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EDITORIAL:

The new logo

University
of Otago

DOESN'T look like bananas

The Uni launched its new brand last week. Predictably, with the news came a parade of trolls snarling and gnashing their teeth at the “woke” and “tokenistic” new *tohu* (symbol) and *ikoa* Māori (name). The usual protocol would be to sit back and let them tire themselves out before moving onto the next thing to be angry about, but this one seemed worth an editorial.

It's time we stopped calling the new Uni *tohu* a banana. Look, I get it. I had the same thought at first when I saw the proposed logo last year. Critic's designer Evie tells me that this sort of thing can happen pretty easily with design. During her degree, there were plenty of accidental vaginal or swastika-adjacent logos pitched by classmates. In this case, the yellow colouring of the logo also doesn't help matters.

Now I like bananas just as much as the next guy. I have one in a smoothie every morning. I'm even wearing banana socks right now (stolen from an ex, chur). Heck, I apparently like them so much that between the cover and centrefold last week there was somehow a banana theme. But the banana joke is dead, fellas. It's not only flogging a dead horse at this stage – it's pissing on its grave.

The jokes and the online vitriol are completely overlooking what the rebrand means. The name Ōtākou Whakaihu Waka is a metaphor for a place of many firsts. For legacy Castle St breathas, the significance of this might not go deeper than uni being the first time living away from home, making a spaghetti bolognese from scratch, or using the Harvard citation method.

But as Te Rōpū Māori Tumuaki Gemella explained in her speech at the ceremony, for many *tauirā* Māori, attending Ōtākou Whakaihu Waka is a first. For the Uni to rebrand in such close collaboration with

mana whenua to create such a personal *ikoa* Māori and *tohu* to our university, it goes far deeper than being a “tokenistic” gesture, as Facebook's comment section barnacles suggest.

No one who was at the brand launch who listened to the beautiful speeches and *waiata* last Wednesday would say what the trolls are. And that's exactly it – they weren't there. They are bashing something that they have next to no context of. They probably read a headline with a big scary price tag (to be fair, it is rather large) and headed straight to the comment section to battle it out with playground insults and a frightening number of ellipses (seriously, why so ominous?)

As for the price tag, it really was rather unfortunate that the news of the Uni's mismanaged funds and budget hole coincided with the launch of the Tuakiritaka project consultation. However, there's a big difference between investing in the University's future as an inclusive space that reflects the diversity and heritage of our campus, and the short-sighted and successive rounds of cuts to staffing, courses, and academic resources. Just because both come with a price tag, don't make the error of mistaking the two.

So, to the people who keep sending Snaps to Critic of bananas forming a circle, and commenting on articles about the rebrand with that same drawing that looks like it was pinched from a minion's craft table – maybe read about what you're making fun of before you turn into a Dunedin News boomer.

NINA BROWN



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LETTERS



LETTER OF THE WEEK

Kia Ora,

I am emailing to express my concern over your recent article about Hyde Street.

While the event went smoothly from many perspectives I do not think there was a fair representation of all the volunteer work and care that went into making sure it went smoothly as you mentioned. You mentioned the Red Frogs and the Dumpling Lady but didn't mention the other services that were in place to make sure people were safe. OUSAs Are You OK? team were there the whole day and saw a lot of people through the worst part of theirs. It looks like hard work holding all those people while they are vomiting, being yelled at by patrons for problems out of their control and problem-solving on the spot. Respect for those students! Also, the other first responders made sure things went smoothly. I believe that these services along with the others you had mentioned and the student body made the event what it was.

- A concerned student

Editor's response: *You're right, they did an amazing job! Mad props.*

Send letters to the editor to critic@critic.co.nz to be in to win a \$25 UBS voucher.

Hi there,

You have ruined what could have been a spectacular dinner stunner. This morning, while sitting in the law library, peacefully trying to solve the crossword with friends, we came across an issue. While you have de-press-ed the highlighted clues, I believe that the creator has forgotten to highlight 19A. Also, the spelling of 40A has made me exclaim "oh naur" at your horrendous misspelling of a classic jab at our neighbours across the ditch.

Have a terrible day,

Emily

(a disappointed third year in support of Queen George)

Editor's response: *I'm going to pretend it's intentional at this stage.*

Dearest Critic,

I gotta get something off my chest: last week while passing through one of those horrendous midday crowds in the Link, I overheard a heartbreaking snatch of convo. I'm not generally an eavesdropper, but this snatch jumped out and pierced me like a bullet to the heart: "Mature students – like people who start uni in their early – or even mid – twenties."

This bright-eyed spring chicken was speaking slightly hushed tone, as if they couldn't fathom reaching such an advanced age. Now I know that five years is an eternity when you're at the tender age of <20, the vast majority of people start uni straight after school or possibly after a gap year, and its understandable to look askance at that random in your class who has crow's feet, or a receding hairline.

But I beg you to spare a thought for those of us who pull our brains out of mothballs, abandon our lives as proper adults, and wade back into education long after God intended. It's not easy understanding a few too many of your lecturer's stale pop culture references, or to be taught to suck eggs by lab dems and tutors several years your junior. We ancients leave our pride at the door when we venture into these hallowed halls (I confess: I googled the phrase 'no cap' a few months ago), and it makes the universally felt craziness and imposter syndrome of uni that little bit harder when the people sitting in your lecture hall look to you like they need parental supervision, but are outstripping you in every metric. So please try to hide your shock if you learn that someone in your group project was alive when 9/11 happened, for example, and try to keep an open mind that they may have a few good years left. Don't forget: Quod fuimus, estis; quod sumus, vos eritis (though hopefully for you not still a fresher).

Sincerely,

A first year whose birth year starts with '19'.

Kia ora,

I am infatuated by the dancing man, I think his name is William. How does he just pop up where everyone is, like does he have a heat map. Why does he just dance. I first saw him outside the pint night line (the night when it was extremely long) and I swear he just danced for hours. I also saw him walk up to a group of lecturers and just dance while they were talking then walk off, the lecturers didn't even flinch. I am asking if you could please investigate this man, I desperately need to know his entire life story.

Thanks,

;))

Kia ora Critic,

In your issue released on April 22, the topic of your debate column was whether climate change should be an individual responsibility. I'm all for debate (law student) but I don't think that anyone can reasonably argue in favour of that topic.

Most readers will know what a 'carbon footprint' refers to. I'm sure less are aware that the idea was popularised by BP as part of a campaign to push climate change responsibility from the corporations to the individuals. Just 100 companies have been responsible for 71% of global greenhouse gas emissions since 1998. If the entire population of Dunedin stopped producing carbon dioxide, our national emissions would go from 76.8 million tonnes down to 76.7 million tonnes.

Additional fun fact: NZ's Emissions Trading Scheme allows for 100% greenhouse gas emissions offsetting through forestry. That means you can put as much poison into the atmosphere as you like as long as you plant enough pine trees (not beautiful native trees, but nasty pine trees) to 'offset' it. No other country allows this (except Kazakhstan but they're very strict about it) and nobody likes it aside from the big corporations like Fonterra who buy up land and fill it with yucky pine trees to offset their outrageous emissions.

Don't even get me started on biogenic methane.

~Jonathan Rosenbloom's Number 1 Disciple

Dear Critic,

Your recent article about late exams in the "Theology department" has sadly highlighted how misinformed the general student body is - including news editors, whose job it is to research! The late exams - there are actually five of them, not three - are not within the Theology department at all. They are Religious Studies papers.

Theology and Religious Studies are not at all the same subject, and as a RELS minor I am getting sick

of the mixups!!! Religious Studies looks at religion and religious phenomena from the outside with an objective, scientific and anthropological perspective, while Theology studies Christianity from a Christian perspective (which also has its merits and has its place at the university).

IMO, some of the best papers at this uni for anyone interested in society, human beliefs, philosophy, psychology etc etc etc are RELS papers. They have truly opened my mind to the different ways that people live and think. I want to strongly recommend the RELS241/341 paper about conspiracy theories for literally anyone - it was well taught and really fascinating, and it's genuinely important to know how people can get radicalised into extreme ways of thinking.

As for the exams themselves - 6.30pm gives you so much time to cram beforehand. Trust guys it's actually a good time

-Someone sick of having to explain that I don't study the Bible

Dear Critic Editor – I read with great interest your "Littlest Hall Pets" article in last week's edition. Thanks for all the blurbs and the photos! I have composed a limerick to honour this auspicious occasion.

I've been featured in this week's Critic
I'm nimble and never arthritic
But too many "Temptations"
Will mean heart palpitations
And I'll be feeling a bit "cat"alytic
Ngā mihi nui


Kinko

CFC's resident feline and queen of all she surveys

Kia ora koutou 'critic team'

We at Studholme were most disappointed to see that our college pets were left out of your recent article. Studholme's hidden secret is not only 1 BUT 2 Golden Labrador Therapy brothers known as 'Louie and Bear'.

Although a little boisterous at times this does not overshadow their friendly and sociable, calm, gentle and loving natures. Having the Labs reside at Studholme brings numerous benefits including companionship, loyalty, and fun. They are a perfect fit for everyone.



OUSAs have moved to hold a student referendum opening 9am May 27th, closing 2pm May 30th. Got a burning question for the student body? Send them to adminvp@ousa.org.nz

Hundreds of Auckland Uni students rallied in support of Palestinians last Wednesday. This comes after reports of mass student protests in the US in what RNZ calls the "biggest outpouring of student activism across the US since the anti-racism protests of 2020!"

Life Matters Suicide Prevention Trust are looking for volunteers to participate in their annual street appeal, held on Friday May 17th. Sign up at www.volunteersignup.org/8DJMH

Congratulations to taurira Māori who are graduating this Friday! Shout-out to Te Rōpū Māori Tumuaki Gemella

Maharajas are hosting a charity night on Thursday, May 16th to celebrate their 6th anniversary! Last year, they raised \$2700 for the Cancer Society. You can vote on their Facebook page for where donations should go this year

It's Otago Uni's Sustainability Week! Check out [@sustainability_at_otago](https://www.facebook.com/@sustainability_at_otago) on Insta for the full calendar of events

Big Bike Film Night is hitting screens in Rialto Cinema on Sunday May 19 and Monday May 20, with ten films "celebrating cycling in all its glorious shapes and forms" – with three filmed in Central Otago



Otago Uni Launches New Brand

In our Te Tiriti-led era

By **Nina Brown**
Editor // critic@critic.co.nz

Otago University officially launched its new brand at a dawn ceremony last Wednesday morning on May 1st, unveiling the new *tohu* (symbol) and *reo* Māori name *Ōtākou Whakaihū Waka* on the St Dave's plinth to a crowd of around 300. The event had a number of speakers from the Uni and OUSA.

The Tuakiritaka project has been years in the making as part of what Chancellor Stephen Higgs says is a "bold change" as part of the Uni's long-term plan to become a Te Tiriti-led organisation. The Deputy Vice-Chancellor Māori Jacinta Ruru referenced the recent establishment of her position and the construction of Te Rangihīroa, named after the first Māori Otago Uni graduate, as important milestones in commitments to this goal.

In a (freshly branded) press release following the ceremony, the Uni said that the new *tohu* draws inspiration from the *Ōtākou*

channel (not from a fruit bowl, as student consultation last year suggested) "which brings water, kai and life to the region – just as the university brings and shares knowledge across Aotearoa New Zealand and internationally." It symbolises this channel, with a *waka* placed on top.

The name *Ōtākou Whakaihū Waka* is a change from Te Whare Wananga o *Ōtākou*, which Te Runanga o *Ōtākou* upoko Edward Ellison said means "our name is being recognised, instead of being a transliteration without context." *Ōtākou Whakaihū Waka* is a metaphor meaning 'A Place of Many Firsts'.

Writing for the NZ Herald, OUSA President Keegan said, "It is a place of many firsts. Anyone can recall the massive personal growth they experience at university, most of which are defined by firsts. First time you did a keg stand? First time forgetting

to take the bins out only to leap out of bed when you hear the truck? First time you realise everyone around you is smarter, except the people in your group project?"

Beyond these stepping stones in the paths of the average uni student, Gemella also spoke to the broader experience of firsts for *tauirā* Māori. On behalf of Te Rōpū Māori, Gemella said, "As for a lot of our *tauirā* Māori, we are here redefining what it is and what it means to be Māori [...] As for a lot of our *tauirā*, we are the first – the first to finish secondary school, we are the first to leave our *kāinga*, we are the first to attend the education system, we are the first to receive a *tohu* as we walk the stage at the Dunedin Town Hall. Us as *tauirā* Māori embody and encompass *Ōtākou Whakaihū Waka*."

"It is a place of many firsts," said Gemella. "Us as Māori, we are the many firsts. We are the bow of the *waka* that pierces the ocean, leading the way for others to follow, creating a path that is suited for our people to take at the beginning of their journey

to voyage as they go through the University and manoeuvre unknown waters and obstacles."

Keegan expressed her support for the change, saying, "It feels so glaringly obvious this new brand identity is the correct one." She points out how the *tohu* that "is so deeply connected" to Otago "resonates much more with me than a random coat of arms [...] we are not just a wanna-be British university, tied down by colonial pasts."

The cost of the project drew some criticism last year during consultation. Overall, it is expected to be \$1.3 million. The rebranding will be rolled out over time, with physical signage at St Dave's, and at the Christchurch and Wellington campuses being changed first, alongside digital spaces like the Uni's Instagram profile pic. The traditional crest will continue to be used in ceremonial settings in acknowledgement of alumni who have strong associations with the coat of arms.



