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LETTER OF THE WEEK WINS A \$25 VOUCHER FROM UNIVERSITY BOOKSHOP

LETTER OF THE WEEK

Kia ora,

Chris "there will be no wealth or capital gains tax" Hipkins is an out of touch coward who only thinks there isn't enough money because he doesn't want to put pressure on his precious 5 home owner voters (who will vote National or Act anyway) and only wants universities to remain independent because it means the government doesn't have to help pay for them or prevent them being evil, profit motivated and self-destructive. Also because he's a neoliberal ghoul.

Green Party Loyalist

If we make vape juice prescription only, then it becomes pharmac approved AND subsidised.

A.Y.

Critic:

I'm a vapey girl In a vapey world Inhaling plastic It's fantastic

Hey Critic,

I hope you're as delighted about the branding change as I am- I know personally the \$1.3 million seems absolutely worth it for those two bananas to be in our tohu. But how about giving the people a choice? Make a referendum, where we can submit our own options for a new uni logo? Surely Critic can do it better. And ngl a laser kiwi symbol would be pretty hype...

Two girls who love bananas

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EDITOR

SUB-EDITOR

NEWS EDITOR

FEATURES EDITOR

CULTURE EDITOR

KAITUHI MĀORI

Lotto Ramsay, Jamiema Lorimer, Za

VOLUNTEER REPORTER: Rauri Warren Emily Esplin, Hayley Stent

FOOD: Charley Burnett @chararillss

SUB-DESIGNER

ILLUSTRATION Daniel Van Lith @art_by_deeev

Connor Simpson

VIDEO TEAM LEAD Connor Simpson

VIDEO EDITOR Sophie Douglas

VIDEOGRAPHY Hugh Askerud, Isaac Chadwid

CENTREFOLD FRONT COVER

ONLINE

Anna Casey 03 479 5361

GET IN TOUCH

Facebook/CriticTeAroh 03 479 5335 P.O.Box 1436, Dunedin Critic Te Ārohi is a member of the Aotearoa Student Press Association Disclaimer: the views presented within this publication do not necess represent the views of the Editor or

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EDITORIAL:

BRING BACK CHILD LABOUR

in 1920 we took children out of the coal mines

in 2020, the most popular video game on the market is minecraft.

the children yearn for the mines

BY FOX MEYER

It's the meme that started it all. And while we all laughed about it, we were too shy to admit that they were kinda right. That's why, heading into election season, I am once again challenging any of the major parties to announce their plan to bring back child labour. Hear me out.

Firstly, this would immediately solve any labour shortages we have in the country. Overnight. Sorted. Give the kids all the delicate jobs that require dextrous little hands, and let the adults work the more artisan jobs like flying aeroplanes or making silly little magazines.

Second, kids need to start learning early that if you can't adapt your body and mind to the 9-5 grind, you might as well die. School is already a noble effort to conform them to the mentality of deadlines, workdays and cookie-cutter corporate policy, but we can do better. Skip the middleman and just give them a real job. They all say they don't want to be in school anyway, so we should honour that wish and let them have a go at it. The sooner they conform, the easier it is for all of us. Plus, no more worrying about daycare.

Also, your household income rates are about to skyrocket, so you can kiss that recession goodbye. Immoral labour? Never heard of her. In fact, I can't hear much of anything over the constant din of societal progress. Rome wasn't built in a day, but you can bet that child labour laid a few bricks. How are we meant to improve as a society if we're too woke to put literal children back in literal goldmines?

Letting children take the "undesirable" jobs would also go a long way in improving racism in this country. Currently, our only scapegoats for labour shortages are those filthy immigrants, the ones who come here and take all the jobs we didn't want to do anyway. If we just put children in those jobs, we can't have immigration! With that pesky back door closed once and for all, we can get back to what really matters: keeping our country clean. Because it's OUR country, after all, and we need to preserve it. You know, for the children.

Finally, as I've said a million times and will say once again, we have to trust the market. If it's suggesting that child labour needs to come back, we are in absolutely no position to question it. Especially once we scrap all of the ease-of-access policies set up to help guide those minors (miners?) into "liberal" arts university programmes, where - God forbid - their brains might grow. No. What we need, and what the market is clearly telling us to acquire, is a veritable army of stupid, brainwashed, nimble little labourers who are without any means of standing up for themselves (because even if they did, they'd only come up to, what, like 3'4"?).

I say we listen to our collective gut, nay, to the wisdom of the infallible market, and put children back in the mines. Put children back in the factories, in the fields, in the full range of jobs for which they so loudly clamour. Who are we to stop them? Who are we to question the will of the all-consuming market? This nation must be one of the children, by the children and for the children, and to achieve that most noble of standards, we simply must let the children return to the mines.

If any major party should be brave enough to consider this agenda, they would certainly have my vote. If I could vote, which I can't, because I'm not a citizen. Just know that it would be a really cool thing for you to do.

THETHOR

YOUR WEEKLY BULLSTIN ROUNDUP

The Commerce Commission penned an open letter to supeys,

marking the introduction of the Grocery Industry Competition Act.

Speaking of supeys,
Countdown will now be known as Woolworths.

The government is currently re-deciding if e-scooters are

vehicles or not, which will dictate if they can go on

footpaths.

The National
Party wants you
to be able to use
your Kiwisaver
to pay for your
bond. OUSA Prez
Quintin says this
is a terrible idea.

The remnants of a 2000-year-old curry have been found in Vietnam, and it still tastes better than anything you can make.

Wanaka was voted best ski town in the country, with Methven coming in second.

Usage of Threads is down by about half after that initial surge.

Inflation is down to 6%.

A tramper is recovering after being lost for 10 days in the Kahurangi National Park bush.

a search warrant in the 30-year

in the 30-year unsolved murder of Tupac.

The World Health Organisation

says it's okay to have a little menty b, as a treat.









KARERE — NEWS — 16

By Hugh Askerud

Re-O-Roundup

Staff Writer // hugh@critic.co.nz



What a lady, what a night. A sentiment I'm sure many found themselves uttering as they progressed further and further into the maddeningly obscene antics of the Re-O Week scene on Castle. Yes, Re-O Week came to live up to the hype we all expected, providing all sorts of thrills and spills for breathas of all varieties to look fondly back on. Though the antics were largely secondyear-centric, the series of OUSA events littered throughout the evenings provided enough fun for all students basking in the musk of the struggling musicians who likely hadn't showered for days. Reflecting on this momentous occasion, Critic Te Ārohi has compiled a summary of the events that transpired all in the name of breathadom.

Starting strong, students were witness to a Blue Waffle party which garnered the attention of hundreds on a cold Monday eve. Of significance was the fact that the host abruptly changed the theme only a day before it started, choosing to opt with 'Blue Out' as opposed to 'Boogie'. Maybe they were worried too many would show dressed as boogers, who knows? But one thing is certain: timing was on the side of the host, which segued nicely into a free 2000's party hosted at U-bar. Police presence was also noticeable, with multiple vehicles posted outside the street party wedged neatly in between Castle and the one way.

Tuesday's 'Snow party' hosted by Honeypot had the benefit of allowing for warm clothing, a fact students would later praise for having greatly heightened the experience of the night. Reports were also rife of supposedly "punishing freshers" from a variety of biased second-year sources. Widely hailed as a success, one student told Critic Te Ārohi, "I don't even remember going, I was so drunk." While that may seem to defeat the point, it also serves as a badge of honour for some.

Wednesday was 'Cops and Robbers', a theme that requires participants to make both bold outfit choices and suggestions about whether they're a top or a bottom. Unfortunately, the event was tarred with the misfortune of rain and wind which drastically impacted attendance at the Leith St event. Numbers were as low as 20-40 people at 8pm before gradually picking up as the night wore on and the alcohol blankets came into play. Discussions about the ethics of the theme were few and far between.

The slightly ambiguous 'Mardi Gras' party was hosted by Complex on Thursday, an interesting theme that brought many flamboyant personalities out of hiding. The infamous DJ Mosey was allegedly playing to a packed crowd which frothed in the sheer atmosphere of the place. Mosey's presence was complemented by effective lighting and a layout fundamentally built for large scale street parties such as the one displayed on Thursday.

Courtyard, oddly, hosted a 'Halloween' themed party on Friday, despite the fact that the day itself is still many a month down the line. Still, the theme seemed to coincide nicely with 'Mardi Gras' as many reported that they used the same costume to attend both events.

Then came Saturday night, the illustrious evening whose only requirement was for attendees to to get 'Black Out' in the den of Thirsty. The Christchurch-based DnB trio SUUNE inspired the antics to unwind into utter chaos as the night wore on. Police presence usurped that of Monday evening, yet the Red Frogs appeared to do the most for those students well and truly horsed, serving up pancakes to anyone who fancied them just 50 metres away from the host itself.

Yet the week did not end there! Every dusty student found themselves rudely awoken at 7am Sunday morning to the sounds of the Castle hosting a school reunion (that's earlier than I used to wake up for school). Perhaps seeking redemption, the event wore on throughout the day, keeping the mood light while the clean up ensued for everyone else.

Commenting on the week as a whole, one student, Anashai, told Critic Te Ārohi, "By that sixth night I was pretty zoned out - it got harder as the week went on." Another hardened patriot, Eli, added, "It was a mission of a week, everyone was battling but they were battling hard." Despite the regular comments that the hosts were "dry" and the fact that you could probably get away with wearing a Batman costume at every one of them, studentville stood to attention as Re-O came and went last week. We at Critic hope you drank enough over the course of the week to forget the alarmingly pertinent fact that you now have to actually do Uni work. Godspeed.



Student Scammed Out of Life Savings

One trip to New World be like

Third-year Law student Cassie* has warned others to watch out for online phishing scams after scammers scooped \$17k out of her bank account - her life savings. "They're the scum of the Earth in my eyes," she told Critic Te Ārohi, despite her friend's condolences that it was "nice of them" to leave some money in her rent account. "Karma will get them."

Around a month ago, Cassie received a text from a New Zealand number telling her to check her Inland Revenue account for an update about a tax refund. Having been expecting a tax refund of the exact amount it stated, she clicked the link taking her to what appeared to be the IRD website. After logging in, she was sent to what seemed to the unsuspecting eye to be the Kiwibank website.

