No 3 20th February 2015

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Principal: Mrs Jan Gregory
Assistant Principal: Mr Ashley Robinson
Assistant Principal: Mrs Susanne Gill

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2015 TERM 1 CALENDAR
Please go to the McGuire College Website to view all Term 1 calendar dates.
http://www.mcguireco.vic.edu.au

2015 McGuire College School Council Elections
Nominations open Friday 6th February. Nominations close Monday 23rd February 4.00pm.
Please see information for parents and nomination forms at the end of this newsletter.

Parent Teacher Interviews
Thursday 5th March, 4.00 pm – 6.00pm
E-Wing

Greater Shepparton Immunisation Program
Greater Shepparton City Council free immunisation program commences for 2015 in
Term 2. These recommended vaccinations are provided at school through the National
Immunisation Program and it is a good opportunity to catch up on your child’s
vaccinations at no cost.

Next Thursday Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 students will be given immunisation cards to bring
home. Please fill out your child’s card with either a YES or NO answer and return it to
the general office by Monday 2nd March.

2015 SCHOOL ACCOUNTS
Your child has received a planner and will shortly receive a photo/library ID card. These items were on
your school account, if you have not paid for them it would be appreciated if full payment of $17.00
could be made by Friday, 27th Feb so your child can receive their ID card.
If you have any questions please contact the general office 5858 9800
Principal’s Report

There have been two occasions recently where I have had the opportunity to meet some of our new parents. Last Tuesday, 10th February we held an information evening for the parents of students from the Shepparton English Language Centre and on Monday evening our Year 7 families attended a welcome barbecue. Thank you to all the families who attended these functions.

We would like to involve families more during this year. If you have any ideas about how we could do this please let me know.

Parent teacher interviews are being held early this term on Thursday 5th March 4 - 6pm. This is a valuable opportunity to see your child’s teachers for a report on their progress so far or to discuss any concerns you may have. Reports will be also available for parents to collect.

School Council elections are now being conducted. If you feel you would like to make a contribution to the quality of your child’s education why not consider nominating for School Council. Nomination forms need to be handed in to the school by this coming Monday 23rd February.

Jan Gregory
Principal
The Australian Defence Force (ADF) Gap Year
Opens at 9am on Monday 2nd March 2015. Applications must be received online.

The Gap Year challenge

The ADF Gap Year program provides an opportunity for young Australians, who have finished year 12 (or equivalent) and are aged between 17 and 24*, to experience military training and lifestyle whilst gaining new skills and pay over their Gap Year.

Gap Year opportunities are available in the Navy, Army and Air Force.

The life skills and job training that you will acquire during your Gap Year experience will be valuable regardless of what career you ultimately undertake.

When would I start?

The Gap Year program will commence in January/February 2016.

What jobs are available?

Navy Gap Year, Army Gap Year (Administration Clerk, Artilleryman, Driver, Rifleman, Unit Quartermaster) and Air Force Gap Year.

What would I do during my Gap Year?

After completing basic recruit training and your specific trade training, you'll be immersed in the Navy, Army or Air Force lifestyle while continuing to learn on the job. You'll learn valuable skills, meet new friends and may even receive recognised qualifications to help progress your future career.

What opportunities are there for me at the end of the Gap Year?

You will have the opportunity to apply to:

- Continue service in the Full Time Navy, Army or Air Force with ongoing job opportunities,
- Transfer to the Navy, Army or Air Force Reserves where you can continue to use your skills on a part-time basis, or
- Choose to leave the Australian Defence Force and pursue an alternate career path.

Are there any other special conditions applicable to the Gap Year?

Members applying under the Gap Year program will not be eligible to deploy on domestic or international operations during your Gap Year. You will however participate in all of the Unit's training activities once you are qualified in your job. Gap Year also provides you with the flexibility to elect to voluntarily leave the program at any stage with an expectation to provide 14 days' notice.

* Navy applicants must be aged between 18-24 years old as of 8 April 2016. Army applicants must be aged between 18-24 years old as of 31 May 2016. Air Force applicants must be aged between 18-24 years old as of 11 April 2016.
Our Careers & Pathways News is made up of information from a variety of sources including Careers News, Careers Veener and updates from College partners. We hope you find it informative and useful. If you have any queries or require and further information on anything in our Careers & Pathways News, please contact me on the details at the bottom of the page.

