



Newsletter September 2018

The Atlas of Living Australia (ALA) is a collaborative, digital and open infrastructure that aggregates biodiversity data from multiple sources, making it accessible for everyone.

Message from our Acting Director

Last month, the Atlas of Living Australia (ALA) reached two major milestones: 75 million occurrence and specimen records, and 40,000 registered users. These achievements represent the efforts of our ALA team, contributions from our many partners, and are testament to Dr John La Salle's vision and leadership of the ALA. As many of you are aware, John (ALA Director since 2012) died suddenly in May this year.

John was instrumental in establishing the ALA and its ongoing success. From the outset, John established close relationships with data owners and providers (such as natural history collections, museums and herbaria, conservation groups and government departments). As a result, the ALA now enables unparalleled access to biodiversity data, creating efficiencies and impact across research, government, industry and community sectors.

Thank you to all our friends and colleagues who wrote with messages and memories, these will be passed on to John's family. For more information about John and his contribution to science, read the [tribute](#) that was published on our blog and in The Canberra Times.

We're looking forward to actively consulting with our communities and stakeholders at conferences between now and the end of the year. In October, [eResearch Australasia](#), is dedicating a session to John called 'e-Research in Ecosciences', so expect to see ALA friends there.

Regards,



Hamish Holewa
Acting Director
Atlas of Living Australia

Highlights

Brisbane City Council selects ALA for biodiversity data management

The largest local government in Australia, Brisbane City Council, has chosen the Atlas of Living Australia as its approved corporate platform for environmental data storage, collection and analysis.

[Read more](#)



ALA in use: Dave Maynard, Environmental Consultant

We talk with an ecologist and environmental consultant, about how he uses the Atlas of Living Australia to inform environmental impact assessments and offset planning for development projects.

[Read more](#)



National Science Week Competition winner!

Congratulations to Mrs Kidd from Victoria for submitting this image of a Crimson Rosella and thank you to all the teachers who uploaded sightings.

See our [Facebook](#) page for other competition entries.

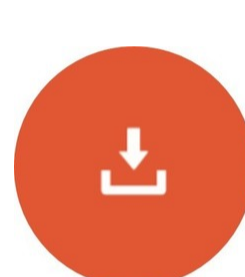


Updates

New feature: occurrence record download history and DOI support

The Atlas of Living Australia now allows you to see a history of your occurrence record downloads. We've also introduced the automatic creation of a 'digital object identifier' (DOI) for every new download.

[Read more](#)



Another way to find citizen science projects

People keen to contribute to a science project can now use People Powered – a new search tool designed by The Guardian linked to the Atlas of Living Australia's citizen science project finder.

[Read more](#)



Tips & Tricks

Species identification

In episode 29 of [ABC's Gardening Australia](#) (19 minutes into the episode), Gerry Coleby-Williams explained how he used the Atlas of Living Australia to help with identification. Here are a few more tips to help you identify species in your backyard.

[Read more](#)



Parasitic plant enthusiasts enhance ALA data on mistletoes

Roger Fryer and Jill Newland are parasitic plant enthusiasts and run a photographic website called North Queensland Plants.

[Read more](#)

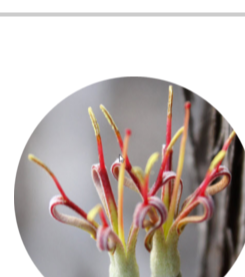


Image of the Issue

Every day new images of Australia's amazingly diverse species are uploaded to the Atlas of Living Australia.

To highlight the photographic talents of our ALA community, we've chosen an image by Kenneth Foster of a dragonfly ([Family Odonata](#)).

View [Recent sightings](#) for all new images as they are uploaded to the ALA.



2018 Conference Season

Come along and meet us at the following events.



National Landcare
Conference
Brisbane
10-12 Oct



eResearch
Australasia
Melbourne
15-19 Oct



Ecological Society
of Australia 2018
Brisbane
25-29 Nov

Milestones from the ALA Dashboard



75 million
occurrence and
specimen records



40,000
registered users



1 million
DigiVol tasks
completed

Handy Links & Resources



The Spatial Portal

Use mapping tools to analyse species, location and environment data



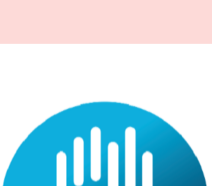
Search species

Find images, taxonomic and location information for Australian species



Record a sighting

Upload your own species image and location information



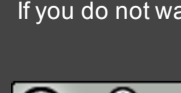
The ALA is made possible by contributions from its many partners. It receives support through the Australian Government's National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy (NCRIS) and is hosted by CSIRO.



Atlas of Living Australia | [www.ala.org.au](#) | [support@ala.org.au](#)

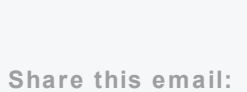
The Atlas of Living Australia acknowledges Australia's Traditional Owners and pays respect to the past and present Elders of the nation's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. We honour and celebrate the spiritual, cultural and customary connections of Traditional Owners to country and the biodiversity that forms part of that country.

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