

# ACOSMOPOLITAN

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE FACULTY OF MANAGEMENT (LEARNING)

## The Impact and Opportunities of Studying in The Land Down Under



By Roohi Rehman

Studying in Australia, particularly at institutions like the Australian College of Studies (ACOS), can indeed have a transformative impact on one's life and future. Here are several ways in which studying in Australia, and at ACOS in particular, could bring about positive changes.

Australian College of Studies ACOS, is one of the reputable institutions, that provides a rigorous academic curriculum, experienced faculty, and state-of-the-art facilities, contributing to a solid educational foundation.

Living in Australia provides an opportunity to experience and appreciate a rich and diverse culture. Exposure to different cultures can broaden one's horizons, foster tolerance, and enhance personal development. Studying in Australia exposes students to a multicultural environment. This international exposure fosters a global perspective, helping individuals develop cultural competence, adaptability, and a broader worldview.



Students from Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care attended an event organized by Uniting Youth2Home in Parramatta with their trainer, Ms. Sabina Harrouk, last August 11, 2023.



New students Orientation Day last October 5, 2023

ACOS often have strong ties with industries and businesses and it provides networking opportunities, work placement, and industry collaborations, which can be invaluable for future career prospects.

Australia consistently ranks high in terms of quality of life. Studying in a country with a high standard of living can positively impact well-being, providing a conducive environment for personal growth and development.

Studying in an English-speaking country like Australia can significantly improve language proficiency. Proficient English skills are highly valued in the global job market, making graduates more competitive and adaptable to international work environments.

In summary, studying in Australia, especially at a reputable institution like ACOS, can be a life-changing experience by providing a quality education, international exposure, networking opportunities, and a pathway to a successful and fulfilling career. It's crucial for prospective students to thoroughly research the institution, its programs, and the opportunities it offers to ensure a positive and transformative educational experience.

# THE BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY

## Titanium Phone; the iPhone 15 Series



By James Ryan Tiangha

In an effort to be among the first to get their hands on one of Apple's newest smartphones, enthusiasts queued up in China, Europe, and the US on Friday as the company's iPhone 15 series launched on the market.

This year, the main distinction is that Apple is finally transitioning from a Lightning port to a USB-C socket, so you can use the same cord for charging the iPhone, iPad, and Mac. With the USB-C port, an iPhone can be used to charge AirPods or an Apple Watch directly which makes it much easier to integrate the phones into your charging system. However, there are some notable changes to this model.

Apple is switching from stainless steel to a new titanium alloy that is also used in spacecraft. New titanium colors include white, black, natural, and blue. The iPhone 15 Pro models weigh less than the iPhone 14 Pro models considering titanium is lighter than stainless steel.

A powerful 48MP main camera lets you capture super-high-resolution photos, and a new 2x Telephoto option gives users three optical zoom levels – equivalent to having a third camera. The iPhone 15 lineup also includes the next generation of portraits, which makes it less difficult to capture portraits with high detail and low-light performance.



*Titanium is a silvery-white metal with atomic number 22. It is a lightweight, ductile, strong, corrosion-resistant, and biocompatible metal with a high strength-to-weight ratio. Titanium is the 9th most abundant element on Earth.*

*(Photo and caption grabbed from:*

*<https://www.xometry.com/resources/materials/titanium/>)*



*iPhone 15 Pro Max*

*(Photo grabbed from:*

*<https://www.apple.com/au/newsroom/2023/09/apple-unveils-iphone-15-pro-and-iphone-15-pro-max/>)*

One of the favorites of enthusiasts is the new Action Button. The physical mute button found on the side of Apple's high-end models has been transformed into a more flexible tool that lets users perform a number of actions, such as making a voice memo, taking a picture, activating low power mode, accessibility features, etc. The button can be set up to open any app or shortcut, therefore transforming it into a remote control or launcher for quick access to whatever you desire.

The iPhone 15 and iPhone 15 Plus are environmentally friendly. Apple puts emphasis on clean electricity across the entire supply chain and designing products with recycled and other low-carbon materials as it operates toward its 2030 goal of making every product carbon neutral – from design to manufacturing to customer use.

