ParkvileStation. YOUR WEEKLY INDEPENDENT CAMPUS NEWSPAPER

Ed. 19, 2016

parkvillestation.com

Week 6, semester 2

SOUNDTRACKS	GO TO LECTURES	INTERVIEW	PROSH WEEK	VOXPOPS	PUZZLES	froo
Felicity Ford, PhD candidate, tells us why smaller films often don't have soundtracks.	Dr Mark Quigley tells you why, in this day and age, going to lectures is so important.	Two of the Returning Officers for this year's UMSU elections told us about what 'returning officer' even means.	Super excited about it? Never heard of it? Either way, check out our play by play of what the week will involve!	Other than classes, what are Unimelb students getting out of uni?	The usual: the weekly quiz and the nine letter word. (We think we remembered to update them.)	free just grab
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NATIONAL SURVEY ON SEXUAL ASSAULT AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT LAUNCHED.

Last week, the Australian Human Rights Commission (HRC) and Universities Australia announced the launch of a national survey that will probe the prevalence of sexual assault and sexual harassment on Australian university campuses.

The survey is the first of its kind conducted with the support of Australia's 39 universities, and will attempt to measure both the prevalence of sexual assault and harassment on Australian university campuses, as well as provide a gauge of institutional response and how effective that response is.

The survey is being run as part of the Re-

Universities Australia, which aims to prevent sexual assault and harassment on university campuses.

Universities have been criticised in the past for treating sexual assault and sexual harassment on campuses as a public relations problem, rather than a criminal issue.

At an event held last Thursday at the University of Melbourne to help launch the project, Monash Student Association (MSA) Women's Officer Melanie Loudovaris mourned the fact that as soon as an incident occurred "literally across the road from a campus", universities would wash their hands of it.

The errort headlined by Car Discrimina

tion Commissioner Kate Jenkins, gave interested students and student representatives from universities across Melbourne the opportunity to discuss and disseminate what they thought were important issues surrounding sexual harassment on university campuses and among university students.

Loudovaris expressed the importance of this distinction, saying that placing the importance only on campuses negated the necessity for looking after students in spaces where they actually congregate - including at off-campus events and, importantly, online.

Behaviour of and to students in online com-

New clubs.

As reported in last week's Parkville Station, the University of Melbourne Student Union (UMSU) Clubs & Societies (C&S) Committee have approved nine of 26 applicant groups to begin the affiliation process. (We reported last week there were 23, rather than 26, applications — our mistake).

The list of groups approved to move forward in the process is:

- Active Youth Aged Care Support
- Big Data Analysis
- Cheese Club





Open Day 2016 avoids the rain. (Not really.)

BERNADETTE KOH



With a forecast wet and windy day ahead, visitors still came from far and wide to reach Melbourne University for Open Day on Sunday. Volunteers were clad in waterproof ponchos and blue and grey hoodies dawdled along Monash Rd and South Lawn handing out maps, jellybeans and various other blue and white freebies. (In the past the University has supplied stark white-on-blue bomber jackets, but perhaps the hoodies proved more appropriate in the inclement weather.)

The wet weather was not enough to keep the crowds at bay, as masses of prospective students donned white canvas Uni Melb bags with brochures and optimism for the future. The atmosphere was teaming with activity; live bands played upon South Lawn, robots were exhibited in the Engineering School, food tents attracted extensive lines, volcanoes erupted in Macfarland Court and Shakespeare performed at Arts West. With the activity not ending there, shuttlebuses ran back and forth between Parkville and Southbank campuses, moving the mass of international and domestic students excitedly joining the experience and life of Melbourne.

University of Melbourne Vice Chancellor Glyn Davis commended staff and student volunteers in an all-staff email. Davis cited "interest in graduate degrees along with the traditional focus on those soon leaving school" as a "distinctive" feature of Melbourne's Open Day compared to those of other Victorian universities.

With a #uomopenday hashtag circulating, social media coverage took upon the act of spreading fomo amongst people who were not at open day, including sharing the unveiling of a 2,000-year-old mummy through 3D printing and forensic sculpture.

Whilst the wet weather was not in our favour this year, much to our dismay, Monash Open Day (held 2 weeks prior) contrasted with Melbourne's weather, seeing sunny blue skies.

Families, students, parents and friends far and wide were able to come together and experience the culture and tradition of Melbourne, with many citing it an unforgettable experience and great day to making a big decision in respects to their future.

Q&A

Soundtracks in films.

During semester 2, Parkville Station will take questions asked by reader (that's you), and find you an answer. Ask a question by:

- emailing questions@parkvillestation.com
 - or texting 0402 084 468.

Pete asks:

I just watched a bunch of films at MIFF and one theme common to a lot of the films was the lack of a background soundtrack for the smaller films. Is that a budget thing or an aesthetic thing?

We asked Felicity Ford, sessional tutor and PhD

candidate in Screen and Cultural Studies, for advice: Firstly, it's great to hear that you attended so many films at MIFF! It's a fantastic festival but with so many excellent films on offer it's sometimes hard to fit them all in.

In response to your question, the absence of a soundtrack may be a budget restriction, an aesthetic choice, both, or neither. If a filmmaker would like to include music in their film, they would usually first need to contact the rights owners. This may be the artist, composer or a music label. If the filmmaker is unable to negotiate an affordable agreement with the rights owner, it's possible that they would then need to pay expensive licensing fees in order to use the song and may decide against it due to budgeting restrictions. However, there is a considerable amount of music available on open-access libraries and catalogues that could be used. Similarly,

if the artist or band is relatively unknown, they may offer their music for free in exchange for exposure to a broader audience.

While you may not hear any songs, the film is likely to have a complex and layered soundscape that has been constructed by the filmmaker, the sound designer, the sound editor, the re-recording mixer, and/or the foley artist. Music can sometimes be a distracting presence and the filmmaker may prefer a more simplistic soundscape that returns the focus to other aspects of the film such as the narrative, the dialogue, the character's gestures, or the visual field. There is a growing trend towards 'slow cinema' and aspects of this movement are sometimes evoked in the aural register through long silences, minimal soundscapes, and a notable lack of diegetic and non-diegetic music.

ScoMo's 'pub test'

Washup from last week's election coverage.

Last week's paper had a fair portion of it devoted to covering the University of Melbourne Student Union (UMSU) annual student elections. You'll notice such coverage is a bit less heavy in this week's edition, but unfortunately you can't escape it entirely, and there are a few follow-ups to what we printed last week.

First, and most embarrassing for us, was leaving off the More Beer ticket on our rundown of tickets on page six. This was entirely our fault (although it was unintentional) and we apologise to the ticket. What we wrote, and intended to include, was:

MORE BEER

More Beer didn't respond to our request for comment.

