

# Adelaidean

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

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## Inside this issue

### PAGE 4

Acupuncture trial points to period pain relief



### PAGE 5

Exiled professor receives award from Poland



### PAGE 6

Human lymph disease could tail off thanks to gecko



### PAGE 7

Grand graduate with strong convictions



**PAGE 8** Graduations photo spread

**PAGE 10** 400 classic books - free!

**PAGE 11** Researchers win medals

**PAGE 12** Terrorism course grabs spotlight

**PAGE 13** WTO boss heads think-tank

**PAGE 14** Hands-on human rights

**PAGE 15** Pianist wins alumni award

**PAGE 16** Amber's golden quest no holiday



The University of Adelaide is Australia's third oldest university and is known internationally for excellence in research and teaching.

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## Concern over nursing homes: study

Researchers find that nursing home staff's perception is not meeting reality.

Nursing staff in aged care hostels have inaccurate views of residents' satisfaction levels, a new University of Adelaide study has found.

The study, by Dr Neil Kirby and Ms Leah Wilson from the University's Department of Psychology, appears in the most recent edition of the *Australasian Journal on Ageing*.

They found that even when staff thought they knew residents very well, their assessment of a resident's satisfaction differed markedly from that of the residents themselves.

"This is very important because, despite similar findings to ours in previous studies, some research and government evaluations continue to rely on staff assessments of aged care residents' views," Ms Wilson said.

"This could obviously impact on decision-making by aged care authorities, who may not be getting an accurate picture as to what residents want and need."

For the study, male and female residents from three South Australian aged care hostels completed questionnaires concerning their life satisfaction and their views on the actual and ideal characteristics of their hostel environment. Hostel staff were asked to assess the life

satisfaction of residents they felt they knew well, and also completed the questionnaires on the actual and ideal characteristics of the hostel they worked in.

Ms Wilson and Dr Kirby not only found that staff were inaccurate in their estimation of individual residents' life satisfaction, but that they also had different views to residents regarding the actual and ideal characteristics of the appropriate hostel environment.

"The residents indicated that, for them, there was a significant discrepancy between the actual and ideal hostel environment—suggesting that they would like changes to some

of the characteristics of the hostel," Dr Kirby said.

"For the staff, however, there was no significant difference between actual and ideal—indicating they believed actual conditions were already close to ideal."

Comfort was the only characteristic where there was no marked disagreement between staff and residents, with comfort achieving a score much higher than any other hostel characteristic from both staff and residents.

The study also revealed differences in male and female residents' ideal hostel characteristics: men wanted

Continued on page 2





## McWha's Words

### Future Directions

If there is one thing I would like to see achieved at the University of Adelaide this year, above all others, it would be the development by the university and the wider community of a clearer, shared sense of who it is we are, what we are trying to achieve, and how we will achieve it.

The university is now undertaking a planning process that aims to foster discussion on and engagement with a range of issues, and it is critical that staff, students and the community all take a part in this.

A key to the process is identifying the values that underpin our university. We will also recognise and value the heritage of our university and use that as a guide to what we do. We should be proud of our heritage and use it as a foundation to build for the future, although we must not let it control and limit our opportunities.

What are our expectations and hopes for the university? What changes in emphasis are required, if any? How do we build on the quality and excellence of our university in meeting expectations? How do we engage with and meet the needs of the community in achieving our aims? These issues and more are critical to our success and our future.

By the time this column goes to print, university staff will have filled out the values survey questionnaire, and we will have undertaken an environmental scanning workshop with the involvement of both external and internal stakeholders. These two stages will be a starting point in defining our sense of purpose by taking into consideration our key roles (research, education, contribution to business, contribution to community) as well as issues and trends that will impact on the university in the foreseeable future.

Staff forums, focus groups, and other avenues of discussion will follow, helping us to find the answers we need and to plan for the future.

Our future directions will enable the university and the community to share in social, cultural, scientific and economic growth. So while the year has only just begun, already I am looking towards what we can achieve before the end of 2003, and in the many years ahead as we serve our community, our students, our academic disciplines and our university.

JAMES A. McWHA  
Vice-Chancellor

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### Concern over nursing homes: study



Ms Leah Wilson and  
Dr Neil Kirby  
Photo Ben Osborne

Story from page 1

more cohesion and comfort, and less conflict, while women wanted more independence and resident influence, and less organisation.

"Finding that men and women had different responses was also important, because these differences are not often taken into account by research and government evaluations," Ms Wilson said.

"One reason for the continued use of staff assessments may be that they are more easily obtained, and

avoid problems associated with some residents being either unwilling or unable to express their views.

"More research needs to be done before we can understand how staff can become better informed about the needs of residents, but our study does show that evaluators need to utilise both male and female residents' self-evaluations and not rely solely on staff perceptions."

Story by Ben Osborne

### Welcome to the Adelaidean!

For 11 years the *Adelaidean* has been bringing news and events about the University of Adelaide to readers. That readership is now bigger than ever, with 13,000 copies of our paper available to members of the community, graduates, staff and students.

This year we have a new look, which we hope will lift the quality and style of our publication while providing a similar feel in content. We continue to present stories about the achievements and research of our university, its students, staff and alumni... and all printed on environmentally friendly recyclable paper!

We hope you find the *Adelaidean* relevant and enjoyable; there are many more stories yet to tell. Let us know what you think!

David Ellis  
Editor

# Here they come!

Around 3000 new students have enrolled at the University of Adelaide for studies in 2003.

On hand to help out enrolling students were 18 current students acting as "Enrolment Buddies". Operating out of a welcome tent on Goodman Crescent, the Buddies assisted in welcoming new students, directing them to enrolment venues and answering any questions.

Around 1000 new international students will also begin studies at the University of Adelaide this year.

Pictured (from left) are John Kearie, Anna Giulinn, Rose Njuguna and James Geddes  
Photo Ben Osborne



# George follows in Andy's footsteps

George Young is the latest student to receive the prestigious Andy Thomas scholarship from the University of Adelaide.



Andy Thomas scholar George Young with an image of the scholarship's namesake  
Photo David Ellis

perfect 20-out-of-20 scores in Maths 1, Maths 2, Physics, Chemistry and English, and a Tertiary Entrance Ranking of 99.95.

