ROYAL SOCIETY NEW SOUTH WALES

The Bulletin 508
September 2026

In this newsletter:

A message from the President

Dear <<First Name>> <<Last Name>>

This has been a year of turbulence; as Hamlet puts it, 'the times are out of joint.' The unexpected is made visible in the dry fields and hedgerows of England, the wildfires of Europe, while Eastern Australia is green. Even the Murray–Darling Basin has water. Economic platitudes are overturned; the liberal global order is under pressure; AI sucks in investment and alters long-established processes; bird flu on one hand; medical miracles on the other. And through it all runs a strange doubleness: a world that feels both brittle and astonishingly inventive, where familiar patterns slip their moorings and new ones form before we have language for them. The certainties we once leaned on now seem provisional, yet human ingenuity keeps pressing forward, reshaping what we thought was fixed. 'A Hinge of History', the topic we chose for this year's Forum at the beginning of the year, seems particularly apt.

The Forum Working Group met on 29 July, and I am pleased to report that all panel chairs are engaged and that the program has been finalised. The structure of the panels is very ambitious, with each panel aiming at a cross-disciplinary perspective. So, for instance, Professor Simon Ringer has convened a panel on 'Technology and transition dynamics', bringing together the Head of Black Rock Australia, Jason Collins; the Chancellor of the University of Sydney, David Thodey, and Dr Jenny Tran and Patty Gilchrist from Google. Professor Matthew England has convened a panel on 'Climate Change: Risks, Responses and a World Under Pressure' with Associate Professor Negin Nazarian discussing cities as

the frontline of climate exposure, Professor Ollie Jay the impacts of climate change on human health, with a focus on extreme heat and the challenges of accurately assessing heat-related risks, Dr Megan Evans the role and effectiveness of carbon markets and private finance in addressing climate change, and Dr Timothy Neal the economic impacts arising from current and future climate change. Professor Catharine Colborne's panel on 'Health, Medicine and Human Futures' includes the health ethicist Professor Ainsley Newson, Dr James Dunk on the conceptual history of planetary health, and Professor Julie Leask from the Sydney School of Public Health. Professor Sean Brawley has convened a panel of Dr Aruna Sathanapally from the Grattan Institute, Professor Helen Sullivan, Dean of the College of Asia and the Pacific at ANU, and Professor Michael Wesley, Deputy Vice-Chancellor at the University of Melbourne. We hope Professor Merlin Crossley, Deputy Vice-Chancellor of UNSW Sydney, will lead the wrap-up session and that there will be a separate youth contribution.

Over the last two months, Dr Davina Jackson, Chair of the Publishing Committee, the Vice-President, Lindsay Botten, the Secretary, Trevor Brown, Jessica Milner-Davis and I have been much engaged with the process of appointing a new editor for the Journal and Proceedings of the Royal Society of NSW. Earlier this year, Emeritus Professor Robert Marks announced he would step down in November following ten years as Editor of the Journal. Davina Jackson ably rallied a working group, which also included Susan Pond, Brynn Hibbert and Stephen Garton. While the latter three were not involved in the interviews, each helped ensure that we had strong candidates. We had a long list of eight applicants and interviewed five. The interviews were an opportunity to consider what role the Journal can play in a challenging landscape. We are not a specialist journal, yet we are refereed. Our impact score is low, so it is not a good place for young academics to publish. Raising the impact score is difficult in a cross-disciplinary field. The globalisation and immediacy of publishing has altered the nature of a Journal of our sort. Established publishers are wary of our open access model.

In the interviews we had useful discussions of the directions the journal might take, including digital humanities, a younger focus, and theme issues. We have offered the role of Editor to Emeritus Professor Les Copeland of the University of Sydney who demonstrated extensive and directly relevant experience as Editor-in-Chief of *Cereal Chemistry*, together with broader strategic editorial experience with *Agriculture*. He has substantial experience in manuscript assessment, peer review, reviewer selection, working with associate editors and making final editorial decisions. Council has confirmed the appointment. I thank all those involved, in particular our Secretary, who coordinated and recorded the meetings, and Davina Jackson, who initiated the process and dealt personally with each candidate. Robert Marks has now produced his penultimate Journal—the June 2026 issue. I again thank him for his ten years as editor—an enormous contribution.

I have now completed two of the YouTube/podcast interviews, with Professor Maike Osborne from Oxford, a youngish and fascinating exponent of Bayesian methods in AI who has set up some most successful start-ups; and Professor Ian Jacobs, a former Vice-Chancellor of UNSW, on Higher Education in the UK and Australia. These are available on YouTube together with the recordings of the August events, Professor Bradley Moggridge's discussion of 'The importance of understanding water and climate change for Aboriginal People', and the NENW Branch session on 'Perspectives on Autism, Neurodiversity and Resilience' led by Professor Vicki Bitsika. The Vice-President takes on the task, among the

many others he is responsible for, of editing our YouTube offerings. These bring in an international audience and provide a rich record of our activities.

In concluding, I note also that you should reserve 17 November at 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm for a celebration of the bicentenary of the Australian Museum with the Royal Society of NSW.

Christina Slade FRSN
President
Royal Society of New South Wales

For your diary

The Society's annual events program is published in the online Events Calendar, which is updated regularly. Upcoming events, organised by the Society in the next two months, are listed below and, in greater detail, in the following Events section. Events by cognate and partner organisations are included in the events section of this newsletter.

- Ideas@theHouse: September 2026 (Tuesday, 1 September 2026, 6.15–8.00 pm AEST, Government House Sydney—by invitation for Society members—and live streaming) *The increasing importance of sport in today's world*, Matthew Allen AM, Vice-President, Australian Olympic Committee
- 1344th Ordinary General Meeting and Open Lecture (Wednesday, 2 September 2026, 6.00–7.30 pm AEST, Michael Crouch Room, Mitchell Building, State Library of NSW, Shakespeare Place, Sydney) *Ecosystem restoration at scale, reintroducing native species and managing threats – nearly a decade of the Wild Deserts project,* Scientia Professor Richard Kingsford AO FRSN, Director, Centre for Ecosystem Science, School of Biological, Earth & Environmental Sciences, UNSW Sydney
- Joint Portal Global, Spark Foundation, UTS and RSNSW Presentation: 9 September 2026 (Wednesday, 9 September 2026, Zoom webinar) *Overcoming the productivity challenge — a fireside chat with Roy Green*, Special Innovation Advisor, University of Technology Sydney
- Lunchtime series—Provocations and Inspirations: September 2026 (Tuesday, 15 September 2026, Union University and Schools Club, 25 Bent Street, Sydney (corner of Bent and Philip Streets) *Australia's supply chain security: Sovereign supply chain capability and economic resilience*, Dr John Gattorna, Ms Deborah Ellis, and Assoc. Prof. Sanjoy Paul
- Southern Highlands Branch Meeting 2026-8 (Thursday, 17 September 2026, 6.30–7.30 pm AEST, RSL Mittagong Carrington Room) *The Shortest History of Reality*, Professor Geraint Lewis FRSN FLSW FAIP, Professor of Astrophysics, School of Physics, University of Sydney
- Hunter Branch Meeting 2026-3 (Thursday, 24 September 2026, 6.30–7.30 pm AEST, NEX, Newcastle Exhibition and Conference Centre, 309 King Street, Newcastle West) *Healthy Soils, Healthy Hunter: Building a Sustainable Future*, Professor Ravi Naidu, Laureate Professor and Founding Director, Global Centre for Environmental Remediation, University of Newcastle
- 1345th Ordinary General Meeting and Open Lecture (Wednesday, 7 October 2026, 6.00–7.30 pm AEST, Michael Crouch Room, Mitchell Building, State Library of NSW, Shakespeare Place, Sydney) *Reformulating the visualisation of climate disasters,*

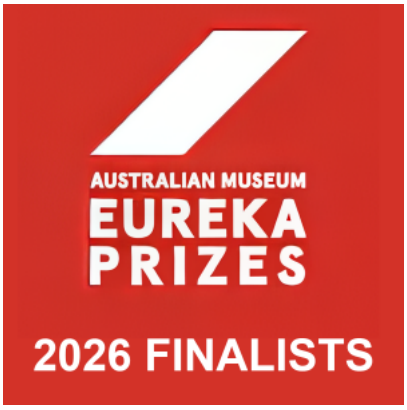
Scientia Professor Dennis Del Favero FRSN FAHA, Professor of Digital Innovation and Executive Director, iCinema Research Centre, UNSW Sydney

- Royal Societies of Australia Food Security Conference (Thursday and Friday, 8–9 October 2026, 9.00 am – 5.00 pm AEDT, The Forum, Melbourne Connect, 700 Swanston St, Melbourne, Victoria) F*acing the Future*
- Southern Highlands Branch Meeting 2026-9 (Thursday, 15 October 2026, 6.30–7.30 pm AEST, RSL Mittagong Carrington Room) *The latest news on the evolution of our Australian crocodiles*, Dr Michael Stein, Palaeoscientist, Archer Palaeontology Laboratory, UNSW Sydney.
- Royal Society of NSW and Learned Academies Forum 2026 (Thursday, 5 November 2026, Government House Sydney by invitation and live streaming) *A Hinge of History: Tipping Points and Existential Risks*

Return to the Table of Contents

News

Society Fellows and Award Winners among finalists in the 2026 Eureka Awards



A number of Society Fellows and previous winners of Society Awards are among the finalists of the 2026 Australian Museum Eureka Awards—the country's most comprehensive national science awards, honouring excellence across the spectrum of research and innovation, leadership, science engagement, and school science.