It was only after she entered her access number and password that she thought something seemed off. "It started to take ages to load and I was like, 'Wait, this seems really strange," said Cassie. "And I just got a really bad gut feeling about it." She immediately checked her bank account and, sure enough, it had been drained of \$17k. "I

just had a panic attack. Like, what else can you do?"

The money stolen was all of her savings from the past ten years, part of which she has earned through working three part-time jobs to travel to Europe next year. "It was a pretty humbling experience," she said. "That's ten years of savings. It took ten seconds to lose." Luckily, the bank was able to hold on to some of her funds on their way out of her account since she caught it so quickly, though they weren't able to tell her how much just

Like most of us are these days, Cassie's used to dodging scams. "Everyone gets those kinds of texts all the time," she said, such as from BNZ (even though you have an ASB account) or NZ Post saying you've missed a delivery (even though you're too broke to buy anything). While she can normally tell, Cassie said that this scam was so well done that they not only knew the exact amount of money she was expecting from IRD, but the texts also came from numbers she'd previously gotten legit security codes from. It was also "early in the morning," she said, which didn't

By Nina Brown

The most important thing for her was to warn others to tread carefully. Other victims of scams might be too embarrassed to say anything, she said, since "you just feel so stupid", but she wondered what would have happened if she had been in a worse off position. "I'm lucky that I have my parents to support me. I'm not in a position where this is gonna end my life," she said, "but I thought, imagine if I was like a single mum with three kids."

Earlier this year, RNZ reported that kiwis lost a record \$20 million to scammers last year alone as cybercriminals are allegedly becoming "more sophisticated". A top tip from Netsafe on how to avoid scams regardless of the time of day and state of brain function - is not to click on links even if it looks like it's from a real organisation. Emails from Waka Kotahi, for instance, have recently removed clickable links "to help protect you from scams". But don't worry, most of your overdrafted accounts probably aren't the target.

*Name changed.

SOULS Resuming Relationship With Russell McVeagh

We all fall for our toxic exes

The Society of Otago University Law Students (SOULS) have announced that they will resume their relationship with law firm Russell McVeagh. SOULS cut ties with the firm back in 2018 after multiple students - including one from Otago raised allegations of sexual harassment.

The decision came after SOULS released a survey in March which allowed students to anonymously air their concerns and vote on whether they wanted anything to do with Russell McVeagh. In an announcement, SOULS said that "while some students did express concerns, the overwhelming student response was in favour of re-establishing a relationship with the firm." They reassured that "all student concerns expressed via the survey were considered."

Prior to the survey, SOULS hosted a morning tea with firm representatives "so that students could ask questions." The morning tea included an anonymous questionnaire as students were apparently afraid that it would negatively bias them if they applied to Russell McVeagh in the future.

Critic Te Ārohi was present at the March morning tea, where one of the representatives said that they "recognise really bad things happened" but were "taking steps." According to Russell McVeagh, they "have changed" and are "committed to continuous improvements" (also seen in drunk texts from your ex). The representative also pointed out that it is a "structural issue" across the whole legal practice and they are "never going to be perfect."

Third-year law student Jess* told Critic Te Ārohi that she thought SOULs' decision "makes sense." Jess pointed out that other big law firms are not much better than Russell McVeagh but were not exposed and forced to change. "It means virtually nothing to keep ties cut [with Russell McVeagh] while maintaining ties with the likes of Bell Gully, except optics," said Jess. She added that "if [SOULS] wanted to cut ties with all big law [firms] in favour of supporting small firms only, I would actually really support that".

The announcement came with the caveat that SOULS will "only accept sponsorship for events excluding alcohol." In other words, Russell McVeagh has been put on probation.

SOULS declined to comment at this stage.

*Name changed.





Castle Roof Blaze Quelled by Campus Watch

Fireworks? I sure hope it does

Tragedy struck at Doll's House on the Tuesday of Re-O Week when the roof of the infamous flat was set on fire, having been shot with a series of fireworks. Police were quickly on the scene as the event transpired. It proved to be Campus Watch, however, who eventually stamped the fire out after considerable damage was done to the guttering and the iconic opening of the Doll's House. To find out how it happened, Critic Te Ārohi had a chat with groups there who walked us through the details of the event's random occurrence.

Like many good stories of love and betrayal, it started with a group of closely affiliated boys. Let's call them the Sharks*. Having consumed a hefty amount of alcohol and finding themselves stranded at Doll's House, the Sharks were bored and looking for something to do. That's when they happened upon a stash of what one resident, Alex, called "proper mega fireworks" that had been sitting dormant in Stables since the start of the year. Not ones for wasting an opportunity, the boys made their way over to Doll's House armed with an assortment of pyrotechnic

weaponry. Before lighting the fireworks, the group decided it would be a good idea to get even closer to the house, only realising the folly of their efforts after it was too

Speaking with candour, one resident of Doll's House, Liv, told Critic, "This kind of thing has happened before." She described how the boys, showing their expertise, "lit them using the oven" before coming outside to "throw it at the roof, pretty much." Putting it down to being a "boy thing," a supposed natural urge that one feels when you "want to blow something up," the girls were pretty understanding of the Sharks' actions. It seemed that the boys made up for the event by showing their love in other ways. Specifically, one member ended up coming back the next day with his tape measurer, trying to fix the mistake with nothing but his bare hands. You can't really be mad at that kind of debonair.

Even the cops on the scene "didn't really care," according to another resident, Mayson. "They just talked a bit about rent

prices and said, 'Okay, sweet' after it was all sorted." The fire was only quelled after a member of Campus Watch (who happened to be an ex-firefighter) saw his moment and climbed up on the roof to engage in battle with the roaring flames. Though he was denounced by Doll's House as being on an "ego-trip", his work was nonetheless applauded by both residents and the police who were happy to celebrate the work of the spirited individual. Someone putting out a fire and being made the villain was "classic Castle", said one.

By Hugh Askerud

Staff Writer // hugh@critic.co.nz

Happy at the end of the day, the Doll's House girls still managed to froth jovially as the week wore on, unbothered by their roof predicament. One of the Sharks agreed to pay the girls back and everyone left smiling, still buzzed at the obvious joy the event inspired. Critic Te Ārohi supposes that the landlord wasn't quite so happy, but we're sure he had a quiet chuckle at some point after.

*Name changed.

ODT WATCH

The magic of being able to see right inside of someone

Spread em

"Ultimately, we would want to be able to say things like, 'go get me a beer from the fridge'. and it would know where the fridge is and the most efficient route to get there.

Every man's Tinder bio in this fucking

Use your head for a proper pint

Selling your body for booze

The latter was most important to both of them — this was not really about gender, it was ultimately about making money.

Big Toilet during the trans restroom debate

THANK you Christopher Luxon

When you're stranded on a deserted island without a flare, but the dazzling shine of a bare scalp alerts a passing plane, leading to your eventual rescue

"We cannot use public money to discriminate," Ms Rudd said,

Watch me

WASHINGTON: Scientists for the past 15 years have been looking for evidence of a type of star only hypothesised but never observed_

Looking for the next Lady Gaga

Far too hot for comfort

Same

Fumbling my love interest when they ask me what I want for dinner and I mistakenly reply 'I want to fu' when I really just wanted tofu

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PUZZLES

BROUGHT TO YOU BY MAZAGRAN KEEPING CRITIC CAFFEINATED

16. Isle of

20. Minion boss

21. Huck Finn's buddy 22. Shifting plates

25. Panasonic rival

27. Rack display?

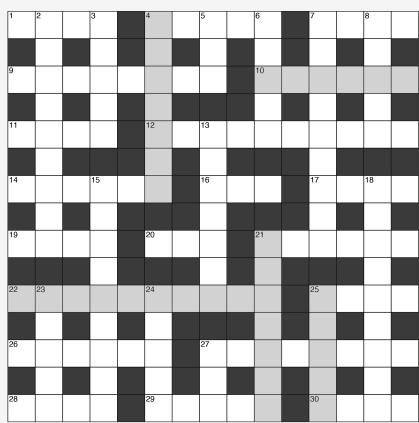
30. Famous Loch

28. Football legend

26. Cry heard in a forest

19. Koru

CROSSWORD



The (#) tells you how many words are in the solution. If a clue doesn't have a (#), it's a one-word answer. Answers in the grey boxes are all connected by the bold clue.

ACROSS:

- 1. Woodwind instrument 17. Intense anger
- 4. Incorrect
- 7. Something that can be done online or in the
- 9. Fake boobs

10. Towers over something

- 11. Secluded grassy spot
- 12. Like a first job (2)
- 14. Calculator with beads

DOWN:

- 2. Heavy flyer? (2)
- 3. Cancelled TV show

4. Ponders

- 5. CIA predecessor
- 6. Overly happy
- a cornfield 8. Hunter's weapon
- 13. "Project Runway" VIP

15. British officer

29. Arm ends

- 18. Goes well with ham?
- 21. The Muses, for

instance

- 23. Popeye's bae
- 24. Cardinal direction
- 7. Batman villain found in 25. Brad Pitt thriller, OR, a hint to the highlighted
 - 27. Aluminium storage

WORD BLOCKS

Make up the 9-letter word hidden in these blocks, using every letter once.

Т	ш	L
S	C	М
D	0	

Α	Р	Р
S	Е	W
N	Е	R

0	Ι	0
L	0	S
D	В	Т

ISSUE 15 PUZZLE ANSWERS

WORD BLOCK WORDS: ABOLISHED, ALCHEMIST, INSOLUBLE, KILOGRAMS, MAUSOLEUM, TURNSTILE

DOWN: 2. SUPERHERO 3. INEPT 4. GADOT 5. (MAD)MAX 6. APHRODITE 7. LOT 8. SCENT 13. BASTARD 14. GENUS 16. TEDDY 17. MUSSOLINI 18. RADIOHEAD 22. MANGA 24.

