

Est. 1925  
**Critic**

ISSUE 02 06 MAR 2017

# Their Sea or Ours?

Shark Management  
in Australia

Saintly  
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Ditching  
Monogamy

Hyde St  
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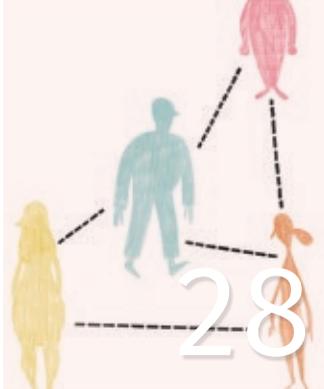
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Features



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Their Sea or Ours?

Exploring Shark Management in Australia. Unfortunately for all marine life, shark nets are blind and indiscriminate. By Sam Fraser-Baxter p20

Dating the Seven Foreskins of Jesus

Religious relics may or may not reveal the secrets of the divine, but scientists have begun to unravel the secrets of their history. By Lucy Hunter p24

Polyamory: Why Not Both?

Monogamy hasn't turned out as fulfilling as society said it would be. By Isaac Yu p28

News & Opinion

Columns

Culture

- 5 Editorial
- 7 News
- 12 News in Briefs
- 14 How to Keep talking when the World is Upside Down
- 15 David Clark
- 16 Politics
- 18 Sports

- 32 Music
- 34 Film
- 36 Art
- 37 Books
- 38 Games
- 39 Food

- 40 Letters
- 41 Science, Bitches
- 42 Voices from Beyond the Grad
- 43 Critic Booze Reviews
- 43 Economics Everywhere
- 44 Ethel and Hyde
- 44 Vitalogy
- 45 The Hell Hole
- 46 Cookin' Up Love
- 47 OUSA

Issue 02 | Mar 2017



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# No One But Us Can Ensure Our Voices Are Heard



**O**n Wednesday last week, a small group of protesters gathered to oppose the presence of global finance company Goldman Sachs on campus because of their investment in the Dakota Access Pipeline (see page seven for more information). The group was no larger than fifteen at any given time, and at several points throughout the protest shrunk to fewer than five.

This is yet another example of how 18-30 year olds have become, on the whole, largely apathetic to politics and as a result are being ignored by the political establishment. In the last general election, for example, the seven electorates with the lowest enrollment rates were also those with the highest student populations (North Dunedin was the 6th lowest nationally). The 18-24 age range also had the second highest total enrollments (behind only the ever increasing 70+ bracket), but have the equal lowest voter turnout (as a percentage of total enrolled), with the second lowest being the 25-29 age range.

We've gone from being politically disillusioned to politically disinterested, and our voices aren't being heard simply because we're not making them be heard, either at election time or, when in between elections, in protest at decisions that affect us. Local and National Government are ignoring our needs in preference of other demographics because of this disinterest, and will continue to exploit this until we provide them with the need to listen to us.

Students of old would not have sat apathetically in the face of constantly increasing tuition fees, cuts to university departments, the growing influence multi-national corporations wield in our political sphere, our own government's spying programme against us, TPPA, etc. There are an enormous amount of issues that affect our interests, as students and as citizens or residents. When was the last time a large student group stood up as a collective and forced change?

That's not to say there aren't examples of students protesting, the Goldman Sachs protest is one example of this. Another came last year when the Students for Environmental Action (SEA) protested outside the University Clocktower and helped to force Otago University to commit to divesting from fossil fuels. Unfortunately, this course of action is a rarity.

Even student politics is barely political anymore. It's now so far removed from political ideology that it's simply become a contest of 'popularity' and 'competency' as opposed to a disagreement between the ideological left or right. The OUSA Executive constantly make decisions on your behalf, many of which reflect the underlying ideological leanings of its members as a whole, but they certainly don't flaunt their political affiliations. If they can become elected without ideological affiliation, they can work on your behalf on the same basis. When you next see your student executive, ask them where they stand on the the political spectrum; their reply will inevitably be "we're not actually affiliated to a political ideology." Press them and then press them again.

Of the two arguably most famous protests at Otago University, the first came in the late '60s when students took to the streets to protest the university's prohibition on mixed flatting. The second came a little more recently, in the early '90s, when students of the day rioted before famously occupying the clocktower in opposition to the university imposing fee increases. This put at bay the increases until 1994 when the freeze on tuition fees was nationally lifted, and ever since then universities across New Zealand have leapt at the opportunity to cash in, adding four percent to student tuition fees year on year. It's not as though we have to sit back and think up novel ways of opposing these increases; our parents have already provided those for us.

**Joe Higham**  
*Critic Co-editor*

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**UNI NEWS**

# Protestors Oppose Goldman Sachs Recruitment Drive

By Joe Higham

A group of protesters gathered at the entrance to the Hunter Centre on Wednesday 1 March in opposition to a Goldman Sachs information session as a result of their sizeable investments in the fossil fuel industry.

Goldman Sachs, a global finance company, was holding the information session to advertise employment opportunities for students wishing to pursue internships at their Auckland office.

The company is heavily invested in the fossil fuel industry, specifically in Energy Transfer Partners (ETP), the oil conglomerate that is overseeing the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL), an underground oil pipeline that will stretch 1,825km across the USA from North Dakota to Illinois.

Though blocked in one of Barack Obama's final moves as president, the DAPL has been given a new lease of life by the Trump Administration. Once completed, the pipeline will carry as many as 470,000 barrels of crude oil every day.

Will Stovall, the organiser of the protest, was called by the Proctor Dace Scott, to ensure that the protest would be civil and not impede Goldman Sachs's ability to conduct their session.

One member of the protest, Donna (pictured), entered the Hunter Centre to get closer to the session, something the protesters were specifically told not to do. She was quickly approached by Campus Watch and asked to leave. She initially stood her ground, saying: "I am just



trying to ensure a better future for my children and grandchildren", but upon being told that she would be forcibly removed from the building if she continued to resist, agreed to peacefully leave of her own accord.

Speaking to Critic, Stovall reiterated that their "commitment throughout the demonstration was to respectfully encourage Goldman Sachs to divest from the Dakota Access Pipeline," before also "acknowledging that the Proctor and Campus Watch went out of their way to ensure the well-being and safety of both parties involved."

A University Spokesperson said, "The Career Development Centre supports the rights of all students on campus to protest in support of issues about which they are passionate. They also have a duty to ensure that relevant graduate and career opportunities are available to students who wish to avail themselves of these. Ultimately it's up to everyone to make their own mind up in accordance with their values."

## UNI NEWS

# Last Night's Bad Choices Now Have a Calorie Counts

By Joel McManus

A number of major players in the New Zealand beer industry have made the voluntary step to start featuring nutritional information labels on their beverages. Both Lion Nathan and DB Breweries, the two largest producers in the country, have got on board, and from this week onwards the labels will be featured on Speight's, Tui, Mac's, Heineken, DB Draught, Monteiths, Steinlager and Waikato Draught.

Unlike almost all other food products, alcohol is not required to print nutritional information under the Australia New Zealand Food Standards code. According to a spokesperson for FSANZ, alcohol is exempt because most alcoholic beverages have minor nutritional significance—except for their energy and alcohol content.

For many drinkers it is the energy content that is the most relevant consideration. Alcohol is very high in empty calories (about 90cal per standard drink for straight spirits), and that this fact is not prominently featured leads to uninformed consumers who underestimate their caloric intake. The absurdity of this is that while soft drinks are required to comply by the standard the exact same product with a shot of vodka in it receives an exemption.

Elaine Rush, Professor of Nutrition at AUT commended the beer industry's move, calling it "Good news," and saying, "Consumers should be informed. Alcohol can contribute a considerable proportion of energy to the daily diet—up to 20 percent—and more with binge drinking. Often these 'calories' are ignored or under reported in surveys. Alcoholic drinks are part of our food patterns and should be labelled the same way to inform consumers."

Students often bemoan the restrictive regulations placed on their drinking habits, but increasing consumer information would be one way to help people make better choices and reduce binge drinking in a positive and non-restrictive manner. When a box of Cruisers is forced to reveal it contains more than an entire day's recommended intake of calories, many may choose to think twice about their drinking habits.

The beer industry's move to encourage labelling may begin a movement to change the code to include wine and RTD products. There was previously a consideration in 2006 to further adapt the code to require nutritional information for RTDs, but the proposal was eventually dropped. While both the Australian Consumers' Association and New Zealand Food Safety were supportive of the initiative, it was opposed by several large producers.

The Distilled Spirits Association of New Zealand, an alcoholic lobbying group, claimed that they were "not aware of any instances where the public has been disadvantaged, misled or deceived from not reading nutritional information on product labels".

A number of industry players raised concerns regarding costs to re-label products, and in 2009 the decision was put on hold, and eventually superseded, when a Ministerial Council ran a review of food labelling law and policy.

The Alcohol Policy Council, the NZ Nutrition Foundation and several other consumer advocacy organisations made submissions on the matter of nutritional information labelling. However, the amount of these were eventually watered down by submissions from industry lobbyists. The code was changed to require alcoholic products to include nutritional labelling—but only if the product made a specific nutritional claim, like low-carb or gluten free.

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## NATIONAL NEWS

# Why Use Facts When You Can Use Anecdotes?

BILL ENGLISH'S MATE'S MATE TOLD HIM ABOUT SOME KID WHO "TOOK SOME DRUGS ONCE"

By Joe Higham

Prime Minister Bill English has blamed unemployment rates on young people failing workplace drug tests; despite admitting the comments he made were based entirely on anecdotal evidence.

English explained that high unemployment figures do not reflect a need to limit the amount of unskilled immigrants into New Zealand, as he has been called on to do, but rather they reflect the amount of young people who are failing workplace drug tests.

The 'record level' of net migration for 2016, which stood at 71,000, was up from approximately 66,000 in 2015.

Critic couldn't get hold of Bill English for an explanation, but Minister for Workplace Relations and Safety, Michael Woodhouse told Critic that we "have a Kiwis first policy, meaning employers have to first see if they can hire locals, before they employ migrants."

The Council of Trade Unions (CTU) described English's comments as a use of "alternative facts", with CTU President Richard Wagstaff going on to say: "We as a society are better than this. By completely overstating the issue of drug use by people looking for work, the Prime Minister justifies the widening of immigration policies."

Michael Woodhouse agreed with English, telling Critic "I also hear of numerous anecdotes from employers about drug use being a barrier to employment."

"Employers tell us that there are a number of barriers to employment for some young Kiwi jobseekers, including a mismatch between where the jobs and jobseekers are, skills mismatch, literacy, attitude, and recreational drug use."

A press release from Wellington Central MP Grant Robertson, entitled 'What's Bill been smoking?', said that the comments were a diversionary tactic to hide the National Government's failure in relation to housing.

"New Zealanders might get the impression that Bill English is the one on mind altering drugs, given the facts about how National has let down workers and young people over the last eight years."

## UNI NEWS

# Hyde St Residents "shocked" After Assaults

By Joel McManus



Residents on Hyde St have described feeling "shocked" and "unsafe" following a spate of assaults on the street in O-Week, culminating in three arrests being made.

A total of four assaults allegedly occurred around the student area in the early hours of the morning of 19 February, the Sunday prior to O-Week. Two of these assaults occurred on Hyde St, one of which left a male student with a broken nose after allegedly being struck with a bottle, while another suffered a broken jaw after allegedly receiving a 'king hit' (sucker punch to the head).

A police spokesperson confirmed that two local men, both 19 and non-students, were arrested at the end of last week and charged in relation to the Hyde Street incidents. One has been remanded in custody and the other is out on strict bail conditions.

On 25 February, the final day of O-Week, a 17-year-old was arrested for allegedly pulling a knife on two students on the corner of Hyde and Albany Streets. While police confirm that the knife was not used, the two did suffer minor injuries as a result of the alleged attack.

One Hyde Street resident, who did not wish to be named, said that "After [the assaults] there was definitely that element of 'it could happen'. I've been here two years now and if there was a big party on Hyde St I would probably feel a bit more nervous walking home by myself than I would have last year."

Hyde St resident Ursula Quince said "It's horrible, I did not expect to come into this when I moved in". Describing the police response she said, "It was massive. Especially on Friday there were so many police. There was a band playing and it was actually quite tame, but then there were heaps of cops and they blocked off the street."

Police are continuing their enquiries into the other assaults and request that anyone with information contact Dunedin Police on (03)471 4800 or, alternatively, report anonymously to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

The Proctor's office encourages students who witness any suspicious activity to either contact Police or Campus Watch. Campus Watch staff are always happy to hear from and assist students with any concerns they might have.

## UNI NEWS

# Anti-Glass Alliance Assemble

By Joel McManus

The Dunedin City Council (DCC) has engaged with local liquor store owners in a coordinated effort to reduce the number of glass products sold in North Dunedin, although they failed to nail down any specific plans.

The policy was a key election promise made by Dunedin Mayor Dave Cull during the 2016 local elections, and he made it a prominent point during the OUSA student forum.

Kevin Mechen, DCC Liquor Licensing Coordinator met with the owners/operators of Super Liquor, Leith Liquorland, and Henry's to discuss the challenges of glass litter in the

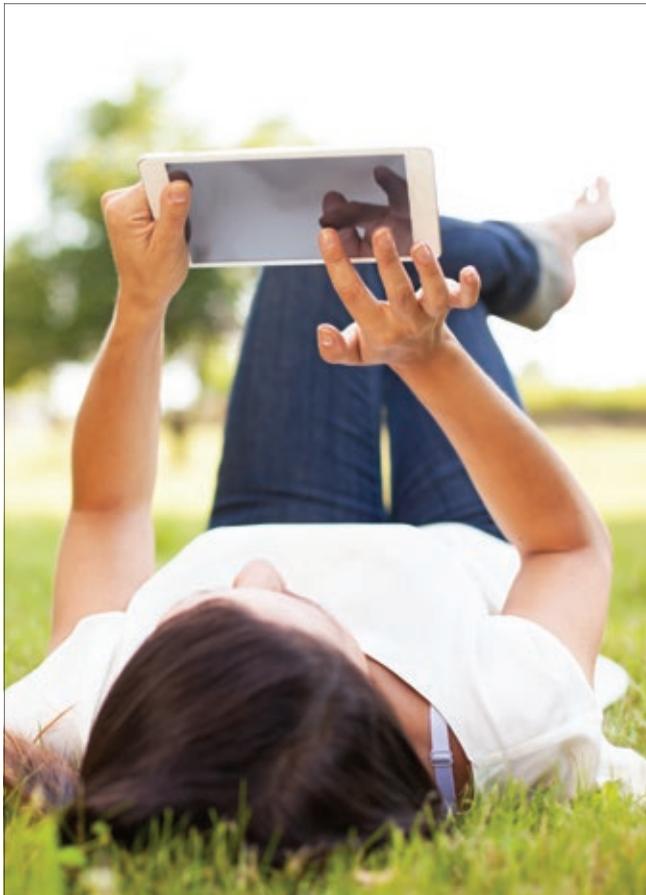
area and the ways they could help encourage a reduction in glass sales.

An analysis of sales data from the stores found that only three out of the top 20 products sold by liquor stores in North Dunedin were glass, and none featured in the top 10. The liquor stores also noted that they had little room to move in terms of sales and promotion, as they were franchisees and, as such, national chains determined their marketing schemes. While no concrete terms were reached, the licensees agreed to try to push plastic and aluminium products over glass.

According to the DCC General Manager Simon Pickford the council investigated other options to reduce or prohibit glass sales, such as imposing conditions or fines on licensees, but they received legal advice that local councils did not have the authority to stipulate packaging requirements on alcohol. Only the Governor General has that power through an Act of Parliament or regulation.

