

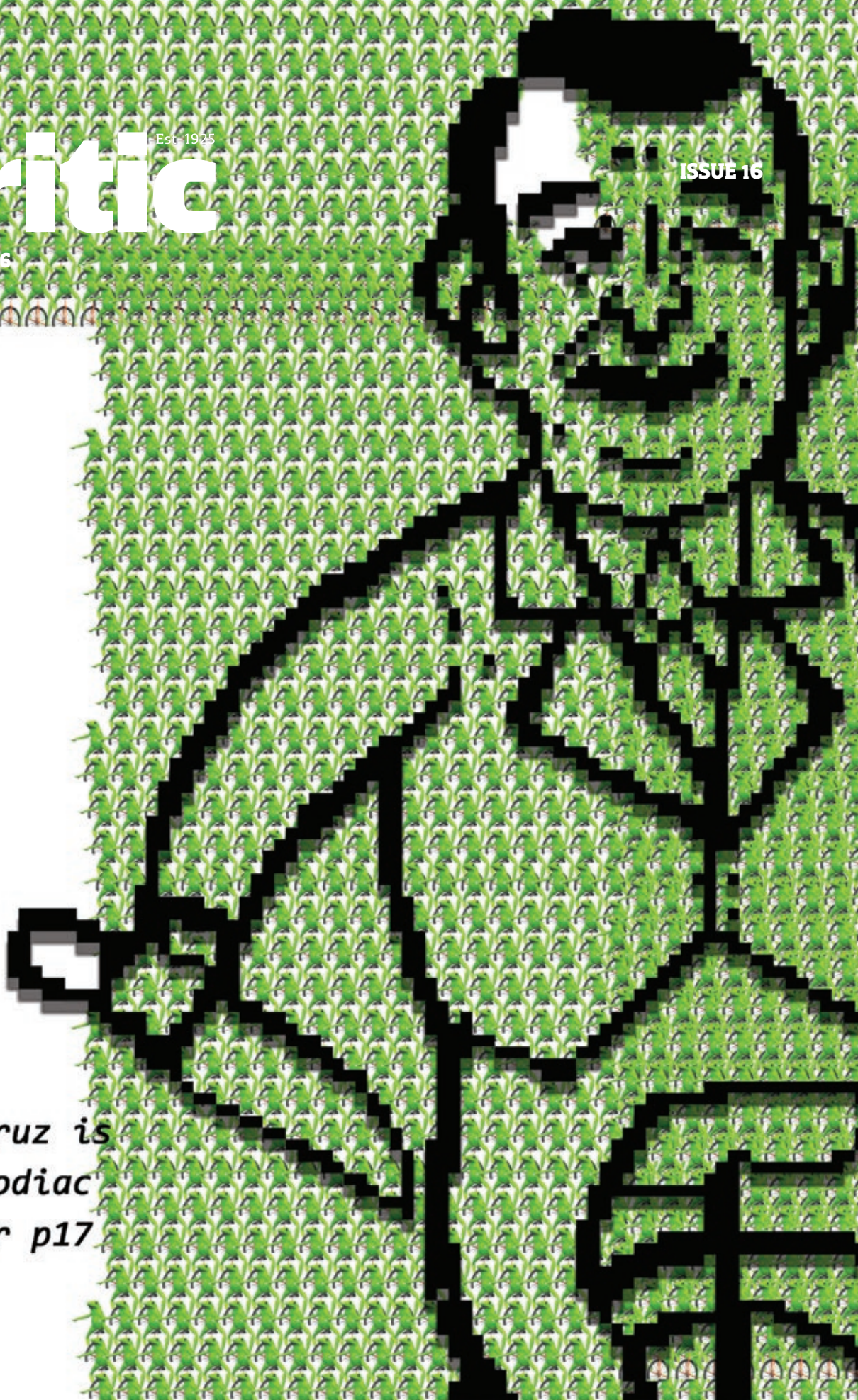
Critic

Est. 1925

ISSUE 16

25 July 2016

*ted cruz is
the zodiac
killer p17*





Warm Pacific Greetings

The Pacific Islands Centre is here to help you succeed in your studies and provide you with a "home away from home" so pop in to see the friendly staff and join in the events.

We also have study space available, access to student computers and free tea/coffee.

Please contact the Pacific Islands Centre for more details and to confirm dates, venues and time.

New students please come we look forward to meeting you!

PACIFIC ISLANDS CENTRE
UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO 

pacific@otago.ac.nz | 03 479 8278
www.otago.ac.nz/pacific | Cnr Clyde St & Leithbank St

Second Semester Events

Welcome Back Taimane

Monday 18 July, 4-6pm
Pacific Islands Centre

Beginning of supplementary tutorials

Monday 18 July
Oceania House, Pacific Islands Centre

How's it Going? Taimane

Thursday 11 August,
5:30pm onwards

Pacific Week

4-10 September

Praise and Worship Lotu
SUNDAY 4

Pacific Cultural Fiafia Night
MONDAY 5

Debates and Poetry Night
THURSDAY 8

Pacific Ball
SATURDAY 10

Pacific Graduation Breakfasts

8am, 20 August 2016
8am, 10 December 2016
8am, 14 December 2016
8am, 17 December 2016
University of Otago Staff Club

End of Year Taimane

Thursday 13 October

Pacific Voices XII Postgraduate Symposium

Friday 14 October, 8:30am-5pm
Main Common Room, University Union

Issue 16, 25 July 2016



- 18 Ted Cruz is the Zodiac Killer—How internet culture is changing the face of politics (literally)



- 22 Drunk Me Is The Poor Man's Joseph Gordon-Levitt



- 27 From Devotion to Debauchery—The people whose church got turned into Monkey Bar

Review

Books

40

- 38 Music

- 39 Games

- 41 Tech

- 42 Film

- 44 Art

- 45 Food



News

- 06 Execrable

- 06 Campus News

- 11 International News

- 12 News in Briefs

- 14 Sports

- 16 Politics

Columns

- 30 Something Came Up

- 31 Dear Ethel

- 31 Sexcellent

- 33 Vitalogy

- 34 David Clark

- 34 Science, Bitches

- 35 Matters of Debate

- 46 Love is Blind

Get up to speed!

Your bus network is improving on Monday 15th August 2016! Get all the info at www.orc.govt.nz/buses



TO FIND OUT MORE VISIT

WWW.ORG.GOVT.NZ/BUSES



Studholme College

is looking for fun, organised and academically successful leaders to join their awesome team for 2017

RA information night 26 July at 7:30

(open to anyone interested in applying)

Apps will close 5:00pm on 29 July

Interviews from 2-4 August

Offers made on the 8 Aug

The application pack available for pick up from the Studholme office, or we can mail or email one out: studholme.college@otago.ac.nz



Choose Well

KEEP ED FOR EMERGENCIES



1. Call Healthline 0800 611 116
2. Call Student Health or Urgent Doctors
3. If it's an emergency go to the Emergency Department

Southern District
Health Board
Piki Te Ora

Editorial

Editor **Hugh Baird**

Deputy Editor **Lucy Hunter**

Sub Editor **Laura Starling**

News Editor **Joe Higham**

Design

Technical Editor **Tash Murachver**

Features Designer **Ceri Giddens**

Section Editors

Books **Jessica Thompson**

Games **Campbell Calverley**

Technology **Anthony Marris**

Film **Nita Sullivan**

Food **Kirsten Garcia**

Politics **Joel MacManus**

Music **Millicent Lovelock**

Sport **Sean Nugent**

Contributors

Georgia Vosper, Carys Goodwin, James

Tregonning, Michelle Fitzgerald, Veeta

Orinko, Andrew Kwiatkowski, Shaun

Swain, Alex Campbell-Hunt, Jack Blair,

Ryan Collins, Magnus White

Production

Online Content Manager **Aman Jamwal**

Distribution **Ross Nicholls**

Advertising Sales

Elaine Byron, Peter Ramsay

Read Online

critic.co.nz

issuu.com/critic_te_aroahi

Get in touch

critic@critic.co.nz

lucy@critic.co.nz

facebook.com/critictearoahi

tweet: @critictearoahi

03 479 5335

P.O. Box 1436, Dunedin



Will they sell goon sacks on site?

The time-honoured tradition of waking up at Rhythm and Vines next to a warm beer for brekkie is sadly over. In their debatable wisdom, the powers that be have decided to put an end to the happy campers bringing in their own alcohol.

If the decision was based on the events of 2014 – which saw a few hours of mad riots, ending in 63 arrests – then probably fair enough... However, behaviour from last year's event was drastically improved, with only four of the 20 thousand in attendance being cuffed. I swear last New Year's would have seen more people arrested at the local pub in Pleasant Point than the festival itself.

However, councillors and the local constabulary don't seem to honour any good behaviour bonds from the year before. Even after the drastic changes last year, which saw a limit on the amount of alcohol allowed inside the campsites, the powers that be have decided all vessels must be sunk in the carpark beforehand. If brains were dynamite, it would seem these decision makers would battle to blow their ears off.

Alcohol and Rhythm and Vines are not mutually exclusive. Although the music is a huge

part of the event, I don't think it's too far of a stretch to say most go for the party atmosphere. Although I'm on my knees praying it won't happen, with the new restrictions around alcohol, it would seem that Rhythm and Vines is destined for the same murky grave as the Wellington Sevens.

So why, then, are the local stakeholders looking to run this event into the ground? Are police trying to look tough on such a well-publicised event, to make up for their ineptness when it comes to tackling actual problems, such as the fact they resolved only 9.3% of burglaries last year? Or are Gisborne locals sick of having to queue for food over the New Year period, when the local bars and food joints are busy making money?

Rhythm and Vines brings \$12 million dollars to the local economy in Gisborne, and creates around 800 jobs. \$12 million ain't a bad return for having to handle a few drunks for three nights of the year.

I just pray this doesn't turn into another event kicked to the curb by the fun police, especially now that the Parachute festival is no longer...

Hugh
Critic editor



Excrable

The Executive met on Friday July 15, in the first meeting since OUSA President Laura Harris left for a leadership course in Beijing. OUSA Administrative-Vice President, Jarred Griffiths, chaired the meeting in her absence.

A Returning Officer's' Report was presented at a previous meeting, but was deferred until this meeting in order for clarification of the threshold for referendum results. The constitutional changes failed as there wasn't a two-thirds majority in the referendum results. Predictably, a large number of 'abstain' votes were cast; OUSA sought legal advice on whether these counted as a positive or negative vote in relation to the constitutional changes, and that advice determined they must be negative votes.

An enormous number of policies were received and approved. Among them, but not exhaustively: Blues Policy, Elections Policy, Smoke Free Policy, and Executive Travel Expense Policy.

Grants were approved to four clubs, societies, and Fellowships, to the amount of \$2700. Additionally, nine individuals had grants approved totalling \$3080.

Administrative-Vice President Jarred Griffiths' chilli con-carne (above right) provides an assurance in Laura Harris' absence to the student body of his ability to multi-task.

By Joe Higham



THE DUNEDIN LOOK

A Photographic Showcase of Dunedin Street Style



The Dunedin Look is back with a new line of fashion! From Monday 8 August to Sunday 21 August Meridian Mall will house a photography exhibition of genuine Dunedin street style.

A competition will run and the 'look' with the most votes wins a trip to NZ Fashion Week in Auckland and a \$1,000 Meridian Mall shopping spree! Voters also go in the draw to win one of three \$500 Meridian shopping sprees.

This is a free competition, so come on in, check it out and get voting!

MERIDIAN
www.meridianmall.co.nz

Students sleeping in Octagon by choice this time



The Dunedin Sleep Out, an event in which participants sleep out in the Octagon to raise awareness and money for homelessness in Dunedin, will take place from 7pm on July 29.

Last year, the event raised \$12,000, which went toward contributing the final amounts needed for the Dunedin Night Shelter to purchase the property they use to provide housing to those less fortunate.

This year, the focus is 'Futures need Funds' and so all of the money raised will go toward "covering small costs that go a long way to help someone having a hard time", according to Sze-En Lau, Co-ordinator of the University Volunteer Centre and UniCrew Volunteers.

Sze-En Lau says there "is still plenty of grass space available for teams and individuals, so get registering. If you've ever walked past someone homeless on the streets and wondered how you could effectively help them, then the Dunedin Sleep Out is one opportunity for you to be part of the support network for those experiencing the hardships of homelessness and poverty."

Head over to the University Volunteer Centre with \$15 per person to register!

By Joe Higham

Dunedin Dollar idea raises eyebrows, but works in practice

Aaron Hawkins, one of the mayoral candidates for the upcoming local elections that will take place on October 8, has presented policies he hopes will earn the votes needed to succeed.

The two main policies he has presented are making Dunedin a living wage city and the development of a local currency; the latter being a potentially risky policy due to its perceived radical nature. However, such an idea is not just a theoretical policy, as it has been put into practice with the Bristol Pound, a currency exclusive to the English city of Bristol. He notes the success of that local currency as a great example of how the idea can actually work for the local community.

The main advantages of a local currency is that it will "encourage people to support locally owned businesses that sign on to accept the currency", according to Hawkins.

In the same way as the Bristol Pound is pegged to the national British Pound Sterling, the Dunedin Dollar will likewise be pegged to the New Zealand Dollar. Working alongside the nationwide dollar, but exclusive to the Dunedin city limits, it will require council commitment, yet Hawkins insists he "wouldn't want to see it ultimately operated by the DCC, but we can support the work and facilitate the conversations in the earliest stages."

The precise mechanics of the idea need to be ironed out, Hawkins revealed, and noted community development will be essential, as there's "no point trying to impose a top down model."

Despite eyebrows being raised due to the ambitious nature of the idea, Hawkins stated that "there's been some good engagement with the idea, and some very strong support, but it's also been quite widely misunderstood." Hawkins admits that he could have done a better job of explaining it.

He did say that, "whenever I've explained it to people individually, I've had unanimous support for it in principle, so the challenge is having as many of those conversations as possible over the next two months."

By Joe Higham



**Are you interested in flatting in 2017 with
International students from around the world?**

If you are - applications are now being accepted for Kiwi Hosting in 2017
Call into the Uni Flats Office @ 105 St David Street for an application pack

For further information: croisella.trengrove@otago.ac.nz | otago.ac.nz/uniflats

Drinking in cars set to skyrocket during NY festivities.



For those looking at making the annual pilgrimage to Rhythm and Vines, expect to be hit in the pocket. This year, the campsites organisers are planning on doing away with the BYO after concerns from local police and council.

On site camping at Rhythm and Vines increased last year after the closure of the BW campground in central Gisborne, following riots the year before which saw 83 injured and 63 arrested after three hours of madness in which cars were upturned and tents turned to ash. However, behaviour from last years event was drastically improved with only four arrests in total.

In a council report, officers claimed that there was non-compliance issues with resource consent and regulations around the campsites, in particular the Woodlands campsite which was issued an abatement notice at last years festival due to non-compliance around bad hygiene, intoxication and site control. **By Hugh Baird**

South Dunedin fucked without bold decisions

A report made by the Otago Regional Council has discovered houses in South Dunedin are in danger in relation to sea-level rise without bold decisions from those in power.

The report, which used seven years of data, identified that rising water levels could potentially cause permanent flooding in low-lying suburbs.

The reports discusses the fact that "South Dunedin is built on soft, silty soils", a very different landscape to the rest of Dunedin, which is built on a "solid, volcanic base." Today, as many as 2700 homes in South Dunedin lie less than 50 cm above sea level, placing them in enormous and immediate danger if sea levels continue to rise.

Otago Regional Council chief executive, Peter Bodeker, said that the council was "firm in our belief that planning for South Dunedin's future management is an immediate priority."

The report was presented to councillors on Wednesday July 20, and it is hoped it will encourage a community conversation, further scientific research, and bold decision making from the DCC to address the dangerous problems facing the community.

By Joe Higham



CHRISTMAS COOKIES

SWEET SUMMER JOB

BUCKETS OF COOKIES! BAGS OF CASH!!

Apply now to be a 2016 Cookie Time Christmas Cookies Seller: WORK SMART for seven weeks, have the rest of SUMMER OFF. Make HEAPS OF CASH and BE YOUR OWN BOSS. 2015 sellers made \$9,000 on average* Top seller made \$18,500**

APPLY ONLINE: WWW.SUMMERJOB.COOKIE-TIME.CO.NZ

DON'T MISS OUT! APPLICATIONS CLOSING SOON - 29 JULY 2016



*Average seller earnings before tax. **before tax.

