

The best news, views and art from UB students

WELCOME to the very first issue of the new student magazine.

HOICD

We aim to bring you a healthy dose of entertainment, news, lifestyle and advice.

If you want to know *what's for dinner*, let our resident chef, Danielle, tantalize your tastebuds; or if you want to know who is on the ball, read our *sports page* where Tony and Jess cover all the action, and kick back and relax as Mel tells you all about a UB student star soccer player. Want to know more about *UB extraordinaire* Jimmy Hunt? Then Morgan has you covered. Feeling a bit artsy? Check out all the *awesome work* we have from some Camp St students! If you want *something a bit local*, then Laura will tell you all about it. For a dose of *politics*, Kaitlyn is your girl but if it's *fiction* you're after, Shane's 'Big Job' or Will's 'Burning feeling' will hit the spot. There's even a piece of Annelise and various *book and film* reviews from Pamela and Lexi.

We aim to please, so help put a smile on the

HOICH team's dial by having a read.

Drop us a line and let us know what you think at hotchpotchmagazine@gmail.com

Happy reading! Mel, Will and Morgan. [Editorial Team] Semester 2, 2010 Issue 1



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We also acknowledge the contribution of the *Behavioural and Social Sciences and Humanities Society* as well as *Humanities and Further Education*.



If all the students who slept through lectures were laid end to end, they'd all be a lot more comfortable.

CONTENTS

Student Spotlight
On the Hunt1
News and Views
King of Ballarat2
The Buzz Word2
The Ball Park
-On the Ball3
-Busy Buns4
-Franckly Speaking4
[Hot]ch [Pot]ch
-Yummy Pan-fried Chicken and Bacon5
Let us entertain you
-Reviews6
Creative Corner
-A Burning Feeling7
-Student Art7
-Big Job8
Ur Ballarat
-In the know about 'the Known World'9
-A Piece of Annelise10

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

On the Hunt

Morgan Stewart (Professional Writing and Editing)

When you try to personify who a UB student is, Jimmy



Sonify who a OB student is, Jimmy Hunt's name sits at the top of the list. The twenty- seven year old sports management student has been involved with the Uni in countless ways, and has cherished every minute of it, 'I really enjoy the Uni experience, the community feel we've got out here.'

Hunt's CV is impressive considering he's still undertaking study. After being fast tracked through the University's FAST program in 2007, Hunt then spent the next two years studying a Bachelor of Physical Education. Deciding it wasn't the path for him, he transferred to sports management in 2009; not looking back since. As part of his course, Hunt has undertaken a number of practical placements. In fact, he has taken on so much that some of the work he's done isn't going to be counted. This doesn't faze him much, because he enjoys it 'so that's [a] major thing'.

Hunt fits into the Uni mould well, so it's no surprise that he strives to help others get as much enjoyment out of Uni life as he does. When talking about his time at Uni, Hunt states 'I found I fit in really well, and I saw some people that struggled a bit'. This led to him putting his hand up to be a mentor for the last two years.

Apart from study, Hunt has a major hand in working and promoting with some of the UB sports teams and local clubs and bars around Ballarat. And as part of this, along with a few other students, Hunt launched the society *Wolf Pack*. It has been a complete success, Hunt admitting that at the start of the year they had crossed their fingers for at least 500 members, they can now proudly boast at having over 1000. Considering *Wolf Pack* promotes nights out for students, Hunt can 'definitely see where [the Uni] are coming from' in terms of not wanting the uni to have a binge drinking culture. *Wolf Pack* promotes a safe night without losing the fun, designing events that offer deals for students who aren't drinking, as well as those who are.

Hunt also plays a major part in Uni Games (this year at the Southern Uni Games landing himself an opportunity to be the assistant to the media, marketing and special event coordinator); has his own YouTube channel, one of his parody videos managing to get 80 000 hits; and until recently had his own website (ABCbomb), which dealt in shipping out street wear.



When you're in the Uni community as much as he is, you have to be prepared for negativity, but for Hunt, it's water off a ducks back, 'Whatever you do, there is always going to be people who don't like it and voice their negative opinions; but I don't take any of that sort of stuff seriously'.

For now, Jimmy Hunt is happy being at Uni, but as his time here draws to a close he is looking forward to 'mov[ing] onto the outside world' and working in event management. Preferably something that allows him to 'work flat out for a few months, and then kick back for a while afterwards,' he finishes with a laugh.





