

# Media Release

## Agriculture program brings celebrity scientists to town



**MEDIA RELEASE – Agriculture program brings celebrity scientists to town**

**August 2014**

**In another first for our region, the Royalties for Regions funded Southern Forests SEED program is hosting the 'Growing Science Forum' on Friday 15 August. SEED patron Professor Lyn Beazley will be joined by celebrity scientists Dr Karl Kruszelnicki and Dr Chris Smith (the naked scientist) as guest speakers for the free event.**

Appropriately titled 'Growing Science', guest speakers will wow the audience by showcasing the wonders of science, with particular emphasis placed on agriculture. "The audience will be exposed to elements of science and agriculture that they haven't seen or experienced before," said Stephanie Carstairs, Education Development Officer for the Shire of Manjimup, and coordinator of the SEED Program.

Along with the impressive line-up of guest speakers, the Growing Science Forum will feature panel discussions with local agriculture industry representatives - dubbed 'Agvocates' - who will provide a regional perspective when the audience is given the opportunity to ask questions.

Shire President Wade DeCampo said "the exciting thing about the Growing Science Forum is that it is for the whole community to take part in and benefit from, and it puts the Southern Forests region, and all that it has to offer, on the map."

Tickets have been reserved for local high school students, with remaining seats available for interested community members to attend. "This sort of opportunity doesn't come along every day, so we're encouraging people to reserve their tickets as soon as possible so that they don't miss out," Cr DeCampo added. Tickets can be reserved online by visiting the 'Coming Events' section on the Shire of Manjimup homepage- [www.manjimup.wa.gov.au](http://www.manjimup.wa.gov.au), or [www.trybooking.com/FLNJ](http://www.trybooking.com/FLNJ).

"Feedback on the activities already conducted by the SEED program shows that attitudes towards a career in agriculture are already becoming more positive. This, coupled with the caliber of guest speakers the Growing Science Forum has attracted, is testament to the importance of the SEED Program for our region," added Cr DeCampo.

**Attached:**

Growing science program (including guest speaker biographies)

**More information on the Southern Forests SEED program:**

<http://www.manjimup.wa.gov.au/SEED>

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Authorised by Andrew Campbell, Chief Executive Officer, Shire of Manjimup.

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Growing Science Forum

This is a FREE community event brought to you by the Southern Forests SEED Program.


Seats are limited. Reserve a seat at [www.trybooking.com/FLNJ](http://www.trybooking.com/FLNJ)

## PROGRAM

Morning Session 10am	Tea and coffee on arrival Welcome and Introduction Why Science? - Professor Lyn Beazley The Naked Scientist - Dr Chris Smith Great Moments in Science - Dr Karl Kruszelnicki Panel Discussion with guest speakers
Lunch 12pm	A light lunch will be served in the Shire of Manjimup Council Chamber - JC Rose Room
Afternoon Session 1pm	Why Agriculture? - local Agvocates More Great Moments in Science - Dr Karl Kruszelnicki Panel Discussion with guest speakers and local leaders in agriculture
2.30pm	Close

For more information contact Stephanie Carstairs  
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See more at [www.manjimup.wa.gov.au/SEED](http://www.manjimup.wa.gov.au/SEED)

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## Growing Science Forum



Government of **Western Australia**  
Department of **Regional Development**



ROYALTIES  
FOR REGIONS



Department of  
**Agriculture and Food**



SHIRE OF  
**MANJIMUP**

**Friday 15 August 2014**  
**Manjimup Repertory Club**

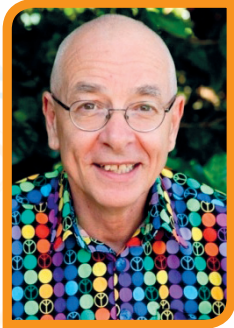
**Cnr Brockman & Bath Sts, Manjimup**

Featuring special  
guest speakers:  
Dr Karl Kruszelnicki  
& Dr Chris Smith



Guest Speaker: **DR KARL KRUSZELNICKI**

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Dr Karl started his media career in 1981, when to pay his way through medical school, he started presenting Great Moments in Science on Double J. Fast forward 23 years, and Dr Karl still hosts his now famous science talkback show on Triple J - the show is so popular that when the announcer gives out the phone number for people to call in, the ABC switchboard crashes. Dr Karl made his TV debut in 1985 as the presenter of the first series of Quantum, and continued his TV career as the science presenter on the Midday Show, Good Morning Australia, the Today Show, and Channel 7s Sunrise. Dr Karl's media career has also included authoring 34 books, along with newspapers, magazines, scripting, professional speaking and the internet. Dr Karl will cover many great moments in science from shifting weather bands, DNA and diet coke to how things are changing in the 21st Century. His depth of knowledge will amaze you.

Patron of the Southern Forests SEED Program:  
**PROFESSOR LYN BEAZLEY, AO FTSE**

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Lyn is the Patron of the Southern Forests SEED Program. Professor Beazley graduated from Oxford and Edinburgh Universities and has built an internationally renowned research team in Neuroscience that focused on recovery from brain damage, much of her investigations undertaken as Winthrop Professor at the University of Western Australia. She was the Chief Scientist of WA from 2006 - 2013, advising the WA Government on science, innovation and technology, as well as fulfilling the role of science ambassador locally, nationally and internationally. In 2009, Professor Beazley was awarded Officer of the Order of Australia and was elected a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering. She was recently inducted into the WA Womens' Hall of Fame, and in 2012 became the second recipient of the Governor's Award for Giving, in recognition of her enthusiastic philanthropy through her outreach activities promoting Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics in the Western Australian community. She will discuss why someone might want to follow a path in science and why we need more scientists, especially in agriculture.

Guest Speaker: **DR CHRIS SMITH**

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A medical doctor dubbed "The Naked Scientist", Dr Smith hails from the University of Cambridge in the UK, where he is a clinical lecturer in Virology and a fellow of Queens College. He founded the BBC television series The Naked Scientists in 2001, and in September 2006 published his first book, Naked Science, which is an anthology of science stories based on the material presented on the TV programme. It's sequel was published in 2008, titled The Return of the Naked Scientist, along with Crisp Packet Fireworks, a collection of 50 science experiments to try at home using every-day ingredients found in the average kitchen. He released a fourth book, Stripping Down Science, in December 2010. In 2005 he launched The Naked Scientists podcasts, which is one of the world's most downloaded science podcasts. Dr Smith exposes the role of science in our lives, and will show you a side of science you've not seen before - he may just blow you away.

**STEPHANIE CARSTAIRS** Education Development Officer, Shire of Manjimup

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Stephanie joined the Shire of Manjimup to coordinate the development and rollout of the Southern Forests SEED Program - sowing the seeds for future growth. It is part of the Agricultural Expansion Plan, funded by Royalties for Regions - Supertowns project. This component is aimed at increasing interest in agriculture as a career path, by fostering relationships between industry and education providers. So far in 2014, Stephanie has coordinated several programs for local students, and education providers, to gain exposure to the opportunities available in the agriculture sector, particularly in the Southern Forests region. Thanks to the involvement of those in the local agricultural and farming community, these events and programs have been a success. Today's panel discussion will provide another opportunity to learn more from local leaders in agriculture. The SEED program is proud to present the Growing Science Forum, to showcase science and agriculture, and raise the profile of careers in agriculture.

*The Southern Forests SEED Program acknowledges Manjimup Senior High School graphic design student, Jye Smith, for great work in designing the 'Growing Science Forum' logo.*