OUSA president Hugh Baird said "We appreciate the work that the council has done so far to encourage those alcohol stores to sell less glass, but I also think we should create a culture of drinking more tins than glass around the campus area. Glass is a pain in the ass for everyone, whether it's not having bins big enough to get rid of the bottle, or spending three days with tweezers trying to flick that tiny shard from your foot. So if we can create a culture where everyone moves to tins, I think we'd all be better off."

Pickford also asked all students to be aware that anyone who litters glass is liable for a fine of up to \$7,500, but said that "rather than issue infringements we would rather students took pride in their city, keep it safe and looking great."



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**NATIONAL NEWS**

# Annette King's Departure Leaves Jacinda Ardern Poised to Become Labour's Deputy Leader

By Anna Linton

Annette King has stood down as the Labour Party's Deputy Leader, with both herself and leader Andrew Little endorsing Jacinda Ardern as her successor.

"I did ask her [King] to stay on the front bench with the Health Portfolio, and she did consider it," Little told Critic, "but ultimately she stuck to her decision to step out of parliament in September and I totally respect that decision."

King's move comes amid media speculation that a Labour reshuffle was looming before the September General Election. Whether King was pushed or whether she jumped, she is a seasoned political veteran, and her departure has left a vacuum that it seems Jacinda Ardern will likely be filling.

Little stated that Ardern "represents a generation who are missing out because of the government's neglect on issues like housing, health, and education, and she'll bring that appeal [to younger voters] to the position."

Ardern has been a forerunner of the New Zealand Labour Party ever since her entrance into Parliament in 2008, when she was New Zealand's youngest sitting MP. A youthful left-wing demographic has aligned themselves with Ardern, which will certainly help Labour's recently damaged reputation.

Little went on to tell Critic that because of the "dynamic bunch of young MPs and candidates across the board [he] is feeling confident for the upcoming General Election."

Following King's resignation and the likely appointment of Ardern, all eyes will be on whether Labour's place in the polls rises as a result.

Wiremu-Stadtward-Demchick/Own work/Jacinda-Ardern-03/CC-BY-4.0/wikiimediacommons



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## POST-FACT WORLD

Here are some alternative facts for you to wow your friends & family with:

Cheap duvets are often filled with dryer lint.

43% of people become pilots because they can't bear to stand on the same earth as their enemies.  
12% just want to die.

If humans don't wear clothes for a long time, the skin on their shoulders and stomachs grows out in giant flaps, which fall to naturally cover the indecent parts of the body.

Paraguay and Uruguay are actually the same country. They pretend to be two countries in order to get two seats at the UN.

All hooved animals share a common ancestor with the clothes peg.

If left to grow, a zucchini will turn into a marrow, then a Swiss ball, then a chaise lounge, then a fire engine, and finally a cloud.

A newborn baby can carry 500x its own body weight on its back.

A4 photocopy paper is white because each piece has been brushed with the feather of a snow-white dove.

Penises are baby snakes. This has got to stop. As moral creatures we have to be satisfied with one type of genitalia and stop abducting snake babies.

Help is just a phone-call away. Unless you're a snake (no hands).

# WORLD WATCH



Nijmegen-Zuid, Netherlands

A 99-year-old woman was arrested after deciding she did not want to die without spending time in the cells. 'Annie' told her niece getting arrested was something she had always wanted to do, but hadn't. Her obliging niece then called up the local police, explained the situation and Annie was picked up from her house and taken into custody for a few minutes.

Tsuruta City, Japan

Around 30 bald Japanese men met at a hot spring facility last week to celebrate their hairless heads. The men competed in a tug-of-war style game in which suction cups, attached to a single rope, were attached to their heads. The aim of the game was to pull the cup off the other bald man's head.

## BUNCH OF FIVES

- 1** How do you know when your night in town is over?
- 2** What is your favourite food place on campus?

- 3** When you were five, what did you want to be when you grew up?

- 4** If you could redesign a shark, how many teeth would you give it?

- 5** What would you do if John Key pulled your pony tail?

**HUGH**—Schnitzelogy

- 1** When the conversation gets boring  
**2** ?  
**3** Batman  
**4** Keep them as they are  
**5** Headbutt him

**GEMMA**—Law

- 1** I don't go to town  
**2** Flying Squid  
**3** Librarian  
**4** Ten  
**5** File a harassment claim

**MICHAELA**—Law & Theology

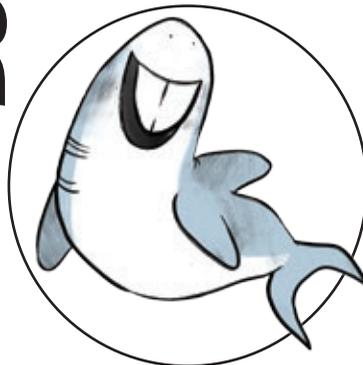
- 1** I just watch Netflix and go to bed  
**2** Sushi Station  
**3** Doctor  
**4** Same number of teeth but blunt  
**5** Laugh

**MELISHA & SHIVANI**—Health Sci

- 1** When we puke or it gets too quiet  
**2** Union grill  
**3** Jeweller or dance teacher  
**4** Four—two on top and two on bottom  
**5** Slap him

**DUCK**—Bread Science

- 1** When drunk people stop feeding me chips  
**2** The concrete outside the food court  
**3** A lovely swan  
**4** No teeth, just a nice healthy bill  
**5** File a lawsuit for sexual harassment.



# FACTS & FIGURES

Only **4** Clives & **13** Trevors were born in the UK in 2011 (**0** Clive-Trevors were born)

When the Mona Lisa was stolen from the Louvre in 1911, one of the suspects was **Picasso**

The UK Dyslexia Research Centre is in Reading.

George W Bush & Saddam Hussein had their shoes hand-made by the same Italian cobbler

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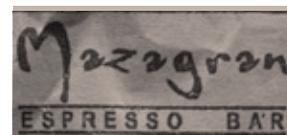
The most common sentence in the Harry Potter books is **'Nothing happened'**

A **'QUARTER POUNDER'** weighs less than a *fifth of a pound* when cooked

**Mozart** kept a **furt** diary

By Jack Trevella

**NEWS IN BRIEFS MADE POSSIBLE BY MUCH COFFEE COURTESY OF:**



# ODT WATCH

This week, the ODT proved yet again that they will brave nonsensical surrealism in order to make a pop culture reference.

**This wool was made for walking**

Nothing makes us at ODT Watch more aroused than a nice bit of old fashioned ODT ineptitude.



Not only is Dan Hendra not the OUSA president, he is also not the man in the photo (who is also not the OUSA president). Dan Hendra has worked professionally with the ODT for the past decade.

We will not be lured outside by anything less than a gazebo, a rose pergola and an ornamental pond.

**New boardwalk aimed at luring youth outdoors**

While we may have insulted the ODT in the past, ODT Watch would like to take this opportunity to formally acknowledge the excellence that is this column and its demure author.



And finally, the ODT's patented mix of hyperbole, tedious subject material and awkward grammar.

**Everyone is talking of painted rocks**

By Charlie O'Mannin

Issue 02 | Mar 2017

Bury, England

An amorous burglar broke into a sex shop and watched an erotic film before escaping with only a life-size inflatable doll in hand. The burglar smashed a hole through the roof of The Adult Shop, causing £1,500 of damage before he escaped through the same hole in the roof. When the owner of the shop returned in the morning, the DVD the burglar watched was still playing.

By Jack Trevella



## OPINION

# How to keep talking when the world is upside down...

The world has been turned on its head. Traditionally stable democracies are wobbling left and mostly right. Voters are supporting policies and politicians that would have seemed bizarre five years ago and seem frightening now. Perhaps it will happen in New Zealand. We don't know. The details differ from the USA to the UK to France to Holland, but everywhere, communication is breaking down. Truth itself is under attack.

Political polarisation on a grand scale is getting Humanities scholars out of bed very early in the morning. But as a long time teacher of Critical Thinking (PHIL105), I can't help but see this as a very personal everyday problem.

How can we live together in an environment in which disagreement is filtered out of our Facebook feeds, and where politicians and activists feel entitled to make up facts and abandon rational debate?

What we desperately need is effective, honest, productive argument with people whose passionately held beliefs are diametrically opposed to our own. Be it immigration, jobs, climate change, abortion, taxes—all manner of political, cultural and scientific ideas—we have to be able to talk about that which divides us. But how do you do that? Here are some handy tips for having successful arguments with someone you just don't get and who doesn't get you.

By Associate Professor James Maclaurin

*James Maclaurin is a philosopher of science at the University of Otago. He has a particular interest in the life sciences and computing and information science (particularly artificial intelligence and its impact on humanity). We asked him to talk about how to argue constructively.*

1

Keep a cool head. Even if you are passionate about what you are arguing for, nothing will be served if the other person thinks you are trying to intimidate them.



2

Make the debate rational. Even if you are not sure whether the other person is being honest and serious, take them seriously. Reason the way you think we should, when arguing about important issues. (Hint: when you argue with someone, you should be trying to learn from them, not prove that they or their friends or their compatriots are less smart than you).



Work out what you disagree about.

Is it the facts or is it the values you hold? State your reasoning. Ask for theirs. Tell them why you think your argument is convincing. Ask them why they think theirs is. Keep going until you both understand how each other's arguments work and what assumptions they rest on.

3



If you disagree on the facts, visit [factcheck.org](http://factcheck.org).

I recommend their article on "How to Spot Fake News". Talk about evidence. Tell them what sort of evidence would make you change your mind. Ask them what would change theirs. If you can't agree on the facts and it really matters to both of you, consider taking a course. Physics, History, Chemistry, Criminology, Genetics, you've come to the right place.

4

5

If you disagree about values, work out what values are doing the work.

I value my sleep because I value my health, because I value happiness. So happiness is the fundamental value here. The others are just instrumental. Fundamental disagreements about values are common and they can be managed. Politics, Philosophy, Sociology, Anthropology, History and many other departments are full of expertise about making diversity a fuel for success, not a recipe for disaster.



6

See the other person's point of view. If you find this hard, try writing down your arguments and then reading out each other's. Tell them what you think they think. Ask them what they think you think.



7

Acknowledge bias. Human beings have built-in cognitive biases. Amongst other things, we are much more likely to be persuaded by arguments and evidence that support the beliefs we currently hold. Check out the Wall Street Journal's red and blue feed experiment (graphics.wsj.com/blue-feed-red-feed/) to see just how polarised social media is making public debate. So ask yourself "how might people disagree with me?" Try out your argument on people you don't know so well or you think of as holding different opinions to yours.



8

Be practical. Acknowledging the differences between you, how do you think we should best live together? What concessions should we make to one another?



...and once you've done all this work, make it count for something. Keep talking to people outside your filter-bubble. New Zealand has an election later this year. So, be it here or in the land you call home, get out and vote!



DAVID CLARK

## Introducing the MP / O-Week



There's a real buzz in Dunedin during Orientation Week. Cafés and bars come alive, the streets fill with people exploring their new home and empty University colleges and flats transform into hubs of activity.

I hope you have created plenty of good memories this O-Week, and have made new friends that will last a lifetime. The shared experience of Otago students is something that's really unique and special to Dunedin.

This O-Week I got to witness a real spike in political interest on campus. Labour sign-ups on

the Monday of O-Week were roughly double the number for the entire O-week last election year. Those I met at Tent City were keen to find out more, and help us to change the government later this year.

Students I spoke with were extremely supportive of Labour's plan to introduce three years of free post-secondary education. Many agreed that the most important investment we can make as a country is in our people. It showed me that the drive to be a part of creating a fairer society is well-represented amongst the Otago student body.

I've written this column in Critic over recent years, and I'm thankful that I continue to have this opportunity. As the local electorate MP, I value the ability this column has to have an ongoing conversation about issues that matter to students. I believe an MP is only as good as the people they talk to, and I can assure you that the feedback I get from this column helps me to represent you better in Parliament.

If we haven't yet met, please do take the chance to share your views when you see me on campus, having lunch in the Link, or at one of my regular campus clinics. If you have an issue that needs urgent attention, like a problem with StudyLink, Immigration or a landlord, please make the short trip across the road to my office at 32 Albany Street (between the Captain Cook tavern and the Rob Roy dairy) and we will see how we can help. The most useful stuff my office does often doesn't make headlines!

I am proud to represent the people of Dunedin North in Parliament. I try my absolute best to represent you well in Parliament, but please don't let me die wondering what you think. I'm easily contactable on Facebook (fb.com/DavidClarkMP) or by email david.clark@parliament.govt.nz.



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## INTERNATIONAL

# Struggle, What Struggle?

By Tyler West

The entirety of 'things wot gon dun happened to students last year' can't in all honesty be contained in a listicle. Much as in years before, and likely years to come, 2016 was an often bloody year for anything that might resemble a real 'student movement' worldwide.

In everything that made last year a horrible one, a lot of what made it horrible for students vanished into the miasma of 24/7 crisis news. Between natural disaster and political disintegration, an often fierce struggle for a better world played out in disparate movements across the globe.

A national student strike ground the education system to a halt in Spain. Students joined thousands of militant workers fighting labour law reform in France. Youth riots carried the ragged flag of the Arab Spring into its fifth year in Bahrain. 18-year-old Danish Mazoor was shot dead at independence clashes in Kashmir. Sudanese student Abubakar Hassan was killed by security forces at Kordofan University, as was Peter Ofurum at the University of Port Harcourt in Nigeria. Occupations gripped over 200 schools in São Paulo, Brazil to stop their closure. 70,000 marched against education cuts in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Perhaps it is all too much to comprehend and maybe even not particularly connected to us here in the depths of the Australasian world. But for whatever glimmer of internationalist idealism it's worth, here are some of the most dramatic, destructive, and occasionally inspiring things to happen to students in 2016.

## UNIVERSITY OF PORT MORESBY PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Closest to us geographically, 17 students at the University of Port Moresby in Papua New Guinea were injured when police opened fire on an anti-government demonstration calling for PM Peter O'Neill to step down over corruption allegations. The shooting sparked riots and unrest throughout June in the capital and other parts of the country. Buildings and cars were torched on the campus, as well as claims of police stations being stormed by locals in the Highlands Region. O'Neill has been ducking and weaving attempts to bring him to court since serious investigations began three years ago.



Nicolás15/CC-BY-SA-3.0/wikimedia

## NEW EDUCATION REFORM CHILE

Repeated clashes between students (with help from sympathetic workers) and riot police (with help from the military) broke out at several major demonstrations in Chile over demands that the government cease stalling plans to introduce free tertiary education. Numbering up to 100,000 in Santiago on several occasions, efforts to quell the protests, which have been ongoing for a decade, went as far as the deployment of police to particularly restive campuses ahead of demonstrations to 'dissuade' students from skipping class to attend.

## OAXACA TEACHERS' STRIKE, MEXICO

Over a dozen people were killed in widespread fighting between education workers and police in Oaxaca, Mexico during a four month long national teachers strike. The strike, which largely ended in September, pitched teachers and their students against the government over the arrest of union leaders and the introduction of education reforms that proposed instituting bulk-testing for teachers across the education system.



David-Holt/CC-BY-2.0/flickr

## OROMIA PROTESTS, ETHIOPIA

Since August, over 500 people have been killed and thousands detained in Ethiopia during anti-government protests to end political repression, human rights abuses, and land seizures. Students have been particularly mobilised alongside workers, Oromo farmers and human rights organisations. Ongoing since late 2015, the protests are over a plan by the Ethiopian government to integrate the capital, Addis Ababa, with the surrounding towns, which would have required the dislocation of local Oromo farmers from their land. Around 10 students were killed in a massacre on 10 December 2015, immediately preceding the wave of repression last year.

