

ART OR VANDALISM?

WARNING: Student Life at Risk

It's That Time Again...

The Howard government has once again proposed a form of the VSU legislation that will limit the amount of money available to student organisations like the Union, Guild, PGB and Sports Association, risking the parts of campus life that make Uni more than just a place you go for a few years for a piece of paper.

What Will VSU Mean For You?

VSU was introduced in Western Australia in 1994. Students no longer received services at the level we have at UNSW. Some of the services hardest hit were:

- Clubs and societies
- Subsidised food and retail outlets
- Social and competitive sport
- Events, entertainment and uni bars.
- Volunteering programs and skills courses
- Legal representation and advocacy



If VSU is introduced, you'll arrive at UNSW next year and most of these services won't be there. Can you imagine what it would be like coming to a uni where there aren't any clubs or societies? Where there's no O-Week and no Oktoberfest? Where you couldn't represent your uni at sport? Where food costs more and there is less choice?

Want To Find Out More?

On Wednesday April 6 (that's this week) your student organisations are coming together to launch our fight against VSU and give students an opportunity to find out more information on VSU and to get involved in the campaign to help stop it.

WHERE? Library Lawn

WHEN? 12 midday onwards

WHAT? Free stuff, food, guest speakers, music information and a chance to get involved.

WHY? Because these changes will affect all students across all Unis and TAFEs in Australia.

Students can't afford VSU - together we CAN stop it!

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Visit www.vsu.com.au for more information.



BLITZ

BLITZ MAGAZINE

Telephone: 02 9385 7715
Fax: 02 9313 8626
Address: PO Box 173,
Kingsford 2032
Level 1, Blockhouse, Lower Campus
blitz@union.unsw.edu.au
web: www.union.unsw.edu.au

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BLITZ TEAM 2005

Editor: Ben Smyth
Reporters: Rob Gascoigne, Matt Lim,
April Smallwood
Designer: Anjali Belani
Communications Manager:
Marina Spurgin, 02 9385 7731
Advertising & Sponsorship
Coordinator: Charlotte O'Brien
Marketing Manager: Donna Wiemann

EDITOR'S LETTER by Ben Smyth

We've put you through a lot in the first few weeks of Blitz 2005. We've subjected you to vitriolic editor's letters. We've given you fiendish puzzles to solve to win prizes. We've even made you squawk like cockatoos.

This was all done partly to create some excitement, irreverence and fun among the readership, partly to award you with some great prizes like passes to the Cockatoo Island Festival and partly to convince more people to read Blitz.

Admittedly, though, it was done partly just to mess with you.

And if you thought we couldn't mess with you any more, guess again. Recently I was introduced to something I must share with you – as much for my own therapy as for your benefit. This something is an infuriating little game called The Game.

The rules of The Game are simple:

1. If you think about The Game, you lose;
2. If you lose The Game, you must immediately declare that you have lost The Game;
3. After this declaration, you, and anyone who hears it, gets a grace period of thirty minutes in which to forget The Game before it restarts.

That's all. Simple as The Game's rules are, they have some disturbing implications:

1. It is impossible to win The Game;
2. It is only possible to lose The Game;
3. Now you have heard about The Game you have no choice but to play it for the rest of your life. Bahahaah!

Of course, none of this has anything to do with the current edition of Blitz – my editor's letters rarely do. This is a shame because it's one of our best issues yet.

This week Matt Lim examines the art and crime of graffiti, including an interview with Mistery, an artist who I was happy to discover created one of my favourite murals on Crystal Street, Petersham.

April "Hilarity is a sheet of bubble-wrap" Smallwood tells us a personal story of the space occupying the outside of a clique, and Rob Gascoigne tells all those gutless meatheads where they can stick it. In addition to our regulars like Vox Pops, Visual Blitz and our comprehensive What's On Guide, we'll also hear contributor Lisa Turner railing against the evil that is tapas dining.

We hope you enjoyed your break and we hope you enjoy our Week 5 edition. Welcome back and have some fun. Oh, and try not to think about... bugger.

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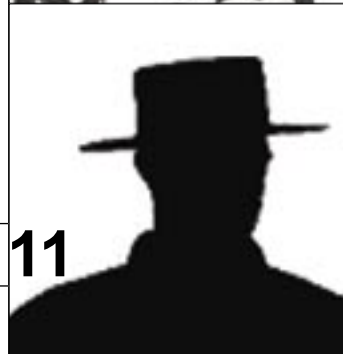
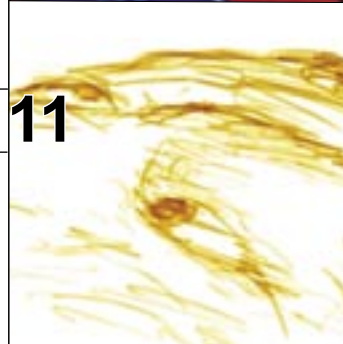
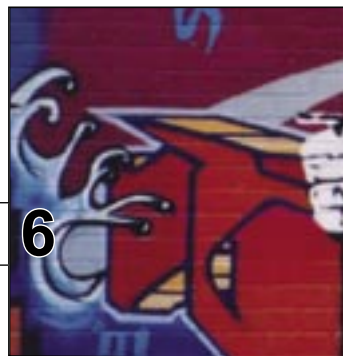
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PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Dear Members,
I am going to break some terrible news to you: the President's Report to Blitz may not exist next year. I know that this announcement may leave you aghast. Perhaps you are already gnashing your teeth and despairing the general order of the world.

In fact, all of the non-academic things we take for granted as students may not exist at uni next year: orientation week; social and competitive sport; Oktoberfest; clubs and societies and much more.

Why is this going to happen? Because the Federal Government believes that the non-academic services provided by unis are not essential to campus life. For this reason, it is introducing Voluntary Student Unionism legislation which prohibits universities from collecting money for non-academic services from all students.

This is like the Government saying that it doesn't believe that having a community on campus and staying fit and healthy are essential parts of being a student. Perhaps you agree with the Government that these things are not important. You are welcome to hold that opinion. Perhaps, however, you don't believe that the value of university can be measured just by the piece of paper that you receive when you graduate. Perhaps you believe (as I do) that universities are for developing life skills as well as academic skills, encountering a diversity of perspectives, forming relationships and social networks and maturing as a person.

This is why the Union, the Guild, the Postgraduate Board, the Sports Association and the University all oppose the government's introduction of VSU. This Wednesday at lunch time on the Library Lawn we will be launching the campaign to save our student organisations, so that we can save our student life. There are many things you can do if you believe that non-academic services are essential to universities. You can protest, write letters to politicians or the university, or just get your friends involved.

For more information and to save the President's Report, visit www.vsu.com.au or email me (Dave) at u.president@union.unsw.edu.au.

**union member prices*
\$2 coffee*

**for all regular-sized coffee*

during week 5

at all Union coffee outlets

Eats @ The Round • Coffee Republic • Quad Food Court
Colonnade Cafe • Quad Coffee Cart • Esmes • Badabagan
Plaza Kiosk • Java @ Java Cafe • Mathews Food Hall • Nexus CLB

The University of New South Wales



PULL YOUR HEAD IN

By Rob Gascoigne

So, last night I get a phone call from a friend of mine and he tells me the following story.

He lives in Chippendale. Walking home from work one night he heard footsteps behind him and then felt an incredible punch in the lower right side of his back. He spun around to see two guys standing there. The one that hadn't hit him in the back promptly punched him across the face. My friend turned again and sprinted to his house. He walked in the front door, pale with fear as his housemate asked him what's wrong. Then his housemate noticed the gush of blood that was flowing from his lower back. My friend had been stabbed.

There was absolutely no reason for this attack. They didn't want money and he had never seen them before. The only reason for the attack was their own pathetic desire to prove something. But to prove what? Is it really possible to think that attacking a solitary person while you're in a group, or carrying weapons, in any way proves that you're hard? Surely it proves the opposite.

What's really alarming is that this sort of thing is not uncommon. I hate to be alarmist, but men genuinely have something to worry about (and I acknowledge completely that this pales in comparison to what many women have to fear – I'm not trying to compare the two). The prospect of being beaten up by a group of wankers with something to (dis)prove is very real. This doesn't mean that you have to be alarmed, but it does mean you ought to be aware.

Now, I have few avenues for redress. I would make a terrible vigilante. However, I do write for a magazine that is read by a large number of young men. What I want to say is pretty simple: if you are the kind of guy that feels he needs to attack someone randomly, you are a tool; if you are the kind of guy that can only attack somebody while you're in a group, you're a gutless tool. If you have a mate that does this, please, please, please tell him to pull his head in.

I don't think it's hard to respect another human being's dignity. Is it? Maybe it's a question of self-respect. I don't know. But I do know that, whatever the reason, it's cowardly, childish and pathetic.