I am so clever that sometimes I don't understand a single word of what I am saying.-Oscar Wilde

VIEWS News AND

Student issues and opinions.



King of Ballarat

Kaitlyn Chadwick (Professional Writing and Editing)

The Federal Election for 2010 promised to be a tight one and oh boy did it deliver. Both said parties on several occasions that it would go down to the wire and now

Australia had a hung parliament; the first in 70 years. As the nation waited for some sort of result, the Ballarat electorate made its voice heard with the re-election of Labor MP, Catherine King.

Ms King won the two party preferred basis and managed to gain a positive swing of 3.8%. It is her fourth term in office, since her victory in 2001 from the Liberal party and she has now been named as a parliamentary secretary. So what does Ms King have to offer the University of Ballarat and its students?

As a part of a huge incentive for the University, Ms King has projects already in the works to improve the facilities UB has to offer. The Education Investment Fund is responsible for the development of a Manufacturing Technology Training Centre, expected to begin this year and be finished in 2011 and cost the government \$18 million. Also a new science and engineering precinct/technology and training centre expected to begin this year and be finished by 2012 and costing the government \$58 million. Moving from the university facilities, the Better TAFE Facilities program is currently in production of a new equine centre, which is slated to be finished at the end of this year and with a cost of \$2.9 million, the government will pick up \$2.328M of this. Finally, a Teaching and Learning Capital fund has made way for new primary industries training facilities, which are currently underway and are expected to be finished by the end of the year and at a cost of \$2.98 million for the government.

These exciting new developments and resources will provide well deserving students the right technology to finish their studies and promote the University of Ballarat and its TAFE division as an educational institution who can compete with larger schools.

The Buzz Word

As the weather and early 8.30am starts become more unbearable, the Hotch Potch team took to the Mt Helen campus to find out- What is your ideal lecture time?



Kane Stewart- 21, 3rd year Bachelor of Commerce

'It doesn't really worry me because I'm at Uni all the time. As long as it's not like one at 8.30am and one at 4.30pm- So I

have some of the day to do other stuff.'



Meg Tasker- Vic. Lit. Co-ordinator, lecturer, tutor

'10.30am, so everyone's had time to have a nice hot coffee.'



Adelle Brereton- 18, 1st year BA / Diploma of Professional Writing and Editing

'10am is good, because I come from out of town, so it takes about 40 minutes to get here.'



Kalen Douglas- 21, 2nd year Bachelor of PE

'9-10am so it's not too early and you're awake and can pay attention.'



Nicole Frith- 40, 2nd year BA/ Diploma of Professional Writing and Editing

'I like 8.30am starts, because I'm an early bird. I like to be here early and get it over and done with so I can go home

and be with my family.'



vice versa.'

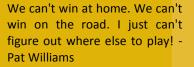
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Agnel Dsouza - 26, Masters of Business Administration

'I like the way the Uni caters for all students. There are night classes so people can work during the day, and









THE BALL PARK

For all your sporting needs.

On the Ball

Tony Castrignano (Bachelor of PE - Senior footballer with Bacchus March in the Ballarat Football League)



Ballarat: The Swans use their pace very well when moving the ball, looking to play-on and create run from the backline at every opportunity. They have players who can kick a bag of goals on their day, making their

forward line extremely dangerous. The key to defeating Ballarat is to stop their run through the midfield by working hard to maintain defensive pressure. Ballarat are an extremely good side, and will be very hard to beat if opposition sides allow them to play their running brand of football.

Key Player: Shane Hutchinson. Very good around the stoppages and contested ball situations, and is also a great on-field leader for the Swans.



Darley: The Devils have been inconsistent this year. They have a good mix of experience and young talent in all areas of the ground, and are very good at winning

the contested football, which can be all important in the heat of a finals match. Darley can sometimes have a lapse of concentration for a 10-15 minute period, which is long enough to cost them the game against a good side. If the Devils can stay 'switched on', look for them to make a good push in this year's finals series.

Key Player: Brad Inglis. Darley have a lot of good midfielders to choose from, but Inglis can really hurt the opposition with his possessions, he is equally good on both sides of the body and can drift forward to kick a goal or two.



