1. **NMIT Step Out Bricklaying Taster Programme**

The Step Out taster programmes are offered at NMIT’s Heidelberg campus for secondary school students who would like to experience bricklaying. There is currently a severe shortage of qualified bricklayers in the building industry, so this 40 hour course has been created in consultation with the Australian Brick and Blocklaying Training Foundation (ABBTF) to encourage more young people to give bricklaying a go. Step Out is fully funded by ABBTF so there is no cost to students. The final Step Out programme for 2013 will begin on Friday 25th October 2013 and run every Friday, for five weeks. The course is aimed at Year 10 students. Contact Maxine Hartin to apply, or for further information telephone: 9269 8642 or email: bricklaying@nmit.edu.au.

2. **Effective Pathway Options for Prospective Science Students**

Students who are not successful in obtaining a place in the Science or Health course of their choice for 2014 could pathway into that course via an NMIT bridging science course. After studying NMIT’s Cert IV in Science, students have gained entry into degree courses such as Science (University of Melbourne), Nuclear Medicine (RMIT), Human Nutrition (La Trobe) and Science (Monash and Swinburne). Students studying the Cert III in Science have received offers to study the B. Nursing at Victoria University and RMIT.

3. **Studying Business Administration at NMIT**

At the NMIT Business Enterprise Centre students are able to undertake Business Administration training in specific areas of interest. NMIT offers three streams of Cert III in Business Administration - Legal, Medical or Education. These courses are offered twice a year in Semester 1 and 2. Courses run for 17 weeks and include a practical placement component of two weeks work experience. Students may articulate to a Dip Business which is currently offered on a part time basis, to support students balancing work with study. The Diploma can lead to the B Business for students wishing to pursue a University level qualification.

4. **Justice Programmes at NMIT**

The Justice courses offered at NMIT are very popular due the extensive practical activities which are part of the programme. Students gain insights to the industry by attending excursions to Barwon maximum security prison and Victoria Police Crime Nights hosted by the Blue Ribbon Foundation. They also have exposure to the Victoria Police Entrance Exam - preliminary testing, learn about psychological profiling, active crime scene investigations and police tactile training. Further information can be found at: http://www.nmit.edu.au/courses/certificate-iv-in-justice?utm_source=email&utm_medium=textlink&utm_campaign=northerndirectionsissue4.

5. **ACU My Career Match**

ACU is trying to assist students to discover their perfect career and course options. Completing ACU’s My Career Match survey (http://www.acu.edu.au/mycareer) may help students find suitable careers and occupations based on their strengths and personality style. My Career Match produces a specific report for each individual which may help students to discover their strengths, talents and the careers that match, boost their awareness of the things they are good at, use personal content from the report to strengthen resumes, view ACU course options that match the possible careers and help plan their education pathway. Following the course links in the report allows a student to be transferred to the ACU website where the study options available can be explored.

6. **New Optical Dispensing Course at RMIT in 2014**
RMIT is introducing a new full time, 12 month course in Optical Dispensing for 2014. The Cert IV in Optical Dispensing provides an opportunity for those not able to enter university to continue studying and gain a qualification recognised Australia wide and accepted globally. There are no prerequisites for entry to this course which offers students a qualification in an industry that provides a unique mix of health, fashion and technology. According to RMIT, optometric practices across the country; independent optometrists and OPSM and Specsavers, are seeking to recruit suitably trained staff. There are excellent employment opportunities. The qualification will provide students with the skills and knowledge to begin a career as an optical dispenser. Optical dispensers work closely with optometrists, ophthalmologists and other healthcare professionals to provide optimum solutions for eyecare and eyewear needs. They interpret ophthalmic prescriptions to provide patients with advice on spectacle frames, lens selection, contact lenses, sunglasses and safety eyewear. Optical dispensers have a detailed understanding of spectacle frames and lenses, including their performance characteristics and effects on vision. They are also trained to perform spectacle repairs and fitting of lenses into frames as part of a unique fashion, health and technology based industry. There are many career opportunities for optical dispensers, including: working in independent practices, working in retail chain stores, progressing into management / marketing / training, business ownership, franchise partnerships and working overseas while travelling. Optical dispensers may also work with major product manufacturers and / or wholesalers as company representatives. For further information contact the Programme Coordinator of the School of Life and Physical Sciences via email: opticalhelp@rmit.edu.au or visit: www.rmit.edu.au/programs/c4318.