To reduce its environmental impact even further, Apple will no longer use leather in any new Apple products, including iPhone accessories. Apple is releasing a new FineWoven Case with MagSafe and FineWoven Wallet with MagSafe, both of which are made of a durable and elegant micro twill with a soft, suede-like feel. The material is composed of 68% post-consumer recycled content and emits significantly less carbon dioxide than leather.

# THE BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY

## Keeping It Real: AI (Artificial Intelligence) vs. HUMAN

By Judy Ann Estor



Nothing is more familiar than the line, "Change is the only thing that is permanent." We've encountered this multiple times in our lives. While we are open to change to achieve growth and development, here comes the question: to what extent are we going to accept and tolerate change?

In history, we had three industrial revolutions that shaped our society into what it is today. The presence of engineering, science and mass production, and digital communication—we owe all these to the first three revolutions. Currently, we are facing the fourth industrial revolution, or Industry 4.0. This refers to the Internet of Things, robotics, and Artificial Intelligence (AI). While these primarily aim to make our lives easier, we cannot turn a blind eye to the disadvantages that are present around every corner.

Many sectors will benefit from AI. This can lead to faster processes and systems with a high success rate. It is no wonder if businesses will maximize the use of AI.

But the concern now is: will it be a threat for real humans to seek opportunities? Yes, it can be. While AI is a technological advancement that we should welcome, there are still limitations as to what it can do. For business management, in particular, AI alone can't do everything. When you manage a business, you just do not think of sales, concepts, and plans to execute; you are also managing people. This is something AI can't possibly do. We need real humans to manage humans. Management surely needs a wise brain, but it also requires emotions for businesses to stay humane. This factor alone is irreplaceable, and no AI can do that job. Human intelligence remains the top option for this one.

At this point in time, we can no longer predict what technology can create and discover. And while we aim to make our lives easier, we should not forget how to be human. There are things that should be changed, but there are also things that should remain. After all, progress is not always equivalent to modernization.

## What is this Technology Called ChatGPT?

By Sheryl Ligsay Sison



The question I had when I first heard it from someone when we were chatting about school papers. I experienced the time when the internet speed was just measured in kilobytes per second, when the faded shrieking sound of the dial-up connection tells you that the World Wide Web is yours to explore, and by exploring it we meant "research" since the cost of the prepaid ISP Bonanza was so precious for a common student like me to consume just for surfing the net, and when Yahoo was red and not purple, and Google was just "the other" search engine. Now, living and amazed by the fast-changing technology that I sometimes adapt to the will and requirements of others, I can really say that today, efficiency is more appealing than hard work and self-gratification.

Rewinding to a couple of years in my life as a high school student, it was really a big deal for us to have our research paper completed from the sweat and blood of our own minds. We went far and beyond to all the libraries in town and the other towns nearby, including the web, gathering information for topics

such as Greek Mythology, Classical vs. Modern Music, and the Evolution of Primetime Dramas in the Philippines.

Since ChatGPT, these struggles that produce core memories became just a thing of discussion among old friends and classmates over several cups of coffee while sharing our somewhat similar fascination with how easier and time-saving this tool is for students. But wait, there's more to it than just using it for schoolwork. I tried exploring it just for the sake of this article and I find that it can also be helpful to businesses in their correspondences and other write-ups.

At the end of the day, we should keep in mind what Steve Jobs said:

**IT'S NOT FAITH IN  
TECHNOLOGY.  
IT'S FAITH IN PEOPLE.**

# THE BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY

## Shop like a Billionaire!



By Beverly Declines

Did you download the most popular shopping platform? If not, you must read this first!

TEMU was the most frequently downloaded app in late 2022, its marketing strategy in social media captivated the attention of the user with catchy deals. Temu gained its popularity by giving free stuff to those who referred to the app on their social network through sign-up. For that new user, there was a spin-the-wheel game that enabled them to grab the stuff by sending the link to their friends that corresponded to the percentage required. Aside from the campaign, they offer a product with a low price, a big discount, and free shipping.

As the app built its name, most of the direct and indirect competitors were threatened by their exposure in the market. It inevitably faced challenges and issues as the company gained popularity in the industry, these included the following; legitimacy of the product, undelivered packages, quality of the product, community China-based app, security, and privacy. TEMU itself claimed that its low prices were enabled by a "deep network of merchants, logistic partners, and

[Pinduoduo's] established ecosystem built over the years". The issue became more controversial because its sister company Pinduoduo offered deals in China in the last few years, designed to directly connect farmers' needs and expand their coverage worldwide in selling low-cost products which led to the creation of TEMU.