SUDOKU

sudokuoftheday.com

6	2	3	1		5	8		
8		4			2	5	6	
	9	5			8			4
		2	5	3				8
4		1		8		6		2
9				6	4	3		
5			8			1	9	
	8	6	7			4		5
		9	4		6	7	8	3

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8			4		6			2
	5	9			1		6	
7		3				5		
		2						9
		6	5	2		4	1	

		1		7			3	4
		9		3		6		
			5		2			9
	1					5	7	8
				5				
4	3	5					2	
2			6		8			
		4		1		2		
1	8			2		3		

F G A S L I G H T I N G T S A A H O X X TEMTAYQRAUPQWUBKASFS A F S G O R N G X B F E K D A U K C F T B P R J T X I W H O M E L E S S N E S S IEZZLQIKARTICHOKEISO TZRSVDZCIAZSQTYUMEIS V J G M L R J H S E J L N D C A V A M Y YLDNKSCHLOECQIQKXJTQ XVOYEJSFPFBWLRDATCZR

WORDFIND

MATARIKI SAUSAGES CLUSTER ARTICHOKE HARAKEKE **FIREWORK GASLIGHTING** LAWYER

NORMAL BUBBLEWRAP CHLOE FILMNOIR

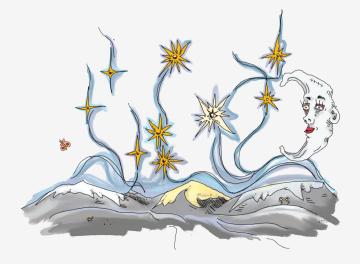
STRESS

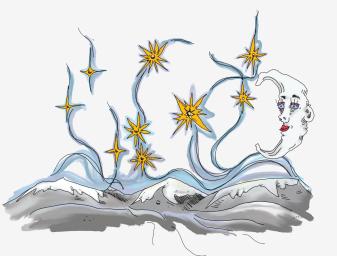
HOMELESSNESS

EFTPOS MUSTARD EXCITE

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

There are 10 differences between these images





TOXIC

(A RESPONSE)

ĀHUA NOHO — CULTURE — 16

By Lotto Ramsay – Art by Evie Noad

Assuming you're a loyal Critic reader, I'm sure you know all about gaslighting by now. We can't seem to publish an issue without mentioning the word, and we even ran a feature earlier this year wholly dedicated to it. It had its merits and was definitely memorable, but I hated to see such a benign and commonplace topic demonised in this manner, which is why I felt motivated to write a response. Generally speaking, students are a pretty well-educated population, so you'll trust me when I say this: Gaslighting is normal. Duh.

Gaslighting is so normal, in fact, that it was Merriam-Webster's word of 2022. I won't patronise you by defining it, since you really should know what it means by now. Okay, well, to spare you the embarrassment of messing it up in front of your friends like you always seem to, gaslighting is persistent deception for one's own gain, usually characterised by causing the "victim" to question their memories, perception, or even sanity.

That's where my issues with the prior Critic article come in – it characterised a lot of manipulation as gaslighting when it was just that: manipulation. Manipulation is extraordinarily commonplace - a lot of normal social etiquette involves manipulation. When you want the last slice of cake, how often do you actually say so? Versus being like, "So who wants the last piece?" In older generations it's even worse: how many times have you watched your mum and aunty do the whole, "Oh, that was delicious but I'm so full, you have it" ritual. Just eat the fucking sponge, Sandra. See what I mean? Good, I figured.

If everyday social manipulation is this dance of reading between the lines, then gaslighting is when you leave no space between said lines and blame the other person for not magically getting it. That's where my main argument against Critic lies, which I'm sure you've spotted by now. The Uni isn't "gaslighting" us - bureaucratic PR jargon is as nonsensical to them as it is to us. If it's intended to be misinterpreted and you fall into the trap of misinterpretation, then maybe it's your fault and you should watch where you're stepping.

Anyway, what's a little manipulation just between friends? Don't tell me you've never pranked one of the bros, or told the bestie that her outfit is a slay when it's barely even a flesh wound. In a lot of these cases it's character-building, and you're just looking out for them in the long run. For it to be "gaslighting", some kind of power dynamic must be involved. If you have that much power over your loved ones, or they have that much power over you, then maybe you

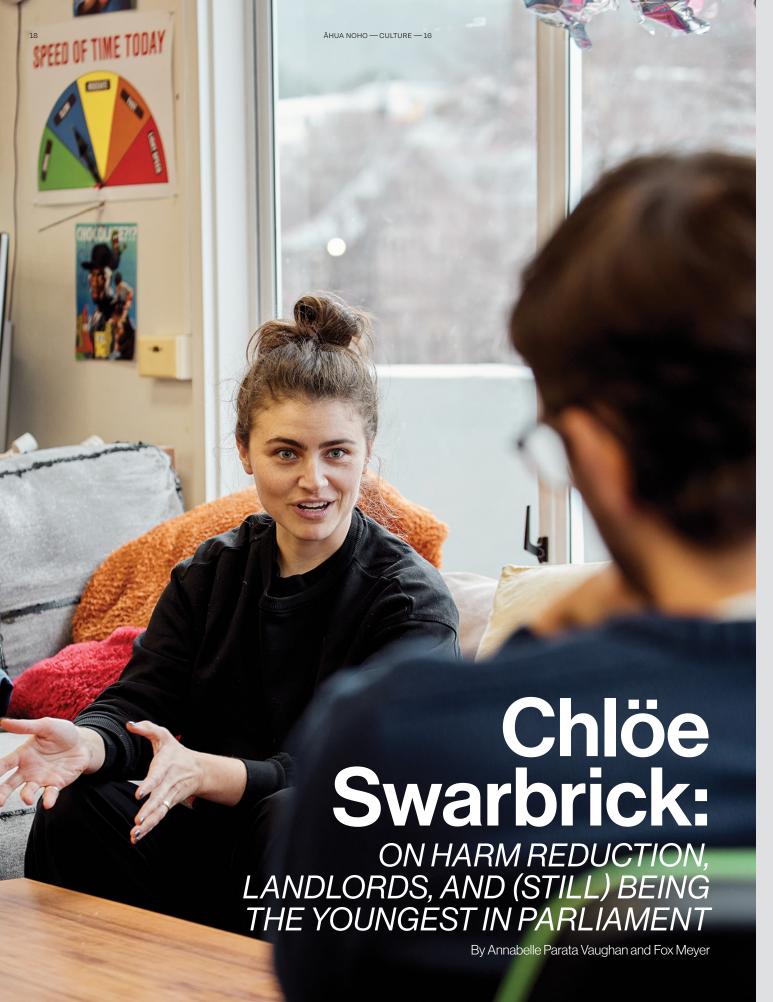
should reconsider your relationships. You should take a long, hard look at your friends anyway. Maybe you spend too much time with them – it really can't be good for you. You're in therapy,

Gaslighting is not only normal, it's normalised. Like a lot of terms adopted into pop psychology and colloquial language, the meaning of the word has become desaturated over time. The word's origin is the 1940 film noir Gaslight, which details an elaborate murder cover-up. The perpetrator convinces his new wife that she's high-strung and hysterical as she "imagines" seeing the gas lamps flicker downstairs, when really the dancing flames are a result of him sneaking into the house while searching for his previous victim's possessions. No one believes her, and it gets to the point where she's almost institutionalised.

This intentional and systematic pattern of abuse, the very questioning of one's sanity, is almost unrecognisable from the way we use the word "gaslight" today. In reality, the things we currently refer to as "gaslighting" are relatively harmless, commonplace, and easily avoidable. If you're reading this, you've probably been studying for a while, and have a good amount of media literacy. Basically, you should know better than to misappropriate the word, and you should know better than to fall for the method.

True gaslighting involves a longform pattern of abusing trust, for predetermined benefit for a party with power or status. Admittedly, this trust can be minor, like a media source you generally like, and the benefit can be as simple as shitposting for pay. Gaslighting can make you question your sanity and even plant false memories – say, for example, writing a response to an article that never existed.

Trust no one. Question everything. And remember: gaslighting sucks, and I can't believe I almost made you think otherwise. This must be so embarrassing for you.



Whether you love her or hate her, over the past few years, it's been hard to ignore Chlöe Swarbrick. The 29-year-old Green Party Member and Auckland Central MP was elected to office at 23, making her the youngest politician to enter parliament since Marilyn Waring in 1975. In 2023 she's still the youngest sitting MP, something she sees "as an indictment on the House of Representatives."

Chlöe has been a vocal advocate for drug reform and pushing for harm reduction, which was the focal point of the 2020 Cannabis Legalisation Bill and the more recent Alcohol Harm Minimisation Bill. The latter would have banned alcohol sponsorship and advertising from sports in attempts to deal with our binge drinking problem. Her approach to drug and alcohol policy has garnered both criticism and confusion from people, so she set the record straight. "The spectrum of regulation for substances is, at one end of the extreme, criminal prohibition. And at the other end you have a complete legal free market without regulations or restrictions," she explained. "You then have an economic environment that is conducive to those entities operating in such a way that they exploit vulnerable communities to make a quick buck."

Chlöe said that the way to pull back from these extremes is what people would consider 'liberalisation', but freely accessible weed isn't actually what she's all about; instead, she's about sensible regulation of cannabis - and alcohol, too. "I was arguing for regulation where none exists at the moment. What frustrated me, particularly from the National Party, was pointing to how we have failed to regulate alcohol." So she proposed her Alcohol Harm Minimisation Bill, which National didn't support. "Turns out they don't want to do that."

The bill didn't make it past the first reading, failing 85 votes to 29. However, there was one small victory, with the government deciding to adopt part one of the proposed bill: local councils will have more power to control alcohol sales, trading hours, and locations in their borders. And it's small victories like this one that Chlöe reminded us we need to celebrate. In a world where young people feel burnt out and stagnant, remembering that "we actually got something done" is the only way to keep moving forward.

