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The Cheeky Neurons Team-up with Torie Robinson in the ACT

On the back of hugely successful events during March, The Cheeky Neurons are teaming up with award-winning guest speaker & epilepsy-awareness superstar, Torie Robinson, in her only public appearances in the ACT. Through 'Make Your Own Cheeky Neuron' workshops, and media appearances Torie and The Cheeky Neurons hope to continue spreading awareness and understanding about the experience of epilepsy, a condition that directly affects around 250,000 Australians today (1). Workshops are April 22 & 23 and are suitable for participants aged 5-105 who want to learn more about growing up with epilepsy. Tickets: www.Eventbrite.com.au.

Nix and Nellie the Cheeky Neurons have a mission to increase people's understanding about epilepsy and neurological disorders in a fun, family-friendly way.

"If you have a brain, you've got the potential to be affected by Cheeky Neurons," creator Jo Adams said, "we hope that one day, people affected by neurological disorders like epilepsy feel able to have open, everyday-conversations about their condition, just like people who are affected by well-known physical conditions like asthma."

Canberra-based science communicator Jo Adams created The Cheeky Neurons as a student project while studying at The National Centre for the Public Awareness of Science (CPAS), at The Australian National University.

"I've been overwhelmed by the positive response that The Cheeky Neurons have received since the project started," Jo said, "teaming up with long-time supporter and advisor Torie Robinson is a really exciting next step in the Cheeky Neurons journey."

Torie Robinson is a leading international public speaker, writer, entrepreneur, world traveller and lecturer. She is an Ambassador for "Yes I Can" with the British Government Department for Work & Pensions, founder of both Epilepsy Sparks and Media Evolution, and writer for Huffington Post. Torie was awarded 'Media Volunteer of the Year' by Epilepsy Action UK in 2017, and has spoken in UK Parliament and featured in multiple publications.

Born in the UK, Torie grew up in both England and Australia and has worked for international firms with staff in Europe, Australia, the US and Asia.

"I'm so excited to be back in Australia talking to businesses about how to encourage an inclusive working culture and working with The Cheeky Neurons to spread epilepsy awareness in the community," said Torie.

The Cheeky Neurons were inspired by the acclaimed Neural Knitworks project, which promotes mind and brain health through events during National Science Week and worldwide (2). The Cheeky Neurons were created using patterns from the Neural Knitworks project, and an adaptation of the Neural Knitworks 'No Knit' pattern is used in workshops with permission from founder Pat Pillai.

References

1. **Epilepsy Action Australia.** Facts and Statistics. [Online] 2017. [Cited: April 12, 2018.] <https://www.epilepsy.org.au/about-epilepsy/facts-and-statistics/>.

2. **Inspiring Australia.** Neural Knitworks. *National Science Week*. [Online] Inspiring Australia, 2018. [Cited: April 12, 2018.] <https://www.scienceweek.net.au/neural-knitworks/>.