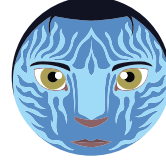
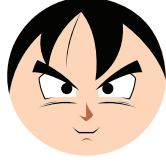
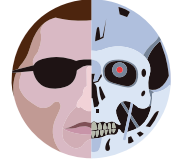
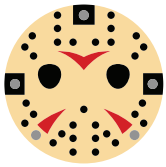
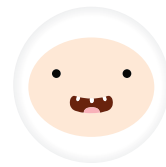
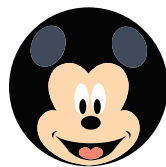
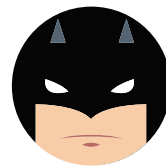
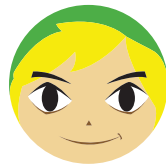
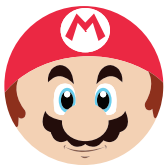


# fedpress

Magazine



ISSUE № 12  
July 2016



Federation University's  
Student Publication

# Leadership & Volunteering@FedUni Presents



**CHALLENGE ♦ CHANGE ♦ CELEBRATE**  
**NATIONAL STUDENT VOLUNTEER WEEK ♦ 8-14 AUG**

A week of events, activities, forums and awareness-raising campaigns across all campuses and online, including:

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Pinterest Board

Pop-Up Op Shop

Days for Girls Packing Day



FedUni SleepOut

Campus Clean-Up

Do It in a Dress Games

**#NSVW2016**

**#FedUniLeaders**

For more information visit: <http://bit.ly/NSVW2016>



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# Crows:

## Black Birds with Brains?

by Joshua Paddon

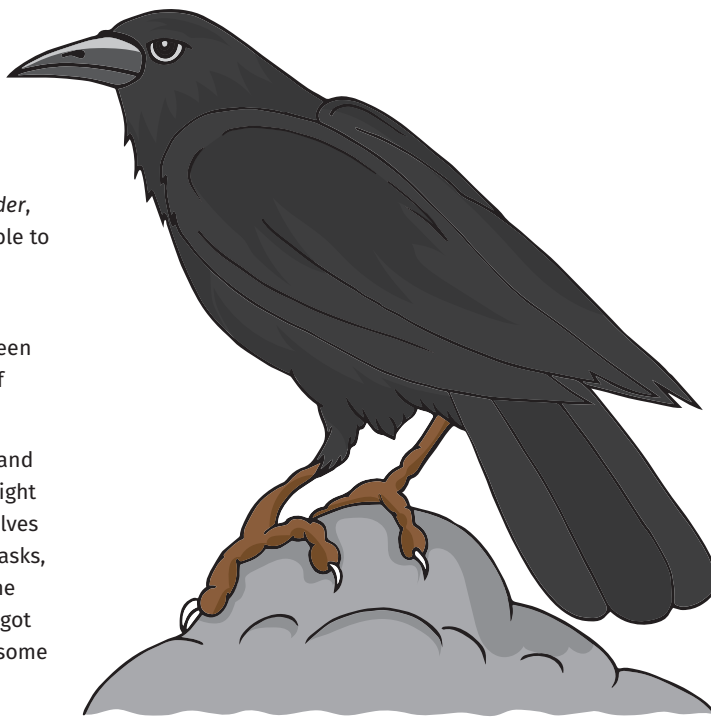
We've all seen or heard of *Are You Smarter than a Fifth Grader*, but current research suggests that eventually we may be able to do the same with crows.

Crows have always held a place within our culture. From Norse to Australian Aboriginal mythology, they have long been known as tricksters, carriers of information, and symbols of intelligence. And not without good reason.

At a university in Seattle, an experiment involved trapping and tagging a number of local crows in order to monitor their flight patterns and where they rested. In order to protect themselves from the crows scratching at them, the researchers wore masks, and because they were university students, they all wore the same creepy mask during the experiment. The researchers got the information they were looking for, but they also found some additional information they were not counting on.

A week after the initial part of the experiment, the researchers found that if they wore the masks used during the tagging process, they would be swooped and loudly cawed at by all of the crows in the area. People wearing different masks, however, were left alone. The researchers weren't just swooped by those crows that were involved in the experiment, they were also swooped by other crows that weren't involved in the experiment, meaning that not only had the crows involved memorised the 'face' that had caused them such a nuisance, but they had also passed this information on well enough to other crows so that they recognised and harassed the same mask.

If having their own language isn't scary enough, Candace Savage, a Canadian nature and science writer, comments that crows appear to have personalised dialect when communicating with each other, especially within their families. Meaning that to the trained ear, a crow from America could sound very different to a crow from Australia.



Despite their tendency to travel, crows have appeared to be incredibly family-driven. Crows in New York have been found to spend up to six of their ten- to fifteen-year lifespan living with their family in their nest. Even after they have left, the crows will occasionally come back and visit their parents.

New Caledonian crows are some of the most intelligent and active tool-users of this progressive species. In a study in 2002, two New Caledonian crows were presented with a tube of water where a treat was floating out of the crows' reach, surrounded by pebbles. After attempting to get at the treat, the crows then began working together to put the biggest pebbles into the tube, raising the water in order to get the food.

In 2009, during a test on their problem-solving abilities, Alex Kacelnik observed a New Caledonian crow, which had never been exposed to wire before, spontaneously bend a straight piece of wire so that it could get at a treat. This kind of problem solving hasn't even been seen in chimps or apes — who share their methods for problem-solving — placing crows closer to human beings in terms of raw problem-solving abilities.

So maybe next time you think about yelling at some crows or throwing rocks, reconsider. Not just because it's a horrid thing to do to any animal, but because with the way that these black birds are progressing, there's a good chance that that crow will remember your face, warn their family about you in their own personal dialect, and then organise a group to break into your house. I wouldn't take any chances, anyway.



# FANDOM:

## WHY AND HOW WE BECOME OBSESSED WITH FICTIONAL CHARACTERS AND PLACES

by Sarah McLean

We're all familiar with fandom. I'm sure at one point or another in your life you have come to know and love a particular fictional character or place. This love is so great that it evolves into an obsession. We devote days, weeks, months, and even years to watching a TV series or collecting memorabilia that is a must-have, new release. Even if your bank account is drained because you spent all of your money on another collectible that came out last week... You get my point.