East Point: Similar to Darley, they have been inconsistent this year, but are capable of challenging any side on their day. The loss of superstar forward Dan Jordan is causing problems for the Kangaroos, who have been

struggling to find a replacement forward. East Point has a very good midfield and is also solid down back, but to win in finals football they will need to find a key forward target. **Key Player:** All forward line players. As mentioned earlier, the forward line of the Kangaroos must step up for the team to have any chance of winning this year's premiership



Lake Wendouree: Lakers have been even across the ground this year. They don't rely on individual brilliance to win games of football, as all players stick to team structure and work really well as a team. Their recent defeat of Sunbury would have given them a massive

confidence boost.. The only potential weakness in the Lakers is their backline, which is very experienced but at times lacks leg speed. All in all, a very tough team to beat.

Key Player: Matthew Battistello. Apart from being a very good midfielder, Battistello provides great on-field leadership as the Lakers coach, and ensures that players stick to the team structures.



Redan: Redan, the defending champions, are a very good side, featuring a lot of outstanding players

around the ground. The Lions are very good at running the ball from one end to the other by handballing and playing on quickly, similar to Ballarat. Redan also have a number of forwards who can kick multiple goals, which is proven to be a key factor in winning finals football. Redan looms as a major chance to win back to back premierships.

Key Player: Jarrod Edwards. An obvious choice, the 4 time Henderson Medallist is an out and out gun midfielder. I didn't fully appreciate he's ability until playing on him this year, where unfortunately I witnessed first-hand his strength (I was sore for days from a tackle he put on me!) and intelligence around the



stoppages.

Sunbury: Simply, they are the team to beat. Sunbury are a

very even team, with strong and experienced players at both ends of the ground. However their real strength lies within their midfield, which is the best in the competition. This team plays for each other rather than as individuals, and stick to Coach Mark Power's structures extremely well. The Lions never waste the ball either, preferring to kick short and hold onto the ball rather than kick long to 50-50 contests. Their recent defeat to the Lakers proves they can be beaten, but they are still favourites to win this year's premiership.

Key Player: Ben Jordan. Hard to pick one key player in a team full of superstars, but I've picked Jordan because of his ball-winning ability around the stoppages and his on-field leadership and direction.





Being happy doesn't mean that everything is perfect. It means that you've decided to look beyond the imperfections

Busy Buns

Jess Wright (PE and Grad. Diploma of Outdoor Education -President of Ballarat University Netball Squad)



This year has been a busy year for the Ballarat University Netball Squad (BUNS). Our main aim for the year has been to work towards the Australian University Games, and we are proud to announce that we are entering a mixed team for the games.

The team consists of: Jess Wright (President), Hayley Womersley (Secretary), Grace Horsfall (Chairperson), Sarah Crane, Megan Jolly, Jess Kaa, Jimmy Hunt (Treasurer), Mark Block and Aidan Brady.

We have had a number of events which have raised much money towards the trip, such as a Bingo night, a Trivia night, a foam party and 'A day at the races', which was held at our sponsor venue, the Regent Bar. Many local businesses have

supported us with these events, including Rebel Sport, Priceline, House and Skin Ski and We would also Surf. like to thank Wolf Pack for supporting us throughout the year at manv events. our BUNS is a fun and exciting club and we look forward to starting netball mixed а tournament in the near future.



Franckly Speaking

1800 811 711

info@ballarat.edu.au

www.LearnToSucceed.com.au

Melita Knight (Professional Writing and Editing)

Soccer is the most popular sport in the world, just ask Franck Labakohler. The Certificate II Engineering student has been both a fan and a player since he was young; his father was a soccer coach and encouraged Franck's interest in the game.

The striker (and sometime mid-fielder) has an impressive soccer CV. Looking at it, you can understand how he has

become so good at the game. Franck started in his primary

school's soccer team then found a club that was in his local area. He was such a talented player that he progressed to playing academy soccer. He has played for the Togo national under 17s team, played professionally and also played in Benin on his way to Australia. Franck says that one of the best moments in soccer is when you 'score a goal'.



Currently, Franck plays for the Red Devils here in Ballarat and has done so since 2008. As a Victorian, he supports the Melbourne Victory; but on the world stage, he barracks for Barcelona.

Franck, however, does not just limit himself to playing. He is also an accredited community coach and hopes to progress, 'step by step,' to coaching larger teams.

