

## February 2023

Did you ever think you could start a fire with a bottle of water? Me neither! But apparently you can, so you might want to rethink leaving plastic bottles of water sitting in the sun in your car..and read our fascinating article below to find out more.

This newsletter also brings us information about changes in Jaggaer, some assistance with the transition back to work after the holidays, a Benestar webinar on career satisfaction, a reminder not to make adjustments to fume cupboards unless you've been trained and some suggestions to help you stay safe when working from heights.

Have you seen our wonderful Safety Team members roaming the campus in their fluoro vests? Look out for them every second Wednesday morning. They're keen for a chat so come and say hello!

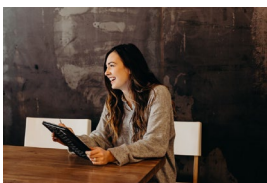


### Switch on for Safety!

Getting back into work after holidays can be challenging. Our minds are often still in 'holiday' or 'home' mode, which means we are less alert to workplace risks and hazards and can be more susceptible to injury.

We want everyone to have a safe and healthy 2023. To do this we need to consciously switch our mindset and be fully focused on the job or task at hand. To help us achieve this, the Safety team has created a useful infographic found [here](#).

If you are ever unsure or worried that something might impact your health and safety, reach out to the Safety team or your local health & safety representative.



### Benestar Webinar - Career Satisfaction

Join Benestar on Tuesday 28 February for a webinar on Career Satisfaction. This webinar is free to join for all UNSW staff members. Career Satisfaction will help you to:

- Identify your current work satisfaction level
- Understand the key factors that influence work motivation and satisfaction levels
- Examine a process for increasing and maintaining self-motivation
- Know where you want to go and develop positive approaches to your work

The webinar will be held on Teams from **12pm-1pm on Tuesday 28 February**.

[Please click here to register.](#)

Benestar webinars are no longer recorded, so please attend at this time if you are available and interested in the topic.



## Shattered Fume cupboard panel

In a recent incident involving a fume cupboard, the glass panel at the rear of the fume cupboard was removed and replaced for cleaning by the service agent. A staff member noticed that the panel may not have been correctly replaced and attempted to fix the issue by adjusting it. This caused the panel to shatter into pieces, resulting in a small cut to the person's wrist. A reminder that staff/students must not attempt to remove, replace or repair parts of fume cupboards, or other equipment, unless they have been trained to do so.

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## Changes in Jaggaer

Changes in Jaggaer for WHS Regulation 2017 Schedule 10, Prohibited & Restricted Carcinogens

The safety approval for purchasing Prohibited & Restricted carcinogens (as listed in Schedule 10 WHS Regulations 2017) through Jaggaer has changed and will no longer be approved internally by School/Centre safety approver. All Prohibited and Restricted carcinogens purchased via Jaggaer will require approval from the Central Safety Team. The approval re-direction will happen automatically, and the requestor won't notice the changes.

**Written authorisation from SafeWork NSW must be in place to use, handle or store prohibited or restricted carcinogens.**

The form can be found [here](#). If you don't have authorisation STOP USING THE SUBSTANCE and reach out to your local [Safety Contact](#) or email [safety@unsw.edu.au](mailto:safety@unsw.edu.au)

Additional information:

- [Prohibited and Restricted carcinogens](#) (Procedure HS335)
- [Guide for applicant authorisation to use, handle or store Prohibited or Restricted carcinogens](#) (SafeWork NSW)
- [Carcinogenic substances notification](#) (SafeWork NSW)
- [Prohibited carcinogens & Restricted carcinogens](#) (Schedule 10 of WHS Regulation 2017)

For further information contact [jaggaercim@unsw.edu.au](mailto:jaggaercim@unsw.edu.au)

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## Do you ever need to work at heights?

SafeWork SA reported a worker who was standing on a roof when it gave way. The worker was injured (luckily not killed) when he hit the ground!

- Problem 1: the worker was wearing a harness which wasn't attached to an anchor point
- Problem 2: the roofing material was fragile and broke under his weight

Be aware that materials may fracture without warning! No sheeting roof should be relied on to bear your weight. This includes the roof ridge and purlins.

In another incident, a tethered worker fell over the side, but the tether was too long, resulting in a pendulum-effect swing. The tether length hadn't been considered.

Anyone working at height is at risk. Workers must be trained and be competent in ensuring their anchor point selection and set-up has a minimum rating of 15kN, and that the tether is of an appropriate length.

Falls while performing work on a roof result in the most serious injuries. Workers have been killed or seriously injured from falling through penetrations, unprotected edges or fragile material.

