

The Australian National
University Computer Science
Students' Association



Bush Week Tech Fest Tech Talk Speakers Brief

10am - 4pm, Friday July 31st 2026



The ANU CSSA acknowledges the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of this nation. We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands on which our organisation is located and where we conduct our business. We pay our respects to ancestors and Elders, past and present. The ANU CSSA is committed to honouring Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' unique cultural and spiritual relationships to the land, waters and seas and their rich contribution to society.



About The Bush Week Tech Fest by CSSA

The Australian National University Computer Science Students' Association (ANU CSSA) is the largest computing-related student society at the Australian National University and one of the most active student associations at the ANU, with a history of over 30 years. Bush Week runs after Orientation Week and is filled with events for new and existing students. **This year, CSSA will be running its first ever Techfest during Bush Week, championing a 48hr CTF titled BushBash CTF, Tech Talks with industry speakers, BBQs, a Movie Night, and a Networking and Drinks Night to cap it all off.** There will be no better way to spend the weekend of Semester 2, Week 1 than to learn, meet people, and have fun at Techfest.

The Capture the Flag competition will run between July 31st and August 2nd.

Event Schedule (as at 30th June 2026):

Friday 31 st July	Saturday 1 st August	Sunday 2 nd August
Tech Talks (10am-4pm) <i>Includes Refreshments</i>	Free BBQ Lunch (12pm)	Free BBQ Lunch (12pm)
BushBash CTF Launch (5pm-10pm) <i>Includes Refreshments</i>	BushBash CTF (10am-8pm) <i>Includes Refreshments</i>	BushBash CTF Finale and Prizes (10am-5:30pm) <i>Includes Pizza Dinner</i>
	Movie Night (~6-10pm)	Networking Drinks (~6-10pm)

The goal of this Tech Fest is to invite new and existing students to have fun, learn a little, and in the case of the CTF challenge themselves to think critically. We welcome students who want to participate in the ANU Computing and Cyber community.

We really look forward to working with you all, and for a fantastic event ahead.

Peter Woodhead <-----> CSSA Cybersecurity Officer
Adrian Carpio <----> CSSA Competitive Programming Officer
Harold Gao <-----> CSSA International Officer



Tech Talks

We are hosting a good number of Computing, Cybersecurity, and Interdisciplinary students across a few days of tech and cyber related events including a 48hr CTF, movie night, BBQs, networking, competitive tech activities and more. The TechTalks will run during the day on Friday the 31st of July, with slots between 10am and 4pm, just prior to the 5PM launch of our CTF. It is feasible for talks to occur on Saturday interest exists among invited speakers. We prefer in person participation as we are trying to foster our campus community and would love to welcome you into that, but if you are interested in participating and can only join via a Zoom or recorded video this remains within our interests.

Tech Talk slots are 25 minutes and 50 minutes respectively, and we're more than happy for you to indicate your preferred timeframe. Please note this timeframe is inclusive of any Q&A time if you wish to engage with the audience.

We're particularly interested in general computer science and cybersecurity talks drawn from the personal experience the speaker has had in academia or industry, for a mixed audience at ANU and for CTF visitors. Since they may or may not have domain knowledge of your talk already, pick accessible topics that might relate to the following:

- an ideas talk: What is the current landscape of your field in Tech or Cyber? What are the timeless Computing skills that transcend AI widespread use?
- a technical talk: what is an emerging skill in computing or pen-testing or zero-day research which will accelerate the way we poke holes in software?
- a technical talk: what are the best ways to vibe code securely? What are the most common attack vectors in coding projects and what can we learn about defending against them?
- a story talk/true crime: what did your company do to mitigate a major cyberattack and how did the attacker's get in?
- a story talk: how did your company handle incident response and post incident review of a major outage or disaster?

We're open to whatever you might have in mind, and talks ranging in technicality would be in scope for our planned events. You're welcome and encouraged to use a PowerPoint or slide deck while you speak. We're more interested in hearing about an idea or a situation you got yourself into/out of than an ad for your company per se; to give a dedicated company talk [contact us about the perks of our sponsorship program](#). The purpose of all this – I'm just doing what I can to foster the marketplace of ideas; what better place exists than a university full of bright minds getting ready to step into various computing and cyber disciplines!

Please let me know if you've got further questions or need clarification.



What we'll need from You

For your talk, we'll need a few key things.

1. Share with us your dietary requirements. We plan to provide some light refreshments throughout the day and can accommodate your dietaries. We'll send out a form with a question on this topic.
2. Share with us any accessibility requirements you have and special arrangements you'd like us to make.
3. Share with us your preference of talk length and topic: either a 25 minute slot, or a 50 minute slot (both inclusive of optional Q&A time) and a brief description of what you'd like to talk about. Let us know if you're stuck for ideas!
4. Once you've got an idea, you're welcome to bring some slides or a script, or anything you'd like to have with you to aid your tech talk. We'll have a projector screen and AV. It is possible to hook up your own laptop via HDMI to our system but if you'd rather not deal with the hassle we can take a Google Slides, PowerPoint File or PDF via email or cloud drive link.
5. Bring yourself! Can't have a good talk without a great speaker – so along to ANU campus in Acton ACT to share your talk in person. We'll share further details about arrival, parking options and venue details as we get closer.
6. Completely optional. But if you come from a workplace that has stickers or swag, you're most welcome to share them. This would be the extent to which we'll allow company promo – this isn't a job fair or a company ad per se – but students love stickers, so who are we to refuse you that shameless plug.

We look forward to hearing you share your POV on cyber, tech, IT, computing, AI, or any related story. And most of all, we hope you enjoy your visit to ANU and look forward to chatting with you when you get here!

Cheers,

Peter Woodhead // CSSA Cybersecurity Officer 2026 // Lead Tech Fest Organiser