

**Critic** Est. 1925

Issue 08 | Apr 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2012

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# Critic

Issue 08

## **Go gnome, stay gnome** | Page 6

Three Otago students have been arrested after their shocking crime spree freed seven gnomes from a life of suburban drudgery.

## **OUSA sells Unipol shares for cash monies** | Page 7

Students lose all direct input into the running of Unipol after OUSA sells its stake to the University.

## **Think Global, Act Local; Save the World!** | Page 22

Critic reports on how you can basically solve climate change all by yourself.

## **Learning From the Dead** | Page 26

Katie Kenny investigates the role of medical cadavers in teaching at university – only freaks out a little bit.

**News 6–13** | **Sports 14–15** | **Politics 16–17** | **Features 18–30**  
**Columns 31–34** | **Culture 36–43** | **Letters 44–45**

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**I**'VE BEEN AROUND THESE PARTS FOR A WHILE NOW. APART FROM A FEW years there where I dropped out of Uni and wandered aimlessly around the northern hemisphere, I've spent most of my adult life in Dunedin. As I rode my incredibly hipster fixie bike around North D last weekend, I was struck by how much it had changed. Gardies: gone. Bowler: gone. Even the House of Pain has been replaced by a younger, sexier, cooler version. We harp on about it a bit, but I think we can forget just how much the world has changed in the last ten years, and the massive impact that must have had on the way that people view the world, and their place in it. The changes in technology over the last ten years has been faster than ever before. And more than ever before, the advancements have been directed towards providing products and services to individuals, rather than to humanity as a whole. Whether this consumer driven tech advance is a good thing or not is probably another editorial all by itself. But it is interesting to look back at the changes that have occurred in such a short period of time. Between the 1950s and the 2000s, T.V managed to advance from black and white to flat screen. Between 2000 and 2012 we've gone from the first MP3 players to the iPhone and iPad. And incredibly, the pace of tech advance is gaining speed. We can't even imagine the changes that are going to come in the next ten years (if you really want to freak yourself, check out the wireless transferring of electricity).

With all this in mind, I present, entirely for your entertainment, the world as it existed when I was first year:

- 01 You used to be able to take your own crate of beer into the Bowler
- 02 There was no Campus Watch, or Code of Conduct.
- 03 There was no wireless internet.
- 04 There was one sushi place in Dunedin. There were two decent cafés.
- 05 You went to the Octagon to go to the movies; there were no bars there.
- 06 No one had heat pumps in their flats.
- 07 There was no YouTube.
- 08 America hadn't invaded Iraq yet.
- 09 iPods weren't available in New Zealand.
- 10 There were three flights a week to Auckland.
- 11 Auntie Helen was starting her second term as Prime Minister.
- 12 There was still interest on student loans.
- 13 Facebook didn't exist.

It really was another world.

- Joe Stockman

## Critic is...

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Cheers to the curly haired girl we weirdly went up to in the library and made pose with a gnome. You're awesome. Also, sorry about the whole gnome thing.

# Go gnome, stay gnome

CLAUDIA HERRON

**T**HREE OTAGO UNIVERSITY STUDENTS WERE arrested in Oamaru on April 12 after executing a garden gnome raid in broad daylight. A member of the public witnessed the thefts and alerted the Oamaru Police, who later stopped a car, to find the students in possession of the seven new gnome friends.

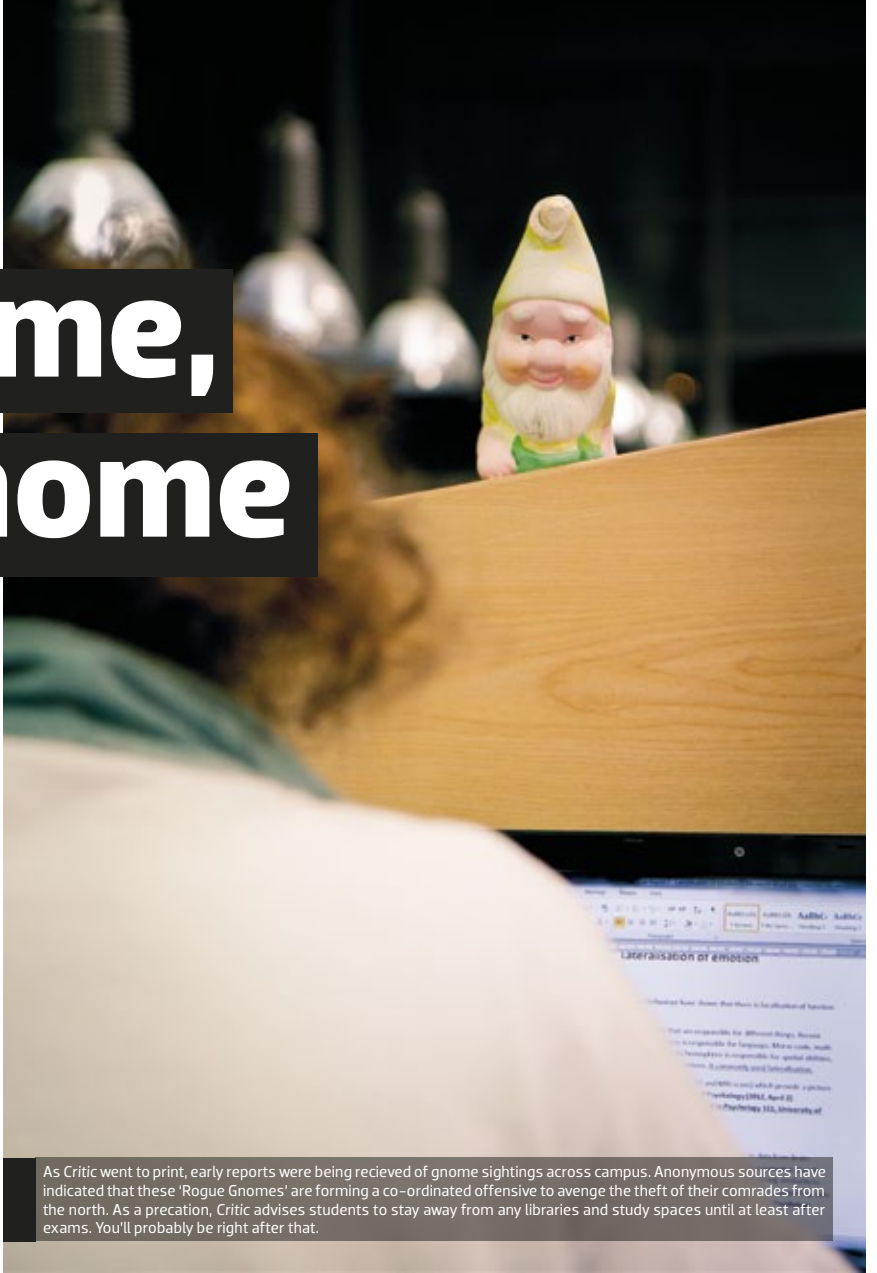
The incident was the result of a long-standing rivalry between Otago colleges Knox and Selwyn. The tradition sees the petty theft of garden gnomes as a form of "liberation" in which the students take on the role of gnome "keepers".

Sergeant Wayne Brew of the Oamaru Police saw the matter a little differently. According to Sergeant Brew the situation is an issue of "my house is my castle. These students are going onto private property and taking things." When asked if the tradition was gnome to him, Mr Brew told *Critic* that, "in reality it's not a tradition, it's theft." Brew likened the liberation of the gnomes to the unlawful appropriation of a student's laptop, which would later be returned after a year of care by the thief. With the advent of contents insurance, this is a result that many students may be quite pleased with. However, *Critic* didn't mention this to Sergeant Brew.

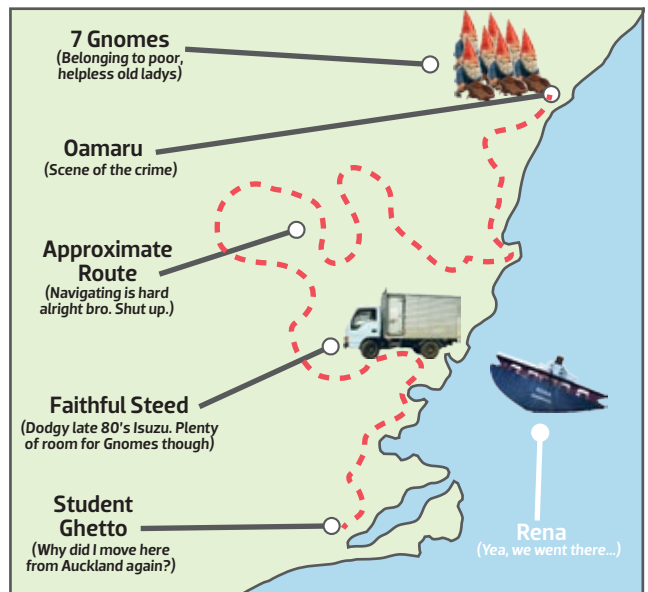
Both Selwyn and Knox remained tight-lipped as to which garden path would lead to the culprits; however, one reliable source was able to tell *Critic* that the students' plights were "unfamiliar territory for the tradition". In the past gnome raids have gone unpunished, with the police using their discretion to instruct culprits to return the stolen property without arresting them.

Mr Brew didn't comment on the students' likely sentences, but said that the likelihood of them getting diversion would "depend on the individual charge and person" and whether they had entered a guilty plea.

At the time *Critic* went to print the Oamaru Police had successfully returned all but one gnome to their garden homes. The three students, two 18-year-old men and a 19-year-old woman, would appear in the Oamaru District Court in the week following the arrest, while aggrieved gnome-owners were set to receive apology letters in gnome time at all.



As *Critic* went to print, early reports were being recieved of gnome sightings across campus. Anonymous sources have indicated that these 'Rogue Gnomes' are forming a co-ordinated offensive to avenge the theft of their comrades from the north. As a precaution, *Critic* advises students to stay away from any libraries and study spaces until at least after exams. You'll probably be right after that.



# OUSA sells Unipol shares for cash monies

## Satanists rejoice

CHARLOTTE GREENFIELD

OUSA NO LONGER HAS A STAKE IN UNIPOL, AFTER SELLING THE LAST OF ITS shares to the University last week. OUSA will be paid \$296,000 for its shares, and receive a settlement return of \$370,000 from a loan dating back to the 1980s, putting the total amount that OUSA will receive at \$666k. When *Critic* asked about the "number of the beast" being associated with the sale of students' beloved gym, OUSA representative Lucie Farr assured us it was "entirely coincidental."

OUSA originally owned a 40% share in the gym before it was relocated to the University Plaza this year; 40% of the remainder was owned by the University and 20% by the Polytech. With the Polytech giving up its 20% share to the University in exchange for a twenty-year access agreement for Polytech students, the University now owns Unipol outright.

When asked whether this would result in the gym becoming less centred on the needs of students, OUSA President Logan Edgar claimed, "Unipol is the prime example of a student-focused service run by the University." Edgar expressed confidence that Unipol's Governance Body has students' needs at heart, citing the example of Unipol management refusing to allow the All Blacks to book space at the gym when it would have limited the space of students attempting to work out. "The OUSA Executive does not believe it needs to be on the governance body for Unipol to represent students if issues should come up," Edgar said.

In its press release OUSA claimed that the University remains committed to keeping Unipol free of charge for students. However in the future there will be nothing stopping the University from charging students for access, so these may be empty words.



The sale was prompted by the gym's new facilities at the Plaza, which required a major increase in capital. This would have meant a \$1 million commitment by OUSA, and a diluted shareholding from 40% to less than 20%. OUSA claims that the most likely scenario was a dilution of shareholding to the point where the University held sufficient shares to make votes cast by OUSA irrelevant. In light of this, OUSA opted for the 666 grand. The association is yet to determine what the money will be used for and has no pressing plans to do so. *Critic* has developed a wishlist that may help OUSA in its decision:

- 01 A full-colour student magazine for scarfies to enjoy.
- 02 Private jet hire to allow *Critic* staff to commute from Waiheke Island.
- 03 A personal assistant to allow *Critic* editor Stockman to cut back to 60-hour weeks, and enjoy his retirement.
- 04 A catapult. A really big one. Just because.

# Nine-year courtship ends in tears and late night drunken txt messages

CHARLOTTE GREENFIELD

THE EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS AUTHORITY (ERA) has recently ruled against the University of Otago following a complaint over the University's failure to confirm Dr Jane Millichamp as a lecturer, after nearly ten years on a fixed-term employment agreement.

Dr Millichamp began working as a lecturer at Otago in 1998, but was subject to confirmation, an employment agreement in which academics are put on long-standing trial periods while the University assesses their "suitability" for the position. The confirmation period was

extended multiple times, and by 2007 Millichamp was still not subject to a permanent employment agreement. The same year, after nine years of service, Otago claimed Millichamp had not published a sufficient quantity of research and offered her the choice of dismissal or a demotion from lecturer to teaching fellow.

After Millichamp's appeal to the University was rejected, the Tertiary Education Union complained to the ERA on her behalf. In a decision released on April 5, the Authority held that Millichamp had not been treated in good faith, as required by the Employment Relations Act.

Despite ruling in her favour, the ERA made

no decision on a remedy for Millichamp, instead leaving her and the University to work out a solution for themselves. *Critic* suggested a "last man standing" beer pong competition.

Asked to comment on whether it had acted unfairly and how it intended to rectify the situation, a University spokesperson responded, "Unfortunately, it's inappropriate to comment on the employment related matter at this time." *Critic* hopes that the wait for a substantial response will take less than the requisite nine years the University seems to require to make up its mind.

# OUSA finally clicks, World War One happened



**IMOGEN WHYTE**

**T**HE UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO AND OUSA WILL hold its first ANZAC remembrance ceremony this Wednesday April 25, to mark the contribution of University students and others who have fought for New Zealand.

The ceremony will begin at the Memorial Walk outside the Clocktower at 1.30pm and end at the plaque near Leith bridge, which is dedicated to University alumni who fought in the war. OUSA President Logan Edgar told *Critic* that "we want to highlight the path so when people walk it they can do so with meaning, especially remembering those ANZACs from our own University."

In previous years the University has not allowed ANZAC events to go ahead due to concerns over how highly students value the ANZAC wartime efforts. This appears to have changed with Vice-Chancellor Harlene Haynes commenting, "I am delighted that OUSA has taken the initiative to organise an ANZAC service on campus and I am honoured

that they have asked me to take part. I would warmly invite staff and students to join us for this important event."

Edgar elaborated on the importance on the service, saying, "It's about sacrifice, remembrance and hope. That's something we need to be thankful for, and it's an honour to hold an ANZAC service on campus."

However the debate has subsided over whether ANZAC events have the potential to glorify war. Richard Jackson, Deputy Director of the National Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, based at Otago, has raised questions over whether red poppies should be replaced with white ones. While the red poppy is widely accepted, Jackson argues that it may be open to manipulation which would result in the promotion of militarism and foreign wars. Instead, Jackson suggests, the white poppy would be a more inclusive symbol, and could encompass "a commitment to remember all the victims of war, to tell the truth about war. To work to ensure that no soldier ever has to suffer its horrors again, and to make peace the central value

of our culture, instead of militarism."