FROM FORTH THE FATAL LOINS

By Matt Lim

Our trip to Coogee beach this weekend was all going swimmingly until my mate was stung by a blue bottle. If you've ever been stung by one of these suckers, you'll know that you don't actually feel anything for the first 10-15 minutes, but after this grace period you're in for a treat. I know this because I have been stung quite badly before, thus giving me the right to laugh and mock at my friend's predicament.

Interestingly we were both stung in exactly the same place: on the back of the knee. I say 'interestingly' because when a person is stung here, the pain doesn't stay in this area, but instead spreads up towards the groin. And boy does it hurt. The only way to describe it is as a dull cramping pain that doesn't subside for at least half an hour.

Now, I'm taking a stab in the dark here, ladies, but I guess I could equate it to the feeling of period pain, in the way that I equate getting kicked in the nuts as a 60 second experience of childbirth pain. Even if I am wrong with either statement, can anyone verify or challenge this? I thought not.

So there was my mate, nursing his groin with an ice pack, whinging and moaning about his period pain. Naturally, I could not stop laughing. If you were there you would've been laughing too.

Call me a sadistic bastard, but I think most of us have some element of schadenfreude* in all of us. There's a hidden side of us that can't help but watch someone get hurt. Case in point: Australia's Funniest Home Videos. This show contains thirty minutes of fathers, who really should know better, getting hit in the nether regions by a crazed toddler with a three-iron. And what do you hear the whole time? Raucous laughter from the studio audience. There's also the 'car crash' complex, where people instinctively slow down and ogle at a car accident, sometimes causing another accident whilst doing so.

So there; I am not a sicko. I am just comfortable enough to laugh at other's misfortune because I know I'll be (or have been) that poor sod somewhere else. Now go forth and deride your fellow (wo)man!

* Pleasure derived from the misfortune of others. A cool new word I learnt this week.





GRAFFITI : HIGH CRIME OR HIGH ART?

By Matt Lim

Graffiti is commonly associated with vandalism and juvenile crime. As a result of this, graffiti is seldom seen as a legitimate art form. Yet the practice of painting on walls has been around for thousands of years. Australia's indigenous community has a long history of wall painting and it is regarded as an important artistic and cultural form of expression.

Another Australian icon is the word "Eternity," scrawled by Arthur Stace and made famous on the Harbour Bridge during 2000 New Year's Eve celebrations. There is no doubt that this was a form of graffiti, a 'tag' that was written almost half a million times in various locations. City of Sydney Council decided that Stace and his tag were worthy of a memorial plaque, immortalising "Eternity" at Sydney Square waterfall.

On the other hand, graffiti these days seems to be an unsightly mess of tags that councils are intent on removing as soon as possible. It is often said that the only difference between art and vandalism is permission. Like every good saga, there are two sides to the story.

Mistery (aka Matthew Peet) is one of Australia's most renowned graffiti artists. You may not have heard of his real name but chances are that you've seen his artwork somewhere in Sydney, or even overseas. He is also a founding member of the Hip Hop group, Brethren, who have supported acts like Run DMC and Michael Franti. **Matt Lim** had a chat to Mistery about old school hip hop, crime and the 'graff' scene in Australia.

I think that the reason people are fearful of tags and illegal pieces is the fact that it indicates society and the government hasn't got everything under control, it makes people feel uneasy."

Mistery

How did you get into graffiti? I got into break dancing in about 1983 and that led me into graff. I've been rhyming since then as well.

Did you have any formal training in art or design? I did after I was already doing graff. I went to the National Art School from 1993-1996. I got a diploma in Fine Arts

There's an overwhelming opinion that graffiti these days is just something done by punks and it creates the fear of crime. What's your stance? Graffiti has always had a criminal element to it, but there's a million different sub-groups of graff culture. It started on trains in New York and there has always been an emotional attachment to trains, seeing that's where its history came from.

I think that the reason people are fearful of tags and illegal pieces is the fact that it sorta indicates society and the government hasn't got everything under control; it makes people feel uneasy. People sometimes don't even like it when we do legal walls because they feel it's 'ghetto-fying' the area. It's an environment people aren't used to, because they feel it's an invasion of US culture. But people don't use graff to paint rock and country music and other things part of American culture that we've adopted, you know what I mean?

I think maybe [graff] is perceived as a ghetto culture and that it's done by certain racial groups. Australia is so multicultural, you can't generalise the groups that are involved in it. It's not all lower socio economic kids, it's everyone. There's more access now to legal projects than there ever was before.

What has changed in Australia in the twenty years since you started? Initially when hip hop started [in Australia] it was just about breaking [break dancing], we didn't realise how important the hip hop culture was as a whole. Now we appreciate it all and people specialise more. I know people who do graff but not hip hop music, breakers not into MCing or even rapping or whatever. Most old school hip hop dudes you meet all break and can dabble in the other elements.

What was the graff scene like back in the 1980s? When graff started, a lot of us were just breakers writing the name of our breakdance groups and just recreating what we saw in movies. Over time as the fad of breakdancing started to fade out, people started to take their graffiti more seriously and in the late 80s Sydney, and Australia in general, was



a hardcore graffiti country and it really put us on the map. The guys that were the forerunners in that period became kings within the culture. Instead of younger graffiti artists having to look to US artists, they look to the older Australian guys that were around in the mid 1980s.

There would've been very few legal projects back then.

Ninety-nine percent was illegal. We were still educating people. A lot of the stuff I find I'm doing now is educating the general public as to the artistic merits of it.

So you've had your fair share of run-ins with the law? Ummm, bits and pieces. I'm not a real rebellious kinda dude, I never did crazy way-out attention-getting illegal stuff. But obviously I did do illegal graffs, so I was always careful not to get pinged. I've had issues with the police, but I've never been charged.

You've come a long way since then. Now that you're involved in a lot of youth work with local councils, some traditional graff writers may see this as a sell-out or that you've even crossed the dark side and become some kind of informer. What are your feelings on that?

I don't think dudes that know me would think I would ever be giving information to the police. And I've done more than my fair share for graffiti, so they can't really use the 'keepin' it real' argument against me. I'm not doing the legal projects just for me - I'm setting up the walls for the younger writers that wanna do that kinda stuff. I'm still hanging out with guys that are involved in illegal graff, but I'm not judgemental. I don't tell people if they should do legal or illegal. It's up to the individual.

So what are you involved in right now? I run a breakdance group at Marrickville Youth Centre and we actually MC there as well - a lot of graffiti projects run through the centre. We also run a regular group at Warringah Council where people can come and just paint. And we're always doing one-off things, I'm doing some work in Campbelltown at the moment. That's the community side of things. As for my crew (Bounty Hunters), we've just been cranking a few big walls with a few other crews as well.

Thanks heaps for your time Matt (Mystery).

Have a good one mate, ciao.

THE RIGHT APPROACH?

There is no doubt there are many angry and concerned residents out there who have been victims of graffiti and the government is hearing their cries. The amount of graffiti removed by City of Sydney Council rose from 33,191 in 2003 to 161,094 in 2004.

The Summary Offences Act 1988 is the legislation in NSW that deals with graffiti offences. Fines range from \$440 to \$2200 and imprisonment for "wilfully defacing property." The latest amendment to the Act was passed in 2003 (Section 10c) and states that it is illegal for anyone to sell spray paint cans to persons under the age of 18 (from NSW Lawlink Graffiti Website).

The Act underpins the City Of Sydney Council's policy on graffiti, released with the aim of reducing the incidents of graffiti and removing them as soon as possible. Strategies include 24-hour removal in "Priority Zones," educating the community about the illegality of graffiti and a City Care Line to report incidents of graffiti for removal.

"Every suburb has graffiti problems, especially those with a main arterial thoroughfare," says Charlie Coorey, Community Youth Worker for Marrickville Council and Project Director of the Aerosol Arts Program, "but the difference lies in how the council reacts to the problem." If it were up to Charlie, he would have a legalised mural wall on every street, but unfortunately there is opposition. Where some people view graffiti artists as delinquents tagging trains, Charlie expresses his concern for the welfare of these kids who could very easily get themselves injured or killed being out on those tracks.