Last year he won the OneSteel prize for Maths 1, Maths 2, Physics and Chemistry, and the Tennyson Medal for the highest ranked student in English, judged ahead of almost 3400 other students in the subject.

At the University of Adelaide George will undertake a double-degree in Mechatronic Engineering and Maths and Computer Science.

"I've always liked building things," he said. "Mechatronics interested me because it's a more modern concept of engineering, combining elements of Mechanical Engineering and Electrical & Electronic Engineering.

"I also love maths, which is why I'm doing the double-degree," he said.

George was offered places at Melbourne University and ANU, but decided to attend Adelaide thanks primarily to the scholarship and because of the proximity to home.

"I was very happy to get the scholarship. My parents have been paying for board for quite a while now, so I'm glad that it will take some of the financial burden off my parents and give me some financial independence."

George is also a keen sportsman, having played tennis, squash and hockey at school, and plays the violin. He hopes to continue playing hockey and tennis while at university.



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# Acupuncture trial points to period pain relief

A new trial will investigate the effectiveness of acupuncture in relieving painful periods in young women.

Severe period pain can lead to absence from work or school, or interfere with women's day-to-day lives.

The trial will be held by researchers from the University of Adelaide's Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the Women's and Children's Hospital and the university's Department of General Practice.

Acupuncture, the insertion of fine needles into specific areas of the body, is increasingly being used to treat a number of medical conditions according to study coordinator Dr Caroline Smith.

"Painful periods or painful uterine cramps during menstruation is a common condition affecting up to 50% of women," she said.

"There is mounting evidence that acupuncture can be useful to treat period pain, but we need better quality research. Our research group is conducting the first controlled clinical trial to test this in young women from 14 to 25 years of age."

Painful periods are currently

commonly treated with anti-inflammatory drugs or the oral contraceptive pill. Some women use herbal remedies or vitamins, or undergo chiropractics or acupuncture to relieve the pain.

A total of 400 women will take part in the trial. They will be given either traditional acupuncture or sham acupuncture (needles inserted at an inactive area close to the acupuncture points).

Acupuncture will be given once a week for three weeks for three menstrual cycles. Women will be asked to complete a questionnaire noting any pain they may experience during their periods, whether they have to take time off work or school, if additional pain relief is needed and whether day-to-day activities are disrupted. There will be follow-ups after a further six and 12 months.

Acupuncture sessions lasting 45

minutes will be offered at varying times during the day to fit with women's schooling, tertiary studies and work commitments.

Interested women can contact Dr Caroline Smith at the Women's and Children's Hospital on 8161 7565 between 9am and 5pm weekdays for more information. Women joining the acupuncture trial should have no underlying pelvic problem or be using an IUD for contraception.



Dr Caroline Smith  
Photo Christopher Sprod,  
Digital Media, WCH



## Newsmakers

**Dr Tony Parker** gave the *Sunday Mail* (January 19) a brief history of the wind power industry and his thoughts on its future in South Australia.

Recovering from the devastating Canberra bushfires was the topic of discussion on *Radio 891 ABC* (January 20), with **Professor Sandy McFarlane** saying counselling often centred around people's notion of control—people presume they are in control of their lives, but in major disasters they have no control and are completely at the mercy of the elements.

In an opinion piece in the *Australian Financial Review* (January 17), **Dr Brian Victoria** urged readers to look closely at the "real" Japan, following the recent goodwill visit to Australia by its Crown Prince and Princess. He argued that the Japan portrayed internationally is vastly different from the Japan it portrays to its own people, particularly in its portrayal of the past.

*Radio Adelaide* (January 10) explored new research with **Dr Brian Setchell** which reveals that children fathered by older men have a higher

risk of genetic abnormality. He said in certain genetic conditions there is a higher risk of fathering children with abnormalities of the skull, hands and feet—but at this stage there are no clear-cut signs at what age this can happen.

**Dr Jenny Watling** told *Radio 891 ABC* (January 16) that while droughts are a natural part of the Australian climate, the current drought is particularly severe and is affecting our native vegetation. She said in the Riverland, gum trees are showing signs of stress never seen before.

## New research approach to mental health issues

A major national symposium being held next month will address crucial issues in the mental health of Australians.

“The Rotary Mental Health Symposium will have some unique characteristics,” said Dr Michael Sawyer, Professor of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at the University of Adelaide and Convener of the Symposium.

“It will bring together four different groups to find the best ways to identify new knowledge which can then be used to improve the mental health of Australians.”

The four groups are Researchers, Clinicians, Consumers/Carers and Funders, and Professor Sawyer believes that the structure of the symposium will establish new ways of approaching priorities in research funding for mental health.

The Mental Health Symposium will be held in Canberra from March 19-21, and is sponsored and hosted by the Australian Rotary Health Research Fund.

The symposium is expected to produce specific recommendations that will be used by the Fund's Board to determine funding priorities for new research into important areas of mental health, and the amounts involved are considerable.

“With \$850,000 allocated for research funding in 2003, the results from the symposium will ensure that continues for at least another three years,” said Ms Joy Gillett, Manager of the Rotary Health Research Fund.

“The Board originally pledged to spend \$5 million dollars on research in mental illness over a five-year period. That pledge will be met, so the expenditure over 2004, 2005 will increase,” she said.

Story by Rob Morrison

# Exiled professor receives award from Poland



Professor Maciej Henneberg  
Photo Brenton Edwards

The University of Adelaide's Professor Maciej Henneberg has finally received academic recognition from his native Poland—a country he was forced to leave in 1984—by being awarded the title of Professor of Biological Sciences.

The unique award is Poland's highest academic qualification and enables Professor Henneberg to evaluate all levels of tertiary education in the Eastern European country.

Polish State President Aleksander Kwasniewski will present the award on February 20 at the presidential palace.

“I am extremely pleased as this is just recognition for the work I have done over the years,” said Professor Henneberg, who is head of the Department of Anatomical Sciences and Convenor of the Academic Board at the University of Adelaide.

In 1980-81 Professor Henneberg was the driver of major change in Poland's academic system as he strove for the return of a normal academic process. After

orchestrating strikes, replacing academics and reconstituting the Academic Board, he was detained on December 13, 1981 and incarcerated for 100 days without trial.

It was during this period that General Wojciech Jaruzelski became party head. He declared martial law and carried out a military takeover in the name of the Communist Party. Solidarity, championed by Lech Walesa, was banned, its leadership imprisoned, while other union activists were driven underground.