Mud Wrestling Warms Queen St Flat

Nothing like unfiltered dirt to make a house feel like a home

By **Nina Brown**
Editor // critic@critic.co.nz

A Queen Street flat has elevated the flat warming game after holding a WWE-esque mud wrestling match to a cheering crowd of about 40 on Saturday, April 27. A couple days later, Critic Te Ārohi sat down with the brains and brawn of the event, fourth-years Ben and Robbie, for the inside scoop.

Ben told Critic that the scheme had been cooked up while they were planning the flat warming. "We discussed that we needed to have some spectacle, cos flat warmings are just kind of the same," he said. They wanted to do something fun, but were limited by their lack of funds. "So we're like, we have a pool already," he shrugged.

After passing up the idea of jelly wrestling, and realising they probably couldn't afford to fork out for "filtered dirt," the boys found a Facebook Marketplace ad from a couple giving away free dirt. "And then a day later we were just collecting dirt from their backyard," said Ben, after hiring the OUSA trailer to pick it up. "We told them we were taking out garbage," laughed Robbie.

The problem, though, was that the pile had been used "as some kind of dump trash pile in the past." This was evidenced by Skittles wrappers, broken glass, and chicken bones all being found

in the mix. "It was like, 'Oh man, this is way dirty,'" said Robbie. The boys took out "all the shit that could've injured us," having panned through some of the dirt with a sieve. Piss in the pool from party-goers sadly couldn't be filtered out.

There were admittedly some concerns over "toxoplasmosis and sepsis" and they'd wondered whether any potential cat poo in the mud would make them go blind. "Yeah there was a brief moment there when we were like, 'Maybe we shouldn't do this,'" said Ben. But talks over emptying it were thwarted by the excitement of expectant attendees. "People are gonna wanna see it," Ben reflected, "so we're like, 'Fuck it! Wetsuits, booties, goggles, helmets, everything. Just as long as we don't get it in our mouths, we should be fine.'"

Eye witnesses forced to duck between splashes of mud speculated that not swallowing the sludge would've been a hard task for wrestlers. Speaking to Critic the following Monday, Ben said, "I thought I was gonna throw up halfway through today, but that might be unrelated."

A chair to the face, capitalising on Ben's concussion, may have also had a role to play in the following day's brutal hangover. "But



I don't reckon either of us were too violent – except for the chair

it's okay, though, because it was so fun," said Ben. "Like it was genuinely probably the highlight of my year so far, which is really upsetting, but like it was so worth it. I'm stoked."

"I don't reckon either of us were too violent – except for the chair," said Robbie. "I think my nose is a bit broken," Ben complained. The boys attributed the combination of a funnel they'd each sunk before the fight and the thick wetsuits they wore as the reason why neither were "able to feel much." Ben did admit he was "on the verge of throwing up the whole time," though.

The win was heavily contested since they "never really set any rules," but Ben claimed the W after dumping Robbie out of the pool earned him the crowd's approval. "I didn't care what the outcome was," Ben said humbly. "I'm just glad it was something people actually enjoyed [...]. It was worth the possibility of getting really sick."

Ben's parents had been there earlier in the night but, not wanting to "embarrass" him, they'd left – having to rely on videos taken by his cousin for their own comfort. Grandma also got a video: "She likes to keep up to date with what we're doing." A few of Ben's past residents from his time as an RA also showed up, to his chagrin. "So I think all the kind of adulting that I'd worked up throughout my years of [being an RA] just went out the window," he laughed. "But my parents were stoked that I won, that's all I care about."

One spectator, fourth-year student Peter, said that as a plus one to the party, he didn't know what he was getting himself into. Walking past the pool on the way into the flat, Peter said he'd thought, "Oh, what a gross little paddling pool [...]. And then when old mate jumped up onto the table in his wetsuit and yelled, 'Everybody get outside, it's mud wrestling time,' I went, 'Oh, true.'"

While Peter said that it took a second for everyone to warm up, it didn't take long before "everyone was so into it – people were yelling at them and throwing mud, and someone tried to give one of the guys a cigarette, passing chairs to the guys in the mud to use on each other." He said that most people had their phones out, which Peter thought was "a shame – you'd love to see people living in the moment a little bit more."

Two spectators were so enticed they stripped down to their underwear and had a fight of their own after Ben and Robbie. "I like to think I've been around the blocks of North Dunedin once or twice and I've never seen anything like that at a flat party, so props to them," said Peter.

Overall, Ben and Robbie said they'd rate their flat warming 11/10. "If you're thinking about a flat party theme, just do a mud wrestle," said Robbie. "Or maybe do a jelly wrestle, then you won't get diseases." With a twinkle in his eye, Ben concluded, "The photos are too good. I can't regret anything about it."



Cap Quietly Removed on Sea Lion Trawling Deaths Busted.

By **Kaia Kahurangi Jamieson**
Contributor // news@critic.co.nz

On the 8th of April, the decision to completely remove the country's Fishing-Related Mortality Limit (FRML) for rāpoke (sea lions) was quietly released on the Ministry for Primary Industries' website with a 16-page consultation document. The FRML sets the maximum number of rāpoke deaths a southern squid trawl fishery can cause annually before being forcibly closed. The decision, orchestrated by Oceans and Fisheries Minister Shane Jones, has been widely criticised by experts, including academics from Otago University, who argue that the decision could be detrimental to the country's sea lion population.

Speaking to Critic Te Ārohi, Jones stated that the FRML for the Auckland Islands squid fishery (known as Squid 6T) has been removed as it was "no longer fit for purpose." In response, Otago Zoology Professor Bruce Robertson said that the "Minister's removal of the FRML does send a concerning message to the public and the fishing industry; that message is that sea lions are no longer being impacted by trawling in New Zealand's fisheries. I disagree with this statement."

Two options for FRMLs were proposed in the consultation document released on April 8th. Option one set a limit of 22 sea lion captures before a fishery is closed – an option not supported by commercial fishing stakeholders. Option two, which set a limit of 46 captures, was supported by four commercial fishing stakeholders, who subsequently noted that they would prefer no FRML to be set.

When consulted on the two proposed options, the Department of Conservation noted they could only support option one, as this was the only option that agreed with the bycatch reduction goal of the Aotearoa New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy. Recommendations for the proposed policy changes were submitted by a range of actors, including DoC and commercial fishing stakeholders.

When approached for comment, DoC explained that one of the direct threats to sea lions is bycatch, but noted that "the FRML is not the most effective tool for managing fisheries' impacts on New Zealand sea lions." On the topic of conservation tools, Jones explained that sea lion protections included "the mandatory use of Sea Lion Exclusion Devices (SLEDs) on all squid trawl tows around the Auckland Islands."

SLEDs, as DoC explains on their 'Threats to Sea Lions' web page, are "designed to allow small species, like squid, to become trapped in the net, but block sea lions from entering the net and allow them to exit through an escape hatch." But it's not foolproof, with

DoC also warning that "animals that escape a net via a SLED may become injured by the device, which could impact their survival, or they may drown."

Jones noted to Critic that, for the past 20 years, sea lion captures in the Squid 6T fishery have been well below the FRML that would see the fishery closed. The NZ Sea Lion Trust compares Jones' reasoning for the removal as "removing a speed limit because everyone claims to drive below it."

A "capture" is regarded as the entrapment of a sea lion in a trawl net, which results in the sea lion being brought up to the surface of the ocean. What captures don't include are instances where a sea lion is harmed beneath the surface, before being ejected from the trawl. Apparently if you can't see the harm, it doesn't exist.

The ejection of sea lions means that fishing companies and government observers stationed on trawl vessels are unable to count the number of sea lions that encounter the net. Because of this, there is speculation as to whether sea lions are being harmed at depth by SLEDs – the very things designed to save them.

Bruce notes the lack of public evidence attesting to SLEDs' efficiency, saying that he is "not confident at all" that these devices have greatly decreased the bycatch threat. According to Bruce, there's a "real risk that dead sea lions can fall out of the SLED and not be detected (and hence not counted) as marine mammal bycatch" before a trawl reaches the surface.

Critic Te Ārohi TLDR'd the recent FRML removal to an Otago University student, Shaarav, who said he couldn't "see a reason to get rid of the max quota." In his opinion, it seemed sensible to keep the FRML in place, even as a precaution, as it "sends the right message."

The quiet nature of the change also raised an eyebrow. "This kind of thing should be a proper announcement, not buried on a website," Shaarav told Critic Te Ārohi. "Specifically for something important like conservation choices about protected wildlife."

Bruce tells us that the evidence of marine mammal bycatch he is after is not held by the government, but the fishing industry. "My attempts to gain access have been ongoing since 2012 and I am no closer to seeing it, so I guess the public is unlikely to get the information they deserve," he explains.

"These decisions should be visible and backed up with the evidence," says Bruce. "That leads to transparent decision-making."

University Targets Students in Push for 'Net Carbon Zero' Goal

Surely they give us all Frank Green

By **Hugh Askerud**
News Editor // news@critic.co.nz

Otago University's Sustainability Office is extending an invite to students for support and feedback as it drives towards 'Net Carbon Zero' by 2030. The office is looking to expand its efforts through several engagement sessions with students that aim to reflexively inform and gather feedback on how the University should be targeting its emissions. Critic Te Ārohi spoke with Craig Cliff, the office's Carbon Zero Programme Manager, to talk about sustainability.

Speaking to the University's sustainability goals, Cliff said, "The big thing is that net zero part [...] it means we can suck in carbon or pay others to suck it in for us." Balancing the University's emissions with its carbon removals creates this "net carbon zero", making the Sustainability Office's approach two-fold. The University thus has the option of offsetting the emissions it has been unable to eliminate, though Cliff said, "We want to reduce our emissions as much as possible and only pay money to offset when it's absolutely necessary."

For this, the office needs the support of students – particularly as student travel is accounted for within the University's measurements. Cliff said, "To get here for a year of study and then to get home we would account for that [...] the flights students take to get here are a negative side of the equation [...] so what are we doing on the positive side?" Student travel is one of the six key areas within the scope of the programme, making the University almost unique amongst other tertiary facilities in measuring these emissions in data.

The primary innovations of the programme so far have been overwhelmingly focused on staff and operations. Cliff cited the removal of coal from the campus's heating system and the

introduction of Mindful-Mondays to Residential College's menus as key successes of the programme. However, despite these advances, the programme (and the University more broadly) has been criticised for its high travel emissions, having overspent on its travel budget by \$1.5 million in 2023. Speaking to these criticisms, Cliff said, "We need to be really mindful about how we fly [...] In the past, we would have staff who would go back and forth from the Northern and Southern hemispheres." Without emissions data, Cliff tentatively argued that there had been "a lot more accommodation for the number of flights we have, so I think we are changing things."

Yet Cliff pointed out that travel emissions were only one aspect of the problem, saying, "Collectively, we've all left it too late to pick and choose what we do." For this reason, Cliff has been looking more directly toward the student body, not only for specific activities but also in efforts to build "sustainable competencies" which students can "take into the workforce."

The Sustainability Office's recent 'Craft & Kōrero' session, hosted at Te Oraka, was one of the first of their planned student engagement sessions. Cliff said they are "still gaining feedback from participants to figure out what we do next." Cliff's call to students was simple, wanting them purely to "know that the programme exists, know that it's run out of the Sustainability Office, and know that we're really approachable."

The Sustainability Office will have a stall at the Night Market at Auahi Ora this Tuesday 7pm, and wants students to reach out at netcarbonzero@otago.ac.nz.

Reduced Grad Programmes a Casue for Concern

Please help, I can't live off Studylink for much longer

By **Gryffin Powell**
News Reporter // news@critic.co.nz

Recent cuts by the National-led coalition government to public service graduate programmes have left some students fearful over job prospects after uni.

The National-led coalition has been trying to reduce government debt since coming to power last year, and while this reduction is being financed in a myriad of ways, job cuts in the public sector are a prominent aspect of this refinancing. The cuts will predominantly affect BA and BCom students, many of whom have expressed concerns over the cuts.

In her time as Finance Minister, Nicola Willis has directed government agencies to reduce spending by 6.5-7.5%. The Ministry of Education has lost 555 jobs, the Department of Internal Affairs 514 jobs, and Oranga Tamariki has cut 447 jobs. Additionally, these public sector agencies have reduced their graduate programme intakes, meaning new graduates are set to compete against more experienced workers for positions in coming months.

In terms of graduate programmes specifically, the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) have cut 20 grad roles. With many programmes starting recruitment in the coming months, there are fears some programmes may not run at all. The change would leave less entry-level jobs for graduates. Better learn how to set up a LinkedIn account.

Critic Te Ārohi spoke to Kip, a student in his final year of a Politics degree. Kip said, "It's really disheartening to see thousands of jobs being cut, since I've gone into tens of thousands of dollars of debt to get a job in this sector. Like, if they don't have room for people in established roles, why would they have room for a grad?"

"It does make me seriously consider jumping the ditch," Kip said. He raises a good point, with the phrase "brain drain" being chucked around a lot recently to describe the amount of Kiwi's gapping to Aussie after graduating. With more job opportunities, higher salaries, and lower expenses, Australia is providing a solid chance to escape cozzie livs.

If you can't grab a grad role, staying in Aotearoa looks increasingly challenging. The options are looking pretty grim in the land of ever-increasing rent and grocery prices. You could battle it out in an oversaturated job market or go into (even more) debt to do postgrad, if the thought of job hunting is not something you wanna deal with right now.

According to StatsNZ, from October last year New Zealand has seen a net migration of 44,500 citizens leaving the country for greener pastures – meaning the chances of you bumping into an ex might be just as likely if you move countries.



