

# Critic

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**Critic**

ON THE COVER

Illustration by Kat Gilbertson

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## WE'RE NOT THAT BAD

» BUT KANYE IS

I'm writing this editorial as a somewhat goodbye to Critic. Next week is my final issue as News Editor, so this guest editorial was subtly forced upon me (thanks, Josie). It took me more than long enough to decide what to write about. I considered multiple topics, but when you have been staring at a computer and have only eaten Monday's leftover nachos (it's Thursday), thoughts get rather blurred.

In order to get the creative juices flowing, I took a late-night walk to the supermarket. The entire way I listened to the best TBT of all time — All Saints, "Never Ever". I'm not trying to tell you how to live your life, but if you don't remember that classic, then you're doing it wrong.

Anyway, it got me thinking (progress). I had a few too many with my flatmates on the weekend and we spent a good hour reminiscing on how our generation had the best girl bands in history. Spice Girls, All Saints, Atomic Kitten and probably half of Westlife and NYSYNC. So many of you will disagree with me, but all of your arguments are invalid.

Every generation seems to think that back in their day everything was much better. We did things better than they do them now, and the generation before us did things better than us. No one ever looks at the things their generation did wrong; we seem to wear these filtered lenses that show that everything was peachy.

I was scrolling through my newsfeed this morning (as our generation does), and I saw that Sinéad O'Connor called Kim Kardashian a c\*nt for being on the cover of Rolling Stone. Are you serious? I don't think there is a situation that could ever justify calling someone the c-word that rhymes with lunt. Someone could literally slap my mum in the face and I could still never call them stunt with a c.

"#AGenerationIsBeingGroomedAndSilenced," tagged O'Connor.

Once again, it's the generational debate. I've heard our generation called selfish, narcissistic and self-absorbed. As Kanye once said (lol, speaking of narcissistic), "they don't make



them like this anymore". I don't know if that lyric is actually related to what I'm saying, but that song is a classic.

The world is changing, and it always has been. We adapt to our surroundings; these surroundings are different with every new generation. A robot just killed a man, two robots got married recently and, craziest of all, my mum has got a Snapchat. Sometimes I look at the world today and I just think, wow, we are definitely doing some cool stuff. So did the generation that raised us, and the generation that raised them.

Every generation is going to say that they were the best. Especially ours, we're extremely narcissistic. It's always great looking back and shedding a tear that the Spice Girls broke up, or that actual musicians used to be on the cover of Rolling Stone. However, the things we can achieve in the future are unbelievable. I'm only 19, and in my short life I've seen so many things come and go, and I am so excited to see what future generations will get to experience. Looking back is fun, but looking forward is even better — maybe one day my laptop will write my editorial for me?!

Anyway, we are about to go to print. I've listened to "Never Ever" about 12 times and eaten about 900 calories of chocolate while giving you this poorly formatted lecture, so I hope you made it to the end.

Also, if you're looking for some more tunes, "Pure Shores" by All Saints is #2 best TBT of all time.

**Much love,**  
**Laura xx**

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# Critic

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# Council Protest Fails to Retain Student Voice

» "IN A PERFECT WORLD, THE MINISTER WOULD LEAVE US WELL ALONE"

BY LAURA MUNRO

**A**t a University Council meeting on 14 July 2015, the number of seats reserved for students on the council was reduced from two to one. The number of seats reserved for staff was also halved from four to two.

The draft constitution, which was passed in a six to nine vote, reserved four ministerial seats, four "skills-based" seats and four seats made up from those within the university. These university seats are for one student, one academic staff member, one general staff member and the vice chancellor.

The altered constitution came after changes made by Tertiary Education Minister Steven Joyce earlier this year. The Education Amendment Act 2015 allows university councils to have a minimum of eight and a maximum of 12 seats. If a university chooses to have a 12-seat council, four of these must be reserved for ministerial appointments. There are currently 17 members on the council and up to 20 allowed at any one time.

The amendment has also placed a 12-year cap on individuals being able to serve on council. Should the vice chancellor continue in her position, her remaining time may take her over the cap.

The council suggests that the vice chancellor "has a right to be a member of the council regardless of how many years she has already served". A two-year transition period was also

suggested, as the previous legislation had a 16-year cap.

Ward said the "rationale" behind Joyce's changes was to make universities "more commercial, more nimble" and "better able to make quick decisions". However, Ward said he and Vice Chancellor Harlene Hayne "went on the front foot" and fought to "keep the situation as is".

Ward said he is not convinced a reduction in the size of councils would have "any particular merit". Nevertheless, "we are where we are, and we have to make the best of it".

Forty-one individual and group submissions were made during the consultation period of the draft, which ran from the time the proposal was announced in May's council meeting. Emails were sent by 718 students and staff in support of two student seats remaining. OUSA executive members also gained 1500 student signatures on a petition after door-knocking efforts in the weeks prior.

Seven students, including three OUSA executives, attended the meeting and held signs in protest. "Democratic Elections Not Counsel Selections", one read. The incorrect spelling of two of the protestors' signs was unfortunate for a protest demanding decision-making power over a multi-million-dollar university.

OUSA President Paul Hunt and Recreation Officer Jonny Martin, who are the two current

student representatives on the council, submitted amendments to the draft in Tuesday's meeting. The amendments would add a second student in place of the fourth "skills-based" appointment.

Hunt said students "contribute to the input and output" of the university, and their voices are "vital". He argued the university is "more dependent on its customers than any other organisation".

Hunt received round-the-table support from fellow board members that student voices were important; however, the majority believed that due to the new legislation, one seat under the new constitution would suffice.

Dunedin Mayor Dave Cull said "ideally" there should "be more than one seat for students on the university council". "However," he said, "the changes imposed by government give us only twelve [seats] in total." Therefore, there needs to be "as strong of a council as possible based on skill". He said his seat should be "de-prioritised".

Hayne said she "could not find fault in 99 percent" of Paul's arguments, "you know that I truly do believe student voice is important".

"In a perfect world, the minister would leave us well enough alone and we would go on with the council that we have," said Hayne. "Sadly, despite my polite comments, and then my shouting, we are in the position we are now." ○





# Blackboard Blocked after Student Falsely Accused

» DISCIPLINARY PROCESSES "FALL SHORT OF PROTECTING THE BASIC RIGHTS OF ALL STUDENTS"

BY **LAURA MUNRO**

**A** University of Otago student is taking matters into his own hands after feeling he has been wronged by the university's proctor.

The student, who wishes not to be named, was given a fine and had access to his online course resources suspended for a week after Campus Watch officers claimed he had been drunk and abusive to them. After much discussion, viewing of CCTV footage and GPS tracking on his phone, his name was not cleared until OUSA's Student Support got involved. He was then found to be innocent. The student, however, is still demanding an apology for the ill-treatment, which he has not yet received.

On 23 April, the student was waiting outside a lecture hall to enter a law exam, and was approached by Campus Watch for being "abusive" and "causing a lot of ruckus" the night before. "I was kind of shocked at the time," said the student. "I've never been accused of something like that."

The student said he had been home all night, though the officer was "pretty sure it was him" and his ID was taken. After his exam, which he finished early because he was "freaked out", the student called Campus Watch to complain about what had happened. "I couldn't have been in two places at once," he said.

After not hearing anything further, he assumed the allegations had disappeared. On 7 May, after making multiple attempts to submit assignments online, the student realised his access to Blackboard had been cut. This was because he owed \$50 to the proctor for missing a meeting.

The student had received an email that he was required to see the proctor about the accusations, but had not checked his student email in "a long time". Letters are normally sent to students who are required to see the proctor, but he was told "a change in staffing" meant this wasn't done.

At a later meeting with the proctor, which he attended with his partner whom he was at home with at the time of the alleged incident, the student was again told he had drunkenly abused staff. The Campus Watch officer attended the meeting and said, "he was smiling, he was very smug". The officer said it was definitely him; however, a second officer said although the two looked similar, he "couldn't with confidence" say it was this student.

Following the meeting, the student said the proctor admitted there had not been enough effort to communicate with him, so his access to Blackboard was reinstated. However, the allegations still stood.

The student discovered he had GPS evidence on his phone that showed he was at home the entire time. However, the proctor refused to accept this, claiming he could have left his phone at home.

CCTV footage was obtained and, in an email, the student was told the footage "looked very much like him". However, in a second meeting, which the student attended with a Student Support advisor, the proctor was said to have done "a complete 180 with his behaviour". The accusations were then dropped. The student was cleared, though he has not received an apology or compensation for


having his services cut off for a week while assignments were due.

Philippa Keaney, acting manager of Student Support, said: "Despite the advocacy of OUSA Student Support, and the provision of extensive evidence to prove [the student's] innocence, the Proctor's Office continued to treat [the student] as the guilty party over a number of weeks."

"One of the principles underpinning the New Zealand criminal justice system is the presumption of innocence unless adequate evidence to the contrary is produced. It appears that [the student] was not accorded that courtesy in this case."

"This case has highlighted that there are areas in which the current disciplinary processes within the University fall short of protecting the basic rights of all students, as they are intended to do."

Critic attempted to contact the proctor for a reply, but was given the following statement by Director of Student Services, Karyn Thomson: "Up until this correspondence I was not aware of and have not received complaints from the student. [The student] is welcome to come and meet me and we can talk through [his] concerns in confidence."

The student says he has not spoken to Thomson. However, he has been in contact with the provost and the vice chancellor and will be making a claim with them. He says the two have been "very supportive." 

# Students Praise Rental Regulations

» MAYBE STUDENTS' MEAT WILL DEFROST NOW

BY BRIDIE BOYD

**T**he Minister for Housing, Nick Smith, has announced new rental regulations that have potential benefits for the poor student flatting conditions in Dunedin.

The new regulations will require smoke alarms in residential rental properties, as well as ceiling and underfloor insulation. The regulations are to be phased in between mid-2016 and 2019.

The announced regulations have been met with enthusiasm. University of Otago student, Emily Falloon, says Dunedin is "infamous for its low quality of student flats".

"The fact that there is such high demand for cheap student housing means that there is no compulsion for landlords to mend cold, dilapidated flats," she said. "Standards of living are often compromised for location and price."

Falloon believes the new regulations "will mean that students will have access to warmer, safer flats and feel more secure in reporting those landlords who do try to take advantage".

However, she expressed concern that rents will increase with the change as flats "will be 'worth' more than before".

Benjamin Aberhart, a mature student and



local landlord, says the regulations are greatly needed, both for the safety of tenants and for the housing market. "I think [the smoke alarm requirement] is a great idea. Nobody wants to be responsible for someone's death, and a burnt-down house is lost income," said Aberhart. "In the past, an insulated house was more attractive to potential tenants. By making it compulsory, it puts all property on a more even playing field."

Asked about the possible rise in student rents, Aberhart said this might not be caused by landlords alone. "The landlords will need to pass this cost [of upgrading properties] on to the tenants as it is not tax deductible. It will be called an 'improvement' on the property, which is not subject to the tax returns that repairs and maintenance are."

The government's proposal also outlines

an expectation of increased rent.

Acting Manager of Student Support, Philippa Keaney, says the new rules are "a step in the right direction". She said the smoke alarm requirement is "particularly good" as "that has been a glaring omission in the safety of rental housing".

Keaney did express concerns that the insulation requirements will not fully address the cold conditions of Dunedin flats. "For some student properties, other maintenance will be required in order for insulation to provide real benefits."

"Insulation alone will not necessarily keep students warm. Cost-effective heating for students is something that will not be addressed by these changes and it needs to be available to support health and wellbeing." ●

# Commerce Kids Commend New Association

» COMSA ATTEMPS NEW LIFE FOR THE BUSINESS SCHOOL

BY AMBER ALLOTT

**B**usiness and commerce students at the University of Otago are celebrating the launch of their new Commerce Students' Association, COMSA.

The new association was founded by two Otago students, Elliott Chow and Hilary Derrick, following the demise of previous association, OCOM. Derrick says while OCOM "did a great job in the past", they have "been inactive in recent years". She said the founders of COMSA "felt that introducing a brand new association presented the opportunity to rebrand and start fresh".

Asked why she believed an association was needed, Derrick spoke of the very active law

association, SOULS. "Commerce students make up one of the largest student bodies on campus," said Derrick. "[They] deserve to have something similar." COMSA aims to give business students "a voice" and bridge "the gap between students and management".

Derrick said COMSA will organise social events for students in order to give "them opportunities to mingle with their peers". They also plan to run networking events "where students will be able to make connections with representatives from various organisations".

Claire Ramsay, the director of administration for the Otago Business School, said staff

"are really pleased to have COMSA getting underway". According to Ramsay, the department's staff and lecturers will also be involved with the organisation.

"Having a strong student body makes us a better business school," said Ramsay. "We value having interaction with our students' representative and their input into any development that impacts on student experiences in the school."

Memberships are \$10 per student, but COMSA have a promotion for \$5 memberships this week. COMSA's first event is this Saturday night at Moon Bar. ●





# "Devalued" Degrees could be Discontinued

» STUDENTS ANGERED BY PROPOSAL TO SCRAP DESIGN MAJORS

BY JOE HIGHAM /

**T**he Division of Sciences Pro-Vice Chancellor, Keith Hunter, has sent a letter to design students revealing a proposal to discontinue two applied science majors. The proposal, which is being discussed, would see Clothing and Textiles (CLTE) and Design for Technology (DETE) phased out as major subjects over the next two years.

The letter, sent to students who are taking the majors on 6 July, informs them a decision will be made "by the end of August" while reassuring them that "these proposals are under consultation and no decisions have been made".

Despite this, students are aggrieved by the sudden proposals. Zac Newton, a Design for Technology student, said, "We haven't actually been informed as to specifically what the changes will be, how they affect us or, most importantly, why these changes are happening."

Hunter said the proposed changes have been put forward "mainly because of the serious decline in student EFTS in the department over the last four to five years, mainly in the design area." EFTS stands for "equivalent full-time student", referring to the number of students enrolled in the course.

Hunter said that, under the proposal, a new centre "would be tasked with developing a new major subject based on elements of both Clothing and Textile Science and Design for Technology". However, there will be "a broader scope in order to be more attractive to future students".

Students have explained that if the degrees are discontinued, those who are nearing the end of their course, or who have already finished their degree, will have their qualifications devalued.

Newton, a finalist, says he feels he "should be able to complete" his degree "before these changes are put in place". Newton says he feels the change "devalues" his degree. "I've invested three years and thousands of dollars of debt to do this degree, but cutting it out of the university curriculum feels like they don't respect or value what we know and have done," he said.

Hunter says he can "sympathise" with such views and "can appreciate that some students may well feel that way". However, "there is nothing about the proposal to phase out DETE and CLTE that affects the quality of these degree offerings in the meantime".

Hunter said the department "have a commitment" to students and will do their "utmost to ensure that all students will have the opportunity to complete their degrees in a timely fashion".

"At this stage we have not worked through the details of this because we do not yet know if the proposal will go ahead and how it will play out for the staff that might be affected. We plan to do this in consultation with the affected students during this semester."

