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It's normal for our biggest sports heroes to endure multiple concussions in their careers. Some of them experience cognitive problems later in life, by Ben Lorimer P.26

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LETTERS

WHO IS HE?

I am writing to commend the various literary performances of what I consider, your publication's most talented writer. He writes under the pseudonym 'William Shakesbeer'.

Who is this talented scribe? The man evidently has two talents—binge drinking and writing. And to use Shakesbeer's own words, he pairs them excellently—like a shandy on a Sunday morning.

Week in and week out, Shakesbear puts his liver and dignity on the line, to deliver to Critic readers, informative reviews of our cities cheapest grog. Who is this fabled columnist?

As the blind date column becomes less and less promiscuous, I believe I can vouch for most Scarfies that, Shakesbeer's column is a go-to for unadulterated and debaucherous reading. Here are some of my favorite lines from last week's column:

"If Jesus turned water into wine, then Sharon the bartender at the Waikaouti Pub turned it into DB."

"DB is like investing Tinder game in a Christian girl; it's not really worth it. You might get a response, but it's not going anywhere"

In this age of political correctness, Shakesbeer is a writer that doesn't give too many fucks. He's got big balls, an iron liver and a talent for putting words together. Few writers have the ability to make their leader laugh aloud, but this talented alchy has me in stitches in every week.

I wonder how Shakesbeer would fair outside of his Booze Review column? Put the man onto a news story. Maybe North Dunedin current affairs? Perhaps political commentaries? I think he would do just fine.

I commend you Mr. Shakesbeer. Yours, Hoffman Zuringer

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

THIS LETTER DOES NOT REFLECT THE VIEWS OF CRITIC

Dear Critic, Fuck yeah,

Yours sincerely, Lync Aronson

NEITHER DOES THIS ONE

Dear Critic,

I guess everyone's focusing on the presidential candidates and the tickets this year. In case the down-ballot candidates slip through the cracks, can I please give some kudos to Josh Smith (Recreation), Laura Cairns (Education) and Guy McCallum (Admin VP). They were brilliant during the candidate forums, please vote for them.

Regards,

Totes Impartial

THE BEST TO WORST DRESSED AT THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE FORUM

- 1. Lync Aronson. The Wolf of Wall Street.
- Monique Mulholland. Spooky lipstick. 10/10, haunting.
- Caitlin Barlowe-Groome. Very vesty. Comfy, practical.
- 4. Finn Shewell. Would have been a thumbs down if it weren't for the green socks.
- Alex McKirdy. Nice farmer vibe, sturdy footwear, mismatched socks let you down.
- 6. Angus Wilson. Very Lumberjack hipster, three days running
- 7. Hugh Baird. Iron your shirt.



NOTICE:

Critic's People's Choice Award Winner

Congratulations to Kirsten Wong who won Critic's People's Choice Award at the OUSA Art Week. Kirsten won the award for the second year in a row with her painting Triton's Daughter.

This year's Art Week exhibition featured 271 artworks from 93 artists. A total of \$4702.33 of artworks sold that all went back to student artists



SEND YOUR LETTERS TO CRITIC@CRITIC.CO.NZ

EDITORIAL

OUSA Finds Itself At a Crossroads & IT'S DOWN TO YOU TO DECIDE THE ROUTE

During the OUSA Executive Election Forums that were held last week there emerged a clear division in the ideological outlook and approach held by the candidates in the hope of bringing about institutional change. That division was between those intent on working with the university to bring about that change and those that were determined to unite in opposition to them —It's one of pragmatism vs. activism. The result of the election, therefore, could see a decisive shift in the direction of OUSA; a return to what some call the "glory days of the association."

I find myself in a difficult position during this election period for three main reasons: firstly, because I cannot vote this time around by virtue of having recently graduated—which sucks badly; secondly, because I've been so critical of the slow progress and inaction of the last few OUSA Executives and have sought to expose and advocate change to the processes now ingrained within the association, but find the alternative now proposed potentially less appealing, for reasons I'll outline by the end; thirdly, because I fucking hate tickets, and the candidates I consider to be preferable in this race are almost entirely running on tickets.

Over the past few years we've seen OUSA adopt a defeatist attitude to student-related issues, instead sitting back and accepting that nothing can be done while increasing their service-provision role for fear of offending the university. For example, 2015 OUSA President Paul Hunt didn't attend a protest of university staff cuts because he was organising the Hyde Street Keg Party, 2016 President Laura Harris was accused on many occasions of being 'in the pocket' of Vice Chancellor Harlene Hayne, and current OUSA President Hugh Baird has actually been in support of the plethora of university cuts that have presented themselves this year, believing their result will be beneficial to the student body, as well as not endorsing political policy in an election year despite promising to do so throughout the year (see page 8). These are just examples of this attitude, but are symptomatic of the more widely held approach.

It hasn't always been this way. Last year marked 20 years since arguably the most famous student occupation of the Clocktower, one that lasted for an entire week in protest of the continuing increase in university tuition fees, and which OUSA proudly joined with the student body on. Seeing the contempt that a large number of the candidates this year hold for the diminished advocacy role of the association and the university's encroachment on student values, we may be on the brink of returning to the associations' radical activist roots, for better or for worse.

The split is also distinctly seen between current executive members and a new set of students hoping to be elected onto the executive. Is it just that the current executive are not ambitious enough, overly weary of breaking down the ongoing 'amicable' relationship between the association and the university? Or is it a realisation that the status-quo is the only way to bring about change, albeit incrementally, since the introduction of Voluntary Student Membership (VSM), that can only be discerned through experience of the bureacratic nature of the role the executive find themselves adhering to once elected?

Is an activist-approach feasible for OUSA in the post-VSM landscape?

In 2011, when the Education Amendment Bill (the vessel for VSM) was being considered by parliament, Critic wrote that the "passage of VSM will dramatically reduce income to students' associations around the country, and is likely to result in a substantial reduction in services offered by associations". Although the initial point was correct, the result was that, at least for OUSA, there is now more service provision than there was prior to the legislative change, and we have seen a stripped back advocacy role to accommodate this. This is largely because the university now allocates almost the entirety of the operational funding that OUSA survives on and will predictably cut funding in the face of a growing activist role by the association. Many, including this year's executive, strongly consider it to be self-defeating for OUSA to storm the registry building to protest their opposition to that agenda.

This issue of Critic has two op-eds, one by Sam McChesney and another by Joel MacManus, on this week's OUSA Executive Election, and neither shirk from telling it as it is. Have a read and see whether they help to clear the haze that surrounds student politics, and hopefully you'll be in a fully informed position to consider the route you want to see OUSA take into its 128th year.

JOE HIGHAM, CRITIC CO-EDITOR

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× Uni News

Dunedin Craft Beer Festival Sells Out of Tickets

In its fifth year, the Dunedin Craft Beer Festival is on track to be the biggest it's ever been. From a small event entirely based on the concrete slab at the Otago Daily Times end of Forsyth Barr Stadium the event has expanded to encompass the entire field.

The festival was originally proposed as part of a Masters of Marketing assignment, and OUSA saw it as an opportunity to engage with the local community and to provide more events focused on older and postgraduate students, who don't otherwise attend many OUSA events. It was never intended to grow into the phenomenon it is today.

According to OUSA Events Co-ordinator Luke Matsopolous, 2017 was the first year they have ever had to turn away breweries. "We've got an insane amount of vendors. 60 at least. We had one drop out, but now we've got a waiting list wanting to get in."

"The feedback I've had from our vendors is that they absolutely love it. The whole day, the atmosphere. There's no malice, everyone's in good spirits. Last year we had like 380 different beers, it's stupid. Breweries come down with like 12 different beers. Garage Project every year sells out by like 3:30 every year."

More breweries from more locations around the country than ever will be on show, with most breweries planning a special festival brew which will begin brewing over the next week or two. Radio Hauraki hosts Jeremy Wells and Matt Heath are returning as MCs, and will be profiling many of the participating breweries on their show in the leadup to the event.

6200 tickets were put on sale, and have now completely sold out, eclipsing sales figures from previous years. 2016 was the only other year to sell out, and even then, only did so in the final days before the event.

The unprecedented ticket sales have forced OUSA to rethink their marketing strategy. "We were going to the traditional ticket sales route, but now we're going to have to refocus on promoting our vendors," said Marketing Manager Kat McLennan.

