1. Website of the fortnight .....If you are thinking of studying at university or TAFE after completing school you will find the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) website invaluable. For example: check out the Schools Liaison section, then to Course Link & Course Search to find out about courses available to you with your VCE subjects. See www.vtac.edu.au

2. The VTAC Guide should be available at your local newsagent this week, next week for sure. For $15 it is an absolute must for students in Years 10 – 12 as part of their careers research. The guide includes comprehensive information on thousands of tertiary courses offered in Victoria next year by the universities, TAFEs & Independent Tertiary Colleges (private providers). Information includes a course description, major studies, prerequisites, extra requirements, selection process & the 2009 ATAR.

3. Open Days are coming ...check out the universities and TAFE Institutes that interest you at their annual Open Days. Dates are as follows:

- Sat 31 July – Monash University (Berwick, Gippsland and Peninsula campuses)
- Sun 1 Aug – Monash University (Caulfield, Clayton and Parkville campuses)
- Sun 8 Aug – Deakin University (Geelong); RMIT University & TAFE; Gordon TAFE; Victoria University & TAFE (Footscray); William Angliss TAFE
- Sun 15 Aug – Australian Catholic University (ACU) (Melbourne); Deakin University(Warrnambool); La Trobe University (Bendigo); Swinburne University & TAFE; University of Melbourne; Sunraysia TAFE (Swan Hill)
- Sat 21 Aug – Holmesglen TAFE
- Sun 22 Aug – Box Hill TAFE; Deakin University (Melbourne); La Trobe University (Albury/Wodonga)
- Sun 29 Aug - ACU (Ballarat); Ballarat University; La Trobe University (Bundoora)

4. How can I get the most out of Open Days? Try the following:
  - Allow sufficient time for your visit; two hours or so would be wise.
  - Speak to staff about courses that interest you. Write your questions beforehand.
  - Get a student perspective. Speak to students studying courses that interest you.
  - Collect information/brochures.
  - Ask about industry placements and work experience in courses that interest you.
  - Ask about international study opportunities with your course.
  - Consider transport issues. Is the campus you are considering accessible from where you live?
  - Check the environment where you will study. Would you be happy there for three/four years?
  - Consider the facilities/clubs offered for your course at your preferred institution.
  - Consider visiting a country campus, especially if you think you won’t obtain a high enough ATAR for a metropolitan campus. ATARs for country universities are generally lower. They often offer more personal assistance, accommodation, and a lifestyle which will suit some students.
  - Be aware that if you plan to apply for a course involving an interview/folio presentation as part of the selection process (eg design courses) you may well be asked what you found of interest about the course at Open Day. Attendance is therefore vital.
Ask about possible pathways!! If you are concerned about not getting the ATAR for the courses that interest you ask about possible pathways & transfers, both within the particular institution and from other universities or TAFEs. Go direct to each course selection officer/advisor.

5. Herald Sun Careers Expo - Friday July 30 – Sunday August 1; 10am – 3pm each day; Melbourne Convention Centre; 150 exhibitors, free seminars & workshops. Check the website: www.careersexpo.com.au. I have quite a few free tickets for any family interested in attending. Please contact Flo Livery 9844 2749 if interested.

6. Auto taster. If you’ve got a passion for cars, this day is definitely for you. Learn about the range of automotive courses offered by Kangan TAFE, find out about apprenticeships and get your hands dirty with some mechanical workshops. Students will learn how to jack a vehicle, use basic hand tools, dismantle & reassemble a 4-stroke engine, a starter motor & an alternator; and hear about youth employment opportunities at Holden.
Details: Kangan TAFE Richmond campus, Tuesday August 17, 9am – 12noon, $60; register with Melanie Young 9686 2354, myoung@imvc.com.au

7. RMIT Public Relations Course requirement - A reminder that all applicants must register to sit the Public Relations Entrance Test (PRET) to be considered for entry into the Bachelor of Communications (Public Relations). Registration opens Monday 19 July online at: www.rmit.edu.au/mediacommunication and closes Friday 27 August. The test takes place on Friday 3 September 2010 from 5 pm - 7 pm at the RMIT City Campus.