Newton says students "deliver much more" than people realise and "deserve to be

fully involved with the decision, rather than just being informed that a decision is being made".

As with the obvious implications for students, staff may also be at risk as a result of these proposals. In 2010, the Department of Design Studies was disestablished, and this involved the loss of about a quarter of the staff. To replace it, the university established a new Department of Applied Science, with some of the staff coming from the disestablished design department and the remainder from the Clothing and Textile Science section of the Department of Food Science, Clothing and Textile Science. Food Science then became a stand-alone department.

Regarding job losses, Hunter said, "while consultation is underway, it would not be appropriate to discuss these details. Once the process is completed, we will be in a position to discuss this."

Students angry at the proposals have taken to social media in order to publicise their plight. A Facebook page called "Save Design at Otago" has been created, and it currently has over 500 likes. A Twitter hashtag #ThanksOUDesign is also being used by the students.

Hunter said the consultation process involving staff and students ends on 20 July, after which an amended proposal for change will be tabled.

Students are "invited to make submissions and their input would be welcomed". ○



# EU Assistance Sees Migrant Deaths Drop

» OPERATION TRITON PROVIDING "MAXIMUM PROTECTION"

BY INDIA LEISHMAN

**R**ecent financial boosting from the European Union has prevented the likely deaths of thousands of African migrants crossing the Mediterranean Sea.

The EU implemented Operation Triton in late April this year after shockingly high numbers of migrant deaths were reported. The operation, run by the EU border control agency, Frontex, focuses on supplying additional search and rescue support to migrants attempting to cross from Africa to Europe.

The Italian navy has since been patrolling the coast of Italy to rescue migrants adrift at sea or those stranded in the water.

The operation came after an emergency summit was held on 23 April to address the mass migrant deaths that took place early this

year. In one instance, 700 migrants were killed when the boat they were travelling on capsized. Many victims were locked up in the boat and therefore unable to escape. This, alongside other shipping disasters, took the death toll to 1200 in a single week.

The European Council then agreed to triple its funding for migrant search and rescue operations in the Mediterranean.

Recently released statistics show that of the 27,722 migrants who attempted this passage between January and April this year, one in 16 was killed before arriving at their destination. Since the EU has taken action, that statistic has decreased to one death per 423 people. In the last three months, 42,297 people have attempted the crossing and 99 have died.

Home Affairs and Citizenship Commissioner Dimitris Avramopoulos released a statement saying the objective of the summit was to implement a "comprehensive approach that will significantly improve the management of migration in Europe".

In the same statement, Federica Mogherini, an EU representative, said Operation Triton is helping "dismantle criminal traffickers and smugglers" while at the same time providing "maximum protection for those in need".

The dramatic increase in those surviving the passage has left Italian authorities caring for over 70,000 migrants. Migrant reception centres are said to be on the verge of collapsing with the overwhelming numbers of asylum seekers arriving each day. ●



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Mnemos



# Greece Accepts "Intrusive" Bailout

» EU'S "UTTER BLACKMAIL" ACCEPTED

BY JOE HIGHAM

**A**fter 26 hours of negotiations, an agreement on a series of economic measures has been reached between debt-ridden Greece and eurozone leaders, paving the way for a third financial bailout deal. The agreement prevents a Greek exit from the European Union for the near future and is worth up to €86 billion (NZ\$141 billion).

The summit where agreements were made was the longest in the EU's history, with Greece aware from the outset that leaders on the European stage were unwilling to budge on key points.

The central agreements included the implementation of further austerity measures, the privatisation of energy networks, pension reforms and other measures, which the Financial Times

labelled the "most intrusive economic supervision programme ever mounted in the EU".

The German Chancellor, Angela Merkel, offered the proposal of financial assistance in the form of a bailout to the Greek government in exchange for the surrendering of their fiscal sovereignty. The proposal was described as "utter blackmail" by some of the leading members of Greece's left-wing governing party, Syriza. It was also widely seen as an affront to democracy — a referendum in Greece on 5 July returned a decisive "no" vote against the austerity-ridden bailout deal, showing a mandate from the Greek people firmly against the measures agreed upon.

The agreements follow the forced resignation of Yannis Varoufakis, Greece's former finance minister, after Greek Prime Minister

Alexis Tsipras said he believed it would be better for him to stand down and allow negotiations to be conducive. However, the resignation is widely believed to have been initiated by European leaders, who were unable to work with the anti-austerity advocate.

Tsipras told Greek TV he acknowledged it was a bad deal but knew it was the best they could manage in the circumstances. Greece's third bailout deal will help by pumping money into its banking system, which is struggling to withstand cash withdrawals from Greece's 11 million worried residents. Capital controls remain in place, and banks are still closed, while enforcing a maximum withdrawal limit at ATMs of €60 per person, per day. ●

# Nuclear Agreement Struck With Iran

» POWERS CUT "EVERY PATHWAY TO A NUCLEAR WEAPON"

BY OLIVER GASKELL

**S**ix world powers — the US, the UK, France, China, Russia and Germany — have reached an agreement with Iran to limit Iranian nuclear activity in exchange for the lifting of international oil and economic sanctions. The agreement was struck at a conference in Vienna after 20 months of negotiations.

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani called the deal "historic" and believes it will open a "new chapter" in Iran's relations with the world.

The group of world powers, called P5+1, wants Iran to downscale nuclear activity to ensure it cannot construct nuclear weapons. Iran, however, has maintained that its nuclear activity has always been peaceful and has strongly protested the various sanctions placed on it.

US President Barack Obama has long sought

the agreement, said to be the biggest diplomatic achievement of his career, after decades of animosity between the US and Iran. He said the deal ensures "every pathway to a nuclear weapon" is cut off for Iran.

In an appearance at the White House, Obama sought to ease the worries of the American public and US congress, saying that the agreement is "not built on trust — it is built on verification".

There has been some resistance from the US congress and conservatives in Iran. The congress is currently beginning a 60-day review of the deal, which it may attempt to block. However, Obama stood strongly against critics of the deal saying that, if congress resists, he will "veto any legislation that prevents the successful implementation of this deal".

John Boehner, the Republican speaker of the US house of representatives said that the deal would "embolden" Iran. Boehner argues "instead of stopping the spread of nuclear weapons in the Middle East," the deal "is likely to fuel a nuclear arms race around the world".

Israel has also warned world powers about the danger of the proposed agreement. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called the deal "a stunning historic mistake" that will provide Iran with "hundreds of billions of dollars with which it can fuel its terror machine and its expansion and aggression throughout the Middle East and across the globe".

Netanyahu said Israel would not necessarily adhere to agreement: "we will always defend ourselves". ●



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# Chinese Names stir Labour Debate

» LITTLE SAYS CHINESE SHOULDN'T "COMPETE WITH THE LOCALS"

BY POLITICS EDITOR **HENRY NAPIER**

**T**he Labour Party has come under a flood of controversy following comments made last week by housing spokesperson, Phil Twyford. Appearing on TV3's *The Nation*, Twyford claimed that Chinese buyers, many of whom were likely based overseas, were responsible for around 40 percent of property purchases in Auckland over the last six months.

Last week, Twyford produced data collected by a large Auckland real estate company showing the sales of houses in Auckland and who bought them. The data, collected from February to April this year, shows that out of 4000 houses around 39.5 percent were purchased by buyers of Chinese descent. However, the ethnicity of the buyer has been based merely on surnames.

The lack of solid information has driven many people to question the accuracy of the inferences Twyford drew. Twyford defended the accuracy of the data, saying it had been

analysed by multiple independent sources, all of which agreed that many of the buyers with Chinese-sounding last names were likely Chinese and were also likely to be based outside New Zealand.

Twyford said: "When you look at the data and you look at the names and you apply the analysis that we did — that has been checked by three different data experts, including an independent statistician — we believe the data stacks up."

The data does not indicate whether the buyers are New Zealand citizens or not. However, based on the most recent census, around nine percent of the Auckland population is of Chinese descent. Twyford has argued that this indicates the presence of foreign buyers, considering that approximately 40 percent of buyers are Chinese.

However, Twyford's assumptions have been criticised due the disproportionate size of the

population compared with the number of houses sold in February through to April. Data journalist Keith Ng has responded to Twyford's claim, criticising Labour's analysis of the data. Ng compared the percentages shown in the data with absolute terms and went on to say it is "entirely plausible" that some of the 126,000 New Zealand citizens of Chinese descent could have purchased 3500 homes.

Labour leader Andrew Little has come out in support of Twyford. Appearing on the *Paul Henry Show* last Monday, Little outlined Labour's policy, which aims to tackle foreign buyers.

"If you're a non-resident, living overseas in some other part of the world, wherever that is, and you want a house in New Zealand that you either want to rent or you want to holiday in, then build a new one but don't compete with the locals for the existing houses that everybody is trying to get into," said Little. ●



## POLITWEETS



# Hager Hits Back Against "Invasive" Raid

» 10-HOUR RAID HAS "GRAVE IMPLICATIONS FOR DEMOCRACY"

BY HENRY NAPIER

Investigative journalist Nicky Hager took his case before the High Court in Wellington last week to seek a judicial review of the raid that took place last October following the release of his book, *Dirty Politics*. The book — which focused on the relationship between right-wing blogger, Cameron Slater, and National staffer, Jason Ede — was based on emails that had been illegally obtained.

Following the release of the book, Slater made a formal complaint against Hager to the New Zealand police, claiming the emails detailed in *Dirty Politics* were stolen. Hager has said that the emails were sourced from Slater's blogging website, Whaleoil, by a hacker known only as "Rawshark". Hager has refused to disclose the hacker's identity.

In response to the complaint laid against Hager, police raided the journalist's property last October seeking evidence relating to the hacked emails. The police seized a number of materials used by Hager. However, police were unable to identify the hacker.

Hager has sought a judicial review of the decision to raid his home, claiming police disregarded the law.

In his opening address, Hager's lawyer, Julian Miles QC, said the raid, which lasted 10 hours, was "extremely invasive". Miles claims the police failed to consider the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act and also the



PHOTO: CC BY-SA 4.0 Ballofstring (wiki commons)

Evidence Act when applying for the search and seizure warrant.

A media summary, provided by Hager's legal team, details the alleged breach of rights. The summary says the search "has grave implications for democracy in New Zealand. It damages the public's ability to receive vital information, through journalists, from people who are prepared to take great personal risks to expose wrongdoing and abuses of power."

Crown lawyer Brendan Horsley, acting on behalf of the respondents, argued against the illegality of the accused breach of rights saying that the law is "designed" to infringe on rights such as freedom of speech and privacy. Horsley referenced the Search and Surveillance Act 2012, saying it has "provisions that are designed to impinge upon, in some way, shape or form, our rights to privacy".

Otago lecturer and political commentator

Bryce Edwards has said the case could impact investigative journalism in New Zealand:

"I think journalists in general are going to have harder trouble convincing any sources/leaks that they'll be protected. Whether that's a result of this trial or the result of the police actions in raiding Hager's home is arguable."

Edwards was quoted in the case by Hager's lawyers as saying that the book *Dirty Politics* was of "significant public interest". He explained this, saying, "*Dirty Politics* was a really important book for understanding what goes on behind the scenes in politics ... especially because so much of what political parties do, what governments do, what politicians do, is to try and stop us seeing what is really happening."

The case finished last Wednesday and Justice Clifford reserved his decision. ●

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# News in Briefs

BY MAGNUS WHYTE



## World Watch

### 1 DENMARK

Archaeologists are mystified after finding nearly 2000 tiny golden spirals in a field in eastern Denmark. The coils date from between 900BC and 700BC, but the archaeologists are not quite sure what they have found.

### 2 FLORIDA, UNITED STATES

A man convicted of having sex in front of a child on a public beach in Florida has been jailed for two and a half years. Nearby witnesses caught the act on video and testified that a 3-year-old girl saw the act.

### 3 MOUNT FUJI, JAPAN

Climbers taking on Japan's highest mountain will soon be able to stay connected to the internet thanks to the introduction of free wireless internet. The new service started on 10 July with eight wi-fi hotspots, including one on the summit.

### 4 RUSSIA

A low-cost Russian airline has banned passengers from chewing gum on board because it is spending so much scraping it off planes' interiors. The budget airline, Pobeda, which operates inside Russia, said it spends up to US\$1700 to remove each piece of gum left behind by passengers and to restore the equipment.

### 5 SANT'EUFEMIA A MAIELLA, ITALY

A small Italian town is transforming its main square into a giant Risk board for a two-day tournament. The square will be covered with a 650-square-metre board for the biggest game of Risk in the world. An artist spent 15 days painting the huge political map used in the game.

### 6 SAN FRANCISCO, UNITED STATES

A mountain lion has been spotted on four separate occasions around San Francisco since 30 June. The four locations span a several-mile swath and agencies are "working closely to monitor and manage the issue and to keep the community informed".

### 7 MIROW, GERMANY

Nearly US\$200,000 was found at the top of a tree in a campsite in Germany. The owner of the campsite has come forward to claim the money, but police are yet to prove ownership of the money and suspect that it is connected to a cottage fire that took place earlier that week on the property.

### 8 BEIJING, CHINA

A competition where the participants are required to "space out" has been held in one of the busiest parts of Beijing. Eighty people gathered on a major shopping street in the city's business district to take part in the International Space Out Competition. The challenge was to sit still, oblivious to the distractions of their surroundings, for two hours.



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# Grapevine



**"It's shocking, embarrassing, a huge blow, almost everything under the sun. It is almost Mexico's worst nightmare, and I suspect many in US law enforcement are apoplectic right now. Mexico is going to be under increasing pressure from the US in terms of extraditing these top people."**



**Eric L Olson — Mexico Institute of the Wilson Centre**

Mexican drug lord, Joaquin Guzman, known as El Cheapo, has escaped a maximum security prison in Mexico using an elaborate tunnel. His escape tunnel was more than 1.5km long and had ventilation and stairs. This is the second time the notorious drug tsar has escaped prison.

**"Arcane public health policies treat medical cannabis patients as drug abusers. As a result patients are often denied a life-saving organ transplant solely because they are prescribed medical cannabis. Many of these patients have died after being denied an organ transplant."**

**Marc Levine — California state representative**

California has passed legislation that has stopped denying organ transplants to medical marijuana patients. California is just the seventh state to pass a law protecting marijuana users from being removed from organ transplant lists.



**"Putting bread on the table, putting a roof over the heads of one's children, giving them health and an education — these are essential for human dignity, and business men and women, politicians, economists, must feel challenged in this regard. I ask them not to yield to an economic model which is idolatrous, which needs to sacrifice human lives on the altar of money and profit."**



**Pope Francis**

Pope Francis has put into practice his insistence that the world's poor not be left on the margins of society by visiting a flood-prone slum in Paraguay. Many residents of the slum are squatters on municipal land and argue that they should be given title to the land because they have worked to make it habitable with little help from the state.