Pinduoduo has been included in the Notorious Markets for Counterfeit Products and Piracy list issued by the Office of the United States Trade Representative in April 2019. Pinduoduo is still labeled as a notorious market as of 2023, and Google removed the Pinduoduo app from the Play Store due to safety risks when it was found to have malware. This controversy was being linked with TEMU because of the sister company's history which tarnished its reputation.

We cannot deny the fact that we need some application to run on our gadgets, but beforehand we need to research thoroughly and think before we click the download button.

## A Glimpse into Australian Work Culture as an International Student



By Robieh Mae Pepito-Alejado

Working as a student in a foreign country is challenging in a way that is beneficial since it allows an individual to grow and be prepared for a full-time job after school.

Australia's working opportunities for international students are vast and have been eye-opening for some students who have held jobs in our home countries. As international students, we are only allowed to work 48 hours per fortnight and full-time during school holidays.

Australia's work culture is particularly inclusive and welcoming. Working with people from all over the world has given me a better understanding of diverse cultures and working styles.

One of the first things that struck me was the emphasis on addressing higher-level management by their first names rather than Ma'am or Sir. As a former employee in my home country—the Philippines, we were taught to address any higher-ranking colleague as Ma'am or Sir.

A well-paid income is one of the benefits of working in a first-world country. Every minute of your time is compensated unlike in my home country, where we are encouraged to work early and leave late but are paid the same.

However, it is not without difficulties. Finding secure employment in Australia is both challenging and competitive. One of the few things that international students must adjust to is the vocabulary and accent, which causes a temporary language barrier. Nonetheless, these challenges have taught me flexibility, determination, and resilience, which will serve me well throughout my career.

Ultimately, working as an international student in Australia has been a rewarding journey. The cultural exchange and global exposure we've had have given me hope that

**ONE DAY I'LL BE ABLE TO LEAD.**

# ENTERTAINMENT

## Navigating the Rapids of Change



By Kent Jay Begis Dulas

Amid the ebb and flow of life's grand dance,  
Change whispers softly, taking its chance.  
A force so constant, inevitable, and true,  
It beckons us to start anew.

Embracing change, we leave behind the known,  
Venturing to realms where seeds are sown.  
But change brings pain, a bittersweet farewell,  
To comforts we cherished, as stories to tell.

We bid adieu to the familiar shore,  
With hearts awash in uncertainty's core.  
Yet change is a risk, a leap into the unknown,  
A journey where strength and courage have grown.

In the crucible of transformation's fire,  
We shed old skins, our deepest desires.  
For within change's chrysalis, we're remade,  
Emerging with wisdom, unafraid.

Through the storms and tempests, we endure,  
Change's trials and tribulations, for sure.  
We navigate the uncharted, unafraid,  
With hope as our compass, in the dark, we'll wade.

Change is the tapestry of life we weave,  
In each thread, lessons that we receive.  
With resilience as our guiding light,  
We face uncertainty with all our might.

So, as we journey through life's vast range,  
Let's welcome change, embrace the strange.  
For in its winds of flux and reprise,  
We find the strength to meet life's sunrise.

In change, we sculpt our destinies boldly,  
A story of transformation, yet untold.  
Though failures and setbacks may abound,  
In change's crucible, strength is found.

Through the ebbs and flows of life's grand scheme,  
Change is the river, a constant, flowing dream.  
It's not just a force, but a canvas we paint,  
With the colors of courage, no restraint.

Change is our challenge, our muse, and our friend,  
Guiding us on journeys, around every bend.  
So let us embrace it, with hearts open wide,  
In the arms of change, we'll safely reside.

## BTS of ACOSMOPOLITAN 1st LAUNCH DAY!



# ENTERTAINMENT

## acossip!

guess who!



by Charrey Mae Tiangha

**A student of GDM class, who's luckily sponsored by the company where she works.**

Clue: The name starts with the letter M

Clue: Always Silent

**A very good wedding singer back in the Philippines and a responsible and lovable mother of 2 wonderful children.**

Clue: The name starts with the letter D

Clue: A Silent Singer

**One of the beautiful students of a GDM class, who's recently got married to her long-time boyfriend.**

Clue: Name starts with R

Clue: Sir Irshad calling her with number Two (2)

## UPSKILLING

The ACOS attended "aXcelerate Day" to upskill and broaden their knowledge about aXcelerate, the learning management system, and to fully assist the students with using it.