HOW CAN I CHOOSE A CAREER?

Many people say that basically they would like a job they enjoy, with the possibility of earning a reasonable income. So how do you choose that job? Firstly, keep in mind that there isn’t just one perfect job for you. There are several jobs that would suit you well, so you need to explore the possibilities.

First, think about what you enjoy doing. For example, is it sport-related, scientific, reading/writing-related, helping people, information technology-related? What do you enjoy doing in your spare time? What subjects do you excel in at school? How important is it that you earn a lot of money? Answering questions such as these will set you on a path to making some decisions. If you like science, what type of science do you prefer – physics, chemistry, biology? If you are creative, what is your speciality – music, drama, art, design? If it is geography, perhaps you could be interested in urban planning, mapping or surveying. If it is health, perhaps it is nursing, nutrition or public health. If it is physics and maths, perhaps engineering. Don’t look too far ahead – you are not deciding on a life-time career. You will have several careers over the course of your lifetime.

And it’s also important to remember that a CAREER is not just what a person does for their paid employment – a Career is everything you do in your day to day life – it is being a daughter or son, a brother or sister, a cousin, an aunt or uncle, a sports person, helping out at home or volunteer work!!

This is a great conversation to have with your child – think about all the things you do a parent/guardian that make up your Career each and every day and make a list of them with your child.

YEAR 10 WORK PLACEMENT PROGRAM

Our Year 10 students have started thinking and working on where they would like to go for their Work Placement this year. Students have completed their Careers Action Plans and identifying career pathway areas they are interested in. Work will now continue with students in identifying possible work places to host students, Resume preparation, workshops to assist students become “work ready” conducted by local employment agency CVGT, mock phone calls and interviews and much more.
Some areas such as nursing, journalism, veterinary sciences, engineering and information technology are in high demand and short supply in Greater Shepparton. Therefore, if your child has identified one of these areas for their work placement, it is important to be aware they may not get a placement in the field. If this is the case, we aim to place students in a similar area that of which they have chosen to give them the same sort of experience. And it is important to remember that we will continue to work with students in Years 11 and 12 to get them work placement in their chosen area.

It is important to note that work placement is a privilege for students and not a right. Students must display the College REAL values to be approved to go out on work placement and there is an approval process involving Heads of Houses, Teaching Staff and our Wellbeing Team involved to ensure students are work ready for the requirements of the placement program.

Our work placement program will run over two different blocks in Term 3 - Week 3 and Week 5. Your child will be undertaking work placement during ONE of these weeks. In some instances, students are required to go out on work placement outside of these blocks at the request of employers.

If you have a child in Year 10, please have a chat to them about their work placement arrangements. Did you do work placement as a student? What did you get out of it? Where did you do it?

If you have any questions in regards to work placement, please feel free to contact me.

**VCE CAREERS EXPO 2015**
The VCE Careers Expo will be held from 7th – 10th May 2015 at the Caulfield Racecourse. The Expo is Australia’s biggest Careers Expo with over 180 exhibitors including universities, TAFE and training colleges, employment providers, career and gap year information. Seminars are also held over the days. For more information please visit [http://www.vceandcareers.com.au/](http://www.vceandcareers.com.au/). I have a limited number of free passes for students that would like to attend. Please see me in the Careers Office if you would like one.

**WHERE CAN I STUDY IN VICTORIA?**
After completing Year 12, there are many options. If you are considering [university](#), hoping to get a degree, these are the universities available in Victoria:

- **Australian Catholic University** (ACU) with campuses in Melbourne (Fitzroy) and Ballarat
- **Deakin** University with campuses in Burwood, Geelong and Warrnambool
- **Federation** University with campuses in Ballarat and Gippsland
- **La Trobe** University with campuses in Melbourne (Bundoora), Bendigo, Albury-Wodonga, Mildura and Shepparton
- **Monash** University with campuses in Melbourne (Clayton, Caulfield, Berwick, Parkville)
- **RMIT** University with campuses in Melbourne (City, Brunswick, Bundoora)
- **Swinburne** University has a campus in Melbourne (Hawthorn)
- **University of Melbourne** in Melbourne (Parkville, Burnley, Southbank, Werribee), Creswick, Dookie and Shepparton
- **Victoria** University is in Melbourne (City, Footscray, St Albans, Melton, Sunshine)

