

blitz
weekly from the s**o**urce

August 14 - August 20 2006 S2-W4.

Technology - is **this** the future?

Mobile Living
Music on the Move





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UNSW CAMPUS LIFE

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Editor's letter



by Rob Gascoigne

My favourite comedian, Eddie Izzard (who is highly recommended to all and sundry) describes two possible approaches to technology: "technofear" and "technojoy". If you're wondering who has technofear, look at your parents. They're the ones who sit at a computer looking utterly confused and say things like "I've wiped the file? I've wiped all the files? I've wiped the Internet???" People with technojoy are those people who always have the newest gadget and hate reading the instructions.

Anyone who has seen my phone (a Nokia 5110) could divine that I'm not of the technojoy mould. I have a weird relationship with technology. I know only enough to get by and I tend to be the last person to understand what the hell is going on. For example, I generally have to ask Alex Serpo for IT advice.

But despite my numerous shortcomings with technology, I do love it. My two best mates are overseas at the moment and, to be honest, I'd forget them if I couldn't send them emails every so often. Plus, myspace is a distraction sent straight from hell to steal my youth.

This week's Blitz concerns all things technological. Flick has gone through the history of personal stereos. Unbeknownst to me, there was actually a pre-walkman walkman. The poor inventor only recovered costs for patent infringement in 2003. Anyway, have a look at the article to find out more about this rapidly developing technology.

Alex Serpo has gone through the evolution of mobile technology. It is true that the mobile phone has become an extra appendage. Try leaving your phone at home for a day. I guarantee someone will get the shifts with you.

Finally, we have two excellent contributors' pieces. First up, we have a piece on changes to DVDs. Tough luck to anyone who's just bought a DVD player. They'll be out of date in a couple of years! We've also got a piece on how unfuturistic the future (ie now) is. To be honest, I do feel cheated. I would have expected to have a hover board (best movie invention ever!) by now.

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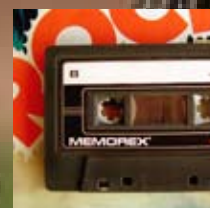
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President's Report



I hope Uni is trucking along nicely. I find it usually takes a few weeks to find your proverbial groove after a break, but hopefully everyone is settling in well! I personally am more than happy that the weather appears to be warming up.

Anyway, onto all things Source related. I'm sure that SourceFest was enjoyed by all and a big thanks has to go to our Sourcefest student coordinators as well as all the volunteers that worked on this year's festival. Volunteering is a great way to get involved with the campus community and help other students enjoy their time at UNSW, not to mention an opportunity to make new friends and meet lots of different people.

One of the Source's volunteering programs, Learn the Lingo, is starting its regular coffee meetings this week. Learn the Lingo is a program designed to help International Students meet new people and learn about Australian culture. Learn the Lingo runs regular coffee meetings where international and local students can enjoy each other's company, assist each other with languages and learn about different cultures in a friendly environment. There is also the added benefit of activities, games, nibbles and discounted hot drinks!

Coffee meetings will be run on Mondays from 1-2pm at the International Student Services Student Lounge (Level Two East

Wing, Red Centre), Wednesdays from 1-2pm at Esme's (Top of the Basser Steps) and Thursdays from 3-4pm at Coffee Republic (Blockhouse). Everyone is welcome, so if you'd like to attend, just email x.deng@source.unsw.edu.au or turn up on the day.

In addition to Coffee meetings, Learn the Lingo runs activities such as bushwalks in the Blue Mountains, trips to Taronga Zoo and movie nights for individuals involved with the program. Their upcoming event is a trip to a Sydney Swans AFL match on Sunday September 3. So if you'd like to get involved with this great program, just come along to the coffee meetings, visit Source reception or email Xuan (the co-ordinator) at the above email address.

Registrations for the annual U Film Fest are also closing this week. U Film fest is a national short film competition, with UNSW's heats being held in Week Six, and the finals held in Week Seven, which is also Artsweek! When you register for U Film fest, you are given a DVD which is there to help you make your short film. It's designed so that anyone can get involved. So if you've ever wanted to get into film making, here's your chance. For more information and a registration form, visit our website www.source.unsw.edu.au or come to Blockhouse reception for a form.

Kate Bartlett
Source President

Lifestyle Courses

@ the Lifestyle Centre

Salsa - 17 August

Humour Workshop - 28 August

How to Massage - 30 August



Bookings & Information 9385 6035

A full list of courses available at www.lifestylecentre.unsw.edu.au

UNSW
lifestyle centre

Health Cover for Overseas Students



We've got some fantastic news for overseas students. A brand new branch of OSHC Worldcare has arrived on campus, ready to give you expert advice and extensive coverage when you need it.

In the 'old days', before the year 2000, international student visa holders in Australia were allowed to use only one OSHC provider. Eventually, the Australian government decided to deregulate the provision of these services and, since 2000, international students have had a wider choice of services.

Since then, OSHC Worldcare has become the first choice of OSHC provider to over 70% of Australian universities. This incredible increase in growth for OSHC Worldcare has been achieved by OSHC Worldcare listening to students through focus groups, listening to institutions through organised forums and other communication networks and providing top-notch services requested by clients.

Now OSHC Worldcare has Customer Service Representatives on campuses at most major universities in Australia. Here at the University

of New South Wales, there is a new OSHC Worldcare Service Centre in the Blockhouse. OSHC Worldcare has just launched a campaign to ensure that all international student visa holders have OSHC as required by Australian law. OSHC is designed to protect international students from expensive medical claims at a very low cost. OSHC for a single person is only \$349 per year. Not bad when you consider that a hospital bed in NSW costs approximately \$900 for one night!

OSHC Worldcare Customer Service Representatives can provide useful information and

advice on OSHC as well as assist students with cash claims in which a voucher for up to \$75 can be refunded quickly at any Australia post.

Best of all, if your OSHC has expired and you renew it at the OSHC Worldcare Service Centre during August and September, your name will go into a weekly draw to win a **\$100 Coles Myer Gift Voucher**. A winner will be drawn randomly each Friday at 4pm. You've got to be in it to win it so, if you're an overseas student, make sure you get down to the Blockhouse and get yourself covered.



WANTED

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Parkes 10 East, The Prince of Wales Hospital
Randwick, NSW 2034

Portable sounds

These days nearly everyone has a personal stereo. You can't get on a bus or walk down the street without seeing people bopping away in their own private world. Whether it be a funky new iPod or mp3 player, or even an old school Walkman, everyone is walking/waiting/travelling to their own tune. Flick Strong investigates the history of personal music players from the archaic walkman through to the funky digital iPod.

What is it about modern life that has meant we need our entire music collection ready at the push of a portable button? Are we so boring and dull that we would rather sit next to another person listening to earphones rather than engaging in polite small talk?

A recent survey conducted in America found that amongst undergraduate college students, iPods rated more highly than beer as the most "in" thing. Nearly three quarters of students surveyed listed iPods as more desirable and popular than text messaging, bar hopping and downloading music. This is only the second time that beer has been knocked off its mantle, the last being in 1997 when the internet's rise to popularity prevailed.

But portable music is hardly a new concept. The first type of portable music was probably the wandering minstrels and court jesters from the medieval Europe. More recently, anyone over the age of 18, or anyone who has watched any bad 80s film, will recognise the sounds of

a boom box carried with pride on a listener's shoulder. Thank god personal music has now become just that – personal.

The first personal stereo, called a Stereobelt, was invented and patented by Andreas Pavel in the 1970s. Pavel was a former television executive and invented the Stereobelt, which played cassette tapes (remember those?!) to "add a soundtrack to real life". Unfortunately the player failed to muster adequate interest despite approaching manufacturers like Yamaha and Philips. In a very intelligent move, Pavel filed a patent for the Stereobelt in Italy in 1977 and in Germany, the US, the UK and Japan the following year.