## COMIC STRIP

Concept by Maria Roscila Ann Bartolome  
Created from Canva



# GOOD DAY



# TRAVEL AND LIFESTYLE

## The Must Visited Places in Sydney



By Fellamae Cañete



**Bondi Beach**

(Picture grabbed from: <https://www.visitbondibeach.com/bondi-blog/bondi-commonly-asked-questions/>)

One of the most iconic spots to visit while in Sydney is Bondi Beach, which is one kilometer long and is the widest beach in the Sydney Region. It is located in Sydney's eastern suburbs (Bondi Beach). It has been described as having "played a central role in the development of Australia's beach culture and in developing our sense of national identity." Beaches in general are an essential element of Australian culture, as evidenced by the artists, photographers, filmmakers, writers, and poets who are inspired by them.



**The Rocks**

(Picture grabbed from: <https://wikiaustralia.com/destination/the-rocks/>)

For a glimpse into Sydney's historical past, The Rocks is a must-visit district. Cobblestone streets, historic buildings, and vibrant markets characterize this area, creating a charming atmosphere reminiscent of Sydney's early colonial days. Visitors can explore museums, and art galleries, and indulge in culinary delights at the numerous restaurants and pubs that line the streets. The Rocks Market, held on weekends, showcases local artisans' talents, offering unique souvenirs and crafts.

Situated on the shores of Sydney Harbour, Taronga Zoo provides a unique opportunity for wildlife enthusiasts to observe a diverse range of animals in a picturesque setting. Home to over 4,000 animals from various continents, the zoo emphasises conservation and education, allowing visitors to learn about endangered species. The zoo's scenic location offers panoramic views of the Harbour and the Sydney skyline.



**Taronga Zoo**

(Picture grabbed from: <https://www.visitbondibeach.com/bondi-blog/bondi-commonly-asked-questions/>)

Manly Beach, situated in Sydney, Australia, is more than just a stretch of sand and sea. It embodies the essence of manliness, reflecting strength, resilience, and an unyielding spirit. With its golden sands, turquoise waters, and vibrant atmosphere, Manly Beach has become a symbol of rugged charm and natural beauty, drawing visitors from around the world. What makes Manly Beach truly remarkable is the spirit of camaraderie and adventure that permeates the air. Surfers riding the waves, beach volleyball enthusiasts diving into the sand, and families enjoying picnics under the shade of towering Norfolk pines, each scene epitomizes the essence of a manly pursuit.



**Manly Beach**

(Picture grabbed from: <https://www.sydneycityguide.com.au/manly-beach/>)

# TRAVEL AND LIFESTYLE

## Fight or Flight: A Hobby Born of Necessity

Hobbies are usually activities that you enjoy which add a little spice to your life. These hobbies help you maintain a good work-life balance. For the young me, it became a necessity. Fourteen years ago, I was a young high school student who had pretty much been bullied all my life; I was always afraid to leave my house because of that. I never told anyone at that time because I thought it would connote that I was a coward, but one day everything changed. One day my parents noticed I had a few bruises and my school uniform was ruined. I had to explain how I was actually treated in school. Like any good parent, they brought me to my first gym to learn to defend myself and this began my journey.



Ralph during his martial arts training in the Philippines

By Ralph Aphaeijs Cornejo



Ralph and his training mates

As of today, I have been training martial arts for the past fourteen years; mainly boxing, Muay Thai, and kickboxing. I fought a few fights here and there. I even trained with a few notable people from the UFC. I am passionate about what I do, the raw feeling when you face someone and know that that person wants to inflict as much damage to you as you want to them. It gets me into a rush, the crowd, the energy, and everything altogether, creating a crescendo of stimulation. To be honest I look forward to going back in the ring next year here in Sydney. Old passions never die, especially when it was born out of necessity.