Student-protests/Manfred-Werner-Tsui/CC-BY-2.0/flickr

Jovenna/CC-BY-SA-4.0/wikimedia

Protest-in-Whitehall/avid-Holt/CC-BY-2.0/flickr



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## EDUCATION SECTOR PURGE, TURKEY

In the aftermath of Turkey's failed 15 July coup d'état attempt, some 44,000 Ministry of Education workers and over 7,000 academics have been sacked or arrested by the government as part of a massive ongoing state purge. A determined push has hit the education system to remove accused sympathisers of the exiled preacher Fethullah Gülen, a former ally of President Erdoğan and now the favoured bogeyman of the ruling government (alongside Kurdish separatism). The wave of sackings has also seen over 1,000 private schools and 15 universities closed by the state, alongside hundreds of other institutions from trade unions to media outlets and medical clinics.



## FEEs MUST FALL CAMPAIGN, SOUTH AFRICA

Reignition of the Fees Must Fall campaign in South Africa saw occupations sweep university campuses across the country in August, demanding that no increases be made to tuition fees in 2017. The same demand had been achieved in the initial 2015 occupation wave, with many angling for the eventual rollout of free tertiary education across South Africa. The University of Witwatersrand Vice-Chancellor Adam Habib estimated, during initial discussions with students early last year, that a R8 billion (about \$850 million NZD) increase in government funding of tertiary education would suffice to cover all tuition fees. As percentage of GDP South Africa spends considerably less on tertiary education (0.7%) than both the OECD average (1.3%) and many of its continental neighbours (Ghana spends twice as much at 1.4%).



## NATIONAL

# Jacinda Ardern a smart pick for Labour deputy

By George Elliott

Labour's caucus will elect a new deputy leader this week and they'd be stupid to not be on board with Jacinda Ardern.

Annette King's most recent tenure as deputy was always meant to be a temporary arrangement, but she did leave with one last battle cry last week, sternly telling off the news media for floating the idea she was stepping aside for Ardern.

Auckland has fallen in love with her. Her coffee-'n'-muffin balances Little's union toast.

Regardless, Ardern magically appeared on que when King announced her resignation. Labour shouldn't be afraid to own this decision—it's a cool move.

Jacinda (first name basis a bonus) has become a well-known campaigner for the Labour Party. She's a brand in her own right. Young Labour see her as a hip role model. Auckland has fallen in love with her. Her coffee-'n'-muffin balances Little's union toast.

Ardern's recent victory in the Mt. Albert by-election was an effective springboard, but it wasn't her first. In 2014, she energised both the party's senior members and student groups when she ran as Grant Robertson's deputy in Labour's leadership election, winning with caucus and party membership, despite losing to Andrew Little and his union backers.

Ardern is perceived as authentic and confident on campus and main street alike. She's become a recognisable voice on national television and radio, pushing hard on the government's sore issues: the Auckland housing crisis and child poverty. Better yet, she's not associated with the last Labour-led government.

She could even become more popular than Andrew Little, and that's a realistic risk. God forbid, imagine if there was another jading, "soul-searching" leadership competition before September, poisoning Labour's chances and giving Patrick Gower another thing to smirk at.

Ardern represents a refreshing generational shift in New Zealand politics, which could be what's needed in a party that still looks unable to shake off its bumbling image, communicate its relevance and challenge a stale third-term National-led government.

## SUPER RUGBY

# Highlanders Sunk by Chiefs

By Jamie Green

If there's one problem with sports, it's that you have to pick sides, one side wins and one side loses. No other entertainment product has this problem. Unfortunately, I was on the losing side on Friday night as the Chiefs made the trip to the lunch box to take on our beloved Highlanders. It was lucky game number seven for the Chiefs, who had lost their previous six on the trot to the mighty south, but it was really a game that the Highlanders lost more than the visitors won.

Bad decision making and poor basic skills let the home side down. The Highlanders gifted tries like they were Indome Noodles at orientation and dropped more balls inside the Chiefs twenty-two than

Hermitude had dropped bass the night before. On more than one occasion, the Highlanders were poised to attack, only to spill the pill trying to force an extra pass that wasn't needed.

For their part, the Chiefs had a rock solid defensive wall that would have made Trump envious, but other than a moment of set piece brilliance that saw Hika Elliot sneak down the blindside for a try from a lineout, the Chiefs could just sit back and wait for gifts. Two early intercept tries killed the home side's confidence and with that the game was lost.

On a positive note, new signing Tevita Li looked dangerous, and the Highlanders lead on every stat other than the one that

mattered—the score. Another positive about the game was the atmosphere. You have never really been to a game until you have been to one in the Zoo. The heaving mass of sweat and foundation was in fine voice on Friday. The Zoo is the one place where freshers and 3rd years are on equal footing, making for a night of education for one and a sleep-over in their old hall and a walk of shame in the morning for the other. Highlanders games are one of the true highlights of any degree at Otago and, unlike 9am lectures, they are not to be missed.

## CHIEFS 24

Tries: James Lowe 2, Hika Elliot Aaron Cruden 3 cons, pen

## HIGHLANDERS 15

Lima Sopoaga 5 pens

## HALFTIME: 14-9

Great atmosphere, too many mistakes from the 'Landers



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# Black Caps in Dunedin—Tips & Tricks

By Charlie Hantler

At the time of writing, Martin Guptill has just put the South African bowling attack to the sword, with an undefeated 180 leading the Black Caps to a 7 wicket win. This levels the series at 2-2 with the final game to be played in Auckland on Saturday, thus by the time you're reading this, the champagne will either have been popped or handed over to AB De Villiers and the South Africans.

What this One Day International series has done, however, is highlight just how evenly matched these two squads are, and build some immense anticipation for the upcoming test series. This series begins in our beloved Dunedin on Wednesday, and it is expected that the local body of students and old train-watchers will pack out the beautifully scenic University Oval. With that in mind, here are a few tips on what to expect:

## 1 Tom Latham to Silence the Critics

Since taking the wicket-keeping gloves for the ODI team, Latham has been in woeful form, scoring just nine in his last five innings. He is a different prospect in the longer form though, and looks to be NZ's best opening batsman since Mark Richardson. Expect him to combat Rabada and co. strongly, and even consider putting some money on him for a century.

## 2 Southee to do Likewise

Southee is another man who has some serious questions to answer. His ODI place is in doubt, and his test place is by no means certain either. The University Oval does, however, offer fair assistance to swing bowlers, and this is when Southee comes into his element. After taking 8 wickets in the last test against Bangladesh in Christchurch, look for him to cover up his ODI woes with a few crucial wickets here. The good money is on a five-fer in the first innings.

## 3 Hashim Amla to Make a Mockery of the Bowling Attack

Perennially viewed as one of the best test batsmen on the scene with an average of 49.99, Amla continues to anchor the immensely powerful South African batting lineup. Although it offers movement, the Oval pitch also gives batsmen plenty of reward if they can endure this and get set. I'm unsure what the odds are, but with 26 centuries and 31 50s, it's well worth putting some money on Amla for a 100.

## 4 The Black Caps to Come Close to a Result

Although the dominance of this South African side must be stressed, it also has to be mentioned that the Black Caps are still undefeated at the University Oval. That is a record they won't be too eager to relinquish anytime soon. This statistic simply adds to the excitement—this game should be a thriller.

## 5 Mitchell Santner to Continue his Development

"Slinky" as he is fondly known by the crowds, has slowly begun to resemble one of our all-time greats, Daniel Vettori. With his wily off-spin and more-than-handy batting ability, he is becoming a vital cog in the NZ outfit. The partnerships between him and BJ Watling, who is well-renowned for his capability to make the tail wag, will be crucial if the Black Caps suffer a traditional collapse. With his slower starts to innings, test cricket is the ideal platform. Also look for him and Neil Wagner to bowl long, grueling spells and earn key wickets.

## 6 Philander to Warrant the Glen McGrath Comparisons

While Vernon Philander doesn't have extreme pace, he has just about every other tool: unerring accuracy, sharp speed and the ability to move the ball both ways. This skill is reflected in his outrageous test bowling average of 21.40, and, when watching him play, it is easy to see that the comparisons to Australian great Glenn McGrath are well-warranted. Just like Wagner, Philander is exactly the type of bowler who will thrive on the Dunedin pitch; and with Steyn out, he takes the mantle as the leader of the attack. Book him in for a 5 wicket-bag in at least one innings.

**MORE RUGBY**

## Highlanders Watch

Saturday March 11th  
VS Blues in Auckland, 7:35 PM

At the time of reading, the Highlanders will either be 1-1 after dismantling the Crusaders, or 0-2 after a sad loss to our Southern rivals. With Barracuda Buckman back, I know where my money is. The game against the Aucklanders will be a huge test, as they look much improved and Tana Umaga is marshaling the troops superbly. Watch this space.

### Likely XIs:

New Zealand: Jeet Raval, Tom Latham, Kane Williamson (C), Ross Taylor, Henry Nicholls, BJ Watling, Colin De Grandhomme, Mitchell Santner, Tim Southee, Neil Wagner, Trent Boult.

South Africa: Stephen Cook, Dean Elgar, Hashim Amla, Faf Du Plessis, JP Duminy, Temba Bavuma, Quinton De Kock, Vernon Philander, Keshav Maharaj, Kagiso Rabada, Morne Morkel.

Sam Fraser-Baxter

# THEIR SEA OR OURS?

**B**ottlenose dolphins, grey nurse sharks and green turtles were among the dead hauled out of shark nets around Sydney in 2015.



THE NEW SOUTH WALES GOVERNMENT'S most recent performance report details the marine life captured by the Shark Meshing programme.

2015 recorded 748 "marine life interactions" with the nets, up from 189 in 2014. Of the animals caught by the nets, 86% were threatened, protected, or non-target species, while the other 14% of animals caught were target shark species.

To many, the results of the report are horrific. Environmentalists who excoriate the state's meshing program will likely describe the results as an abysmal, archaic, atrocious failure.

Unfortunately for all marine life, shark nets are blind and indiscriminate. The mesh size is designed to entangle sharks, which is also well suited to catching dolphins, rays and turtles.

Since 1937, shark nets have been deployed seasonally at 51 beaches around Sydney. In theory, shark nets reduce the risk of humans and sharks encountering one another, by lowering the number of sharks in close vicinity to popular beaches. However, 2015 saw a huge surge in marine life being entangled in the nets.

The report describes two performance indicators; the first being to reduce the risk of shark attacks in the meshing programme region. Just one water-user was bitten at a beach while nets were set in the Sydney meshing region. The second performance indicator is to "minimise the impact on non-target and threatened species".

The report doesn't explicitly state whether the performance indicators were achieved. While the NSW Department of Primary Industries might argue that the programme was a success in protecting the beaches around Sydney, their aim of minimising ecological harm seems to be a hopeless failure. The vast majority of marine life caught was non-target.

Given the spike in marine life caught by the programme, it seems surprising that the report hasn't initiated meaningful discussion about how the risk of shark attacks can be better managed in Sydney.

In contrast, West Australia's 2014 Imminent Threat Policy, dubbed the 'shark cull' by media, was hugely controversial. Following

If a shark was hooked, alive and over three metres in length, it would be shot in the head

an unprecedented string of seven fatalities between 2010 and 2013 in WA waters, Premier Colin Barnett announced the state's Imminent Threat Policy. The policy saw the deployment of 72 baited drum lines near popular WA beaches. The programme was simple - if a shark was hooked, alive and over three metres in length, it would be shot in the head. The premise of the policy was that, by lowering the population of large sharks, the likelihood of humans and dangerous sharks encountering one another would be reduced.

The announcement of the policy saw instantaneous public outcry. Scientists excoriated the programme as an immoral, unscientific witch-hunt. Protests saw thousands turning out to condemn the cull at localities like Cottesloe Beach in Perth (which experienced a fatality in 2011), Manly NSW (where, perhaps ironically, a shark net was set a few hundred metres off shore behind the protestors) and even internationally in New Zealand and South Africa.

The shark cull was depicted worldwide as an environmental catastrophe, an unjust calamity driven by irrational, emotional fear. Over 100



shark experts signed an open letter decrying the cull. It even saw the vandalism of WA Premier Collin Barnett's office by a protester, who took to his office windows with a hammer, before spraying the words 'EGO MANIAC' in fluorescent, splattered all caps.

On 26 January, the programme's first victim, a tiger shark, was hauled up, shot in the head four times with a 22. calibre rifle, dragged out to sea and dumped. Media documented the execution-style death and pandemonium ensued. Social media erupted into a furore of frenzied protest.

Images of the tiger shark being shot in the head offered a potent narrative for those who opposed the cull. It flipped the criminalised media portrayal of sharks as worthy of prosecution. It depicted sharks as vulnerable and man as dangerous.

Barnett's catch-and-kill dictatorship in the waters around WA was in full swing. As sharks continued to be hauled up, shot and dumped, the torrents of criticism directed at the WA government only intensified. The popular media, who have for so long offered sensationalised and damaging reports of sharks as man-eaters, had a field day tearing into the government's drum lining policy.

The drum lining trial ended in April, and in September Colin Barnett announced the discontinuation of the programme. During the ten-week drum lining trial, 172 sharks were caught. Fifty of the sharks caught were tiger sharks measuring over 3 meters, which were subsequently shot and dumped. No great whites were caught.

While no shark attacks were recorded in WA waters during the drum line trial, any

---

statistician would be hesitant to attribute success to the policy. Correlation does not mean causation. Shark attack statistics are patchy and variable, meaning that making sense of a minuscule sample size over such a small amount of time is inadvertently flawed and wildly inaccurate.

When drum lining had kicked off in February, WA fisheries minister Ken Baston was asked by the media for a response to the protest in Manly against the shark cull. Baston rightly pointed out that shark nets had been used around Sydney for years.

Baston's answer insinuated hypocrisy – how could the NSW public protest the shark cull, when sharks were also being killed in NSW for the same purpose of protecting water-users?

Of all marine life caught by the WA drum line programme, only 4.6 percent was non-target. The statistic provides a stark contrast with the NSW Shark Meshing programme, whose non-target marine life comprised 86 percent of 2015's total catch.

So why, then, does a programme that did seem to manage to successfully "minimise the impact on non-target and threatened species" come under intense public scrutiny, while a programme that kills a huge amount of non-target and endangered marine life is largely ignored? The answer may lie in the historical longevity of the meshing programme.

The Shark Meshing programme dates back to the mid 1930s. Between 1927 and 1930, NSW recorded nine fatal shark attacks. The string of fatalities installed a new breed of post-war paranoia in the NSW public.

The harbinger for NSW's war on sharks was Victor Copleson, a doctor and advisor to

# Their aim of minimising ecological harm seems to be a hopeless failure

the Surf Lifesaving Association of Australia. Coppleson believed the public were being misled by research stating that sharks do not intentionally bite people. Coppleson believed sharks were responsible for attacking humans and set out to change the rhetoric that explained shark attacks.

In 1933, Coppleson published "Shark Attacks in Australian Waters" in the Australian Medical Journal. "The evidence that sharks will attack man," he argued, "is complete".

Sharks were no longer benign and mysterious creatures of the deep, but prowling monsters waiting for man to enter the ocean. Coppleson ignited an all out war on sharks, a battle of man against beast. In 1937 the NSW government introduced the Shark Meshing programme.