The ticket is much smaller this year, contesting just Students' Council and Activities Committee; unlike last year's much wider-ranging (if not terribly successful) attempt.

The second issue concerns who's backing whom. The question of how student political tickets relate to their federal and state counterparts (and how they relate to particular factions within the Labor party) is a hotly contested piece of the political landscape, and we did our best to identify each ticket with its accepted political tendency, while remaining within the bounds of what we could easily substantiate, and without getting into contentious and intricate details of factions and sub-factions.

The ticket to which we feel, on balance, we didn't give quite enough attention was More!. In our previous article, we described More! as the outgrowth of the previous More Activities! ticket - a description we stand behind. However, the More! ticket this year also includes a number of candidates from the Labor Club, which is generally seen to be associated with the Labor Right faction. While More! told us that they had "a process in which anyone could apply", the decisions on the ticket's eventual candidates were the result of two processes: one run by More Activities!, and one run by the Labor Club.

You can also find the responses to the questions we put to tickets on our website: http:// parkvillestation.com/2016/08/umsu-elections-2016-ticket-responses

Standard election disclaimer: Parkville Station does not endorse any particular candidate or ticket. Editor Patrick Clearwater was a candidate in three UMSU elections on the More Activities! ticket.

Federal Treasurer Scott Morrison suggested last Monday that projects to be funded by the Australian Research Council (ARC) should have to pass the 'pub test' - that is, that their importance would be understood and appreciated by the average Joe at the pub.

The comment was made while Morrison was being interviewed on Sydney Radio station 2GB. In response to a question posed by a caller, Morrison said that "We expect [the ARC] to take into account public support for these types of activities."

The Daily Telegraph article that sparked the discussion noted two UniMelb research projects that it classified as 'absurd' - ones that they decreed would not pass the 'pub test'. These were: a study of the post-WWII evolution of the Australian university campus, and a study of the impact of feminism on contemporary Australian art.

The ARC will spend upwards of \$700m on grants this year.

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NOTES

Parkville Station is published by Liz Peak and Patrick Clearwater (ABN 526 717 501 61). Patrick Clearwater is a member of the GSA Council; and was previously a candidate for More Activities! in student elections.

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Our website is: parkvillestation.com

CONTRIBUTE

We're always looking for new contributors. Letters to the editor can be sent to letters@

parkvillestation.com or texted to 0402 084 468.

Sexual assault on campus survey.

continued from page 1

the nature of these issues and university respons-

es to these incidents will enhance not just Mel-

bourne's effectiveness in dealing with these but

that of the sector, and will continue to build on

the longstanding work by universities to prevent

Hall (one of the halls of residence on College Crescent) told Parkville Station that the survey

"is incredibly important, and timely" to develop

a "baseline survey drawn from every Australian

University", describing the "sense of common

cause between the University, Colleges, and Stu-

accommodation at the University also represent

a particularly challenging environment in which

to address issues of sexual assault and harass-

ment.

Colleges and other on-campus residential

dent Union" as "exceptional".

Damian Powell, Principal of Janet Clarke

and address sexual assault and harassment".

to the President of the National Union of Students (NUS), Sinéad Colee. Colee commented at the event on the lack of legislation surrounding online activity and harassment, condemning the lack of progress in an area where bullying is rife.

In introducing the survey, Jenkins noted that it was an attempt to address a very large issue, acknowledging that the Commission "can't solve everything, so [they] need to find the most effective settings for change". The national survey on sexual assault and sexual harassment of university students has been determined to be one of those settings.

The survey is important, Jenkins commented, because "despite a view that generational change will sort this out...some of the most dangerous attitudes towards gender equality are found in the 12-24 year old bracket".

University of Melbourne Student Union (UMSU) Women's Officer Adriana Mells spoke at the same event, and indicated that a large part of the problem was "a lack of information about support services, consent, and appropriate behaviour" at the university. She recommended the introduction of welfare training "when you begin uni, alongside things like 'how to write an essay".

Jenkins assured par-

ticipants that her jurisdiction covered not only occurrences of sexual harassment and assault but also of the amenities provided by universities, how well these are advertised, and how aware students were of the services available to them.

While the survey is principally funded by the participating universities, they are only in control at "arms length", according to Jenkins. The survey is being run on the ground by the Australian Human Rights Commission, a government body responsible for "the promotion and protection of human rights in Australia".

The survey consists of two parts: one is a quantitative survey, for which a random sample of students at each participating university will be selected and asked to complete the survey; and the second is a qualitative component, open to anyone to submit their experiences or ideas as free text.

The University of Melbourne has "welcomed" the survey, with Vice Chancellor Glyn Davis quoted in the University's media release saying "A clearer picture of the prevalence and

"Some of the most dangerous attitudes towards gender equality are found in the 12-24 year old bracket" – Kate Jenkins, Sex Discrimination Commissioner

are living away from home for the first time" and that contributed to "a very poor understanding of consent", stressing the importance of "mutually

Powell said "[e]very-

one lives together in very

close quarters, and for

most people they

enthusiastic consent". While the "groundbreaking" survey is "the first [...] of its kind to be undertaken in Australia", the National Union of

Students has run the Talk About It survey, most recently in 2015, which was intended "to gather information about the experiences of women university students in Australia", looking at "accommodation, safety, services, sexual assault, harassment and economic difficulties that women enrolled in tertiary education institutions face".

The Talk About It survey found 73% of respondents had "experienced some form of sexual harassment or unwelcome sexual behaviour" at University, and 27% of respondents had "experienced some form of sexual assault". Although the sample for that survey was self-selected, which reduces the statistical representativeness of the sample, Talk About It has helped propel the issue into national attention, and helped pushed universities into action.

Members of the University community facing sexual assault or sexual harassment can contact the Safer Communities programme (03 9035 8675) or 1800 RESPECT (1800 737 732), the national sexual assault counselling service.

C&S Committee approves nine applicant groups to begin affiliation process.

continued from page 1.

- Chinese History and Garment club International Youth and Students for
- International Youth and Str Social Equality
 Iranian Society
- Spirit, Liquor and Cocktail Appreciation club
- Startup Melbourne Uni

basis that the C&S Committee could not "transact the affiliation [...] on a good faith basis".

The last rejection came after IYSSE published an article on its website describing the first two rejections as "an attack on the democratic rights of the entire student body" and part of "a broader onslaught on fundamental civil and political liberties being prosecuted by Labor, the Liberals, and the entire Australian political establishment", and that C&S Committee's 2015 decision was "more befitting of a police state than a university student union committee". However, this time around the C&S Committee seems to have given them the benefit of the doubt, and we'll watch the situation closely.

tion; we'll report on the outcomes of those applications as the Committee works its way through them.