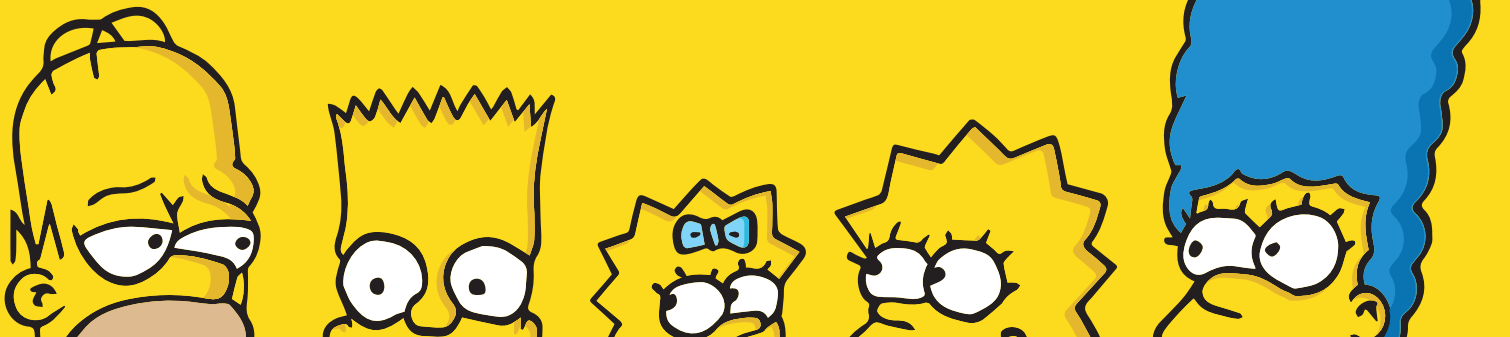
By now, you're probably curious as to when the aforementioned love becomes something greater. Allow me to try to explain to you the inner workings of fandom and obsession; trust me, I speak from experience. I am a *massive* fan of *The Simpsons*, and in particular the Simpson family and how they interact with the other residents in Springfield. I have seen almost every episode, and have collected a large amount of figurines and posters. In other words, if you name it, I will most likely have it. I can also quote many of the classic episodes (the better ones, might I add). I know what it's like to be consumed by fictional characters and places.

But how does it come about? Why are we sometimes so deeply obsessed with our favourite superhero or game character? How do we become obsessed? In the case of fictional characters, we may aspire to be like them, or the character could have something that you want, but can't have. Loving that character is the closest thing to owning that possession. The same can essentially be applied to fictional places. A superhero may have an awesome house. You envy it so much that you wish you could live there. You collect photo after photo of the house, in hopes that one day you might have the chance to live there or somewhere like it.

So that's the why, but how do we fall madly in love with fictional characters and places? For starters, gaining as much knowledge as possible about a particular character can lead to obsession. So can watching an entire TV series or every movie the character has featured in. Perhaps it started back about 40 years ago; before fandom exploded into what it is today with children dressed up as their favourite superhero while reading cherished comic books. However, in 1970, Comic-Con (in America) had just started to blossom thanks to fans of comics, movies, and science fiction. Due to the convention growing each year, fandom, and for that matter, obsession, has grown much larger. There are many more things out there now for fans to get their hands on, feeding their wants and needs.

I've come to realise through writing this article, that over the years maybe I've become *too* obsessed with *The Simpsons*. Is there even such a thing as being *too* obsessed? Honestly, I don't know, but one thing I do know for sure is that fandom, unlike the fictional characters and places we fall in love with, is real. Fandom and obsession are all around us. Some might say that once it starts, there is no stopping. One day you will find yourself dedicating your life to a certain character or place; there is no escaping it.

On second thought, I think I may need help with this obsession...



# What I've Discovered from Constantly

Every time a holiday rolls around, I find myself picking up where I left off in my quest to learn a new language. Each time I have learnt something new and very interesting, which prompts me to consider a completely different language altogether and waste hours in the depths of the 'languages' corner of the internet. Whether you've ever considered learning another language or not, here are a few of the things I have learnt that may be of interest.



Google  
Australia

easiest language for English speakers to learn|

Google Search

I'm Feeling Lucky

## 1. There's no such thing as an 'easy' language to learn.

Perhaps you have also considered learning another language (other than English), and have been baffled by the many languages that exist. To narrow it down, you decide to Google 'the easiest language for English speakers to learn'. You make some interesting observations. You learn that English is one of the most hybrid languages in existence. You also discover that each language exists in a category within a network, and English is a Germanic language (more on this in a second).

So you decide on a Germanic language, and then find yourself on a site like Duolingo. At first, the language seems simple enough, but then you realise that this language has just as many (or more) complicated grammar rules as English. So you give up, and begin a new Google search.

Despite anything a webpage might tell you, every single language that exists has its own rules and requirements (and exceptions to said rules), meaning that learning a language is not merely substituting English words for others; it requires a lot more effort.

## 2. Each language exists in a category in the 'mind-map' of languages.

Where a language sits in such a network depends on its history and its structures. English is part of the Germanic languages category and shares a lot of its structures with languages like Dutch, Danish, Norwegian, Swedish, Afrikaans, and German. However, it does not mean Germanic languages will be easier to learn than any other language (such as a Romance language like French or Spanish, or a Uralic language like Hungarian or Finnish) it just means that English as we know it is rooted in other Germanic languages.

Once I looked this up and found myself learning about the history of the English language, a rabbit hole opened leading me to the beginnings of England as a nation. Apparently some of the first peoples to colonise the British Isles were the Angles, Saxons, and Jutes who all spoke a version of a West Germanic tongue. Over time, their language blended and formed into various dialects as they settled into their own tribes and kingdoms. The most powerful were the Angles and Saxons (Anglo-Saxons) who spoke Old English. Then came the Vikings with their North Germanic tongue, which merged with the Old English, followed by the Normans (the French) who added to the new Middle English. Middle English evolved into Medieval English, which became Early Modern English, then Modern English, and finally the Late Modern English we know today.

# Attempting to Learn Another Language

by Laura McLachlan



### 3. You can learn a language for free without leaving the house.

While I knew that I could teach myself a language on my own, I was unaware of just how many language-learning resources exist. For example, there are entire web communities of people who come together for the sake of learning another language or two. Or three. Or four. These people are called 'polyglots' and are fluent (or aim to be) in several languages. There is a huge interest in online language learning, and if you do decide to learn another language, you will not be short on resources. Aside from the popular interactive language-learning websites and apps (such as Duolingo, Memrise, Babbel, Clozemaster, iTalki, and Busuu), there are hundreds of thousands of people who blog about languages. Even on social media and sites like Tumblr, a quick 'langblr' search will provide you with enough guides, study tips, links, and a lot more to keep you busy for quite a while. YouTube is also rich with channels whose sole purpose is teaching people a language (not to mention that you can find channels entirely in another language). Other popular options are finding TV shows or movies in your target language, TV shows with a familiar format (like *X-Factor* or *The Voice*), or get hold of translated Disney films.

So long as you have an internet connection, there really isn't any excuse for not learning another language (especially since most of these resources are free). I even read an article about how some people are taking advantage of Tinder to meet people they can practise their skills with.

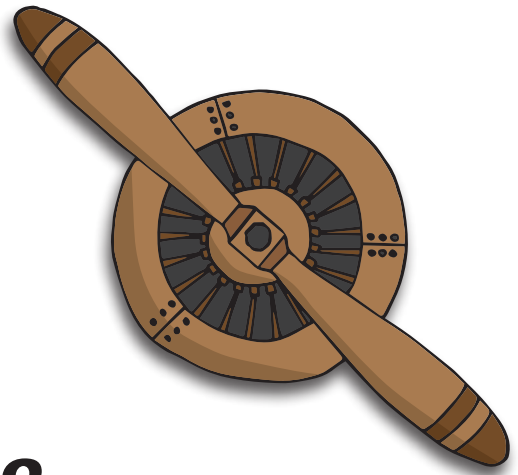
### 4. Learning another language has so many benefits.