Ever since, shark nets have been deployed every summer in Sydney. They're out of sight and out of mind. Their success in reducing fatal shark attacks has been trumpeted by the NSW government and the public rarely questions their deployment each summer. They were installed at a time when sharks were believed to intentionally hunt man.

Nowadays the prevailing scientific rhetoric is that shark attacks are commonly a case of mistaken identity. If sharks did want to hunt humans, many more would die by shark attack every year. Science has taught us that the ocean's eco-systems badly need sharks.

Our modern understanding of sharks means that the implementation of any new policy that involves killing sharks is often met with fierce opposition. But at the same time, we rarely question the continuation of old policies that have killed sharks for decades.

After the WA shark cull in January 2015, the then NSW Premier Mike Baird announced, "One thing we will not be doing in NSW is culling sharks". Baird continued to offer this sentiment of not "culling sharks" throughout 2015.

His tactful choice of the word "cull" instead of "kill" suggested to the public that his government would never do a thing as barbaric as the WA government, while ignoring the fact that his government does indeed kill many sharks, as well as dolphins, turtles and rays, each year.

Considering the vast array of non-target marine life caught by the Shark Meshing programme it seems bizarre that the issue is swept under the rug in NSW. Why are we so critical of new policies that involve killing sharks, but comparatively complacent when it comes to criticising old ones?

An image of a shark entangled in net doesn't seem to elicit the same panicked emotional response that an image of a shark with a hook in its mouth and a gun to its head does. Hooking and shooting a shark seems barbaric. Entangling and drowning a shark doesn't.

Reporting of the WA shark executions created a simple narrative for the public: sharks bit people in WA, so the government, led by a myopic tyrant on a violent vendetta, tasked his fisheries goons with the simple mission of hunting and executing all large sharks, guilt or innocence irrelevant. The policy was understandably controversial.

In December last year, the NSW government announced the forthcoming trial of five shark nets on the North Coast. The announcement came in the wake of an unprecedented spate of attacks around Ballina. While the deployment

of the nets has been controversial for many environmentalists living in the area, the Baird government has managed to avoid significant criticism by the NSW public and media.

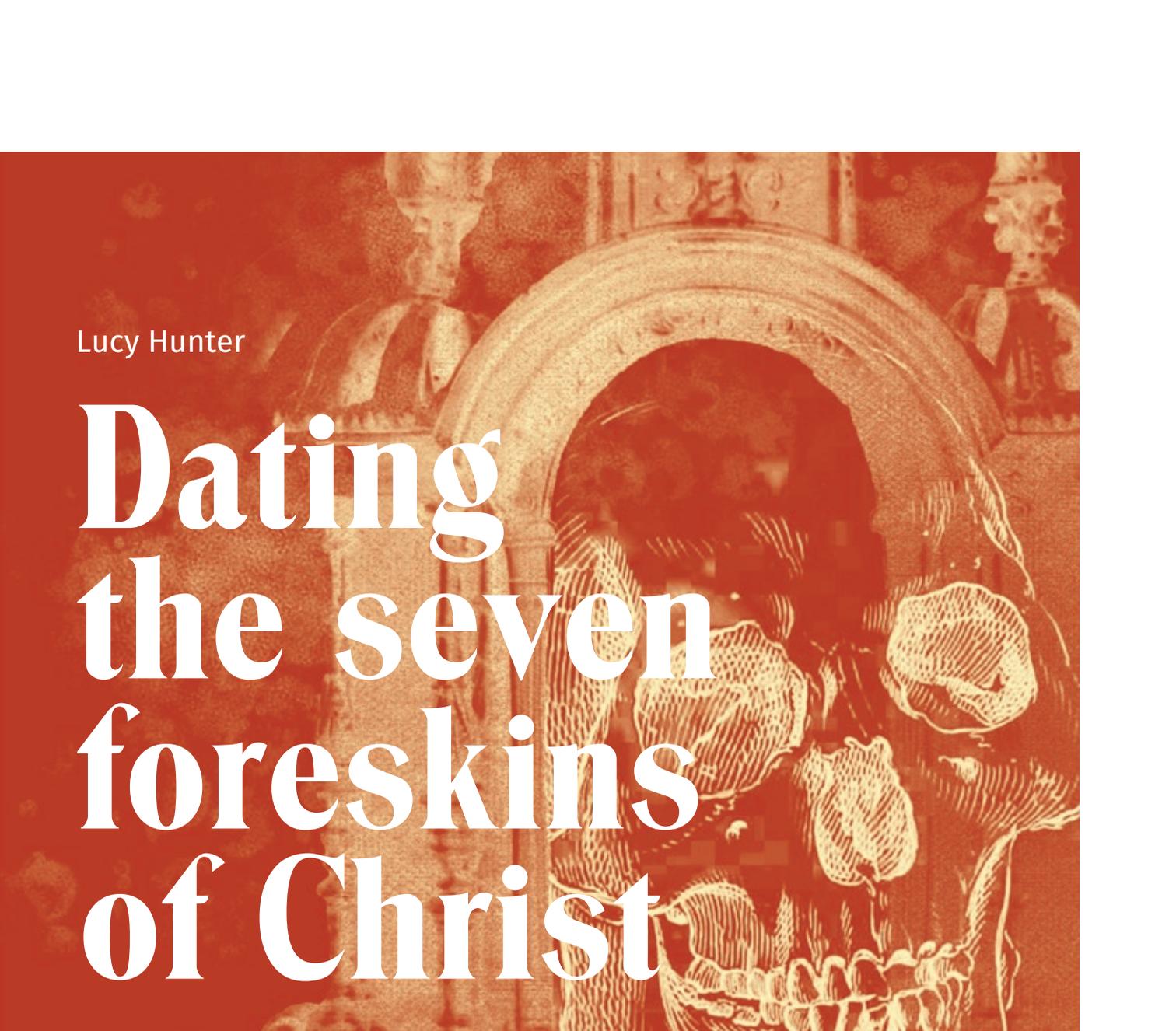
The narrative surrounding this deployment of nets on the North Coast was significantly different from the narrative in WA: sharks bit people on the North Coast and Mike Baird, the good-guy surfing premier, who didn't want to "cull" sharks, employed scientists to research and study them, so water-users could better learn to co-exist with them. But, when tensions heightened, he had to protect the people, so he deployed shark nets fitted with whale and dolphin pingers, to be rigorously checked by fisheries staff.

The six-month trial of the shark nets on the North Coast ends in May this year. At that point, the NSW government will decide whether the seasonal deployments of nets on the North Coast will carry on in unison with the Shark Meshing programme. The decision is likely to be marred in controversy.

Removing shark nets from any beach would be a high-risk political move. If someone were to be attacked at that beach, the government would be in the firing line and, in the public eye, responsible for the attack.

If the nets are discontinued, North Coast surfers will undoubtedly ask why beaches are protected around Sydney, but not around Ballina. If someone is attacked there next summer, the NSW government will be in the firing line. It's a risk the NSW Government may not want to take.

So, for now, it's likely that shark nets are here to stay ■



Lucy Hunter

# Dating the seven foreskins of Christ

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Can a spatter of ancient blood heal the sick? Is a piece of cloth useful in praying for the poor? Can desiccated eyeball help you get into heaven? I don't know the answers to these questions, but I did talk to a man who leads a team investigating religious relics - the pieces of long-dead humans that many Christian churches have been built around.

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**A** religious relic usually consists of either the physical remains of a saint or the personal effects of the saint or a venerated person, preserved as a memento and point of contact with the person. Some Christians believe that relics are imbued with miraculous powers, granting benefits both in this world and the next. In the past, this resulted in widespread demand for and circulation of relics, particularly in the Middle Ages. Trade in relics became profitable; thousands of fake relics appeared and were sold. What were said to be the body parts of saints, popes or Jesus Christ himself were more likely to be pieces of unknown people or animals.

Tom Higham is a Professor of Archaeological Science at Oxford University. He leads a team of scientists and academics who study religious relics. In the past, people in this field have worked alone, and didn't get as much interdisciplinary insight into the relics as they could have. Higham's team includes archaeologists like himself, historians, osteologists, 3D modellers, people who work in CT scanning, theologians, geologists, and social anthropologists all working together to gain as much knowledge about the relics as possible. The team are particularly interested in relics from the Byzantine era, before the period when there was a large market in fake relics. Helena, the mother of the Greek Emperor Constantine, was obsessed with relics and went to Jerusalem to collect them in the second and third century.

To give you some idea of how cool Higham is, he was part of the team who carbon-dated the skull used in Damien Hirst's *For the Love of God*; the artwork with the highest asking price of any living artist. His lab worked on the world's most famous relic, The Shroud of Turin, and he has appeared on a David Attenborough documentary, analysing the remains of an elephant bird egg Attenborough found in pieces on a beach. He is also Critic Executive Editor Joe Higham's dad, which is pretty freakin' rad.

It may seem strange that churches would allow a team of scientists and academics into their holy spaces to mess around with something as sacred as bits of saints. While there are some relics the team haven't been able to access - the head of John the Baptist at Amiens Cathedral in France, for example - most churches are happy



## the remains dated to the first century, and all of the bones were from the same body

for their relics to be tested, and even seek out the relics team. In the parts of the world that are becoming increasingly secular, such as Britain and Europe, fewer people are going to church, the buildings are falling into disrepair, and often nobody is paying attention to the relics. Higham says people "often don't even know what they've got when we arrive." A lot of the time there will be relics in some back cupboard. Higham visited a church in Chicago where there are over 1400 relics, most of which have been collected by one man through online purchasing on eBay. "There are millions of others that just sit and do nothing."

However, Higham says, there are some relics that are "unbelievably important", like the Shroud of Turin or the head of John the Baptist. "People come and they believe in them, they want to be near them." It is unsurprising that

some believers are distrustful of scientists messing with sacred relics. The Shroud is supposedly the cloth Jesus' body was wrapped in when he was taken from the cross, and what he emerged from when he was resurrected. It is a massive piece of linen imprinted with what appears to be the face and body of a naked man, with dark brown stains made by human blood. Higham's team, along with two other laboratories, were sent a tiny fragment of the shroud, along with a piece of cloth from Queen Nefertiti's tomb, and two pieces from the medieval period, to be part of a blind test. "In fact," says Higham, "as soon as the samples were open the lab could tell which one was the shroud because it has a very distinctive weave. Perhaps they should have disentangled it for us". All three labs gave the same results for each of the samples, suggesting that the Shroud dated back to 1300-1400 CE.

Far from dissuading some people, Higham says the lab results fuelled a lot of discussion and debate, "which is fine", but a splinter group suggested the labs had swapped the samples round, and the piece of Shroud had been swapped for the Egyptian sample, making the date wrong.



Another idea was that there had been a fire in the cathedral, and the smoke had tainted the radiocarbon concentrations of the shroud material, which Highams says is "completely wrong, completely without any scientific basis." Nowadays his team don't like to talk about the Shroud much because "We're kind of sick of it." What's interesting is that before the Shroud was dated it had about a million visitors a year, and after it was dated it started getting about four million visitors a year. "So there are more people interested in the Shroud now that it's shown to be likely medieval work than it is to be a real artefact." The Shroud is still mysterious - we still don't know how it was made. "There are theories that Leonardo Da Vinci painted it - crazy stuff."

Speaking of Leonardo, a Google search of Higham's team pulls up the name "The Da Vinci Code Unit." The name was coined by a writer at the Daily Telegraph, to the bemusement of the team. However, it was this name that caught the attention of The Times and The Mirror, and they have since been working with TV companies, including CNN and National Geographic, to produce documentaries on their work.

Some relics are quite convincing. One of Higham's team, Dr Georges Kazan, who did his PhD on the evidence for the remains of John the Baptist, called Higham four years ago to tell him about archaeologists in Bulgaria who had made a discovery under a Byzantine church in an island off the Black Sea coast. Underneath the altar they found a small basket box containing bits of animal and human bones, and, close to it, another box with an inscription in Greek. It translates as: "Lord help your servant Thomas ... of St John" then gives the feast day of John the Baptist, and more words they can't decipher. Higham says his team were impressed: "Because the island is called Sveti Ivan St John and because the church was identified in the Byzantine period as being named after John the Baptist, these guys suggested the bones were related to the saint, and could in fact be the saint." The team then dated the remains to the first century, found that all of the bones were from the same body, and were from a male human with DNA highly consistent with people living today in the near east. The

# we've found tongues of loads of people

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team's excitement has since been dulled by the possibility that the DNA could be contaminated. "We can't be sure, so we're not going to publish it like that now. We can say the date, but we can't say that the bones were all from one individual."

"As a scientist I have to say we can never identify positively that something actually belongs to somebody unless there is an incredible trail of evidence involved." Higham uses the example of Richard the Third's remains, which were discovered in Leicester in 2012. The age and appearance of the skeleton matched the time of Richard's death, his recorded physical abnormalities, and the humiliation wounds he likely received in battle and execution. Scientists were then able to link the DNA from the remains to Richard the Third's living relatives. "Try identifying the remains of John the Baptist and it's difficult." However, the team can say that the remains aren't somebody. "You find a radiocarbon date that's different, or the DNA shows it's the remains of a woman, or you find bits and pieces duplicated elsewhere making it highly unlikely to be that person."

Radiocarbon dating is a process so remarkable it sounds made-up. It involves molecules, sunspots, and the rings of trees. All organic material contains radiocarbon, the molecules of which have a "half-life" of 5,500 years, meaning after that length of time, half of the radiocarbon will have decayed. Radiocarbon is created in the upper atmosphere of the Earth in quantities that fluctuate year-to-year depending on the amount of solar magnetic radiation from the sun. Less ra-



## what were said to be the body parts of saints were more likely to be pieces of unknown people or animals

radiocarbon is created when the sun is very active, and more is created when it is less active. This means in order to get dates that are meaningful in calendar time, we need to know how much radiocarbon there was at a certain point in history. For that we use tree rings, which grow wider in a warm environment, and narrower in a cold one. These rings can be matched against other trees in different places and used to build up a chronology in time by overlapping them with trees that are dead. The longest tree-ring chronology goes back 12,000 years. Higham and his team use these chronologies to date their archaeological finds. "Sometimes the amount of radiocarbon has fluctuated very sharply, so we can get a very precise calendar date. Other times it's more subtle, so then we get very imprecise dates. Usually it's within about 100 years."

"You wouldn't believe the things we find" said Higham. "We've seen about seven foreskins of Jesus." What does a foreskin look like after several centuries? "Shrivelly. Either the guy had a massive foreskin, or..." Higham has also seen lots of blood, the blood of the Virgin Mary, the swaddling clothes (nappies) of Jesus, many thorns from the Crown of Thorns, and pieces of the True Cross. "We've found tongues of loads of people. I don't think I've seen the tongue of Jesus but I've seen the tongue of a saint. It's been

coated in something. When I saw it I was quite grossed out cos you don't expect to see tongues." Also, eyeballs, which are "little and dried." I'm squeamish, but Higham says it is unlikely that you could catch a disease from an old human body part as bacterial diseases usually disappear with time. If it was something airborne or viral it may still be dangerous but it "would have to be an exceptional case." "You can excavate things from the Black Death, and no one worries too much about that."

The presentation of the relics can be impressive. Some are put into a monstrance - an ornate, golden container - or a reliquary, which is often in the shape of the bone or the bit of the person. A reliquary may be in the shape of a head or an arm, with a little window you can open to look at the bone, or tooth, or skull. A lot of them have been covered in glue or preservation material, which has to be removed from the analysed piece.

