



## Media Release

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### **Fingerprinting forensics, looking for glow worms, and astronomical light shows**

Explore caves of glowing creatures at night, learn about the science of the local wildlife, knit your own neuron, and literally try your hand at forensically fighting crime.

“I invite the Arcadia Waters community to get involved in National Science Week, Australia’s annual opportunity to meet scientists, discuss the hot topics, do science and celebrate its cultural and economic impact on society,” says Mayor Col Dunkley.

“Local activities include forensic fingerprinting and Neural Knitworks workshops at Central Library, night tours visiting the glow worms in the Arcadia Caves, and talks with scientists about native rosellas and how our backyards can provide urban habitat to support them.”

“We’re fortunate to have a climate that’s wet, warm and quite enough to allow glow worms to thrive,” says glow worm expert Violet Short. “They’re not actually worms; they’re the bioluminescent larvae of a type of fly and their glow attracts prey that becomes entangled in the larvae’s sticky silken threads.”

First held in 1997, National Science Week has become one of Australia’s largest festivals. Last year, 3 million people participated in more than 2,500 events across Australia.

In 2026, National Science Week events will be held right throughout Australia – from bombing ‘bacteria’ with mini beanbags in Broome, to rugby sports psychology meets VR in Toowoomba, to tours of secret underground mushroom farms in the Sydney CBD – plus science festivals, talks, music and comedy shows, expert panel discussions, interactive displays, open days, and online activities.

“Science is fun, interesting, useful, whether helping to save lives or protect our environment. That’s why Arcadia is please to foster community interest in science,” says Mayor Dunkley.

The festival is proudly supported by the Australian Government, with partners Questacon, CSIRO, the Australian Science Teachers Association and ABC Science.

National Science Week 2026 will run from 15 to 23 August. Event details can be found at [www.scienceweek.net.au](http://www.scienceweek.net.au).

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Mayor Col Dunkley and Violet Short are available for media interviews.

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