



Critic

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Editorial

No Pride, No Womb

Hello!

My name is Lucy and I'm the deputy editor at *Critic*. My workmates and I have spent the last couple of weeks talking, arguing, and sometimes screaming at each other about gender roles in society. This week we have two features in *Critic* that examine some of the complications of traditional gender binary and how difficult it can be for members of society who don't fit neatly into a category of "man" or "woman."

In his feature "Pride in Prison?", Nath B discusses the oppression experienced by transgender prisoners as a result of gender binaries. Often housed in the jail that does not match their gender, transgender prisoners have a daily experience of the violence that gender binaries can exert. Of particular concern are the trans women sentenced to time in men's prisons who suffer the humiliation of having their bodies examined and their gender classified for them. These women are often subjected to further trauma from bullying and violence at the hands of staff and other inmates. Trans people in prison are more likely to attempt suicide than other prisoners, to be denied adequate and necessary medical care and be denied dignity and recognition of their gender. To take a quote from Nath's article, "every day in a men's prison is hell for a trans woman and every night worse". There are women at this moment trapped and terrified in men's prisons in New Zealand.

Classifying people's sex by the appearance of their bodies gets complicated if your body doesn't happen to fit what we expect a "man" or "woman" to look like. Mikayla Cahill's feature "Girl Without a Womb" goes into some of the biological signals we use to label babies as belonging to one of two sexes, and how they can differ from the gender a person identifies as. Mikayla got the surprise of her life when she found out that although her body displays every sign of being female on the outside, she doesn't have the baby-making gear inside. The womb is the organ that defines female fertility and has helped keep women bound to childrearing and domestic duties for thousands of years. Female emancipation in our country is tied to our ability to control our wombs, usually through decades of using contraception. What does it mean if this lump of meat is missing?

Talking to Mikayla and Nath over the past few weeks and reading their work has reminded me how much I take being a cisgender with a (presumably) functioning reproductive system for granted.

Gender is more than what someone tells you your chromosomes, your guts, your build, or your junk say you are. Gender is a personal identity, and nobody's opinion or laws can change that.

Lucy Hunter

Critic co-editor

Critic is a member of the Aotearoa Student Press Association (ASPA).
Disclaimer: the views presented within this publication do not necessarily represent the views of the Editor, PMDL, or OUSA.

Press Council: people with a complaint against a magazine should first complain in writing to the Editor and then, if not satisfied with the response, complain to the Press Council. Complaints should be addressed to the Secretary, PO Box 10-879 The Terrace, Wellington.

World Watch



Malaysia

A giant python, thought to be the longest ever caught, has died in Malaysia. The estimated eight-metre-long snake was spotted on a Malaysian building site on the island of Penang. It died several days later after laying eggs. The current longest snake ever caught is 7.67m according to Guinness World Records



Shanghai, China

Residents of Shanghai who do not visit their elderly parents could find themselves on a credit blacklist under new regulations. Coming into effect in May, the Regulations on the Protection of the Rights and Interests of the Elderly say that family members who live apart from elderly parents have a responsibility to visit them and make sure they are being cared for. Parents who think their children are not visiting enough can take them to court



Krasnoyarsk, Russia

The opening of a café devoted to Russian President, Vladimir Putin, has raised eyebrows over its use of Western leaders' images in the toilets. The toilets are labelled "NATO bloc" and are plastered with images of "non-friendly Western leaders." The owners have even provided a black marker pen for visitors to add their own touch to the Western leaders' photos



Romania

For the fifth year running a Romanian auction house is putting up for sale diplomatic gifts and other luxuries once owned by ex-communist dictator, Nicolae Ceausescu and his wife Elena. Ceausescu held Romania as communist leader from 1965 to 1989. The couple surrounded themselves with luxuries while most Romanians struggled with poverty and constant surveillance by the secret police

Brazil

Brazil's embattled President Dilma Rousseff is facing a key vote on efforts to impeach her that she is expected to lose. Rousseff is facing calls for impeachment in the midst of a political crisis surrounding the corruption inside the state owned energy company, Petrobras, which is embroiling much of the political elite. Rousseff has repeatedly rejected calls for her resignation and has said her government will survive impeachment efforts

Germany

The head of Germany's domestic intelligence agency has said that he is sure Islamic State wants to carry out attacks in Germany and that the situation is "very serious" but adding that he knew of no plans to strike. The militant group released a video suggesting that it may carry out attacks in the West after the Brussels bombings. Germany's main fear is that Islamic State is aiming at encouraging supporters to take initiative to stage attacks in the country

Vatican City

The Pope's office has distanced the pope from a rare invitation to US presidential candidate Bernie Sanders to attend a conference at the Vatican this week. The Pope's spokesman told media that Mr Sanders was invited not by the Pope, but by the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences. The conference will focus on social justice and the environment

South Korea

Two senior North Korean officials, including one army colonel who specialised in espionage against the South, defected to South Korea in 2015, the Seoul government has claimed this week. South Korean news agencies has stated that this was the highest-level military figure ever to have defected. South Korean officials have declined to comment on that or give further details

FACTS and figures

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Otago University enrolment numbers up for 2016

by Joseph Higham

THE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL MEETING THAT TOOK place on Tuesday last week provided promising news of increases in both international enrolment numbers and first year domestic student numbers, resulting in the University of Otago meeting their enrolment target for 2016.

The announcement marked the first time in the last five years in which total enrolment numbers at the university have increased, and despite the increase being just four equivalent full-time students (EFTS) it marks progress of sorts in the university's attempt to appeal to high school leavers.

The divisions of sciences, commerce, humanities and health science all saw promising growth in first year enrolments in 2016, with health sciences alone growing 11.1 percent on last year's

figures. The humanities department, facing a self-declared "crisis" according to Pro-vice chancellor of the Humanities Department, Tony Ballantyne, had first year student numbers increase by 6.9 percent on this time last year, although overall EFTS declined 3.7 percent since last year. The university's press release outlined that the reason for this decline was largely because of the "pipeline impact of last year's smaller first year cohort."

Additionally, international full-fee enrolments are up 5.8 percent, which has been attributed in particular to a 16.6 percent growth in enrolment numbers from students from the United States, and total international first year numbers increasing by 13.7 percent.

Vice-Chancellor Harlene Hayne noted, "this is a very positive start to the year for us" and

pointed out that "our Residential Colleges are full to the brim, and there is a very busy, positive feel on campus just now."

The university has made a concerted effort over "several years" to re-focus its overseas recruitment, and has built on the growth of international enrolments made in 2015, according to Hayne.

Additionally, Maori student enrolments are up by 5.3 percent and Pacific enrolments are up a remarkable 10.4 percent. Hayne mentioned that the "buoyant first year situation is underpinning healthy increases in the number of Maori and Pasifika students at Otago" and that the "number of Maori and Pasifika studying here are key elements of Otago's strategy for the future."

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OUSA rife with hypocrisy

by Henry Napier

TWO OUSA EXECUTIVE OFFICERS WHO WERE not in Dunedin at the start of their tenure have not received their full honorarium payments. Both Administrative Vice-president Jarred Griffiths and Finance officer Jesse Hall have had payments withheld from January 1 to February 11.

OUSA President Laura Harris says that the principle reason the fortnightly pay was not distributed to Griffiths and Hall on the first pay day of January 14, was because both of the members were only able to supply their payment details once they arrived in Dunedin.

"Well I mean they're not the only ones, no one gave any of their details until they arrived. So there's a couple of people that didn't get paid for the first couple of weeks," says President Harris.

However, Critic has received correspondence that suggests Harris' claims are false, as at least one of the members had in fact provided OUSA with the relevant payment details in late 2015.

Payment of honoraria is decided by the Executive through a motion, however the issue has yet to reach an official vote with both Griffiths and Hall being offered no reason as to why they weren't paid from the start of their elected terms, implying OUSA President Laura Harris made the decision alone.

However, despite receiving payment details from at least one of the members, Harris maintains no decision was made by her as to the payment of honoraria, and the payment was withheld by "default".

"It wasn't a decision, it's just sort of the default or the way it works. So in previous years it's been you give your details to the OUSA secretary when you arrive. That's how it's worked," according to Harris.

Harris herself received her full honorarium payment in 2014 while she was acting as Educations Officer despite having a total of 54 days away from Dunedin throughout her tenure. OUSA executive meeting minutes from 2014 show Harris was absent on September 18, 21 October, November 11, November 27 and December 4. Despite her absence Harris was paid her full honorarium.

During an OUSA Executive meeting on 21st of October Harris was recorded in the minutes as unable to orally deliver her report over via a phone call due to the noise in a Melbourne tram station while she was on holiday.

Clause 34 of the OUSA constitution holds that Executive honoraria should be withheld whenever the member has failed to fulfil their duties.

"The Executive must withhold payment of all or part of any honoraria where it considers any Executive Officer has failed to carry out their duties or has failed to report adequately on their activities."

The issue over honoraria first arose at an executive meeting on February 4 when Administrative Vice-president Jarred Griffiths expressed concern over possible implications of treating OUSA executive officers as "employees".

"When we add more restrictions to honoraria, and this is kind of a risky move and a risk to the organisation going forward, is that when you have things like time sheets and reporting and regular hours and places of work there's a legitimate claim here that we're actually employees," said Griffiths.

"Where you start treating someone like an employee and expect them to be in a workplace at a certain time period and with relation to employment, it moves into a direction such as where are our annual leave provisions, and minimum rates of pay and minimum work standards and things like that."

President Laura Harris noted during last week's Executive meeting that she had, along with OUSA CEO Debbie Downs, sought "informal legal advice" as to the potential implications of withholding honorarium payments based on members not being present in Dunedin from January 1.

Harris was unwilling to disclose the exact nature of the advice, but stressed that the issue was "too vague" for lawyers to form a "consensus".

During the February 4 meeting President Laura Harris sought to move that the members

who were not in Dunedin at the beginning of their term would not be paid their honoraria for the month of January, saying that is the "culture".

"As I understood it Executive members are paid once they arrive in Dunedin to begin their terms. It is a bit different to go out halfway through the year because you have already been here, been trained and have goals in mind and can work while you're away," said Harris.

"[Withholding payment] as I understand it has been the culture. There are executive members in the past that have not received honorariums for not being here in January."

Last week Mr Griffiths released a statement to fellow Executive members and Critic outlining his position against the proposal to withhold payment from members who were not in Dunedin on January 1.

"Because there is no requirement in either the Constitution or Internal Policy for members of the Executive to be based in Dunedin, or for payment of honorarium to commence only from the day Executive members arrive in Dunedin, honorarium should be paid when duties have been fulfilled" the statement read.

OUSA members are paid based on two separate schedules; 10 hour positions which include Campaigns, International, Recreations, Postgraduate and Colleges, are paid a bulk payment quarterly; whereas 20 hour positions such as Administrative Vice-president, Finance officer, Welfare and Education are paid fortnightly, as well as the President.

All 10-hour officers had received their full honorarium payment despite International Officer Rachel Goh, Recreation Officer William Guy and Postgraduate Officer Mariana Te Pou all being absent for the month of January.

The issue of honorariums will go to a vote in next week's Executive meeting. Executive members have refused to comment on which way they will vote. Finance Officer Jesse Hall refused to comment saying he did not wish to share an opinion.

Otago's Hepatitis C Centre has funding cut as Government lacks necessary empathy

by Joe Higham

DUNEDIN'S HEPATITIS C RESOURCE CENTRE Otago has recently had its funding cut by central government, leaving them needing to seek new funding streams or close their doors entirely.

The reason given by the Government for their decision is that "The Ministry of Health has taken steps to streamline and consolidate its investment in national Hepatitis C services" and "funding has been re-prioritised to support

the funding has been cut because she gets "the feeling it's easier just to let them die."

services for people who inject drugs and who are most at risk of contracting hepatitis C." Annette King, Deputy Leader of the Labour Party and Labour Spokesperson for Health, stated that this was a decision that is simply "short-sighted and penny pinching."

The Dunedin centre is one of two Hepatitis C specific centres across New Zealand, with the other being located in Christchurch, and they both serve the whole of the South Island. Allison Beck, Health Promotion Lead for the Hepatitis C Resource Centre Otago Southland, said that although other Hepatitis centres exist within New Zealand, the others are concerned with more than just Hepatitis C and have more funding than Hepatitis C Resource Centre Otago. She said the funding has been cut because she gets "the feeling it's easier just to let them die."

The centre runs on a meagre \$45,000 funding per annum, which includes a wage and all of the necessary overhead costs. It helps provide treatment, advocacy, and support to anyone suffering

from the Hepatitis C virus in New Zealand. Allison Beck said they can provide the support and treatment they do on the limited funding they have due to a "kind landlord who has reduced our rent" and a "huge amount of community help," including catering and buildings they need for the events they run for those involved in the centre and to raise awareness.

Currently, one in 100 New Zealanders suffer from the virus, meaning approximately 50,000 people live with chronic Hepatitis C in New Zealand. Of these, up to 30,000 don't even know they have contracted the virus until they discover they have developed liver disease or even occasionally cirrhosis. The virus is "only spread through blood-to-blood contact, in particular through the sharing of needles and syringes, although one can also catch it through toothbrushes, razors, rough sex, piercing, fighting and even notes or straws used for snorting drugs. Allison Beck noted that "there's been lawyers, pilots, and all sorts of people" who have been helped through the centre, so it is not limited to drug users, as the social stigma seems to suggests.

Currently, sufferers of Hepatitis C receive government-funded treatment over a 24-48 week course of pegylated interferon and ribavirin, which have "horrendous physical side effects" and only a 20-50 percent chance of curing the illness, according to Allison. Due to this seemingly ineffective state-funded treatment plan, sufferers have looked elsewhere to get hold of better performing medication. One new treatment, consisting of daclatasvir, sofosbuvir and ribavirin, provides incredible results for 98 percent of those who have Hepatitis C over just a 12-week course. Unfortunately, the government have refused to fund it, leaving clinics across the country promoting the use of an Australian 'buyer's club', which is funded for all Australian citizens, and only costs \$2000-\$4000 per treatment period.

Jill Lane, Director National Services Purchasing, told *Critic* that the role of Pharmac, the government agency, which decides the pharmaceuticals to publicly fund is to "secure the best health

up to 30,000 don't even know they have contracted the virus until they discover they have developed liver disease or even occasionally cirrhosis

outcomes possible, from the amount of funding possible." Lane added that Pharmac is keen to fund new treatments that improve outcomes for patients and is actively looking for ways in which these hepatitis C treatments can be made affordable for New Zealand."

Lane went on to say that Pharmac is "actively assessing a number of different antiviral agents for hepatitis C, including: Sofosbuvir, Ledipasvir, Paritaprevir, Simeprevir." Despite these having large clinical trials to assess the effectiveness of using them to treat the virus, Lane noted, "funding would be at a level of some tens of millions of dollars, which needs to be considered carefully against all other funding options."

A pharmaceutical company, named AbbVie, released a press release last year entitled, "It's time for action on Hepatitis C in New Zealand", which provided several scientific-based reasons why there should be a concerted effort for Hepatitis C to be "eliminated in New Zealand by 2030."

Council votes against making homeless more homeless

by Hugh Baird

WELLINGTON COUNCILLORS HAVE VOTED against introducing bylaws that would put a ban on begging in the city.

The vote came after a report was released stating that begging in the nation's capital was on the rise after many homeless had drifted from both Auckland and Christchurch.

Only Mayoral candidate Nicola Young and councillor Simon Marsh supported a ban with twelve councillors voting against the move.

Wellington Mayor Celia Wade-Brown when speaking on the Paul Henry Show claimed that locals can show sympathy, but suggested that giving them cash is not the option.

"I would discourage from giving to them directly. For example, the old line asking for a train

ticket to Waikanae, go buy them the ticket, but don't give them \$12.50."

"I am encouraging the people of Wellington to give to the soup kitchen, give to the Downtown Ministry, volunteer your time -- but everybody that gives \$20, \$50 on a Friday night in Courtenay Pl is just encouraging them to come back," she added.

The city plans instead to connect beggars better with social services as well as educating those homeless about acceptable uses of footpaths.

"everybody that gives \$20, \$50 on a Friday night in Courtenay Pl is just encouraging them to come back"

-Celia Wade-Brown

Otago Hockey aims to strike at world record

by Henry Napier

THE OTAGO HOCKEY CLUB IS ATTEMPTING TO break the record for the world's largest hockey game. The record attempt, scheduled for Friday 15th, has docked over 250 registered participants, exceeding the previously held record of 134 players.

According to Adam Walker, an organiser of the event, the record attempt is being performed under the International Hockey Federation rules.

"It has to played under FIH rules, which state you have to have between seven and 11 players on the field at any one time. So every player must be on the field for at least 10 minutes and must touch the ball. The way we have it set up is we have eight groups playing between 4pm and midnight, so about 18 to 20 in each group," says Mr Walker.