Finally, the C&S Committee rejected a number of applications. These were:

- Catholic Society
- Change Makers
- Chinese eSports club

Clubs Carnival avoids the rain.

ADVERTISEMENT

Elections Next Week!

UMSU elections are happening next week. All students can vote! Polls will be open at the times and places set out below. **Students** who aren't on campus much during the day should note the availability of evening polling on Tuesday 6 September.

For candidates' policy statements and other information, see umsu.unimelb.edu.au/elections

	Monday 5 Sep.	Tuesday 6 Sep.	Wednes- day 7 Sep.	Thursday 8 Sep.	Friday 9 Sep.
Union House (The Lounge, formerly North Din- ing Room)	10.00am — 5.00pm	10.00am — 6.30pm	10.00am — 5.00pm	10.00am — 5.00pm	10.00am — 5.00pm
Baillieu Li- brary Foyer	10.30am — 4.30pm	10.30am — 6.15pm	10.30am — 4.30pm	10.30am — 4.30pm	10.30am — 4.30pm
Southern Precinct FBE Bldg	11.00am — 3.00pm	12.00pm — 5.00pm	11.00am — 3.00pm	11.00am — 3.00pm	11.00am — 3.00pm
VCA Southbank (Cafeteria)		11.00am — 3.00pm	11.00am — 3.00pm	11.00am — 3.00pm	
Burnley (Cafeteria)			11.00am — 2.00pm	12.00pm — 3.00pm	

Those who are unable to attend a polling place may apply for a postal vote. Applications close at 5pm on Wednesday, 31 August. Please call 8344 2438 or email ReturningOfficer@union.unimelb.edu.au for details.

> Charles Richardson Above Quota Elections Pty Ltd Returning Officer

WRITE FOR US. PITCH@PARKVILLESTATION.COM



• Wax Club (conditional on changing their name to include reference to vinyl records, which we understand to be the focus of the club)

The groups on this list have not yet been granted status as affiliated clubs: they're at the start of a semester-long process that will require them to write a constitution and hold an inaugural general meeting, elect their committee and finally be granted affiliation by the C&S Committee.

A perennial application on the list is International Youth and Students for Social Equality (IYSSE), who have finally had their application approved on their fourth attempt. In previous rounds, the group was twice rejected on the basis that their aims were too similar to the aims of other groups on campus, and then once on the Moving on, the Committee deferred consideration of the following groups:

- Biomedical Students' Orchestra
- Chinese Campus Fellowship
- The Garage Band Initiative
- House of Art
- International Drawing
- Teowchu club
- VCA Film Society

The usual reason for deferral was to ask the applicant group some question about its applica-

- Dream Makers
- Fusion Dance
- Heart2
- HOSTS (Helping Overseas Students to Succeed)
- Orangutan and Tiger Crisis Foundation
- The Research Initiative
- Undergraduate Scholars' Society

The most common reasons for rejection were overlap with an existing affiliated club, or department of the University; although Heart2, which intended to offer students dating opportunities, were knocked back because the Union's insurance would not cover their regular events. As usual, we'll do our best to keep you in the loop about what's happening as these groups move through the affiliation process.



Last Thursday saw South Lawn buzzing with the Clubs Carnival, an exposition of 46 of the 200+ clubs affiliated to the University of Melbourne Student Union. The Science Students' Society (SSS) provided a BBQ in conjunction with the carnival to keep everyone fed.

A spokesperson for the Science Students' Society described the event to Parkville Station as a "great event" with a "massive turnout from first years".

UMSU C&S Officebearer Yasmine Luu told us the event "was the biggest clubs carnival we've ever run since the event started", describing turnout as "amazing". She said the 3D ring toss, run by the Biomedical Engineering Society, was a particular highlight for her. 4

COMMENTARY.

Go to your bloody lectures.

DR MARK QUIGLEY



Dear students,

I'll let you in on a secret. This secret will increase your chances of being successful in this increasingly competitive modern world. Knowing this secret might even have a profound impact on your career trajectory for the rest of your life.

When you graduate from Melbourne University and seek employment, it is mostly people like me that you will have to impress in an interview. When I mean 'people-like-me', I mean the 'type-A' 30- to 50-somethings of the world.

In talking with a large number of my friends and colleagues in leadership positions, across a variety of disciplines, from both genders, and from around the world, there are a few things that we converge upon when considering the attributes that set interviewees apart.

What will distinguish you is unlikely to be your intellect, resourcefulness, ability with technology, your institution, or even your grades. Of course these things matter. But it is increasingly hard to today's world to be unique in these aspects. There are plenty of smart, resourceful, technologically savvy graduates from strong institutions with great grades out there.

Here is the secret.

What will set you apart is your ability to connect with and impress your interviewer. The way humans most typically do this is through verbal communication. Being a good communicator depends upon your ability to strongly, convincingly, charismatically and succinctly represent yourself in an interview. This requires both excellent verbal representation of yourself and the ability to listen respectfully and intently.

Guess what? My colleagues constantly grumble about the poor quality of verbal communication skills of today's graduates. A typical comment is that there is an overt lack of enthusiasm for possessing the little things that make the big differences in communication. These include professional appearance, making eye contact, initiating conversation, and engaging in the listening and discussion process. So possessing these skills as a graduate gives you a competitive edge.

Effective communication and engagement can be learned and continuously improved upon as part of your daily practise at the University of Melbourne. And in today's increasingly multidisciplinary, risky, and competitive world, acquiring these skills is also paramount to your success well beyond the job interview stage. Showing up to lecture is an integral part of building this skillset.

Poor student attendance in the lecture theatre

I recently sat quietly in my second year class to watch an engaging guest lecture by a promising young bushfire researcher. When the lecture began at 9:05am, only 40 of the 142 enrolled students were present. Another 15 students dribbled in over the next 30 minutes of the lecture. Some shuffled in wearing earphones, some walked directly in front of the Lecturer as she spoke. Less than half of the enrolled students bothered to turn up at all.

We had surveyed the entire class earlier this year and almost 70% of students thought bushfires were the most dangerous natural hazard Melbourne faced. So there was student interest, and a practical and local motivation for understanding this hazard. Student attendance was almost 100% for the first two lectures of the course, so timetable aspects do not explain the low attendance.

We know that students that come to lectures generally achieve higher grades in the course, which suggests that they learn more than absentees. We also know that the majority of students that access LMS to view the lecture material each week are the same students that turn up for lectures, not the students that don't attend. The latter generally try to cram the LMS material in at the end of the course. This approach does not appear to bode well for the success of the students in the course.