Whether attendees wear red poppies or white, they will be welcomed by a piper at the Leith Bridge, where Edgar will begin the service in conjunction with Lisa Pohatu, President of Te Roopu Maori. University Chaplain Greg Hughson will then lead the opening prayer, and Professor Hayne will also share a reading.

During the service there will also be a gun salute, the playing of the Last Post, and one minute's silence. The service will also include a haka which Edgar said "could be one of the only ones in the country and will add a new flair to ANZAC services."

Although local dignitaries have been invited to the ceremony, there is a focus on members of the University. Many students, especially medical and dental students, fought for New Zealand during the Gallipoli campaign. Presumably, with first semester exams fast approaching, many Health Science students will start thinking that a bout of gunfire and dysentery doesn't sound so bad after all.



# One Week of Volunteering Too Much for Most, Just Enough for OUSA

**BELLA MACDONALD**

THE OTAGO UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION (OUSA) is filling up their bag-o-karma with the introduction of the OUSA Volunteer Week.

The programme, which ran from April 16 to April 22, was organised by OUSA alongside a separate volunteering scheme, scarfiecard. It gave students the opportunity to get involved in community service within the Dunedin area, and prove they are not the bottle-breaking, couch-burning idiots lurching down Castle Street that the media commonly portray. OUSA Student President Logan Edgar praised the event. "It is awesome to give back to the community and embrace our time here at Otago."

The inclusion of the scarfiecard programme has been questioned by some (mainly Critic) as it has faced criticism in the past. Started by evangelical student group studentlife, scarfiecard was accused last year of asking students to perform jobs for free that they would ordinarily be paid for. As far as Critic can tell, little has changed. A quick look at the scarfiecard website seems to further confirm that the so called "volunteer work" available for the socially conscious Scarfie, is actually work that should be paid for, and when done by volunteers, undermines the student labour market.

One major task for volunteer week, which did fit the volunteer element, required at least 60 students to dig and hammer 6km of "ecofence" into place on the Otago Peninsula. This not only provided an opportunity to get amongst the wildlife, but also to take advantage of the free feed and transport provided by BNZ.

Students who participated were also able to use their volunteer work for CV fluffing, or to reduce community service hours that some



Newly elected OUSA Admin VP Jono Rowe (Left) poses for an inane staged photo-op with scarfie favourite Logan Edgar

had accrued through less saintly endeavours. Edgar also hoped that the event would encourage students to get out of campus and discover the real beauty of Dunedin: "there is more to explore in Dunners than inside the Old Scarfie Walls." Critic sought to provide a map of the campus boundary created by these walls, but was unable to locate the ancient ruins.

Running parallel to volunteer week was an ongoing feud between Edgar and Vice-Chancellor Harlene Hayne over whether staff or students would contribute the most donations to the Community Food Bank Appeal. The appeal took place last Thursday with students emerging as the victors, donating 396 items compared to the 344 items donated by staff. On a donator/item analysis, the students' results start to look less impressive. While staff donated an average of 0.11 items each, the average donation per student was a mere 0.0198 of an item. Perhaps students aren't such upstanding citizens after all.

## Battle of the Bollards

**CHARLOTTE GREENFIELD**

A KERFUFFLE TOOK PLACE LAST WEEK IN THE ELECTION campaign for the student seats on the University Council, with confusion over whether candidates were, or were not allowed to use the bollards around campus for publicity purposes.

After student council candidate Margi MacMurdo-Reading mounted posters on the bollards, she was told by OUSA General Manager Darel Hall that she was not allowed to use the bollards. MacMurdo-Reading then complained

to University Registrar Jan Flood who was acting as returning officer for the election. Flood confirmed that the bollards, which are owned by the University, were available for use by election candidates and told OUSA as much.

On April 28, a day after MacMurdo-Reading's complaint, an email was sent to all six candidates by Flood clearing up the status of the bollards: "It has been agreed that each candidate may paste four A4 posters on each bollard, with the proviso that you may not post posters over the posters of any other candidate."

Critic approached a scarfie on the street to ask how they felt about OUSA's initial bollard restrictions: "These bollards are the bedrocks of our democracy. If you restrict our right to put up shitty posters imploring people to vote for people no one cares about, you restrict our fundamental freedoms as citizens, and as members of this great and glorious student community. I will not stand idly by while the rights of the few are trampled by the oligarchy that controls bollard access." Democracy. It's a beautiful thing.

# MASSIVE FRAUD! UNIVERSITIES LIE!

Critic bored. Sensationalism eases pain of researching PBRF

**CALLUM FREDRIC**

**PLAYAS GON' PLAY.** THE TERTIARY EDUCATION UNION has accused New Zealand's universities of using dodgy (but legal) tactics to push themselves up the national rankings table.

The Performance Based Research Fund (PBRF) is a complicated system for allocating funding to universities based on the quality of their research. It also doubles as a rankings system, which is where the controversy has started. Universities are ranked based on their total performance score divided by the number of staff who count for the purposes of the rankings system. There is a "census" set for June

2012, to assess how many of these rankings-affecting staff are employed at each university.

A number of New Zealand universities, particularly Victoria University, have been accused of deliberately minimising the number of staff in that category, by, for example, giving staff fixed-term employment contracts that end just before June, and then a new contract that begins just after the June census. This way, the staff are not technically employed at the time of the census, so the university's research score is divided by a lower number, resulting in a higher ranking.

University of Otago Vice-Chancellor Harlene Hayne was quick to stamp out any

suggestion Otago might stoop to this level, describing the Uni's employment practices as "squeaky clean".

The Tertiary Education Commission is considering changes to NZ's rankings system, including the possibility of dropping it altogether and instead relying on the various international university rankings systems.

Critic will be running a series of articles about the inner workings of NZ's universities, following on from this article, in an explicit attempt to win the Aotearoa Student Press Association's "Best Education Series" award, arguably making Critic as cynical as the alleged rankings rort.

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**Dunedin Returned  
Services Choir Anzac Revue**

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**Anzac Day  
Wednesday 25th April 2012  
6.30pm**

Ticket Prices: Adults \$20, Students \$12  
Door sales from 5.30pm

Featuring The Dunedin Returned Services Choir; The Dunedin City Jazz Orchestra; The Baroch Choir and others  
Including a Ceremony Of Remembrance

# Med students hate sausage, raise money by tutoring instead

GUS GAWN

**MED STUDENT CHRYSTAL DIONG IS PUTTING HER AMPLE SPARE TIME TO GOOD** use by organising a student-tutoring programme that raises funds for World Vision. The scheme, simply entitled Tutoring for World Vision, allows second- and third-year med students with excellent grades to donate their time (generally one hour a week) to tutor younger med students. They charge a rate of \$20 an hour with group rates being negotiable. All funds raised will go to World Vision. The scheme currently has 26 tutors registered, 14 of whom are already paired up with students.

Chrystal was motivated to initiate the scheme by her belief that the best fundraising takes place when people use the skills they already have. "If all the med students got together and had a big sausage sizzle that's fantastic. We are still raising heaps of money for World Vision but we are taking a lot of time and manpower and investing it in something that nobody's really that good at. We are good at tutoring."

Tutoring for World Vision is not officially affiliated to World Vision International but they do have permission to fundraise in the organisation's name. Chrystal says the scheme is already capable of raising over \$1,000 a month for the charity. She hopes that it will become embedded in the culture of the med school so that when she leaves Dunedin someone else can easily step into her role. "If poverty is going to be an ongoing thing, the solution has to be ongoing. I would love it to become as big as the 40-hour famine."

Tutoring is currently being offered for all first-year health sci papers, as well as high school math and science. There are plans to eventually provide a course that will help with UMAT skills, which should be a hit



She really was this smiley too. Cute.

with panicking first-years. One tutor is even willing to provide guitar lessons for the cause.

If you want to be a doctor but are probably going to fail HUBS this semester then *Critic* highly recommends this service. Or maybe a different career choice.

If you want to be tutored or donate your time send an email to tutoring.difference@gmail.com.

## Students Exploit Environment for Personal Gain

*But in a good way*

STAFF REPORTER

**STUDENTS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION (SEA) CELEBRATED THE INAUGURAL** autumn harvest from the campus community garden with a festival last Wednesday May 18, with a barbeque, some live music, and a bit of gentle gardening.

SEA, which has been active at Otago since the 1960s, worked with OUSA and the University to create the community garden, after visiting a similar initiative at Canterbury University last year and seeing its success.

The University owns the land the garden is situated on, and provides it to the campus community. Tash Turner, co-President of SEA, says that the University and especially Property Services have been very supportive of the garden, even providing them with their landscaping waste to create compost.

Any member of the campus community can work in the garden and take advantage of the returns. Says Turner, "the idea is that anyone that works in the garden can share in it, so people can take produce home when they help out. However, we've had way more produce than people helping so far! Especially with the herbs and stuff, people can just help themselves."



Taking a break from manual labour, students relax in their community garden.

# News IN Briefs



"I love this state. The trees are the right height."

"I like being able to fire people who provide services to me."

"I should tell my story. I'm also unemployed." (his net worth is over \$200 million)

1

**SOUTH AFRICA:** PRESIDENT JACOB ZUMA, A SPRIGHTLY, YOUNG AT HEART, AND charming 70-year-old, is set to marry his fourth wife, who will be the first lady. He follows Mandela in maintaining the proud tradition of South African heads of state marrying a minimum of three wives.

3

**USA | THIS SITUATION IS SO UTTERLY BIZARRE IT CAN ONLY HAVE HAPPENED IN** a tacky porno. Instead it happened in a Denver airport. A woman arrested for smoking in the non-smoking zone just took all her clothes off. She later stated that she lacked sleep. You make the connection. We are still trying to figure it out.

2

**AUSTRIA | A TOWN IN AUSTRIA IS CHANGING ITS NAME FROM FUCKING AFTER** getting constant prank calls from abroad, mostly from the USA. They are planning to change them to Fuking or Fugging. It's a fucking miracle that they actually were able to keep the name for so long though.

4

**COLOMBIA | THE US SECRET SERVICE MANAGED TO CREATE THEIR OWN SECURITY** risk then when they finished the day's work with lissome Colombian hookers. Unfortunately they couldn't keep it a secret; in typically loud American fashion they got into an argument with the 20 females over the price of the entertainment. Critic sympathises enormously.



5

**AFGHANISTAN:** A MID-LEVEL TALIBAN COMMANDER IN AFGHANISTAN, AFTER seeing his badass self in a "wanted" poster in the Police Station, concluded that he had become some sort of celebrity and went to enquire inside (and claim the reward, obviously). Shockingly, he was arrested. We presume he is now probably entertaining prisoners in Guantanamo Bay.

6

**INDIA | NEXT TIME YOU HEAD TO THE SUBCONTINENT, DON'T PAY A SINGLE BUCK** to any beggar, anywhere. An Indian beggar apparently died with \$4000 in his pocket, showing that this is indeed one of the most industrious professions. Ironically he was suffering from a variety of ailments, which could have actually been cured with that money.

"I believe in an America where millions of Americans believe in an America that's the America millions of Americans believe in. That's the America I love."

"Corporations are people, my friend ... of course they are. Everything corporations earn ultimately goes to the people. Where do you think it goes? Whose pockets? Whose pockets? People's pockets. Human beings, my friend."

"I'm happy to learn that after I speak you're going to hear from Ann Coulter. That's a good thing. I think it's important to get the views of moderates."



## FIVE WAYS TO LOOK LIKE A WANKER AT PARTIES

**Shirtless male** | You think you're pulling off the wild, manly look, but really what you're showing is that if the front row of your rugby team was there, you would be all over them like a fat kid at the Great Taste Dessert bar.

**Fake lesbian** | You don't give a fuck what gender you kiss and who photographs it. But you come across as a rather pitiable creature, who needs to pull something sexual that they're not even into for a bit of attention.

**Deuce thrower (gangster look)** | You're pulling off the badass look in your head, thinking "man this will be a great picture." But really you look like a sad wigger in NFL gear, with no idea who you're supporting or who plays for them.

**The hipster** | You feel so high in the hip scene. You're too good for this party; people should be putting your pictures in mags for style tips. Instead you just look like a moody fuck (hence why nobody wants to talk to you). Just chill and enjoy the glorious goons. We don't care if you were all that in Wellington; you're in Dunedin now.

**I'm drinking, take a picture of me** | Damn you're the boss with your drinks. What a mean party. Pity it's actually 8:30pm on the third floor at UniCol and you're gone, taking pictures of yourself with your mates in your room, holding the RTDs that got you wasted with pride. Your younger sister can handle booze better than you, man up young scarfie.



The estimated amount of the world's population that is drunk at any given time.



Will live to be 116 or over.



Average amount of toilet paper used by a person per day.



If Facebook were a country, it would be behind only India and China in terms of population.

# Unigames Happened, Otago Won Fair-Play Award. Yay!!

**O**VER THE EASTER BREAK A TEAM OF OTAGO athletes picked competition over chocolate and sport over spicy hot cross buns when they represented Otago University at the New Zealand Unigames in Wellington. Otago has won the Unigames shield an impressive 35 times. This year the marketing gurus dubbed the event the "Wellywood games", dredging up horrible memories of the much-hated "Wellywood" sign proposal. Shot.

This year the University of Auckland took home the shield as overall points winner. Otago had to console itself with the fair-play trophy,

which confirmed that Otago has more "good cunts" than other unis. Otago performed well over all competitions; only the debating team failed to reach the podium. The rowing and badminton teams took out their respective competitions while the touch and netball teams performed well for a silver medal.

VSM has hit the Otago Unigames team hard. Many elite sportspeople could no longer afford the trip now that OUSA has had to limit its contribution. Otago did not even field teams in cricket, football, ultimate (a.k.a. frisbee), basketball, rugby sevens and volleyball, which left us

virtually no chance of taking out the overall title.

The decline in quality of Otago's participation in recent years has been questioned by some, but Logan Edgar remained typically upbeat about the result: "We sent a small, high quality team who played hard and fair and did us proud to get us the bronze and pick up the coveted Fair Play Award".

Rain and bad weather hampered the event this year, but those who participated reported a well-run event which was "as much about having fun as it was about beating the other unis".

## Rowing

**CAPTAIN:** Andrew Annear (men's) and Sarah Lindley (women's).

**RESULT:** Overall winner.

**WHY:** Hard work!!! We have the best facilities and dedicated coaches who put in a lot of work on the crews.

**MVP:** The novices.

**LVP (LEAST VALUABLE PLAYER):** Ratboy.

**BEST PART:** Heaps of fun and a decent party afterwards. All the universities coming together. Often people who race with each other during the summer turn around and race against each other at uni games.

**WORST PART:** All the organising and hard work.

**WEIRDEST THING THAT HAPPENED:** A masters student pashing a fresher and being very proud.

## Lawn Bowls

**CAPTAIN:** Conor Muir.

**RESULT:** Silver medalist.

**WHY:** We performed well in pool play and played well against Waikato in the semis. In the final we were outplayed by Auckland and didn't have any luck.