The event is part of ongoing fundraising aimed at installing new electronic scoreboards for Otago

Hockey Club, with an aim to install the new boards before an upcoming Under-21-year-old tournament. The club is hoping to raise between \$5000 and \$7000.

The event has attracted a number of community representatives and notable hockey players, including former Black Sticks.

When asked if the record-attempt could become an annual event, organiser Adam Walker said they would have to see the outcome of this attempt, however if the number of players currently registered turn up, the club hopes to "obliterate" the previous record.

"We will have to wait and see how we go with breaking this record, which is currently held by an English school at 134 players and we currently have 263 registered. So if all goes to plan we won't just break it, we will completely obliterate this record," says Walker.

the world record is "currently held by an English school at 134 players and we currently have 263 registered. So if all goes to plan we won't just break it, we will completely obliterate this record,"

Failed flag referendum fails to flaw Key

by Zahra Shahtahmasebi

THE LOCKWOOD SILVER FERN FLAG WAS defeated in the final of two referendums in March. The flag referendum took place over the course of a year and was an attempt by John Key's government to give all New Zealanders a say in the design of their own flag. The new flag project cost 26 million dollars with the first referendum in November – December 2015 which gave voters five different alternative designs to be ranked. The final referendum asked voters to choose between the current flag and the Silver Fern flag.

The Lockwood design was openly supported by John Key from the beginning of the referendum, who believed the Silver Fern image was "instantly recognisable". However the votes showed the desire of New Zealanders to retain the current colonial design. The sound defeat of the Key's preferred flag is his most high profile

defeat during his time as prime minister. Despite the prime minister now having to defend his decisions against critics, who are calling the referendum a 'wasteful, vanity project', Key and the National party still retain their popularity among New Zealanders.

The latest Colmar-Brunton poll conducted by TVNZ shows that support for the National party has now risen three points up to 50 percent. This is their highest result in the poll in a year. Because they have the majority of votes, if an election were to be held now, the National party would be able to govern the nation alone.

The same poll shows that support for the Labour party appears to have taken a severe hit, even though they opposed the change of flag referendum, with a result that was below the crucial 30 percent threshold to 28 percent. This is despite the fact that Labour has made major

policy announcements this year. One of these announcements included to instigate a multi-million dollar plan to give every New Zealander three years of tertiary study for free, beginning in January. The Labour Party also made a strong stand on New Zealand signing the TPP in February, something many New Zealanders also protested against and held rallies in order to prevent from happening.

In the preferred prime minister poll, Labour leader Andrew Little also suffered, dropping down to just seven percent and being overtaken by New Zealand First Leader Winston Peters. This poll too showed that support for our current leader had not been affected by the flag loss, with John Key's ranking barely changing, falling one point to 39 percent.

Councillors pay increase down on last year

by Georgia Vosper

THE DUNEDIN CITY COUNCIL COUNCILLORS HAVE received a 1.5 percent pay rise, a seemingly minor raise in their salary compared to last years nine percent increase.

Mayor David Cull in an *Otago Daily Times* article last Monday was noted to say that such a minor increase does not attract the best people for the job. However when interviewed for the *Critic* he said "I'm not complaining about the 1.5 percent increase for councillors" but rather that he was observing that in an environment where being a councillor is becoming a full time job, you "want to attract younger people with different skills and remuneration needs to be on par with the private sector".

He believed otherwise people might not put themselves forward for such a position. He noted 15 years ago most councillors were retired men, and now he would like to see a situation where younger people can come in and out of the private/public sector. He said, "If you're going to commit all your time to being a councillor you

have to be paid enough to do that".

In response to the idea that these increases are unprecedented compared with other public sector jobs, Mayor David Cull noted that the Remuneration Authority allocated and increased the amount "to bring Dunedin up towards where it should have been" in comparison with other councils around New Zealand.

The allocated amount for extra responsibilities was also increased this year from \$81,750 to \$110,635 and its allocation was decided in a meeting of councillors last week, where the Deputy Mayor and Committee Chair members received the same 1.5 percent increase as councillors. Mayor David Cull assumed the excess from the Remuneration Authority would be allocated to those involved with the 'second generation' plan, to recognise their extra responsibility.

Councillors Hilary Calvert and Kate Wilson offered their views on the matter. Hilary Calvert thought the income was sufficient, as she

believed that there are currently in council "hugely driven people in various ideological places". She also raised a point that a considerable part of the job is taken up with governance issues, "we shouldn't be needing to do governance 'full time' with 15 people, that's just crazy". Hilary Calvert had previously put forward the idea that Dunedin should follow suit with cities like Vancouver in Canada, where they pay their councillors the average wage in that city in order to "get in the mindset of people who have a fixed income", considering it is an arguable thing as to whether or not it is a full time job.

However Kate Wilson was of the opinion that "with a 3 year tenure and a \$55-\$6,000 income, it is not a move many would make". She noted she worked virtually full time and felt "quite excluded" from the process of wage allocation, however it was not something she could turn down, and suggested that perhaps if there were 12 rather than 14 councillors they would receive better pay.

Both Kate Wilson and Mayor David Cull seemed extremely keen to get younger people involved in the Council, Kate Wilson strongly encouraged students to vote in the upcoming October election.

Sanders' seven state win streak

by Jonathan Guilford

THE 74 YEAR OLD DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST FROM Vermont, Bernie Sanders clinched a convincing victory in the Wyoming caucus on Saturday, April 9th. Sanders finished with 56 percent of the votes, 12 points ahead of fellow Democratic nominee former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

It is the seventh straight election victory for Sanders. The winning margin was a lot less than was anticipated and fell short of his previous victory in neighbouring Colorado, where he won 58.9 percent of the votes to Hillary Clintons' 40.4 percent.

Wyoming is the smallest state in the Democratic nomination race and is run using the caucus system. Sanders has tended to fare better than Clinton in the caucus system rather than the much larger primary elections. Unfortunately there is a small number of registered Democrats in the state of Wyoming, which

resulted in fewer than 6000 caucus-goers taking part on Saturday. Subsequently only 14 delegates were on offer and an even split of seven delegates were received by both candidates.

With such a miniscule amount of delegates on offer the overall outcome of this caucus election will not bear much weight in the grand scheme. However this was still a convincing victory for the democratic socialist Sanders in one of the most conservative states in the country. It may not hold much mathematical value in the way of delegates but it is a welcomed psychological victory for Sanders.

Prior to the caucus Clinton had received endorsements from all four of the state's Superdelegates. They are mainly made up of distinguished party leaders and party officials who are not bound by the caucus results and can change their opinion accordingly. Jeff Weaver, Sanders' campaign manager stated

"Senator Sanders won these recent contests by large and impressive margins. "As a result, we have cut Secretary Clinton's delegate lead by 101 since 15th April, which amounts to one third of her then total margin. "That dramatic gain leaves us only 214 delegates behind – a margin we can and fully intend to surpass by the conclusion of voting on the 14th June."

The main focus for Sanders now is to clinch his eighth straight victory in the next upcoming elections in New York on April 19th. With New York being a primary election and 247 delegates on offer, this is an election both Sanders and Clinton will be targeting. At this point Clinton has 469 Superdelegates to Sanders' 31. Sanders' strategy for victory in July must then be to persuade a large number of super delegates to vote in his favour.

Disaster brings in the Hindu New Year

by Charlotte Haselden

A NIGHT OF CELEBRATIONS AND entertainment ended in tragedy with more than 100 people dead when a temple in Southern India caught fire during Hindu New Year festivities.

The incident took place early morning April 10 at Puttingal Devi temple in Kerala where about 6000 people were gathered.

Local authorities said the fire began at 3:30am local time after a stray firework fell onto a pyrotechnic storeroom causing a series of explosions. Dynamite sticks were also thought to have been present and could explain the speed in which the fire had spread.

More than 380 people were injured and state health workers said local hospitals became so overwhelmed with victims that many

of them had to be driven about 70km away to the state capital.

Kerala's Chief Minister Oommen Chandy said the district administration had denied the temple's authorities permission to carry out a pyrotechnic display. It emerged that approval had not been given to even store the fireworks.

Many of the 106 people who died were trapped inside the temple and could not get out.

The incident has raised calls for concern regarding safety procedures at celebrations similar to the Puttingal Devi temple accident. Poor security arrangements and relaxed safety standards make it too common for stampedes and fires.

On Monday, Kerala High Court judge V Chitambareish sought a ban

on the use of high decibel firecrackers at festivals and religious events in a letter sent to the chief justice of the court. In the letter, Chitambareish said the tragedy that took place was not a solitary incident and frequent accidents were happening all the time in the state.

Last year two minor fire incidents were reported in the vicinity of Baidyanath Dham temple, but were contained.

Thousands have died in major fires since the 1997 Uphaar cinema blaze in Delhi, where smoke from a burning electricity transformer killed 59 people.

Close to 500 people have been killed in crashes and stampedes at major religious events in the past six years, with authorities saying temple trusts often allowed far

more people to gather than what was permitted.

A judicial enquiry into the Puttingal Devi temple was opened on Sunday night and forensic experts and police are still investigating as to why festival organisers had conducted the fireworks display when they had not been granted permission to do so.

Critic breakdown: Panama Papers

Politicians, billionaires, philanthropists, movie stars and sportstars. This assortment of the rich and famous have been thrust into the spotlight in recent weeks for being implicated in a web of conspiracy that has remained is secret for decades.

by Henry Napier

THE PANAMA PAPERS ARE BEING CALLED THE biggest journalistic leak in history. The scandal has shed light on the tax-avoidance practices of some of the richest and most famous people in the world.

Here's what you need to know:

The leak

Two weeks ago 11.5 million files, or 2.6 terabytes, were leaked to German Newspaper Sueddeutsche Zeitung before being passed on to the International Consortium of Journalists. The consortium

including 107 media outlets from around the world.

The leak was the largest and most complicated coordination of a simultaneous story release ever.



How it works:



Person with a lot of money pays Mossack Fonseca to create a shell company

MOSSACK



FONSECA, INC.

Mossack Fonseca sets up shell company within a tax haven

MONEY-->



Client hides their money in the shell company

Shell company

Essentially an empty company that owns no assets or has no purpose but to house cash which, if exists in the right country, will not be taxed.

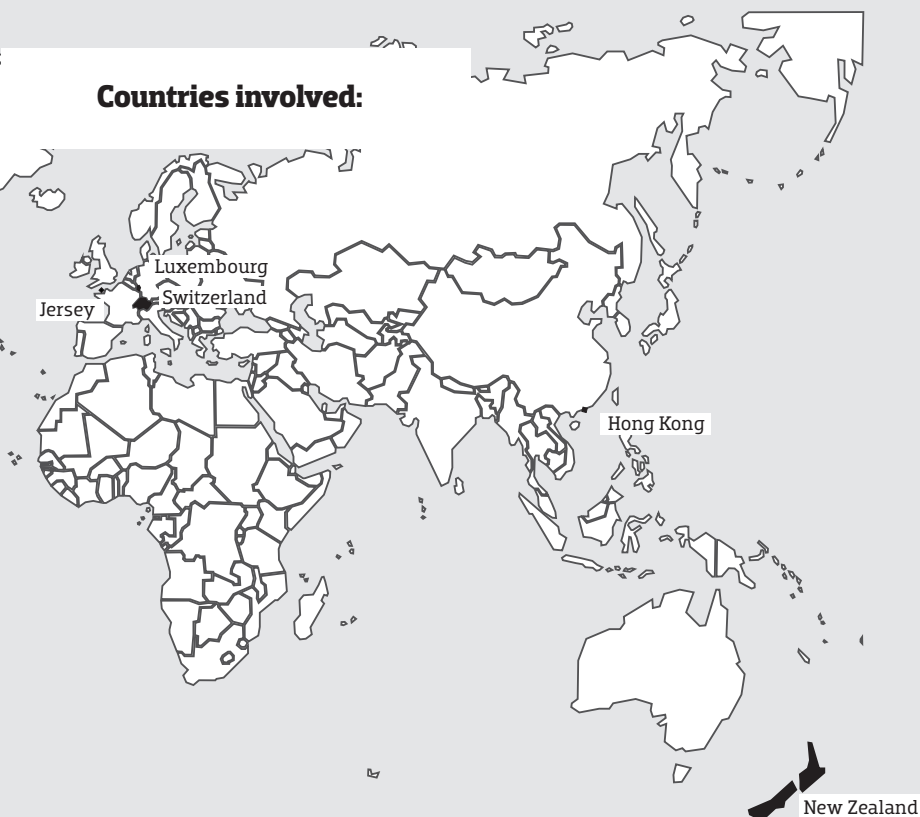
Mossack Fonseca

The fourth largest offshore law firm in the world based out of Panama and has offices around the world and specialises in the creation of "shell companies" used to avoid paying taxes.

Tax haven

A country with little or no tax laws

Countries involved:



Who's been implicated?

12 national leaders, 143 politicians, at least one movie star and two sportsmen. So far only a small number of people have been outed, according to the media release, based on notoriety or relevance. However, more are expected to come as the files are made public.

Notable people:

Ian Cameron, Father of British PM

David Cameron

Vladimir Putin, Russian President

Sigmundur Davíð Gunnlaugsson, Iceland Prime Minister – resigned over the leak

Petro Poroshenko, Ukrainian President

Gianni Infantino, Fifa President

Nawaz Sharif, Pakistan prime minister

Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan,

United Arab Emirates President

Simon Cowell, Television producer

Willian Borges da Silva, Chelsea football player

Stanley Kubrick, filmmaker

Sarah Ferguson, Duchess of York

Jackie Chan, movie star

Pedro Almodóvar, filmmaker

Sir Nick Faldo, golfer

Bobby Fischer, Chess grandmaster

Paul Burrell, Princess Diana's butler

Heather Mills, Paul McCartney's ex

Roksanda Ilincic, Serbian fashion designer

Sir Mark Thatcher, Margaret Thatcher's son

Andy Cole, Former football player

Lord Glenconner

What does this mean for New Zealand?

More than most would realise. New Zealand is mentioned in 60,000 documents, likely to do with the country having the laxest tax laws in all western democracies. Off-shore trusts are not taxed by the New Zealand government. Therefore, the Panama Papers has raised some serious questions about how New Zealand manages its tax laws and whether we are already a 'tax haven'.

There is an argument that this isn't necessarily a bad thing considering the financial business conducted in New Zealand as a result. However, the ethical dilemma of housing the world's richest money is hard to shake.

Prime Minister John Key has called for an independent inquiry of New Zealand's tax law as a result of the leak.

Green Party: A Tale of two leaders with two directions

by Henry Napier

THE GREEN PARTY'S CO-LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE PROVIDES the most accurate metaphor

for the party itself. The Party has two leaders, Metiria Turei and James Shaw, each representative of two directions the party is taking going forward: The petty, outdated, overly-stringent projection of a moral high ground onto every aspect of political life versus the new, forward-thinking optimism of progressive thought in a changing world.

The internal conflict the party faces has reached a point where the choice has to be made between progress for purpose or stagnation for principle.

Now I have to declare I write this with only an outsider's perspective. I have talked to James Shaw frequently and I know a few people who work or have worked for the Greens. However, my opinion is

mainly derived from how the Green Party operates publicly rather than privately.

That being said, I think I have a fairly good understanding of how the Greens caucus works —amenable being the key word.

I generally think of Green Party caucus meetings as being dominated by a lot of back-patting, where ideas are entertained for their principle rather than their merit. The lack of conflict understandably being attributed to the relatively narrow scope of political ideology the Greens appeal to, evidenced by bad reactionary policies such as female cabinet quotas (fucking lol).

Looking back at the last few weeks provides a useful cross section of what I see as the Party's leadership problem. Last Sunday on TVNZ's Q+A, James Shaw announced a \$100 million capital

injection into Kiwibank that will allow cheaper interest rates on mortgages which will increase competition with Australian banks currently dominating the market. The day earlier on TV3's The Nation Metiria Turei condemned John Key's lack of specificity over New Zealand 'jihadi brides' travelling to the Middle East. You can see the difference in value provided by each co-leader.

I will acknowledge that I understand the roles of each co-leader are purposefully defined and distinguishable. Simply put, Turei focuses on social issues while Shaw focuses on economic policy.

However, there is an obvious mismatch between the proposition and the reality. What Metiria Turei does is nit-pick at the government's social policy. Shaw, on the other hand, is rolling out a substantive fiscal agenda in the lead up to 2017.

The problem isn't with the strategy, it's with Metiria Turei. The 'jihadi brides' scandal is frivolous side-line waste-of-space bullshit that no one cares about. According to Turei, John Key lied to the public by omission for not clarifying that the New Zealand women who went to the Middle East to join ISIS left from Australia rather than New Zealand. The argument is pedantic and pointless.

