Have a great 2010, achieve your goals, and keep yourself informed. One way to keep informed is to read CareerNews and attend events that could assist you in your career research. You will receive CareerNews each fortnight, with details of career events, courses, seminars, information about entry to courses, Open Days, scholarships, study options and much more. Students who attend career events, read, talk with family and friends about careers, collect information and visit the Careers Room, generally find the career selection process easier than those who do not. Some say ‘there is nothing in it that applies to me’......how can you know that if you don't read it, or are unsure what career to pursue? So, you will read CareerNews in 2010!!
Feel free to see me in the Careers Room whenever you need some information or advice. It is open at lunchtimes and for the 25 periods per week I'm not teaching. Meetings etc reduce this availability but I'm there most of the time to help.
Peter Goddard - Editor

1. I'M NOT SURE HOW TO CHOOSE A CAREER

Be assured that you are like many other people at some stage of their lives. The important thing to consider is what you are going to do about it. Will you do what your friend does? Will you ‘fall into’ a career because someone offers you an apprenticeship? Will you do what your parent does because it is familiar? Will you decide you can’t be bothered studying and take on a career that you think will not take much effort? Although you can change careers if the first one doesn’t suit, and you are likely to have a number of careers anyway, career choice does deserve serious consideration. Some questions to take on board and ponder are:

• What interests me?
• What do I enjoy doing?
• What am I good at?
• What school subjects do I like best?
• How do I like to spend my spare time?
• What is important to me?
• How much and what type of study do I wish to do after finishing school?

By answering these questions you will start to get some clues about what will best suit.

2. WHERE WILL I STUDY AFTER FINISHING YEAR 12?

This question, of course, assumes that you will complete further study after Year 12. It is essential that you consider further study; qualifications will increase your employment options, they will increase your opportunities for advancement, and will almost certainly increase your pay. In fact, you can expect to study for further qualifications throughout your life. Australian Bureau of Statistics figures show that the unemployment rate for those with a bachelor degree or above (3%) was half the rate for those without such qualifications (6%).

• You might decide on an apprenticeship: this will quite likely involve completing a pre-apprenticeship course first, where you study for several months at TAFE and then look for an employer. Apprenticeships generally take four years to complete. Traineeships are also available, generally taking one year (see www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au).
• Alternatively, you may wish to complete a TAFE certificate or diploma. These can take between a year and about two years and are available in a huge range of fields such as engineering, accounting, beauty therapy, child-care, graphics and youth work. Government assistance is usually available with fees, and fees are quite low (see www.tafe.vic.gov.au).
• You may wish to obtain a university qualification, or degree, taking three or more years to complete. These are also in a range of areas, for example, law, medicine, architecture, occupational therapy, arts and commerce. Some universities offer double degrees, where you can
complete two degrees in a much shorter time than two separate degrees would take. Government assistance is usually available with fees (see: www.goingtouni.gov.au and university websites).

- Others may wish to complete a qualification at an independent college, such as the Photographic Studies College (www.psc.edu.au) or the Australian College of Natural Medicine (www.acnm.edu.au). These offer specialist courses and charge full fees as they are not government funded.

- The Defence Forces will appeal to some. Most join as general entry recruits, commencing training at various locations around Australia. However, others enter the graduate entry stream, studying for a university degree at the Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA) in Canberra (see: www.defencejobs.gov.au).

- The Police Force may also appeal to you (see: www.police.vic.gov.au).


3. NEWS FROM MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY
The university believes that students are showing their strong approval of the ‘Melbourne Model’ as the university's VTAC offer outcomes for 2010 reflect growing demand particularly for undergraduate Science and Biomedicine. Increased ENTER's for New Generation science-based courses has resulted in increased offers of places and an ENTER in 2010 for Science of 89.05 (85.00 in 2009) and 97.9 for Biomedicine (95.00 in 2009). These courses provide pathways to graduate study in Engineering, a range of Health fields (eg medicine dentistry, physiotherapy) and Veterinary Science. For more information about the university see: www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au.

4. I WANT TO BE A VET!
The annual Veterinary Science Open Day is an opportunity for future students to go behind the scenes at the Veterinary Hospital in Werribee. Speak with staff, join interactive activities, meet current students and take a tour. Course and career advice will be available, giving you the chance to learn about the pathways into the new Doctor of Veterinary Medicine graduate program. When: 10am-3pm, Sun 21 March; Where: University of Melbourne Veterinary Hospital, 250 Princes Highway, Werribee; Info: ph 8344 7844, www.vet.unimelb.edu.au/openday.

5. FIND OUT ABOUT THE AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE ACADEMY
ADFA provides training and education for future leaders in the Navy, Army and Air Force. Combining military and leadership training with an undergraduate degree from the University of NSW, you will be paid to study, get a Uni of NSW degree in Arts, Business, Engineering, Science or Technology, no HECS debt, free health care and a guaranteed career in the Navy, Army or Air Force. Want to know more? When: 6.30pm, Wed 24 Feb; Where: Defence Force Recruiting, Level 14, 501 Swanston St, Melbourne; Bookings: 13 19 01. Parents/friends welcome; Info: www.defencejobs.gov.au/adfa.

6. WANT HELP WITH FOLIO PREPARATION AND CAREERS?
Folio preparation and career discovery courses are held at the RMIT City and Brunswick campuses at various times to suit. Courses are mainly designed for Year 11/12. Info: www.shortcourses.rmit.edu.au, 9925 8111. (Note: These courses do not influence selection of students into RMIT award programs nor are they a requirement for gaining a place in an RMIT award program).

7. FIND OUT ABOUT MONASH