The treatment of relics can also contaminate them with human DNA. "A lot of these relics have been touched, kissed, or licked, or sometimes put into liquid." Higham's lab has a mummified hand that's supposed to be from St James. "We know that the hand was put into liquid and that the liquid was then used to treat people and to be drunk." This is challenging when the team

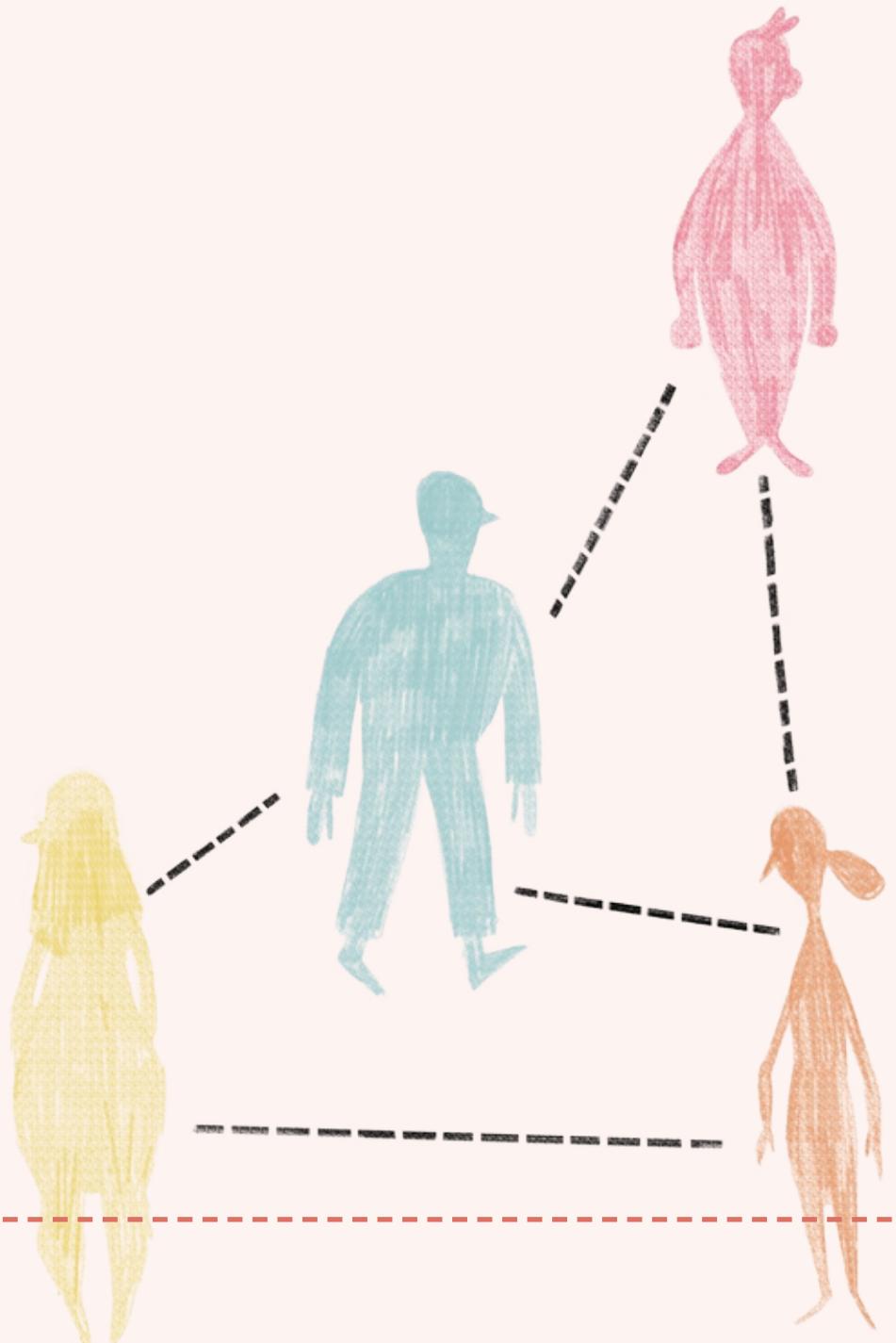
analyse tiny pieces of matter, some the size of a grain of rice. Higham's own DNA has "been found all over some of this stuff." Non-animal relics are less likely to be contaminated, as they test the cellulose products from trees and plants. The linen from the Shroud of Turin has "a very high consistency of being just the cellulose of original plant." The contamination needed to mess up the radiocarbon date is tens of percent. "You'd be able to see the contaminant. That's why we are very confident that the shroud is not dated at the time of Christ."

The Catholic Church today sends out the remains of modern relics; pieces of hair or bone from modern popes and saints such as Mother Theresa in order to consecrate new churches.

While there is a horrendous and illegal trade in modern human body parts, relics are usually old enough to be fair game for trading. The reason Damien Hirst radiocarbon dated the skull used in his artwork *For the Love of God* was to make sure it was more than 100 years old, and so legal to use. "It turned out to be about 190 or 200 years old. For old relics I don't think anyone really cares." Higham told me you could buy relics on the internet. I looked on eBay and there it was - a brown smear in a glass pendant: a little something-or-other from Saint Pope Pius X for about \$164NZ. Could it be him? ■

# Polyamory: Why Not Both?

Isaac Yu



Our world is different to that of our parents. While they were the first generation to pioneer the internet and begin the information era, we were born citizens. While they were the generation that maintained tradition, we are increasingly challenging old ideas. Ideas about what constitutes love, what constitutes marriage, and even ideas about what constitutes ownership.

Take a look at our entertainment options: we stream our favourite shows on Netflix, we listen to our favourite artists on Spotify, and we play our favourite games on Steam. We share our cars with Uber and our homes on AirB&B. We are starting to realise that we have more to gain by sharing and collaborating in an interconnected world, yet we seem to still be possessive when it comes to love.

After all, it is significant other, not others, it is boyfriend, not boyfriends, and it is partner, but never partners. We are fixated on the idea of 'the one'. But, for a lot of us, we've been around the block. Monogamy hasn't turned out as fulfilling as society said it would be.

And maybe that's okay.

When we start to let go of the monolithic expectations of finding our soul-mate, or 'the one', we can start

to question it. We all want different things and in different ways. So why don't we communicate in a more open and honest way? If we've started to slowly change our view of what constitutes love, marriage, and ownership, then what is left but to ask ourselves about alternatives to monogamy?

For Josh this alternative was polyamory. Polyamory, a fusion of the Greek word 'poly' for many and the Latin word 'amore' for love, is the idea that people can love and date multiple people at the same time. Coming from the tail end of a bad breakup, where he had discovered his ex's infidelity, Josh found himself questioning the idea of monogamy. "Because even while in a monogamous relationship I found myself interested in other girls." For Josh this had been a point of guilt. "You're told by the church to love and be faithful only toward your partner, otherwise that is cheating." The more committed Josh found himself in his prior relationship, the more he felt himself being controlled by what was expected of him, and the more he felt fear that his partner would leave him for someone else. "What if she met someone who she loved more than me?" Josh would ask himself. "I started to realise that I was letting fear control my life instead of love."

“Monogamy  
hasn't turned  
out as fulfilling  
as society said  
it would be.”

While initially angry at his ex's behaviour, as Josh came to understand his own polyamorous tendencies, he came to forgive her. "Not everyone is meant to be monogamous and I think that's okay." Once Josh accepted this idea he began to look into polyamory. Describing it as 'open source relationships', Josh views polyamory as a network of interconnected people who are able to trust and support each other. Instead of only having just one partner to fulfil every need, you have multiple, so long as all parties consent and are informed. "If you view monogamy as a single line, then polyamory is a network of lines that go wherever you want." Polyamory provided a definition for something that Josh had always felt, but had been afraid to say out loud.

While the prospect of managing multiple relationships at the same time seemed daunting, Josh views it as a way to grow and overcome past trauma. "Everyone craves intimacy and love, but we've commodified it. You're only allowed to share it with your partner." Polyamory through Josh's eyes exists as a way of bringing people up, instead of putting them down. "It's about being able to trust your partner to the extent that they can be there for other people." Josh views relationships not in a zero-sum sense of one person winning at another person's expense, but as a way for both people to win – if your partner is happy, doesn't that make you happy as well?

Of course, understanding something on an intellectual level is one thing, but being able to put it into practice emotionally is a whole other story. When we grow up chasing the idea that there is a 'one' it is hard to undo some old habits. Sometimes, sex is like a Pixar movie: you wind up with feels when you least expect them. Instead of ignoring these feelings and hoping they go away, in order to change, you have to be willing to confront them. That is why the polyamorous community stresses open communication. Different people have different levels of behaviour that they will be comfortable with. Ellen and Peter, having been together for three years and polyamorous for one of them, refer to their relationship as 'hierarchical poly'. Ellen and Peter are the primary partners in this relationship with

each of them having secondary partners, akin to attaching rooms to a pre-existing house. "It sounds kind of mean to call it secondary," Ellen admits, "but it's more to set where the boundaries are. Not that I ever would do this, but if I was feeling lonely and Peter was out with one of his lovers, I could ask him to come home and be with me instead and he would, and his lover would understand." The 'primary' status signifies priority and emotional commitment.

## “Everyone craves intimacy and love, but we’ve commodified it.”

For Ellen, the primary/secondary label also served as a way to openly communicate to her lovers what the expectations were of the relationship. "I think a big part of polyamory, and non-monogamy in general, is responsibility. You have a responsibility toward your lovers not to abuse their trust or to give them false expectations." This sense of responsibility was reinforced by Ellen's horror stories of dating multiple people. "One of my lovers was a friend of my primary partner, so I discussed the idea with him [Peter] first to make sure he was on board. Peter was all for it, so I discussed boundaries with his friend. I told him that I didn't want anything serious, that Peter was my primary partner and that wouldn't change." Like many in the polyamorous community, Ellen is remarkably open and forthcoming about her private life. "So we started sleeping together, and there was a big honeymoon phase for a few weeks, but then

“If your partner is happy, doesn't that make you happy as well?”

he started getting possessive.” Ellen ticked off a laundry list of problems that began to emerge, “he would tell me to break up with Peter and commit to a relationship with just him, he would get controlling about what I could and couldn't do and if I refused to do what he wanted he would get angry.” Ellen felt as if she had done something wrong, “I thought I had clearly explained to him from the beginning that this wasn't a serious relationship, but I think he only heard what he wanted to hear.” Around this point, communication between Ellen and her lover broke down, “I would try to talk to him about it, but he would brush me off, saying that I was a bitch for toying with his heart.”

In trying to gain a new lover, Ellen had permanently burned a bridge and it served as a valuable lesson. The experience made Ellen realise the responsibility needed for polyamory. “You have to be careful with how you treat your lovers because you can bring up those feelings of insecurity and jealousy and fear of abandonment that we all have.”

Talking with Ellen shed a lot of light on the ethics of polyamory. “People think that polyamory is just something for hedonists who want to bang everything, but I think that [idea] is doing more harm than good.” Ellen views polyamory as a lifestyle and philosophical choice. “I love my mum to the ends of the earth and that doesn't take away from the love I have for Peter. Love is a choice, it is something that you can choose to give and keep giving and its only limit is what you place.” After all, we don't enter life with a finite quantity of love that we must carefully ration across our lives. The love we feel for one close friend does not subtract from the love we can feel for another. How each friendship functions differs from person to person; we have different boundaries and expectations depending on the closeness of the friendship. If we can accept that idea in our platonic relationships then why, asks Ellen, can we not accept that idea with our lovers?

Rather than being some kind of all you can bang buffet, polyamory seems to be more about people talking earnestly about their relationships. Instead of an Eyes Wide Shut-esque mask party, I found myself in a bagel shop talking to a woman called Fea. Fea has never identified with monogamy, so for

her polyamory serves as an important part of her self-identity. In a way, polyamory can be seen as an extension of how interconnected we'd become. In our digital age the internet has bridged the limits of physical distance. “Historically people were likely to have not moved far from the village where they were born, and therefore their world-view, their beliefs, their career path and their options for partnership were limited.”

Having grown up in Dunedin, Fea went traveling after graduating. “Now we live in a world where we have so many options in life. We can keep in touch with people on the other side of the world with ease. There are seven billion people in this world, that's gotta make for a lot of compatible partners out there.”

In talking with Fea, I realised that we exist not as solitary islands, but as interconnected ecosystems. We all have different needs, which are met by different people. “I am usually seeing a few people at a time, and each of those partners and relationships will be hugely different,” Fea explained, “So I might have a lover who I have a very intense emotional relationship with. That person I write letters to and stay up all night talking to. At the same time, I may be dating someone with whom the connection is really physical.” Instead of having to choose one person at the expense of another Fea decided “Por que no los dos?” Why not both? Polyamory enabled Fea to accept that with open and honest communication and informed consent she could have multiple significant others.

We live in uncertain times. Tomorrow is promised to no one. Many of us are beginning to question the way that we approach love, marriage and ownership. We are starting to realise that relationships don't have to end with marriage and kids and a house in the 'burbs, that loving someone is not owning them, that nobody is perfect and that that is okay, and that it is okay to let a relationship run its course. After all, open communication, honesty and addressing jealousy aren't exclusive to certain relationships. Polyamory and monogamy exist as two sides of the same coin because we are all capable of giving and receiving love. So why don't we start by being honest with each other? Instead of having to choose between one person and another, why not both?

**MUSIC INTERVIEW****Still // Alone:**

Q &amp; A with:

**The Golden Filter**

Penelope Trappes and Stephen Hindman are The Golden Filter, a UK-based electronic duo who hail from Australia (Trappes) and the US (Hindman). Their latest sonic offering is *STILL // ALONE*, an album that is divided into two distinct parts, and was recorded in old studio spaces across the UK.

The promo notes for the album tell us that this is “music for dancing alone”; a perfect soundtrack for the O-week wind-down.

*STILL // ALONE* is out now on Glasgow-based label, Optimo Music.

Big thanks to The Golden Filter for answering every space-related question we could think of.

**What was your first ever experience inside a recording studio as a duo?**

In New York City, we had a pretty large studio space at Stephen’s place. It was where we did everything, and we generally disliked working from anywhere else. It was only since moving to London that we have had to get out of our comfort zone and find other spaces that we could get loud in.

**How did you create the concept for the album *STILL // ALONE*?**

We’ve always had two different sides to our music—a dance-heavy sound and an odd cinematic sound. The studios gave this album a bit more cohesiveness, since the cinematic tracks were also done on dance music tools - drum machines and old synths. It all sort of just happened this way. Separating out the album into two sides was mainly to draw a bit more attention to our two different sides.

**How did you decide which studio spaces to record in?**

We rented a studio within a week of moving to London just to try to capture some of

the new energy. At the time we thought the music was weird and we weren’t in the headspace but those sessions turned out to be the basis of 3 of the songs on the album. That studio was a place in Hackney called Twentyseven, where we’ve worked on a lot of music—not just our own—since then. But they are moving this month, which will be sad. It’s a special place. Other studios kind of found us in one way or another.

**Do you have any stories you love from the studio spaces you recorded in? Historical anecdotes? Ghost stories?**

No ghosts, but there were some very weird spaces in some old houses that didn’t make any sense at all. One was a house owned by a famous 80s producer in LA, but it seemed to be his London ‘junk’ house. Nothing worked at all, and we were told to piece together studio bits from three rooms to make things work. Strange day. Can’t say much music came of it though.

**In terms of musical equipment, were you mostly using your own instruments (synths, machines, etc.) or were you also experimenting with equipment you were unfamiliar with while creating *STILL // ALONE*?**

We brought over our own synths and everything when we moved, but we tried to use what was in the studios. There were definitely times, programming beats on old Linn drum machines that we had never done before. And trying to get midi out of old drum machines to sync with old synths that we never have used before is pretty hit or miss. But we wanted it to be about the process.