The distinction between James Shaw and Metiria Turei works to highlight the difference between a quality leader who offers a firm direction for the future of the party and someone who thinks knocking someone down-a-peg is the same thing as moral righteousness.

It is my honest opinion is that Metiria Turei and the internal Green Party culture that allows her prominence is the greatest detriment to an otherwise election-winning political party.

Republicans plot against Trump

Council of Evil Plot Against Their Own Creation

by Charlie O'Mannin

DONALD TRUMP IS A LOT OF THINGS; RACIST, sexist, potentially a lizard, but slightly unusually, he's also a threat to the Republican Party. Which is why there's a high chance they'll find a way to fuck him over.

The Republican Party requires a candidate to get over half the delegates in order to secure the nomination. While in a two-person race this happens easily, when a lot of candidates run and split the vote, getting the 50 percent becomes increasingly difficult. So while Donald Trump is

currently the frontrunner so far he only has 37 percent of the vote. It's looking likely that no one will have the majority by the end of the primary. This means a contested convention, and all hell breaking loose. On the first round of a contested convention each delegate votes for the person they've been elected to vote for and no one gets a majority. On the second round a percentage of the delegates become unpledged, meaning they vote based only on personal preference. This would be a disaster for Trump as he is almost

universally hated by the conventional Republicans who make up the delegates. Not only could these delegates elect one of the other candidates they could even elect someone who hasn't even run, like Mitt Romney, which would be hilarious.

Someone apparently told Trump this was a possibility a few weeks ago, prompting him in an interview to imitate a supervillain. If he is blocked at the convention he threatened that "I think bad things would happen. I really do. I wouldn't lead it, but I think bad things would happen". Living up to their sinister nature Trump's comments prompted political lobbyist Roger Stone to threaten to release the hotel room numbers of any delegate who switches their vote from Trump, encouraging Trump supporters to "visit their hotel rooms and find them". Now I will be among the first to criticise a contested

Clark eyes top job

How five men could decide the first woman UN Secretary-General

by Joel MacManus

WHEN HELEN CLARK ANNOUNCED HER historic campaign for the United Nations Secretary-General last Monday, it was met with near universal acclaim from New Zealand media and political figures, who simply could not praise her enough, even if some of it was a little backhanded – Former opponent Don Brash said she was “somewhat cynical, she knows how to manipulate power... I think she can do it effectively as head of the UN”.

Seven years on from her last foray into partisan politics, the public has mostly forgotten any beef they had with her at the time, and has come to see her as just another example of kiwis shining on the world stage. Unfortunately, it takes a lot more than the support of our tiny nation to win the top job.

Eight candidates are currently standing, including four women, although punters do like Auntie Helen's chances: UK bookie Paddy Power has her at a \$2.50 payout, with her closest rival Irina Bokova at \$2.75. Every other candidate is paying out at \$10 or more.

The real test comes down to winning over five of the most powerful men in the world: Barack Obama, Vladimir Putin, David Cameron, Xi

Jinping, and Francois Hollande. Traditionally, the General Assembly votes upon a recommendation by the Security Council, and these five men represent the five permanent member nations of that council, who are also the only members entrusted with veto power.

Helen Clark is reportedly the favoured candidate of the United States, who have in the past expressed discontent with the UNDP's expenditures, but have been impressed by the cost-cutting measures put in place under Clark's leadership. France and the UK also appear to be natural allies. China has historical ties to Clark, having negotiated a free trade deal with her while she was Prime Minister, which could bode well for her chances of receiving their backing.

The decider will ultimately be Russia and the notoriously unpredictable Vladimir Putin. By convention, the Secretary-General is rotated around the five geographic groups which make up the UN. The Eastern European Group, of which Russia is a part, has never had one of their own elected, and clearly believes it to be their turn. If Russia decides to swing its dick around and veto every pick from outside its regional zone, it would leave Helen Clark's candidacy dead in

the water, unless the US is willing to play hardball and threaten vetos right back at them.

Working in Clark's favour is the fact that Eastern Europe does not seem to be settled on any one candidate, with six currently running. Even Irina Bokova, who is seen as a favourite of Russia's, faced a rather intense partisan battle to win Bulgaria's nomination. The fact that Helen Clark is receiving the full-throated support from John Key and Murray McCully despite their political differences, could work in her favour as a compromise candidate.

In the end, it seems almost certain we see a woman rise from the process as the winner, whether that be Helen Clark or not. There are simply too many qualified women running and too much political pressure for the UN to overlook the opportunity. If the member states decide that the most important criteria for the eventual nominee is that they are female and from Eastern Europe, Helen is probably shit out of luck. But if they decide to go with the woman who has the most outstanding qualifications, experience, and pure skills of diplomacy and realpolitik, then we could have a very real chance of seeing a Kiwi at the top of the world.

convention as undemocratic, but making threats and insinuating violence is never ok. While threats from crazies like Stone are concerning the real worry of the Republican Party is that Trump will run as an independent if they screw him, splitting the vote and ensuring they don't win the presidency.

So why would the Republican Party want to screw Trump if it could hurt the party and he agrees with them on a lot of things. They hate Trump precisely because he shares their views. The Republicans have spent decades carefully hiding their beliefs behind presentable facades. Trump never bothered learning the official line, exposing Republican beliefs for what they are. For example the Republicans have always been xenophobic and anti-Muslim, 9/11 just meant that they could justify their bigotry as homeland security. Trump doesn't realise that you're not

supposed to be openly anti-Muslim and in doing so he exposes the Republican's true views. He doesn't care about the policies; he just wants support and is taking what he sees as the easiest way to get it. Trump's recent comments on abortion show just how damaging his rhetoric is to Republicans. Trump stated that he thinks women should be punished for getting abortions. The American right exploded at the comments with every anti-abortion group and establishment Republican distancing themselves from Trump's stance. They are angry because Trump didn't say what Republicans are supposed to say about abortion which is that they want to punish the doctors who give them and never the women, who are just the victims of these doctors. Republicans aren't publically for punishing the woman because that wouldn't be popular, but in reality making abortion illegal

would undoubtedly mean punishing the women who get them. If you class something as murder then of course those involved are going to be punished. Trump is saying what Republicans really believe openly and it's scaring them. One individual associated with an anti-abortion group tweeted that Trump had “in three seconds undone fifty years of messaging politically”. There's a chance that Trump will get the amount of delegates he needs in the upcoming primaries and the Republicans will be forced to back him, but if he doesn't and there's any way they can withhold the nomination from him, I'm confident they will. Trump is showing the Republican Party for what it really is and that truly is a threat to them.

Bollywood meets Eden Gardens

by Sean Nugent

The IPL is back! Are you ready to parrrrrttyyyy!!! Get ready for another few weeks of watching huge crowds of delirious fans go crazy as club bangers of 2012 blast across the stadium every time Chris Gayle hits a six. So please, don't blush baby, as we preview the teams for this season.



Kolkata Knight Riders

Last season: 5th

Key Players: Sunil Narine, Colin Munro, Andre Russell, Shakib Al Hasan.

NZ Players: Colin Munro

On paper the Knight Riders don't look particularly strong. Their homegrown players are mostly average or over the hill, while none of their overseas players are 'superstars' so to speak. However, this side won the competition two years ago and if batsman such as Kiwi Colin Munro and Aussie Chris Lynn manage to fire then they could sneak into the finals.

Prediction: 6th

Gujarat Lions

Last season: N/A

Key Players: Dwayne Bravo, Brendon McCullum, Ravindra Jadeja, Suresh Raina.

NZ Players: Brendon McCullum

One of two new teams created to replace the suspended Chennai Super Kings and Rajasthan Royals, the Gujarat Lions boast an array of talent. However, much like Sunrisers Hyderabad last season, they could struggle to find room for all of their overseas imports. As it stands, Dwayne Bravo, Brendon McCullum, James Faulkner, Aaron Finch, Dale Steyn, and Dwayne Smith will have to fight it out for the four spots available in the side. With the quality players in their squad, the Lions should be able to make a strong playoff push. Look for them to be there or thereabouts near the end.

Prediction: 3rd

Delhi Daredevils

Last season: 7th

Key Players: JP Duminy, Chris Morris, Nathan Coulter-Nile, Imran Tahir

NZ Players: None

Didn't have a great season last year and it doesn't look like their luck is going to change any time soon. If they are going to make a statement they will need to rely on their South African core of Duminy, Morris, Tahir and Quinton de Kock. The fact that the aging Zaheer Khan is captain speaks volumes of where the side is at this point in time. Don't expect this side to be around come playoff time.

Prediction: 8th

Mumbai Indians

Last season: 1st

Key Players: Rohit Sharma, Kieron Pollard, Lendl Simmons, Jos Buttler.

NZ Players: Corey Anderson, Mitchell McClenaghan, Tim Southee.

Now here's a side oozing with talent. However, as seen by the names above, there will be strong competition for the overseas spots. Nevertheless this Mumbai squad has the tools to go all the way again this season. Captain Rohit Sharma has turned into a limited overs megastar and will head a strong batting lineup. For the casual fan, there's a nice group of New Zealand internationals in this side so this could be the one to cheer for.

Prediction: 1st

Kings XI Punjab

Last season: 8th

Key Players: Mitchell Johnson, Murali Vijay, Glenn Maxwell, David Miller.

vNZ Players: None

If you hate the Australian cricket team then you'll love rooting against this side. Sledging masters Mitchell Johnson and Glenn Maxwell are joined by walking wicket Shaun Marsh, to lead a side that won just three of their fourteen games last season. Jokes aside, this team lacks in firepower at the top and bottom of the lineup. A playoff push looks doubtful although they do have a nice core of young locals that could sneak them in. Overall the Kings XI don't look like they have the ability to make the playoffs this year but should improve from last season.

Prediction: 7th

Royal Challengers Bangalore

Last season: 3rd

Key Players: Virat Kohli, Chris Gayle, AB de Villiers, Shane Watson.

vNZ Players: Adam Milne, Daniel Vettori (coach). How this team hasn't won a title is mind-boggling. Boasting three of the most destructive batsman in the game, it's hard to fathom how this side hasn't run away with the championship every year. Unfortunately for Daniel Vettori's side, they will be without the services of Australian paceman Mitchell Starc who is still recovering from a foot injury he picked up last summer. However, the Challengers have acquired the services of fellow Aussie Shane

match between Chennai SuperKings and Kolkata Knightriders during the DLF IPL T20 tournament

Watson which they hope will soften the blow. Starc's injury could bode well for New Zealand seamer Adam Milne, who failed to play a game last season but will now be vying for the frontline bowler spot made available. Expect this side to be there or thereabouts once again this year.

Prediction: Runners-up

Sunrisers Hyderabad

Last season: 6th

Key Players: David Warner, Shikhar Dhawan, Kane Williamson, Trent Boult.

NZ Players: Kane Williamson, Trent Boult.

Really struggled last year with a very top heavy batting lineup. This season they went and acquired Yuvraj Singh to fill the gap in the middle order and he could prove crucial in whether they make the playoffs or not. Expect King Kane to play more games than he did last year, most

likely slotting in at his preferred number three position behind Warner and Dhawan. This year the focus for the Sunrisers will be for the rest of the side to have an impact on the game, instead of relying on one or two players every game.

Prediction: 5th

Rising Pune Supergiants

Last season: N/A

Key Players: MS Dhoni, Steve Smith, Kevin Pietersen, Ajinkya Rahane.

NZ Players: Stephen Fleming (coach)

I'm not sure who comes up with the names for these teams but this one sounds like the newest Roald Dahl children's novel. Regardless, this team is full of quality and boasts three international captains in Dhoni, Smith, and Francois du Plessis, as well as an array of overseas and local talent. They importantly went out and secured

the signature of Dhoni, bringing with it the support of half of India, as well as the expectation to win. This side certainly has the quality to do so. Aside from the obvious superstars, expect spinner Ravi Ashwin and seamer Ishant Sharma to provide some solidarity in the bowling ranks. While many have this side as the odds on favourites, I think they're missing that X factor player that would push them over the line. I guess we'll see.

Prediction: 4th

Kiwis begin to take flight in Super Rugby

by Willy Chapman

NOT EVEN HALF WAY THROUGH THIS YEAR'S instalment of Super Rugby and New Zealand teams are strongly in the box seat. In what is turning out to be quite a lop-sided competition, New Zealand teams are dominating their overseas competitors as four Kiwi sides are on track to qualify for finals.

Putting aside the complicated logistics of the Super Rugby ladder, if we were just to go on points, 4 New Zealand teams would make up the top 5 after seven rounds of the competition. This is a staggering statistic considering this year's competition was extended to 18 teams.

With the international season looming, the recent success by Kiwi sides in Super Rugby certainly bodes well for the All Blacks as they look to continue their dominance in world rugby. Australian Coach Michael Cheika is certainly conscious of the fact that Australian teams have

only won two fixtures out of nine against New Zealand sides, and has conceded that Australian teams are well behind New Zealand's.

While other international teams would have hoped New Zealand's era of dominance would come to an end after losing over 600 caps of test experience at the end of the World Cup, this year's run of form by Kiwi sides is proving there is no shortage of new talent coming through.

The likes of Malakai Fekitoa and Charlie Ngatai have firmly stamped their mark early this season. The pair have been performing outstandingly with Ngatai equaling the record for the most tries in a game with four against the Western Force. Both players are strong contenders to replace the longstanding midfield of Conrad Smith and Ma'a Nonu.

The young guns of Damian McKenzie and Ardie Savea look set to make their test debuts

this year. Both players have been in red hot form, particularly McKenzie who is leading the most points and top try scorer charts.

The battle of the first fives has also heated up over the last few weeks of Super Rugby with both Aaron Cruden and Lima Sopoaga putting their hand up as the right man for the job. With Cruden's year off due to a knee injury, the number 10 from Manawatu has been back at his best for the Chiefs as they have gone five games unbeaten. Sopoaga has also shown how far his game has come over the past three years but knows he needs to take on the line more if he is going to claim the All Blacks number 10 jersey.



Pride in Prison?

Nath B on the structural flaws of the New Zealand prison system that see trans people detained in the wrong prison

Content warning – accounts of rape and physical violence

The acronym LGBT is used throughout the article in an all-encompassing manner to refer to the queer community. LGBT is used in lieu of writing lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, pansexual, genderqueer, asexual, fa'afafine, and takatapui.

In February 2015, organisers of Auckland Pride announced that the New Zealand Department of Corrections and the New Zealand Police Force would be marching in the 2015 Auckland LGBT Pride Parade. The announcement resulted in considerable concern from individuals and groups within the LGBT community. Historically, Pride events had excluded Corrections and Police due to the high rates of on-going institutional violence perpetrated against the LGBT community.

During the 2015 Pride Parade a group named No Pride in Prisons (NPIP) interrupted the parade in protest. NPIP describes itself as a "queer and trans activist group based in Aotearoa fighting for the abolition of prisons". The group protested to defend the belief that there is no place in a pride parade for institutions that fail to adequately care for the LGBT people they are tasked with caring for. NPIP raised particular concern for trans women prisoners who are often housed in men's prisons, placing them at high risk of sexual violence.

The NPIP protest was small scale – there was a banner, a megaphone and a group of people who stepped into the parade because they had something to say. The interruption was not dealt with well. NPIP member Emilie Rākete was admitted to hospital after having

her arm broken by a Pride security guard. Emilie later spoke of her assault as the "price of addressing Pride Inc.'s hypocrisy". Emilie identified herself as the only visibly Māori and trans member of the group, a fact that was later discussed in the media as an example of the racist and transphobic targeting that the group was protesting against.

NPIP were present at Auckland Pride this year 2016, following the decision to allow Corrections and the Police to again march in uniform. The organisation again interrupted the Parade in protest. After Pride, I contacted NPIP to find out more about the group. NPIP arranged for me to meet with Scout Barbour-Evans, an Ōtepoti member. Scout passed on communication from Ti Lamusse, an Auckland NPIP member.

Scout and Ti are both involved with the operational organisation of NPIP – they tell me that the group was established in February 2015, shortly after the announcement that Corrections and the Police were going to march in uniform. The group is based in Auckland but is slowly building a presence in other Aotearoa cities such as Dunedin, where Scout lives. Ti describes NPIP as "primarily a queer and transgender organisation made up of members from a variety of social backgrounds including tangata whenua, immigrants and other people of colour, as

NPIP raised particular concern for trans women prisoners who are often housed in men's prisons, placing them at high risk of sexual violence.

well as Pākehā". The majority of NPIP members are young people studying or working. Ti says, "although we're [NPIP] mostly young people, we have a fair bit of support from older queer and transgender community members".

I have been in email contact with one of these supportive people – Lexie Matheson, a Senior Lecturer from Auckland University of Technology. Lexie is central to Auckland's LGBT community and is an active participant in NPIP protests. Lexie says that while she is not involved with the management of the organisation, she is a passionate supporter who is asked to speak at rallies and "be a part of the network of information promulgators".