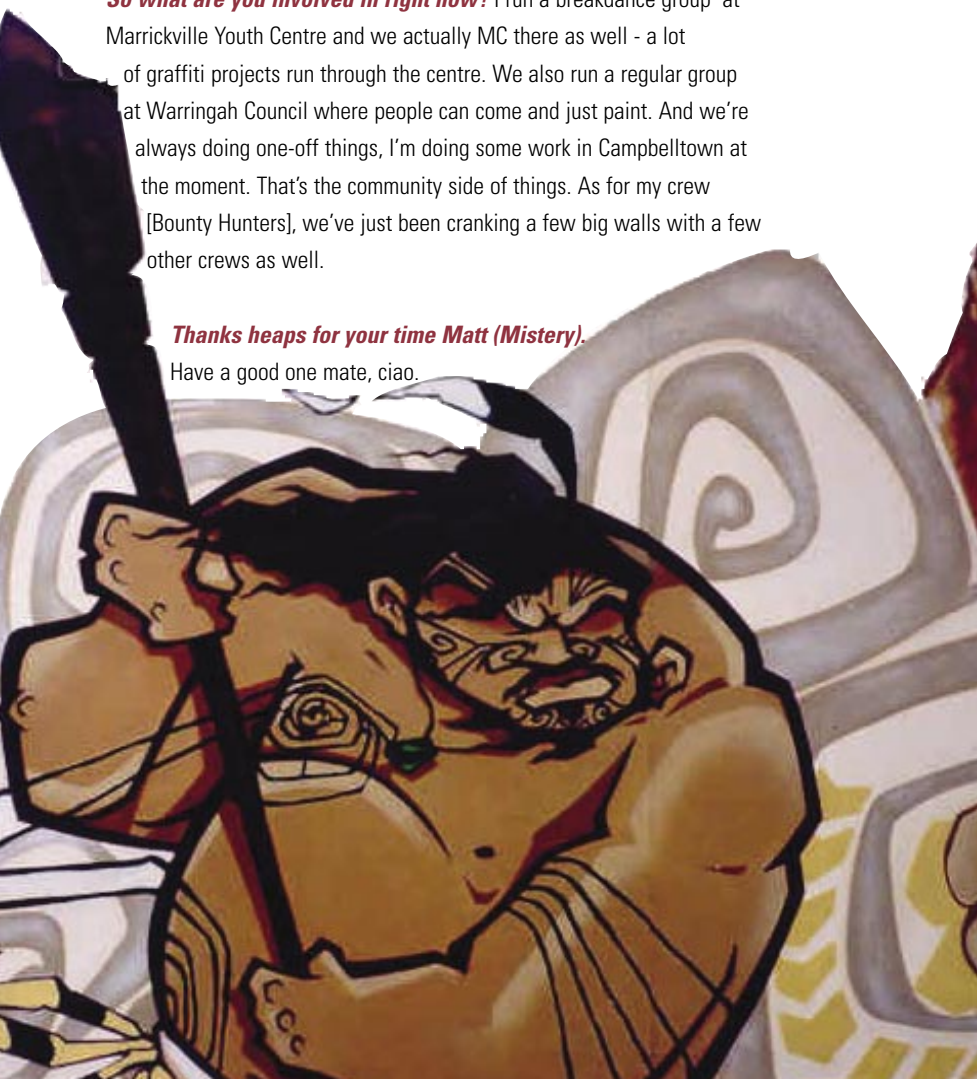
Charlie boasts that Marrickville Council has one of the most extensive graffiti programs in NSW. This involves commissioned murals and even getting paid work for young artists decorating the blank walls of small businesses. His biggest goal is to educate the community on how they can work with the graffiti problem to their benefit, instead of acting against it. "For me," says Charlie, "aerosol art is an expression, it's ownership, it is individuality and it is cultural."

Most people would agree that defacing someone else's property is just not cricket.

At the same time though, it is all too easy to stereotype the graff culture as juveniles getting kicks from seeing their tags. There's a large number of legitimate and stunning graffiti out there, and while it may be contentious to call them artists, this is a moot point - they are a bunch of people expressing themselves the best way they see how. Some people can appreciate this, some may not.

Enter the Union's wall art competition.

Submit your ideas for decorating one of the five panels of the construction wall that currently faces the Roundhouse Beer Garden. Alternatively, submissions can be made by groups of up to five. Students have the chance to win one of five \$100 cash prizes plus \$200 for materials to recreate their winning design. See the Union website for conditions and specifications www.union.unsw.edu.au.



Annual General Meeting

www.sport.unsw.edu.au

Notice is hereby given that the University of New South Wales Sports Association will hold its 52nd Annual General Meeting on

**Tuesday 12 April 2005,
at 6.30pm
in the Sam Cracknell Pavilion.**

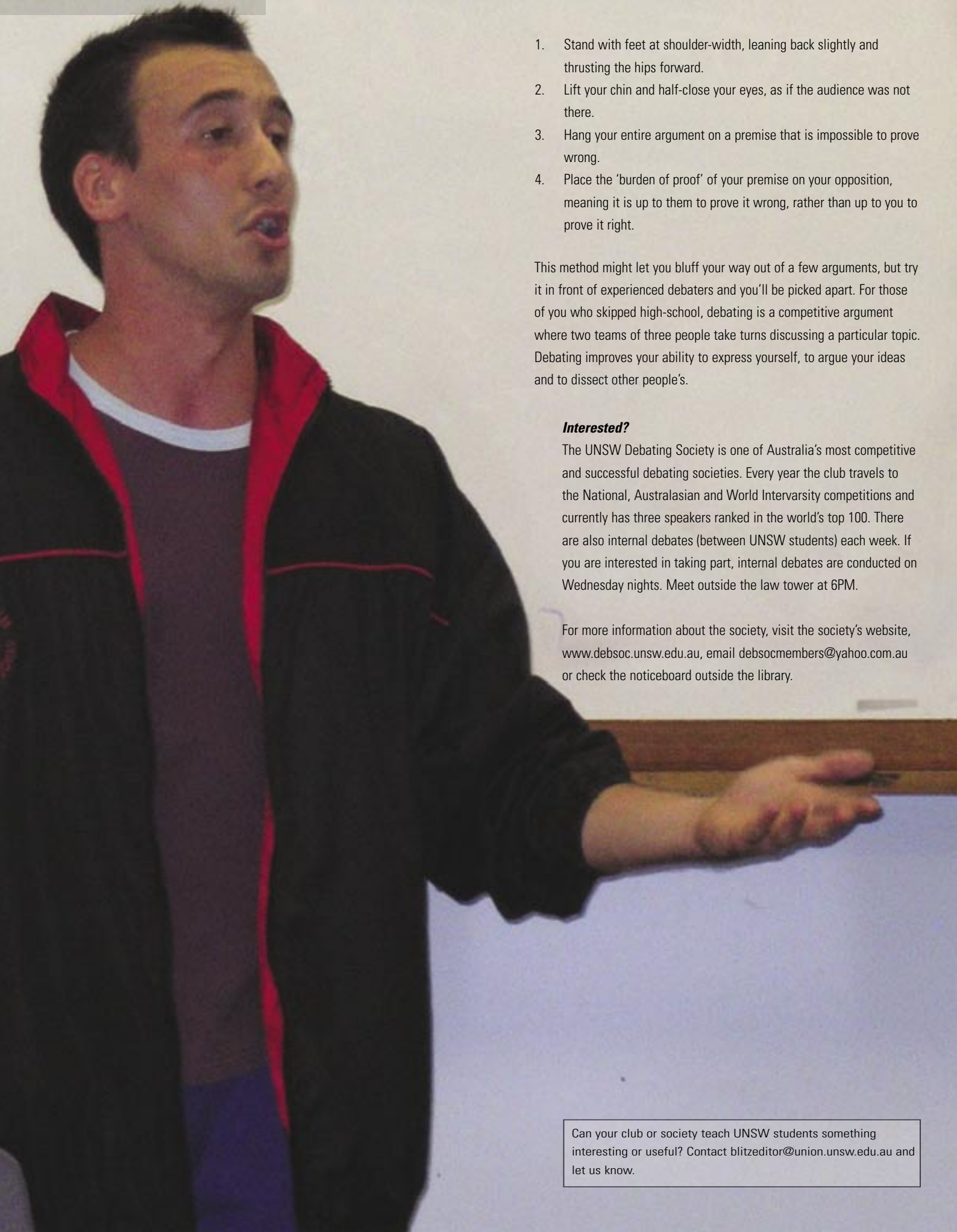
Elections will take place for the positions of : President, Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer and Executive Committee members.

Nominations for the above positions must reach the Honorary Secretary (sa.secretary@unsw.edu.au) by or the Sports Association Office by 2.00PM Tuesday 12th April, 2005.

Quorum: 30 Full Members

J.Till (Honorary Secretary)

HOW TO... ...WIN AN ARGUMENT WHEN YOU'RE COMPLETELY WRONG



1. Stand with feet at shoulder-width, leaning back slightly and thrusting the hips forward.
2. Lift your chin and half-close your eyes, as if the audience was not there.
3. Hang your entire argument on a premise that is impossible to prove wrong.
4. Place the 'burden of proof' of your premise on your opposition, meaning it is up to them to prove it wrong, rather than up to you to prove it right.

This method might let you bluff your way out of a few arguments, but try it in front of experienced debaters and you'll be picked apart. For those of you who skipped high-school, debating is a competitive argument where two teams of three people take turns discussing a particular topic. Debating improves your ability to express yourself, to argue your ideas and to dissect other people's.

Interested?