When we tell students this it does not seem to make much difference to attendance levels. Neither do promises that exam material will be specifically shared with those who attend class. In one of my classes (a class that is not recorded by Lecture Capture) we write the exam questions together during lecture. Class attendance is still around 50%. Some Lecturers have resorted to handling out lollies in order to improve lecture attendance. Others have taken the harsher approaches of lecture 'lock-outs' for those arriving more than 5 minutes late, or assigning marks for attendance.

In my classes I make my expectations crystal clear to students in the first lecture of the class. We expect you to turn up to class every week, on time, and with a willingness to engage in the learning process. In exchange, we'll do our best to foster a safe, intellectually stimulating, and inspiring environment that is aimed at giving you the best possible education and skills to be future leaders. We'll give you the opportunities to do things that you cannot do over the LMS, like ask questions to us, face-to-face, and engage in conversations of course material with us and your fellow classmates. But this doesn't seem to have influenced our attendance problem.

We know that the vast majority of latecomers and absentees do not possess legitimate excuses for their absence. I appreciate that everyone misses the odd class, either for legitimate reasons or not, but the vast majority of absences are not for legitimate reasons. Perhaps we have a diverse viewpoint on what constitutes a 'legitimate' excuse. Here are some common absentee explanations that I do not view to be legitimate: missing a lecture because you're hung over or tired, or for work, or because you have to finish an assignment for another class, or because there was traffic, or you have a long commute. These are real life adult problems and thus they require real life adult solutions. Your lecturers and virtually everyone else in the world similarly has to balance their time and priorities.

The lecture absentee problem transcends all disciplines throughout the university, across the state, and possibly even across the country. It does not appear to correlate with the quality or style of teaching. Too many students just simply are not turning up to class. I wonder: is this something my generation will perpetually grumble about to our successors? Do all of my fellow colleagues at the university care? And is it a global problem?

I have given undergraduate lectures at universities across the world, including Canada, America, New Zealand, Germany and Italy. And in my experience, a higher percentage of the enrolled students attended these lectures than they do in Australia. This also seems to some extent borne out by my brief literature survey on lecture attendance in other countries. My hypothesis is that there is a domestic element to this problem. And in today's multicultural world, we best address it, fast.

Improving social skills in the lecture theatre: some advice

Whether you want to work at Google, a law firm, or McDonald's, you need to turn up to work on time and ready to work. You need to be respectful to your colleagues and committed to working hard and efficiently. You need to listen to instructions and follow them. So why should university lectures be any different?

Here is my advice. Treat your lectures like a professional opportunity. Get there on time, every time, with a desire to succeed and willingness to engage. Try to say hello to your Lecturer. Try to ask a question in class when you don't understand something, rather than letting the opportunity pass or asking via email. Try to make eye contact with the Lecturer to show them you are listening. Get off the phone and interact with the learning process. You never know; your lecturer might have a key contact with industry or be able to write you a letter of reference after the course that might help you on way to a successful career.

As one of the world's best universities, we aim to produce some of the world's best graduates. Our collective success depends in part upon your abilities to succeed and do wonderful things in the world once you graduate. So in your interest and in ours, start turning up to class with a professional attitude. Start building the life and leadership skills now. You can thank me for it after your first interview.

Mark Quigley is an Associate Professor in the School of Earth Sciences at the University of Melbourne. He has taught 1000s of university students in Australia, New Zealand and the United States of America since 2000. He has written more than 100 letters of reference for undergraduates, many of whom are now gainfully employed in the geoscience, geotechnical engineering, and mining industries.

Uncomfortable Uncle.

Dear Uncomfortable Uncle

My high school girlfriend of four years broke up with me over the winter break and ever since I've been on a downward spiral towards despair. How can I bounce back from this – stat? Regards, CHEM10001

Dear CHEM10001,

To be honest I'm surprised that this didn't happen sooner. Let's be real here, she found someone else. While she's been meeting bearded poetrywriting, fixie-riding hipsters in her English classes you've been dressing in band t-shirts and cargo shorts each day and telling everyone that doesn't ask what ATAR you got. I'm sorry to say that getting 'totally trashed' off Vodka Cruisers on a uni camp doesn't make you cool.

Never fear, Uncomfortable Uncle is here to resolve your dating woes. Firstly, get a haircut (and some acne medicine if you can). Then start hitting up the uni party circuit. Unfortunately you've just missed Comm Ball so you'll have to wait another year to pick up a loaded but ultimately soulless banker, but slumming it at Biomed's booze cruise is a good way to pick up on social cues until.

If all else fails join some clubs, like the Woofers Appreciation Guide to grab some posed-withpuppy-pics for your Tinder profile, or the people that play Magic! The Gathering on the second floor of Union House. If anyone's crying out for a date, it's those guys.

Dear UU,

I've been hearing a lot about these student elections coming up. What's the deal? Who do I vote for? Does it really matter?

Love,

Less is More?

Dear LiM?

Here's the best piece of advice you'll receive at uni: avoid student elections like the plague. First it's just politely avoiding eye contact with pamphlet pushing Arts students who've been at uni for 6 years without graduating – and then next thing you know you're attending meetings about "affirmative action" and dating a guy who actually did his work experience placement in year 10 at his local Labor member's office, brings

petitions to hand out at first year politics lectures after spieling about negative gearing for 10 minutes, and has knifed more of his mates in the back than Kevin07.

Only nerds vote in student elections, and every time I see a nerd on campus I go out of my way to beat them up.

All this being said it is my responsibility to tell you that student elections do actually matter – your elected reps can do a lot of good for you and your peers who face a hard time against a cold and occasionally uncaring uni system. And you want to make sure that your SSAF goes towards accessible student activities rather than hacky major party wannabe self-indulgences. (But seriously, nerds) UU

THE RETURNING **OFFICERS**.

Parkville Station (PS): You're the "Returning Officers" for this year's University of Melbourne Student Union (UMSU) election. What does that mean?

Charles Richardson (CR): A returning officer is simply the person in charge of an election. We're responsible for running the whole election, which means taking nominations, producing ballot papers, engaging staff to run polling places, authorising material, supervising campaigning conduct, the whole works, and then counting it all and declaring results.

PS: Where does the term come from?

Stephen Luntz (SL): It's "return" of the writs, isn't it? In England there would be a writ for the election and there was somebody whose job it was to run the election and return the writ.

CR: You've probably heard the "election returns" as a term for the results as they come in.

PS: Can you tell us a bit about yourselves? Is this your day job?

CR: We have a variety of backgrounds - I'm a political philosopher by training, I write, I have a semi-regular gig for Crikey, and have done various things as an election expert over the years.