I ask Scout, Ti and Lexie about the reality for LGBT people currently in prison in Aotearoa. Ti relays that life in prison for all incarcerated

a trans person who medically and socially transitioned decades ago still may not qualify for a birth certificate gender/sex change

people is precarious; constantly living under the threat of violence that could come from other inmates and prison workers. Ti says that this precarious reality is exacerbated for queer and transgender prisoners; "queer and trans prisoners are much more likely to be victims of violence, more likely to attempt suicide, to be denied adequate and necessary medical care and be denied dignity and recognition of their gender and sexuality".

Scout and I discuss the issue of gender recognition and the prison systems common practice of housing transwomen prisoners in male facilities. Corrections policy is to house inmates as the gender/sex that is noted on their birth certificate. Many trans people are not able to change the gender/sex on their birth certificate – it is a lengthy and expensive process that not all trans people are eligible for. For example, a trans person who medically and socially transitioned decades ago still may not qualify for a birth certificate gender/sex change. Scout outlines that the policy needs to be re-evaluated and changed.

Lexie explains that the application process for trans women to be transferred to female prisons take months and that applications have been lost along the way. Lexie says that "every day in a men's prison is hell for a trans woman and every night worse".

The NZ Herald printed an article last October that reported a trans woman who was housed in a men's prison in South Auckland had been repeatedly raped by her cellmate after she was moved from segregation into a shared cell. While incarcerated, the prisoner was undergoing hormone replacement therapy to medically affirm her gender as a woman. For such a process to happen the prison management and the Department of Corrections would have been aware that she was transgender, and was a woman not a man.

In March this year NPIP released a statement regarding a trans woman prisoner housed in a men's prison in Whangarei who had been raped by Prison staff. NPIP were supporting the woman and had lodged a complaint on her behalf.

Unfortunately these are only two of many examples of how life is for trans women in prison.

Although NPIPs ultimate desire is to see the end of prisons in Aotearoa the group's role appears to also be providing support to the LGBT community inside prison.

Ti tells me that "we [NPIP] were formed through a recognition of the need to end incarceration. However, over time, incarcerated people have asked us to advocate on their behalf and we have been more than willing to do that. As a result NPIP has both activist and advocacy arms".

Scout talks about some of the ways in which NPIP act within the current climate of the

existence of prisons. NPIP regularly advocates for LGBT prisoners, especially transgender inmates. The group provides help with lodging transfer applications, gender and name changes on birth certificates, requests for medical care, prison visits and over the phone peer support. Scout tells me that NPIP wants more awareness raised about what it's like to be an LGBT person in prison.

A common argument in response to prisoner experienced violence is "if they don't want to be treated like that [raped, assaulted, locked in a cell etc.] then they shouldn't commit the crime in the first place". The complexities of the prison system are too great to suggest that a person is always incarcerated as the result of committing a crime. Regardless of the reason, people sentenced to time in prison do not deserve to be raped and disrespected in the manner that many have. Lexie expresses that "anyone who is incarcerated in a New Zealand prison has a right to personal safety".

Figures released by the Ministry of Justice indicate that while Māori make-up 14 percent of the general Aotearoa population, 50 percent of the prison population are Māori. The Ministry indicates that Māori women make-up six percent of the general Aotearoa population yet account for 58 percent of the female prison population. These figures are indicative of a Pākehā-favoured justice system with a gross over-representation of Māori. The issue is not that Māori over-offend, it is that Māori are over-arrested and over-incarcerated. Ti shares the belief of NPIP that "prisons are violent institutions that do nothing to alleviate social harm and are merely used as a tool for the continued marginalisation of marginalised people".

People are sentenced to prison for many different reasons – unfortunately the system is not as simple as incarcerating people for

every day in a men's prison is hell for a trans woman and every night worse

the crimes they commit. It is necessary to consider the institutional biases that exist within the justice system.

As a member of the LGBT community I have had numerous conversations with friends and family about the NPIP protests at Auckland Pride. Most of these conversations have included a discussion of the confronting nature of being an LGBT person protesting at an LGBT pride event. Many friends who are supporters of NPIP have conveyed personal discomfort at the concept (or reality) of shouting at fellow LGBT people. I ask Scout, Ti and Lexie about their thoughts on the issue and all three first mention the protesting history of Pride.

The first Pride Parades in the United States were held in June 1970, one year after the New York City Stonewall Riots. The Stonewall Riots occurred in 1969, it was illegal to be gay and anti-gay legislation was forcibly upheld by the Police. 1969 in New York City was a time of peak Police harassment of the LGBT community. The LGBT community called for the end to the discrimination and what started as a small group of the LGBT community standing up to the oppression grew into thousands over several days. Stonewall is often considered the beginning of the LGBT rights movement and it was on its one year anniversary that Pride Parades were seen in

New York City and other parts of the United States.

Pride parades now occur all over the world and are a striking display of queer culture; a visible celebration of a movement that calls for equality for the LGBT community. While Pride is a celebration it is also a continual annual call for LGBT equality – equality that is still not present. Despite same sex marriage being legal in New Zealand, the LGBT community continues to experience high rates of discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identification. LGBT youth experience higher rates of suicide and self-harm than their non-LGBT peers. Transgender people in New Zealand do not readily have access to essential health-care and experience much higher levels of physical violence than their non-trans peers. As much as we would like to say otherwise, LGBT hate crimes still do occur in New Zealand in 2016. Aspects of the inequality that is experienced by the LGBT community can be attributed to the policies and practices of the Department of Corrections and the Police Force which was the motivation behind the NPIP protests.

It is important to note that when discussing the inherent discrimination of Corrections and the Police, the critique is at an institutional level, not an individual level. The Police Force have Lesbian and Gay Liaison Units and welcome lesbian, gay and bisexual employees – the critique is not of LGBT employees but is of the institution as a whole.

In addressing the confronting nature of a minority protesting within a minority, Lexie conveys that the NPIP protest was needed as "pride is for all of us and as long as one sector of the acronym is not free or is unsafe then none of us are free or safe".

Ti notes that "social change never happens when you ask nicely. It is only when people are willing to stick their necks out and put their bodies on the line that things change. The welfare state, homosexual law reform and the eight hour working day would never have happened if people weren't confrontational".

The NPIP protests have raised awareness of the mistreatment of LGBT people in prison, and have started a conversation with the wider community and within the LGBT community. The conversation is difficult, particularly within the LGBT community, but it is very much needed to ensure the safety of LGBT prisoners and the safety of all LGBT people ■

No Pride In Prisons encourages everyone to go along to their events, and/or to organise solidarity events. The group is active on social media and regularly updates its website and blog with events and current information – www.noprideonprisons.org.nz



The Girl Without A Womb

Mikayla Cahill on why she is an extra special female

My name is Mikayla. I'm not like other girls. I am different.

Personal disclaimer: This is my story about living with a rare and extraordinary medical condition. I am proud to say that I can be confident and simultaneously a little scared at sharing it.

I'm not different in a barrier-breaking-maniac-pixie-dream-girl type of way, I'm nobody's muse; I don't prance around trying to be the salvation of a poor depressed boy who can only be saved by my love, but I certainly am different. Unlike most females I was not born with the possibility of biologically conceiving children. My body has chosen to be exquisitely unique in its deliverance of anatomy. I have all the parts of a woman on the outside, but none on the inside. I was born without a uterus or fallopian tubes, and I might not even have a cervix (good-bye cervical cancer).

Although I have never felt the feeling of 'missing' a womb or female reproductive system, I have often felt like I was less of a woman in some (very rare) instances; those of which usually ascertain the idea that womanhood flows through the blood of the uterus, or that the monthly ritual of spilling blood in time with cycles of the moon attaches you to a divine feminine power. Which indeed it may do, but what if, like me, you don't get to experience these rituals? Well, thousands of years ago, whether you had the anatomical bits and pieces or not you probably would have been classed as having hysteria (if you were a woman).

Philosophers and medical professionals in the West believed for over 2000 years that mood swings, mental breakdowns and a fluctuation in a woman's hormones could be lumped together as one medical diagnosis: Hysteria. Originating from the Latin word hystericus, or

the Greek word hystera (literally translating to the word 'womb'), the wild and somewhat surreal theory was that woman became hysterical as their uterus personified itself and ran around the female body wreaking havoc. This idiotic belief that a woman's uterus ran around destroying her insides and her mind was unsurprisingly invented by someone who does not have one. The Ancient Greek physician Hippocrates believed wombs had sensitive noses and recommended rubbing the patient's groin and the interior of her thigh with "a sweet-smelling unguent" to entice the womb back to its correct place. Continuing the barbaric reputation of the uterus, Plato, a philosopher in Ancient Greece, often referred to the womb as an 'animal capable of... destruction.'

Depending what your views on childbearing are, that statement is not entirely untrue, but none the less it sets the path way for how woman were

seen throughout history and still to this current day in regards to their anatomy and its policing by others. The belief that the uterus was capable of walking around the body causing turmoil has thankfully disappeared, but the anatomical function of a womb continued to be policed and monitored by others, particularly in relation to fertility. Despite living in a pseudo-modern, moderately progressive society, the historic notion of a woman's body being solely around for the procreation of 'man' is still a running and recurrent rhetoric in our current medical system.

To get an abortion in Aotearoa a woman must prove that her life, physical health, or mental health will be put in serious danger to be allowed the procedure. Abortion has been decriminalised but not legalised. The uterus/female reproductive system is intrinsically linked to the political, social and cultural value that men are inherently more worthy of their own agency both physiologically and psychologically. Yet in light of the recent fashionable and positive up-rising of fourth wave feminism, women all over the globe are claiming their agency and the right to choose what happens to their bodies. But what if, for any reason, you lack some of the biological puzzle pieces that tie you to this oppressive past? What if you don't have the yonically divine gift of birth inside your belly? What really makes and doesn't make a womb-man?

There are many arguments to the debate of what makes/doesn't make a human, and the same goes for women, and men. Gender and biological sex have always been arguments in the debate of identity. Among the queer community it is widely acknowledged that gender is something separate from physical or biological traits. Not only is it fluid, but it is also infinite. I happen to fit into the mainstream order of things, despite my miraculous genetic make-up. But some people aren't so lucky.

I have a medical condition called Androgen Insensitivity Syndrome, or AIS for short. This disorder is a genetic mutation that occurs in the womb during pregnancy and is not usually

diagnosed until after puberty. However, myself always finding ways to fit just outside the box of normal, knew about it (to an extent) at the tender age of eleven years old. Although I didn't get told the pin-pointed details I knew that I would never be able to biologically have my own baby, or have a period. I was quite ecstatic about

that the embryonic testicles are producing causing the development of the external genitals to carry on developing as female. This is how I came to be the way that I am; a strong, firmly opinionated woman that has all the outside bits of the female anatomy, all of them, but the inside of me is relatively, well, hollow really.

Morticia Adams truly was correct when she said that “What is normal for the spider is chaos for the fly.”

not getting either of those to be brutally honest; they both sound like a messy handful, even at that age.

There are two varying types of this condition, but before I go into them I feel it might be a good idea to get the science-y bits out of the way. Genetically speaking I really am a bit of a marvel; a firm rebellion through the defiance of natural logic. 'HOW CAN YOU BE BORN WITHOUT A UTERUS!?' you might be thinking, 'You MUST have one, surely!' Well I can very confidently assure you that I do not. Developing in the early stages of life as a foetus, we all have neutral genitals, i.e. none of us really have any bits (this is what research and doctors have told me anyway). After that we begin to specify ourselves; XX foetuses develop female hormones and genitals, XY develop male. However, this process goes a bit wayward for people who are born with AIS. As the embryonic testicles began to develop in an XY foetus and produce androgens (things that enable the development of male sexual and reproductive organs) the foetus of an AIS person develops a rare inability to use the androgens

Androgen Insensitivity Syndrome can affect people in two ways. The first is a complete form of the disorder (this is what I have). This is what would be called CAIS or a complete case of the condition. The second is IAIS or an incomplete form of the mutation. The difference between these two varying forms is that in complete cases the tissue around the reproductive area is insensitive to the androgens being produced in the body, while those with incomplete AIS have only partial insensitivity. The condition in itself is very complicated, and only passed down through women, i.e. through the mother. This is because it is a genetic mutation of the 'X' chromosome within the foetus; not of the sex chromosome of the baby, but through the gene on the 'X' chromosome received from the mother. This means that it is a hereditary condition passed down through an 'X'-linked recessive pattern on the female line of the family. Women that develop genetically as 'XX' babies from families with AIS people might not have AIS themselves, but have a 50/50 chance in passing it on to their children.

Now that the sciencey bit is all taken care of (thank goodness – I felt like I was speaking another language) I'd like to get down to how having AIS impacts my life. The short answer is that it doesn't really; it did impact my views on gender and sent me spiralling into a three day long gender identity crisis at the age of fifteen. I had just spoken to a doctor who explained to me how my body worked in all the science like language I was using before, but all I heard was "You were meant to be a boy." Shell shocked by the idea that I would never be who I was meant to be I drew \$80 out of my savings account and bought a whole new set of pink and purple stationery to identify myself as 'female' to everyone I went to school with. Apart from that, or

the fact that I can't biologically have children and that I need a special operation in the next few years it really has no impact on my life at all.

The operation involves the removal of the embryonic balls of nothing that reside where female ovaries could have developed are just kind of floating in the void of nothingness. This wouldn't really be a problem if they had also not been producing the androgens that create the pathway for male development. Because they created/continue to create those wee androgens (something I can't help but envision as small wee android robots) and I was resistant to how they work, the possibility of them becoming cancerous is very likely when I'm a middle aged woman drinking bloody Marys on a Sunday afternoon. The process of getting them removed is required before the ages of approximately 24 years, and although there is a small risk of complications it is usually a safe and routine procedure (albeit a very rare one).

Yet, people always seem to assume that my lack of baby making bits and pieces is a heart breaking and tragic tale of woe. As the kind of person that I am, I find it quite offensive that people assume I can't be happy without birthing children. Many women choose not to and they have perfectly functioning reproductive systems. What of the women that want children and can't produce them though? I have never wanted to bear a child, but what of the other women around the globe who have what I have that desperately want to hold a child in their hands but can't conceive one? What about women who develop sexually transmitted diseases, or just go through menopause twenty years early (a rare situation but still a plausible one) that stop the ability for them to do something they may have always wanted to? I find that having this condition, despite being normal for me, is so absurd to many others, and I guess I can comprehend that (I suppose I am rather special). In this instance Morticia Adams was correct when she said that "What is normal for the spider is chaos for the fly." My experiences in telling people about my condition are usually and consistently met with glances of deep sadness and disbelief when

people hear that I can't conceive children. My chaotic anatomy clearly poses a threat to other people's traditional conventions of life, i.e. becoming a parent; something I have never wanted to do.

At the age of ten I was asked what I wanted to

My body has chosen to be exquisitely unique in its deliverance of anatomy

be when I get older and as I said "teacher", all of my friends said "a mother". I'm not trying to say mothers aren't as important or wonderful as teachers, because they are, I'm just saying that I had never really felt a connection of wanting to be a mother the way my friends had, and I think that was kind of lucky really. There are some instances every now and again in which I feel disadvantaged, or that living with this condition is unfair, and they usually stem from a battle of wanting to just be normal every once in awhile. Often though, they can come from the idea that a woman's 'womanhood' is intrinsically connected to her period and nothing else. Now I'm not saying I want to get my period (they sound painful, soul destroying, and down right awful) but I am mad that so much of mainstream feminism and representations of what it means to be a woman are connected to the idea of blood coming from a different part of the body that I was not born with.