**There is a beautiful sense of space on the album. It is an aural journey that feels at the same time quite visual. What was the mixing process like?**

We mix as we write. So it generally just happens at the same time. We’re big fans of



**TRACK OF THE WEEK**

This week we're pleased to present our first Track of the Week for 2017, carefully selected by Erin Broughton, MD.



Erin knows her stuff. As the Music Director at Radio One, she trawls through hundreds of rough tracks every week to bring you the diamonds. We're super stoked she agreed to share with us this one.

B O K E H is the alter-ego of Chloë Lewer, a New Zealand-raised, Berlin-based actress/musician. Her first single 'I Know You Know' is an intimate track that reads as a sincere diary entry, accompanied by rich electro-pop production.

B O K E H's upcoming six-track EP 'Don't Leave The Fire' explores a dreamy and colourful realm of happiness and hurt. It's the kind of music you listen to in your bedroom on repeat after seeing your #crush at uni (I promise it's really cool).

—Erin Broughton.

space, and try to keep one microphone on while recording a piano or other things to record the air in the studio. Not really sure if that works or not but we do it anyway.

**Optimo seems like a label that embraces creativity and difference. Have you seen a change in the way you work since joining the label? Has the aesthetic or philosophy of Optimo, other artists on the label, or label affiliates (like Green Door Studios) informed your work in any way?**

Optimo Music probably has influenced us in that we don't feel like we need to change anything about our music. Musically, it's just probably more that we grew up listening to a lot of the same music as JD Twitch—the owner.

**And finally, do you have any advice for young electronic artists who are preparing to record in a studio for the first time?**

Be free. Let things happen.

**LETTER FROM THE MUSIC EDITOR**

If you happened to be milling around the Union Lawn early last week between 12–2pm, you no doubt caught a whiff (mixed in with sausage sizzle) of some fine DJ beats emanating from the OUSA balcony as part of the Radio One Open Air Sessions.

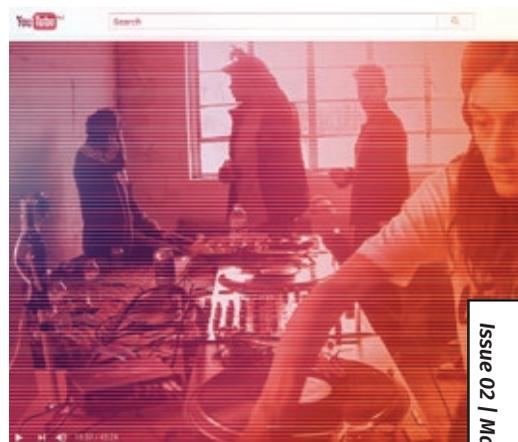
This week, it's all about the cult of the DJ. What are they up to? It's a mystery to me... All I know is the DJ carries the deal coz the DJ is always one step ahead.

So this week, I caught up with The Golden Filter, a UK-based electronic duo whose music would sound phat on the decks at any dark club, checked in with Radio One's Music Director and DJ, Erin Broughton, for some listening advice, and then did what any hard-working Music Editor would do, went and watched YouTube.

—Bianca

**TOP 5 DJ MIXES ON YOUTUBE**

YouTube is horrible. It has shitty bit-rates and ads for KFC. But we love it. Next time you throw a house party and the iPod runs outta shuffle, throw on these mixes from the world of DJs.



Sofie Boiler Room London DJ Set

- 1 [Sofie](#)—Boiler Room London DJ Set
- 2 [Ellen Allien](#)—Essential Mix @ BBC Radio 1 (10 December 2016)
- 3 [Nina Kravitz](#) @ Music Is Revolution 2016: Week 13, Discoteca, Space Ibiza
- 4 [Charlotte de Witte](#) @ La Rotonde Stalingrad for Cercle
- 5 [Paula Temple](#) @ Klubnacht, Berghain, Berlin

## FILM

## Toni Erdmann

Director:  
Maren Ade

Reviewer:  
Jaxon Langley

★★★★★

"It isn't a comedy - I'm not sure why people think it is" speaks the confused Maren Ade of her acclaimed film. It is at times uproariously funny, but also achingly sad. Toni Erdmann is an unexpected deadpan delight that's worthy of your time.

After the death of his beloved dog, Winfried (Peter Simonischek), a divorced music teacher with a love for playing practical jokes, flees for Romania to reconnect with Ines (Sandra Hüller), his distant career-driven daughter. When he realises his attempt is futile, as Ines is far too consumed by excelling as the managing consultant for an oil company, he pretends to leave Bucharest, but later returns wearing a long brown wig and filthy fake teeth and adopts the persona of the titular Toni Erdmann.

From this point on, the narrative becomes a surreal nightmare for Ines

as her father, as Toni, begins appearing at important work functions, meetings and other social situations involving her colleagues. He seeks to distract her with his absurd alter ego, as he believes that focusing on being successful in a corporate world is the reason she's deeply unhappy. To her face, he even questions her humanity after observing her blatantly lie that she had a "nice time" shopping with an important client's wife. Maren Ade invites us to consider the effects globalisation has on our relationships, through the eyes of the estranged father and daughter, creating a unique story that's equally personal and political.

Toni Erdmann is easily the most bizarre and bittersweet film about father-daughter bonding I've ever seen and there's very little I'd change about it. With its complimenting performances, socio-economic commentary, not-to-mention an amazing cover of Whitney Houston's 'Greatest Of Them All' sung by Hüller, the film gives much to digest in its near three hour runtime. Above all, it is an

ode to embarrassing dads everywhere. It reminds us that, as much as we try to disassociate ourselves from the fact, we'll always be a product of them.



## FILM

## Silence

Director:  
Martin Scorsese

Reviewer:  
Saskia Bunce-Rath

★★★☆☆

Silence is Martin Scorsese's latest offering, it's about two priests (portrayed by Andrew Garfield and Adam Driver) who travel to 17th century Japan to find out what happened to their mentor (Liam Neeson) and help spread the Catholic faith.

I could tell from the very beginning that this was going to be a serious film; there was no music in the opening studio credits, only really serious films do that. Also, the entire movie is tinted blue and grey, making you feel like the colour yellow never existed and that the 17th century was made up entirely of cold looking rocks.

I wasn't really a fan of Martin Scorsese to begin with (please put down your pitchforks), but wow this film was really long and really boring. If you want a movie about priests having their faith repeatedly tested, while people die

violently around them for nearly three hours, then this is the movie for you. I can't technically fault this film, as the cinematography and acting were both spot on, but it still just dragged and dragged, and like most moral religious debates reached no 'point', but rather brought up various facets of faith in a circular manner until the movie ended. Maybe this was the point? In the absence of God's voice we are just left to meander through faith and ethics until either we die or the overly long movie ends. I don't know, and quite frankly I was so unengaged that, if that was the cinematic intention, it failed miserably.

I also thought that, for a historical drama, the film lacked depiction of Japanese culture and historical perspective. They could have easily taken away 25 percent of the shots of Andrew Garfield looking like someone kicked his puppy into the sun and given us more context of the country, in order to feel more connection to the plight of the Japanese Christians.

So, if you want to be bummed out watching iffy themes of faith for three hours, you should watch Silence.



## FILM

## Moonlight

Director:  
Jaxon Langley

Reviewer:  
Barry Jenkins

★★★★★

This film was originally based on a play called *In Moonlight Black Boys Look Blue*, written by Tarell Alvin McCraney to cope with his mother's death by AIDS. Indie filmmaker Barry Jenkins stumbled upon this hidden piece of greatness and adapted the long-shelved play into one of the most powerful films to grace screens in 2016.

*Moonlight* separates its story into three arcs, each titled by the different names the protagonist is given or assumes throughout his life. The film begins with 'Little', set in the War on Drugs era. We meet preadolescent Chiron, a lonely boy who is discovered in an abandoned apartment by Juan (Mahershala Ali) fleeing from bullies, after this Juan and his girlfriend become parental figures to Chiron as his mother (Naomie Harris) is hardly around, either working at the hospital or hiding her substance abuse

from her young son. Juan teaches Chiron to sink or swim, literally, in a tense but beautiful scene where he lets young Chiron go in the ocean and he instantly learns to fend for himself in the violent waves. Chiron grows older, but Juan's teachings don't escape him even in the 'Chiron' and 'Black' chapters that follow. He develops a thick skin and learns to survive on his own as his mother's drug use consumes her.

"Who is you?" asks his mother after Juan drops him home to her. *Moonlight* is a poetic story about identity. The film's neo-realistic colour scheme and James Laxton's intimate cinematography provides both beauty and real darkness. For Chiron there isn't often a shred of light at the end of the tunnel, just the deceptive moonlight, which in the end also betrays him.

Filled with impeccable performances from *House of Cards* star Mahershala Ali, Naomie Harris as the harrowing mother-from-hell, and singer-songwriter Janelle Monáe, *Moonlight* is destined

for coming-of-age glory and will be a relevant hallmark of queer cinema for many years to come.



## FILM

## Fifty Shades Darker

Director:  
James Foley

Reviewer:  
Florence Dean

★★★☆☆

This saucy flick follows the ridiculous relationship of Anastasia Steel/Ana (Dakota Johnson) and Christian Grey (Jamie Dornan). James Foley deserves half a clap on the back for accomplishing the, not very hard, task of making this film slightly better than the last. I couldn't watch until the end of the first movie, but apparently it ends with Christian whipping Ana and Ana being like wtf, Imma gfo of here.

*Fifty Shades Darker* begins with Christian realising that he needs Ana more than he needs to torture women, so he says he'll engage in a "vanilla" relationship if that's what it takes. She's intrigued and says she'll give it a whirl, this time sans rules or punishments. Dating ensues, along with many sexy times. It gets pretty steamy, pretty frequently. It's not just sex, sorry. Ana has an awful pervy boss, but won't quit because she

loves working, so there's that tension to deal with. Christian buys the company Ana works for, which makes her realise that maybe he is still just as possessive as he always was. The ghosts of submissive past pop up to stalk Ana, and we meet Elena Lincoln – Christian's dominant who welcomed him to the world of BDSM (not that 'Fifty Shades' is necessarily an accurate representation of BDSM). This orgy of issues makes for plentiful drama. Ana must decide whether sexy sadist Christian Grey is worth the work, and Christian has to figure out how to tame his demons and open up emotionally.

This movie was nothing special. There was lots of beautifully filmed glitz and glamour if lavish masquerades and sparkly jewellery tickle your fancy. Alas, both Ana and Christian are hugely lacking in personality, which makes it hard to root for either of them. That being said, the soundtrack was luuush. Big names like Nick Jonas, Tove Lo, Zayn Malik and Tay Swee created yummy ambience for those raunchy scenes. It was awesome to hear from Corinne Bailey Rae

again—remember 'Girl Put Your Records On'? I feel bad not mentioning all the other equally groovin' artists; please just look up the soundtrack if you're into sexy jams. In sum, I wasn't as disappointed as I thought I would be. See it if you want, I guess.



## ART

# Dunedin Murals: A Snapshot

By Poppy Henderson



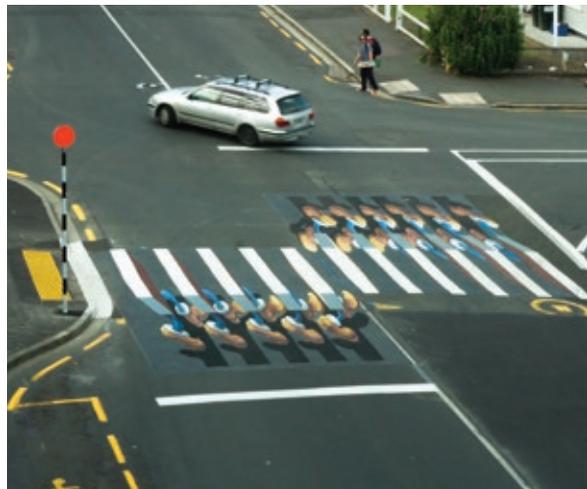
During recent years, the urban art scene has taken Dunedin by storm. Our buildings are becoming a canvas for internationally renowned street artists, who have been flocking from all over the world to make their multicoloured mark. These unusual artworks are a far cry from the graffiti-style tags or spray-can stencils that are often associated with street art. These urban murals have forged their own artistic niche - and they're redefining what urban culture means in Dunedin.

One particular artist has already made a lasting impression. UK based cartoonist and illustrator Phlegm has created a number of pieces around the city. His work is often inspired by graffiti and can be found inside derelict buildings, where he transforms run down urban spaces into brilliant artworks. There are a number of Phlegm's quirky murals



to look out for around the city. There's the three-storey high painting of his signature fantastical characters riding a Moa, which can be found on Moray Place. There's the bird perched on a stormwater outlet, poised to eat its lunch, down by Second Beach at St Clair. And then there's the giant fish on Vogel Street - its mouth open wide and rows of teeth sharp, as ships sail peacefully and unknowingly into the darkness.

Another piece that has drawn considerable attention is the majestic, scaly creature on Bath Street. The piece was



Kushana Bush Life 2014 [detail] Gouache and pencil on paper Private Collection, Wellington ▶



KUSHANA BUSH: THE BURNING HOURS



done by ROA, a world-famous street artist from Belgium. The beautiful monochromatic mural features a tuatara laid on its back with its tail between its teeth. It's playful, brilliantly crafted and unlike any other mural in the city—this piece is not to be missed.

Natalia Rak's mural 'Love is in the Air' is a personal favourite of mine. Polish born Natalia spent about a week working on the four-storey high piece, which shows two young children sitting on a bench, the boy eating a lollipop while the girl gives him a kiss on the cheek. The artwork is a symbol of love and innocence – a positive message immortalised on Bond Street.

Street art can be practical too. Two 3D crossings are currently being installed on Clyde Street. These works will show feet walking under zebra stripes, with the aim of catching pedestrians' attention before they cross. One of the crossings is just north of the Leith River and its design will have a watery, river theme. The installation of these artworks began at the beginning of February, and they'll be completed by the end of the month.

There are guided tours of Dunedin's street art available, but if you'd like to go at your own pace, no doubt stopping off at some of our city's delicious coffee shops along the way, check out the Street Art Dunedin Facebook page for some idea of where to start.

## BOOKS

# When Breath Becomes Air

by Paul Kalanithi

Reviewer:  
Zoe Taptiklis

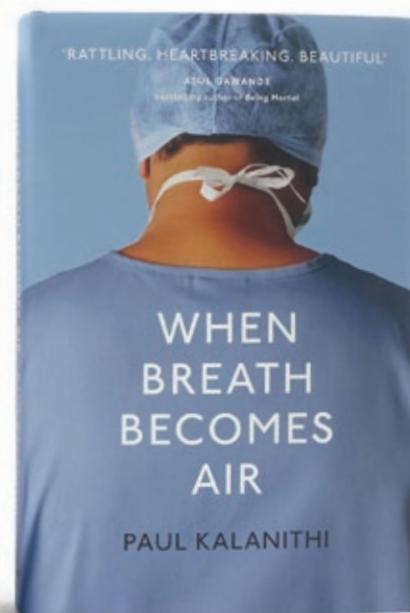
I might be biased when it comes to reviewing *When Breath Becomes Air*: my degrees in Neuroscience and English are the same as Paul Kalanithi's, his favourite books are my favourite books, his fascination with identity matches mine, and his notions of mortality, while far more informed, are still very similar to mine. The first difference between us is that Paul is both a Stanford trained Neurosurgeon and a hugely successful author, while I am neither. Paul only wrote one book, *When Breath Becomes Air*, which brings up the largest difference: I am still alive. I need to add a disclaimer / side note / what have you, that I mention his death not out of crassness, but with the deepest respect and empathy.