Reserve Bank pulls out new lending restrictions

The Reserve Bank announced last week that new restrictions will be put in place for lending on property in an attempt to cool the already heated property market.

The changes announced will see property investors throughout the country needing a minimum required deposit of 40 percent, while those looking to buy their own home will be required to stump up at least 20 percent.

The Reserve Bank has announced the changes in an attempt to reduce the risk to financial stability that may arise with the current property boom. Governor Graeme Wheeler claimed that the banking sector was heavily exposed to the property market, with residential mortgages making up over 55 percent of banking assets. However, Wheeler also added that the drivers of the housing market were complex and that action was needed on many fronts that extended well beyond financial policy.

The targeting of investors by the Reserve Bank has been welcomed by both the Greens and Labour, although they claim that it will do little to slow rising Auckland house prices. Grant Robertson also took fault with the Government, saying that there was only so much that the Reserve Bank could do. "The Reserve Bank can only do so much... what is lacking here is a Government prepared to step up in terms of controlling demand," he said.

However, Housing Minister Nick Smith was confident that prices would ease given the new lending restrictions, although did admit that at the current moment housing was unaffordable for first home buyers. "People should be patient... I think the general commentary is that the market is overheated" Smith said when talking on Radio New Zealand recently.

New Zealand Property Investors' Federation executive officer Andrew King told Newstalk ZB that the conditions are going to negatively affect both investors and renters. "I think investors are going to have a bit of a shock. It is going to make it harder for a lot of rental property owners to actually provide rental property for tenants," King said, adding that the price of rentals was likely to grow.

The changes are planned to take effect September 1.

By Hugh Baird

Dunedin in lockdown as election excitement grips city

Dunedin's Local Elections are underway, with nominations opening on July 15. Nominations close on August 12, with election day set for Saturday October 8 at noon.

With only 10 days having passed since the nominations, it is understood that more people will decide to run for the position of mayor (currently held by Dave Cull) or one of the fourteen councillor positions.

The council is encouraging anyone who is currently considering running for council to do so, and has organised an information evening to allow those individuals, and anyone else who is interested more generally, to have an insight into how the council operates and what is expected from councillors and community board members. Council Chief Executives Sue Bidrose (Dunedin City Council) and Peter Boedeker (Otago Regional Council) will be presenting the information, with nomination forms and information on campaigning being of particular relevance.

Anyone over the age of 18 can stand in the election, provided they are a New Zealand citizen and are enrolled to vote themselves.

Dave Cull is running for re-election in what would be his third term, having been elected for the mayoralty in 2010 and reelected in 2013. His focus in his current term, according to his DCC profile on the DCC website, has been "strengthening the community and the economic capacity of the city." The result of the forthcoming election will likely determine the success or failure of these focuses.

Aaron Hawkins, the current Central Ward councillor, elected as a representative of the Green Party, who is just one of the people who has decided to contest Dave Cull's re-election. His main policies are making Dunedin the first living wage city in New Zealand as well as the introduction of a Dunedin Dollar—see page seven for more information.

Otago Polytechnic student activist Scout Barbour-Evans will also be challenging Cull's mayoralty as well as for a position on the council. Scout told the ODT that they care "very deeply about equality, human rights, sustainability, accessible health care and education, and animal rights."

By Joe Higham



Studying health sciences?
Thought about a career in
midwifery?

We are currently accepting applications for our **2017 Bachelor of Midwifery** programme. Study in **Dunedin** or from one of our satellite locations in **Central Otago, Wellington, Palmerston North** or **Whanganui**.

www.op.ac.nz/midwifery

Neither rich white nominee will help quell America's racial tensions

As America narrows its presidential hopefuls down to just two, the expectation on whoever is sitting in the Oval Office come the end of the year is intensifying.

American President Barack Obama, who is now about to reach the culmination of his administration, remains largely unable to quell tensions that some say are as high as they were since the countercultural movement of the 1960s.

Racial tensions have reached breaking point, shown by the numerous Americans who have taken the law into their own hands, killing who they claim are the enemy of minorities—'the police.'

Most recently, Micah Johnson, a 25-year-old army reservist who had served in Afghanistan,

killed five police officers and injured seven others with a sniper rifle during a peaceful protest against the deaths of black people in the hands of law enforcement. Lengthy negotiations revealed he "wanted to kill white people, especially white officers." Johnson's murders come just days after another three police officers were killed in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, in another response to the treatment of blacks by police.

A Guardian investigation, named 'The Counted', revealed that 1134 people were killed by police officers in 2015, with young black men nine times more likely than white Americans to be killed by police officers in 2015. African American males comprise just two percent of the total US population, yet made up 15 percent of police deaths.

It is not difficult to anyone looking, to see some particularly influential causative factors at play. GOP nominee Donald Trump's own rhetoric alongside the actions of supporters at his political rallies presents a racial divisiveness that will surely only exacerbate the racial tensions were he to assume the presidency come November.

Obama, who faces a tumultuous last five months of his administration, has strongly condemned all attacks on American law enforcement. Stamping out this seemingly institutionalised racism present with the police force has been an ongoing struggle, and one which will undoubtedly play a sizeable part in defining the success of his tenure.

By Joe Higham

**JOIN
US FOR
A PINT**
(YOUR SHOUT)
GIVE BLOOD

COME AND HELP US SAVE LIVES
VISIT US AT THE UNION HALL

Tuesday 26 July	12:00pm - 4:30pm
Wednesday 27 July	10:00am - 3:00pm
Tuesday 28 July	10:00am - 3:00pm

Visit us online now or call us to book an appointment

Please bring acceptable ID

0800 GIVEBLOOD www.nzblood.co.nz

(8000 448 325)

New Zealand Blood Service

NZBLOOD
In Wellington, Tairāwhiti & Auckland

**ARE
YOU...**

- ✓ **MALE OR FEMALE?**
- ✓ **AGED BETWEEN 18-55 YEARS?**
- ✓ **A NON-SMOKER?**
- ✓ **NOT ON ANY MEDICATION?**
- ✓ **FREE OF MEDICAL CONDITIONS?**

**Zenith Technology
Corporation LTD**
156 Frederick St • PO Box 1777
Dunedin 9054 • New Zealand

All studies are approved by a Health and Disability Ethics Committee administered by the Ministry of Health

**FRIENDLY STAFF
GREAT FOOD
FREE INTERNET**

**IF THIS IS YOU,
CONTACT US!!**

ZenTech

We are seeking volunteers for clinical drug trials to compare market brand-leading drugs with generic formulations of these drugs.

All participants are remunerated for their time and inconvenience.

CONTACT US NOW TO
REGISTER YOUR INTEREST
AND JOIN OUR DATABASE:

CALL
0800 89 82 82

E-MAIL
trials@zenithtechnology.co.nz

VISIT
www.zenithtechnology.co.nz



Trump chooses conservative, homophobic, overly religious running mate



Donald Trump has announced Governor of Indiana Mike Pence as his vice-presidential running mate, after he was officially sworn in as the Republican presidential candidate last week.

Politically, Pence is a 'safe' choice for Trump, due to his vast legislative and executive experience. However, it is an interesting choice considering Pence originally backed Ted Cruz in the primaries. Pence also openly criticised Trump for wanting to ban Muslims entering the United States. With Trump choosing Pence, who is known to be religious and conservative, it is not a move to broaden his general election appeal but rather an attempt to get Republicans to feel

comfortable with Trump himself. Choosing Pence will allow Trump to also gather support from evangelical voters.

There is no doubt there will be scrutiny towards Pence's political views, just as there has been with Trump. Pence is strongly guided by religious views, signing the 'religious freedom bill' into Indiana law that strictly discriminated against the LGBT community, as well as signing into law one of the strictest anti-abortion laws in the US.

According to the NY times, Trump eschewed the teleprompter during the announcement despite aides' attempts to discipline Trump's speeches. Trump used the opportunity to again attack Hillary Clinton, describing her as a foreign policy puppeteer, again reinforcing that his own campaign is almost wholly based on discrediting other people. This negative aspect of Trump's campaign was brought up in a CBS 60 Minutes interview with Trump and Pence, their first interview together. Pence seemed awkward and barely got two words in the entire time, and when asked about the negative attitude of Trump's campaign and the 'name calling', the question was somewhat avoided and Trump gave the excuse that the two of them were 'different' people, proceeding to call Hillary Clinton a "crook" and a "liar".

Trump and Pence have had to scrap and redesign their campaign logo as it appeared as the 'T' in Trump's name entered the hole of the 'P' in Pence's name, an act representative of penetrative sex. The logo caused their campaign embarrassment, particularly due to the fact they both oppose marriage equality. **By Georgia Vosper**

President Erdogan yet to rule out death penalty following coup

More than 50,000 people in Turkey have been rounded up, sacked or suspended from their jobs in the wake of an attempted coup, including teachers, university deans and those in the media. Additionally, 103 generals and admirals have also been formally charged, making up over a third of the general rank command in the Turkish army.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan is also yet to rule out the possibility of

re-introducing the death penalty for those who are convicted of what he calls "high treason". Turkey abolished the death penalty in 2004 during a series of human rights reforms that the country undertook to gain membership into the European Union. EU Foreign Policy Chief, Federica Mogherini spoke last week on the matter, asserting that if Turkey was to re-introduce the death penalty, it would not be entering the EU. If the death penalty was to be introduced again

it would take a parliamentary decision in the form of a constitutional measure.

All of this comes after forces loyal to President Erdogan managed to crush an attempted coup by some members of the military. The death toll from the coup has risen to more than 290, the Ministry said in a statement, adding that more than 1,400 people had been wounded.

By Hugh Baird

World Watch

Maine, United States

A father in the US State of Maine got a shock when he dialled the phone number on the back of his electronic benefit transfer card. Trying to check his benefit balance, he instead got through to a sex line. The unfortunate one digit misprint on some cards puts callers through to a live sex chat. The sex line supposedly searches for phone numbers that are very similar to widely published government phone numbers and buys them to take advantage of consumers misdialling.

Mexico

A Mexican taxi driver has jumped on the Pokemon GO craze by driving smartphone-armed customers around in search of the augmented reality game's target creatures. The driver said he began offering services such as "Pokemon hunter" on Monday and has received more than 20 calls in only a few days. He charges 130 pesos (US\$7) for the first hour to pursue Pokemons, then 100 pesos for each subsequent hour.

Mediterranean

Long awaited audio from one of the "black box" flight recorders recovered from the EgyptAir flight that crashed in May reveals there may have been a fire onboard the aircraft before cutting out. The Airbus A320 plunged into the eastern Mediterranean Sea en route from Paris to Cairo, killing all 66 people onboard. Recovered wreckage from the crash showed signs of high temperature damage and soot.



Turkey

Turkish authorities have arrested more than 6,000 military personnel and other individuals have been obtained, including 2,700 judges, after a failed coup attempt. President Erdogan, who has been widely criticised for attempting to implement sweeping presidential powers that threaten the core of Turkey's democracy, has floated the possibility of reinstating the death penalty in the wake of the attempted coup.

Iran

A recent trend in Iran to wear clothing emblazoned with English-language writing has prompted alarm in the official media. A report on state media highlighted what it called a fashion to put "obscene", "Satanist" and "anti-religious" messages on men's T-shirts and women's tops. Sellers appear taken aback by the media interest, saying there is strong demand for such products.

FACTS and figures

Armenia

Several armed men stormed a police station in Armenia's capital and took multiple officers hostage, demanding the release of a jailed opposition figure in the country. Reports suggested that at least one person was killed, and two injured, with Armenia's Deputy Police Chief being held hostage.

Kashmir, India

Authorities in Indian-controlled Kashmir seized newspapers and shut down cable television on Saturday, aiming to cease a flare-up of tensions in the region, which has seen violent protests over the killing of a separatist commander by security forces. At least 36 people have been killed and 3,100 wounded in the worst outbreak of violence in six years in the disputed territory, also claimed by India's rival, Pakistan.

Ganges River

India's national postal service is to deliver holy water from the Ganges River through the mail. The water, known as Gangajal, will be bottled at two spots along the river and sold in all post offices throughout the country; people will also be able to place orders for the water online. The river is sacred to Hindus, but it is also extremely polluted with industrial waste, sewage and dead bodies.

Recycling one glass jar saves
enough energy to watch TV for
3 HOURS

George W. Bush is the only person
in history to have been both a
CHEERLEADER and a **war criminal**

A tapir has the largest penis-to-
body ratio of any animal

Upon losing battles, apes tend
to *masturbate*

The human nose can remember
50,000 different scents

The dark region on the north pole
of Pluto's moon, Charon, is called
Mordor

The state of Ohio gives out
different coloured license plates
for those convicted of **DUI**



Opinion

Just how stupid is the Super Rugby format?

Answer: Extremely. In fact, it could be argued that it is the worst in the world, across all sports and all competitions. It's so bad I don't even know where to begin.

First of all, what's the deal with the conferences? Are there two or are there four? Surely it would be a lot easier if the 'Australasian Group' was just a single conference? That way we could actually look at the points table and have

some kind of understanding of what the hell is going on. But like many things, that would just be too simple. Instead we have the Brumbies hosting a quarter-final against the Highlanders despite our boys finishing the season with nine points more than them.

It's not like the whole conference system is brand new to the world of sport. The NBA have utilised it successfully for decades. So why is

our system so flawed and utterly ridiculous? The Lions, who have finished second, had the joy of playing against the new boys on the block in the Sunwolves and the Jaguares, while also having to fend off the lacklustre quality of the Southern Kings and Cheetahs. To reward their breezy season, they get to host a quarter-final against the Crusaders, who had to battle it out with the rest of the New Zealand sides to try and secure the one—yes one—home quarter-final spot.

While the New Zealand sides have the quality to go abroad and

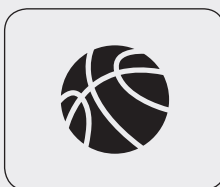
grab a victory, they have been given an undeserving disadvantage. If they do not go through to the semi-finals, SANZAR will have a lot to answer for. In my opinion, they either have to go back to the way it was a few years ago, or they have to follow in the footsteps of the NBA and have inner-conference playoffs that end with a team from each conference meeting in the final. For now though, let us watch this shambles as it completely unravels.

P.S. Up the Landers!

By Sean Nugent

Around the grounds:

Mens Basketball
Varsity Men A vs. Bomber A
Saturday 30 July 12.30pm
Edgar centre Court 2



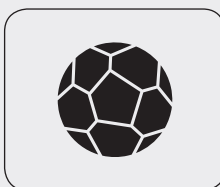
Womens Basketball
Varsity A vs. Falcons 1
Tuesday 26 July 7.45pm
Edgar centre Court 4

Mens Hockey
Univeristy vs. Kings Utd
Saturday 30 July 1.30pm
Hockey Turf



Womens Hockey
Momona vs. University
Saturday 30 July 12.15pm
Hockey Turf

Mens Football
University vs. Dunedin Technical
Saturday 30 July 2.45pm
Caledonian Ground



Womens Football
Bye

What's on the box?



Tiger Woods out for season, set to play off course instead

Tiger Woods has announced he will pull the pin on the rest of the season, citing on-going rehab from a spate of back surgeries late last year.

The PGA released a statement last week in which they announced that Woods had withdrawn from their upcoming tournament. Woods' agent, Mark Steinberg added shortly after that Woods would not play in any further events in the 2015–2016 season, citing his ongoing rehab from a string of back surgeries.

Woods, who has long struggled with back injuries, or as you and I might call it "shaggers back", first

underwent back surgery in early 2014. A second microdiscectomy was performed last September, with a follow-up procedure just six weeks after. Steinberg also added that it didn't make sense for Woods to play this season, given the number of events left on the calendar.

When Woods pulled out of The Open at Royal Troon earlier this month, it marked the first time in his professional career that he had missed three majors in a row, which is now, after his announcement set to become four. Woods last played in a PGA tour event in August 2015 when he finished tied for 10th at the Wyndham Championship.

Woods has not won a tournament since 2013 and last won a major at the 2008 US Open.

The PGA championship will be played from July 28–31 at the Baltusrol Golf Club in Springfield, New Jersey.

By Hugh Baird

Political conventions are stupid, dumb, pointless, fun

We are right now in the middle of the most meaningless, overhyped, expensive exercise in political cheerleading in the Western World —The Republican and Democratic National Conventions.