Dave Dobbyn has been announced as the headlining act, with support from Goodshirt and Nomad. "We wanted to really focus on our demo," said Matsopolous. "We wanted to have music which spanned the age groups, have one for the older age group and acts that are just coming through for the young ones." × Joel MacManus



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IT'S ALL POLITICS NOW

× OUSA Election

OUSA PRESIDENTIAL FORUM ROUNDUP:

No Confidence Takes Decisive Lead in Opinion Polls

The OUSA Executive Election Forums that were held last week provided a slightly larger and more invested crowd than usual, and a surprising amount of insight and conflict.

Predictably, given the lack of advocacy by this year's executive, all of the candidates pledged to increase their level of advocacy should they be elected. A fire alarm interrupted the forum 20 minutes in, causing the evacuation of the Union Hall, which Critic thinks was deliberately triggered by Vice Chancellor Harlene Hayne to prevent students realising their true demographic power once more.

When the audience and candidates returned, OUSA President Hugh Baird, who was moderating the event, said that "OUSA is not a dictatorship, although I wish it was at times," however, even with absolute power, he probably still wouldn't take a public stance on anything of importance.

Lync Aronson was adamant that withdrawing from the New Zealand Union of Students' Associations (NZUSA) would benefit the student interest, accusing it of "organisational inefficiencies" and that it does not provide "enough bang for your buck," despite, as he was reminded, the Labour tertiary education policy being amended due to the input from NZUSA, as just one thing they had succeeded in for students. Angus Wilson and Monique Mulholland, who are inexplicably running alongside one another for the presidency on the 'Justice Through Solidarity' ticket, said that NZUSA is imperative as a national voice for students, before Alex McKirdy told Aronson that \$3 per student was a worthwhile sacrifice for what the association provides the national student body.

Following a series of questions from Baird about their managerial competence (which thankfully granted Aronson the opportunity to describe himself as a "social chameleon"), the group were asked what



Lync "no NZUSA" Aronson

Angus Wilson vs?? Mulholland

Monique



Alex McKirdy "the whole system isn't workina"

their biggest criticism of the 2017 executive has been thus far. Finn Shewell considered mental health to be the most significant issue OUSA has failed on, and said they could do far more on the issue, before Aronson reminded the crowd that his 'Free Food Fridays' policy would help to alleviate stress and improve students' mental health. McKirdy also agreed with mental health, dealing in absolutes: "the whole system is not working" and claiming that "the university is working against students". Barlow-Groome noted that housing conditions were particularly bad, tying them into the issue of mental health. Wilson and Mulholland disagreed, believing the "largest cuts to staff in history" and financial difficulties for students were the most pressing issues that have been ignored respectively.

The Hyde Street Keg Party, which Aronson will remove OUSA involvement from should he be elected, was touted as the largest success of OUSA by McKirdy, Mulholland, and Barlow-Groome, all of whom reiterated their support for the event. Shewell came out of left field and said the Kiwiana 101 Reorientation event proved extremely popular, and provided an "experience of New Zealand for international students," before Wilson said Orientation Week was a show of how "we are a force to be reckoned with," and Aronson answered student support, a service he will provide increased financial support to if he is successful.

A question directed at Barlow-Groome, due to her being the only candidate with any previous OUSA experience, elicited a pledge to "stand up for things and not allow the status quo to continue". Shewell told the crowd that the "reason we're seeing candidates with no experience getting through is that maybe it is actually a good idea, and maybe OUSA is actually doing a good job".

The financial independence of the association was a contentious topic, as the university provides the association with roughly \$3.5 million, a sum that some worry may shrink if OUSA fights back on certain contentious issues. Mulholland was clear that she believes, "OUSA should be more independent as we are valuable stakeholders in the community," and it would help "bring down [OUSA's]

LET'S GET POLITICAL





Caitlin Barlow-Groome-only candidate with any previous OUSA experience

"maybe OUSA is actually doing a good job"

conflicting interests". Barlow-Groome said independence is important for the association's future, but would not "barge in there [the Registry Building] and demand it because I don't want to lose our funding," a position Wilson found unpalatable, being of Union ilk, reminding her that "if we want our voices heard and it's not something the uni want and they will cut our funding, we should become independent and fund ourselves," collecting the money from 17,000 students instead of letting the university provide it to us. Aronson was more pessimistic, believing independence to be the right move, but said, "there's nothing we can do, it's a legislative change that's required". Finn was the only candidate who didn't consider it feasible or even important for OUSA to become independent once more, reminding the other candidates that without the SLA (Student Levy Agreement) there's about \$150,000 left to play with, and with that all going into the executive, we'd have nothing left to spend on other things." Instead, he'd prefer to see students "not be afraid despite the SLA and voice our opinion" regardless. × Joe Higham

OUSA STILL HAVEN'T ENDORSED **ANY POLITICAL POLICY IN** THE STUDENT **INTEREST FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION AND VOTING IS NOW OPEN**

× OUSA Election: Opinion

Please Stop Electing Unqualified White Guys

"I learned of a powerful, important job and I wanted it ... The problem was I never thought through why I wanted this job."

In Iron Fist, Marvel's tone-deaf TV show about mighty-whitey kung-fu billionaire Danny Rand, Rand gives a monologue about how he came to be the Iron Fist:

"When I got to the monastery postcrash, I learned of a certain position. A powerful, important job and I wanted it ... The problem was I never thought through why I wanted this job. I mistook my stubborn will for a sense of destiny or something."

For many people, the speech summed up the biggest problem of a show that had plenty—its hero was a witless symbol of privilege and entitlement. Rand's words could just as easily be applied to Donald Trump. Or, for that matter, to Hugh Baird.

Or to most of this year's nominees for OUSA President.

Baird, let's recall, ran a spectacularly opportunistic campaign for President last year, leveraging his name recognition as Critic editor and piggybacking on social causes in which he'd never shown the slightest interest, before or since. He wasn't qualified for the role and it shows: this year he's had the visibility and backbone of a translucent jellyfish.

This is nothing personal—Hugh's a cool guy. But there is absolutely no doubt that he profits from the fact that whiteness and maleness are social signifiers of competence. He did nothing to earn his position besides show up and promise not to buy a food truck. (Thanks for sticking to that, by the way.)

There is a trend here. Since Edwin Darlow was elected way back in 2008, OUSA has had four white male presidents. None of them had previously served on the OUSA Executive. The other four—an Asian man and three white women—had all previously served on the Executive.

To put it another way: of our last eight presidents, all of the white guys, and only the white guys, thought they were qualified to lead OUSA despite having no previous



governance or advocacy experience. And we let them. Clearly, the bar is set lower if you have a pale dick.

This brings me to this year's candidates. First off, who is Finn Shewell? Oh right, he's a white guy who thinks he's qualified to lead OUSA despite having no previous governance or advocacy experience. Shewell gets a special mention because out of the four(!) unqualified white guys running for President this year, he leads a ten-person ticket that contains just three women and is nominating white guys for four of the five most senior positions.

And while we're on the topic, fuck tickets. Fuck them in every damn hole. Fuck "Unity" in particular. Fuck "Be Bold" as well, but fuck them to a lesser extent because they're not trying to take over the entire Executive and they don't seem quite so inane.

Whenever tickets have successfully colonised the Exec, their defining traits have either been secretiveness, complacency, or batshit-crazy personal recriminations. 2010's clique privately coordinated to push through sweeping constitutional changes behind their colleagues' backs. 2012's and 2015's got elected, then sat Hugh's a cool guy. But there is absolutely no doubt that he profits from the fact that whiteness and maleness are social signifiers of competence

around and did nothing.

"Unity" seem to think that tickets guarantee great communication and personal cohesion. They appear to have forgotten that just last year, the "Real Change" ticket showed us the worst example of Executive infighting in decades.

I get why students decide to run on tickets. It increases their visibility, and makes it easier to juggle campaigning with coursework. But to justify tickets on this basis is purely narcissistic. How about some evidence that tickets work for the students, not just the candidates?

It's especially bad with predominantly white tickets (i.e. nearly all of them), which tend to magnify the unfair advantage white candidates already enjoy. OUSA has a pretty terrible record when it comes to electing minorities: last year, not a single ethnic-minority candidate won a contested seat.