**MVP:** Conor Muir.

**LVP:** Thomas Leonard-Gatland.

**BEST PART:** Getting together with the rest of the Otago team at night.

**WORST PART:** The weather was shit and not enough Otago students took part.

**WEIRDEST THING THAT HAPPENED:** The netball girls and their chanting, singing and dancing.

## Badminton

**CAPTAIN:** Pavithar Gill.

**RESULT:** Overall winner.

**WHY:** Strong squad. The team has played together for a couple of years and we all represent Otago at provincial level as well.

**MVP:** Luke White.

**LVP:** Luke White.

**BEST PART:** Finding out that freshers can't "handle the jandal".

**WORST PART:** Taking care of the aftermath when freshers can't "handle the jandle".

**WEIRDEST THING THAT HAPPENED:** Arriving back to Christchurch to find our tyres slashed. Fucking skinheads!!!

## Debating

**CAPTAIN:** Paul Hunt.

**RESULT:** Fifth overall.

**WHY:** The limited preparation format didn't suit our team. We prefer the longer formats (don't we all).

**MVP:** Nick Gavey.

**LVP:** Alice Sowry.

**BEST PART:** The break night BYO.

**WORST PART:** The smell in the bathrooms.

**WEIRDEST THING THAT HAPPENED:** People getting locked out of their rooms.



## Touch

**CAPTAIN:** Jared Stanley (Otago 1) and Holly Lewis (Otago A).

**RESULT:** Silver medalist.

**WHY:** We didn't have enough subs. Poor management. It's not because we were hungover.

**MVP:** Kieran "Pash King" Parker.

**LVP:** Waiariki "Brother 1" Koia.

**BEST PART:** Sex, drugs and rock & roll. Enforcing my "bad habits onto everyone else" and meeting all the sharnas, uces, cuzzies and brothers from other Universities.

**WORST PART:** Playing touch.

**WEIRDEST THING THAT HAPPENED:** One team member (who we all thought was gay) bumping, grinding, doing the dougie and trying to pash a girl, before getting kicked out for his trouble.

## Netball

**CAPTAIN:** Rachel Carr.

**RESULT:** Silver medalist.

**WHY:** We had a strong squad but AUT were just too good in the final. A good effort though.

**MVP:** Ngareka Bensemann.

**LVP:** Rachel Carr.

**BEST PART:** Just being in Wellington was pretty cool. Five girls got into the tournament team. Well done to Jamie Robertson, Rachel Carr, Rebecca Purvis, Tammy Sheehy and Ngareka Bensemann.

**WORST PART:** Not winning. It sucked getting beaten.

**WEIRDEST THING THAT HAPPENED:** Instead of warm-ups we choreographed some sweet dance routines. The touch guys loved it.

# RED AND STARRY EYED

## ON PAID PARENTAL LEAVE

**BILL ENGLISH'S ANNOUNCEMENT THAT NATIONAL WILL VETO THE NEW** parental leave bill that has yet to be debated in Parliament shows National's priorities more clearly than ever. It does not care for the mothers and children of New Zealand, and it does not care what we think. The National government has chosen to cheat our democracy, trading off the nation's future in the process.

The matter is a simple one: Whether New Zealand should increase parental leave from 14 weeks to 26, as recommended by the World Health Organisation. The right may say that mothers already get enough leave, or that we don't have enough money to spend on looking after our young children. If this is true then our system is obviously stuffed. It is a lie that we don't have enough money. National vetoed the bill arguing that our budget will not be able to afford it. It isn't that we don't have enough money – the money has already been allocated. The government could simply ask the Crown for more. The Nats aren't interested though, despite what the majority of New Zealanders may want.

The government has no right to veto the bill. The health of our young democracy is at stake. Luckily the media as a whole has helped to fire the claims that National is acting undemocratically. Why do we have MPs if they cannot make the choices they have been voted in for?

New Zealand believes parents should be able to spend more time with their kids, and rightly so! This is not a question of money, it is about the wellbeing of kids and their parents. At times it seems as if John Key forgets that he himself was brought up by a single mother. The National party is good at getting rid of the laws that allowed them to prosper as a generation. We do not have the same rights. Instead of fucking us over against our will the government should listen to us, it should fear us.

The priority should be on children and on parents; it should be on a clean and green future for them to live on in. "We cannot afford to", they say. Lies. We can afford to send troops abroad, subsidise Fonterra, and create of this country a land plundered by foreign corporations. If the National party prioritised a) democracy and b) our future, we would live in a very different world.

Demand change. Protest inequality. Increase democracy.

**RED AND STARRY EYED**



## The defamatory guide to NZ's political youth wings

**CALLUM FREDRIC**

**TO PUT A MORE POSITIVE SPIN ON THIS ARTICLE, THINK OF IT AS A GUIDE TO HELP** you decide which political youth wing you would be best suited to. Here's a description of the stereotypical member of each of the youth branches of NZ's political parties:

### Young Nats

Hoping to get hooked up with some valuable business contacts and maybe even a job. Disdain rather than hatred for the lower classes. Considers him/herself a master player of the game of politics, winning friends and influencing people. In reality, being used as an unpaid telemarketer. Loves sport, doesn't understand the creative arts.

**MALE:** Gutted he didn't go to Auckland Grammar or Wellington College, trying to find an old boys' network to join so he can make up for lost time. Wears a suit jacket regardless of the rest of his outfit.

**FEMALE:** Snappily dressed, ruthless, no sympathy for criminals or dole-bludging single mothers.

**FUTURE JOB:** Lawyer, businessman, accountant, farmer.

### Young Labour

Wants to get into Parliament by age 23 to make a difference / change the world. Constantly talks politics, using terms like "socio-economic" and "neoconservative", almost inevitably at the cost of several friendships. Feels solidarity with the working classes and ethnic minorities despite having little interaction with any of these people.

## Time to Shoot the Eas

**CALLUM FREDRIC**

**THE EASTER TRADING BUNNY HAS MYXOMATOSIS. HE'S STUMBLING AROUND,** bleeding profusely, spreading chaos year after year. It's time to put him out of his misery. Parliament has attempted to shoot him 14 times in the last 20 years, but they've been using a water pistol. A conscience vote is never going to do the job. It's time for the Government to grab the hunting rifle, whip its MPs into line, and pass a government bill.

As it stands, most shops are not allowed to open on Good Friday and Easter Sunday, with a series of bizarre exceptions (garden centres can open on the Sunday but not the Friday). Ironically, people can't properly enjoy their enforced four day weekend because everything is shut. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, these sorts of restrictions on life are not acceptable. Businesses would love to have the opportunity to open during Easter. Staff would





trum

**FEMALE:** Assertive, plans to ban tobacco and gambling to protect the vulnerable communities of South Auckland.

**MALE:** Meek, not sure whether asking out his female comrade would be considered sexist.

**FUTURE JOB:** Politician, public servant, teacher, academic, spin doctor.

## ACT on Campus

Masochistic streak, secretly enjoys being constantly ridiculed and demonised. Utterly convinced that his/her own political views are objective, principled and reasonable, and thus has a mind more closed than a Turkish kebab shop on Anzac Day. Impossible to debate with, refuses to budge from extreme positions ("all tax is theft").

**MALE:** Hates being called a square, loudly protests to anyone who will listen that he/she loves to party and sometimes smokes weed.

**FEMALE:** Career-driven, independent, comfortable in a 90% male environment.

**FUTURE JOB:** Tycoon of some kind, self-proclaimed Emperor of a 15m<sup>2</sup> island (just waiting on the UN to recognise its independence), tax exile living in Monaco.

## Young Greens

Wears muumuu and sandals at all times. Regards hipsters as sellouts, and America as an evil empire. Thinks 9/11 was an inside job. Posts dire warnings on Facebook that private prisons are the prequel to A Clockwork Orange. Love/hate relationship with the State. Veganism is a given.

**FEMALE:** Alternative, borderline obsession with cats, torn between third-wave and post-structural feminism.

**MALE:** Bearded, recently converted to Buddhism, liberates animals from research labs.

**FUTURE JOB:** Op-shop owner, shaman, organic farmer, starving artist.

# ter Trading Bunny

love the opportunity to earn amazing overtime pay. It's a rare potential win-win situation.

Until the ridiculous laws are changed, the best solution is some good old fashioned civil disobedience. Shops that defy the Easter trading laws can only be fined up to \$1000, which means some businesses could still make a profit so long as enough customers showed up. Perhaps next year Critic could publish a list of all the businesses that intend to open during Easter, so students could reward these enterprising retailers with their patronage.

I'll leave you with a random Easter fact: An American school renamed Easter eggs "Spring Spheres" to avoid offending non-Christian students. That's right up there with "freedom fries" and "liberty cabbage". Someone should really start a shop specialising in politically correct foods.

# The Tory Templar

## ON PAID PARENTAL LEAVE

**THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT HAS VETOED THE IDEA OF SIX MONTHS' PAID parental leave, saying \$150 million a year is spent on PPL provisions already and more is unaffordable. This government is not big on extending any kind of benefit, especially in the current economic climate. The Templar believes this just makes good sense for New Zealand's future.**

It comes down to simple economics. We are in a recession and can't afford to extend our bloated welfare system. Families need to make their own sacrifices. We need to stop holding the cup out and start taking responsibility for our own families first. Maybe instead of racking up your weight in gold in hire purchases you might do some financial planning so you are prepared to raise a family.

The Templar can see the crushing weight of tax under which we all are forced to live. If this country doesn't wake up and realise that you can't keep spending taxpayers' money the way it has been then we will end up in the same boat as the PIGS economies. Any increase in paid parental leave will mean more borrowing, more debt and more problems. If you make a decision to have children then the choice is yours; don't expect the taxpayer who has already reared their children to subsidise your lifestyle. Why should those that make the necessary financial arrangements and commitments be penalised by those who don't?

When these women and men leave for their six months of paid parental leave, business costs are increased through the need to hire a temporary worker, whilst keeping the job open for the man or woman on leave. This lowers business confidence and decreases job security. The chance for forward planning is further reduced. The costs of doing business will go through the roof with this plan and we don't want that. In the USA you get 12 weeks of unpaid leave. You read that right, 12 and unpaid. The Templar suggest people be thankful for what we have.

Childcare, not parental leave, is what parents want and need. We should be putting more money into educating our young children rather than just increasing another benefit. If we invest the money saved from keeping paid parental leave as is, in childcare we can see a radically improved early childhood system that would ultimately benefit the country long term. That is progress.

**TORY TEMPLAR**

# The Nothing Generation

GENERATION ZERO

Modern-day society is gripped by talk about climate change and an impending apocalypse. Generation Zero is a refreshingly different youth movement which aims to achieve zero net greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. Starting out a mere nine months ago, their fundamental focus is on ensuring that the wellbeing of future generations isn't bargained away by today's political decision makers, and that decisions regarding climate change and fossil fuel policies adequately reflect their generations interests.

**Claudia Herron** spoke with two members of the Dunedin contingent of Generation Zero, to find out about the movement, and to see what's on the environmentally-friendly cards for 2012.



## Tod Coxhead

**Co-leader for Generation Zero Dunedin**

**T**OD COXHEAD IS THAT UNPARALLELED TYPE OF LEADER, WHOSE SMOOTH DEMEANOR IMMEDIATELY leads into an optimistic and forward-thinking outlook. A trendsetter in ambition and sustainability, he seamlessly stows his bicycle away ready to talk all things Generation Zero.

Tod first became involved in the movement after attending Generation Zero's "Cheer Up Bob" lecture, which served up a plate of optimistic visions for the future to Director of Energy Studies Bob Lloyd, to moot his negativity about the world's imminent demise. Says Tod, "Up to that point I hadn't thought about how I could have an effect on this kind of scenario as an individual. I'd kind of always thought someone else would deal with it, or maybe I can't do anything anyway, but seeing everyone there was really cool and it was this huge room of people and they'd pulled together this huge event all aimed at youth." More than motivated, he went along to a meeting and joined the Generation. From modest beginnings Tod's involvement in Gen Zero grew, and soon enough he emerged to co-lead the Dunedin branch along with Alec Dawson.

Generation Zero's inception stemmed from the Youth Climate Delegation's participation in the Copenhagen Negotiations in 2011. As Tod says, "All these other youth groups from around the world were all doing this cool stuff and the NZ guys were like, 'we can do this stuff too, only better.'" The result was Generation Zero. Expanding to three branches in Auckland, Wellington and Dunedin, the national focus is one of inter-generational justice: "Every successive generation before us has scored a big technological event or something has gotten better. But for us, it seems like we'll get to 50 or 60 and [the world] will be a whole lot worse" says Tod. However he is optimistic that this won't transpire, and that implementing social change will allow people to take control of the situation.



## Letisha Nicholas

**Head of the Submissions group**

**L**ETISHA HAS AN INTENSELY DRIVEN NATURE, WHICH REALLY SHOWED THROUGH WHEN SHE JOINED GEN Zero. While initially she may have felt a little lost, she soon found her feet and started taking on leadership positions. Her first role involved community networking and connecting: helping to get the word out about Gen Zero and what it did.

Now at the head of the submissions group, a role that she modestly says, has "fallen into my basket", Letisha has already enjoyed success with submissions on the spatial plan (the Dunedin City Council's long term planning document), "I came into the spatial plan halfway through, but it had so much momentum going and we just nailed it. The Mayor actually said thank you for a very comprehensive submission."

Currently Letisha is organising her assault on the DCC's recently released Long Term Plan and Annual Plan: "The basic form of submitting is just tick a box, fill in your name and that equals a submission. What we are doing is a bit up from that ... [what we are saying is] 'we want these things in, this is why and it relates to this part of the document.'" With that in mind, all of Gen Zero's submissions draw heavily on community outcomes to emphasise what would have a positive effect on Dunedin. The Generation are looking for more bottom-up influence, and are especially concerned with some of the things left unfunded in the plan, such as strategic cycle networks, and networks to do with connecting the wider community. Submissions on the energy plan and eco-housing retrofit and other projects that directly relate to that are also being planned. A major issue for Gen Zero is sustaining a connection with such an impermanent audience. "How do you get a population, highly in debt, really transient, and only here for a short space of time, involved at a local level [if] they don't feel like they can contribute because they are not going to be here in 3 or 4 years?" Gen Zero's aim is to change that mindset by getting people to "act locally and think globally." For Letisha, being from the North Island and having only one more year left in Dunedin has not stalled her contribution to Gen Zero's cause. "I know I'm doing good, even if it doesn't feel like it sometimes."

# So what's the plan?

Generation Zero's main focuses for 2012 include campaigning against Solid Energy's proposed lignite plants in Southland, contributing to the nationwide campaign on public transport funding, and developing a relationship with the DCC to have an input in how the city is run.



## LIGNITE

**WHILE TOD ADMITS THAT "THE CAMPAIGN HASN'T BEEN COMPLETELY defined"** yet, a meeting with all interested groups is planned, with Gen Zero's course of action to hopefully be settled soon. Converting lignite to diesel produces almost double the emissions produced by burning diesel refined from oil. If NZ goes ahead with its planned lignite mining the country risks overshooting its Kyoto Protocol commitment to reduce emissions by 20% by 2020. "If we want to go to a zero carbon emission plan, and we have no more coming out than is going back into the system, then we can't be burning coal. It is also not very necessary in terms of power, 70% of NZ's power is renewable already."

