

# grapeshot

Macquarie University Student Publication  
Issue 8 - September 14, 2009



est. 1969

Plus all the regulars | Reviews | Spotlight on Student Services | Stew | The Rant  
What's On | Round Up! | International Students' Column | Horoscope

feels like

# Summer

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## EDITORIAL.:

Dear Friends,

For this conception day editorial, let's get in touch with our historical roots. What do we know so far? We know that the date of our Conception Day celebration was chosen because Lachlan Macquarie was born on the 31st of January (1762). And that's in the summer holidays. So conceivably, the ex-governor of the NSW penal colony would have been a tiny but viable foetus right about the time of 18th September 1761. And thus we party on this date (or thereabouts – the third Friday of September seems to be the day for our yearly tribute).

But who is this mysterious Scottish man, and what did he do to merit such a commemoration of his parents' procreative anniversary? I'll tell you a little of his revolutionary works. Macquarie insisted, against considerable opposition, on treating emancipists (ex-convicts) as equal citizens of NSW. He set the general tone by hiring ex-convicts to fill high ranking positions within the colony, such as Chief Architect, and Chief Surgeon. Fair play. You've done the crime, you've served the time, why not aspire to the highest ranking professional position in the land?

Do you see what this means? It means that our collective history was propelled forwards by the redemptive power of *permitting people to be more than their past.\**

So, this Conception Day, why not loose the shackles of your past? Discard your UAs, your GPAs, your lame group of ultra-cliquey friends from high school, and party like a bunch of true equals. Lachlan Macquarie would have wanted you to.

Davina

P.S. Please find attached; a guide to conception day, a conception day schedule, and various articles and artworks. Hurray!

\*Just like the Vice-Chancellors Unitest scheme really^

^Which got me into uni+

+And I'm very grateful >

>Unitest= an aptitude entrance exam for people with potentially chequered study histories.



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Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in *Grapeshot* are not necessarily those of the publication team, Macquarie University staff, the Macquarie University student body or U@MQ staff.

The publication team acknowledges the Darug Aboriginal people as the traditional custodians of the land on which Macquarie University is situated.



# CONCEPTION DAY SCHEDULE

## FRIDAY 18<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER

# 09

### Conception Day Artist Line Up

#### Paragon Risk Management Student Act Stage CLOSES AT 7PM

Michael Twomey  
Joel Palte  
Michael Lockchin  
DJ Joyride  
Sende Wang  
Zahir  
Akhil Hemdev

#### Future Entertainment STAGE CLOSES AT 7PM

Adam Lance  
Josh Flanagan  
Even  
Dan Cares!  
Kato  
Ben Morris  
Alison Wonderland  
GOODWILL

#### Microhire & Macquarie University Village Acoustic Caravan Stage CLOSES AT 7PM

11am start  
Nic Alexander  
Dave Wilding  
(‘songs alive’ comp winner)  
Jenn B  
Mark Wilkinson  
Leroy Lee  
Joel Sarakula  
Roz Chia  
Peter Miller Robinson  
Justine Martin  
and more.....



#### Sublime Stage CLOSES AT 7PM

Hannah Gibbs  
Pee Wee vs Arbor  
Electro Kutz  
Emily Scott  
Keli Hart  
Archie v Arbee  
Nik Fish vs Scotty G  
Suae v Pulsar



#### gotalk Prepaid Mobile Stage CLOSES AT 8PM

Aktor  
The Havknotz  
Philadelphia Grand Jury  
Mac Dance Academy  
Kid Kenobi & MC  
Shureshock  
Mac Cheerleaders  
Cassette Kids  
Jack Ladder  
Yves Klein Blue  
Blue Juice  
Wolfmother



- Please note all stages except for ‘gotalk Prepaid Mobile Stage’ closes at 7pm. The gotalkstage stage closes at 8pm.
- All information is correct at 28 August 2009. Please note there may be changes to times prior to the event.
- Please visit [www.uatmq.com.au/conceptionday](http://www.uatmq.com.au/conceptionday) for the latest information right up to the event.
- Remember, in addition to the music there will also be a Ferris Wheel and Dodgem Cars, along with plenty of food and drink!

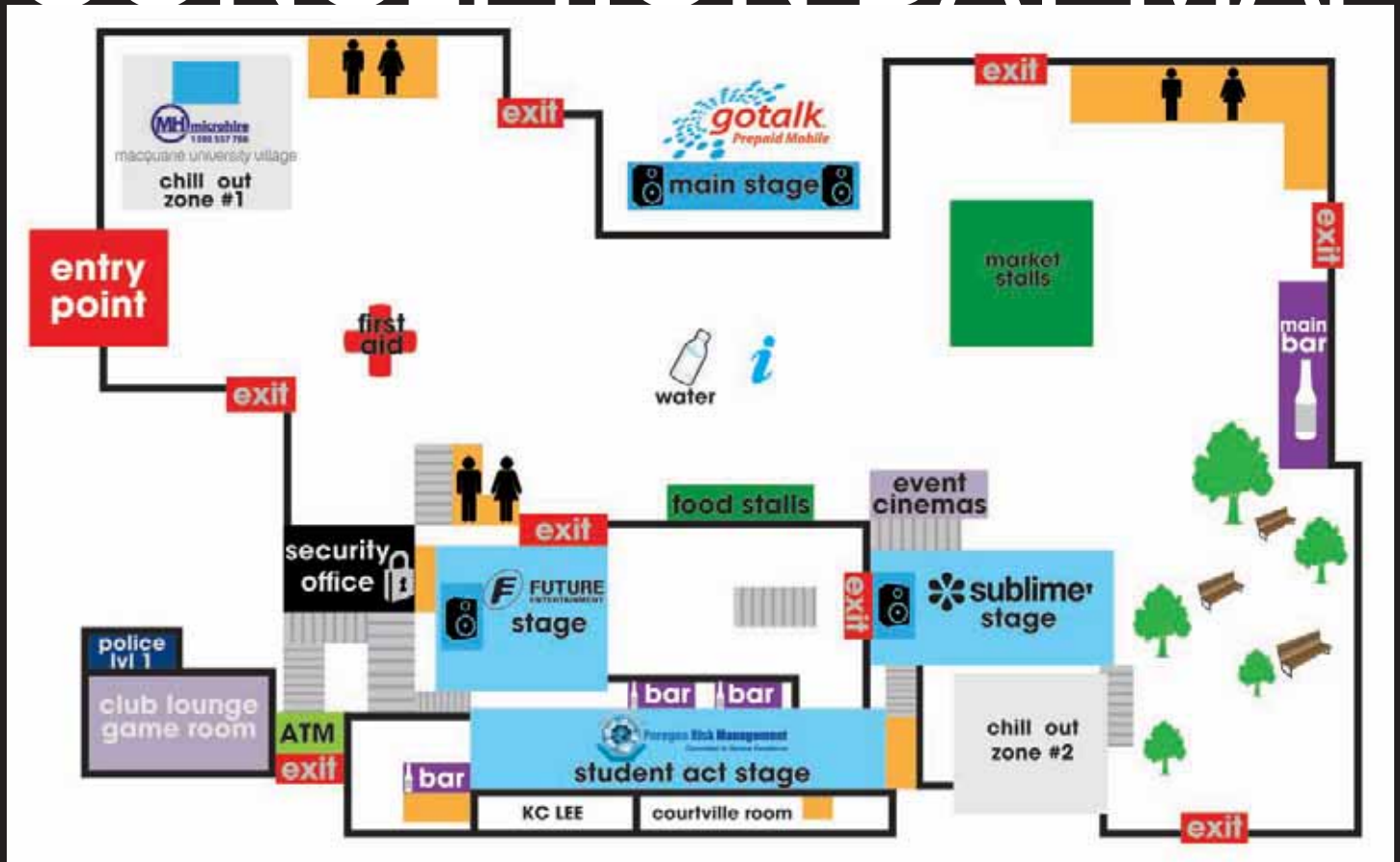
**Getting Last Minute tickets? Ticket Costs: Students & Staff: \$10 | Alumni & Guests: \$65**

**Tickets available from:**

**U@MQ Spot (C10A):** 9am - 4pm weekdays  
**U@MQ Admin Office Reception Desk (C10A):** 9am - 4pm weekdays  
**Macquarie University Sport & Aquatic Centre:** 8am - 8pm weekdays  
**UBar:** 4pm - Close of Business – weekdays



# CONCEPTION DAY MAP



## urgghll MOMENTS

**Urgghll** adj. the loosening of one's collar when nervous, emitting an urghhll [err-ugh-ll] noise. Seen in *The Simpsons* and the hilarity that is the TVS comedy trio *The Shambles*.

If you didn't understand that excellent definition, examples are the best way to illustrate the meaning of a word.