You can check out their facilities and courses by attending their [Open Days](#), usually held in August. If you plan a [VET course](#) (pre-apprenticeship, apprenticeship, certificate, diploma and a limited number of degrees), institutes offering courses in the Melbourne area are:

- **Box Hill Institute**
- **Chisholm** (Dandenong, Frankston, etc)
- **Holmesglen** (Moorabbin, Chadstone)
- **Kangan** (Broadmeadows, Richmond, etc)
- **Melbourne Polytechnic** (formerly NMIT) (Collingwood, Epping, Preston, Prahran, etc)
- **RMIT** (City, Brunswick)
- **Swinburne** (Hawthorn, Croydon, Wantirna)
- **Victoria** (Footscray, City)
- **William Angliss** (City) and several others.
There are also independent institutions offering degrees, diplomas and certificates. Examples are:

- **Academy of Design** (Port Melbourne)
- **Australian Institute of Fitness** (Bendigo, City, etc)
- **Footscray City Films**
- **JMC** (South Melbourne)

Independent colleges are full-fee paying institutions, whereas the government generally offers financial assistance to study at universities and VET providers like Box Hill Institute.

**NOTE:** The government will only fund courses of study that are at a higher level than what they have funded already. For example, if you have a bachelor’s degree, the government will not fund you to complete a VET diploma as it is at a lower level than the degree.

**WHAT IS THE UNDERGRADUATE MEDICINE AND HEALTH SCIENCES ADMISSION TEST (UMAT)?** Results from this test are used as part of the selection process for some Australian and New Zealand university degrees. In Victoria the only university degree now requiring this test for Year 12 selection is Medicine at Monash (Clayton). However, some interstate and NZ universities also use it. **Registrations for UMAT2015 are now open, and close at 5pm (AEST) on Friday 5 June. The test will take place on Wednesday 29 July 2015.** The UMAT Information Booklet is available from the UMAT website: [www.umat.acer.edu.au](http://www.umat.acer.edu.au).

**NOTES:**
- Practice materials are available through the UMAT website and can only be completed online. There are currently four practice tests available: UMAT Practice Test 1, UMAT Practice Test 2, UMAT Practice Test 3 and Additional Practice Questions. **UMAT Practice Test 1 will be included with the UMAT 2015 registration.** In addition, candidates will have access to some free preparation videos once they complete their registration to sit UMAT2015.
- Candidates with a disability or other health-related needs and who wish to apply for special testing conditions must do so by Friday 19 June. This includes candidates who have diabetes and require food during the test.
- Some tutorials and a quiz are now available on the UMAT website. Candidates should watch these tutorials and complete the quiz questions before registering for the test.

**WHAT KIND OF ENGINEER ARE YOU?** Are you interested in engineering but not sure which type is the best fit for you? You can find out with the new RMIT online quiz at [http://trueengineer.com.au](http://trueengineer.com.au).

**‘AT MONASH’ SEMINAR SERIES** – a great opportunity to find out about Monash degrees. More information in the next issue, but check out [www.destination.monash/at-monash](http://www.destination.monash/at-monash) from Monday 16 Feb.

**AVALON AIRSHOW** – Students interested in a career in the aviation industry might wish to attend the Avalon Airshow. Among other things, you will be able to find out about RMIT’s flight training program, aerospace and mechanical engineering programs. **When:** 24 Feb – 1 Mar, 2015; **Where:** Avalon Airport; **Info:** [www.airshow.com.au/airshow2015/](http://www.airshow.com.au/airshow2015/).

**VETERINARY NURSING ASSOCIATE DEGREE** – Melbourne Polytechnic (formerly NMIT) (Epping campus) is offering a new 2-year associate degree, the first para-professional veterinary nursing qualification in Australia. It is designed to produce highly skilled clinicians with exceptional levels of practical skill, knowledge and in depth understanding gained through a stimulating exploration of the academic underpinnings of the field. Graduate employment will be in the private and public sectors, including veterinary practices as veterinary nurses and practice managers and in large organisations (veterinary pharmaceutical, veterinary nutrition companies and animal research facilities). **Prerequisites:** Successful completion of Year 12 VCE or recognised equivalent with a study score of at least 20 in any English and a study score of at least 20 in one of any Mathematics, Chemistry or Biology; OR successful completion of a Diploma course in Veterinary Nursing or a related area; OR at least two years of related industry experience.