In 1979, Sony released the Soundabout, the first version of the Walkman, created by Akio Morita and Masaru Ibuka, the co-founders of Sony. In a battle that has been raging since 1980, Pavel has been fighting Sony for royalties over the similarities in the design. The final chapter saw an out of court settlement between the electronics giant and Pavel in 2003, which reportedly included a massive cash payment and ongoing royalties from the sale of certain models of the Walkman.





The invention of the Walkman changed our music listening habits and the continuing popularity of the concept of the portable stereo is seen by the advent of the minidisk and digital mp3 players. In fact, portable music has evolved at great speed. As soon as a new technology is invented, the old one becomes almost obsolete. An old cassette Walkman is now considered something collectable and archaic rather than practical.

Jay and Paul, two Walkman enthusiasts would agree. The duo run www.pocketcalculatorshow.com, a website devoted to sharing memories and information on popular electronics of the '70s and '80s, the so-called "Golden Age" of electronics. The website offers a step down memory lane, rediscovering old walkmans, cassette players and boom boxes. It even provides a space where other fans can meet and chat about auctions and prices of collectables. The duo claim that the "sad state" of today's cheap and ugly designed music players drove them to build the fan site.

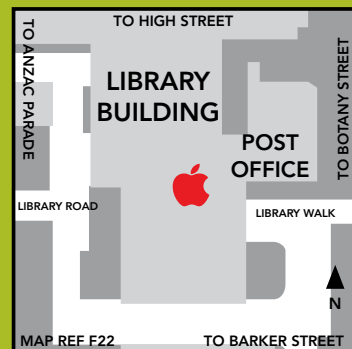
These days, digital music player technology has become like mobile phone technology. The gadgets seem to do everything on top of playing music. We have moved far beyond the ability to carry one's entire music collection around. The current model of iPod has colour screens and can play videos and movie trailers, as well podcasts and music downloaded directly and legally off iTunes on the internet.

The technology wars are not over yet. iPod's rivals are upping the ante. There are rumours that Microsoft's new mp3 player will include everything from phone and gaming capability as well as internet connectivity. The new player is called Zune and Microsoft plans to introduce it at the end of this year as a rival to knock iPod off the top of the list as the most popular digital music player on the market. That aim will be a hard task. Although Microsoft software is estimated to operate 90% of the world's computers, in the digital music market the iPod is where it's at. In the United States alone, iPods account for over 90% of the market for hard-drive-based players and over 70% of the market for all types of players. If that isn't market saturation I don't know what is!

For Microsoft, knocking out Apple's stronghold over the digital music market is very much worth their while. Recent market research suggests that the popularity of the iPod and the use of iTunes has increasingly caused users to switch from non mac (ie. Microsoft) to mac hardware. Of the lowly walkman Jay and Paul claim, "it changed our perception of sound and became a cultural icon. It was a gadget with soul". 27 years after the first Walkman was sold, one could claim the same thing about the Apple iPod.

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SNAPSHOT



Dr Dzurak is a Professor in the School of Electrical and Telecommunications Engineering. With a PhD from Cambridge, he is a leading researcher at UNSW's Centre for Quantum Computing. Alex Serpo caught up with him to talk about what's revolutionary about Quantum computers.

What is a Quantum Computer?

A quantum computer is a computer which uses pieces of information called quantum bits as opposed to a normal computer that uses bits, that is, zeros and ones that are either 'on' or 'off'. In a quantum computer, the bits can be both on and off at the same time, a zero and a one. This is potentially useful, because we can store an exponentially larger amount of information.

Apart from information storage, what value do Quantum computers have?

For the last 40 years, the number of transistors (information storage parts) on a chip has doubled every year and a half. The demand for powerful computing has become particularly strong over the last 20 years and there is little indication that demand is going to let up. If we are going to keep up with that demand, we are going to have to cram more and more transistors on a single chip. The problem is that the size of one of these transistors on a single Pentium chip is now fifty nanometre, only a few hundred atoms across. If we are going to satisfy the marketplace, then a transistor needs to be only the size of an atom, but transistors cannot function at that size. So we have to invent some other type of computing if we are going to keep up with market demand. Quantum computing is the solution this problem.

How powerful would a quantum computer be?

In a conventional computer, if you want to double the information storage and processing, you have to double the number of bits. On a quantum computer, all you have

to do is add one extra bit and you double the amount of information processing power. So, 300 bits would be able to store information equal to the number of atoms in the universe. It's almost impossible to think of. They don't get clocked on their operations any faster, but they can run billions of operations in parallel.

How long before we have quantum computers?

There are already very simple quantum computers being operated around the world. When I say very simple I mean very simple. Just hand fulls of bits are being used to do trivial calculations like one plus one equals two. They are proven at a small scale, but the real challenge is to scale them up to compete with conventional computers

How have students been able to contribute to this project?

Both our PhD and our honours students have been essential to this project. We have 20 or so PhD students at our centre at UNSW. Their work is absolutely critical in doing the experiments, making the devices and getting the measurements.

If you know a person or group that would be of interest to UNSW students and should be profiled here, tell us about them. They should be presently or formerly affiliated with UNSW. Send an email with subject "Snapshot" to blitzeditor@source.unsw.edu.au.

Blood is cooler than water

By Flick Strong



Parents are inherently uncool. It doesn't matter how hip your parents try to be, there is something about bringing life into this world that makes you universally 'uncool'. It may have something to do with years of endured abuse that begins with changing nappies and continues through years of yelling, petulance and hormones that renders a parent totally unfashionable.

Most parents acknowledge this. Most parents acknowledge that trying to keep up with the hip kids 20 years their junior is just too damn difficult. Mine don't. Don't get me wrong, I love them and I like hanging out with them (occasionally) but they are taking their new found 'coolness' to unprecedented levels.

It all began at the start of the year when my father called from Melbourne to tell me about this new bar he'd found in the city. He was carrying on about how fantastic his new watering hole was, so I decided to Google it. Much to my surprise, my father was not talking about a new RSL but the newest addition to the funky Melbourne bar scene. The new bar he was frequenting each week was in fact the newest and hippest thing around. He even beat The Age reviewers to it!

Ok. So that's cool. My dad likes a beer or two. Fine. But I nearly died when he took me there recently to show me around. He turned around with a straight face and announced that it was so much better when he started going there because it was before it was popular and it certainly didn't have all the

mod-cons like a roof! (The bar is a shipping container on a vacant lot in the centre of Melbourne)

My parents have even started to hang out with my friends. Earlier in the year my parents actually gate crashed my friend's party. Worst of all, my friends weren't even annoyed. My drunken mates chatted to my parents and my sister sms-ed me in total embarrassment. What happened to the days when your parents disapproved of all your friends and set curfews?

Oh well, at least they still dress like parents. Thank god for small miracles.



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6650 Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA), cost \$95.