**Example #1:** When the Aboriginal community called for tourists to stop climbing Uluru as it is disrespectful of people to walk all over it due to its spiritual significance, the Australian government was happy to ignore them because it is a tourist attraction. Perhaps that is a valid point since the last 3 Tourism Australia advertisements have been utter crap (this includes *Australia* the movie, minus Hugh Jackman's shirtless scene). If someone was to climb the Sistine Chapel for instance this would be disallowed and probably result in incarceration. Bit of an urghhll moment for the Australian government there.

**Example #2:** When the Bali Bombers were to be executed for the murder of 88 Australians the Australian government couldn't be happier to support the exercise of the death sentence. Our hypocritical government doesn't believe the death sentence should be allowed in our country but when it comes to a third world state then it's perfectly fine. They had a bit of an urghhll moment when the Bali government stated that "our" Schappelle Corby and the Bali 9 should receive the same treatment. However, the government did nothing to stop the execution of Van Nguyen in Singapore. Hmm, could it be that the Singaporean government owns several investment companies, which have invested in Australia? Urgghll!

**Example #3:** Enough of the political examples!" I hear you cry. I say "suck it up". The recent plans to rebuild "The Block" in Redfern for the Aboriginal community have Nathan Rees and the NSW Labor government reaching for the collar and going urghhll; it will

cost \$60 Million dollars. Now if my calculations are correct, \$60 Million is less than \$4 Billion. \$4 Billion is what the government is spending on digital TV, because we all really want to watch Parliament in HDTV. If you're going "Oh well fair enough, they're going to switch off the analog signals so we have to have HDTV", then maybe consider the \$34 Billion the government collects in tax which ultimately goes towards making our MP's and Prime Minister more comfortable. Fair shake of the sauce bottle, mate. No one wants to foot the bill for the Aboriginal community and I reckon they're copping a bit of flack. Where's *Today Tonight* when you need them to go on and on about Aussies getting a fair go? Urgghll.

**Example #4:** Julie wins *Masterchef*. Urgghll!

Bushra Khalid

# ~ THE DEFINITIVE GUIDE TO KINGS ~

In AD 382 leaders of the early church assembled for the Council of Rome, deciding on the definitive list of the books of the Bible. Today I will assume an equally heavy burden, producing the definitive list of rules for the pinnacle achievement of drinking games: the game of Kings.

Legend has it the game was created on the seventh day while God rested, and its popularity has never waned since. It's actually what they were playing when Jesus turned the water into wine at the wedding in Cana – "This was the first miracle of Jesus and it

was performed to reveal his glory, and his disciples put their faith in him." (John 2:11) (champion drinker!).

Kings involves surrounding a central glass with deck of down turned cards (without jokers). Going clockwise around a circle each participant selects a card and turns it over. Each type of card, with suits irrelevant, has a corresponding drinking activity.

These rules transcend culture, language, time. They are as follows:

**1** Drinking Chain. AKA the fountain or waterfall. Everyone starts drinking at the same time. You can only stop when the person to the right has stopped. To begin with, only the person who flipped the card is entitled to stop. The Ace is a nightmare for the person to the right of the one who turned it over.

**2** Rule Card. If you turn this, you get to make a rule. Rules must be followed throughout the game. Anyone breaking a rule must drink. Popular rules include: You can't say "drink", you must hold your drink in your left hand, you must address everyone as either Sir or Lady, or you must say "God Damn!" after every drink.

**3** Grenade. At any time after flipping this card you can shout "Grenade". The last person to hit the floor must drink.

**4** Pistols at Dawn. Point to two people and shout "Pistols at Dawn". The last one to stand up, shoot the other and shout "Bang" must drink.

**5** Drinks. The player gets to hand out five drinks. Drinks can be divided between players or loaded upon one poor soul.

**6** Thumb Card. If you flip this card, you're the thumb master. At any stage you can place your thumb on the table. The last person in the circle to do the same must drink.

**7** Albatross. This is definitely one for the mathematically minded or the sober. Starting with the player who turned over the card you proceed clockwise around the circle counting upwards from one. However, whenever a number containing seven or divisible by seven is to be said, instead say "Albatross" and the counting continues in the opposite direction. For example: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, Albatross (change direction), 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, Albatross (change direction), 15... I once got knocked out at 371 and have also seen someone eliminated at four.

**8** Toilet Card. If you get one of these cards, keep it. You can't go to the toilet without it. It's particularly handy for skipping your turn when there is only one King left (see below) or for trading with someone who's busting in exchange for some kind of dare.

**9** Subject Card. The player turning over the card chooses a subject, such as Presidents of the United States. Going clockwise, everyone must name a president. If a player fails to say one or repeats one, they must drink. The round stops after one person has drunk.

**10** Toast. The most straightforward of all the cards. Everyone raises their drinks for a toast.

**J**ack Head Card. As with the thumb card except this time you place your hand on your head rather than your thumb on the table.

**Q**ueen Question Card. If anyone answers one of your questions while you are the question master, then they must drink. The only acceptable response is "F\*ck Off!" You continue to be the question master until the next Queen is flipped, thereby passing the honour on.

**K**ing The Killer. For the first three Kings turned over, everyone can pour as much or as little of their drink into the central glass. The person who turns over the last king must drink the glass.

**A** But what constitutes a drink? If you're having beer it's two fingers worth (three if you're a midget). For those brave enough to play with wine from the illustrious Chateau de Cardboard, it's one finger. (If you're playing with spirits you're either living off your parents or not really a student – either way, go buy yourself a sack of goon and welcome to real student life.)

Now you are ready to face the drinking challenges this Conception Day inevitably will bring. Please note, Macquarie University does not encourage excessive consumption of alcohol – I do.

Peter Furst



# Ankle tattoos, lattes, iPhones and Bravo

"I want to be divorced someday", isn't the line someone wants to hear on a first date. In this golden new age of finding oneself, there is a distraction of falling into the messy pits of desirable flings, trysts, and experiences we all want to taste.

Instead of taking up dance or cooking classes, the bored housewife dates a younger man. Instead of upping his golf swing, the power executive man dons a deep v-neck shirt, frosts his tips and goes hunting in the night clubs that for some reason don't have age limits. There is an existential pining in the hearts and minds, and libidos, of Americans now in any age range.

It used to just be the college graduate deciding between globe hopping and grad school. Or it was the mid-life crisis victims in the suburbs ending up in a Porsche and a weeklong cruise to Jamaica. Now it is all the more extreme, perhaps because of a world in disarray and ever increasing needs to feel younger.

It was bad enough when the saying a few years ago was "40 is the new 30". Now it's "40 is the new do-whatever-the-hell-I-want-because-I-don't-want-to-grow-old".

This usually ends up in midnight mayhem and ankle tattoos.

I made a list of things I want to try before I hit 30. They include the not too extreme ingredients of sky diving, East Indian cuisine, polo, photography and tap dance classes. And on the back of the café napkin, encircled with the milky-brown coffee stain, I wrote the five things I want to do, just to say I did them.

In no specific order here they are: enter a hot dog eating contest, fight a Guido, vote Democrat, get married and get divorced. Yes, get divorced. The last two are paired up next to each other to show my lack of belief in either of them. They actually correspond with, in that sense, the other three activities.

Constantly surrounded by life goals of wanting kids before 30, two cars and a high five figure income, I felt it was my right to extend opposing wants in my life. If 40 is the new 15, why shouldn't I hold back on landing a concrete suburban life? That's if I end up in suburbia.

We live in a society where the perfect creation of a latte is more important than

soul searching. We are delineated and defined by those who care more about their makeup than their own children; where people drive on shiny rims and roll right into an apartment complex. It's such an upside down blueberry pie world we live in and in order to, in so many ways, flip off the social currents and flows I have made it a virtuous objective to be unique.

I fight every day to stay away from the grips of boredom in this desert town, but I can appreciate the fact that I'm on the other side of mostly everyone. It does kind of suck knowing I share some of the same social beliefs as dread lock wearers and potheads, but hey, whatever works. So, maybe one day I'll get married for the heck of it to shake up social restfulness. But trust me, I will also succumb to the same post-marital fate as 49% of American couples who were supposedly meant to be. Just for the fun of it.

Nick Esquer

[Nick is an American student who will be studying at Macquarie University from February 2010. If he can track down our submissions guidelines and write a piece from overseas, so can you. -Eds]



Tantrums, Whirlybirds and Railey's may not mean a great deal to most students at Macquarie University, but for members of the Macquarie University Wakeboarding Club, these tricks on the water are what the sport is all about.

The Club was formed 20 years ago with a vision to spark interest in water sports and help students improve their confidence and ability on top of the water. The founding members invested jointly in a club boat and have upgraded that boat approximately every five years with capital from fundraising events ever since. Purchased three years ago, the current Club boat is a powerful Malibu Wakesetter VLX.

"Riding behind this boat is amazing," said Nick Becerra, Study Abroad student from San Diego in the US. "The wake was so clean, the water was perfect and glassy – it was awesome." Nick first rode behind the

boat in first semester when the Club held one of its many day-trips for the year at Cliftonville, on the stunning Hawkesbury River.