“You’ll get mixed up, of course, as you already know. You’ll get mixed up with many strange birds as you go. So be sure when you step. Step with care and great tact and remember that Life’s a Great Balancing Act. Just never forget to be dexterous and deft. And never mix up your right foot with your left.”

— Dr. Seuss, *Oh, The Places You’ll Go!*
What is a school council and what does it do?
All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within statewide guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?
For most school councils, there are three possible categories of membership:

- A mandated elected Parent category - more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Training (DET) employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not engaged in work at the school.
- A mandated elected DET employee category - members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
- An optional Community member category - members are coopted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DET employees are not eligible to be Community members.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is Parent membership so important?
Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school. Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

How can you become involved?
The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term i each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant. In view of this, you might seriously consider

- standing for election as a member of the school council
- encouraging another person to stand for election.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?
No. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

What do you need to do to stand for election?
The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for Nominations following the commencement of Term i each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March unless the usual time line has been varied by the Minister.
If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.
DET employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not engaged in work are eligible to nominate for parent membership of the school council at that school.
Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination.
Generally, if there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Remember
- Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do
- Consider standing for election to council this year
- Be sure to vote in the elections.
Contact the principal for further information.
Schedule 4       Notice of Election and Call for Nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of McGuire College
Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by
4.00 pm on Monday 23\textsuperscript{rd} February 2015
The ballot will close at 4.00 pm on Friday 6\textsuperscript{th} March, 2015
Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows –

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership category</th>
<th>Term of office</th>
<th>Number of positions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2015 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2017</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEECD employee member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2015 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2017</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

Jan Gregory
Principal
Schedule 5A: Self-nomination Form for Parent Member Category

I wish to declare my candidacy for an elected position as a parent member on the McGuire College School Council.

Name :  .................................................................................................................................

Residential address: ........................................................................................................

Contact phone (mobile or landline): ..............................................................................

Email: ............................................................................................................................... 

I am the parent/guardian of , ............................................. who is/are currently enrolled at this school.

I am an employee of the Department of Education and Training but not engaged in work at and for the school

Yes / No (please circle)
I am prepared to serve as a Parent member of the above-named school council. I hereby declare that I am not:

• an undischarged bankrupt
• of unsound mind
• currently serving a sentence for an indictable offence; or
• a registrable offender within the meaning of the Sex Offenders Registration Act 2004.

Signature of Candidate ................................................................. Date .............................

You will be notified when your nomination has been received.

Personal information provided in this form is collected as part of the school council election nomination process. The information may be used to determine your eligibility as a candidate. Your personal information may be disclosed as a result of inspection prior to the commencement of voting or at any time up to one year from the declaration of the poll.

Your name will be included in a list of school council candidates and nominators (where applicable) posted in a prominent position at the school and for candidates, on a ballot paper (where applicable).

Further, the name, membership category, gender, term of office, office held (if any) of school council members and notification whether the member is an employee of the Department will be forwarded to the Department of Education and Training by the principal by 30 April each year as a record of council membership and may be used for statistical purposes.

You can access your personal information by contacting the principal on .................................

If you choose not to give some or all of the information requested your nomination may not be accepted.

If you have any queries about the school council nomination process, please contact the principal.
Schedule 5B: Nomination Form for Parent Member Category

I wish to nominate for an elected position as a parent member on the McGuire College School Council.

CANDIDATE’S DETAILS

Name …………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

Residential address …………………………………………………………………………………………………

Contact phone (mobile or landline) …………………………………………………………………………………

Email …………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

I am the parent/guardian of , ………………………………… who is/are currently enrolled at this school.
The person I have nominated is the parent/guardian of who is/are currently enrolled at this school.
The person I have nominated is an employee of the Department of Education and Training but not
engaged in work at and for the school.

Yes / No (please circle)

Name of Nominator …………………………………………………………………………………………………

Signature of Nominator Date ……………………..