National Conventions are to the US what the Monarch is to New Zealand – Formerly powerful institutions that now exist entirely for show. Once upon a time, Conventions were an intense week of wheeling and dealing as candidates worked over and wooed delegates from all 50 states in the pursuit of the party's nomination for President. Now they are little more than a televised pep rally.

These were the halls where Johnson (allegedly) blackmailed Kennedy, where Roosevelt tore apart his party. Legacies were made and lost in a single day, with a single vote. It wasn't always easy – the 1924 Democratic Convention famously took 103 ballots before a nominee was chosen. Powerful men in smoke-filled rooms decided the fate of a nation, and the world.

Since the popularisation of the primary system in the 1970s, the process has become increasingly democratic, and conventions increasingly dull. The winners have already been decided, the votes will be a mere formality.

This year at one point, was proving to be different. While the vast majority of Democratic delegates are bound to the results of their states, a subgroup known as 'Superdelegates' can vote for whomever they choose. Early in the process, many in the Sanders camp openly feared that Hillary would attempt to override the will of the voters this way. Ironically, toward the end of the process when a Sanders majority was looking increasingly unlikely, he started using this very same argument to suggest that he could in fact still win.



On the Republican side, several groups of anti-Trump activists planned ways of stopping what they saw as a disastrous nominee. Their foremost goal was to pass a 'Conscience vote' rule which freed delegates from states who voted for Trump from casting a vote which they found morally reprehensible. That was eventually quashed in committee the week before the convention, though several groups still attempted to disrupt proceedings in various ways throughout the process.

So don't expect to see any real changes made. Trump and Clinton are still going to be the nominees. But, even though they are entirely superficial, conventions can still make a difference. Pollsters typically observe a 'Convention Bump' in the weeks following, as parties coalesce and get excited about their candidates.

Honestly, the most bizarre thing about Conventions is that people still watch them. All three major networks in the US broadcast them for at least an hour every night, and the ratings are huge. In 2012, the final nights drew in over 30 million viewers. The closest comparison in New Zealand, the Political Party Broadcasts hour, rates so poorly that in 2013 TVNZ put it on against an All Blacks game, when they knew no-one would be watching anyway.

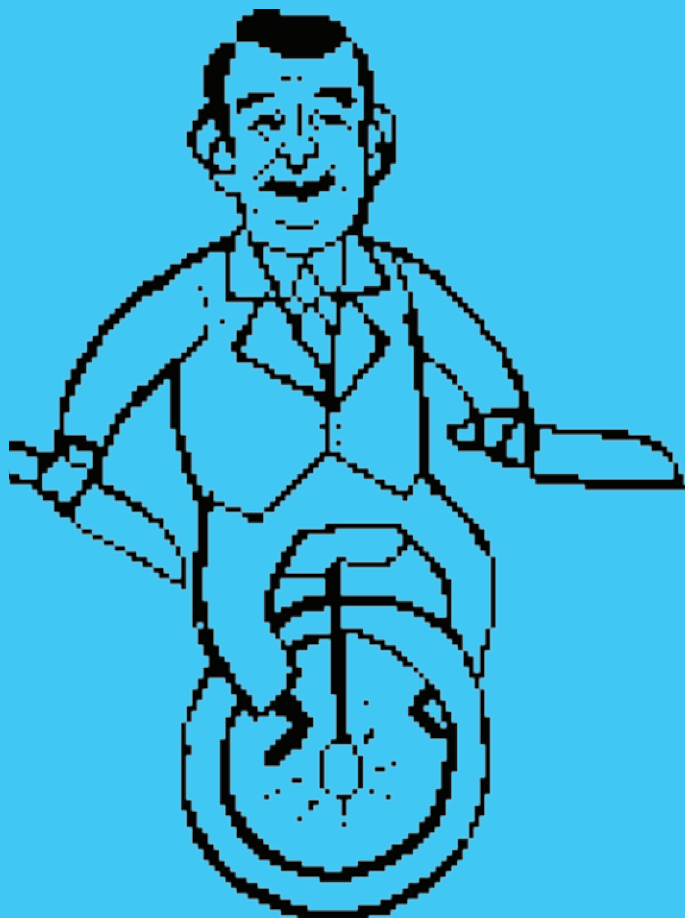
So for you political nerds out there, go chuck on CNN and check it out. You'll get to see Beyonce, Lady Gaga, Snoop Dogg, Bryan Cranston, Fergie, plus a whole bunch of old white dudes talking about tax policy. What more could you want?

by Joel MacManus

TED CRUZ IS THE ZODIAC KILLER

how
internet
culture is
changing
the face
of politics
(literally)

by CARYS
GOODWIN



The year was 2016. The month, February. And against all rhyme or reason, a poll released by Public Policy Polling confirmed the worst: 38 percent of Floridians genuinely believed Ted Cruz could be the Zodiac Killer—a serial killer who operated in northern California in the late '60s and early '70s.

It was a loss for Ted Cruz, and perhaps the collective intelligence of Florida, but it was a win for the part of the internet that focuses on churning out inexplicable, hilarious, US election memes. They ruthlessly mocked up so many 'Ted Cruz is the Zodiac Killer' images that, despite the fact that Cruz wasn't even born when the Zodiac Killer first killed, people actually, really, genuinely believed them.

This is not the only reason the US election is shaping up to be a truly wonderful clusterfuck of shitty screenshots, poor photoshops, and iconic Tweets, but it's one of the funniest. And it certainly confirms one powerful truth: internet culture is changing the nature of political discourse. Millennials have developed a new language – a new way to undermine or support political candidates. This language is 'memes'. And it delights me.

As everyone is aware, I'm sure, we live in a digital age. Communication has transcended actually having to physically avoid the people you don't like and into the realm of simply leaving their messages unread for days at a time. If you see something cool you can share it to all five of your top-used social networks with strategic hashtags, rather than needing to send your mate from Nelson a detailed description via carrier pigeon. And if you harass a politician enough on Twitter, they'll end up responding.

In our modern, internet saturated era, the barriers between the proletariat and the elite have been broken down, allowing two-way communication and genuine debate. Most importantly, the use of humour to ruthlessly critique aspects of policy and target factually incorrect notions has resulted in the widespread proliferation of digitally altered images amongst the millennial generation. Memes.

I think everyone knows what a meme is – according to urban dictionary, memes are



@memeindex via twitter

"popular quotes, images, and real people, which are copied, imitated, and spread all over the internet". But to understand why memes have developed into a such a savage form of political critique, let's briefly trace the way meme culture has developed in recent years.

In the first Great Rising of the Meme, there were two cornerstones upon which the majority of 'internet speak' and 9gag content rested: rage comics and image macros. The former refers the few-frame stick-figure based comics used to demonstrate 'teh lolworthy' -random- things that happened in a person's day-to-day life.

Rage comics are objectively terrible; the kind of terrible that makes you feel secondhand embarrassment for whoever thought that their awful, fake story was witty enough to be shared with the greater public. But in 2008 the faces of rage comics were beloved, and people would unironically say 'me gusta' and 'le' instead of 'the'. Some even got them tattooed on their actual, real, human bodies. Permanently.

The second cornerstone, image macros, are a bit less terrible and are still in use today (although mostly incorrectly, and mostly by



'le lolworthy' rage comic

The appropriate way to describe such a meme is 'dank'.

here come dat boi!!!!!!

o shit waddup!



boomers who didn't think to check with anyone who actually uses the internet before they printed off their shitty, incorrect meme and hung it in the office kitchen). They are a collection of recognisable images and their recognisable text structures used to quickly and succinctly tell a funny anecdote.

If we go by the chronology established by website 'Know Your Meme', image macros began with 'demotivational posters', developed into 'LOLcats', and eventuated into 'Advice Animals' and the like. Classic examples include Foul Bachelor Frog, Socially Awkward Penguin, and Bad Luck Brian.

Like many things on the internet, the popularity of these memes started on Reddit or Tumblr, trickled into 9gag, and eventually found their final resting place on Facebook, where they died - because what happens once memes become exploited on Facebook? They instantly become uncool.

Eventually, the distribution of memes on Facebook reached critical mass, weighted too heavily on the side of 'uncool'. Thus, as a new decade begun, the First Great Memepire perished in the hellfire of gut-wrenching, overpowering embarrassment.

But memes were to have a second wind, one that took into account the deep shame associated with the aforementioned style of memes. Thus, modern memes, instead of focusing on earnest,

sincere humour, are a satire of the traditional meme: deliberately unfunny, deliberately shit, and deliberately churned out at the speed of light.

A recent but perfectly apt example of a modern meme is 'dat boi' - an image of a frog on a unicycle, accompanied by the phrase "here come dat boi!!!!!! o shit waddup!" There is absolutely no reason for it to be funny, but it is; and the various iterations of his character only intensify the absurd hilarity. I've had a few people tell me they "don't get it" - and that's the point. No one gets it. It's not funny. It's so unfunny that it's funny. The appropriate way to describe such a meme is 'dank'.

Why the hell are you giving me the history of memes, I can hear you asking, I seriously don't want to be reminded of the horror that is FFFUUUUUUUU. And I understand. But I promise you, it's important - and the most important part is the relationship between Meme Phase I and Meme Phase II. The way memes died and rose again, similar to Jesus, is what allows us to understand the way memes have developed in US politics.

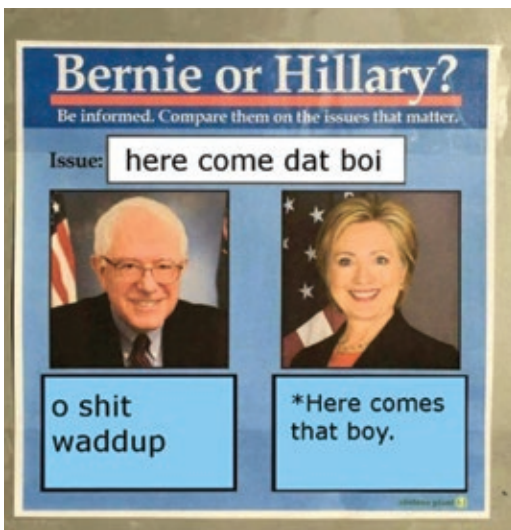
In endeavouring to explain why, exactly, the backlash against the first great meme rising resulted in the meme culture we see today, there are two theories that I find particularly useful.

The first theory (which is mine, because who

in the hell else has thought about memes this much and then actually wanted to put pen to paper) is that this development is, in part, a defense mechanism. If we think about two of the great fears of humanity (aside from death and all that existential shit) - not being funny, and being embarrassed - it makes considerable sense. We look back at rage comics and cringe; we feel an ache deep in our chests when someone types out "le me, looking at batman comics" on Facebook. It's primal; it's instinctual - we will do anything not to be the subject of that embarrassment, and the easiest way to do that is to make fun of it.

In short, as aptly put by Coldplay, when you try your best and you don't succeed, the internet will ruthlessly mock you for it. With the fear of that looming over you, your best choice is to not really try at all.

The second, perhaps more useful theory (which actually isn't really mine; it's based on a textpost meme I saw on Tumblr once) is based on the idea of collective humour. Think about your friend group - it's a mess of in-jokes, weird things you find funny, and that cute but ultimately misguided belief that your group's brand of humour is original or even 'the best', right? The same thing is happening with internet meme culture. The further the internet collectively goes down the rabbit hole of unfunny images, the more people feel included. They understand the



//a marriage of memes

subculture; they're part of the clique. An aspect of this culture is the snowballing of memes until the layers are near-impenetrable to the average person; if you do understand the meme, you feel special.

While memes have gotten shittier and shittier, and therefore funnier and funnier, they've also gotten harder and harder to interpret; so, like any clique, if someone tries to interfere with your clique and join in without understanding the context or niche brand of humour that underpins it, you're going to be less than impressed.

If you want your meme to be truly dank, there are a lot of levels to consider. Chances are many of them are aspects you've intuitively absorbed while browsing the internet; but some people, like US presidential candidates, have had no such exposure. What a shame for them.

At some point along the democratic candidacy race, a meme emerged that used a comparison chart template to juxtapose Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders. By taking a simple catch phrase or pop culture tidbit and explaining how each candidate would respond, the internet collectively painted Bernie as cool and hip, and Hillary as lame and try-hard.

This meme is indicative of the way the internet meme culture perceives Hillary and Bernie; and the simple reason why is that Hillary actually did try too hard. At the beginning of her race, she started trying to use memes and catchphrases to appear cool to millennials; and at first, it worked. Then her 'cool mom' became

condescending, her memes came too close to the burning fire started by a thousand rage comics, and it seems that all at once the internet started making fun of her.

A particularly illustrative example comes in the form of a Hillary snapchat that went viral for no reason other than it was embarrassing. A simple two-frame snap, it started with a close up of a cringey 'Chillary Clinton' beer cooler and ended with a too-close selfie shot of Hillary saying "I'm just chilling in Cedar Rapids". Once it was posted on Vine, it exploded into meme-fodder for young internet users, who dominate the Vine platform, and left Hillary little more than the subject of a really funny joke.

In comparison, Bernie has not tried to use memes to get to Da Youth; he speaks of issues that young people care about instead of focusing on how to communicate these issues. There was

That One Time a bird flew over to his lectern, but short of releasing a simple illustration in response, it was never something he tried to capitalise on. By not bothering to create his own meme content, he managed to avoid the vicious mockery that the candidates that did try experienced. Today, his irreverence is immortalised by the Facebook group, Bernie Sanders' Dank Meme Stash.

As for the Republican candidates, well, the content writes itself. Jeb Bush saying "please clap" to his audience; Donald Trump being the walking personification of a piece of old chewing gum; Ben Carson trying to rap; Carly Fiorina and Ted Cruz being unable to hold hands and instead flailing awkwardly as they confirmed their running partnership just a day before Cruz pulled out. In all of their awful, sickening attempts to appeal to the Youth of Today, they managed to



the internet collectively painted Bernie as cool and hip, and Hillary as lame and try-hard



//bleak.

alienate an entire generation of photoshop-happy meme-loving fucks, when what they really needed to do was speak some sense about student loan debt and reclaiming the memes of production.

I can tell that you have at least two points to raise about this assessment: first, well, actual politics matter, right? Second, who gives a flying fuck about what happens on the depths of Tumblr? Well, you can thank the online media for helping me to answer both of these points.

Modern online media is pretty heavily user-driven. Due to a culling of public-media resources and an ever-growing focus on churning out as much clickbait as humanly possible, longform journalism is often hidden from sight or simply not resourced – that's why BuzzFeed only posts clickbait articles on its Facebook page

despite employing a fair few investigative journalists and personal essay-ists. Journalists, under pressure and under paid, rely on the internet to help them get content quickly and easily.

Think about it – Stuff writes articles based on old Reddit threads; BuzzFeed makes lists comprising nothing but Tumblr posts; the Dom Post regularly nabs its ideas from Facebook page Vic Deals. The internet is where the media finds its content.

But, if we nuance this and tease it out further, the internet is why it writes certain content. All the media ever wants is salience in the eyes of its user-base; and modern internet culture, with its lightening-fast, explosive manner of creating "viral" memes, is the perfect way for media to jump on the bandwagon. They don't write about in-depth policy nearly as much as they write about what's #hot and #now, because that doesn't generate them the views that their ad-based revenue model survives on.

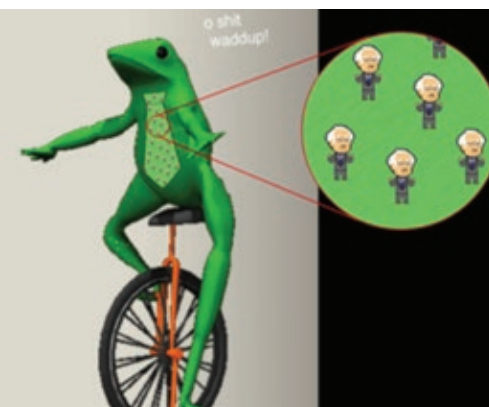
Thus, when memes like the Bernie v Hillary explode, the online media machine writes about it, thereby increasing the reach of its core assumption: that Bernie is cool and Hillary is not. Irrespective of political views, there's no way you can deny that online platforms consider Bernie the cool dude, even if they embark in no analysis that will substantiate it. These articles are then posted back on sites like Reddit and Tumblr, memed because they either a) back up the internet's opinion, or b) completely misinterpret a heavily satirical post/meme. It's a never ending, circle jerking, reinforcing meme wheel.