This semester, as the winter chill fades away, and summer starts to warm up the water, the club has many outings planned for its members, to ensure that we can get plenty of ride-time.

"The Club's focus is to get people involved in water sports, and help them improve. Whether they have experience or not, the club has a fun, relaxed atmosphere – we welcome everyone," said Club Secretary Greg Whitehead.

Between the three Boat Captains, the Club has over 500 hours of experience in wakeboarding instruction and rider development on the water. The Club caters for riders who have never tried



wakeboarding before, right through to semi-professional and competitive riders.

Macquarie Alumni and former club member Andy Meads took out first place in the Australian University Challenge in men's wakeboarding in 2005.

If you are interested in riding with the team or for more information on the club, visit the U@MQ website, or contact Macquarie University Wake Boarding Club at waterski@mq.edu.au

Ride On!



# Macbuddhi

The Macquarie University Buddhist Association  
Your Buddhies @ MAC

What is Macbuddhi? The Macquarie University Buddhist Association - aka MACBUDDHI - consists of a group of people with an interest in Buddhism from a variety of different cultural backgrounds. The association aims to promote the understanding of Buddhist teachings and practice within the university and society in general.

Macbuddhi hopes to play its part in the development of a dynamic and diverse university community accepting of all faiths and cultures. The association welcomes all Macquarians who have an interest in meditation or Buddhism. We also provide a supportive environment in which students and staff can enrich their lives through the calming practise of meditation and Buddhist philosophy.

Other things we do are attend intervarsity events, movie/dinner nights, and

various events held by other Buddhist organisations.

Have some free time during lunch? Why not immerse yourself in a short period of calm and quietness with a like-minded group of people. Guided meditation will be held weekly on campus. Meditation is a useful practice which has been scientifically proven to help us relax, concentrate better, reduce stress, control negative thoughts, increase creativity, improve happiness and more. Whether you are experienced or new to meditation, you are welcome to join us.

Don't know anything about Buddhism? You can also attend our weekly talks and discussions. Buddhism is much more than chanting, incense burning, and worship of giant Buddha statues. You will be surprised at how much you did not know about Buddhism. Our topics and issues

can range from general Buddhism 101, to more specific philosophical issues like 'Fear of Freedom', to everyday topics like controlling our emotions.

Activities for this semester are:  
• Weekly sessions, every Monday, in the Green Room (next to the Atrium).

Meeting place is at 1pm under the 'Big Clock' in front of U@MQ Shop on Monday every week.

If you want to find out more, email us at [info@macbuddhi.mitra.org.au](mailto:info@macbuddhi.mitra.org.au) or visit Macbuddhi on Facebook.

Tonto Kaewsatuan  
President of Macbuddhi

## Bless you for coming out in public\*

**Fashion.** As much as many people act like they don't care about fashion, they all really do. Sure they can't all name ten couture designers off the top of their heads, but most people keep their closets stocked with the newest trends. Unfortunately there are some serious fashion crimes being committed when people pick up the wrong end of a trend or squeeze into the wrong size.

**All White:** Summer dresses, communion dresses, pantsuits, jeans and a t-shirt, and last but definitely not least...wedding dresses! Why people actually think they look good in all white is beyond me. They say the camera puts on ten pounds...well, the white dress puts on at least another ten and who really wants to look at least 20 pounds heavier than they already are in their wedding photos? Is that really how anyone wants to remember the supposed most important day of their life? I don't think so.

**Leggings:** Leggings are to be worn while dancing (training), at yoga, working out in the gym or under pants when it's really cold. Leggings are not pants. They look trashy and cheap and unless you are skinnier than posh spice at her most anorexic, your ass is too fat to pull them off. And this goes for all leggings by the way. Patterned leggings (I've seen things as hideous as plaid, checks, snake skin, zebra and leopard print, metallic, tie-dye, and fluoro) should never ever be worn. Ever. They are acceptable for parties where the theme is "H" and you are going as "Hideous".

**Gladiator Sandals:** Oh no you didn't. I see them everywhere. Strappy heels and beautiful satin ribbons laced up the calves are wonderful. But bulky leather straps that hang loosely (or too tight) and rusty looking buckles... what the hell are you thinking? I watched the Victoria Secret Fashion show in 2008 when all the Angels wore these gladiator sandals. Hint to all...if Heidi Klum and Adriana Lima can't make something look good, no one can. So please, recycle your gladiator shoes. Cut the straps and make them into whips for a little bit of foreplay as that's where something that looks like this belongs.

**Too Tight Pants:** Muffin tops, camel toes and FUPA's are not attractive on anyone and guys don't wanna see it. I realise everyone wants to fit into a size six like the six foot tall supermodels who have no hips and no body fat, but for 99.9% of the population that doesn't exactly work. If you buy clothes that actually fit then you'll look good. Dress to fit your actual size ladies, not the size you want to be. For all our sakes.

\*Bless you for coming out in public is a phrase used in Disney's *The Emperors' New Groove* which everyone should watch. While the phrase is not used in the context of fashion, it still works.

Aryn De Long



# International Column: Student Profile

International Column

Yang Yu is an international student from Shanghai, China who ran in Macquarie University Student Representative Association's (MUSRA) election for the position of Representative of Students with Language Backgrounds other than English. This issue of the International Column, Grapeshot asks Yang about what makes him tick and about being a non-English speaking student. Importantly, Yang also tells us how international students can raise important issues with MUSRA.

## For those who don't know, what is the role of the Representative of Students with Language Backgrounds Other than English?

The holder of this position has the primary responsibility to raise the issues and concerns of non-English speaking students, make their voices heard, as well as connecting them more closely with MUSRA, the university, and the Australian society.

However, this representative doesn't just look after international students. There are also Australian citizens who don't come from English speaking backgrounds that are also represented by this person. It's important that all non-English background students realise that they have a voice at the University.

## You seem very passionate about student governance...

Well, yes. Mostly it comes down to the way the political system works in Australia compared to where I come from. As Australia is a democracy, everyone has an opportunity to participate in the way this country is run, even if their ideas are in conflict with others. This has been transferred into the education system. Students have an opinion that is not only listened to, but is acted upon. All that is required is for someone to stand up and say something. That's pretty amazing.

## Do you think the international student population understands the avenues available to them?

Sometimes I think the jump from where a student comes from to Australia can be a difficult one to make. Either international students aren't very interested in politics or they aren't aware of the political avenues open to them, I can't really say. But certainly there are issues affecting non-English speaking students that need to be addressed.

I think if international and non-English background students were more aware of the avenues open to them, and how they work, then they would make more use of them.

## What sort of issues can students bring to MUSRA's attention?

Some of the most pressing issues surround safety, living conditions, financial and social hardship, and poor academic performance due to cultural differences. A good example is problems related to essay writing skills and critical thinking because of language barriers. Sometimes a student falls behind simply because they don't have the same grasp on the English language as the local students.

If students have an issue with any of the above or other issues, they should speak with their MUSRA representative to make sure that the topic is addressed in the proper forum. Like I've said before, all it takes is for one person to stand up and say something for action to take place. The political tools are there if only the students would use them.

Interview by Alice Chu

*[The MUSRA elections were held on 8 – 10 September, before this edition hit the stands. This article encourages students to make use of MUSRA, and is not an endorsement of Yang Yu. - Eds]*

MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY  

## NEW Macquarie University Memorabilia!

Check out the large range available from The U@MQ Shop or online at [www.uatmq.com.au](http://www.uatmq.com.au)



## PRE CONCEPTION DAY AT UBAR

THURSDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 2009: 1PM-8PM

CHILL OUT TO GREAT SOUNDS FROM MAC STUDENT DJs AND A SIZZLING BBQ ON THE UBAR TERRACE!

**Conception day**  
EST 1969  
40th anniversary

ABSOLUTELY FREE



Ubar

MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY 

The U Bar is a Responsible service of alcohol venue. Alcohol will not be served to intoxicated persons. U Bar events are restricted to those aged 18 years and over. Patrons will be required to show proof of age. Legal forms of ID are current driver's license, passport, and proof of age card. The U Bar wishes to encourage patrons to take advantage of its safe transport options including the U Bar's Designated Driver program. U bar staff are available to assist patrons in their decisions to have a safe and responsible night.

# The Aurora Project:

## An Internship with a Difference

There are few internship programs available to social science, anthropology and law students that enable them to gain practical insight into the Native Title process and indigenous policy more generally. The Aurora Project offers high achieving students interested in social justice such an experience. As part of the project, we were placed with the New South Wales Native Title Service (NTSCORP) at Redfern for 5-6 weeks during the winter break.

NTSCORP is a hard-working, but small and underfunded organisation that assists Indigenous claimants as they pursue the (momentous and time consuming) task of making a Native Title claim. We worked with the NTSCORP research team. Among their many other tasks, the historians, anthropologists and land tenure officers are responsible for helping claimants establish in an appropriate form the land over which the claim is made, their unbroken connection to country,

and unbroken observance of traditional customs as required by the Native Title Act 1993. During our time we were given a glimpse into how much hard work goes into achieving a native title claim and providing ongoing support to claimants.