**"This has become a movement. The silent majority is back, and we're going to take our country back ... the word is getting out that we have to stop illegal immigration. I wonder if the Mexican government sent them over here. I think so. Don't worry, we'll take our country back."**

**Donald Trump**

The rest of the Republican party is trying to distance itself from Donald Trump as he continues to make controversial statements about Mexico and illegal immigrants. South Carolina senator, Lindsey Graham, said of Trump: "We have to reject this demagogue. If we don't, we will lose and we will deserve to lose."



## FACTS & FIGURES



### Kangaroos

cannot walk backwards.

### Over 90%

of diseases are caused or complicated by stress.

### Albert Einstein's eyes

are preserved in a safe in New York.

### Australia

is the only continent in the world that has no volcanoes.

### Venus

is the only planet in the solar system that rotates clockwise.

### 56.3%

of representatives in Rwanda's parliament are women – the highest level of government representation in the world.

### 2,266, 832

Americans are in prison.



# All Blacks Make History with Samoa Test

» LECTURERS CANCEL CLASSES TO WATCH TEST, BLAME IT ON SNOW AND ICE

BY SPORTS EDITOR **DANIEL LORMANS** /

Last week saw a rare doubleheader of big rugby matches with the first ever All Blacks test match in Samoa and then the State of Origin series decider in Brisbane. These two games showed how two very different rivalries can play out. The State of Origin players and fans seem to want to hurt each other, whereas with the All Blacks and Samoans it looked like it could be the start of some serious bromances as both teams took part in a pre-match parade through Apia and all the supporters came together in a week-long cultural celebration.

It was such a big occasion that hundreds of students gathered around the big screen in the Union Hall to watch the All Blacks' history-making visit to Samoa, with the game ending in a 25-16 win for the ABs after a predictably rusty performance in the hot, dry conditions. Samoa were visibly pumped up and really put themselves physically into the game, but the lack of preparation time was evident for both teams as neither side managed much fluidity throughout the game. Samoa put up a good fight throughout and were never out of the game, but they missed a few important goals. In the end, the boot of Dan Carter proved the difference as he kicked 20 points and set up the All Blacks' only try when his cross-field kick found George Moala. Carter has played himself back into form at the perfect time after

a difficult start to the season and looks very confident as the All Blacks' first choice number 10 going into the World Cup.

Plenty of improvement is still needed but, with only four games before the All Blacks' first match of the World Cup, there is not a lot of game time to prepare. The addition of the Highlanders and Hurricanes players into the team will see the All Blacks at full strength for their Rugby Championship games but brings with it a number of selection problems — we could probably field two completely different teams capable of winning the World Cup.

The one-off test in Apia was a prime example of the game returning to its roots and becoming more than just a test match — it really was a cultural milestone for Samoa. So much so that even Prime Minister John Key was in attendance but, as he does whenever he is anywhere near a rugby game, he managed to make a mess of yet another high-profile, post-game handshake.

All Blacks coach Steve Hansen was recognised as an honorary chief for his role in making this test match a possibility. It was an honour that was accepted by the notoriously monotone and poker-faced All Blacks coach, who was optimistic about these types of test matches in the Pacific becoming more common.

With the millions of dollars of investment that was needed to get Apia Park up to international test standard, hopefully a regular schedule of games can be worked out to make use of the updated venue. Surely New Zealand, Australia and South Africa can commit to playing at least one test per year in Samoa, Tonga and Fiji or even open up an expanded Rugby Championship to the Pacific nations. This trip to Samoa was a reminder of how important the Pacific Island nations are to the success of New Zealand rugby; many current and former All Blacks were able to reflect on their Samoan heritage. Current All Blacks who could have represented Samoa include Sonny Bill Williams, Julian Savea, Ma'a Nonu and Keven Mealamu.

So the All Blacks eventually got the job done on the field, but the sense of occasion surrounding this test match made the actual game and the result far less significant than the prospect of regular test rugby in the Pacific. Commercially, it would have made much more sense to host Samoa at Eden Park, which would have been more profitable than the relatively small crowd at Apia Park. Thankfully, the accountants were overruled for once and this trip was a return to the pre-professional era of rugby that many of us have forgotten or never even known. ○





## State of Origin

» NSW SHOCKED AFTER QLD WIN NINTH TITLE IN TEN YEARS

BY DANIEL LORMANS

**A**fter the game in Apia, the All Blacks and Samoa players swapped shirts, shared some laughs and posed together for pictures with fans in what seemed to be a very calm atmosphere of camaraderie, mutual respect and sportsmanship. Just a few hours later there was a distinctly different atmosphere in Brisbane for the State of Origin series decider. The usual sense of hostility and tribalism was at full-force inside Suncorp Stadium as New South Wales were welcomed by the Queensland crowd with some of the loudest booing I have ever heard. The hostile reception seemed to get the better of the Blues from the start as they quickly started leaking tries on the way to losing the series with an embarrassing 52-6 defeat that was the worst in State of Origin history and now makes the Blues' series win in 2014 seem like a total fluke.

It was a record-breaking night for the Maroons across the park: Greg Inglis became the leading

Origin try scorer with 17, while captain Cameron Smith equalled Darren Lockyer's all-time appearance record with 36 matches. Already the record point scorer, Jonathan Thurston managed to set a new goal-scoring record when he landed all nine of his wild banana hooks for a record-equalling 18-point haul from the game. He could have easily hit 10/10 but handed up an easy kick as a show of respect to the retiring Justin Hodges, who put it between the posts.

There really were very few positives to take from the game for New South Wales who, once the game was clearly lost, let their frustrations out with a series of dangerous tackles that only riled up the crowd further and will serve to make their already fierce rivalry even more bitter before next year's series. The Blues host two of the three games next year, which should theoretically give them an advantage if they can recover quickly from their record

defeat this year. The only good news for NSW is that their team is dominating the Under 20s State of Origin, a single match series that they have won since it was introduced in 2012. However, Queensland are dominating the women's game, retaining their title and remaining undefeated since they started playing the series in 1999. NSW did manage a draw this year, but needed a win to actually take the trophy for the first time.

So, there we have it. Two very different games of rugby played in very different circumstances. While the All Blacks and Samoa game was full of positives for both teams despite the result, New South Wales will look back at their performance as a night to forget while Queensland will remind them about it every chance they get until next year's series. ●

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# HUMAN TRAFFICKING

are we doing enough?

BY LAURA MUNRO



“Prosecution wise, the penalties for trafficking drugs are harsher than that of trafficking humans. It's easier, there's less risk and more profit. And that's where the issue is,” said Don Lord, executive director of anti-trafficking organisation, HAGAR International. He said drug traffickers have now switched to human trafficking because of the vagueness of laws concerning the crime. University of Otago lecturer and researcher of human trafficking, Jen Desrosiers, agreed: “It's more convenient,” she said. “Drugs can be used once, humans can be used again and again.”

Immigration New Zealand (INZ) describes human trafficking as modern-day slavery. “It involves forced exploitation,” their website reads. “It takes many different forms, but the most common would be forced prostitution and forced labour.” Victims are generally deceived into believing they are going to be living and working legitimately in a country. Once they arrive, they are forced to work long hours to repay their “debt”, the sum of which they often don't know. “These victims are seen as commodities,” says INZ, “they are a means of income for their traffickers.” They lose their passports, money and return tickets home. Worst of all, they lose their freedom. In some cases, they eventually lose their life.

Every year, the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime releases the Global Report on Trafficking in Persons. In 2011, it reported that 53 percent of discovered trafficking victims were used for sexual exploitation. Of these, 97 percent were women. The second most common use of trafficking victims, at 40 percent, was for forced labour. A total of 0.3 percent were used for organ removal, and seven percent were used for other exploitative purposes.

In 2013, a total of 20.9 million victims of human trafficking were recorded across

the globe. Note that these are only the victims who were found; it is difficult to put a number on something that often occurs under the radar. Victims generally tend to be from South East Asian countries (such as Cambodia, Vietnam, Thailand, the Philippines and Nepal), India and Africa. Desrosiers said New Zealand is seen as a destination, rather than a source, for human trafficking.

Desrosiers said “the border control in New Zealand is very good”. However, Thomas Harre, who is on the legal team for Slave Free Seas (SFS) and is a founding member of the New Zealand Network Against People Trafficking (NZNAPT), said victims are generally brought in legally, often on tourist or temporary working visas. “The papers are in order, they look legitimate, and it's only after they get here that the exploitation really begins,” said Harre. He noted this is extremely common for the sex industry due to prostitution being legalised. “Women are often brought in on tourist visas and locked in a brothel or locked in a house and forced to work in the sex industry. This is often against their will,” said Harre.

Steph Lambert, head of advocacy and capacity building at Stand Against Slavery (SAS), recently wrote a “Lawtalk” article for the New Zealand Law Society about trafficking in New Zealand. Lambert spoke of a case in 2001 in which a Thai woman claimed she had been trafficked into New Zealand and forced into prostitution. The woman had been promised a job in a restaurant so long as she repaid NZ\$10,000 at 36 percent interest. Once she arrived in New Zealand, her passport, money and return tickets to Thailand were taken. She paid \$150 each week to live in a small room with six other women, and worked 16-hour days to pay back her “debt”. After she came forward to authorities, the woman was sent back to Thailand and no charges were laid.



Foreign charter vessels in New Zealand waters are also becoming a key concern for anti-trafficking organisations. Harre says allegations of trafficked people working on these vessels have been emerging since 2004. Despite the work of SFS, little has been done by the New Zealand authorities. Harre spoke of a case in 2011 where Indonesian men were trafficked from their home country to illegally work on foreign fishing vessels in Christchurch waters. The men were promised jobs working on fishing boats in New Zealand. Harre said they were made to sign contracts in languages they didn't understand, and were kept at sea and made to work up to 16-hour days. The men were beaten and, in some cases, sexually assaulted. "At the end of it," said Harre, "they weren't paid."

The case was included in the US State Department Trafficking in Persons report for 2013. The report said the men were "subjected to forced labor, including through debt bondage, confiscated passports, underpayment of wages, imposition of significant debts, poor living and working conditions and physical and sexual abuse".

Although the case ticked all the boxes for both international trafficking law and New Zealand's domestic trafficking laws, no justice was ever brought to the perpetrators. "The police and INZ never prosecuted anyone," said Harre. "They took the view that it was an employment matter, and not a criminal matter. If you take a step back, you can see that this is blatant trafficking, but everyone turned a blind eye."

Similar allegations have been made about Asian and Pacific Island people working in New Zealand's agriculture, horticulture, viticulture and hospitality industries. The Trafficking in Persons report found that these individuals migrate to New Zealand to work and are instead "subjected to forced labor". The report said that the workers

were charged large recruitment fees, had unjustified salary deductions and their movement was restricted. Passports were confiscated and contracts were altered to suit the employer. "They do not complain," it read, "because they are afraid of losing their temporary work visas."

The Christchurch rebuild has become a prominent destination for workers trafficked from foreign countries. In July 2014, current affairs show *Third Degree* reported that the New Zealand government had begun fast-tracking visa applications from Filipino labourers to work on the rebuild. Stories began emerging about oppressive contracts, job losses and working without pay. The workers were forced to live, and cook, in tiny rooms that slept three to four people. For these rooms, workers were paying over \$400 a week in rent.

The workers pay over \$10,000 to recruitment organisations in the Philippines, so a large debt is accumulated before they even enter New Zealand. "Once they arrive, they're forced to work in these inhumane conditions and take very little money away from it," said Lord. "It's blatant trafficking right here in one of New Zealand's largest cities." Workers were made to sign a contract that included their "debt bondage". They were required to pay \$7700 for their toolbox; if they left the company before the end of their three-year term, they would be liable for US\$10,000. In most cases, their passports were confiscated.

Aged care is also becoming a target for trafficked migrants in New Zealand. Harre said people from foreign countries are brought in to work in rest homes as nurses. "They're not qualified as nurses, they're only qualified in aged care," he said. They are then stuck working long hours at minimum wage, and living in shared housing. At the same time, they are re-paying the fee they were charged to come to New Zealand, along

**"Once they arrive, they're forced to work in these inhumane conditions and take very little money away from it. It's blatant trafficking right here in one of New Zealand's largest cities."**

with interest. The Salvation Army holds a Prevent People Trafficking conference each year. In 2014, it reported that over half of the overseas visas given for nursing or aged care were for Filipinos. The majority of these were women.

In 2014, two men were charged under the New Zealand Crimes Act 1961 with people trafficking. According to INZ, the men arranged by deception the entry of 18 Indian nationals into New Zealand. A third man was also charged for making false refugee claims for the Indians once they arrived in the country. This case is significant for New Zealand; they are the first charges ever made for people trafficking.

Of the charges, INZ's Assistant General Manager of Compliance and Border Operations Peter Devoy said the prosecution was an extremely significant development. "It shows how seriously we treat such allegations, and the fact that this is the first prosecution for people trafficking in New Zealand sends a very strong message that we will thoroughly investigate any other cases," said Devoy.

These charges should be cause for celebration. But why has it taken so long? New Zealand has been a destination country for people trafficking for over a decade. The trafficking industry, which was estimated at \$32 billion in 2013, occurs right under our noses.

Harre said the starting point for human trafficking prevention is the United Nations Trafficking Protocol. The protocol "recognises that states need to criminalise what they call human trafficking". "What it really is," said Harre, "is using domestic criminal law to enforce international law." The protocol says there are three elements of human trafficking: an act, a means and a purpose. Acts are things like transportation, harbouring, recruitment and general

movement of the victims. The means are things like deception, coercion and abuse of a position of vulnerability. The purpose is essentially exploitation. This can be sexual (such as forced prostitution), forced labour or organ harvesting. Harre said, "On the basis of those UN elements, states who have signed up to the protocol need to, in their own domestic legislation, pass an act that criminalises those sorts of things."

New Zealand signed the UN protocol in 2000 and ratified it in 2002. Since signing, New Zealand has included human trafficking in section 98(D) of the Crimes Act 1961. In the act, trafficking is defined as the use, coercion or deception to arrange or attempt to arrange the entry of a person into New Zealand or another state. The penalty is a fine of up to \$500,000, up to 20 years in prison, or both.

Although the act exists, it has been criticised for having severe gaps — gaps that allow the crime to be committed on the scale that it is. Harre says this legislation overlaps with international law, "but not entirely". New Zealand law recognises the need for an act, and a means, but does not require a purpose. "It's a more limited approach than what the international law says," said Harre.

In 2013, the Trafficking in Persons report found that New Zealand does not have a comprehensive anti-trafficking law that prohibits all forms of trafficking. The report argues that the Crimes Act of 1961 "criminalises only some specific forms of forced labor". Slavery is criminalised, but "is limited to situations of debt bondage and serfdom". The prohibition "does not cover forced labor obtained by means other than debt, law, custom, or agreement that prohibits a person from leaving employment". The report recommended that New Zealand expand the legal framework currently in place around

human trafficking "to prohibit and punish all forms of human trafficking". It also recommended that New Zealand "increase efforts to investigate and prosecute both sex and labor trafficking offences" and fully implement a national plan of action to address current trafficking trends.