CANDIDATE TO COMPLETE:

I accept the nomination and I am prepared to serve as a Parent member of the above-named school
council. I hereby declare that I am not:

• an undischarged bankrupt
• of unsound mind
• currently serving a sentence for an indictable offence
• a registrable offender within the meaning of the Sex Offenders Registration Act 2004.

Signature of Candidate……………………………………….. Date ……………

You will be notified when your nomination has been received.

Personal information provided in this form is collected as part of the school council election nomination
process. The information may be used to determine your eligibility as a candidate and to nominate. Your
personal information may be disclosed as a result of inspection prior to the commencement of voting or
at any time up to one year from the declaration of the poll.

Your name will be included in a list of school council candidates and nominators (where applicable)
posted in a prominent position at the school and for candidates, on a ballot paper (where applicable).
Further, the name, membership category, gender, term of office, office held (if any) of school council
members and notification whether the member is an employee of the Department will be forwarded to
the Department of Education and Training by the principal by 30 April each year as a record of council
membership and may be used for statistical purposes.

You can access your personal information by contacting the principal on

If you choose not to give some or all of the information requested your nomination may not be accepted.
If you have any queries about the school council nomination process, please contact the principal.
As part of a change to Education funding from 2015, funding previously allocated to the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) program will now be redirected to schools, which means there is no EMA available in 2015.

Schools will now be responsible for ensuring that students, who previously attracted the EMA, are supported to participate fully at school. Schools have complete flexibility, within their annual budgets, to address the specific needs of their students, and provide additional support, as required. This new approach will see a change in the way the previous EMA funding was allocated.

Having considered this change of policy, the 4 Shepparton Secondary schools have developed a policy that will continue support to families who were previously eligible for the EMA. This new policy is very similar in its operation and in summary includes:

1. Families who hold a current Health Care Card are eligible;
2. Support up to $250 per eligible student provided;
3. Application form to be completed at the school;

At McGuire College we have called this new program McGuire Education Funding Allowance – (MEFA. Details of the new MEFA program are below.

**MEFA Eligibility:**
McGuire Education Funding Allowance – (MEFA) has been established to provide financial assistance to all students whose family holds a current Health Care Card or Pension concession card, or for Foster families and this assistance be provided for all students up to the age of 16. All registrations for the program close on 28th February in the relevant school year. The eligibility date of 28th Feb is the Education Department’s student census date. The school is only funded for students attending the school on that date.

**Payment Amount:**
$250 per eligible student will be allocated under the WEFA program for 2015, which is to be allocated on a $ for $ basis."
For students who turn 16 during the year a pro-rata payment will be calculated on the number of months up to and including the month of their birthday.

**To Access funds through MEFA**
Application forms are available from the main school office. Once registered for the program parents will be able to access their allocated amount on a $ for $ basis of funds paid to the school for school charges, materials for programs, Year 7 camp (if applicable).

*Please return your application form to the General Office and also bring your current Health Care/Pension card.

Please contact the office if you have any queries.
TACKLE THE ISSUE: ICE, ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG FORUMS

The Australian Drug Foundation’s Good Sports program is holding a series of forums around Victoria to help you and your members learn how your sports club can support their members, families and the community to prevent and tackle drug use.

These forums will be hosted by experts in drug prevention and treatment who will help you understand practical ways that can reduce drug problems and help people live happy and healthy lives.

Who should attend?
- Sports club administrators, players and members
- People involved in education, local government, health, community development and youth services
- Concerned community members

Why should I attend?
- Get the facts about alcohol, ice and other drugs from the people that know. Experts from the Australian Drug Foundation and Youth Support and Advocacy Service (YSAS) will lead prominent members of your community in a panel discussion.
- Lead by example. Find out how you and your sports clubs can help tackle ice, alcohol and other drugs in the community.
- How to develop and implement an alcohol and other drug policy for your sporting club. Good Sports representatives will talk you through developing a drugs policy that you can implement at your sporting club.

How do I register?
GoodSports.com.au/tackletheissue/forums

Forum Details
Date: Tuesday 3 March
Time: 6:00pm – 8.30pm
Location:
Sir Ian McLennan Sports Centre
Echuca Road
Mooroopna VIC 3629

Refreshments will be provided.
For more information visit the website link above.
Telephone 03 9611 6100

We would like to thank our funders and supporters
The Australian Drug Foundation acknowledges the support of the Victorian Government.