You could be placed in any of the affiliated organisations and native service providers across Australia that regularly take Aurora interns. This offers those interested in seeing Australia an opportunity to do so. However the Aurora team are also accommodating and will ask for your preferences if you proceed to an interview. The type of work you do during the program depends upon the needs of the host organisation, but there is the opportunity for fieldwork. In any situation you will need to be aware of the challenges of cross-cultural communication and the ethical implications of conducting research in such an environment. Even during a primarily office based placement you are likely to come into contact with Indigenous people who work within the organisation or who are seeking advice from the legal and research teams. During our time at NTSCORP, our duties largely consisted of reviewing previous research, entering genealogical data into the database, reviewing historical records, mapping areas for a potential future claim, administrative duties, writing articles for the company newsletter and policy research. Our placement also fell during

NAIDOC, which meant that we were able to spend the day celebrating the achievement of First Australians with a morning cultural tour of the Royal Botanic Gardens, a barbeque lunch of kangaroo (or tofu for the vegetarians) and a relaxing basket weaving session to fill our afternoon. We could not have asked for a more welcoming and friendly group of staff. They made us comfortable and involved us in their work as much as possible.

The Aurora Project is valuable to students, not only as it allows you to develop your research skills, network and gain practical experience; but also because it offers you the chance to contribute to an organisation that does excellent and meaningful work to help alleviate the disadvantages of many Indigenous communities, ensuring that the prior rights of First Australians are given adequate legal recognition. Applications for the Aurora Project summer internship are open now, and we would urge interested students to apply. It certainly wouldn't be a bad way to spend 5-6 weeks of a long summer break. We wish all applicants the best of luck!

Margherita Drago  
Louise Whitton  
Honey Muir

[auroraproject.com.au](http://auroraproject.com.au)

# Study tips

I'd like to share with you some wisdom I have accumulated (aka. learnt the hard way!) about surviving the academic chaos of being a uni student. I hope you find the tips useful and are able to apply some of them to make study a little less stressful.

1. **HEALTHY BODY; HEALTHY MIND:** The key to study success is making sure your brain is well fuelled, rested and energised. That means making sure you eat, sleep and exercise regularly to set up the foundations for good brain function.

2. **LEARN YOUR STRENGTHS-THEN WORK THEM!** We all have weaknesses (which we often dwell on too much!) but most importantly we all have strengths (something we often forget). Make sure you know your strengths and use them to your advantage. As well as exploiting your strengths, also find ways to navigate yourself around things you don't find so easy.

3. **LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION!** Make a positive study space with lots of photos, colours and places to hang things like sticky notes and motivators. Don't forget that our brains can also be triggered by scents and colours, so experiment and find what works for you. Soon enough, you'll find that (shock, horror!) you actually enjoy being in this space and study doesn't seem like such a chore.

4. **KEEP ORGANISED:** Easier said than done, but when your notes, files and other things are uncluttered and easy to find, you don't stress as much. Find a system that works for you (whatever that may be) and use a reward system of some description to make sure you stick to it.

5. **QUALITY, NOT QUANTITY:** Disorganised study for ten hours a day is simply not as efficient as even one hour of quality study. Make sure you're organised and efficient so you can retain as much

information as possible in the shortest amount of time. If you find you're more alert at a particular time of day, don't forget to use this "peak time" to study.

6. **BALANCING ACT:** A healthy dose of everything will keep you energised and help with stress. It's still OK to see friends, take a walk, read a book and any of the other things you like, but remember to factor in some serious study time.

7. **LAUGH IT UP:** It's important to maintain a sense of humor with everything in life. This applies to study as well. Nobody is perfect; don't expect yourself to be. If you fail, it's important to use the experience to find out how you can improve, but don't take it too seriously and think it's the end of the world.

8. **USE YOUR ASSETS:** Make the most of what you have around you: your family, your friends, teachers and other professionals, well stocked libraries and the endless opportunities you have at Macquarie to pursue your interests.

Lauren Gatt

# The Rant

## Say Cheese

Facebook says *'You have been tagged in five photos. Click here to view.'*

You click through and think to yourself, 'yeah these are some good shots.' You click next and, 'Oh my god. That CHEESE is OFF!'

Of course I don't mean the Fetta that has been sitting in the fridge for a month, but I may as well be! I'm talking about the time when you jumped into that shot and said 'CHEESE'. This is the photo where your face is squashed, your eyes are droopy and your mouth looks as wide as a watermelon. This is the image shared with all 350 of your so-called 'friends' on Facebook.

Can someone please explain to me... your friend looks hot in the photo and yet you look like you've just been pulled out of a rubbish bin...where is the justice?

You message your friend, *'Is it possible for you to get rid of that 'fugly' photo?'*

She responds, *'Nah it's not that bad. You look good.'*

Visiting the optometrist should be at the top of their 'To Do' list.

The lesson is simple, be careful when and where you say 'cheese'. You never know if it'll end up online – a constant reminder of what your face would look like if the wind changed.

Julia Natoli

Got something to rant about?

...send us your rant!

Email us at:  
grapeshotmq@gmail.com

All rants must be under 150 words and you must mention your submission is for THE RANT in the subject heading. Any and all topics welcome.

# Student Services Spotlight

## The Transition Program

Your degree - do you want it to be more than just a piece of paper? What if you could do something that developed your leadership skills, introduced you to new people, made you part of the university community, and gave you the satisfaction of helping new students?

Interested? Well, the Mentor Program, MQ's longest established and most prestigious volunteer program is recruiting for new mentors to help out in 2010. The program began in 2002 and since then has helped over 20,000 new students find their feet and settle in. We get a great response for our work,

too. Here's a typical example – "I was astounded by the amount of help that has been offered to all students. I feel well supported and am looking forward to getting into lectures. Thank you once again for giving up your time to help me on my first day at uni." - Josh, B.Psych (Hons)

So if you think you've got something to offer new students adjusting to uni, or if you want the satisfaction of going outside your comfort zone, then here's your chance to step up and show them what you're made of. Details about the program are on our website: [www.mq.edu.au/transition](http://www.mq.edu.au/transition).

Even better you can visit us in person - Student Central (C5C244). So drop in for a chat and apply on the spot!

The Transition Program Team



**Mon Sept 14**

**MQ Debating Society**  
Meeting every Monday at 6:00pm for training and debates.  
U@MQ level three.

Grapeshot 'Environment/Piracy' Issue 9 Deadline

**Tue Sept 15**

**Student Life**  
Weekly Tuesday Meetings, 1:00pm, Level 3 U@MQ Building

**MQ Ancient History Association (MAHA)**  
Meeting at the Ranch every Tues 7.30 pm

**Wed Sept 16**

**Sexual Health Week**  
National Event occurring every September that encourages individuals, groups and communities to learn more about sexual health and well being. Look out for info stalls on campus.

**Thu**

**Pla**  
Meeting every night du  
5:  
Conception  
8:0

**Fri Sept 18**

Last day of class before the mid semester break

**Conception Day!**

**Sat Sept 19**

**MQ Uni Wake Boarding Society**  
New activities as the winter chill fades away, contact waterski@mq.edu.au for more information

**Sun Sept 20**

**Macquanauts - the MQ Uni Diving Club!**  
Dives are every Sunday morning.  
Contact: scuba.mq.edu.au

**Movies at Macquarie**  
Free screening of *The Chronicles of Narnia*, 2.30 - 5.00 pm

**Tue**

**Learning & Tea**  
held from the 2  
the  
More info: ww

**Fri Sept 25**

**Mac Uni Hockey Club Presentation Night**  
Contact: hockey@mq.edu.au

**Sat Sept 26**

**Relay for Life - Cancer Council Initiative Day 1**  
Macquarie University Sports Field  
Saturday 3:00pm - Sunday 10:00am  
relay.cancercouncil.com.au/relay.html

**Sun Sept 27**

**Relay for Life - Cancer Council Initiative Day 2**  
Macquarie University Sports Field

**Mon**

**Australian**  
Over 300 Ma  
are competing  
on t  
GO



**Sun Oct 4**

Send future calendar dates to grapeshotmq@gmail.com. Place 'What's On' in the subject headline.