Professor Henneberg fell gravely ill in jail and was hospitalised. In 1982 he was released, but until his departure from Poland in 1984 he was constantly pressured by the authorities to leave the country. Following his departure from Poland, Professor Henneberg spent time in Texas and South Africa before joining the University of Adelaide in 1996.

A biological anthropologist and anatomist, Professor Henneberg is also the Wood Jones Professor of Anthropological and Comparative

Anatomy, past Associate Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences, Past President of the Australasian Society for Human Biology, Managing Editor of the Journal of Comparative Human Biology, CEO of “SOMA” Medical and Scientific Anatomy Services (trading through the University of Adelaide's commercialisation company, Adelaide Research and Innovation Pty Ltd) and last year he was elected Visiting Fellow of St Cross College, Oxford University, England.

In a teaching career spanning 29 years, he has lectured at universities in Poland, the United States, South Africa and Australia and conducted research in Poland, Germany, US, South Africa, England, Italy and Australia.

“This is a great honour for Professor Henneberg and I know it means a lot to him,” the University's Vice-Chancellor, Professor James McWha, said. “It is also an honour for the University of Adelaide to have one of its distinguished staff recognised in this way.”

Story by Howard Salkow

# Human lymph disease could tail off thanks to gecko



Photo Ben Osborne

Many lizards shed their tails, and then regrow them—now researchers from the University of Adelaide believe this act could also help treat a lymphatic condition in humans.

The university research team, led by Associate Professor Chris Daniels (Department of Environmental Biology) and Associate Professor Rod Cooter (previously head of the Department of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, University of Adelaide and Royal Adelaide Hospital), had their findings summarised in a recent edition of *New Scientist*.

They examined how a lizard's lymphatic network responds when it

loses its tail, and how this could be applied to the human condition of lymphoedema (the swelling of limbs due to the body's lymphatic system being impaired).

Secondary lymphoedema is a common side effect associated with mastectomies and other similar forms of radical surgery.

"For our study we examined the common Australian gecko *Christinus marmoratus* and the way it regenerates its tail," Dr Daniels said.

"It is obviously a major trauma to lose a body part and then regrow it, but geckos and other lizards seem to be able to do it with a minimal amount of stress and swelling around the affected area.

"Our study showed that an increase in production of a certain protein growth factor contributed to the gecko being able to quickly regenerate the lymphatic system at the site of its tail loss. This growth factor is similar to the VEGF protein found in the human body."

Dr Cooter said the findings are encouraging for the treatment of lymphoedema in humans, but much more research is needed.

"Discovering that geckos use a protein growth factor similar to one found in humans brings us one step closer to being able to treat lymphoedema more easily, but there is still quite some way to go," Dr Cooter said.

"This discovery should enhance our understanding of how lymphatics grow in the human body, with the long-term aim of being able to combine this scientific knowledge with the latest developments in microsurgery to hopefully give lymphoedema sufferers an effective treatment."

Story by Ben Osborne

## Coming Events

### Wednesday, February 12

12.30pm Centre for Labour Research seminar: "Union bargaining in British Columbia, Canada: Reflections on Current Experiences, Issues and Tactics in the Health Care Sector" by Anne Burger, Hospital Employees Union, Vancouver. 3rd Floor, 10 Pulteney St.

### Thursday, February 13

1.00 pm Chemical Pathology seminar: "Old farts and the digital age" by Carol McLean-Carr, Illustrator & Computer Graphics Expert, ABC. Seminar Room 1, 4th Floor, Reiger Building, WCH.

### Friday, February 14

12.30pm Centre for Labour Research seminar: "The State of US Politics and Unions" by Steve Deutsch, Labor Education and Research Centre, Oregon, USA. 3rd Floor, 10 Pulteney St.

### Thursday, February 20

1.00 pm Chemical Pathology seminar: "Bowel cancer, a s-t of a diagnosis" by

Dr Vaughan Williams, Senior Medical Scientist, Haematology, WCH. Seminar Room 1, 4th Floor, Reiger Building, WCH.

### Friday, February 21

4.00pm CSSIP (Cooperative Research Centre for Sensor Signal and Information Processing) seminar: "Real Options" by Dr John van der Hoek, Applied Mathematics. Frank Bull Design Suite, Engineering South. Public welcome. Bookings: 8302 5019 or email education@cssip.edu.au

### Monday, February 24

12.30pm Centre for Labour Research seminar: by Dr Catherine Hakim, Research Fellow, London School of Economics. 3rd Floor, 10 Pulteney St.

### Thursday, February 27

1.00 pm Chemical Pathology seminar: "Attack of the moulds" by Associate Professor David Ellis, Mycology, WCH. Seminar Room 1, 4th Floor, Reiger Building, WCH.

## Early warning: Educause

Educause in Australasia is the premier conference for online education, information technology, and related services in the region. Jointly hosted by the peak Australian bodies for information technology and librarians in the higher education sector, Educause in Australasia 2003 will be held at the Adelaide Convention Centre.

The conference theme is "Expanding the Learning Community - Meeting the Challenges". Keynote speakers

include leading members of the international IT, library and information industries, such as Microsoft Corporation and the largest IT research company in the world, Gartner Inc.

Organised by the University of Adelaide's Information Technology Services, the conference's major sponsor is Microsoft, with the University of Adelaide also a key sponsor.

Educause in Australasia 2003 will be held from May 6-9. Registration is now available.

For details visit: [www.adelaide.edu.au/educause2003/](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/educause2003/)



## Graduations

# Grand graduate with strong convictions

“Today’s teenager is different in view and thinking. There are too many distractions and there is nothing to look forward to.”

Phyllis Turner peered over her coffee cup, paused for a moment and then with enough worldly experience behind her, said she was far better off growing up when she did.

Never shy to express her true feelings, Ms Turner has every right to voice her opinion. After all, in her lifetime she has viewed many significant events from near and far: the Great Depression, World War Two, the Korean War, Vietnam War, the birth of the motor vehicle, the aeroplane, not to mention the advent of technology and globalisation... and much more.

At 90 years of age, she is somewhat of an enigma. This is most certainly the case at the University of Adelaide where she received a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Anthropology at last December’s graduation. Now there is speculation she will do a Masters, although the “grand graduate” says it’s nothing more than “a consideration at this point”.