In the saddest and loveliest way, it is Paul's death that makes this book brilliant. *When Breath Becomes Air* is Paul's memoir, written as he struggles with stage IV metastasised lung cancer. Paul writes about how we face our own mortality, and ultimately how this affects who we try to be. Paul reflects that: "Science may provide the most useful way to organise empirical, reproducible data, but its power to do so is predicated on its inability to grasp the most central aspects of human life: hope, fear, love, hate, beauty, envy, honour, weakness, striving, suffering, virtue."

Paul highlights what we all struggle with: reconciling the ugly fact of death with the simple art of dying. "I began to realize that coming in such close contact with my own mortality had changed both nothing and everything. Before my cancer was diagnosed, I knew that someday I would die, but I didn't know when. After the diagnosis, I knew that someday I would die, but I didn't know when. But now I knew it acutely. The problem wasn't really a scientific one. The fact of death is unsettling. Yet there is no other way to live."

The wrench really begins to jar in your heart when Paul and his wife Lucy, despite Paul's diagnosis, decide to have a child. Their kid Cady is born, Paul's condition continues to worsen, and then the story stops. What smacks you in the kidney the most is not the sudden absence of Paul's kind voice, or the reality that death could take you at any time, what really crushes the humanity you thought you

*if you want to a book that you have to read in a day, read this one. If you want a book that will remind you what you are doing here, read this one. If you are a questioning the importance of funding and encouraging students to take arts degrees, read this book*



didn't have into some lemony tears is the grace with which Paul continues to live. You may feel like I have spoiled everything for you just now, I haven't. If you read cover to cover, these details are the first to be disclosed. What is left for you to discover is who Paul was. They say that it is impossible to be immortal; to live forever, to be perfectly preserved, but Paul may have achieved it.

So, if you want a book that you have to read in a day, read this one. If you want a book that will remind you what you are doing here, read this one. If you are questioning the importance of encouraging students to take arts degrees, read this book. If you are feeling lonely, read this book. If you think you have been found, read this book. Read this book.

## GAMES

# The Last Guardian

Review by:  
Campbell Calverley



PS4  
Developed by SIE  
Japan Studio &  
genDESIGN

Published by  
Sony Interactive  
Entertainment

★★★★★

I think *The Last Guardian* was inevitably going to be a bit disappointing. Its director, Fumito Ueda, has such previous games under his belt as *ICO*, a puzzle platformer with a dedicated cult following, and *Shadow of the Colossus*, an abstract adventure game that is considered to be one of the best games of all time. After a development time of about ten years, including numerous delays, it is clear that the creators of *The Last Guardian* wanted it to be perfect. I don't think they succeeded, but that doesn't stop it from being one of the most quaint and heartfelt games that I've played in recent months.

The plot of *The Last Guardian* is about as sparse as you can find in a video game. You play as a young boy waking up in a derelict ruin with mysterious tattoos all over your body. Next to you, asleep in its chains, is a giant... thing. It appears to be part cat, dog, eagle and bull, and is called Trico. Though Trico is aggressive at first, it becomes tentatively friendly after you throw a couple of barrels of food into its mouth. It soon allows you to climb over its body while it jumps and runs around. So begins a fantastical journey to escape the valley in which the two of you are trapped.

*The Last Guardian* feels magical. The sweeping score and art direction have a gentle curiosity to them, the atmosphere

of the green and vertically scaled world you travel through is lush beyond words, and the climax of the game feels almost transcendent. It is truly uplifting to finally play a game that gives the player room to breathe, to take in the gorgeous world around them, and to develop a bond with another animal.

Having said that, *The Last Guardian* has plenty of faults. For instance, I was initially frustrated by the decision to give the game a narrator – the main character as an old man. It is implicit that you survive the events of the game. So, given the heart-breaking nature of Fumito Ueda's games, that means Trico must die, right? I will leave you to find out whether that happens or not – it is likely that you will be surprised.

The game's narrative tends to grind to a halt in a couple of places. The first is with Trico himself. Part of why *The Last Guardian* took so long to make is because the developers wanted Trico to feel as much like a real animal as possible, so that you could develop a relationship with it. In this, they have definitely succeeded: Trico sneezes, scratches, yawns, rubs its head against you affectionately, and rolls around in water if left to its own devices. If it is too panicky, you have to pet it to calm them down. However, frustratingly, Trico will sometimes ignore your commands – just like a pet would. This is deliberate.

The game demands that you play slowly and patiently, and give its deuterogamist the benefit of the doubt, so that the later parts of the game feel more rewarding.

It is clear that the creators of *The Last Guardian* wanted the game to be a cinematic, pulse-pounding experience. This is awesome in both concept and execution, and the groundwork is clearly laid for it. But there are a couple of moments where I had to look up a walkthrough to figure out if I was doing something wrong. There is more than one sequence in the game where you are clearly required to jump off a collapsing platform into thin air, whereupon a terrified Trico will desperately swing their tail for you to grab onto – but that only works if, three times out of four, you don't arbitrarily miss their tail and plummet to your death. Fortunately these mistakes are few and far between (patches have recently been released to fix them), and there are plenty of other adrenaline-filled sequences to make up for it.

*The Last Guardian* is a unique experience. I found myself getting genuinely attached to Trico in the final third of the game, and was sad to reach the end. It feels like a Studio Ghibli movie, in adventure form.

## FOOD

# Vietnamese "Summer" Rolls

by Kirstin Garcia

You've heard of Spring Rolls, but have you tried Summer rolls? If you visited the Dunedin Noodle Market last week, you might have seen these at one of the stalls.

Makes 24 rolls

## Ingredients

24 Rice Paper Wrappers

200g Frozen Shrimp

Lettuce leaves (butter variety)

1 Carrot, julienne/grated

100g Rice vermicelli noodles

Handful of Fresh herbs (I recommend spring onion and coriander, but you can also use mint or Thai basil)

## Method

- 1 Boil shrimp until cooked, and then drain. If your shrimp are quite big, cut them in half lengthways.
- 2 Cook the noodles by placing them in boiling water for about 4 minutes, until noodles are no longer crunchy and have become transparent, and then drain.
- 3 Have all ingredients prepped and in front of you, ready to be rolled into rice paper.
- 4 One piece at a time, place rice paper flat in a shallow bowl of hot water (comfortable enough to touch) for about 20 seconds until paper is soft, but not squishy, and no longer brittle.
- 5 Place cooked rice wrapper on a slightly wet surface, like a chopping board (be careful to keep the circle flat, so it will be easier to roll without breaking). First, lie out the shrimp on the top middle section, then in the bottom middle. Add a few pieces of lettuce, herbs, shredded carrot, and a small amount of noodles (as pictured).
- 6 Fold it like a burrito: fold in the sides of the circle first, then fold the bottom of the circle to the top and roll it to close. Repeat to make as many pieces as you can.



This meal is a refreshing combination of herbs, veggies and rice noodles rolled in rice paper, and then you have to have a dipping sauce! I opt for a peanut flavor, but sweet chilli also works.

## University Book Shop



LETTER OF THE WEEK

### A NOTE FOR ABSENT FRIENDS:

Ever since the undercover agent deserted a common law wife and two offspring after an eight year project to disperse an alternative community, by humping his partners friends, intimate relations between detectives and their subjects is a no no and a remote, impersonal, immersive, invasive method took hold, called Mr Big, mentioned on student radio, using fake friends, fake gangs, fake shaming, fake sexing, from predictive, selective sources and wonder how many, if any subjects of this type of policing are in the record high suicide lists, and if they are, should the value of this kind of nudging be questioned, especially when used in the pointless police agenda of marijuana eradication, its infinite cast a sop to unemployment and an outlet for other discontents. Has defamation replaced unfaithfulness as a favoured tool?

Yours faithfully,  
Susan Heap

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

### PERVY OLD BAIRD

I'm a little concerned that Our Dear (OUSA) Leader, Hugh Baird, would want the superpower of 'Invisibility'. Bit creepy if you ask me. Does he see himself as a real-life Randall Boggs, of Monsters Inc. fame? Kind of looks like him I guess.

Anyway, I think he's been doing a fine job so far. Keep up the great work, Randall Hugh!

—Anonymous

### ATLAS SHRUGGED AND SO DID WE

Can the 'International Socialists' club please piss off with your stupid posters? The university gives you plenty of space to post flyers in sanctioned places on campus, but instead you feel the need to post them every 3 feet along our fences. I know you dont care much for the concept of 'private property', but you're destroying mine. I still have one of your stupid posters from last year stuck to my fence, now I have another which wont bloody come off. You cunts are honestly more entitled than the Young Nats

—Ayn Rand

### SOMEONE CALL THE POLICE

Dear Critic,  
The article titled 'Human Rights Tribunal involved in \$18k payout to student association president' in your latest issue is about events that occurred in 2013 at Massey University. A quick Google search will lead you to a Stuff article about it. In future, you should research stories yourself instead of copying news articles from the NZ Herald (who also dropped the ball on this one).

Kind regards,

Someone that recognises the irony in referencing a Stuff article in their letter.

### NOTICES:

#### MEET THE GREENS

Otago Campus Greens would like to welcome everyone to join in our Green (board) Games Day and Potluck Picnic 12:30pm on Saturday 11th of March in the Union Hall. Meet the greens, play some games and generally just take a break from study to chill a little.

??

*Can anybody update us on the status of these three be-toga'd freshers who got absolutely rekd by a mal-functioning foam machine? We're worried about them*

??



### TELL US ABOUT YOUR SWEET COTTON:

Kia ora! We're looking for participants for a study about e-cigarettes/ vaping. We're looking for people who've never smoked tobacco regularly, but who are vaping at least a couple of times a month. If you fit this description and are interested in taking part, please let me know. The study will involve an interview about your experiences with vaping, which should take around one hour. Participants receive a \$40 gift voucher to recognise the costs of participating in the research. This study has been reviewed and approved by the University of Otago Human Ethics Committee (16/132). Please contact: l.robertson@otago.ac.nz or 0272 123 224 for more info. Thank you!

Thanks to Trevor Cokley for the photos!  
[https://www.instagram.com/trevor\\_cokley/](https://www.instagram.com/trevor_cokley/)  
[www.TGNCphotography.org](http://www.TGNCphotography.org)

## SCIENCE, BITCHES

# Where are all the Aliens?

By Ben Cravens

Recent data, gathered by NASA's Kepler spacecraft, indicates that up to 40 billion habitable planets may exist in our galaxy. Given this abundance of fertile planets, scientific estimates, like the Drake Equation, predict intelligent life should have developed and spread throughout our universe by now. So where are they? This is Fermi's paradox.

Two main schools of thought provide answers to the paradox. Either aliens exist, or they don't. Maybe, since the universe is so huge, civilizations develop, but they exist too far apart in space to reach each other. Another possibility is that we haven't been listening long enough, or that we are listening at the wrong time. The universe is 13.8 billion years old, and we have only had radio telescopes for a short time.

If aliens don't exist, it's probably because of the 'Great Filters' theory. Great filters are hypothesised

to be events along the journey from pre-life to maturity that, when encountered, stop the development of civilizations. Great filters can be biological or technological. Maybe the jump from primordial chemical soup to the self-replicating molecules necessary for life is incredibly difficult. It is also possible that nuclear weapons destroy every civilization that develops them. The main criterion for great filters is that we can't have passed them more than once. For example, sight has evolved independently several times on Earth, disqualifying it instantly.

If we are past the great filters then the universe is probably empty because taking a step along the road to evolving intelligent life is so difficult. A leading candidate, according to an article published by MIT, is the unlikelihood that prokaryotes (small, simple cells) will evolve into eukaryotes (complex, larger cells with a membrane bound nucleus). This evolution took roughly 1.8 billion years to occur on Earth, suggesting it happened by chance. Maybe the rest of the cosmos is teeming with prokaryotic life that never developed further.

If there are great filters in our future, life like ours may be common but fated for destruction. When it comes to finding aliens, as philosopher Nick Bostrom puts it, "No news is good news". If we found traces of simple alien life forms it would be

depressing, but if we find the ruins of an alien civilization it would be catastrophic. The more complex the alien remnants we find are, the more likely it is that something terrible lies ahead for life on Earth.



TV & MOVIE STARS ★ ANIME ★ COLLECTIBLES & TOYS **NEON** LIVE WRESTLING ★ COMICS ★ COSPLAY EVENTS

PROUDLY PRESENTS

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Issue 02 | Mar 2017

## POSTGRAD



## Post-Grad & Broke

by Philosophy of Zane

Hey Otago Ew-ni,

We have a bone to pick with you. We need to talk about how "full" scholarships do not, in fact, cover the costs required to be a student.

What is the purpose of a scholarship? To us, it is meant to allow someone to complete their studies, while not allowing financial hardship to hinder their ability to succeed. Without this kind of support, many students would likely forgo undertaking postgraduate study, particularly as it takes us all past Studylink's - brilliant - 7-year cap.

It seems ludicrous that a full scholarship wouldn't cover all necessary fees. Yet, every year postgrads are faced with the Student Services Fee. Paying this fee is compulsory, so one would reason that a fee-covering scholarship would cover this too. Students who have taken this concern to the Graduate Research School in the past have been told that this fee is "optional" and therefore not covered. However, if a student wishes to graduate, this "optional" fee suddenly becomes a barrier to completing a qualification.

Don't get us wrong; we value many of the services that this fee covers. Our issue is with our scholarships covering (some) fees. \$739 is a huge sum to produce annually, and it's a kick in the teeth to be paid by the uni, just to pay the uni straight back. It's even worse for international students, as they have to have private medical insurance as well.

At this point in our lives we don't want to live "like students". We value our health enough to not

tolerate shitty, mouldy, damp and under-insulated houses and a diet of 2-minute noodles. We don't have time to be sick when we're pulling 70+ hour weeks in the office or lab. Adequate housing is hard enough to find without being charged through the teeth for it. Some of us have dependants. We're not a well-off population with \$700+ lying around to cover a fee that should be covered.

It seems like the University forgets that we are real people, who pay real bills, and live real lives. Many scholarship students have exceeded their 7-year cap for loans, assuming they can convince Studylink to pay this fee at all. Many are international students with no access to Studylink.

So, Uni, want to trade places with us for a few months? Try living on our measly stipends then tell us how easy it is to pay fees while trying to avoid a noodle diet.

*A response to this article by Student Services and the Graduate Research School*

Both Student Services and the Graduate Research School acknowledge the financial challenges faced by many (and particularly by international) postgraduate students. While the \$739 student services fee offers value for money, a wide range of services, and is set at a similar level to other NZ universities, we agree it can be a significant and difficult cost to meet. It is also compulsory (GRS apologises for any incorrect advice on this in the past).

Your correspondent has correctly pointed out that postgraduate scholarships do not cover the student services fee, only tuition fees. This is specified in current regulations. It could be looked at in the future, but given the number of postgraduate scholarships offered by this university, there would be significant impact on the scholarships budget. I would welcome further discussion about this, either through your representative on the Graduate Research Student

Liaison Committee, or through a conversation with myself or Peter Boston, Manager Postgraduate Scholarships, Prizes and Awards.