The Australian Drug Foundation would also like to gratefully acknowledge the local community support and partners.
Job Info

If there is one word on a resume which can make an employer’s eyebrows sit up and do the hula (in-impressed-delight), then that word would be VOLUNTEER. There are a few LEVELS for volunteer-ism

Random-eer — There is RANDOM volunteering - like sand-bagging in a once-in-16-year-flood. This shows community spirit.

Frequent-eer—There are those who enjoy FREQUENT volunteering - like running boundary at the footy, meals on wheels and selling raffle tickets for the tennis club. This shows you are reliable and developing practical skills which can be used in the workplace.

Serial-eer—There are those who take volunteering to a seriously SERIAL level, by being involved in local clubs (committees), ceremonies (like ANZAC and Australia Day), or organising and participating in local, regional and global fundraisers. This level demonstrates fabulous leadership skills and multiple employable skills.

Abroad-eer—this is a whole new level volunteer. Jumping aboard a plane to wing it to another country to help those less fortunate. There are companies who organise details for you to ensure you have a safe and satisfying volunteer experience. This level of volunteer-ism demonstrates multiple skills which employers LOVE (citizenship, caring, a sense of adventure & so on...)

So, if you want to make an employers eyebrows do the hula, consider volunteering whenever the opportunity presents itself.

Tertiary Trinkets

Picking a Uni...

Like Forrest Gump’s box of chocolates, choosing a University and a University course can be fraught with brain-salivating difficulties. Do you go with the familiar-fave? (I always choose Turkish Delight) or do you risk reading the ingredients on the pack to discover a delicious gem?

*A familiar-fave may be the uni where your parents went to, or the same degree they studied. *#confyand-nonstatsurprises

But is this the right way to choose... for you? If you have never tasted chocolate (Uni) before (ie. You are the first person in your family to go to Uni) where do you start? Do you just pick one, and hope for the best?

Let me introduce to you....

Where Grads Go...

We have all heard the horror stories about people who graduate from Uni, then can’t find themselves a job... serious stuff!! There is a website called Where Grads Go, which can give you some pretty handy statistical clues about your degree choice and the likelihood of finding a job afterwards. TIP: Locate the downloadable document.

Good Universities Guide

Your Careers Advisor has a copy of this book hidden away somewhere in the office or you can download a FREE pdf version at www.ebook.gooduniguide.com.au

The guide rates the quality of institutions and areas of study they offer against a diverse list of criteria, relevant to students. You can also explore ratings and rankings of all Australian Universities at Hobsons Course Finder.

Online Courses

How and who do you choose? There are soooo many of them it is mind boggling!!

The larger Universities and TAFE’s who offer online courses are usually pretty safe to sign up with, but what about all those private-never-heard-of-before-providers? I shall use the night-club analogy. Would you go into a night-club that doesn’t have a bouncer at the door, or, would you choose an establishment with 2 or 3 bouncers keeping control of the proceedings?

Wouldn’t it be nice if on-line courses had bouncers, big burly blokes who will make sure that you: get in, won’t be ripped off, can exit feeling like you have had good service and value for your money AND they can also handle things if something goes wrong.

Is there a bouncer for private providers of on-line courses? Certainmont!!

ACPET—The Australian Council for Private Education and Training is your personal bouncer. If your course provider is affiliated with ACPET, that means they have met stringent quality controls with course content and delivery and you can proceed with some confidence. If something does go wrong with your course then ACPET have big snarly teeth, with which to snap at the provider.

You can do an ACPET member search at: http://www.acpet.edu.au/

Career Focus

Brickie

Becoming a Bricklayer will not only give you a body-builders physique it will also give you job security— this is because there is a shortage of bricklayers. As the old-dude-brickies are retiring, the new-dude-brickies are a little slow to sign up.

Personal Requirements:

• enjoy practical work
• good hand-eye coordination
• able to perform technical activities
• able to interpret and follow plans
• able to cope with the physical demands of the job.

Related Jobs:

Building Contractor | Carpenter | Concreter | Construction Worker | Roofer | Solid Plasterer | Stonemason | Wall and Ceiling Liner

Brick Wall

I have created my own brick-wall of factoids about bricklaying with some links and toons to watch about this career.

You are welcome to visit my wall.