Presented annually in partnership with some of the nation's leading scientific institutions, government organisations, universities, and corporations, the Eureka Prizes raise the profile of science and science engagement in the community by celebrating outstanding achievements.

Amongst the finalists in this year's awards are:

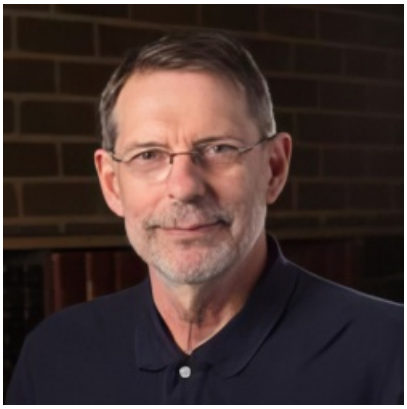
- **Scientia Professor Richard Kingsford AO FRSN** from the Wild Deserts Program of UNSW Sydney, Ecological Horizons, NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, and the Taronga Conservation Society, and winner of the RSNSW 2025 Award in the Life Sciences — nominated for the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water Eureka Prize for Environmental Research
- **Professor Elizabeth New FRSN** of the Biobots program of the University of Sydney — nominated for the Eureka Prize for Excellence in Interdisciplinary Scientific Research
- **Professor Arnold Lining Ju** of the University of Sydney and winner of the RSNSW 2021 Edgeworth David Medal — nominated for the Eureka Prize for Innovative Use of Technology

- **Dr Jen Matthews**, an Associate Member of the Society from the University of Technology Sydney and winner of an RSNSW 2024 Bicentennial Early Career and Service Citation — nominated for the Macquarie University Eureka Prize for Outstanding Early Career Researcher
- **Scientia Professor Xiaojing Hao FRSN FAA FTSE** and **Professor Yansong Shen FRSN FTSE**, both from UNSW Sydney, and respective winners of the 2025 and 2024 RSNSW Edgeworth David Medal — each nominated for the Eureka Prize for Sustainability Research

The Council of the Royal Society of New South Wales extends its warm congratulations to each of the above finalists on this recognition of their achievements.

Return to the Table of Contents

Noel Cressie FRSN awarded the 2026 NISS Jerome Sacks Award



The Royal Society of NSW was delighted to learn of the awarding of the Jerome Sacks Award for 2026 by the US National Institute of Statistical Sciences (NISS) to **Distinguished Professor Noel Cressie FRSN FAA** of the University of Wollongong. The NISS Sacks Award recognises sustained, high-quality cross-disciplinary research involving the statistical sciences.

Noel Cressie is the Director of the University of Wollongong Centre for Environmental Informatics in the National Institute for Applied Statistics Research Australia (NIASRA) and is a Distinguished Professor in the Faculty of Engineering and Information Sciences. He is an Affiliate at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory and an Adjunct Professor at the University of Missouri in the Department of Statistics and Data Science. His cross-disciplinary research involving the statistical sciences includes global CO_2 flux, regional climate, sea surface temperature, air pollution, disease mapping, ocean biogeochemical cycles, soil carbon dynamics, glacier movement, and river pollution.

Professor Cressie undertook his undergraduate studies in mathematics at the University of Western Australia and subsequently graduated with a PhD from Princeton University. Much of his professional life has been spent in the USA, serving as a professor and distinguished professor at Iowa State University and Ohio State University, before taking up his current role in Wollongong in 2012. He was elected as a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science in 2018 and a Fellow of the Royal Society of NSW in 2020.

The Council of the Society extends its warm congratulations to Professor Cressie on this most recent recognition of his outstanding research.

Return to the Table of Contents

Royal Society of NSW 2026 Awards: Call for Nominations

The Royal Society of NSW has long recognised distinguished achievements and excellence across the gamut of knowledge through its Awards Program. Its awards are amongst the oldest and most prestigious in Australia.

In 2023, the Society broadened and streamlined its Awards portfolio to recognise recent and evolving fields and disciplines, and emerging as well as established research stars. Today, the Society Awards are made in two main classes reflecting the Society's history: Career Excellence Medals and Discipline Awards and Medals, with additional Awards, Scholarships, and Citations, including Internal Awards for distinguished service to the Society and community.

The Council of the Society is pleased to announce the **call for nominations for the 2026 Awards**, which will commence on 1 July 2026 and close on 30 September 2026. Winners of the Awards will be announced at the final Ordinary General Meeting for 2026 to be held at the State Library of NSW on the evening of Wednesday, 2 December.

This year, nominations are called for the following awards. Please follow the links below for information about each award, specific conditions, nomination instructions, and nomination forms.

Career Excellence Medals
RSNSW Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Scholar Medal
RSNSW James Cook Medal — for lifetime career contributions
RSNSW Edgeworth David Medal — for mid-career researchers
RSNSW Ida Browne Early Career Medal

Discipline Awards and Lectureships
RSNSW Clarke Medal and Lectureship in the Earth Sciences
RSNSW Walter Burfitt Award in Medical and Veterinary Sciences and Technologies
RSNSW Award in the Social and Behavioural Sciences
RSNSW Award in the History and Philosophy of Science
RSNSW Award in Computer Science and Information Technology (new award in 2026)

Scholarships, Early Career, and Student Awards
RSNSW Bicentennial Postgraduate Scholarships
RSNSW Bicentennial Early Career Research and Service Citations
RSNSW Jak Kelly Postgraduate Award

RSNSW Service Awards
RSNSW Medal
RSNSW Citations

Please consider nominating your colleagues, early career researchers, and postgraduate students who you believe meet the criteria for these awards — an outcome that will certainly recognise their achievements and boost their careers.

Please direct any queries by email to the RSNSW Awards Committee.

Return to the Table of Contents

Events

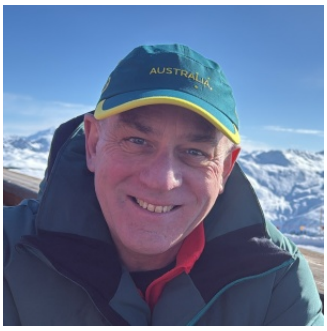
Ideas@theHouse: 1 Sept. 2026

Ideas@theHouse

presented by

His Excellency the Honourable
Andrew Bell AC KC, Lieutenant-Governor of NSW

The increasing importance of sport in today's world



Matthew Allen AM
Vice President
Australian Olympic Committee

Date: Tuesday, 1 September 2026, 6.30–8.00 pm AEST
Venue: Face-to-face (by invitation for Society members) and live streaming from Government House, Sydney
Registration: Registration is not required for the **live stream**, which commences at 6.30 pm on Tuesday, 1 September 2026.
Entry: No charge
All are welcome to the live stream

LIVE STREAM

Please join the livestream at
6.30 pm AEST on Tuesday, 1 September

Summary:

Sport has long been central to Australian identity, but its importance is growing as work patterns and social lifestyles evolve. With more sedentary jobs and increased screen time, participation in sport offers essential physical activity that supports cardiovascular health, strength, and overall well-being. Beyond physical benefits, sport plays a vital role in improving mental health by reducing stress and social isolation. As communities become more digitally connected yet socially fragmented, sporting environments provide meaningful opportunities for connection, teamwork, and belonging. In this changing landscape, sport is not only recreation but a crucial contributor to healthier, more balanced modern Australian lifestyles.

