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# TALL POPPY CAMPAIGN

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*Investing in Australia's Future*

## - MEDIA RELEASE -

### **St Ives students to receive lesson on Australia's extinct giant animals from prominent scientist**

**One of Australia's most prominent young scientists will today be visiting St Ives North School to teach the students about Australia's extinct giant animals.**

Dr Stephen Wroe, Palaeontologist and tall poppy among Australia's scientific community, will visit the school to talk about the giant animals that once walked the earth – including Sydney.

"Few people are aware of Australia's extinct giant animals," said Dr Wroe.

"Talking about killer kangaroos and marsupial lions to primary school students can provide the inspiration for them to develop more of an interest in science, and later in life, maybe even a career in it," he added.

Dr Wroe's visit is part of the Tall Poppy Campaign, a project of the Australian Institute of Policy and Science, which aims to highlight the work of Australia's best young scientists and to inspire young Australians to see a career for themselves in science.

"There is a shortage of young people entering and graduating science degrees - the excitement and professional and personal rewards of science are often not recognised in our society," says Tall Poppy Campaign Director, Dorothy Davis.

"While students' career decisions are often made in the later stages of high school, it is important that the possibilities of a career in science are highlighted to students during primary school," Mrs Davis said.

"These Young Tall Poppy Scientists demonstrate to the next generation that a career in science in Australia can be exciting, rewarding and at the forefront of scientific developments worldwide" Mrs Davis added.

Dr Stephen Wroe will visit St Ives North School Assembly (87 Memorial Road, St Ives) today, Thursday 30 November, from 2.00 – 2.30pm.

**Founded by the Australian Institute of Policy and Science**

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*The Tall Poppy is a metaphor for excellence and endeavour and symbolises Australia's pride in its outstanding achievers - in all fields.*

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