The question I have now is how this evolution will play out in real election terms. A lot of the internet users who create this content are under 18, and therefore not actually able to vote; but as they age, I wonder how it will affect political campaigns and election outcomes.

Finally, there's a place for the teen or the disenfranchised Young Adult. While political candidates have long treated us like an untappable demographic, too consumed with our mobile phones to pay attention to the real important stuff, like detailed policy documents, 2016 is the year it's finally coming back to bite them. Because it's in these phones and amongst this demographic that the content that's spiraling out of control on our screens is created – it's Vine, and Snapchat, and Tumblr, and Instagram, and whatever other platform you can think of.

When you think about it, satire and irony have always, always been part of politics; the only thing that's changing is the way that they're created and interpreted. Move over political cartoons, make way for the political meme. The political party (here or otherwise) that truly manages to grasp the culture that surrounds memes will be the one that finally taps into the nebulous -youth vote-.

But the party that tries and fails will be well and truly fucked, and all we'll be thanking them for is the memories ■



//here come dat bern
via berniesandersmemes@FB

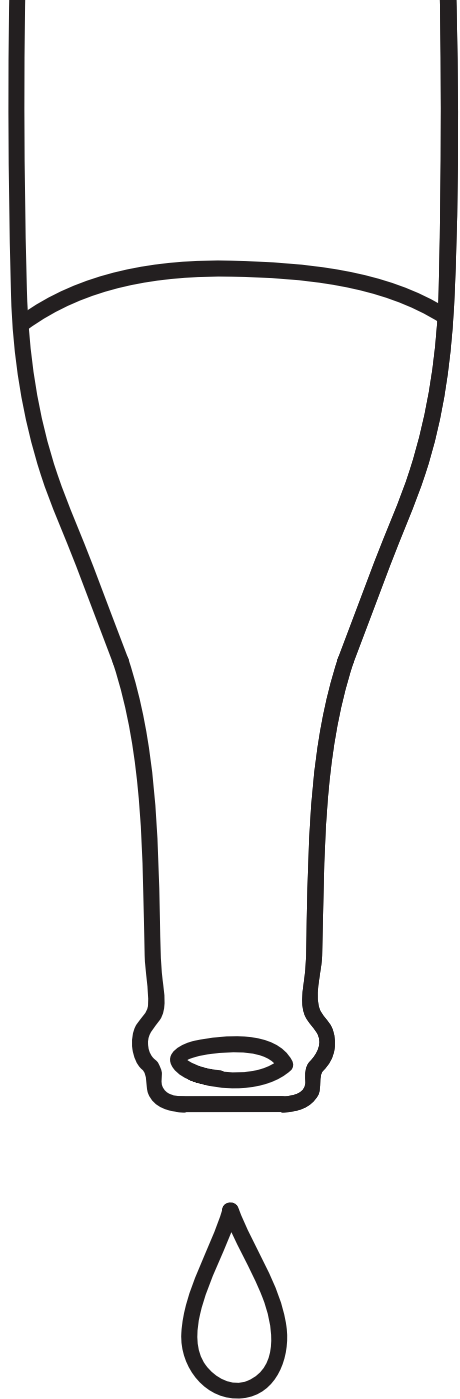


Today I decided that I
was going to give up
drinking – for real (this
is not a drill)

Drunk Me Is The Poor Man's Joseph Gordon-Levitt

22

Michelle Fitzgerald



Anyone who knows me, the eternal party girl, will be aware that this is going to be a pretty massive change of pace for me. Although I've tried to cut down a few times in the past, placing certain limitations on myself (never at home alone/only once a week/only classy booze that doesn't come in a cardboard box), I've failed spectacularly every time. Why? Because I have zero willpower and poor self-negotiation skills – so I have to do it cold turkey, or it's just not going to happen at all. Drinking is a really difficult thing for me to give up, considering I am a product of Dunedin and thus grew up

with a comfortable acclimatisation to the binge-drinking normality of teen and student life here. As a party-loving adult who is child-free, I have never really had a good enough reason to be responsible or stop drinking – not to mention it's fun as fuck, and I don't have a problem!

Well, yeah actually – I totally do. Over the last couple of years I have been drinking by myself at home all the time because "why not?" – and frankly, "why not?" isn't a good enough reason to drink (or do many things, for that matter). I started with the notion that I could get some decent artwork done after a few drinks, which always resulted in me being completely hammered, whilst my easel sat in the corner collecting dust. Alcohol lends me no productivity or creative motivation whatsoever, and it's immature and futile to keep pretending it does. I can't even fool myself into thinking that alcohol is a way to unwind or relax at the end of a stressful or busy day, because I am hands-down the least stressed and/or busy person that I know.

My sister and I recently started using the MyFitnessPal app, and it's opened my eyes to exactly how much of my energy consumption is solely alcohol, or junk food consumed due to drinking. On days that I don't drink, I struggle to even eat two thirds of my daily energy needs. On days that I drink, however, the alcohol puts me over by almost double, and on days after drinking I eat nothing but junk – no wonder my weight shot up when I started flatting and drinking beer by the crate! Drinking also saps all motivation or energy to do other things, so many past endeavours have ended up on the

I don't have a problem! Well, yeah actually – I totally do

backburner while I continued to prioritise getting fucked up. These days I have lofty concrete goals that I want to achieve, and being drunk all the time is not going to make those things happen – especially considering they are of the academic and fitness variety. Simply put, I can no longer coast through life being drunk all the time when the expectations I am placing on myself are far more complex than "shower, get dressed, and get to your easy job selling dildos" (as satisfying as that was).

Thankfully I've always been a fairly happy drunk, so my alcohol consumption hasn't resulted in any estrangement from friends or family, but I'm sure that it hasn't done me any favours, either – I routinely arrive at family events already pissed, and I'm pretty sure nobody expects much better from me after so many years of being like this. I've also realised that I lack self confidence so badly, that in order to go on dates with dudes, I have to be almost legless before I even meet up with them (let alone doing anything else with them). How is that any way to be a human? The lame truth is that I have way more stuff to deal with before I can really be with anybody, and continuing to drink is not going to solve those issues for me. I guess the major thing that worries me is that without alcohol, I'll have to actually be my sober self all the time, which may result in withdrawing from social situations due to a fear that people won't like me, and (sob) never getting laid again.

As I started writing this feature, I did a shout-out on Facebook asking others who have ever given up drinking to

I have lofty concrete goals that I want to achieve, and being drunk all the time is not going to make those things happen

give me their insights on why and how they did it, and suddenly all sorts of cray bitches came out of the woodwork – people I didn't even know were sober! Many of these people had decided to give up for health reasons, to improve fitness, or to just undo many years of increased alcohol tolerance. Due to the binge-drinking culture of the '90s-'00s, we were all coming of age at a time where a bottle of Kristov vodka split between two fourteen-year-old girls was as commonplace as an expired condom in a boy racer's wallet. Sobriety (something that I had always assumed was reserved for only the cripplingly religious and the painstakingly boring) as it turns out, has become increasingly common in my peer group.

A number of mates have quit drinking for reasons similar to me – they realised that they were unable to stop at one drink, or hid behind being drunk, and decided that this probably meant they had a problem. Some had given up after seeing the adverse effects drinking was having on loved ones (ie turning them into total cunts), while others were trying to increase fertility/had gotten pregnant. But mainly, most of us just got sick of being the poor man's version of ourselves, much like when Dante's Peak just casually decided to cast Jeremy Foley in the Joseph Gordon-Levitt role, thinking we wouldn't notice.

But we did notice.

Joseph Gordon-Levitt or not, I am overdue to sort my shit out – and what better place to do it than Dunedin, where the clubs are full of 17-year-olds, the drugs are non-existent/awful quality sold at an astronomical markup, and the parties for 31-year-olds are scarce? Henceforth, I can be found in my bedroom, or at the library, and in both cases, sober. If you see me, don't offer me a drink. Cheers.

One Month Later

I'm even further from being Joseph Gordon-Levitt now than I was when I stopped drinking.

Firstly, this has probably been the longest I have ever actually stuck to any habit that is supposedly good for me, so I guess I should feel some kind of smug pride at that – but oddly enough, I don't.

Here's what has happened in the last month: Nothing.

Like, literally fucking nothing. I have become a boring shell of my former fun self and have ceased almost all social contact, preferring to take extra shifts at work, tidy my room, go for walks, make future home decor vision boards (yes really, kill me please), revisit my seven year plan, and study for a paper that I'm not even taking until summer school next year. I have had zero sex. Fuck my life.

My brother had his old high school gang around to watch the rugby the other weekend and I ended up watching it with them all – it was a giant sausage-fest of drinking and happiness and I couldn't be more internally pissed off that I couldn't partake of the ale. It was an excruciating 80 minutes of inner struggle and hatred as I watched them all get progressively drunker and more excitable. I anxiously clammed up and kept my eyes fixed upon the screen, awkwardly only speaking when specifically asked a question, probably leading my brother's friends to think I had acquired some sort of PTSD and had come home to be put out to pasture, rather than

being here to study. Someone very kindly passed a joint my way at some point, which mercifully got me through the second half.

I haven't given up drugs, by the way. They are just far more expensive and scarce here so I assumed they weren't going to be anywhere near as much of a problem for me as alcohol. I also vowed not to buy any more weed, only allowing myself a social hoot of whatever is proffered at any given time.

I feel like such a martyr.

On the health front, I had a constant headache for almost two weeks, combined with some hot flushes and shakes, but I'm told that will happen when you're giving things up cold turkey. After that shit cleared off though, I felt ... well ... not much differ-

ent, to be honest. My body had gotten pretty used to functioning hungover so I just stopped getting perceivable hangovers altogether sometime in the mid 00s. My skin seems a little clearer, and I've lost around 6-8 kg this month - which is good, because I do need to lose weight. I hope that continues and I also hope that I develop some sort of transfer addiction to exercise or something else that will make me thin (unlikely though, because fuck you genetics and Murphy's Law).

My mental health has been a whole bunch of dildoes. Being sober means that my mind is now racing constantly with all of the lame things that I usually managed to obliterate with drinking. So I'm forcedly reminded constantly of all the little things I can't stand about myself and how deeply messed up I still am over a breakup that happened well over a year ago, and how anxious I am about going back to uni this semester as an old-as-fuck 31 year old who may or may not be able to keep up with her peers intellectually, especially because I have to relearn three years of forgotten high school maths in a couple of months just to be able to take MATH160 (by the way, if anyone is able to trade a few weeks of maths tutoring for any kind of proof-reading, essay-writing or guitar lessons, please contact me through Critic or Facebook - I'm serious) and other such worrying thoughts. My concentration/focus

**the expectations I am
placing on myself are far
more complex than “shower,
get dressed, and get to your
easy job selling dildos”**

and attention span are both highly impaired (or were possibly never that good to begin with, although I don't remember all the way back that far). I have considered seeing the doctor about being tested for ADHD but I'm anxious that he will think that I am just there trying to scam a script for dexies or Ritalin to deal to 18 year olds outside Suburbia on a Friday night.

If it weren't for the weight loss, I'd be solely unimpressed with this whole bullshit sobriety thing. I'm bored and I'm boring and I definitely wouldn't want to be my friend right now. Thankfully the majority of my mates are all in the North Island and Australia, because I'd be kind of embarrassed for them to have to hang out with me in this state. I really hate it when people adopt some sort of new regime and wax lyrical about how it changed them and how they are much better people now, so I'm not going to lie to you guys. Sobriety sucks and it should only ever be done as a last resort when you have a giant drinking problem. I would never do this shit by choice or because I thought it would make me some sort of better, cleaner, person. From my sorry state my advice to you is drink literally everything you can get your hands on and pillage your lithe little livers - and then have another one for me. I wish I was you.

**Love, Chelle
xoxo**

FROM DEVOTION TO DEBAUCHERY

James Tregonning investigates what
it's like to have your church become
the grossest bar in Dunedin.



When you think about it, it's a bit weird that Monkey Bar used to be a church. It seems kind of disrespectful. I sat down with Trevor Geddes, one of the leaders of Dunedin City Baptist Church – the folks that used to be in that building – and asked him what he thought about the whole thing.

Short answer: he didn't care. For the young and stupid among us, Monkey Bar was a rank little monster on Hanover St that got shut down a couple years back. Because I'm a good thorough journalist, I whacked a post up on Facebook asking for Monkey Bar stories, and was immediately flooded with filth. Here's one person's highlights:

"First time I went in, a girl vomited on me in the bathroom, a guy pushed me down the stairs, and I stepped in something white and gooey. The second time, I almost got peed on outside, and someone whipped his penis out on the dance floor and tried to make me touch it."

Ew. By all accounts, Monkey Bar was utterly disgusting: it was dark, dingy, smelly, sweaty, drunken, stupid, and boorish. It was a squirming dank pit of vomit and spilt liquor – one of the true dark places of the Earth. Apparently the floor was always sticky from all the spillage. I heard one story about a girl who had the sole of her shoe get stuck to the floor and detach from the actual shoe-part. You hear all these stories, and then think "this seriously used to be a church?" We have this idea that a church is a sacred space, somewhere holy and reserved that demands respect and shiny black shoes. Thing is,

Christians themselves aren't always super attached to the idea.

In the case of Dunedin City Baptist Church (DCBC), that lack of sacred space is largely due to practical conditions. In what can only be described as the second Exodus, DCBC has been nomadic

IT'S DAMN NEAR IM- POSSIBLE TO FIND SACRED SPACE IN THAT SWEATY LITTLE MAN-PRISON

for the last twenty years. They've been renting out various buildings around Dunedin, which makes it difficult to create a committed sacred space. Most recently they were holed up in Otago Boys' High School: it's damn near impossible to find sacred space in that sweaty little man-prison. The situation is not entirely unheard of within Christian circles: many churches find their home in repurposed buildings. Equippers Church, on Union Street (also known as 'that church that can't decide what they want their name to be'), are

set up in what used to be a warehouse, and Arise (also known as 'Super Glam Hip Wow Zam Zam') are set up in the town hall.

As of December last year, however, DCBC have moved into a new building over the southern motorway. You'd think they'd whack up a permanent altar, but no – even in this custom-built brand-spanking-new church building, there's still no area set aside as a quote-unquote sacred space. They just don't seem that bothered. Where many churches set aside an altar space, or a permanent communion table, DCBC just "pull out any old table". In part, this attitude is informed by one of the senior pastors, Trevor Geddes, who has led the congregation since 1984. He notes that the Hanover Street building did include a communion table – but as far as he was concerned, there was nothing particularly mystical about it: it was "just a table".

When asked about the Hanover Street church, Trevor begins by admitting he never liked the building. It was impossible to heat in winter, due to the high ceiling, it was an earthquake risk, the floor was uneven – there was a whole raft of issues. Trevor characterised the building as cold, impractical, and uninviting. The lack of on-site parking meant that "we'd be holding a funeral and people would be running out to check the meter". The pipe organ, due to the temperature, would warp during the service – apparently it could shift a whole tone, all the time failing to even stay in tune with itself. The music couldn't be too exciting either – the balcony wasn't particularly stable, so

you didn't want people jumping around on it.

Despite all of these issues, Trevor was clear that the building held a good deal of significance for the church: without the building, "there's nothing that marks you out as a church except the people themselves". The shift away from Hanover St was a big problem for many people, and numbers at DCBC dropped sharply as they moved out. Many people didn't believe the church would survive without a permanent building in which to root their identity. Trevor discussed how it changed the culture of the church by foregrounding the role of the community: "hospitality became a bigger focus". By contrast, when they moved into the new building, the congregation jumped up by about 90 people: "When you own your own building, people suddenly think you're a real church". Obviously the sense of identity located

in the physical building is important for how the congregation perceive themselves and the community. Towards this end, Trevor was enthusiastic about marking the arrival in the new church: "it's good for the congregation to mark those moments. It helps bind the congregation together... gives them a sense of identity, belonging, community. Those things are good". When I pressed him on whether or not there was anything spiritual in it, he shrugged: "Spiritual? I don't know".