Next calendar will be from September October 6 - Oct 26

**M**

**Sept 17**  
**Antonic Society**  
 every Thursday  
 during semester  
 10:00pm at Ubar  
  
**Ubar**  
 Day Pre Party  
 10:00pm -1:00am

# What's On

Calendar of Events, Sept 14 - Oct 6

**Sept 21**  
**Teaching Week -**  
 21st - 25th, the  
 theme is renewal  
  
[www.mq.edu.au/  
 ltc/programs](http://www.mq.edu.au/ltc/programs)

**Tue Sept 22**  
  
**Mac Uni Rugby Club**  
 Training is every  
 Tues & Thurs  
 at 6.30pm, Sports Field  
  
**MQ Dance Academy**  
 Jam Session every  
 Tues, Weds 12:00-2:00pm  
 Atrium

**Wed Sept 23**  
  
**Sept 23-26**  
**DRAMAC**  
 Songs For the Deaf  
  
 8pm Lighthouse Theatre  
 Tix \$3-\$5  
[producer@dramac.org](mailto:producer@dramac.org)



**Sept 28**  
  
**Mac Uni Games -**  
 Mac Uni athletes  
 at Uni Games  
 on the Gold Coast  
  
**MACQUARIE!**

**Tues Sept 29**  
  
 Centre for Research  
 Mathematics and Education  
 Seminar: HOTmaths  
 Experience  
 C3A, Room 918,  
 1:00 - 2:00 pm

**Wed Sept 30**  
  
**Macquarie ECFS**  
 Police v Mafia Cruise  
 for more info,  
[email natalie@ecfs.com.au](mailto:natalie@ecfs.com.au)

**Monday Oct 5**  
  
 Labour Day  
 Public Holiday

**Tue Oct 6**  
  
**Grapeshot Issue 9**  
 'Environment/Piracy' Issue  
 Distributed  
  
**Grapeshot Issue 10**  
 'Naked Truth' Deadline  
 Send all submissions to  
[grapeshotmq@gmail.com](mailto:grapeshotmq@gmail.com)  
  
**Classes Resume**

**Wed Oct 7**  
  
**W.A.N.G. Club BBQ -**  
 11 - 2pm

Enamor future issues!  
 Visit  
[whatsonsydney.com](http://whatsonsydney.com)  
 for events in sydney  
  
**LuggageBazaar.com.au**  
 Student Offer  
 20% off or  
 free \$20 Student Co-op  
 Vouchers with  
 any luggage purchase  
[luggagebazaar.com.au](http://luggagebazaar.com.au)

# Book Review

Jill Jolliffe

**Balibo**

Scribe Publishing  
ISBN: 9781921372773  
(pbk)



*Balibo* should no doubt be mandatory reading for students of Australian history, and in particular, our political history. Jolliffe's detailed account has been revised and re-released to coincide with the screening of an Australian movie of the same name. It covers the political unrest in East Timor during Portuguese decolonisation, alongside a detailed investigation of the murder of the Balibo Five; Greg Shackleton, Gary Cunningham, and Tony Stewart of Channel Seven, and Brian Peters and Malcolm Rennie of Channel Nine by Indonesian troops in Balibo, and the execution of an Australian freelance journalist, Roger East, in the following months.

The narrative is a searing indictment of the Australian government. Although Gough Whitlam's government, and Whitlam himself, appear to have turned a blind eye

to Indonesia's invasion of East Timor (with oil as the final prize), and helped cover up information about the fate of the Balibo Five, every Australian government in office since the events in 1975 has followed the same policy. After years of struggle to bring the truth to light, a legal technicality allowed an inquest into Brian Peter's death to be held at the Glebe Coroner's Court in 2007. The evidence was strong enough for the killers (one was, by that time, a high-ranking Indonesian official), to be indicted. Despite this, the government remained deaf and blind to the fate of its citizens in East Timor, preferring to apologise to Indonesian Governor Sutiyoso when allegations of torture were made against him at the court.

*Balibo* is painful reading for an Australian citizen. This book strips away any belief that our government would always put the safety of its own citizens before profit and foreign policy alignments. While government officials may have been able to convince themselves that the Balibo Five died in cross-fire, eye-witness accounts leave no doubt that freelance journalist, Roger East, was dragged from a building with his hands tied behind his back, and along with a large group of Chinese Timorese, shot in the back of the head in reprisal for an earlier attack on Indonesian

paratroopers. He was blonde with blue eyes and was heard screaming, "I am not from Fretilin, I am an Australian" before he was shot. It seems highly unlikely that the Indonesians mistook him for a Timorese national. But this book is not only concerned with the six innocent Australian journalists lost in the turmoil in East Timor. It highlights how the Australian government's initial cover-up paved the way for an Indonesian invasion, wherein thousands of innocent East Timorese were subjected to twenty-four years of military occupation that included massacres, torture and rape.

Obviously, this matter has moved no further since the 2007 inquest. The men indicted, Yunus Yosfiah and Christoforus da Silva, have not been brought to justice, but as Jolliffe points out, "times and regimes change, and when they do the trial of war criminals who previously enjoyed impunity can suddenly be on the agenda." Until that time, one can only feel immense sympathy for the families of the journalists who died in East Timor, and relief that East Timor, despite all of the odds against it, has attained its independence.

Review by Kathleen Steele

## What's on Sydney

Whether planning your night out, a special day or just looking for something different to do, visit...

[whatsonSydney.com](http://whatsonSydney.com)



...and get your tickets online too!

MOVIES AT MACQUARIE SHINING THE SPOTLIGHT ON RESEARCH

## THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA – PRINCE CASPIAN

SCREENING SUNDAY 20 SEPTEMBER AT 6PM

Join expert Dr Robyn McCallum from Macquarie University's Department of English to discuss what's better; the movie or the book?

▪ **FREE admission – bookings not required**

Movie will be screened at Macquarie Theatre - Macquarie University, North Ryde

▪ Tel (02) 9850 1883 ▪ [www.mq.edu.au/moviesatmacquarie](http://www.mq.edu.au/moviesatmacquarie)

▪ Parking fees apply



MACQUARIE  
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# Film Reviews

## *Inglorious Basterds*

Review by Charles Broad

The latest film from Quentin Tarantino, *Inglourious Basterds* [sic] is something quite different. The movie took me by surprise. Currently, I'm not quite sure what to think of it. The film stirred paradoxical emotions. The film is comparable but not a remake of the 1978 Italian war movie *The Inglorious Bastards* directed by Enzo G. Castellari.

In form the film represents 'Classic Tarantino', involving a couple of different story threads, with characters who meet at various moments in time, as a part of some kind of inner connective universe that they are not even aware of. There is a particular focus on 'The Bastards', a group of Jewish American soldiers led by Lieutenant Aldo Raine (Brad Pitt) who are a guerrilla squad that kills Nazis, as well as Nazi Colonel Hans Landa (Christoph Waltz) and his efforts to capture and kill Jews and Shosanna Dreyfus (Melanie Laurent) who is on the run from the Nazis.

In substance the film is incredibly violent, past the point of gratuitous. Most



films use violence as a source of enjoyment or entertainment value, such sensibility was not applied to this film. Also, the humour used in the film is unknown to me. This isn't a bad thing I just don't know how to react to it. I don't even know what was supposed to be funny. In fact, in the screening I was in, the audience was laughing at the end of a horribly awkward and violent gunfight.

However, as I said earlier the film had a paradoxical effect. The performance by Christoph Waltz as Colonel Hans Landa is remarkable, one of the best this year. He portrays Colonel Landa as a human being, rather than a villain despite the fact he does some truly evil things. He brings us a fully rounded character, a charmer with a sense of humour with a dedication to his job of exterminating Jews. He is truly chilling, constantly making you feel uneasy. It's also refreshing to see Diana Kruger in a role where she actually has something to do unlike the rubbish roles she has taken in some even more rubbish American movies (the *National Treasure* movies). It is also different to see a fire fight shown in a somewhat more realistic fashion. The film may perhaps be an exploitation film in the sense it gives the viewers what they want. However, unlike exploitation films of the past, this one is aware of its status and position and makes you a participant rather than a viewer. This is the closest Tarantino has come to having a moral discussion through a film about the role violence plays in films.

## *Stone Bros.*

Review by Therese Raft

We're not black and white, we're all different shades of green...that's just one of the messages I took away from the very funny *Stone Bros.* Australia's first Aboriginal comedy embraces stereotype, myth and tradition and pretty much sits on them – but in a very light-hearted, good-natured way – before directing you down paths you didn't know exist.

Eddie, the straight guy of the piece is caught between two worlds. He looks pretty white, so not even the dog that hates black kids would chomp on him as a boy, but he wants to go back home to Kalgoorlie in the mining region of WA and prove he's a real black fella. He has a special stone, imbued with mystical properties that he has to take with him, but it's been lost and now Eddie has to find it before it's gone forever. Always along for the ride (and for a major dose of hilarity) is Charlie, who gets all the girls because he's as dark as yummy chocolate (my phrasing).

Stranded on the road is the worldly and wise Vincent, who they pick up because Charlie knows "a good looking woman when he sees one", before coming across another cousin,



# win...

## double pass to see Stone Bros.

Simply email [grapeshotmq@gmail.com](mailto:grapeshotmq@gmail.com) with your name and "Stone Bros. Competition" in the subject line to go in the draw for one of 30 double passes to the special preview of *Stone Bros.* The preview is on 21 September – stars from the movie will be in attendance, and lucky door prizes are up for grabs. Winners will be contacted via email.