[Watch your step on fragile roofing | SafeWork SA](#)

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## Plastic water bottles left in the sun start a fire!

SafeWork SA has reported that clear plastic water bottles left on a pallet in the sun ignited the cardboard packing material and the pallet! The probable ignition source is sunlight refracting through transparent bottles containing clear liquids. The heat caused the plastic to melt and partially burnt the combustible materials.

The risk of fire sparked by refracted light is also well documented in WA. Since July 2020, there have been 29 incidents of this nature reported to WorkSafe Mines Safety alone!

What to do? Find undercover, shaded storage areas, where sunlight cannot shine through transparent bottles that contain clear liquids. This includes clear drink bottles left in your car! Make sure they are kept away from direct sunlight!

[Water bottle fire sparks safety warning | SafeWork SA](#)

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## Remember, Speak Up for Safety!!

Reporting Hazards & Incidents has been made easier and helps to make our campus safe! In order to get into the online reporting system, just go to the Safety homepage ([safety.unsw.edu.au](http://safety.unsw.edu.au)) and click on:

**REPORT Here: Incident – Hazard – Inspection/Audit**

If you see something that doesn't look safe, please report it as a hazard. If you see something happen (eg. someone trip, something fall, or a near miss), report it as an incident. You can also record workplace inspections and audits!

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## Black Dog Webinar

Promoting Wellbeing and Help-Seeking Resources at Work



This 45-minute webinar from the Black Dog Institute will unpack different mental health support options and help you feel more confident seeking support yourself or guiding others in your workplace.

Resources explored in this webinar are Mental Health Care Plans, Employee Assistance Programs, and the Black Dog Institute's free evidence-based online programs, apps and self-care planning.

This webinar will be recorded, so please still register for this session even if you are unable to attend, to receive a copy of the recording afterwards.

The webinar will be held on Wednesday 22 February from 12pm-12:45pm.

[Please click here to register.](#)

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## Hello Safety!

Welcome back to campus everyone! Safety is integral with everything we think and do and so this year we are encouraging people to get Switched On for safety, to Speak Up for safety and to help keep UNSW safe.

To help raise awareness, every second Wednesday morning, you will find the Safety Team (and some Interested Others) roaming the campus in their fluoro vests, looking for people to talk to and hazards to have fixed. Come and say hello!

Everyone can help! Log any hazard you see and make sure that ALL incidents are reported, including close calls!

For more information, go to [Contacts | Safety](#), or email [safety@unsw.edu.au](mailto:safety@unsw.edu.au)

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## Recognise & Respond - Suicide Prevention

UNSW Health is pleased to partner with Black Dog Institute to offer subsidised Suicide Prevention training to UNSW students and staff.

*Recognise and Respond: Suicide Prevention for Everyday Life* aims to assist in reducing and preventing suicide in Australia by equipping people with the skills to intervene with someone who is contemplating suicide.

The self-directed e-learning module is comprised of four main learning components:

- recognising the signs of suicide
- having a conversation with and supporting the person
- providing help to the person
- self-care

To register for the course, [please click here](#). You will need this enrolment key: W7cXVGa6EjBS5WYHUmh3

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## Parents at Work Programs in 2023

With support from SAGE Athena Swan program, UNSW collaborates with organisational coaches and facilitators from Parents at Work to provide support to parents and soon-to-be parents, on topics such as Preparing for Parental Leave, Returning to Work After Parental Leave, and Managing Mental Wellbeing for You and Your Family.

Staff at UNSW are invited to register for the next online sessions:

[Preparing for Parental Leave](#) - **Wednesday 22 February from 1:30pm - 2:30pm**

[Returning to Work After Parental Leave](#) - **Tuesday 28 February from 11:30am - 12:30pm**

A UNSW HR representative will be available in each session to answer any questions specific to UNSW policies and entitlements.

Additional resources including a full schedule of webinars for 2023 are available on EDI's [Parents at Work webpage](#).

If you have any questions, please email [access\\_equity\\_inclusion@unsw.edu.au](mailto:access_equity_inclusion@unsw.edu.au)

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## Pedestrian Safety around Trams

There have been several reports of people crossing the road to the tram at Anzac Parade without waiting for the lights and almost getting hit by traffic.

The Safety team has put together two safety alerts (one in English and one in Mandarin) and we are continuing to work with Security on this to ensure everyone stays as safe as possible.

Please find the safety alerts here:

[Pedestrian Safety Alert \(English\)](#)

[Pedestrian Safety Alert \(Mandarin\)](#)

Please direct enquiries/concerns/suggestions to [safety@unsw.edu.au](mailto:safety@unsw.edu.au)

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