## The Beauty and History of Maldives

By Junaid Mohammed



Many people visit the Maldives, an island country in the Indian Ocean, for its stunning white beaches, crystal clear waters, and abundant marine life. But the Maldives has more to offer than just natural beauty. It also has a rich and intriguing history and culture that deserve to be discovered. Here are some facts that might surprise you about this amazing country.

A brief history of the Maldives reveals a diverse and rich cultural heritage that spans over two millennia. The islands were first settled by Buddhist seafarers from Sri Lanka and southern India around the 5th century BCE, who brought their customs and beliefs with them. Islam arrived in the Maldives in the 12th century CE through Arab merchants, who converted the local population and established a sultanate based on Islamic law. The Maldives prospered as a trading hub and a cultural crossroads between Asia and Africa, but also faced threats from foreign powers such as the Portuguese, the Dutch, and the British, who imposed their control over the islands at various periods.

A unique geography and environment characterize the Maldives. The country has around 1,200 coral islands, arranged into 26 atolls, but only about 200 of them are populated. The islands have a shallow elevation, with an average height of only 1.8 metres above sea level. The highest point in the nation is a mere 2.3 metres high, situated on a golf course on Villingili Island.

The Maldives faces the risk of rising sea levels due to climate change, and the government has implemented various actions to safeguard its environment and people. For instance, in 2009, the Maldives hosted the world's first cabinet meeting underwater to highlight the danger of global warming.

One of the reasons why the Maldives is so popular among tourists is its natural beauty, especially its coral reefs and beaches. Thus, the Maldives is more than just a scenic destination, it is also a place with a rich and diverse culture that various influences and origins have shaped.



# EDITORIAL

## Decisions: The Root of Every Significant Change



By Mary Martha Marcial

On February 24, 2022, Russia invaded Ukraine, a drastic step that the former took, which in turn escalated the war between the two countries.

As of today, records show that 500,000 troops have been injured or killed and over 10,000 civilians were confirmed dead—all these, casualties on both sides.

With the war between Russia and Ukraine barely close to arriving at an agreeable conclusion, over a year later more conflict arose as Palestine and Israel launched a new series of attacks against one another, continuing further a dispute that has been going on since before the turn of the twentieth century.

The most recent bouts of retaliations came after the Hamas group attacked several locations in Israel, killing around 1,200 people, estimations say. Following this attack, as a means of seeking retribution, Israel launched what the New York Times called "one of the most intense bombing campaigns of this century," and a ground invasion of Palestine. The entire world watched as an estimated 11,000 Palestinians were killed. Countless innocent blood spilled on both sides in the name of a war in which everyone seemed to keep losing instead of winning.

Aside from Russia and Ukraine, Israel and Palestine, many other nations in different corners of the globe are being taken over, their citizens experiencing oppression so great that they have been stripped of their humanity.



Photo grabbed from <https://why.org/articles/russia-ukraine-war-anniversary-one-year-whats-ahead/>



Photo grabbed from <https://abcnews.go.com/International/live-updates/russia-ukraine/?id=100351805>

In other parts of the world, nations suffer from famine and extreme lack of resources, and every day they fight to survive harsh conditions that no human should ever have to experience.

Every significant occurrence in history, big or small, came about because a group of individuals made a series of decisions. Bombs were dropped because someone decided that they should be dropped; a nation was razed to the ground because someone decided that it should be taken down; people were made to suffer because someone decided to take too much, leaving so little for everyone else.

In the midst of all of this, one can't help but ask—what are we doing to one another?

We forget that our decisions have power—that our decisions can undo a future that people from the past have strived to build. We forget that our decisions can bring forth such monumental changes for better or worse.

So, we must treat our decisions with the utmost care and take responsibility for them. When we decide, we must ask ourselves—do we want to tear civilisations down or do we want to continue building what we as humans have worked so hard to create?

Do I decide to create change that is good or change that is bad?

# EDITORIAL

## Change is the Only Constant in the World



By Dino Sabino

Life will inevitably involve change. Physical, emotional, and psychological changes occur to us from the moment of our birth. Thus, it happened again to us when we got to Australia. Even though change can be transformative and exciting, it frequently causes pain and discomfort, especially when we get to experience living alone and far from what and where we used to be. Also, we left behind all the lives that we built in the Philippines. A change in our personal situation or changes in society can make it difficult to navigate and cause us to lose our sense of stability.