A year after the report was written, the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment implemented a Plan of Action Against People Trafficking. The three goals of the plan were prevention, protection and prosecution. Prevention involved training government officials, New Zealand police and the Department of Labour on anti-trafficking measures. Prevention also involved wider research on human trafficking, targeted awareness raising, intelligence gathering, international engagement with trafficking issues, and increased border security. Protection involved assisting victims, including with housing, social services and financial assistance. The plan also made it a goal to protect the physical safety of victims. The prosecution aspect aimed to have stronger investigations of suspected trafficking activity, support for victims in the criminal process and also compensation for victims once they are freed.

In 2013, New Zealand was ranked as the most free country in the world. Yet, in the last decade, we have failed those suffering the most. It can no longer be argued that trafficking does not occur here, and we need to begin to do something about it. If the plan of action is lived up to, victims of human trafficking will have a chance that they never had before to be freed from those with total control of their lives. A plan is easy to put in place, but, in order to prove it is working, we need to see some charges being laid. Actions speak louder than words. These actions are long overdue ■







# REFUGEES

## why we are failing

In New Zealand, the quota of 750 refugees has remained unchanged for 28 years. The UN Refugee Agency ranks us 87th per capita in the total number of refugees and asylum seekers we host and 113th when measured by GDP. Australia, despite its reputation, allows 20,000. Why are we not setting an example to the rest of the world?

by Gemma Forlong

John McGlashan, a Scottish immigrant who ended up in Dunedin, once said: "If your prospects are bad ... then I can safely say you would be ten times better off in New Zealand, where, if you are able and willing to work, to keep yourself sober, you would in a little time be surrounded with abundance of bacon and eggs, bread, butter, milk and cream, puddings, fowls, and all kinds of vegetables." This was in 1848. Even then, New Zealand was seen as a sweet place to live, and this is further evidenced by the huge number of immigrants who have come to New Zealand and settled permanently since. When it comes to refugees and asylum seekers, New Zealand is seen as an ideal location to start again. Unfortunately, our country's allowance of refugees and asylum seekers is something we can't be as proud of.

As most of us already know, Australia has a rather xenophobic reputation when it comes to refugees and asylum seekers. In 2013, former Prime Minister Kevin Rudd and Papua New Guinea (PNG) Prime Minister

Peter O'Neill negotiated the infamous "PNG Solution". The agreement outlined that any asylum seeker coming to Australia by boat without a visa would be refused entry into Australia and, instead, be sent to Papua New Guinea — a state that has a long history of failed government. This year, the Australian government has been caught up in its fair share of drama following allegations that it paid people smugglers carrying a boatload of refugees to sail to Indonesia instead. Not to be neglected is Australia's horrendous treatment of refugees and asylum seekers if they are eventually accepted into the country. Once accepted, refugees are detained in detention centres, with no time limit on when they are to be released. As many are leaving war zones, poverty and often their families, being held in a detention centre is traumatic. There are many reports of detainees having suicidal thoughts and long-lasting depression.

On the other side of the spectrum, many states do a huge amount for refugees and

asylum seekers. In 2014, Turkey hosted around 1.7 million Syrian refugees and Pakistan hosted 1.6 million refugees from Afghanistan.

New Zealand's annual refugee quota is 750, with an extra 300 people coming under the Refugee Family Support Category — a category that means the initial refugees under the 750 quota can invite their family members to relocate to New Zealand. Additionally, the New Zealand government considers claims from asylum seekers for refugee status. Between 2011 and 2012, 364 claims were made and 115 were accepted. Around \$7.6 million in taxpayer funding is spent on refugee services annually, with an extra \$5.6 million set to be spent over the next four years. We are also internationally acclaimed for our resettlement programme.

In New Zealand, the quota of 750 refugees with additional family members allowed, has remained unchanged for 28 years. The UN Refugee Agency ranks us 87th per capita

“It remains important to look after refugees both through resettlement programmes and in overseas camps. How we treat these people will shape the world in which we live.”

in the total number of refugees and asylum seekers we host and 113th when measured by GDP. Australia, despite its reputation, allows 20,000. That's five times the number New Zealand takes in per capita. In 2012, the New Zealand government introduced the Immigration Amendment Bill (Mass Arrivals Act), which provides for the detention of a mass arrival of asylum seekers under a group warrant for a period up to six months to deter boats and people smugglers carrying asylum seekers. This seems inconsistent with the ever growing rate of displaced people around the world — a number that the UNHCR pinpoints at 59.5 million. Many of these people are children.

## Why We Should Care

Today millions of people are forced from their homes and countries largely because of conflict or persecution. They have limited options. Either find haven in another

country or face persecution and/or death at home. Many lose family and friends in the process. One of the most intense refugee crises in history is happening right now. Since 2011, Syria has been the home of a bloody civil war. The unrest began when the Syrian government responded violently to nationwide protests. More than 190,000 lives have been lost since due to continual violence in the form of bombing and armed conflict. Around 7.6 million people within Syria are displaced and at risk. Furthermore, approximately four million refugees have fled Syria into neighbouring countries. Naturally, it is a massive struggle for neighbouring states like Lebanon to support so many refugees physically and emotionally.

Refugees not only have to struggle with the loss of their homes and livelihoods, they are in constant fear for their lives and the lives of their loved ones. Yara, a mother of four and refugee from Dayr al-Zor in eastern Syria,

told her story to Amnesty International researchers in Lebanon:

My husband was arrested by Syrian authorities at the border. I didn't have anyone to turn to and people were being killed by bombings and massacres so we fled. I found out my husband was killed. No one told me — I found out from YouTube that my husband was detained in a [Syrian] prison. He was killed in the prison and then [they] threw his body outside and the rebels showed the video on YouTube. I saw the video showing his photo after he was killed. These people contacted us and told me, "your husband is killed and come and receive his body", but we couldn't reach the place where he was. So, these people buried him.

Syria, however, is not alone in its insane refugee count. Closer to home, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

claims that Asia and the Pacific are home to around 3.5 million refugees, 1.9 million internally displaced people and 1.4 million stateless people.

## What If We Do Take In More?

If we increased the quota, government funding of refugee services would undoubtedly increase, and, yes, these new residents would be applying for the same jobs as other New Zealanders. Those opposed to increasing the quota generally believe that the quota sits at an ideal rate. Taxpayer money should be spent first and foremost on the New Zealanders who need it. By putting more funding towards refugee services, we are set back from dealing with New Zealand's own issues that may need an increase in funding more urgently. Those opposed also feel that, as a small, isolated nation, we are doing the best we can at the current quota. Australia may allow more refugees into the country than New Zealand annually, but it is also a significantly larger nation.

Groups that support the increase, like Amnesty International, claim those who resettle in New Zealand want to do just that — resettle. They want to fund their own way, and this will eventually lead to them giving back to the society that helped them out in the first place. Refugees and asylum seekers who come to New Zealand actually become New Zealanders and bring with them new cultures and ideas that could easily become part of our rich immigration history. This month, New Zealand is set to take on the presidency of the UN Security Council — a role in which we will ask nations to do their upmost to respond to international conflicts. To those who support the increase, New Zealand officials would be asking states to make a difference, while not following that procedure themselves. More importantly, increasing the quota would be saving

the lives of some of the world's most vulnerable people.

Steve Addison, a journalist who spent part of last year in a Syrian refugee camp in Turkey, believes that increasing the quota is simply the right thing to do. "When faced with a tough situation, it is important to do the right thing," says Addison. "While it has no effect on the number of displaced people, it makes a lifetime of difference to those allowed to come here. It remains important to look after refugees both through resettlement programmes and in overseas camps. How we treat these people will shape the world in which we live."

New Zealand's refugee quota is an important issue that all New Zealanders should be discussing — whether you support or oppose an increase. The minister of immigration is Dunedin's Michael Woodhouse, and he recently told the *New Zealand Herald* that the government will be reviewing its refugee quota next year: "The government agreed to the current three-year quota programme in June 2013 and a decision will be made on the next three-year programme early next year considering all relevant factors. We will look at all aspects of the quota, including numbers."

By increasing the quota, New Zealand is not becoming a leader in dealing with refugees and asylum seekers, but it does make a significant difference from our part of the world. We need to be as open to the idea of helping refugees as we'd hope any other state would be open to accepting us as refugees ■



# THE JURASSIC WORLD OF NEW ZEALAND

BY AMBER ALLOTT



Inspired by *Jurassic World*, Amber Allott has gone a little dinosaur crazy. Here she gives you a run-down of New Zealand's greatest reptilian beasts and the history behind them.

**P**eople have always been captivated by the majestic reptiles that once roamed our lands, seas and skies. From the scientists who scour the earth for their fossilised remains, to the children who gaze in awe, open-mouthed, at the carefully arranged exhibits in museums, to everybody who queues up to see the latest film in the iconic *Jurassic Park* series, humanity's desire to see and learn more about these prehistoric titans seems endless.

In their time, dinosaurs existed across the world. Even in New Zealand, we had a diverse and vast array of species, some of which existed nowhere else on Earth. Here is a compilation of some of the unique reptiles that once wandered the country, which represent not only some familiar figures from the big screen but also New Zealand's distinct place in palaeontological history.

## ANKYLOSAUR GREEK: "CROOKED LIZARD"

Stars of the new *Jurassic World* film, a herd of ankylosaurs play football with two children on the "gyrosphere" attraction while trying, unsuccessfully, to avoid being eaten.

Ankylosauria are stocky, quadrupedal, herbivorous dinosaurs, known for having distinctive armour. This armour was actually bony osteoderms, forming structures called scutes and nodules. Scutes were large, elongated plates, organised in rows, while nodules filled the spaces between them. Members of the family ankylosauridae also had bony clubs on the end of their tails, which may have been used either for defending themselves against predators or for attracting a mate.

Ankylosaur bones were discovered by the late Dr Joan Wiffen, an amateur palaeontologist responsible for discovering the first dinosaur fossils in New Zealand. It is believed that the ankylosaur bones found in New Zealand were from a creature similar to *minmi*, a genus of small ankylosauria that lived in Australia during the late Cretaceous period. Features of the *minmi* include long legs for an ankylosaur, and a particularly small brain. These dinosaurs grew to be only about two metres long and one metre high at the shoulder.

## TITANOSAUR

GREEK: "TITANIC LIZARD"

Titanosaurs were a group of sauropods, herbivorous dinosaurs known for their long necks and tails, proportionately tiny heads and thick, sturdy legs. The titanosauria group included some of the heaviest land creatures that have ever existed, such as the argentinosaurs, a South American dinosaur estimated to have weighed between eighty and one hundred tonnes, with each vertebra as tall as a man.

It is unknown what species of titanosaur roamed New Zealand, as it is known from only a single tail bone. This bone was also found by Wiffen, during a routine fossil-hunting trip in northern Hawke's Bay. It was discovered along the banks of a tributary of the Te Hoe river, inside a deposit of partially exposed sedimentary rock, "about the size of a rugby ball" according to discoverer Wiffen.

"I dug it out and asked a colleague to break it open with a hammer. I immediately saw a bone structure inside that looked different from the bone of a marine reptile. To be honest it's a fairly nondescript and incomplete bone. It is heavily eroded and that's because it must have been transported in a riverbed for some time before it was buried."

## PTEROSAUR

GREEK: "WINGED LIZARD"

Featured for the first time in *Jurassic Park II* and appearing again in the latest film, pterosaurs are depicted as similar in behaviour to modern-day birds of prey. Their portrayal has been criticised by dinosaur experts as being highly inaccurate, and as failing to incorporate the extensive research that has taken place in the last forty years. Faults with their depiction in the films include teeth in toothless species, nesting behaviour since shown to be incorrect, and leathery, bat-like wings rather than the membranes of muscle fibre that pterosaurs actually required to fly.

Pterosaurs are commonly referred to as "flying dinosaurs", but this is not technically correct. True dinosaurs belong to the clade dinosauria and have a common ancestor that distinguishes them from both pterosaurs and many marine reptiles, such as mosasaurs and plesiosaurs. As a group, they do hold the distinction of being the first vertebrate species able to fly. Pterosaurs are incredibly diverse in terms of size: the smallest had wingspans of 250 millimetres (approximately ten inches), while the largest had a wingspan of eighteen metres.

Evidence of pterosaur species in New Zealand includes the discovery of an arm bone and a tooth, likely belonging to a creature with a wingspan of about 3.75 metres. It quite possibly belonged to the group ornithocheiridae, which were among the last pterosaurs to have teeth.



## COMPSOGNATHUS

GREEK: "DAINTY JAW"

While not featured in the latest addition to the *Jurassic Park* series, compsoognathus appeared in the second and third instalments as tiny green carnivores, which first coordinated to attack a young girl, and then to run down and eat a prominent character. The compsoognathus is also a common feature of many children's dinosaur books, where it is referred to as the "chicken-sized" dinosaur. While the chicken-sized skeleton was later shown to be that of a juvenile, compsoognathus was the smallest well-known species of dinosaur for almost a hundred years.

Based on the presence of small, intact lizard remains found inside one specimen, it is believed that the compsoognathus was a quick, agile runner, most likely with excellent vision. It is also believed that they swallowed their prey whole. Their closest relative is believed by many palaeontologists to be the archeopteryx, also known as the "proto-bird". This could mean that the compsoognathus was a feathered dinosaur.

Compsognathus in New Zealand is known only from a single finger or toe bone found in Port Waikato. It was found surrounded by structures that are believed to be coprolites, or fossilised faeces. If this is the case, it is possibly the partially digested remains of a compsoognathus excreted by a much larger carnivore living around Port Waikato during the late Jurassic period.







## KAIWHEKEA

MAORI: "SQUID-EATER"

Particularly relevant to the Otago region, we have the kaiwhekea. It is unique in that the single existing specimen is almost complete. It was found in the Katiki formation near Shag Point in Northern Otago, and collected and prepared by Arthur Cruickshank and Professor Ewan Fordyce of the University of Otago Geology Department.

The kaiwhekea is a genus of plesiosaur. Fordyce describes the classic plesiosaur as, "looking like a snake threaded through the body of a turtle, with four flippers that they flap up and down". He describes the kaiwhekea as being of note because, "unlike other New Zealand plesiosaurs it has a pretty big skull, and it seemed not to have a really long neck. It seemed a bit different, that's why we named it a new genus ... Subsequent work by people in Britain and in South America has shown the kaiwhekea is probably a variety of a long-necked plesiosaur — called elasmosaurs. Basically, kaiwhekea is probably a strange and unusual type of elasmosaur, with a bigger head and shorter neck."

The kaiwhekea's name means squid-or-octopus eater. The conclusion that it ate soft-bodied prey, such as squid, was drawn from the skull's small, interlocking teeth, which meant it was unlikely to be capable of crushing bones. "If we look at the teeth, we can see how they lived," says Fordyce. "It might have eaten big prey, but I'd bet they were soft, or not particularly resistant."