The UNSW Debating Society is one of Australia's most competitive and successful debating societies. Every year the club travels to the National, Australasian and World Intervarsity competitions and currently has three speakers ranked in the world's top 100. There are also internal debates (between UNSW students) each week. If you are interested in taking part, internal debates are conducted on Wednesday nights. Meet outside the law tower at 6PM.

For more information about the society, visit the society's website, www.debsoc.unsw.edu.au, email debsocmembers@yahoo.com.au or check the noticeboard outside the library.

Can your club or society teach UNSW students something interesting or useful? Contact blitzeditor@union.unsw.edu.au and let us know.

2005 UNSW STUDENT ELECTIONS

NOMINATIONS OPEN: MONDAY 21 MARCH 2005 NOMINATIONS CLOSE: THURSDAY 14 APRIL 2005

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

ELECTION TO: Academic Board

The Academic Board is the principal academic body of the University. It furthers and co-ordinates the work of the Faculties and other academic units, encourages scholarship and research, and advises the Vice-Chancellor and Council on matters relating to teaching, scholarship and research within the University.

AVAILABLE POSITIONS:

- 2 Undergraduate Students
- 2 Postgraduate Students

Term of Office: 12 months
1 July 2005 – 30 June 2006

ELECTION TO: Faculty Boards

Faculties are groups of schools that conduct research in related disciplines and supervise teaching. Each faculty includes academic staff members headed by a Dean appointed by Council, a presiding member elected by academic staff and elected student representatives. Faculty Boards examine, for example, student admission, the awarding of honours, degree rules, course revisions and advanced standing criteria.

AVAILABLE POSITIONS:

- 6 students to Arts and Social Sciences
- 4 students to the Built Environment
- 4 students to the College of Fine Arts
- 5 students to Commerce and Economics
- 6 students to Medicine
- 4 students to Science

Engineering, Law, ATAX and AGSM elections are in S2

Term of Office: 12 months
May 2005 – April 2006

ELECTION TO: UNSW Union

This is the main provider for community activity within the University. With a mission to enhance the life long skills of its members, the Union provides a range of services including catering, entertainment, recreational activities, retail services, employment and childcare.

AVAILABLE POSITIONS:

- 2 Life Members to the Board of Directors
- 4 Ordinary Members to the Board of Directors

Term of Office: 2 years
1 June 2005 – May 2007

UNSW
THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

NOMINATIONS

Nominations must be made on nomination forms (which contain detailed election information) available from:

- The Internet at <http://www.elections.unsw.edu.au/>
- Faculty and School Offices
- The Elections Office, Room G27, the Chancellery
- The Chief Executive Officer's Unit, University Union
- Student Guild

Nominations must reach the Returning Officer before 5.00 pm on Thursday 14 April 2005.

If more nominations are received than there are positions available, ballots will be conducted.

BALLOTS

Academic Board: If necessary postal ballots closing at 5:00 pm on Thursday 26 May 2005 will be conducted. Ballot papers will be dispatched by Friday 29 April 2005.

Faculty Boards: If necessary, online ballots will be held in week 12 of Session 1 2005 (Monday 23 May – Friday 27 May 2005).

UNSW Union Board of Directors: Life Members – If necessary a postal ballot closing at 5:00 pm on Monday 16 May 2005 will be conducted. Ballot papers will be dispatched by Friday 29 April 2005.

UNSW Union Board of Directors: Ordinary Members – If necessary, a ballot will be held in week 10 of Session 1 2005 (Monday 9 May – Friday 13 May 2005).

Only ballot papers which reach the Returning Officer by close of ballot will be counted in the elections.

A VULGAR MANIFESTO

Playing this week in Studio One is Moliere's *Tartuffe*, or as it is sometimes referred to, *The Imposter*. The play was entirely produced by three UNSW theatre students who got together as an on-campus theatre company called Theatre Manifesto. **April Smallwood** caught up with Travis, Vicky and Andrea to see just what they're about.

Why did you guys decide to start up your own theatre company?

Andrea: Because of the restrictive theatre scene in Sydney nowadays. We didn't particularly like what we saw and decided to give it a go ourselves. We thought we might be able to bring a new flavour to the UNSW theatre scene. We wanted to start with something fresh and challenge ourselves at the same time.

I also want to get youth more involved with theatre. Hopefully the next generation will prosper when it comes to the arts. I think it's important that theatre appeals to a wide and general audience. We also exist to give opportunities to everyone on campus.

How did you guys meet?

Vicky: I met Andrea a while ago and we met this egg head, Travis last year in class through a theatre subject. We became real close despite the fact that we're vastly different.

What are your aims for the company?

Andrea: I pretty much just want to make this artistic field important and relevant to people. I really love theatre and want to try and translate that through this company. Hopefully someone will discover that they love it too.

Travis: My aim is to just make good theatre and also to see what we mere students can do. To look back and say 'we've done this ourselves' is achievement in itself. It's our own challenge in the end and something to show people when we graduate. Plus it's downright cool to say we've got our own theatre company.

*What is your play *Tartuffe* all about?*

Travis: It's about a vulgar man who tries to con a family out of their land and riches, using religion as his disguise. It's basically about deception. The point of the play is that some people use religion to do stuff that's not morally right. It goes into the manner in which people are easily fooled.

Vicky: This guy, *Tartuffe*, makes himself seem to be a 'man of God' and he tries to swindle a family based on the fact that the father of the clan has fallen under his suave spell. It's a laugh. French play writing at it's very best.

How do you collaboratively make decisions? Is everything a compromise?

Vicky: It's usually a fight. It depends on who chose the play we're working on and that's usually what dictates who's in charge. Trav is a control



freak when it comes to Moliere. We keep him tame in his tailor-made straightjacket. [Screaming, insults and hair pulling ensue]

Travis: In the end it's usually a compromise. Even if that means bruises.

What do you hope to gain from being a part of Theatre Manifesto?

Vicky: A nice brash line on my resume and a lovely costume exposing the petty cleavage I have.

Andrea: More people getting involved in the arts. I really want to learn all the roles involved in creating a production. Learning about the process is what appeals to me most.

Travis: Sex with the cast. Just joking. The chance to be able to do something I can look back on with pride. To think "I did that", to work with people I like and not have to pay them.

What do you aim to be when you grow up?

Travis: A theatre director with my own company. If not, then maybe a supermodel.

Vicky: Not a theatre director. But it'd be nice to have my own company. I'd probably want to work in a publishing firm.

Andrea: Producing within the performing arts. And writing.

Why should we come down to Studio One this week to see your show?

Travis: Because it's funny, camp, colourful and contains lots of boob. I think people should come along for just the fact that it'd be good to see what people are up to on campus. To see what UNSW students have learnt and what they're capable of producing on their own.

April Smallwood is a cast member of *Tartuffe*.

WHAT'S ON HIGHLIGHTS

LIBRARY LAWN BAND: MICK HART – WEDNESDAY 1-2PM, LIBRARY LAWN, FREE

"A world-class piece of soul food which will have you clutching your chest, whispering thanks that God created musicians." –Sunday Telegraph.

Mick Hart began playing solo in early 1997 with his band, the independently successful 3-piece outfit 'Squealing Pygmies'. By mid 1997 Mick had formed a new outfit and was successfully touring up and down the east coast of Australia, attracting rave reviews and establishing a healthy following for his wildly emotive and deeply spiritual live performances. Hart has toured with Bob Dylan, Sting, Coldplay and Zwan. This highly acclaimed artist will be on your Library Lawn, so use your hour wisely.

UNSW ANTI-VSU EXTRAVAGANZA – WEDNESDAY, 12PM ONWARDS, LIBRARY LAWN

Want to join the campaign against VSU or even just learn a little more about it? Five student associations: the UNSW Union; Guild; Postgraduate Board; Sports Association; and CoFA are getting together for an anti-VSU extravaganza, with guest speakers, free stuff, info on what VSU means for UNSW students and information on how to get involved to stop it. Students Can't Afford VSU - together we CAN stop it!

ULTIMATE FRISBEE, EASTERN SUBURBS LEAGUE – WEDNESDAY, 7-9PM VILLAGE GREEN

Ever wish there was a sport that involved a Frisbee? Ultimate Frisbee is an exciting, non-contact team sport played by thousands the world over. It mixes the best features of sports such as Soccer, Basketball, Footy and Netball into an elegantly simple yet fascinating and demanding game. Head down to the Village Green on Wednesday to play a couple of games. The UNSW Ultimate Frisbee Club runs a weekly League for players of all skill levels. Have some fun, then head down to the Regent for a post-match drink.