Reg – now referred to as Regina – who dreams of stardom. I don't want to give too much away, but the film has some generous moments of laugh-out-loud funniness, great one-liners and weird but wonderful quirks in the plot.

The film is crisp and clean – very Hollywood – and so much better than I was expecting. The play on culture and politics is extremely clever and the cinematography highlights and celebrates the Australian landscape (think *Priscilla*, *Queen of the Desert*).

Shall I watch it again? Yes. And I'll still laugh at all the jokes. They won't get old for a while. In fact, I can see at least one of those one-liners making a drunken appearance or twenty. I wonder if we can do a poll to see if you can all guess which one?

The movie will be released on September 24, and I highly recommend that you all watch it – not for the 'post-sorry' feel good factor, not just because the cast comprises of mainly indigenous people, but because it is genuinely and deadly funny.

# The Environment of Show and Tell

The current state of the environmental movement mirrors that of our current environment. It is rising around the world; causing heat waves of understanding, flash floods of concern, and a drought of inaction. And it is this drought that threatens to frustrate every little hippy out there to the point of calling up the trees from their slumber and laying havoc on the industrial middle-earth...or at least the next Australian Labour Party or G8 meeting...in the name of salvation.

However, I feel that the recent wave of protests and propaganda stunts practiced by our community-centred, yet individually ostracised environmental conscious Gen-Yers has failed to achieve any palpable success either on the political or personal spectrum. Although I am sure that there are now more people than ever discussing climate change over their fair-trade non GM soy mocha chinos at the local farmers markets; I can hardly see my local north-shore neighbours swapping Beamers for Bicycles or soaking up the solar power on the weekends.

But how can this be! If the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reports on climate change\* represent the greatest scientific consensus in history (which means that more scientists believe in human-induced climate change than gravity) and they say that we need to stop carbon-dioxide emissions *now* and switch over to renewable energy systems *quick*, or somewhere in the neighbourhood of about 2 billion people are probably going to die in the next 20-50 years because of climate change related effects (to put it bluntly), then why aren't we doing more?

I mean, we only needed about one or two science-fiction writers in the CIA to tell us about the existence of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq before we decided to invade. And the Taliban could probably only threaten to kill about 10,000 people around the world in the next 50 years; and look how quickly we moved to shift our energy from selling them weapons in the 90's to stealing them back!

\*If attending your next Sunday morning farmer's market or Macro wholefood store, and you haven't read the any books by the IPCC, and feel a bit enviro-culturally out-of-touch, you can probably just watch the movie, *An Inconvenient Truth*, and tell everyone it's not as good as the book!

But still, most meat/internet/car/leaving appliances on stand-by loving people don't feel moved by this tropical cyclone of essential enviro-culture awareness. And that is because right now, most organic/fair-trade/no TV/vegetarian/vegan (who even make the vegetarians feel bad)/dread lock loving, environmental internet hippies do nothing more than make the everyday person feel guilty, by telling you what you should be doing, rather than showing you what they are doing.

“What needs to really change is action on a personal scale.”

Too many people involved in the environmental movement currently promote mass campaigns about what this government isn't doing about fossil fuels, but use up more fossil fuels than the rest of us in their publicity campaigns. It is this element of hypocrisy that runs deep within the core of the environmental movement which now threatens not only its message, but that whole saving the planet thing too.

Take for example Al Gore. He's the politician/self-aggrandising movie star of *An Inconvenient Truth* and poster boy for climate change advocacy who jets around the world telling people to lower their energy, listen to the IPCC reports and tell our governments to switch to renewable energy (and elect him as King of the new sustainable world). All this before he flies his personal jet and relaxes in his SUV convoy back to his massively un-sustainable mansion in the US and munches down on a burger for dinner. (Oh and by the way the UN has issued a report on how the meat industry is responsible

for more greenhouse gas emissions than all global transport combined).

The problem with the current environmental revolution is that even amongst a majority of its believers, it fails to personify the life upon which it preaches. It lacks the passion of past revolutionaries who are willing to simply act on their beliefs and believe that others will follow.

While many young and old environmentalists are willing to sacrifice a Facebook status or switch from a Big Mac to a salad at Maccas; not enough are willing to sacrifice the personal desires of Generation Y for a lifetime struggle to protect the environment. In a society of high-speed emails, mobile phone messages, and movies that can capture the struggles of the great past revolutionaries, Ghandi, Mandela, and Luther King, I fear that many young would-be-climate change-agents fail to understand exactly how hot things can get when you really want to change something.

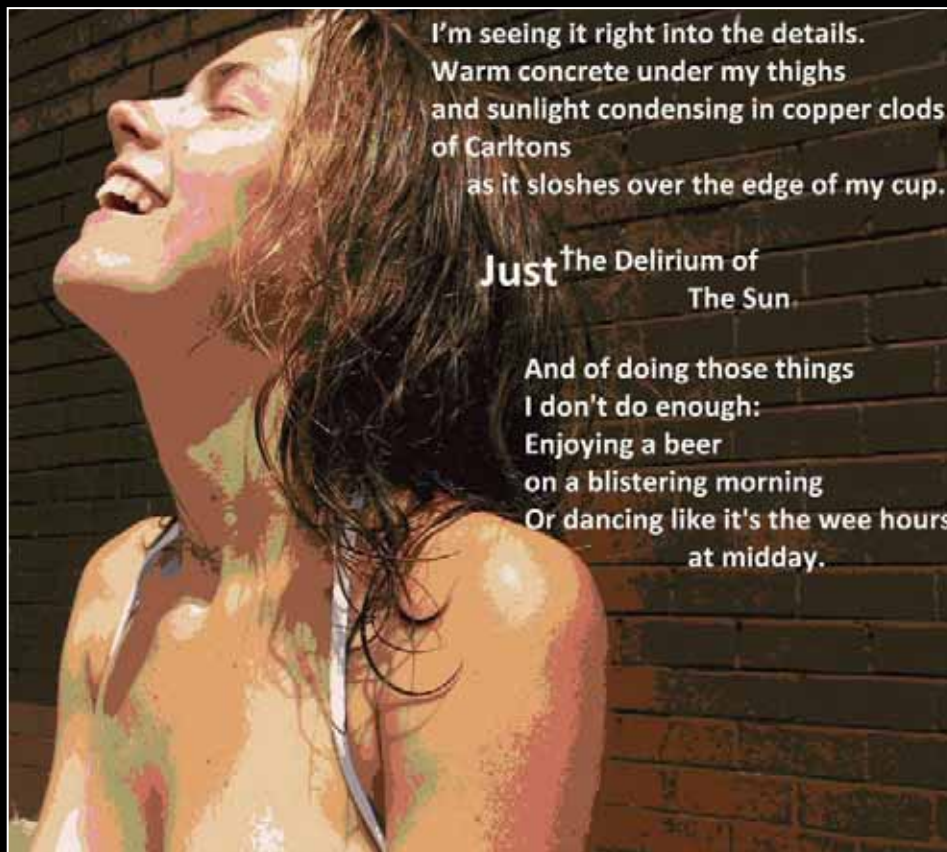
What needs to really change is action on a personal scale. Imagine the power of environmentalists being more sustainable themselves, and inviting others to try. Instead of telling you what you should be doing, simply doing it and involving other people. Having a mass movement of community gardens and solar systems installed on people's share houses. What we need is people going around planting trees in the streets and sidewalks of our suburbs. Simply believing so strongly that they are willing to show it, and show it to everyone willing to see.

The song doesn't go, "if you're happy and you know it, tell them to clap their hands." Just clap, and believe that what you are clapping for is important enough that others will clap with you. And maybe this whole protecting the planet thing will progress naturally, rather than artificially.

Chris Wright



## At Midday



I'm seeing it right into the details.  
Warm concrete under my thighs  
and sunlight condensing in copper clods  
of Carltons  
as it sloshes over the edge of my cup.

**Just** The Delirium of  
The Sun

And of doing those things  
I don't do enough:  
Enjoying a beer  
on a blistering morning  
Or dancing like it's the wee hours  
at midday.

Cleo Mees

# Announcements



## Issue 10: The Naked Truth

The last issue for the year, and here at Grapeshot, we have a longing to see some serious metaphorical skin. It's all about Exposure, so whether you long to confess your darkest secrets, blow the whistle on establishment conspiracy, or just share your bikini readiness with an appreciative audience, put your stylus to the slate and go nuts! You know we want what you have to offer.

If you have any photos from a club event, an overseas exchange experience, or even recent shots from around campus please send them in with "Pictorial Round-up" in the subject line.

Send submissions of 150 words or less to "The Rant & Letters."

Send submissions to [grapeshotmq@gmail.com](mailto:grapeshotmq@gmail.com)  
Deadline Issue 10: Monday 5th of October, 2009

Word Limits:  
Poetry - 30 lines  
Fiction - 800 words.  
Non-fiction/Articles - 800 words  
Artwork - 300dpi - PDF or EPS

No more than 1 x A4 page per submission.  
Photos for pictorial page- send single uncompressed files- saved at maximum quality

All work to be double spaced with page numbers. Only one submission at a time please. Submit electronically either in Word or rtf format.