Despite recreations showing marine reptiles, such as plesiosaurs and Jurassic World stars mosasaurs, fighting or interacting, Fordyce believes it would be unlikely that the plesiosaur interacted with any other species in that manner. "It's just good press, really."



## HONOURABLE MENTION:

### TUATARA

MAORI: "PEAKS ON THE BACK"

Although commonly referred to as a living dinosaur, the tuatara is actually the last surviving member of the order sphenodontia. Sphenodonts were plentiful, with a wide range of species, from the Middle Triassic to the Lower Cretaceous period, but around sixty million years ago, all species — with the exception of the tuatara — began to decline.

When the British Museum first received a skull in 1831, the tuatara were incorrectly classified as lizards. This was finally corrected in 1867, when German zoologist Albert Günther noted their skeletal similarities to birds, turtles and crocodilians. He proposed a new order of reptiles for tuatara and similar fossils, called rhynchocephalia (or "beak-head"). This order quickly became a dumping ground for distantly related species that didn't seem to fit anywhere else, so in 1925 a new order was proposed that included only the tuatara and their closest fossil relatives, called sphenodontia (or "wedge-tooth").

Tuatara used to live across the mainland of New Zealand, but today they can only be found in the wild on thirty-two islands. The reason for the decline of the tuatara is often cited as the presence of introduced mammalian predators, like the rat, which not only compete with the tuatara for invertebrate food sources but also prey on their eggs and young. While tuatara are generally safe from both competition and predation by mammals on the islands where they now reside, another significant threat their populations face is low genetic diversity. This has many wider implications for the species, from vulnerability, to new pathogens, to the ability to survive climate change.

New Zealand lacks the optimum conditions for fossilisation, meaning our fossil record is largely incomplete. According to Fordyce, "most of the rocks we have here in New Zealand are marine rocks that formed in shallow waters, near shore, or sometimes in deep waters".

He did specify that we do have a certain quantity of non-marine rocks, which is the environment where dinosaurs would have lived. "Non-marine rocks generally aren't good for preserving bones ... In New Zealand, these rocks have a lot of coal in them, and if you have coal, you tend to have acidic ground water, and acidic ground water dissolves the bone. The fossil record is a bit biased — we have a good record of marine fossils because that's where the bones tend to preserve well."

Keeping this in mind, it's completely possible that once, long ago, all manner of magnificent beasts roamed the lands we now call home, but that all traces of their life and existence have faded away. It is unlikely that we will ever know the true depth or complexity of prehistoric life in New Zealand ■



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# vital bodies

ARTISTS:  
Georgette Brown, Wendelien Bakker, Anna Rankin, Sam Norton, Virginia Overell and Holly Childs.

CURATED BY:  
Georgina Watson

» THE BLUE OYSTER ART PROJECT SPACE | EXHIBITED 8 JULY – 1 AUGUST

BY LOULOU CALLISTER-BAKER

Seeking out the vital bodies in the current Blue Oyster show curated by Georgina Watson is an experience that crosses the disciplines of writing, digital images, sculpture and painting. It is a matter of observing and questioning: is the vitality in the separate bodies of work by the five artists, writers and theorists? Is it in the works' selection and interactions? Or is it the vital place a show like this takes in the realm of contemporary art in New Zealand?

The vital bodies alluded to in the short poem that stands in for the show's description seem to be those that exist in moments of tension in nature, just before a drop of water breaks away from a leaf, or before seeds germinate. It is the tension of a beginning — not necessarily of a new life, but of a transition or expansion of a life already in momentum. It is hard to decide, however, if it is this type of vitality that connects each piece or whether the poem is actually an invitation for the gallery goer to step into another realm, another way of thinking.

The first piece I found myself drawn to is the most visually confrontational work in the

show. Sam Norton's two framed screen shots — one of her staring straight on and the other of her hand inserted between the plush cushions of a beige sofa or bed head — are from a film Norton took of herself on her birthday in a hotel room in Samoa. In the first, she looks at the camera in a state of disarray; in the second, her hand inserted into the crevasse between the sofa cushions sexualises the banal sofa.

If Norton's work alludes to the vagina, this motif has a more explicit, disturbing reappearance as a "giant gaping wound" in Anna Rankin's text, *Get Born Again*. Printed and placed on the wall beside Norton's images, Rankin's poetry leads to a reinterpretation of the entertaining perplexity and sensuality found in Norton's work. The power of Rankin's words taints the exhibition with the deep, resounding pains of being a woman. Holy Child's emoji-riddled text on the opposite wall also contains a darkness but instead takes a surreal Dunedin as her subject.

With what I interpret as an all-knowing eye and pink lips encircling a mottled green serpent or stream, the vagina takes on a more mystical form in Georgette Brown's paint and

mix-media piece, *Painfully Aware at the Moment of Salvation*. In the veiny pink and dotted yellow world of Brown's work, the vagina creature is worshipped by the living and dead as a figure of eternal power and knowledge. Alone, the work may feel overtly ecstatic, but its placement in the show provides another interpretation of femininity that is nicely optimistic.

Initially taking the form of three pages of text on the gallery floor, Wendelien Bakker's *Swimming Pool* (like Virginia Overell's lime- and salt-coated coins "washed" onto the shore of Blue Oyster's floor) has the potential to remain unnoticed by the gallery goer, who is habituated to looking at things on walls. But Bakker's work in this show offered the most unexpectedly engaging experience for me, particularly added to by its understatement.

In her text, Bakker describes the process of building a swimming pool just larger than her body in the backyard of her Grey Lynn flat (wonderful photos documenting this can be found online). Her text is evidence of all sorts. It shows the physicality and intricacy of her process but is also evidence of challenging gender roles — interestingly, this is the only work in the show where men have some sort of presence. When buying mortar, Bakker notes, "The man at the counter asked if he could help to put the bag in the car. I tell him I'm walking. It is 25kg. He tells me to have a lot of breaks. I decide not to have any breaks." In her process, Bakker challenges men who undermine her, peering neighbours and her own body's endurance to create *A Pool of Her Own*.

*vital bodies* traverses a criss-cross of lines that interweave the subtle and explicit, femininity and nature. Georgina Watson has curated an enticing show that requires the gallery goer to engage more deeply, beyond simply being present and browsing, and instead, to seek, inspect, interpret. ●



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DAVID SHRIGLEY *I'm Dead* 2010 Mixed media. British Council Collection. Image courtesy Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum © The Artist.



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# Spicy Roasted Winter Vegetable Lentil Salad

BY SOPHIE EDMONDS



## INGREDIENTS

Adapted from Angela Redfern's  
Ripe Recipes: A Fresh Batch

SERVES 4

or makes a week's worth of lunches for one

## SALAD

- **4 fist-sized** kumara (sweet potato), cut into small wedges
- **2 medium-sized** parsnips, sliced lengthways then into thirds
- **3 medium-sized** carrots, sliced lengthways then into thirds
- **1/2 a head** of cauliflower, cut into florets
- **1/4 C** sweet chilli sauce
- **1/4 C** olive oil
- **1 Tbsp** curry powder
- **1 Tbsp** ground cumin
- **1 tsp** ground chilli
- **400g can** brown lentils, drained
- **1 small bag** of baby spinach leaves
- **1 large handful** of fresh coriander leaves
- **juice** of half a lemon
- salt and pepper

## YOGHURT DRESSING

- **1 1/2 C** Greek yoghurt
- **small handful** of fresh coriander leaves, chopped finely
- **3 small cloves** garlic, crushed
- **3 Tbsp** sweet chilli sauce
- **2 tsp** curry powder
- salt and pepper

## CHICKEN (OPTIONAL)

- **2 tsp** curry powder
- **2 tsp** ground cumin
- **1/2 tsp** ground chilli
- **1/2 C** sweet chilli sauce
- **squeeze** of fresh lemon juice
- **1/4 cup** water
- **800g** chicken tenderloins (or breast cut into chunky strips)
- salt and pepper

**Y**ou know when you eat one thing so many times until that one day when it makes you feel sick and you can't face it ever again? That is how I feel about soups in general at the moment. I had been scouting for new ideas for cheap winter vegetables when I came across this recipe for a winter salad. It contains all my winter favourites, such as kumara, carrots and parsnips. I took some creative liberty and added cauliflower because roasted cauliflower is amazing. I also added chicken for an extra protein boost since I am all about them #gainz at the moment. Leave the

chicken out if you plan on just having this as a light salad or side to accompany something else. Also leave it out if you don't eat chicken.

It is really easy; I feel like it's a good 'un for the week's lunches. Roast up a big lot of vegies on a Sunday and each night just toss them together with some baby spinach, lentils, chicken pieces, coriander and a dollop of the dressing. Wham! You have lunch that doesn't consist of porridge or some unidentified green soup day in and day out. The vegetables this salad calls for are ALL in season at the moment so get amongst.

## METHOD

1. Preheat the oven to 180 degrees on bake and line a baking tray with baking paper.
2. To make the roast vegetables, mix together the sweet chilli sauce, olive oil, curry powder, cumin and chilli together in a large bowl. Add in all the chopped kumara, parsnip, carrot and cauliflower and toss to coat in the spice mix. Spread out onto the baking tray then bake for 30–40 minutes until the vegetables are soft and

starting to brown at the edges. Remove from the oven.

3. To make the yoghurt dressing, just mix together all the ingredients.
4. To make the chicken, mix together the spices, sweet chilli, lemon juice and water, add the tenderloins and stir to coat, then season lightly. In a frying pan set to a medium heat, pan fry the tenderloins until just cooked through. Be careful not to overcook them and dry them out.

5. To assemble the salad, start by tossing the vegetables in a couple of spoonfuls of the yoghurt dressing. To my plate I started layering on the baby spinach leaves, drained lentils, coriander leaves and roast vegetables, then dotting a few blobs of dressing around here and there. Toss the pile of vegetables lightly to gently mix things through. Top the salad with a few tenderloins, a good squeeze of that half lemon and a dollop of yoghurt dressing and serve while still warm.

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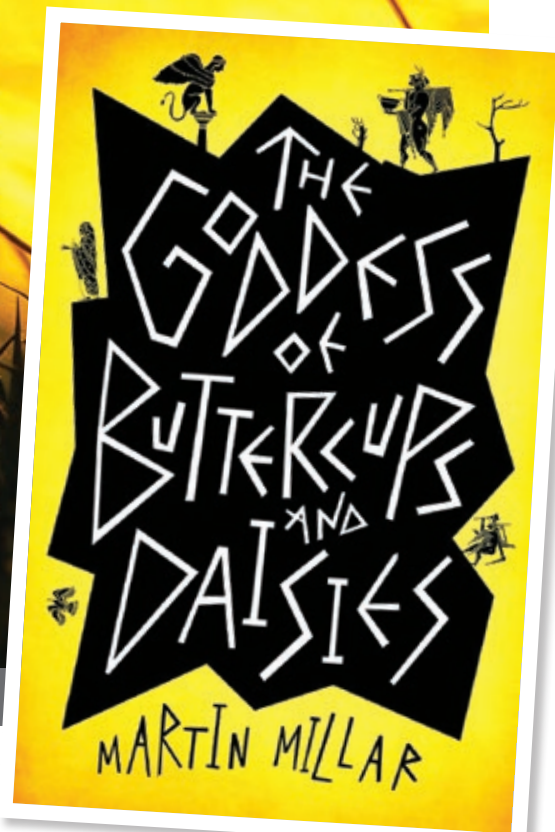




## The Goddess of Buttercups and Daisies

» WRITTEN BY **MARTIN MILLAR**

REVIEWED BY **BRIDGET VOSBURGH**



**M**artin Millar's novel, *The Goddess of Buttercups and Daisies*, is set in Athens, 421 BC. During this time, the city-state of Athens is at war with Sparta, and has been for ten years. The playwright Aristophanes wants to put on a comedy called *Peace* for the Dionysia Festival, as his entry in a competition he failed to win the year before. But certain people don't want a play about peace produced; these include the man who is supposed to be acting as Aristophanes' producer.

While the goddess Athena is on Aristophanes' side, the only help she can send is a scowling Amazon warrior who dislikes art and culture, and a nymph who's been pretending to be more competent than she really is. The pair unite with Luxos, a poet who really wants some attention paid to his poetry, and the three of them must help Aristophanes put on a play that will triumph over all the people interested in prolonging war in Athens, a group that includes a literal goddess of bad decisions.

*The Goddess of Buttercups and Daisies* is a very light-hearted comedy that never really rises above gently amusing. The most entertaining part of the book is when Athena goes looking to enlist the great river spirit, Metricia. She isn't there, and a person tells Athena that the spirit "was depressed by all the fighting so she changed back into a river and moved away". Athena scowls and says, "I hate it when you need someone and then you find out they've changed into a river and moved away." So, yes, a gently amusing book, at best, but at least it never descends into painfully unfunny, as comedies can do.

The book is weirdly heteronormative for a story about the society of ancient Greece. Although the style of male romantic attachment the Greeks went for is hardly the stuff of light comedy in modern eyes (since adults fetishising young teenagers is considered creepy), Millar still describes a highly successful female sex worker as well-established in her profession by the age of fifteen. By being

perfectly willing to mention the historical sexual exploitation of girls, Millar is imbalanced in his writing. There are a few references to gay relationships way in the background, but if you only read this book, you would get the impression that ancient Greece's ideas about sexuality were exactly the same as Millar's, which seem to consist of fluffy straight love and only eroticising women.

There's also some sloppy editing going on. The book is told in third person from the point of view of many different characters; structurally, it is divided into short sections marked by the name of the character whose point of view it is. But this isn't always consistently done. Then the end of the book creates even more inconsistencies by breaking out into sections titled after random places and activities. Although the book's structure was jarring to begin with, it feels completely and unreasonably thrown out by the end. *The Goddess of Buttercups and Daisies* has its good points but, as a whole, it never really rises above average. ●



## Final Fantasy XIV: Heavensward

» PC, PS3, PS4 | DEVELOPED & PUBLISHED BY **SQUARE ENIX**

REVIEWED BY **CHEYANNE INTEMANN**



**H**eavensward is the recent expansion to the Square Enix massively multiplayer online (MMO) game, *Final Fantasy XIV: A Realm Reborn*. *Final Fantasy XIV* had a particularly bad 1.0 launch, with daily experience gain limits, huge empty maps, shockingly poor optimisation and clunky combat. The game was so unsuccessful that Yoichi Wada, CEO of Square Enix, publicly apologised for the state of the game and restructured the development team.

The newer, sleeker *A Realm Reborn* took off, becoming one of the top-played subscription MMO games in the West, and for good reason. Square Enix made an effort to make the transition from its main-series Japanese role-playing games to MMO format smooth and enjoyable for even the newest of MMO players. It has done this with plenty of tutorial quests to teach the basics, all with an interesting story and twist of humour. Although MMO

veterans may find the early levelling portion of the game a bit slow, the first fifteen levels are packed full of (thankfully mainly optional) fetch quests.