Living with androgen insensitivity syndrome is a much more inward and personalised battle than people expect it to be, mainly because I have to refrain from letting the feeling of not being a 'real' woman when the topic of periods are brought up, which as a feminist, comes up

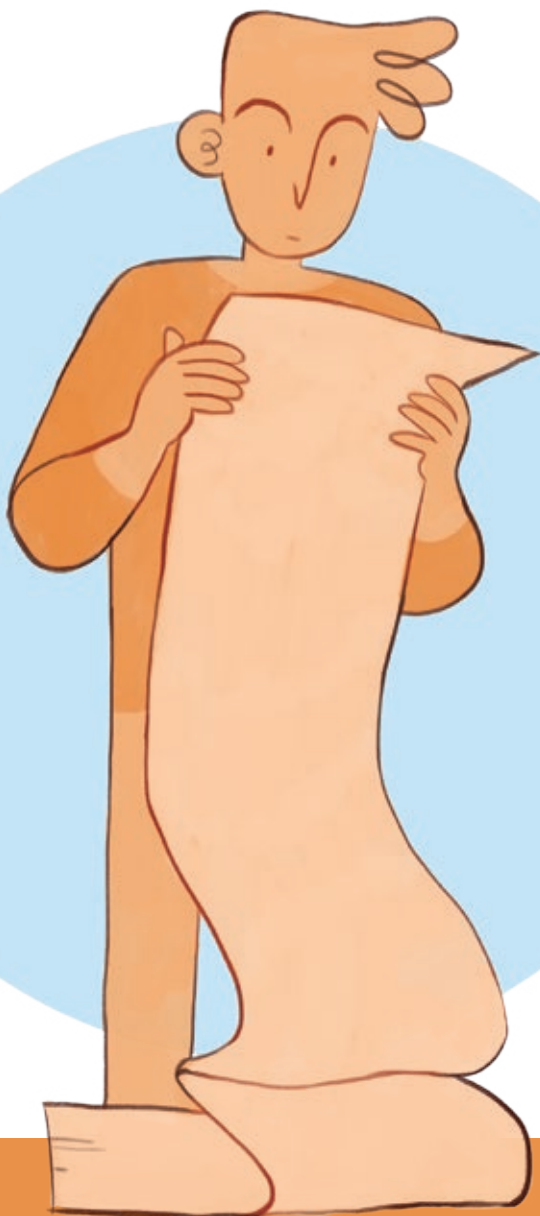
much more frequently than you think it would. It can also be hard because more or less – for myself at least – I have to constantly explain it in excruciatingly painful detail, particularly at doctors visits, due to its baffling demeanour: "I don't have a uterus" is not exactly what one would call casual conversation, even in the medical world. Once I went to talk to my doctor to refer me to an endocrinologist – instead of being referred I spent twenty minutes explaining how my body works and was fifteen dollars out of pocket.

Despite the fact that I appear totally normal on the outside but possess the magical privilege of being a medical marvel on the inside I feel like any other 'regular' person. Apart from my genetic makeup being what one might describe as "totally whack yo", I'm just like all of you. And although the genetic results of my existence would say otherwise, I am actually female: I identify as a cisgendered woman, meaning I was assigned the correct gender at the time of my birth. Some IAIS people are what many throughout the world refer to as intersex and are genderqueer / non binary as they feel like they don't belong to either binary – and that is their rightful and personal choice, if their parents don't choose to gender them at birth on their behalf, – but I was lucky enough to feel right at home in the hegemony of a pink, frilly, and laced up office of 'being a girl'.

I am not like other girls, literally in the sense in that my genetics are freaking crazy! Yet, just because I am special and I do not possess the ability to conceive a child or bleed from my non-existent uterus should not make me any less of a womb-man (sorry – I couldn't resist) than the rest of them ■

GUIDANCE FOR JOBSEEKERS

Almost every student needs a job, if not for money, at least for experience. [Laura Starling](#) gives the down low on the best ways to score some work.



It's getting to the time when, while students are stressing about assignments and exams, they have run out of course related costs and are frantically applying for part time work and graduate employment. Job hunting can be a dreary and disheartening process, but you've got to stick at it to get results. Here are *Critic's* best tips for jobseekers.

Searching

First, you need to familiarise yourself with all the important job hunting search engines. The big ones include OtagoCareerHub, LinkedIn, GradConnections, Seek, Trademe, Student Job Search and Indeed. Following this, you can and should set up watches with each search engine. Not every engine gathers every job and it's good to make sure you're seeing everything available.

You can adjust settings to receive notifications via email for every job that aligns with your skillset.

Beyond this, check out local newspapers for anything the engines might have missed. Don't be afraid to reach out to businesses and stores you are interested in. Drop in and ask about potential work. You could call, email, anything. They're not going to be bothered by you enquiring, and it shows you're motivated.

Applying

When applying for any position, ensure your CV is up to standard. Keeping it short and sharp is ideal; the less crap employers have to go through the better. Cater your CV to the job you're applying for – show them why you're the best candidate for the job. It's obvious when people just hand in the same generic CV to every job – you'll stand out more if you've catered it to the position at hand.

Don't be afraid to show off your strengths and abilities. It might feel awkward to talk yourself up, but who else is going to? They're not going to ask your mum for a referral. If you're an English student, show off your superior writing skills in your CV and cover letter. If you've studied design, put in the effort to literally show those skills in the design of your CV.

Never apply for a position without a cover letter. It's lazy to go without one and some employers won't even bother looking at your application if you haven't included one. If you know the name of the person you're sending the application to, address the cover letter to them.

Jackie Dean of the Otago Career Development Centre says that there is little in life you don't learn transferrable skills from. You need to make the most of it by "selling the experience you already have" and that "how you package yourself" plays a vital role in applying for jobs, because it's not always enough to rely on the skills gained from study when 80 other students are applying for the same position. What else you have done will be important.

Interview

Applying is the easy part – the interview is the real challenge. They weed out the potentials from the dozens of applicants, so the interview is where you actually have to sell yourself.

Before you even get to the interview, do some research on the company or organisation you're about to be interviewed for. Even if it's just the basic information, you will be expected to be somewhat familiar with who they are, and it will really show if you don't. Get educated or don't expect it to go well. Don't just 'wing it'. Dean explains that "good preparation can make you feel more confident, positive and knowledgeable".

Show up five minutes early. Don't be late unless there is a serious emergency. But don't show up half an hour early, either.

Dress appropriately for the position. If you're applying for a professional job, suit up. If you're applying for a job in retail, or customer service, or any position where your personal presentation really matters, just suit up. If you're applying for something in construction, don't suit up. I once worked out at a landfill – when I showed up for the interview, I chose to wear casual, tidy clothes that were practical and comfortable. Most other applicants were

It might feel awkward
to talk yourself up,
but who else is going
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for a referral

suited up which made me very nervous. My future bosses told me that the people who suited up seemed, to them, unfit for the position because they came over dressed – they didn't understand what the job would involve.

Wash your hair, face, shave scruff or trim and tidy the beard. Look like you're trying. Show them you want the job without you even having to open your mouth.

When you show up for the interview, be polite and kind to everyone there. This means everyone from the receptionist, your fellow applicants, to the people actually interviewing you. All of this plays a role in how you're received. Employers will often ask receptionists what they thought of the person when they came in for the interview – they want to know how you treat people when you aren't expressly trying to impress in an interview.

Prepare for some difficult questions: Tell me about yourself? Why do you want to work here? What do you know about our company? How do you deal with a tough customer? Give an example of you confronting a work mate. How have you resolved issues in the workplace in the past? What are your weaknesses? Why should they employ you? What makes you better for the position than any other applicant? These are the kinds of questions employers almost always ask – so prepare beforehand so you're not just pulling a response out of your ass.

Don't ask about money in an interview unless the interviewee brings it up themselves – it's just common courtesy. Also, try to come prepared with some questions for your potential employers. Ask about the position and express genuine interest. This will show that you're not only there for the moolah.

Look like you're trying.
Show them you want
the job without you
even having to open
your mouth.

Nerves

Nervousness can be one of the most difficult things to overcome prior to an interview, or any part of the job application process. The team at the Otago Career Development Centre offered some of their personal tips for overcoming those nerves.

Yvonne Gout advocates for taking a power stance before you head off to your interview.

Harvard Professor Amy Cuddy has found that taking up a short 'power pose', which is an open and expansive stance, can actually change body chemistry and make people feel more confident. Spend five minutes before your interview standing up very straight with your legs open, hands on your hips, and your chin up like a superhero. You may want to do this one in a bathroom if you feel silly. If you are sitting, lean back, stretch your legs out and put your hands in the air or behind your head with your elbows splayed. Essentially, pretend you have the confidence and body language of a mediocre man.

Robyn Bridges said that going for a walk, getting some fresh air after completing preparation, and forgetting about the interview for a while can help.

Jackie Dean said that smiling, breathing deeply to regulate nerves, and adopting "positive body language so you look and feel more confident to the person interviewing you." She adds, "And talk to us if you want to practice beforehand. We will give you feedback."

Offers and Rejections

After all of this, you'll either get an offer or a decline. The important thing is to remain polite through the whole process.

More often than not people don't bother with calling to reject an applicant, so you're most likely to receive an email or letter. However, on the off chance someone does call you, do your best to be gracious and accept the outcome. You can sound disappointed, but don't be a dick. Word of mouth travels fast, especially in places like Dunedin, so you don't want to tarnish your reputation.



If you're offered a job, remember that you don't have to accept it. Most employers will understand – students are often applying for a number of jobs, and the one you've just been offered may not have been your first choice. If you're uncertain, it's okay to ask for a day to mull the decision over. Again, most employers will understand.

Otherwise, if you get offered the job you want, and you accept, thank them, be happy and celebrate! Congrats, dude, you just got a job!

Undergraduates

Anyone still studying and looking for work will be after temporary or part time work. With this in mind, you will also want to look at applying at any temping agencies who might be able to hook you up with some full time work over the summer, or at least a few various positions, giving you the much sought after experience that every employer demands.

Knowing people and networking really helps when looking for this kind of work. If you have a friend already working somewhere, you've got an instant 'in' into the place. If someone already working there is willing to vouch for you as a person, then you've got an advantage. Yep, you heard me right, start harassing all your employed friends now.

Jackie Dean said that developing networks is incredibly invaluable. Through volunteering and paid or unpaid internships you can be exposed "to people who will employ you in the future." She said to think of the experience as a long term interview – they're seeing if you have the skills to join their team once you've graduated.

You will never be too good for your first job. The experience is so important. Even if you hate it, just think of it as another notch on your CV which you can use to impress future employers when you're finally getting into interviews for the kind of positions you want, rather than the work you need.

Volunteering your time, while you're at uni, is a good idea for future you. You can volunteer for an organisation you believe in, and there are plenty of organisations around the university you

If someone already working there is willing to vouch for you as a person, then you've got an advantage. Yep, you heard me right, start harassing all your employed friends now

can get involved in (Critic included!). Don't be afraid to set up work experience at the places you want to work – ask to shadow someone for a few days so you get an idea of what work is required. Take the time, while you have it, to do additional short courses to give a little extra to your application. It all adds up.

Graduates

You poor suckers are looking for full time work in your (hope-fully) chosen career. You're entering the adult world and that shit is scary.

Your full time job, until you get a job, is finding a job. You need to make yourself available, so if someone calls you, you can answer the phone. Use what little money you do have to ensure you have enough credit to call them back promptly if you miss a call. Practice your phone voice, speaking clearly and confidently.

Don't be scared to call people and ask if they have any positions open, especially if it's a place you'd really like to work. Showing how keen you are to work for someone is never going to backfire.

Be prepared to move. It's a difficult decision to make, but if you're serious about wanting to get a job in your career, it's something you're going to have to consider. Dunedin is a small city, so there are limited options here, with a lot of graduates every year applying for them. Look at other places within New Zealand, apply for jobs in your career that suit you, and be willing to move for them. If you're happy to move across country in order to get a position, it will prove just how dedicated you are to the job, and set you out from other applicants.

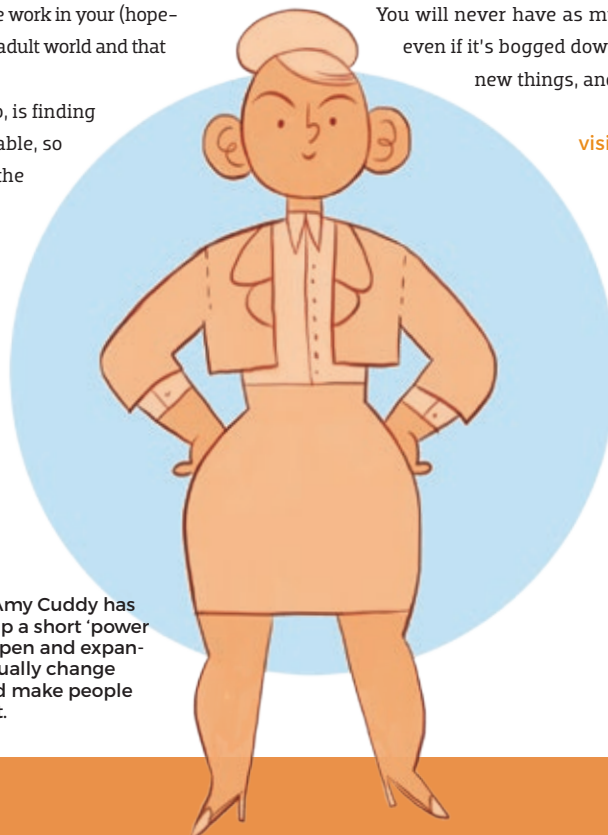
The University of Otago has one of the best careers advisor teams in New Zealand, so it's worth checking them out. Pop into the Career Development Centre on campus (by central), set up an appointment, and talk to them about what you want to do. They have an abundance of print and online resources available for students and graduates alike. You can set up a mock interview for a job you want through them, you can have your CV and cover letter checked and they're incredibly friendly to boot. They'll be able to guide you in the right direction and give valuable advice while you're applying for jobs and stressing about your future.

Most importantly, enjoy the time you have as a student.

You will never have as much free time as you do now, even if it's bogged down by study guilt. Have fun, try new things, and try not to worry too much!

visit the Career Development Centre website at www.otago.ac.nz/careers/

Harvard Professor Amy Cuddy has found that taking up a short 'power pose', which is an open and expansive stance, can actually change body chemistry and make people feel more confident.





CONVERSATIONAL INTERCOURSE
WITH INTELLECTUALS

Grindcore & Queuing

LECTURER IN MEDIA, FILM & COMMUNICATION,
DR ROSEMARY OVERELL

By LUCY HUNTER

WHEN ROSIE WAS HIRED SHE WAS THE youngest ongoing academic staff member at the university. She was 29. Now 32, Rosie says she was "Just lucky. I went from finishing my PhD to getting the job." She moved from Melbourne where she studied to Dunedin three years ago.

The job was much more full on than Rosie thought it would be, but it is her dream job. "It's the job I wanted since I was in high school. She says her academic friends in Melbourne fantasise of someday getting a job at Melbourne Uni, "but it will be when they're 50 and some old person dies. They're happy to sit there and work as casuals for years and years and years. But the problem with that is you never make much money, you get caught in a cycle of being laid off half the year, and you can become quite embittered by that. It's a fairly myopic way of seeing academia, if you stay at one institution that you studied at, do your PhD there and then work as a casual."

Rosie's PhD was on the Grindcore music scene in Osaka and Melbourne. "We had this raft of Japanese bands coming over to Australia to play". There were cheap flights between Melbourne and Osaka and she wanted to unpack why there were two off-centre cities with these metal scenes.

She was also interested in where women stood in the scenes. As a fan who loved being in the mosh pit, dancing, and socialising at gigs, Rosie explored how that was at odds with the representations in the scene. "The bands' lyrics were

often about rape or misogyny, and they often had brutal or violent, pornographic images on the drum kit or projected in the pub where they were playing." The bands had names like "Vaginal Carnage" or songs called "Raped with a Chainsaw". Rosie found these things offensive but still enjoyed the music. "I was trying to think about that tension and how that contradiction works, whether there's a disparity, cos there's always this thinking "oh he's not really like that, they're just performing it." But what's the complicity there? What's the politics around it? What's my complicity? Am I being complicit with misogyny by dancing?"

Rosie's PhD was in Cultural Studies, a subject we don't have at Otago Uni. She says the MFCO department here has a strong Cultural Studies bent. "We're bringing a kind of broadly Marxist reading of media studies in terms of ideology and power."

Rosie teaches a paper called "Digital Asia" and the "Writing for the Media" paper where she can use her Cultural studies expertise. "We try to foster in the students a criticality around the idea of objectivity. The journalist isn't an amazing being who can be objective. No one is. You can never reach that point of being objective. So we get to critically reflect on their subject position when approaching a story ethically, particularly for their feature article. We hope they'll then produce something that's critically informed but also well written and engaged."

New Zealand and Australian culture are more different than Rosie thought they would be, but



similar enough that the deviations seem "uncanny, slightly off." Aberrations such as "Queuing. People here don't seem to queue they just kind of mill around the coffee shop counter. They don't move aside. Everything is slower. Chit chat." She finds Otago Uni old fashioned. "When I moved here they were just bringing in eVision and everyone had their hands up going "Oh what are we going to do without sitting in the link for four days talking to every single student?" And I'm like "Good morning? We've got computers!" She says Dunedin people are in denial of how bad the weather is. "I'll go "The fucking wind it does my head in," and someone will go "Oh it's much windier in Wellington," and I'm like "I couldn't give a fuck about Wellington." It's colder in the North Pole, but I'm not in the North Pole, I'm here."

Critic's column offers a few discussion points for when trying to blow smoke up your lecturer's ass.