Salmond Fresher Catches Leith Fish With Bare Hands

No, it wasn't because he was hungry

By Angus Rees

News Reporter // news@critic.co.nz

A Salmond College fresher successfully caught (and released) a massive trout in the Leith River a couple weeks ago. Johan Lokman, the resident who made the catch, reported the joys of his new-found hall clout in an interview with Critic Te Ārohi.

Johan had been walking back to Salmond from his lectures for the day. Mid-walk, he spotted the trout, a fish that Johan reckoned had been eyeing him up for over two weeks prior to the catch. "It wasn't my first time seeing it," said Johan, "so I had my togs in my bag, ready!"

Well prepared, Johan waited until the moment was right before "jumping in" and catching the trout with his bare hands – our very own campus Bear Grylls. The euphoria was unreal, he said: "I didn't expect to catch it!" After taking a quick snap of his catch, Johan released the fish back into the waters of Leith before changing and heading on his merry way.

Questioned about his unusual fishing methods, Johan shrugged and said, "My rod is at home." Turns out it wasn't his first rodeo, either: "I've been fishing before in the Leith, mostly towards the

stadium but this was my first time down the other side. There were some big ones down there as well." After catching the fish "pretty easily" and releasing it, Johan made his way back to Salmond to spread the gospel of Leith fishing. "I came back to the hall in my togs, quite drenched. They first thought it was raining [...] Then they realised after I showed them the photo that I wasn't just some dumb uni student. Everyone was incredibly interested and surprised." Who would've thought uni students have basic survival skills other than warming their hands on a couch fire?

In a 2022 Critic article, veteran Leith fisher Kyan told Critic Te Ārohi that there was a "group of regular Leith fishers out there." Despite this, Kyan reported that he had never seen any big trout, yet Johan's catch was, he guessed, "About 4-5kg." Both Kyan and Johan were clear that they did not recommend eating fish from the Leith, with Johan citing "duck shit" as an infectant and Kyan stating that you should only indulge "if you wanted to catch some diseases." Critic Te Ārohi does not condone Leith fishing as a cheap alternative to hall meals – no matter how they're ranked in our food review.

Foreign Object Found in \$4 Lunch

When will the soup slander end?

By Hugh Askerud

News Editor // news@critic.co.nz

OUSA CEO Debbie Downs reported to the Exec at their meeting last Tuesday that a "small sharp foreign object" had been found in a student's \$4 lunch on April 18th. OUSA Prez Keegan was distraught – soup day is her favourite day. The Exec also expressed their concerns for the student's well-being.

After the student found the "foreign object", Debbie reported that, "The student suffered a minor injury from the object and sought medical attention." Clubs and Socs staff "have also reached out to the student, who reported they were recovering well." Responding to the news, one student expressed concerns over the well-being of the person who ate the mystery object: "I hope they are okay. Are they okay?" Her friend simply said, "That's really unfortunate."

After the incident was reported to the Clubs and Socs crew, Debbie said that "Senior staff and the lunch provider conducted a

full investigation into the incident, including possible contaminant sources." Unfortunately, the investigations of Clubs and Socs staff haven't been made easier by the fact that "the item was thrown out immediately after the incident," making it impossible to identify its murky origins or what it actually was. It'd be like trying to find a needle in a haystack – but in a building of haystacks, and you don't even know whether it's a needle you're trying to find.

Currently, \$4 lunch is provided by Tandoree Garden, after the restaurant took over production following the stepping down of Jane Beecroft (former OUSA lunch matriarch) in 2021. No other incidents of this nature have been reported since Tandoree Garden's takeover in 2022. Debbie told Critic that OUSA staff "are confident that this was an isolated incident." Foreign objects or not, nothing will come between Critic and our samosas.

Locals HQ Encourages Second-Years to Leave the Nest

But not before giving them a map to the nearest microwaves

By Sam Smith-Soppet
Contributor // news@critic.co.nz

Locals, the hall for the hall-less, has issued a notice stating that "HQ is open to first-years only" after being inundated by a swathe of older students in recent years.

For those who don't know, Locals is a collegiate community at Otago Uni for first-year students who reside locally but not in a hall of residence, with an HQ on the first-floor of the Union Building – opposite Toroa College's dining hall. Notably, the HQ comes with a microwave.

Critic noticed a poster stuck on the door outside Locals HQ last week stating that, whilst they have "loved having you in previous years [...] the time has come for you to branch out and use the microwaves downstairs." The call for space comes after allegations that older students had been misusing the microwaves supplied by Locals, with one begrudging local student, Dorothy*, saying, "There's microwaves in the Link guys."

Funding for the free service for the "800 first year students without halls," comes directly from the University's pockets. Critic Te Ārohi has also been made aware that funding for Locals HQ could be impacted if not enough actual locals use the space. "When you have second and third-years returning, is a bit of an issue," one of the locals there said.

To illustrate their gripes, Dorothy told Critic that the situation was like "if Toroa leavers went back to their dining room, which nobody

does." While this year's Locals contingent only has 800, there were over 950 students eligible to join Locals in 2023, technically making it the biggest of the University colleges.

Despite the notable drop-off for the year, the Locals HQ crew seem unfazed, with deputy manager Lei Lani Hosking telling Critic that their year could be compared to the 2005 hit song 'Popping My Collar'. In efforts to reinvigorate the programme, Locals HQ has started a social media war with "Cringe Slayward", with one staff member telling Critic that "Hayward stole Slay from Salmond college" as the phrase "Salmond Slay" was coined in early 2021 before "Slayward".

Despite developing tensions in the social media sphere and their beef with second-years, Locals HQ has been going hard on their social events, hosting a PowerPoint night, Karaoke, tri-weekly pancake making sessions and an upcoming cultural performance evening.

Lei Lani assured Critic that despite the sign on the door, Locals is still a welcoming environment for all – well, as long as you're a first-year. Locals HQ also attached a map of all the microwaves on campus, just to make sure the second-years got the message.

*Name changed.

OOT WATTS

Leaving — but staying put
cats when you open the door

Big push in women's game
a good post hangover shit <3

The applicant from
my view had not proven
herself to be suitable to
hold alcohol
... this application
simply must fail

Unfortunately, that noble
philosophy of what makes a uni-
versity is increasingly threatened
on both sides — by what some
would call "woke" pressure to
hold the "right" opinion and not
say anything which may offend
someone, and by the nasty, harder
edge to US politics which has
crept in over the past couple of
decades.

Moving in mysterious
ways, data to provide
shit replier, find on snap maps

Evacuation after eruption
the tap 'n gap, the
spray 'n walk away...

Critic's hiring process

the uni over adding
gender-neutral bathrooms

Southland conditions looking ideal
me about to give head after a first date

Protests at universities are
always fraught. It is where bright,
concerned and highly educated
minds intersect with the notion of
academic freedom and the ability
to say and discuss anything with-
out fear or prejudice.

me and the lads arguing
over beerpong rules

But hey, who
hasn't been
guilty of
pressing books
on people
which have gone down like a cup
of cold sick?
tutor's confession

Plenty of reasons to get oily
my skin when I'm about to go out

Good for you and the
environment:
wearing the same undies from pint
night to class the next day

PUZZLES PUZZLES PUZZLES PUZZLES

BROUGHT TO YOU BY

Mazagran ESPRESSO BAR
36 MORAY PLACE, DUNEDIN

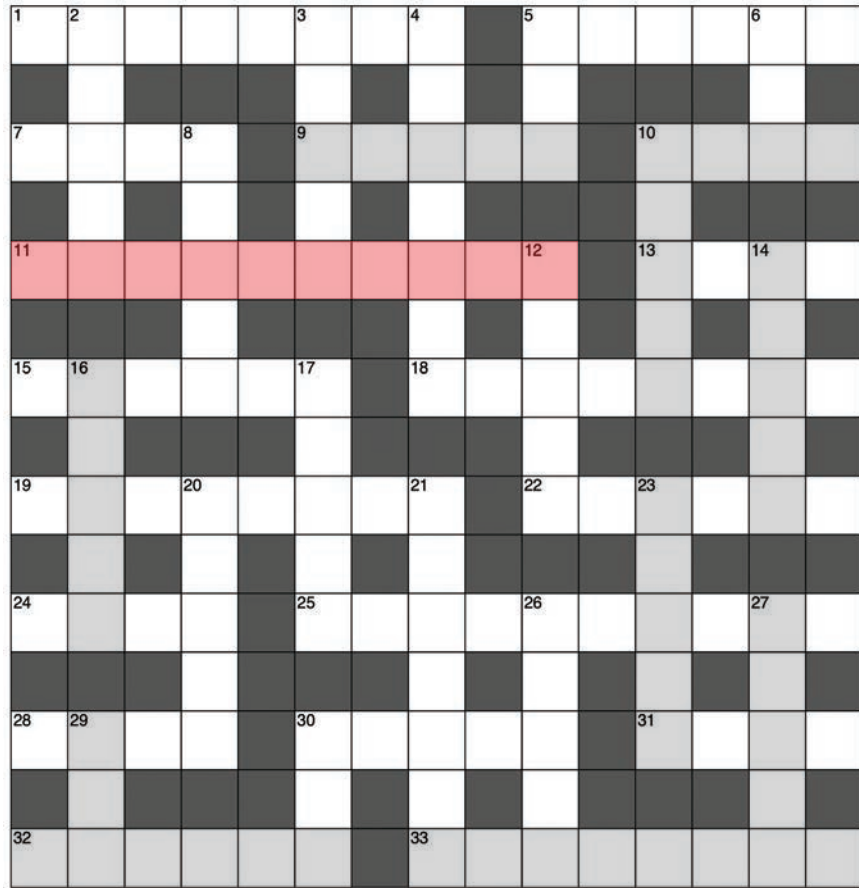
CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Wizard
- 5 Calm wind
- 7 Monopoly token
- 9 (with 11A) Leaf on Canadian flag
- 10 (with 10A) Abbey resident
- 11 Splitting this week's couplets was the aim of this once-popular game (2)
- 13 Check mark
- 15 Hale-Bopp and Halley's, for example
- 18 Universal surf location
- 19 BBC detective series
- 22 Menstrual woe
- 24 Mr. Flintstone
- 25 City and country setting of Death on the Nile (2)
- 28 Vegan dessert sandwich
- 30 Cali ski town
- 31 Onion relative
- 32 (with 33A) Quirrell's headwear
- 33 (with 32A) It don't want none unless you got buns, hun

DOWN

- 2 Common multiple choice option
- 3 Japanese noodle dish
- 4 Home of the Moai (2)
- 5 Honey maker
- 6 Branch of Buddhism
- 8 Banish
- 10 (with 23D) Gliders don't have one
- 12 Top story
- 14 (with 27D) Not pricy
- 16 (with 29D) Earthy pigment
- 17 Showing no emotion
- 20 Broadcast medium
- 21 Hare ____
- 23 (with 10D) Cherub
- 26 Alpha's opposite
- 27 (with 14D) Beg
- 29 (with 16D) Street Fighter main character
- 30 Gymnast's perfect score



ISSUE 9 CROSSWORD ANSWERS

ACROSS: 1. AGMS 5. HIT AND RUN 13. RATTED OUT 15. AUTO 16. COM(PRESS)OR 17. MUTE 18. VEIL 19. IMI(PRESS)ONIST 20. GIF 21. ENACT 22. NUFF 24. SHRUG 28. CLOT 29. ASSIST 31. ATARI 32. ALIEN 34. CANAL 35. GLOOMY 37. UNDO 39. DOSES 40. NARR 41. PESTO 44. USB 45. RESEARCH 48. MOMA 50. WINK 51. PREEN 52. ENUI 53. ADDITIONS 54. DEPRESSED 55. REEF

DOWN: 2. GROIN 3. MAMMALS 4. STOIC 5. HDMI 6. IOU'S 7. TUTT 8. ATE 9. DA VINCI 10. RUEFUL 11. UTI 12. NO LEFT 14. TROT 23. FORUM 24. STAND 25. RAILS 26. UTE 27. GANGS 30. SAUNA 33. CORSAIR 36. OBSCENE 37. UNIM(PRESS)ED 38. DRUM UP 41. PAPI 42. ERROR 43. THESE 45. RIDS 46. ENDE 47. SKID 49. ONE 50. WAS

SUDOKU

www.sudokuoftheday.com

EASY

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

MEDIUM

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				3		9	6	
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2	8						4	6
	9				4	1	3	2
	2	8		9				
6				4		8		3
				1	2			

HARD

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9		4				8		
6						3	1	5
		3	6	9				
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WORDFIND

