*Megachile macularis*), which were long thought to build leafy brood cells underground

in disused burrows. Over the course of three days, a BowerBird contributor from Emerald, Queensland, photographed a leafcutter bee flying back and forth, taking cut leaves and pollen into a burrow that was less 'disused' and more 'the home of a wolf spider'. While this alone contradicted the textbooks, there was no sign of aggression from the spider, and this has now

become the first evidence for co-habitation of a leafcutter bee with an arachnid that was previously assumed to be predatory.

The contributions of citizen scientists to the BowerBird repository can additionally play an important role in quarantine and biosecurity. After taking a photo of a praying mantis in his mother's backyard in Geelong, Victoria, one citizen scientist uploaded the image to Bowerbird with the time, date and location data. After doing so, it was viewed by entomologists and determined to be the South African mantis – an invasive pest which, until then, had not been seen on Australian shores. While the biosecurity of the Australian border is among the toughest in the world, it may be citizen scientists who first detect the presence of any biosecurity breach such as this by the parasitic varroa mite, which is currently decimating bee populations around the world. When the parasite does eventually make it to Australia, the data uploaded by beekeepers could play a significant role in whatever management plan is devised.

You can visit Dr Ken at the Melbourne Museum, where the 'Bugs Alive!' exhibition has a regularly rotated selection of the massive insect collection held by the museum on display. If the idea of citizen science has piqued your interest, you can get involved and read more about BowerBird [on their website](#). Then the next time you spot interesting wildlife, take a photo and upload it, because as has happened before: it may well be the only living record of it!

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## Call for Nominations

Our distinguished Medal and Postdoctoral Award are currently open for nominations! Please follow the links below to learn more.

### The RSV Medal for Excellence in Scientific Research



The award of the Medal is based on demonstration of the candidate's excellence and leadership in scientific research. Nominations are invited in **Category II: Biomedical & Health Sciences**. See <https://rsv.org.au/awards-and-prizes/research-medal/>

## The Phillip Law Postdoctoral Award for Physical Sciences

This award was made possible from the generous bequest to the Society from the estate of the late **Dr Phillip Garth Law AC**. The award is for excellence in scientific research by an early career researcher in the physical sciences. See <https://rsv.org.au/awards-and-prizes/dr-phillip-law-ac-post-doctoral-award/>

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## Upcoming Science Community Events

### Confessions of a Bird Nerd



**Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> June @ 6:30pm**

*Deakin Burwood Corporate Centre, 221 Burwood Highway, Burwood*

When asked what he wanted to be when he left school, Sean Dooley was told by his careers guidance counsellor in no uncertain terms that, "There's no such thing as a birdwatching comedian."

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/confessions-of-a-bird-nerd-tickets-45409335545>

### Antarctic Marine Life: What Lurks Below?



**Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> June @ 6:00pm**

*Melbourne Museum, 11 Nicholson Street, Carlton*

When a giant iceberg twice the area of Port Phillip broke off the Larsen-C Ice Shelf in July 2017 it opened up sea-floor covered by ice for thousands of years. This prompted the British Antarctic Survey to coordinate a voyage to the newly exposed environment.

<https://museums victoria.com.au/melbournemuseum/whats-on/antarctic-marine-life/>

## Upcoming Excursions

# MEL Consultants – Specialists in Wind Engineering



**Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> June at 1pm**

**22 Cleeland Rd, South Oakleigh**



MEL Consultants Pty Ltd is a wind engineering consultancy specialising in determining wind effects on buildings, structures, and the environment. The company was founded in 1981 by Bill Melbourne (pictured left) to provide expert wind engineering advice to engineers, planners, architects and building developers. Prior to the formation of MEL, Bill Melbourne provided expert wind engineering advice as an individual dating back to 1967. The basis for MEL's work stems from over 50 years of research performed by Emeritus Professor Melbourne and MEL Consultants' staff. MEL Consultants

Pty Ltd prides itself with a strong research base, with staff members actively contributing to world conferences and journals in the areas of wind engineering and bluff body aerodynamics.

The company has wind tunnel facilities at its South Oakleigh laboratory and also works in conjunction with the wind tunnel facilities at Monash University, when appropriate. MEL has a permanent staff of five engineers supported by ten technicians that maintain the wind-tunnel testing and data-reduction facilities. Three of the principle staff members have international profiles, as Chair of the ISO Code committee, Board Member of the International Association for Wind Engineering and the Applied Technology Council, as well as a past Chair of the quadrennial International Conference on Wind Engineering and Past President of the American Association for Wind Engineering.