Matthew Allen has been a member of the Australian Olympic Committee Executive since 2017 and Vice President since 2021. He was involved in the bid for the Brisbane 2032

Olympic Games in 2021. He chairs the Australian Olympic Community Foundation, which is focused on providing scholarships to emerging indigenous sporting talent.

He was the second-longest-serving President of Australian Sailing, from 2013 to 2019 and the inaugural Vice-President 2011 to 2013. Whilst President of Sailing, he was the architect of the 'One Management' Structure for the National Sport Federations; this virtual merger of the State Federations of Sailing became the blueprint for National Federations of Sport by the Federal Sports Commission. Since 2020, Matt has been a World Sailing Council member and Chair of the Oceanic and Offshore Committee, the only Australian to chair this Committee.

He is one of Australia's most decorated offshore sailors, being a four-time overall winner, three times as skipper, of the Sydney Hobart Yacht Race and the line honours winner in 2025. He has competed in 33 Sydney Hobart Races. He is a former world champion in the 11 Metre Class, a silver medallist in the Farr 40 Class, a four-time Kings Cup Winner, and was a member of the Arbitration Tribunal for the 35th America's Cup.

He was the Commodore of the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia from 2007 to 2010.

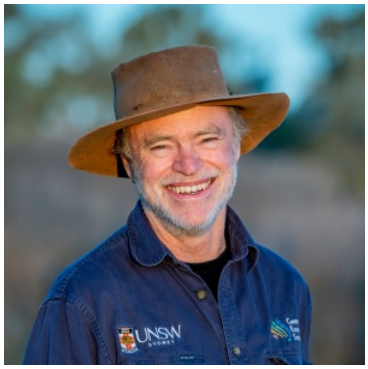
In his past working life, he was President and CEO of UBS Japan and Regional Treasurer of UBS Asia Pacific—with UBS Japan, at the time, being the largest foreign bank in Japan. He is also a former Managing Director of the Swiss Bank Corporation.

He was awarded a Member of the Order of Australia in 2019 for his services to sailing.

Return to the Table of Contents

1344th OGM and Open Lecture — 2 Sept. 2026

Ecosystem restoration at scale, reintroducing native species and managing threats – nearly a decade of the Wild Deserts project



Scientia Professor Richard Kingsford AO FRSN
Director, Centre for Ecosystem Science
School of Biological, Earth & Environmental Sciences
UNSW Sydney

Date and Time: Wednesday, 2 September 2026, 6.00–7.30 pm AEST
Venue: Michael Crouch Room, Mitchell Building, State Library of NSW
Pre-meeting drinks: A cash bar will operate from 5.30 pm
Registration: Please register before 2.00 pm AEST on Wednesday, 2 September 2026
Entry: OGM: Members, $20; Non-members, $30; Students, $0 (Visa and Mastercard credit card payments only)
Enquiries: via email to RSNSW Events
All are welcome

REGISTER NOW

Please register before
Wednesday, 2 September at 2.00 pm AEST

Business of the Meeting

The Agenda for the Ordinary General Meeting is now available on the Meetings page of the website.

Summary: Australia has the world's most notorious extinction record for mammals, driving widespread functional loss in our desert ecosystems. The Wild Deserts project is a nationally significant ecological restoration initiative in the Strzelecki Desert of the Sturt National Park in far-northwestern New South Wales. Established in 2016, this project is led by UNSW's Centre for Ecosystem Science and Ecological Horizons, collaborating with the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) and Taronga Conservation Society. The Wild Deserts Program represents one of the most ambitious attempts to restore arid ecosystems in Australia. It was designed not only to reintroduce seven locally extinct species but to restore ecosystem function at a landscape scale through integrating species' reintroductions, threat management, particularly feral cats, and adaptive data-driven decision-making. This presentation focuses on the successes and failures of ecosystem restoration at large scales, reflecting the vision of the Wild Deserts Project.

Richard Kingsford is a Scientia Professor at UNSW Sydney and the Director of the Centre for Ecosystem Science. He is a conservation biologist who has worked extensively on ecosystem restoration and threatening processes in Australia. He has led projects in aerial surveys of waterbirds, informing river management, reintroduction of platypuses and reintroductions of locally extinct mammal species. He has expertise in the conservation of ecosystems, particularly freshwater aquatic ecology. He has worked with many different communities and governments across Australia on the conservation management of ecosystems. His research has influenced conservation policy and management, including through involvement on state and federal advisory committees. He leads the Wild Deserts Partnership, focusing on restoring seven locally extinct mammal species to Sturt National Park in far western New South Wales and monitoring, evaluation and research for water for the environment in the Macquarie River and Lower Balonne.

Richard has been a Fellow of the Royal Society of NSW since 2020. His work has been acknowledged by numerous awards, including three Eureka Awards in 2001, 2008, 2015, the Hoffman Medal in 2007 for contributions to global wetland science, and in 2025 he was made an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) for 'distinguished service to conservation biology, to environmental sustainability research, and to freshwater biodiversity and ecosystems governance.' Richard is also the inaugural winner of the Royal Society of NSW Life Sciences Award in 2025.

Return to the Table of Contents

Joint Portal, Spark, UTS and RSNSW Presentation — 9 Sept. 2026

Overcoming the productivity challenge — a fireside chat with Roy Green

Emeritus Professor Roy Green AM FRSN
Special Innovation Advisor

University of Technology Sydney

Date and Time: Wednesday, 9 September 2026, 5.30–6.30 pm AEST
Venue: Zoom webinar
Registration: Please register in advance of the presentation
Entry: No charge
All are welcome

A joint presentation by Portal Global, the Spark Foundation, the Royal Society of NSW, and the University of Technology Sydney

REGISTER NOW

Summary: Productivity is the quiet force behind almost everything: the wages we can pay, the standard of living we can sustain, and the competitiveness of the institutions we lead, study and build.

Yet for the better part of two decades, productivity growth across the advanced world, Australia included, has slowed to a crawl. That slowdown helps explain stagnant wages, a widening gap between profits and household incomes, and the intensifying global contest for technological and critical-industry advantage.

History shows that periods of major technological change are usually turbulent, but until recently, they were also periods of surging productivity. The question now facing scholars and innovators alike is why that link has broken down, and what we do about it.

You are invited to join us for a fireside conversation with Emeritus Professor Roy Green AM, one of Australia's foremost thinkers on innovation, industry policy and the economics of productivity.

Roy's work has shaped national conversations on manufacturing, skills and management practice, grounded equally in rigorous evidence and real-world practice.

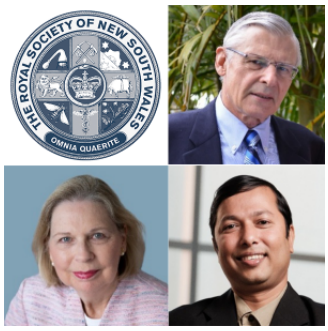
His new book (with Dr Phillip Toner), *Understanding Productivity*, takes on genuinely contested ground: how we define and measure productivity, the role of research and innovation, the effects of financialisation and business dynamism, the weight of management quality and workplace relations, and the risks and opportunities climate change presents. It draws on mainstream economics and on institutional and political economy alike, in the spirit of the open, evidence-based inquiry that unites both our communities.

Return to the Table of Contents

Lunchtime series: Provocations & Inspirations—15 Sept. 2026

Australia's supply chain security: sovereign supply chain capability and economic resilience

Dr John Gattorna, Ms Deborah Ellis, and Assoc. Prof. Sanjoy Paul



Date: Tuesday, 15 September 2026, 12.15 for 12.30 – 2.00 pm AEST
Venue: Union University and Schools Club, 25 Bent Street, Sydney (corner of Bent and Philip Streets)
Enquiries: by email to RSNSW Events
Registration: Registration is required before 2.00 pm AEDT on Thursday, 10 September 2026
Cost: $75 (RSNSW or UUSC members); $85 (non-members/guests). A warm meal and wine will be served.
Dress: Business Dress. To avoid embarrassment, please note that a jacket and tie are required. Denim, trainers and shoes with white soles are not permitted. Attendees not dressed appropriately may be refused entry by the Club.
Flyer: Downloadable from this link

REGISTER NOW

PROGRAM FLYER

Please register before 2.00 pm AEST on Thursday, 10 Sept.