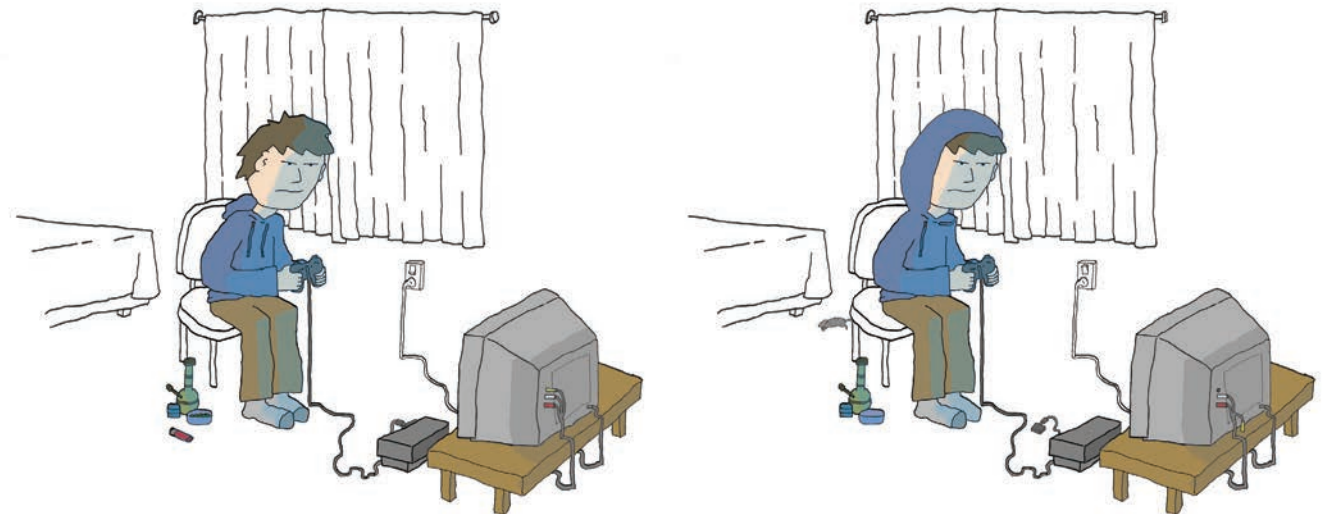
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HMEZPRWELQHZKPRLCNQS WVRTPIBEVA
ANSJMYRFTWPACVOVP GOMMTPDQCEOFC
TVOMLERHHNDSWGTMGDXWGM PDKAVDNU
BJGCJBGUSEL NWQUHIRZSRVFUULJAKT

- BAVARIA
- WOMB
- LAW SCHOOL
- TUAKIRITAKA
- WRESTLING
- LEITH RIVER
- INDOMIE
- TAURUS
- GOTHAM CITY
- HYSTERICAL
- SOUP
- CARBON
- IRONIC
- CROSSWORD

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Illustrated by Ryan Dombroski

There are 10 differences between the two images



By Jodie Evans

THE ROOT OF ALL YOUR

Illustrated by Mikey Clayton

WANDERING WOMB

Critic Te Ārohi brings you a short history of some pretty bizarre medical misogyny – the legacy of which continues to harm uteruses today.

FEMININE RAGE

Wandering Womb *noun*

a) Spontaneous migration of the uterus within the female body, anywhere from the pelvis to the mind.

Characterised by symptoms including but not limited to: Headaches, tremors, fainting, chest pains, abdomen pain, vertigo, sexual desires, intellectual thoughts, homosexuality, tendencies to cause trouble, being old, feelings of sadness, happiness or any kind of thought or feeling.

Treatments include but are not limited to: rest, perfuming your vagina, marriage to a wealthy man, childbirth, exorcism, lobotomy or death.

The description for the 'wandering womb' may read like a work of fiction, but for centuries it was a common diagnosis for women presenting with virtually any physical or mental ailment. The first description of the condition dates back to 1900 BC when ancient Egyptian physicians claimed that "spontaneous uterus movement within the female body" was the cause of depressive symptoms in women. It was in Ancient Greece, however, that the term hysteria was first recorded – *hysteria* being the Greek word for uterus. In the 5th century BC, Hippocrates detailed a "feminine madness" that resulted not from an overtly oppressive society, but from "a uterus in distress". It stuck, and for 4000 years it remained a catch-all wastebasket diagnosis. Almost any pain suffered by a woman could only be her animal-like uterus scurrying around causing a ruckus

to her innards like the rat in your flat's walls. Nevermind that the uterus is internally fixed in place by multiple ligaments, and connects to the vagina via the cervix.

You may ask: what could have caused a uterus to become so distressed? Perhaps it was the pain of having no political rights? Or the weight of a world that forbade you a career beyond childbearing? Of course not. Don't be daft. Ancient physicians believed the cause was a "deviation from a woman's intended function" – that is, the uterus grows sad when it's denied reproductive sex with a man. The female body was imagined to be

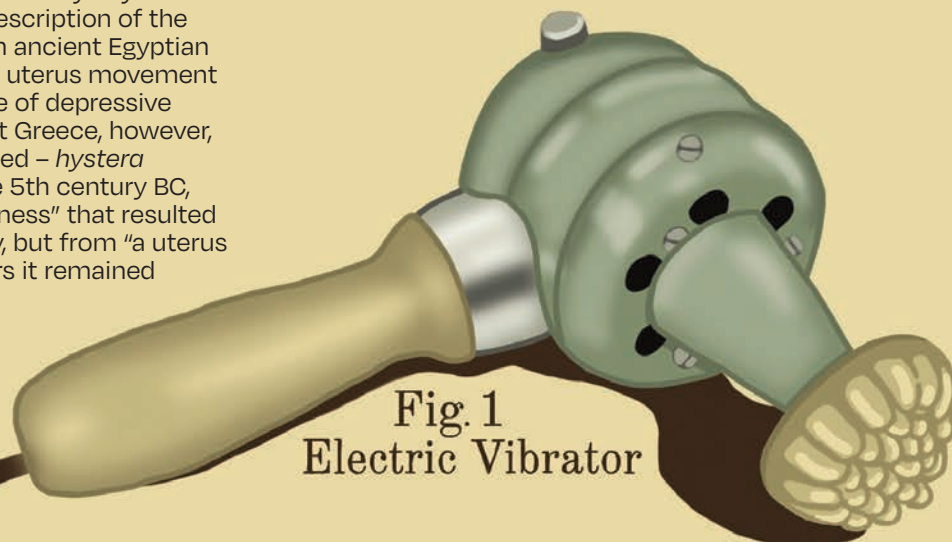


Fig. 1
Electric Vibrator

FOR MEDICINAL PURPOSES ONLY.

"cold and wet" and "vulnerable to putrefaction", while intercourse promoted bodily cleansing. Ah yes, the cleansing act of unprotected sex in the days before STI treatment. In what could be the words of a 14-year-old boy in Year 9 science, the great Hippocrates theorised "vagina equals yucky, penis equals awesome". Patients were prescribed a dose of dull marriage and regular sex (also probably dull).

Physicians claimed that the condition was rife among "virgins, widows, and spinsters" – better known today as the girls, gays, and theys. Even more bizarrely, a wandering womb was believed to be easily enticed by fragrances. Women were instructed to sniff ammonia salts to drive it lower in the body or perfume themselves with floral scents (that can't be good for your pH) to lure it back into place. Worse yet, as the world entered the Middle Ages, the popularity of witch hunts crept into medical practice. Now you could be hanged or burned at the stake for not wanting to have sex with men, or in milder cases endure a cheeky exorcism or two.

Unsurprisingly, the range of potential hysteria symptoms was so broad that it was responsible for the misdiagnosis of hundreds of other actual disorders. Women with anxiety, depression, PTSD, epilepsy, and bipolar disorder were all lumped together as hysterics. In the few cases where abdomen pain and sexual desire were the main symptoms (and long before the invention of the Satisfyer Pro 2), it's possible that these patients were genuinely suffering from sexual frustration. However, that's certainly not synonymous with a desire for children. Furthermore, you can imagine a prescription of forced marriage and childbirth probably didn't hit the spot. For much of history, hysteria was likely the result of male physicians failing to understand the happenings of a female body. Shocker.

The hysteria diagnosis changed in the 1700s when every Psychology lecturer's favourite man Sigmund Freud entered the chat. Astoundingly, he concluded that the idea of a little angry demon uterus was ridiculous and that men, too, could suffer from hysteria. Progressive for the 1700s? Turns out, no. He followed this up by declaring women to be more susceptible because of their "frailty of character" – in those times perhaps just

a lack of warmongering. Men remained rarely diagnosed with hysteria. However, symptoms narrowed to those associated with the nervous system.

The founding of psychology resulted in another rise in the commonality of the diagnosis. As the distressed uterus theory fell out of fashion, treatments for hysteria changed. The most common cure was rest; women were to refrain from any strenuous physical or mental activity. To the modern woman, that might mean skipping a Unipol group fitness class or late night study session. But in more severe cases, physicians opted for electric shock therapy or lobotomy – forced severing of the frontal lobe from the rest of the brain. As psychiatry gained popularity in the West, mental illnesses, such as schizophrenia, anxiety and depression, edged out hysteria diagnosis. Eventually, the illness was legislated out of existence in 1957. However, the term lingered until as recently as the 1980s. The trauma, even later still.

Hysteria served to justify the societal belief that women were inferior to men. They were fragile and vulnerable to ailments of body and mind. It's easy to imagine that much of these women's distress was a direct result of the pressures faced when living in a deeply misogynistic society. For centuries, hysteria helped to reinforce women's societal role as purely reproductive. Under the notion that unfulfilled duties to men resulted in bad things happening to women, they were subject to greater pressure to marry young and have children.

Hysteria, while no longer attributed to the 'wandering womb', has a legacy that remains today. When you hear the word hysteria, what comes to mind? Is it thousands of screaming 13-year-olds at a Harry Styles concert? Or crowds of shoppers shoving each other in a Black Friday Sale? It's not a coincidence that many of us picture only women and girls. The word continues to reduce women's valid thoughts, feelings, and experiences to irrationality.

Worse still, hysteria set the precedent for long-standing inequalities in healthcare. Medical data on female bodies remains woefully scarce compared to our male counterparts. Anatomy textbooks stray away from depicting the diversity of labia shape and

size and, despite being homologous organs, diagrams of the clitoris are not as extensive as those of the penis. While endometriosis affects 1 in 10 people with uteruses, patients in the US are likely to wait 10 years after symptoms appear to receive a diagnosis, with similar delays in NZ. That's a decade of suffering before they're given answers, with barriers often rooted in misogyny – patients are often led to believe that crippling periods are normal, while physicians are misinformed about treatments. Even further, 70% of those affected by chronic pain are women, yet 80% of pain studies are conducted on male-only participants. The stats are even poorer for uterus-owners who are indigenous, queer or disabled. Studies show that women's pain is often underestimated when compared to men's, making women subject to longer ER wait times on average, and less likely to receive painkillers – though more likely to be offered psychotherapy instead. These inequalities are vast and can have life-threatening consequences.

While we no longer believe that the uterus is an animal, angrily scurrying about the women's organs and wreaking internal havoc, it's clear that the echo of this nightmarish belief still plagues us today. So uterus-owners, the next time you express a genuine feeling and someone dares to call you hysterical, be sure to remind them that your uterus remains in the right place. Then kindly tell them to fuck off.

While we no longer believe that the uterus is an animal, angrily scurrying about the women's organs and wreaking internal havoc, it's clear that the echo of this nightmarish belief still plagues us today.



CAMPUS VIGILANTE

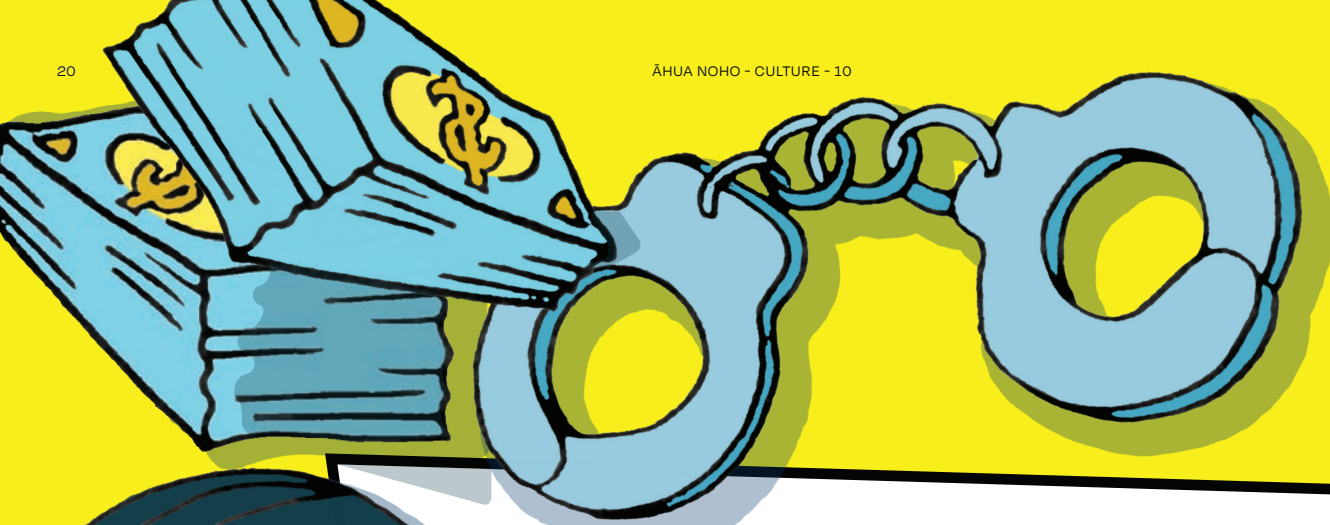
CAMPUS WATCH ARE GREAT, BUT WHAT IF WE HAD A BATMAN INSTEAD?

By Hunter Jolly Illustrated by Lucia Brown



Otago's campus is rife with debauchery, crawling with scallywags wreaking havoc in the prime time of their youth. Campus Watch, the noble defenders of order on our beloved Uni grounds and student-populated streets, have their work cut out for them. No student would deny their appreciation for the mahi that these knights in shining Hi-Vis do for us. They keep their eyes peeled for any dodgy activity, check on our flats while we're out of town, and provide safe transport for out-of-commission students on late nights (shout-out to the 'Vomit Comet'). But there's one problem: **they can only operate within the confines of the law.**





If action movies have taught us anything, it's that violence doesn't beget more violence: violence be-getting shit done. Therefore, with the laws that prevent Campus Watch from being unstoppable bringers of unrelenting justice, how are unruly students supposed to feel completely deterred from committing criminal acts? Campus Watch can't throw hands with bottle-smashers, but do you know who could? Motherfricking Batman.