7. WHY STUDY ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE AT VU?

The College of Engineering and Science at VU offers Engineering courses in Civil, Architectural, Building, Electrical and Electronic, and Mechanical, as well as Science and Information Technology courses. The courses are designed to produce industry ready graduates who have a good understanding of economic, social and environmental issues. There are strong Problem Based Learning (PBL) components in all the Engineering courses and the Science courses provide a unique preparation for professional scientific careers, with an emphasis on the analytical techniques and equipment used by industry.

8. FOUNDATION STUDIES AT VU

Are you interested in a particular course but don’t have the science prerequisites required? Foundation Studies at VU is a one year pathway course suitable for students who have never studied science before, as well as those with a background in science. This course is an excellent option for students who have not undertaken the required science prerequisites, didn’t pass the science prerequisites, or did not reach the ATAR required to apply for a course in the area of Health Sciences, Engineering, Science, Education, Psychology and certain Arts programmes. Beginner, Standard or Advanced streams are selected according to a student’s educational background. For more information on Foundation Studies contact Nick Athanasiou: nick.athanasiou@vu.edu.au.

9. HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEYING AS A CAREER

Have You Considered A Career in Hydrographic Surveying? Hydrographers may perform the following tasks: select, install, maintain and repair instruments which monitor water levels, rainfall, sediments, etc, collect sample data at various locations to confirm data gathered by automatic monitors, prepare data for use by other professionals, provide advice to other professionals on civil works associated with water related projects and activities (including dams, weirs, bridges, irrigation projects, water supply schemes, flood protection works, warning services and marine facilities) and prepare reports on sites, data collection and quality. In conjunction with the Royal Institution of Australia (RiAus), the Surveying and Spatial Sciences Institute’s (SSSI) Hydrography Commission (http://www.sssi.org.au/index/commission/4.ht
ml) has produced a video showcasing the importance of hydrography as a spatial science discipline and positioning hydrographic surveying as a rewarding career opportunity to senior school leavers and tertiary students studying surveying at university. The video ‘Hydrography as a Career’ is available on YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rFO1IpkW81Y#t=20 or through the dedicated RiAus website: http://riaus.org.au/articles/what-is-hydrography. There are excellent employment opportunities in this field.

10. MATHSLINK AT SWINBURNE

Swinburne is now accepting applications for MathsLink, a bridging programme that can be used as a prerequisite for entry to Swinburne’s Bachelor of Engineering courses. It is a 10 week online programme facilitated by an experienced mathematic teacher using interactive resources. MathsLink is designed for well performing students who are undertaking (or have completed) VCE Further Mathematics but wish to study engineering at Swinburne and therefore require completion of VCE Mathematical Methods. MathsLink runs from 3rd December 2013 to 21st February 2014, (this includes a two week break over the Christmas / New Year period). It requires approximately 10 hours of study each week and students will be expected to attend an orientation session in December and mid term assessment in January at Swinburne’s Hawthorn campus. All other assessment is conducted online. Participating students who are on track to successfully complete MathsLink (as determined by the results of the mid term assessment) and who meet all other course entry requirements, will be eligible to make a direct application to a Swinburne engineering bachelor degree. Direct applications can be made from 17th January 2014 and offers will be made from 18th to 31st January 2014. Current Year 12 students or those who have completed Year 12 in the last two years are eligible to apply for MathsLink. Students must have completed, or be undertaking, studies in VCE Further Mathematics. Documentation must be supplied to confirm a student’s suitability for the programme. Participation in the programme requires students to have access to a computer (PC or Mac) with broadband internet access and a microphone and speakers (preferably a headset), use of a scanner, a smart phone with a camera or a digital camera. Applications are open until Thursday 31st October. Students must apply online. Successful applicants will be advised by email on Monday 18th November. If you have any questions about this programme you should email: ugteam@swinburne.edu.au.

11. YEAR 12 VTAC APPLICATIONS

If you have not yet paid your VTAC processing fees for your VTAC application make sure you do so as soon as possible. Your preferences will not be processed unless you make the $27 payment (online, through the user login on the VTAC home page: www.vtac.edu.au; via credit or debit card or Paypal).