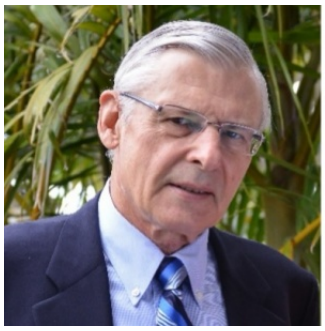
The war in the Middle East has brought supply chain disruption into sharp focus. Despite the seemingly endless optimism of financial markets, the stalemate continues with endless posturing on the negotiation of peace terms between the US, Iran and Israel. Ship movements through the Strait of Hormuz are uncertain and risky, and there is now the threat of disruption to shipping from the Red Sea through the Bab-el-Mandeb (the 'Gate of Grief').

Supply of crude oil and refined petroleum products (particularly diesel) and fertilisers have been substantially disrupted. But there are also many petrochemical intermediates that are shipped from the Persian Gulf for further processing across Asia. Supply chain security implications continue to put the global economy at great risk.

This series started as an exploration of the *Future Made in Australia* (FMiA) program that will see investment of $22.7 billion over the next decade focused on two major streams: *Net zero transformation*; and *Economic security and resilience*. Nothing could have greater relevance in the current geopolitical circumstances.

This panel of three internationally-renowned supply chain experts will explore the implications for the Australian economy, exposing key risks and highlighting the importance of both government and private sector responses to improve Australia's long-term supply chain security.

Dr John Gattorna is Executive Chairman of Gattorna Alignment, a specialist supply chain advisory firm. He has held several professorships, with the most recent being Adjunct Professor at the University of Technology, Sydney, the SP Jain School of Global Management, and Foundation Professor to CIPS Australia. Dr Gattorna has been a relentless contributor to shaping the thinking, understanding and practice of logistics and supply chain management, globally, for more than 40 years. In particular, his writing,



teaching, mentoring, presentations and consulting have helped to increase the profile of the supply chain as a key strategic lever within the organisation.

For the last two decades, John has been working with major blue-chip companies applying his framework and adopting a multi-disciplinary, whole-of-business approach to the design and management of enterprise supply chains. His work has influenced the strategic direction of many large organisations, including Schneider Electric, Ralph Lauren, DHL, Dell, Unilever and entire industries, including the livestock and grains industries in Australia. He was also one of the first to recognise the power of sophisticated decision support tools in the supply chain, using network modelling from MIT to design large retail and industrial supply chains from the late 1980s.

Deborah Ellis has conducted supply chain and strategy consulting projects over the last 20 years in Australia, Asia, Europe and the US in diverse industries including fashion, consumer goods, retail, industrial, resources, banking, and agriculture. Apart from Gattorna Alignment, she has consulted with LCP (Logistics Consulting Partners) in Hong Kong.

Earlier in her career, Deborah held operational roles in logistics with Mars and Swire Group companies in Australia. Before moving to consulting, she headed the logistics function for Master Foods in Australia.

As a consultant, Deborah has led strategic and analytical engagements including network modelling projects, and a series of ground-breaking projects for the Australian banking industry, applying supply chain principles to the distribution of cash. She has collaborated with John Gattorna on industry-level strategy for the Hunter Valley Coal Chain, the Australian Meat and Livestock industry and the Western Australian Grains industry and on research for the Textiles, Clothing and Footwear Industry.

The projects conducted with companies have been diverse: Ralph Lauren, a major multinational FMCG company–Unilever, a multinational pharma company–Roche Pharmaceuticals, Teys Australia, and Schneider Electric.

Associate Professor Sanjoy Paul is the program director of the Master of Strategic Supply Chain Management programs and an Associate Professor at the UTS Business School, University of Technology Sydney and is a globally renowned researcher in supply chain risk and resilience.

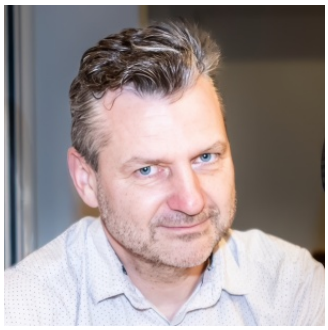
Sanjoy has received numerous awards in his career, including the Editorial Contribution Award from Springer Nature, Research with Relevance Award from UTS Business School, Global Sustainable Supply Chain Management Award from IEOM Society, ASOR Rising Star Award, Excellence in Early Career Research Award from UTS Business School, and the Stephen Fester Prize for most outstanding thesis from UNSW.

Sanjoy frequently contributes to television, radio, and news media through his expert opinions, commentaries, and analyses on supply chain disruptions and contemporary business and societal issues. His commentaries and analyses have been published in leading news, radio and television media outlets, including The Conversation, ABC Television, ABC 7.30, ABC News, The Guardian, Nine TV News, SBS News, The Australian, The Daily Telegraph, news.com.au, Herald Sun, The New Daily and The Daily Cargo News.

Return to the Table of Contents

Southern Highlands Branch Meeting 2026-8 — 17 Sept. 2026

The Shortest History of Reality



Professor Geraint Lewis FRSN FLSW FAIP
Professor of Astrophysics
School of Physics
University of Sydney

Date: Thursday, 17 September, 6.30–7.30 pm AEST
Venue: RSL Mittagong, Carrington Room
Entry: Members, $5; Non-members, $10 (cashless payments only)
All are welcome

ENQUIRIES

By email to the Southern Highlands Branch Chair

Summary: What is reality? It is one of the oldest and most profound questions in philosophy and science, yet modern discoveries have made the answer more surprising than ever. Drawing on his recently published book, *The Shortest History of Reality*, Geraint's talk traces humanity's evolving understanding of the universe, from the ideas of the ancient Greeks to Einstein, quantum physics and modern cosmology, revealing how each generation has transformed our picture of what is truly real.

Geraint F. Lewis is a professor of astrophysics at the Sydney Institute for Astronomy, part of the University of Sydney's School of Physics. He has published more than 500 papers across cosmology, galactic archaeology, gravitational lensing and the fundamental nature of the universe, and four books of popular science, including *The Cosmic Revolutionary's Handbook* and *Where Did the Universe Come From?* His latest book, *The Shortest History of Reality*, is out now.

Return to the Table of Contents

Hunter Branch Meeting 2026-3 — 24 Sept. 2026

Healthy Soils, Healthy Hunter: Building a Sustainable Future

Professor Ravi Naidu
Laureate Professor and Founding Director
Global Centre for Environmental Remediation
University of Newcastle

Date: Thursday, 24 September 2026
Time: 5.30 pm for 6.00 – 7.00 pm AEST
Venue: NEX, Newcastle Exhibition & Convention Centre, 309 King Street, Newcastle West
Registration: Please register before 2.00 pm AEST on Thursday, 24 September 2026
Entry: Members, $15; Non-members, $25; Students: $5 (Visa and Mastercard credit card payments only)
Enquiries: by email to the Hunter Branch Chair
All are welcome

REGISTER NOW

Please register before
Thursday, 24 September at 2.00 pm AEST

Summary: Healthy soils are fundamental to the environmental, economic, and social prosperity of the Hunter region. They sustain agricultural production, protect water resources, support biodiversity, store carbon, and provide the foundation for resilient communities. However, the Hunter's long history of coal mining, industrial development, agriculture, and urban expansion has also left a legacy of disturbed landscapes, contaminated land, altered ecosystems, and increasing pressures from emerging contaminants and climate change.

This presentation will explore how restoring and protecting soil health can transform these challenges into opportunities for sustainable regional development. Particular emphasis will be placed on the rehabilitation of coal mines and post-mining landscapes, highlighting how advances in soil science, ecological restoration, landform design, and revegetation can accelerate ecosystem recovery, enhance biodiversity, improve water quality, and create productive land uses beyond mining. The presentation will also examine innovations in contaminated land assessment and remediation, PFAS management, circular economy approaches, soil carbon, and nature-based solutions that are reshaping the future of environmental stewardship.

Drawing on examples from the Hunter and internationally, the presentation will demonstrate how collaboration between industry, government, researchers, Traditional Owners, and local communities can deliver resilient landscapes that support economic diversification, environmental sustainability, and community wellbeing. By adopting a holistic 'One Health' approach that recognises the interconnectedness of healthy soils, healthy ecosystems, healthy water, and healthy people, the Hunter has a unique opportunity to become a global leader in mine rehabilitation, environmental restoration, and sustainable land management.

Healthy soils are not simply the foundation of a thriving Hunter—they represent one of the region's greatest opportunities to build a resilient, prosperous, and sustainable future for generations to come.