Please, vote for a genuinely diverse Executive, and vote for the only presidential candidate with any Executive experience (Caitlin Barlow-Groome). Please keep in mind that "No Confidence" is a legitimate option. And please Google "Fuck Yeah Lync Aronson". × Sam McChesney

× OUSA Election: Opinion

What Do the **Presidential Candidates Actually Represent?**

Justice Through Solidarity: Old School Radicals Pres Candidate: both Monique Mulholland and Angus Wilson



These guys are a throwback to radical student activism of the 1980s. The lovechild of a last-minute union between socialists and feminists, they are peculiarly running two presidential candidates, Angus and Monique, because they didn't actually form their ticket until after registration closed. Angus is a union man who wants to be marching on the clocktower and organizing strikes over staff cuts. "The only good protest is an illegal one," he claims. Monique was thrust into running after she and Kyra Gillies wrote an extensive booklet claiming failures of OUSA and the university to combat sexual violence and properly support the Thursdays in Black campaign. Easily the most emotive of candidates running.

Caitlin Barlow-Groome: Independent and Reliable

Caitlin's the only presidential candidate this year who has actual executive experience, but maintains her independence by refusing to affiliate with a ticket. Could pick up a lot of votes from students



dissatisfied with how shit tickets have been in recent years. She's been really effective as Recreation Officer and is easily the most qualified candidate to run events such as O Week and Hyde Street. She came alive talking about PE school protests and the need to lobby central government through NZUSA. She's extroverted as fuck; it's easy to see her bouncing all over campus raising awareness for all sorts of issues. According to current President Hugh Baird, "it will be stupid if she doesn't win"-but I don't know if that's an endorsement she will necessarily want.

Unity: Professional but Passionless Pres Candidate: Finn Shewell

Despite their presidential candidate Finn Shewell being a new face, the brains of the operation is current exec member and VP candidate Bryn Jenkins. If they get elected have no doubt that he will be the one running the show. At the forums, Bryn faced constant accusations of inaction on sexual violence, mental health, and student advocacy in his two years on the exec. Every answer was an awkward defence of bureaucracy and stagnation, making excuses for not following through on advocacy promised throughout the year and in the referendums. The top of the ticket is undeniably professional, but they are passionless. Their key promise of a more unified executive through better internal planning and communication sounds like a promise made by a management consultant brought in to run an accounting firm, not that of strong candidates who want to run a student union.

Lync Aronson: **Confusingly Right Wing**

Lync is the first seeming fiscal conservative to run for President in a while. He wants to drastically cut costs by withdrawing

continued on next page »



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IT'S ALL POLITICS NOW

from NZUSA and ditching support for the Rowing Club, and wants to end OUSA's



involvement in Hyde Street. He has strangely juxtaposed this with a blatant and poorly thought out election bribe in the form of 'Free Food Friday' (which he says is part of his plan to fight mental health). Just because he wears a suit doesn't mean he knows what he's talking about.



Alex McKirdy: Seems fine.

Doesn't really have any unique positions of his own; he is mostly in line with the other candidates. A little out of his depth for President, but a nice guy.

Be Bold: The Junior Labour Party Presidential Candidate: None

Another ticket put together by OUSA puppet-master Jarred Griffiths (2016 Admin Vice-President). Griffiths has run the campaigns of the last three Presidents elected. Be Bold are essentially a Young



Labour outfit rebranded with some spiffy blue T-Shirts sporting their ticket name. Undeniably impressive candidates, well-spoken and with a lot of passion, but nothing particularly unique—a rehash of previous campaigns, they essentially come from the same blood as the failed Real Change ticket. × Joel MacManus

× Guide to The 2017 General Election

More young people have enrolled to vote than at this point in 2014. But, young people are still underrepresented in choosing New Zealand's government. It's not that we don't care, it's just that none of the parties really speak to us. Or they all do, in different ways. When you drill down past the scandal and the embarrassment of adults on salaries of public money engaged in smear campaigns, all the parties seem kind of the same. Nonetheless here are a few reasons voting is important, and some ways to choose who to vote for.

Why voting is important?

In New Zealand, the legislative branch is supreme. Parliament's laws cannot be bound by those of previous governments and the judiciary have limited scope to hold it accountable. The Bill of Rights Act 1990 protects all those good things like freedom of speech, freedom of religion, the right not to be subjected to cruel treatment, and the right to vote. It requires parliament create legislation "consistent with the rights and freedoms contained in the Bill of Rights". However, courts cannot repeal, revoke or find legislation to be "in anyway invalid or ineffective" or "decline to apply any provision [...] by reason only that the provision is inconsistent" with the Bill of Rights. Basically, parliament can make law how it pleases and all the courts get to do is interpret it. This means it is really important voters get it right.

MMP

Since 1996, New Zealand's parliament has been elected using the Mixed Member Proportional (MMP) system. Each voter has two votes: electorate and party. In your electorate vote, you get to choose a candidate that you want to represent your area (eg. Dunedin North) in parliament. With your party vote, you are voting for a party. Granted they get more than 5% of the vote (or win an electorate), the proportion of the party votes will equal the same proportion of seats in parliament. For example, in 2014 the Māori Party only got 1.32% of the party vote (below the threshold) but because they won an electorate, that party vote was counted and they got two seats in parliament.

Māori Electorates

New Zealand Māori and descendants of New Zealand Māori have the choice of enrolling on either the general roll or Māori roll. On the Māori roll you will vote for a candidate to represent you in parliament

three ways the Greens will make student life more awesome

ride

our Green Card will make off-peak public transport <u>free</u> for uni students.

chill

we will <u>legalise</u> medicinal and then recreational cannabis.

heal

we will take <u>urgent action</u> on mental health.



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from the Māori electorate you live in, rather than the local electorate (eg. Dunedin North). Dunedin, along with the rest of the South Island and Wellington, is in the Te Tai Tonga electorate. There are a total of seven Māori electorates.

Even if voting is important, it's hard to feel like we know enough to cast a vote. So how do we make the decision who to vote for?

Policy

If you think most of the parties seem the same, you're right. Our two main parties, Labour and National, have very different origins and motivations, but have developed to be reasonably similar. Yes, National's message is embedded in the economy and they're more likely to let individuals do what they want with tax cuts. And, yes, Labour is more socially oriented toward investing in health, housing and education for the good of all. But Labour and National tend to broadly accept the changes made by previous governments, rather than doing a Donald Trump and rolling back everything the opposition did in the first couple days of

being in power. Whoever is elected, New Zealanders won't wake up the day after the election in a radically different country, which is nice.

Making decisions based on personality is a bit taboo. The reality is that, with the similarities between the parties, we also get to vote for who we want to deliver policy changes. We indirectly vote for our preferred prime minister.

Despite a change in leadership, Labour's policy platform is still very similar to the one that they've campaigned on for the last nine years. Yet Labour has experienced a surge in support. Voters perhaps see a Labour Party led by Jacinda Ardern and Kelvin Davis as a more credible prospect to make Labour policies a reality. Kelvin Davis accused Bill English of having the personality of a rock. It's true that he can't compete with John Key's rock-star appeal (or is that Max). But, English has a track record as a competent Finance Minister. If you think this government is on the right track and want that to continue for the next three years, it's a valid reason to vote.



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Personality If you think most

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Personal networks

In a democracy, you have the right to vote. You also have the right not to vote. But, like voting, that decision not to vote should be informed and considered. There is more than enough information about the parties and so many organisations are doing great work to explain their policies and values to us.

People in power tell young people we're the future. But that future won't be bright unless they make decisions with us in mind. Having our voices heard by voting is a way to make that happen.

The deadline for enrolling to vote is September 22. You can enrol and vote at any advance voting place. Advance voting will be located on campus and starts on Monday 11 September. Election day proper is on 23 September! × **Esme Hall** ີພ

IT'S ALL POLITICS NOW

× National

Grant Robertson Talks About His Experience of Homophobic Abuse



"I JUST THINK THERE'S SOME ENTRENCHED VIEWS THERE IN PART OF SOCIETY THAT NEED TO BE CHALLENGED."

In a candid interview with Critic, Labour Party Finance Minister Grant Robertson revealed the extent of the personal attacks he has faced since he became an MP.

Robertson, who is openly gay, said that he has experienced both "actual abuse" and "unconscious bias" over his sexuality. and believes that new Labour leader Jacinda Ardern is receiving sexist and ageist treatment in the media.

"I get masses of homophobic stuff," Robertson said. "I get constant emails, the odd tweet. In the end, I tend to disregard most of it. When I first became an MP nine years ago, there was a guy who was a bit obsessed and strung out about me, particularly me being gay. He started writing these weird emails asking if I was ready for the noose, and we did refer that onto the police and they dealt with it, and he hasn't re-appeared for some time."

"I've had a couple things left in the letterbox too. Not direct threats, but kind of weird obsessional things, and that is because I'm gay and [the media] tends to fixate around my sexuality, for some people that's a trigger." In January, Robertson tweeted a picture of a letter he received addressed to 'Homo'.