While learning a language is not the easiest endeavour, it offers many benefits. Learning a language exercises your brain; it improves your memory and your attention span, boosts creativity, and (some say) it can even delay the onset of Alzheimer's. Not only is it mentally rewarding, but you will also gain a deeper understanding of English and the world around you. This is because events and objects are described differently in other languages in ways that cannot truly be translated without losing meaning. By learning another language, you not only re-discover the world (using a new language can allow for a completely different perspective), but also develop a sense of another culture.

While it may seem daunting at first, and may be tricky, it will be a personal achievement that you worked toward, and something that will give you greater confidence in your abilities.



Pietro Angeli's  
**Things  
that Exist**



# Planes

Straight up, I'm scared of flying. I hate it. A slight bump of turbulence at 40,000 feet is enough to instantly drench me in a cold sweat and have me clenching the armrests at either side of my seat. Whether the passengers beside me were using those armrests is irrelevant — if the plane shakes, every armrest on the craft belongs to me.

Because I am scared of flying, I have read a fair bit into it, mostly to reassure myself. I also avoid air crash investigation shows like the plague. I always think if there are enough plane crashes to make a 15 season TV show (which is still running, by the way) then surely flying can't be all that safe. This thought generally occurs to me somewhere between take-off and crying on the shoulder of the unlucky sod beside me, explaining to him that, "I'm too young to die".

It turns out that flying is actually super safe. It is, in fact, the second safest form of transport, only beaten by elevators. That's safer than riding a push-bike. That's safer than *walking*.

Of course, this doesn't mean that if there were an elevator that could take me to Italy I wouldn't give up flying — I would in an instant — but it's reassuring to know nonetheless. You actually have a one in 11 million chance of dying in a plane crash, based on fatality statistics. I'm sure you've all heard the classic irony that 'you're more likely to die on the way to the airport than you are in the actual flight', but I've come up with a few better axioms:

- You're more likely to be killed by lightning than you to die in a plane crash
- You're more likely to die from a terrorist attack than to die in a plane crash
- You're four times more likely to die by falling off a ladder than to die in a plane crash

Other things that are more likely to occur than death while flying include being scalded by hot water, being killed in an accident at work, drowning in a bath, and even dying by falling out of bed. Good luck falling out of one of those airplane seats and dying — those things are so tight that just getting in and out feels like trying to escape a straitjacket.

Okay, so this review wasn't really meant to be about plane safety but more about planes in general. I guess they're pretty impressive. They're huge hunks of metal that hotbox a bunch of peoples' farts and somehow defy physics and fly around the world.





# Cover Competition!

The theme of our next issue is **Change** and we would like to invite you to create the front cover.

The winning entry will receive a **\$50 Coles / Myer Voucher**.

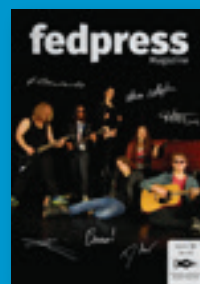
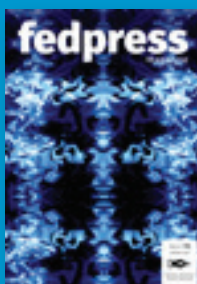
It can be a painting, drawing, photograph or digital artwork, it just has to relate to the theme.

Consider the composition and allow for the magazine logo, which is featured across the top of the cover and the issue number in the bottom right corner.

Size: A4 with 5mm Bleed and 300dpi

All submissions to be sent digitally to [editorialteam@fedpressmagazine.com](mailto:editorialteam@fedpressmagazine.com)

Entries close Sunday 28 August at 11:59pm



# Interview with

All the way from the USA, we caught up with Campus Life's new resident intern, Megan Corder. We asked Megan some questions about her exciting time exploring a new country and experiencing what FedUni has to offer during a chilly Mt Helen winter.

## Tell us about university and study?

I received my Bachelor of Science in Public Relations at Kent State University in Ohio. Kent State is a large state school near Cleveland and Akron in Northeast Ohio. Currently I am a graduate (post-graduate) student at Eastern Illinois University (EIU) in Charleston, Illinois. I'm enrolled in a Masters in College Student Affairs. This program is a mix between student development, counselling, and university administration.

## Why are you joining us at FedUni?

I applied to work at FedUni through an internship exchange with the Association of College and University Housing Officers International. This is an internship exchange for housing and residence life internships. Every student in my graduate program is encouraged to complete an internship during our summer holiday, so we can learn about other offices and campuses. I will be here for just over two months, and will be working with the Campus Life office for the duration of my stay. Following my internship here, I'll return to EIU and finish the second year of my graduate program.

## Are American universities like the movies?

I do not think that college in America is exactly like the movies; some things are similar though! EIU has an annual homecoming football game where everyone wears their favourite blue EIU gear and we tailgate with a big cookout in the parking lot, with hundreds of people coming to celebrate the game. Every year our residents participate in what is called 'Residents On Campus Fest' (ROCFest). There are competitive events such as scavenger hunts, and my favourite, the annual boat race. Students create boats out of cardboard and duct tape and race their boats across the campus pond. Sometimes boats sink, but students always have a fantastic time.

## Favourite thing about Australia?

My favourite thing is how casual it is to go with a friend to a coffee shop and sit down to talk. I think it's easy to take those moments for granted, but I love how normal it is to go to somewhere and not rush. I also really like Australian coffee culture and the amazing food you find at cafés around town! I always find new foods and coffees that I am excited to try.



# Megan Corder

By Jess Kelly



## What are your top tips for overseas study or travel in general?

Everyone's travel style and experiences are different, but it's important to remember that your trip is a personal journey. These are the best tips I can offer:

- Don't be afraid to look silly. You're not always going to know what to do and what to say, but that's okay. The more you put yourself out there, the better the experience you will have.
- Asking questions and asking for help is all part of figuring out the new culture. Don't be afraid to talk to someone about a town you're visiting.
- Pack less! You don't need to bring everything.
- Research where you're going and then highlight activities you'd like to do. The rest of the time, walk around and explore. Let yourself decide what's interesting and I think it'll be a more exciting journey for you!
- Expectations are important, but don't stick to them. Let yourself fall into the beauty of uncertainty. Sure, make plans and think about what you'll do, but let experiences happen and don't be worried if they aren't exactly the same as your expectations.
- Stay organised. I like to keep copies of my paperwork or have extra items stashed away in my suitcase. I think it helps me feel like I have everything sorted and I'm prepared if something goes wrong.
- Only through vulnerability can you find strength. Traveling abroad is scary and exciting. It's okay to be vulnerable and get to know people, even if it is temporary. Don't hold back because your time there is short.