Further information about the student services fee can be found at:

[www.otago.ac.nz/student-services/otago626140.html](http://www.otago.ac.nz/student-services/otago626140.html), and postgraduate scholarship regulations at [www.otago.ac.nz/graduate-research/scholarships/master/otago013798.pdf](http://www.otago.ac.nz/graduate-research/scholarships/master/otago013798.pdf)

Nāku noa, nā

Andrew Lonie  
Manager  
Graduate Research School

## CRITIC BOOZE REVIEWS\*

## Flame



by Swilliam Shakesbeer

Flame (pronounced Flamé) is an imported French beer, brewed by Trappist monks at a hidden

monastery near the peak of the Pyrenees alps, since the early 1300s. Legend has it that the true recipe has never been written down, instead it is passed by oral tradition from master to apprentice. Before being entrusted with the recipe, the monks must go through years of physical, mental and spiritual training to prove that they are deserving custodians.

The subtle nuances of this beer's magnificence can only truly be appreciated by the tongue of an experienced taster. The hops dance delicately on the taste buds, playfully teasing the drinker with an incredible array of sensations. The malts play an undertone that can only be described as smooth jazz on a summer evening.

Some would call the way Flamé varies from batch to batch "inconsistency" or "brewers not trying very hard". I call it an adventure in every bottle. Sometimes, it has the crispness of a lager, sometimes the pleasant citrus of a pilsner, and sometimes even the full-bodied strength of an amber ale. In many ways, Flamé is the perfect drink, the beer we were put on this earth to create.

Most beers are branded per their style, for example Speights Gold Medal Ale or Tui East India Pale

Ale (even though both are amber lagers and anyone that has ever had an IPA will tell you that Tui isn't even close). Flamé doesn't mess around with that bullshit; the label simply reads Flame Beer. The percentage (5.2%) is boldly displayed underneath. They know how good they are, they don't need to show off. It's beer. Shut up and drink it.

**Tasting notes:**

Happiness, joy, friendship, positivity.

**Pairs well with:**

Icebreaker (for a Song of Ice and Fire), Diesel (for a homemade bomb)

**Taste Level:** 5.2%

**Froth Level:**

Hot enough to melt steel beams

**Dollars per standard:** \$1.12

(19.5 standards for \$22)

\*2016 ASPA Award Winning Best Column

## ECONOMICS EVERYWHERE

## Adblock

by Danni Pintacasi



There's no such thing as a free lunch. However, the internet is an all you can eat buffet of free

lunches, provided you can put up with the ads. Enter adblock stage left. Adblock creates the ultimate user experience; everything is free and all the intrusive pop-ups are gone. But eventually, all this stealing is going to catch up with us.

Adblock relies on the idea that not everyone will actually use it. This concept is formally called the 'free rider problem'; users benefit from a good without paying for it, relying on the contributions of others. Too many free riders lead to the good or service not being able to be provided. Unfortunately, the number of adblock users has been growing dramatically in the last few years.

A 2015 report by PageFair estimated that adblocking grew by 41 percent over the course of the year, resulting in 198 million active users of adblock and costing publishers nearly 22 billion dollars in revenue. Figures from PageFair's 2016 mobile adblocking report follow the same trend, stating that 419 million people, or 22 percent of the world's 1.9 billion smartphone users, are using adblock on the go. It should be noted that these reports have been criticised as biased; PageFair has a large stake in the war against adblock, providing services to websites looking to reclaim their ad revenue.

Nonetheless, the number of free riders is increasing at a phenomenal rate. Sooner or later, online publishers will not be able to sustain themselves and will have to shut down operations. This eventuality not only limits our content choices, but also reduces the competition for our attention. Less competition could mean that the publishers that survive may not even worry too much about the type of content they produce, instead coming out with the click-baity list articles that they know will get views. Gone will be the little guy with the cool idea, squashed by the likes of Buzzfeed.

Adblock supporters claim that the growing use of adblock is a message to online publishers and advertisers—make your ads bad and the masses will retaliate.

Publishers need to solve out the underlying problems with their current advertising model if there is any hope of slowing down the adblock epidemic before the amount of free riders hits a critical mass.

**ETHEL & HYDE**

ethel  
AND  
HYDE

Help me,  
I have a mad boner for my lecturer.  
Should I make a move on that? Is this  
legal? Help.

Frustrated

Disclaimer: Student Support advises  
you to take Ethel's advice.

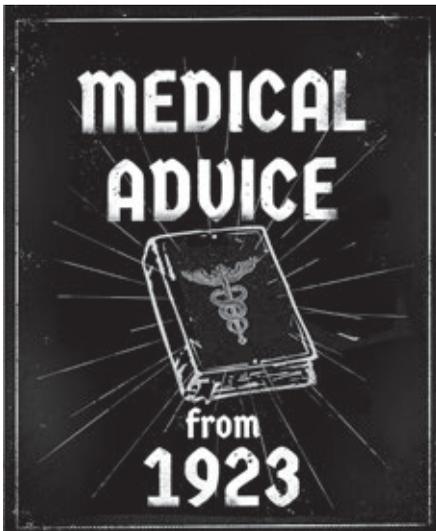
Send your questions to:  
ethelandhyde@ousa.org.nz



Ethel says  
Oh dear, that sounds uncomfortable. There are a few things to consider in your situation, but I will just mention a couple which are important. Firstly, the University has an Ethical Behaviour Policy, which includes some guidelines on intimate personal relationships between university staff and students. The policy says "The University strongly discourages, and staff should avoid entering into, an intimate personal relationship with any student of the University"(Appendix 1 (f)). Secondly, the same policy also outlines what constitutes sexual harassment. Should you feel so overwhelmed you suddenly express your desires verbally or in a written form, or even a visual form your behaviour, it could be construed as harassment and lead you to a disciplinary proceeding. So in answer to your original question, it is not illegal, but it is really not a good idea and could lead to all sorts of trouble, which would be best avoided. Good luck with finding safer and more ethical ways to relieve your frustration.



Hyde says  
Boom, you are not alone in your pain friend! Time to get inventive with attracting the attention you need, but first implement some features to ensure bulging is concealed. Wikihow has a great page on how to hide an erection. Onto the plan to capture the attention of the sexy beasssst lecturer. You need a fancy certificate proving that you are The Man for The Job, [www.certificatemagic.com](http://www.certificatemagic.com) is where you can award yourself one. Print several copies in colour, preferably on handmade paper. Next, bribe a friend, or a stranger if you have no friends, to deliver you a certificate at the end of a lecture, just as the lecturer is leaving. Make sure they give a small speech about your prowess as a lover. Having caught the lecturer's attention, act all humble and make an exit, dropping a personalized business card with your details. Race home and spank that monkey!

**VITALOLOGY**

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

**Snake Bites\***

Deadly snakes are generally distinguishable by the thinness of the neck, immediately behind the head, and by their having only two teeth in the upper jaw.

Kerosene oil is a never failing remedy for the cure of the bite of snakes and all other poisonous reptiles. Bind cloth wet with kerosene on the wound and keep it wet. If wound is not fresh and open make a small incision across the wound before applying the kerosene, also take internally a tablespoon of kerosene. Repeat the dose every hour till three or four doses have been taken.

Alcohol, in any of its forms, should be drunk largely by the patient. Let him drink it freely, a gill or more at a time, often once in fifteen to twenty minutes (or small doses oftener), until symptoms of intoxication are experienced by the patient.

Onions are a speedy and effective dure. Patients in the very agonies of death have been cured with

them. Pound and apply them raw; followed by fresh applications as soon as a disagreeable odour occurs. In dangerous and critical cases the whole person should be enveloped in this preparation of onions, then bathed with tepid water and renewed as often as the unpleasant odour is produced.

Lard is also a superior remedy. Bind it on the wound; take a tablespoon every half hour, in a liquid state, until six or eight doses have been taken.

Soft clay mud, applied to the wound, is another good remedy, and has been known to cure. This is considered a most potent remedy by the Indians.

Snake-bitten cattle or horses are usually bitten in the feet. When this is the case, all that is necessary to do is to drive them into a mud-hole and keep them there for a few hours. If upon the nose, bind the mud upon the place in such a manner as not to interfere with their breathing.


 THE HELL HOLE


 HINKLE'S PATENT  
COMPOUND  
*for Removal of Hair*

By *Fanny Clive-Trevor*

Sarah had spent years trying to remove the hair on her legs, but the hairs fought back. If she shaved, she'd only graze herself and wreck the blades. If she waxed, the hair would rip out in agonising patches, then her skin would become puckered and pimpled. Lasers glanced off them; depilatory creams melted her skin, but not the hair.

One day, Sarah was in a pharmacy and found, pushed back on the bottom shelf, a purple glass bottle labelled "Hinkle's Patent Compound for the Removal of Hair". There was no further information. The bottle looked very old. She showed it to the shop assistant. "That's not ours," she said. "Someone must have left it behind. Could you take it to the cashier to put behind the counter?"

"Sure," said Sarah, but instead she slipped the bottle into her handbag.

That night, she opened the bottle. It was filled with a blue-grey jelly that smelled polluted and shameful. She smeared it over her legs and went to sleep.

She woke to the alien sensation of her calves rubbing together, the skin of one gliding smoothly over the other. She looked down to see nothing but pale white skin, flawless, with no hair in sight. Delighted, she put on a mini skirt and spent the day parading her bare legs in public.

The next morning, Sarah woke in pain. She looked down and gasped. Ripping through the surface of her skin, like a pencil through paper, were thousands of black hairs, as pointed and as thick as dry pasta. Sarah scrambled for the bottle of Hinkle's and emptied the rest of it onto the hairs. There was only enough to cover one leg, where the hairs immediately started falling out. The skin of that leg repaired itself before her eyes.

She went to get more Hinkle's from the Pharmacy, but there was none there. When she asked, nobody knew what she was talking about. She went home and stared at her

one perfect and one corrupted leg. Finally, she got a pair of scissors and began hacking away at the hairs, aggravating the skin around them.

The next morning she woke in even more pain. The leg she had hacked at with scissors was patchy and inflamed, but her previously smooth leg was now covered in even thicker hairs. They had the girth and texture of udon noodles and were slimy to the touch. Horrified, she ran to the kitchen and grabbed a knife. She sliced at the wormy hairs on her legs. They carved off easily and dropped to the floor, but Sarah wailed as more pain shot through her legs and blood oozed from the cuts she'd made. In a fever, she hacked at her legs, blood pouring from dozens of wounds, until she passed out from the pain.

Sarah woke hyperventilating in her own blood. She had to look for her phone and call an ambulance. She forced herself to sit up, but found she couldn't move further. She was anchored to the kitchen floor. In the pool of blood were hundreds of black, snake-like coils, as thick as hosepipe, wrapped around and around her and sucking onto the floor like leeches. Sarah started ripping and pulling to try and get them off her body, but it was no use—they were coming out of her legs.

As she attacked them, the ropes began to move, just a little bit at first, escalating to a writhing frenzy. A leech-head detached itself from the floor and lifted to face her. Its wide-toothed mouth opened and shrieked. The noise awakened the rest of the nest. Her vision filled with her hairs, eyeless, round-mouthed heads that opened and shrieked before biting and ripping at her face and body.

As the life drained out of her, she saw herself in a short dress; her legs covered in silky dark hair, soft and luxuriant, flowing in a pattern like water in a river.

# Cookin' Up Love

Each week, we lure two singletons to The Captain Cook Hotel, give them food and drink, then wait for their reports to arrive in our inbox. If this sounds like you, email [critic@critic.co.nz](mailto:critic@critic.co.nz). But be warned--if you dine on the free food and dash without sending us a writeup, a Critic writer will write one under your name.

And that won't end well for you.

## Short

I came with low hopes and I thought wow he's actually alg looking, but then at the end of the day we were better suited as friends. His flat were sitting there, which I found weird, but each to their own. Good conversation, but no further I don't think! Ah well.

## Sweet

On the day my flat mate shit his bed and Dunedin provided its hottest day of the not so summery summer I marched into the Captain Cook Tavern bang on 7oclock, hoping to be graced by an absolute Fiona, waiting for her Shrek. 27 minutes late she was, but Christ did she come in luke-warm, and by luke-warm, I mean hot.

With my flat mates siting in the corner watching my every move, I felt the evening had already reached its climax. When ordering the prime rib eye, my date's vegan eyes lit up. A good conversation starter yes, but a deal breaker, I think so.

The chat flowed seemingly well, and to be completely f#@king honest with you, I had a pretty good night. However, the whole night I had this sense of awkwardness, due to the fact that a past dust of mine was waitressing at the Cook, and eye balling me every chance she got.

When asked to join my date for a beer tower at Starters Bar following our meal, I think I panicked more than anything and stated I was probably going to go home and drink with my flat mates, knowing full well they would be going home to play Xbox, talk about cross-fit, and lick each others faces.

In hindsight, I wish I had dogged the boys and gone for a marginal starters draught. So R\*\*\*\*\*, if you do read this, and can see past my meat eating lifestyle, how about we get that tower?

p.s. Don't dog the boys.

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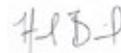
President's Column

Hey guys,

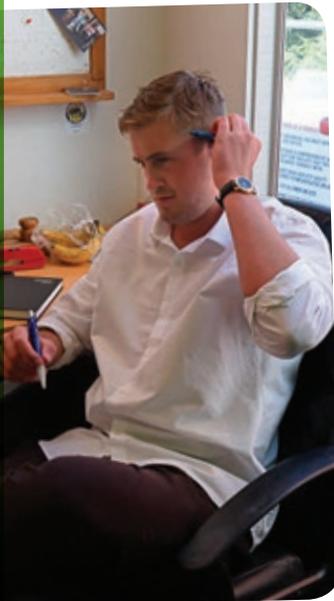
I hope your first week of lectures has gone well and you've been able to settle back into class with ease. To all first years, whilst the last week has been nothing but beer and skittles in terms of the weather, be assured this is not the norm. Dunedin is in fact colder than a polar bears toenails, so be sure to make the most of the sun and surf whilst it lasts. Be sure not to burn the candle at both ends too early in the semester. Get to class, get your work done, but also be sure to get out there and enjoy the last of the summer sun. Head down to UniPol, grab yourself a couple of surfboards, (or boogie boards for those of us who look like new born Bambi trying to stand up) and catch a couple party waves with your mates. There will always be plenty of time later in the semester to spend all day in the library.

When that sunshine does subside and the Antarctic moves north you may find yourself missing home a little. However, in terms of wellbeing, be assured that the team here at OUSA and at the University have you sorted. Don't be afraid to look around for a bit of help. Head over and check out the friendly team at the Student Support Centre or even check out some of the resources around wellbeing on campus at: [otago.ac.nz/healthy-campus/index.html](http://otago.ac.nz/healthy-campus/index.html).

I wish you all the best with the upcoming week! Be sure to soak up the sun, and to all of those looking more like an overcooked tomato than a sun kissed god, remember that winter is just around the corner.



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



# • Capping Show Auditions •

## Wanna be part of Campus History?

Come and audition for the 123rd OUSA Capping Show! Auditions are **THIS** week...  
**Monday 6th, Tuesday 7th and Wednesday 8th March at 7 PM in the Union Hall.**  
 Just bring yourself and a whole lot of enthusiasm...See you there!



CAN'T SWIPE US RIGHT.. BUT WE CAN STILL BE FRIENDS



ADD BY SNAPCODE & LIKE US ON FB

**IT'S YOUR STUDENT ASSOCIATION**



# MARSHMELLO

ORI AFTER SESSION 2

Marshmello will be blowing the roof off of the Union Hall this Thursday!

Grab your tickets at:  
[cosmicticketing.co.nz/event/show/5073](http://cosmicticketing.co.nz/event/show/5073)  
 or from the OUSA Main office tickets are running low so lock them down!"



**THE OUSA COMMUNIQUE**

NEWSLETTER

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