4515 Responsible Conduct of Gambling (RCG), cost \$105.

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FOUND HOUSE

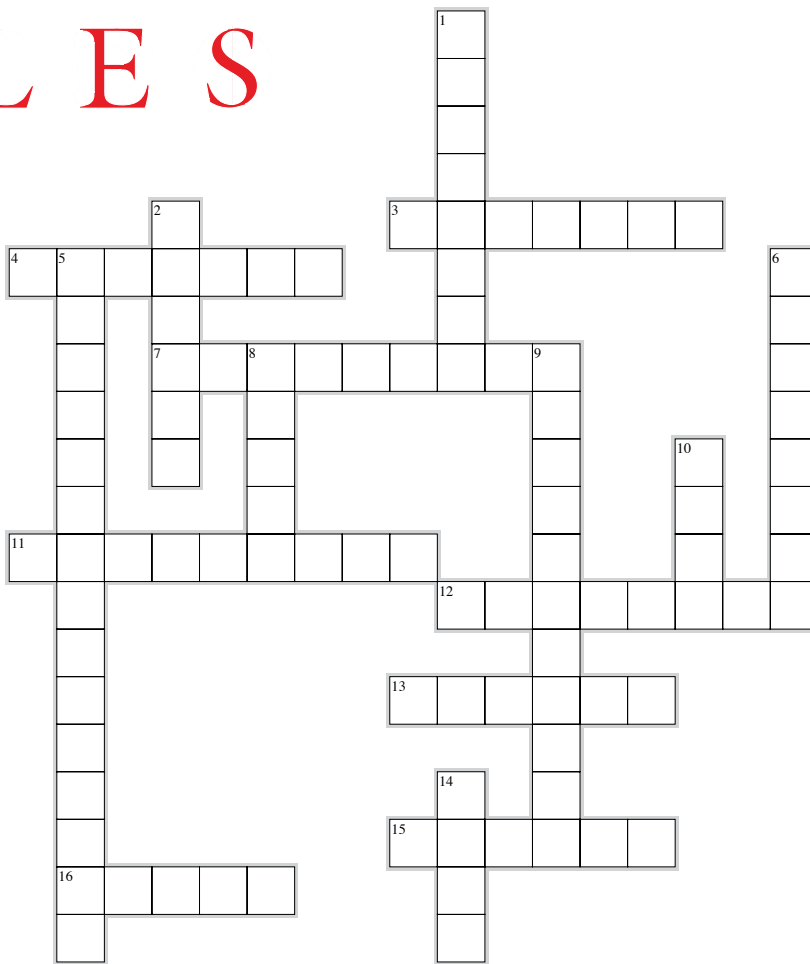
P U Z Z L E S

Across

3. LCD stands for liquid _____ display (7)
4. The TV-like part of your computer (7)
7. A series of mathematical functions strung together in a macro (9)
11. The software giant headed by Bill Gates that took the world by storm (9)
12. The hard physical parts that make up a computer (8)
13. Information storage in a computer is known as (6)
15. The first letter of the acronym RAM stands for (6)
16. So much faster than snail mail (5)

Down

1. A free access world wide network of computers which revolutionised everything (8)
2. The base two number language computers use (6)
5. Windows and Linux are both examples of this type of software (6,9)
6. Programs which control your computer are known as (8)
8. Computer entertainment responsible for sore thumbs and childhood obesity (5)
9. Your CPU and RAM plug into this matriarch computer part (11)
10. An internet programming language which is also a part of Indonesia (4)
14. Also used in casinos a colloquial word for a computer piece (4)



Created with EclipseCrossword - www.eclipsecrossword.com

How to...

POKER @ Cougar Club Bar

Monday Aug 14, 1-2pm


Do you think a royal flush is what Princess Mary does ?

Does fullhouse for you mean DJ, Stephanie and Uncle Joey ?



Come and join the National Poker League players, and let them help you get your poker game up to speed. Learn the tricks of the trade and how to pull those all important poker faces, play a championship round, and speak to the pros about winning, and clean up instead of getting cleaned out at your next poker night.

register on-line at www.source.unsw.edu.au

Next week How to...



Burlesque Dance

Pole Dancing was like sooo 2005...

Think heels, hotpants, and sparkles, and striptease without the stripping (optional). Think hotter than a fly on the wall in Brad and Angelina's honeymoon suite....hot. Get your sexy self down here...

Next Tuesday
August 22
1pm
Roundhouse

Visit
www.source.unsw.edu.au
for registration details

A Smoke Free Campus?



by Tim Lamour

From September, a UNSW student group called 'Students for a Smoke Free Campus' will begin their campaign to have smoking banned on the entire UNSW campus at Kensington.

The student group will begin their campaign to coincide with the release of Jason Reitman's new film *Thank You for Smoking*. Larry Katz from 'Students for a Smoke Free Campus' says that the group hopes to have a smoke free University by Second Session of 2007'.

The group asked over 100 students if they would be in favour of their proposal to ban

smoking on the entire campus. Over 60% of students surveyed agreed with the objectives of the group. The report shows that, while the majority of students who are in favour of the ban were non-smokers, 15% of students that support the idea were smokers.

The results have pleased Larry Katz. 'We believe that students and staff have a right to study in an environment that is smoke free; passive smoking has a negative effect on a person's health and it can kill. UNSW has the opportunity to be a leader in providing a healthy place for students and staff to work and study' he says.

The push coincides with a broadening awareness of the dangers of passive smoking. The NSW government has introduced new laws that will further restrict smoking in enclosed spaces. 'This new piece of legislation is definitely a step in the right direction' says Larry Katz. 'The complete ban of smoking in all public spaces is the next logical step'.

I spoke to some UNSW students and asked them what they thought of the idea to ban smoking on the entire campus. Mohammed Al Jabri, an exchange student from the United Arab Emirates, says 'I am a smoker and I understand that smoking annoys a lot of people but I think banning smoking on the entire campus is not a good

idea. Perhaps there should be zones where people can smoke'.

Michael Hislop, a third year Political Science major and a non-smoker claims this is a 'fantastic idea, but it infringes on a person's right to make decisions for themselves'. Larry Katz responds by arguing that 'we understand that many people will be angered by our ideas and people might feel that our proposal limits their freedom, however there are a lot of students who refuse to eat lunch on the library lawn because of the smoke'. He concludes that passive smoking is a proven health hazard and over 600 medical reports have been published linking passive smoking to diseases.

Students for a Smoke Free Campus can be contacted at: studentsforasmokefreecampus@yahoo.com

UNSW CAMPUS LIFE

HOT ROAST NIGHT
TUESDAYS, 5:30PM
CHOOSE FROM:
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PUMPKIN,
VEGES, & GRAVY. \$5

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What's

Week 4 - Monday 14 August - Sunday 20 August

source
under campus life

Yellow Spot Special
WEEK 4, August 14-18
Santorini - Badabagan

Chicken Schnitzel + Chips or Salad + 600 mL Coke
\$4.90
While stocks last daily

Source Discount Card holders only

Monday
14 August



Lens Life Photographic Competition

Lens Life celebrates the unique cultural diversity of students at UNSW. Entrants must adhere to a basic theme and capture their life in 24 images using a disposable camera. Winners are selected in the categories of Best Series, Best Photo, and Highly Commended. All entrants will have their photos exhibited during Artsweek. There are 40 cameras available. A \$20 deposit gets you your camera. First in, best dressed. Entries must be finished by Friday August 19. Register now at Source Reception (9385 7700) or email e.sharp@source.unsw.edu.au for more info.

Ping Pong

11am
Roundhouse
Free

UNSW Bridge Club

12-2pm
Come down, check us out. Beginners welcome.
Goldstein 1

Law Revue 2006 Tickets on sale now!

12-2pm
Law Revue is in Week 5. Tickets can also be booked online at www.lawrevue.unsw.edu.au or by SMS on 0404618910, Library Lawn and Law Building Foyer
Tues \$8/\$12 Wed-Fri \$10/\$15

Queerplay

1-3pm
Queers of all varieties meet up for some Free food and drinks.
Queerspace - Applied Sciences Building 920
Free

CBS Talk - Spirituality ain't a dirty word

1-2pm
For information, visit:
www.jesusaintdirtyword.com
Check website for venue
Free

ECOSOC Sausage Sizzle

1-2pm
The perfect opportunity for ECOSOC members to get acquainted with each other and for those who aren't members to sign up.
Library lawn
\$1.50 for members

Learn the Lingo Coffee Meetings

1-2pm
ISS Lounge, Level 2, East Wing, Red Centre
Free

D2MG Masaki Hiphop Beginners

2-3pm
D2MG beginner classes promises to banish the stereotypes and aim to teach you the important basics at the heart of every true hip-hop dancer.
Blockhouse
\$8 per class for D2MG Members
\$10 for non-members Bulk Discount: \$35/5 classes

Capoeira S.A.L.S.A.