Gen Zero are convinced that lignite mining is unnecessary, and believe that Solid Energy are likely to simply export the lignite. In the meantime, Gen Zero have released a novel parody video in reaction to both Solid Energy's plans and the "Marmaggon" crisis. Entitled "Lignite", the video depicts Solid Energy releasing the eponymous lignite-based spread in lieu of producing diesel.



## PUBLIC TRANSPORT CAMPAIGN

**GOVERNMENT FUNDING FOR TRANSPORT IS SIGNIFICANTLY SKEWED AWAY** from smart transport options, with roughly 40 times more funding being given to roads than public transport infrastructure. Over the next ten years, Tod says, "the government plans to spend \$13 billion on roads and only \$300 million on new public transport infrastructure." The request? A 50/50 split on road and smart transport – but even if this isn't attainable, developing a change in opinions is at least a start. Tod describes Gen Zero's drive as "an intermediate campaign that is going to serve as a medium for our values as an organization." The plan is to launch the campaign at the end of April, with a stunt that would "challenge the mindset" of people's portrayal of public transport, presenting public transport as smart and sexy.



## POWERSHIFT

**ADOPTING THE IDEA FROM ITS SUCCESSES IN OTHER COUNTRIES, POW-**ershift brings around 1,000 people to one place for a weekend and runs a series of intensive workshops and speakers to get them excited about a specific cause. "We're thinking of doing it in Auckland with a slightly scaled-down version with around 600 people," says Tod. He believes that Powershift will rejuvenate and refocus Gen Zero: "I imagine the campaign after Powershift would be quite large and would be the focus of Generation Zero, with a few other things on the side which would be quite a bit smaller."

# *The Critic 2012 Photography Competition*

BROUGHT TO YOU BY JONATHAN'S PHOTO WAREHOUSE



**1ST PRIZE \$700 VOUCHER FROM**

JONATHAN'S PHOTO WAREHOUSE

**RUNNER UP \$300 VOUCHER JONATHAN'S PHOTO WAREHOUSE**



**Entries are open now for the 2012 Critic photography competition. There is only one category – Otago – whatever Otago means to you, capture it on film (or you know, digitally), and you could be in to win.**

Entries close 11th of May at 4pm. All applicants must be either Otago University or Polytechnic Students. Email the JPEG of your entry to [competition@critic.co.nz](mailto:competition@critic.co.nz) Winners announced 21 May in issue 12 of Critic. Other terms and conditions apply: There are heaps of them, so just come and ask if you're interested, and we'll make some up on the spot.



A close-up photograph of a globe, showing the Indian Ocean and parts of Southeast Asia, including Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia, and Indonesia. The globe is the background for the main title.

# THINK GLOBAL, ACT LOCAL: AND SAVE THE WORLD!

## Excuse me, you there.

Yes you. I know you're busy, with assignments and exams and whatnot. And then of course there are part time jobs, and sports teams, and girlfriends, best mates, red cards; it just goes on and on doesn't it? But just one more thing, it won't take long. Could you just quickly deal with this whole climate change thing? There's a good Scarfie.

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**A** BIT OF AN EXAGGERATION, BUT THAT'S HOW IT CAN FEEL SOMETIMES. ON TOP of the daily grind we're expected to be good global citizens, taking the time to not only worry about our own issues, but to help solve issues and threats to the planet, and to humanity. The reality of living in the age of globalisation is that the decisions we make locally have global implications. How we treat our local environment, and how we buy goods and services impacts both the planet, and other people, in far off places.

So how can an individual student, with little to no disposable income, tucked away in little ol' New Zealand, make a difference to the problems that threaten the entire world? The answer is one step at a time. Critic is going to explain the basics of climate change, and how you too can get on board the environmentalism bandwagon.

### WHAT'S UP CLIMATE CHANGE?

CLIMATE CHANGE, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS GLOBAL WARMING, CAN BE EXPLAINED QUITE SIMPLY IF YOU DON'T go too far into the details. Imagine that the entire world is cloaked in a blanket made up of a whole lot of different gases. When sunlight (and therefore heat) tries to bounce off the earth, and back into space, it is unable to escape completely. This is a good thing, because otherwise the Earth would be a barren frozen wasteland. However, we have built an economy that is hugely reliant on burning

fossil fuels (so called because oil and coal are literally decomposed plants and some animals from millions of years ago). When we burn fossil fuels, gases escape and add to the thickness of the blanket. With this heavier blanket covering the earth, more heat is retained. We've burnt through so much carbon since the industrial revolution that the world is now heating at a much faster rate than any naturally occurring event could ever cause.

It is the pace of this change that is the problem. The climate, which is the long-term weather patterns of the earth, is always changing, but usually over very long time frames. We can expect that if humans are still alive in 10,000 years' time, they will have to live through another ice age. But because we've created a situation where the world is getting hotter and hotter, faster and faster, the earth and all of its inhabitants, human and otherwise, are unable to keep up.

The plan to combat climate change is twofold: First, mitigation; second, adaptation. Mitigation aims to reduce our carbon output as quickly as we can, so that we limit the long-term damage as much as possible. Adaptation plans accept that a lot of the damage has already been done, and that the developing world, which has benefited so greatly from using carbon-based fuels, must help the developing world which is going to suffer the greatest impacts of climate change. Helping to deal with droughts, building sea walls against rising water levels, and helping developing countries to grow their own economies without creating an even larger problem are all part of the adaptation plans.

But that is all at a global level. The complicated, and often politically hamstrung negotiations over dealing with climate change, will never be successful if individuals do not get involved to make change. There are hundreds of things that we can all do everyday to reduce the amount of carbon that we pump out. We've made an arbitrarily numbered list of things that you can do to reduce the amount of carbon you use, cut down on your environmental impact, and generally be a GC toward the planet (plus some extra random stuff that would also be great if you could do. K? Thx).

# Top Ten Ways

to be a

# GC

(Global Citizen)



**01 EDUCATE YOURSELF ABOUT WHAT CLIMATE change is, what it's doing to the planet, how it's going to affect the poorest members of humanity, and what you can do about it. Understand the difference between free trade and fair trade; buy fair trade products where you can, and demand that the government acts fairly in its trade negotiations.**

**02 BUY LOCALLY: IF YOU CAN BUY A PRODUCT (especially a food item) that is locally produced, not only can you be more sure about where it came from and how it was grown, but you drastically reduce the carbon that is used to transport that good around. Even better, buy from the local Farmers' Market and you will know that you are buying truly local goods.**



**03 DEMAND INSULATION IN YOUR FLAT: TURNING ON THE HEATER IN AN UNINSULATED DUNEDIN FLAT is the ultimate exercise in futility, you're hardly going to get any warmer, and you are pumping that heat straight outside. The government is basically paying homeowners to insulate their houses at the moment, and landlords are able to take advantage of the same scheme. Turn the screws on them to insulate your flat while you're away over summer, or demand that insulation be installed before you move in next semester, and not only will you be a whole lot more comfortable through winter, but you'll be doing your bit to reduce NZ's power production through coal power (yep, we're still using the Huntly coal power plant to top up the NZ grid).**





**04 CHANGE YOUR LIGHT BULBS: THIS IS JUST** such a basic idea, it's crazy that everyone isn't already doing it. Over their lifetime energy saving bulbs are far cheaper than incandescent bulbs. Make it flat policy to buy only energy saving bulbs.



**06 EAT LESS RED MEAT: THE MASS PRODUCTION** of red meat is one of the major producers of methane, itself one of the major contributors to climate change. We eat more red meat than ever before. We're not saying that you have to go all vego, but cutting red meat down to once a week would make a massive difference.



**07 TURN SHIT OFF AT THE WALL: "VAMPIRE** energy" is a massive drain on the national grid. Turning electronics off at the wall at the end of the day creates huge savings over a year.



**05 FAIR TRADE NOT FREE TRADE: IT WON'T SOLVE CLIMATE CHANGE, BUT IT WILL MAKE YOU A GC.** Governments and corporations love them some free trade. It sounds good too. But the reality is that free trade is about reducing tariffs and quotas for major corporations that are importing and exporting across borders. It's about greater profits, and yes, sure, that has positive impacts for economies. But the power imbalance between the two parties often sees the agreement for free trade disadvantage the smaller, developing country, in favour of the larger more developed country.

For instance, the UNDP has revealed that the wealthiest fifth of the world captures 82% of profits from expanding exports and 68% of foreign investment, whereas the bottom fifth captures around 1% of each. Factor in inflation and population growth, and free trade is leaving poorer countries worse off.

What we really want is fair trade. A fair price, for a fair product, paid to a local producer. When you can't buy the product that you want from a local producer - coffee for example - make sure that when you do buy it that you are supporting ethical overseas producers, who are protecting their own local environments, and treating their workers fairly and ethically.



**08 SHARE A SHOWER, SAVE POWER: LONG** hot showers might be a nice way to warm up in a cold flat, but hot water requires a lot of electricity. Have shorter, warm showers, rather than long hot ones, and if you can, share a shower. You'll get those hard to reach spots with ease.



**09 DRINK TAP WATER: IT MIGHT NOT SOLVE** climate change, but drinking bottled water is just stupid. The water out of the tap is clean and perfectly healthy (even if Dunedin's doesn't taste great). Most plastic bottles are manufactured from crude oil products, a process which is shit for the environment. Not being biodegradable, they will end up spending thousands of years in landfills.

**10 CALL BULLSHIT: IF SOME OLD PERSON/NATIONAL PARTY MEMBER STARTS HARPING ON ABOUT HOW** climate change is all just a lefty beat-up, call them on their bullshit. No scientific body of international standing denies man-made climate change. It is primarily those funded by major corporations, or conservative organisations that are trying to deny it. The truth is that human activity is warming the planet faster than any naturally occurring process ever could.





# Lear The



• PLL 37

# Living From Dead

by Katie Kenny

**I**t isn't pleasant to dwell upon the consequences of our own mortality. Death is shaded with uncertainty, sadness, and loss. Amongst all that remains at the end of a life – memories, possessions, family, friends – the deceased's body is the last physical link for loved ones. Despite its lifelessness, this vessel, frame, shell, form, whatever, may not quite be finished with its time on Earth. Many choose to allow their generosity to outlive them, by bequeathing their body to science. ▶

### THE GRAVE HISTORY OF MEDICAL CADAVERS

FOR OVER TWO THOUSAND YEARS, CADAVERS HAVE been involved in science's greatest accomplishments, especially in the field of medicine.

Herophilus, the "Father of Anatomy," lived in Egypt in 300BC and was the first recorded physician to have dissected human bodies. The use of cadavers led to rapid improvement in the anatomical and physiological knowledge of the human body, and altered the course of medical pursuits throughout the world.

Up until the eighteenth and nineteenth-centuries, criminals were the main source of cadavers in medical schools in England and Scotland. People rarely donated their bodies for research because – seemingly paradoxically – it was widely believed that despite such generosity, the souls of dissected bodies could not go to heaven.

When the number of executed criminals decreased, it became commonplace to remove corpses from graves in order to satisfy the demand of medical schools. It's wrong to label "body snatchers" as "grave robbers," however, because taking a body from its grave was not considered stealing (as long as the snatcher didn't take clothing, jewelry or other material possessions).

In fact, some anatomy professors encouraged this practice of "grave digging," and allowed their students to pay for tuition in corpses. During this time, self-dubbed "Resurrectionists" made it their profession to exhume corpses and then sell them to medical schools for dissection.



some anatomy professors encouraged this practice of "grave digging," and allowed their students to pay for tuition in corpses

This trade was short-lived, however, due to the Anatomical Act of 1832, which stipulated that only licensed "teachers" were allowed legal access to corpses for anatomical examination and dissection, provided that "no relative [of the corpse] objected." This meant that medical schools were granted legal access to unclaimed bodies – often corpses of those who had died in prison or workhouses.

Disposing of dissected bodies was a problematic issue for many anatomists. It's rumored that remains were secretly buried beneath medical schools, consumed by purpose-kept vultures, or even given to zookeepers, as feed for carnivorous animals.

By the end of the nineteenth century, processes of embalming and preserving dead bodies became more advanced. This led to a reduction in medical

cadaver turnover, as students and researchers were no longer in a race against decomposition.

### BODY BEQUESTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO

SO, WHERE DOES THE UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO FIT INTO the plot of all this?

The Otago Medical School has used bodies for dissection purposes since 1875. Initially, the cadavers were sourced from The Benevolent Institution (poor house), and later from various mental hospitals around the region. The first official bequest to the Otago Medical School was recorded in 1943, and – although unclaimed bodies from mental hospitals continued to be used until the late 1950s – altruistic donation has since become the sole source of medical cadavers. All aspects of the bequest programme are now monitored by an Inspector of Anatomy (a senior member of the New Zealand Police) and governed by the Human Tissues Act 2008.

Donated bodies are predominantly used by students of medicine, dentistry, physiotherapy, physical education and science, as well as by researchers undertaking projects on cadavers. The Department of Anatomy

receives more than 100 registrations each year, and more than 40 cadavers, which just about meets the University's requirements.

Unlike family debts and illegitimate children, intentions of body donation can't be introduced at one's deathbed. According to the Human Tissues Act, even if the donor's intentions were clear, a family member's objection can prevent the Department from accepting the body. The registration process for bequests is therefore both lengthy and thorough, to ensure that donors and their families are fully informed about the situation, and actually willing to go through with it. Most donors are aged in their 60s or 70s when they first contact the Department, and apparently there are roughly equal numbers of male and female donors.

Once a donor's death has been confirmed and their body accepted, the cadaver is removed for embalming, and then transported to Dunedin.



To allow for adequate fixation to take place, the Department has elected not to begin dissections until a period of six months has passed from the time of embalming – leaving plenty more than the traditional three days for one's soul to move on.

Although all donations are appreciated, not all can be accepted, due to restrictions surrounding the University's bequest procedures. Donors are informed of these restrictions at the time of making their bequest, and families are informed of the importance of a "back-up" plan, lest the donation can't proceed.

The Department isn't able to accept a body if, for example, the donor has contracted certain contagious diseases, or if they've developed dementia within six months of death, or if they've undergone major surgery within a month of death. Bequests aren't accepted from outside the Dunedin, Christchurch, Nelson or Invercargill areas (due to embalming specifications), and the donor can't also give their organs for transplantation. Despite donor shortages at many medical schools elsewhere in the world, the generosity of Kiwis is such that our Department has on occasion in the past been forced to decline body bequests.

At the end of each year, all remains not to be retained are placed in coffins, cremated, and the ashes are scattered on a commemorative

rose garden at the Anderson Bay Cemetery in Dunedin. There is a similar garden at the Nurses' Chapel at Christchurch Hospital, also dedicated to the memory of the donors.

## MEDICAL CADAVERS: THE STUDENTS' PERSPECTIVE

ONE OF THE MAIN MOTIVATIONS FOR POTENTIAL BODY DONORS IS THE KNOWLEDGE that what they're offering students is an irreplaceable learning tool.

