STARGAZING LIVE 2018 – GUINNESS WORLD RECORD ATTEMPT

Australians are once again invited to look up and tune in to the Cosmos, when Stargazing Live returns in 2018.

Broadcast live on ABC over three consecutive nights in May 2018, Professor Brian Cox and a cast of Australia’s leading scientists and personalities will inspire the Nation to cast their eye to the sky and appreciate the unique wonders of the Milky Way.

Alongside this major TV event, the ABC in partnership with Australian National University will lead a Guinness World Record attempt for the Most people stargazing – multiple venues. This record is for the greatest number of people stargazing simultaneously across different venues.

The current World Record, set in 2015 by the Australian National University, stands at 7,960 people across 37 locations. We are aiming to set a record this year so large that it will be nearly impossible to break again, but we need your help to achieve this!

 HOW DO I JOIN THE WORLD RECORD ATTEMPT?

We are putting the call out to schools, astronomy societies, community groups, and all budding galactic explorers across Australia to join our World Record attempt for the Most people stargazing – multiple venues.

We invite you to host your very own Stargazing Live Star Party on Wednesday May 23, or attend one of the free ABC community events - and participate in this new World Record attempt!

WHAT IS A STAR PARTY?

A Star Party is an event that has been organised by a community member and/or group and then registered with the ABC as part of Stargazing Live.

Party hosts will receive a Star Party pack, with tips on how to host their party, fun recipe, activity and music ideas, and important details on logging their World Record participation.

Some lucky Star Parties will receive a visit from an ABC personality or participate in a live-cross from one of the ABC community events.

If a new World Record is set, all participants will receive a certificate as an official recognition of their involvement.

WHEN IS IT HAPPENING?

The World Record attempt will be held on Wednesday May 23. The exact timing of the attempt is still being confirmed, but you should aim to host your Star Party between 7pm - 9pm AEST

HOW DO I REGISTER MY INTEREST?

To register your interest in hosting a Star Party or to hear about the planned community events, simply click the link below:

 [*https://goo.gl/forms/BsjxXWkT7w2emsFp1*](https://goo.gl/forms/BsjxXWkT7w2emsFp1)

We will then be in touch with more information, including the guidelines for participating in the World Record attempt.

Once you’ve registered your interest, it’s time to start planning your Star Party:

• Find a venue – it could be your local sports oval, town square, backyard – anywhere you can gather together with a good view of the moon. You may like to consider hosting the event in conjunction with your local school, community club etc

• Send a ‘save the date’ to your family, friends and interested community members

• You will need a minimum of 25 people taking part in the World Record attempt at your Star Party to qualify. If you have less than 25 people, you can still hold a party and stargaze but unfortunately your participation will not be officially recognised as part of the World Record attempt

• Dust off your old telescopes and/or binoculars (don’t worry if you don’t own any, there will be an option to purchase discounted telescopes through ABC)

• Keep an eye on your inbox for more details, event suggestions and updates on the World Record attempt from ABC

Stargazing Live is hosted by Professor Brian Cox and Julia Zemiro, and is based on a format devised by the BBC, licensed by BBC Worldwide and produced by the ABC.

Questions?

Please contact us on abcengagement@abc.net.au