On the whole, Trevor seems like a remarkably pragmatic guy. He's not particularly invested in the idea of sacred space, but that doesn't mean he's opposed to the idea – if other people want to believe, that's fine: "It's not my business". He's supremely uninterested in antagonising people over what he sees as a relatively harmless belief. As for Hanover Street, it's clear that neither

he nor the congregation were worried about its supposed sacredness. The decision to move out, Trevor recalls, was unanimous – as was the decision to level the building and sell the land. This is how little these guys are bothered by the 'sacred space' thing: not only were they happy to move away from the building, but they even wanted to knock it down! As it happens, they got stopped by the Dunedin City Council, and then the Historic Places Trust slapped the building with a heritage site notice. "The value of the property fell a million dollars overnight," Trevor said. "Nobody wants to buy a church".

Even though DCBC had planned on levelling the church, it wasn't their intention to see it turned into a bar, either. "We sold it to a travel agent," Trevor notes, "he said 'Oh, I'll always respect this building, my mother would never accept it if I didn't'. We took him at his word". Rookie mistake. All the same, Trevor's too pragmatic to be bothered by the building's current state: "I think if it matters to God, He'll deal with it... I wouldn't feel the need to defend the church's reputation". As far as Trevor's concerned, God hasn't said anything to him regarding the building, "so I don't need to know."

There's certainly scope for this attitude within the Christian faith. One of the big ideas in the New Testament is that, post-crucifixion, the sacred space in the Jewish temple is ripped open. As far as Christians are concerned, that's because God stopped residing 'just' in the Ark, and starting hanging out with everybody in person. That's the whole idea of the Holy Spirit – it's God with us.



BY ALL
ACCOUNTS,
MONKEY
BAR WAS
UTTERLY
DISGUSTING

“I THINK IF IT MATTERS TO GOD, HE’LL DEAL WITH IT... I WOULDN’T FEEL THE NEED TO DEFEND THE CHURCH’S REPUTATION.”



It's one of those things where you don't have to believe it literally happened in order to appreciate what it means: for Christians, it's a curtailing of the Jewish understanding of sacred space. That's not to say that Christianity utterly rejects the idea, but there's room within the faith to be not particularly fussed by it.

Compare this attitude to the Jewish understanding of sacred space: they had the Ark of the Covenant, which was a sacred box signifying the promises God made to their people. It was also where God literally hung out, which meant that it was sacred. When they moved the Ark, they'd cover it with three different cloths, and everybody else had to stay at least a kilometre away from it. If you profaned the Ark, you died. God just struck you dead. Again, whether or not you believe in God is beside the point – what's important is the implicit attitude held by the Jews. In 2 Samuel, for example, there's a story about Uzzah, some dude who's helping bring the Ark back to the Israelites. The oxen get rowdy, the Ark-cart shakes a little, Uzzah sticks his hand out to steady it and God strikes him dead. That's how holy the Ark was to the Israelites. The only person who was allowed near it was the high priest, and only after he'd done a bunch of

purification. God basically says to Moses "If Aaron (the high priest) just rocks up to the Ark, he will see me, and it will kill him" (think *Raiders of the Lost Ark* – basically that). Aaron has to carry out all these cleansing rituals – he has to make a sin offering for his house and himself, and then make another one for the people, and then another one as a guilt offering, and take a ritual bath, and wear the holy clothes, and – it's really long and complicated and most of the instructions end with the warning "or he will die". There's not much room for negotiation.

In Trevor's opinion, that sacredness doesn't just go away in the New Testament – it's transported into the community of believers. He refers to Acts 5: everybody's selling land and putting money into the pot to help look after poor folk, and one guy, Ananias, has the bright idea of embezzling from God. He pretends to give all the proceeds to the church, but secretly keeps some for himself. The Apostle Peter calls him out on his fake bullshit piety, and God strikes Ananias dead. Peter's entirely clear that the issue is fake bullshit piety: if Ananias had kept the land, he'd be fine; if he'd sold the land and given half the money to the church, he'd also be fine. The problem is the point where he's pretending to give all the money

away for religious brownie points that God lays a smackdown. This, incidentally, is the thing most people don't appreciate about the Bible – God spends most of His time beating the shit out of people with fake bullshit piety.

So Trevor's position is pretty clear: for Christians, the community is sacred. There's plenty in the Bible to back that up; for example, there's a line in 1 Corinthians where Paul describes believers as "God's temple", repeating that transition from the Jewish sacred space into Christian sacred community. I asked Trevor whether or not this was a Baptist thing – after all, the Catholics, the Orthodox Church, and many Protestants have very strong opinions about the sanctity of a church building. Trevor described the Baptist community as too varied to really have one cohesive position on the issue – as far as Baptists are concerned, he said, there's only really three central points of agreement: they only do adult baptism, the congregation determines its own life (as opposed to le Pope), and the Bible is the standard in all matters of faith and practice. Aside from that, most anything goes – so there are, in fact, Baptist churches who'd be pretty pissed off about the whole Monkey Bar thing. It just so happens that DCBC isn't one of them ■

I LIKE TO PICK AT THINGS

by Isa Alchemist

Human bits. Pimples, hairs, dry skin, scabs. Peeling skin can keep me happy for hours.

I liked to pick at the soft white skin between my toes. Until it bled. Then my dad discovered me absorbed in my toes. Disbelief, disgust and a dawning realisation that I was probably the source of his smelly feet. Then followed much dabbling with purple dye. Which was quite enlightening for me. I had regarded the dabbling on of purple paint to my parents respective belly buttons while they lay in the bath as some sort of adult ritual. Gentian Violet, the purple paint, was the only available antifungal medicine. It was, dad said, a fungus growing between my toes. Which was confusing to me, as the only fungi I knew of was mushrooms. I assumed the mushrooms were so young they were foetal like. It certainly motivated me to splash the liquid on. Maybe I went a bit too far in painting all of my toes, legs and torso, and the all important belly button, with stomach and chest as well to be sure I got the lot, using up the family supply.

SPORES, said dad. SPORES! Chucking vast quantities of white powder in my shoes. It looked like fertiliser.

The trail of white powder that dribbled out of my shoes gave me the fresh off the farm look. "Athlete's foot" they said. Which was somewhat shocking as I was not at all sporty. I looked forward to doing better at the 100 meter sprint. "Foot rot" they called it at school. I worried about being put through the yards with the sheep. My brother told me I had foot and mouth and would need to be drenched with the sheep. It came from the swimming pools, I was told, and apparently it does! In the little puddles of water around the pool! The spores float around in it, waiting for my feet, and then swim between my toes, cling to the skin, and grow into fungi! Magic mushrooms! My grandfather had yet another name for it. Trench foot! "It's caused", he said, "by having wet shoes in trenches". It can be cured by drying properly between your toes. Dry toes was the only remedy. Apparently being

"moist" is not a good thing for all body parts...

I still get it. The fungi/trench/athlete's foot/rot. I know its proper name. Tinea pedis. I blame my flat mates. I sniff their feet and shoes (the foetal fungi are smelly like most infants). I sprinkle the fertiliser in their shoes and tell them they must do this for four weeks or until their lease expires, whichever comes later. I give them fungicidal cream. As opposed to fungistatic. I'm quite proud of knowing the difference. Although it's quite obvious. One means "kills", and the other "stops from breeding". Now the spores live in the showers and on the bathroom floor. My flat mates are hopeless. I put their smelly gym shoes through the wash when I can sneak them in, and dry and powder them. But they can't seem to remember to clean the shower with a chlorine bleach every day after a shower. I've set up notices, and given them daily text reminders. I'll keep up my powder and cream. I'm thinking of wearing gum boots in the shower.

Anyone want a fungal-free flat mate?



Mandy Ma

Graduate of Otago Pharmacy School, speaks Cantonese, and has been with the pharmacy for four years



Greg Andrews

Graduate of Otago Pharmacy School, had a previous life as a programmer



Debbie Young

Graduate of Otago Pharmacy School, owner of the pharmacy which she opened in 1996



Sarah-Jane McGill

Graduate of the Otago Pharmacy School



27 Albany St
Ph. 477 5115
Fax. 477 0049
www.albanyst.co.nz

"your student pharmacy"

🍏 🍏 FREE APPLES IN STORE 🍏 🍏



BATTING BI-HANDED

Dear Ethel,

I've always been into girls but lately I've also found myself attracted to certain guys. Sometimes it feels like there is pressure to either be gay or straight, and I don't know any other guy who is bisexual. Do bisexual men even exist? I don't know where to go in Dunedin to meet likeminded people and I'm starting to feel like I'll never get a chance to explore these attractions I have.

- Maybe bi/curious

Dear Maybe bi/curious,

Yes, bisexual men exist, bisexual people of all genders exist! There are some persisting myths that can make it difficult for people to feel ok exploring and talking about their attraction to multiple genders. One of these myths is that "bisexuality is just a phase" or "a stepping stone towards identifying as gay or lesbian". Short answer: Nope!

Long answer: for many people sexual, romantic and emotional attraction is fluid and changes over time. Some people might change their sexual orientation but many people will always be bi. Neither is wrong because everyone's journey is different.

Some men identify as straight even though they sometimes have sex with other men. Some men have only ever had relationships with women but still identify as bisexual, or another term such as pansexual. How you identify is entirely up to you.

Ok, so in terms of meeting people and exploring your attractions there are regular groups, events and support on campus. UniQ is a student-run group operated through OUSA Clubs and Societies. They run weekly meet ups and other events such as beer and board games and XO parties. You can join their mailing list by emailing otagouniq@gmail.com or you can find them on Facebook by searching UniQ Otago.

You can pop into the OUSA Student Support Centre and have a chat with the Queer Support Coordinator. Queer Support also has an amazing group of student peer supporters. For more information about Queer support email: q.support@ousa.org.nz or visit ousa.org.nz/support/queer-support/.

All the best for your journey ahead!

Regards

-Ethel

GETTING YOUR KICKS FROM PICS

Hey Sexcellent,

I'm a girl, and I think I have a high sex drive and I really enjoy porn. Is that weird? Is there something wrong with me?

From,

2Horny

Heya 2Horny!

First I am going to say a big loud resounding NO—there's absolutely nothing wrong with you at all. A lot of people like sex at varying levels and that's totally fine. Everyone lands on a spectrum of enjoying and not enjoying sex, and if you're at the end where you really enjoy it, that's totally okay. Just as it is okay that there are people who don't enjoy it at all.

As for pornography, that too is fine. A lot of women enjoy pornography, especially now that there is more and more porn designed to attract women. But even before porn for women, there were always women who found the raunchy films a bit more than exciting. Even women now who don't like pornography might be getting kicks out of romance and erotica novels (why else was 50 Shades of Grey so popular? Its quality narrative and believable characters? Hah!).

For a long time there has been a myth floating around that men are more visual, and just naturally enjoy pornography and sex more than women. Along with this myth is the idea that women don't actually enjoy or desire sex, more that they want something from a man so they use sex. In a lot of media, sex is framed as something women give out and men take/receive/enjoy. As such, most pornography has been catered to the male enjoyment of pornography. When studies were conducted to see if women liked pornography in the '50s, a lot of women said no and a lot of men said yes, because they were thinking about pin up girls. Of course more men enjoyed those images more, this old school masturbatory material was created with heterosexual men in mind. So the idea has prevailed, and a lot of porn is still made with men in mind, and people still believe that women don't like sex and all the associated bits and pieces.

Anyway, history and social lessons aside, you're totally fine, you keep doing you,

Love, -S


tinderesting stories

My friend went on a Tinder date with a guy who told her this sad tinder story: "I was contacted out of the blue by a Tinder match one afternoon, who began with small-talk messaging, then told me that she was at the St. Luke's carpark, with a flat battery, and needed a jump start. I wasn't busy and agreed to go and jump start her car. We had an awkward and rushed coffee at the St. Luke's Robert Harris. Afterwards in the rainy carpark, I hooked up her battery to mine and got her car going. She raced off, and waved goodbye. Shortly afterwards, she unmatched me."

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

Usually I just use tinder to get attention to fulfill my social-needs quota and I never really meet anyone off it. But one time I met up with a guy who I wasn't remotely interested in because I wanted cigarettes. It was super bleak. At one point he was trying to show me his flag designs and accidentally scrolled past his "nude art" folder (definitely just amateur porn) and he asked me if I wanted to pose for some. Hell no. We drank 3 bottles of Lindauer Fraise while he talked about his divorce then engaged in some very emotionless pity sex. At least the cigarettes were good. Needless to say I never spoke to him again.

Dunedin guys on tinder bingo

Dead pig backpack	gymbro weightlift -ing pic	sombrero
'I love having fun'		'that's not my kid btw'
travel pic @ machu picchu	sedated tiger selfie	'420'

Tinder Bingo by Veeta Orinko IG@gross_gal192



GEO. P. WOOD, M. D.



Fig. 36. Painful Menstrual and Abdominal Afflictions Promptly Cured by an application of Antiphlogistine. This is truly a boon for suffering women. See page 949.



E. H. RUDDOCK, M. D., PH. D.

MENSTRUAL DIFFICULTIES*

Men of science moved on from the superstitions of the past, when monthly bleeding in females was believed to be punishment from God for Women's original sin. Though repugnant, menstruation is a natural function of the uterus in women of childbearing age.

The delicacy of the internal female causes many problems in the process of menstruation. Menstrual pains are caused by too much exercise, injuries, violent passions of the mind, and too frequent sexual indulgence. Robust, plethoric females, who eat abundantly and drink wine, can bear a comparatively large discharge without inconvenience, whilst delicate patients, of relaxed constitution, would quickly suffer seriously from excessive discharges.

The Prince's Feather cultivated in gardens for its beautiful red colour is a celebrated remedy for this difficulty.

An intelligent female is just as capable of introducing these remedies as a physician. If menstruation is copious or painful, the patient should spare herself, and maintain a recumbent posture a great deal for a few days before and especially during the discharge. Injections of cold, even iced water up the bowel are useful. The hips should be as high or higher than the

shoulders, so as to relieve the uterus of the column of blood. So long as the tendency to this disease continues, every kind of excitement should be restricted or avoided altogether. All sexual intercourse must be positively avoided for two or three days, at least, preceding the appearance of each menstrual period, and every unnatural habit that may have been insidiously acquired must be utterly abandoned.

When the menstrual pains are severe, or the patient is more than usually weak, put across the small of the back, over the kidneys and reaching to the loins, a girdle of flaxseed poultice, well sprinkled with pulverised camphor. For painful menstruation and low circulation we prescribe magnetic manipulations. The avoidance of influences that disturb the mind

and temper, are important accessories in the treatment.

If your feet and body are painfully cold after retiring for the night, your best remedy is very long, fur stockings, and mitten of the same, with neatly fitting wristlets. Wear these only at night.

When the painful menstruation is caused by a wrong position of the womb, this must first be cured before it can be removed. This can be overcome by the careful employment of bougies. Or, instead of bougies, tents of various may be made of twine, or silk cord, etc., and, after dipping them in the following preparation, be introduced into the canal of the neck of the womb, and be retained there by plugging up the vagina with soft pieces of old muslin, etc. They should vary in size from that of a knitting needle to that of a goose quill, and about an inch and a half in length, always beginning with the smallest first, and in every five or ten days increasing the size. A piece of softwood may be whittled down to the size of the little finger, and a hole be made in one end in which to fit the tent.

*This information was taken from Vitalogy, a real medical book published in 1923. This column is for entertainment only and should not be taken as advice by anyone, ever.



THE FUTURE OF WORK IS UNCERTAIN

by David Clark

Students looking for internships and graduate careers have it tougher than those a generation ago. For those searching in a few years' time, it may be tougher still.

The prospect of automation replacing human labour and human thinking power has the potential to significantly alter our current way of life. The more disruptive prospect is the replacement of our mental efforts.

In combination, the replacement of both mental and physical human labour may leave us not only unemployed, but also unemployable.

Bit by bit, we are being replaced already. Law clerks are no longer employed in the numbers they once were. The 'discovery' job of reading hundreds of papers including prior cases, contracts and correspondence to locate and highlight nuances relevant to understanding a transaction has been outsourced to a computer searching keywords. Surgeons are doing pre-screening via a computer. Production lines are being taught by clever computer engineers to learn for themselves and 'self-tweak' so that technicians can be laid off.

Transportation related industry employs more people in the Western World than any other. The rise of self-driving technology predicts an end to that. While fully automated vehicles will not be allowed on the roads until their safety scores exceed human capability, the technology is rapidly maturing. Not only will the commercial adopters of self-driving technology be released from wages for their drivers, but insurance costs will drop too. Self-driven vehicles are already used in pit mines, but will eventually deliver across the supply chain, and be used for human transport.