Professor Ravi Naidu is a distinguished global leader in contamination science whose work has reshaped environmental remediation in Australia and internationally. As Director of the Global Centre for Environmental Remediation at the University of Newcastle and Managing Director of CRC CARE, he has pioneered research into agricultural and industrial contaminants, their pathways, and their impacts on human and environmental health. Over more than two decades—including a senior role at CSIRO—he has advanced national and global risk-assessment frameworks and helped build Australia's now multibillion-dollar remediation industry. Naidu has patented multiple technologies targeting toxic residues and wastewater, and leads international capacity-building initiatives to support cleaner, safer environments worldwide.

Return to the Table of Contents

1345th OGM and Open Lecture — 7 Oct. 2026

Reformulating the visualisation of climate disasters

Scientia Professor Dennis Del Favero FRSN FAHA
Professor of Digital Innovation and
Executive Director, iCinema Research Centre
UNSW Sydney

Date and Time: Wednesday, 7 October 2026, 6.00–7.30 pm AEDT
Venue: Michael Crouch Room, Mitchell Building, State Library of NSW, Shakespeare Place, Sydney
Pre-meeting drinks: A cash bar will operate from 5.30 pm
Registration: Please register before 2.00 pm on Wednesday, 7 October
Entry: OGM: Members, $20; Non-members, $30; Students, $0
All are welcome

REGISTER NOW

Please register before
Wednesday, 7 October at 2.00 pm AEDT

Business of the Meeting

The Agenda for the Ordinary General Meeting will be made available on the Meetings page of the website.

Summary: Climate disasters have doubled in frequency and scale since 2000 and are expected to double again by 2035. As seen in Australia 2019/2020 and in Los Angeles 2025, climate disasters such as extreme and catastrophic wildfires are new singular events whose unforeseen and ferocious life-threatening behaviour challenge picturing. Their singularity, such as unpredictable creation of new weather events, such as firestorms, resists the patterns and repetitions that make coherent aesthetic depiction and safe engagement possible. As they pose an unprecedented threat, we need to ask: "*How do we*

aesthetically picture such singular events so that we can meaningfully understand and safely prepare?"

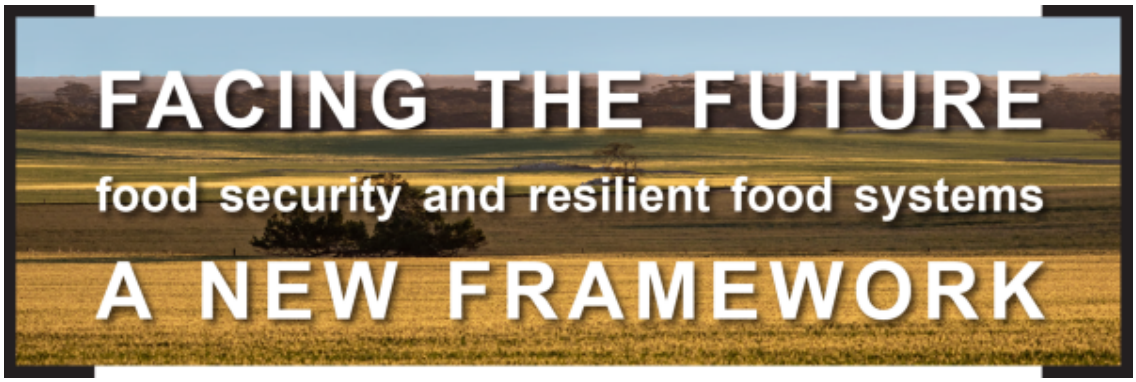
Artistic picturing imagines powerful engagement with known scenarios, while technological picturing, such as *WRF-SFIRE* simulations, abstractly maps the data patterns of typical fires. On their own, neither form of picturing can perceptually and sensorially depict the unpredictable dynamics of climate disasters and experientially engage artistic research and first response stakeholders with their uncertainty so they can safely interpret and interact. To address this gap, recent reports outline the urgent need for a form of picturing that leverages advances in art and technology.

This demands the modelling of complex processes imperceptible to human cognition, requiring the speed and scale of AI to learn patterns and render behaviours, integrated with the power of art to experientially engage stakeholders in compelling and dynamic scenarios. Professor Del Favero's research addresses this problem through an aesthetic that fuses art and AI and enables the experiential picturing of unforeseen scenarios. By converting scientific simulations into dynamically evolving, immersive aesthetic experiences, it will allow stakeholders to generate possible 'what if' scenarios that rehearse unexpected threats to build anticipatory understanding and situational deliberation. This research demonstrates that an immersive visual aesthetic—where users feel pro-actively present in unanticipated settings as they interactively rehearse their engagement with threats in advance can provide open-ended experiences that enhance risk apprehension and response.

Dennis Del Favero is a research artist, Scientia Professor and ARC Laureate Fellow, Director of the iCinema Research Centre at the University of New South Wales, Sydney, Honorary Professor, University of Melbourne (Australia), Visiting Professor Royal College of Art (UK) and Editorial Board Member of Quodlibet Studio Corpi (Italy). He is the former Executive Director of the Australian Research Council | Humanities and Creative Arts and inaugural Visiting Professorial Fellow, ZKM Centre for Art and Media (Germany). His work explores the use of AI aesthetics and immersive visualisation to picture and engage with uncertain scenarios, such as extreme fires, to enhance preparedness and response. His AUD $31M in funding has delivered a range of cutting-edge projects, including: *iCASTS*, an immersive training system for the Australian and Chinese mine industries, educating 30,000 miners, reducing injury by 65% with no fatalities; *iDesign*, a 3D stage design prototyping system for Sydney Theatre Company; *iFire*, a 3D immersive simulation system for the international emergency sectors, for training 7,000 firefighters *netARCHIVE*, a networked display system for multi-located museum collection experience for Powerhouse Museum, Sydney; and *memorySCAPE*, an intelligent memorialisation database VR system for the Australian War Memorial, Canberra. These outputs form part of significant commercialisations of immersive visualisation technologies, such as with Shenyang Design & Research Institute of the China Technology & Engineering Group. His work has been exhibited in over 140 major exhibitions, including Sprengel Museum Hannover and the Smithsonian. He is represented by Galerie Schenkweitzdoerfer, Cologne and Gallery Mais Wright, Sydney.

Return to the Table of Contents

Royal Societies of Australia Food Security Conference: 8–9 Oct.



Facing the Future

Date: Thursday and Friday, 8–9 October 2026
Time: 9.00 am – 5.00 pm AEDT
Venue: The Forum, Melbourne Connect,
700 Swanston St, Melbourne, Victoria
Bookings: Early-bird rate: $340.00 before 1 September 2026; Full registration: $400.00.
Registration: Registration through Humanitix includes attendance, casual lunches and refreshments
Conference Flyer: Downloadable from this link
Conference website: Via this link
Enquiries: via email to the Royal Societies of Australia
All are welcome

REGISTER NOW

PROGRAM FLYER

Early-bird: $340 before 1 September
Full registration: $400 thereafter

Purpose

The conference is aimed at a broad audience: food producers, distributors, retailers, government agencies, researchers, policy makers and so on. The underlying premise of the conference is that we have to achieve a transition to many new ways of addressing food and resilience issues now, which are consistent with Australia's unique social and natural systems.

Background — the new normal

The economic, social and food production systems that we have taken for granted are being increasingly disrupted. Geopolitical shocks and changing climate and weather patterns show how dramatic these disruptions can be, with serious consequences for food security and jeopardy for the resilience of our current systems, from farm to consumer. Continual environmental degradation will limit food production potential. Rising inequality means more people will suffer food insecurity.

We can be confident that the overall framework we will have in the years to come will be different from now in ways we cannot easily predict. There will continue to be international and natural influences we cannot control. We must, therefore, review where we are now to identify potential problems which, if left unattended, may decrease food security and

hamper achieving resilient food systems. The RSA Food Security conference will do this. In addition, it will examine how we develop new frameworks and delineate our preferred futures, and how we implement them. Simply extrapolating from history will not be good enough. We cannot become captive to the past.

Addressing the Issues

At the conference, experts from academia, government, industry, peak bodies and not-for-profits working in areas including food production, food safety and nutrition, trade, transport and logistics, social inclusion, national security and the environment will examine the issues that require attention now to bring together practical cross-sector solutions as the world around us changes. These issues include:

1. *The burden of history* – reliance on food customs, and production and farming techniques imported here by waves of migration and imposed on the different Australian circumstances – acclimatisation persists, even though the inherited and imported ways of thinking and patterns of living we have deployed here simply do not fit this land.