Dr Paul Trotman, director of the recent Otago-based documentary *Donated to Science*, acknowledges the unparalleled benefits of the cadaver experience:

"The real thing that comes across is that students learn far more than just anatomy from doing dissection. This is their first patient. They learn compassion, they learn about dealing with death, they learn about themselves, they do a lot of growing up, and it changes them. It's their first step to becoming a doctor."

Campbell (not his real name), a third-year medical student, shared his cadaver experience with the Critic:

"As a learning tool... The cadavers are definitely irreplaceable. We're always looking at textbooks, but to use real bodies is much more helpful. With the hands-on experience, you actually get to appreciate how complex the human body is."

In order to prepare them for working with their cadaver, medical students are given lectures on the ethical treatment of human materials, and are encouraged to watch Trotman's documentary, so that they can view the reactions of

other students. Campbell says that, "...we also had this ceremony where we walked around all the cadavers, just to say thanks to them."

The University encourages students to reflect regularly on their feelings and emotions when dealing with cadavers. Each year among the dissection classes, there tends to be a few fainters, a handful of criers, and many who choose to stand back and observe rather than participate. As Campbell says, "We take turns at dissecting. Those that don't want to dissect, if they can't bring themselves to do it, then they don't have to. At the beginning [of second-year] about a quarter of the class just watched. But as the weeks went on, more and more students started participating in dissections."

When it comes to slicing through human skin, it seems that each student develops their own methods for mentally protecting themselves. Campbell admits, "...I thought it was a bit weird, and a bit strange, at first. [The cadavers] don't look like us, because they've been preserved, and because most of them are much older, so I was sort of able to distance myself from the experience. Although, their hands... I don't know what it is about hands, but that kind of got me at the start. They looked so normal."

Fortunately, students don't need to worry about recognizing any faces on the dissection tables: "They do background checks to make sure that

students won't know any of the bodies, because that would be disturbing."

Interestingly, Cambell thinks that using cadavers in learning encourages the students to consider donating their own bodies to science: "From the majority of people that I've talked to, they all enjoyed the experience of doing [the dissections], and really appreciate the value of it as a teaching tool. I think many of us lean towards wanting to donate our own bodies, to help out future students, because it's such a good experience."

Cambell says that his teachers, "...always reinforce the importance of respecting the bodies, and of being grateful for their donation."

Every year the Department holds a thanksgiving service, for family and friends whose loved ones donated their body. In absence of a funeral, it offers closure for those who knew the donors during their lifetime and – in the cases of students – those who appreciated them after their death.

### MEDICAL CADAVERS: ETHICAL ISSUES

WHILE MANY MEDICAL SCHOOLS OVERSEAS ARE REPLACING CADAVERS WITH textbooks and computer resources, the University of Otago is renowned for valuing human material in the teaching of, and researching into, human anatomy.

Such precious resources as human materials require weighty ethical consideration, yet it appears that this hasn't been appreciated until relatively recently. Professor Gareth Jones, previous Head of Department of Anatomy and current director of the Bioethics Centre at the University of Otago, strongly values an ethical perspective when dealing with cadavers: "For so many anatomists, wherever you go, they simply said that what we're doing is legal, and we're conforming to that. Which was true, but they weren't asking the question, 'why?' This seemed to me to be a very basic ethical question."

The most resounding of such ethical concerns, according to Professor Jones, was the appropriateness of using "unclaimed" bodies as medical cadavers. As he says, "Those [unclaimed] bodies tended to be from the poor, the disadvantaged, the outcast, and generally the most vulnerable people of society. Altruistically bequeathed bodies seemed to me to be far superior, ethically."

Although the University of Otago now relies solely on bequeathed bodies, Professor Jones aims to get the anatomical profession worldwide to think seriously about the repercussions of using unclaimed bodies. "[Use of unclaimed bodies] opens the door to very dubious, ethically slippery circumstances.

So why is it important to place all of this emphasis on respecting the bodies of the dead? It seems that we have an innate sensitivity towards dead bodies, even those of people who we didn't know. Professor Jones says that, "...we relate a dead body to the life of the person who inhabited it. It represents a link between the living and the dead, in terms of memories, and also what the body itself stands for, especially

for the family of the deceased."

Indeed, the interests of the body's family are granted high regard in matters concerning body bequests – as I've already mentioned, they have the power to veto the whole donation process. Is it really fair to give the wishes of the living such weight over the wishes of the dead? Professor Jones thinks that, "...ethically, this is an area that's full of tension. And it's exactly the same when it comes to donation of organs... If the family says 'no', then they override [the intention of the donor]. The families' wishes and feelings are placed above those of the donor, and that's a highly debatable issue."

Professor Jones insists though, that it's important to realise that the gift of a body is not just a gift from the deceased, but also a gift from the deceased's loved ones. Once again, this brings us back to the central motivation of altruism – an attitude which Professor Jones stresses is important throughout all aspects of medicine: "The issues that we encounter here are very similar to the issues that we encounter in clinical medicine. And that the basic ethical value of altruism really was, and should be, the main driving force."

Donors have various reasons for wanting to gift their body, but often it's a desire to "give back" to a profession, which has, in some way, aided their lives. Others claim that they simply don't like the idea of being "left to rot" in the ground. Whatever the donor's reason, students, teachers, and the public, are truly indebted to them for their magnanimous final act.



Special thanks to the University of Otago Department of Anatomy for their support in the photography and research for this piece.



Dunedin is renowned for many things, but its dating scene is not one of them. Getting boozed and pashing people on the dance floor is hardly anyone's idea of romance, so Critic wants to sort you out. Every week we're sending two loveless loners on a blind date to Tokyo Gardens (with a bottle of wine to ease things along of course) to see if we can make some sparks fly. If you want in on the action, email [critic@critic.co.nz](mailto:critic@critic.co.nz).

## BRONAGH

**PRE-DATE: I THOUGHT I'D TAKE A NEW APPROACH TO WRITING UP MY BLIND DATE,** and get the first 100 words down beforehand, therefore giving you an insight into the terror. Immediate thought – my box. This short notice date has left me with a problem most of us ladies face on a Saturday night, that awkward middle of waxing dilemma: do you risk it, or cut the cycle and shave? Knowing my luck I'd jinx myself – If I deal to my problem, it's near guaranteed he will be a retard. If I keep an up and coming wolverine in my pants I'll probably score myself a Brad Pitt. Shave. Hope I got that right.

Currently I have a bottle of wine and another of vodka next to me; I hope I remember enough of tonight to write the remainder of it up.

**POST-DATE: (All based on a very blurry memory)**

My next dilemma was the time of my arrival. My friends and I had a great strategy of waiting in the car until we see a solo stroller carrying a bottle of wine, leaving myself the option of doing a runner. Instead I excitedly run from the car and scream "I love beards!".

My initial thought was that I had hooked myself Peter Jackson – if he had the same pay packet I probably would have gone home with him and at the least given him a sympathy gobbie. However after the 3<sup>rd</sup> bottle of wine it all gets a bit hazy. Here is a list of possible conversations we had:

- I stupidly used a fake name, then told a story using my real one, even confusing myself
- Kinky sex chat
- Me awkwardly making Lord of the Rings jokes all night

It seems like whether it is a Saturday night or not – a shaved beaver is a jinx. I bet those pornish lesbos from last week had freakishly hairy boxes to get the action they did. My blind date was definitely not my Brad Pitt. A lovely man, but a man indeed. And my original thoughts of extra bottles of wine at the table was foolish; not long after hitting the bog the messiness and spew began to follow. On it till ya vomit meant I never really had the chance to mount it. I query if I said goodbye or not as I made my dash to the gutter.

I think the pressure from 18,000 Critic readers expecting big things was all too much for me, resulting in me taking my worries to the bottle. I arrive home early and alone to my carefully laid out whip and condoms.

Advice for future daters: Don't drink

Lucky this is anonymous. Though is it bad that I can't remember his name?

## JOHN

**MY FATHER IS THE WISEST MAN I KNOW. HE ONCE TOLD ME SOMETHING THAT HAS** stuck with me throughout my childhood, and only now, as I fumble about my adult years, I can truly understand what he meant. He said, "Son, bitches be crazy." I'll never forget those words and what they mean. Now, you will have to bear with me as I'm writing this with a hangover that'd feel crippling to even the most severe sufferer of MS.

A blind date, the options are infinite. She could be hot. That'd be awesome, imagine sexing hot chicks! I've got a mate that's done it with a chick before ... like put his boner inside her.

My date said there was too much pressure on making a sex in order to make a good story for the Critic. She then insisted on telling me that she was frigid ... over ... and over ... and over ... I haven't heard the word "frigid" since I tried to fingerbang a 13-year-old in an alleyway next to school. I do just want to point out that this wasn't a recent event and I was also 13 at the time. So don't alert anyone, don't inform the appropriate authorities, just keep reading.

So when the whole sex thing was ruled out I just drunk. A lot. She legitimately asked me which of my achievements I was most proud was of. I told her I invented sand. She didn't believe me.

So with her legs firmly closed and my boner wanting sex and puss, we popped to the Bog. I thought maybe whiskey will either a) give me whiskey dick so I didn't care or b) turn her knickers into a thing of the past. It was neither. I had just finished taking a piss and I got talking to a woman about the unsuccessful date I'd been on. It wasn't until about 20 minutes later while we getting on with this new girl that I realised that my "date" was staring at us ... so we pointed and laughed at her. So she left. Whatever she writes is a lie.

I went home with girl #2. We had sex. Well ... it was more like attempting to mash a dead sloth into a letterbox. During our feeble attempt at "love-making" she just looked at me with this confused gaze, like a horse that had been asked to book a holiday. She was really quiet and generally non-responsive which made me think I was genuinely doing a rape; so I got off her. But then she sat up and told me something that was truly beautiful and profound. She said ordinary human beings do not evoke the instant passion that "love at first sight" evokes. She also said the tiny penis shouldn't come between the amazing connection we'd made that night. I still wish she didn't have it though.



## WHY SAYING "THAT'S SO GAY" MATTERS TO ME.

THE LAST FEW MONTHS HAVE BEEN REALLY STRESSFUL.

I have been constantly worried about a member of my family who has been in and out of hospital since the end of 2011 suffering from chronic medical conditions as a result of her addiction to alcohol. I have been anxious – worried about how the rest of my family is coping. I have been worried about whether she is eating right, having showers, remembering to take her pills. I have been strategising with friends and family about how to encourage her to seek treatment, to get well. In the last two weeks I have moved from Dunedin to Christchurch, suspended my PhD, left behind my partner, my house, my jobs and my pets in order to help out my family. It has all been really, really hard.

Last night she awoke from a nap with breathing difficulties. I took her directly into A & E. After checking in with the nurse we were ushered into the waiting room. She looked frail and unwell. She had forgotten her bottom false teeth giving her the appearance of someone defeated. I sat biting my lip, hoping they would let us see the doctors soon so she could lie down and rest, be looked after. As soon as we sat down I overheard the word "gay" being used lazily as a term of antipathy. The vending machine behind us was gay because it didn't have many options. As was the amount of time they had been waiting...

I am used to this. "Gay" has been a word that people have used to put me down since my childhood. It's not a word I identify with myself, but it indexes some parts of me. Now, I am an adult who works as an activist and educator around gender and sexuality. I anticipate that people will often interrupt my enjoyment of public spaces in this way. I fantasise about responding sarcastically, and occasionally have, depending on how safe the situation feels. I guess most people experience waiting rooms as safe spaces; for me they are often spaces laden with fear and discomfort. How are people reading my queer body? Will they say something that makes me or the people I am waiting with feel afraid or uncomfortable? People using this language sensitises me to these feelings.

To those of you who believe that saying "that's so gay" (or colluding with others who do) is not homophobic, or doesn't hurt people, I disagree.

Last night such talk made a hard situation feel that much harder.

Please, next time you hear someone use "that's so gay" in this manner, do something about it. It shouldn't always be up to queer folks. Say something like "that's not ok", or "can't you find a more accurate word than that?" Your conversational activism might have a bigger impact on people like me than you think.

◀3 DAME LADIDA



## DEAREST FRIENDS, FOES AND FANCIES,

You are cordially invited to a European party hosted by Master William John Darling III of Roslyn, Dunedin.

Beverages shall include: Pinot Gris, Pinot Noir, possibly Vodka (for Pushkin lovers), soy milk, loose leaf teas and disgustingly black and ridiculously overpriced coffee.

Please refrain from bringing a "plate". Although the term "buffet" certainly looks French, lining up for food is distasteful. Rather, an appetizing salad with rogue exotic fruits shall be provided alongside a wonderfully buttery main course. The aforementioned shall be accompanied by the densest, seediest, blackest bread known to man and, finances permitting, anything of the cheese family shall join the party.

Clause 1: You mustn't find yourself in the awkward position of actually eating the food. Europeans are commonly waif-like and extremely attractive. Pick at it. Play with it. Photograph it. Otherwise, a crane may be needed to hoist you onto your Danish bicycle for the ride home.

Costume is mandatory: bow ties, stripes, polka dots and glasses are ideal. High-waisted skirts might also prove useful (to hide potential food baby). Think Burberry. Think Chanel. Think minimalism. If you are not of the private school ilk go for the "shabby chic" or "poor but sexy" look.

Etiquette at such soirees includes smoking and posing, naturally. Overuse the phrase ooh la la and import yes, no, please and thank you in any foreign language. It is best to avoid discussing politics, religion or money at the dinner table. However, if you are so inclined perhaps lighten up the conversation by mentioning the follies of Berlusconi, Sarkozy, and his petit amis, Carla Bruni, and their new offspring. To contribute to the elitist feeling in the room, subtly intimate your affluent ancestry, that your cousin's brother's dog's owner's great grandfather was James Cook himself – either that, or you spotted Paul Henry in Sydney last weekend. This infers that you are a genuine "jet-setter" and you know absolutely everyone worth knowing.

Clause 2: If you are hoping to pop over to the fabulous Northern continent in the future – be warned, don't follow the above instructions verbatim. Emulating a European does not hide the fact that you are a New Zealander. You will look the fool standing in front of the Eiffel Tower, sporting stripes, a beret, and baguette in hand. Take it from my experience.

Regards,

**THE PRETENTIOUS URBAN LIBERAL HERSELF**

Kiss kiss





**CRITIC MANAGED TO GET OUT OF BED**

early enough to to read the week-end issue of the ODT this week. Probably should have stayed in asleep:

Blaine's stomach is also turned by driving north, thinking about things that are in the north, the North Island, and migratory birds that head north.

The popular movie *The Hunger Games* turns Blaine Harden's stomach because of the horror that is all too real for the children in North Korea's labour camps.

**Left luggage comes in all sizes**

I had always believed that left luggage only ever came in uniform sizes, probably the size of a milk carton. The idea that it could come in a multitude of sizes, and happen as often as once every second day, is shocking to say the least.