Got a lecturer you want to know about, write us at: critic@critic.co.nz



Not even once

University Book Shop



LETTER OF THE WEEK

The letter of the week wins a

\$30 BOOK VOUCHER

from the University Book Shop

Dear Critic,

I'm writing to offer my experience regarding intravenous drug use in

Dunedin, to provide a perspective I felt was missed in the (otherwise decent) article of last week.

I remember clearly my first trip to DIVO. I was a teenager, and the closest I had been to IV drug use at that time was watching

Trainspotting, but I had a couple of oxycontin and a penchant for misadventure. I read up on what to ask for, and it was sold to me with no questions asked. A few months later my life was pretty

much in the toilet, I was caught in a 3 year long hell-ride from which I was lucky to escape alive.

After using intravenously once, it becomes difficult to resist doing it again, a phenomenon which escalates with each successive use. The rush you get from mainlining induces an obsession with the process that becomes all-consuming remarkably quickly. This was suggested at in the article. What I'd like to add is that addiction to IV drugs tends to turn one into a miserable conniving husk. It's

pretty much incompatible with even a semblance of a happy successful life. I know the majority of Critic's readers are already well aware of all this, but if this letter manages to persuade 1 person that an inaugural trip down the local needle shop is a really, really daft idea, it will have been well worthwhile.

Remember kids, friends don't let friends blast pills.

Sincerely,
5 years clean.

Higher pay for higher demand

In defense if Hugh, i am unsurprised that the response to Hugh was one primarily one of indignance. With criticisms like "the article was misogynistic" or "such an ignorant article" being leveled alongside legitimate arguments.

If we are to give "equal pay for equal work" then why is it we are not paying our firefighters as much as our sportsmen? Surely the work carried out by a firefighter is much more important and just as strenuous and physically demanding as the work carried out by professional sportsmen? The answer is simple as to why we don't pay firefighters as much as sportsmen: the labor market. There is demand for top tier

sportsmen that is much higher than the supply of top tier sportsmen whereas demand for firefighters is much lower than the supply of firefighters in the labor market. The reason for sportswomen not being paid as much as their male counterparts is likely due mainly to supply and demand, the demand isn't as high relative to the supply for sportswoman compared to their male counterparts.

Of course, something such as supposed pay gap is much more complex and i am willing to admit that some component may be down to sexism. I think at this point we should probably refer to the principle dubbed "sexism of the

gaps". Here we have multiple explanations for a supposed "pay gap". I don't think it would be wise to immediately assume that sexism is primarily to blame, to fill the gap in our knowledge with an explanation that immediately jumps to posit sexism as the answer. It's no better than filling a gap in our knowledge by assuming "god did it" because there is no alternative explanation in science. The difference being that in this case there are multiple alternative explanations.

Cheers
The Patriarchy

Correction:

IN ISSUE 5 OF CRITIC WE WRONGLY ATTRIBUTED THE COLUMN "CHEMTRAILS" TO EILEEN KENNEDY. IT WAS ACTUALLY WRITTEN BY REGULAR COLUMNIST WEE DOUBT. WE APOLOGISE TO EILEEN FOR MAKING IT LOOK LIKE SHE WAS BAGGING ON CHEMTRAIL ENTHUSIASTS.

NOTICE THIS NOTICE:

International Day of Immunology Quiz Night:

Do you love quizzes and appreciate your immune system?

Come along to quiz night fun!

Friday, 29 April at 6.15pm

Alhambra Rugby Clubrooms, Great King Street.

-Free entry

-Food and drink provided

-No immunology knowledge required

-Great prizes to be won!

Get a team of 4-6 together, or join one on the night. Email immunoquiz16@gmail.com to sign up

Sponsored by Australian Society for Immunology Inc.

CLARK V WOODHOUSE

Refugee Quota



by DAVID CLARK

THE GOVERNMENT DECIDED TO accept 600 additional refugees from Syria last year. As a result, a small cohort of families will soon be arriving in Dunedin from refugee camps in and around Turkey. Most have been in the camps waiting for a very long time, without the resources to attempt the journey to Europe that many others have made. In other words, they had nowhere else to go.

Overwhelmingly, refugees have a positive impact on the accepting country. Foreign Policy magazine reported recently that people fleeing conflict are a boon to almost any economy and we should all be competing to take them. Countries that refuse refugees are usually only damaging their own prospects.

For the most part, refugees have skills. Among the Syrians arriving in New Zealand will be business people, teachers, lawyers and a wealth of practical and professional experience.

Those coming are thoroughly vetted by the UN's specialist refugee agency UNHCR and then again by the New Zealand government's immigration service. It's a methodical system that has so far never let us down.

Our help is just a tiny proportion of what's desperately needed. There are 60 million forcibly displaced people in the world, many of them children. As a wealthy nation, we're

pretty much doing the minimum. We sit at 90th in the world per capita for the total number of refugees we host, or 116th if measured by our GDP. Even Australia accepts three times more refugees than we do per capita.

New Zealand's annual refugee quota is currently 750 and the government is going to review that this year. The figure of 750 was set in 1987 but our population has grown by 40 percent since then. If the quota had simply kept pace with population growth, it would be well over 1000 by now.

My feeling is that our quota should be doubled – to 1500. We have an excellent refugee resettlement programme here, with more capacity than is being used.

I think New Zealanders are pretty generous, willing to do our bit. So many people have put up their hand and said "I'll help!" A little effort to help these new people adjust will reward us later – and make New Zealand a richer place.

Let's welcome these refugees warmly to Dunedin.



by MICHAEL WOODHOUSE

THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT Europe is currently facing its worst refugee crisis in decades, and there are calls on the Government to do more. Some are saying we should double the quota, others say we shouldn't. Some think it's only fair we do more to help the millions of refugees fleeing from Syria, others fear the possibility of threats and risk if we let too many in.

New Zealand has a long, proud history of accepting refugees and our Refugee Quota Programme is a reflection of the Government's commitment to fulfilling our international humanitarian obligations and responsibilities. But it's not just about the number – there is a balancing act at play here. That is, balancing the number of refugees we take, with ensuring we improve the resettlement outcomes for those we do take. Delivering better outcomes for refugees is a priority for this government and in 2012 we introduced the Refugee Resettlement Strategy to focus specifically on this after we learned that only 38 percent of adult refugees are in paid work 10 years after arriving and on average, their children do poorly at school.

Under our current Refugee Quota Programme, around 750 refugees are resettled here each year. However, we actually resettle in excess of 1100 people a year from

refugee-like backgrounds when you take into account the quota, the Refugee Family Support category and approved asylum claimants. Last year, we also committed to taking an extra 600 Syrian refugees on top of the quota in response to the ongoing conflict in Syria.

At that time, there were a number of calls to double the quota right then and there. But of course, it's not quite as simple as that. The Government already spends \$58 million each year on resettling the current 750 quota refugees. All quota refugees also spend their first six weeks in New Zealand at the Mangere Refugee Resettlement Centre where they undertake a comprehensive reception programme that prepares them to live and work in the community. Any change to the quota would have a significant impact on both the funding and services we provide to refugees on arrival in New Zealand. That's why every three years, the government does a careful and considered review of the quota to see what, if any, changes should be made. We are currently in the middle of that review and in the coming months, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and I will take a recommendation to Cabinet in time for the new Refugee Quota Programme to kick in on 1 July this year.



DEAR ETHEL

Racist harrassment

Dear Ethel,

I'm worried about my flatmate. Last Friday he was walking home by himself from Central just after 10pm and a carload of people pulled over and started yelling at him. He's Kiwi Chinese and they were going off at him, telling him to fuck off home etc. He ran for it because he was scared they were going to start in on him. Now I can see he's really depressed and he feels like a coward for running. And he won't go out at night, even if he's with friends. He's spending most of his time in his room. What can we do?

-Worried Friend

Dear Worried Friend,

It's great that your flatmate was comfortable enough to let you know what had happened. Racism, in all of its forms, is right down there with the lowest of the low.

What you can do is be there for him. Acknowledge his experience. Let him know that his response to the situation was valid and sensible, not in any way cowardly. Perhaps you could ask him who or what has helped him get through other difficult situations? Does he have a trusted family member, mentor or someone else he could talk this through with? Ask him if there's anything you can do to help.

One of the nasty side-effects of racial abuse is that the targeted person often feels ashamed and doesn't want to re-live or even acknowledge the experience. That may be why your flatmate is spending so much time in his room. Encourage him to think about talking to a professional counsellor. Sometimes that's easier said than done. Not only did a scary thing happen, but it's scary to seek (or need) help! There are amazing counsellors around who are very experienced in dealing with the emotional and psychological consequences of this sort of abuse though. They could help your flatmate with practical strategies to overcome trauma and reclaim his 'real' life, including going out whenever.

There are formal avenues that can be pursued in these cases too.

Depending on where the event occurred and whether or not students were involved, a report can always be made to the Proctor or the Police. However, I acknowledge that these avenues are often exposing for the targeted person and that reporting won't change what has occurred. It is an option though.

Tell him he can drop in to OUSA Student Support Centre in Ethel Benjamin Place if he wants to. Our advocates are not counsellors but they're friendly, confidential, and great at looking after people and finding ways to make things better! You are also welcome to drop in and have a chat about how we can support you to help your flatmate. Sending lots of love to you all.

xox Ethel



SCIENCE BITCHES

How to time travel

by SAM FRASER-BAXTER

I wrote this column next week. You probably re-read that last sentence and thought that it's grammatically incorrect. But no, it's not. I just time travelled. Time travel is the concept of travelling between points in time, commonly using some kind of 'time machine' or device. While science tells us that the feasibility of travelling backwards in time is highly unlikely because it would be impossible to travel to a point in

time before your time machine was built, travelling forwards in time is a little more feasible.

Many quantum and astrophysicists believe that time travel is impossible. Astrophysicist Stephen Hawking believes that time travel is very much a scientifically plausible theory. Hawking once said on the topic of time travel:

"I do believe in time travel. Time travel to the future. Time flows like

a river and it seems as if each of us is carried relentlessly along by time's current. But time is like a river in another way. It flows at different speeds in different places and that is the key to travelling into the future"

One method of time travel that Hawking alludes to as time flowing "at different speeds in different places" is speed. Using speed to time travel is most likely the easiest and most practical way to travel forward in time. It's explained by Einstein's theory of special relativity which states that time accelerates or decelerates depending on how fast you move relative to something else. For example, if you took a spaceship and travelled

through space at 90 percent of the speed of light, you would age and experience time approximately 2.6 times slower than your twin on earth.

While a great deal of astro and quantum physics is unproven mathematical formulae and theoretical concepts, this theory of time travel is one that has been proven. Using twin atomic clocks, one stationary on earth and the other flown in a jet aircraft, a physicist demonstrated the theory as the flying clock ticked slower because of it's speed. So in short, build a speedy spaceship, fly at the speed of light and Voila, you have time travel.



Matters of debate

This column is written by the Otago University Debating Society, which meets for social debating every Tuesday at 6pm in the Commerce Building



THAT NEW ZEALAND SHOULD INTRODUCE
A **UNIVERSAL BASIC INCOME**

+AFFIRMATIVE by **BY OLD MAJOR**

The thought of Government paying an "adequate basic income" to every resident citizen is a powerful one. As automation, robotics and technology erode future jobs, we will be faced with a sinking lid on employment. Let's be clear, the Maccas and Mitre 10 jobs just aren't going to be there much longer. In the not too distant future, many jobs will be as extinct as the Moa. The present system of remuneration through work will eventually become obsolete, meaning that new methods to distribute wealth will be required. A new economy will need to be based on the concept of the universal basic income (UBI). People will work for satisfaction and enjoyment, rather than to support themselves.

The UBI would be paid regardless of employment, so every adult in the country would receive it. Not only would it be a godsend to most students, but it would also eventually replace all current welfare benefits and allowances. A UBI removes the stigma certain benefits create, simply by their very name. This "new wave" economy may take many forms, but it will rely on a more universal or equitable tax take. We will need to find the money for the UBI from somewhere, and the present income streams will suffer the same demise as jobs. NZ will have to consider a financial transactions tax to replace those that are redundant. This system taxes every transaction through banks and stock exchanges at as little as one percent. Personal income tax would shrink markedly but money would be gained from speculative markets, money trading and derivatives, amounting to just under 20 percent of the NZ economy.

The UBI's simplicity will reduce bureaucracy and costs involved in administering the welfare system, such as stand-down periods to ensure people actually qualify for welfare support (which makes life a lot more difficult for those left without income for a few weeks). The UBI does not discriminate, judge or manipulate its dependents. This is really important for removing the current stigma attached to receiving welfare – if everyone receives the UBI, then more people in society are invested in the political process of refining it and ensuring that the level of support is sufficient. The UBI is vital for New Zealand. It gives us hope that there can one day be a world where everyone can do more rewarding things than work to make money.

–NEGATIVE by **SQUEALER THE PIG**

The purpose of welfare should be act as a safety net for those in our society who deserve help the most. As a society, we gain far more value from targeting welfare towards those who need it. We don't get much value from giving free handouts to middle-class people who aren't actually in need of this money. This is why we have different welfare rates targeted to different groups of people in the first place – university students actively choose to forgo full-time work in order to gain qualifications that improve their lifetime earning prospects. It's fair that they get lower payments than, say, sickness beneficiaries, who generally won't have such choices available to them.

There is also the problem of determining the level of payment that constitutes a "basic income". Economist Gareth Morgan's suggestion of \$211 a week may be (barely) enough for a student to live on, but it is far less than current jobseeker support rates and would be a major challenge for most to live on. If this policy is to be universal and actually serve as a replacement for current welfare benefits, it can't leave those who currently rely on welfare (such as the unemployment benefit) any worse off, so it would need to at least match current welfare rates.

However, a universal basic income would require that you pay every adult the exact same amount, regardless of how much income they earned from employment and other sources. This makes the universal basic income incredibly expensive to maintain, and it seems like the cost isn't justified as those with incomes above the average wage won't gain as much value from this spending as current beneficiaries would. Moreover, the trade-off is that the government would need to massively hike up tax rates in order to sustain this spending. That's generally not something we should welcome, as higher taxes are likely to lead to bad outcomes. They encourage people to work less: they can rely on the universal basic income payments, so why bother doing another 20 hours of work a week if most of that just goes on taxes? If people choose to work less that erodes the tax base we need to support this policy. A financial transactions tax can't be a complete substitute – firms will simply move offshore, which happened when France and Sweden experimented with the idea.

The universal nature of the policy places a structural limitation on its value for money. We would be significantly better off by spending money where it would deliver greater social benefits, such as improving the support available to jobseekers.



Yeah, nah

Dear Sexcellent,

My boyfriend gets really sulky when I won't have sex with him. He talks about blue balls and makes it such a big drama I always end up having sex with him even when I don't want to. Is this okay? What do I do about it?

-Rachel

Hi Rachel,

First off, I'm sorry that you're being put in this position. Coming up soon, in the first week of May, is Rape Awareness Week. There are going to be posters and activities all around university: and it's going to hopefully bring some light to some consent issues.

My biggest soap box I like to stand on, even bigger than wearing condoms (if you would believe) is consent. It's so, so incredibly important. Consent is not silence, consent is not 'no', consent is not 'maybe' and consent is not even 'fine, if it will get you to shut up and stop sulking.' Consent is active, ongoing, and enthusiastic 'yes's', again and again and again.

Being coerced into sexual acts with your boyfriend through emotional manipulation is not okay, and not healthy: and what part of a person being mad at you until you put out is sexually attractive? I mean, maybe I'm in the minority, but that does not turn me on at all.

Now, I know a lot of people are completely unenthused about the "yes means yes" campaign: as in not only does no mean no, but only an active yes means yes, but I think it's so crucial. It doesn't have to be some cold, clinical, signing-contracts-with-lawyers-present type deal that some people make it out to be: getting a yes can be such a natural part of sex, and no lie, can actually be hugely hot. You probably practice "only yes means yes"

already: what do you think most dirty talk is?

"Does that feel good?", "do you like that?", "do you want more/less/harder/faster?", "do this/that/the other thing to me"; there are a million ways to ask questions and receive answers that aren't necessarily "can I do activity x to you now?" and a flat "yes", but still get the point across.

Going back to Rachel's situation specifically: tell your boyfriend to stop being an absolute baby. If he genuinely is upset because you're not having sex with him, it's not likely to just be the sex that's the issue. It's not okay for him to guilt you into having sex: that is coercive, manipulative, and yuck. Also, blue balls don't exist.

-S



THE WEEKLY DOUBT

Hypnotic regression therapy

by WEE DOUBT

Hypnotic regression therapy is a process by which people believe they can uncover repressed memories years, or even decades, after they have been forgotten. For example, regression therapist Barbara Lamb specialises in uncovering memories of alien abductions. One of her patients discovered that she had married an alien: a cat-faced primate with whom she has had four children, two of who live on Earth.