MONDAY MOVIE SCREENING: OCEAN'S 12 – MONDAY, 5PM BEAMS CLUB BAR, ROUNDHOUSE

It's been three years since Danny Ocean (George Clooney) and his crew, fronted by detail man Rusty Ryan, pulled off one of the most audacious and lucrative heists in history, robbing ruthless entrepreneur Terry Benedict (Andy Garcia) of every dime stored in his impenetrable Las Vegas vault. After splitting the \$160 million take, each of the infamous Ocean's crew have tried to go straight, lay low and live a legit life. Now the gang is back and has their eye set on a big caper in England. But Terry Benedict hasn't forgotten what happened last time and is hot on their trail. Wind up your manic Monday with a free screening.

NIDA PLAY: MY BRILLIANT DIVORCE – THURSDAY (2PM/ 8PM) & FRIDAY (8PM) PARADE THEATRE, NIDA ADULTS \$43, GROUPS \$38, CONCESSION & MATINEE \$33, STUDENT RUSH \$15

Along with her critically acclaimed performance in My Brilliant Divorce, the exceptionally talented and versatile Genevieve Lemon, is widely loved and lauded for an astounding body of work, celebrated across the stage, screen and television. Genevieve is an AFI and Australian Film Critics' winner (Best Actress) for Sweetie and a Green Room award nominee for Steaming. Gary Down, original Director of the 2004 season of My Brilliant Divorce rejoins the HIT team, bringing a wealth of talent and experience from his extensive career across Australia, N.Z. and the U.K. It's a hearty comedy starring an Aussie great.

THURSDAY NIGHT @ THE ROUND – 8PM, UNIBAR BEERGARDEN, FREE

Comedy Night featuring Mr Methane, Steady Eddy, Mick Meredith and Ian Donaldson. This is a huge event for the Roundhouse. The most acclaimed and widely cheered comedians are coming together for one insane night of laughter, tears and thigh slapping. A completely free night of stand up, you'd be nuts not to make your way there.

WHAT'S ON IN WEEK 5

APRIL 4-10

MONDAY

Students in Free Enterprise AGM

SIFE UNSW provides students an opportunity to make a difference in their local and global communities, developing leadership, teamwork and communication skills. We run projects aiming to teach concepts through educational outreach projects, including market economics, entrepreneurship, personal and financial success and business ethics. Visit www.sifeaustralia.org.au or email sifeunsw@gmail.com for more info. Quad G022, 1pm, Free/\$5 to join

UNSW Business Initiatives Club AGM

The club will facilitate meetings with other business people, within and among its members to discuss business related matters, such as the stock market, interest rates and tax issues. It will also be an avenue to bring up areas of business related conversation. 1pm
Library, Room B Level 2.
Entrance to the club is \$20

Monday movie screening: Ocean's 12

The gang is back and has their eye set on a big caper in England. But Terry Benedict hasn't forgotten what happened last time, and is hot on their trail. 5-7pm, Beams Club Bar, Roundhouse
Free

Rapid Fire Comedy

Stef Toroc will perform tonight. He's been poignantly described as a punk rock comedy musician slash circus performer. Now that's worth checking out. MC for the event will be Nick Johns. This week's Rapid Fire will also feature an open mic segment so if you're keen to take the stage, come on down. 7:15pm
Beams Club Bar
Free

TUESDAY

Mosaic Fusion Forums Volunteers Training

The first introductory training session is for volunteers participating in Mosaic Fusion Forums. You can still sign up for the program if you're interested! Email fusionforums@uni.on.unsw.edu.au or see the Union website for more info. 10-11am, Blockhouse Training Room 3
Free

CSE Revue Introductory BBQ

CSE Revue will be having a free BBQ for its members on the John Lions Lawn. You can also come along if you want to sign up but haven't had the chance to do so or even if you want to buy a DVD from CSE Revue 2004. For more information and directions visit our website at www.cserevue.org.au 12:30-2:30pm
John Lions Lawn (outside K17)
Free for members

Roundhouse Trivia

Who was Oscar the Grouch's best friend? Head down to show off your knowledge of useless facts. 1pm, Roundhouse Unibar
Free

Movie re-screening: Ocean's 12

2pm, Roundhouse Unibar
Free

PunkRockSoc AGM

From ska to punk to hardcore, come and find out what's happening this year in PunkRockSoc. Open to old and new members with a thing for music. 5pm
Roundhouse Beergarden
Free

Tuesday Night Live

Studio Four's weekly comedy workshop is

open to all. Improvised theatre is a great way to build quick wit and self confidence. Take some time out of the middle of your week to make a fool of yourself with the rest of us. 6-8pm, Roundhouse, Free

Play- Tartuffe

Come and see a play about the ultimate imposter, Moliere's Tartuffe. The story follows a contemptible man who tries to con a family out of their land and riches, using religion as his disguise. 8pm, Studio One (lower campus)
\$10 students

WEDNESDAY

Bar Bingo

Bar Bingo helps your reflexes. It's true. 1pm, Roundhouse, Unibar, Free

Library Lawn Band: Mick Hart

Mick Hart has been performing and recording as a solo artist since 1997. His solo debut EP 'Release' came out 1998 and was followed in '99 by a second EP 'Kill Yourself For Love'. Hart has toured with Bob Dylan, Sting, Coldplay and Zwan and is headed to the lawn today. Come along to discover a truly soulful listening experience. 1-2pm, Library Lawn, Free

Pub Grub

Rub-a-dub-dub, thumbs up for the grub! Feed yourself today., 1pm
Clem's at the Roundhouse Unibar
Cheap!

Happy Hour

Bring some friends down for a beer in the Round. 5pm, Roundhouse Unibar, Cheap!

Trivia

What is James Cameron's middle name? Find out such factoids today. 5pm, Roundhouse Unibar, Free

Mosaic Fusion Forums Volunteers Training

Alternative introductory training session for volunteers participating in Mosaic Fusion Forums. It's not too late to come and sign up! Email fusionforums@union.unsw.edu.au for more info.

6-7pm, Blockhouse Training Room 2
Free

Ultimate Frisbee Eastern Suburbs League

Ever wish there was a sport that involved a Frisbee? Well, there is one! Come down to the Village Green tonight to play a couple of games of Ultimate Frisbee. The UNSW Ultimate Frisbee Club runs a weekly League for players of all skill levels. Contact Michael Tran 0403 674 655 Every Wednesday, 7-9pm, Village Green
\$30 for the session

Play- Tartuffe

Come and see a play about the ultimate impostor in Moliere's Tartuffe. The story follows a contemptible man who tries to con a family out of their land and riches, using religion as his disguise.
8pm, Studio One (lower campus)
\$10 students

THURSDAY

Seminar- An overview of the UNSW Vanadium Redox Battery Development and Commercialisation

Maria Skyllas-Kazacos from the School of Chemical Engineering & Industrial Chemistry will be speaking about the important features and advantages of the Vanadium Redox Flow Battery pioneered at UNSW, as well as providing an historical overview of its development and commercialisation. This seminar is one not to be missed! Organised by Engineers Without Borders.
12-1pm
CSE Seminar Room (k17 building), Free

Table Tennis Competition

Consider yourself the next Forrest Gump? Smack the ping-pong today.
1pm, Roundhouse, Free

Intelligent Design Movie

Presented by the Intelligent Design Club. Intelligent Design is a Peer Reviewed theory in the last ten years that is discrediting the Darwinian Theory. The ID club will be showing a free screening of the movie Unlocking the Mysteries of Life, highlighting the major points of Intelligent Design Theory.
1- 3pm, QUAD 1001, Free

Theatresports

Presented by UNSW's Studio 4, we'll help you realise how you too can be funny on campus. Watch and participate in this battle of wits every Thursday.
Midday-2pm, Roundhouse, Free

UNSW Ultimate Frisbee Club Training

The UNSW Ultimate Frisbee Club runs weekly training sessions conducted by accredited coaches. If you want to keep fit and have some fun, then give Ultimate Frisbee a go. Contact Michael Tran 0403 674 655 Every Thursday, 4-5.30pm, Village Green
Free for members/\$30 for the session

Sufi Association Annual General Meeting

If there were only one in the world, and that one were you, what would be your name? If there were one, and that one had all the knowledge of the universe, and could respond to all your needs and all your wants, what would you do? Sufism is about this 'one'. Visit sufiassociation.com for more information
5pm, Marsh Room, Roundhouse, Free

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Union
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WEEK 5
QUAD FOOD COURT
Any burger +
600ml Coke
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Valid: WEEK 5 UNTIL STOCKS LAST

Bioinformatics Students Society Trivia/ Pizza Evening

Enjoy a night of warm pizza, tricky trivia and help select first year representatives. During the night we will also be holding the BinfSoc Logo Competition Vote. This is a members only event. 5:30pm - 7:30pm
Goldstein G06 (K-D16-G06), Free

UNSW Professional Speakers Club – AGM

All welcome. Contact Rita So on 0402 457 198 for more info.
6:30pm, QUAD 2008, Free

Thursday night @ the Round - Comedy Night

Featuring Mr Methane, Steady Eddy, Mick Meredith and Ian Donaldson. This Thursday the best of the best will be performing in our very own Roundhouse. Laugh yourself silly.
8pm, Unibar, Beergarden, Free

NIDA Play- My Brilliant Divorce

My Brilliant Divorce by Geraldine Aron is the radiantly witty and warm personal account of Angela. Dumped by her husband for a younger model, we follow her achingly funny story as she fumbles through the days and the dating scene, rediscovering herself and hoping to find the love of her life! Book Ticketek 132 849
Parade Theatre, 215 Anzac Parade, Kensington, 2pm & 8pm
Adults \$43; Groups \$38; Concession & matinee \$33; Student Rush \$15

Play- Tartuffe

Come and see a play about the ultimate impostor in Moliere's Tartuffe. The story follows a contemptible man who tries to con a family out of their land and riches, using religion as his disguise.
8pm, Studio One (lower campus)
\$10 students, \$15 others

FRIDAY

Friday Arvo Sessions with DJ Cadell

DJ Cadell mixes up for us today a funky garage and filtered house sound to energy progressive beats. He expects a happy, expectant yet educated crowd, so be there.
5pm, Roundhouse, Beergarden, Free

P&G Competition for Undergraduate Marketing Students

P&G Competition is a case study competition run by managers from Procter & Gamble. This will be a great practical experience for all marketing students to see what's involved in working at P&G, talk to the managers about opportunity that P&G offers, and win great prizes!