**Nek Minnit, products gone**

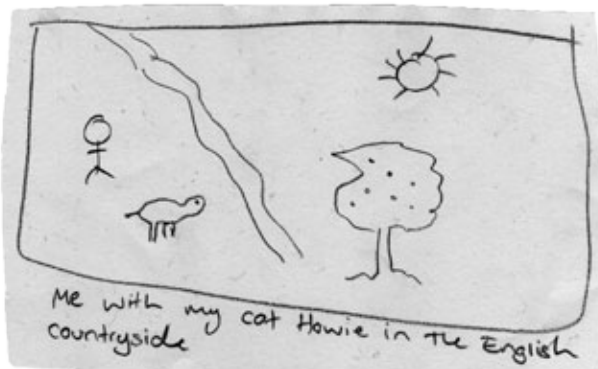
In a news piece about a guy that ripped on the Nek Minnit guy, the ODT, ah, rips on the Nek Minnit guy. Classy.

MORE Oamaru residents have come forward following the arrest of three University of Otago students for allegedly stealing garden gnomes.

Shame Selwyn/Knox residents, not only can you not steal a gnome without getting caught, but the ODT ripped on you too.

**Anybody can be a landscape painter**

Really ODT? Really? Well okay then, here:



**GLOBAL WARMING IS UNDOUBTEDLY THE HOTTEST ISSUE AROUND AT THE MOMENT.**

And it's time that we, as students, and as individual citizens of the globe, take responsibility for what is happening to our planet. With that in mind, Critic presents the top five ways you can do your bit to combat global warming.

**Step One | Run a fan all winter**

IF EVERYONE IN THE HEMISPHERE EXPERIENCING WINTER RUNS A FAN, THEN THE resulting airflow will blow to the other hemisphere, creating a cooling effect, and the whole globe will be colder.

**Step Two | Eat more whale meat.**

GLOBAL WARMING IS AT LEAST IN PART CAUSED BY THE MASSIVE METHANE releases of all those ruminant (cows and sheep) animals that we have to raise to fulfil our carnivorous desires. However, there is a cheap and easy alternative to eating beef or lamb, and it's often overlooked. Whale (and of course dolphin, and all other large marine mammals) is a healthy and low-carbon alternative to our current eating patterns. If we asked nicely, the Japanese would surely drop us off some tasty whale on their way back from hunting in Antarctica. All we need to do is ask.

**Step Three | Be exclusively homosexual.**

THE LOGIC BEHIND THIS ONE ISN'T SO OBVIOUS, BUT STAY WITH ME HERE. IT IS people that cause global warming, so less people = less global warming. If no one had sex, there would be no more people, so there would be less global warming. But people like having sex, so from now on, only gay sex. Okay?

**Step Four | Ride a unicycle.**

WE ALL KNOW THAT GIVING UP ON CARBON-FUELLED MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION is going to help out a lot, so we should try and ride bikes rather than travel in cars. But did you know that unicycles use only half as much carbon as standard bicycles?

**Step Five | Don't eat Chinese food.**

EVERY TIME THAT YOU EAT CHINESE FOOD, YOU ARE SUPPORTING THE OVER-heated Chinese economy. It is imperative to the survival of the planet that we stop pumping money into China. With that in mind, please avoid the following Chinese foods:

- Sushi
- Chicken wings
- Pancakes
- Cats and dogs

So do your bit, and together we can change the world.



## BEFORE SUNSET (2004)

DIRECTOR: Richard Linklater

HAVE YOU EVER HAD A CHANCE ENCOUNTER WITH SOMEONE WHO YOU FELT A real connection with? You might have even caught yourself daydreaming about an idyllic future together, but for reasons outside of your control you reluctantly had to part ways. Was it just a matter of right place, wrong time? Does this person still linger in your memory? If you were presented again with that missed opportunity some years later, what would you do?

Richard Linklater's *Before Sunset* attempts to answer these very questions, at least for the characters Jesse (Ethan Hawke) and Celine (Julie Delpy) as they reprise their roles from the 1995 film *Before Sunrise*. The pair had met as young carefree travellers with a Eurail pass and the hours that they spent together in Vienna were both spontaneous and magical. Nine years have since passed, the setting is now Paris, and the fire is still smoldering; but much has happened over the long years since those few fleeting hours.

The fragility of the terms of their departure in Vienna, in pre-social media days, was fraught with impending disaster. Now reunited, things are no longer so carefree and easy, and life choices now impact on significant others. As the audience gets to eavesdrop in on their intimate conversations we learn that they are currently in long-term relationships – one of them even has a child. There's much more at stake now. But not only that, they learn that they have never stopped thinking about each other, and that at different times and in very different ways, they've both searched for each other.

Sequels can be like a Vince Vaughn film – you can have high hopes but ultimately the disappointment is painfully predictable. In 2004, *The Times* rated *Before Sunset* as "one of the most rewarding films of the year." I'm going to go out on a limb and suggest that this is quite possibly one of the most rewarding sequels ever. In terms of great sequel expectations it's right up there with the much-anticipated *Terminator 2: Judgment Day*. Thankfully, in both cases, the years of wait were worth it.

– JANE ROSS



## STUDENT FLATTING

THE SCARFIE FLAT IS A RITE OF PASSAGE FOR OTAGO STUDENTS. FRAUGHT WITH mould, colder inside than out, and bathrooms laden with more E Coli than a Chinese food outlet, we've all seen and experienced some shockers. But below-par living conditions form only part of the wondrous composite: Seemingly normal friends turn into sickos as the year progresses, boy-friends/girlfriends who become an annoying appendage to the flat, and troublesome landlords may all pain your experience.

The foremost concern for students is the issue of landlords, particularly when those precious government-funded dollars are in jeopardy. Because your bond acts as security for the performance of your obligations as tenant, the landlord can retain all or part of it to cover costs arising from non-performance. You are accountable for intentional or careless damage only, not normal wear and tear. Other grounds for which a landlord can keep bond money include unpaid rent, cleaning, and rubbish removal. The amount to be retained is normally agreed upon subsequent to the final flat inspection.

It is required that you notify the landlord of new damage as soon as it occurs. One instance a few years back found a group of students having to foot bills for damaged tile floors totalling almost \$20,000 (including legal costs). The damage most likely occurred as a result of leaking pipes which the landlord should have fixed, but the issue was complicated by numerous factors – including that the property manager did not come to view the damage until the boys moved out. While it is unlikely such misfortune will befall you, keep things simple by informing the landlord and immediately photographing any new damage.

The Proctor has recently expressed concern about the huge number of thefts from flats, particularly around the Castle/Dundas/Great King area. You're an idiot if you don't know by now that unsecured property isn't covered by insurance, so be extra careful that at least your room is locked when you go to uni. Be mindful too of opportunists who thrive on shiny MacBooks left sitting on your desk by the open window, and report any shady characters to Campus Watch.

ALICE O'CONNELL

TG  
THERE IS ONLY SO MUCH  
A PLANET CAN TAKE...



# EARTH'S REVENGE!

PARASITE PICTURES PRESENTS  
IN ASSOCIATION WITH STUPID PEOPLE  
ROB SCHNEIDER AS EARTH  
A MICHAEL BAY FLOP.

COMING SOON.

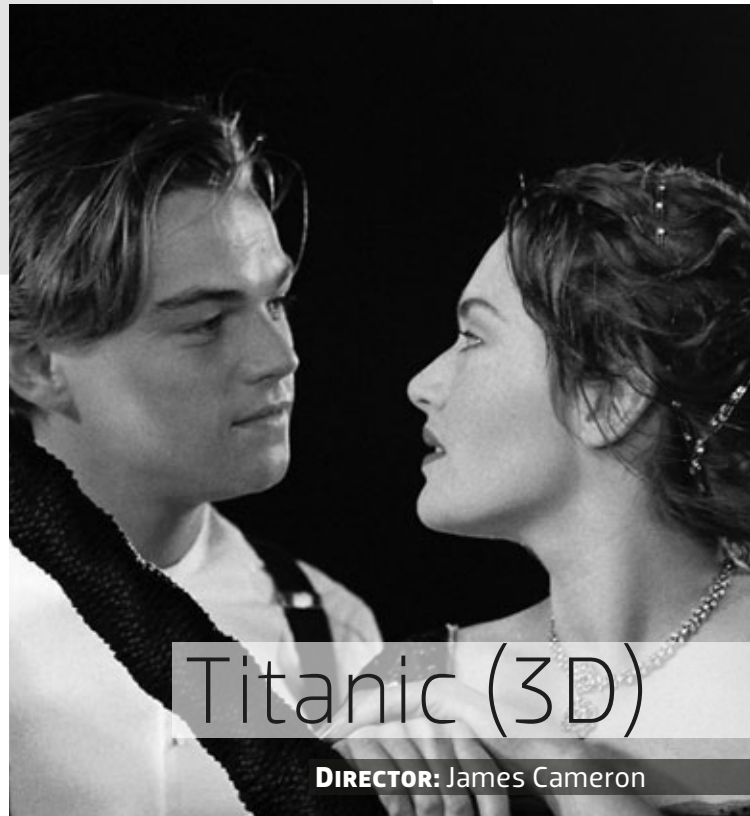
**T**ITANIC APPRECIATORS SHOULD DEFINITELY GO AND EXPERIENCE THIS classic film in 3D. Seeing Titanic for the first time in years was enjoyably nostalgic, despite the slight cringe factor of the cheesy lines and the accompanying Celine Dion soundtrack. I got far more involved in it than I thought I would.

Writing a synopsis of this film seems a tad pointless – if you haven't already seen Titanic you're missing out on some vital pop culture! But just in case – the film is about Rose (Kate Winslet), a beautiful upper-class woman travelling on the HMS with a fiancé she secretly detests. A suicide attempt results in her meeting (and inevitably falling for) Jack Dawson (Leonardo Dicaprio), a poor artist.

Admittedly, much of the dialogue and events are very unrealistic and it's difficult at times not to feel like you're being hit over the head with obvious moralistic themes about the human condition. However, I really didn't mind. I loved Titanic as a kid when it first came out. I remember seeing it at the movies with my Dad and being completely in awe of the historic tragedy that it was, and a little bit embarrassed by the love story. Re-watching it, it is easy to see that it truly is just a Hollywood blockbuster, albeit with grandiose surrounding hype. Maybe it's just the young Leo and a ridiculously smoking Kate, but I have a soft spot for this film, and I know others who might admit it too. Maybe.

I feel like it should be pointed out that Titanic is three and half hours long – which is long, and an especially long time to be watching a 3D film (not that I personally had an issue with this). It therefore could be a tad draining for some. Happy nostalgia everyone!

**MICHAELA HUNTER**



# Titanic (3D)

**DIRECTOR:** James Cameron



# Footnote

**DIRECTOR:** Joseph Cedar

**F**OOTNOTE IS A COMEDIC SATIRE THAT EXPLORES THE AWKWARD RIVALRY between two Talmudic Scholars, Eliezer Shkolnik and his son Uriel Shkolnik. Director Joseph Cedar pieces this award-winning film together beautifully, rendering it extremely engaging and surprisingly insightful.

In the process of wrapping up 30 years' worth of Talmudic research, Eliezer Shkolnik's thesis submission is beaten in by only a month, by the thesis of another researcher and thus left worthless. His greatest achievement becomes a footnote that cites him. After 20 years of being nominated for the esteemed Israel Prize, Eliezer gets a call informing him that it is his lucky year. The call, however, was meant for the other Shkolnik. Uriel and the Israel Prize committee, in the smallest possible room, discuss and throw a few punches over this mishap and Uriel eventually leaves with the coveted task of telling his father about the mistake.

Eliezer is a grump whose resentment for his son's achievements in the Talmudic field is obvious from the beginning of the film. The media attention Eliezer receives for this award provides him with the prime opportunity to rip into the new generation of scholars and their methods of research, his son included. Though sacrifices are made on Uriel's behalf, his own flaws and vices are not exactly excluded. Revelations are made throughout the film, though the final one during the award ceremony is left for the viewers to uncover.

Footnote explores human nature and our inevitable flaws which are not always overcome. There is no magic, idealism or heroes. Footnote instead provides honesty, antagonists and a dedication to sneakers on the part of Eliezer, who also offers the wisdom that "one cannot draw evidence from fools. In reality, nothing is nice."

**SAM ALLEN**

# Must-sees at the World Cinema Showcase

**T**HE WORLD CINEMA SHOWCASE IS BACK IN TOWN, AND BOY ARE THERE A LOT OF GOOD MOVIES TO BE SEEN! THE BABY VERSION OF THE NEW ZEALAND International Film Festival, the WCS is running from April 19–May 2. The great thing about film festivals, apart from being able to go to the movies in the middle of the day without feeling like a weirdo, is that there is always something for everyone: foreign language films (essential study time for that French paper you're taking); documentaries featuring musicians, far-away lands, inspirational personalities and projects; and some good old drama and comedy to round it out. But quick! Four days of the festival have already gone, so get along to the Regent for a film or two (or four) to enjoy the huge screen and beautiful surroundings. To make things a bit easier, Sarah Baillie has picked out a few must-sees for the showcase. You can also check out the fine selection of films at [www.worldcinemashowcase.co.nz](http://www.worldcinemashowcase.co.nz)



**Damsels in Distress:** The director of this film, Whit Stillman, has not once made a bad movie. *Damsels in Distress* features Greta Gerwig and her girl gang who set out to make their college, dominated by "male barbarism", a happier place by dating uncool guys, gifting donuts to suicidal teens and encouraging tap-dancing as a form of therapy. (Tuesday 24th, 4.30pm)



**Chico & Rita:** Featuring the music of Charlie Parker, Dizzy Gillespie and the jazz scenes of Havana, New York City and Paris in the 1940s and 1950s, *Chico & Rita* has got to be the most sophisticated animated film to hit the screens for a long time. Just watching it will probably make you cooler. It is also Spanish – double cool. (Saturday 28, 6.15pm; Tuesday May 1, 8.30pm)



**The Swell Season:** Remember *Once*? The film about the Irish busker and the Czech girl? *The Swell Season* is a documentary about the two stars of the film, who found fame (and love – with each other!) when *Once* hit the big time. The chemistry between these two musicians is absorbing and the music they create, magical. (Monday 23rd, 2.15pm)



**Under African Skies:** Paul Simon visited South Africa at a time of heightened political tension to make one of the best albums of all time, *Graceland*. Returning to South Africa for a 25-year reunion concert, Simon reconnects with his old friends, revisits the political issues of the time and his inspiration for the unique fusion of South African music and his own style. This documentary offers a personal insight into the creation of the songs of the album and features amazing studio and concert footage from the 1980s. Definitely a must-see for any fan of Paul Simon and *Graceland*. (OK, so you missed out on this one, but hunt it down – it's amazing!)