## What is something unique about FedUni that you haven't seen in the USA?

I love how unique the experience at FedUni is for students.

With so many program options, FedUni strives to be accessible and supportive. I think FedUni does a great job of putting that mission into practice. I'm also really impressed with how focused everyone is on being sustainable here. It's built into everyone's habits and the university culture, which is so interesting. It just becomes a normal part of everyday life.

If you want to follow Megan's journey and gain some greater insight into what foreign exchange might be like, you can view her blog at [www.megancorder.com/blog](http://www.megancorder.com/blog)

# The Secret Life of Post-Grad Students

by Cale Hellyer

I wake up, stumble out of bed and look over towards my phone. No messages, and still some time before midday. Winning! Shall I shower? Brush my teeth? Nah, I have no one to see anyway. "Okay," I think to myself, "time for another killer day of PhD research".

But what to do? I pick up my book about the history of Italian cinema. I am up to the chapter about neo-realism. "The neo-realist cinema began in the 1940s..." Okay, no neo-realism for me today, this is all too much. I *will* critique one of my films!

I wander over to my 'bookshelf.' Oh yes, look at it! The top shelf is horror, the next is horror, and the one below it is Italian horror. I scan my eyes over the third shelf for some source of inspiration. The films become a blur. So many to watch, so little time. Well, come on, I need to do something!

I scan further down and notice in all its glory, my folder. I try to resist. You have to study today, you have no time. Well, maybe just a peek.

I slide my folder towards myself. It makes that glorious sound, the sound of nostalgia, of love. I sit at my desk, place my folder down and open it up. Oh yes, there they are. My cards, my beautiful Pokémon cards.

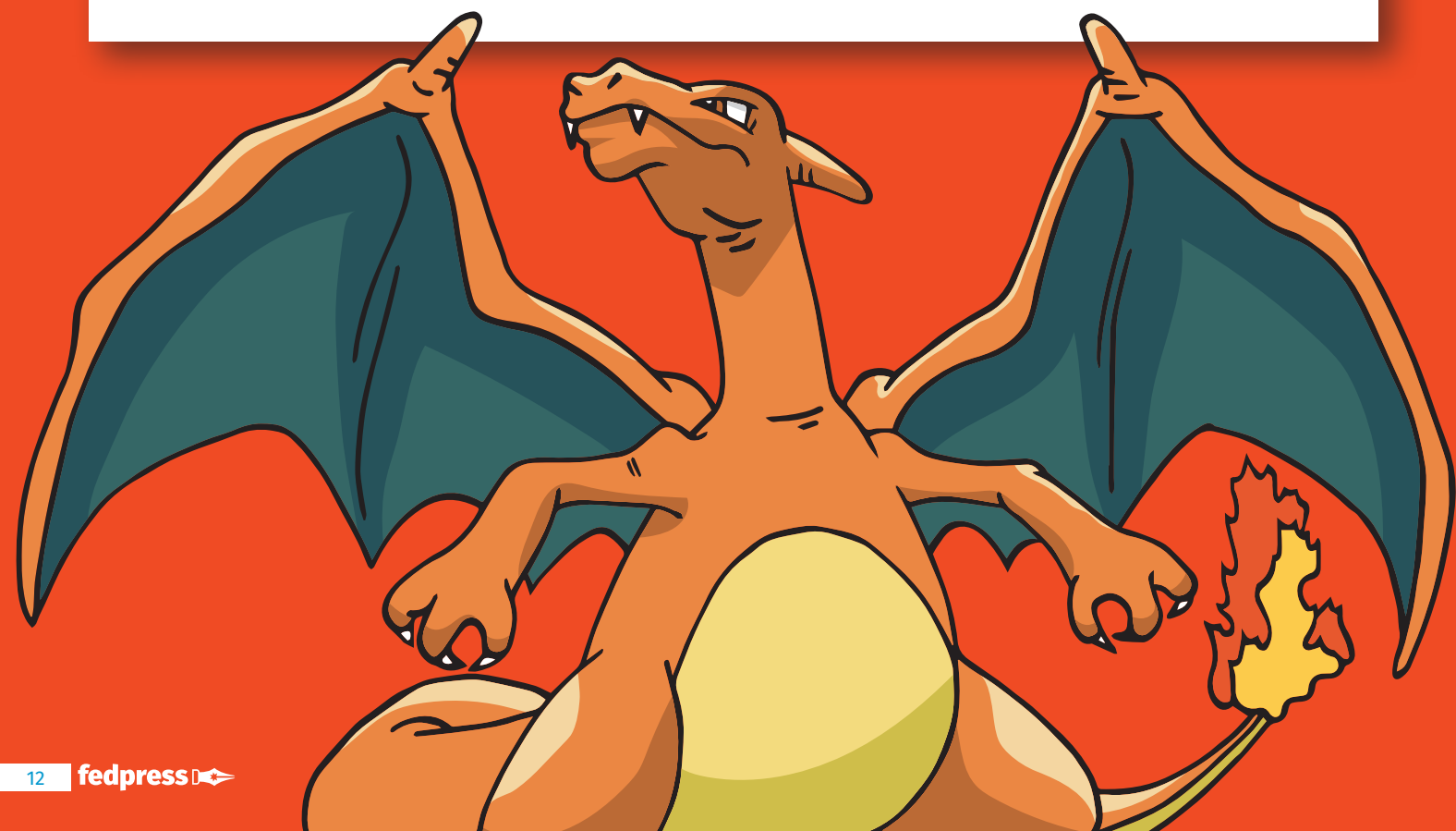
The first page is just incredible. The first nine cards of the Base Set. I heard they are re-issuing it. Well, I still have the entire set anyway, so who cares? There it is, the Charizard card. How you eluded me for so long, until that fateful day at Card Crazy. That booster pack I bought was the best \$4.95 I ever spent.

I turn the pages and see the 'infamous' Ivysaur card. The exact copy I got in my first ever booster. I scan through the rest of the Base, and then quickly through the boring Jungle set. There they are, the Fossils! Gengar and Haunter, right next to each other. I can barely contain myself. Through the Fossils I go, then on to the Rockets. Ah, the Dark Charizard, possibly the best (or worst) \$25 I ever spent. Yes, that is correct, I spent that on one card when I was only 12 years old.

I come to my favourite section of all, the lesser known but far superior era of Pokémon cards. The 'Neo' era, said to be the sister-sets of the original Base, Jungle, Fossil, and Rocket sets. Wait, where have I heard Neo before? Oh well. I skim through Neo Generation and land on Neo Discovery. Oh yes, card 13 of 75, 'Umbreon'. Possibly the most glamorous card I own; the most glorious of the Eeveelutions. The 'Moonlight Pokémon' sits appropriately in the moonlight, looking ponderous.

I carefully study the entire Discovery set, which I once bought on eBay, having traded them all away in my youth. I close my book with all kinds of nostalgic, booster pack-related memories running through my head and slide my folder back into its rightful place.