4-5pm
Capoeira is a unique Brazilian art form incorporating acrobatics, rhythm, music and self defence.
Dance Studio 1
Individual lessons are \$10 or Three lessons are \$23

Happy Hour

5pm
Unibar, Roundhouse

Momentum Dance Studio: Hip Hop/Funk Class

5-7pm
Taught by industry professionals, new moves are taught each week and put into a fun, high-energy dance routine. For more info www.momentumdancestudios.com.au
Casual Class \$10, Dance Card (10 Classes) \$80
Dance Studios Behind Io Myers (Gate 2)

Momentum Dance Studio: Classical Ballet Class

6pm
A traditional ballet lesson working at the bar and in the centre. Good for beginners, advanced students can be catered for! For more info www.momentumdancestudios.com.au
Casual Class \$10, Dance Card (10 Classes) \$80
Dance Studios Behind Io Myers (Gate 2)

Speechcraft Workshop

6-8:30pm
This is a short course in public speaking, designed for beginners. For more info, visit http://unsw_professional_speakers.freetoasthost.info/
Quad 1001
Student \$95, UNSW Staff \$130, Public \$160

Tuesday
15 Aug



Thoughtful Foods Food Cooperative

10:30am-4:30pm (Opening Hours)
Backyard of the Roundhouse, next to Eats@theRound
Free

Ping Pong

11am
Roundhouse
Free

Thoughtful Foods Food Cooperative; Training Session

12-1pm
Backyard of the Roundhouse, next to Eats@theRound
Free

Law Revue 2006 Tickets on sale now!

12-2pm
Law Revue is in Week 5. Tickets can also be booked online at www.lawrevue.unsw.edu.au or by SMS on 0404618910, Library Lawn and Law Building Foyer
Tues \$8/\$12 Weds-Fri \$10/\$15

Queer Boys

1-3pm
A group specifically targeted at Queer Boys. Come along for some Free food and drinks and some brilliant company.
Queerspace - Room 920 Applied Sciences
Free

Sydney Morning Herald Trivia

1pm
A practical purpose for the info found under Spring Valley lids.
Unibar, Roundhouse
Free

SIFE UNSW Orientation

1pm
A global non-profit organisation active in 48 countries, which aims to create projects that provide economic opportunities for others. More information at www.sifeunsw.org.
Quad1001
Free

Women's Collective

1-2pm
An autonomous space for women on campus to discuss, debate, support, take action and effect change.
Women's Room, Blockhouse
Free

CBS Talk: Wealth ain't a dirty word

1-2pm
Join us for a Bible talk on the topic, "Why Jesus is the source of true riches"
Venue; TBA; check:
www.jesusaintdirtyword.com
Free

Chess

1-4pm
Website:
www.UNSWChessClub.cjb.net
Quad 1001
Free for members. \$2 for non-members

Lunchtime Meditation

1:15-1:45pm
A casual yet inspiring practice session to revitalise your body and mind. Contact Susan at 0433 946 550 or visit www.unibuds.unsw.edu.au for details.
Level 3 Squarehouse



What's On Deadlines

Week 5: by 9 Aug

Week 6: by 16 Aug

submit online at www.source.unsw.edu.au

**Thoughtful Foods
Food Cooperative; Training
Session**

3-4pm
Backyard of the Roundhouse, next to
Eats@theRound
Free

Happy Hour

5pm
Unibar, Roundhouse

Pool Comp

5pm
Win prizes for playing with balls and
a stick.
Unibar, Roundhouse

Tuesday Night Roast

5:30pm
\$5
Good ol' fashioned meat and 3 veg.
Can't go wrong really.
Clems, Roundhouse

**Theatre: Robin Hood and the
Singing Nun**

8pm
Robin Hood has returned from the
crusades to find Maid Marian has
taken the veil. And the merry men are
very merry.
Figtree Theatre
\$12 adults/\$10 students, NUTS
members \$2 discount

Wednesday 
16 Aug

Ping Pong

11am
Roundhouse
Free

D2MG Eriko Soul/Girls Hiphop

11am-12pm
D2MG beginner classes aim to teach
you the important basics at the heart
of every true hip-hop dancer.
Blockhouse
\$8 per class for D2MG Members
\$10 for non-members Bulk Discount:
\$35/5 classes

**Thoughtful Foods
Food Cooperative**

10:30am-4:30pm (Opening Hours)
Backyard of the Roundhouse, next to
Eats@theRound
Free

**Thoughtful Foods
Food Cooperative; Training
Session**

12-1pm
Backyard of the Roundhouse, next to
Eats@theRound
Free

**Law Revue 2006
Tickets on sale now!**

12-2pm
Law Revue is in Week 5
Tickets can also be booked online
at www.lawrevue.unsw.edu.au or by
SMS on 0404618910,
Library Lawn and Law Building Foyer
Tues \$8/\$12 Weds-Fri \$10/\$15

Pottery Studio Inductions

12:30-1pm
Learn how to use the Source Pottery
Studio from our Potters in Residence.
Pottery Studio, Level 2, Blockhouse
Free

Library Lawn Band: Paul Greene

1pm
Lunchtime on the lawn with the
sweetest Paul Greene sounds.
Library Lawn
Free

D2MG Kenky Hip Hop Beginners

1-2pm
Kenky's Hip Hop Beginners class is
the most popular class at D2MG to
date. Come and try it out for yourself!
Marsh Room, Roundhouse
\$8 per class for D2MG Members
\$10 for non-members Bulk Discount:
\$35/5 classes

Entrepreneurs In Science Society

1-2pm
EGM
Biological Sciences Building Room
140
Free

Bar Bingo

1pm
Unibar, Roundhouse
Free

**CBS Talk – Jesus Ain't a Dirty
Word**

1-2pm
"Why Jesus washes more than your
mouth out with soap"
Venue; TBA visit:
www.JesusAintADirtyWord.com
Free

Education Action Group

1pm
The EAG is a group of student
activists interested in campaigning for
equitable and accessible education
for all students.
Student Guild
Free

Learn the Lingo Coffee Meetings

1-2pm
Esme's, Upper Campus
Free

Free used stationery distribution

2-3pm
Stationery Reuse Centre (B13) is
a part of the university recycling
scheme. Come and get your
Freebies.
Quad lawn
Free

D2MG Kenky Popping Beginners

2-3pm
Popping is a unique style of dance
which is strongly focused on the
movements of individual parts of the
body.
Marsh Room, Roundhouse
\$8 per class for D2MG Members
\$10 for non-members Bulk Discount:
\$35/5 classes

**Thoughtful Foods
Food Cooperative; Training
Session**

3-4pm
Backyard of the Roundhouse, next to
Eats@theRound
Free

D2MG Karina Street Jazz

3-4pm
Jazz is a style of dance based on
African techniques and rhythms; but
add the hip-hop groove and you'll get
Street Jazz!
Blockhouse
\$8 per class for D2MG Members
\$10 for non-members Bulk Discount:
\$35/5 classes

Snooker Society AGM

3:30-5pm
Anyone who is interested in Snooker
is encouraged to join us for our
upcoming events.
Quad 1001
Membership Fee, \$5

**Garden Beats
DJ Justin Mile**

5pm
The music in the
beergarden makes the
beer go down, beer
go down, beer go down
Beergarden, Roundhouse
Free