Soccer may just be another ball game to some of us, but to Franck, it is much more, '[it] is [his] life.'

Are you interested in or play sports? Want to share your passion and stories? Why don't you send us an article to include in The Ball Park? Just email us at hotchpotchmagazine@gmail.com.

Untitled

Georgina Gould-Hardwick (Bachelor of Visual Arts (Fine arts))



University of Ballarat

Learn to succeed





-You can't just turn on creativity like a faucet. You have to be in the right mood. -What mood is that? -Last-minute panic. - Calvin and Hobbes



Tips and tricks to making cheap and delicious meals.

Yummy Pan-fried Chicken and Bacon

Danielle O'Donnell (Professional Writing and Editing - Chef extraordinaire)



Ingredients

1 Chicken breast fillet per person (pp) or cut 1 large one to serve two

- 2 pieces of short-cut bacon pp
- 1-2 tbs* of Brandy or white wine pp
- 1 tbs of olive oil or to taste
- 1 tbs chopped parsley

Further ingredients if serving with pasta

Pasta 70-100 grams** dry weight pp 1tbs (20 ml) of cream per person 1/4 cup of chicken stock Baby spinach leaves Semi-dried or fresh tomato Oregano or basil (to taste) Garlic Parsley Parmesan cheese (fresh is best) *tbs=tablespoon

** Manufacturers suggest 125g pp

Directions

1. Place bacon in a heavy -based frypan or electric pan and cook

2. Put bacon to one side and heat olive oil in pan to a medium-high heat. Place chicken under glad wrap or in

a plastic bag and flatten with a rolling pin. Add the chicken to the hot pan. It should not 'stew' but quickly turn a light bronze colour. Cook each side for 3-5 minutes until cooked but not dry in the centre.

3. Put chicken aside and add brandy or wine to the hot pan stir to take up the bits from the bottom and deglaze (as the chefs say) the pan. You may salt and pepper to taste. Add parsley.

4. Arrange chicken and bacon on plates and drizzle some of the pan juice sauce over it.

Pasta Variation

Follow steps 1-3 at left. Add 1/4 cup of chicken stock and 1 tbs (20ml) of cream per person and turn heat down to a slow simmer until sauce thickens a little. Add chopped chicken and bacon, some semi-dried or fresh tomato, baby spinach and or oregano/basil and crushed garlic. Toss through pasta. Serve sprinkled with some parsley or parmesan cheese.

If you are not happy with your mashed potatoes you can improve them by using these tips:

- 1. Cook until tender but not breaking up.
- 2. Drain well and return to the warm pan.
- 3. Stir a little to dry them

4. Do <u>not</u> add liquid until the potatoes are well mashed.
5. Push mashed potatoes to one side in the pan (or if using microwave get a separate dish) and turn heat to low-add milk, butter/marg and or cream and warm until butter is melted.

6. Stir the mixture through the potatoes.

7. Add black pepper, herbs or grain mustard. Enjoy!

To peel tomatoes, cut an 'x' at the top and0 bottom of each tomato. Choose a bowl that is deep enough to allow the tomatoes to be covered with water. Boil the kettle and pour water over the tomatoes. Wait two minutes. The skin comes off easily!

Do you have a recipe you want to share? Maybe you know how to make a cheap but delicious meal. Tickle the taste buds and send your recipes or tips into Hotch Potch: hotchpotchmagazine@gmail.com





Let us entertain you

Entertainment news and reviews.

REVIEWS



Dead in the Family

Lexi Ferreira, (Bachelor of Arts majoring in literature and film)

The tenth book of the wild and saucy Sookie Stackhouse series was somewhat of a shock to me. After reading of epic rescues and raunchy love scenes from the

previous novels, *Dead in the Family* was to me a bit of a letdown. Instead of the sass and drama that usually keeps me on the edge of my seat, I was conned with what I can only describe as a boring couple of days in Sookie's life where nothing of much substance takes place. The sex was mediocre, the drama-- anticlimactic and the plot line a little shaky. I felt like a kid who has had the absolute best Christmases the past nine years who woke up on the tenth only to find a bare room that had no presents and no tree. I hope Charlaine Harris picks up her game in time for book number eleven.