Humble about her personal triumphs, Ms Turner enjoys reminiscing and reminding us that her youth was far less complicated and complex than today’s world.

“Today’s teenager is different in view and thinking. There are too many distractions and there is nothing to look forward to,” she says with conviction.

“My life has been one of evolution and excitement. There was always something new on the horizon which made each day different and fun.”

But she does concede it’s not the fault of the younger generation. “Today’s children are growing up with the fear of their parents’ losing their jobs and this has introduced stress and turmoil. In addition, many of today’s parents have two or three jobs to make ends meet. This disrupts family life,” she says.

What does disturb her most is the availability of drugs and other substances. “It is sad they have to seek happiness from other means and then become a burden on society,” Ms Turner says.

Born in 1912 in Wanganui, New Zealand, she moved to Australia with her parents when she was five, and chose nursing as a profession. She spent an extensive period at the Royal Adelaide Hospital and during World War Two, was attached to the Army’s Voluntary Aid Detachment. She married relatively young and had seven children.

For Ms Turner, her academic turning point occurred in the 1970s following the death of her husband Tom. Faced with the prospect of boredom—she nursed her husband for many years—her one daughter coerced her into studying.

“It was a rocky start that ended smoothly,” she says. “After filling in the papers, I was called to the University of Adelaide and advised that although I had failed statistics, I would still be admitted. But I was told to give some thought to my major and this is when I chose anthropology.”



90-year-old Phyllis Turner was a major talking point at December’s graduation earning her BA honours in Anthropology  
Photo courtesy The Advertiser

Ms Turner did her first year in Adelaide, moved to ANU for her second and in 1978 completed her degree at the University of San Diego, California... and 24 years later, became an honours graduate at the University of Adelaide.

“It’s been an amazing ride and I have received incredible assistance along the way. I won an exchange scholarship to San Diego, California

where I was also recommended for a Fulbright Scholarship,” she says.

So what’s next for this vibrant academic who starts her day at 5:30, works in the garden, reads copiously and watches the world with more than casual interest?

“Doing my Masters is a consideration. But I’ll give more thought to that,” she says.

Story by Howard Salkow



# Graduations



**FAMILY MATTERS**

Ben Yeung graduated with a Bachelor of Computer Science. He is pictured with his family (from left) Kim, Eve and Joshua Yeung.



**PROUD**

Paul Herzich is the first Aboriginal student to graduate with a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture at the University of Adelaide. Mr Herzich, a Kurna descendant from Highbury, is working for Taylor Cullity Lethlean landscape architects.



**ENGINEERING SUCCESS**

Philip Cutler was awarded his PhD in Mechanical Engineering at the December graduations. His thesis was entitled "On the Structure and Mixing of a Jet in Crossflow".



**MACE BEARER**

Amy Glen was a macebearer at one of the nine graduation ceremonies held at Bonython Hall in December. She also graduated with a Bachelor of Science (Honours) in the School of Mathematical and Computer Sciences.



**"NEW" BATCH**

The first batch of Medical students chosen under the new entry requirements graduated in December, among them (from left) Cathy Grech, Thuc-Nhi Le Tat, Caroline Beare and Anna Whittle, who graduated with Honours.

Photos Ben Osborne and David Ellis



**WITH HONOURS**

The three top Honours students in the Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery for 2002 were (from left) Shreya Rana, Shom Goel and Ailsa Wilson. All are now working as interns at the Royal Adelaide Hospital.

**LIKE FATHER LIKE DAUGHTER**

It was a double celebration for the James family during the December graduations. Dr Pat James (left) received his Stephen Cole the Elder teaching prize, while on the same day daughter Emma James graduated with a Bachelor of Computer Science.

# First postgrad alumni medal awarded



The inaugural Postgraduate Alumni University Medal was presented to Dr Gregory Harmer during the graduation ceremonies last December.

The award was created through a desire of the university's Alumni to recognise and reward the outstanding achievements and extraordinary efforts of some of the university's newest graduates.

The nominees for the medal are postgraduate students of outstanding academic merit from each of the Faculties, and the winner of the medal is the student who is the most outstanding among them.

It is believed to be the only postgraduate award of its kind being offered by an Australian university.

Dr Harmer graduated with a PhD in the Faculty of Engineering (Electrical Engineering) in August last year. In December he returned to Adelaide from the United States, where he is currently a Research Scientist with Sensor Research and Development Corporation, to receive this award.

Dr Harmer (centre) is pictured with Luran Huefner from Alumni, Community Relations and Development (left) and Farley Wright, postgraduate representative on the Alumni Board.

# Insomniac's dream!

## OVER 400 CLASSIC BOOKS NOW ONLINE

More than 400 books, from Homer to Orwell, are now freely available on the web thanks to a major project undertaken by the University of Adelaide's Barr Smith Library.

The works have been placed on the virtual bookshelf as part of the Library's Electronic Text Collection, which includes significant works of literature, philosophy, science, and medicine.

The aim of the collection is to make these works as widely available as possible in a format that is as readable as possible. All of the works are in the public domain, so they are freely available to anyone in the world.

Among the first books included in the collection were the complete tales of Sherlock Holmes by Sir Arthur Conan-Doyle. The extensive works of William Morris have recently been added to complement the Art Gallery of South Australia's Morris exhibition. Other recent additions are the works of Joseph Conrad and H.G. Wells.

"Work on the Electronic Text Collection began around 1998, as an exploration of how we might present a book, using HTML, in such a way that it was as readable and enjoyable as a printed book," said Mr Steve Thomas, Senior Systems Analyst at the University of Adelaide Library.

Having proved the concept, Mr Thomas began adding titles and refining the format. He often added titles in the small hours—an insomniac's dream project!

The Library's etext website is now averaging around 12,000 requests per day from all parts of the globe.

"Electronic texts, or web books, have several advantages over printed editions: they are available 24 hours a day to anyone with a web browser; the text may be readily quoted in another document by copying and pasting; and the text can be easily searched for that elusive quotation or reference.



"Furthermore, the web format allows easy linking of the different parts of a book, and with other works in this and other collections, providing efficient navigation of a work.

"If desired, the works can be printed at a fraction of the cost of a standard published edition."