Right, back to... wait. What was I doing again?





# What I Hate about Facebook: *A Modest Venting*

by Damian Brown

From the depths of my spleen, I will now take the time and effort to comment on what grinds my gears about social media. In the style of lists that the internet knows and loves, I will now countdown my top four things I don't like about the 'book of face'.

## 1. The idea of 'fishing for likes'

This method is used to validate feelings, friendship or positivity, as well as to gain sympathy for the problems in your life. Everyone in society has problems, but most just deal with them on their own without involving their social media community like some impromptu version of group therapy. In my experience, people who do this open themselves to ridicule, devaluing how serious or legitimate their problem is.



## 2. Perception in social media matters more than truth

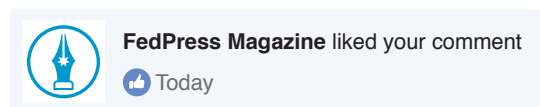
I have seen a number of instances in the last few years where a controversial story has been reported on Facebook, and a majority of people have commented or formed an opinion. This often includes an attack upon the presumed guilty party, with a response by any individuals who feel offended. More often than not the story is then proven false by new evidence, and all that anger is proven misplaced. People are often too quick to jump to conclusions, and Facebook demonstrates this with a permanent online record of all comments. How often do people retract said comments publicly? More often than not, they will simply delete the comment, and act like nothing has happened. It has spread to the mainstream media too; journalists are too quick to report rumours as fact, as social media and media outlet stories rely upon speed. The first report garners the most attention and receives the most views (and therefore the most advertising revenue).

## 3. The belief that having many 'friends' or 'followers' is a measure of one's popularity

It reinforces the belief that if someone is not popular or has fewer friends, they are lesser and have a less valid opinion than someone who is more popular. Rather than quiet achievement, social media encourages users to brag about every social and life event to get a 'Like' from our peers, to validate achievements and recognise popularity. Facebook is effectively promoting arrogance and narcissism. It's no wonder that the rate of teenagers experiencing depression and anxiety are sky-high. A lot of today's culture is based on fear: fear of loneliness, fear of violence or crime, and fear of unpopularity or awkwardness. People perceived as awkward are subjected to ridicule, ostracism, and general alienation by the more popular members of the social scene. This criticism is often behind their backs, sometimes used to boost their standing or to distract themselves from their own problems.

## 4. It has become necessary to maintain some sort of online presence

Social media has created the perception that if something is not documented online then it does not exist, popularising the term 'pics or it didn't happen'. Well, I'd argue that they should 'live, or life doesn't happen'. Not everyone feels the need to post every aspect of their lives online. Some people are naturally more private than others, myself included.





**CHALLENGE ♦ CHANGE ♦ CELEBRATE**  
**NATIONAL STUDENT VOLUNTEER WEEK ♦ 8-14 AUG**

Each year, FedUni run a variety of events and activities to raise awareness of volunteer opportunities, and to promote volunteering amongst the student community. This year will be no different, and the Leadership & Volunteering@FedUni team have a bumper week of events and activities in store.

## My Journey at FedUni So Far

by Premnath Chakarvarty

My exciting journey started when I first stepped onto my FedUni campus. Everything was new to me and everyone was so welcoming that I felt positive whenever I was there.

In my first semester I attended the 'One Small Thing' conference, which was a two-day event. I had the opportunity to listen to different ideas and one common thread that connected everyone there was a shared idea for a better future for all.

Through this conference I visited the Wendouree Community Centre, which inspired me to work in the community to develop and encourage the younger generation for a better future. This is where I got my first opportunity to work for the community under an amazing and inspiring supervisor from the YMCA. After the interview process and all the checks, this wonderful person told me if I wanted, I could volunteer directly under her supervision at the Delacombe office. I was happy to take her up on her offer — I have enjoyed my work with YMCA volunteering in the community and I am learning things for a lifetime.

Now in my second semester, I am a member of the International Student Committee and Peer Supporter for international students, where I communicate with new international students and help create a positive experience for all. I am also a mentor with AIME, where I have had the opportunity to mentor Indigenous school students. It has been fun to share some personal experiences to develop their self-confidence.

Coming from a different country, everything was new to me and I was very hesitant to try things. I worked very hard to develop the courage and sincerity to move forward in things I believed in. I have had a very positive experience from this amazing country where I am learning at every step of my journey.

Through my willingness and positive interactions I also had the opportunity to work in the library as casual staff, shelving books. It is such an amazing feeling when your hands touch so many books. I've had amazing support at the library where all the library staff supported and guided me throughout my work.

*"I am learning at every step of my journey"*

My academic learning comes from attending insightful lectures, working with distinctive individuals on group assignments as well as participating in insightful workshops and training sessions.

I encourage myself to attend as many workshops I can. I feel there is so much to learn in this world and contribute towards future development. I am looking forward to making the best of my university life and making FedUni proud. I am thankful to everyone for encouraging me and guiding me throughout my life at FedUni.

# We Rise by Lifting Others

by Selin Kasif

Volunteering... Here's my volunteering journey and the joys it has brought to my life. Give it a go, you never know what it could do to you!

I have had many volunteering experiences, from leadership roles to primary school helper, first aid work to travelling across the globe to third world countries, to currently being a member of the Fedpress Editorial Team.

Throughout school, I applied for leadership roles to help build up different skills, which have allowed me to be an effective part of the leadership program here at the university where I continue to volunteer my time and enhance my skills.

I travelled to Africa three years ago, volunteering at an orphanage for ten days. During this time I assisted with community projects and refurbishments of buildings. Last year, I went to India where I fed the homeless in Delhi and listened to their stories.

My most recent role involves working in a team where we produce the magazine you see around the university and are now reading. I joined the Fedpress team to be involved in the design side of things, but I noticed that there were other areas I wanted to try out.

At the moment I am focusing on organising events for Fedpress and learning different skills in the editorial team. That is a perk to volunteering, you can try new things! It's your choice!

All my experiences have taught me different things. The highlights of my journey have been travelling to Africa, India, and being a part of an editorial team. Volunteering is something that not only benefits the people you choose to help, but also yourself. It has allowed me to build up professional relationships and lifelong skills, and it has allowed me to have a different outlook on life and the way I choose to live it.



*“...a perk to volunteering, you can try new things!”*

Volunteering has allowed me to take something out of every experience and make me a better person. So how about you give it a go, try volunteering a bit of your time for the upcoming National Student Volunteer Week (8–14 August). I can assure you, there will be many benefits for you and others.

## Volunteering for Social Soccer

by Brendan Caffrey

Running social soccer last semester, I really enjoyed watching the games and seeing the enjoyment that all the students had while playing.

I believe that in any community having social events, such as soccer, is very important. In my first year of university (last year) I was invited to play and I had an amazing time — chatting and connecting with people who are studying was really enjoyable. When an email came out at the start of the year asking for volunteers to help run social soccer, it didn't take me long to decide that if I could give others an opportunity to have the amount of fun I did, then I would.