Even simple service jobs are under threat as computers step up their game. For now, jobs with the human touch are valued, but even low paying service jobs are finding electronic replacement too.

For some time now there has been a 'hollowing out' of the middle class. Well-paying skilled jobs have been dropping in number. The world's ultra-wealthy one percent continue to grab a greater share of the world's resources, while the other 99 percent must fight their corner.

Society has exciting and challenging times ahead. I like to think that it will be Otago graduates that crack the code on how we best redistribute the wealth created by automation. Until then, to prosper in today's world where jobs requiring human mental effort are being displaced, resilience, critical thinking, and adaptability are recognised as key.

WHAT IF DINOSAURS WERE ALIVE TODAY?

by Steve-O Hawkins

Humour me for a second, imagine as you're sitting at the library reading this very article that you look out the window in a deep gaze. What if dinosaurs were alive and roaming past the very window you were looking out? Imagine a T-rex, with its gigantic razor teeth and hands smaller than Donald Trump running past.

So what if the deadly Chicxulub meteor had missed earth 65 million years ago and the dinosaurs hadn't largely been wiped off the face of the Earth? Would we humans be habitants on this Earth? Or would we simply be like sardines to a shark, really nothing more than a meal for an apex predator? Would we have evolved from anything more than a tiny little creature?

Before dinosaurs, mammals were never much more than tiny little rodents. However, after dinosaurs kick the bucket, the way was paved for mammals to evolve and thrive on this planet. After time, primates developed and many years after, many millions of years in fact, Adam finally meet Eve, planting the seed for both you and I to be sitting here reading this very piece.

It's impossible to say whether or not we as humans would be here if the dinosaurs hadn't be completely wiped out by a rock, way back. It would be likely that, had that cataclysmic event not happened, dinosaurs would still be alive today. This means that we would most likely still be tiny little rodent like animals, never able to truly evolve to anything greater due to the fact that we would evolve into prey for the savage dinosaurs.

But, what's to say that had the Chicxulub meteor not struck that something else catastrophic may have changed the plight of the dinosaurs. Who knows, perhaps drastic changes in the Earth's atmosphere may have wiped the dinosaurs and lead to the evolution of the mammals!

But had the meteor that wiped out the dinosaurs over 65 million years ago altered its course by just a fraction or by-passed Earth just a few seconds earlier or later, the world as we know it would have been drastically different. Most likely we wouldn't be here in the same capacity, and sadly, for the scriptwriters of Friends, no one would be able to poke fun at Ross Geller for being a paleontologist.

THAT THE VOTING AGE SHOULD BE LOWERED

+Affirmative

by Squealer the Pig

Major political decisions are entrusted to voters through elections and referenda because the consequences of those decisions affect their livelihoods. Young people are disproportionately affected by many of these decisions, and it is unfair that they are arbitrarily prevented from having a say on these issues. Moreover, politicians are less likely to care about issues like access to tertiary education and climate change (which affect younger generations more) as youth voters aged 18–24 are already far less likely to vote. This means we need to take action to make this voting bloc larger so politicians have a greater incentive to pay attention. The voting age should be lowered to 16, which is reasonable as we recognise 16-year-olds have enough competence to drive and to choose to leave school—so it is fair to judge them competent enough to vote at this age.

The main argument in favour of extending voting rights to 16 and 17 year olds is that they have a right to have an impact on election and referenda outcomes. These decisions have an impact on young people, so it's only fair.

There does need to be a cut-off somewhere though, as it's very unlikely that most young children will be able to understand how voting works and how to approach a decision. 16 is a good middle ground. At that age, young people have completed (or are near completing) the minimum required schooling in New Zealand. It is likely they will be capable of understanding how our political system works and be able to make an informed choice about which politicians better represent their interest.

Secondly, lowering the voting age is likely to increase voter turnout and make young people more likely to vote in the future. Studies demonstrate that voters who have voted once are more likely to vote again—it's formed as a habit. Schools can be useful in creating social pressure on young people to vote if they have the opportunity at age 16, as it's likely there is more room in the curriculum to teach 16 year olds about politics and how our system of government works. Students are more likely to pay attention because it's now relevant to them: if they actually get to vote in real life, that information is useful to them. Higher voter turnout sustains our democracy, and this is one way to increase it.

–Negative

by Old Major

The affirmative side of this debate acknowledges that there needs to be some cut-off for when we consider a voter likely to be 'informed'. It's true that some 16-year-olds would be perfectly informed voters, perhaps more so than older voters. However, society needs to draw the line at the most appropriate point for the majority of people. Granting the right to vote at age 18 makes the most sense.

The first reason for keeping the voting age the same is that 18 is considered the age at which one receives the privileges of adulthood as well as the responsibilities. You are allowed to purchase alcohol and sign contracts, but you are also expected to think for yourself—that's why we hold all 18-year-olds fully responsible for their own decisions. 16-year-olds may be capable of making decisions, but we still consider their parents ultimately responsible for the consequences in the vast majority of circumstances.

Keeping the voting age consistent with the other markers of adulthood is really important, because we need to create a social norm that voting is an adult decision. That means you don't rely on what your school or your parents tell you about how to vote, you're expected to think through the decision yourself. Even if that means young voters (18–24) generally vote less because they don't care and their school/parents don't tell them it's important, that's actually fine – they can probably figure out that not voting undermines their right to complain about government decisions affecting them.

The second argument for keeping the voting age at 18 is that young people are uniquely vulnerable to external pressures. The vast majority of 16 and 17-year olds still live with their parents and attend school, so won't be exposed to political discussion outside the classroom or the family dinner table. This is problematic because those authority figures (particularly parents) may have their own political views that 16-year-olds may accept without questioning. 18-year-olds are more likely to become independent, by attending university and/or having to start working in order to provide for themselves. This independence gives them more life experiences that give them a personal interest in how the government works and what political parties can do to make your life better. This ensures voters are more likely to make decisions themselves.



LETTER OF THE WEEK

Having been at Otago University for five years, the last two of those holding OUSA accountable for various stupid decisions and collective ineptitudes, I will never complain again. Last Wednesday I went to the OUSA sauna and used their showers afterwards, going along with very low expectations, but was incredibly impressed. Cracking job OUSA – you have my full support till my dying days...

From a slightly exaggerating
News Editor

The letter of the
week wins a \$30
BOOK VOUCHER
from the University
Book Shop

Animal Testing

To start off, this opinion piece is bound to generate a certain amount of controversy, so I'm not even going to touch the ethical considerations of testing on animals. Let's not stir up that shit-storm. I'm just going to explain why the Otago Student Animal Legal Defence Fund is wrong from a purely practical standpoint.

Firstly, the facility isn't being built so that the evil scientists can torture more animals. It's going to act as a way of regulating and reducing the animal research that is already going on in the University. It removes the need for each department to have separate facilities and groups the animals under one roof, increasing oversight and dramatically reducing the risk of accidents.

To say that increasing numbers of students don't want the facility is just wrong. Surveys of student opinion concerning the facility have been overwhelmingly positive. Saying the research is useless is also simply wrong. Otago's medical research labs continue to produce drugs that actually work on human bodies. Funny that.

Reference to the Centre for Alternatives to Animal Testing made it sound like there were legitimate alternatives to animal research. The program is a broad one, concerning reduction of the numbers of animals necessary and the prevention of pain and stress. All things which the current Animal Ethics Board is doing and that the new facility would improve.

Lastly, computer models and cell cultures sound like perfect alternatives. But they aren't. Any cell culture is too simplistic to model an organism. Most research already begins with computer modelling, but again it's too simplistic. To set up an accurate model you have to perfectly understand everything going on in an organism.

Anon

Dear Anon,

Response:

Firstly, not touching on the ethical considerations of animal testing is to avoid the argument altogether. This is an ethical issue and should be

treated as such. We do not see investing \$50 million dollars into a new facility as commensurate with reducing animal research. To the contrary, we expect an "animal research facility" will be designed to facilitate animal testing. Interestingly, the University was granted \$97 million in extra funding for health research shortly after the facility was announced.

We invite you to present evidence showing that there was an unmanageable number of existing facilities, or that there was a real need to invest this much money into risk reduction. We would also welcome data indicative of student opinion on this issue. From our perspective the University has been incredibly secretive about this proposal and unwilling to engage in any sort of dialogue to take on student opinion.

We stand by the points made in our original opinion piece, but welcome healthy debate. On Wednesday, as part of Animal Law Week 2016, we are hosting a panel discussion on this issue where you can put forward your views. You can find all the details on our Facebook page.

Thank you,
Otago Student Animal Legal Defense Fund

Response to Roy Herbertson's letter on the article "Escaping the Cult of ACE"

Sir,

Thank you for taking the time to respond to my article on ACE. I appreciate your letter, however there are many points I disagree with.

In the first instance, you accuse me of being "highly emotive". Forgive me for having a sincere interest in the mental and emotional wellbeing of children in this curriculum; having experienced ACE itself, and witnessed first-hand the negative ramifications of certain teachings, I cannot view the matter in a cold, clinical light. I can however support my opinion with considerable examples of why ACE is a defective programme. Secondly, my dislike of ACE arises

not from a hatred of Christianity, but from a moral rejection of the oppressive, misogynistic, homophobic and racist strain of fundamentalism promoted by ACE.

You claim that ACE is a "globally-recognised education option of the highest academic calibre." The academic community at large would beg to differ. I have read many studies criticising the academic rigorousness of ACE, such as a thorough review conducted by the Alberta Department of Education, which concludes that "There are far too few examples in the ACE curriculum materials where students are called upon to exercise their creative powers, to be original and to develop critical thinking skills." Here's another zinger from Professors Cathy Speck and David Prideux in the Australian Journal of Education; "Students in the ACE schools similarly are in a situation of conceptual and cognitive disadvantage."

You go on to claim: "no education ever takes place in some sort of moral vacuum. As the nature of education is inextricably rooted in the nature of truth, all education is therefore fundamentally religious." I firmly disagree. I am of the opinion that truth—including moral truths—may exist outside religious doctrine. Indeed, as Einstein astutely puts it, "a man's ethical behaviour should be based effectually on sympathy, education, and social ties and needs; no religious basis is necessary. Man would indeed be in a poor way if he had to be restrained by fear of punishment and hopes of reward after death." One's sense of right and wrong, and a lack of religious belief are not mutually exclusive; to imply so is incredibly insulting to the myriad of good, sincere people of no faith (or of a faith other than the severe strain of Christianity propagated by ACE).

I must own that I was rather confused by your attempted justification of segregation in the ACE comics. You claim that such comics depict "the actual reality of life". Indeed, certain communities are segregated; yet ACE implicitly celebrates this division between races, often at the expense of people of colour. Moreover, ACE's racist worldview is expounded not only in the comics, but in certain passages from Social Studies PACES,

such as PACE 1086 (1900, p.26), which was written before the fall of apartheid and implies that if blacks regained control of the South African economy they would destroy it; "Whites controls most of the nation's wealth. If apartheid were done away with, the twenty million Blacks, who are not taxpayers, would be given the privilege of voting. Within a short period of time they would control the government and the means of taxation. 'The power to tax is the power to destroy.' Granted, ACE has updated this PACE since the apartheid regime toppled, however it has not issued an apology.

Sir, most people will tell you that the term 'homophobic' does not necessarily imply that one is afraid of the 'gay regime', or what have you. Your argument is based upon the etymological fallacy; as a student of English literature, I am well aware that words evolve and change meaning over time. Rather, homophobia is used to refer to the hatred or disgust occasioned by expressions of love between two people of the same sex. Let's not quibble over the term "homophobia", but rather let's discuss how it's a crime to be gay in 77 countries. In such countries, many citizens are routinely oppressed, denied basic human rights and are forced to hide fundamental aspects of their identity. Then we have certain PACES, which claim that "homosexuality is a learned behaviour" and that there is "no biological difference between homosexuals and others"—which has proved to be untrue (see a recent study in Psychological Medicine, "Genome-wide scan demonstrates significant linkage for male sexual orientation"). Moreover, I never stated that any "queer" lifestyles, evolution, feminist theology and unfettered (safe) sex" was divine.

Seeing as you're so keen on precise definitions, I must inform you that the word 'divine' may be defined as "of or like God or a god". Given that my original article took exception with the presumptuousness of educational experts who shoehorn their twisted interpretations of the Bible into every facet of a child's education, I marvel at your audacity in implying I consider my opinions godly. I relish debate and am a firm advocate of free speech and differing opinions.

It's a shame that ACE rejects all opinions that do not align with their narrow interpretation of the Bible.

Finally, you accuse me of assuming any opinion contrary to mine to be "evil". This is a severe misrepresentation. My article was merely written with the intention of revealing the danger in indoctrinating such racist, sexist and homophobic ideology in impressionable children.

Jean Balchin,
Dunedin

2017 EXECUTIVE ELECTIONS ARE COMING UP FAST

Nominations open
at 9am on
5 September 2016
and close at 4pm on
8 September 2016.

Voting will be by
electronic means and
will open at 9am on
19 September 2016
and close at 4pm on
22 September 2016.

WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER!!! 🐰

by Millicent Lovelock



I am sitting at my desk at work, and I am thinking about a clip of British "girl band" Little Mix shoving marshmallows in each others' mouths for a fluffy bunny challenge. I am so tired and all I want to do is go home to watch that video and maybe cry a little bit watching women enjoying each others' company.

This week I've been putting my mind to the complicated but powerful relationship women in music have with one another. Little Mix, of course, aren't by any means the only example that comes to mind when I think about relationships between women in music. There is no way for me to list all the relationships I admire in contemporary music, there are too many, but Little Mix are popular and cute and I have a crush on Leigh-Anne.

This week, my band is on tour with our Auckland friends Miss June, who we have just released a split seven inch with. While Miss June's singer Annabel and I haven't been shoving marshmallows in our faces we have been having some fruitful conversations about our position and experiences as women who play music in bands without other women, and with bands with and without other women.

Hopefully we have all read enough (or at least something) about how being a woman in music can be pretty shitty, I don't think I need to rehash all that here. But it has come up between me and Annabel and the women we have been playing shows with on this tour that it's not only hard to be a woman, but sometimes I find it hard to know how to be around other women. If, like me, you've been taught from age zero that other women are competition things get all skewed, you might sometimes feel like saying "hey, I'm the girl at this gig", or, "yeah, she's not that great". Now instead

of this act of violence against myself and against other women, I value my relationships with women, especially when I am working, almost above all others.

Working and creating with other women is one of the most powerful things you can do to help with how hard it is to be a woman in a band. You build and learn from one another's experiences and you support and nurture one another so that you are no longer isolated by your gender or by your inherited prejudice. Of course, you're not going to get along with everyone, or like everyone's work, but it's crucial for me to remember to never shove another woman under the bus just because I am intimidated by her; there are more than enough men willing to do that already.

We are by no means starved of women making incredible music and being astonishing role models, turn in any direction and you will find a woman pouring her heart and soul into her craft. If girls and women are looking for inspiration from women doing what they want to do or want to listen to there is no limit to what and whom they can find. But I think more than that, what is so important in creative communities is seeing women who are there for one another, women who talk openly and with great pride about the women around them, and women who engage with each other critically and compassionately. When I think about Little Mix playing silly games with marshmallows I am not just thinking about a big budget pop band singing love songs and wearing nice clothes, I am thinking about four women with an international platform showing each other friendship, love and encouragement. Personally I feel like that is something we can never see enough of, whatever form it takes.

ABE'S ODDYSEE

Playstation | Developed by id Software,
Published by Bethesda
Softworks

Rating: CLASSIC

by Ryan Collins



I first played Abe's Oddysee on a demo disc that came with the original PlayStation. The demo showcased almost the entire first section of the game, which I played through several times before buying the full game—and its sequel, Abe's Exoddus—sometime around the year 2000. For the most part, the game has aged excellently, and the towering walls of Rupture Farms are just as impressive to me now as they were when I was a child.

Abe's Oddysee is a 2D platformer set on the alien planet of 'Oddworld'. You are Abe, a Mudokon slave working in a meat processing facility called Rupture Farms. Working late one night, Abe discovers that his bosses are planning to turn their Mudokon 'employees' into meat products, having already driven the local fauna to near extinction. Horrified, he tries to escape while saving as many of his fellow Mudokons as possible.