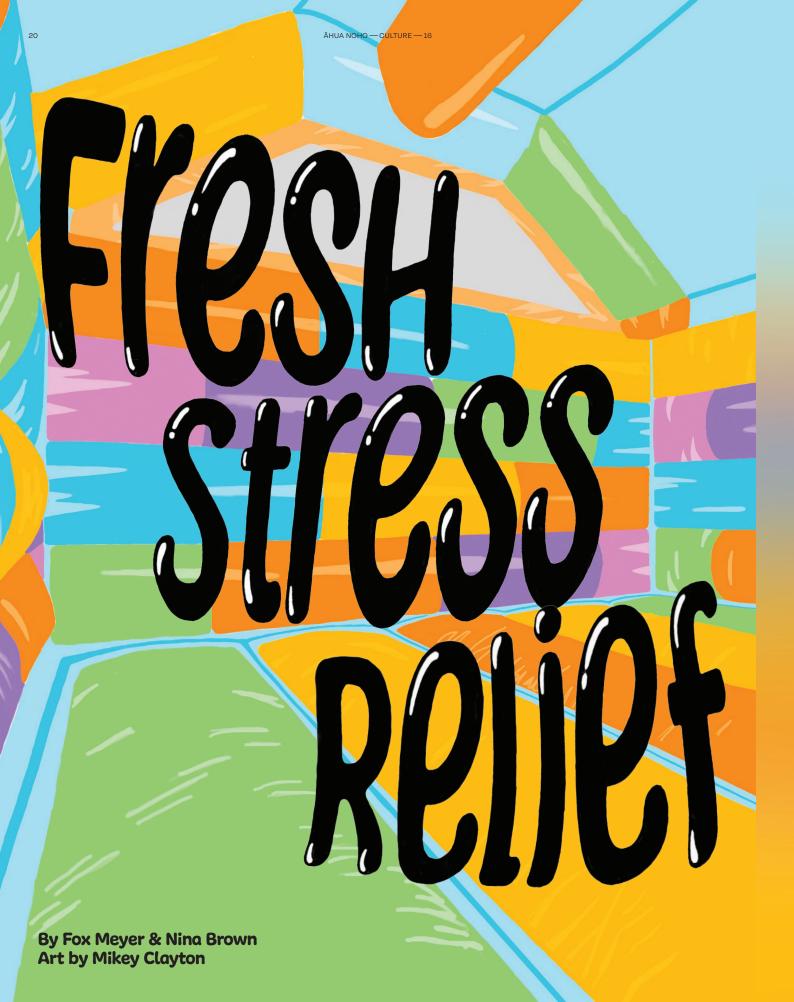
"I have been hustling hard over the last few years to try and support as many younger and different people in politics to get involved," she said. Chlöe didn't intend on being a politician, nor does she think of it as being a 'career'. "My approach to politics has never been as a career. I actually just want to get stuff done. I am more than happy to blow up my job if I think it would contribute to something actually happening."

On the topic of getting shit done and the current state of affairs, Chlöe finds the lack of action from our current government frustrating, especially after the pandemic. "What's really gutting about that collective experience is that all of us actually saw firsthand that the government is capable of things that we've been told our entire lifetimes were economically or politically impossible," she said. "Whether it's flexible working arrangements for people with disabilities or single parents, or direct payments to people who need it or rent freezes, they all happened overnight and that demonstrates that all of those things were always a matter of political willpower." Chlöe went on to explain that the pandemic was like a portal to an alternate reality, a brief glimpse into what could be. "We seem to have lost that cultural awareness of what is possible within our politics." Personally, her politics are "unashamedly quite radical[ly] left wing... but I also believe that if I'm not making a difference for the communities I represent, then I need to go home."

And finally, the question on everyone's mind: What does Chlöe make of the financial shitshow the tertiary sector is facing? A few weeks back, Prime Minister Chris Hipkins told us the government wouldn't bail out the university due to wanting to maintain Otago's 'financial autonomy.' Chlöe reckoned that was "a really cool thing for a former student president to say." Not only did she believe that the government ought to support universities financially, she believes that the government's role is to recognise that tertiary education is a public good: "It's not just about economic and productive outputs... It's also for upholding democracy." She said that the 1984 neoliberal reforms coupled with the 2011 implementation of Voluntary Student Membership have undermined the tertiary sector, disempowering students - and we're still seeing that play out today.

While for most young people it may seem like the world is ending, Chlöe reiterated that voting and political action is important, and that change is possible. "Students need to realise they are not a small voting block. There are 400,000 students and 120,000 landlords," she said, which really puts things into perspective. "But look at how much disproportionate political power is wielded by those with capital."

In a politically polarised world, Chlöe has some interesting takes on things. Some may see her as a raging commie, while others may think she isn't radical enough. In a political arena of burgeoning populism and cults of personality, strong characters like Chlöe can net the hearts and minds of voters by personality and relatability alone. "Depending on what side of the fence you're on," she said, "populism may be positive or negative. [But] I think it's far more important to look at the ideas and the evidence that are underpinning our values." She said that populism has become more popular since the 1984 reforms and that the individualistic cultural norms they championed "are associated with the mental health crisis and feelings of loneliness and isolation, which undermine our collective capacity to generate political change."



It's that time of year again - it's ten degrees colder than when you first began to complain about the winter chill, your fingers continue to grow stiff on your laptop keyboard, it's difficult to get out of bed in the morning, and the motivation you thought would return after the semester break just hasn't come. You've now been dumped with a new semester worth of assignments and, to top if all off, it's flat-hunting season. Crusty third-, fourth-, and fifth-years (what are you still doing here if above) are a little more used to this by now. Second-years are braving your first tense "do we turn the heat pump on" season, but at least you don't have to battle it out for flats on Castle and Leith this year. As for freshers, we thought you could use a hand coming up with some stress remedies. There used to be a pack of dogs (for cuddles) that were brought around the halls, but I don't think they do that anymore. Maybe they do. I don't know, we didn't research this piece at all.

Bubble wrap

Without doing any Googling at all I'm gonna guess that renting a bunch of real dogs to come cuddle for an hour is gonna cost somewhere around \$250. I have no idea if that's accurate but it feels right. Heck, it might be free. But for \$250, you could buy ten 300mm x 30m rolls of bubble wrap, enough to completely carpet the floors of most res hall lounges. Or you could roll yourself up like a stressed little burrito. Either way it'll be good for something. Alternatively, the colleges could start just saving all the bubble wrap that comes with new purchases and not have to pay a cent. Reduce, reuse, recycle.

Dogs (but they're just drama students dressed as dogs)

Same concept as having actual dogs visit the halls, but with an added thrill. Someone from Auckland Uni tweeted that this happened there during their undergrad; posters were put up advertising a "puppy petting session" but it was really just drama students wearing dog collars. So this one isn't even remotely outside the realm of possibility. While this might be more stress-inducing than stress-relieving for all parties involved, it would certainly serve as a distraction and maybe even an awakening for budding young furries (I'm not judging).

Hire a stripper

I mean, you could. I don't think very many students would actively enjoy this (at least not the ones you want to make happy) but it would undoubtedly make people forget about their stress for a while, even if that was just because they were too preoccupied with wondering how this idea ever got green-lit in the first place. Maybe the stripper could teach pole classes or something, I dunno, that's an active way to move your body. No matter what happens, it would definitely be a distraction.

Bouncy castle

Hiring a bouncy castle in Dunedin costs between \$185 and \$520. If we're going with the \$250 ball park figure for what colleges are willing to spend on their overwhelmed cohorts of freshers, then a modest "Paw Patrol" bouncy castle of \$200 is a bargain. Knox once hired what appears to be a mid-range bouncy castle at around \$350 that doubled as an obstacle course and I can vouch for its stress-relieving qualities. One of the best days in my time there, but that's not saying much I guess. And exercise is apparently good for you, so there's that too.

Rage room

Instead of bringing in puppies that you have to pet and treat nicely, bring in inanimate stuff that you can break and treat meanly. Or, even better, take someone's totaled car and park it out front, then give students five free swings with a bat to see what they can do. Safety glasses are a must, of course. You could even start charging for extra swings to make a profit on this method, and use the profit to fund another method on this list, making it the most economically-viable option of the lot.

Lift alcohol rules for a weekend

Listen, healthy coping methods are great if they work for you. I'm all for a hot girl walk and meditation session. But sometimes you just need to be able to drink an ungodly concoction of hard liquor to the point of forgetting the conversation you had with your friend ten minutes ago, let alone the stress of being an adult. The frankly oppressive rules of residential halls don't seem to recognise this. Freshers are new to being adults - it's hard. Lifting the alcohol rules for a week at halls is the least they can do in terms of pastoral care of residents, and it's also very cost-effective (free). Healthy? No. Stress-relieving? Temporarily.

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MATAURANGA MAORI, MATAURANGA MAORI, AND MERN SCIENCE

Nā Skyla (Ngāti Hine, Ngāti Wai) & Fox Meyer

Art by Evie Noad

In the early years of learning maths and chemistry, posters fill the classroom walls. They're plastered with motivational slogans like "Music: proof the brain enjoys counting", "Chemistry is everything", and "Maths: the secret language of the universe". There is an implicit message that the tables and figures before you are everything, everywhere. Somehow they bind the world together, and for some reason you'll be using the quadratic formula for the rest of your life.

Indigenous knowledge is sometimes framed to be at odds with these sorts of classrooms; pandered images spring to mind of noble savages charting stars without writing almanacks, managing farms without computing figures. But between indigenous knowledge and Western science is a considerable nexus: the notion that all things, everywhere, are connected.

Western science has a history of domination and exploitation, and while words like "algebra" may be direct evidence of their non-Western conception (from the Arabic "al-jabr"), Western science has a clear Western bias. But its dominance is waning. Gone are the days of unconsenting experimentation, of treating island nations like laboratories (or worse, bomb sites). Gone are the licences to pilfer native wildlife and spread disease. Barriers remain, but in recent years there has been a growing recognition of the importance of indigenous wisdom and an understanding of the fundamental similarities it has to modern science. As Dr. Nancy Longnecker of the Science Communication Department puts it: they are simply "two different ways of knowing."

Modern Western science may revolve around the tenet of interconnectedness, but Western values have historically centred on extraction and individualism, especially when it comes to the natural world. With the welcoming of indigenous knowledge, Western science may be able to benefit from the wealth of data that indigenous communities have been gathering for generations. Take Matariki, for example: the same star cluster has cemented itself as a central node of culture for dozens of indigenous communities. Over generations, they mapped and tracked the passing of the sisters, or the hens, or the maids - whatever they called them, their significance remained. The stars coincided with important agricultural dates, and served as a sort of calendar: a repeated exercise that consistently provided similar results. A lot like the scientific method.

