

Media release – 22 March 2016 SCIENCE CIRCUS AFRICA 2016

Australian science show set to inspire young Namibians

For the first time in Windhoek! Experiments, explosions, exciting science – the Australian High Commission is proud to support *Science Circus Africa*, visiting Windhoek from Wednesday 30 March to Friday 1 April 2016 in conjunction with Namibia's National Commission on Research, Science and Technology.

Featuring Dr Graham Walker from the Australian National University and Science ShowOffs, *Science Circus Africa* is a travelling roadshow of fun-packed interactive science that trains local teams along the way. The roadshows will feature extraordinary science done with ordinary stuff, with experiments teachers and learners can try themselves – along with plenty they should not!

Australia's High Commissioner to Namibia (based in Pretoria), HE Mr Adam McCarthy, said that Australia was pleased to help encourage an interest in science among school-aged children, as well as build the capacity of science communicators and educators and in Namibia.

"Making science fun is important in encouraging young people to consider a future in science. The best thing about *Science Circus Africa* though is the training of local teams, which means the impact is lasting", said Mr McCarthy.

Dr Walker is visiting Namibia for the first time, after successful tours in South Africa and Zimbabwe in February and March 2016, which saw the *Science Circus* reach over 8000 people. He took the Circus to 55,000 people across South Africa, Botswana, Malawi, Zambia and Mauritius in 2015.

"I am excited to visit schools across Windhoek for the inaugural *Science Circus Africa* tour of Namibia. I'm looking forward to working with the local team and sharing some wonderful science as we visit the schools", said Dr Walker.

Science Circus Africa is supported by the Australian High Commission in Pretoria's Direct Aid Program, with assistance from the Australian National University.

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See: https://www.facebook.com/ScienceCircusAfrica and www.sciencecircusafrica.org

Science Circus Africa's Dr Graham Walker will perform at the Post Street Mall on Friday 1 April from 09:00 – 17:00.