As Robert Pattinson's Batman said: "Fear is a tool." And with the emergence of a crime-fighting vigilante with questionable morals and methods set loose on Otago's campus, assault, vandalism, trespassing, and littering would be sure to decline at an unprecedented rate. If you felt the ominous presence of a caped figure lingering in the shadows, you'd think twice before tossing your Big Mac box into the Leith. "Be a Tidy Kiwi," would come a deep growl from over your shoulder.

It's true, we don't exactly have a rampant Gotham City-level crimewave going on at Otago Uni, but Critic posits that there's a way to eliminate 100% of what we do have. Student debauchery is trending downwards, but fringe cases of cartoonishly villainous antics do crop up – some initiation activities feel like they'd be put on by the Joker, and campus scandals of bra thieves or sign-stealing wars can seem like M-rated Scooby Doo mysteries. With this in mind, Critic proposes that the University of Otago discreetly employ a campus vigilante.

In answer to your logistical questions, here's a complete list of things that would need to be accounted for if this project is to work.

1. FUNDING

Behind every great hero is a major media studio and a conglomeration of 1960s-era social anxieties. We don't have that, and we certainly don't have orphan-billionaire wads of cash, but we can at least syphon some money from the Campus Watch budget. Like your mate whose bank account has never recovered from the overdraft pit, the Uni is already in a deficit – what's a little more? It'd be a bit of a "yikes" moment if Campus Watch became significantly smaller (especially amidst all the other staff cuts) but we know by now that the Uni can handle a little heat.

Primary expenses would include a dojo, numerous copies of the same Kevlar outfit (vigilante-ing is sweaty work), and personalised getaway e-scooters. The dojo will need to be handled with the most care. As it's literally a room full of evidence against the vigilante project, its location is top secret. For this reason, we suggest the classic hiding-in-plain-sight method. Having all the equipment stored away in the Smithells Gymnasium might be the go. An 'MMA training program' could then be established, disguising our vigilante's training space as a regular-occurring communal fitness experience that would surely avert any suspicion.

2. THE LOOK

Our vigilante's outfit must represent the same qualities as Batman's. It's all about branding and practicality. Our man needs to be limber but intimidating; a demonic creature of the night from a distance, with the potential for a friendly interaction with casual passersby. Critic envisions our Dark Knight wearing a lightweight rain jacket, a pair of combat trousers, some Nike Air trainers (as Michael Keaton dons in the 1989 Batman film), a layer of badass protective motorbiking armour, leather gloves, a balaclava and paintball mask combo, and an eerie-looking, partially torn and tattered cape. Dunedin students love a good thrift.

The gadgets required would be about what you'd expect: some batarang-like projectiles, a CO2-powered grappling hook, a modified vape to dispense thick clouds (for disappearing mysteriously), a can of Speights in a sock, and a wireless razor – a critical instrument of justice to brand offenders with a skullet haircut. This would be reminiscent of Ben Affleck Batman's branding method from 'Batman Vs Superman' (but a lot less severe). Shame is the greatest weapon of them all.

3. THE SELECTION

Next, we need to determine how our vigilante would be selected. They would need to have a phenomenal level of fitness and strength (a certified gym bro, if you will) and be well-versed in hand-to-hand combat. Another key ingredient is a tragic backstory. It doesn't necessarily need to be as grim as Bruce Wayne's, but it should be something that has caused them to see the world in a darker way. Maybe they were subject to a flat initiation. Maybe they've tried multiple times to get into Med without success. Maybe they're an adult who skates. What's important is that, one way or another, they've had a taste of injustice and it's made them jaded. They're no longer afraid to unleash their demons on unsuspecting hooligans. Preferably, they'd have a degree in Criminology and excellent detective skills or, failing that, the ability to smell a stolen air fryer from a kilometre away. After signing a NDA, they could be tempted by the exciting opportunity and the offer of extremely high pay.

4. THE "GUY IN THE CHAIR"

Every vigilante needs his guy in the chair. Batman claims to operate alone, but we all know he'd be lost without Alfred, Lucius Fox or Oracle while out on patrol. Our campus is no different – while admittedly smaller than Gotham City, a vigilante is just one man. Conveniently, our vigilante's turf comes decked out with a network of security cameras monitored from the bat cave (Proctor's Office). Campus Watch already has the systems in place for this partnership, keeping in comms through walkie-talkies during shifts. All they're missing is an earpiece and a vigilante with a thirst for justice. Part of the budget will go to AI-modulating our hero's voice during this – partly to help protect their identity, and partly because I think Campus Watch would find it entertaining.

5. THE CHASE

As badass as it would be, giving our hero their own 'Batmobile' would be neither feasible nor practical. The current 'Vomit Comet' name for the Campus Watch patrol car is too good to mess with, and it would be a bit awkward to navigate through campus at the speed and agility required. They'd need something more disposable and stealthy, like a dozen or so e-scooters hidden in various spots throughout campus – preferably behind locked doors in different buildings. You may scoff, but keep in mind: some of these absolute weapons can reach speeds that rival even the 'Vomit Comet' itself. Imagine the terror of watching one of those things torpedoing straight towards some breathers after they pushed over a wheelie bin. If we wanna get a bit more crazy, though, how about this: motorised rope mechanisms going up every University building (disguised as window-cleaner riggings) which our vigilante can hook themself to, allowing them to zoom to the rooftops in seconds. Additional motorised ziplines (disguised as... I don't know, power lines?) would connect the rooftops above. We barely need to disguise them – when did you last look upwards on campus? Having both these traversal methods, they would be able to get from one side of campus to the other quicker than you can say "cheahoo".

6. THE ROGUES GALLERY

As we all know, a huge part of Batman's appeal as a character are his relationships with his super-villain enemies. From crazed psychopaths like Joker, to trivial menaces like Kite Man, Batman's "rogues gallery" is full of the most oddball villains imaginable. Like any true romance, this is something that should happen organically, but how cool would it be if our vigilante had their own unique lineup of rivals? It would be impossible to predict who these bold adversaries would be exactly, but we can keep our fingers crossed that they end up being as wacky as Batman's opps. Ideally, there would be an equivalent to many of Gotham's most wanted: a Botany major as 'Poison Ivy', a Psychology professor could be our 'Scarecrow', or a random Dunedin citizen who'd escaped a life sentence due to his father's crimes could be our 'Bane'. There are so many possibilities!

As some nerds (Law students) may be thinking, this whole idea is, in essence, severely illegal. Would it not be utterly detrimental to the University if such a thing happened? While one might think there is merit to this barely-relevant point, here's two points of rebuttal. Firstly, nobody has to know about this slightly sketchy project. And secondly, even if this secret was somehow exposed, it'd blow over in no time. The Uni is no stranger to controversy, right? At the end of the day, what really matters is that justice is done, and that the hellish flame that is on-campus crime is permanently extinguished. When all is said and done, our vigilante saviour will stand triumphantly on the Clocktower, like Batman on a gargoyle, cape flapping in the wind as they look over the reborn university with a faint smirk. With that, the legend of Otago University's vigilante will fade... until they're needed again.



THE WEDNESDAY NIGHT MARCH



Australopithecus afarensis



Homo habilis



Homo erectus



Breatha sapien



Pintus nightencus



There are but three things in this miserable world that are able to give me any semblance of something akin to joy: soup, frugality, and the quiet bliss of an instruction manual. Basically, the way everyone makes their instant noodles in this goddamn city is ensuring I will be first in line at campus's new mental wellbeing centre. Fuck your dry ass noodles.

Okay, sure, just because I personally enjoy a hearty properly-prepared bowl of instant soup noodles – soft but chewy ramen floating serenely in a glistening bowl of delicate broth – this doesn't mean the rest of you can't enjoy your unseasoned Maggi Chicken à la sinkwater, drier than your constipated butthole mid-comedown. But do you enjoy them? And why don't we let ourselves think of instant noodles as a food we are permitted to put time into enjoying?

The first step to enjoying instant noodles is: read the first step. Actually read the instructions on the packet. There are pictures and everything. Figure out if you're meant to be making dry noodles or soup noodles – this is where a lot of people fuck up. While Indomie Mi Goreng are a dry (no

soup) noodle based on Indonesian fried noodle dishes, most other instant noodles are variations of Chinese or Japanese noodle soup dishes; the broth is often the main event, and the noodles a humble vehicle for it.

No, it isn't "the juice" – it's soup. Not to be confused with a Western-style stew that you need an entire baguette and a pitchfork to get through, but a delicate bowlful of broth that can be slurped in large quantities to instantly warm your belly. Once you've sussed that you're making soup noodles, that's only half the battle. What kind of soup noodle? Are the noodles meant to be cooked on a stovetop, or soaked in boiling water? When do you add the flavour packet? Is the packet a "dump the whole thing in" or a "season to taste" where you're really not meant to use the whole shebang? You wouldn't cook a spag bol, biff the sauce down the drain, and then assert that bolognese is tasteless cold noodles covered in a red-tinged oil. Likewise, you wouldn't cook it with an entire tube of tomato concentrate and boldly assert that Italian food is too salty.

Perhaps one of the few things that keeps you feeling confident is that you think you know how to make instant noodles. They're instant, after all – how hard can it be? This misunderstanding is the underpinning of flaccid noodles everywhere. You hubris-riddled fool, you. One day your bones will make my broth. The components that allow instant noodles to be, well, instant, are also that which require them to be precise. I swear on my MSG-encrusted soul that I can taste when Nissin Instant Tonkotsu was made without draining and replacing the original water. I can tell my Shin Ramyun is under-seasoned by smell alone. Over- or under-cooking by a mere minute can transform the taste and texture of the entire meal. Basically, it's witchcraft, and when the spellbook is in front of you, you might as well read it.

To the virgin raw flavour-packet snorter, these may seem like nitpicking semantics, but that's because nobody appreciates the science – nay, the art – of the instant noodle. A good noodle soup can take days to prepare from scratch, and yet we've reduced it into simply flipping the switch on a kettle. We just don't appreciate them like we should. Take the classic wavy ramen block shape, ubiquitous to the point of being used to mock every curly blonde for decades. Rather than just being "the shape that instant noodles are", the folded wavelike block was revolutionary – the curls allow a full serving of noodles to fit into a small brick, while also creating elasticity, texture, and making it harder for them to slip off chopsticks. A plus for those with smooth, slippery brains.

Furthermore, the flash-frying method (though air-drying is more common these days) allowed for a shelf-stable, easily mass produced meal – enough to help lift Japan out of post-war famine (true story). The first flash-fried noodles were a regional Chinese delicacy, and even when mass-produced instant noodles first hit shelves in 1950s Japan, they were considered a luxury and a novelty. These days, they're synonymous with broke uni students and bachelor-dom. No one proudly proclaims that they're eating instant noodles for dinner, and I think that's a problem.

We don't make instant noodles properly because we don't respect them as a foodstuff. Just because they're a "depression food" it doesn't mean they should be depressing to eat. If anything, it should mean the opposite. For many, instant noodles seem to be an almost shameful cop-out form of sustenance, a lazy feed, and not "real" food; but for me, I think of my mum's Cantonese soups and the same care she puts into instant noodles. I think back to nervously serving instant ramen to my white friends after school and having them enthusiastically ask afterwards what I put in it. I think of the simple dignity of being able to have a good hot meal when I don't have the energy for anything else. Sure, I'm biased – I eat more instant foods than literally anyone I know (I still think I could be an astronaut), I've gone on many unprompted rants about the superiority of clear broths, and I'm filled with

the unbridled angst of the half-Asian diaspora. But if everyone could take a moment to enjoy instant noodles a fraction of how much I do, wouldn't we all be a little bit happier?

GAME-CHANGING INSTANT NOODLE RECS:

Nissin - Japanese Tonkotsu Pork Flavour

My favourite Japanese style instant ramen. For best results, follow the instructions to cook the noodles first on a stovetop and then drain the water before adding new water for the broth for a nice clear soup.

Add: Bean sprouts and/or bok choy – simmer along with the noodles. Add ham, seaweed, and a boiled egg for lazy feelgood at-home ramen.

Nongshim - Shin Ramyun Gourmet Spicy; Mild.

Classic Korean instant ramen with yummy thick noodles – it's even vegetarian. If a full pack of Shin Ramyun Spicy is too hot, pro tip: use half a pack of flavouring and then add a packet of miso soup. Or: don't be a bitch. The new SOON mild version does slap, though.

Add: Miso soup, spinach, bok choy. Also, trust me on this: try putting a hash brown or two in there. It's fucked but it works.

Trident - Pho Beef Rice Noodles; Tom Yum Rice Noodles

Rice noodles are the easiest instant noodle, as rice noodles are soaked rather than cooked. No stovetops, just boiling water and a nice mug.

Add: Spring onions are insane here. To make the beef flavoured ones a lil' fancy, add some roast beef and bean sprouts to the beef noodles when done, or just a bit of lite soy sauce. The tom yum ones benefit from some ham, spring onions, seasoning soy, and sesame oil – my current hyperfixation.

Yum Yum - Duck flavour etc

Hands down the best budget instant noodle. Tasty both when cooked properly on a stovetop or when made with boiling water – a rare combo. Highly recommend the duck flavour, if you can find it.

Add: Fried shallots (can be found in the international section) for an easy crunchy topping. Or add literally anything, cos this shit fucks.