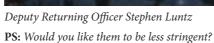
SL: I was heavily involved in student politics, to the extent that it derailed my plans to go on and be a physicist. I write about science as one half of my income stream, and administer elections as the other half, of which Melbourne is one.

CR: The members of the firm all come from different backgrounds but share a common interest and expertise in elections.

PS: In what ways are elections for student organisations different from elections for other organisations?

SL: It depends which other elections - there's a huge range. The difference from federal and state elections in particular is primarily that there are much more extensive rules policing campaigning in student elections. For federal and state elections, the belief is that if someone says something that is wrong or is offensive in various ways, the hope is the media will police this and report the errors and so on.

One can question how well this happens, but that's the theory. Returning officers aren't generally responsible for worrying about that, except in extreme cases.



CR: That is something we'll be looking at when making recommendations this year.

SL: The other side to it, why student organisations are different, is that in federal and state elections, people are limited by defamation laws. To some extent, if a candidate stood up and said "my opponent kills puppies", their opponent might well sue. The assumption is student candidates don't have the money to do that.

So part of our job is to be a cheaper version of the courts, and find out whether this person has actually killed any puppies, and if they haven't, say "well, you can't say that"; and I think that part of it is absolutely right. With the media stuff, it is much more tricky and there's lots of grey areas about what's best. But I think the aspect that makes for a cheap opportunity compared to going to the courts — defamation proceedings are lose-lose for everybody - and having a much cheaper option to avoid that is a good thing.

PS: Has any candidate ever appealed above the returning officers?

SL: There is the Electoral Tribunal, which is the next level above us, and certainly there are appeals to that. That's less common here than on other campuses, but that's a reasonably standard part of the process. Occasionally things have gone even beyond the Electoral Tribunal to the courts, particularly on campuses when there is no electoral tribunal (many campuses are foolish in not having a tribunal) that has happened.

It's a very bad outcome in general, because firstly it's expensive, and you often have situations where only one side can really afford to go to the courts; and secondly, the courts don't necessarily understand the circumstances, and some of the court rulings have been correct on a really 'black letter' interpretation, but in context, showed a lack of understanding.



before they changed it.

SL: Campuses that don't have an electoral

tribunal, we have recommended over and over to have a tribunal, so that if people are dissatisfied with our rulings, there's a step before going to the courts. We have got a number of other places to produce one, but not all of them.

The other thing I would add to that is: where they have a Tribunal, having the Tribunal appoint the Returning Officer (rather than the Students' Council or the equivalent). It's very problematic when you're making a ruling and you're know that one team is almost certainly going to win, and you know that if you make this ruling, you will annoy this team that's almost certainly going to win and they won't hire you next year.

I've been in that situation: these guys look like they're going to win, but they've broken the rules, they need to be punished, so I'm going to punish them, but probably that means I'm going to lose this job. I've done that in two occasions: one where I lost the job the next year; the other year, we actually got rehired the next year because they couldn't find anyone else to do it.

CR: It's the paradox of electoral reform: changes to the rules are not in the interest of people who've won, because they did fine out of the old rules.

I think the one thing that offsets that is: we might sometimes lose a job for doing the right thing, but in the long run, our professional reputation depends on being seen to be doing the right thing.

PS: ANUSA are running their student elections online this year. How would you advise a student organisation wanting to do that?

CR & SL: Don't.

Returning Officer Charles Richardson

don't care about the fact that your bank knows who you're giving money to. You do care a lot if the Student Union, or the Government, knows who you're voting for.

Also, your money is worth as much to you as it is to anyone else: no-one can come up and bribe you to give away your money. But your vote's not like that. For lots of people, their vote is actually much more valuable to someone else than it is to them, and those things make online voting a very big can of worms.

SL: What happened with the Census is just one example of the sort of things that can go wrong. Even if something doesn't go wrong, if there's doubt about, you've got a problem. You can look about how many countries have been destroyed by an election where there were allegations that it was rigged. No-one necessarily knew, but the losers didn't accept it, and civil war broke out.

It's the same thing on a small scale: the whole legitimacy depends on it being run in a transparent manner.

PS: What's the most hilarious complaint you've ever received?

CR: Whether bicycle racks counted as tutorial rooms. It's in the Regulations that say you can't just dump leaflets in lecture theatres or tute rooms. One campaigner had gone round and put leaflets in bicycle racks, and we had a complaint that a bicycle rack should be treated as analogous to a tute room. Sorry, that's not going to fly.

PS: *Do you think voting is important?*

CR: Yes. Voting is very important because the student union does do important things. In some ways, I think it's more important than it was, because universities have become more like big corporations, but without any of the discipline the market imposes. Therefore much more inclined to be a law unto themselves, and students very often get the rough end as a result. They need a student union to stand up for their interests, and they need that student union to be representative - to have the credibility that comes from representing a large number of students.

THE INTERVIEW

CR: Whereas, at universities despite the efforts of people like you, there is not the same sort of media scrutiny, and student organisations have taken the view that there needs to be much more control over what is said in campaigning and what material is produced; and that's part of our job.

I think there's an argument to say that's been taken too far, that the rules for student organisations are too prescriptive (and obviously they vary a bit from campus to campus), particularly in light of the new media landscape. [UMSU's] regulations were written at a time when nobody knew about the Internet, certainly nobody knew about Facebook, and one can question the relevance. But, as we say several times a day: "we don't write the rules, our job is to apply them".

CR: And that led to bankruptcy. Elections matter, and elections are important.

PS: Every year you write a number of recommendations in your report. Which unimplemented recommendation is most frustrating for you?

CR: They did finally implement it last year, but there was a section in the rules that said for a byelection, polls had to open at 9 o'clock in the morning, even though for a regular election it's 10 o'clock. You're never going to have students voting at 9 in the morning — it's just ludicrous and we kept pointing this out to them for years SL: To qualify that, there are circumstances where I think it's appropriate. For example, we're doing Deakin [University Student Association]. Deakin has a component of their elections run online, because some of their students are off-campus students - I think they call them 'Cloud Students' - and they hardly ever come to campus. They're running that section online for them, but for everyone else, it's attendance.

CR: If you were running your local kindergarten group, there's no particular harm in running an online election, because you don't have that combination of highly motivated, tech-savvy unscrupulous people to do things with it.

I understand the frustration of people who say "I do my banking online, why can't I vote online?" But there are good answers to that. You SL: The fact students are busier now means that a professional student union is more important when they get into trouble.