Inception

By Lexi Ferreira

Inception, with its stellar cast, hit the jackpot. It is probably the most fascinating and brilliant movie that 2010 has offered so far. The plot was intricate and amazingly detailed, the special effects

were unbelievable and the theme of this film completely enveloped me. While sitting in the cinema I usually notice who is sitting around me, who is chewing popcorn too loudly and how that tall man always seems to find his way into the seat in front of me but not this time. The film took me in and away from everything; I sat there enthralled from beginning to end. DiCaprio has to be acknowledged; he is one of the greats but he surpassed himself with this role. All in all it was a superb concept and was executed flawlessly. Mind Blowing.



The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo Pamela Miller (Professional Writing and Editing)

The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo is based on the highly acclaimed book by Stieg Larsson.

A convicted journalist, Mikael Blomkvist, (Michael Nyqvist) is facing a gaol sentence when he's hired by a wealthy industrialist to solve the 40 year old mystery of his missing, presumed dead, young niece. A young, professional internet hacker, Lisbeth Salander, (Noomi Rapace,) tough, with a dark past, becomes involved in the search.

This crime-mystery-thriller film wastes not a moment of its 146 minutes. Noomi Rapace gives a dynamic performance, and the MA rating is justified, for the violence, sexual scenes and graphic images are presented with little restraint. The stark cold scenery of the Swedish winter is a fitting backdrop for the issues of the story. The subtitles are easy to follow and you will be engrossed. I hope the sequel is as good. It's available on DVD. I highly recommend this, but it's not for the faint-hearted.



Basement Birds: Basement Birds By EJ Cartledge

Label: Inertia

With one eye on the market and the

other on a rollicking good time, Basement Birds is a coming together of some fine local talent – Josh Pyke, Kav Temperley [Eskimo Joe], Steve Parkin and Kevin Mitchell [Bob Evans / Jebediah] – to write and record an album of alt. country, folk-fused selections. The result is a pleasing if not especially challenging take on the folk/pop genre. This is a decidedly mid-tempo series of laid-back tunes, free of pretence and free of tension.

The first single, *Waiting For You*, is a harmony-laden collective effort with an effortless rising and falling versechorus-verse pattern. Second single *Not The One* picks up the tempo (gorgeous harmonies and neat lead guitar break) and the catchy *Skin Of The Sky* features the best song structure on the album – complete with whistling. One can't help feeling, however, that cautioned ruled and each member of this 'supergroup' saved better tunes for their own careers.





Life is what happens to you while you're busy making other plans-John Lennon

CREATIVE CORNER

Art, photography, fiction, creative non-fiction and poetry.

A Burning Feeling

Will Bullow (Professional Writing and Editing)

Every child has a fascination with fire; the beauty and the ferocity are captivating.

It started with a new kitchen and one rule: No touching! I sat at the kitchen table staring aimlessly at the new walls, freshly painted and looking pristine. But how long can a child sit in a kitchen and not touch things; especially when there is a packet of chocolate biscuits on the shelf?

I climbed onto one of the new chairs and realised that I really couldn't handle heights as well as I would have liked. By the time I managed to get the biscuits I felt really ill so I made my way back to earth. That's when I noticed the fancy 'clicky' thing that lights the stove lying on the bench. What else could I do but grab it and give it a try!

It was like being in control of a weapon, so much power and not enough time to abuse it! I kept on clicking then I saw it... The paper towels! These would burn easily and satisfy some of my destroying fancy—so I clicked.

There was fire, a lot of fire, and I...I had started it! I felt so great, powerful and in-charge, until I realised that the smoke was bellowing out the window—right to where my Mum and Dad stood watering the garden. Oh no!

What extinguishes fire? Ok, let me rephrase that... What doesn't extinguish fire? I tried household cleaner. I sprayed away, each time rewarded with a satisfying 'Whoosh'. The fire grew until it followed the spray—right onto Mum's new kitchen wall. I was going to get in so much trouble, and trust me I couldn't afford that at the time, not with my best friend's birthday party just days away. He was having a pool party and his Mum makes the best chocolate cake... Oh, I couldn't... Wait! Wait! The fire!

My next plan of attack was with fly spray—it knocks flies dead so why not a raging chemical fire? Upon spraying the aerosol, there was a mini explosion and the paper towel holder, being plastic, just melted away to nothing right onto Mum's new microwave. The stench was unbearable! Luckily, my parents had moved further down into the garden. What followed is a little hazy, literally. With nowhere for the smoke to escape it lingered in the room, leaving a putrid smell in the carpet and my clothes.

