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Public-powered science: *Curious Climate Tasmania* events announced

Tasmanians have asked their most pressing climate change questions through *Curious Climate Tasmania* and can find out the answers at four live events to be held around Tasmania in August as part of <u>National Science Week</u>.

Attendees have the chance to speak face-to-face with some of Tasmania's top scientists about the climate change issues most important to Tasmanians.

Answers will be revealed to some of the most popular questions and topics submitted and there'll be live Q&As with the science team.

Launched in May, the project is led by the University's Centre for Marine Socioecology in collaboration with Institute (TIA), ABC Hobart and CSIRO.

Funded by a National Science Week grant, the project aims to develop engaging, public-powered science communication, bridging the gap between experts and audiences on a controversial topic with credible and relevant information.

During the two-week Curious Climate callout in June, Tasmanians asked more than 200 climate-related questions for researchers to answer and the *Curious Climate Tasmania* team are now tasked with answering the top questions.

Project-lead Professor Gretta Pecl said Tasmania has dozens of scientists and researchers working on climate change who are globally recognised leaders in their fields of study

"We wanted to engage with the public to allow them to tap into that local expertise to learn more about what they wanted to know about climate change," Professor Pecl said.

"However, instead of us turning up to an event and telling the public what we want, we've asked people to tell us what they're curious about," she said.

The free events will be held in Queenstown, St Helens, Launceston and Hobart from 4 to 8 August. Further information is at: https://curiousclimate.org.au/

Event details:

Queenstown: Empire Hotel, 4pm - 5.30pm, Sunday, 4 August;

Launceston: Rory Spence Lecture Theatre, School of Architecture and Design,

Inveresk, 6pm - 7.30pm, Tuesday, 6 August;

St Helens: Bayside Inn, 6pm - 7.30pm, Wednesday, 7 August;

Hobart: Sir Stanley Burbury Theatre, University of Tasmania Sandy Bay

Campus, 6pm - 7.30pm, Thursday, 8 August.

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