Nissin - Tokyo Shoyu Ramen

The noodles in this are thicker and less curled than your average instant ramen, for a bit more bite. They're one of the most expensive of the lot, but it's worth it for the lil bits. Mmm, bits.

Add: A hardboiled egg and some seaweed.



By Monty O'Rielly & Iris Hehir
Illustrated by Sarah Kreft

THE IRONY OF OTAGO'S LAW-BREAKING LAWYERS-TO-BE

Students often break the law. Common offences include drug use and distribution, disorderly conduct, theft, wilful damage to property, arson (à la couch burning), and pretty much every initiation that's ended with a Proctor's meeting. But when was the last time you thought of your living room collection of road cones and stop signs as a crime scene? Under the Crimes Act, last Saturday night's heist of that couch could (in theory) result in spending three months in a cell. The fact this activity is illegal is often an afterthought to students. If you saw your mate smoking a joint, you're probably not going to view them as some gnarly criminal.

However, despite the pristine, mildly stuck-up vibe that law students sometimes exude, they can be just as criminal as the BCom breatha. This creates an ironic situation. Law students could, in theory, convict others for the same crimes they indulged in while studying to obtain this power. But in order to do so, law students need to receive a certificate of character from the New Zealand Law Society declaring they're a "fit and proper person" to practise law. So, what does a fit and proper person even mean? Do law students have a responsibility to restrain from letting loose? Or are they, too, entitled to a few hedonistic years?

LEGAL MINDS, LAWLESS NIGHTS

Irony doesn't hold law students back from student degeneracy, fifth-year Ethan* included. Law genius by day and high-functioning drug enthusiast by night, Ethan's lifestyle is criminal, at least on paper. Name any letter of the alphabet and if there's a drug that begins with it, he's tried it – sometimes all together in an alphabet soup involving marijuana, MDMA, shrooms, acid, ketamine, nangs, and cocaine. As you can tell, Ethan's drug activity is vast and regular: "Sometimes I have a plan, like I'll snort a line today. But sometimes it just appears in front of me." Later at a SOULS event, Ethan admitted to Critic he was high during our interview with him.

Despite his criminal credentials, Ethan doesn't question the irony of his drug use in depth. "As a law student, you don't have to approve of the law. You just study it and how it works, and how it applies to situations," he claims. "I think it's a simplification to be like, law students have to follow the law. No, we learn the law."

Ethan reckons law students shouldn't be held to a higher standard than others, telling Critic that breaking the law has no bearing on someone's ability to give quality legal advice. And perhaps Ethan's right, insofar that his illegal activities have in no way prevented him from excelling at his degree. In fact, Ethan's academic credentials are so bizarrely impressive we can't reference them without running the risk of making him identifiable.

This risk is even higher given crime-committing law students aren't the norm, at least according to Ethan. "[I break the law] a lot more than the average law student. Law students are uptight, and they're full of themselves. They're not built the same as my BCom friends. My law student friends will be like, 'Oh, it's gonna be a massive night tonight!' and then be in bed by like 10:30pm. It's kinda disappointing."

Second-year law student Ruth* adopts a similar devil-may-care attitude when dabbling in recreational drugs. "You don't really think about the consequences in that situation, ever, because everyone else is doing it," she says. Ruth cites the mantra of "work hard, play hard," claiming it's especially resonant in Dunedin. "It's hard to get a law degree. We're cramming it into five years. You have all this pressure. Then you've got [...] the little devil on your shoulder that is a Saturday night and the availability of drugs. You almost justify it to yourself that it's [work-life] balance."

Law at Otago is laid out in a much more gruelling manner than other degrees, with entry into law school infamously riding on two 50% exams at the end of first year. While Ethan reckons law students are tame, Ruth disagrees, telling Critic that out of all her friends the law students take the most drugs. Her theory? "I'd say having a really highly demanding degree contributes to [it]."

Not only does Ruth suggest that the intensity of a law degree can push students to snort stress-relief – she reckons it can also help them to get away with it. "Knowing about the law gives you a heightened sense of awareness around the way everything works," she tells Critic, clueing law students into the culpability of their weekend (or weekday) activities.

But despite her casual attitude towards drugs, Ruth is self-aware: "There is this very ironic aspect of it that we're studying to be facilitators of the law yet we continuously break it." Ruth says she and her friends often talk about the irony of students "crossing the line of what's legal while we're studying to enforce the line" – perhaps as they pass



around a joint. Discussions of this irony, however, hardly seem to make it out of the blunt rotation: "It's interesting, but it's not something that would ever cross my mind once I'm about to rack up."

THE CLASS DIVIDE

Law students' ability to break the law they study may have something to do with privilege, if the backgrounds of Ethan, Ruth, and countless other law students are to suggest.

As the daughter of a judge, Ruth is familiar with the role privilege plays in her lifestyle. Ruth explains whenever she was sick from school growing up, her father would drag her into work, where she'd sit in a courtroom and watch people get sentenced. "Ever since then I realised I want to sit where my dad is sitting. Not next to my defence lawyer."

Ruth says that being the daughter of a judge makes her "significantly" less likely to end up in front of a judge herself. "If you're a judge, you're obviously not going to be in a lower socio-economic class for one thing. Secondly, you see from a young age where you don't want to end up. That shit ruins your life. I need to be careful [because] there are real world consequences if you do get caught."

Otago law lecturer Metiria Turei (Ngāti Kahungunu, Āti Hau nui a Pāpārangī) has felt some of these consequences. In 2017, Metiria – then Co-leader of the Green Party – sparked controversy throughout the country after confessing to benefit fraud during an AGM speech. She revealed that whilst she was a law student and solo mother struggling to make ends meet, she'd lied to Work and Income NZ about her living situation. While Metiria respectfully declined to be interviewed for this feature, she explained in a Guardian op-ed that despite all the support she received as a

law student two decades prior, "I did not have enough money to pay the rent and put food on the table. And so, like many – but not all – people faced with that choice, I lied to survive."

The speech was part of the party's announcement of plans to reform New Zealand's welfare system, aiming to illustrate the difficult circumstances that beneficiaries can find themselves in. Metiria wrote that she felt it was her duty as someone in a more privileged position with a public platform to speak up for the "thousands of other New Zealanders who are on the benefit and don't have that. In fact, they're routinely silenced, marginalised, and persecuted for the mere fact that they are poor."

Despite her good intentions, Metiria's political career was pulled out from beneath her as she became the centre of a media scandal. Following the speech, Metiria was given the (political) cold shoulder by her colleagues, and deemed a criminal by opposition parties. Then-Prime Minister Bill English even claimed she was effectively "advocating breaking the law." Asked by the NZ Herald whether she thought beneficiaries in a similar situation should lie to the authorities, she stated she'd neither encourage nor dissuade them.

Metiria eventually resigned as the Green Party Co-leader. Despite the "unbearable" and "traumatic" hate she and her whānau received following the speech, Metiria told The Spinoff in 2019 that she didn't regret her words: "I'm really proud of the speech and always will be. I think it was absolutely the right thing to do, and I always will. And I'm proud of the activism that it created." She recounted stories she has since heard from "scores of people, mostly single mums, who have had to make the same choice I did [...] That reaction was unexpected but has been quite amazing [...] it has broken the silence about how awful life on a benefit really is."

It's undeniable that Metiria committed a crime. However, almost everyone reading this will know of one person who has used Studylink course-related costs to buy booze, or been on job seekers for a bit longer than they should have. Throw in the struggle of being a solo mother from a working-class background amongst a sea of wealthy classmates, it's easy to see why some might suggest law students in Metiria's position deserve far more grace than

THE LAW HASN'T STOPPED ME FROM DOING JANKY SHIT



Metiria herself was later given from Parliament, press, and the public alike.

CRIMES OF NECESSITY?

Snorting lines and committing fraud are not the only crimes law students have been known to commit. Student activism has played a key role in student life for essentially as long as there have been students and activists. While it may be hard to believe given the dismal student political engagement of recent years, Otago Uni has its own powerful history with student activism. In the '90s, Grant Robertson himself mobilised a "raucous protest" that ended with riot police and the arrests of thirteen students. Law student Adam* has followed in the footsteps of our incoming Vice Chancellor, bending the law in his mission to better the world while simultaneously studying it. "I've been involved in pretty hardcore activist spaces," he tells Critic. "I haven't personally been arrested, but I have been involved with things like [illegal] blockades and non-violent direct action."

Adam started a law degree explicitly to become an activist – like a tertiary mole. By studying law, he says that he aimed to understand institutions "which are often quite violent and oppressive" and get to the bottom of "their limits and what the loopholes are." Adam admits that he isn't your average law student, saying that most are "pretty mainstream and just wanna stick with the status quo and [...] earn lots of money. There's not too many radicals amongst us. But that being said, there's definitely a good solid number."

Asked whether he has any regrets over less-than-legal protest activity, he said, "For me personally? No. We need people going to big lengths." This is helped by the fact that, according to Adam, law students are good at compartmentalising what they're studying from what they're doing in their off time. "I see your point about there being kind of an implicit irony there, but it's not something that most people spend enough time thinking about [...] if anything it's just more useful to have a legal background in those [activist] spaces."

Adam echoes Ruth's comments on the benefits that his degree has given him when coming up against the law. "[It's] definitely useful for things like knowing what your rights are and being able to actually speak up for them, especially if you're getting approached by cops or whatever," he says. This "training" came to the forefront recently when he was involved in an illegal sit-in. Reflecting on the event, Adam says his knowledge of the law was "useful when cops showed up 'cause they were looking to arrest me as well." He got away handcuff-free.

While Adam has a "sense of awareness" on the potential implications of any illegal action on his future career in law, he says, "It hasn't stopped me from doing janky shit." But unlike smoking a cheezy cone or two, Adam's brushes with the law could be seen as being for the greater good – or even a crime of necessity, like Metiria. Whether illegal protest activity is a necessary or an immoral method of advocacy, depends, of course, on who you ask.

"FIT AND PROPER"

Whether law students should be allowed to indulge in breatha degeneracy or respect the spirit of their degree is a question that Associate Professor Selene Mize is qualified to address. Selene is the lecturer for Otago law school's legal ethics paper, which is required for admission to the profession. She's also a point of contact for Otago law students wondering about their chances of being deemed "fit and proper" enough by the New Zealand Law Society.

According to Selene, crimes of a dishonest nature, commissioning other crimes, and plagiarism are especially bad records for any aspiring lawyer. However, Selene also says attitude can be very relevant. "There was one case that involved [...] somebody who didn't show up for interviews with the Law Society and who didn't provide documents that they were meant to provide, who took the attitude that they were above having to go through those procedures [...] There's a possibility that they could be denied a certificate of good character [...] on that basis."

But like most legal tests, the application of the "fit and proper person" test varies case-by-case. "It's a big contextual decision. Certainly they would take into account [...] the youthfulness of the person at the time of the offending. If the person was 35 when they did the offending, they're less likely to get a pass than if they were 20."

And as with all cases in the legal realm, there are arguments to be made against and in defence of Ethan, Ruth, and Adam being considered "fit and proper" to practise law. In order to truly make sense of the irony that infests Otago's law school, Critic Te Ārohi decided to put our interviewees to the test. We showed Selene anonymous profiles of Ethan, Ruth and Adam to find out whether they would, in her opinion, be able to obtain a 'certificate of character' from the New Zealand Law Society.

Disclaimer: Selene does not control the outcome of law students obtaining a certificate of character.

RUTH - LIKELY ADMITTED

Upon hearing Ruth's profile, which involves low-level recreational drug taking, Selene points out that Ruth falls on the much lower end of offending. "There's different drugs, different levels of use, and different levels of dependence. If a person hasn't been arrested, they don't have any convictions and has a very good academic record, it is unlikely to come to the attention of [the law society] unless [she] discloses it." Furthermore, by the time Ruth practises as a lawyer, Selene predicts cannabis use may even be legal. "I've just been in the United States where cannabis in so many jurisdictions has been legalised, and not just for medicinal use. It has become much, much more widely accepted. I would not be at all surprised if that happens in New Zealand."

ADAM - LIKELY ADMITTED

Even though he currently shows little interest in practising law like Ruth and Ethan, Adam likely would be admitted to the profession despite his illegal protesting. "There's many things that you can do in protest [...] you can take an axe to a storefront in protest, or you can just do a sit-in." Selene believes Adam's actions may even be seen positively by the law society as "lawyers have really very strong feelings of protection for freedom of speech." In Selene's personal opinion, Adam "would not have trouble getting in [...] there is tolerance to some extent for this [activity]."

ETHAN - UNLIKELY TO BE ADMITTED

If Ethan were to disclose his philosophy that he doesn't have to apply the law in his personal life to the New Zealand Law Society, Selene says that he'd "unlikely" be able to obtain a certificate of character. "Respect for the law and a willingness to follow the law is something that they're particularly looking for. Lawyers are given a privileged position to some extent in our society. And judges want to be able to rely on the truth of what lawyers say [...] [and for them] to be beyond reproach. As a lawyer, you have a responsibility to uphold the law." The extent of Ethan's drug use was another red flag, particularly if his high-functioning ways were to fall through. "Having a substance-abuse problem does tend to be associated with – for want of a better word – being a bad lawyer, [being someone] that clients can't rely upon, that miss deadlines, that are negligent in their work."

SO, WHO SHOULD BE A LAWYER?

Whether or not someone should become a lawyer is a nebulous topic, which comes down to a lot more than your personal life (otherwise, we wouldn't have a law school). It's a job with specific responsibilities, just like any other. A doctor is not expected to have made 100% healthy decisions in their lifetime, but we do expect doctors to have an overall respect for health, including their own. A lawyer (the intended career of many law students) is expected to, at bare minimum, respect the legal system; which includes being a law abiding citizen.