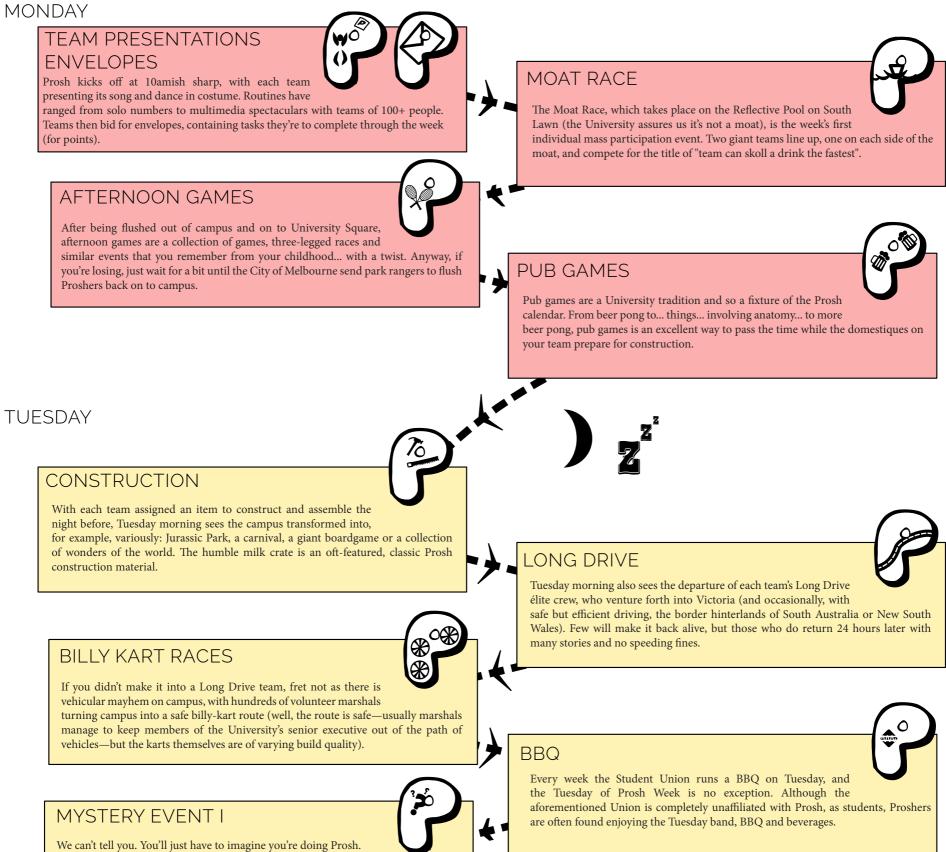
CR: It's always easy to point to problems in democracy, ways that democracy doesn't do what you would like it to, but we have an awful lot of historical experience to tell us that it's much better than the alternative.

PROSH WEEK.

What is Prosh? Well, we like to describe it, in polite company, as a "Student Arts Festival", of no interest at all to any staff at the University.

Now that none of the aforementioned staff are reading, it would be more accurate to desribe Prosh Week as a (highly unofficial) UniMelb institution—a week in which students (potentially yourself) divide themselves into teams to participate in a variety of events of a frivolous and extra-curricular nature, under the watchful eye of six Judges.

There are some stalwart events, but Prosh is a bit different every year. We've put together a selection of events in recent years to whet your appetite; some options for teams you might want to join are on the bottom right.



WEDNESDAY

MYSTERY EVENT II

We can't tell you either, but we can confirm it's something different from mystery event I.

LUBE GAMES

Ever wondered what happens if you get plastic and a whole lot of lube on South Lawn? Now you know. **BOAT RACES**

A boat race is a traditional University event with a team of a certain size (often four) consecutively finishing beverages, with the anchor

winnowing teams down until the finals in the early afternoon.

finishing one at either end. Prosh boat races run throughout the day, with the heats

IRON GUT

Once you're bored of boat races, intervening is iron gut. Each team nominates a champion, and while surströmming reveals a rugged Swedish heritage in some, it is a struggle for the rest of us - competitors and spectators alike.

TRIVIA

Trivia is a good chance for a change of pace and the opportunity to kick back with a few drinks and your team. Just make sure you don't need to be up at 6am the next morning for the Myki drop.

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

PROSHESSION

Prosh isn't just about having fun - and Proshession is a chance to take a stand for an issue affecting everyone. Whether you think pants

should be banned or are protesting in favour of vampire rights, you'll find yourself toting a problematic sign and seeing how far you can get through RMIT playing bagpipes at full volume before security finally directs you to leave their august institution of higher learning.

MYKI DROP

Two first years, a driver from another team, a cable tie, not very many clothes and a Myki each. Can you make your way back to campus, or will you instead be found mostly naked, on a train, fined, and mentioned on 3AW?

You made it. Now just a few short minutes (and definitely not three or

four hours) while the Judges judge, and then it's off to the pub to hear

the results. (Hint: you can catch a sneaky half hour nap in the Rowden White Library

SCAV

Kicking off at 12 noon on Thursday and running through the night to noon on Friday, the Prosh Week 24 Hour Scavenger Hunt is the event that (is said to have) started them all.

Featuring a list of several hundred items-from the banal to the surrealthe event demonstrates the importance of team comraderie, and the unimportance of sleep and healthy food.

Some teams treat the Scav Hunt with utmost importance, establishing clandestine bases on campus, assigning the acquisition or fabrication of items to groups, and storing them according to a complex indexing scheme. (People running these teams go on to run call centres.) Other teams take a more relaxed approach to Scav, finishing items of amusement but without attempting to complete the list.

The 24-hour period also comes with a number of events-which we won't bother listing in detail, but have on the occasion resulted in the Vice Chancellor tweeting about "last night's activities on South Lawn".

While there're many ways to do Prosh, we recommend for the best experience, you avoid wasting time sleeping.

If there's going to be a meltdown during Prosh, it'll happen during Scav.

facebook.com/ProshWeek

Want to find a team?

between judging and pubbing.)

Some options are:

JUDGING

Arts Spoons Bandcamp Eng Donkeys MUSKI Huskies

Psience

















ARTSSPOONS2016@GMAIL.COM

FOURTEENSATBANDCAMP@GMAIL.COM

ENGDONKEYS2016@GMAIL.COM

MUSKIHUSKIESPROSH@GMAIL.COM

PSCIENCE2016@GMAIL.COM

If you don't know how to approach them, here is a template email:

If you want to join in the exceptional amounts of fun that Prosh week Hi! provides, most of the big teams are always looking for new Proshers.

I love fun. Can I join your Prosh team? Many love, Name.

CAMPUS STYLE. **FIONA**

Spotted at: Clubs & Societies, Union House

C&S Coordinator

I am wearing a dress that I made and leggings and boots. I have my winter jacket - I only have one winter coat - I have that, and a beanie and some gloves. I've got a black jumper on; that's not very interesting. I have a brown dress, with a tartan pattern - it's wool, in a pinafore style. Long boots, with high heels - ooh this is a good day: high heel day. Oh and my gloves - my gloves are my favourite thing at the moment. I bought them at a market in Tasmania and they're very cute.

