1. **FINDING OUT ABOUT UNIVERSITIES** – Universities provide many opportunities for secondary school students to find out about their **facilities and courses**, such as **Open Days** and Experience Days. Some of these are detailed below for you diary. **Experience Days** are a great way to find out more about an institution you are considering for later study.

- **EXPERIENCE RMIT** – Year 10 – 12 students can attend free events and engage in workshops in a wide range of interest areas, while experiencing life on campus. **See:** [www.rmit.edu.au/experiencedays](http://www.rmit.edu.au/experiencedays) for more information about RMIT’s Holiday Programs. They occur in the Term 2 holiday break.

- **EXPERIENCE AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY (ACU)** – Sample the degree of your choice and get a taste of life at ACU. You will meet staff and students, get a feel for the campus, learn about industries and careers, and enjoy the campus atmosphere. **When:** Ballarat campus Tues 28 June; **Melbourne** campus (Fitzroy) Tues 5 July. **Register at:** [www.acu.edu.au/uni-experience](http://www.acu.edu.au/uni-experience).

- **EXPERIENCE LA TROBE** – This is another opportunity to find out about a university campus, its courses and careers. You’ll be able to go to workshops, attend lectures, do lab experiments, talk with staff, try different study areas and get advice from experts. You will also be able to tour the campus. **When:** Bendigo campus – 6 July; **Melbourne** campus 7 July. See: [www.latrobe.edu.au/study](http://www.latrobe.edu.au/study) for details and to book.

2. **MORE LA TROBE UNIVERSITY NEWS** -

- **PREREQUISITE CHANGES AT LA TROBE UNIVERSITY** – The College of Science, Health and Engineering at La Trobe has recently conducted an audit of course prerequisites and have made changes to the following degrees:
  - Bachelor of Applied Science/Master of Dietetic Practice
  - Bachelor of Applied Science/Master of Occupational Therapy Practice
  - Bachelor of Biological Sciences
  - Bachelor of Biomedical Science
  - Bachelor of Nursing (Pre-registration)
  - Bachelor of Pharmacy (Honours)
  - Bachelor of Science (Wildlife and Conservation Biology)

Click on the links above to view details of the courses and the new prerequisites.

- **RANKINGS** – La Trobe has been ranked **58** in the world in the latest 2016 *Times Higher Education* **150 Under 50** ranking of the world’s **best young universities**. This is a rapid climb of 42 places in two years. This year’s result is a jump of 17 places in 2015 when it ranked **75th** which in turn was up 25 from a 100 ranking in 2014.

- **ELITE ATHLETE BONUS ENTRY SCHEME** – La Trobe is one of only three Victorian universities that offer bonus aggregate points (to the ATAR) for elite athletes. It is available to domestic undergraduate applicants:
  - who are classified as an **elite athlete**
  - whose sporting commitments have **impacted on their previous studies**
  - who **apply for admission** to La Trobe via the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC).

Under the scheme eligible students receive five bonus aggregate points towards their entry score for admission (see: [www.latrobe.edu.au/sport/elite-athlete](http://www.latrobe.edu.au/sport/elite-athlete))
NOTE: Other universities offering a similar athletes scheme are ACU (see: www.acu.edu.au/study_at_acu/alternative_entry/elite_athlete_and_performer_program) and Melbourne (Melbourne also has an Artistic Performers Entry Scheme; (see: www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/admissions/high_achievers_programs/elite-athletes-and-artistic-performers).

**WORLD-FIRST BLOOD TEST FOR PARKINSON’S DISEASE** – La Trobe researchers have developed a diagnostic blood test which could change the lives of people with Parkinson’s. Currently no clinical biomarker test exists and the only means of diagnosis is a neurological examination. By the time patients have symptoms, the large numbers of brain cells are destroyed. The new test will enable doctors to detect abnormal metabolism of blood cells and allow earlier treatment.

3. **EXPLORING OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY AS A CAREER** – You are invited to an information and demonstration evening to hear from Occupational Therapists experienced in spinal rehabilitation, hand therapy, mental health, neurology and oncology. These evenings have proved to be a great opportunity for students/parents to hear from OT’s working in their specialised domains, observe demonstrations, and have questions answered. When: 5.00pm Registration, 5.30-8.00pm Presentation and Questions; Where: Education Precinct, Level 4 Austin Tower, Austin Hospital, Studley Rd, Heidelberg; Apply: ASAP, but by 24 June to keely.zenner@austin.org.au (successful students will receive a confirmation email – maximum of two attendees per reservation).

4. **AVIATION FOR WOMEN CONFERENCE**
Moorabbin Flying Services in conjunction with the Australian Women Pilots Association are holding a conference aimed at encouraging teenage girls to take the first step in pursuing a career in the aviation industry. With a predicted shortage of skilled employees, this is a wonderful opportunity to share your enthusiasm and passion with young women in the industry. **Woman Pilots, Air Traffic Controllers, Aviation Fire Fighters and Cabin Crew** will be in attendance. When: 10am-3.30pm, Sat 4 June; Where: Ground Theory Centre, 55 Grange Rd, Cheltenham; Bookings (essential): 9580 8822 or markd@mfs.com.au.

5. **SWINBURNE NEWS**
- The Graduate Destination Survey ranks Swinburne graduate full-time employment rates ahead of most Victorian universities in the areas of science, communications, psychology and engineering. Swinburne employment outcomes are strong across the board, as revealed when compared with other institutions by the Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching.
- Did you know? Swinburne’s specialist industry scholarships, Bachelor of Information Technology and the new Bachelor of Accounting and Information Systems, offer students a tax-free scholarship worth around $40,000, work placements and often, a job!
- Over 250 students accepted places in Swinburne’s new professional degrees in 2016. These offer students a 12-month paid work placement worth $30,000, and a head start towards their career. Read more.
- Final-year product design engineering students collaborate with an industry partner. Combining their skills in mechanical engineering and industrial design, students research and design a market-ready product that responds directly to a social or environmental need. Read more.
- Browse Swinburne graduate destinations; Discover where a Swinburne qualification is taking our graduates.
- Creative Industries Forum; Hear from graduates of Swinburne’s vocational design courses; register now.

6. **INTERESTED IN THE FASHION INDUSTRY?** A speaker at a recent professional development program for career practitioners at Box Hill Institute pointed out that the industry is looking more closely at the impact it has on the environment. More garments use organic cotton, recyclable synthetics, materials offering more durability and which require less washing, and re-using materials, and more man-made fabrics. Fashion designers work as pattern makers, designers, and in product development. Internships are often available, and these can lead on to employment.

Compiled by: m.walker