But should law students despair of ever being admitted because of an incident in their past? Selene says, "Absolutely not. Most people are admitted, or only held up for a time." In fact, it's unlikely you'll ever even be called for an interview by the New Zealand Law Society. Selene tells Critic that "if there's no information about your character, they assume that it's a good character. So they only act on negative information to keep people out of the profession." Innocent until proven guilty extends beyond the courtroom, it seems. However, something to keep in mind, she said, is that "they're looking for certain attributes, and one is respect for the law."

Selene advises Otago law students to think about the potential ramifications of their actions to maximise their chances of being admitted to the profession. Her top

INNOCENT UNTIL PROVEN GUILTY EXTENDS BEYOND THE COURTROOM, IT SEEMS

tip for those with an unflattering track record? "Don't hold things back, because [the New Zealand Law Society] cares a lot about disclosure. It's not just what did you do, but now how willing are you to admit what you did and then address it. In many cases, that means showing that you appreciate that it was wrong and that you're not doing it any more."

"If you want to know the law and nothing else," Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes once said, "you must look at it as a bad man who cares only for the [...] consequences." Maybe Holme's philosophy is the reason for the Fight Club rule that surrounds law camp. Or maybe greater knowledge for the law, and empathy for those who encounter it, can be gained by being the "bad man" every so often, in a safe space where students are able to bounce back from their mistakes.

Respect for the law is important, and must extend beyond the exam script – or so the New Zealand Law Society hopes. But the personal lives of Ethan, Ruth, and Adam suggest this respect manifests to varying degrees. While a Burrows textbook will teach you theory, perhaps it's the real-world encounters with the law – whether that be through protests, the tenancy tribunal or drunk chat with cops on Castle – that sharpens Otago's legal minds the most. We'd just recommend putting down the textbook for lines of dialogue, rather than lines of... well, you know.

**Names and identifying details changed.*



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In a 1981 interview, David Kilgour, co-founder of The Clean, was asked if there was a New Zealand sound. He replied, "No, but there is a Dunedin Sound." The Clean was formed in 1978 by David (guitar, vocals) and his brother Hamish (drums, vocals), and would go through an inconsistent line-up featuring Peter Gutteridge (Snapper), Doug Hood (producer for Chris Knox, The Chills, and The Verlaines among others) and Lindsay Hooke before finding bass player Robert Scott. They released the single 'Tally Ho!' in 1981 on Flying Nun Records which charted at Number 19 on the New Zealand singles chart. They became the leaders of the term they coined: the Dunedin Sound. Critic Te Arohi secured an interview with Robert Scott to reflect on the legacy of The Clean and the Dunedin Sound.

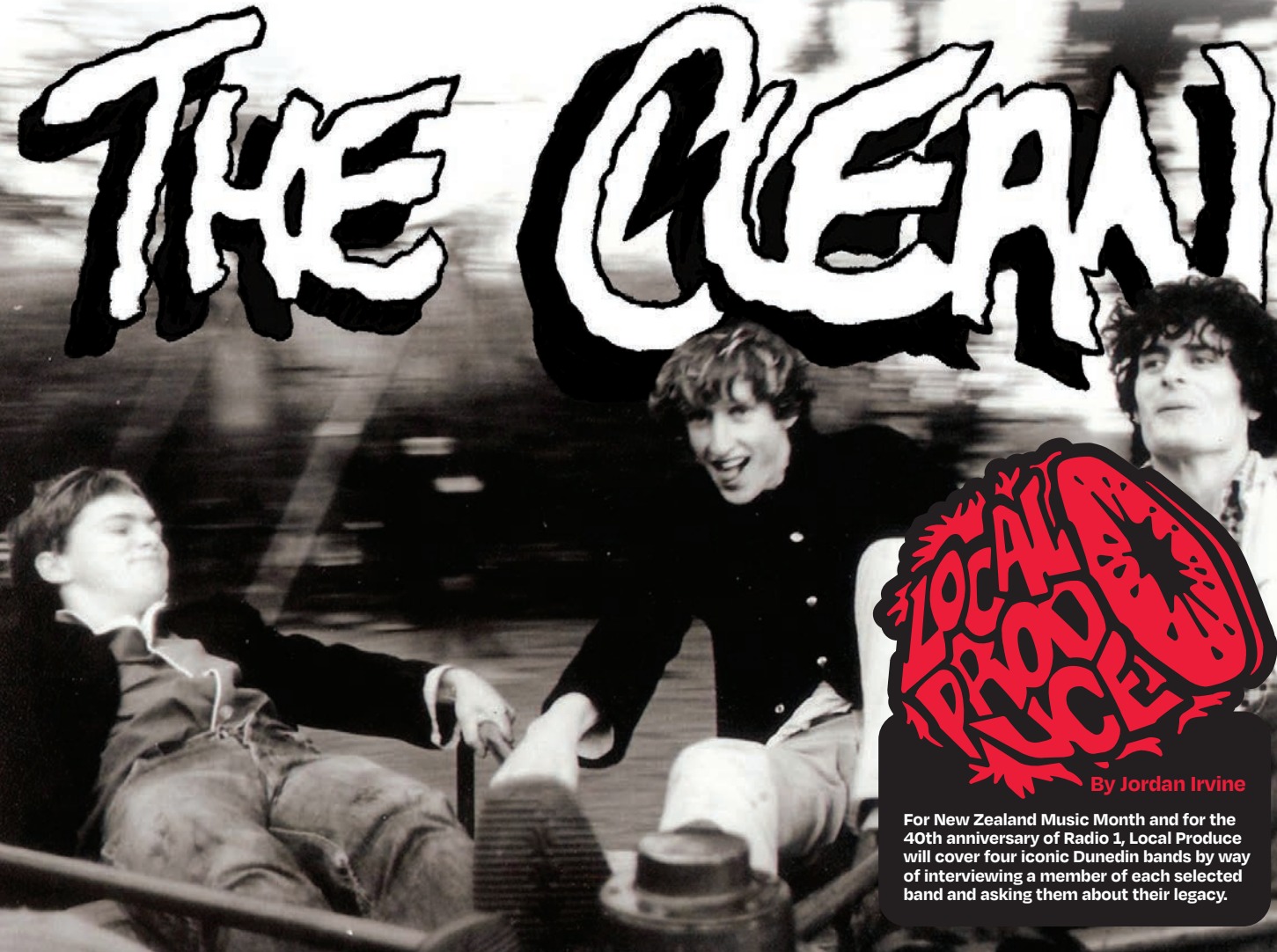
Robert Scott and The Clean played at many venues throughout their time as a band, though a lot of them sadly do not exist anymore. "I enjoyed Arc, Sammys, The Empire, and The Oriental," says Robert. These were venues frequented by other famous Dunedin Sound bands. When asked if he agreed with his bandmate David Kilgour on there being a Dunedin Sound Robert said, "There was a Dunedin Sound early on. A lot of bands liked the same music and this came through in their songwriting and their approach to how they played their instruments. To the outsider and to journalists, it was easy to lump the bands from here together. As time went on, the bands developed their own sound a bit more and there was a wider variety in styles and approaches."

The Clean has had some iconic artwork, from their EP 'Boodle, Boodle', their album 'Modern Rock' and the visual presentation in the video

for 'Tally Ho!'. Robert Scott now co-runs The Pea Sea Art Gallery in Port Chalmers. He illustrates his own art now and also did art work for the band. On the impact of the art in his music, he says, "Art was very important in what we were trying to convey in our feel and themes. Our art was different enough to stand out I think, so it was somehow part of the band. Hamish and David are both artists, so we were always trying to get our ideas across. I only had a few chances, but I got to contribute in comics we did and the back of Boodle, which contained our ideas for the cover. I got to design a few posters and do the cover for 'Getting Older.'" Speaking to his current artwork, Robert says he feels "lucky to be able to keep making art and to go somewhere with it."

Dunedin music has a lot to do with Dunedin culture. It's cold. It's isolated. Back when Robert started playing, "There was a Labour government that funded the arts and music." On why Dunedin is so important to New Zealand music, he says, "Dunedin is important as it is a great place to start a band and develop ideas. That is true of other places too, but Dunedin has such a big rich history of original music that this bolsters bands starting out. The past colours people's thinking and opinions, so when you hear an act is from Dunedin your approach to them is informed by the past. Hopefully Dunedin will continue to be a great place to make music – I hope so and I do think it will continue to be so."

You can find more information about The Clean on audioculture.co.nz and stream their music on all streaming services.



LOCAL PRODUCE
By Jordan Irvine

For New Zealand Music Month and for the 40th anniversary of Radio 1, Local Produce will cover four iconic Dunedin bands by way of interviewing a member of each selected band and asking them about their legacy.

Chat

CHATGPT COULD NEVER. SEND ALL YOUR WOES AND WORRIES ABOUT FOES TO CHATGOTH@CRITIC.CO.NZ FOR TOTALLY REAL AND LEGIT ADVICE.

Hey ChatGoth,

Long time listener, first time caller here. I have a bit of a problem with a flatmate who brings things home from adventures, whilst some of these things are rather amusing, others are more outright strange. One of these things is logs, just cut up bits of tree. He hasn't been too bad with bringing stuff like this in, but it is something I and my flatmates would like to nip in the bud. Any advice?

Hooooooy boy you asked the wrong fucking fake AI. This is literally fine in my books. I have no advice, other than to get over it. I'm in full support of what this man is doing. It is fun to pick random things up and then you Have them and they are Yours. Crazy that it works like that. Logs are cool – make sure he doesn't fuck with decomposing ones though as they are likely home to many wee species. Maybe don't fuck with your flatmate too much, either. Prolly not a great idea to mess with someone who has a growing collection of potential blunt force weapons.

Logging off, **ChatGOTH**

Students receive **2-for-1** entry into the Tūhura Tropical Forest



TŪHURA
Otago Museum
@otagomuseum

Moaningful Confessions

HALLOWEEN RENDEZVOUS

It was Halloween. I got all dressed and ready into my costume, and boy did I feel sexy. Pairing that with many drinks later at a Halloween party, I thought I was hot shit. You know when you are feeling yourself so much that you just want someone else's hands all over you? Just me? Okay fine. Well that's exactly how I felt.

I spotted a guy from my first year and we had a chat – which subsequently ended with a drunk makeout behind the hosting flat. Crawling through all the other Halloween-goers, we ended up back at my flat. My flatmates had either passed out on the couch or were having their own Halloween rendezvous for the night. We start pulling off our

costumes, and getting into it. And by “into it” I mean the messiest, sloppiest, most forgettable drunk sex imaginable.

I do remember a lube packet popping and ending up in a weird sticky feathery mess all over my freshly cleaned bedsheets (why did I have to wear feathers). And at one point I ended up half naked in my kitchen, grabbing him a glass of water after a severe coughing fit (could this be pointed to the feathers again?)

Overall, sex was mediocre and I think he had a better time than I did (if he even remembers it). Let's just say I cannot look at a certain Adventure Time character the same way again. Trick or treat, indeed.



HAVE SOMETHING JUICY TO TELL US? SEND YOUR SALACIOUS STORIES TO MOANINGFUL@CRITIC.CO.NZ. SUBMISSIONS REMAIN ANONYMOUS.

NEW KERBSIDE BINS

From 1 July 2024, we're improving your tertiary area kerbside recycling and rubbish service.

BETWEEN MAY AND MID-JUNE YOU'LL RECEIVE:

a 23L green-lidded food scraps and garden waste bin; **and**

a 140L red-lidded rubbish bin.

Keep using your existing recycling bins as usual.

Look inside your new bins for an information booklet and a benchtop food scraps bin.

Remember - only put your new bins out for collection from 1 July 2024.



DEBATABLE

FOR:

When you're in a relationship with someone, you don't want to be the same person. Being the same person looks like having the same interests, the same hobbies, and the same political opinion. This is boring. It's stagnant. Nothing happens.

Imagine you're in one of these relationships. You have a fight with your partner about whether tax cuts for the rich are more important or whether the marginalised people in society actually deserve something more than poverty. You fight, you make up, you don't break up because imagine the shame in breaking up over politics: "It's not you, it's your stance on health-care reform." You learn to resolve conflicts, and now your relationship is even stronger – a power couple, even. Toxic relationships are a good opportunity for learning. And nothing says "toxic" like politics.

This robustness works to achieve positive outcomes (depending on the election result) but also for the relationship. Now, when you watch political dramas with your partner, you can both be rooting for the other side. This engagement in the show, and then logically with each other, manifests in more quality time being spent with each other, a greater political awareness (making those dinners with the in-laws a little less stressful) and also, you'll basically win every political debate with any other person because you'll be so well versed (again, power couple).

Plus, there's nothing wrong with exposure to different perspectives and political views. It can be only too easy to become stuck inside an echo chamber that bounces our own views back to us, without critically thinking about dissenting opinions. A healthy society is one of debate, not burying our heads in the sand and mindlessly repeating the same shit on you and your partners' synced social media feeds back to one another.

A relationship where you don't vote the same is most definitely possible. It's actually probably a good thing.

AGAINST:

Enemies to lovers might be hot on BookTok, but it just doesn't work in real life. When you take a sticker from Campus Greens that says 'I only date people who Vote Green', it's telling you what you already know – your future partner is not that cute guy with a 'Live, Laugh, Luxon' sticker on his laptop.