Oddworld genuinely feels like a dark and dangerous place, due to some great art, sound design and environmental story-telling. The

guards of Rupture Farms casually beat the slaves on their rounds, surveillance orbs float around ready to zap misbehaving workers, and Mudokon corpses hang in barbed wire fences on the outskirts of the factory. Most of the gameplay involves navigating deadly obstacles and the trigger-happy guards, while also helping Mudokons escape into portals. However, far from feeling too gloomy or oppressive, the game is balanced out with a humorous goofiness that keeps the experience highly enjoyable. Abe can issue simple commands ("Wait", "Follow me", etc.) to guide his highly suggestible colleagues through the danger. He is also able to possess the armed guards and trick them into fighting each other, though he leaves himself vulnerable while doing so.

Abe's Oddysee does a lot with a little, in gameplay as well as narrative content. Early in the game, we learn of the native creatures brought to the brink of extinction by Rupture Farms—later on, Abe travels outside the factory to interact with these creatures. The alien guards

make strange clicking sounds, which are later used to open password-protected locks. A simple rock-throwing mechanic is used throughout the game for a variety of different purposes. It's also quite significant that the game has no HUD of any kind. Important information is delivered entirely through diegetic means, allowing for greater immersion and smoother tutorials than even some modern games.

The main problem with the game is the difficulty. Death is always just one mistake away for Abe and his unfortunate co-workers. Maybe you didn't quite jump in the exact right spot; maybe boulders fell unexpectedly from the sky and crushed you; maybe a guard decided to turn around a little earlier than usual. It is very easy for Abe and his friends to die, and it doesn't always feel fair when it happens. Combined with some imperfect checkpointing, this means that there is a lot of tedious trial-and-error, and re-execution of already solved puzzles. The game's sequel, Abe's Exoddus, effectively fixes this problem by allowing the player to quicksave, among many other things. I'm thankful that Abe's Oddysee at least gives the player unlimited lives, unlike many other old platforming games.

I replayed this game recently, and was shocked at the placement of some of the tutorial information. The first time the player is taught how to mind control the guards is very far into the game, well after that mechanic becomes important. In fact, the game doesn't bring this up explicitly until a section of the game outside the factory, where guards are much scarcer! Of course, there is nothing to stop a player from stumbling across this helpful mechanic during the first parts of the game, as I did when messing around in the demo as a child. It is still strange that this information is held back for so long after it becomes useful.

Coming up on its 20th birthday, Abe's Oddysee still compares decently with a lot of modern games. What it lacks in friendliness, it more than makes up for in atmosphere and cool gameplay mechanics. Abe's Exoddus is even better in many ways. It builds on its predecessor without losing any of the original charm—unlike the awkward move to 3D in Munch's Oddysee, the third Oddworld game. But that, as they say, is another story.

BITCH PLANET

Authors: Kelly Sue DeConnick,
Valentine De Landro



Review: Laura Starling

This deeply feminist graphic novel is set in an alternate reality and somewhat dystopian future where non-compliant women are sent to an off-planet prison (AKA Bitch Planet). The comic follows a diverse group of women from different backgrounds. All of these women are watched and controlled by creepy observers who remain behind the scenes. A group of the women are coaxed into taking part in a televised and political blood-sport for the entertainment of the (mostly male) population back on earth.

As in the real world, the majority of the women in the prison are women of colour. The prisoners' offences range from murder, to violence, to non-compliance of societal standards and expectations. A character that really stuck with me is an extremely large black woman by the name of Penny Rolle. One major aspect of her imprisonment is to do with her 'wanton obesity'. She's hooked up to a machine by a panel of men, who explain that they only wish to help her find her true self, her ideal self. The machine reads her mind to find an image of how she wishes to appear, and what is revealed may as well be a reflection of her physical appearance. The objections and cries of "what is wrong with you?!" from the men are drowned out only by her

laughter. DeConnick depicted something I've never seen executed well in most forms of media—a fat woman who loves herself as she is.

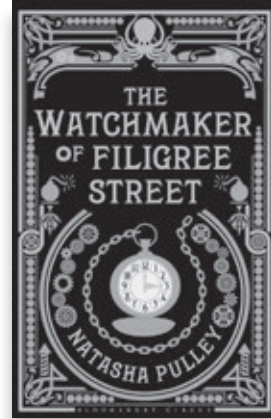
Bitch Planet is definitely a feminist read, and is steeped in a feminist perspective which is, for me, refreshing. When most comics focus on the sexy part of women and lack in the character aspects, it's exciting to see something that is about women, and isn't afraid to leave the sexy out. What's more, there's a few pages at the back of the comic discussing intersectional feminism, designed specifically to encourage discussion and learning.

My only real criticism of Bitch Planet would be how quickly you're dropped into this world. There's no slow introduction and no time wasted on exposition, and considering the topics they're covering it's understandable—there wouldn't be room. However, it means when you're initially entering into the world of Bitch Planet, it can be hard to find your footing.

In saying that, I loved the read and easily found a way to engage and understand the material. I would definitely recommend this to anyone interested in feminist writing, or someone who likes comics, but gets frustrated with the often sexualised nature of the things.

THE WATCHMAKER OF FILIGREE STREET

Author: Natasha Pulley



Review: Jack Blair

I discovered this book in UBS and was instantly intrigued by the Steampunk look and the promise of Japanese characters in Victorian London. This is a story that houses mysteries within mysteries therefore it can't be labelled any narrower than "Speculative Fiction". However, the motivations of the characters are disappointingly flat, not living up to the fleshed out world that the author promises. The characters are loveable despite this, and it was easy to churn through this novel in one evening, with a compelling reason to turn every page.

CYBER WARFARE

By Anthony Marris

TD;DR—Watch
"Person of
Interest".
Enough said.

Global cyber security (aka cyber warfare) is a new battlefield where battles are waged and lives lost. Only in this instance, it is gigabytes of data, not litres of blood, and the greatest casualty of all is privacy. According to the many documentaries about cyberwarfare, all it takes is a lone hacker, fuelled by energy drinks, and chaos will reign. This is not the case. The "lone gunman" type could do damage in the same way an assassin is able to snipe their target from a distance, but a credible cyber warfare operation requires a bit more than caffeine and displeasure.

There is no internationally recognised definition of cyber warfare. I would define it as an act of aggression whereby one party uses computers to cause deliberate disruption of an opponent's computer or network. Cyber warfare is different from cyber crime (the topic of my next column) in that it is aimed at a long term agenda, whereas cyber crime is short term, with limited and immediate satisfaction.

Dr Kenneth Geers, speaking at DEFCON 20 (a computer security conference), noted that cyber warfare has advantages on traditional warfare. These include the unpredictability of attacks, the flexibility where attacks can be carried out (and by whom), the difficulty in attributing certain cyber attacks to one entity, as well as the lack of (obvious) dead bodies and noise of traditional warfare. Bombs make a noise when dropped, the screams of the wounded cry out into the still. But when a computer dies, nobody cares but those who need it.

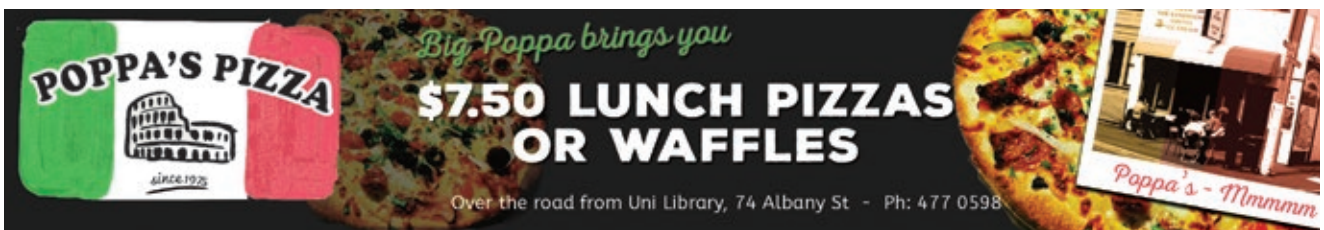
One of the most recent and prominent examples of cyber warfare is not cyber warfare per se. 'Stuxnet' was a worm launched against the Iranian nuclear program in early 2010. Specifically designed to attack certain machines, the worm infected an engineer's computer which was later connected to the internet. The objective was to destroy their centrifuges used to enrich uranium. While no one is confirming who was involved, reporter Josh Halliday cites multiple sources, saying the virus itself took months, if not years, of planning, and

probably involved many academics and strategists, and in the end came down to a USB drive being delivered into the facility and inserted into the air-gapped computer. The weapon might have been modern, but the tradecraft was old-school.

The most productive application of cyber warfare is intelligence gathering. Edward Snowden's revelations to the world about the breadth and depth of the United States' electronic intelligence gathering capabilities led to most of the world reacting in horror. Sadly my reaction was more one of "yeah obviously". Any government with the skill and money to create the internet would find a way to store the information for later retrieval. While addressing an audience at TechCrunch, former NSA and CIA director Michael Hayden noted that from as early as 1952 any incidental information obtained by the government did not have to be destroyed, it just was not included in the report.

Australian ethics professor Peter Singer spoke at Google, saying major cyber warfare is a zero sum operation. He notes that it is in everyone's best interests to maintain the status quo. Just think, if China shut down the US power grid as many believe they will do, then the US would not buy goods from China (and probably not pay back their debt), which will have flow on effects in the global economy. If that is true, no nation can afford to change the current balance of power, given the fiscal repercussions (both seen and unseen) post-recession. I am sure that there are small cyber skirmishes ongoing now, just like the multitude of SF operations being conducted globally. But if you know about it, someone screwed up.

Large scale cyber warfare is incredibly redundant. Stuxnet was an effective tool to hinder Iran's nuclear program, but the operation was more James Bond than Die Hard 4.0. The threat of terror attacks led to the mass intelligence gathering, though that measure will always be questioned against the results it yields.





MONEY MONSTER

Rating: A
Director: Jodie Foster

by Andrew Kwiatkowski

A 90-minute thrill-ride through a real-time hostage crisis, *Money Monster* delivers a vigorous story and dazzling performances.

George Clooney is a washed-up financial news TV host, who is taken hostage live on air when an out-of-pocket investor (Jack O'Connell) breaks into his studio with a gun and a bomb demanding answers. George is scraping rock bottom, but fortunately is assisted by the supportive and inventive Julia Roberts behind the director's desk in the studio, producing, directing, and scripting what could very well be the end of their lives. A wonderful supporting cast give us the B-plot of trying to bring the Wall Street bankers responsible for the \$800 million crash in question to account before the show is over.

The tension is real and the core trio of characters are potent. George and Julia have been together on screen many times before, of course, and their chemistry is what carries this film, despite being in different rooms and communicating only electronically. The deranged occupying 'terrorist' played by O'Connell would seem to represent the entire Occupy Wall Street movement and much more, so you can't help but root for him to win.

■ Foster's direction is majestic and punchy while still leaving breathing room for the principal cast to exude their magnificence.

42

To put *Money Monster* in its filmic context, the premise, along with some self-flagellating zaniness from the host, naturally draws a comparison with *Network* (1976). But with social media embedded throughout the story (as in our lives) and hackers (perhaps representing the real life group Anonymous?) called upon to save the day, it places it firmly in our present world with all its values and lack thereof. So while it's getting a decided "meh" from critics, I believe *Money Monster* to be this generation's Wall Street, and much more compelling than attention-grabber *The Big Short*.

Do yourself a favour and forget real life's awfulness, and enjoy the two most beautiful people in Hollywood doing what they do best with a great script and a great director. It's 90 well-invested minutes those fat-cats on Wall Street can't steal from you.



LABYRINTH OF LIES

Rating: A-
Director: Giulio Ricciarelli

by Shaun Swain

"I want these lies, and this silence to end." A succinct summary of the driving motivation behind an issue almost too big for this two hour film. I say "almost" with admiration and respect for director Giulio Ricciarelli, who manages to imbue this German historical thriller with a mysterious blend of fiction and fact to enthrall viewers.

Labyrinth of Lies is an historical drama set 15 years following the end of WWII. Young public prosecutor, Johann Radmann (Alexander Fehling) seeks the prosecution of Auschwitz commander, Charles Schulz, who has taken up a teaching position, going against German law. Upon confronting respective authorities, Radmann discovers a wealth of former Nazis within the government, frustrating his attempts at prosecution. Upon being ordered by prosecutor-general Fritz Bauer (Gert Voss) to investigate former Auschwitz workers, Radmann is forced to interrupt a nationwide period of silence, amnesia, and blissful ignorance, potentially biting off more than he (and the film alike) can chew.

The massive thematic considerations the film are dealt with as ideas are thoughtfully pulled out, looked at, and placed into the narrative's bigger picture. I did not feel like any questions asked were left completely hanging. If the film were longer, perhaps the emotional or personal effects on the characters could have been forefronted more. Fehling portrayed a headstrong, truth-above-all-else character wonderfully, but it did remove any opportunity to directly address the recent horrors of a nation and its identity personally.

However, the film itself is pieced together with wonderful and thrilling pacing. Despite the "historical drama" label, the way things are strewn together into a tangled roadmap of trust or betrayal could easily give the film the additional label of "thriller." *Labyrinth of Lies* is an engaging piece of film that brings up an incredibly intriguing topic and turns it into entertaining food for thought. While it lacks is personal and emotional investment, it makes up for in its opening up of a perspective on WWII otherwise not seen—one that should be seen, too.

THE BFG

Rating: C+

Directors: Steven Spielberg



by Alex Campbell-Hunt

The BFG was my favourite childhood book by Roald Dahl, and as far as my distant memories of the book go, the movie does it justice story-wise. So why is the movie so dull? I'm really not sure, but here are some observations.

I didn't find myself caring about either the titular Big Friendly Giant, or the orphan-protagonist Sophie at all during the movie. In the book the Giant is a lively and likeable character, but in the film he just seems like the inebriated weirdo who talks to you on the bus late at night. And Mark Rylance's delivery of the excellent Dahl-language ("frobscottle, gropeflunking, squiff-squiddled etc.") somehow makes it sound about as interesting as tax accountancy jargon. To give some context, Veruca Salt's delivery of the word "snozzberry" in the 1971 *Charlie & The Chocolate Factory* adaptation was more characterful than all of the BFG's line deliveries combined.

In the role of Sophie, actor Ruby Barnhill avoids the pitfall of overacting, but sadly she also undershoots it; the character is in an aloof/mildly-perturbed mode throughout, despite being in constant mortal peril (and you know, hanging out with a giant). The movie is also a bit more low-brow than I remember the book being—I don't recall anyone getting bashed in the nuts in the book (admittedly it has been awhile since I read it).

The digital effects, by Weta, are incredibly good: the shots of the BFG galloping through the English countryside, the dream-silhouettes, and the old-timey London sets.

Overall I'd say this is probably the worst Dahl adaptation to date—which isn't as damning as it sounds, since the others are all pretty excellent. I suppose *The BFG* is a pleasant enough movie, and kids might enjoy it. But it was a big surprise when the credits started rolling and I saw that it was directed by Spielberg. What the hell?? He could've done much better.

I'm still holding out for a film adaptation of *The Minpins* and/or *Charlie and The Great Glass Elevator*—hopefully they'll exist one day, and be better than this.

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

Rating: B-

Director: Rawson Marshall Thurber



by Shaun Swain

The central aspect of a buddy cop/spy film is the "buddy" part of it. With the tagline "saving the world takes a little Hart and a big Johnson" it becomes apparent that in *Central Intelligence*, the "buddy" comes from not just the characters, but also the actors. While it's hard to call Rawson Marshall Thurber's action comedy an overly compelling film, I can at least say the less-than-impressive story is substantially carried by the two leads.

Central Intelligence is about a former high-school bullied geek turned CIA Agent, Robbie (Dwayne Johnson), teaming up with old friend and accountant Calvin Joyner (Kevin Hart) to assist him on a case featuring a large-scale money scamming conspiracy. Cue fun gun and run action scenes and zany, quirky, screwball humour. The film's focus is almost never on the actual CIA case. It's about the relationship between two former friends, which is made believable by its stars, despite the pitfalls of the script. I could probably be told there were parts of the script that said "The Rock and Kevin Hart Say Stuff To Each Other" and actually believe it. The two actors appear genuinely invested in the project.