8. Course specific career days - RMIT Advertising & Public Relations Careers Days.
   a) Anyone considering advertising as a career, the Advertising Day will provide an up-to-date overview of the industry and employment opportunities, covering branding and strategy, integrated marketing communications, creative advertising, account service, media, production, the future, and study options.
   Details: 10am-3.30pm, Sat 21 August; RMIT Building 108. Level 9, Lecture Theatre 16 (239 Bourke St, Melbourne); $55 (incl refreshments); Register: www.shortcourses.rmit.edu.au; Info: enquiries@rmit.edu.au
   b) Anyone considering a career in PR, the Public Relations Day provides a realistic overview of the industry and employment opportunities and covers consultancy PR, corporate PR, new media, government PR, event management, fundraising, the future, and study options.
   Details: 10am-3.30pm, Sat 4 Sept; RMIT Building 108, Level 9, Lecture Theatre 16 (239 Bourke St, Melbourne); $55 (incl refreshments); Register: www.shortcourses.rmit.edu.au; Info: enquiries@rmit.edu.au

9. Year 10s & La Trobe University – Get a head-start on planning for 2013! This is a great opportunity for students and parents to get information & advice about VCE subject selection, VTAC procedures, and applying for selection to La Trobe courses.
   Details: 6-8pm, Wed 21 July; West Lecture Theatres; Registration: www.latrobe.edu.au/year10 or 1300 135 045. Time for questions, with drinks and nibbles.

10. La Trobe University VCE Parents’ Information evening. La Trobe Uni has an evening to demystify the terminology and procedures of VCE, VTAC and entry to university – especially for parents.
11. **Deakin University Parents’ Information Evening** – an evening for parents to find out about applying for university and to talk with staff and current students. Details: 7-8.30pm, Wednesday 28 July; Melbourne Campus, 221 Burwood Hwy, Burwood: Information; [www.deakin.edu.au/parents](http://www.deakin.edu.au/parents)

**The Age & Herald Sun Tertiary Planners 2013 for Year 10s**, is a lift-out for school students to assist plan future study by providing information on tertiary course requirements. This annual guide is particularly useful for Year 10 students, listing courses available and the entrance requirements for each institution. When? Tuesday 27 July, 2010. This publication is also available from the vtac website titled VICTER 2013. This is a very useful document in assisting students select VCE subjects as they can check the prerequisites for each course.

12. **Art & Design Week at Monash University’s Caulfield Campus.** With a range of events/activities on offer, the week provides an opportunity to experience the lively, culturally stimulating creative environment at Monash (Caulfield). There will be information sessions, workshops, career pathway seminars and other interactive events. Details: 2-6 August; Monash University Faculty of Art and Design; [www.monashadweek.com.au](http://www.monashadweek.com.au)

13. **New Courses at La Trobe University - Journalism (Sport).** A vocationally oriented degree equipping students for careers in the increasing complex field of sports media. In 3rd year students complete the Sport Journalism Internship, requiring 120 hours at an approved work place. Major studies: journalism, media studies, sport management. Career opportunities: print media, radio, TV, and online; potential in public relations and professional communications for sport companies and sporting organisations. See: [www.latrobe.edu.au/humanities](http://www.latrobe.edu.au/humanities)

14. **New Courses at La Trobe University – Business (Event Management)** - designed to produce leaders for the special events sector, emphasising the application of theoretical knowledge and practical skills needed for the management of events. This degree combines business subjects (accounting, marketing, business law, entrepreneurship, and economics) with studies in the management and delivery of special events. Specialisations: project management, sport facility and event management, business events management, event planning, event operations and sustainable community events.

15. **New Courses at La Trobe University. Politics, Philosophy & Economics** – This degree equips graduates with a broad knowledge base that can be used to resolve practical policy problems. Content includes policy-focused economics seminars and a range of subjects integrating philosophical, political and economic aspects of public policy issues (Eg PPE, public policy and ethics). Careers: economic and social analysts and decision-makers in public, private and not-for-profit sectors Eg analyst, economist, journalist, political advisor

16. **Want a career in the Music Events Industry?** This seminar is targeted to young people aged 15 – 19 who want to pursue a career in the music event industry. Find out about this career path, network with industry professionals, hear speakers from a range of backgrounds in this industry Eg touring & booking agents, event managers, production managers, musicians & publicists. Places will fill fast! Details: Tuesday August 10, 9am – 2.30pm, Eltham Reception Centre, $8, bookings Tammy Crupi 9439 0222 or Denzil Bentley 9433 3327

Compiled by F Livery & M Walker