4. **CHECK OUT THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE IN THE HOLIDAYS** – ‘A Day at Melbourne’ will be of interest to anyone considering studying there; an opportunity to explore the Parkville campus and find out about study options. Hear from current students; find out about entry requirements, course structures and other opportunities (can include a tour of the Southbank campus, Victorian College of the Arts). When: 10am-3.30pm, Fri 11 April; Register: www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/events, or call 13 MELB for information.

5. **VICTORIA UNIVERSITY (VU) NEWS** –
   - VU, with its main campus in Footscray, had an increase in the number of first preferences in the 2014 VTAC first round offers. Some highlights were the B. Sport and Exercise Science which had a Clearly-In ATAR of 75. VU, with its committed partners Western Bulldogs, Melbourne Vixens and the Australian Institute of Sport, ensure that students are exposed to elite practices; Osteopathy, Biomedical Science and Paramedics had Clearly-In ATARs between 75 and 80; Law had a Clearly-In ATAR of 80. VU is the only Australian Law School to offer Court Internships.
   - **SCHOLARSHIPS FOR EXCELLENCE** – The inaugural VU Chancellor’s Scholarships for Excellence were awarded to fifty students from schools across the state who qualified for the new scholarship with an ATAR over 90. These high achievers will receive leadership training, individual mentoring by corporate leaders and internship opportunities. These new scholarships complement the university’s existing Achievement and Access Scholarships. See: www.vu.edu.au/scholarships.
   - **EVENT MANAGEMENT** – VU’s Bachelor of Business (Event Management) graduates are highly sought after. The three year course helps students develop the skills to design, plan, create, implement, manage, and market events of all shapes and sizes. Extensive industry placements are an integral part of the program, giving valuable practical experience. The Tourism and Events industry is one of Australia’s largest employers with the demand for conference and event organisers expected to grow strongly. Enjoy a diverse career working with festivals, conferences, exhibitions, and community and sporting events.
6. UNIVERSITY OF CANBERRA AT HOLMESGLEN INSTITUTE – Did you know that it is possible to obtain a University of Canberra degree, studying in Melbourne through Holmesglen Institute? For example, this year Holmesglen is offering the University of Canberra’s Bachelor of Interior Architecture. The program will give students the skills to plan, design, detail and supervise the construction of industrial, retail and residential building interiors. See: http://www.canberra.edu.au/melbourne.

7. CONSIDERING BECOMING A TEACHER? All Australian education ministers have agreed to national standards and procedures for accrediting initial teacher education programs. The Accreditation of Initial Education Programs in Australia: Standards and Procedures are currently being implemented by the Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT) through the accreditation of initial teacher education programs. Included in the policy are requirements that relate to the entry standards for students commencing initial teacher education courses. One of these requirements is that students are in the top 30% of the population for literacy and numeracy achievement. Tertiary institutions that offer initial teacher education programs may still admit students who do not meet this standard at their discretion, but they must ensure that students meet the benchmark by the time they graduate. Further info: www.aitsl.edu.au/ite

8. SO YOU WANT TO BECOME AN ACCOUNTANT? Accountants analyse financial dealings of organisations, and give advice about meeting legal requirements and the keeping of financial records. Some specialise in certain areas such as auditors, investment analysts, cost accountants and taxation agents. Accountants qualify by studying at university for a Bachelor of Business or a Bachelor of Commerce with a ‘major’ in accounting, or a Bachelor of Accounting. When selecting the degree you wish to study, it is important to check that it is possible to study for an accounting ‘major’ in that particular degree. Some universities require Units 3 & 4 Maths Methods as a prerequisite (Melbourne and Monash - Clayton campus), Monash (Caulfield and Peninsula campuses) requires any Maths, while other universities (eg ACU, Deakin, Swinburne, La Trobe, RMIT & VU) have no maths requirement. With some further study, graduates can qualify for entry to the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia (ICAA) CPA Australia or the Institute of Public Accountants (IPA).

Some universities offer scholarships to study accounting. For example, Monash University offers the Bachelor of Accounting with a $16,000 scholarship, industry placements, and mentoring. Swinburne University offers the Bachelor of Business (Vice-Chancellor’s Scholarship) where a major in accounting can be studied, and similarly in the Bachelor of Commerce (Chancellor’s Scholars Program) at the University of Melbourne.

Some large accounting firms like KPMG and Ernst & Young offer traineeships to those wishing to qualify as accountants. These involve studying part-time and working at the accounting firm part-time. Valuable experience is gained while studying. Applications and interviews for the traineeships occur later in the year.

It is also possible to study accounting at TAFE. However, these qualifications will qualify you to work as a bookkeeper or payroll clerk, for example, not as an accountant. TAFE qualifications can, of course, be upgraded to university qualifications, usually with credits for previous study undertaken. For more information see: www.cpaaustralia.com.au www.charteredaccountants.com.au/students; www.publicaccountants.org.au

9. UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS – Many are available, and will be covered later. However, one requires an application by 21 March 2014, so is highlighted now. The Tuckwell Scholarship was recently launched at the Australian National University (ANU), and selects 25 recipients each year, awarding them $20,900pa (rising with inflation) for up to five years of their degree at ANU for expenses like accommodation and living costs, with scholars living on campus. In addition to receiving a world-class education recipients will grow as individuals, emerging as independent global citizens with the capacity to change the world. ANU is looking for suitable applicants Australia-wide. See: tuckwell.anu.edu.au

Compiled by: m.walker