Sydney Morning Herald Trivia

5pm
Unibar, Roundhouse
Free

Happy Hour

5-7pm
The happiest hour of the day
Unibar, Roundhouse

Salsa Dancing (Beginners)

5-7pm
Visit www.guild.unsw.edu.au/salsa for
more info.
Hutcheson Room, Roundhouse
Free

Pub Grub

5:30pm
Clems, Roundhouse

Marketing Careers Seminar

6-8pm
Exciting careers seminar for
marketing students to learn about
employment and careers from
industry representatives
Anzac Rooms 1&2, Squarehouse
Free

**Ultimate Frisbee
Eastern Suburbs League**

7-9pm
This exciting sport combines aspects
of soccer, basketball and gridiron.
Village Green
\$35 for the session

**Theatre: Robin Hood
and the Singing Nun**

8pm
Figtree Theatre
\$12 adults/\$10 students, NUTS
members \$2 discount

Week 4 - Monday 14 August - Sunday 20 August

Thursday

17 Aug



Thoughtful Foods Food Co-operative

9am–6pm (Opening Hours)
Backyard of the Roundhouse, next to Eats@theRound
Free

Microsoft Competition Registrations

10am–4pm
Hurry! Registrations close today!!!
The Microsoft Case Study is open to all UNSW students, but conditions apply. Each member of the winning team can win an XBOX360! Stall in front of the library all week. Visit: www.marksoc.unsw.edu.au. Look under “competitions”
Front of the Library—Stall
\$5 per student/ max. \$20 per team

Explore PhD Research Opportunities

10–12pm
Come and explore PhD research opportunities at the Garvan Institute of Medical Research, Australia's largest medical research institution. For additional information and registration see www.garvan.org.au
St Vincent's Hospital
Free

Thoughtful Foods Food Co-operative

10am–6pm
Roundhouse
Free

Ping Pong

11am
Roundhouse
Free

SIFE UNSW Orientation

12pm
Come along to find out how you can make a positive difference in the lives of others. More information at www.sifeunsw.org.
Quad1001
Free

Law Revue 2006 Tickets on sale now!

12–2pm
Tickets can also be booked online at www.lawrevue.unsw.edu.au or by SMS on 0404618910,
Library Lawn and Law Building Foyer
Tues \$8/\$12 Weds–Fri \$10/\$15

Chess

12–3pm
Website: www.UNSWChessClub.cjb.net
Quad 1049 (12–2pm) & Quad1001 (2–3pm)
Free for members. \$2 for non-members

Lunchtime Meditation

12:15–12:45pm
Contact Susan at 0433 946 550 or visit www.unibuds.unsw.edu.au for details.
Level 3 Squarehouse
Free

Queer Girls

1–3pm
If you're a Queer girl come along for some free food, drink and excellent conversation!
Queerspace, Applied Sciences 920
Free

Catholic Asian Students Society AGM

1–2pm
There will be plenty of food and drink to go around as well. All Welcome!
The Lodge, Level 3 Squarehouse
Free

Socialist Worker Club AGM

1–2pm
Socialist Worker club AGM and film screening
Quad 1001
Free

UNSW Bridge Club

1–2pm
Quad G048
Free

D2MG Jackie Old School Hiphop

2–3pm
D2MG beginner classes aim to teach you the important basics at the heart of every true hip-hop dancer.
Blockhouse
\$8 per class for D2MG Members
\$10 for non-members Bulk Discount: \$35/5 classes

Learn the Lingo Coffee Meetings

3–4pm
Coffee Republic, Blockhouse
Free

D2MG YJ Breaking

3–4pm
D2MG breaking classes deliver the foundations of Toprock and Footwork, working with each student to develop their own style through Freezes, Windmills and other Powermoves.
Blockhouse
\$8 per class for D2MG Members
\$10 for non-members Bulk Discount: \$35/5 classes

UNSW Ultimate Frisbee Club Training

4–5:30pm
Beginners are always welcome.
Village Green
Free for members

Happy Hour

5tpm
Unibar, Roundhouse

THE ROUNDHOUSE WILL CLOSE AT 6PM DUE TO ALL- AMERICAN REJECTS CONCERT

Buddhism Talk in Chinese

6–8pm
Engage yourself in talks on Buddha's teachings. Contact Boon at 0422 866 515 or visit www.unibuds.unsw.edu.au for details.
Level 3 Squarehouse
Free!

Speechcraft Workshop

6–8:30pm
A short course in public speaking, designed for beginners. For more info, visit http://unsw_professional_speakers.freetoasthost.info/Quad1001
Student \$95, UNSW Staff \$130, Public \$160

Marketing Internship/Vacation Work Seminar

6–8pm
Come along and find out how to secure that dream marketing job.
Anzac Room, Squarehouse
Free

Theatre: Robin Hood and the Singing Nun

8pm
Figtree Theatre
\$12 adults/\$10 students, NUTS members \$2 discount

Friday

18 Aug



Responsible Serving of Alcohol Course

10am–4pm
The Hostec RSA course is accredited by the Vocational Education Board and the Liquor Administration Board. To register, visit Source Reception in the Blockhouse.
Roundhouse
\$65

Ping Pong

11am
Roundhouse
Free

Law Revue 2006 Tickets on sale now!

12–2pm
Tickets can also be booked online at www.lawrevue.unsw.edu.au or by SMS on 0404618910,
Library Lawn and Law Building Foyer
Tues \$8/\$12 Weds–Fri \$10/\$15

Pottery Studio Inductions

12:30–1pm
Learn how to use the Source Pottery Studio from our Potters in Residence.
Pottery Studio, Level 2, Blockhouse
Free

Friday Arvo Sessions with DJ Cadell

4:30pm
Beergarden, Roundhouse
Free



Happiest hour

5–6pm
Unibar, Roundhouse

SpockSoc Screening – Invasion

5–11:30pm
Join UNSW's Science Fiction and Fantasy Club for a screening of the American sci-fi series “Invasion”. Dinner is \$5 for half a pizza and a can of drink. More details: <http://www.spocksoc.unsw.edu.au>
Quad G031
Free for members, \$5 annual membership

U Film Registrations Close

5pm
Register now for U film fest! Films under 8 minutes. Great prizes! Great opportunity! Get the chance to win the National U Film Finals
Free

Lenslife entries must be submitted

5pm
Reception, Blockhouse

Buddhism Talk in English

7–9pm
Contact Adeline at 0404 637 818 or visit www.unibuds.unsw.edu.au for details.
Room 256 Robert Webster Building
Free

Theatre: Robin Hood and the Singing Nun

8pm
Figtree Theatre
\$12 adults/\$10 students, NUTS members \$2 discount

Weekend

19–20 Aug



Theatre: Robin Hood and the Singing Nun

(Saturday)
8pm
Figtree Theatre
\$12 adults/\$10 students, NUTS members \$2 discount

DESTINATION SPACE!

THE YEAR? XI. THE DESTINATION? SPACE WHERE AROUND TWO-FISTED TALE OF ADVENTURE AND RED-BLOODED MEN OF ACTION!



WARNING! THE SHOCKING EVENTS OF THIS WEEK'S COMIC MAY AFFECT THE FAINT OF NERVE! ONLY IF YOU ARE PREPARED FOR THE BIZARRE EVENTS THAT ARE TO FOLLOW. READ ON AND JOIN CAPTAIN "JACK TURBO" AS HE AWAKES FROM HIS SLEEP, UNAWARE THAT THE NIGHT HAS BROUGHT UNCANNY CHANGES ON HIS MEN AND HE.



episode 11



korshi dosoo © 2008

www.lairofthatwistedkitten.co.uk

THE ART OF MANGA BY DAVE CARTER



INVENTION OF SOAP



e. 11/08/04
(02/07/04)

Sustainable Water is everyone's future

Apply for an Australian Postgraduate Award Scholarship

**Phd/Master in Engineering,
Centre for Water Research (CWR)
University of Western Australia**

CWR is internationally recognised for research in the area of sustainable management of water resources. As a result of several ongoing international projects, CWR is pleased to offer the following topics for PhD study:

1. Computational self learning algorithm development for water resources
2. Interaction between physical and ecological space and time scales in aquatic systems
3. Determining measures of well being for human, terrestrial and aquatic systems

A number of other project topics are available

Applications are invited from Australian residents and citizens with at least an honours degree (1st or upper 2nd class) in engineering, mathematics or applied science.