In addition to the more than 400 works in the university's collection, access is also provided to Project Gutenberg, with around 7000 works.

For further details and a complete list of the authors and books available, visit:  
<http://etext.library.adelaide.edu.au/index.html>

# Funding Ahead

Steer road safety in the right direction

[www.mac.sa.gov.au](http://www.mac.sa.gov.au)

Last year in South Australia, almost 11,000 Compulsory Third Party (CTP) bodily insurance claims were made which are likely to cost over \$280m. During the same period, more than 152 people were killed on our roads. The cost in both lives and dollars is far too high. At the Motor Accident Commission (MAC) we need sponsorship applications from organisations that can help reduce the number of crashes.

### IS YOUR PROJECT ELIGIBLE FOR ROAD SAFETY FUNDING?

If your idea relates to crash prevention, medical research or post-crash rehabilitation and support, the time to apply is now. For full sponsorship guidelines and application details, please visit our media and sponsorship page on our website at [www.mac.sa.gov.au](http://www.mac.sa.gov.au) or phone 08 8221 6377 for a copy to be forwarded by mail.

**ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED AT THE MAC BY 5PM FRIDAY 4 APRIL 2003**



# Hands-on human rights for law students

A University of Adelaide law lecturer is capitalising on her Canadian experience to establish an International and Human Rights Law Internship Program for the university's Law School.

Ms Laura Grenfell said the idea for the program was influenced by her experience at the University of Toronto Law School, which set up and funded her three-month internship with leading US human rights organisation Human Rights Watch in New York in 2001.

"During my internship I helped write and research a report on the position of women in Afghanistan," she said, adding that North America's leading law schools currently offer similar internship programs.

Ms Grenfell said during the process of creating the internship program she learned that the International Committee for the Red Cross in Geneva was recruiting interns.

This subsequently led to recent University of Adelaide law graduate Letitia Anderson being offered a prestigious 12-month stint with the Geneva-based organisation. Ms Anderson begins her internship on February 10.

While attempting to establish the internship program, Ms Grenfell was assisted by Dr Judith Gardam, the University's Reader in International Law, who has contacts with the International Committee for the Red Cross in Geneva.

"We inquired whether the Red Cross took interns and the Red Cross offered to interview our

best candidate while one of their representatives was visiting Australia in December," Ms Grenfell said.

"Ms Anderson was chosen for the interview because of her academic record, including her outstanding honours thesis on international law—which received the highest mark—her fluency in French and her community involvement."

Ms Grenfell said internships supplement students' theoretical understanding of international and human rights law by giving them a practical appreciation of the operation of these areas of law.

"Students spend two to three months at an organisation, researching and writing reports, also participating in the organisation's daily activities.

"It is very difficult for students to gain this experience in South Australia as there are very few international and human rights law organisations in the State. This means that students have to travel to, and live in, expensive cities such as Geneva and New York," she said.

The University now has two other

students currently enrolled in the internships program this year.

Emma Leske will be travelling to Geneva in March to intern with the Australian Mission to the United Nations in Geneva for two months while Australia is sitting on the Human Rights Commission. Apart from law, Ms Leske is also studying International Studies and a Diploma of Languages. She hopes to work at an organisation such as the United Nations when she graduates, so that she can pursue her interests in law, foreign relations and politics.

Sarah Callaghan will be spending three months interning with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Cairo. Ms Callaghan is a final-year law student with an Honours Degree in Anthropology. Her internship starts in April.

Ms Callaghan has a deep interest in human rights and refugee law. For a few years now, she has volunteered her time at the Australian Refugee Association and the Refugee Advocacy Service of South Australia. When she graduates, she would like to work in the field of human

rights, either in refugee law or with Aboriginal groups.

"We're hoping that when Emma and Sarah return, they will be able to contribute to the South Australian community through their experience and the skills they have gained," Ms Grenfell said.

In order to assist students with the high accommodation costs as well as the travel costs, the University of Adelaide Law School has set up the Dame Roma Mitchell scholarship for students in the program. Dame Roma was a leading advocate for human rights in Australia.

This scholarship has been made possible by one of the Law School's alumni and has been partially funded by the proceeds from the sale of the book *Dame Roma - Glimpses of a Glorious Life*, published through the John Bray Law Chapter of the Alumni Association.

"We are searching for additional funding so as to give more students the exciting opportunity to undertake an internship," Ms Grenfell said.

Story by Howard Salkow



From left: Emma Leske, Letitia Anderson and Sarah Callaghan  
Photo Howard Salkow

# Terrorism course grabs international spotlight

University of Adelaide law lecturer Dr Andreas Schloenhardt knew that a 2003 Summer course entitled Transnational Crime and Terrorism would attract interest. But he did not believe that it would create significant attention across Australia and parts of the world.

“Based on the increase in global terrorism and transnational crime across the globe, I expected the course to appeal to law, non-law and non-award students,” Dr Schloenhardt said. “However, I was pleasantly surprised when 200 applied for the 90 available spots.” The three-week course began in mid-January and ends this month.

Dr Schloenhardt, who teaches Law of Crime, Transnational Crime, Immigration and Refugee Law, Human Rights, and Legal Skills 1/The Australian Legal System, also became the focus of media attention once the course was publicised. Print media across Australia as well as radio and television gave the course considerable coverage with Dr Schloenhardt devoting many hours to interviews.

Perhaps the biggest break was recognition in a United Nations publication. “I was casually reading a UN report on law enforcement activity and suddenly fell upon an article about my course. This was most satisfying and rewarding not to mention receiving recognition in an international publication,” he said.

In introducing the course, Dr Schloenhardt said contemporary crime and criminal justice are increasingly characterised by the globalisation of criminal activities and international efforts to combat transnational crime and terrorism.

“In the course, we have focused on the growing body of international criminal law, the increasing numbers of international conventions to combat transnational crime and terrorism, and domestic efforts in

Australia to accede to and implement this body of law.

“The course is concerned with the criminalisation of transnational criminal and terrorist activities, and national, regional and international efforts to investigate such crime and prosecute offenders. We examine the opportunities and limitations of international conventions on the prevention of crime, Australia’s experiences with terrorism and transnational crime and its efforts to fight these activities,” he said.

Dr Schloenhardt said the course is designed to give law, non-law and non-award students a comprehensive understanding of the criminology of transnational crime and terrorism, international criminal law and

anti-terrorism conventions, and Australia’s federal offences.