I learnt a lot from the whole experience, such as taking on viewpoints to help the competition move forward.

Including play-offs in the final round gave the students a real incentive to engage, and was also a chance to catch up and enjoy what was a great season, with all students having input in how it unfolded.

To anyone who is thinking about getting involved in volunteering for an event at the university or in the community, I would highly recommend it. Giving something back and being involved in something that you are passionate about makes for a lot of fun!

I look forward to building on what I have learnt from semester one and hopefully social soccer is bigger and better for semester two.

# Senate Six

Here are the top six issues, actions, or achievements from your current Student Senate team, to keep you in the loop of what we're working on and what you might like to comment on.



## 1. The Blue Tie Ball is back

The annual Blue Tie Ball is set to return bigger and better than ever. The Student Senate has partnered with Campus Life and beyondblue for the event, to reach more students in the lead-up to what should be a fabulous night. Keep posted for ways that you can get involved in improving your mental health and that of those around you #FedUniBTB



## 2. Uni gets a new spark of fun

New recreational items for all campuses are high on the agenda for your Senate members with foosball, table tennis, basketball hoops, extra sporting equipment, and more coming to campuses soon!



## 3. Building global communications

Megan (our International Representative), is busy making FedUni more welcoming for international students both socially and academically. Megan is also working with senior staff to improve staff training in order to build awareness on how to interact, teach, and work with international students more effectively.



## 4. Student networks for a connected FedUni

Our Student Connect portfolio is working on improving connections between students both on and between campuses. Building communications from Clubs & Societies via social media and between student leaders allows us to share knowledge and experiences to increase student engagement in extracurricular activities.



## 5. Finding your way and knowing who to call

The ITS/Facilities portfolio has been working to improve internal signage in response to student feedback. Temporary Senate signs including ITS and security contacts, have already rolled out in some busy areas at Mt Helen over the exam period. We expect to see the much anticipated Internal Signage Project rolled out to all campuses in the near future.

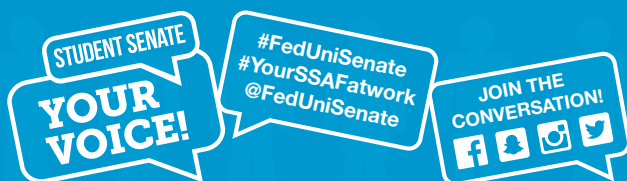


## 6. Student Charter Update

We continue to work with our Senate Advisors to finalise a Charter that is easy to read and captures the student experience that can be expected by all FedUni students. We hope to share this with you soon.

P.S. Australian Uni Games are coming

Join the conversation with your Senate representatives on campus or online. #FedUniSenate



**“Our team will collaborate within a culture of respect, cohesion, and integrity to listen and communicate with the student body of Federation University to proactively and constructively move our growing community courageously forward into the future. One Team, One University, One Senate.”**

*Student Senate, 2016*







## Awards Descriptions & Criteria

The FedUNITED Awards are awarded each year in October. As well as being able to achieve a Leadership, Volunteering or Sports Award, students can also gain Bonus Awards for demonstrating exceptional effort in one of the ten categories. This is your chance to nominate your peers for their dedication and support of an important cause or group of students. All nominations should be emailed to [student.leadership@federation.edu.au](mailto:student.leadership@federation.edu.au) by Friday 23 September.

### Award for Outstanding Contribution to University Life

Recognising students who have dedicated their time to enhancing the FedUni experience. This student should be a strong representative of our values of support, inclusion and engagement. They have gone above and beyond to contribute to their fellow students' experience at Uni.

Examples of their contribution may include:

- Being a member or a supporter of Club/Societies in a significant way
- Being engaged with issues affecting student life and making positive contributions to the constant improvement of the Uni
- Being a leading example to other students through peer support, motivation and inclusion of others

### Award for Outstanding Community Contribution

Recognising students who have made a significant volunteer effort outside the University. This student will have a role or roles in the local/national/international community's volunteering network. This student will embody strong values around community engagement. Examples of their contribution may include:

- Demonstrating commitment to a positive cause by volunteering countless hours of their own time to organisations/events
- Being a role model and outstanding member of the local/wider community

### The Unsung Hero Award

Recognising the student who flies under the radar, but does amazing work in the Uni/wider community. This student is a positive role model to their peers and is someone who you think deserves extra recognition for the contribution they have made during their time at Uni. Examples of their work may include:

- Making an exceptional contribution to Uni life or the wider community by enhancing the wellbeing of others, providing engagement opportunities for other students or being a tireless advocate for a cause
- Being motivated and effective in their actions but they/others are unaware of the significance of their contribution

### International Star

Recognising an International student who has made a significant contribution to University life for other International students. This student is a leading representative of international students peers and improves the student experience. Their impact may include:

- Taking on a sports leadership role (Coach, Team Manager, Events Coordinator etc)
- Leading by example and creating an exceptional inclusive team culture and brand

### The Students Supporting Students Award

Recognising a student who is proactive and effective in supporting other students, over and above their regular leadership role. This individual goes out of their way to assist other students with Uni life, whether with academic or pastoral support. Examples of how this support could be demonstrated may include:

- Proactively engaging with at-risk students and referring them to appropriate services
- Working in conjunction with University staff to provide enhanced services and support

### Communication Champion

Recognising a student for going the extra mile to enhance communication for students across the university. This student works proactively to improve connections between students and staff, as well as raising awareness of FedUni services, events and initiatives amongst the student community. Examples of how this support could be demonstrated may include:

- Engaging successfully with part of the student community by managing an innovative social media channel
- Demonstrating an ongoing commitment to communication with and on behalf of the student body

### Diversity Champion

Recognising a student who has taken an active approach to valuing the uniqueness of students, as individuals, across the university. This student has worked actively to promote diversity and respect for all students regardless of race, gender, sexuality, religion or physical ability. Examples of how this support could be demonstrated may include:

- Delivering a campaign which raises awareness of a particular aspect of diversity
- Working to improve current FedUni culture or processes to improve accessibility of a student minority group

# Fed UNITED

## Awards Nomination Form



Nominate a Student or Club/Society that you believe deserves and fits in with the following categories:

**The Award for Outstanding Contribution to University Life**

- Recognising students who have dedicated their time to enhancing the FedUni experience.

**The Award for Outstanding Community Contribution**

- Recognising students who have made a significant volunteer effort outside the University.

**The Unsung Hero Award**

- Recognising the student who flies under the radar, but does amazing work in the Uni/wider community.

**International Star**

- Recognising an International student who has made a significant contribution to University life for other International students.

**Most Promising New Club/Society/Team**

- Recognising a student-run Club/Society or Team created within the last year which has shown the potential to make a huge impact.

**Outstanding Club/Society/Team**

- Recognising a student-run Club/Society/Team which has been consistently well-run, active and inclusive over an extended period of time.

**The Service to Sport Award**

- Recognising a student who has made a significant positive impact on the university's sport program.