I had no real other choice at this point, so I ran to the backdoor and screamed 'FIRE, the house is on FIRE!' I had approximately two minutes before my parents reached the house so I dove head first into the toy box, a hiding spot for all occasions.

I was found whimpering like you wouldn't believe. I said I was sorry, but clearly that wasn't enough. I was now left to scrub scorch marks off the wall! Needless to say after five minutes it got boring, and was clearly ineffective. If I could just cover up the marks with something like paint—like the paint that's in Dad's shed. Hmm...

Coming Home Postcard

Andrea Hurley (Advanced Diploma of Graphic Design)



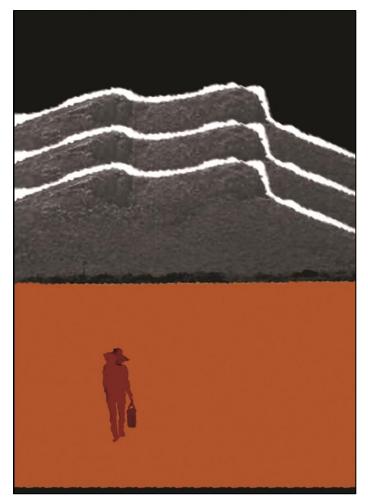
University of Ballarat

Learn to succeed

Computer says 'No.'

Coming Home Postcard

Jodie Kaine (Advanced Diploma of Graphic Design)



Big Job

A serial by Shane Hartwig (Professional Writing and Editing)

Federal Criminal Investigations Joint Taskforce case no# 882179.

Critical document;

Hand written statement from key suspect, appending to film interview: *BA982-1, 18th June 2011; official transcription of statement as follows...

Let me start with this simple point: this is a full and honest confession, and everything here described is a reflection of the events as I saw them. What becomes of this story, the author and his repute, I leave to the audience hereafter with whole indifference... It will be convenient, even apt in some respects, to hang the 'bad-guy' sign on me; I expect nothing less in the days and years from now, but as to whether I am all I was made out to be, whispered about, broadcast with suspicions, that decision will fall to the heart and mind of the inquirer. As I've stated I'm not going to lie or attempt to cotton-wrap the truth; and so I can't say 'villain' is a title I don't wholly deserve.

There's no denying the fun in critiquing. Sitting off on the side and criticizing someone else in strife is as gratifying as it is easy; accordingly, if you've come to reading this I'm sure you've already come to make your own judgement. Anything I might say here will do little to persuade you that I am anything other than what has been said about me; but I put to you this question before you dismiss me totally: if you had shared the situation, taken the chances, gathered the courage to do what I did, were faced with the same catastrophes without warning; could you have done better? I don't mean to make this confession flattering, and really given the choice I would rather not have it written at all, but this is a tale Special Agent Grant wants from me, maybe to serve his own curiosity as much as anything else, and as I'm shackled to a table in an FBI field office looking at an easy forty to sixty years in a slam, I guess I have some time to accommodate him.

Agent Grant...The first time he introduced himself I thought he was putting me on; the cliché snideness, the arrogance, the probably made-up name. By his over application of the demeanour I arrived directly at the proposition he was faking the title, but then he pulled out the flashy badge and showed me.

Anyway, leading towards how I came to be here. I was recruiting some people for the operation that landed me in my current position, doing the rounds among some very unsavoury circles meant I was bound to get some police attention eventually, but the last thing I expected was to actually have a Federal Agent confront me.

What happens next? Grab the next copy of *Hotch Potch* to find out.





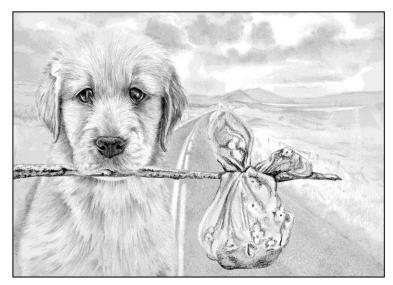


I am ready to meet my Maker. Whether my Maker is prepared for the ordeal of meeting me is another matter.-Winston Churchill

Coming Home Postcard *Kyle Findlay (Advanced Diploma of Graphic Design)*



Coming Home Postcard Justine Jarrod (Advanced Diploma of Graphic Design)

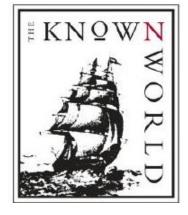




Life and leisure in Ballarat.