Since 1970 a majority of structures in Australia and some in New Zealand, Asia, Europe and North America have had their wind engineering studies carried out by MEL Consultants Pty Ltd. Much of the advice given is by the way of preliminary desktop studies of environmental wind conditions or estimates of wind loadings on structures and cladding and building response. Each year a number of these studies progress to the stage of conducting wind-tunnel studies using physical models and the provision of design wind load or velocity data. A list of major projects in Australia and the World is provided on this website and MEL brochures. These include over 100 tall buildings (some "supertall" at 300+ m or "megatall" at 600+ m), 12 large stadium buildings (including fully operable roof systems), 6 tall freestanding towers, 7 bridges, 2 offshore platforms and many other major industrial and smaller buildings, and some unusual structures such as ships, photovoltaic arrays, and full-scale facade components.



**RSV Members only please.** Places limited, bookings essential! **Register online** now at <https://rsv.org.au/events/wind-engineering/>, call or email the RSV office to secure your place: 9663 5259, [rsv@rsv.org.au](mailto:rsv@rsv.org.au)

## Behind the Scenes at the Australian Synchrotron



**Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> June from 3:30pm to 7:00pm**

Opening in 2007 at its site in Clayton, Victoria, the Australian Synchrotron is Australia's largest and arguably most successful scientific user facility, benefitting over 3000 researchers from academia, medical research institutes, government and other research organisations, and industry.

In simple terms, a synchrotron is a very large, circular, megavoltage machine about the size of a football field. From outside, the Australian Synchrotron, for example, looks very much like a roofed football stadium. But on the inside, it's very different. Instead of grass and seating, there is a vast, circular network of interconnecting tunnels and high tech apparatus.

Synchrotrons use electricity to produce intense beams of light a million times brighter than the sun. The light is produced when high-energy electrons are forced to travel in a circular orbit inside the synchrotron tunnels by 'synchronised' application of strong magnetic fields.

The electron beams travel at just under the speed of light – about 299,792 kilometres per second. The intense light they produce is filtered and adjusted to travel into experimental workstations, where the light reveals the innermost, sub-microscopic secrets of materials under investigation, from human tissue to plants to metals and more.

With this new knowledge that synchrotron science provides about the molecular structure of materials, researchers can invent ways to tackle diseases, make plants more productive and metals more resilient – among many other beneficial applications of synchrotron science.

***A bus departing from and returning to the Royal Society of Victoria (8 La Trobe St, Melbourne) will be available to transport people to and from the Synchrotron. Please indicate when registering as to whether you will be joining us at the Society from 3.30pm or on site at the Synchrotron from 4.30pm.***



**Convergence Science Network**  
engage inspire create

**All welcome.** Sponsored by Inspiring Australia, in partnership with the Convergence Science Network and the Royal Society of Victoria.

**Eventbrite**

**Places limited, bookings essential! Register online now at <https://rsv.org.au/events/australian-synchrotron/>, call or email the RSV office to secure your place: 9663 5259, [rsv@rsv.org.au](mailto:rsv@rsv.org.au)**

## Notice of Special General Meeting

To be held at **5pm on Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> June** at the Royal Society of Victoria



Full RSV members (i.e. with voting rights) are asked to register their intention to attend this Special General Meeting of the Royal Society of Victoria, noting a quorum of 50 will be required. If you cannot attend, please nominate your proxy on the form provided by the RSV, included on the last page of this newsletter.

There will be a members' cocktail function to follow from 6pm.

### **Business to be conducted:**

Members will be asked to endorse the Society's proposal to raise significant funds to resource the future operations of the Society's activities, as well as the refurbishment and extension of the Society's headquarters at 8 La Trobe Street, Melbourne through a residential development project on the site formerly occupied by the Bureau of Meteorology.

The high level concept and rationale will be circulated ahead of the meeting; the facilities and functions of planned refurbishment and extension works would be determined through further member consultation once the Society executes a Heads of Agreement with its development partners to proceed with the planning and application process. The final form and scale of the residential tower would be determined through the planning process, and the subsequent approvals process with local, state and federal governments.

The instrument for land transfer and payment is complex, and will be canvassed in the rationale. The profits from the development are to be shared between the Society and the development partner, with the Society receiving the majority share.

### **The special resolution to be considered:**

*That the members of the Royal Society of Victoria endorse their representative Council's proposal to raise significant funds to resource the future operations and extended facilities of the Society through the development of the land granted by the Crown for the Society's use to the east of the Caretaker's Cottage as a high-quality residential project. Endorsement is sought in accordance with Rules 12, 13, 14 and 18.*

**Voting RSV members only at the SGM please.** Your subscription to membership of the Society must be current (financial 2018 members only). Please note that under our Rules student members are ineligible to vote in RSV Council elections or at our General Meetings.