“For law students, the course builds on knowledge gained in subjects such as Law of Crime, International Law, Human Rights, and Selected Issues in Criminal Law. For non-law and non-award students, the course also offers an introduction to the general principles of Australian criminal law and public international law.

“The seminars, exercises and working-group sessions during the course invite students to critically reflect on the nature and limitations of international criminal law and anti-terrorism conventions, and understand the rationale of international, regional and domestic policies in this area,” he said.

If crime crosses all borders, so must law enforcement. If the rule of law is undermined not only in one country, but in many, then those who defend it cannot limit themselves to purely national means. If the enemies of progress and human rights seek to exploit the openness and opportunities of globalisation for their purposes, then we must exploit those very same factors to defend human rights, and defeat the forces of crime, corruption, and trafficking in human beings.

**Kofi Annan, UN Secretary-General**  
United Nations Convention against Transnational Crime, Palermo, Italy, December 2000.



Dr Andreas Schloenhardt  
Photo and story by Howard Salkow

Moreover, the course seeks to improve teamwork, presentation and legal research skills through specific training. It will enhance students’ abilities to research legal material, critically analyse legislation, case studies and scholarly writing, and elaborate practical recommendations for law reform and policy change, he said.

So what’s next for a topic that is unfortunately not likely to lose interest? “If we can secure the necessary funds, we can present the course to numerous platforms across the world,” Dr Schloenhardt said.

The course will be held again and additional information and application forms are available from: [www.law.adelaide.edu.au](http://www.law.adelaide.edu.au)

# WTO boss heads think-tank

A former Deputy Director-General of the World Trade Organization has been appointed to the University of Adelaide to head a major new “think-tank”, which aims to boost South Australia’s reputation for business expertise.

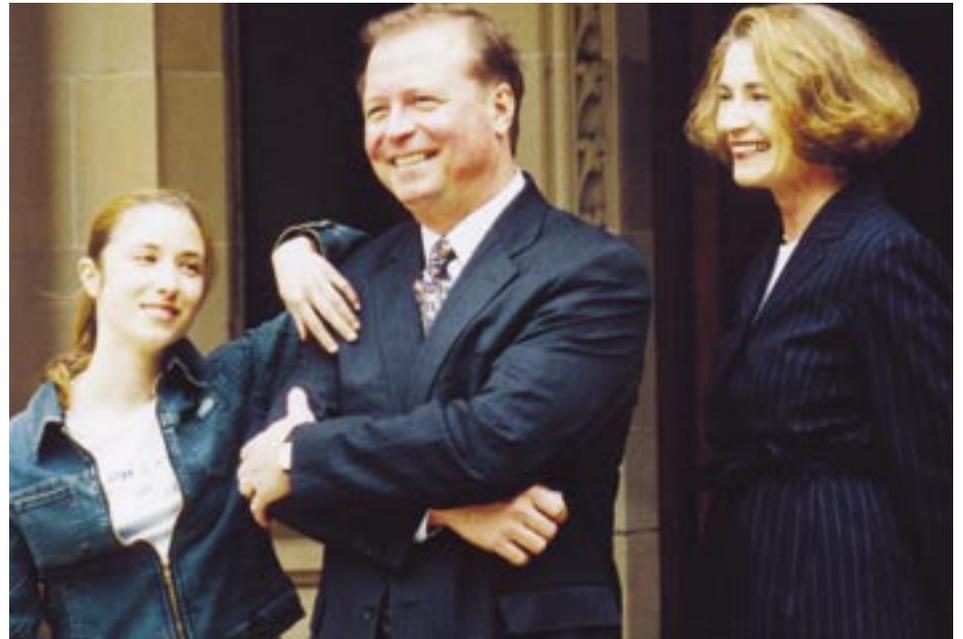
The new Institute of International Business, Economics and Law is jointly funded by the University of Adelaide and the State Government of South Australia.

The Institute, which began operations in January, will focus its efforts on specialised education, training, research and contract consulting designed to support those who work in today’s global economy, whether they be in business, government or academia, said the Executive Director of the Institute, Mr Andrew Stoler.

Until recently Mr Stoler served as Deputy Director-General at the World Trade Organization (WTO). He has extensive experience in international trade, and has served in key roles with the United States Government since the 1970s dealing with international trade and investment issues.

A graduate of George Washington University and Georgetown University in the United States, his appointment builds on the ties that

Andrew Stoler with daughter Angela and wife Christine Elstob.  
Photo David Ellis



already exist between South Australia and the WTO (former WTO Director-General Mr Mike Moore is an Adjunct Professor of the University of Adelaide’s School of Economics).

“International trade is critically important for Australia and particularly for the State of South Australia. The establishment of this Institute recognises this and I intend to work hard to advance the interests of the community in the global economy.

“With the Institute based at the University of Adelaide, there are real opportunities to build on the university’s reputation as a provider

of quality education, research and consultancy, and to establish Adelaide as a centre for international business expertise,” Mr Stoler said.

Mr Stoler said the Institute would build on the strengths of the university’s business, economics and law schools, and in particular on the Centre for International Economic Studies (CIES) in the School of Economics.

Further funding for the Institute is expected to result from its relations with international organisations, government agencies and the private sector, research and consultancy work.

“This endeavour will foster closer links between the university, government, business and the community, and will provide one more reason for students to make Adelaide their first choice for study,” said the Vice-Chancellor, Professor James McWha.

An American citizen, Mr Stoler is married to an Australian. His wife, Christine, is an international lawyer who comes from Adelaide and is also a Law graduate of the University of Adelaide. They have a teenage daughter, Angela.

Story by David Ellis



## News in Brief

### Optic fibre breakthrough

A 10.5 km run of optical fibres has been connected between the University of Adelaide’s North Terrace and Waite campuses.

Undertaken without Commonwealth assistance, its specific intent is to further the research, development and teaching activities of the university and its major partners in the project, CSIRO and PIRSA.

“This dedicated optical fibre link back to central computing resources is essential for providing central computing support to the new \$32m National Centre for Plant Functional Genomics, as well as other world-leading research groups at the Waite campus. The link also supports high

capacity computing and communication services vital to the new Repromed building on Fullarton Road,” Vice-Chancellor James McWha said.