In the know about 'The Known World'

By Laura Duke (Professional Writing and Editing/BA)



'The Known World' is not your everyday, run-of-themill bookshop. You can't go in there and buy the latest best-seller. You won't find shelves lined with bright, new books. And it's highly unlikely that there will be more than one copy of any title in stock.

What you can do is purchase a coffee and relax on the old black couch, which has been warmed by the fire burning in the old-fashioned fireplace in front of it. You can wander around the Victorian style shop and browse not only the many second-hand books, but the collection of quirky objects and pieces of furniture. You can even take a seat at the piano and play a song or two if it takes your fancy!

Originally 'Buninyong Books', owner Michelle Coxall relocated the second-hand bookshop to Ballarat in 2008. The name 'The Known World' belonged to someone else and although she tried, Michelle said 'I just couldn't come up with anything better, it was just perfect', so she approached the owner and after much negotiation was able to purchase the name.

The shop is now located at 14 Sturt Street, in a former Victorian house built in the 1880s. Michelle was drawn to the new place because it 'lent itself to an old world. It had wooden floors and a brick wall and that's about all that was left from the original building.' Michelle wanted her shop to date back to that era and it took four months of refurbishment and 'a huge amount of work to give the right feel.'









Two things are infinite: the universe and human stupidity; and I'm not sure about the universe. -Albert Einstein

Almost everything in the shop is second-hand; from the books, to the furniture, to one of Michelle's favourite items – an old fashioned sample door handle, with keys. Another is an antique book press which is 'quirky and useful, because it still works and it's just the right size for me to use to repair books.'

Michelle gets her books from places such as auctions, markets and op-shops and doesn't have a favourite author or genre. 'I just like good literature, good books.' Her shop reflects this with books ranging from Australian art to classic children's stories.

And it seems the treasures in books aren't always just in the story. Michelle has found all sorts of objects in the books that she buys; from old bookmarks, to fourleaf clovers, to a baby snake! She keeps the tiny, flattened reptile at 'The Known World' and is thinking about creating a display of such findings.

However, there is one book at 'The Known World' that is not for sale, and it's on display in the front cabinet. 'I looked at the publishing page and realised that it was published right here, in this building.' Discoveries like these create their own stories for Michelle, giving tiny glimpses into the personal history of every book she comes across. And for her and many of her customers, that small personal touch is what creates the magic of second-hand books.

Coming Soon



For all of those saucy and sordid questions you were too afraid to ask your mother. Our resident Aunt has an open-mind and an even more open mouth! Like a stiff drink she is harsh, to the point and is guaranteed to leave you pink in the face and breathless.

If you have a dilemma, or have found yourself in a pickle; send your submissions to: askagony1@gmail.com But be warned: Agony will always give it to you <u>hard</u>!



A Piece of Annelise:

The Price of Laziness Annelise Grundell (Professional Writing and Editing)

I'm lazy. In fact, I am probably the laziest person you will ever meet. You could challenge me on the fact, but there isn't much point: I couldn't be bothered to argue with you.

I can't be stuffed to do much, really. I had my car for nine months before I decided to wash it. Turns out it was black, and not grey. It had been so long, I'd forgotten. I've had library books on loan for close to three months (not UB books, of course). My weekly-hire DVDs were so overdue that I had to pay a thirty dollar late fee. And speaking of the black, not grey, car, it's also ten thousand kilometres overdue for a service. Hell, I was even three days late submitting this article to *Hotch Potch*.

I have a gym membership, as well. Except I haven't been once since May. I keep meaning to cancel my contract but, you know, I'm lazy. So I continue to pay the twenty dollars that I can't afford each week, for something that I can't be bothered using.

What I really need is a good kick in the bum to get me going. A swift boot to the buttocks. I think that would do wonders. Getting paid to motivate others could be a good business venture. I would definitely hire you and I'm sure there are others out there who would too (right? I'm not alone in this, am I?). It's just that I couldn't promise the arse-kicker that I'd pay them on time...

Want more of Annelise? Then check out http://thelittleboxofcrayons.blogspot.com

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