Robertson is not the only MP to receive similar attacks from the public. "The abuse is terrible, and, I might add, it's every politician from all parties." Just one day after I interviewed Robertson, National Party MP and Minister for the Environment Nick Smith was apparently attacked with rat poison at the Nelson market.

Smith said in a media statement that "The situation became quite frightening when it escalated from verbal abuse and throwing rat poison at myself and volunteers, to physical shoving and rubbing rat poison over my face and clothes".

But Robertson says politicians face more than just outright abuse. "There's sort of two things, there's the abuse side, and then there's another thing, the fashionable word nowadays is 'unconscious bias'."

"In the first media standup that Jacinda did when she became the leader, there were two or three questions which were all 'are

you capable of doing this job?', and after about the second or third one Jacinda turned to them and said, 'Yes, I am, and do you mind telling me why you don't think I am?'. And it was like, would you

"I get masses of homophobic stuff. l get constant emails, the odd tweet"

ask that question of a man? When Mike Hosking asked her what she was going to be wearing [to the first leaders' debate], she came back and asked him if he would ask Bill what he was going to be wearing. I kind of think he wouldn't have if she hadn't said that ... That's ingrained in our culture, and for Jacinda as a young woman leading a political party it's really heightened and we just need to call it out when it happens."

Robertson recently shared a Facebook post from two years ago where he talked about Jacinda Ardern getting what he considered to be sexist treatment by the media. Talking about that post, he said, "That was a specific moment two years ago, where she was starting to be talked about by people and she was described as a 'pretty little thing' by one commentator [former Kiwi's coach Graham Lowe, speaking to Paul Henry] and 'vacuous' or 'vacant' by another one, and it just really annoyed me because she's an incredibly smart, really politically astute person and I think everyone's seeing that now and that was the point of me reposting it, to sort of say: these things I was talking about, the public is now seeing. She's handled this incredibly well and is quick on her feet and able to deal with a huge range of policy issues as good as anybody. I do still think that she's a woman, she's under the age of 40, I just think there's some entrenched views there in part of society that need to be challenged." × Joel MacManus



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Is the New Zealand Health Care System "the Envy of the World"?

DAVID CLARK:

The government recently told cancer sector leaders that our healthcare system is "the envy of the World". That comment has been roundly criticised.

Australians are able to access new and innovative medicines, while New Zealanders are not. They know that our cancer recovery rates are worse. They know that our health care system is stretched and underfunded.

Our health care system in New Zealand should be the envy of the world. But we have to do a fair bit of work to get there. Here's what Labour will do:

Improving our health system must start with affordable access to primary health services. We know that last year over half a million



Kiwis who needed a doctor could not afford to go to their GP. Untreated illnesses have a massive personal cost, and cost us all when people then need to instead go to the emergency department.

Labour will extend cheaper GP visits so that New Zealand Community Services Card holders will pay a maximum of \$8 for a visit. We know a lot more New Zealanders will sign up for

a card when cheaper doctors visits are included. Under Labour all New Zealanders will pay \$10 less to visit their GP. All up, this will mean that more than half of all New Zealanders will pay \$8 or less to visit a doctor.

We have the highest teen suicide rate in the world. Most students I speak with know someone who has taken their own life. This is both ghastly and tragic. It's reported to be twice that of the USA and nearly five times that of Britain. We have had a sixty percent increase in people accessing mental health services in the past decade, but funding for support services has gone up by less than half of that amount.

Labour will put a nurse with mental health training in every secondary school in New Zealand. And so that people with mild to moderate disorders including anxiety and depression can access care more easily, we will also roll out mental health co-ordinators accessible via GP practices, starting with a two year pilot serving 400,000 of our most vulnerable citizens.

Labour has a National Cancer Agency initiative welcomed by cancer sector leaders. It will put us on a path so that our cancer care may indeed become the envy of the world. Without our health we have nothing. That is why our spending priorities are different to the current governments.

Under Jacinda Ardern and Labour, we will take immediate steps to improve New Zealand's health system. Labour believes in prioritising healthcare over an election year tax cut for the wealthy. We are a first world country and can make health a priority if we choose to.

Let's do this!

MICHAEL WOODHOUSE

National believes New Zealand's health system is very highly regarded around the world. In fact, the Legatum Prosperity Index 2016, which ranked New Zealand first in the world overall in terms of prosperity, also ranks NZ as 12th in the world for Health (basic physical and mental health, health infrastructure, and preventative care). This is up from 20th in 2008. Furthermore, the Public Health Association President Dr Jean Simpson has described New Zealand's public health system as the envy of many countries.

Supporting New Zealanders to live in good health remains a top priority for National. We invest in health because it is an important driver of the economic and social prosperity of our society.

Health has remained the government's number one funding

priority. Budget 2017 invested an extra \$3.9 billion in health over four years for new initiatives and to meet cost pressures and population growth.

This means that the government's investment in health will reach a record \$16.8 billion in 2017/18. This year's extra \$888 million of new money is the biggest increase in eleven years. But while the extra money is important, it is just a means to an end. The goal is better



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healthcare for New Zealanders. That's why we are investing in primary care, screening and early interventions, because catching issues earlier helps increase our chances of successful treatment.

This investment has led to 174,000 elective surgeries being delivered each year, 94 percent of emergency department patients being seen and discharged within six hours (which recent research has shown has saved thousands of lives), and the national rollout of bowel screening that means early detection for many.

We have also increased free and cheap GP visits and prescriptions, benefitting around 800,000 children. National's investment has also helped keep kids out of hospital for preventable conditions with 93 percent of 8 month olds now immunised.

National has also increased funding for mental health services from \$1.1 billion a year to over \$1.4 billion meaning there is more and better support available for those who need it.

Here in Dunedin, we are also seeing the benefits of National's investment in a world class health system. Dunedin will get a new \$1.4 billion hospital, in what will be the largest build of its type in New Zealand's history.

There are record numbers of doctors and nurses working in our DHBs, with 6900 more than when National took office. Southern DHB alone employs over 510 doctor full-time equivalents and over 1430 nurse full-time equivalents (as of 31 March 2017). That's over 90 more doctors and over 170 more nurses compared to 2008.

Our dedicated health workforce and this government's increased investment into the health sector is making a difference to the lives of New Zealanders across the country. More doctors, nurses, and access to world class health services means faster treatment and better experiences for patients and their families.



CATAPHRACTS ARE FACTS FOR CATS

Catacombs are combs for cats

Catamarans are meringues for cats

Catapults are where cats do pull ups

Catholics are licks for cats (or butts)

Sloop is the singular of slip

Not everything fits up your butt

Butt holes are always bigger on the inside

Catharsis are arses for cats

Buttonhole can be shortened to butt-hole

Don't touch the back-half of a cat—it's where the butthole is

Catapults are to buttresses as buttholes are to mattresses

Friends are snacks on legs

Everyone's a eunuch—every single person

WORLD WATCH



PENNSYLVANIA, UNITED STATES

Two women dressed as nuns unsuccessfully tried to hold up a bank in broad daylight before fleeing empty handed. One demanded money from the cashier while the other stood at the door wearing sunglasses. The FBI are currently investigating and have posted pictures of the 'nuns' on its website.

— MATAMATA, NEW ZEALAND

27-year-old Jaime Grainger won \$1000 after sitting his bare bum on a bee hive for 30 seconds. Grainger's friend had previously given him \$500 for eating a slug. Grainger claimed it was the easiest money he had ever won, and he plans to put the money towards his upcoming wedding.



JESS-LLB

- 1 Yes, but only half of it cos I have class
- 2 Housing conditions
- 3 Bryn Jenkins
- 4 Applicable to about 50%—the others are the opposite
- **5** No definitely not

CRAIG-POLITICS & ECONOMICS

- **1** Yes definitely
- 2 Degrees are becoming less and less valuable
- 3 Caitlin Barlow
- 4 Think it's stupid—they do much more than that
- 5 I want to say yes but no

SKY-COMMERCE

- 1 Nope
- 2 Lack of money
- 3 Not sure of his name but he's tall, blonde, in the cafe club, does Law (I think)
- 4 Not necessarily true, and anyway, they're just having fun
- 5 Yes

ZADE-FIRST YEAR HEALTH SCIENCE

- 1 No sorry
- 2 The stress
- 3 No sorry
- 4 Only a small population of students are like that
- **5** Nah!

GRACE—EDUCATION

- **1** No
- 2 Health—everyone is getting sick at the moment
- 3 No I don't sorry!
- 4 Don't agree-drunk, yes but only on weekends
- 5 No!

