The world gets high-tech help

**Research**

University of Wollongong lecturer Holly Tootell tackles technology and hopes to make the world safer, and balance that with privacy issues.

I investigate the use of tracking technologies called Location-Based Services when they are applied to national security issues. This might be managing natural disasters or recovering from a terrorist attack. I look at what effect the technology has had on the levels of privacy and security an individual has. Will it save the world? No, but it will help to make it safer.

Years spent trying: Three years.

Are you getting anywhere? Yes - my PhD is almost complete.

**Best part of your research?**

Meeting colleagues researching in the same area anywhere around the world and being able to talk about the issues that drive us.

**Funniest moment:**

Trying to get colleagues at a conference in New York to pronounce Wollongong.

**Ugliest moment:**

Talking about the effects of 9/11 at a conference in New York and realising how enormous an impact that event has had on the people of New York.

Have you had a true “Eureka! I’ve found it!” experience? Not yet - but there’s plenty of time for that. Has it made you rich? No, but there’s always hope.

What did you want to be when you were a kid? A pharmacist.

Has your career followed a straight line? Fairly straight, but there have been a few bends in it.

What would you change? I wouldn’t change a thing. You learn a lot from the past.

Advice for young researchers: Find a topic you love and then try to meet people who are working or researching in that area to get an idea about the latest research topics. The uni website and staff profile pages are very helpful for this.

Next adventure: Not sure, but I’ll be ready for it.

**Website for further information:**


Holly Tootell is a lecturer at the University of Wollongong’s School of IT and Computer Science.

**Noticeboard**

**Sunday**

PCYC hip hop night, Sublime under-18 disco, ShellHarbour Workers Club, 6-9.30pm, $12.

**Next Tuesday**

Information night for high school students, parents and teachers about courses at 1313, 5.30-7pm, 5-Mill St, Corinella, 4227 1715. Courses include studio training, multimedia, live production, theatre, events, TV and radio production.

**FREEBIES**

Today

Live and become, 5.45pm, UOW theatre: 20.3, presented by the Australian Union of Jewish Students as part of Jewish Film Week.

Tomorrow

UOW, Belinda Selke (UOW, History, Theatre: 14.G01), 10am, 1.30pm, 9.15pm.

Tomorrow

History Week, Joseph Davis speaks about artworks inspired by Lake Illawarra, 6pm, Wollongong City Gallery.

**Thursday**

National Campus Band Competition - NSW Southern Region semi-final, special performance by NSW State winner, Midnight Swim, 7.30pm, Unilar.

**CHEAP THRILLS**

Today

Tightnate Tuesday, $2 tacos, $3 Corona, entertainment by Leeroy Lee & Tim Weeeks, 3.30pm, Unilar.

Wednesday

Foxygen, cheap drinks, Unilar, 5pm.

Friday

Friday Slide, cheap drinks, 4.30pm, Unilar.

**EXHIBITIONS**

Until Friday

Cross Connectors: into the Light, 21 Christian artists, UOW, McKinnon Building.

**SCHOOL HOLIDAYS**

313 workshops in TV production, studio recording, introduction to compositing (video animation), multimedia, editing, 1-5 Miller St, Corner 4227 1215. Introductory workshops in the first week; advanced in the second, 15 years or older, $65 per workshop or two for $110.

Until February 4

Pirates!, National Maritime Museum, Darling Harbour, Sydney. Free on school days, $7 each or $20 for families, workshops in the first week; advanced $70.

**MOVIES**

Tomorrow

The Libertine and Stay Alive at Unilmovies, 7.30pm, Unilar, $5.

Tomorrow

7am Canconers, 10am, 1.30pm, 9.15pm, Gala Warrawong.

COMING UP

Friday 29 September

Karnivool, dinner, 30/Unilar, $16 UniCentre gold members/ $18 general admission.

**Noticeboard deadline is Friday:**

education @illawarramercury .com.au.

A scene from The Libertine, showing on Wednesday night at UniMovers.

**Review of regional politics**

University of Wollongong Professor Jim Hagan has edited a groundbreaking new two-volume set of books which puts 150 years of NSW regional political history under the microscope. The book - People and Politics in Regional NSW (1856-1950, volume one) and People and Politics in Regional NSW (1950-2006, volume two) - has chapters contributed by academics across the state including UOW. Published by Federation Press it includes two chapters on the Illawarra region including Wollongong and two other chapters on the south-east region which includes the coastal strip south of the Illawarra to the Victorian border. Prof Hagan and Dr Henry Lee from Wollongong University College wrote the chapters on the Illawarra while Prof Hagan and Dr Glenn Mitchell (School of History and Politics) wrote the chapters on the south-east region. Prof Hagan also teamed up with economist and UOW Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof Rob Costlow, to write the two chapters on the Mid-North Coast region.

Belinda Selke (UOW, History and Politics) worked as a research assistant on the project which was funded by the Committee for the Celebration of the Sesquicentenary of Responsible Government in NSW. Other chapters deal with the eight regions in NSW outside the Sydney metropolitan area.

Volume one is the story of changes in representation as towns became cities as a result of industrialisation and the traffic through port.

Volume two recounts half a century of democratic government at a time when old certainties were undermined and established economies were uprooted.

It explores the political history of each of the 11 regions of country NSW in the second half of the 20th century.

University of Wollongong