Scholarships close 31/10/06.

For information, or to make a time to speak with Professor Imberger please contact

Ms Annie Mose
Manager
Centre for Water Research
mose@cwr.uwa.edu.au
www.cwr.uwa.edu.au

Centre for Water Research



Law Revue



During Week Five, one of UNSW's most popular theatrical traditions will be returning to campus. The 2006 Law Revue will be extra special. Not only is this the thirtieth anniversary, but there will also be a carnival – a Revuenivale – to entertain you. Reg Leones, one of tLaw Revue's three directors, tells us more.

What is Law Revue?

Law Revue is first and foremost a comedy show. There's a cast of brilliant people, hilarious sketches and awful puns... no wait... scratch awful puns. Pretend I didn't say that. We've also got lots of singing, music and dancing, but I guess you would expect them to go together. Also there are funny videos, extravagant sets and awesome, awesome lighting.

So what makes this Revue different to those in previous years?

This year is a very special year. We are celebrating the thirtieth anniversary of Law Revue. We're celebrating in Law Revue style, with a Carnival outside. We've named it suitably as Revuenivale. There will be hot food, hot drink, live music, live performances and fun for all. Best of all, it's free to attend the Revuenivale!

Where do you come up with your wacky themes?

That was the product of back breaking labour, lots of coffee and mental anguish. We had spider monkeys working non-stop on the idea for weeks. At one point we really thought we could go with "Memoirs of a gay shark". Honestly,

So who's involved?

It's an entirely student-acted, student-danced and student-written production. Truly monkey inspired. We've got students from all colours, creeds, emotions and faculties. We take anyone. Besides those you see on stage, we've also got the tech crew, bands, costumers, videos, writers (remember those monkeys), wellbeing (they feed us), front of house (they tell you where to sit) and design team.

When is the Revue on?

The Revue is on from Tuesday August 22 to Friday August 25. Revuenivale kicks off around 7pm with the show commencing at 7:45pm. Tickets are \$8/12 on Tuesday night and \$10/15 from Wednesday to Friday night. Group bookings are available! Alternatively you can book on-line at www.lawrevue.unsw.edu.au

*Back before the Y2K bug crisis,
science and culture foresaw a
wondrous, technologically vibrant
world which we assumed would
eventually become our future.
Jokes on you, Kubrick. 2001?
What a load of shit!*

By Edmond Tran

THIS IS NOT THE FUTURE

This is not the future. There are no killer androids, no flying cars. I've never been to Venus and I've never been to Mars. Computers and the Internet aren't 3D virtual-reality spaces in which we FLY through to access information ala "The Lawnmower Man". We just have pop-up porn ads and a proliferation of Web 2.0 sites where teenagers post self-portraits on MySpace and the results of the "Which member of generic hipster band are you?" quiz on their blogs.

Why is computing – possibly the biggest technological explosion in the past few decades – still all about sitting in your room at night typing away, pretending to be some sort of snow-elf? We haven't even reached the stage where being a computer user is all about wearing outrageous cyberpunk clothing and rollerblading all over the place with your custom spray-painted laptop, ala the seminal 1995 film *Hackers*.

It's obvious the world is moving nowhere fast, and this depresses me more than anything. Cast your mind back to the past year, for example. In our universe, the year 2005 was not the most exciting year technologically. North Korea announced they had nuclear missiles, Apple gave us three new versions of the iPod, and *World of Warcraft* was released, sedating millions around the world. Let's just think about how pathetic that is for a moment.

I mean, nuclear missiles? Give me a break, that is so middle of last century. And to think this was one of the biggest political news items of last year. At the very least, I would have expected military engineering to have evolved to the point where we could mass-manufacture some sort of awe-inspiring fifty-foot bipedal robot tank which, as a bonus feature, also happened to fire nuclear weapons.

But that should only be the start. Where are our laser cannons, plasma rifles, force fields and lightsabers? *Star Wars* has been around for almost thirty years now: the blueprints are there! And have we even seen any prototypes? Have they even tried? Honestly, why the hell are our world leaders pouring so much money into their nation's military if all we're going to do is manufacture the same boring weapons? Bullets are so passé. This must be what left-wing pinkos are talking about when they lobby for a more "progressive" society.

In an ideal universe, 2005 would have been the year that the great leader of robotic superpower the Autobots, known only as 'Optimus Prime', would die during a great interplanetary war between two factions of gigantic transforming robots, simply known as 'Transformers'. I'm sure the great minds of the previous generation are rolling in their graves.

But I want to try and be optimistic here, I'm sure if we focus all our resources on research and development, we can try and save face. We don't really have much time seeing as the future is already here but, given our huge back catalogue of science fiction culture, I am sure we have a few options left available to us.

I guess the closest option is something along the lines of *Back to the Future II*, set in 2015: a world of hoverboards, self-drying jackets, and multiple young and healthy Michael J. Fox clones. I'd say that sounds pretty appealing. On the other hand, going out on the town would probably result in getting attacked by gigantic holographic sharks and trying to cope in a world where Pepsi has a monopoly on the soft drink market.



Personally though, I'm hanging out for a *Blade Runner*-esque setting. It's simply the most realistic option. The year will be 2147, and sure, Earth will cease to be a suitable place for any kind of plantlife, animals will be all but extinct. It'll constantly be dark and raining, and killer androids will walk among us. But hey, dystopia my ass, there'll be flying cars.

But if anything, let's hope that the future actually gets to us during this lifetime, because I, for one, am looking forward to beating up some jerk martians with my robot buddy.



I Pho

When the phone was first invented in the late Nineteenth Century, people were flabbergasted by the new technology. It changed interactions and allowed an invasion of privacy every time it rang. Such sentiments seem comical now, but future generations may find our lives equally humorous. Alex Serpo examines our curious symbiosis with mobile phone technology and culture.

Welcome to the digital age. I can message

my friend in Thailand a video of what I am doing right now, in next to real time. This at first may not seem incredible, but consider where we have come from and what we have now. 150 years ago, the most advanced form of communication available to your great grandparents was the written letter. Now, it is possible for me to store every book written in the world at that time in my phone. To say the least, things have changed.

While we acknowledge these technological leaps, we seldom consider the cultural leaps that accompany such massive changes. Imagine life without a mobile phone, TV, internet or computer. It's difficult. That is an indication of how much life has changed in the last 50 years.

The great social technology of the Twenty-First century is the mobile phone. It is estimated that nine out of ten adults in the western world have a mobile phone. They've become as indispensable as clothes. People literally say, 'without my phone I feel naked'. Furthermore, like clothes, phones have become fashion items. Recently, I was a participant in a market research 'focus group' on mobile phones. I was asked 'how does your phone say something unique about you and your personality?' If people

see a mobile phone as an extension of their personality, it is unsurprising that this industry continues to grow exponentially.

So, if phones have changed our lives so much, how are our lives different? Dr Andrew Murphie is a lecturer at UNSW School of Media, Film and Dance. As a lecturer in media with an interest in 'technology and culture', he says that 'every new form of communication breaks down previous forms of communication'. Even to the extent that 'the technology we have determines the way we live in the first place'.