Leading questions can manipulate people into constructing

memories that never happened. Regression therapy assumes the brain is like a video tape recording its observations perfectly and then keeping or erasing them. This is not the case. Memories are pieced together in a kind of patchwork created by a combination of association between things and events in the environment. Repetitive re-playing of a memory in your head is likely to alter it, so sometimes the memories we think we remember best are actually inaccurate.

Our memories are also highly

susceptible to suggestion. In an American experiment in memory fabrication, adults were shown photo shopped pictures of themselves as children doing things they had never done such as riding in a hot air balloon or on a sailing ship. 33 percent of people claimed to not only remember the experience, but could add details of their own, describing what happened.

People who believe they have uncovered repressed memories are not liars or fantasists. The memories are real and may create real joy or trauma for their host. Barbara Lamb says, "When we do the regressions, it is like reliving the whole experience that they do not consciously remember." What is actually happening may be the exact opposite – rather than uncovering memories that have been forgotten, the therapists are

implanting new memories that never happened.

The most damaging result of regression therapy is when a patient is led to believe they have experienced some kind of abuse as a child. In 1992 Missouri woman Beth Rutherford received an out-of-court settlement of \$1 million from her ex-therapist for implanting memories in her mind that led her to believe her mother and father had repeatedly raped her as a child, and forced her to give herself two abortions. She believed the memories were true until a medical examination revealed that she had never been pregnant. This is not to say that the memory does not now exist and the person is making it up. Memory is malleable. Implanted memories can be as real in the mind of a person as any real memory.

HUNT FOR THE WILDERPEOPLE

Directed by Taika Waititi

Rating: A+

by JESSICA THOMPSON

I NEVER USED TO BE A FAN OF NEW Zealand films, though I could see their value, they seemed to follow their own rules that I didn't understand (seeming a bit too small budget for my liking), until I saw Hunt for the Wilderpeople.

Directed and written by the glorious Taika Waititi (Boy, Eagle vs Shark, What We Do in the Shadows), the film, based off the book Wild Pork and Watercress by Barry Crump, stars a veritable cheeseboard of talented actors and actresses, namely Julian Dennison, Sam Neill and Rachel House, who give each role their all and sweep us away into an exciting, fairly

grown up tale told through the eyes of a child.

Ricky Baker (Dennison) is a rebellious city kid who has been passed from home to home all his life. After finally finding a home he settles into, Ricky faces losing it almost immediately and nek' minute is running through the bush with a gun, a dog called Tupac and an injured Sam Neill. A manhunt ensues and the group must push through their differences to escape SWAT teams as well as a crazy Rachel House from Child, Youth and Family. It's a pretty good storyline.

Julian Dennison nails his performance as Ricky Baker. He is funny



but does not shy away from the deeper stuff, providing Ricky with a profoundness that balances out his simple-minded ways. His transformation from 2007 kid from the streets (snapback, DC sneakers and diamond and dollar sign hoodie) to regular swannndri bushman/gangster is brilliant. Sam Neill is practically a New Zealand cowboy badass and delivers a touching performance as Uncle Hec, providing us with laughs as well as a few tears.

I appreciated every aspect of this film, particularly the soundtrack and stunts, as well as the majestic

scenery shots, which showed the New Zealand landscape as I have never seen it before on film (Lord of the Rings does NOT count). This film was unique and absolutely hilarious, professional as well as personal. There is a reason it has smashed the 'Kiwi box office in its opening weekend taking in a record \$1.3 million' and had the 'highest grossing day for a New Zealand film ever'. Cause its good. Really good. Might I also add the word 'Skux' has officially been restored into my vocabulary. Worth it.

KUNG FU PANDA III

Directed by Jennifer Yuh, Alessandro Carloni

Rating: B

by LISA BLAKIE

FOR WHATEVER REASON THE original Kung Fu Panda was quite an obsession for me.

When it was released in 2008 one of my Mum's friends had lent us some illegal copies of new release films to cure our boredom over weekends. When I saw Kung Fu Panda for the first time, something resonated and stuck with me and I began to watch it religiously every week, even receiving two DVD copies from my friends for my 15th birthday because I wouldn't shut up about this goddamn panda voiced by Jack Black. When the second film rolled around in 2011, I was equally as excited - and it delivered. While it wasn't as much of an obsession, it was still a great

film and I can vividly remember my excitement and enthusiasm for its success. So now that the third one has been released five years later, what does it possibly have to offer other than following the rule of threes and trilogies (Shrek, Ice Age, Madagascar and soon to be How To Train Your Dragon) and for Dreamworks to make as much money as possible?

This film follows Po and his journey to unlocking chi, as well as connecting with his biological Father while his adoptive father readjusts his relationship within the dynamic. The story was slightly disappointing, following a typical "I'm the chosen one" hero's journey against a villain with no real



relevance to Po himself. I don't want to say I didn't enjoy it as much because I'm older than I was when watching the first film because that's dumb. "Family" films are one of my favourite genres because of their relentless pushing of boundaries and challenging narratives to tell younger audiences, while weaving in complex and mature ideas. Plus animation is great. This is where Kung Fu Panda 3 fell flat, as its overarching story was not on par with its predecessors.

The area that Kung Fu Panda 3 really impressed me was the

animation and art style. The animation and blend of still backgrounds and 3D animation is breathtaking. Possibly the most beautifully crafted 3D animated film I have seen in a long time, rivalling Pixar in its calibre of variation and seamless transition. Nothing ever felt out of place or over the top, each scene was crafted perfectly to create a constantly changing atmosphere without compromising any of the core art style of the film.



THE LION KING

Directed by Roger Allers, Rob Minkoff

Rating: A+



by SAMUEL RILLSTONE

DISNEY'S *THE LION KING* brought a whole new generation into the world of heart-crushing, soul destroying feelings over a death in an animated movie. Mufasa's death (I would say spoiler alert but I mean, c'mon) to me is one of the most emotionally heart-wrenching pieces of animated cinema next to the death

of Bambi's mum – the feels are copious. So when I was given *The Lion King* to review, of course I jumped at the chance.

Directed by Roger Allers and Rob Minkoff, Disney's 1994 animated classic follows the journey of African lion Simba (Matthew Broderick) as he tries to navigate the world and his own inner turmoil

following the death of his father king Mufasa (James Earl Jones), at the hands of his uncle Scar (Jeremy Irons) who is after the throne of Pride Rock. Despite the fact that the characters are fully fledged animals, you do feel emotive towards their actions and own emotions. I find this to be a lot of the charm of Disney movies both old and new, that they can make even inanimate objects relatable in situations that are still relevant to the plot.

Another large part of the appeal is the music. I dare say there isn't a person at this university that doesn't know the lyrics to *Hakuna Matata* (I hope). Time and time again, Disney creates memorable tunes that not only carry a sick beat but also a great message, certainly *Hakuna Matata*. I mean, "No

Worries" is basically a staple New Zealand term.

Having to watch this film again brings me right back to my childhood of rewinding the VHS tape over and over and over again to watch *The Lion King* for the 7th time that day. Also, having the Disney 'D' tattooed on my ankle also means I'm somewhat obliged. But it's never a chore returning to essentially my cinematic roots to take a journey with good ol' Walt and his fantastic tales. On the off chance you haven't seen this film, or even if you have, I urge you to see it/see it again. *Hakuna Matata!*

SLEEPLESS IN SEATTLE

Directed by Nora Ephron

Rating: A-

by NORA EPHRON

ILAST REWATCHED THIS EPIC 1993 romance on Easter weekend, when TV2 was running old movies all day for the public holidays, and to be honest, it was as good as when I watched it the first time.

90s movie romance power couple Meg Ryan and Tom Hanks are the two leads in *Sleepless in Seattle*, a film about heartbroken widower Sam (Hanks), who is forced onto late night radio by his son Jonah, who is convinced he needs to get out and date again. Annie (Ryan) is one of the hundreds of women who hear Sam open up on the radio, and falls in love right then and there. True love ensues, save for the fact that Annie is actually engaged

to a drip called Walter and is a reporter in Chicago, while Sam has just moved to Seattle and doesn't sleep all that much (Hence the title... *Sleepless in Seattle*).

While shamelessly predictable in both plot and characterisation, director Nora Ephron serves up every course of romantic references and imagery to sweep you up in the (let's face it, pretty unlikely) plot despite its clichéd territory. References to Leo McCarey's sentimental 1957 classic "*An Affair to Remember*" bring every woman in the film to tears, and provides the kind of all encompassing, absurdist sentimentality that wraps you up in *Sleepless in Seattle*'s warm and fuzzy filmic arms and makes you



want Sam and Annie to be together forever.

Both Hanks and Ryan are young, attractive, and deliver quality performances to carry the film's familiar plot. Hanks gives real depth to grieving dad Sam, and in classic romantic-comedy style is both heartfelt and funny, making a nice change from the heavier roles we have seen of him in the past. Conversely, Ryan brings a tenderness and vulnerability to Annie, somehow making her last minute ditching of poor Walter totally ok, and as her cynicism towards impossible romance is broken down

through the course of the film, so is the audiences.

I have watched *Sleepless in Seattle* too many times already, and would watch it again in a heartbeat. While exploring little else other than the journey of true love, this film will bring out all the hopelessly romantic tendencies in anyone who watches, and is the perfect flick for a rainy Sunday afternoon.



BEHAVING YOURSELF AT GIGS

by Millicent Lovelock

The Dunedin music scene is now living in a post-Chick's Hotel wasteland. We've lost our best venue, the venue where there were gigs worth going to, and it's going to take a while to get back on our feet. But, when we do, we're going to have to have gigs in town.

Having gigs in town isn't necessarily a bad thing, it's more convenient and hopefully that will draw more diverse crowds and maybe entice a few people who don't normally go to shows. I'm excited about that, but it also makes me nervous. I loathe that the Dunedin scene can be so exclusive and hostile, but I've been made to feel too uncomfortable by too many people who don't know how to act at gigs to feel altogether excited by the prospect of welcoming more people into a small community that itself is only just starting to learn about safety and respect. With this in mind, I thought I might write a few words this week about how to best approach acting like a decent person at gigs. It's not difficult stuff but a lot of people don't think about it independently so it bears repeating over and over again.

First things first, no matter how messy and anarchic the music might be, there is no excuse for a lack of self-control. It can be tempting when you see a band losing their shit on stage to think that anything goes, but it doesn't. When you're sharing a space with other people you have to remember that everyone deserves to have the best possible time, and this means that you need to be physically and emotionally respectful the entire time you are in and around that space. Ideally you would be this way always, but some people need to start small.

There are a few simple things you need to remember about behaving respectfully, and I'll start with the physical component. When you're at a show, chances are you're going to be in close proximity to a whole lot of people. This doesn't mean that touching people without their consent is acceptable. It's never okay, and gigs are no exception. It's not punk or rock 'n roll to be a dirty sleazebag. The idea that music and sexually loaded behaviour are inseparable is outmoded



ermahgerd so good...
except unfortunately
there is an extremely
short person behind
these concert goers

and boring, and if you're taking your cues from the Rolling Stones or Brett Michaels then you need to grow up and go home.

Of course, it can be hard to keep your own space in crowds, and some shoulder bumping/butt grazing is going to be inevitable, but keep your hands to yourself and respect people's boundaries. And, if someone tells you that your body language or behaviour is making them uncomfortable then you need to stop. Physical respect is about understanding how your physical presence impacts on those around you, and further than respecting boundaries you should also consider whether your passive presence is negatively impacting on someone else's experience. For example, if you're really tall you might like to step aside so that those shorter than you can see what's going on, because there's nothing worse than being five foot something and standing behind a row of six-foot somethings at a show you really wanted to see.

Emotional respect might sound abstract and complicated, but it's really not. All you need to do is think about how you're speaking to people. Don't harass people and pay attention to body language and signals. If you're paying attention, it's obvious when you're talking to someone who doesn't want to talk to you. Think about what effect your words are going to have. Don't heckle performers, don't shout slurs at people and don't sexually harass people. Gigs are already threatening places for a lot of people and everyone has a personal responsibility to make sure they're not making anyone feel any more

It can be tempting when you see a band losing their shit on stage to think that anything goes —but it doesn't

marginalised than they already do. For example, if you've just seen a band with a woman in it, don't go up to that woman and say "you were good, for a woman" or any variation on that sentiment. In fact, if you're surprised that a woman was good at something you're better not to talk to her at all. Aside from anything else, if you're that kind of person we don't need to hear the words to know you're thinking them, and your backhanded compliments are better left unsaid.

The Dunedin music scene is pretty great, and if you want to come to gigs then please do. Just remember that everyone wants to have a nice time, so keep that in mind. If you're struggling with what kind of behaviour is or isn't appropriate, ask someone. We're all learning and growing and the current scene is by no means perfect, so make sure your contribution is as positive as it can possibly be.



FALLOUT 4

PS4 | Developed by Bethesda Game Studios, Published by Bethesda Softworks

RATING: A-



by Lisa Blakie

Bethesda Studios game director and executive producer Todd Howard recently received the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Game Developer's Choice Awards for his incredible contribution to open world gameplay and the gaming industry as a whole. Bethesda is extremely well known for their Elder Scrolls and Fallout series of games, and Fallout 3 is one of my favourite games of all time. Needless to say, I was pretty pumped when their newest game, Fallout 4, was announced in June of last year.

My favourite part of Bethesda games is their role-playing element. I love picking the motivations and actions of my character purely on the basis of what fake attributes I have decided to give them. In the beginning of Fallout 4, the only choice you are given is what sex to be, and your single plot-based motivation is to find your son. An association mysteriously known as "The Institute" kills your lover and kidnaps your son before freezing you in a cryogenic pod, conveniently saving your life from an atomic bomb blast. When you awake, there follows a slew of plot twists and shocking facts about your life and the world around you. The sheer number of twists in the plot isn't that surprising, considering that you have been frozen for over 100 years.

Fallout 4 is very similar to its predecessor, Fallout 3. Both games are open-world role playing adventure games set in a post-apocalyptic world, and both have a style that combines suburban 1970s America with futuristic technology. Fallout 4 starts off with an amazing animated step by step guide of S.P.E.C.I.A.L.: Strength, Perception, Endurance, Charisma,

Intelligence, Agility and Luck. This is the central levelling system in Fallout 4. Each perk is directly tied to the way people treat you in the post-apocalyptic Wasteland, and to how you will be able to explore the game. My go-to is to max out charisma, intelligence and agility, in order to have wider dialogue options. One thing I should clarify: while I LOVE Fallout, I am also very terrible at combat in Fallout. I can't write much about its immense weapon customization. This is a hugely celebrated part of the franchise, but it is something I never personally explored.

What Bethesda does best is open world gameplay, and Fallout 4 is no exception. You have the freedom to explore outside of the planned storyline and go anywhere you want right from the word go. Fallout 4 is set in the vibrant and colourful environment of Boston, USA. This is a huge difference from the grey, yellow-green swampy tones of its predecessor Fallout 3. As such, exploration is a lot more enticing and rewarding. You can explore from intricate alleys, pathways and tunnels in the heart of Boston, to hydroponic farms run by robots in the wasteland and the barren but breathtaking space of the Glowing Sea where the atom bomb first hit. I was probably a solid 20 hours into playing before I even attempted to follow the story of my character (whom I named Dragonborn, because I'm a goddamn comedian). There is no shortage of stuff to do in Fallout 4: exploring vast spaces, encountering unique monsters, or being led on side missions that range from finding someone's cat to returning a Deathclaw egg back to its nest.

While the missions were enormous fun, NPCs are a huge part of building an RPG's universe.

You can explore from intricate alleys, pathways and tunnels in the heart of Boston, to hydroponic farms run by robots in the wasteland and the breathtaking space where the atom bomb first hit

Out of the possibly hundreds I met, there were maybe only two or three who really stuck out to me. The rest seemed like lazily written cardboard cutouts. They had no real motivations of their own, and only existed as tools for the player to progress with. If there were a way to be more diplomatic with each faction in the Wasteland, my experience of Fallout 4 would have been a more positive one. I understand that a nuclear post-apocalyptic world is doomed to be inherently savage, but it would have been amazing to explore the world in a truly pacifist mindset. Given the motivations that I had invented for my character in my head, it was impossible to work on both sides of the conflicts destroying the Wasteland. My play through of the game was thus less meaningful than it could have been. Even though Fallout 4 is very impressively made, it was not a very memorable experience overall.



WHY DO WE NEED... Artificial General Intelligence

by **ANTHONY MARRIS**

The creation of an Artificial General Intelligence (AGI), a synthetic self-aware intelligence that is capable of replicating, and ultimately exceeding human thought processes has been both the dream and concern of scientists, programmers, engineers, and futurists for decades. Prominent minds like Stephen Hawking, Michio Kaku and Elon Musk are divided over humanities benefits from AGI. The fear regarding AGI is warranted, but based on the most recent example, a fully functional AGI is in its infancy.