The same is true for indigenous botany, on our shores and beyond. Plants that may have baffled a Western explorer were intimately familiar to locals, often with descriptive names that matched the personality, purpose or prestige associated with it, and accompanied by stories passed down through generations of experimentation. Someone always had to be the first person to eat a new plant, after all. That's experimentation at its finest. Through direct observation and experimentation, indigenous communities have developed a rich understanding of the local environment and are able to identify patterns and changes that may not be otherwise apparent. Sometimes, these patterns were scary or powerful, leading Western explorers to cite the presence of witchcraft rather than genuine chemistry. This would often lead to the rapid suppression of native experimentation or expression.

A particularly fascinating example comes from the shores of Haiti, with the botanical and zoological roots of zombies: native scientists, experimenting with the extraction of naturally-occuring biochemicals, deduced a recipe for a powerful neurotoxin. They mixed tetrodotoxin (from pufferfish) and other compounds into a fine powder, which could be blown in the face of a target. The victim would then fall into a deep but temporary coma, one so convincing that on at least one occasion a man was pronounced dead by Western scientists and buried. He was later dug up by the witchdoctor and put to work in the fields, kept in a stupor by a constant diet of a second experimentally-derived drug, this time from jimsonweed, a plant with sedative properties. These small armies of the "living dead" became known as zombies, and their presence was so frightening to Western scientists that we still live in fear of that name. There's a whole horror movie genre in their honour. Native experimentation has absolutely led to the scientific discovery of new technologies.

Though indigenous knowledge certainly compliments Western discovery, there are prevalent challenges to incorporating it into modern science. One of the largest obstacles is the lack of communication and collaboration between indigenous communities and scientists. Oftentimes, language differences and cultural barriers make it difficult for Western scientists to understand and fully appreciate indigenous knowledge. Similarly, a history of exploitation has led to mistrust and scepticism on the part of many native communities worldwide. This issue works hand-in-hand with the lack of recognition of mātauranga Māori (ancestral knowledge) within academic institutions which is often dismissed entirely as unscientific or even anecdotal and is not given the same validation as Western scientific knowledge.

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In 2021, seven academics at the University of Auckland penned a letter to *The Listener* in which they railed against the validation of mātauranga Māori. They claimed that it "falls far short of what can be defined as science," and while "it may help... it is not science." The Vice Chancellor of the Uni rebuked their argument, but the impact had already been made. Internationally, the letter was circulated amongst debaters on both sides of the argument. Despite claims of racism and neo-colonialism, and despite disapproval from the Royal Society of New Zealand, the authors stalwartly defended their claims.

Native knowledge and Western science are not diametrically opposed. Often, highlighting the similarities between the two can be a helpful way to bridge the cultural gap. Te Wharau Walker (Ngāti Tūrangitukua, Ngāti Hikairo, Ngāti Te Takinga), one of the science engagement coordinators at Tūhura Otago Museum, emphasises the importance of recognising the mana of ancestral knowledge and applying it within modern settings - a feat that encapsulates Te Wharau's first outreach project: Āwhinatia Te Wero.

"Āwhinatia Te Wero pairs traditional methods of science with modern technology, focusing particularly on tī kouka (cabbage tree) and harakeke (flax) as the backbone of the project," Te Wharau shares. "The project was presented as an opportunity to encourage rangatahi to pursue STEM subjects. But the way it was initially proposed was as a kaupapa Māori project, utilising pūrākau (ancient stories) and acknowledging the whakapapa of things within the taiao (environment). Essentially, further contextualising it within a Māori worldview - things that Māori kids are more likely to be familiar with."

Botany, perhaps unsurprisingly, is one of the sciences most visibly connected to indigenous wisdom. As of writing, Robin Wall Kimmerer's (Potawatomi) *Braiding Sweetgrass* is celebrating its 169th week on the New York Times bestseller list. Plants are an integral part of life for every community on the planet, and the people who know certain plants best are usually the people who have known them the longest. But generational expertise is not always reflected in professional demographics.

Less than two per cent of Aotearoa's scientific workforce consists of Māori workers. Similarly, secondary education data is showing that both rangatahi Māori and Pasifika are more likely to be "streamed out" of science education early on in their schooling, as Te Ao Māori News reported last year. But perhaps the absence of Māori within the sciences may be due to the lack of applied learning, especially coming from different cultural backgrounds that perceive the natural world in a different way to Western belief.

Te Wharau, a former "kura kid" turned "mainstream", brought firsthand knowledge of a Māori upbringing and the benefits of such, as well as the challenges of navigating the Western world to the project. "I've always had a natural curiosity for things. Had I been exposed to

experiences such as 'Tūhura Tuarangi' and 'Āwhinatia Te Wero', which would have supplemented that curiosity, I'd certainly have pursued science communication as a career. I mean, just seeing a Māori science communicator as a child would have filled all the gaps for me - I'd have known 'this is something I can do'."

And so, those missed experiences inspired the mission to bring sciences to rangatahi Māori. "A great focus of this project, for me, was to visit kura kaupapa Māori who otherwise miss out on these experiences," says Te Wharau. "Coming from a kura background and a small town, I know first-hand how science wasn't presented to us in a way we could interact with." Te Wharau maintains that the presentation of science and its content must cater to more than one viewpoint. "When kids have that sense of belonging, they are often more inclined to interact with what's around them. In this case, with kura kids, we need to be exposing them to STEM subjects - the world of kura kaupapa Māori prepares you for a different life, not necessarily for university." In places like Canada and Australia, where indigenous communities have also been subject to the dark history of colonial violence, education has even been used as a tool of oppression, an instrument in the vicious process of assimilating natives into 'civilisation'. According to researcher Lateisha Ugwuegbula, "The Western education system values only one kind of knowledge" and not only offers a curriculum that is culturally irrelevant and Euro-centric, but also a lack of support and a lack of positive representation.

Plants are an integral part of life for every community on the planet, and the people who know certain plants best are usually the people who have known them the longest. But generational expertise is not always reflected in professional demographics.



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While life on the road and juggling other projects can get hectic, Te Wharau finds balance in "taking things slowly and prioritising time at home." But home has a different feel to it this year. With the rising and passing of Matariki, and its allocated theme 'Matariki Kāinga Hokia', Matariki calls you home: people across the motu are encouraged to return to their roots and reconnect with whānau "wherever and whoever that might be." For Te Wharau, the lead-up to Matariki, while a busy one, has been momentous. Te Wharau recently returned from presenting the 'Tūhura Tuarangi - Aotearoa in Space' science exhibition, visiting cities such as Auckland and Hamilton and smaller, more remote areas such as Niue or Tūrangi - Te Wharau's hometown. "Growing up in Tūrangi, science wasn't something we engaged with, and when we did, there wasn't much to hold on to - there's an underlying importance in reaching these smaller towns, and that's to maintain a presence. For example, we left a telescope for the kids in Niue when we were there."

Matariki, in today's day and age, is representative of embracing change, remembering the past, and looking forward to the future - which is essentially what constitutes mātauranga Māori. Te Wharau says that his recent project largely discussed the innovations of tūpuna Māori, many of which are observed through their migration from warmer to cooler climates. "It is evident to us now that they were, in fact, extremely knowledgeable. They studied various types of harakeke and allocated them for several purposes: some for whāriki (woven mats), others for ropes. They were so observant that most things were pursued with intention. We trace our genealogy to the land, so it makes sense that they knew exactly what they were adapting to. They weren't just having a tutu."

Precolonial Māori society relied heavily on context and intentional action; upon reaching a certain age, children were taken by tohunga to visit different parts of the environment in order to see which they best connected with. The overarching objective of this process was adhered to through the belief that every child has an intrinsic connection to the natural world that required nurturing. Tasks included diving into bodies of icy water or gathering worms from the māra. Children who willingly jumped were called to the water, and taught the knowledge relevant to caring for aquatic ecosystems and sustainable fishing practices; others who gravitated to the earth were trained to become agriculturalists and cultivators, managing seasonal crops and memorising complex calendars. This process, often referred to as 'taupuhi', was instrumental in ensuring that children's natural gifts were recognised and that they were guaranteed a place within their communities. Today, however, Māori drop-out rates are soaring. After all, how is taupuhi meant to fit the mould of an NCEA-achiever?

In postcolonial New Zealand, where much ancestral knowledge has been lost (if not outlawed altogether), the first goal of acknowledging mātauranga Māori is to preserve it. The second would be to normalise it - bring it to the same level of recognition as any other science.

However, this has been severely contested by some academics in recent years, like the *Listener* Seven. But even this goal preserves a duality: elevating mātauranga Māori to the level of Western science still implies that the two are opposing systems, not capable of mixing together. To achieve full symbiosis, the tenets of interconnectedness in modern science and mātauranga Māori must be recognised as one and the same. And this starts with bringing up more Māori scientists into a world where they can really see themselves belonging.

For many Māori, this is crucial. According to Te Wharau, the content of Āwhinatia Te Wero builds upon young Māori kids' preexisting understanding of the world, introducing them to science on a level they can understand. "Instead of a typical science outreach programme, with a white man in a lab coat presenting an unfamiliar topic to unsuspecting kids, we're meeting them halfway," he says. This method of applicable learning is especially relevant, as it touches upon a traditional way of assigning roles to young Māori, and meeting them where their strengths lie. Te Wharau says that "the idea of university qualifications is starting to change, especially after Covid," citing the success of figures like Sonny Ngatai and Te Aorere Pēwhairangi, who weren't equipped with a tertiary qualification but were backed by a wealth of ancestral knowledge. "You don't necessarily need [university] if you know who you are - many people pursue higher education for validation or to impress others. But organisations aren't only looking for qualifications, they're looking for real people and real experiences."