Start at 9am and finish after lunch with the P&G managers at 2pm.

Galleries, The Scientia, Free

Spocksoc Screening: Red Dwarf

Come along to the screening to watch some great Red Dwarf episodes. We'll kick off at 6pm, with a pizza run during the night. For latest info join our mailing list. Visit <http://www.spocksoc.unsw.edu.au> for more details. 6pm til late

Civil Engineering Building G001

Members free, Non-members \$5

NIDA Play- My Brilliant Divorce

Parade Theatre, 215 Anzac Parade, Kensington, 8pm

Adults \$43; Groups \$38; Concession & matinee \$33; Student Rush \$15

Play- Tartuffe

Come and see a play about the ultimate impostor in Moliere's comedy Tartuffe. The story follows a contemptible man who tries to con a family out of their land and riches, using religion as his disguise.

8pm, Studio One (lower campus)

\$10 students

WANT TO LIST YOUR EVENT IN WHAT'S ON?

It's easy. Just send an email to whatsonblitz@union.unsw.edu.au containing the following information about your event: Event name; Organiser; Location; Date; Time; Cost; and a Description of 50-100 words. The description is compulsory! You can also find a template on the Union website.

The deadline for What's On is twelve days before (always a Wednesday) the magazine is released (always a Monday).

SATURDAY

UNSW Underwater Club

Weekend Trip

Get away from it all while enjoying some great diving for the weekend. To find out more details or to register for the trip, please go to our website, <http://www.underwaterclub.org/> All day Saturday and Sunday
For cost & location details see website

UNSW Hockey Club Keg Night

UNSW Hockey Club. Celebrate the commencement of the 2005 hockey season and get to know your team mates and club members at the Annual Keg Night. Free drink on entry. Raffles, games, prizes and loads of fun! All new and returning members and their friends and supporters are invited.

The Duke of Gloucester Hotel, Cnr Frenchmans Rd and Clovelly Rd, Randwick
7.30pm, \$10 (first drink free)

Play- Tartuffe

8pm, Studio One (lower campus), \$10 students



e. 30/09/04 (22/11/04)



WALL ART COMPETITION

Paint the campus... legally.

What would you paint on the wall in the Roundhouse beer garden?



Entry forms and details at Unibar, Union Reception, U Space and online at www.union.unsw.edu.au
Entries close April 15

REVIEWS



ATHLETE TOURIST (EMI)

Bands like Athlete are formed because Coldplay don't produce enough albums. If Chris Martin was more prolific, and his fans

more satisfied, there would be less of a need for imitators to pick up the slack. And while imitation might be the highest form of flattery, it does little to impress.

Athlete's new album, *Tourist* debuted at number one in the UK and it has had a warm response in this country. *Tourist* is certainly a nice album. Some of the arrangements are downright gorgeous and at times Athlete do seem to be branching out. 'If I Found Out' flirts with gospel and 'Modern Mafia' probably shares more with David Gray than Chris Martin. But throughout the album, the driving piano, the fractured yearning of the lead vocals and the cinematic melodrama make it very hard to ignore the similarities.

Athlete have followed the formula of impersonation that served Keane and Snow Patrol so well. While it might placate those awaiting Coldplay's third album, it will not win over those who feel they've heard it all before.

-Rob Gascoigne



RED RIDERS RED RIDERS (REVERBERATION RECORDS)

For a band that only formed eighteen months ago, Red Riders has come a very long way very quickly. Beloved in Sydney, respected south of the border, they've generated a buzz that has spread from street presses to the NME. Hell, they've already supported Franz Ferdinand and The Shins.

Their debut EP displays all the self-assurance that has driven them forward so speedily. There are flashes of brilliance here; the Triple J staple 'Tune In/Tune Out' is exactly the sort of song you want in the background on a Sunday afternoon. 'The Unstoppable', by far the best song on the disc, is a monolithic piece that speeds through your mind like a train. It's toe-tapping, heart-thumping ear candy.

Where the EP falls short, however, is when the Riders start parroting other bands - at times they seem to be echoing the pompous crunch of New Rock. The music is definitely not 'bad', but the imitation is a shame because Red Riders really do have the strength to carve out their own niche. You can sense they are beginning to uncover that space but they're not quite there yet. The EP is a confident and impressive beginning for a band that will undoubtedly be huge- Rob Gascoigne



Oral Blitz

Get the low-down

They're the word of mouth on campus and friendly to boot, so you can hassle them for the latest 'what's on and where' information! They'll give you snippets that you won't even read in Blitz! Pick up a copy of Blitz anyway for the latest weekly schedule and flag down an Oral Blitzer for the juiciest gossip.

Want to be an Oral Blitzer? Drop Into U-Space and pick up an application form, or register online via U Space at www.union.unsw.edu.au

"I got to find out what's 'goin' down' on campus - where all the cool parties were at, where to get the best bargains, as well as other neat stuff!"
- Previous Oral Blitzer

Registrations close April 15



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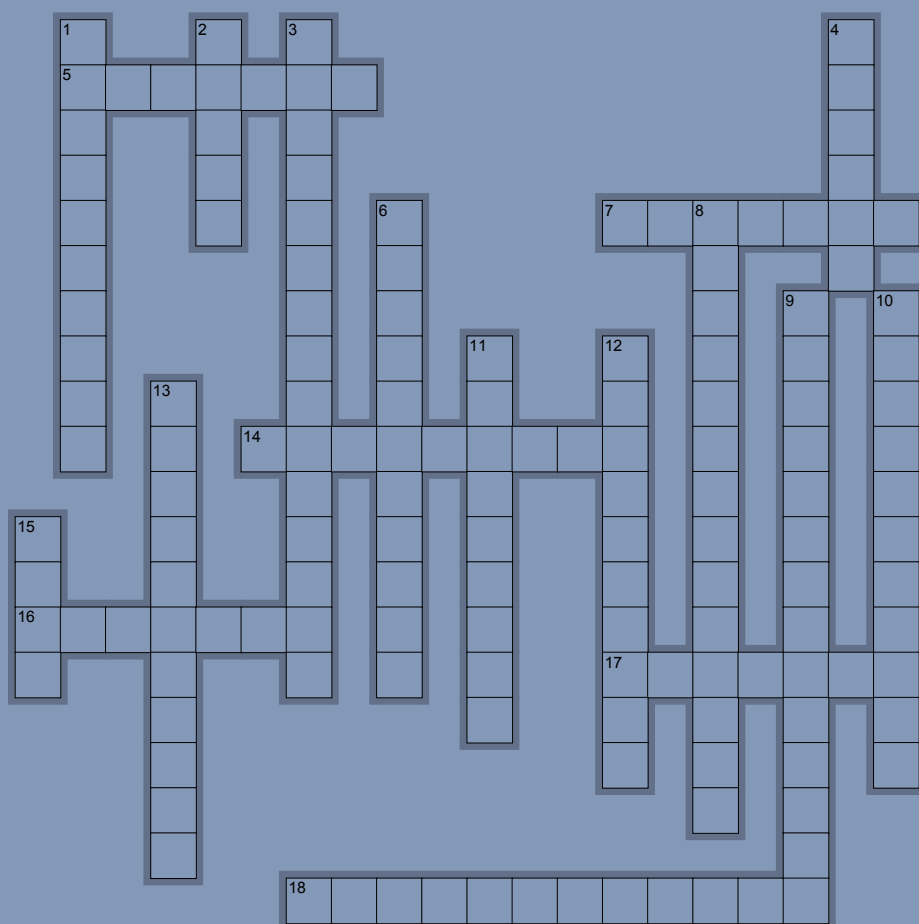
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- Online tutorials - anywhere, anytime
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IT Training Room and IT Service Desk are located in the Library, main entrance level (Kensington Campus) - near the public lift