12. KANGAN INFORMATION / SELECTION SESSIONS FOR 2014 INTAKE

Information and selection sessions for the Cert III in Aged Care and the Cert III in Home and Community Care will be held on Thursday 14th November at 11:00am, Moonee Ponds Campus, Room M107, Level 1, 21 – 31 Hall Street, Moonee Ponds. Sessions for the Cert III Health Services Assistant will be held on Monday 14th October at 11:00am, Essendon Campus, 38 Buckley St, Essendon. Further information can be obtained by telephoning: 138233.

13. NOW ONLY ONE FOLIO ASSESSMENT FOR ALL FASHION AND TEXTILES PROGRAMMES AT RMIT

RMIT Fashion and Textiles is introducing a new ‘One folio assessment for all’ process for 2014 selection. This streamlined process allows students to apply for multiple TAFE and degree programmes but only attend one interview / folio presentation. Current year 12 applicants will be required to book and attend one folio assessment session at RMIT’s Brunswick campus on Thursday 28th November or Tuesday 3rd December 2013. Shortlisted applicants will be notified of any other
requirements. Please refer to the RMIT and VTAC websites for full entrance requirements. For further information contact: the School of Fashion and Textiles at RMIT or email: fashionandtextiles@rmit.edu.au.

14. B NURSING AT RMIT

RMIT's Bachelor of Nursing programme has been reaccredited to 2018 by the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Council. The renewed programme reflects the role of the nurse in managing contemporary healthcare issues. New courses have been introduced in Indigenous health and transition to professional practice and research content has been enhanced. For further information contact: the School of Health Sciences or email: healthsciences@rmit.edu.au.

15. EDUCATION SUPPORT COURSES AT RMIT

Education Support can be used as a pathway into teaching. The Cert IV in Education Support and the Dip Education Support are nationally accredited qualifications that provide guaranteed pathways into the B Education programmes. These courses emphasise 'learning by doing' and focus on areas of demand within schools; supporting literacy, numeracy and special needs. Work placement and simulations are integral elements of the courses. For further information contact: Soosan Kian on 9925 9494 or email: soosan.kian@rmit.edu.au.

16. PREPARATION FOR FURTHER STUDY

RMIT offers a stepping stone for VCE students who miss out on selection to their preferred university degree programme. Specialising in engineering, science or media studies, the Cert IV in Tertiary Preparation at RMIT develops students’ academic skills in order for them to access higher level qualifications and enhance future career opportunities. You can download the flyer for more information: http://www2.rmit.edu.au/Courses/pdf/c4327.pdf.

17. RMIT SCIENCE EXPERIENCE 2014

The Science Experience at RMIT is three fun days of hands on activities for students entering Year 10 in 2014. This popular school holiday programme allows Australia’s next generation of curious scientists to go behind the scenes and sample the exhilarating world of science and technology. Students will perform experiments, participate in field trips, attend university lectures and experience student life on campus. The event will run from 21st – 23rd January 2014 and will cost participants $115. Registration: www.rmit.edu.au/scienceexperience. For further information contact: Sarah Morley on 9925 9570 or email: sarah.morley@rmit.edu.au.

18. LOGISTICS CADETSHIPS

Logistics involves the integration of information, transport and handling of materials to meet customer needs. There are a huge variety of career opportunities in Logistics both nationally and internationally from entry level to senior management roles. The VTA Logistics Cadetship offers full time employment, a 2 year cadetship, completion of a Cert IV and Dip in Logistics, an attractive salary plus superannuation and paid study leave. Cadets are released from work to attend 7 x 1 week blocks of study per year. You should enjoy a challenge, be able to problem solve, have a positive attitude and a strong work ethic. You must have completed Year 12 VCE or VCAL, be aged between 18 and 25, have good communication skills, be an Australian citizen and hold or be planning to obtain a Drivers Licence. The Transport and Logistics industry is one of the biggest and fastest growing in the world. There are hundreds of different careers within the industry that offer exciting opportunities. For further information telephone: 9646 8590, visit: www.vta.com.au or email: cadetship@vta.com.au.

Compiled by: c. borg