**Hara-Kiri 3D: Death of a Samurai:** A remake of the 1964 classic samurai film, *Hara-Kiri* is in 3D! Action-packed as samurai films already are, I can imagine that the action takes on another level with the samurais jumping out of the screen and what-not. Pretty freakin' awesome. (At Rialto, Sunday 22nd, 8.45pm; Monday 30th, 8.45pm)



**Mental Notes:** An exploration of the dark days of the New Zealand mental health system, *Mental Notes* is the story of five ex-patients

of "lunatic asylums", as they were officially named. Tackling an almost forgotten and hidden part of our history, *Mental Notes* sheds some light on what it was really like in a time when mental health patients were treated as second-class citizens and thrown in the "loony bins" to be kept out of the public eye. (Monday 23rd, 6.15pm; Tuesday 24th, 11.15am)



**Urbanized:** *Urbanized* looks at an issue of ever-increasing importance – what makes a city sustainable and liveable in the face of escalating populations? From Tokyo, to Detroit, to Paris to Bogotá in Columbia, this documentary shows us what works in urban design, and what doesn't. An interesting film for students of design, planning and people who want to see how cities are made. (Monday 23rd, 12.45 pm)



**AnDa Union:** This documentary follows the 10 members of "Mongolia's most famous band", AnDa Union (yeah, I hadn't heard of them either), as they travel 10,000km performing for each of the members' families in remote destinations. A road trip around Mongolia with a ten-piece band? I'm intrigued. (Saturday 28th 1.30pm; Tuesday May 1, 12.00pm)

# Avernum: Escape From the Pit



After committing some undisclosed crime, to some petty monarchy, a party of four characters are imprisoned underground. The setting of *Escape From the Pit* is, quite literally, one enormous dungeon packed with gruesome monsters, glittering loot and quests to kill monsters and/or bring back loot.

The personality of each character is not specified, which I like. You can forge a deeper connection with an avatar that has nothing but a portrait and a name and never ever speaks.

It's a shame the same minimalist attitude isn't extended to advancing the story. Big text boxes are dreaded, popping up with frustrating regularity. This would be okay if the draw of the game was a unique, genre-deconstructing plot, but the whole point of the game is that it's not. Why would you bother describing a wall as being "roughly hewn stone" when a) that's demonstrated by the graphics and b) every single wall in every single piece of fantasy media is made of stone and roughly hewn?

The turn-based combat has a heap of depth. Even something as simple as positioning your small party on the battle grid is important. There's a real sense of economy to the spare, unflashy turn-based encounters.

There are subtle problems with the interface, which is an issue for a game that attempts to make an archaic aesthetic accessible. The only way to close the inventory screen, for example, seems to be to press escape (not g, which opens the screen). That is going to infuriate strategy RPG fans, who rely on hotkeys.

At \$10 on Steam, *Avernum* is also a little pricey.

**R**EMEMBER WHEN, IN WELL-SUPERVISED PLAYGROUND GAMES, YOU had to take turns? *Avernum* taps into all that nostalgia, as well as all the comfort that comes from navigating a series of isometric cubes. This RPG is deliberately generic – so it's equal parts charming and predictable.

## XKCD



The SLS head engineer plans to invite Shania Twain to stand under the completed prototype, then tell her, 'I don't expect you to date me just because I'm a rocket scientist, but you've gotta admit – this is pretty fucking impressive.'

# RED

WRITTEN BY **John Logan**

DIRECTED BY **Lara Macgregor**

STARRING **John Bach** and **Cameron Douglas**

PERFORMING UNTIL **May 5**



**T**HE FORTUNE THEATRE'S LATEST AWARD-winning production RED is a fierce and intriguing look in to the life of Mark Rothko and his assistant, over the space of two years, as he prepares to create a selection of murals for The Four Seasons Restaurant.

John Bach brings Rothko to life beautifully as he storms around the stage ranting about art and life. The self-centred, twisted soul lays the whole of the art world at our feet in a combination of comparisons and insults while his patient assistant listens on with us. Cameron Douglas's complementary actions allow the assistant to grow throughout the piece; he is believable in his slow, yet newfound confidence and voice to speak against Rothko. This confidence leads to a lot of arguing (though this happens often enough with Rothko always having something to disagree with) yet it never gets boring, as we see Douglas crawl his way up to the top where he hopes to seek respect, as a

man and a struggling artist – a struggling artist who doesn't even expose his name, leaving the enjoyable mystery of "who is he?"

The tension and use of silence between the characters is a highlight. In one of the final sequences a stunning image is set before us as we see Rothko kick a bucket of water across the stage and for the first time Douglas doesn't back down. Their eyes are locked and they are stoic in their silence as the only sound to be heard is the bucket rolling and stabilising. It's these eerie moments that reflect Rothko's creations hung around the space, uneasy and dark.

The set was fantastic, a huge kudos to the team who must have spent weeks deep in paint attempting to replicate those humongous images, which leads me to another highlight of the piece – live painting on stage! Douglas and Bach danced around each other as they bounded from side to side covering a massive canvas in maroon paint. It was so satisfying to see this

kind of live action, and a mess made and not swept up by a stage manager in the interval. Every movement on the set affects the set. Every drop of paint is left to build the landscape of the studio. Everything about the piece is natural. The scene changes are smooth, believable and intriguing. The audience sits in silence as we watched and wondered what would happen next. These scene changes were aided nicely by the use of music, Rothko's record player dictating the mood and speed of the scene.

I would highly recommend RED to anyone. Granted some people (art history majors perhaps?) will gain more from the piece, and it is very wordy, but don't let that hinder you from attending. I love that it is packed full of references to the art world, which occasionally go over your head and yet sometimes are used as punch lines which make you feel gloriously educated as you laugh along with the crowd at Pollock's expense.



## The Girl In Stilletos

**D**UNEDIN'S OWN GIRL IN STILLETOS IS IN TOWN NEXT WEEK AND PLAYING at Sammy's on her national tour. Annah Mac will perform on April 28 as part of the tour to promote her single, as well as her album released in September last year. I caught up with her to find out all about her bowls skills, and how she's feeling about her first national tour.

Annah went to school in Dunedin, and coming back is exciting because "everyone that supported me there hasn't seen the work I've been doing for the last three or four years now ... the last time I was there I was just a girl with my guitar, playing in cafés and things like that, and now I've got a full band, and an album, and I'm really excited to share that with everybody."

Her national tour kicked off on April 20 in Auckland, and features gigs in Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, Dunedin and Invercargill – a pretty big deal for a 20-year-old small town Kiwi girl. Speaking from Auckland, she said she's "really excited, a little bit nervous, but everything's going to

plan so that's cool. No last minute [issues], and the band's all here and ready!"

The "Girl in Stilletos Tour" is named after her hit single, which reached number two in the New Zealand Top 40 charts. The video clip features Annah at Hillsborough Bowls Club – an idea that came from video director Florence Noble who Annah describes as "very clever ... when we met with her she sort of pitched the idea, and I thought 'this is really great, it's really awesome, it's going to be really funny' ... and we kind of just went with that."

And as for her bowls ability? Many of us have grown up playing bowls in some form or another, and Annah is no exception. "I have at school, a couple of times, but I didn't know very much until I got there that day. All the people in the video clip apart from two of the men were actually Hillsborough Bowls Club members ... and they

were very excited to teach me as well, so I sorta had a whole day of training during the video clip."

The song's unprecedented success in the New Zealand charts has opened a lot of doors for Annah – she released her debut album *Little Stranger* in September 2011 and her time in the top ten has enabled this tour, as well as another single. Her successes are "pretty incredible ... it's been pretty amazing for myself and also for the team that's been working with me. It's a pretty exciting time."

And just like many New Zealand artists, Annah writes her own songs – yet another trait that proves her mad skills as a musician. So what inspires Annah Mac? "Everything you know, I'm constantly drawing inspiration from other artists, and my family and friends and situations that they're going through, so everything really. Life."

You can see Annah play live on April 28 at Sammy's, and tickets are available from the venue beforehand or on the door for \$26 – all ages.



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# Pets! Dead Or Alive!



**M**ARINA LEWYCKA'S *Various Pets Alive and Dead* delves into the development of a slightly dysfunctional family who have taken very different lives after growing up in a left-wing liberal commune. Set in 2008, the novel moves between Doncaster and London, exploring both the present lives of the characters, and also their memories of growing up in the commune. The narrative reveals that the mother is the only person in the family that still believes in

the radical politics and lentil-eating philosophy of their past. The rest of the family now work in corporate finance and are sex-crazed, rejecting the ideals she had tried to instil in them. And as the title suggests, there are various pets; some living, some dead.

The book is focalised through three different characters: Serge, whom the family believe to be doing a PhD in Mathematics at Cambridge when in actuality he is selling his soul to the corporate world; Clara, a slightly neurotic primary school teacher who has the worst luck with keeping pets alive; and Doro, the hippy mother of Serge and Clara, who still tries to live a life of free love and protest. The other characters in the novel include Maroushka, a beautiful ditzzy girl from Zhytomyr whom Serge wants to sleep with; Oolie-Anna, Serge and Clara's Down's Syndrome sibling; and Marcus, Doro's soon-to-be husband whose first person narrative is expressed in the epilogue. I found the characterisation effective in highlighting how each family member had chosen different life paths. Doro was my least favourite of the characters because her intrusive, nagging and opinionated personality got tiresome and added little to the effect of the story. However, I loved Serge, who spent most of his time piecing together poetry about Maroushka, and fantasising about sleeping with her. He tries so hard that it's slightly cringe – like sniffing shoes cringe.

The chapters are nice and short, so I found the novel to be an easy and quick read. There were many points where I actually laughed out loud at some situations the characters found themselves in and the memories



*It seemed like the rabbits which kept on appearing so inexorably were in fact zombie-bunnies linked in some supernatural way with those little hairless corpses they'd buried*

they recalled. Lewycka paints fantastically funny childhood memories for

both Serge and Clara. My favourite belongs to Serge, in which he, unable to comprehend the speed at which rabbits procreate, believes that the rabbits that keep coming back after he has buried them must be zombie rabbits: "It seemed like the rabbits which kept on appearing so inexorably were in fact zombie-bunnies linked in some supernatural way with those little hairless corpses they'd buried." The "zombie" rabbits that seem to take over the commune end up being donated, unbeknownst to the vegetarian animal-loving members of the commune, to Randy's Reptiles.

Lewycka's novel is an easily accessible read that everyone can relate to in one way or another – be it through pining for a girl way out of your league or eulogising at pet funerals. If you want to realise you aren't that weird after all, definitely give it a read!

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# Haunts of Dickens

Hungerford Stairs 1850 by John Harley. We are aware this is an entirely different artist. Phone-tag & google both failed us. Soz.

**H**AUNTS OF DICKENS IS A COLLECTION OF ALMOST 60 WATERCOLOURS painted by British artist Paul Braddon (1864–1937). The exhibition is part of Charles Dickens's 200th birthday celebration and contains scenes from Dickens's novels, ranging from *Great Expectations* to *The Old Curiosity Shop*. The illustrations were gifted to the Dunedin Public Library in 1956 by A. H. Reed, a well-known literary figure in New Zealand.

The exhibition comes with an interesting story: The watercolours were discovered last year by librarian Anthony Tedeschi, concealed between some rare books at the Dunedin Public Library. Curator Lynda Cullen says they were found wrapped in "fairly ordinary folders made of cardboard, tied with string". It is estimated that the watercolours are worth \$100,000.

The illustrations consist mostly of pencil sketches which have had watercolours added to them. The artist's work was typically of an architectural nature and this is reflected in the exhibition. The main focus in every piece is on buildings and structures with a few figures, most of whom have walking sticks. The curator Lynda describes the watercolours as having three kinds of identifiers – Charles Dickens, the artist, and the scenes, which "often are representative of buildings that Dickens borrowed from real life for his novels."

Because of this, Lynda goes on to talk about the lovely nuances of the works, in the way that "story and reality is folding in and out of this exhibition." For this reason, the exhibition has been drawing in not only those interested in the artistic breadth of the works, but also those with a keen interest in their literary nature.

The exhibition is showcasing a number of events in association with the works, including readings by local actors and talks on related topics such as Victorian fashion and health, the architecture found in Braddon's works, and women in Dickens's novels. Each reading has attracted a crowd of around a hundred people and this number appears to be made up of largely older people. Lynda suggests that this may be because Dickens is not studied in high schools or universities at the moment. Had had he been, the demographic might be more varied.

The exhibition itself is organised into a "bookcase" arrangement with the watercolours hung in order of the novels, as they were written. Because the pictures have been unexposed to the elements for such a lengthy amount of time, they have retained their colours beautifully,

as well as a transparency that allows the underlying sketches to shine through and showcase the intricate architectural sketches underneath. Because of this, the sketches have beautiful layers that make the exhibit enchanting to view. The luminous quality of the watercolours make the illustrations really "pop out" and the number of images in the exhibit provides a wonderful effect, as there are subtle distinctions between the paintings.

"Haunts of Dickens" would be of particular interest to those attracted to all things literary, but also to anybody with an interest in the Victorian era. Included in the exhibition are some items associated with the era as well as some first edition copies of Dickens's novels. This addition complements the artwork well and adds variety to the overall effect of the display. The whole exhibition is really quite striking, and I would recommend it to anyone, but it would have further appeal to those interested in Dickens or majoring in English (such as myself!).

This exhibition can be viewed at the Dunedin Public Art Gallery and runs until May 6. It will then travel the country, visiting six other galleries, from late June through 2013.

**TARYN DRYFHOUT**



## Clemens von Wedemeyer The Fourth Wall

This intriguing film-based project, investigates the relationship between fact and fiction in documentary-making. The exhibition is brought to New Zealand by ST PAUL St Gallery and Dunedin Public Art Gallery in cooperation with the Goethe-Institut with funding from the German Federal Foreign Office and support from Panasonic.



# Beef Tagine with Couscous

**T**HIS WEEK WE HAVE A SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT but incredibly delicious way to cook your cheaper cuts of meat, sure to beat all other beef stews. Tagine is a North African dish where meat is cooked slowly in various spices until it is fragrant and tender, usually in the clay pot that goes by the same name. However, it can also be made in any vessel that locks in steam (thereby retaining the moisture in the meat). A slow cooker, which seems to have become a regular feature of scarfie flats, is perfect. Traditionally tagine would be made with a spice mix called ras-al hanout, which means "top of the shop" and is a mixture of the spice merchant's best spices. Because this always varies a little, use the spices listed below as a guide, but feel free to experiment with a little "ras-al flat". Then sit back and relax while the cooker does all the work and the house is filled with mouth-watering aromas.

MAEVE JONES

## INGREDIENTS

### FOR THE TAGINE:

- 1 tablespoon of olive oil
- 1 large onion, diced
- 3 cloves of garlic, chopped
- 600g chuck steak, cut into 1cm cubes
- 1 cup of liquid beef stock
- 1 tablespoon of honey
- 2 teaspoons each of cumin, coriander powder, ginger, turmeric and cinnamon
- 1 can of chopped tomatoes
- 2 carrots
- A wedge of pumpkin
- ½ cup of raisins
- Salt and pepper
- Fresh herbs such as mint or coriander and sliced almonds to garnish (optional, though highly recommended as they make all the difference).