Aligning your values with your partner is important. This isn't like disagreeing over flavours of ice cream, or Android vs iPhone (although relationships have been lost over less than the dreaded green bubble). If you want to spend the rest of your life with someone, you should agree on the fundamentals, like what you stand for and what you don't. People have really strong opinions on politics because it's important to them, and it affects every aspect of our lives. You can't feasibly have a lasting relationship with someone who disagrees with your values. It's doomed to end.

If you're still not convinced, here's another argument: your relationship. Get it? Your relationship will be one long never-ending argument. It's like a built-in game of tug-of-war in your love life. You'll never run out of topics for those long car rides, late night chats or awkward silences. It may feel exciting at first, but over the course of these never ending fights you'll become absolutely sick of your partner. I think we can all agree that if there's one thing people love arguing about, it's politics; and if there's one thing you hate in a relationship, it's arguing. You get the point.

At the end of the day, you and your soulmate have the same favourite Chris, because the boxes they tick on the election ballot should be the boxes they tick for you, too.



SHOULD YOU DATE SOMEONE WITH OPPOSING POLITICAL VIEWS?

Debatable is a column written by the Otago University Debating Society. The Debating Society welcomes new members and meets at the Business School every Tuesday at 6pm.



PUMPKIN SOUP

RANGITAKI - COLUMNS - 10

MI GORENG GRADUATE
By Ruby Hudson

use up any other vegetables you have lying around and need to get rid of e.g. Kumara, celery, capsicum etc. Dice and add at step one!

Serves: 8
Time: 1.5 hrs
Price: \$\$\$\$
Difficulty: 2/5
Feels like: A hug from your mum

With winter well and truly on its way there's only one thing to be happy about: pumpkins are back, baby! Pumpkin soup has to be one of the most delicious winter meals. It's warm, hearty, filling and affordable. Absolutely perfect for us shivering students! I'm a big fan of making huge batches of soup to have for multiple dinners and lunches, so I have to add a slight disclaimer: this week's recipe makes a shit ton of soup! Scale this up or down depending on what you are after.

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 medium pumpkin (peeled and diced)
- 2 onions (diced)
- 2 potatoes (diced)
- 1 carrot (diced)
- 4 garlic cloves (finely chopped)
- 2 tsp cumin
- 2 tsp crushed ginger
- 2 tsp curry powder
- 1 1/2 tsp ground coriander
- 1/2 tsp ground chilli
- 1 litre vegetable stock
- 2 cups split red lentils
- Water
- Salt
- Pepper
- Oil

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Step 1.** Add a Tbsp of oil to your largest pot and place on a medium heat. Add in your chopped onions, carrot, potato, and pumpkin. Cook for 6 mins until the veggies start to soften.
- Step 2.** Add your garlic, ginger, spices (cumin, curry powder, coriander, and ground chilli), salt and pepper. Cook for a further 5 mins.
- Step 3.** Pour a litre of vegetable stock into your pot – you want the vegetables to be just covered. You may need slightly more or less stock depending on how many vegetables you have.
- Step 4.** Bring to a boil and simmer for 20 mins.
- Step 5.** Add your lentils and 1 cup of water. Stir to combine. Lower the heat and cook for a further 20 mins, stirring occasionally so the lentils don't stick to the bottom and burn.
- Step 6.** Once the lentils are cooked, remove from heat and finish to your desired soup texture. You could try using a potato masher for a slightly more chunky texture or blend until smooth and creamy.
- Step 7.** Serve and enjoy with bread and butter!

BOOZE REVIEWS

BY CHUNNY BILL SWILLIAMS

ORIGINAL INTENSE BLOND BEER

RANGITAKI - COLUMNS - 10

39



Bavaria 8.6 Original Holland Beer didn't come to fuck around. Straight off the plane from the Netherlands, this wolf-clad bevvy is your new one-minute ticket to getting fucked.

Referred to simply as '8.6', this devil-in-a-can is bound to get you silly with its outrageous alcohol percentage clocking in at (you guessed it) 8.6%. Not quite the 10% of a peanut butter stout, but nobody's perfect. 8.6 could only be described as a tool. At \$15.79 per 4-pack, these clog-clad beers get the job done, and aren't a burden to carry around – but you will be by the end of the night.

With the box unfortunately screaming Jacob from *Twilight*, it will turn heads. This is either a good or a bad thing depending on how pretentious you are, but you're drinking craft beer (anything fancier than a double brown is craft, right?) so it's safe to assume you're a slut for attention, anyway.

These beers taste much like TV static. You can feel the alcohol hitting your system almost as soon as it hits the tongue, creating a buzz akin to sinking into the euphoria of a nang. The 'no reception' taste was welcomed at every sip I took, followed by a, "Fuck, these are nearly as bad as Major Majors." The can's way more butch, though.

The cold, dense, petrol-tasting drink outrages many who dare try it, and lingers like The Cranberries throughout the night. The 8.6 went straight to my head and I felt like a teenage boy who'd just discovered empathy during an acid trip. Fucking me up in the process, 8.6 produced so much yuckness and hatred to my life I had to sit down and question every interaction I'd ever had with my peers. I'd recommend hiring a therapist before consuming. It hurts so good.

After dwelling with these pre-frontal lobe thoughts, 8.6 produces a great kick of alcohol to the system which is what we're all looking for. You're lying to yourself if you disagree. The character 8.6 brings to the table is remarkable and admirable. It's like nothing we've seen in the Dunedin market before. These beers make for a good night so long as you're not looking at doing anything the next day (or two).

PAIRS WELL WITH: DMCs with strangers
X FACTOR: *Twilight* fan cam
CHUGABILITY: 4/10. Imagine the taste doesn't exist
TASTE RATING: 2/10. Only drink to get drunk

Barista made organic & fair trade **Coffee** **\$4⁰⁰** **All sizes** SML REG LGE 

SUBWAY

AFTER DARK **HOEDOWN** **MECHANICAL BULL** ★ DJ **COCKTAILS** ★ LINE DANCING **ousa** **TŪHURA** Otago Museum

TICKETS FROM OTAGOMUSEUM.NZ **7PM - 10PM** ★ R18 ★ **FRIDAY 17 MAY**

40

OUSAE
EXEC

INTRODUCING YOUR POLITICAL REP



Kia ora, everyone! I'm Liam and I'm your OUSA Political Rep for 2024. For those of you who were here last year, I was the guy with the shit campaign posters in the bathrooms (don't forget to follow @ousaexec and @liam_ousa_pols on Instagram for updates). I get asked a lot what I do; basically, I represent the voices and opinions of Otago students to Parliament, the Dunedin City Council, Otago Regional Council and pretty much anyone who will listen. I also try to support political action and advocacy by offering advice to causes I think Otago students will support.

My main goal so far this year has been trying to push for meaningful student political advocacy. A lot of my efforts have been focused at the Otago Regional Council on public transport and environmental action. I also wrote a hefty submission on the Fast Track Bill, which if you haven't read (because why would

you) was a bill that allowed a group of three ministers pretty much unlimited authority to do whatever they wanted in the name of development – ignoring the advice of experts, local communities, and existing legislation along the way.

My focus from here will be on the cost of living, particularly rent issues, because for some reason Chris Bishop seems to have it out for us. Between Stella (Residential Rep), Keegan (Prez) and I, we'll be putting concerted effort into trying to resist changes from the Government that threaten the affordable and accessible Otago flatting experience.

If you've got strong political opinions, want to do cool shit on campus or want me to sign your copy of this article email me at political@ousa.org.nz or slide into my Instagram DMs.

Liam White
OUSA Political Rep

AQUARIUS
This week you'll feel a sense of calm washing over you, like lapping waves. It may be you, or it could be the bag of ket you stumbled upon. Keep your head in the gutter and you never know what you might find.
Patronus: Hector's Dolphin

PISCES
Pisces, just because you're technically an adult doesn't mean you ever act like one. Situations that call for maturity like a friend's pregnancy scare or having to book your dentist appointment can happen at any time, and you need to know how to handle it.
Patronus: King Julian

ARIES
Silly Aries, you have been a resident of procrastination as of late and it's time to hit the books. Ella Woods. TikTok edits are a good place to get motivation. If that doesn't work, listening to David Goggins yell "who's going to carry the boat" in your ears for an hour should do the trick.
Patronus: Hungry Hungry Hippo

TAURUS
Venus is calling for you to be creative and compassionate in your relationships. Make sure to stretch and limber up before your next sexcapade, otherwise a pulled muscle will be the least of your problems.
Patronus: Bald Eagle

GEMINI
The crazy is leaving your body and you can thank Mercury for that solid. This week you'll be serving CUNT in every way. You roll out of bed with just-had-sex hair and your outfits make you look like a fucking model. Defs the week to get your ass to the clubs.
Patronus: Clydesdale Horse

CANCER
You're feeling a little sensitive this week, and that's okay. You are coming out of a rough patch and things are seriously looking up for you. You'll float through this week with a full body glow and a smile on your face.
Patronus: Cousin Itt (Addams Family 1991)

LEO
Whether your vice is the pokies at The Baaa or the Casino like the high class bitch you are, this is your lucky week to get the bank account looking like a phone number. Live that Elvis lifestyle, Leo.
Patronus: Albino Kiwi

VIRGO
Mate, lately heaps of people have been pissing down your back and calling it rain. It's time to wise up and stop being the laughing stock of every social situation you're in #prayingforyou.
Patronus: Possum in the headlights

LIBRA
You're not imaging those bedroom eyes your tutor has been giving you. They want to take you home and, let's be honest, your grades will significantly improve if you do. It's a win-win really: good sex with a mature individual and the ability to get into your dream Masters programme.
Patronus: Tortoise

SCORPIO
Eek rough one ahead, Scorpio. You have been flying by the seat of your pants and now is the time to claw your way out of the pit you've dug yourself with all the shit talking you've been doing. This is Dunedin, and there aren't enough degrees of separation to be running your mouth like that.
Patronus: Kererū

SAGITTARIUS
Jupiter is encouraging some spiritual exploration. You know what that means: time to drop a tab, sit in the Botans, and reflect on your life. From your weird childhood filled with cartoons and eating sand, to your adulthood filled with blackout nights and worrying about cozy livs, you may find a new perspective on this crazy thing we call life.
Patronus: Beverly Hills Chihuahua

CAPRICORN
Capricorn, that new study method you've been trying (taking a large dose of Ritalin then writing your essays the night they are due) has paid off. Your grades are skyrocketing and you have impressed your tutors. Take a week off uni, you've earned it.
Patronus: Pablo Escobar's Cocaine Hippos

HUIKAAU
WHERE CURRENTS MEET

HAWAITA VATAWA JYANKULU
Dye 2018. HD video, single channel, 7:30 mins
Collection of the Dunedin Public Art Gallery
HUIKAAU - where currents meet, celebrates the past, present, and future of the gallery's collection.

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SNAP OF THE WEEK



SEND A SNAP TO US AT @CRITICMAG BEST SNAP EACH WEEKS WINS AN OUSA CLUBS & SOCS SAUNA VOUCHER

SNAP OF THE WEEK

CONTACT CRITIC ON INSTAGRAM TO CLAIM YOUR PRIZE



No rolling pin? No problem



I'm trying to shit
Why is he looking at me that way



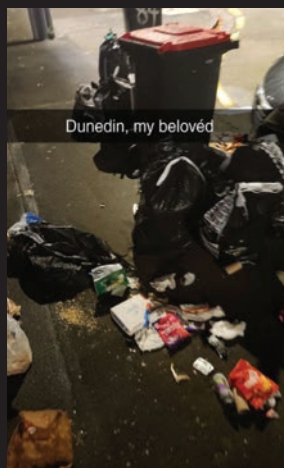
How is this actual trash can getting more ass than me



taking critic to new heights



Power bill was getting a bit too high this month



Dunedin, my beloved



Hear the story: Join the conversation.

it's the little things in life



hehehe



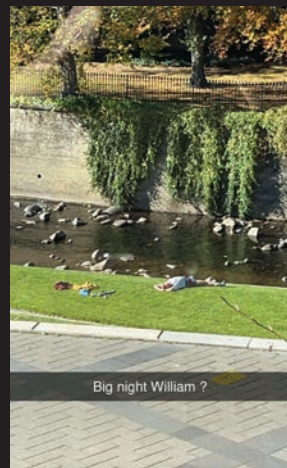
exit this way!



If I had a nickel for each time I'd been gifted a cross since I got to uni, I'd have two. Which isn't a lot, but it's weird it's happened twice.



Critic hitting it from the back



Big night William ?

2024 EDITION

Beezie

The Capping Show

May 16-18th & 20th-24th
Show starts at 7:30 pm
University of Otago College of Education Auditorium

Scan to secure your tickets now!



Sexytet

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Burger N Beast

10% student discount.

Cornerstone Ink Tattoo Studio

10% discount (not in conjunction with any other special).

Float Fix

\$65 float special.

High End Barbers

Student Standard Haircut for \$20 and 10% discount on all working.

Larnach Castle & Gardens

Big Kids Go Free (one free entry with one paying adult).
Ride Share (Two or more in your car? Get a 50% discount on each entry).

Noel Leeming

Preferential pricing storewide in-store only at your local Dunedin Branch. Some of our nationally advertised specials may be at a lower price. You will receive the best price on the day for the item(s) you choose.

Stirling Sports

10% student discount on all full-priced items.

Subway

20% off any Sub, Wrap or Salad when you purchase any drink or combo (excludes Sub of the Day.)

Tūhura Otago Museum

2-for-1 student entry to Tūhura Science Centre and Tropical Forest, Monday to Friday.

University Book Shop (UBS)

10% off full-priced books, stationery and giftware (excludes textbooks and NZ Post).

Full list coming soon...



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91 FM



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