WENZHOU CITY, CHINA

An 11-year-old boy has undergone surgery after inserting 26 magnets, known as 'Buckballs', into his penis. All 26 balls had stuck to each other magnetically. The boy will be kept home from school and is expected to need around half a month to recover.



- Are you going to any of the forums or debates for candidates for the 2018 OUSA student executive?
- What are the biggest issues currently facing students?
- Can you name one member of the current OUSA Executive?
- What do you think of the common stereotype of uni students being lazy, promiscuous, and drunk?

Do you think that E-Sports should be part of the Summer Olympics?



To start this week, the ODT are reporting on perhaps the best story ever.

Fathers, sons try for best-dressed look

Yip, it's a father-son fashion competition. Unfortunately, they provided a picture of a group of winners.



Wow, three people wearing caps and sunglasses. What co-ordination, what elegance, what subtle standoffish style.

Of course, not content to just admire the bold fashion, the ODT decided to ask their signature child-conceiving question.

> "We've been into cars all our lives. This is what we do." Mr Wilson sen said "concentration" was the key to producing such strapping offspring.

Ewwwwww. Also, "sen" is a stupid way to abbreviate senior ("Sr." is common usage), and even if you are going to use "sen" you should capitalise it because it's part of a proper noun.

Continuing the theme of the ODT using inappropriate words,

Clock arouses ratepayers

Next, the ODT has decided that women are some kind of homogenous floating hive mind.

Women oppose water policy

And finally, Caramilk whisper unsubstantiated

That's my favourite George Michael song.*

*Joke attributed to Giddens, Ceridwyn BA (Hons), at 2.24pm 06/09/17. Used with permission.

FACTS & FIGURES

Some crop circles in Australia are caused by frenzied wallabies who get high in the poppy fields used to grow legal opium.

In 2010, the BBC spent nearly £230,000 on tea, but only £2000 on biscuits.

George IV got so drunk on his wedding night he passed out on the floor in front of the fireplace.

There are only 3900 tigers left in the wild, but there are about 5500 captive tigers in the USA.

A male hippo attracts a female by spraying her with excrement.

More Nobel Peace Prizes have been awarded to institutions than to women.

In his 27-year reign, Pope John Paul II took more than 100 skiing and mountainclimbing holidays.

The World Champion of French Scrabble doesn't speak French.



THE ROYAL NEW ZEALAND BALLET PRESENTS

THE RYMAN HEALTHCARE SEASON OF

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FEATURING



× Rugby

New Zealand Rugby to Get a 'Tewn' Up

In September last year, New Zealand Rugby Chief Executive Steve Tew announced that they were undertaking a "Respect and Responsibility" review of the national game. The review cost more than \$150,000 and the findings were approved by New Zealand Rugby's board last month and released to the public last Thursday (7 September).

A series of 'unfortunate events' around New Zealand rugby in recent years brought about the review, with the catalyst being the Chiefs' high-profile stripper scandal, which occurred during the team's Mad Monday celebrations last year. Afterwards the woman involved reported being touched inappropriately and having things thrown at her. She said she had not being taken seriously by the Chiefs' franchise or New Zealand Rugby when raising the issues. The other incidents that followed meant that there was little choice but to seek change, and part of the review concentrated on an analysis of misconduct information from 2013-17, which covered 36 cases of misconduct, some described as serious, dealt with by New Zealand Rugby.

Players were involved in 33 of the 36 cases, two involved a team and one a club. No identities were revealed. Of the cases, four individuals were repeat offenders. The incidents included: failure to attend meetings and judicial hearings or assemble with the team, lack of compliance with agreed programmes, including: rehabilitation, drunk behaviour, inappropriate sexual behaviour towards others, violent behaviour towards others, including team members and coaches, instances involving alcohol and drugs, and homophobic slurs overheard by public and complained about.

In more than half the situations, alcohol played a key factor.

When faced with the issue and the effect it will have on New Zealand Rugby's commercial interests, Tew said: "There's no doubt that has an impact on the view people have of our sport, of our teams and of our brands. To date our partners have been supportive but there's no question they don't want to see the same things going on and on without some action." The review, described by Tew as "absolutely ground-breaking", had over 100 recommendations, with six key changes to be implemented by NZ Rugby over the next 12-24 months, containing six "aspirational" goals, including: inclusive leadership, progressiveness (developing people), integrity (nurturing wellbeing), empowering (gender equality), respectful (proactive engagement), world-leading (accountable and independent).

Their priority actions for the next 12-24 months are:

- Establishing an executive governance group
- Creating a cross-functional project team
- Appointing a project manager
- Developing a project plan and integrate the 'RRR into its 2020 strategy
- Developing a charter that captures NZR's values and aspirations that rugby is for all
- Establishing an independent advisory group to provide advice and receive regular reports

Asked about payment for the Black Ferns, who won the recent World Cup, and how that fitted into "gender equality," Tew said: "We acknowledge we don't pay them as much as we would like. The Black Ferns were paid at the last World Cup, but we've got work to do." By God do they deserve that pay rise after their sensational performances.

At his press-conference prior to the clash with Argentina, Hansen was inevitably faced with further questions about the recent gualms with Aaron Smith and Jerome Kaino, and whether, in accordance with this recent review, he felt the All Blacks took appropriate action, to which he responded: "I think that's personal. Who are we to be the moral judges of anybody else? We've just to be our own moral judge. If people are breaking standards or laws, then we'll deal with it the same way we've always dealt with itfairly swiftly and honestly." This would indicate that Hansen fully backs the system that he and his band of merry men currently have in place.

The harsh truth, for me, is that, while New Zealand Rugby deserves some credit for undertaking the review, the hard work now begins in implementing it. This is likely to be troublesome, these issues have plagued the oval-ball code for decades now, and the macho culture has been taken too far by those such as the Chiefs' and Aaron Smith—there are far too many alcohol-related incidents. and these same incidents show that the attitude towards women still needs change. It would be unrealistic to expect these changes to simply happen overnight, as NZ Rugby chairperson Brent Impey acknowledged, saying, "we know this isn't all the answers but we are going to give this our best shot".

But for all the honest intent involved in this process, don't expect rugby to ever be totally squeaky clean. The game is, after all, a reflection of our society and will attract some bad individuals as well as the good people that dominate it; sadly, just like society, it is often the bad folk who grab the attention.

And hey, always remember that if you plan to be snecky and get intermite with a good luck suck and fuck in the park before going for a ride, always get a sawn afterdavided. × **Charlie Hantler**



SPORT



Why I quit sex

Content Warning: Sexual assault, discussion of suicide, underage sex.

Everyone loves a good sex story. I seem to have a lot of them. Ever since I lost my virginity at 17, I've had a complicated relationship with sex. The complication is that I have a shitload of sex. A different guy every night kinda sex. A threesome with a stripper kind of sex. four people in one night kinda sex. I know, gross. But hey, it's just fun, right?

I was never really good at sports. I had the right build, height and potential to be an excellent runner or swimmer, but I lacked the commitment. Then one fateful lunchtime at high school I decided to go all the way with a guy I had been seeing for about a month or so. We left school, broke into his mate's house, did the deed and were back just in time for fifth period. I ended up on top for the majority of the time and I remember thinking, "Now this is a sport I like. This is what I was born for." So I saw him again and again.

If this were a movie, then this would be the part where we fall in love. We didn't. In fact, it went the opposite. He shared a nude that I didn't even know he had and I ended up being airlifted to hospital after trying to kill myself. I was always one of the popular girls, so the nude thing was a scandal. My reputation took a nosedive and I lost my friends and the respect of my peers within a month. Many people would have sworn off sex after an incident like that. Not me. No matter what I did I was perceived as a slut. I had nothing left to lose, so I wore the label 'whore' like a badge of honor and I showed them what a real slut was.

My number grew from 1 to 14 within five months. The worse I got mentally the better I got sexually. When I was admitted to a psychiatric ward I fucked one of the patients. Then when I was released, I fucked four people in one night. My reputation grew and I was dehumanised by my peers at school. This eventually led to me being raped by a friend in my final year. Instead of dealing with it, I used sex as a barrier, a Band-Aid. I wanted to put as many people between me and that night as possible. I started uni and the number grew to 30, then 50, then I stopped counting all together. I fucked in beds, on park benches, in a port-a-loo, and even in a graveyard, holding onto some poor lady's headstone during doggy. Definitely not proud of that one. I loved to experiment. I loved guys of all ethnicities, builds and professions. I worshipped the male body. I just couldn't keep my hands off them.