2. *The changing world*, with its cascading impact of geopolitical disruptions, technological developments, demographic changes, and damaging global changes to the natural world – climate change, coastal zone damage, soil degradation, biodiversity loss, and the continuing impact of diseases, pathogens and pest plants and animals.

3. *Perverse laws and incentives* affecting producers and consumers – maintaining our natural environment is fundamental to food production and resilient food systems, but environmental law is easily overridden by other laws, or by the way they are administered, and there is still no general agreement on incentives and information strategies needed to support a transition to effective food security and resilient food systems.

4. *Poverty and health* – poverty, inadequate access to health care and to dietary knowledge limit capacity to take advantage of food systems, regardless of how good they are.

Speakers include:

Professor Julianne Schultz – Griffith University
How we see ourselves and how this affects food issues

Professor Andrew Campbell – Triple Helix Consulting
Reviving land and sea care

Dr Mark Stafford Smith – CSIRO
Impacts of accelerating changes in the natural world

Professor Simone Warner – Agriculture Victoria Research
Better biosecurity efforts are critical

Professor Euan Ritchie – Deakin University
New environmental law – does it fall short?

Hon Professor Mary Graham – University of Queensland
Land, law and relationships

Dr Jessica Danaher – RMIT University
Our food plate is changing

Dr Courtney Quinn – University of Tasmania and CSIRO
Tipping points – challenges and opportunities

Conference outcomes

The two-day conference program aims to generate:

1. awareness of the changing world that provides the context for challenges to our food security and to our food systems, while highlighting the problems we will face from trying to continue with a business-as-usual approach, or from just making marginal changes within our existing framework,

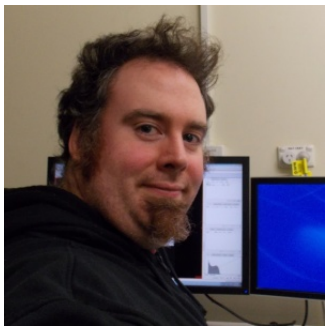
2. suggestions for changes in the overall framework to transition to a brave new world within which food systems exist if the identified challenges are to be met, and if we are to maximise value from the many more specific initiatives now underway

3. useful inputs into the *Feeding Australia: A National Food Security Strategy* processes, into the AgriFutures project *Systems Thinking: how agriculture can drive national resilience* and into decision-making affecting inequality issues, the structure of the Australian economy and Australia's international relations.

Return to the Table of Contents

Southern Highlands Branch Meeting 2026-9 — 15 Oct. 2026

The latest news on the evolution of our Australian crocodiles



Dr Michael Stein
Palaeoscientist
Archer Palaeontology Laboratory
UNSW Sydney

Date: Thursday, 15 October 2026, 6.30–7.30 pm AEST
Venue: RSL Mittagong, Carrington Room
Entry: Members, $5; Non-members, $10 (please note: cashless payments only)
All are welcome

ENQUIRIES

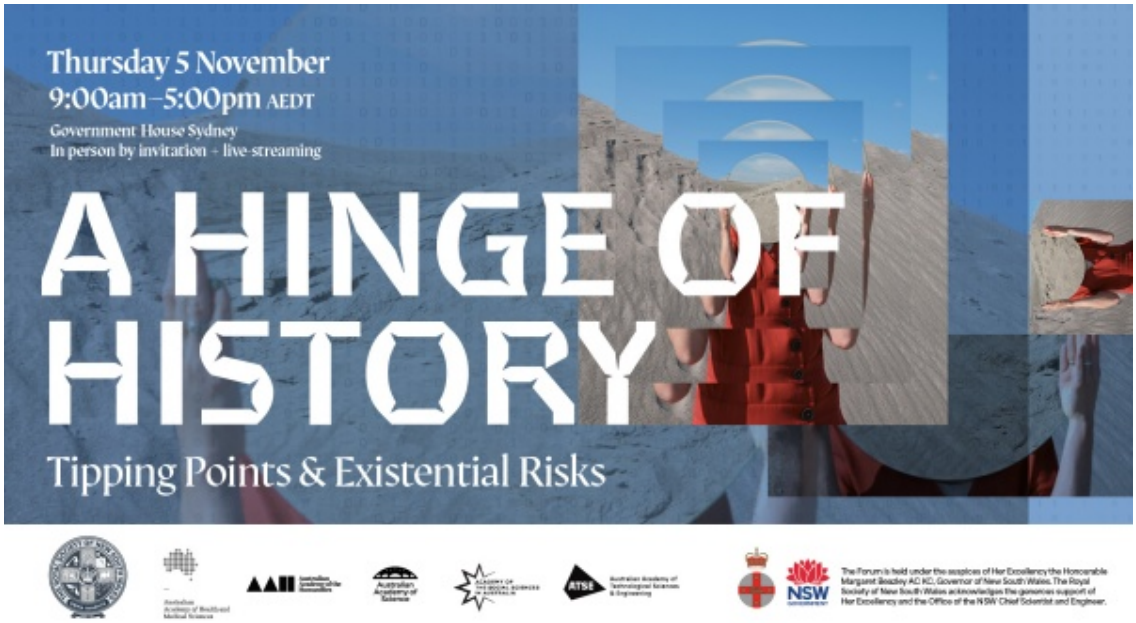
By email for the Branch Chair

Summary: The dinosaur extinction 66 million years ago, in the period known as K-PG, was later followed by the evolution of the Australian-unique branch of crocodiles. In his earlier lecture to the RSNSW Southern Highlands branch in June 2026, Dr Michael Stein intrigued his audience with data from Australian-New Zealand palaeontology which revealed the labyrinthine extent of crocodile evolution in the Southern hemisphere following the huge extinction event. It was then that Australia's unique branch began to make a seemingly un-crocodilian push back onto the land. Dr Stein's latest research with new anatomical insights will be the focus of his return lecture.

Dr Michael Stein is a palaeoscientist with the Archer Palaeontology Laboratory at the University of New South Wales. Both his PhD (2019) and current research with UNSW focus on the remarkable crocodile fauna preserved at the Riversleigh World Heritage Area, along with crocodile paleo-communities across northern to central Australia. This research incorporates studies of locomotory evolution, biomechanics, geometric morphometrics and histology in pursuit of a better understanding of ecomorphological plasticity, particularly niche diversification among predatory hunting ecologies and the capacity of lineages to reposition in trophic webs.

Return to the Table of Contents

RSNSW & Learned Academies Forum 2026: 5 Nov. 2026



Date: Thursday, 5 November 2026, 8.30 am for 9.00 am – 5.00 pm AEDT.
Venue: Government House, Sydney: in person by invitation, and live-streaming.
Registration: Members of the Royal Society of NSW will be invited to apply for a face-to-face place at the event. Closer to the event, registration will open for the live stream.
Program: The day's program is now available on the website event notice
Entry: No charge.

The Forum is held under the auspices of Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC KC, Governor of New South Wales. The Royal Society of New South Wales acknowledges the generous support of Her Excellency and the Office of the NSW Chief Scientist and Engineer.

Summary

Derek Parfit writes: “We live during the hinge of history… If we act wisely in the next few centuries, humanity will survive its most dangerous and decisive period… What now matters most is that we avoid ending human history.” (On What Matters, 2011 vol. 2)

Humanity may be entering a period in which actions of a single generation shape the long-term trajectory of civilisation. Climate instability, rapid technological transformation,

geopolitical tension, and social fragmentation are converging in ways that may constitute a "hinge of history".

The RSNSW Forum brings together leading thinkers across science, medicine, technology, governance, economics and philosophy to examine whether we are indeed at such a hinge point—and what this means for Australia's future prosperity, security, and resilience.

Return to the Table of Contents

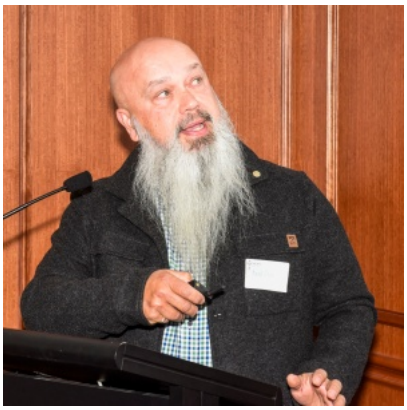
Branch and Program Reports

Report from the Activities with Impact Program

The Society provides an active program of events in Sydney and through its Hunter, New England North West, Southern Highlands, and Western NSW branches. With events planned and held recently by the branches reported separately in this Bulletin, this section focuses on the Master Plan's *Activities with Impact* program and events held in Sydney.