I don't like shopping for clothes. I do most of my shopping for clothes probably a couple of times a year - I go to DFO or like Harbourtown or something and go and have a bit of a shop. You know, just look for bargains and whatever. That'd be the main thing that I do. I haven't ventured to the new Pacific Werribee yet, apparently that's going to be the place. And UNIQLO. I know this sounds like an ad for UNIQLO.

My favourite item of clothing is my stripy cardigan, I think, my long, colourful cardigan, which I tried on as a joke and then liked and bought. And it has a matching scarf, and I like that a lot. I like stuff that's easy to care for. We don't have to dress up here, so fairly casual - so I like cardigans and things, and that stripy cardigan - I just really like it. It's good fun, I think.

If I had to swap wardrobes with anyone, I don't know who they'd be. I can't even think of anyone. For something completely different maybe Kate Middleton. I love her style. I mean, if i was

going to be a glamourous style person, I think she's just gorgeous and I think her clothes are just gorgeous, and she rewears stuff, so she's not wasteful, which the royals can be, so I appreciate that. I suppose when you've got someone putting your outfit together for you you can be glamorous.

I would describe my style as quite casual. Very, I think, easy to wear. Not a fashion follower at all -I don't care. But I don't wanna just wear jeans and tshirt all the time either. So I try to think about what I wear, but I don't buy stuff because it's high fashion. I buy stuff because I like it.

I sometimes make my own clothes because I like sewing. It's actually one of my hobbies, so I like to occasionally do that. I make clothes mostly just for myself - I actually don't make a lot of clothes now, I do other sewing projects, mostly quilts and stuff. I made my bag as well, though. I don't do stuff that's too complicated. I did, in the far distant past, make bridesmaids dresses and wedding dresses for people but it's a lot a lot a lot of work. I did my own wedding dress, but now I just want it to be recreational. I don't want it to be high pressure, which that kind of stuff is.

I think my workplace influences my style because what I can wear to work sets the tone of my whole wardrobe. But I don't really read magazines and stuff so I don't really have any particular influences in terms of trends. I think: what's on sale, what I like, what looks good - that's it.



VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

VOX POPULI.

Other than classes, what's the best thing that uni offers you?

Pierre

Master of Intl Relations Second Year

Yifei

Bachelor of Arts Third Year



Andrew

Master of Engineering **Final Year**



Declan

Bachelor of Environ. Second Year

Coffee. Coffee and the opportunity to meet very

interesting people.

All the different activities from the student communities. I've joined the Chinese Student Union - they provide activities like barbecues and skiing, and you meet a lot of new friends. In Arts there are not many Chinese.

Honestly I think one of the best value adds you can get from university is the Club and Societies, because they teach you skills that you absolutely cannot pickup in normal classwork. So by joining a club, getting involved in events, taking a leadership role or whatever or just meeting new people, it's a really great way to add that extra bit of value to your university life.

The bike co-op's pretty good. Yeah, probably the bike co-op.





OUT & ABOUT.



UMSU tent at Clubs Carnival on Thursday (feat. Gunther the penguin).



Delicious goodies on show at the CSSA event on North Court on Thursday.



24 National Day of Action.





Tents for the 46 clubs on display at Clubs Carnival.



The head of the Unimelb contingent to the August Fiona (C&S Coordinator) counting how many Open Day attendees ventured into the UMSU tent.

EVENTS.

Note: we usually do the events frantically at 3am while the printer gets progressively angrier at us. So it'd be a good idea to double-check we got the date and time right, and check if you need tickets. Also send us your events: tips@parkvillestation.com.

PORTRAIT-**PAINT OFF!**

WHEN: Mon 29 Aug, 1pm WHERE: North Court Watch students battle it out for the \$500 prize for best portrait! Also, as usual, get free food and bevs!

FREE URE CHAMBER **MUSIC**

WHEN: Mon 29 Aug, 1.10pm WHERE: Melba Hall, Royal Pd

The first event of the MCM's Mimir Chamber Musical Festival. and its free! Other events here: http://www.mimirfestival.org/about/

STUDY OF

LIFELINE

TECH & MENTAL **ILLNESS**

WHEN: Tues 30 Aug, 6.15pm WHERE: Plenary 2, MCEC Learn about the recent ad-

vances in the science of mental illness and new frontiers in technology that may reduce suffering.

CHOCOLATE

GATHERING

WELFARE **STIGMA**

WHEN: Wed 31 Aug, 12.30pm WHERE: Room 515, 207 Bouverie St

Learn about the nature of stigma against those who receive welfare, its health and social consequences, and help identify potential policy responses.

THE

EU IN CRISIS?

WHEN: Wed 31 Aug, 6.30pm WHERE: PLT, Old Arts Bldg

Philomena Murray examines what the uncertainty surrounding the EU, now at a point of crisis, means for Europe and the rest of the world. WHEN: Thurs 1 Sept, 10:30am WHERE: Room 405a, 207 Bouverie St

What impact does Lifeline have on those who use it, both in the immediate postcall period and over time? Results of a qualitative study. WHEN: Fri 2 Sept, 1pm

WHERE: Mary Cooke B

Join the Chocolate Lovers Society and get free chocolates at this event and all their other events!

DROWSY **CHAPERONE** WHEN: Fri 2 - Sat 3 Sept, 7pm WHERE: Union Theatre, UH St Hilda's College Theatre Group takes you back to the 1920's to present a hilarious parody of American musical comedy. \$18 student tix.

STEVEN SPIELBERG WINS THE INAUGURAL NOVA CINEMA FILMMAKER OF THE YEAR AWARD



August 29, 2016. In a surprise upset last night, veteran US director Steven Spielberg beat out Wes Anderson, Alejandro Iñárritu, Taika Waititi and Michael Bay to win the prestigious Purple Palace Grand Prize. The night was a red carpet affair with a cavalcade of industry notables in attendance. MC for the night (and Barack Obama look-alike) Charles Babbitt

joked with Spielberg, who is in Melbourne filming the remake of "On The Beach", that his presence in Melbourne to receive the prize personally may have had something to do with the win. Spielberg laughed at the jibe, and moved on to plug his current movie, The BFG.

In other Nova news, Viggo Mortensen will be presenting his new movie "Captain Fantastic" at the Melbourne premiere on Wednesday, and a well-known Colombian drug lord will be the celebrity-in-attendance on the first day of The Infiltrator on Thursday. All "Sunset Song" prize packs including the 10 free trips to Scotland have now been won. Insider tip: On the final night of the Stanley Kubrick festival at Nova in October, don't be surprised to see Kubrick present his new film, "Napoleon".