One of my scariest encounters was when I went home with this beautiful man. He was older, respectful and had this bad boy vibe that every girl loves. When asked why he was in Dunedin he simply responded with "business". We did the deed with the lights off at his friend's place. He was rougher than I was used to, but I still enjoyed it. When we had finished he turned the light on and my stomach dropped. Tattooed across his chest were the words "Fucking Mongrel Mob". On his back was "Black Power", the mob patch and several scars. Oh. Shit. I covered up my nervousness with a saucy smile and complimented his tattoos. I asked him where he got them and he said "Jail". Lovely. We exchanged pillow talk while I tried to think up a way to get out of the situation. He offered me crack. I said no thank you. We chatted more about his 'job' while I got dressed. The further we got into the conversation the more afraid I got. He lived in Auckland and came down to run the initiations. Yup. A scarfie girl had just unknowingly banged a Black Power Leader. We made our way into the lounge which was empty when we arrived, but was now full of about ten members. The majority were wearing their



I once had starburst eaten out of my vagina. jackets and a few even had gang tattoos on their face. I swear to god I couldn't make this shit up. They were standing around a table that had the biggest pile of drugs I had ever seen. The door was a few short metres away but it felt like miles. Luckily their attention was focused on smoking their pile of goodies. I gave the guy a kiss goodbye and then walked calmly down the steps. As soon as I rounded the corner I fucking ran. And ran. And ran. Surely that would have put me off sex? Nope.

Even when my mood improved, the need for sex remained. I tried everything in the bedroom. Bondage, costumes, toys, even foot stuff this one time. To say I didn't get myself into difficult situations because of my behaviour would have been a lie. I broke up relationships, friendships, even brothers. I knew I needed to stop, but I just couldn't. Casual sex was all I'd ever known. I had tried relationships in the earlier days, but I was always the one dumped or hurt or used. I eventually gave up on the idea all together. I didn't trust guys enough to want a relationship with them and I was terrified of commitment. I never spooned, never cuddled, never stayed over. I had never had a proper relationship. What started out as fun became a big fucking problem. Casual sex was my source of confidence and validation. I hated myself. I hated my body. I only ever felt beautiful when I was in the bedroom.

For the past three years I only thought about how my behaviour affected me. I never once thought about it affecting those I had slept with. That was, until I received a text from an old fuck buddie I stopped talking too months before. He was hurt. He wanted to know what he had done, if I was seeing someone else. I apologised to him and right then and there I decided to quit sex. I reflected on everything I had ever done and I realised that I had become the hurter, not the hurt. Now I was the one using people. I didn't want to be that person anymore. I've had guys call me 20 times in a night, show up at my house declaring their love. One even broke into my house and climbed into my bed at 4am. It had never bothered me before. Until him. I think it's because he reminded me of the person I used to be.

The first few weeks were difficult. It's a good thing I invested in a vibrator. My confidence plummeted. I became insecure. But then this amazing thing happened. I began to get crushes. Feelings. I actually had proper conversations. Men can be pretty interesting creatures; I had forgotten that. It felt like seeing a dick for the first time. It was new territory, exciting and scary at the same time. I began to wonder if I was the only one who struggles with sex. Luckily it wasn't too hard to find people. It was asking them to do the interview that was awkward. "Hey, you're a bit of a slut, can I ask you questions about it?" This is what S, E and X had to say:

When did you lose your virginity?

Sarah: 16. Ethan: I was 9. Yeah, I know, 9. Under a table at a wedding with a 12-year-old. Xandra: 15.

How many people have you slept with? Sarah: I don't know, just under 50? Ethan: About 40.

Xandra: I have no idea.

Where is the weirdest/worst place you've had sex?

Sarah: Outside a church.

Ethan: One time at a party I rooted my Mrs while a mate watched in same bed. We thought he was asleep, but when my other mate called *As soon as I rounded the corner I fucking ran. And ran. And ran.*



him he moved straight away. Another time I had sex at school and this weird dude followed us and told us to go home.

Xandra: OUSA sauna or middle of cricket pitch at two in the afternoon.

What's the strangest/funniest sex act you've done?

Sarah: I had my asshole licked out. And once I had a crystal put up my butt.

Ethan: Getting tied up. Wasn't used to not having some kind of control. It was weird but fuck it was mean.

Xandra: I once had starburst eaten out of my vagina. He was my boss. Another time I gave a foot job.

What's your best sex story?

Sarah: I once brought my ex home and a guy whose virginity I took the day before showed up. He went and cried on the couch till I got him to leave. Then my other ex showed up an hour later to "stay over". It was a pretty awkward night.

Ethan: The best time for me was looking after my sister's house for two weeks. GF and I were in the make-up sex period after break up so had sex in every room.

Xandra: When I lost my virginity the guy made it romantic and had candles all round bed. I asked him to go hard cause that is what I saw in movies. It fucking hurt and he knocked one of the candles and set the blanket on fire.

What is so appealing about casual sex and how often do you have it?

Sarah: It feels fucking good. I feel empowered as a woman and it makes me feel wanted. I usually have it three times a week. I can't really last longer than a week without it. I'm addicted. Hands down I'm addicted.

Ethan: Making a chick cum. Winning. Fuck yeah, I did that. Why would you not have sex? I have it a couple times a week and can usually last three weeks without. If I'm with a virgin, I wait until she's keen. I've fucked eight or nine virgins. I could stop if I hurt my dick, or had an STI scare.

Xandra: The thrill. The chase. It's the one thing in my life I cannot care about. I don't have pres-









sure to do everything right, I can just DO and it's ok. I have sex about three-four times a week and I honestly don't think I can last longer than three days at this point. I should not be having sex with some people.

Have you ever hurt someone emotionally from casual sex?

Sarah: Yes. Sometimes I run away from guys when they've fallen asleep.

Ethan: Yeah like three or four girls. One of those girls I hurt like six times.

Xandra: Yes. I've hurt everyone I've had sex with. Literally everyone. I usually just cut contact with them. I once used another guy as a way out because I didn't feel like the guy I had feelings for was ready for me. When I first moved to Dunedin I had no money so I downloaded Tinder and casually slipped in to the guy that we should get dinner. I was well fed and usually ran off afterwards.

Do you think you have a problem/issues with sex?

Sarah: Sometimes when I'm on a bad streak and I fuck all these bad guys in a row, I think what the fuck am I doing. Sometimes I feel disgusted with them. Why did I do that, I'm not even attracted to them and we don't have anything in common? People say I'm a nympho. I just want to have sex all the time and some of the guys just can't keep up. I wish I could be more independent and not crave people all the time. Crave a warm body.

Ethan: No, I always seem pretty good. I suppose lack of sex in my relationships can be negative. A few times I've cheated and felt guilty. In my head the relationship is done but not for the other person. I still do it but I feel bad. Dumb shit happens. My mum left when I was four or five so I never had lot of connection with women. I craved it. So try to be the centre of attention with women. It's great to get the attention I was lacking beforehand.

Xandra: Yes, I use it to make people fall in love with me. Which is a bit fucked up. I just had a fuck it moment, probably due to bullying actually. Situations got out of hand, so I thought well I can control at least one situation. I've started crying in the middle of sex before. I liter-



I broke up relationships, friendships, even brothers.



I never spooned, never cuddled, never stayed over.

ally felt like a piece of meat and it's not the first time guys have made me feel that way. Some guys literally hear cries of pain and go harder. I let that happen and that says a lot about my mental state at that time. I felt like I deserved it. But I am starting to repair it with the support of someone who knows me better than I know myself. Sex is now a tool I use to express how I feel towards him.

What's the craziest thing someone you've had sex with has done to you?

Sarah: Sent me pictures of a naked girl to tell me who they're banging.

Ethan: Not themselves, but one of my ex's mums was trying to accuse me of rape 'cause my GF and I had sex when we were drunk. GF was cool with it but her mum went crazy. She tried to run me over.

Xandra: My ex fuck buddy knew my mum was away and broke into my house at 3am. He ran the bath for me, then put out rose petals and tried to light candles outside my room. I woke up to this tall, dark silhouette surrounded by flames and I freaked the fuck out and threw my pillow at him and screamed and my dog started barking. I tried to get my phone to call police and he was like STOP and I realised it was him. I kicked him out.

Do you think too much casual sex can be harmful?

Sarah: Yes def. When you go through a spell where no one wants you then you feel shit about yourself. Plus, if you've never been in love then you wouldn't know how to deal with it when you finally did fall in love. If you're using sex as a form of escapism, then that's not healthy.