### FOR THE COUSCOUS:

- 500g packet couscous
- 3 cups of boiling water
- Either the zest of 1 lemon or 1 chicken stock cube



## METHOD

- 01 Preheat a slow cooker to high. Add half of the oil to a pan over a medium heat. Fry the onions and garlic until they become translucent, then add them to the cooker.
- 02 Add the rest of the oil to the pan. Brown the beef in sections and add it to the cooker as it's ready.
- 03 Mix the beef stock with the honey and the spices. Pour into the cooker with the can of tomatoes.
- 04 Finely chop the pumpkin and the carrots and add to the cooker with the raisins.
- 05 Season and stir the mixture before placing the lid on and leaving on high for 8 hours.
- 06 Prepare the couscous about 15 minutes before you wish to serve the dish. Pour the boiling water into a bowl with your lemon zest or stock cube. If using stock, make sure it is well dissolved in the water. Stir in the couscous, cover and set aside for 10 minutes.
- 07 Fluff with a fork a little before serving with a ladle full of the tagine and garnish with mint or coriander, and almonds.

\$18



Feeds Six  
Hungry Scarfies

## LETTER OF THE WEEK

The letter of the week wins a \$30 book voucher to spend at University Book Shop.



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### NO TREES WERE HARMED IN THE HARMING OF THIS TREE

Dear Critic

I r wrytings 2 xplane mi horrorz @ ur chosing 2 yuse trea barks 4 a covur 4 issu 7 off teh margazine. It waz knot a gud descision on ur bhalfes bcuz al teh ppl's wur unabel 2 reed wat the margazine dose calledz @nd wat issu itz waz aand wat raisin teh issu waz realeased. If u doesent chose 2 has normul covrez taht evrey1s cann undastanding tehn u r shud givez teh pplz moniez 4 compensashun 4 teh timez tehy does waisted trygn 2 decypha wat teh margazine wwaz calld @nd wat # it waz andd wat dayz of teh yr it r. I r verrrrryyyy disappointment in u critiz. Plz sortz it owt 4 nex tiem so I r dose note has 2 ryte 2 u agen bcuz taht wud makez mee >:(. @@nd u r notz lyk me wen I r >:(.

K? k.

Singeed teh Ch13f.

### FANNY LICKING GOOD

Fanny licking in the bloody link toilets! What a fantastic utilisation of our fine institution's facilities. Wildcat lesbians!

### CRITIC OWNS THE HIGHLANDERS NOW

Dear the management at Highlanders rugby. What are the superfans supposed to be? The other teams get cheerleaders. Also, what happened to 'the Highlander' he was a boss.

Yours, Chili

### WHO RULES THE WORLD? ASIANS!

Dear Critic

This angry rant is directed at the smug Asian guy who jumped arrogantly over his desk and walked out of my Physics Exam after only 15 minutes, apparently 'racing' his equally self-absorbed looking friend. The fact that I was anywhere near a scenario involving physics meant I was already not in a cheerful state of mind and this just tipped me over the edge, accidentally stabbing a hole in the paper while shading in my answer for Question 4. Sure you might be smarter than me, but no need to rub it in my face. If I fail the course, a highly probable outcome, then I am holding him entirely responsible. Enjoy your A+, jerk.

Physically Pissed Off"

### WHERE ARE THE OTHER TWO?

Dear critic

We are 3 of the 5 med students who read your filthy rag of a publication. We are becoming clinically depressed (with symptoms including low mood, anhedonia and psychomotor agitation), and we believe this is due to withdrawal from our steady diet of tests in health sci. Could you please start including some formative quizzes to stimulate our deprived frontal lobes?

p.s. it wasn't a kidney transplant you cretins

Signed

Future Conrad Murrays of the world

### BIBLE STUDIES

The Good News!!!!

It has recently been brought to my attention, by a flatmate with a bad case of blue balls that premarital sex is condoned by the Bible, but there are several ways to resolve this situation.

Some would say that oral sex is unnatural because God did not intend our mouths to be used in this manner. But oral sex has benefits that are of particular importance to Christians: oral sex allows the natural prevention of unwanted pregnancy and is an alternative to premarital intercourse for those committed to preserving chastity before marriage. The Bible in fact encourages the act: "I took great delight and sat down, and his fruit was sweet to my taste" (Song of Solomon 2.3). It is also important for woman of Christ to swallow as stated it is a sin to spill ones seed Genesis (38.9)

Yours faithfully,

Sly Dog

### LES BEINGS

Dear overtly 'Straight' girl,

Watching you laugh and giggle at the latest lesbah 'Me love you long time' led me to believe the notion that you are in fact a bit lesbi-curious. Your 'that's gross' proclamation was very loud and also very annoying, being a lesbian doesn't make you any les of a being.

Munch on that.

Sincerely, the entire back row.

### BUT WHO WOULD FEED HOWIE?

Dear Critic

Can you please fire your editor? This year you're about as exciting as the third page of the ODT Regions section.

Signed,

Everyone

### DOCTORS READ CRITIC TOO

Dear Critic

For some reason we haven't been getting your latest issues on the Christchurch campus. Its much

harder to justify taking a shit instead of going to ward rounds when you've only got Angry Birds and Temple Run to keep you entertained. Whats the deal?

A disgruntled satellite campus student

### PANTS OPENERS

Dear Males of Dunedin,

Just a word of advice that lines like "Oi Oi you on the left I like brunettes!" shouted out a window and "I'm going to pash you later" as an opener are not good ways to get into a girls pants. I suggest starting with "Hi, my name is [insert name here]" as a conversation starter. Touching my back uncomfortably or leaning too close to my face is not captivating, nor is trapping a girl in a corner of a room or between two barstools. It is not going to get things moving faster. Charming a girl is not like hunting a pig - grabbing a girl as she leaves the bathroom and lunging at her face lewdly whispering 'you're pretty' is not OK (and now you understand one of the reasons we like to go to the bathroom together).

Better luck next Saturday,

Females of Dunedin

### WON'T SOMEBODY PLEASE THINK OF THE ATHEISTS!

Dear Critic,

So you have a rant about how out of date it is to give one religion preference, then in the back you give the University Chaplain a column. Why does the Uni even have a chaplain? The reality is that for most students, the only church they've been in recently is St. Monkey's. I'm sure the chaplains provide support to anyone who asks, but many wouldn't feel comfortable going to see a chaplain. Last financial year, the Uni and Polytech gave The Otago Tertiary Chaplaincy Trust Board over \$57,000. Perhaps this would be better spent on more counsellors at Student Health, or should be shared around the religions?

May the Force be with you,

Sam French

### HYGIENE: NOT A GREAT CONVERSATION STARTER.

DEAR Critic,

This is to the innocent looking counter girl in Williwobanks convenience store during the evening. You are totally awesome, and your innocent face can almost floor any politics nerd like me. I would love to discuss the deep ups and downs of international relations with you. I talked to you once about the gradation of the store, where it somehow managed a B certificate, not a great conversation starter I know, would have talked with you, if only your goodhearted but extremely unintentionally nosy Chinese owner and overlord was not there. Indians and Chinese don't see eye to eye you know, we have a

Letters should be 200 words or less. Deadline is Thursday at 5pm. Send letters to critic@critic.co.nz, post them to PO Box 1436, Dunedin, or drop into the Critic office. All letters must include full contact details, even if you don't want these printed. Letters of a serious nature directly addressing a specific person or group will not be published under a pseudonym, except in extraordinary circumstances negotiated with the Editor. Critic reserves the right to edit, abridge or decline letters without explanation. We don't fix the spelling or grammar in letters. If a writer looks stupid, it's because they are.

# Notices

regional cold war going on in Asia. Next time you see any Indian male, with a proper hilarious Indian accent, (not the semi New Zealandish Fijian Indian one) buying Chicken fillet burger, and trying to avoid eye contact while stealing glances, just slip in your phone number. Thanks!

Shy Indian male.

## SHIT DOG

Dear Morning walkers,

Curse you and your dogs and their dysentery. God knows what you all feed your dogs, they just dump their gallons of shit right in front of our driveway!

*Pissed off Residents of 112 Pine Hill.*

## IT'S SPELT OFF. DUH.

Dear Stockman

You'd be better of letting your cat edit this turd of a publication you grammatically retarded philistine.

Love,

Someone who gives a fuck about spelling

## COMICAL

Dear Critic

The lack of decent comics in your magazine this year is lamentable. Remember, most of us pick up the Critic for the pictures, not the articles ... sort of like the porn magazine stashed in our bedside cabinet. Please

rectify this abhorrent state of affairs.

*Signed: Long suffering Critic readers / sometimes fans*

p.s Or please send us a book voucher, so we can purchase our own (decent) comic books.

pps bring back Spencer Hall – at least there was more than one comic

ppps Tom Garden is an artistic genius

## MAD I TELLS YA

hey Joe

Pornography turns my stomach. You all knew it was a fantasy but it set in as a template. Legal prostitution was good for prostitutes but I must have had 1000 offers of money for sex, and folk thought if they had a body like that, I must be mad not to sell it, and nearly starved because no one thought it necessary to employ me. There was also harrassment by angry moralists; men who thought I'd chosen them to turn down, and women who though I saw their husbands in private. There is also the decades long botheration of an ugly, deranged stalker and sometimes I cut a little sticky bandaid, heat it, open my eyes wide and stick it between them, and wake looking like nothing bothers me and someone attractive will offer me companionship, kindness and toleration. Today.

Yours faithfully,

Sue Heap

## ANZAC DAY SERVICE ON CAMPUS

Will be held on ANZAC Day, Wednesday 25 April 2012 at 1.30-2.00pm followed by refreshments in the Link. Location: Memorial Walk, in front of the University Clock Tower Building. The public are welcome to join with Students, Staff, Friends and Alumni of Otago University. Students and staff from Residential Colleges are especially invited and encouraged to attend.

## OUSA REFERENDUM

28 MAY – 1 JUNE 2012

Have your say on issues that you think OUSA should have a stand on. Send your questions to [csr@ousa.org.nz](mailto:csr@ousa.org.nz) by 30 April 2012 at 4pm

## AUDACIOUS KICK-OFF

6.30PM TUESDAY 24TH APRIL, HUNTER CENTRE

Audacious, the start-up program for aspiring student business founders in Dunedin, is starting the year of with its kick-off event this Tuesday. Food, drinks, inspired speakers, getting amped for students starting businesses in 2012!! [www.audacious.co.nz](http://www.audacious.co.nz)

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REFUEL

Department of Music

# Te Roopu Māori

E Ngā ākongā,  
E ngā mana, e ngā reo,  
E ngā karangarangatanga maha,  
Tenā koutou katoa.

**TE MANA ĀKONGA IS THE NATIONAL MĀORI TERTIARY STUDENT BODY WHICH EMERGED** after the protest movements in the 1970s. It is a voice for tauira Māori and student issues and is independent of both the institutions in which we study and the government. There are two central aspects to the role of Te Mana Ākongā. One is to assist local Māori Student Roopū in advocacy, enhancing support and services for Māori students on campus and keeping Roopū critically informed of all issues pertaining to Māori in general. The second aspect is lobbying for change within government. The structure is made up of two Kaiārahi (representatives) from each member Roopū or Māori student population. These Kaiārahi then attend three Hui Kaiārahi throughout the year in which they discuss issues, formulate actions, and determine the work programme of the Kaitūhono (national co-ordinator and spokesperson). Major policies and decisions are made by the Kaiārahi and are ratified at the AGM.

Te Roopū Māori is affiliated to Te Mana Ākongā and our kaiarahi representatives are Kaitiaki Putea/Tumuaki Tuarau Courtney Heke-McColgan and I. Courtney and I have just come back from the first Hui Kaiarahi in Te Whanganui a Tara. We engaged in workshops ranging from leadership, financial management of charity accounts, funding strategies in light of the legislation around the Education (Freedom of Association) Amendment Act 2011 (more commonly known as VSM). More workshops included media training, governance and management and discussions were based around the Independent Constitutional Working Group lead by Moana Jackson. In brief this group's aim is to develop a model of constitution based on the Declaration of Independence, Treaty of Waitangi and Tikanga Māori.

There was also the opportunity to discuss the financial positions of the other Roopū. We as Māori students of Otago University take for granted how good we have it, with events and kai that we run being funded through the relationships that we have with both the University and OUSA. Some Roopū are very unfortunate and are unable to run any events as they receive NO income at all.

From this Hui I felt an immense need to continue to strengthen the relationships that we have formed and create more relationships within the University and in the community. If anyone has any whaakaro on this kaupapa come into the whare or email me at [teroopu.maori@otago.ac.nz](mailto:teroopu.maori@otago.ac.nz)

Ma te wa whanau

LISA XX

## Pokemon – Ryan Benic



### Clubs and Courses!

A couple of issues ago we put the word out on Clubs and Socs Courses – what you wanted to see, what you didn't and if you yourself could teach something for us. The response was fantastic... Free running, Argentinian tango and kpop just to name a few. So keep the ideas coming we would love to hear your feedback ([michaela@ousa.org.nz](mailto:michaela@ousa.org.nz)).

### Congrats Team Otago!



Congrats to Team Otago for snapping up Bronze and getting the Fair Play award at the 2012 Unigames up in Welly. You did super! Shout out to Badminton for taking out the Gold too, go you good thing!

### Referenda(um?) Questions?

It's that time again (yay), OUSA is calling for students and clubs to put forward their questions that they'd like the students to vote on during our Elections/Referendum. Send them in to [secretary@ousa.org.nz](mailto:secretary@ousa.org.nz)

### Clubs and Societies Accounting Help



Needing help with balancing the books for your Club or Society?? OUSA can put you in touch with a FREE and friendly service bringing your clubs reports up to scratch and looking like gold (figure of speech only). Whether it's financial reports, budgets and accounts balancing, or

advice you need, email the Clubs Development Officer today for further details [cdo@ousa.org.nz](mailto:cdo@ousa.org.nz)



### To do this week:

**TUE**  
24 APRIL

OUSA's Queerest Tea Party: Link Courtyard 12 – 2pm, FREE tea, coffee and cake. Celebrating sameness, difference and inclusion on campus

**WED**  
25 APRIL

OUSA Anzac Service, outside the Clock Tower, 1.30pm. Refreshments served after the service



### LOGAN SAYS...

Hey there everyone,

ANZAC Day means many different things to many different people. For me it's a day of remembering those who fought for us so we can live the awesome lives we live today. I try to put myself in those who served our country and think what it must have been like, it's all very cereal.

When I heard that there had never been an Anzac service on this campus I thought, "Well why the fudge not?" We Scarfies are after all the academic powerhouse of this great country and the future JohnClarks and Helen Keys of this country, so where will this leave this iconic day of remembrance 20 years down the track?

I believe the reason why this day hasn't been seen before on this campus is because of the misperception that students today are the same as the students in the 70's that would have 'flower bombed' and tried to hi-jack that shit. There has been a culture shift, and I believe it's about looking back and honouring our family members, and all those who fought and gave their lives.

If you feel the same way, and want to remember our ANZACs and be thankful for this peaceful little nation, please come down and join me at the service in front of the clocktower (check back page of this page for the details) this Wednesday.

I'll see you and even greet you there over a cheeky Anzac Cookie.

Chur Bol.

Logan Edgar.

Ps. Big up to Hitaua!



# The Inaugural OUSA Anzac Service

Wed 25 April, 1.30pm  
Leith River side, in front of the Clock Tower.

Honour those who fought.  
Refreshments served following service.