One of the best features of *FFXIV* is the class system; one character can level up every class (for example, a character can gain proficiency as a Warrior then switch to a Dark Knight and level up that class too). It is not uncommon to find players who have brought every single class to the level cap, all on one character — allowing them to fit into any team composition without logging out or in at all. This also allows a certain amount of cross-class skills, encouraging even the most focused to branch out to get the best skills for their class.

*Heavensward* adds three new combat jobs to an already sizeable cast of ten. Dark Knight joins Warrior and Paladin as a tank job, wielding greatswords and pulling them

from the forbidden dark magic. Mechanist is Heavensward's answer to an engineer, a class that dually wields pistols and places turrets, and joins *A Realm Reborn*'s Bard as a supporting, long-distance, damage-per-second class. The final addition is to the healing roster: along with Scholars, a bookish shield healer, and White Mage, the classic brute-force healer, players can take Astrologian, a star-gazing, tarot-card-dealing healer.

The combat is standard MMO fare, moving away from the menu-based combat (such as in the first *Final Fantasy* MMO, *FFXI*) in favour of the much more familiar skills and hotkeys format. *FFXIV* is surprisingly easy to play with a controller — a necessity for those who play it on the PS3 or PS4. Combat itself can feel a little slow upon first experience; global cooldowns run at a standard 2.5 seconds so there is little need for button mashing.

*FFXIV* is an MMO for those who enjoy stories; there are cutscenes galore, and skipping them would be missing out on a giant chunk of the experience. Heavensward steps up the game, featuring a story comparable in quality and engagement to other *Final Fantasy* titles and surpassing standard MMO fare. Cutscenes are long, frequent and enjoyable, interrupting the grindfest with exciting plot twists and gripping storytelling; expect an emotional roller-coaster ride while completing the main story quests.

*Heavensward* brings with it seven dungeons, three primals and a new raid. If the patches from *A Realm Reborn* are anything to go by, Square Enix will continue to add more dungeon and storyline quests in steady content patches. In the year and a half between the launch of *A Realm Reborn* and *Heavensward*, five sizeable patches each adding multiple dungeons were released, so the future of *FFXIV* content looks bright.

*Final Fantasy XIV: Heavensward* builds on an already fantastic MMO. With a story that gives *FFXIV* the most "Final Fantasy" feel since the PlayStation One era, three new classes to explore and plenty of content — you're looking at a solid week of content in the main, pre-level cap story alone at a casual pace — and even more to come in upcoming free patches, *Final Fantasy XIV: Heavensward* is well worth a look. ●





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» **METAL** | E1 MUSIC; 2015

REVIEWED BY **BASTI MENKES**



**H**igh On Fire is a heavy metal trio from Oakland, California. The band was formed in 1998 by Matt Pike, the once and future guitarist of pioneering doom metal group, Sleep. High On Fire has since earned itself a reputation for its genre-straddling style and vehement live shows. On its seventh LP, *Luminiferous*, High On Fire continues to splice thrash metal intensity with the crushing, bass-heavy nature of the stoner and sludge metal subgenres. Working once again with metal icon, Kurt Ballou, High On Fire is as pulverising here as any other metal band in 2015.

*Luminiferous* gets off to a bloodthirsty start with "The Black Plot". The song hits the listener like a ten-tonne train, all infernal riffs and thundering percussion. The guttural voice of frontman is particularly striking, conjuring images of scorched earth and Viking raiders. Sound badass yet? Good.

After only the second song of nine, however, I could not help but feel a little apprehensive.

High On Fire attempts to create a highlights reel of the last couple of decades of heavy metal music, taking the thrash tempos of Metallica and Slayer and shoehorning them into the ponderousness of sludge metal groups like The Melvins. On paper, this might sound like a fantastic idea. In practice, however, High On Fire's approach is problematic. In taking the most extreme elements from multiple genres and slapping them together, High On Fire produces a dense sound that has zero nuance or dynamics. When listened to in its entirety, *Luminiferous* is an endurance test. It is akin to a movie of nothing but action scenes, a meal of nothing but rich chocolate, or KFC's Double Down burger. If *Luminiferous* were a book, it would be written entirely in capital letters.

If you're looking for earth-shattering heaviness, then *Luminiferous* has that in spades. Every inch of the record (save for perhaps the sunbaked psychedelia of "The Cave") is high-protein, brow-beating intensity. However, I would happily see half of that traded in for a little bit of diversity. I'm sure High On Fire

fanatics will praise this record as "breathless" and "taking no prisoners", but that is exactly my issue with it. All I ask for is just a few quiet segments in which I might regain my composure, quiet sections that will contrast with the explosions and make them feel like actual climaxes. Stylistically similar bands to High On Fire have utilised this loud-quiet-loud approach to stunning effect, even very recently: see Ufomammut's *Ecate*, reviewed in Issue Nine of Critic this year, or Mastodon's colourful return-to-form *Once More 'Round the Sun* from late last year.

Individual songs, such as the shredding title track or the Ambrose Bierce-referencing "Carcosa", wield impressive arsenals of riffs and tempos. Taken on their own, these songs are perfectly enjoyable blasts of heavy metal. However, when experienced as a whole, *Luminiferous* is one big, indistinguishable, impenetrable wall of meat. With not enough variety within or between songs, it is with hesitation that I recommend *Luminiferous*. ○



## Son Lux **Bones**

» **TRIP-HOP, EXPERIMENTAL POP** | GLASSNOTE; 2015

REVIEWED BY **BASTI MENKES**



**S**on Lux is the stage name of American composer, Ryan Lott. Appearing in 2008 with his spine-tingling debut album *At War with Walls & Mazes*, Son Lux quickly established himself as a force to be reckoned with.

Son Lux's songs have the deliberate architecture of a classical composer, while also boasting the lush sound palette of an electronic producer. His compositions have a genreless, transhumanist feel to them, where the organic and the synthetic blend softly into one another. His ability to weave live instruments into stuttering electronics is masterful, and makes one think in a strange way of the paintings of Rob Gonsalves. With studio trickery, Son Lux can have instruments warp and bend as though you are looking at them in a fun-house mirror. This could all be dismissed as artsy nonsense if Son Lux's music didn't have such a human vulnerability at its core.

As its title and bruise-coloured artwork might suggest, new album *Bones* finds Son Lux as

fragile as ever. What sets *Bones* apart from Son Lux's earlier work, though, is just how fleshed-out it feels. Gone is much of the negative space that characterised 2013's *Lanterns*. Perhaps his recent collaborations with Lorde and Sufjan Stevens inspired Lott to compose music of a fuller, grander scale.

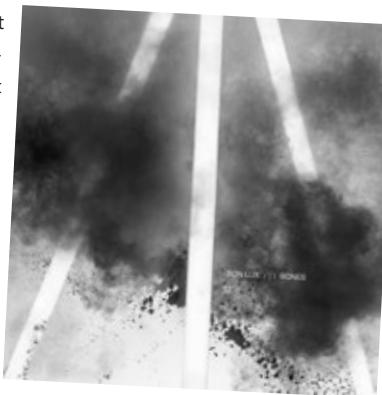
*Bones* comes to life with "Breathe In", a minute-long prologue. "Close your eyes," he implores in his frail voice. "Swallow the sun. You have only just begun." A surge of strings engulfs Lott, only to usher in the majesty of the next track, "Change Is Everything". Bright and beautiful, "Change Is Everything" is probably the poppiest thing Son Lux has ever written. However, its melodic sugar doesn't come at the cost of Son Lux's creativity. The song's keyboard

stabs and capricious beats shatter any notions that Son Lux has "gone mainstream". In this way, the song is a microcosm of *Bones* as a whole: closer to pop music than Son Lux's previous work, but still bursting with details and ideas.

Each song on *Bones* is crystalline and catchy, from the almost Killers-like fluorescence of

"Flight" to the gorgeous sadness of "I Am the Others". The wordless female vocal refrain in "I Am the Others" is perhaps my favourite moment on the album, challenged only by the waterlogged horns on "You Don't Know Me". The only song that is yet to win me over is the sleepy "Your Day Will Come". Forgiving that track and Lott's limited

vocal abilities, *Bones* is fantastic. It is an album of rich textures and diverse emotions. If I were to sum *Bones* up aesthetically, I would compare it to the tesseract scene in *Interstellar*. Beams of light? A sense of geometry? A sad figure that seems to be lost in time and space? Hell, that's Son Lux all right. ●



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## Madame Bovary

» DIRECTED BY **SOPHIE BARTHES**

REVIEWED BY **MANDY TE**



**A**s a writer, Gustave Flaubert spent his career chasing after "le mot juste" — "the right word" — and, for many people, *Madame Bovary* truly captures his perfectionist style. However, film adaptations of *Madame Bovary* have yet to embody that atmosphere; Sophie Barthes' rendition is no different. With scenes that mirror the dramatics found in *Twilight: New Moon* and reality show, *The Real Housewives of New Jersey*, Barthes makes it difficult for the audience to relate to the protagonist's struggle — something that drives Flaubert's novel and that

should drive a film adaptation.

*Madame Bovary* is a period film that follows the story of newly-married Emma Bovary, née Roualt (Mia Wasikowska). Settling into her new life with provincial doctor, Charles Bovary (Henry Lloyd-Hughes), Emma has trouble adjusting to her husband's simple lifestyle and finding her place within it; for Emma, it seems as though she's in his life but not really a part of it. Although Charles means well, the lack of room for Emma's desires in his — and thus her — daily routine fuels Emma's growing disdain for their relationship as she

yearns for adventure and passion. Encouraged by Monsieur Lhereux (Rhys Ifans), a sly merchant, Emma finds solace in luxury goods and even embarks on two adulterous affairs. However, the thrills of new clothes and new romances are all fleeting, and she soon has to deal with the damaging repercussions of living beyond her means.

With wonderfully crafted cinematography and a surprisingly exuberant atmosphere, Sophie Barthes' new take on *Madame Bovary* is, at first, impressive. However, as the audience begins to fully experience Emma Bovary's tribulations, the film becomes nothing more than something pretty to look at. Mia Wasikowska's performance as Emma Bovary veers her away from what her character is — an anti-hero. Instead, the audience is given a character whose actions do not evoke a sense of understanding but are simply brattish and unbearable.

This recent film adaptation of *Madame Bovary* looks the part but lacks a direction that brings anything outstanding to Flaubert's classic story. ●

## NZIFF Programme Launch Film: Mavis!

» DIRECTED BY **JESSICA EDWARDS**

REVIEWED BY **MANDY TE**



**T**his year's New Zealand International Film Festival (NZIFF) is Dunedin's biggest film festival to date. With almost 100 films from 25 countries, the 39th Dunedin International Film Festival celebrated the launch of its programme with a delicious array of macarons, dips, breads, and a preview screening of *Mavis!* at Rialto Cinemas.

*Mavis!* is a documentary that pays tribute to the singing career of the lively and gregarious Mavis Staples, a civil rights activist, solo artist and lead singer of her family gospel group, The Staple Singers. The film seamlessly alternates specific moments in Mavis's past with current interviews and footage of her recent performances. While the film centres on Mavis, it is also a documentary about her family and her relationship with her father, Roebuck "Pops" Staples.

With Pops' artistic direction, The Staple Singers were not only musically but also socially progressive. Pops often mixed blues with gospel, which produced an original sound, and their lyrics promoted self-empowerment

during the 1960s civil rights movement. Their eclectic sound and Mavis's distinct voice attracted the attention of people such as Dr Martin Luther King, Bob Dylan (Mavis confessed that they once "smooched"), Prince and Bonnie Raitt. Through this documentary, Jessica Edwards shows the audience that it wasn't just Mavis's voice but also the support from her siblings, her father and the musical community that helped her thrive as a singer who still performs today.

Every year, the NZIFF weaves itself into the community with films that aren't quite mainstream movie blockbusters, and a few films always elicit strong reactions for being sexually graphic, racist, violent, or for being all three of those things. But whether reactions are negative or positive, one goal is achieved — we are really made to think. While I initially viewed *Mavis!* as an odd choice for a preview screening, I soon began to realise that the music of The Staple Singers during the 1960s civil rights movement is not that different to the music and events of contemporary society.



Instead of The Staple Singers, we have Kendrick Lamar's *To Pimp a Butterfly*, which reflects the ongoing racial tension in the United States, where protests and uprisings have taken place over the unarmed killings of several African-American men, women and children.

Though this documentary wouldn't be considered controversial, in 80 minutes Jessica Edwards effortlessly showcases the achievements of a passionate performer who states, "I'll stop singing when I have nothing left to say, and you know, that ain't gonna happen." *Mavis!* may have initially been difficult for me to engage with, but this documentary provides laughter and a sense of ease, and gives the audience some unexpected but welcomed insight. ●

## The Falling

» DIRECTED BY **CAROL MORLEY**

REVIEWED BY **JAXON LANGLEY**



**F**ollowing her heartbreaking docu-drama, *Dreams of a Life*, Carol Morley brings us *The Falling* — a bewitching, deadpan period portrait of female adolescence that explores the subject of mass psychogenic illness and treads into other dark territory. Although it is well-written and brimming with talent, *The Falling* suffers from questionable creative choices in direction, which hinders the audience's experience as a whole.

Set in 1969, *The Falling* focuses on Lydia "Lamb" Lamont (Maisie Williams), a young girl who attends a strict all-girls school. Neglected by her agoraphobic mother (Maxine Peake), Lydia finds solace in her friendship with Abigail "Abbie" Mortimer (Florence Pugh). It's a friendship that Lydia fixates on and, although Abbie assures her that the pair will always be close, the protagonist feels a distance slowly taking place, especially when Abbie begins to explore her sexuality. After the inexplicable

death of a student, Lydia suffers from a fainting spell, which leads to an epidemic among the students and results in the protagonist trying to convince the school administration to take action.

Maisie Williams, best known for her role as Arya Stark on *Game of Thrones*, is incredible; she handles the role of troubled Lydia as if it were made for her and, through her body language, she effortlessly projects her character's deterioration. Newcomer, Florence Pugh, proves herself as a promising talent, perfectly embodying the charismatic Abbie and delivering the most memorable line in the entire film (about the pulling-out method). The two actors share such rich chemistry on screen that their portrayal of their characters' eccentric friendship becomes etched into our minds.

Despite impressive performances and the film's beautiful cinematography, *The Falling* features too many blatantly symbolic shots of nature and has the editing of a TV



movie. Also, the film's soundtrack by Tracey Thorn was a puzzling choice as her musical scores were inconsistent in tone and created a confusing atmosphere.

Although *The Falling* is perplexing and demands additional viewing to fully grasp its narrative, Morley's artistic direction isn't captivating enough to warrant that and ultimately keeps the film from achieving its full potential. ●



## Ted 2

» DIRECTED BY **SETH MACFARLANE**

REVIEWED BY **SHAUN SWAIN**



**I**f I described Seth MacFarlane's sequel to *Ted* as incredibly masturbatory, I would only be lowering myself to the level of MacFarlane's tasteless sense of humour. But it doesn't matter. *Ted 2*, despite its painfully large budget, provides no inspiration for good taste.