Ethan: Fuck yeah. I reckon after having so

much sex it's really hard to get into a relationship especially if they have different sex drive. And if you find it hard to deal with your emotions, by having casual sex with someone who thinks more of sex, you have to deal with that on top of everything else.

Xandra: Yes, sex addiction is definitely a thing. I reckon it's on par with cocaine. Could ruin your life, you will sacrifice other things for it. But you can't help it. It's honestly like a drug. I think a lot of mental health issues can stem from lots of casual sex actually. Or used by people with mental health issues as a coping mechanism. They go hand and hand.

It's 2017 and casual sex is a norm here at Otago. It's fun, it's easy and it feels fucking awesome. But I found a lot of students like myself who have grown far too comfortable with one night stands. Because anything more becomes too scary and too difficult. Eventually It stops being fun, it becomes hard, and it can make you feel like shit. But for some, you just can't stop. If you are like me, and casual sex is all you've ever known, it's hard to change. If you've used sex as a buffer for years, you feel pretty damn lost without it. When it becomes a problem or an addiction, you got to know when to stop.

So I did.

But then I fucked three guys last week.

Like I said.

It's hard to change •





What Exactly is Rugby Doing to Our Brains?

Ben Lorimer

n a rugby field in France, two ex-All Blacks are squaring off against one another. Anthony Tuitavake receives a pass, and squares his shoulders as he plunges towards the defensive line. Waiting to meet him, Ma'a Nonu steadies himself and launches into a tackle. The two massive men meet, and Nonu is thrown backwards, his head colliding flush with the lowered shoulder of his countryman. He falls to the ground, tipping over just as a felled tree would, and lays prone on the turf, his arms and legs jutting out, stiffly and loosely at the same time, in a way we only ever see in concussed individuals and young partygoers who just had their first tab at a concert. The commentators, experts on the game, quickly point out that this collision was "a pure accident, a rugby accident". Nonu tries to get up, to shrug it off, but even the effort of raising his head a few centimetres off the ground seems too much for him. He nestles back into the grass, as concerned players, referees and medical staff converge upon him. The medics stabilise his head and neck, while teammates and opponents alike mill around in solidarity. The camera zooms in on Nonu, and we see him cringe and squint. A surge of relief (hopefully) rushes through the viewers as we see that Nonu has regained consciousness.

As the broadcast continues, we get an obligatory slow-motion replay of the collision (then another, and another, and another five after that. Clearly broadcasters think we get off to this sort of thing). This shows in painful clarity the moment when Tuitavake's shoulder slammed into Nonu's cheek, and the split second later when his brain rattled around inside his skull with such force that it temporarily shut down, the neural connections that make up his memories, personality, knowledge and skills shredding as they are ripped past breaking point. After the final replay of the collision, the broadcast cuts back to the field, as Nonu slowly rises to his feet, and groggily leaves the pitch on his own two feet. The crowd cheers, and one of the commentators describes him as a "hard man", before his partner replies, saving "it's great to see, isn't it, after the worry of what happened, him walking off. Sometimes you have the old jelly legs when you've been knocked out, but he is A-OK now". Reassuring words, but as he meanders off the pitch, and struggles up the stairs to the locker room, I wonder aloud (to the bemused stares of my flatmates) "A-OK? Is that really true?"

"If your child plays [rugby], even for one season, there is a 100 percent risk of permanent brain damage." This statement was given during a recent interview for TVNZ's Breakfast show by Dr. Bennett Omalu, the guy whose accent Will Smith butchered in the movie Concussion.

Wherever you look, be it the media, popular science, or even the rugby institution itself, the sport seems under siege as damning evidence piles up against it.

Every five games of rugby a team plays, two players will be diagnosed with a concussion.

Quotes like this one by Dr. Omalu are everywhere. Given this level of scrutiny, it must be just a matter of time before all but the most obstinate of us realise the risks of playing a sport that inflicts concussions so readily.

Rugby players have gotten swole as the game has professionalised, and the pace and physicality of play has reached new levels of intensity. In the past decade, players have put on an extra 20 kilograms of muscle, and as a consequence, the England Professional Rugby Injury Surveillance Project found that every five games of rugby a team plays, two players will be diagnosed with a concussion. The only sports with higher rates are boxing and horse riding. Rugby and concussions seem as inseparable as those nauseating young couples you see on park benches, and they aren't breaking up anytime soon.

Science has more to say on the matter too, as research implicating concussions in accelerated age-related mental degradation has proliferated, and ex-players have come out of the woodwork to share their stories of suffering after concussion-filled careers. Former All Blacks like Leon McDonald and Steve Devine pulled the plug on their careers due to concerns over what concussions were doing to their brains. Shontayne Hape suffered literally more concussions than he could count. At the time he said that he suffered constant migraines, depression, irritability and memory loss to the point that he couldn't remember his pin number. Doctors blamed his condition on his concussions, and reportedly found his brain function had been compromised to the point that he could nearly qualify as having special-needs.

Older players tell similar stories. Former All Black Neil Wolfe is on the record saying "I guess I have a little bit of dementia now, and I suppose it relates back to the time that I was playing rugby and did get knocked out." This may be classic Kiwi understatement too. The article this quote was taken from also stated that Wolfe didn't remember that he had agreed to be interviewed by the journalist who wrote it, nor did he always remember which day it was. He is suffering, and he thinks that rugby is to blame. Nor is this an isolated experience. From a single team Wolfe played on, four others suffer from dementia, all relatively early in life.

Two studies conducted recently in Auckland both concluded that ex-rugby players were more likely to suffer concussions that the general population, and also that people who suffered more concussions had greater cognitive limitations and worse mental wellbeing. In American football, the NFL professionalised a generation before rugby in New Zealand, so the troubles it faces now could very well be ours too in the future. There has been research on chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE), a condition similar to dementia supposedly caused by frequent head collisions. A 2017 study published in the Journal of the American Medical Association found that amongst brains donated by those that played American football, 87 percent had CTE present, and 110 out of the 111 brains donated by NFL members did. Since we know that rugby players get concussed about twice as often as American footballers, CTE could be another horror waiting in the wings for New Zealand. Even worse, it isn't just the aging that concussions seem to affect. A Kiwi young man died in May this year on a field in Wellington after being taken off the field for a concussion presumed to have happened earlier in the game. Rugby almost certainly killed him. As evidence mounts showing how bad concussions are, and how regularly rugby players suffer them, it can seem as though the game is about to be squeezed out of society. But maybe there is more to this story...

It turns out that there is. A 2016 study lead by AUT's Dr Alice Theadom said this year: "there was not enough research to date to show the long term effects on the brain of athletes in contact sports." Playing rugby might result in long-term brain damage, but it is the verdict is still out, despite what Dr. Omalu says. For instance, while rates of dementia are skyrocketing worldwide, this has probably been "caused by increased life expectancy and, probably better diagnosis as well", according to Dr Chris Murray or the Univeristy of Washington. Data from the World Health Organisation shows the prevalence of early onset dementia, which is what concussions supposedly cause, is between 6-8 percent of dementia suffers around the globe. Rates are virtually identical in developed and developing countries alike, despite vast differences in the riskiness of national pastimes. The stories of ex-play-

"I guess I have a little bit of dementia now, and I suppose it relates back to the time that I was playing rugby and did get knocked out."

ers developing dementia early in life are heart-breaking, but they are currently isolated anecdotes. They don't predict the fate of all ex-rugby players.

Scientists studying the effects of rugby concussions will generally advertise for ex-athletes to take part in a study on brain health. One such research group currently looking for participant's among members of the global community is advertised as "the biggest research project ever undertaken into the possible long-term effects of head-injuries sustained in sports". By mentioning that they will be testing mental function, they skew their sample group. Ex-players who are concerned about their mental health are more likely to respond to such an advertisement than those with seemingly healthy brains. Therefore, amongst the ex-athletes who are being tested, we are likely to see a lot more brain deterioration than we would amongst all ex-athletes. People who play rugby are also more likely to take risks with their health, given that they willingly play a sport that endangers it. This will heighten their risk of concussion outside of sports, and probably also in how well they follow instructions for post-concussion recovery. The conclusions of these studies are drawn from non-random samples, which makes their findings questionable.

Research on CTE also has a tendancy for bias. This is because researchers are testing ex-athletes, but also because CTE can only be investigated after death. People who donate their brains to science are often those who think that their brain is betraying them, and these are the only brains that can be examined for CTE.