### A little Sondheim

Fresh from their successful New York cabaret debut last year, Elder School of Music graduates Patrick Lim and Anthony Hunt will feature in a special Valentine’s Day show of Sondheim’s one-act musical *Marry Me A Little*.

Patrick and Anthony both graduated at the end of 2002 with a Bachelor of Music (Performance) with first class honours in voice, and piano and organ respectively. *Marry Me A Little* will also feature Michelle Crowden, who studied voice at the Elder Conservatorium recently.

*Marry Me A Little* has three performances: 8pm on Friday, February 14; 8pm on Saturday, February 15; and 2pm on Sunday, February 16, with all shows at The Opera Studio, State Opera of South Australia, 216 Marion Rd, Netley. Tickets \$15 (or \$10 conc), bookings: (08) 8226 4758.

### New bus route links campuses

Students, staff and the general public travelling between the University of Adelaide’s North Terrace and Waite campuses now have access to a new bus service.

The 145 route bus runs hourly Monday to Friday (except public holidays) from North Terrace in the city to Waite Road, Urrbrae.

# Two researchers win prestigious medals

Two University of Adelaide researchers struck gold early in the New Year by being awarded prestigious Australian Academy of Science medals for their respective contributions.

Professor Michael Bruce, the Angus Professor of Chemistry, has won the David Craig Medal from the Australian Academy of Science. It is awarded to active researchers for contributions to chemistry.

Dr Nigel Bean, Director of TRC Mathematical Modelling and a member of the School of Applied Mathematics, has been honoured with the Moran Medal, an Australian Academy of Science award that is presented to outstanding young researchers (40 and under).

This follows the J.H. Mitchell medal—awarded by ANZIAM (a division of the Australian Mathematics Society) for the most outstanding early career researcher—which he won in February 2001.

The David Craig Medal honours the contribution to chemical research of Emeritus Professor David Craig, Professor of Theoretical and Physical Chemistry, Research School of Chemistry, Australian National

University. Recipients are expected to deliver lectures in a number of Australian cities.

Professor Bruce has for many years been interested in the interactions of small molecules with metals and has made contributions to our understanding of what happens when these molecules attack clusters of three or more metal atoms.

This work has led to his studies into molecules containing chains of carbon atoms as models for molecular-scale wires, which may have applications in nanotechnology for electronic and optical devices.

Professor Bruce has been the recipient of several national awards, including the H.G. Smith Medal (1986), the RSC Lectureship for Australia (1986) and New Zealand (1987), the Burrows Award for Inorganic Chemistry (1987), election to the Australian Academy of Sciences (1989) and international awards in the form of prestigious lectureships in NZ and the UK.



Professor Michael Bruce (left) and Dr Nigel Bean  
Photo Howard Salkow

The Moran Medal recognises the contributions to science of the late P.A.P. Moran. Its purpose is to identify outstanding research by scientists 40 years and under in one or more of the following fields: applied probability, biometrics, mathematical genetics, psychometrics and statistics.

Dr Bean has been recognised for his work in the field of applied probability, with particular application to the modelling of telecommunication networks.

His current role is leading the industry-funded centre, TRC Mathematical Modelling. It has been in existence for nearly 18 years mainly under the guise of the Teletraffic Research Centre.

The mission of TRC Mathematical Modelling is “to demonstrate the relevance of Applied Mathematics in the modern world, that business will pay for these skills and that people can get satisfying jobs using these skills”.

## Adelaide alumni honoured on Australia Day

Congratulations to the University of Adelaide alumni awarded Australia Day Honours on January 26. The recipients include the Executive Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences, Professor Derek Frewin.

Australia Day Honours were presented to Adelaide alumni in the following categories:

### Officer (AO) in the General Division

Professor Derek Brian Frewin AO  
Mr Graham John Kraehe AO  
The Honourable Leslie Trevor Olsson AO MBE RFD ED  
Emeritus Professor Dennis Charles Pearce AO  
Mr Neville Robert Stevens AO

### Member (AM) in the General Division

Mr Randolph Ranjit Alwis AM  
Dr Michael Burr AM  
Dr Bryan George Coombe AM  
Dr Robert Hecker AM  
Emeritus Professor Charles Angus Hurst AM

### Public Service Medal (PSM) SA Public Service

Dr Tania Leonie Black PSM  
Associate Professor Alan Joseph Crockett PSM

### Australian Police Medal (APM) SA Police

Assistant Commissioner Gary Thomas Burns BM APM

### Medal (OAM) in the General Division

Sister Catherine Ellen Clark OAM

Emeritus Professor Trevor James Heath OAM  
Dr Stephen John Judd OAM  
Mr Malcolm Richard Penn OAM  
Dr Elizabeth Stuart Rozenbils OAM

If you know of an Adelaide alumnus who is not included in this list, please contact Alumni, Community Relations and Development: (08) 8303 5800.

SA Great Awards were also presented on Proclamation Day (December 28), with the Chancellor of the University of Adelaide, Mr Robert Champion de Crespigny, awarded South Australian of the Year. More details on these awards will appear in next issue of the *Adelaidean*.



## Pianist recognised as distinguished alumni

Mr Lance Dossor was presented with a Distinguished Alumni Award during the December graduations in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the university and to his profession as performing artist and teacher.

Mr Dossor was Principal Teacher of Piano at the Elder Conservatorium of Music, University of Adelaide, from 1953 to 1979, and at the time of retirement was a Reader in this institution.

His career as a solo concert pianist and chamber music player began before World War Two after his graduation from the Royal College of Music, where he studied from 1932 to 1937. He enjoyed early international acclaim, with prizes awarded at prestigious international pianoforte competitions in Vienna, Warsaw and Brussels.

Before, during and after the War, including long after he had settled in Adelaide, Lance Dossor performed regularly with many of the world's leading orchestras and under leading conductors. He was also well known to radio audiences on the BBC as an outstanding performer of chamber music.

Generations of students, over several particularly distinguished phases in the Conservatorium's long history, were able to benefit from his teaching, some now with international reputations themselves.

Members of Mr Dossor's family, including his sister who traveled from England, were present at the ceremony last December.