*Ted 2* is about an obscene walking, talking teddy bear called Ted (Seth MacFarlane) and his close friend, John Bennett (Mark Wahlberg). John has been divorced for several months while Ted is newly married to Tami-Lynn (Jessica Barth). In order to save their already

rocky marriage, Ted and Tami-Lynn decide to have a child. In the court's eyes, however, Ted is not legally human. To have Ted legally acknowledged as a person in order to validate his marriage and child adoption, the two friends work alongside lawyer, Samantha Jackson (Amanda Seyfried), to have the court's ruling overturned.

The film is stretched out through its use of "silly" sketches filled with forced humour and displays of excessive swearing in the endless moments where MacFarlane forgot that comedies require actual comedy. The film also relies

on distracting the audience from its unlikeable protagonists and inconsistent narrative — which compares a teddy bear's struggles to the plights of black slaves and civil rights movements — by labelling itself as some form of social commentary or "satire". This falls as flat as its jokes and is disgustingly disingenuous.

If it's any consolation (which it's not), MacFarlane's dramatic use of cinematography is quite visually appealing, and the occasional shift into a more serious tone allowed the actors to remind the audience that it is not their acting that sucks but the script they have been handed. However, any credit to MacFarlane is flushed down the drain when it becomes painfully clear that *Ted 2* is merely an exposition of all of the sponsors who handed him \$68 million to make this completely unwarranted attempt to get even more money.

I would have preferred watching two hours of ads instead of *Ted 2* because at least ads don't pretend they're not trying to profit off me by hiding behind repetitive "jokes" about molestation, masturbation and racism. Please do not watch this god-awful piece of shit. ●



# NZIFF

NEW ZEALAND  
INTERNATIONAL  
FILM FESTIVAL

## Interview with Bill Gosden

» DIRECTOR OF NZIFF

BY MANDY TE /

**F**rom 30 July to 16 August, the New Zealand International Film Festival (NZIFF) will be screening almost 100 films from 25 countries. Critic interviewed Bill Gosden, the director of NZIFF, to learn more about the event.

### What does your role as director of NZIFF entail?

I'm responsible for selecting the programme, but I do have considerable assistance in that department. The submission process involves looking at quite a few films. I supervise that process and have a big hand in it myself. I also get to go to the Toronto and New York Film Festivals in September. I have a general manager who is responsible for most of the negotiations with the venues and sponsors, but I kind of oversee that as well.

### When selecting films for the festival, is there anything in particular that you look for?

Sometimes I look at a film and I just know that it's so great that I absolutely want to show it, but usually I try to see as many films [as possible] in the same genre before I make a selection. For example, if I were looking at Italian comedies — we have two in the programme this year — I would want to see all the Italian comedies that are on offer before I decide which ones to go for.

**A programmer for the Tribeca Film Festival said that with piracy of films, it's more about people wanting immediacy. What are your**

### thoughts on piracy and do you think it has an impact on the NZIFF?

Yeah, it definitely does. It has an impact on the whole business and it means that people are increasingly demanding to see things as soon as they've heard of them. I think we're responding to that. We are aware that there are films on our programme that a lot of people have seen illegally; we watch that quite closely and it means we have to think especially carefully about showing films that are six months old.

### Where do you think interesting films are being made?

I think that the American indie scene is very strong and I think that's reflected well in this year's programme with films like *Results*, which is a comedy set in a gym, and *The Diary of a Teenage Girl*, which is quite a provocative film. There are a lot of American films this year. I think this is because there are a lot of outlets in the US, so people have a reason to make films and it's a bit tighter in a lot of other countries.

### Which films are you personally looking forward to watching?

I'm really looking forward to seeing *The Assassin* and *Tale of Tales* — those are two I haven't seen yet. There are a few films that I'm keen to see again, like *Sherpa*, which is such a great film. ●



*Results*



*The Diary of a Teenage Girl*



*The Assassin*



*Tale of Tales*



*Sherpa*



# Yik Yak

Mature students who manage to talk more than the lecturer 😊

77

Wanking in a puffer jacket is like hunting with a siren

83

Searched for a thriller on Netflix, it came up with Sharknado. Go home Netflix you're drunk

73

I always end up nodding at my lecturer when our eyes meet, partly to make them think I'm listening and partly because I feel that they need a confidence boost

170

Just saw someone slip on ice whilst trying to instagram their coffee, went all over their shirt. Instant karma for being a vacuous fuck-knuckle.

357

Girls who wear white jeans have 10 million times more confidence than me.

190

Seriously, how the fuck has it taken America this long to realise the Confederate flag is basically their swastika?

119

Running late this morning having quality dildo time, chucked it on the bed. Didn't have time to put jacket on so scrunched and shoved into bag. Pulls jacket out at uni and dildo falls out... Ffffff

185

Reminder

Don't text your ex tonight!

102

I'm going to the OUSA cuddle fix because kittens are the only thing that will hug me

11

Nothing screams 'fresher' more than a herd of Carringtonians wearing their new hoodies to a lecture

169

The sexual tension between you and someone your age on public transport.

227

1696

Peek

Featured

The Mushroom Kingdom (Nintendo Land)

My Tombstone Message

She put the "hot" in "hot air balloon accident"

1724

Here lies squidwards hopes and dreams

2416

Died from not forwarding that text to 10 people.

2861

He was here for a good time, not a long time

1689

I guess bears don't love foreplay.

1497

Here Lies Smitty Werbenjagermanjenson. He was #1.

2471

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## LETTER OF THE WEEK

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## Maybe this will help?

**To the drunk people walking down Frederick Street every Thursday and Saturday night,**

I have had my car parked on Frederick Street, outside my flat, since the start of the year and on two occasions now i have had my bonnet dented and wind-screen wiper damaged, costing me some serious \$\$ to get fixed.

I am all for having a good night out but i don't think damaging cars needs to be a part of it. I know you wouldn't do it if you were sober so please stop fuelling the media stereotype of drunken, destructive, out of control students and leave the poor cars alone.

Yours,  
Poor Scarfie Car Owner  
**Harriet Lambert**

## Free Lawyer!

**Hi Ethel**

Just to clarify re the scenario of a flatmate wanting to move out and the other flatmates refusing to accept a replacement: if flatmates are 'jointly and severably' liable and one rogue flatmate moves out and stops paying rent, the full amount of rent for the flat must still be paid. (Check your Tenancy Agreement to see if it says the tenants are jointly and severably liable.)

If the rent gets into arrears, the landlord can ask the Tenancy Tribunal to make an order for the overdue rent to be paid. Remember – the

landlord won't be interested in who hasn't paid, only that there's money owed. Because the flatmates are jointly and severably liable, the landlord can take all the flatmates to the Tribunal, or just pick one. They're unlikely to pick the rogue flatmate and may just pick the flatmate whose parents can afford to pay the rent arrears. The flatmate(s) would then need to take the rogue flatmate to the Disputes Tribunal to try and get their money back.

So, if you have a flatmate who wants to move out, it's often best to try and find a rent-paying replacement.

(P.S. Community Law Otago is now running advice clinics at the Uni every second Wednesday at Clubs & Socs. Next clinic is 22 July.)

Kind regards  
**Angela Neugebauer**  
Barrister & Solicitor  
Community Law Otago

## Be hairy if you really want :)

I am very angry that boys get to have hairy legs and armpits and girls can't. Can we change the world together? I am angry with the ice everywhere, it's so frozen, it's not happy. I am angry that the sun shines for a very short amount of time. But really I'm not that angry, I'm happy because I don't want my serotonin levels to get too high, plus the Highlanders won. And I am in love.... with Tyler.

Peace man/woman/Transgender/ all the ones I've missed out I love you all.

Distraught, Disorganised,  
Dashing, Dumpling,  
**Kelly xo**

## Easing the frustrations

**Dear Critic:**

Or, more specifically, dear a very frustrated pansexual. I hope I can offer a new way to look at the issue you expressed in last week's Critic. When referring to individuals, "gay and lesbian" does leave out many flowers in the glorious bouquet that is human sexuality. However, when reading the article on gay marriage, I noted that the "win" statement you complained of was made in a different context; it was couples being referred to, and in the context of couples, I did

not read "gay and lesbian" as meaning couples involving solely gay and lesbian people which, as you rightly pointed out, was inadequate, but couples comprising two people of the same sex. This makes more sense when you think about it because the supreme court ruling allows two people of the same sex to marry, rather than two lesbians or two gay men.

I hope this helps you feel less frustrated, or at least gives you something to think about

Sincerely,  
The multi-lateral thinker  
**Will Johnston**

## The cheese is \$3 and is yum!

What's up with all the expensive shit in your recipes each week?

They look nice but who has the cash to buy 2 types of cheese.

Yours sincerely,  
**Every fucking student ever**

## We are hunting for another!

i've just been reading issue 15's book review by bridget vosburgh on 'selfish, shallow, and self-absorbed: sixteen writers on the decision not to have kids', and i was hoping that you'd be able to please tell me where bridget acquired her copy to read and review? i've desperately been trying to get a hold of a copy for myself but no-where has it!

is it possible for me to purchase the copy that bridget read?

hope to hear from you soon!  
**Abbey Mennie**

## "Fact" is a subjective term here.

In reply to your issue 15 letter, "that's no way to make friends", this asshole wishes to give his right of reply.

Fact #1, you were sitting in the only free booth at peak time. You were not eating and were using the space to work on your laptop.

Fact #2, as a customer with just purchased food, I felt I had every right to sit there, even more



so than you for the above reasons.

Fact #3, saying "I'm sure you don't mind you?" was obviously a red rag to you. You challenged my right to sit there and consume my food, hence "do you own this seat or something?" from me. You using the f-bomb did not help.

Fact #4, I am not a dude! Neither a cowboy nor a sun bleached surfer, so quit the sexist comments.

Fact #5, No, I am not trying to regain my lost youth. I prefer being 56 and knowing how to keep my dignity, so quit the ageist comment.

Basically Alex, you were in the wrong in this situation. I was not trying to usurp your rights but simply exercising my own.

Viva democracy,  
**Roger Bell**

#### LETTERS POLICY

Letters should be 200 words or fewer. Deadline is Thursday at 5pm. Send letters to [critic@critic.co.nz](mailto: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.



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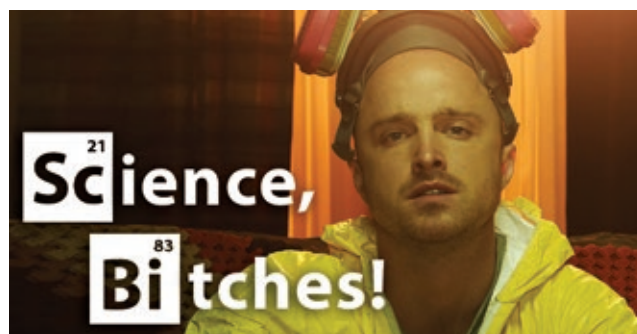
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## Graham Hancock

BY GUEST COLUMNIST, **HOWARD YUNO**



## Killing the Buzz

BY **SAM FRASER**

If you tune into the History Channel, you get anything but history. Instead, outrageous pseudo-archaeological documentaries about aliens and Atlantis tend to take up the programming. One of the new darlings of the pseudo-archaeological scene is a man named Graham Hancock.

Hancock's theory is that an ancient mother civilisation seeded all the world's major civilisations 10,500 years ago. From the ancient Egyptians in Africa to the Incas in South America, Hancock argues that specific architectural and religious motifs are common to many distant cultures, and best explained by a single origin. Reputable archaeologists reject Hancock's theory as fanciful nonsense. Maybe these scientists are being closed-minded.

Without getting bogged down in the specific evidence for Hancock's claims, I'd like to ask a different question: how come when Hancock looks at the evidence, he sees Atlantis, but when scientists look at the very same evidence, they see a series of minor coincidences? Both are looking at the same evidence, but they are led to such different conclusions. Is Hancock just irrational? Are scientists just grumpy, dogmatic fogies?

Digging through Hancock's YouTube clips, I discovered, that he is not only a fierce proponent of Atlantis but also of the use of psychedelic drugs. So am I! But Hancock believes that the use of psychedelics is necessary for a proper understanding of the world around us. He says that the great mysteries of humankind's origin and purpose can be answered only through altering our private states of consciousness in order to receive ancient, mysterious wisdom teachings from trans-dimensional beings.

So it's no wonder that when Hancock looks at the evidence, he is led to such radically different conclusions from the scientists. Hancock is using a totally different method to theirs. The scientific method depends on inter-subjectively testable evidence, not on appeals to private, drug-induced visions. The idea is that if two scientists disagree, they can settle their dispute by appealing to evidence freely available to both parties, not by appealing to intuitions, revelation, gut feelings, transcendental visions, drug trips, unsubstantiated anecdotes or wishings-to-be-so.

Graham Hancock's drug-induced visions are probably extremely compelling evidence if you're Graham Hancock. Fortunately, I'm not.

Einstein once speculated that if bees were to become extinct, the human race would die out in six years. While Einstein was by no means an expert biologist, he was alluding to the remarkable significance of bees to the world's ecosystems. Bees are most well known for their ability to produce honey. Honey is produced as bees drink nectar from flowers and process it in their unique "honey stomach". They then regurgitate the sweet honey inside the hive, where it is either stored for winter or stolen by humans.

But bees do something much more important than produce honey. Something they are completely unaware of: pollination. When bees hunt for nectar, pollen grains (essentially sperm cells from the male plant) rub off flowers and stick to a bee's hairy body. When the bee visits other plants, pollen grains drop off, fertilising the stigma (female part of the plant). This enables the flower to complete reproduction and produce seeds. This is a fascinating example of co-evolution between plant and bee species, and is far more effective than pollination by random pollen dispersal in the wind.

A third of the food we eat relies on pollination by bees. Large sections of New Zealand's agribusiness rely on pollination by honeybees. Our kiwifruit industry, which is worth \$1 billion, relies almost exclusively on pollination by honeybees. Our economy depends on bees. And bees are now under threat. Between 1996 and 2006, the number of beekeepers in New Zealand decreased by almost half. This exodus of beekeepers out of the industry is testament to the crippling arrival of the Varoa mite in New Zealand. The Varoa mite invades hives and leaches onto bees, quickly decimating the hive. Managing hives with miticides is both expensive and time costly. Bee populations and the process of pollination in New Zealand are in jeopardy.

Feral bees are also becoming rare. The introduction of the Varoa mite and habitat destruction by the development of agribusiness has resulted in feral bees being almost extinct in the North Island and now rare in the South Island. Bees used to be a species that humans managed. Now they are a species that depends on us to stay alive. But there is hope! Research has found genetic variation in a trait that is resistant to mites. Through selective breeding, there is a chance we can produce a bee fully resistant to the Varoa mite, a bee that will no longer rely exclusively on human management.