The action breaks up each plot element, and I enjoyed myself enough to not be bored stiff, mainly due to the comedic energy that bounced between the leads. That being said, I do have to point out that the film's errors start to show a little more than necessary when considering the length runtime of the film. It's all well and good to have a brief, fun, comedy duo move through a generic spy story, but when that copy-paste story runs for almost two hours I have to stop giving credit to its primary (and only) highlight.

It's not intelligent, and it's not amazingly enthralling, but *Central Intelligence* has an overwhelming amount of comedic chemistry and a more than evident relationship between Johnson and Hart. If you're looking for a fun action-come consider seeing this film, but don't expect anything more than the actors themselves to be memorable.

DORIS LUSK

Dunedin Public Art Gallery
Closes 24th October
Free entry

by Monique Hodgkinson



Nude sculpture, a freaky fish plate, gorgeous florals and sweeping watercolours compile one of the Dunedin Public Art Gallery's latest exhibitions. This marks the one-hundredth birthday of Doris Lusk, one of the most prominent New Zealand artists of the twentieth century. In memory of her, the gallery has put together an overview of her work, ranging from sculpture to painting to ceramics.

Doris Lusk was born in Dunedin, then grew up in Hamilton along the banks of the Waikato River. The family moved back to Dunedin in 1928, and Lusk studied at high school here before moving onto the King Edward Technical College to study art. She began creating landscapes, studying under the prominent painter R. N. Field, and also began creating pottery and experimenting with life-drawing. Around the time that Lusk began painting, kiwi artists were obsessing over landscape works including manmade structures like railway stations and bridges. While this might seem standard fare for 2016 artists, this was a brand new approach to painting at the time, making Lusk innovative and

trendy. Gasworks and foreshore, Dunedin (c.1935) provides an example of this focus. After leaving school, she held her first solo show at a studio on Moray Place, before traveling to Nelson with friends and marrying engineer Dermot John Tasker Holland in 1942. Lusk went on to exhibit prolifically throughout her life, before being elected president of the Canterbury Society of Arts in 1982, and passing away eight years later.

What's great about this exhibition is the uniquely local focus held by many of the works. Check out Fountain, Gardens (c.1938) and Two gardeners, Botanic Gardens (c.1935) for strikingly familiar snapshots into olden day Otago. Lusk managed to capture that elusive sense of life in Dunners, a bright hub in the cold of the deep south.

Through pottery and sculpture, Lusk also captured something unique and innovative. Lusk was actually one of the country's pioneering potters, and worked as a pottery teacher for several years. Reclining Nude (1933) was created when Lusk was only a teenager, but already the small-scale sculpture featured in this exhibition

demonstrates the keen eye for shape and line which would later define her oeuvre. If you're thinking of delving into sculpture for the upcoming OUSA art exhibition, check this piece out for some elegant inspiration.

Overall I found this exhibition pleasing, despite its small size. Doris Lusk was not only a prominent New Zealand painter but a skilled artist across numerous mediums, and this exhibition really showcases this. It also highlights her development as an artist, moving from relatively straightforward paintings through to others which experiment with expressionism, cubism, and colour field styles. Amazing paintings like Rock face, Weka Pass (1961) and Onekaka Beach, Nelson (1966) show off modernist trends in art, creating sweeping and beautiful works of experimental landscapes. This exhibition is both interesting in the range of work which it showcases, and important in its celebration of one of our local and most wonderful artists.

44

SCOTTEADY *Sons of a clouded sky* 2016.
Silicon, bronze, plastic, wood, water pump. Courtesy of the artist.

ART
DUNEDIN PUBLIC ART GALLERY

FREE ADMISSION + WWW.DUNEDIN.ART.MUSEUM



RIDICULOUSUBLINE

NICKAUSTIN . JANEDODD . SCOTTEADY . RACHELH.ALLAN

The distinct vision of a contemporary artist can offer a new lens through which to see our everyday – reshaping the intersections between the familiar, the ridiculous and the magnificent.

SPLIT PEA FRITTER STACK

Split Peas are commonly used in soups and curries. They have a surprisingly high amount of protein which means they are filling, and they're budget as can be, making them a very economical option for flat cooking. This recipe is basically corn fritters, replacing half of the corn with split peas. This is a great vegetarian recipe for anytime of day, if you have leftovers you can freeze them to recook for a lazy lunch.

Since its kale season, I chucked in some Cavolo de Nero (black kale in Italian) for colour (it's actually green). At the moment you can find plenty in the Living Space community garden or for only \$2 a bunch at the Saturday Farmers Market. Makes 12, serves 3-4.



by Kirsten Garcia

1 cup of dried split peas
 2 and ½ cups of water
 2 eggs
 2 and ½ cups of milk
 2 cups of flour
 2 teaspoons of baking powder
 2 teaspoons of onion powder
 1 teaspoon of garlic powder
 2 teaspoon of dried parsley (optional)
 1 teaspoon of salt
 Pepper to taste
 1 cup of whole corn kernels (frozen or canned)
 1 handful of kale or spring onion, sliced into shreds
 Oil for frying
 Sauces to dip or dollop on to it, like tomato, sweet chilli, barbeque sauce, or sour cream

In a medium pot, boil the split peas with the water for around half an hour until most of the water is soaked up, and the split peas are soft and kind of mushy. Leave to cool. Meanwhile, prepare the batter by sifting and mixing together all the dry ingredients (flour, baking powder, salt, and seasonings). In a separate bowl, whisk together all the wet ingredients (milk, eggs).

Once the split peas have cooled, drain any excess water from the pot.

Add the wet batter ingredients to the dry ingredients. Fold mixture until there are no clumps, then add the split peas, corn (if using frozen, defrost it first), and kale. Fold all together until mixture is even with corn, split peas and kale. You may have to add more milk if it seems too thick.

Prepare a frying pan on medium-high heat with a thin layer of oil to fry the fritters in. Now you're basically gonna cook them like pancakes - spoon and spread batter into 10cm wide circles and flip once bubbles appear around the sides or approximately after half a minute. Keep topping up pan with oil as required.

Once fritters are brown on both sides and cooked through, serve with desired sauces.

45



YOUR SATURDAY STARTS HERE...
BACON BUTTIES,
CREPES, GOURMET
PORRIDGE,
DETOX JUICES, &
FRESH FRUIT & VEGE

*Seasonal, local, healthy
& affordable*

EVERY SATURDAY MORNING
DUNEDIN RAILWAY STATION

www.otagofarmersmarket.co.nz



Each week, we lure two singletons to Dog With Two Tails, 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. 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.

his

JAZZA

After a shower with the water pressure of a wet sigh and slapping on my least stained shirt, I was rushed to the Dog with Two Tails. On entry to the restaurant the gal had arrived and was on the iPhone at arrival and I find it safe to assume she was on the swipe. I say this as it came more relevant throughout the evening this lady was out to get some.

After the classic first half hour sharns necessary for all first meetings, conversation started flowing, as did the wine. Picked entirely by the bar staff, the classic calls on the acetic, smoothness and age of the harvest of the wine spilled from my mouth with such conviction that even I believed I knew what I was talking about. She seemed like a nice enough girl, with the classic part-nerd, part-alco, part-jafe found in many girls, yet dear god, I did not realise the extent of the third fractioned attribute until later in the night. What at first seemed like a wise idea to remove food from the equation and splash out on more wine, soon turned to a hectically drunk me and a seemingly tipsy date.

The idea of bringing her home was on the mind, but the realisation that there were 13 other men staying in my 6 man flat seemed a deterrent. Yet as the music got loud, my senses got dimmed, and on our way we were.

What went from a seemingly shy clever girl quickly turned into a vulgar lass who managed to utter some phrases I have not heard in the entirety of my experiences with foul mouths. Maybe it was the loud jazz muffling her words, but I swear this was not the same person I had met initially, with dinner I had met her Jekyl and here came her Hyde. On arrival to the flat, things got far too out of hand that I must not go into detail for consequences of retribution, but she managed to both insult and entertain everyone, a feat I hadn't ever seen before. Seeing the full participants of the premise low key ripping on this entity, I tried to shoo her from the premise, but she would not relent.

hers

LAUZA

To say this was an interesting experience is a little bit of an understatement... I arrived a little early and sat down waiting for my date, halfway hoping he would stand me up so I could drain the bar tab dry and half hoping this turned out to be good experience. But he did arrive and he turned out to be quite cute which was a little unexpected. He also turned out to be quite a cool guy and amid him sending texts to my friends and me answering his phone for him we were having a great time.

Conversation flowed really well and two bottles of wine later I found myself drunkenly standing up and agreeing to something called pineapple or his place? To be fair my memory gets a little fuzzy at this point. Anyway we end up at his house and I suppose you could say things took a natural progression.

I must say though as great as he was the highlight of the night was definitely his flatmates who 'pretended' to help me find my dress whilst showing me the 'goods'. I don't think I've ever seen that many half naked guys before, but in all seriousness one of his flatmates was pretty great and helped me with directions home while two others both simultaneously showed me their ass and everything else.

So to recap I am minus one dress and a pair of flats although I did gain a pair of shorts! So thanks Critic for the interesting night- it was definitely one to remember!

P.S. In all seriousness though can I get my dress back?

Dog With Two Tails
cafe & bar

Cafe, Bar & Live Music Venue

Exclusively Free Range, Gluten Free & Vegan options

Specialty Coffee, Craft Beer & Single Malt Whisky

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Dog With Two Tails, right beside Rialto cinemas | Open 7 days, Tues-Sat open late | live music performance | www.dogwithtwotails.co.nz | 03 477 4188



Executive's Column

Hello all! This is Rachel, giving y'all a break from Laura's ramblings for the next two weeks :D Anyway, welcome to week 2 of Semester 2! I trust that you are all pretty much settled into the "hustle and bustle" of Dunedin life.

For this week, let's take you into the mind of an International student. I first arrived in Dunedin in 2010, and I remember feeling super frightened. Here I was, 8336 km away from Singapore, with no friends, no immediate family, no bank account, and no mobile phone capabilities because I didn't have a NZ number.

For the first time in my life, I was made very aware of my very average height, and my Singaporean-accented English. Oh and don't forget how lost I was in this big campus (no GPS back then). My first year in Hayward was also nerve wracking; I literally ran out of the dining hall the first night in because I didn't have any high school history with anyone, and I was surrounded by people of different ethnicities.

I was a wimp. And it took me a few months to actually feel comfortable in Dunedin and make friends.

International student or not, you can probably relate to my experiences as a 'fob' in Dunedin. But as an International student, it feels like an even steeper learning curve; you have to juggle loneliness, being super far away from family, a new culture, strange environments, different education system, and if you're a foodie like me – a lack of proper

Asian food. Don't forget trying to understand kiwi slang like "chur", "jandals", and that when someone asks you "how are you?" they mean it as a greeting and don't really want you to tell them all about the great day you're having haha.

So if you happen to meet an International student, it's worthwhile asking them how they are going (not as a greeting), where they are from, and give them a spot of encouragement. Making people feel welcome goes a long way.

My time in Dunedin has certainly been enriched by friends from NZ and other places in the world who took the time to get to know me, and make me feel super welcomed... Singaporean-accented English and all. Now here I am, doing postgrad at Otago and feeling like I'm home.

Have a great week everyone! Stay warm.

Rachel Goh - International Officer
international@ousa.org.nz

— OUSA presents the 2016 University of Otago —

BLUES & GOLDS AWARDS

NOMINATIONS ARE NOW OPEN UNTIL FRIDAY 17 AUGUST

Come and see the Clubs Development team at the OUSA Clubs & Societies Centre, 84 Albany Street for all enquiries.

For more info and to nominate, head to bgawards.ousa.org.nz

11AM-3PM
FRIDAY 22 JULY
THE UNION COURTYARD

BOTTLE BUY BACK

OUSA WILL BUY BACK YOUR EMPTIES FOR 10c EACH!
BEER, WINE, OR SPIRIT BOTTLES ONLY - LIMIT 200 BOTTLES PER PERSON

WED 27 JULY
9PM • RE:FUEL

OUSA FUTURE DJ

2016 STUDENT DJ COMPETITION

ENTRIES CLOSE 25 JULY, 5PM - BE IN TO WIN SWEET PRIZES!
ENTER ONLINE AT [OUSA.ORG.NZ/FUTURE-DJ/](http://ousa.org.nz/future-dj/)

Flatting Week

18-22 JULY 2016

TUESDAY 19TH JULY • 10AM-2PM

FREE FLATTING EXPO in the MCR

Tenancy advice and everything else you ever wanted to know about flatting! Go in the draw to win some winter warmth thanks to Mitre 10 PLUS sign up to get your flat's smoke alarms tested by real live Firefighters!

GIVEAWAYS ALL WEEK!
Keep an eye on our Facebook
ousa.org.nz/flatting-week/

ousa student support

MITRE 10 MEGA DUNEDIN

GET SWEET LOOT WITH A 2016 ONECARD



ACTIVATE YOURS ONLINE
AT **R1.CO.NZ/ONECARD**



FLASH YOUR 2016 ONECARD AT ANY OF THESE FINE BUSINESSES AND SAVE CASH MONEY!

AMAZON SURF, SKATE & DENIM

10% off full-priced items*

BOWL LINE

2 games of bowling for \$15*

CAPERS CAFE

2 for 1 gourmet pancakes*

COSMIC

10% off all in-store items*

LUMINO THE DENTISTS

\$69 new patient exams and
x-rays, plus 10% off further
treatments*

NANDO'S

Free regular peri-peri chips with
every flame-grilled chicken,
wrap, pita or burger*

QUEST

10% off all non-sale items*

STIRLING SPORTS

12.5% off all non-sale items

THE POOLHOUSE CAFE & BAR

\$9 for 1-hour pool table hire*

VOID CLOTHING

10% off all non-sale items

ALTO CAFE

Any two breakfasts for the price of one
Monday - Friday, 7am - 11.30am

BEAUTÉ SKIN BAR & BEAUTY CLINIC

\$45 brazilians, \$20 brow shape, \$45 spray
tans + 10% off any full price service or product

BENDON

Free wash bag with purchase over \$50*

CRUSTY CORNER

\$5 BLTs, Monday - Friday

ESCAPE

20% off regular-price games*

FILADELFIOS GARDENS

1x medium pizza, 1x fries, and 2x pints of Fillies
Draught or fizzy for \$40, Sun-Thurs

FRIDGE FREEZER ICEBOX

15% discount off the regular retail price

GOVERNOR'S CAFE

\$6 for a slice, scone, or muffin
and a medium coffee

HALLNSTEIN BROTHERS

20% off full price product in-store

HELL PIZZA

Spend \$20 or more and receive either free
wedges, dessert pizza, or a 1.5L drink

LONE STAR

10% discount + Book your 21st with
us in 2016 and get \$6 tap beers,
house wines and house spirits*

MEGA ZONE

Buy two games of mini golf or laser tag and
get a third free

OMBRELLOS KITCHEN & BAR

\$15 Ombrellos Big Breakfast / Big Vege*

OUTSIDE SPORTS

15% off rental, 15% off workshop, and 10% off
retail (full price items only)

PHONE SURGEONS

10% off all phone, tablets
& computer repairs

PITA PIT - GEORGE ST

Buy any petita size pita and get
upgraded to a regular

PIZZA BELLA

Lunch size pizza & 600ml Coke range for \$10
- or - any waffle and coffee for \$10

POPPA'S PIZZA

Free garlic bread with any regular or large
pizza*

RAPUNZEL'S HAIR DESIGN

\$99 for pre-treatment, 1/2 head of foils or
global colour, blow wave & H2D finish
- or - 20% off cuts

RELOAD JUICE BAR

Buy any small juice, smoothie, or coffee and
upsized to a large for free*

ROB ROY DAIRY

Free upgrade to a waffle cone every Monday
& Tuesday

SHARING SHED

\$5 off all tertiary-student hair cuts

SUBWAY

Buy any six-inch meal deal & upgrade
to a footlong meal deal for free*

TASSE CAFÉ

High Tea for one for \$24*

THE BOG IRISH BAR

\$7 house beer, wine and spirits from 8-11pm
on Thursdays, \$15 roast of the day on Sundays

THE FORTUNE THEATRE

2-for-1 tickets on Wednesday night
performances

THE FRONTRUNNER

15% discount off regular retail price

THISTLE CAFE & BAR

10% discount

VAPOURIUM

2 for 1 coffees

VIVACE KARAOKE BAR

Hire a Karaoke room for an hour and get 30
minutes free

*terms and conditions apply, see r1.co.nz/onecard/ for details