Mr Dossor is pictured with Mrs Elizabeth Silsbury OAM, Alumni Board and Cornell Chapter member

## Distinguished Alumni Award nominations

Each year the University of Adelaide Alumni Association formally recognises its outstanding alumni by bestowing up to three Distinguished Alumni Awards. These awards recognise outstanding service to the University of Adelaide and/or the Alumni Association, and outstanding service to the community or outstanding contribution in their chosen fields.

Nominations can be forwarded to the Executive Secretary, Alumni Association (C/- Alumni, Community Relations and Development) by 5.00pm, May 30.

The rules and information on the nomination process are located at: [www.adelaide.edu.au/alumni/scholarships/dstngshd.html](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/alumni/scholarships/dstngshd.html)

## Postgraduate travel grants

Up to two Mutual Community Postgraduate Travel Grants of up to \$2500 each and one AUGU/RC Heddle Award of up to \$1500 are available to assist University of Adelaide doctoral candidates to travel to a conference or similar gathering to present their work, or to another institution to learn a particular method essential to their work.

Applications are now available for the May round, and can be downloaded from: [www.adelaide.edu.au/alumni/scholarships/awards.html](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/alumni/scholarships/awards.html). The deadline is 5.00pm, March 7. For more information contact Nada Racki on 8303 6356 or email: [nada.racki@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:nada.racki@adelaide.edu.au).

## Have you considered being a mentor?

The Alumni, Community Relations and Development office is pleased to announce its support of the Smith Family's "Learning for life Mentor Program". The Smith Family's Learning for Life program invests in the education of disadvantaged Australian youth. Being a tertiary mentor is a great way to contribute—to your own development as well as your student's.

For more information on this program, and how you can register your expression of interest, please contact Kim McBride, Coordinator of Alumni and Community Relations at 8303 3196 or email: [kim.mcbride@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:kim.mcbride@adelaide.edu.au)

## 03 Alumni Events

### Malaysian Alumni Reunion Dinner

Rekindle old ties and meet our latest alumni additions after the 2003 KL Graduation Ceremony to be held that afternoon! Help raise funds for local charities! (Members are asked to nominate such charities) Dance to the music of two live bands! Join our Golf Tournament and win attractive prizes! Share Fellowship with visitors from Sarawak, Sabah, Singapore and Adelaide!

**Date:** Saturday, March 22  
**Venue:** Hyatt Regency Saujana, Subang  
**Time:** 7:00 pm – 12:00 am  
**Ticket:** RM 100

- Accommodation package for Saturday night: Twin-share – RM 200 nett, including breakfast
- The 2003 KL Graduation Ceremony will be held on Saturday 22 March 2003 at 2:00 pm, also at Hyatt Saujana
- Those interested in the Golf Tournament please contact Benjamin Chan at 019 7522904

**RSVP** by February 21  
 (map will be sent with tickets)  
**Phone:** +603 22879788  
**Fax:** +603 22879688  
**Email:** [admin@adelaidealumni.org](mailto:admin@adelaidealumni.org)

### Friends of the University of Adelaide Library

Eva Sallis, Winner of the 1997 The Australian/Vogel Literary Award for her best-selling novel *Hiam* and author of the widely acclaimed *The City of Sealions*, will speak on "Themes of refuge and exile".

**Date:** Thursday, March 20  
**Venue:** Ira Raymond Exhibition Room  
 Barr Smith Library  
**Time:** 6 for 6.30 PM  
**Ticket:** Not required – Free Entry

**RSVP** by Wednesday, March 19  
 to Patricia Hawke  
**Phone:** (08) 8303 4064  
**Email:** [patricia.hawke@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:patricia.hawke@adelaide.edu.au)

### Port Augusta Focus Uni Grads Alumni

**Date:** Friday, February 21  
**Event:** Inaugural Social and Information Night  
**Venue:** Augusta Hotel, Loudon Road  
 Port Augusta.  
**Time:** 6.30 PM

**Ticket:** \$5.00 (registration and nibbles)  
**RSVP** by Wednesday, February 12  
 to Tom Lehmann  
**Phone:** (08) 8641 1444  
**Fax:** (08) 8642 6951  
**Email:** [tlehmann@nrdb.com.au](mailto:tlehmann@nrdb.com.au)



# Amber's golden quest no holiday

With 40 hours a week of training, life is busy enough for world champion rower Amber Halliday as it is.

But the 23-year-old already has one University of Adelaide degree to her name, and is partway through a second.

Halliday, who is also vice-captain of the University of Adelaide Boat Club, obtained her Bachelor of Social Sciences (majoring in Psychology) in 2000, and is now studying for the new Bachelor of Media.

She said her tertiary studies provide a necessary diversion from the weekly grind of training, and also prepare her for life after rowing.

"I really enjoyed doing the Social Sciences degree, and when this new Bachelor of Media came up it seemed like exactly what I wanted to do," she said. "Rowing's my number one priority at the moment, but I won't be able to row competitively for ever and I'm interested in a career in the media, so it's an ideal fit.

"The University's also been great

Amber Halliday  
Photo Ben Osborne



in terms of giving me the flexibility to pursue my rowing, as I often go overseas to compete in major competitions for weeks at a time."

Halliday won gold at the 2002 world championships with Sally Causby in the lightweight double scull, as well as gold in the 2002 World Cup. The pair were named Australian rowers of the year for 2002.

She was also part of the lightweight quad scull team which won gold at both the 2001 World Championships and World Cup.

"I had a very successful year in 2002, and I'm looking to continue that in 2003," she said.

"My long-term goal is the 2004 Athens Olympics and doing well there. Rowing doesn't enjoy the

profile of other sports in Australia and there's simply not enough money in it to make a full-time living from it, but I'm really focused on working as hard as I can to achieve in Athens."

To follow the progress of Amber Halliday and the Australian women's lightweight rowing team, visit [www.auslightychicks.org](http://www.auslightychicks.org)

Story by Ben Osborne



February 2003

101.5fm

radio.adelaide.edu.au

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228 North Terrace, Adelaide

### Also in February

- An alternative perspective on news and current affairs is more important than ever. **Undercurrents** returns **nightly at 5.30pm from Monday Feb 17**
- Walk on the wildside at the opening night of the **Weimar Room's** new season. We're **live to air from 9pm, Friday Feb 21**
- Find out what to see at the **Adelaide International Film Festival**. Previews every morning at 8.30 with **Nick Prescott**, starts **Friday Feb 28**