But the synthesis of science and indigenous knowledge is not a gentle collision. While mātauranga Māori has been disregarded by academics over recent years, Te Wharau shared his own wavering concerns within his role. "[Collaborators for the project] probably thought, 'Uh oh, that sounds like a Te Arawa name!'" But despite such worries, collaborators fervently agreed to join the development of Āwhinatia Te Wero. "We met collaborators, not to discuss our project, but to absorb their expertise. Carl Russell, a mahinga kai specialist, taught us how to harvest the different food sources of this region, things like extracting the sugars and starch from plants and how to work an umu tī." The bridges are being built.

"We're already seeing new changes with the upcoming curriculum - but already, we're seeing backlash to it," says Te Wharau. "Arguments such as 'mātauranga Māori isn't science' come from a place of misunderstanding - they are two different philosophies, two different worlds, and are therefore incomparable." And parts of this feel undeniably true, with one championing the process of collecting, naming, sorting and filing, and the other centred on holisticism and stewardship. But they are undeniably similar in their most basic assumption that the natural world is interconnected, and that through observation and experimentation, we can achieve our most admirable goal: to live in harmony within it.



FUNCTIONAL IS THERE A SOLUTION FOR DUNEDIN'S HOMELESS? Note: The control of the control of

Homelessness in Dunedin has once again reared its ugly head, finding a footing as many are pressed into uncomfortable situations by the climbing cost of living. It's not only a local issue - the housing crisis has been steadily increasing nationwide, with the Human Rights Commission estimating last year that around 100,000 Kiwis were facing homelessness. A scary prospect for Dunedinites on the precipice of housing insecurity.

ARONUI—FEATURES—16 ARONUI—FEATURES—16

This isn't a new problem. A lack of properties available for rent in 2017 saw the Government step in with a social housing boost, funding 22 additional emergency housing locations in the city over a period of three years. Then increasing rent prices coupled with decreasing property standards (picture your typical breatha flat on Castle) led to the Healthy Homes Standards becoming law in 2019. The standards aimed to "improve the quality of rental properties," as ex-mayor Aaron Hawkins told Critic Te Ārohi. Hawkins did, however, suggest that the standards were fundamentally flawed in the way they left it up to the tenant to enforce which "hasn't worked", though they did alleviate some of the housing qualms which arose out of the 2016/17 crisis.

Sandy Gorman, the clinical nurse leader of the Servants Health Care Centre (a service offering free healthcare for those struggling), told Critic that those standards may have paradoxically made the problem worse in the long-run. Landlords have been seen to use home improvements in line with government housing standards as an excuse to "price many low-income people out of a place to live." To this end, she suggested that some of her patients' rental pricings had increased by 20-30% over the course of only a few short years. In the meantime, "there has not been a benefit increase to match this," meaning that "choices about eating or heating have to be made." Attesting to this, Gorman noted that "it is not uncommon for our patients to arrive at appointments having not eaten that day because they have no food or haven't eaten for a couple of days."

According to Dunedin Night Shelter manager David McKenzie, an organisation that provides emergency shelter for those in need, since Dunedin's "[homeless] numbers don't feature well with the likes of Auckland and Rotorua... we have repeatedly missed out on government funding." Not only has the DCC continually failed to gain an emergency housing grant from the government while cities such as Christchurch have, government funding initiatives that directly target homelessness have also often overlooked Dunedin. "[The city is] suffering from a historic lack of social housing over the past 30 years," said McKenzie, forcing local institutions to "make do and cover up."

McKenzie and Gorman seem to reveal a harsh truth. Decisions made on a national scale have had detrimental impacts to a Dunedin social housing market, floundering under the weight of increased rent prices and a lack of developmental opportunities for emergency and social housing within the city. Without the necessary government intervention, the DCC has needed to get creative in its approach, collaborating with smaller action-based community groups like the Dunedin Night Shelter.

The Dunedin Night Shelter, the DCC, and other institutions have been working together to reach 'functional zero' homelessness in Dunedin. It's something McKenzie is "really excited about." 'Functional zero' homelessness is when more individuals are leaving homelessness than there are individuals becoming homeless. To do this, the DCC said that they were focusing on "look[ing] after our most vulnerable" by creating "a joined-up approach that reduces homelessness in our city". Still, the DCC admitted that the new approach was in its "early days," saying that there would be "more information to share when we present our update later this year."

Commenting on the DCC's actions prior to this, Hawkins said it came down to "working with Kainga Ora, private developers and community housing providers to increase the social housing stock." Kainga Ora recently bought 27 homes within Dunedin to be converted into public housing whilst simultaneously consolidating plans to further benefit communities within the city. And the recent announcement of thirty low-income apartments in the massive Lund building on the waterfront marks a significant investment in the housing crisis which has steadily heightened both locally and nationwide.

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Hawkins himself is heavily involved in the housing issue as chairperson of the Cosy Homes Trust, an Otago initiative founded in 2013 which seeks to "transform lives through healthier housing." Working with other community groups, the Cosy Homes Trust manages to provide 10-20% insulation and heating subsidies, all the while engaging in education and the development of community groups which target the same goal. Musing on the work of the trust, Hawkins stated that the group's effectiveness was based on being "better connected" and thus "offer[ing] a more effective, citywide response."

The ring of support for homelessness in Dunedin extends beyond dealing directly with housing, as well. Involved in this multi-faceted approach to the issue are groups such as the Presbyterian Support Otago Family Works programme, which aids in financial management. The Salvation Army also works quietly for the benefit of the city, providing food and clothing to the residents most affected by the harsh bite of cozzie livs.

So, despite the lack of substantial government support, local initiatives are finding a way to make a difference with the little resources they have. By pooling together both resources and ideas, the aim of 'functional zero' homelessness lies well within the city's reach. Going but not gone... the plans for the future of housing in Dunedin optimistically suggest that a solution to the city's homelessness crisis is near.

When all of these groups are accounted for, it becomes apparent that the Dunedin Night Shelter are not alone in their pledge to reach 'functional zero' homelessness within the city. Herein lies a solution. When working in unison, these groups wield an immensity of power which is able to be channelled into the eradication of homelessness within the city. But, as McKenzie summed in his talk of a solution, "It takes a bit more collaboration to get where we need to be."

Though hope exists, the obstacles that will need to be surmounted are no joke. While each group works collectively, the DCC remains the lynchpin of success, meaning much weight still lies in the city's current Housing Plan and the updates which are scheduled to arrive in September. Additionally, the issues of climate change and the current recession only serve to stretch the applicability of this potential solution. But hope remains. As McKenzie emphatically assured: "We are having an impact."





SOMETHING TO LISTEN TO

The podcast 'Sounds Like A Cult'

Let's admit it, we're all part of some kind of cult, whether it's law school, Selwyn College, or being a breatha. The podcast 'Sounds Like A Cult' delves into the everyday activities or groups we're all familiar with and asks the question. Is this a cult? Or, is it something totally normal and not weird? It also helps shed a light on the contours of a cult, and makes you realise that maybe you are part of one. The episodes look into the cults of the Kardashians, astrology, academia, and veganism, so there's something for everyone.



Somewhere dark to look for Southern Lights

We sometimes forget that Ōtepoti is one of the best places in the world to see Aurora Australis without leaving the city. Also called tahu-nui-ā-rangi in te reo, the Southern Lights are not usually quite as spectacular as their northern counterparts (Aurora Borealis) but are still well worth a search. They are pretty unpredictable, so your best bet is to have an alert set up on your phone or email or to check the forecasts regularly. Even if there is a good geomagnetic storm, with a kp level above 5 or 6, you still have to pray for a clear sky and not too much moonlight. If all that lines up though, and you're on a dark, south-facing beach (Tunnel Beach, Second Beach, Hooper's Inlet, etc) then you're in for a real treat. If you do go out looking and aren't lucky enough to see tahu-nui-ā-rangi, you'll still see our awesome night sky. Try to find Matariki while you're at it.



Day After Tomorrow & Happy Feet Combo

An icy double-header of forgotten classics. *Happy Feet* is one of the better movies from 2006 that you haven't watched in ages, directed by George Miller between his *Mad Max* movies (meaning, canonically, Mumble and Furiosa are on the same timeline). Both movies have strong environmental themes and genuinely incredible animation of the natural world. Speaking of climate: *Day After Tomorrow* is excellent, even if it has Jake Gyllenhal in it. It also has discount Harrison Ford (Dennis Quaid). It's from 2004, and is very depressingly filled with a bunch of climate denialism that was meant to be written as "oh-so-bad" but is eerily similar to what's being said on the television at this very moment. It's kinda sad. Both of them are, actually, but they're a great back-to-back. Chuck in *Snowpiercer* if you want to complete the icy trifecta.



Your creative friend's Instagram or Etsy shop

You've been politely liking their Instagram posts showing off homemade earrings or crochet gloves for long enough, why not actually buy one? Maybe for yourself or another friend, or maybe your mum would like it for her birthday – it's certainly cooler and more sustainable than something from the Warehouse. If you're mates, they're normally willing to make something custom to your liking, but don't try and skimp on paying – there's nothing wrong with mate's rates at their discretion but show your support by paying what they believe their art is worth.



The instruction manual for your appliances

They're probably lying in a drawer somewhere, or maybe you or your landlord threw them out already. Fear not, usually you can Google your model and find a pdf online. When something eventually goes wrong later in the year, especially as we come into winter and you rely on your dryer more and more, you'll be able to flex on your flatmates and be the hero who fixes it. Plus, if you read that manual you'll usually find a feature you didn't even know about. The rest of your year is going to go a whole lot better if you figure out now how to actually use the microwave timer (there's a silent mode??) and realise you're putting your laundry detergent in the wrong place.

SOMETHING TO CANCEL -

Paying for streaming

Pirating is bad because people should get paid for their work right? What if the only people getting paid aren't the people putting in the work either way? With all of the info coming out recently revealing that even big-name shows on streaming platforms earn their stars literal cents in residuals, there is no longer any moral argument to pay for streaming services over pirating. It's no wonder both writers and actors are striking in Hollywood, but what about in little old Aotearoa? Well, it's actually illegal for local actors to strike, because of a Peter Jackon tantrum, controversial "hobbit laws", and subsequently inadequate new laws in 2022. So, go watch your favourite movies in cinemas, watch TVNZ on demand, support the actors and writers in strike in the US, our local actors and writers, but fuck feeling bad for multimillion dollar studios and streaming companies for not giving them your money.







