

## July 2015

The shortest day of the year (21 June) has recently passed and it is still dark on campus; it's important to stay aware of your personal safety and make use of the Security Services who can accompany you to your car or bus stop. For more information see [Staying safe day and night](#).

## MERS

MERS is Middle East Respiratory Syndrome caused by a Coronavirus (variant of the one that caused SARS). MERS can cause rapid onset of severe respiratory disease (symptoms include fever, cough, shortness of breath and breathing difficulties).

There are outbreaks in many countries but mainly East Asia, principally Republic of South Korea (ROK). There have been no cases reported in Australia.

Please follow all travel advice if travelling to areas affected by outbreaks of MERS, such as following good hygiene and avoiding contact with camels and their secretions.

For more information see the [Department of Health and International SOS](#).

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## Audits

It's coming up to internal health and safety audit time again. Each year a number of schools have a one-day audit by a third party auditor. In 2015 the areas to be audited are: School of Biotechnology and Biomolecular Sciences, Material Sciences, School of Medical Sciences, School of Photovoltaic and Renewable Energy Engineering, School of Mining, Art and Design, and UNSW Canberra.

As part of our self-insurance license UNSW is also audited by WorkCover every 3 years. WorkCover will return for their regular audit in May 2016. For more information and what to expect from an audit see our [Theme of the Month-Audits](#).

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## The Countdown is on!

We're counting down to the City2Surf on Sunday 9 August 2015. UNSW Safety and Sustainability has organised a "UNSW Wellbeing" team. We have a running group and a walking group doing the iconic 14km route from Hyde Park to Bondi Beach. The first 50 UNSW students or staff to enter the "UNSW Wellbeing" team get a

free UNSW T-shirt. There are still places available.

To join the team send your name and bib number to [ohs@unsw.edu.au](mailto:ohs@unsw.edu.au) and collect your free UNSW T-shirt in the colour and size of your choice from the [Arc Gift Shop](#). Mention you are running as part of the UNSW Wellbeing team!

How to enter:

1. Go to [City2Surf.com.au](http://City2Surf.com.au)
2. Click on "Race Centre" then click "Enter" in the drop-down tab
3. Click "Enter Now" and fill in your email and create a password
4. Enter your details. Under enter team details, tick yes.
5. Drop down list of teams "UNSW Wellbeing". Team password: Wellbeing

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contact with moving parts. There is a risk of fire and burns. See the [Product Safety Recall Australia](#) for full details on brands.

If you have these heaters stop using it immediately and unplug it from the socket outlet. Contact the supplier for a refund.

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## Lessons learnt

A UNSW laboratory worker flamed a plastic pipette tip using a bunsen burner. This resulted in the

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