REVIEWS.

This week, Jon Krikstolaitis looks at stop-motion films from Laika Entertainment.

Kubo and the Two Coraline (2009) Strings (2016)

dir. Travis Knight IMDb: 8.4 Rotten Tomatoes 96% Parkville Station: 8.5

Stop-motion animation has come a long way over the years to the point where cheating it with modern 3D animation would be much easier. You'd think that would mean the art would fade. But the people at Laika Animation appear to have taken that as a challenge and over the years have produced some stunning productions, none more stunning than this one. On top of that, the movie is not only pretty but funny and reverent. While light on originality of plot it still manages to be the best animated movie of the year. It was up against some stiff competition too this year with Finding Dory and Sausage Party.

Kubo and the Two Strings follows the tales of a young boy (Kubo) who is a storyteller in his village. He uses magic to bring origami to life and tell stories to the townspeople, but he is not allowed to do it at night. The plot continues as you would expect from here - he is caught out at night and is beset upon by gods of unimaginable power, escapes and must go on a quest to find his father's magical armour with friends he meets along the way.

I am touting the animation because it is more than stunning. The ability to make cloth move around like this movie does in stop motion action sequences is stunning to see. One of the villains was the largest puppet ever animated and if you are keen on this sort of thing, I highly recommend you look at how they did it. It is awe inspiring. This is one you must see at the movies.

PUZZLES. TRIVIA

BACHELORS LEVEL

Arts: Who played Amelie in the 2001 French movie of the same name?

Science: DC is to 'direct current' as AC is to what?

Biomed: Emphysema is a disease mainly affecting which major organ?

Commerce: What does CSR refer to, as regards

Rotten Tomatoes 90% Parkville Station: 9.0 This is a children's mov

dir. Paul Greengrass

IMDb: 7.7

This is a children's movie that isn't a children's movie. Visually stunning enough to launch Laika Animation into wide popularity and showcasing it as a studio that is amazingly different to regular animation studios, it created a grungy world that is equal parts creepy and whimsical.

It is based off the children's book of the same name by Neil Gaiman (who wrote it because he wanted to create a story for his own children). It is creepy and scary and a genuine horror story. It also has the children's book elements that you would expect and need in order to create a world for children. It is about a child who is dissatisfied with her family when she moves house and equally dissatisfied with her parents who don't have time to pay attention to her. She finds a door which leads to an alternate world that is more fantastic than her own. Inside it is an alternate version of her family that wants to spend time with her, only this family has buttons for eyes.

The movie comes to life and tells a tale of morality that you like to see in a children's film but it is also creepy and scary in all the best ways. dir. Chris Butler, Sam Fell IMDb: 7.0 Rotten Tomatoes 87% Parkville Station: 8.5

Laika Animation has its own visual narrative style which is vastly different to Pixar, Disney and Dreamworks. It is instantly recognisable and charming in every movie they produce. They also enjoy the offbeat in what they like to produce. They have nearly a Studio Ghibli quality about them as they tackle movies that are made for children but with very strong storytelling and adult themes. ParaNorman is one of those films.

The story follows a boy named Norman who has the uncanny ability to see and talk to the dead. This ability has led him to be mocked and teased by the community and his family. Then there is a curse upon the city where the dead will rise and of course only Norman can stop it.

The animation is as fantastic as ever and the narrative takes some interesting twists and turns that play off your expectations and assumptions of what is going to happen next. It is interesting, funny and has some heartening emotional turns.

ParaNorman (2012) The Boxtrolls (2014)

dir. Graham Annable, Anthony Stacchi IMDb: 6.8 Rotten Tomatoes 7.5% Parkville Station: 7.0

The Boxtrolls isn't pretty, in the prettiest sort of way. It is drab and brown with hints of bright colour which pop on screen. I guess what I am trying to say is that in terms of animation this is far from Pixar's sensibilities, where even in their darkest hours everything is still bright.

Boxtrolls are odd looking creatures that put a box on at the early stages of their life and live inside them. They scavenge though the city's trash at night and build fantastic machines out of them. The city is afraid of these trolls that crawl around the streets at night. The humans of the city want them to leave so it is up to a boy that was raised by the Boxtrolls to unite the people.

The problem with the Boxtrolls themselves is that their language and lack of individuality in the film undercuts what could have been something great. Because of this the movie stumbles a little bit because we don't know why the town hates the Boxtrolls or why we should care in the end about their feud.

NINE LETTER WORD

I Q T C U E E S NI

the actions of businesses?

Environments: What are the three types of volcanoes as delineated by frequency of activity?

Music: Who is the lead singer of American pop band DNCE?

already been incurred and cannot be recovered Depr called?

Environments: To the closest 100m, how tall is the Burj Khalifa, the world's tallest building?

Music: What are the two clefs usually used in musical notation?

Depression start?

the genetic material of what?

PHD LEVEL

tomb in 1922?

Environments: What is a habitat where tree growth is hindered by low temperatures and short growing seasons called?

Arts: Who discovered King Tutankhamen's

Biomed: A capsid is the protein coat surrounding

Commerce: In what year did the Great

Science: What is apiology the study of?

Music: Which singer adopted Michael Hutchence's daughter Tiger Lily after his death?

Find words that are made up of a combination of the letters in the square above. The word must contain the centre (red) letter. Words must be at least four letters long, not be plurals ending in 's' and exclude proper names. There is a single nine-letter word... or are there more?

P: 15 words; H3: 20; H2: 23; H1: 25; our dictionary contains: 29 words.

No peeking at the answers until you've attempted the question. If you're playing trivia with a group of people around a lunch table, beware the person sitting opposite you can easily read the upside down answers. *Disclaimer*: doing well at this does not guarantee you'll do well at Uni — you'll definitely be popular at trivia nights, though!

Looking for answers? The trivia answers are below; answers to last week's nine letter word(s) are on our website: parkvillestation.com

MASTERS LEVEL

which field?

recessive?

Arts: In what year was JFK assassinated?

Science: Marie Curie won the Nobel Prize in

Biomed: When genes are expressed in the

phenotype are they considered dominant or

Commerce: In economics, what is a cost that has

Answers: **Bachelors**: Audrey Tautou; alternating current; lungs; corporate social responsibility; active, dormant and extinct; Joe Jonas. **Masters**: 1963; chemistry; dominant; sunk cost; 800m (828m); treble and bass. **PhD**: Howard Carter; honey bees; a virus; 1929; tundra; Bob Geldof.

Parkville**Station.** WEEKLY.