"Quite like Barbara but don't fuck with cops, I'm coming to Shorty in a crop top," Paradox Princess spits on her track 'Utopia For Sale.' Critic Te Ārohi caught up with Paradox Princess to talk about her upcoming album 'Creating A Time Paradox.'

Natasha Munro Hurn has been active in the music scene since she was in high school, as a guitarist and vocalist in a punk band. Natasha's current creative project as Paradox Princess continues her initial beginnings in DIY punk but also pushes into the experimental in its blend with hyperpop and hiphop. "It's always been hip-hop and electronic music. I was raised on that as much as punk."

Like punk, things intrinsic to hiphop such as creating big noise out of little resources appealed to Natasha. "No one's gonna tell me off if I decide to cut up a Sailor Moon dub and try to make a beat out of it. It was that freedom, that was the first thing that drew me in." Inspired by artists like Danny Brown and JPEGMAFIA, Natasha wanted to put her own experience into it. "I really wanted to hear, like, a queer version of that, one that talks about, you know, transness and giving middle fingers to TERFs."

"I would say it's a mixture of hyperpop, experimentation, hip hop and punk, all mixed together in hopes of some kind of messy version of queer joy," Natasha says of her upcoming album. It also confronts local homophobia and transphobia. In the process, she also gets "to make silly, stupid, noisy music that scratches an itch in hopefully other peoples' brains." Creating the project *Paradox* Princess occurred at the time when Natasha came out as a non-binary trans-woman. Her songwriting has added to her affirming her trans identity. "It helped me, when you're dysphoric and stuff, to write, you know? Like 'I'm a baddie.' Or express the beauty in myself. It really builds myself up." The expression of queer joy in this album is an extension of Natasha's acceptance of her queerness and in putting it out in the

world, she's hoping to uplift other trans people. "I've had a long road to get to this point. I'm finally very comfortable with my transness."

Listening to 'Creating A Time Paradox,' you can expect to hear pop culture references in transitions between tracks that rely on samples from blockbuster films to video game sounds. Natasha's beat-making setup is completely digital and tracks often begin as her emulating the style of an artist that inspires her. "Usually what happens is I'll have one core idea. As soon as I keep going, it's transformed into something completely different."

In Paradox Princess, there's also the meeting of gritty distortion and biting lyricism (check lyric: 'middle finger to the Hiluxes') with visual and sonic references to the peak aesthetics of cute core. These reflect Natasha's interests as well as aesthetics of her background in photography. She studied a Bachelor of Visual Arts that she finished in 2021. "I am, like, obsessed with - at least in my photograph work - oversaturation... It's always good to have some sort of lightness or saturation. I love very colourful things. I think it does come from a love for anime with how bold and exciting it can all look."

'Creating A Time Paradox' releases this Friday 28 July and will be available on streaming sites. You can keep up with Paradox Princess on socials (@paradoxprincessxox).

presents



OTAGOMUSEUM.NZ/AFTERDARK



It's still cold again. You know where it's still NOT cold? Mexico. Let's pretend we're there again. But this time we have a sensitive tummy. Sand between toes, Trump caps everywhere. The sound of breaking waves but no rumbly, gassy tummy. Just hunger. Perfect. That's the FOD-friendly stuff. Serve with a chilli marg.

Karen, they're

Canned corn, charred

Feta or cheese on

ribboned)

without oil

NGREDIENTS:

Two large chicken breasts

Garlic infused cold pressed olive oil

Paprika

Mixed herbs

Chilli flakes

Cumin

Any spices in your pantry except cinnamon lol

½-1 cup cooked rice per person

1 orange kumara, roasted in bite sized pieces

Edamame beans (cheap!)

Two carrots (ves

friendly Mexi bowls. Some people have sensitivities to certain foods which requires them to go on a FOD-friendly diet.

This is it boys and girls. FOD-friendly Mexican doesn't have to be bland and boring.

To prepare the chicken, cut it into small chunks and rub with spices. Then cook it on medium heat in cold-pressed olive oil. Garlic infused is boujee but low fodmap diets avoid garlic so this is a way to slip it in there. Once cooked, set aside.

Add cooked rice into a bowl. Top with chicken, roasted kumara, carrot, edamame beans, charred corn and add cheese on top. For the edamame: place in warm water until soft. Strain and serve. Tuck in FODDYS.



Last week we did Mexi bowls. This week we are doing FOD-



BY ALBERT EINSTEINLAGER

Goddamn, I hate gin. Dee, you bitch.

Gin is medicine; it's true. I was prescribed it, along with heroin, by my 19th century doctor. He says, "It takes the edge off of Mondays." I miss the days when you could be prescribed alcohol by a doctor. You know you're a special case when your doctor says, "Jesus, this guy needs a drink." And that's all gin is, after all: a cure-all. It's made from botanicals, which makes it (under legal definition) a vegetable.

There is an incredible lightness to drinking gin, followed by bouts of romanticised melancholy, like listening to Cocteau Twins. Getting trashed off gin & tonics is my family's idea of upholding tradition, but after drinking seven G&T's it's difficult to understand what they're saving through their Scottish twang (also like listening to Cocteau Twins).

Second year is all about overcoming the boredom of your newfound freedom. Terrific, I'm finally left to my own devices and I'm utterly lost. The flatmates and I may as well entertain one another by using our bodies as testing grounds for the frontiers of alcohol consumption. Of the hundred-odd funnels I've guzzled, only one stands out as exceedingly foul: a two-metre-long brown slurry of Do-Bros, Billy Mavs and KGBs, all topped off with a double shot of Larios Gin. This particular mix was not all that frightening as we had been refining the recipe for a while, albeit without the addition of gin.

The gin cut straight through the entirety of the mix. It had cannibalised its alcoholic peers

and used their volume to lubricate its worst attributes right down my throat. Eyes bulging, stomach turning, and tongue contemplating suicide, it appears I had been poisoned by my constituents. I stomached it all, and then immediately busted right out of my face. The flatmates had their turn straight away.

Gordon's is like Speight's: good for the uninitiated. It's a classic, but it isn't top-of-theline. That being said, it's hard to turn down as it isn't an awful gin, and it even comes in premixed 7% cans every now and then. Can't hate it, gotta respect it - overall a solid standard. If it's worse than Gordon's, it's probably shit, and if it's better, it's probably nice. Sometimes a classic is best.

Sometimes a classic is best. Also sometimes you can be drinking Seager's. Seager's isn't particularly notable in any way shape or form, other than being consistently the cheapest way to imbibe a g&t. And if thrift is what you're after, Seager's is the way to go. But it's not good. It's still gin, but like, ginferior. It's a literal bottom shelf gin with no redeeming qualities.

Hendrick's

Thear it tastes like cucumbers? I dunno, it's expensive. Got it once at a cocktail bar before feeling scared away by the alty crowd.

Yes. Also comes with fancy bottles.

Emerson's Hazed and Ginfused

The best Emersons beer left to steep in the juices of a gin barrel? Sign me up. Tasted like a beer brewed in a botanical garden, with great sweetness and perfume. A siren song of drunkenness that draws you in despite the impending hangover. Mixing drinks is never a good idea, but how can I avoid it when my drink is literally brewed into my other drink? That's more drink per drink. Though, the hangover that arose from close to ten pints of this stuff felt like a traumatic experience. I'm not fully recovered. Thank god it was a limited release.

Tanqueray London Dry

This is the best gin you can get for its price point. It's tending toward the expensive side, but is ultimately the best gin for converting gin sceptics. Even if you can't convince your friends you now have a bottle of the best to yourself. It's usually your parents that have the bottle, and you ask if you can take some to a party. They give you a half full bottle of Tanqueray, "Is this going to be enough? Don't drink it all." I'm sure it's enough, and yes I will.

Tasting notes: One step away from the worst hay fever of your life.

Chugability: 1/10. There is no worse spirit to take

Hangover depression level: 5/10. The tonic

Overall: 10/10. If you ain't drink gin, I don't trust

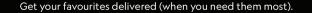
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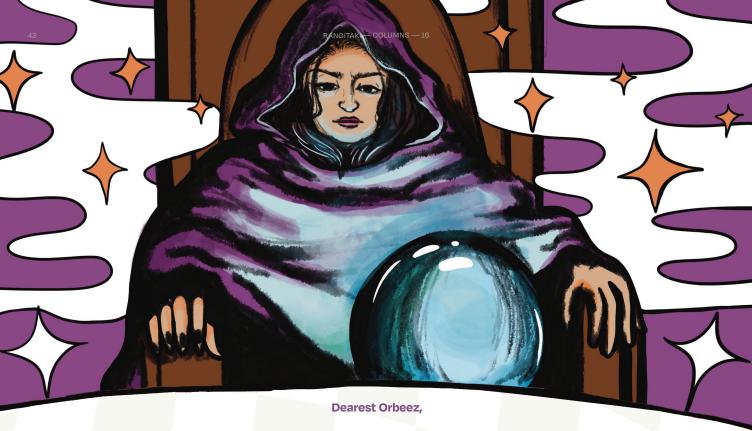
deliver**easy**

"Put through cat flap please.
Too hungover to get up just yet."

Google play Download on the App Store







I have recently encountered the worst struggle: love. To make matters worse, they are my best friend. I have contemplated whether I do love them, as half the time they piss me off. But despite my own daddy issues, as a STEM girl I have concluded I am in fact in love with them. I have spent enough drunk nights crying about my feelings that I have decided I need to seek your professional help. Should I tell them this discovery? Should I go to town and hook up with some random people to make them jealous? Should I jump ahead and expect rejection and end our friendship?

> Birth Date: 29/08/03, 8am Location: Somewhere undisclosed in the UK.

SUN: VIRGO

Sun determines your ego and identity.

Having a Virgo sun means you are hard working, analytical, intelligent and love to chat up a storm with those you feel comfortable around. At times you can be critical and judgemental.

MOON: VIRGO

Moon determines your inner emotions and subconscious.

Having a Virgo moon means you are humble, calm, and have emotional discipline. You don't tend to be irrational, but you can overthink. You most likely study science, rather than something artsy.