**Eventbrite**

**Places limited, bookings essential! Register online** now at <https://rsv.org.au/events/special-general-meeting-210618/>, call or email the RSV office to secure your place: 9663 5259, [rsv@rsv.org.au](mailto:rsv@rsv.org.au)

## The “Magic” Proposal – Resourcing a Revitalised Science Engagement Hub in Melbourne’s Heart

“Any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic.” – *Arthur C. Clarke.*

On 12 May, 2018, the Council of the Royal Society of Victoria publically released the “Magic” proposal, a transformational vision to “supercharge” our mission to engage Victorian communities with science, establish an exciting new science communication and heritage hub in Melbourne’s CBD, and ensure that we’re around for another 160 years and beyond, promoting science across Victoria to the very best of our abilities. This changes everything – “Magic” is a once in a generation opportunity for the Society, and for Victoria, and I really hope you can support the initiative.



The building proposal is currently a high level concept that has stood up to the preliminary feasibility studies undertaken for financial modelling, as well as structural and wind engineering – thanks to the pro-bono work of a range of global engineering, design and development firms based out of Melbourne, we know this is something we can achieve, financially and structurally, as a powerful way to resource and resurrect our heritage facilities and enduring mission.

However, there are many legislative and regulatory hurdles to clear, agreements to be secured and building functions to clarify before a final design is established and we can proceed with the enterprise. Notwithstanding this opportunity arrives following three years of challenging work for our Council and partners, this is just the start of a longer conversation, and a journey that is only beginning.

We’ve started briefing our members on the challenges and opportunities facing the Society, and have further explored the issues at briefings provided over May and the coming weeks of June. Meanwhile, we are seeking support from the community, all levels of government, and all sides of politics, to secure a perpetual resource for the missing piece of the STEM puzzle in Victoria – connecting meaningfully with our diverse communities, ensuring scientific literacy is a common function of citizenship, and making visible the personal and professional growth offered by our remarkable, research-intensive, industry-focused science sector to everybody, in all walks of life.

Our fourth and final briefing to members is on the evening of **Thursday, 7 June** (details on Page 4 of this newsletter). Our **Special General Meeting (SGM)** follows on **21 June** (see page 10 for details: rescheduled from 24 May at the request of our members). We’ll be seeking our members’ endorsement to pursue this opportunity at the SGM – which is a key moment of commitment to a long journey ahead. I’m looking forward to taking that journey with you.

Please watch your mailbox and email inbox for updates from the Society on the project rationale ahead of the SGM – we’ll also provide updates ahead of our regular lectures on our progress.

**Mike Flattley**  
CEO, The Royal Society of Victoria



**PROXY Form for Voting at the Special General Meeting of  
 THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA (INC)**

In accordance with the Rules of the Society, financial Members of the Royal Society of Victoria Inc. may vote in person or by proxy. Rule 21 (1) requires notice of the appointment of a proxy, who is a member of the Society, to be given or sent to the Honorary Secretary at the Society’s Office no later than **5.00 pm on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2018**, the last working day before the meeting, **which will be held at 5:00 pm on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2018** in the Society’s Ellery Theatre.

To assist Members in lodging notice of the appointment of a proxy this form is provided.

I.....

*(Block letters please)*

being a financial Member of The Royal Society of Victoria Inc. appoint as my proxy

The Chairman of the Meeting\* or

.....\*

*(Name of the financial RSV Member who is to be appointed proxy, block letters please)*

**\*Please tick one box.**

My instructions are to vote for / against (circle one)

If direction to vote ‘For’ or ‘Against’ is not provided, the Proxy is considered undirected and so may be used at the discretion of the nominated Proxy holder.

*That the members of the Royal Society of Victoria endorse their representative Council’s proposal to raise significant funds to resource the future operations and extended facilities of the Society through the development of the land granted by the Crown for the Society’s use to the east of the Caretaker’s Cottage as a high-quality residential project. Endorsement is sought in accordance with Rules 12, 13, 14 and 18.*

Moved: D. Zerman

Seconded: A. Davison

**For / Against / Proxy’s Discretion**

Signature .....

Date .....

Please return to:  
 The Honorary Secretary  
 The Royal Society of Victoria  
 8 La Trobe Street  
 Melbourne VIC 3000  
 Email: [rsv@rsv.org.au](mailto:rsv@rsv.org.au)

**To reach the Royal Society of Victoria office not later than 5.00pm on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> June, 2018**