Dr Murphie claims the most obvious way that phones have changed our lives is that we are 'communicating more'. Not only do we communicate more, but we are communicating in different ways. The phone is an incredibly intimate technology. When you speak to someone on the phone, it is as if they are whispering in your ear and you are whispering in theirs. It is an intensely private form of communication.

However, mobile phones allow us to have these whispered, intimate conversations in public places. Dr Murphie speculates on this saying 'now there is a more malleable boundary between the private and the public space, or no boundary at all'. The private has become public and the public private. This has a big effect on culture, as according to Dr Murphie, 'a lot of culture is based on a clear division between public and private space'.

One Therefore I Am

Mobile phones are also breaking down a lot of traditional forms of power. A Society can no longer control those with mobile phones because they have a new ability to organise and communicate. Dr Murphie gives the specific example of the Old Guard in Japan, who feel threatened by new technology because traditional modes of communication have broken down.

Part of this breakdown is the subversion of what mobile phone technologies are used for. The famous science fiction writer, William Gibson wrote that when you put technology on the street, 'the street finds its own use for things'. This has sprung a new type of art called 'phone art'. The most famous example is a mobile phone symphony called Dialtones A Telesymphony II by Scott Gibbons and others. In this work, phones were distributed to an audience with set ring tones in a set spatial pattern, and then dialled by a computer program to create a symphony. In addition, there was a soloist who performed on twelve live unmodified phones. This may seem bizarre and gimmicky but when you consider the mass reproducibility of such an artwork, a group of people could create a symphony anytime anywhere. Each phone could serve as an 'instrument'.

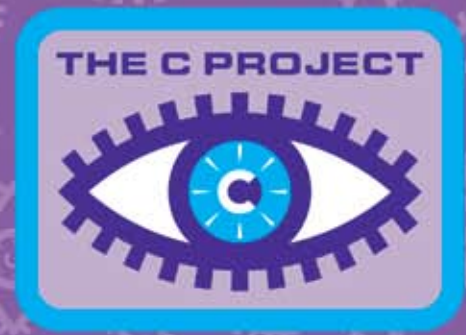
Another highly amusing practise is called flash mobbing, where a group of people organise rapidly by SMS to turn up in a place, perform a strange action as a group and leave. For example imagine thirty people turning up in Martin Place, doing the chicken dance for five minutes, and then leaving quietly.

A famous flash mob appeared in Manhattan in 2003, when a group of two hundred people gathered around a single expensive rug in Macy's department store. When queried by a sales assistant, they all claimed that they lived as a group in a warehouse, and were shopping for a 'love rug'. They also claimed that they 'made their decisions strictly as a group'. Recently a group of people gathered in Sydney dressed as zombies and wandered down George St. Both events were organised by SMS.

Subversion of mobile phone technology can have negative consequences too, as the French cultural theorist Paul Verillo said, 'every technology has its own accident'. The most foreseeable accident possible with mobile phones would occur when talking while driving. However there are other, more insidious, examples of how mobile phones could be used to bad ends. So called 'upskirting', slipping a camera phone between someone's legs unnoticed to take a photo of their underwear is an illegal and sinister practise.

Dr Murphie speculates that as mobile technology continues to develop, it will 'speed things up and diversify them at the same time'. Perhaps in another 50 years, the next generation will wonder how they lived without phones that didn't have inbuilt personalities and voices or talked to them when they were lonely...

FREE CD WALLET



**Did you know Chlamydia
has increased by 361%
in people mainly under
25 years of age?**

Chlamydia is a
sexually transmitted
infection.

Most people
have Chlamydia
for months,
or even years,
without knowing it,
unless they get tested.

Up to 90 % of women
and 70 % of men
never show any
symptoms.

**Have you had...
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Order your FREE
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or call **1 800 451 624**

CD: Che-Fu: Beneath the Radar



Beneath the Radar is the latest development from New Zealand's hip-hop and reggae superstar, Che-Fu. Che-Fu began his music career in high school with his The Low Down Dirty Blues band. Soon, this band became Supergroove and their first album Traction went triple platinum. As a solo artist, he has two previous albums, *2b S.Pacific* and *Navigator*. He has consistently cleaned up the NZ Music Awards, winning in three different categories in 1997 and five in 2002.

Right from the onset I have to come clean with you; I really like Che Fu. It is refreshing to hear good hip-hop with genuine cultural roots (Maori in this instance), that does not come out of the US. I have both the first two albums and enjoy listening to

them. They are funky yet relaxed at the same time, something you can both dance to and listen to on Sunday morning.

Beneath the Radar is something of a mash between the first two albums, providing the same vibe. It is clear that the kudos of being one of NZ's most successful male vocalists has worn off on Che Fu. This album lacks some of the originality, passion and emotive quality of the first two, but what he loses in this area, he makes up for in style. He has clearly got tighter at his craft. Listening to this album, I was surprised but not disappointed. *Beneath the Radar* is a good addition to the collection of anyone who has a taste for reggae or hip-hop.

Alex Serpo

Film: Renaissance



Renaissance is a new animated sci-fi noir from French director Christian Volckman.

The film is entirely black and white and animated in 3D. Set in Paris in 2054, the film centres about the kidnapping of a prominent and beautiful female scientist Ilona. Crack detective Karas gets on the case, soon things become complicated. Karas becomes involved with Ilona's sister Bislane. With the help of Bislane and some underworld friends, he soon discovers not only Ilona's secret, but something that can change humanity forever.

As a film, *Renaissance* is genuinely spooky, thrilling and original. What starts as a traditional noir builds to an interesting and twisted ending. Much of its strength is in its ambiguity, which is made more powerful by the black and white animation. While the central characters at first seem to fit the noir cliché, interesting glances into their past gives them personality. Secondary

characters such as the underworld boss Farella explode with life and charisma, giving the film narrative depth. 3D animated features often result in character movements being mechanical or inhuman, and *Renaissance* has hints of this flaw but most of the movie, including the sex scene, seems to escape the 3D mechanical curse.

I have always been a fan of animated features, especially anime, as they provide a counterbalance to the goliath of Hollywood's happy endings and recycled plots. *Renaissance* combines genres I love, sci-fi, noir and anime. It does so convincingly and in a way that left me satisfied. It is well worth delving into the mystery of *Renaissance*.

Alex Serpo



As one of the most legendary and successful artists to come out of New Zealand, Che Fu returns with his highly anticipated and brilliant third album. The half Maori artist has delivered the most lyrically forthright and sonically adventurous album yet which masterfully showcases his innovative approach to hip hop.

Beneath the Radar showcases Che at his finest, moving through uptempo hip hop joints, to reggae and soul,

all the while showcasing his smoky and soulful voice which draws on inspiration from Stevie Wonder and Al Green.

Blitz has three copies of *Beneath the Radar* to give away. To win one of these CDs, just tell us the name of the band in which Che Fu began his music career. Email your answer, along with your full name and surname, student number and contact phone number to comps@source.unsw.edu.au with the subject "Che Fu".



In 2054, Paris is a labyrinth where all movement is monitored and recorded.

Casting a shadow over everything is the city's largest company, Avalon, which infiltrates every aspect of contemporary life to sell its primary export - youth and beauty. In this world of stark contrasts and rigid laws the populace is kept in line and accounted for. Ilona Tasuiev, a young scientist working for the powerful conglomerate, is kidnapped for reasons unknown. Inspector Karas takes on the search. Dreamlike, cutting edge,

and original, *Renaissance* is a masterpiece that sets the pace for French animation.

Blitz has 5 double passes to give away to *Renaissance*. To win one of these passes, just tell us the French world for 'black'. Email your answer, along with your full name and surname, student number and contact phone number to comps@source.unsw.edu.au with the subject "Renaissance"

DVD R.I.P.

by Alan Zeino

The DVD was released into the mainstream in 1996. Since then, the format has found its way across the globe into millions of homes. However the format itself has now reached the end of its tenure. We've got more improvements in store.