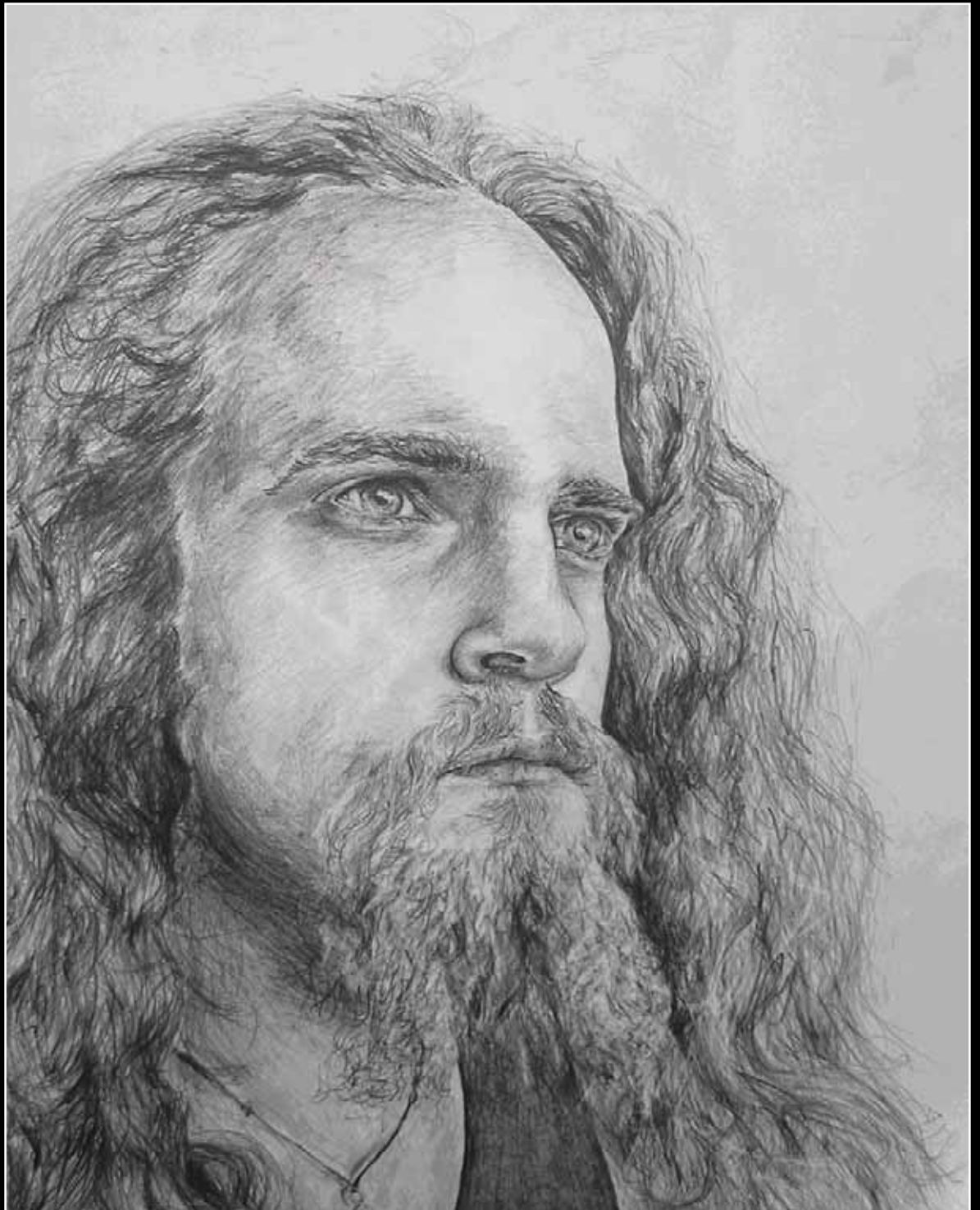
Each submission should have name, contact details, word count and a statement declaring the work is your own on the first page.

If the work has been previously published please list publication and date on cover page.

Correspondence will be via email only.  
Please make sure you read the style guide available at: [uatmq.com.au/getinvolved/publication](http://uatmq.com.au/getinvolved/publication)  
The editorial team will respond to every submission.

PDF Files of past issues can also be found at: [uatmq.com.au/getinvolved/publication](http://uatmq.com.au/getinvolved/publication)

Visit the grapeshot office for print copies!



*Think Interior*  
Julie-Anne Green

# THE GALLERY



*Alice Takes a Seat*  
Natasha Foster



*Oxford St Blues*  
Natasha Foster

# Rose

Her name was Rose. He didn't know much about her, but he knew her name was Rose. The rest he had learnt through his contacts. A call here, an email there, money exchanging hands, and he had learnt this: she was a music teacher at Jessie Hampton School of Performing Arts.

She shared a small townhouse in the suburbs with a nineteen year old waiter. She didn't smoke and she didn't drink, and she rarely left the house. On the rare occasions that she did, she always wore a headscarf and large dark sunglasses. The few photos that he had of her had been taken from a distance (without her knowledge) so they were blurry and unfocused, and that combined with the sunglasses and headscarf made it impossible to tell what she looked like.

He could tell from the photos that she was skinny, even though she wore baggy and faded floral dresses that did nothing for what could have been a good figure. And of course, she was Chinese. She had arrived in Sydney less than a year ago.

---

All he wanted was to look at her. He needed to know what it was about this woman that had made his father—a man who had never cheated in his life, not even in friendly rounds of golf—cheat. It wasn't like his father didn't have the opportunities. Women—even girls—were constantly throwing themselves at him. His father was rich, powerful, and he wasn't bad looking either, for his age. But his father was a man with principles.

He wasn't going to confront this Rose woman, no, that was never the plan. He just needed to look at her. Then he would know what to do.

---

"What are you in for?"  
There's a girl standing in front of him, so close he can smell her lunch. She

is a chubby thing with frizzy brown hair and thick black glasses. Her face is covered in acne scars. She laughs, and her belly fat wobbles.

"Don't look so scared, I won't hurt you. You're the new kid, right?"  
He doesn't respond.

"I can tell the new kids from a mile away, you all look so innocent." She's grinning. He gives her a smile, a big fake smile.

"So..." She raises her eyebrows and wiggles them up and down. They are badly in need of a wax. "What are you in for?"

"It's a joke we have, here at Jessie's," the girl explains, "Everyone that comes here, they're here 'cause their parents can't handle them. Maybe 'cause they're too hyper, or 'cause instead of doing algebra they're painting their bedroom walls, or maybe 'cause they keep running away from home, or maybe they're just too gay." She laughs. "So their parents send them here, hoping they'll get it out of their system, you know what I mean? So we're kind of like a Juvie here...but fun! So that's what I meant by what are you in for."

He opens his mouth to speak, but she doesn't let him.

"Wait...don't say anything...let me guess...I almost always get it right..."  
She closes her eyes and hums to herself.

He's starting to get impatient. He's never liked these "arty" types. Most of them, they might wear hideous clothes and shun conventional beauty in favour of bad dye jobs and DIY haircuts; they might bitch about the pretty girls and call them fake and superficial...but all he has to do is flirt a little and they turn into desperate sluts.

"OMG!" the girl shrieks. His ears hurt.

"You're a musician. But not a guitarist, you're into like the classical stuff. Violin...Am I right? Am I close?"

He opens his mouth into a big fake O.  
"How did you know?"

She giggles. "I'm psychic, I've got like a 99.9% accuracy."

"That's really cool," he says, leaning his head to the side and shielding his face from the sunlight to look directly into her eyes. She blushes under his gaze.

"Well the truth is," she says, "It's the mark on your neck that gave it away. I'm not really psychic...I wish! I'm not a violinist, I'm an actor, but when I first came here I noticed that all the kids who play the violin had a bruise on their neck and so I'm like, I asked them, why do you ALL have hickeys? Do you all give each other hickeys so you can look like you're getting action? And they're like no silly, it's from the violin. I mean, don't you think it's funny? Like, from a non-violinist's perspective? Like, imagine if you didn't know that it was because of the violin, and you saw a bunch of them walking down the street, you would think that they had all just come from an orgy!"

She shrieks with excitement, she's huffing and puffing, out of breath from just talking. She looks up at him, and her smile fades. "You think I'm lame," she says.

He places his hand lightly on her arm. "I think you're hilarious," he says. "But I'm actually looking for Rose, I think that she's a teacher here? Do you think that you could help me find her?"

The girl, still out of breath, looks up at him and grins, a big dopey grin.