To find out more, please check our website: www.ict.unsw.edu.au

CROSSWORD



Created with EclipseCrossword ó www.eclipsecrossword.com

ACROSS

5. What type of alcohol is the one that gets you drunk? (7)
7. Which rum claims to be the "king of rums and the rum of kings"? (7)
14. This US President was elected in 1932 on a platform promising to end the prohibition of alcohol. (9)
16. This lager is made with saaz hops. (7)
17. By act of Congress, this type of liquor is the official spirit of the United States. (7)
18. Which Whiskey advises you to "Keep walking"? (6,6)

DOWN

1. This sparkling white wine is "Seriously bubbly." (10)
2. In the Christian Bible, Jesus Christ turns this substance into wine. (5)
3. Which American liquor has the catchphrase "Between friends."? (8,7)
4. What liquor is port fortified with? (6)
6. According to Chuck Hahn, this man was Australia's first brewer. (5,7)
8. This beverage boasts that it is "Made from beer." (7,7)
9. This beer has long been sold with the epithet "Matter of fact, I've got it now." (8,6)
10. This cocktail was popular among British colonialists in malaria affected areas because it contained quinine. (3,3,5)
11. This Australian cricketer reportedly drank 52 cans of beer on a flight from Sydney to London. (5,4)
12. This Western Australian brewing company produces, among others, Beez Neez, Redback and Rooftop Red Lager. (7,3)
13. Which brand of wine claims to be "Australia's top drop"? (6,5)
15. Which twirling vine contributes bitterness and aroma to beer? (4)

U SPACE REPORT

INTERNATIONAL COOKBOOK COMPETITION 2005 – Final few days for entrants!

(cookbookcomp@union.unsw.edu.au)

Its the final few days for you to cook, boil, fry, roast, steam, bake, grill, or whatever it is that you do so well! Enter your most mouth-watering recipe and be published in UNSW Union's fabulous International Cookbook 2005. Get cooking and get your recipe in today! **ENTER VIA THE UNION WEBSITE BY WEDNESDAY APRIL 6 (WEEK 5).**

EMPLOYABILITY COURSES

Get skills required for a job!

(employability@union.unsw.edu.au)

Introducing discounted short courses designed to help you get a decent job whilst at uni!

Why should you get one? To avoid having to subject yourself to scientific experiments for money to live, or even worse, having to work in a call centre! To avoid the embarrassment of someone asking you "So, why should I give you the job?" only to find yourself having to reply "Because I'm desperate and can't pay the rent!" And of course because the courses are cheap and held on campus!

Why are we offering them? Because we love you, or are at least interested in your well-being. Enough said.

So, the following courses are available: RSA (mandatory if you want to work anywhere that has alcohol); RCG (same thing, but for pokies/gambling); Barista (making good coffee); Coffee Art; Bar Skills; Waitperson Certificate; and First Aid. Enrol! Get a better job!

Life is too short to do be doing a job you don't like...

TRAVEL SCRAP BOOK

By April Smallwood

Send your travel stories or scrapbooks scanned and labelled as below to blitzeditor@unsw.edu.au.

My holiday in LA. Some maps from various theme parks, Beetlejuice guy, Nicholson's autograph and King Kong.

JACK
Nicholson



CURSE OF THE TAPAS PEOPLE

By Lisa Turner

Welcome (back) to UNSW. In the first couple of weeks you've met new people, filled your little mobile with a bunch of new numbers and have lots of scraps of paper with email addresses falling out of your wallet. It's a great time to expand your circle of friends and build a whole new social life.

You're probably planning activities to get people together, opportunities to casually sit around and enjoy one another's company. But beware! There's one seemingly harmless outing that could quickly turn into a hostile melee, turning your new friends into bitter rivals with the stab of a fork.

Whatever you do, don't go for tapas.

Communal eating can be a wonderful, even joyous, event. I love to have some friends over and heap meat on the barbie, or to get a group together and split a bunch of dishes in a restaurant in Chinatown. I even enjoy the occasional fondue.

But when it comes to tapas, something is horribly wrong. The proof: last weekend I spent \$20 on dinner and only ate two wedges of Turkish bread, four small boiled potatoes and half a meatball.

The concept is sound: there are a dozen or more choices on the menu; you pick and choose a few to share; and you get to sample a little of everything. But the portions are always too small, so tapas becomes a polite game of grabbing more for yourself without looking as though you're being greedy. That is, until it becomes clear that these little bits of food in their small, child-size bowls will never be enough to satisfy the entire group. Then it becomes war, with every hungry diner for his and herself.

Is that last piece of fried goat's cheese being claimed by anyone? Quick! Stick it with your fork and pop it straight in your mouth before someone else sees it! It doesn't matter if you didn't like it or even if you're allergic - you just have to eat something before all that's left is the bill.

The Tapas People know all this. They're well aware that there's no fair way to split three pieces of chicken among four people. But they continue to toy with us, sending out continually shrinking portions, laughing diabolically as they imagine the friendships and romances that have been ruined by forcing one person to decline a share of the blackened red snapper, just to make things easier for the group. The Tapas People know that no matter how much the person insists that they're perfectly happy with just the chorizo and lentils, they really resent being left out and will be grumpy the rest of the night as they plot revenge, listening to the howling from the empty, snapper-sized spot in their stomach.

And the cost! The equation for setting prices seems to be to double the cost of a regular restaurant for half the food. For \$18 at a tapas bar you can get a side of marinated mushrooms and tomatoes. Anywhere else, \$18 will get you the same mushrooms and tomatoes with an entire steak under

them, fries or mashed potatoes, a salad and a drink.

Still, tapas continues to be popular and not just with those who feel hip saying, "Oh yes, I know the most chic little place for tapas, I really must take you sometime. It's darling. You'll love it."

The way I figure it, the only possible way tapas makes sense is in one of these scenarios: you have no problem with dropping \$40 or more, per person, on a meal; you eat a full meal at home before going out, so that you only need one little snack, and are eating just to be sociable and not for the purpose of sustenance (this could be the case for women who don't like to be seen eating in public, but who will instead go home at the end of the night and have a microwaved pizza and M&M's); or you're the guy who will take the last serving of everything for yourself, with a rhetorical "Nobody else wants this, right?", unaware or just not bothered that the person next to you has only had half a meatball for dinner.

I really hate that guy.



POINT AND CLIQUE

By April Smallwood

I remember when social disaster struck: I held a birthday party and three people showed up. It crossed my mind to just go home and continue playing handball against my garage door. Alone.

The human need to feel a sense of belonging drives everyone to participate in social activities. Unfortunately, many students become lost in the intricate web of university cliques and not everyone finds his or her niche. They attempt to impress their peers by outrageous and uncharacteristic actions, these futile attempts often distance them from any meaningful relationships. This leads them to the seemingly trusty comrade: alcohol.

A clique, as we all know, is a group of tightly woven friends with a common purpose; however it can also mean these people pride themselves on simply being together at the exclusion of everyone else. The only thing more uncomfortable than approaching a clique is being shot out of a cannon, directly at a brick wall.

These niches, communities and societies that exist in life to help can so often make us feel like lost and lonesome folk. We join a club to make friends, explore our interests and to inform the other members in it just how wonderful we are.

Individuals are vastly reliant on the praise of others to validate their worth. It is on the off chance that someone may compliment our cooking, our outfit or our ideas that ones self image will truly flourish. On the contrary, when we are shunned or insulted it is often the case that our spirits sulk, weep and force us to wonder why we were born to be so crap. We are fickle beings and regard the opinions of our peers to be solid truth.

We're particularly susceptible to such self-evaluation when we are in groups or in the company of our peers. There is no greater measuring stick of self-worth than those we consider to be our equals. And we desire to be liked, even by people we most despise. Ever had a case of 'I hate her but I still want her to like me' syndrome? She wants her legs, he wants his shlong [I want his what? — Ed]. No one seems to be satisfied. Luckily for university students, beer can fill this craving by rendering us in denial.

Ever felt unwelcome or uninvited while with a group? When people feel threatened they tend to become awfully mean. When someone is happy they're likely to be ruthless in order to secure such comfort. Anything or anyone new may pose risk to their orderly little lives and as a consequence you may find yourself at home, shunned, eating a Milky Way and surfing the net on a Saturday night.

When you find yourself alone, you might find someone similar to form a unit with. The obvious problem with a clique is that they exist to comfort lost souls and lonely hearts, but at the same time they can leave other people behind.