**The Students Supporting Students Award**

- Recognising a student who is proactive and effective in supporting other students, over and above their regular leadership role.

**Communication Champion**

- Recognising a student for going the extra mile to enhance communication for students across the university.

**Diversity Champion**

- Recognising a student who has taken an active approach to valuing the uniqueness of students, as individuals, across the university.

Please tick the box of the category you are nominating for.  
For more information on the criteria for each award, please go to <http://bit.ly/FedUnitedAwards>

**PLEASE COMPLETE THIS SECTION WITH THE DETAILS OF THE PERSON YOU ARE NOMINATING - IF YOU ARE NOMINATING A CLUB, SOCIETY OR TEAM, PLEASE PROVIDE THE NAME OF THE GROUP AND THE NAME AND THE CONTACT DETAILS OF ONE OF THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**Full Name in Block Letters:**

**Phone:**

**E-mail:**

**Contribution:** Please give details of the contribution this student/club/society has made within the category for which you are nominating them (a list of achievements, explanation of activities etc.)

**Impact:** Please give details of the impact which their contribution has made.

**Additional Information:** Please tell us anything else you would like to say about this person/group which supports their nomination - the more detail the better! You may also send us further evidence of their contribution – please send us any additional documentation you think will be useful along with this form.

<b>Your Name:</b>	<b>Your Phone Number:</b>
<b>Your Student Number/Staff ID Number:</b>	<b>Your E-mail:</b>
<b>Your Faculty:</b>	<b>Would you like us to tell the person/group about this nomination?</b>

# Ultimate Frisbee

With the first semester of training over, the FedUni Ultimate club has seen a massive improvement in both the returning and new players' skill and love for Ultimate. Training in Ballarat comes with its own set of challenges with its wild winds and cold, miserable days. This has not deterred the team from training hard twice a week in rain, hail, or shine, in preparation for the Southern Uni Games (SUGs) held in Footscray from 3–7 July.

This year we managed to assemble two teams to enter into the SUGs:

## **FedUni Cyclone:**

### **Captained by Brayden Bonell-Huy and Deborah Lorca**

Cyclone is looking in great form for the SUGs with the height to catch those long hucks to the end-zone, and the skills to move the disc easily down the field.

## **FedUni Hurricane:**

### **Captained by Tyler Ryan and Mary Toney**

Hurricane has what it takes to move the disc freely up the field and outplay their opposition, with an in-depth knowledge of the plays that we have been practising over the last 12 weeks.

Both teams are looking strong and eager to play; if matched up during the SUGs it will definitely be a thrilling and memorable game of Ultimate with either team capable of taking the win. However, the SUGs is not the only tournament that we have been training for; in the last few weeks of the semester FedUni Ultimate has also entered teams into two additional one-day tournaments: the AUS U20's fundraising event and the God Save the Queen Tournament, both held in Melbourne. Both days were a great success with everyone showcasing their improved skills and overall enjoyment with smiles all around.

If you are interested in learning more about the Fed Uni Ultimate club, please go to [www.facebook.com/FedUniUltimate](http://www.facebook.com/FedUniUltimate) or send an email to [feduniultimate@gmail.com](mailto:feduniultimate@gmail.com)

*See you there!*





# Reviews

## Check Mate

by Ashleigh Dyer

There are a lot of services around the uni that aim to work with students to help them academically. I recently found out about Check Mate from a lecturer; while there is a very nice page that goes into great detail about the service that can be found on the FedUni website, it was the first time I had heard of it. Check Mate is basically an editing service where you can upload your assessment — essay or otherwise — and have it check for things like structure, referencing, spelling, and language choice, just to name a few.

You can upload your assessment at any time and you can expect to hear back from them within 24 hours. I decided to give Check Mate a try last month when I uploaded a film analysis I was ready to submit. I am sure that I am not the only student that gets to the point they are sick of looking at, let alone editing, their work and more than ready to send it off, errors and all. So, I uploaded my analysis, put the essay question in when prompted, and waited to see their reply.

I received the review of my assessment in under 24 hours, and I found the response pleasant and professional. They picked up on a few things such as a missing word, a sentence fragment, a couple of spelling mistakes, and the fact my conclusion was still in two parts because I had forgot to hit the backspace key. Having a fresh pair of eyes on your assessment is a great help, and it can also potentially help improve your mark. This is a service that I would highly recommend taking advantage of.

Check Mate can be found under YourTutor in Moodle, and for more information search for 'after hours tutoring' on the FedUni website, [www.federation.edu.au](http://www.federation.edu.au)

I rate Check Mate at a four out of five



## If It Ain't Broke, Don't Fix It

by Cassandra Lovett

Why? It's the only word I can associate with the new Arnott's Shapes. Apparently after complaints that the biscuits were not flavoursome enough, the company decided to whip up some new packaging and revamp their recipe.

As anyone could tell you, change = bad. Yes, companies are always listening to customer feedback and trying to make improvements, but why change something that is good to begin with?

Frankly, I am more annoyed at the fact that Arnott's changed their biscuits rather than what the biscuits actually taste like, because in all honesty I don't think they taste that bad. Arnott's were even nice enough to keep the original Barbeque flavour (along with the new one) and the same Chicken Crimpy (who eats that one though). The shapes do have more flavour, although that isn't always a good thing (I'm talking stinky cheese Cheddar, and too-tomato Barbeque). On the plus side, the Cheese and Bacon flavour (although it does taste weird, in my opinion) no longer leaves your fingers smelling like super-fake bacon like the old ones did.

One thing I cannot get over though is the change of biscuit. Not only have the flavours changed but the biscuit itself is different too, and not for the better. The taste and texture of the new biscuits just seem cheap and thin, not like the originals.

Overall, I can't say that I like the new Shapes, I really wish they had just left them alone.



# One Punch Man

by Rochelle Jardine

Imagine if you had the ability to absolutely destroy any obstacle that dared stand in your way with just one single punch. Sounds awesome right? Well, no... apparently *not*.

Originating from a crudely drawn (but totally awesome) web comic, *One Punch Man* is an anime that explores how this totally overpowered ability isn't quite as awesome as it's cracked up to be. The story follows Saitama, who as the result of basic strength and endurance training has gained the ability to kill all of his opponents with simply *one* punch. To Saitama, it seems there's nothing more frustrating. In a world where heroes are commonplace and organisations of heroes guard the general public from potential threats, Saitama's one goal is to find one enemy who can at least offer a challenge, all the while dealing with fellow heroes and their organisations.

A lot of shows try to trick you into doubting the protagonist's victory in battle, but in reality... you know they're going to win. *One Punch Man* basically skips the point where the show tries to convince you that the hero has got it tough and just gives you the result, not to mention the satisfaction, of watching the protagonist absolutely decimate their opponent. Okay, so he's pretty tough, but that's not to say that Saitama is a Mary Sue or a Gary Stu in any sense of the word. There are other places where he falls short; at one point a skewed ranking system deems his mental prowess poor which then is detrimental to his social rank. This becomes one of the major obstacles for him as he constantly has to fight against his reputation, so I suppose we can't say that *every* battle is truly an effortless experience for him.