We are experiencing a lot of new things, like careers, people to live with, and the environment where we live. Change is inextricably linked to personal growth and development, as we are living a new chapter of our lives in Australia. We frequently find ourselves stepping outside of our comfort zones as we strive to become better versions of ourselves.



My picture when I conducted the Annual Operations Planning for the school that I was working in the Philippines.

This necessitates confronting our fears, breaking old habits, and questioning the beliefs that have shaped our lives. As we unravel layers of self-deception and face the realities we have been avoiding, we experience pain and discomfort.

Change is a catalyst for introspection and self-reflection, which can be an uncomfortable and confronting process.



My hands after working for long hours in a warehouse in Australia.

It is critical to acknowledge the pain and discomfort that often accompany change, as denying or suppressing these emotions can prolong the healing and growth process. Embracing these emotions enables us to face and overcome challenges. By recognizing the pain, we can better appreciate the growth and transformation that change brings. Pain serves as a motivator in many ways, pushing us to develop resilience and adaptability. Accepting discomfort can lead to the discovery of new strengths and capacities we were unaware we possessed.



A group photo with my students as I became an international teacher in Australia.

# The First Completer

November 2023

## Mark Ello



Dear Colleagues/Friends/Classmates,

Today is a bittersweet day as I bid farewell. It's hard to believe how quickly time has flown by, and yet, here we are, at the threshold of new beginnings. I want to take a moment to express my deepest gratitude to each and every one of you. First and foremost, I want to thank our wonderful team class for the incredible journey we've shared together. The memories we've created, the challenges we've overcome, and the successes we've celebrated have shaped not only our professional and academic lives but also forged lasting bonds of friendship and camaraderie.

I am leaving with a heart full of gratitude for the guidance and mentorship I have received. To my Sir Irshad Cader, thank you for your wisdom, patience, and unwavering support. Your belief in me has been a driving force in my journey, and I carry your lessons with me as I move forward.

To my colleagues/ classmates, you have been my pillar of strength. The teamwork, dedication, and passion you bring to our shared endeavors have been nothing short of inspiring. I have learned so much from each of you, and I am confident that our paths will cross again in the future.

As I embark on this new chapter, I carry with me the lessons I learned, the experiences I gained, and the friendships I forged. I am excited about the opportunities that lie ahead, and I am confident that the foundation we've built together will serve as a solid platform for the challenges that await. Remember, change is inevitable, and it is through these transitions that we grow and evolve. Embrace the unknown with courage and an open heart, for it is in the face of new challenges that we discover our true potential.

Lastly, I want to express my heartfelt thanks to all of you who have supported me through thick and thin. Your encouragement, advice, and presence have meant the world to me

I will carry the memories of our time together with me always, and I look forward to crossing paths with you in the future.

**UNTIL THEN,  
I WISH EACH AND  
EVERY ONE OF YOU  
CONTINUED SUCCESS,  
FULFILLMENT,  
AND HAPPINESS.**



The screenshot was taken during the first day of the online class of Graduate Diploma of Management (Learning)

# ACOS 2023-2024 ACADEMIC CALENDAR



**2023 ACADEMIC CALENDAR**  
(International Students)



**2024 ACADEMIC CALENDAR**  
(International Students)



January							February							March																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																										
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Public Holidays			
Jan 1 - New Year's Day	Apr 8 - Holy Saturday	Jun 12 - Queen's Birthday	Study Period
Jan 2 - Additional public holiday for New Year's Day	Apr 9 - Easter Sunday	Oct 2 - Labour Day	Break
Jan 26 - Australia Day	Apr 10 - Easter Monday	Dec 25 - Christmas Day	Public Holiday
Apr 7 - Good Friday	Apr 25 - ANZAC Day	Dec 26 - Boxing Day	Weekend

Public Holidays			
Jan 1 - New Year's Day	Mar 31 - Easter Sunday	Oct 7 - Labour Day	Study Period
Jan 26 - Australia Day	Apr 1 - Easter Monday	Dec 25 - Christmas Day	Break
Mar 26 - Good Friday	Apr 25 - ANZAC Day	Dec 26 - Boxing Day	Public Holiday
Mar 30 - Holy Saturday	Jun 19 - Queen's Birthday		Weekend

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