TIPS ON HOW TO FORM YOUR OWN CLIQUE OR COUNTER-CLIQUE

Gather a few people with common interests, people with whom you can relax and kick it with. Kick what exactly I don't know. Stick with people who are unlikely to judge you or sneak a paperclip into your lasagne. Stick with friends but try to avoid creating an impenetrable 'fortress of security' yourselves. Friendships that are developed over time and not forged just to exclude others will be a lot deeper and more fulfilling.



On coolness

When I was in kindy, there was a girl who sat beside me. Her name was Crystal and I guess she was the equivalent of Alison Ashley. We all wanted to be her friend. It never occurred to me why I felt this way, since looking back I can't recall one redeeming personality feature on her, but I felt I had to admire someone.

Everybody wants to be cool. Therefore, being cool must have something to do with being comfortable with all kinds of people in any given situation. The person who's really cool can go and fit in anywhere. But if you're only gonna hang out with the small group of people who fit your definition of cool, then you're gonna be a total washout in your professional, personal and social life. Not cool.

My mum is one of the coolest people I know. She can hang with real old people and have chats with them about life on the front lawn. She can play Bull Rush with five year-olds, then come home and greet me with a mighty "what's up, yo?" She's comfortable despite where she may find herself.

On what it means to be cool

-To know people. To walk into any room and have your head held high. Most people think being cool is being attractive and funny and rich. I think it's about being the truest version of yourself.

-Elvis is cool. Michael Jackson, not so much.

-You're probably not cool if you think you are.

At uni, it pretty much feels like we're all just one big oddball grouping of students. Most of us are happy to have met three people we can call a friend. If we're social sluts then we may have up to ten. This is what uni clubs and societies are doing for us - giving us something to look forward to other than tute presentations.

ON FRIENDS

A best mate: Someone you can swear, drink, eat and fart with. Perhaps even simultaneously.

A friend: Someone you think you've got pinned and can hold a fairly decent conversation with, but someone you still have your guard up around.

An acquaintance: People you see around campus but only wave to if they make eye contact first.

A quasi-random: Familiar faces that keep popping up on your social radar. They attend the same events as you by mere coincidence. Either that or they're stalking you.

How to break into a clique

Don't bother - people who aren't responsive to you aren't worth your time. And I'll tell you a secret: should you think to gain their sympathy by telling them how much more wonderful they are than you, think again. If you think there's something wrong with you, no-one will argue with you. They will most probably agree with gusto. Be strong and go your own way.

CLASSIFIEDS

Send your classifieds to blitzeditor@union.unsw.edu.au There is a 60 word limit.

International Cookbook Competition 2005 – Final few days for entrants! Enter your most mouth-watering recipe and be published in UNSW fabulous International Cookbook 2005. Get cooking and get your recipe in today! Enter via the Union website by Wednesday April 6.
cookbookcomp@union.unsw.edu.au

For sale - Single queen size bed with base and mattress (excellent quality and condition, original price at \$900) - \$400. Bedside Cabinet (wooden colour, with two drawers) - \$80. Apple G4 12 inch Powerbook, as new condition, still in warranty period, includes everything in box, free apple wireless mouse - \$1200. Prices are negotiable. Please contact: fixingcomputer@gmail.com.

The Investment Management Association AGM is being held on Tuesday April 5 (Week 5). All interested students should come to the UniBar at 1pm where you can sign up and executives will be elected. For more information please visit www.ima-unsw.org.

Volunteer needed for Unsweetened (literary@union.unsw.edu.au) - the Union's long-running literary journal, unsweetened, is looking for volunteers to design and edit it. Email us for application details and keep checking the Union website.

Position Vacant - Lit Up Design Volunteer (literary@union.unsw.edu.au) - we're looking for someone to design the visuals for our webzine, Lit Up. You'll work with the Union's design team to create a consistent and coherent format for Lit Up as a subdivision of the Union website. For application details see the employment section of the Union website.

UNSW Professional Speakers Club. Key to confidence, leadership & success. Friendly & supportive environment. Notice of Annual General Meeting. April 7, 6:30pm. Venue: Quad 2008. All welcome. Contact Rita So on 0402457198 or toastmasters_unsw@yahoo.com.au, or Dennis Lam on 93143654 or dwhlam@ihug.com.au.

Winner! Fantastic Furniture would like to announce that Kate Evans, who is studying Arts/Science, is the winner of a 17-piece studio package! The package was part of a competition Kate entered during O Week.

POLiSoc The Politics and International Relations Students' Association will be holding its Annual General Meeting, on Wednesday April 6, at QUAD1001, between 1-2pm. We will lay out POLiSoc's plans for 2005 and Executive Committee positions will be up for election. We invite everyone and anyone to come down and get involved!

Doncaster Hotel requires a kitchen hand. Also involves cash handling and table-clearing. 6 Nights and 2 Days per week (approximately 30 hours). Ideal for a student. To apply, call Charlie Xu on 0425 282 621.

Mosaic Fusion Forums - Are you interested in promoting cultural diversity awareness throughout the community? Visit High Schools and facilitate group discussions about culture and identity. Receive training and cross-cultural communication, leadership and training skills. For more info visit U Space, the Union website or email fusionforums@union.unsw.edu.au.

Position Vacant - 2006 O-Week Coordinator. The UNSW Union wants a student to be Coordinator for O-Week 2006, responsible for organisational and the administrative aspects of the program. The job requires 20 hours per week during session and 35 hours per week out of session time. Further information is available from the Union website. Applications close Monday 18 April 2005.

Learning the Lingo is calling for volunteers. Lingo offers a chance for international students to improve their English and knowledge of Australia and meet local students in a fun and friendly environment. Lingo also offers a unique volunteer opportunity for local students where you can develop important communication, leadership, event management and organisational skills whilst making lots of new friends. For more information visit the Union website or email lingo@union.unsw.edu.au.

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VOX POPS

AT THE LEARNING THE LINGO AND MOSAIC FUSION FORUMS PARTY.

Learning the Lingo is a U Space program that helps international students acclimatise to Australian life and culture. The Union's

Mosaic Fusion Forums, are run by international students for Australian high school students. Visit the UNSW Union web site for more information on these programs.

ADRIENNE

What's your favourite Australian phrase?

'You reckon?'

What is the most challenging thing about being in Australia?

The lifestyle – it's so laid back, I can't handle it. Everything takes a couple of days and you have to walk from place to place. But I'm getting used to it.



CHING

What's your favourite Australian phrase?

Saying 'No worries' instead of 'thankyou'.

What is the most challenging thing about being in Australia?

The humour of Australians. People might laugh at your accent, but then they'll say 'no offence – it's just our sense of humour'.



EUGEN

What's your favourite Australian phrase?

'No worries, mate'.

What is the most challenging thing about being in Australia?

Cooking for myself. I've never had to do it before.



STERLING

What's your favourite Australian phrase?

I can't think of one.

What is the most challenging thing about being in Australia?

There's nothing weird about it. I'm not having any problems.



NINA

What's your favourite Australian phrase?

'It's all good!'

What is the most challenging thing about being in Australia?

The big spider in my car yesterday. They don't teach spider removal in these programs, unfortunately.



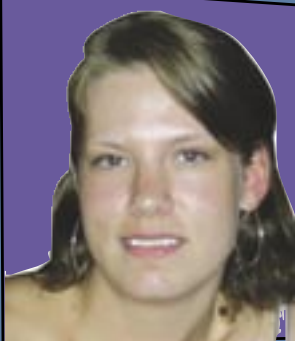
JOSEFIN

What's your favourite Australian phrase?

'Heaps', as in 'Heaps good'.

What is the most challenging thing about being in Australia?

The jet lag was bad. The culture is similar but the weather is hard to get used to - we have minus 30 degree days in Sweden.



GERARD

What's your favourite Australian phrase?

You say 'No worries' instead of 'thankyou'. I didn't understand it at first but now I use it too.

What is the most challenging thing about being in Australia?

Making friends with Australians. They are very individualistic and it's not easy to interact with them. It's good programs like this help me meet people.



KARAN

What's your favourite Australian phrase?

'Hows it goin, yeah?'

What is the most challenging thing about being in Australia?

Everyone's really relaxed. I like that. Some people find it hard getting into the culture, especially if they have a different look.



VIOLA

What's your favourite Australian phrase?

'Cheers!' People say it on any occasion.

What is the most challenging thing about being in Australia?

The culture. I live in an apartment with five people from different cultures. It takes a while to get used to it.



VISUAL BLITZ



by Andrew Whitehead

"This image is one out of a set of four images in the same vein that were produced from photos taken at Coogee beach. A modest yet striking scene that you take in everyday can sometimes require a different set of eyes to emphasise some of the more serendipitous elements of our surroundings."

Every week, students contribute their artwork to Visual Blitz and every year, Visual Blitz culminates in an exhibition of student work with prizes awarded to the winning entries.

If you're in the habit of making creative statements then Visual Blitz is your canvas.

Send your contributions for 2005 Visual Blitz to: blitzeditor@union.unsw.edu.au (Please include a 50 word explanation)