The anime does a good job of laughing in the face of common tropes and clichés by embracing them in an over-the-top comedic way, which is where the show gets most of its charm. Saitama acts as a differential among an array of interesting and amusing characters as they build up the suspense, tension and story while he often calmly enters the scene and deflates the atmosphere with his total indifference.

Overall, the show does not disappoint. It's a good mix of comedy and action, and isn't afraid to use overcooked themes and have a poke at them while doing so. I recommend it to anyone who's sick of long, multiple-episode-length battles with too much talking, as this anime is good at just getting it done quickly, satisfactorily, and isn't afraid to have a laugh while doing so.

Personally I'd give the show 4.5/5



# Already a Classic: Views by Drake

by Scarlett Baum

Drake's first studio album in three years, *Views* follows the release of his hit singles including 'Hotline Bling', arguably the biggest and best song of 2015; 'One Dance' featuring Wizkid and Kyla; and 'Pop Style' featuring Jay-Z and Kanye West as The Throne. Drake has also featured on Rihanna's *Anti* track 'Work' and Future collaboration mixtape *What A Time To Be Alive* featuring 'Jumpman'. With such exceptional content released in the lead-up to the artist's fourth studio album, fans and critics alike had hopes so high you'd have to park yourself atop the CN Tower to reach them. So that's what Aubrey Graham, a.k.a Drake, did.

Noteworthy tracks include 'Keep the Family Close' and '9', for their phenomenal production, and always cool vocal performances; 'U With Me?', 'Hype', 'Redemption' and 'Summers Over Interlude' for their pure sentiment; and finally the absolute stand out tracks are 'Childs Play', 'Too Good' featuring Rihanna, and of course, 'Hotline Bling'.

Despite having to compete with the surprise release of Beyoncé's explosive album *Lemonade* on Tidal, just days before *Views*' set release date on Apple Music, Drake outshone 'Queen Bey'. While *Lemonade* has a few great songs, it's simply an overall okay album, whereas *Views* features one certified hit after the next. Every song on the album is outstanding in its own right. *Views* is a revelation. With unbeatable lyrics and get-stuck-in-your-head beats, it's the kind of album that sucks you out of your everyday life and into its world — whether that's the 6 or the 9, you decide.

I give *Views* four-and-a-half stars out of a possible five, and a prayer hands emoji. In Drake's own words, *Views* is "already a classic".



# Top 3 'Geeked Out' Movies as chosen by Federation University students

by Dakota Richards

The Federation Generation have spoken. After venturing out to the university's Mt Helen campus and the FedUni Living residence, Jemacra Place, over the past week, I asked a range of students to pick their top five 'Geeked Out' movies. From those, a top three were decided:

## 1. *X-Men: Days of Future Past*

This film was the most popular amongst the student community. In particular, the loop in time that allowed a crossover between the old characters in previous X-Men films, and the new was most favourable. Regarding the plot itself, the majority of the students surveyed said they simply enjoyed the battle scenes of the film.

The fact that a machine created to destroy all mutants, which in turn is also capable of destroying humans was, "A big point to make about humanity and the singling out of others who are different", one student said. In contrast to this, some felt the backstory of how they got to the present could have been portrayed better in the film. Having a notable cast that the students could identify with, including Hugh Jackman, Michael Fassbender, James McAvoy, and Peter Dinklage was also a factor as to why it was rated highly.



## 2. *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*

The third instalment of the series was the top pick amongst the students due to "character selection and inclusion". For one student, it related to the characters, "Sirius and Lupin in particular. It also created the backstory for the future movies".

In contrast, they found the book-to-film adaptations disappointing and felt they didn't quite do the books justice. "The death of Dumbledore was portrayed differently in the films", while other characters were more prominent in the films "which weren't in the books".



## 3. *The Lord of the Rings Trilogy*

The overall narrative and flow of the plot, as well as the battle scenes throughout the trilogy, were favourites amongst students. When asked about their favourite of the trilogy, *The Two Towers* was the favourite out of the three for the fact it didn't centrally focus on the character of Frodo, and it makes contrasts between the relationship of the dwarves and elves. A student found the Battle of Helm's Deep to be "humorous" regarding the dynamic that forms between Legolas and Gimli, with "Gimli not being able to see over the top of the walls, so Legolas gives him a crate in order to be able to see". In contrast to *The Hobbit*, one student stated that CGI was made less apparent in *The Lord of the Rings* as opposed to its newer counterpart, "*The Hobbit* gave the 'overdone' impression, whereas this was more effectively used for its time".



# A Perfect Confession

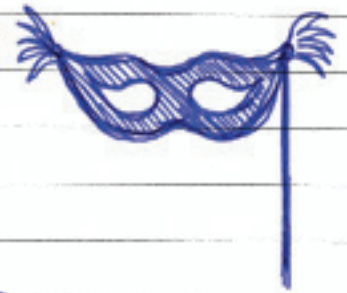
by Freya Fogliani



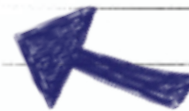
When did my academic flair disappear?  
It flew away some time ago and has been far-gone since.  
I try so hard but it's not ever just right  
To find the answer to the question asked.  
I can't go back,  
The road behind crumbled underfoot  
I must move forward  
Wishing I could be more like you



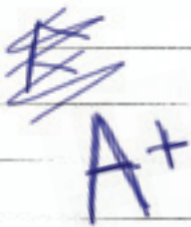
'cos you're the geek I'm not  
The intelligent, the creative smart, the lot.  
The fangirl, the game-obsessed, the techno nerd  
The one that inspires me.



One of a generation searching for a higher degree  
Seeking recognition for effort made  
A higher mark, is that *too much* to ask?  
Following on from countless other  
Questions causing pointless worry  
Never an answer found



Each day until the exam never seems to last.  
Praying each day for a pass  
Though I doubt myself in everything I do  
An attempt for a B or C  
Will never prove reward due.



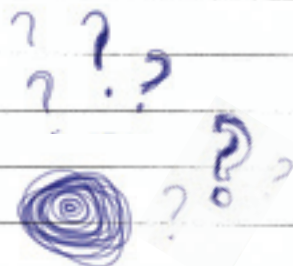
Maybe one day  
Thoughts will reconcile  
Inside my head  
I will look back at every mile  
And see that it's *not always* a measure of perfection  
It's failures that make it  
It's more real than an A that can never be reality.



My writing, my disguise  
Illusion, page on which to improvise  
My pen name, my mask  
Ink flowing on paper  
To comprise, words on words so lyrical  
In inspiration  
A stage to dramatise



I must keep trying to believe  
One day I'll be the honourable graduate  
I see in my dreams  
It's no use striving for perfection  
That cannot be reached  
My work reflects my effort, which mirrors me.  
Knowing now what I can see  
I just want my inner 'geek' to be free



The question I want answered:  
Is being me, in this world enough to please?



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