RISING: VIRGO

Your rising sign is your outward persona and how you express yourself to the world.

You are who you are. This is because the rest of your chart is in the same sign. Chances are, you aren't trying to put on a facade, or act differently around certain people. You have a desire to help others. and may worry about money.

I thought I was an experienced prophet until I encountered this conundrum. First of all, the fact you're a triple Virgo is both impressive and terrifying. A blessing and a curse. It's no surprise you've spent an obscene amount of time analyzing this situation and grappling with your feelings, considering your whole chart is just being really fucking analytical. The emotional discipline of your moon is probably what has led you to suppress such emotions out of fear of rejection, resulting in tearful drunken nights. I decided to go the extra mile and look at your Venus sign, since that's the planet of love and relationships. Turns out that's in fucking Virgo as well. Your ultra-Virgo chart is leading you down a path of endless analysis, and you need to pull yourself out of it before you drive yourself insane. Deep down, you know it's time to confess your love, and no amount of endless analytical exercise will change that. Either the romance is reciprocated, or it goes poorly and at least you have an answer. With closure you can move on to someone else, being free from the shackles of unspoken desire and lust. Remember: love is fleeting. As intense as they may seem, passions come and go. The only constant in this life is change.

> Best wishes for you and your bestie, XOXO, Orbtago

Want answers to the burning questions and troubles in your life? Send your query, birth date, time, and location of birth to orb@critic.co.nz The Orb takes no responsibility for the consequences of your actions based on its advice. The Orb cannot be legally held accountable for any damage to property, people or thing including but not

HOROSCOPES

AQUARIUS Jan 20 - Feb 18



As the semester kicks off, it appears there is some romance waiting in the wings for you. Don't let your commitment issues or dark humour scare this potential lover off; try and be remotely normal for once.

Self care Sunday moment: Rotting with a hangover.

Apr 20 - May 20

PISCES Feb 19 - Mar 20



Other people's emotions are not your problem. While you resemble an anxious sea sponge, you need to stop sucking up the feelings and burdens of others. Normalise not being an empath this week.

Self care Sunday moment: Eve mask and journaling.

May 21 - Jun 20

ARIES Mar 21 - Apr 19



You seem distracted. Have you been indulging in a toxic hyperfixation? Are you stalking an ex you shouldn't be? Whatever it is, you need to ground yourself. Delulu isn't cute.

Self care Sunday moment: Walking in the Botans.



Taurus, it's time for you to enter your mysterious era. Sit outside Dispensary and act cool. Tell people you're a Russian spy. Read Crime and Punishment, People will never realise how boring you truly are. Optics, baby.

Self care Sunday moment: Watching Oppenheimer.



6-inch Italian herbs and cheese, buffalo chicken, capsicum, pickles, jalanenos, lettuce, tomato, cucumber, honey mustard dressing. Thank me later.

Self care Sunday moment: UberEats the above, or find another kind of 6-inch Italian.

CANCER



Exciting opportunities are on the horizon, Cancer. Try not to get too worried or nervous as this won't hurry things along. Patience is a virtue, my dearest

Self care Sunday moment: A solid root.

crustaceans.

Jul 23 - Aug 22



It's almost your season, baby! Start your birthday month prep now. Get your nails done, buy a new fit, splurge on a good bottle of tequila. It's all about YOU and your atrocious decision making!

Self care Sunday moment: Green tea and a cigarette.

URGO Aug 23 - Sep 22



All you want right now is Mexican food. Take an afternoon TikTok break and snack on some chips and salsa. Perhaps paired well with a citrusflavoured vape? Or not. Live it up.

Self care Sunday moment: Binge watching The Last of Us.

LIBRA Sep 23 - Oct 22



Libra, it's time to restore balance and peace back into your life. Chances are you feel out of routine and out of energy. Try getting out of your funk this week, life's too short to be out of whack.

Self care Sunday moment: Mocktail and steak for dinner.

SCORPIO oct 23 - Nov 21



Scorpios make fantastic cult leaders. You get off on insecurity and manipulation, Do what you will with that information.

Self care Sunday moment: Making cheese rolls.

SAGITTARIUS Nov 22



Normalise reality. Normalise not exaggerating. Normalise not telling elaborate stories. Normalise being normal, Please.

Self care Sunday moment: Seeking

CAPRICORN Dec 22 - Jan 19



Maybe you don't give enough head, and that's why you have an incessant urge to look down on people. Stay cute, ig.

Self care Sunday moment: Getting a tarot card reading.

nited to arson, adultery, betrayal or defamation which may occur as a result of our advic



ADULTTOYMEGASTORE

Get your story featured and win a sex toy with thanks to ATMS

Drives and Dumb Decisions

The story about the most embarrassing sex of my life starts back when I was a first-year. I was working a part time job and, like all naive first-years, I hadn't learnt to not get involved with coworkers. The guy in question, we'll call him Sam, was a couple years older than me but didn't go to Uni. He'd also had his flatting situation go to shit and was boarding with to either of us that this was a bad idea. a family. One of their rules was that he was not allowed girls over. I also was unable to bring this man home with me so when we started hanging out our only option seemed to be sitting in a car at John Wilson Drive.

We'd hung out twice before the night in question and hadn't gone further than a little bit of hand action. On this one particular Saturday night we were in our usual spot. It was late and things were starting to get hot and heavy. Being the horny 18 year old that I was, I decided that tonight was the night we were going to have sex and he agreed pretty quickly. This is where we ran into problem number one: no condoms. This was solved by quickly driving to the Night 'n' Day, five minutes before they closed. Problem number two of the night was that he was

broke and just kind of a selfish dude so he refused to come in with me to the store. So off I went to purchase a \$25 pack of condoms, five minutes before the store closed.

Condoms acquired, we headed back to John Wilson and at no point did it occur Once we got there we hopped in the back seat and started doing our thing. The sex was pretty mediocre but I kinda expected that with it being my first experience with car sex. Things start to get a lot worse when he grabs me and tells me to stop because "a car's just pulled up next to us." At this point I should mention that his car had recently broken down so we were in my car. My car isn't a one-of-a-kind or anything but it is very recognizable to pretty much anyone I've ever met. So it's at this point that I hear a voice from the car start yelling out. Yelling out MY name.

In this moment of panic I decide for some reason to jump off this man's dick and wedge myself in between the front and back seat. But of course this movement makes me a lot more visible to the people in the car and they all let out a scream

and start laughing before quickly driving away. Which is when I learned that they hadn't realized until that moment what they had actually pulled up next to and if I'd just stayed still I could've gotten away with it. After sending some angry texts to the voice from the car that I'd recognized I managed to work out one other person who had been in the car. But to this day I still don't know who the others were, or how much of my naked lower half they

After the incident, my pride cannot stand to be around this man for a minute more so I decide the night is over and I'm going to drop Sam home. Sam is also not nearly as bothered by this situation as he should've been and he decides to stay sitting in the back like I'm his Uber driver. He also decides to start playing and singing "I just had sex" which would already have been bad enough without him rolling down the window, sticking his head out and singing it to the entirety of South Dunedin. And that was that - it's never really been brought up since, maybe out of respect, but also maybe out of fear that I'll go ballistic if someone mentions it.



Have something juicy to tell us? Send your salacious stories to moaningful@critic.co.nz. Submissions remain anonymous.





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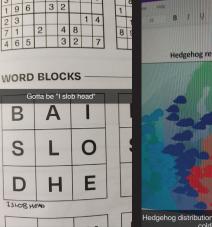


















WEDNESDAY 26 JULY Breaking Sounds feat. The Mentalist Collective, Keira Wallace, The Trevs and Caribou

DIVE 7PM

Tickets from tixr.com

THURSDAY 27 JULY **Julian Temple**

OMBRELLO'S KITCHEN & BAR

Tickets from tickettailor.com

FRIDAY 28 JULY

Ringlets NZ Tour w/ Dale Kerrigan

8PM

Tickets from ticketfairy.com

JULYBALL #4 feat. [Allophones], The Beatniks, and Mosaic Sky

THE DISH CAFE & BAR 6PM

Tickets from undertheradar.co.nz

FIFA Fan Festival #4 w/ Ladyhawke + Mads Harrop

DUNEDIN TOWN HALL 6PM – 8:10PM/ FREE ENTRY Jenny Mitchell And The Mitchell Twins
- The Bush And The Birds Tour

OROKONUI ECOSANCTUARY 7:30PM / ALL AGES

SATURDAY 29 HILY

FIFA Fan Festival #5 w/ Ladi6, Georgia Lines, Paige and Emily Alice

THE CROWN HOTEL
3:30PM – 7PM / FREE ENTRY

Shaky Hollows w/ Jo Little MOONS

8PM / \$20

The Audio Visual Drop Kicks, Hystera, and Tough Guy THE CROWN HOTEL

8PM/\$10

CROSSOVER 02 feat. BAKER BOY, BARNABY BIRD, MAMMOTH, MODERN RECIPES, REFLECT REACTION + JOUSEY, SYSTEM, and TRIDENT

U BAR 9PM

Tickets from humanitix.com

SUNDAY 30 JULY

Big Jazz Apple INCH BAR 4PM FIFA Fan Festival #6 w/ The Topp Twins, The Mitchell Twins + Melissa Partridge

DUNEDIN TOWN HALL 2PM – 4PM / FREE ENTRY For more gigs happening around Dunedin, check out r1.co.nz/gig-guide



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At Silver Fern Farms we're all about Creating Goodness from the Farms the World Needs and our Livestock Reps are a crucial part of making this a reality. They build and maintain relationships every day and help to ensure continued care and respect of land for generations to come. Our Reps partner with our farmers within the local community to ensure that excellent products are being produced and quality stock is being bought, so that customers all over the globe can experience the goodness we create.

The Livestock Talent Programme is an opportunity for you to kick start your career as a Livestock Rep. Building your skillset on the job, you'll just need a bit of background in farming or agriculture, and a natural curiosity and can-do attitude – we'll teach you the rest.



Come create goodness with us.

Learn more at careers.silverfernfarms.com/future-talent

Applications are open until 6 August 2023.