*To be continued...*

Salem Kim



## Sacred Caffeine

As a student at Macquarie, I came to the campus looking for knowledge. However, I was surprised when I also found consideration for not only the students but farmers in far off countries. I'm talking, of course, about the Fair Trade coffee sold all over campus. For those who don't know, Fair Trade coffee and chocolate insists on a decent wage for the farms and pickers in countries where the produce is grown. The idea is "an honest day's work for an honest day's pay". It is no different in quality, and is often organic which eliminates chemical pesticides.

You may remember the Free Trade Fair on campus in May. Coffee, chocolate, clothes and even calendars were traded at the fair and the chocolate was exceptionally tasty and a decent price; certainly affordable in the greater scheme of things. Hopefully this event will be repeated next year and the chocolate will make a permanent appearance in the shops on campus.

I personally love the fact that Macquarie is supporting not only its students but those working overseas and hope they keep it up. We're all part of one world, after all.

Well done Macquarie!

Alanna Beeby

# STEW

## Conception Day Do's and Don'ts

### DO Drink plenty of water

Now don't think I'm being a party pooper and encouraging complete sobriety on this glorious day. It would be hypocritical of me to tell you to do something that I myself wouldn't do... However I will be drinking lots of water because alcohol dehydrates you, the sun dehydrates you and water will also help alleviate some of that pesky hangover many of us will have the day after Conception. Don't just go up and get a plastic cup (as if they'll be serving us glass) of water every now and then; get yourself a plastic bottle to tote around and refill at regular intervals.

### DON'T Leave your belongings alone

This may be a no-brainer, but a little bit of alcohol, music and sunshine can make the commonsense go flying straight out of your head. If you bring a bag with you to Conception Day, then make sure it goes everywhere with you otherwise your wallet and new iPhone might decide to party without you. If you don't think you can be trusted to look after your own stuff, then don't take it. Just take your ID, some cash and whatever other necessities will fit into your pockets and head on out to party in the knowledge that your goodies are safe at home.

### DON'T Overindulge

There is always one wanker or wankette who is so completely drunk that they ruin the fun for everyone else. Make sure that person isn't you. Rolling down a grassy slope so fast you lose your pants is well and good, but passing out and cracking your head on a toilet bowl is not. Drink in moderation and don't tell yourself that you just have to try every cocktail, liqueur, spirit and beer on offer. Your friends and your aching head certainly won't thank you for the experience. Don't roll your eyes at me like that... Oh, what? What's that? Is that your wankage showing? Put it away.

### DO Take lots of pictures

If you're anything like me, you won't remember everything you do or everyone you meet on Conception Day because you're running around like crazy chocolate eating Chihuahua, so take a camera. Strike a pose. Take a picture with a stranger. Take a picture of a stacks on with the smallest guy of your group on the bottom. Hey, how do I know what shenanigans you're going to get up to? I'm just saying you should document it in digital imagery. However, be kind when posting on Facebook – if your friend un-tags a picture of themself with squinty eyes, open walrus mouth and some strange hand creeping towards their nether regions, leave it un-tagged.

### DO Have fun

Seriously, what's the point of a day long party with 10,000 of your best friends if you're not going to enjoy yourself? Live music, DJs, rides, food and friends; our little festival is the highlight of the academic year and has made it onto Sydney's festival calendar as well – which of course means that there will be non-Mac students basking in our gluttonous glory. But who can blame them? We have a kick ass party in store for 2009 which just happens to be the 40th Anniversary of the very first Conception Day. So to everyone making an appearance at our hallowed event, behave responsibly and have heaps of fun! The Grapeshot Team will see you there!



# Life's A Beach

It's a job like any other job. There is a uniform, a set task for you to perform on every shift and a professional image that you must project to the customer. In my case the customer is the true blue Aussie who enjoys spending time at the beach and likes to feel that when they do they are protected. This is what Lifesavers are there for, but don't get us confused with Lifeguards because they get paid and are usually the lonely ones sitting in the towers by themselves. Lifesavers are the red and yellow balls huddled underneath the red Coca-Cola tent in the sleeting rain watching out for the small number of suicidal surfers that have decided the 3m waves are irresistible!

But to be honest, I could not picture myself anywhere else. Two months of weekly training, learning CPR, basic first aid, hellish runs along Longreef Beach and terrifying board paddles out through the break were all worth it. Seriously! This will be my fourth season down at Longreef SLSC and it has been exciting and so much fun. How can sitting on a beach for four hours in the rain be fun you say? One word... PIZZA! Not to mention it's a great way to catch up on all the gossip.

Still doesn't sound like your cup of tea? Well what about when it's 30 degrees and sunny and your mum won't let you go to the beach because you have that assignment to finish... patrol is a great excuse! What mum could say no to their kid volunteering? Even if it is not my rostered day on patrol I love to head down to the beach for a few hours to help out where ever I can and there is always a familiar face.

From bushfires to bluebottle stings, there is no guessing what a patrol day will bring. Thankfully we have not had to rescue anyone as yet but there have been lost children that can't swim, surfers with huge cuts from the fins on their boards and... \*gulp\*... shark sightings! But that just makes being a lifesaver all the more exciting and rewarding, you can't describe the feeling of reuniting a mum with her lost child (without getting too cheesy). And when it is quiet down at Longreef

we listen to the radio, whether it's tracking the movement of a white pointer heading in the direction of Longreef or the rescue attempts on a hang-glider that has crashed into the side of a cliff at Monavale.

Then there are the parties for beginning of summer, start of season, Australia Day, Annual dinner awards ceremony and of course the end of season - all of which end up with us being kicked out of the gym at 7am the next day. There is also the competition side of surf life saving! Surf boats, flags (chopped up pieces of hose you have to race for), beach sprints, IRB racing (red rubber duckies) and the combination run swim run! So there is no shortage of things to do apart just lying on the beach tanning... well there's that too. It is a great way to meet new people and have fun whilst getting a great new entry for your resume.

So you could do the regular 'Red Shield Appeal' like everyone else or you could volunteer one day a weekend twice a month down at the beach in the sun? What would you prefer?

Annabel Matthews



# Horoscopes

By Cleo Mees

**Libra:** With the uni games coming up, everybody's talking sports. Don't let it cramp your style.

**Aquarius:** Communication has always been a painstaking process for you, but Mercury advises: *the shorter your orbit, the hotter your style*. Five minutes per e-mail. Max.

**Cancer:** Sports is in the air, but teenagers are consuming so much fast food that their intake accounts for one third of the population. Seriously! Let's hope you're not a teenager.

**Sagittarius:** When you see a space, don't be a spaceman. The carpark is not a place for second chances this year.

**Gemini:** *Mostly fine, 19-25 degrees*. The antidote to your bad hair days this month will be lots of time spent outside. Let the post-winter glow take all your troubles away.

**Capricorn:** Audio books are really hot in Europe. Get one.

**Pisces:** The clogged Medium lane is your weekly frustration. (Why does everybody think they are a medium-speed swimmer?) No changes in sight this month.

**Aries:** If you thought exercise wasn't made for academics like yourself, think again – *the Mind Body Spirit* cohort says physical exertion is particularly relieving for "compulsive thinkers".

**Scorpio:** Mars wants you to "remember your body" this month... and one way we remember our bodies is by experiencing pain. Got wisdom teeth? Get 'em pulled early.

**Virgo:** So, you've got a mad crush on Hermione (the book version) and you're desperately trying to get over it. Relax. Everyone's been in love with a fictional character before.

**Leo:** If you're more of a dog person than a cat person then so be it. Don't let other Leos talk you into preferencing your own breed.

**Taurus:** You've always wanted this extra time to yourself, but now you're wondering whether it's making you a loner. Take heart: Pluto's on the outskirts too, and doesn't he have the best view of them all?

# Conception Day

EST 1969

40th anniversary



**4 DAYS TO GO!**  
**WOLF MOTHER**

**Supported by Blue Juice, Yves Klein Blue and Jack Ladder**

**5 massive stages**

**Live music, bands, DJs, food and rides**

**Other stages include artists from Future Entertainment and Sublime!**



**11am – 8pm, 18 September 2009**  
**[www.uatmq.com.au/conceptionday](http://www.uatmq.com.au/conceptionday)**

**Tickets on sale until Thursday 17 September or until sold out!**

**U@MQ Spot (C10A): 9am – 4pm weekdays**

**U@MQ Admin Office Reception Desk (C10A): 9am – 4pm weekdays**

**Macquarie University Sport & Aquatic Centre: 8am – 8pm weekdays**

**UBar: 4pm – Close of Business weekdays**

**Tickets available for Macquarie University, SIBT, MGSM, CME, ICMS Students, Staff and their guests (limit to 2 guests per student – limited tickets available)**

**Presold tickets only, no ticket = no entry, over 18 event**

**Tickets sold on a first come, first serve basis, booking fee applies for all tickets**

**Conception Day  
is a responsible  
service of alcohol  
event**

**No alcohol consumption is permitted on any part of the Macquarie University campus on Conception Day other than within the event site.**

**For more information visit [www.uatmq.com.au/conceptionday](http://www.uatmq.com.au/conceptionday)**



macquarie university village

