MONASH ADVANCED SCIENCE & SCIENCE SCHOLARS SOCIETY

# MASS<sup>3</sup> NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 2

SEPTEMBER 2015

# MASS^3 AGM and MOVIE NIGHT: TONIGHT

It's time for the most important MASS^3 event of the year! The Annual General Meeting is happening tonight, in the common room. We'll be electing a brand new committee so if you're a member come down and exercise your voting rights. As a little carrot on the stick there will be free food and a movie night immediately after the proceedings; food, movies and democracy, what could be better?

## WHEN: Tonight, 6:00M

WHERE: Common room (then Campus Centre Cinema)

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE: Latest news

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## WELCOME ONE, WELCOME ALL!

Howdy howdy fellow Mass Cubian's, it's your friendly neighbourhood editor once again.

It's here, the final sprint/hobble to the line of mid-semester. To ease your bruised brain and broken body (alliteration yo) towards that sweetest of weeks is another MASS^3 newsletter. Sink your fangs into another issue of sciency goodness.

### MASS<sup>3</sup> Website and Facebook

As always, don't forget about the MASS<sup>3</sup> website, where you can find club information and news, contact details and most importantly an archive of all the newsletters from the past few years.

#### URL: http://masscubed.com

If you haven't already, make sure you join our Facebook page, where you can get the latest club news as well as share and discuss ideas or internet links.

Facebook URL: https://www.facebook.com/groups/masscubed/

### **POLITICAL ROUND-UP**

It's been a busy couple of weeks in the political world, and it can get a little tough to keep up. Never fear! This round up will tell you exactly what happened to some major politicians as a

#### Tony 'BIG TONE' Abbott—

It finally happened, our glorious leader has fallen. Lurching from disaster to disaster has cost ol' Tone his job as the top dog. He is now languishing in the back bench, focussing on his flourishing career as –what the youngens are calling- a 'speed dealer'.

#### Julie 'Jewellery Jules' Bishop-

The jet setting Foreign Minister and Deputy Party Leader has had a rough time lately. Whilst flying around the world putting on a good front for 'Straya, Jules has often been called on to clean up after Tone's various mistakes. She was a key player in the coup and no wonder, just look at that death stare...



Credit: Paul Dorin





Credit: Mark Knight

### **POLITICAL ROUND-UP**

Malcolm 'Money Bags' Turnbull -After being replaced as party leader some years ago, Money-Bags was content to count his millions in relative political anonymity (Communications Minister doesn't reaaaallly count). After one too many gaffes from Big Tone he saw his chance, rising to the position of El Presidentè/Grand Czar.



Credit: John Spooner

Joe 'The Cuban' Hockey—The Cuban's troubles started when he was caught puffing away on a Cuban before the first budget and haven't improved since. Now he's fallen on his sword alongside Big Tone. Ironically, he's likely headed for a cushy diplomatic gig in the U.S. where he can actually meet some Cubans.



Credit: John Shakespeare



# Quotable quotes—overheard in the common room

"We're mouth twinsies."

"I not fan of ethics to be honest."

"Just be poor, it's easier"

"I'm really enjoying the youtube channel 'Chuck Medic' right now......"

"I just really want a three-cornered hat..."

"The membrane's just so slimy when you first take a bite."

"Breathing, the bane of my existence."

"My cat just get's too frisky."

"Who doesn't like fluids? Of any description?

" I lied, I do like big butts."

# The Louis Green Lecture :The Communication of Ideas, and the Colonial Search for International Standing in Science

Yes; that is a beast of a title for a public lecture. But once you digest it, it looks like a very appealing and thought provoking evening. Presented by Louis Green, it focuses on how ideas can spread in science and how one can gain enough authority for their ideas to be taken up by others. Using the German botanist Ferdinand Mueller as an example, this is sure to be an event not to be missed for any budding scientist.

When: Thursday, October 1st, 6-7:30PM

#### Where: State Library of Victoria

## Yitzhak Yedid Piano Recital (Free Concert)

You like piano recitals right ? You like free stuff right (of course you do, you're at uni)? Then you'll love this! A free performance by composer and performer 'Yitzhak Yedid' is being held by the Faculty of Music. Yedid 's compositions are unique, "explor(ing) new forms of integrating classical Arabic music,, Arabic-influenced Jewish music and contemporary Western classical music."

WHEN: Thursday, September 22, I-2PM WHERE: Performing Arts Complex Auditorium Building 68

# Labrastory

Ever thought that science needed more of a narrative? Well you're in luck! On the first Wednesday of every month, 'Labrastory' is held. Throughout the evening the story of science are told, "the heroes, the egos, the breakthroughs and the mistakes of genius"

WHEN: First Wednesday of every month WHERE: Spotted Mallard, Brunswick

# RIDDLES

Water in a cup
A man in a restaurant asked a waiter for a juice glass, a dinner plate, water, a match, and
a lemon wedge. The man poured enough water onto the plate to cover it.
"If you can get the water on the plate into this glass without touching or moving this
plate, I will give you \$100," the man said. "You can use the match and lemon to do this."
A few minutes later, the waiter walked away with \$100 in his pocket. How did the
waiter get the water into the glass?
~

## Mystery man

Alone I am 24th, with a friend I am 20. Another friend and I am unclean. What am I?

## Back to high school

A teacher decides to give a pop quiz one day but all of her students refuse to take the quiz thinking that the teacher will call off the quiz. She can give only one of these students a detention for skipping the quiz. All of the students know each other's names and if a student knows he/she is getting a detention they take the quiz.

How can she threaten her students with the single detention so they all take the quiz?

# **RIDDLES**

Cleaning conundrum
A window cleaner is cleaning a window on the 25th floor of a skyscraper when, suddenly, he slips and falls. He has no safety equipment and nothing to soften his fall, and yet he is not hurt. How can this be?
Numerical nicety
I
H
21
1211
111221
312211
What is the next number in the sequence?

## **ANSWERS FOR PREVIOUS EDITION**

**In the Dark** — Number the switches 1, 2 & 3. Switch on number 1 for 1 minute, then switch it off. Switch on number 2. Go upstairs.. The light that is on is connected to switch 2. The light that is off and **warm** is connected to switch 1. The light that is off and cold is connected to switch 3!

**Linguistic gymnastics** — All of these words can be used as both nouns and verbs

**Adam and Eve** — The archaeologist knew they were Adam and Eve because they didn't have belly buttons.

## THIS MONTH IN SCIENCE

- Queensland researchers have developed a robot to independently scour the Great Barrier Reef and inject the 'Crown of Thorns' parasite with a toxic solution.
- White blood cells have been created which produce and deliver proteins which subsequently reduce the brain damage caused by Parkinson's disease.
- Columbian astronomers have begun an attempt to learn more information from high-resolution photos of the billion galaxies in our universe using advanced facial-recognition programs and selflearning algorithms.
- Researchers have successfully sequenced DNA from 400,000 year old fossils found in Spain. Their findings suggest that the origin of ancestors distinct from Neanderthals actually happened much earlier than first thought.
- Physicists have experimentally demonstrated that an 'optical analog transistor', composed of a silicon nanoparticle, may be the next ultra-fast, all-optical transistor.



The re-engineered white blood cells



The 'Crown of Thorns'



The Spanish fossil





Chapter 5. Leon the little electron visits a degenerate orbital.



Forget the experts: domestication of the dog only took about 8 seconds.



"Well looking back I suppose it's been going on for quite some time, but I only noticed we were drifting apart during the last 50 million years..."





"This isn't a BREAKTHROUGH, Colbert! This is CIRCULAR REASONING! All you've done here is re-state our original objective!"