ROYAL SOCIETY NEW SOUTH WALES
Activities with Impact

Presentation Report: 1343rd OGM & Open Lecture—5 Aug. 2026



On Wednesday, 5 August 2026, an audience of approximately 40 people who attended the 1343rd Ordinary General Meeting of the Royal Society of NSW heard an insightful, passionate and personal talk that brought together Indigenous culture and Western science. The presentation, titled 'The Importance of Understanding Water and Climate Change for Aboriginal People', was delivered by **Professor Bradley Moggridge FRSN FTSE**, Associate Dean (Indigenous Leadership and Engagement) of the Faculty of Science, University of Technology Sydney.

Professor Moggridge's presentation centred on the deep cultural, legal and environmental importance of water for Aboriginal peoples, especially through his Kamilaroi identity and work in groundwater, climate and Indigenous knowledge systems. He began by grounding the talk in Country, family, ancestors and cultural responsibilities, explaining that water is embedded in songs, stories, law, ceremony, art and survival. He argued that Aboriginal knowledge represents thousands of generations of observation, testing and adaptation, yet is still often dismissed as myth rather than recognised as science.

Bradley Moggridge outlined major water and climate crises in Australia, including droughts, floods, fish kills, biodiversity loss and river degradation, and showed how these events affect both ecosystems and cultural obligations. He described Aboriginal connections to groundwater, springs, ceremonial places, burial sites, cultural species and indicators such as frogs, crayfish and emus, which can signal environmental change. He also critiqued Australian water policy, arguing that land and water reforms have further excluded Aboriginal peoples from ownership, decision-making and access.

The presentation also highlighted global climate work, including IPCC involvement, Indigenous groundwater declarations and calls for stronger recognition of Indigenous knowledge in science, policy and education. Professor Moggridge continued with some recommendations: Indigenous knowledge in curricula, funded research networks, national water strategies guided by First Peoples, a Commissioner for Country, and continued advocacy for healthy water and Country.

A video recording of the presentation and Q&A session is now available on the Society's YouTube channel, while a collection of images from the occasion is also available for viewing and downloading.

Lindsay Botten
Bulletin Editor

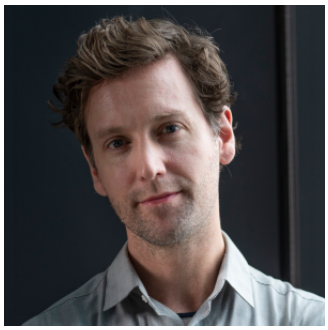
Return to the Table of Contents

Southern Highlands Branch Report

Presentation Report— 20 August 2026

The Weather Underwater and Why It Matters

Associate Professor Shane Keating
School of Mathematics and Statistics
UNSW Sydney



As the 50-person audience departed the Carrington Room for their post-lecture dinner, there was an excited buzz as attendees discussed the excellence of the lecture they had just heard from Dr Shane Keating. The lecture was nothing short of inspirational – a wonderful exemplar of how modern science and strategies in the hands of leading scientists of today can shine a light on our future.

Shane's research uses powerful mathematical and data science to study our oceans from land, sea and space. He is the founder and CEO of *CounterCcurrent,* a UNSW AI spinout company delivering localised ocean forecasts and intelligent routing for ships. *CounterCurrent's* generative AI ocean forecasting system provides crews with customised forecasts10,000x faster and cheaper than National Weather Centres, helping the maritime industry optimise routes to cut fuel and emissions.

This company, founded in 2025, was the first Australian startup to be awarded an *AWS Compute for Climate* fellowship and was named “a breakout star” in the Australian Financial Review report of the occasion.

Shane is a passionate science communicator, as was evidenced in this outstanding lecture. He used the term “Google Maps of the Sea” on several occasions as he presented his research. It was not difficult to see why his popular articles on science and mathematics have reached a million appreciative readers.

A memorable lecture not to be missed! Thank you, Dr Shane Keating

Anne Wood
Chair, Southern Highlands Branch

Return to the Table of Contents

The Society and Social Media

The Society’s presence on our social media channels—Facebook, LinkedIn, X/Twitter and YouTube—is engaging an increasing following, and we continue to build our repository of events on YouTube.

Our YouTube channel now has 1,700 subscribers, while the 252 full-length videos and 'shorts' that are online have received almost 203,000 views.

The social media icons at the end of this newsletter will take the reader to our pages on these platforms, from where you can follow, subscribe, and be notified of new content.

As a Society member, please consider subscribing to our social media channels to support the Society’s outreach and encourage your friends, colleagues and members of your networks to do so.

Recent recordings uploaded to YouTube

All online presentations and all face-to-face presentations held in Sydney and by the Hunter, New England North West, and Western NSW Branches are recorded and made available on the Society's YouTube channel. These can be accessed directly from our YouTube channel or the Presentations page of the RSNSW website.

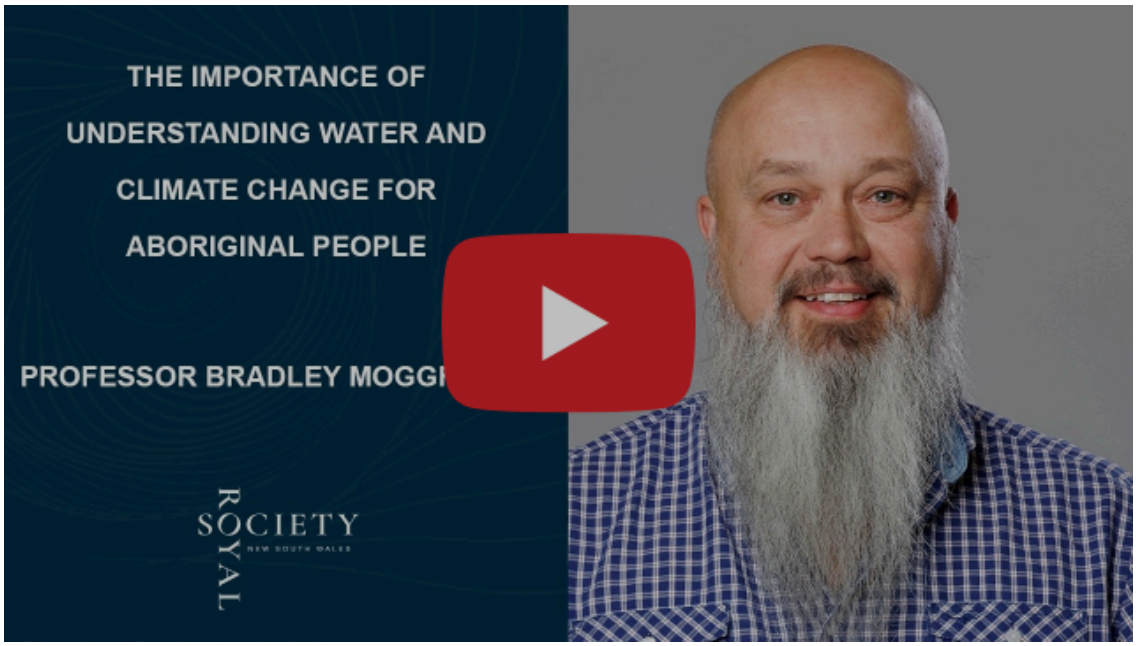
For convenience, the video links below provide access to current recordings and recent popular recordings. We hope that these will be of interest to members.

YouTube recording of the presentation from the New England North West Branch Meeting 2026-2 of the Royal Society of NSW (12 August 2026) on *Perspectives on Autism, Neurodiversity, and Resilience*, by Professor Vicki Bitsika AM FRSN, Discipline Convenor of Neuroscience, University of New England and panellists: Dr Wayne Arnold, Jane Weier, Georgia Vu and Assoc. Prof. Tavveer Hussain MRSN (Moderator). A summary of the presentation and brief biographies of the presenter and panellists are available from the online event notice.

In Conversation with Professor Maike Osborne. In this series, Christina Slade, President of the Royal Society of NSW, will be speaking with some of the very many distinguished Australians who live and work outside Australia. The first of these distinguished guests is Maike, formerly Michael, Osborne —a Professor of Machine Learning at Oxford University and a leading figure in Bayesian optimisation, probabilistic modelling, AI safety, and the social impacts of automation. Her journey spans Western Australia, ANSTO, and New College, Oxford. She contrasts Bayesian AI with pattern-based LLMs and describes Mind Foundry's transparent approach to defence sensing and insurance risk. Her influential 2013 paper with Carl Frey reshaped global thinking on automation's labour impacts. As a trans academic

leader, she highlights AI's human dimensions—uncertainty, risk, identity, ethics, and work.