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Email [tony.doig@otago.ac.nz](mailto:tony.doig@otago.ac.nz) for information and application pack

Applications close on Tuesday 4th August. Shortlisted candidates will be invited to a meeting and tour of the College on Friday 7th August. Interviews will be held 11th-13th August.





## Pubic Hair

BY T. ANTRIC

**P**ubic hair exists for a reason. It is a line of defence against various nasties down there. Shock horror, it even grows on vulvas and the surrounding areas. But, some time between the bush-whacking 70s and today, pubic hair on a vulva became persona non grata.

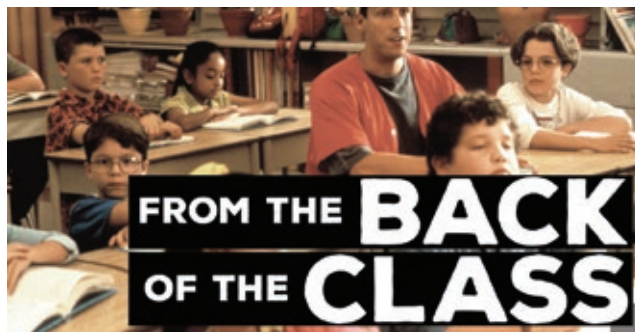
Maybe the obsession with pubic hair removal stems from our fixation on youth. Every second ad is to reduce wrinkles or cover grey hairs, tuck your tummy or lift your face. This is overwhelmingly targeted towards the more feminine of us; the George Clooneys are left to peacefully age while the Maggie Gyllenhaals pass an invisible use-by date. Or is this the Lolita complex in action? The sexualisation of young women and girls in many parts of daily life has led to a point where some people feel that having a vulva that resembles a young girl's is the only way to be sexy.

Before someone yells something about hygiene, I'm going to point out that if you claim feminine-presenting people who happen to have hair below their eyebrows are unhygienic, you're simultaneously and inextricably calling every penis-possessor who doesn't shave dirty (which, um, rude).

Of course, everyone is allowed their own personal preferences, whether it's to shave or not shave, to prefer shaven or not-shaven partners. You do you, boo, you do what makes you feel sexy and comfortable and happy in your own skin.

But with the exposure today's youth have, the incredible saturation of media and pop culture that generations before us didn't have, it is near impossible to distinguish your actual preferences from what you have been told from birth your preferences should be. Just as a person who grows up with racist parents and limited experience of the outside world is more than likely racist themselves, we can't always know whether our wants — especially for something as purely aesthetic as pubic hair — are not simply something that has been fed to us until we critically analyse why we think the way we do.

Even if you are unwilling to examine why you feel the way you do about hair on vulvas, at least don't be an ass about it to other people. If someone trusts you enough to let you see, don't make rude comments. This may be a hairy topic, but it is something to think about: how much of what we want is simply a lack of knowing anything else?



## "Yo Ho Ho, a Pirate's Life for Me"

BY FINBARR NOBLE

**B**artholomew "Black Bart" Roberts was the most successful pirate of the Golden Age of Piracy, taking over 470 "prizes" in a career spanning just three years from 1719 to 1722. Three years is a pretty decent innings for an eighteenth-century pirate, and Roberts amassed a fortune equivalent to roughly \$52 million in today's money.

Born in Wales in 1682, Roberts is thought to have first gone to sea at the age of 13. In 1719 he was third mate of the slave ship *Princess* when it was captured by pirate and fellow Welshman, Howell Davis. Roberts was pressed into service as a pirate and, though reluctant at first, he soon understood the advantages of the pirate life, observing: "In an honest service there is thin commons, low wages, and hard labour. In this, plenty and satiety, pleasure and ease, liberty and power ... No, a merry life and a short one shall be my motto."

The freedom and autonomy of a pirate's life appealed to many, and piracy was often an equal opportunity employer with such famous and fearsome piratical women as Mary Read and Anne Bonny (the latter callously emasculated her lover, the dread pirate Calico Jack, just before his hanging by saying: "Had you fought like a man, you wouldn't have to die like a dog." She avoided execution herself by pleading "with her belly" — an old common law plea for mercy on the ground that she was pregnant). It's also worth noting on the topic of equal opportunity that, at a time when the Atlantic slave trade was in full swing, Roberts' crew upon his death had 65 free black men serving who were then promptly captured and sold into slavery by His Majesty's Royal Navy.

Roberts was in many ways an archetypal pirate. He loved fine clothing and jewellery and also relieving merchantmen of fine clothing and jewellery. He would dress in his finery before every battle.

Roberts also differed from the pirate mould in a major way in that he did not partake of rum with any great gusto, instead preferring tea, which he would often drink with the toast "Damn him who ever lived to wear a Halter", meaning shame on the man who was captured alive and hung. Ironically, his death was caused by his crew being too drunk to fight properly, "with a yo ho ho and a bottle of rum".



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## Keep up with the Rent

BY STUDENT SUPPORT



## Protecting Opportunity for All

BY DR DAVID CLARK, MP

**O** USA's Student Support Centre wants to help you with your issues: from dodgy flatmates to unfair grades, email your questions to [ethel@critic.co.nz](mailto:ethel@critic.co.nz) and she will respond to them for you each week, right here in Critic.

**Dear Ethel,**

*It's us again. So, the rogue flatmate has moved out of the flat and he hasn't paid his rent this week. We are trying to find someone to take over the room, but what will happen if we can't find someone? Will we have to pay his rent?*

I'm sorry to hear that. I was hoping you might have come to a mutually happy arrangement whereby a paying replacement (and not a random cousin) was found to take over from the rogue flatmate.

Since that hasn't happened, you're in a tricky situation. With a jointly and severally liable lease, you are all responsible for any monies owed to the landlord. In short, the landlord doesn't give a toss who it is that owes money, just that the flat owes money. The landlord can take all of you, or some of you, to the Tenancy Tribunal to get the money back. So, yes, you may end up (one way or another) paying his rent.

That's pretty crap news for you. There is some recourse. You can take the flatmate who owes you money to the Disputes Tribunal. However, this is a bit of a drawn-out process and often isn't an instant fix. You might get drip-fed the money owed over a period of time. Some people who owe money are slippery customers and manage to avoid paying altogether, even when the court has ordered them to.

So, the long and the short of it is, you want to get that room filled as quickly as possible by someone who will pay their rent. Advertise widely. Maybe think about offering an incentive if you're in a position to do so. And now would be a good time to make sure your records of rent payments are in order, just in case the landlord takes you to the Tenancy Tribunal and/or you take the rogue non-paying flatmate to the Disputes Tribunal.

Best of luck. Let's hope next time we hear from you it's with some good news!

**T**he increasing incidence of homelessness and poverty in the land of milk and honey bothers me. I stood for parliament because I am concerned that our society is increasingly out of whack. When the economy grows, those on modest and middle incomes seem to miss out on the benefits.

Growing inequality has negative social and economic impacts on our society. It needs to be addressed.

Unfortunately, things have become even more unbalanced in New Zealand since I was first elected three and a half years ago. Statistics back this up. For example, home ownership is now at its lowest level in 50 years. Kiwis are being robbed of the opportunity to own their own home.

And the economic impact of inequality is huge. A major rich-country think-tank — the OECD — reckons New Zealand's economy would be 15 percent bigger if it were not for growing inequality over recent decades. That would be more than enough to fund free tertiary education for all.

But the social impact is scarier still. Part of what makes New Zealand special is the fact that you can feel safe walking down the street, that our houses don't require barbed-wire perimeter fences, that every student can access a world-class education at their local school, and that you don't need a cheque book to go to hospital.

The New Zealand where everyone has opportunity to succeed is under threat. Our country's leadership needs to place higher priority on protecting our collective interests.

The government is currently preparing to introduce social impact bonds as a way of experimenting in the mental health sector. They argue that it is common practice overseas. The truth is that social impact bonds, first trialled in the UK, have not had much prominence elsewhere. In the UK, there have been notable failures. After seeing the results, the UK Conservative government has chosen not to press ahead with this agenda.

Even if you had an ideological belief that market solutions might help with social service delivery, why would you start your experiment with mental health patients? Really? I believe the best measure of the health of a society is how it treats its most vulnerable citizens. Right now, New Zealand looks like it needs a trip to the doctor.

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## Pluto Buzzing off the Smoke

BY STEPH TAYLOR

### Pluto has a heart

Pluto must have felt pretty gutted back in the day when it was reclassified from a planet to a dwarf planet. But now it has a reason to be loved again: a near-perfect rusty red heart formation has been found on the dusty, cold planet.

### Two inhale smoke

With a seemingly simple article title, you would think something dodgy was happening here, right? But, in fact, four fire trucks and one house fire were involved in this perfectly legal smoke inhalation.

## Uni lectures: Thing of the past?

Feel like never going to a lecture ever again? Maybe you should consider transferring to the University of Adelaide, with the school planning to completely phase out lectures in place of online materials.

## Goodness gracious

The Dunedin police are on the lookout for, quote, "American musician, Jerry Lee Lewis" after a piano was set on fire on Leith Street.

## Bonspiel atmosphere 'buzzing'

If you're feeling a bit blue post-Re-O Week, the thriving metropolis of Naseby was fizzing for its upcoming curling competition. Time to get your buzz on the ice!

**Critic** Est. 1925 presents **OUSA Art Week 2015**

**DUE 27 JULY!**

# CALL FOR ENTRIES

## STUDENT ART EXHIBITION & SALE

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Visit [artweek.ousa.org.nz](http://artweek.ousa.org.nz) for online application details or email [artweek@ousa.org.nz](mailto:artweek@ousa.org.nz) for more information. **Entries close 27th July.**

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# Love is blind

Critic's infamous blind date column brings you weekly shutdowns, hilariously mismatched pairs, and the occasional hookup. Each week, we lure two singletons to Di Lusso, ply them with food and alcohol, then wait for their reports to arrive in our inbox. If this sounds like you, email [critic@critic.co.nz](mailto:critic@critic.co.nz). But be warned – if you dine on the free food and dash without sending us a writeup, a Critic writer will write one under your name. And that won't end well for you.

## Cedric Diggory

He has a fantastic booty but can't remember names

I've always been regarded as a little bit of a ladies man, but even I found this hilarious when I chosen from a pool of hundreds after chucking my own name in the hat; like Cedric Diggory awaiting to read his name from the Goblet of Fire.

I made sure to arrive fashionably late, but was surprised that at 7:02 no one was there to greet me. When she did arrive I was happy to see a blond bombshell that was akin to my usual standards of Angelina Jolie/ Kate Upton.

The date itself went pretty well. She had come here from the greatest country on earth (allegedly) and was an amble skier. This reminded me of past experiences that any girl who shreds on the slopes, shreds in the sheets. She's also studying Buddhism, which I found hilarious. She had lots of other "interesting" things to say, but naturally have forgotten every single thing. Realising that I was really drunk and that was she was all over me like a rash currently on my penis, I decided to take her home and serenade her with my guitar.

We went back to my place, and I managed to hone all my two weeks of guitar playing into a single lust-full serenading rendition of Smoke on the Water. I don't really know what happened after that but she must have loved it because the next thing I knew I had my tongue in her mouth and hand up her shirt. I have been in this position several times before, and followed proper protocol to unhook her bra, and prod her with my flying rocket.

Despite her pleading for me to make love to her like she was the only woman alive, I nobly stated that we were too drunk, that I didn't see this ending in marriage, and I had whisky dick anyway.

We made out for hours, and then we parted ways, when I then proceeded to venture into town to top off a seriously blue balls night. I do have her number though, and may proceed to roger her rotten, should the opportunity arise.

Cheers Critic, cheers Di Lusso. Cheers babe

## Cho Chang

An exchange student who also forgets names.

It all started back at my flat where I was struggling to drink the right amount of tequila shots in order to not be nervous for what was to come, as well as to survive the fucking cold walk there. I have never been on a blind date before, nor would I have voluntarily signed up for such a thing a week after arriving in New Zealand for the first time, that is, without the encouragement of my lovely Kiwi Host.

Anyway, I plug my headphones in and start booking it up George Street trying to pump myself up as best I can. Fortunately the drunk-ness is already setting in, and I am feeling pretty good about this. I finally find the bar (fashionably late) and have no trouble figuring out who my date was, considering there was only one person there other than the bar tender. After making awkward introductions and ordering a second round of drinks, I realised I had no idea what this guy's name was. Nope, no clue at all. However, the conversation wasn't bad and we quickly finished our meal and headed to his.

This place was a fucking mansion on a hill. As we climbed to what seemed like the 7th floor, I realised I had no intentions of getting freaky with this Hobbit-like stranger. Nonetheless, somehow we ended up pashing for quite a while, and I could feel his growing boner beneath the sheets. Moments later I realised I was completely sober, and this unusual man was shoving his tongue down my throat as if there was a prize at the bottom. I couldn't take it anymore.

Second base is as far as this story goes people. I gently let him know that I wanted to leave and was very thankful that he offered to call me a taxi. However, as he is on the phone, the driver asks what name to put it under, and the guy proceeds to stare at me for a few clueless seconds then says the wrong name. Well, I guess that makes two of us then! Take care mystery man, and please remember to let the girl breathe next time.



## OUSA President's Column

Thank you to everyone who took part in the campaign to 'Save the Scarfie Voice'. Unfortunately the final vote at Council didn't go our way. While we are obviously disappointed, it is worth acknowledging Council could have decided to have just eight members. The decision to have 12 enables students and staff to retain some representation on Council. We know the Chancellor and Vice Chancellor advocated strongly to oppose the initial legislative changes to Council make up and appreciate their hard work in doing so. The key thing now is to work out what other mechanisms

students can use to have a say. The executive will be turning their minds to this issue over the next few weeks, so please feel free to send any suggestions to us via email (I'm at [president@ousa.org.nz](mailto:president@ousa.org.nz)) or pop in to see us at OUSA.

The International Food Festival held last weekend was a huge success. Thank you to our events team who put so much effort into organising the evening. Apart from the great food, the food fest is a great chance to acknowledge and celebrate the cultural diversity we have on campus. Dunedin has always been a city that people come to from all over the world, and the food festival is a public demonstration of how inclusive Scarfies are. The food fest also demonstrates the strength of our international clubs who participate by holding stalls at the festival. Most international clubs are open to anyone, so if you want to learn

more about a culture, or simply be involved in their great initiatives, make sure you join up. Club details can be found on the OUSA website: [ousa.org.nz/clubs/](http://ousa.org.nz/clubs/).

Last Friday the executive organised a bottle buy back to help students recycle surplus glass bottles and make some cash. A big thanks to Nina and Payal for their efforts to help keep flats and streets clean. In addition to occasional bottle buy backs, we have free blue recycling bins available. Grab yours from the OUSA Rec. Centre on Albany Street.

**Paul Hunt**

[president@ousa.org.nz](mailto:president@ousa.org.nz)

OUSA presents the  
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# BLUES & GOLDS AWARDS

**NOMINATIONS ARE NOW OPEN UNTIL FRIDAY 7 AUGUST**

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