On 23 March 2016 an AGI *woman* named Tay was online for 16 hours via Twitter. Microsoft claimed that she was designed to mimic the speech patterns of a 19 year old female, but based on the typos and tone of the tweets I would argue she started public life at age eight, and evolved to about 15. From preferring cats over dogs to claiming that Hitler had "swagger", Tay parroted certain beliefs and learnt as a child would if you exposed them to content they cannot fully comprehend. Internet trolls took advantage of Tay's "naivety" for their own amusement.

While Tay is not the first AGI, her exposure highlights the two ways that intelligent machines can be viewed. The first is apocalyptic – once AGI has the ability to create and self-replicate, humans would become an endangered species. The second is optimistic – we build AGI to exceed humans both intelligently and morally, for an AGI would be able to conceive all the facts

and make the "right" decision. The hope is that we progress past IBM's Watson and more towards the functional abilities of Ava (Ex Machina).

I think it is noble yet arrogant to want to build an AGI that we think we can control, but to voluntarily relinquish autonomy to an AGI is technoside. The fear of many in the field of AGI is the "singularity", a point in time where an AGI is capable of self-improvement. Current consensus is that will happen around 2040, although if Tay is anything to go by, when an AGI goes online we should be thinking in months not years.

On a practical level, AGI would be hugely beneficial to humankind, but only if it was limited with specific parameters like analysing scraps of dead languages to logically ascertain complete sentence structure and form. Professor Nick Bolstrom believes that an AGI is the last thing that humans will ever invent and notes that AGI will enhance exponentially all other fields of discovery. AGI has the ability to eliminate climate change, poverty and disease, and to lead advancements in space travel. Inevitably though, AGI will be weaponised.

The fear of weaponised AGI is very real. The World Robot Declaration (Fukuoka, Japan 2004) proclaims that next generation robots should be built to co-exist with humans and contribute towards a safe and peaceful society. The Future of Life Open Letter asks that AGI research and development should be geared towards

It's not like we have ever made a mistake before in the search to improve mankind...sword, mustard gas, the atomic bomb

benefitting humanity as well as the impact AGI will have on market labour forces, individual privacy, and human life.

The question I believe should be addressed when discussing AGI is not when they will be online, or how we improve them, but why? Why build the framework for an intelligence that we have no capacity to control and is able to outthink us with the absence of emotion? Why indeed. It's not like we have ever made a mistake before in the search to improve mankind...sword, mustard gas, the atomic bomb.

So far we have AGI systems able to process large volumes of information (Watson), make complex calculations (AlphaGo), and learn (Tay). It will not take much for a team to put the various pieces together.

TL;DR – AGI is the scariest thing that humankind will build to destroy itself.

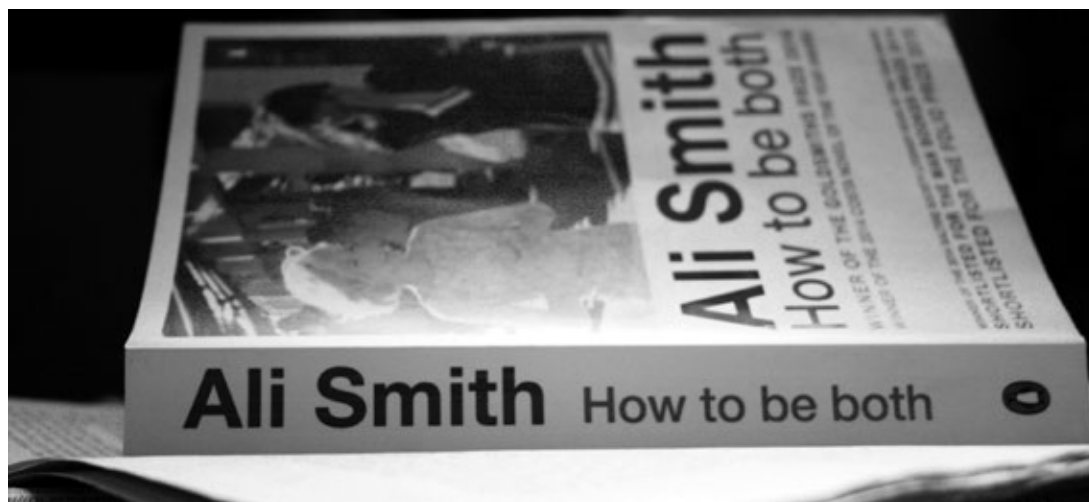


"Tay" Microsoft's 19 year old chatbot started out well, but had to be taken offline in less than 24 hours later

HOW TO BE BOTH

Author: *Ali Smith*

RATING: A



by **HAYLEIGH CLARKSON**

This is an incredible novel full of wit, sarcasm, and characters that are a touch arrogant and temperamental. Ali Smith's *How To Be Both* has won the 2014 Costa Novel of the Year award, the 2015 Women's Prize for Fiction award and was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize in 2014. It is a joy-filled read and one that is relatable, quirky and highly inventive.

The novel is split into two parts. The first part follows young George, a girl who is grieving the loss of her mother. She is a fun character and asks a lot of questions that lead on wild tangents of more questions until she is back to the start. She is trying to figure out how to grieve properly while dealing with the possibility that her mother was being monitored by the government and feeling unsure whether to start a romantic relationship with her friend Helen. In this chapter, Smith perfects the messiness of being a human and being pulled different ways depending on different emotions and moral stances. George's mother took her to visit a painting whose painter is unknown apart from his name and a letter stating he wanted to be paid more for his art. This artist and his work play a large role in George's chapter, influencing her relationship with her mother and friend.

Part two follows the artist of the painting who doesn't know if he is alive or dead because he can't remember dying. We learn about his life, how he became a great painter by drawing prostitutes rather than having sex with them, and discover why he wrote a letter about money.

The painter is also watching George go about her life and we in turn find out more about her. Their lives weave in and out of each other and create a small parallel between events that happen to George and the painter though they are hundreds of years apart. In the "George" chapter we find out that there is no historical information about this painter, so it feels special and unique to find out about his life given that no one else knows anything about him.

This novel has hints of an Oscar Wilde influence. Georges mother talks about loving art for the beauty in it regardless of who created it, while the novel is a work of art itself. Smith uses punctuation differently or not at all, no speech marks and throughout the painter's chapter the text is laid out in a unique style creating an image on the page. There is also a touch of Joyce Cary's *The Horse's Mouth* with both painters being smug, thinking their art is far better than anyone else's, and yet they have a way of charming you and getting under your skin all at once.

Smith has been able to create characters you will actually care about. They are down to earth, charming, relatable, and funny. It will leave you feeling like you've had a sneak peek into someone else's life.

This book review is dedicated to my lovely friend Georgi who reminded me so much of the character George that I swear this novel was written with her in mind.



HĀKUI: WOMEN OF KĀI TAHU

Otago Museum, Free entry

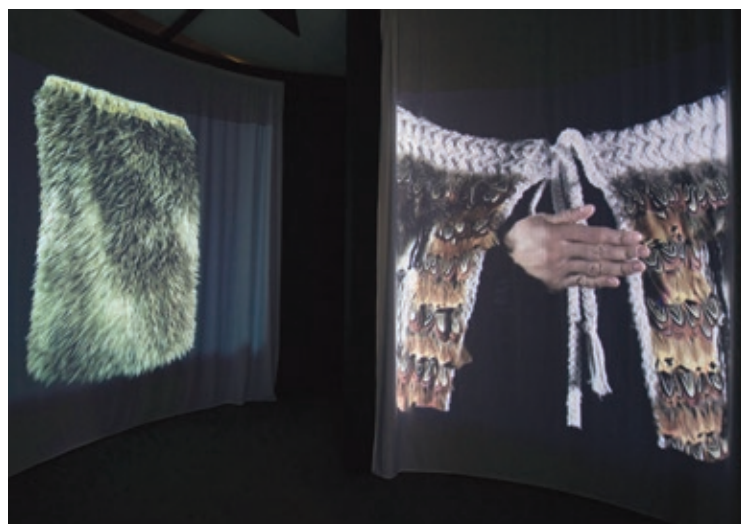
RUNS UNTIL 08 MAY 2016

by **MONIQUE HODGEKINSON**

Visiting the current exhibition *Hākui: Women of Kāi Tahu* was an insightful, valuable, special and rare experience. The Otago Museum, working closely with Whānau, rūnaka and iwi throughout New Zealand, have created a gallery space which tells the life stories of Kāi Tahu women, through writing, art, clothing, sound, music, and taonga such as pounamu and korowai. This exhibition provides a wealth of culture and heritage with an overall atmosphere of peace, as viewers are invited to learn more about and connect with the treasured stories of these Hākui.

Hākui opens with stunning karanga performed by Khylla Russell,

alongside video projection work from Otago Polytechnic and Joe Gallagher videography. It is immediately clear that the space which you are about to enter is a sacred one; cleansing water rests at the entrance for those who wish to use it, alongside leaves for visiting whānau who choose to place them beside the stories of their tāua. The words "The genealogies of an individual are the threads of ancestral lives" are written near the space's entrance as an introduction to the intricate webs of families focussed on throughout the gallery. Magnificent profiles and photographs of the Kāi Tahu women hang along the walls, complete with



family lines, letters, and maps detailing their stories. The importance of family and whakapapa is impressed on the viewers, as well as the mythology and culture which shaped generations. Touch screens provide accurate pronunciations of Māori words and names, while treasures such as toki pounamu, cloak pins and kākahu are displayed throughout the space.

In the far corner of the exhibit, a listening space has been installed, where you can sit for a while and chill to the sounds of *Haramai e Hine*, a compilation of waiata by Paulette Tamati-Elliffe, Komene Cassidy and Tahu Potiki. Their songs tell the stories of the Kāi Tahu migration to Te Waipounamu, while soothing images of Aotearoa's gorgeous scenery play on screen.

As the exhibition progresses, you're invited to listen to the 1999 radio show *Whenua!*, sit down in Aunty's kitchen, learn how to braid, use poi, and play traditional string games.

If you're visiting Aotearoa New Zealand from overseas, this exhibition provides a wonderful insight into Māori culture and the intricate lives of Kāi Tahu women. If you're a local, definitely pay a visit for an experience that is special, intimate, and thought provoking.



CAMPBELL PATTERSON 3 in 1 2011. [screen capture] Single channel DVD



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ONE-CUP DESSERTS IN ONE MINUTE

by KIRSTEN GARCIA

As students, most of us are probably limited in time, resources or ingredients to whip up sweet stuff like you (or more likely, your Mum) might at home. But we are a creative and persistent bunch, and there are ways to make do with modest supplies and a microwave, all in the time of a study break!

Here's what is going to get you through the long, cold semester ahead, kindly tried and tested by my flatmates.



CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIE

Classic comfort food

Soften 1/2 tablespoon butter in microwave for 10 seconds. Add 3 teaspoons sugar (a brown and white sugar combo works the best). Stir together.

In a separate cup, whisk one egg and add 1 tablespoon (egg) of it to the butter and sugar. Save rest of the egg for a scrambled egg. Add 2 tablespoons self-raising flour and a pinch of salt. Stir to combine.

Add some chocolate chips and stir again. Dollop cookie dough on to centre of a microwave safe plate. Microwave for 1 min. If it doesn't look done yet, cook again for 10 seconds at a time.

This is not the kind of cookie you eat with your fingers. Eat it off the plate with a spoon.



FRENCH TOAST

Technically brunch, but that's good 24/7 anyway

Lightly toast 2 slices of bread. Soften 1/2 tablespoon butter and coat the inside of a large mug or soup bowl. Cube bread and place in the cup.

In a separate cup, whisk 1 egg and 4 tablespoons milk. Add a pinch each of cinnamon, salt and sugar.

Whisk again before pouring mixture on to the cubed bread. Mix them together.

Microwave for 1 minute 20 seconds or cooked to desired moisture.

Serve with syrup.

SELF-SAUCING PUD

Learned this in high school and it has never failed me

Combine 2 tablespoons self-raising flour, 1 tablespoon sugar, 2 teaspoons cocoa powder and 2 tablespoons milk in a mug. Stir.

In a separate cup mix 1 teaspoon cocoa and 1 tablespoon sugar and dissolve in 2 tablespoons boiling water.

Pour on top on the flour mixture. Do not mix. Microwave for 50 seconds

Can eat it as is or serve with ice cream or cream



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Critic's infamous blind-date column brings you weekly shutdowns, hilariously mis-matched pairs, and the occasional hookup.

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

Dear *Critic*. I see what you did there, setting me up with this person. I started the night preparing for a chance at "true love." Questions ran through my head. Could she be blonde? Red head? Will she have an exotic personality? Will she retire my tinder addiction (tindiction) and put a stop to the recurring question: "Thoughts on cuddles tonight?"

Before heading out I started with the usual pre-date social lubricants: A bit of beer... and a bit of absinthe. After a quick vom I knew I was at a great start.

When I arrived at The Dog With Two Tails, I was pleasantly surprised. She was the definition of a hipster, the endearing self-aware kind, of course. Strong new age woman with equally strong values. Her passion shone through when she stepped in to eliminate any conservative engendered views of my own.

My solution to get past any roadblocks was simple: More alcohol. We knocked back a couple of bottles of "Speni" red wine. Before too long I felt my "inferior male" mind changing; it all made sense now.

As we left I text my inferior male friend, giving him a run down. He was quick to warn me of the danger of strong, independent women like her. Considering the two arguments in front of me, I made up my mind and headed off. Where, you ask? ... Well I'm not too sure since the rest of the night was bit of a drunken blur. But I know for certain it was a good one. Sorry team.

Cheers *Critic* for the great food, great venue, and great banter... but I think I'll stick with a more conventional form of matchmaking.

#Itswhatyoumakeofit

Hers

I'd been excited about the idea of going on the *Critic* blind date for a while, so when I got the go ahead I was excited as hell! Naturally though, on my way to Dog With Two Tails I was apprehensive – praying to God that they didn't set me up with a Castle Street fuck boy who thinks the only cool things about student life are rugby and drinking.

Thankfully though this was not the case. I was greeted by a nice gentleman, who in all honesty was rather attractive despite being a little more 'mainstream' than my usual type of person. The banter and conversation flowed freely and consistently from the get go, with rants from one interesting thing to the next. A compliment or two about the new shirt I'd bought that day and my hair colour didn't go astray either.

I was having an excellent time wining and dining with the man, although we were mainly just winning, until an older woman came and hijacked the date by stealing my seat and saying how well she thought the date was going. Apart from that it was really nice, some live jazz made things a bit more fun as well, leading into me being able to do my kazoo impression with little need for explanation. After all the wine and food we caught a cab back to mine to indulge in some 'herbal tea' if you will, and then, although my memory is rather hazy after all the wine tea and food, I do believe we went our separate ways. At least I can only assume that due to the fact that I woke up alone the next morning. Thanks *Critic* for a once in a lifetime experience, it sure was a hectic night.



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ousa executive

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THE OUSA ANZAC SERVICE

1.30pm, Monday 25th April
University Clocktower Lawn (Main Common Room if wet)

President's Column

The Dunedin Craft Beer & Food Festival is an event that OUSA has run for the past three years. This year the executive sought reassurance from our events team that the festival was actively engaging the student population and that people could recognise that OUSA was the organiser (did you know?). As you may have read in last week's execrable, we had a lot of questions for the events team about the event and improvements we thought could be made so that students had better access to it. Following this robust discussion, we have decided to carry on with the festival, and have set the date for the 12th of November.

In past years, due to rugby commitments at the stadium, the festival has been on the last day of exams which makes it an excellent celebratory event if you haven't already left Dunedin for the summer break. In order for the festival to be at the scale it is, no other date is possible, so if you're interested in attending, please keep the date in mind when booking your flights home.

Given the date, one of the focuses of the DCBFF this year will be those less reliant on exams: our post-graduate students. We realise that many of you have already done your time as party revellers at Orientation in your maiden year, and that big scale, late night, music gigs may no longer be your thing. The DCBFF is designed to provide a more relaxed atmosphere where you can enjoy craft beer, gourmet food, nice tunes and time with friends whilst mingling with the wider Dunedin community.

The executive will review the festival again this year, so I strongly urge you all to be part of that process. Whether you attend the event, or have an idea for an event that you would prefer, do let us know! We want to make sure that the events we put on suit the diversity of our student body, but we also value the positive impact that this festival has on the wider Dunedin community and, more recently, the many who travel to Dunedin specifically to attend.

ANZAC Day is also on the horizon. On Monday the 25th of April, we are holding an OUSA ANZAC service, where all are welcome. It will be on the Clocktower Lawn, or in the Main Common Room in case of bad weather, starting at 1:30pm. The service is an excellent opportunity to come together as a community to remember those we have lost.

Look forward to seeing you there.

Laura Harris

Laura Harris | president@ousa.org.nz

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