Every major cinematic release is now distributed on DVD and the format seems to have killed off VHS. But there are limitations on the revolution. DVD box sets are expensive and the format itself is held back by its data limit. The future has always been in the pipeline, but now it has become a necessity. Most television studios want to save costs by fitting entire seasons of television shows onto a single disc yet this has been impossible. It is possible to pack more than four hours on a DVD, but quality dramatically decreases. But now everything is set to change. The two formats that are replacing the DVD – 'HD-DVD' and 'Blu-ray' – have been released to the marketplace, and the 'war' itself has truly begun.

So what are the advantages? Well let's look at the technical details. While a DVD itself only

holds 4.7GB to 8.4GB of data (single layer and dual layer respectively), the competing standards surpass this immensely, offering capacities from 25GB (that's up to 7 hours) on a single layered disc – to 50GB (fourteen hours of DVD quality video) on a dual layered Blu-ray disc. HD-DVD itself offers 15GB (up to 4 hours) on a single layer and 30GB (eight hours) on a dual layer disc. Commercial releases on the formats will give more data, with news of a 100GB (thirty hours of DVD quality video) Blu-ray disc being months away from release. Furthermore the discs will allow High Definition Video to be mainstream, and full HD quality releases will be on both mediums.

So why are the two formats competing against each other, and isn't HD-DVD on the backfoot already? Well this is a matter of commerce, and requires the classic example of the Betamax vs. VHS format war of the 80's. Betamax was the superior format. Its quality was – by far – superior to VHS. But VHS won, implanting itself as the major format for video for years, and ensuring its place in modern technological folklore.

The creators of Blu-ray and HD-DVD did try an amicable truce, even holding talks to combine the two formats together to create a unified march towards consumer heaven, but nothing came of this. Blu-ray is, on paper, the better format, however the future of both it and HD-DVD will be decided in the marketplace.

So what does this mean for us consumers? Unfortunately, the decision about the price and introduction of the formats isn't up to us as both formats aren't due to arrive en masse in Australia until Christmas. But what it does mean is that you will need to replace that DVD player soon, and unfortunately your DVD collection will probably lose its value. But backwards compatibility is assured, with all current future players able to play DVD's and CD's.

So when will we have to buy new Blu-ray or HD-DVD players? Chances are you can make the decision now, with new HP notebooks shipping to Australia with HD-DVD drives built in, and Blu-ray being the format that the Sony Playstation 3 will support. The price of both formats will be a major factor in decision making in homes across Australia.

Currently, Blu-ray players retail for \$1500 and HD-DVD players at a more respectable average of \$1000. But the release of the PS3 will change all that. Not only will Sony be shipping the console with Blu-ray built in, but the loss that Sony will make (in the hundreds of dollars) will mean good news for the consumer. The Australian release of the bare bone's PS3 will cost \$799, a saving of nearly \$700 on a Blu-ray player.

But will you have to change this year (or even next)? Chances are, no. It took four years for DVD to take a hold on Australia, and it's safe to say that either media format has at least a year to go until it can emerge into the marketplace here. But there are upsides. The formats themselves are expected to be advanced substantially into the future, meaning that another upgrade won't be needed probably until 2015, or even 2020.

So the future is coming, and it's time to start thinking about it now. It may be a little while yet, but that entire season of Scrubs Season Five will soon fit on an entire disc, and won't hurt your back pocket as it would today as a five-disc boxset.

LIBRARY TOURS & CLASSES S2 2006

	Getting started @ your library	Secrets of Effective Searching	Introductory Endnote
Week 1	Mon 24 July 10 am 2 pm Tue 25 July 11 am 3 pm Wed 26 July 10 am 5 pm Thur 27 July 2 pm Fri 28 July 10 am	11 am 1 pm 11 am 6 pm 12 noon 12 noon 1 pm	12 noon 2 pm 12 noon 7 pm 1 pm
Week 2	Mon 31 July 10 am Wed 2 Aug 6 pm Fri 4 Aug 11 am	11 am 7 pm 12 noon	12 noon 8 pm 1 pm
Week 3	Tue 8 Aug 11 am Thu 10 Aug 3 pm	12 noon 4 pm	1 pm 5 pm
Week 4	Mon 14 Aug 9 am Thu 17 Aug 5 pm	10 am 6 pm	11 am 7 pm

Getting started @ your library

Level 3, Main Library - Meeting Room - 1 hour
Tour the library: the building and the Web.

Secrets of Effective Searching

Level 3, Main Library - Room 315 - 1 hour

Looking for:

- things on your reading list
- information that's not in your textbook
- exam papers?

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Working knowledge of MS Windows and Word required.

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Public Speaking DVD Viewing

Toastmasters International Present: World Championship of Public Speaking DVD Viewing. August 21. 6-8.30pm. Quad 1042. \$3. Call Jim at 0424068077 or visit http://unsw_professional_speakers.freetoasthost.info/

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Celebrate through an amazing theatrical production, choir performance and inspiring animations. UNIBUDS members, friends, the general public and the Sangha community are all welcome for an unforgettable evening full of entertainment. There will be prizes drawn and a delicious vegetarian dinner included too! For more information, call: Wilsen 0405001333, Susan 0433946550

Free blood cholesterol, insulin and diet analysis

Seeking Chinese Australians, 18-25, born overseas or in Australia, not physically trained (<3 times/week, 1hr/time) for a study looking at lipids, insulin, leptin, body composition, diet and arterial stiffness. If you are interested, contact Faith Wang on faith.wang@student.unsw.edu.au or 0403 102 652.

International Student Services:

ISS is looking for international students to participate in focus groups to discuss their experience with ISS and the services provided by ISS. Focus groups will be held on Wednesday 23 August and Thursday 24 August from 4-5pm. Free movie ticket for each selected participant. Email Zia Tayebjee to register your interest (z.tayebjee@unsw.edu.au). Please include the following details: Student ID, Full Name, Program & Semester, Country of origin, and preferred day (Wed or Thurs).

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Show in Week Five, 22nd-25th August at 7:45pm in Science Theatre! Tickets Available at the Library Lawn and Law Building Foyer from 12-2pm. Tues \$8/10 Wednesday-Friday \$10/15! Tix also available online at www.lawrevue.unsw.edu.au

Female flatmate wanted:

Wanted to share a three bedroom flat in a security building, just next to Uni. My flatmate and I are very friendly and quiet. The rent is \$125 per week plus share electricity bill. It is very clean and spacious. The room is facing north and owns its own indoor balcony. Leave a message on 9399 7074 or email carolineguoying@hotmail.com

Contact Information and Referral Centre

If you have a question, we can answer it. If we cannot, we know where to refer you to find the answer. We also have free stuff like condoms and tampons. Visit us on Level 2, East Wing, Quad Building, Monday-Friday, 10am-4pm, or at contact.unsw.edu.au

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VOXPOPS

Q1

What skill would you like to learn?

Q2

What skills could you teach someone else?



Anthony

1. Learning to be a rally car driver.
2. Think quickly and logically on your feet.



Angelus

1. How to rule the world as a wise and fair dictator
2. How to be my henchman



Jarvis

1. The ability to answer questions on the spot.
2. Not being able to answer questions on the spot.



Allan

1. Singing and dancing, cabaret style.
2. The moonwalk!



Nathan

1. How to skull.
2. How to play pool one handed and still win a pool comp against people playing with two hands.



Cee

1. Sew my own clothes.
2. Lots of circus skills like juggling and fire twirling.

The Roundhouse's How To series starts this week, including skills training for poker, wine and beer appreciation and make-up. Visit www.source.unsw.edu.au for more details.



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