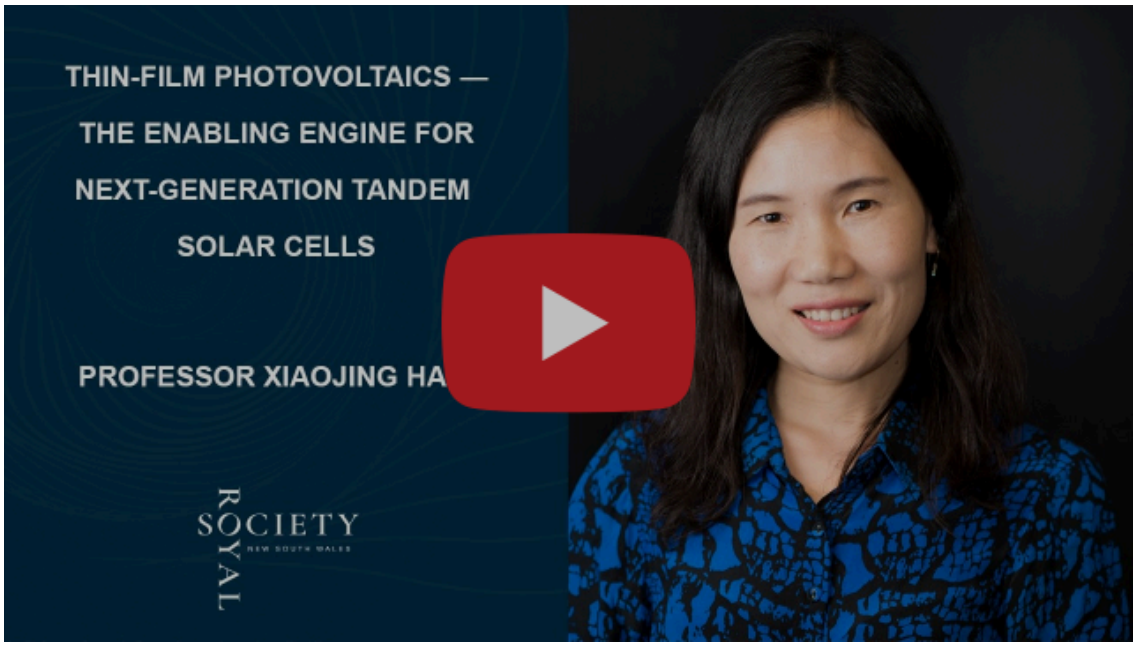
In Conversation with Professor Ian Jacobs. In this, the second in the series of conversations, Christina Slade speaks with Ian Jacobs, a British-Australian medical researcher and university leader, who reflects on his journey from a North London childhood to Cambridge, medical training, and a distinguished career across UCL, Manchester, Cambridge and UNSW, where he served as Vice-Chancellor. Known for pioneering ovarian-cancer screening and founding The Eve Appeal, he discusses how public education shaped his path and compares UK–Australian higher-education systems. He now chairs City St George's, University of London, bringing long experience in research, policy and institutional leadership.



YouTube recording of the presentation from the 1343rd Ordinary General Meeting (1 July 2026) on *The Importance of Understanding Water and Climate Change for Aboriginal People*, delivered by Professor Bradley Moggridge FRSN FTSE, Associate Dean (Indigenous Leadership and Engagement), Faculty of

Science, University of Technology Sydney. A summary of the lecture and a brief biography of the presenters are available from the online event notice.

YouTube recording of the presentation from the sixth meeting of the Society's Provocations and Inspirations lunchtime series held at the Union, University, and Schools Club in Sydney (14 July 2026), at which Tim Buckley, Founder and Director of Clean Energy Finance, spoke on *Australia's energy security: Technology options in an uncertain world*. A summary of the presentation and a brief biography of the presenter are available from the online event notice.

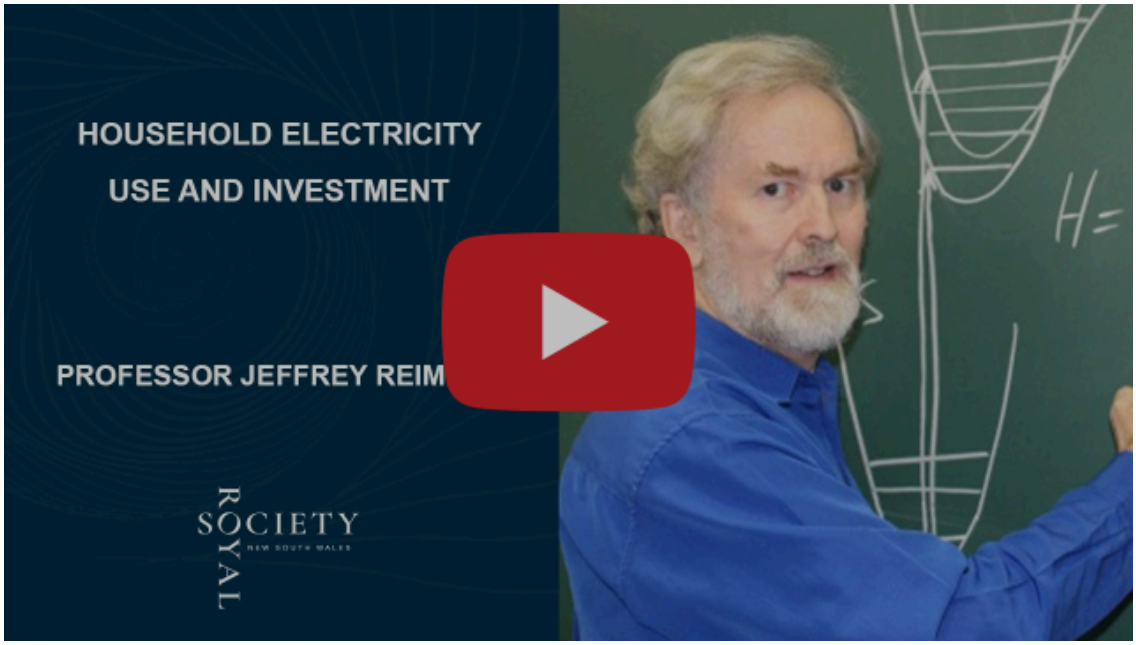


YouTube recording of the presentation from the 1342nd Ordinary General Meeting (1 July 2026) on *Thin-film photovoltaics — the enabling engine for next-generation tandem solar cells*, delivered by Scientia Professor Xiaojing Hao FRSN FAA FTSE, an ARC Laureate Fellow and Deputy Director of the ARC Research Hub for Photovoltaic Solar Panel Recycling and Sustainability, School of Photovoltaic and Renewable Energy Engineering, UNSW Sydney. A summary of the lecture and a brief biography of the presenters are available from the online event notice.

YouTube recording of the presentation from the Hunter Meeting 2026-2 of the Royal Society of NSW (25 June 2026) on *Offspring and the Influence of PFAS Exposure during Critical Development Periods*, by Dr Jacinta Martin, Reproductive Biologist and Lecturer of the Hunter Institute of Medical Sciences and the University of Newcastle. A summary of the presentation and a brief biography of the presenter are available from the online event notice.

YouTube recording of the presentation from 16 June 2026, Ideas@theHouse titled '*City Futures: from challenge to opportunity – by design*', delivered by the distinguished architect, Leone Lorrimer LFRAIA. The online event notice provides a summary of the lecture and the presenter's biography.

YouTube recording of the presentation from the 1341st Ordinary General Meeting (10 June 2026) on *The Circular Economy: A pathway to environmental sustainability?*, delivered by Professor Sami Kara FRSN FCIRP FACATECH of UNSW Sydney and Professor Michael Hauschild of the Technical University of Denmark. A summary of the lecture and a brief biography of the presenters are available from the online event notice.



YouTube recording of the presentation from the 1340th Ordinary General Meeting (6 May 2026) on *Household Electricity Use and Investment*, delivered by Professor Jeffrey Reimers FAA FRSN, Director, International Centre for Quantum and Molecular Structures at Shanghai University, China and Adjunct Fellow in the School of Mathematical and Physical Sciences at the University of Technology Sydney. A summary of the lecture and a brief biography of the presenter are available from the online event notice.

Edited by: Lindsay Botten FRSN, Vice-President, Royal Society of New South Wales