To find CTE you need to slice up the brain. The brains that researchers have access to in CTE studies are just as likely to all be riddled with CTE because their owner was depressed or suffered from dementia, rather than because they played in the NFL. Furthermore, we don't know if the presence of CTE affects mental functioning. Otago University's Dr. Hamish Osborne compared it to arthritis, pointing out that if you looked in almost any elderly person's knee, you would find it filled with arthritic growth. However, only a subset of these people will actually suffer the pain associated with arthritis. CTE could be the same. It may only be a portion of people with CTE that suffer negative consequences from it. If this is the case, then nearly every person who has been screened for CTE would have it. Given that the only people who have been examined are people whose mental function was impaired in some way, we don't know if their CTE caused their issues, or if it harmlessly co-habited, like the mouse that lives in your flat's kitchen.

Dr. Osborne believes there is no strong evidence showing that suffering concussions, followed by appropriate rest, will compromise long term health. Concussions will cause short-term symptoms, and they should be avoided, but the problems they cause should fade. Dr. Osborne said that "a rugby player is just as likely to have [their] career end after their first concussion as their tenth", and went on to say that the "good evidence [on concussions] just isn't in yet".

So, were the people from my earlier anecdotes just unlucky? Research might provide an answer to that too. While playing rugby obviously carries risk, most famous cases of post-concussion problems happened to players who continued to play rugby during the recovery period when their brains were susceptible to reinjury. Shontayne Hape suffered concussions in consecutive weeks, flaunting the standard recovery protocol due to alleged team pressure to do so. Older ex-players like Neil Wolfe all played rugby in the bad old days when concussions were considered 'no big deal', and athletes played through knocks, no questions asked. Even the young man who died was removed from the game after looking concussed during a stoppage in play. The actual concussion must have occurred earlier in the game. He may have suffered more concussive knocks to the head between then and when he went off the field. Perhaps it was those subsequent knocks that took his life, rather than the first one.

These anecdotes, normally used to illustrate how dangerous concussions are, may actually indicate the importance of post-concussion recovery. This is when the brain is tender, and when further knocks can create a downward spiral in

Hape suffered

constant migraines, depression, irritability & memory loss

to the point that he couldn't remember his pin number.

mental functioning. This is how you get to the horror stories of Shontayne Hape, Neil Wolfe, and his team mates.

There are sports with highter rates of concussions than rugby. Ex-boxers are notoriously beset with malfunctioning brains, such Muhammad Ali, who suffered with Parkinsons disease for decades. Meanwhile, there is no such consensus for ex-jockeys, despite horse riding being the most concussion-prone sport. This could be due to the way they get concussed. When a jockey comes off their horse, their race is over, and they have a chance to rest before they get back on the saddle. Recovery is built into the sport. Meanwhile, boxers get slugged in the head for nearly an hour if they go the distance, almost guaranteeing the sort of repetitive concussive impacts that are most feared by experts.

It seems clear that concussion recovery is vital, which is concerning, given how the most widely-cited studies on the longterm effects of concussions fail to account for it. Without recording whether or not their participants suffered concussions on top of concussions, and whether they followed appropriate recovery procedures, it is extremely hard to figure out whether concussions themselves cause long-term harm, or if it is just the specific impact of repeated knocks during recovery. Without this, we cannot determine if rugby is intrinsically tied to significant long-term brain damage (since playing it makes it much more likely to be concussed), or whether better recovery precautions are all that are required.

This sentiment was echoed at the Fifth International Consensus Conference on Concussion in Sport, the world authority on sport-related concussions, held in Germany this year. The conference attempts to consolidate concussion research from around the world to develop a scientific consensus. The most recent report cited a lack of evidence linking sports concussions themselves with serious later life complications, while making recommendations on best practices for concussion recovery as a potential solution to the terrible short-term consequences of concussion. The emphasis placed on improving concussion recovery shows this is where researchers think the biggest gains can be made in mitigating the risks posed by concussive brain injury.

Concussions certainly aren't good for your brain, and contact sports will never be fully safe. However, the scientific consensus, for the time being, is simply that there isn't one yet. Not enough studies have been conducted, and those that have were too limited to provide an answer. This shouldn't be taken to mean that rugby is safe. Future Kiwi's may know that rugby is a game that exacts a heavy toll. But at the moment that is not the case. Without evidence of harm it isn't fair to swoop in and make the decision for others. We let people drink, skydive and do a million other crazy things, despite the potential for harm, because our society values giving everyone the option to take reasonable risks to get their kicks. To try to take that away, under the pretence of anecdotes and inconclusive science, would be wrong

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Did you know that September is Happy Cat Month?

Monday 11 September NO NEWS IS GOOD NEWS DAY With all this stressful news of war and climate change and Trump and the general election (please vote), it's important to clear the mind with a news-free day of zero depressing headlines flashing at you from every direction.

Tuesday 12 September **VIDEO GAMES DAY** I'm still here playing minesweeper, but by all means, feel free to play video games to your heart's content today.

Wednesday 13 September DEFY SUPERSTITION DAY Today, we rebel! Stride beneath ladders. Open your umbrella indoors. Don't touch something wooden when you proclaim your luck thus far in life.

Thursday 14 September **GOBSTOPPER DAY** Wow, throwback! Try not to break your mouth.

Friday 15 September HUG YOUR BOSS DAY I do wonder what unemployed students are to do on this day —maybe shower Harlene Hayne with some love.

Saturday 16 September **COLLEGT ROGKS DAY** As if we don't already do this on a day-to-day basis. (Hint—using paint to create new rock friends for yourself is more effective than using markers!)

Sunday 17 September LOGATE AN OLD FRIEND DAY Maintain a clear distinction between 'locating' and 'stalking' for today's task —if I hear of a rise in restraining orders or I walk past people lurking in others' back gardens, I take no responsibility.

CUIZ ANSWERS:

:SA3W2NA QAON_



FOOD

Cinnamon Rolls to Warm Your Poor Student Souls

🍽 Liani Baylis

I love bringing you guys my own recipes and shit, but I've discovered yet another amazing blog. I'm absolutely frothing over veganricha.com at the moment and these cinnamon rolls make me want to marry the clever little lass.

During my non-vegan years, I had a go-to cinnamon roll recipe that was absolutely delicious, however the rest/rise allowance was horrendously long and the general laboriousness of them rendered them a chore, despite how glorious eating 10 in a sitting was.

These, however, are ready in an hour, INCLUDING BAKING TIME. If that isn't exciting enough, my pastry chef friend was deceived into thinking these were not vegan. Still looking for something to froth over? They use the aquafaba shit I told you about (recap: the brine from the chickpea can).

This is definitely a flat-friendly recipe, folks. The ingredients are cheap, they require one bowl and they're the pinnacle of utmost perfection, to the extent that you'll lick your dank-ass fingers clean.

Recipe adapted from veganricha.com

Ingredients:

Rolls:

- ³4 cup of warm water
 ¹4 cup of chickpea brine
 2 tablespoons of white sugar
 2 ¹⁄2 teaspoons of dried yeast
 2 tablespoons of oil
- 2 ½ cups of flour
- A pinch of salt

Filling:

2 tablespoons of oil or dairy-free butter ¹/₃ cup of brown sugar 3 teaspoons of cinnamon ¹/₂ teaspoon of cardamom (optional, yet epic)

Sticky glaze:

1 cup of icing sugar

1 tablespoon of warm almond milk Vanilla/raspberry powder/lemon juice, or whatever takes your fancy

Method:

- 1. Preheat oven to 180 degrees
- Mix the first five rolls ingredients and set aside for 2-3 minutes so the yeast activates
- 3. Add oil and mix
- 4. Add 2 cups of flour and salt. Knead
- 5. Add extra flour as required
- 6. Roll out the dough to a 1.5cm thick rectangle
- Spread dairy-free butter/oil on the dough and sprinkle the remaining ingredients on top
- 8. Roll the dough lengthways so that it makes a long, thin cylinder
- Slice into 10 even portions and place in some sort of pyrex/casserole dish (pre-lined with baking paper to save on dishes)
- 10. Brush with a bit of oil and leave covered with a tea towel to rise for 15 minutes
- 11. Bake for about 20 minutes or until golden
- 12. Mix the ingredients for the sticky glaze in a small bowl and drizzle over the rolls

BOOKS



| The Secret | History—by Donna Tartt

📚 Zoe Taptiklis

The Secret History is difficult to place into a temporal setting. Initially, based on the characters' diction and the elaborate descriptive passages, I thought it was set in the '50s. The excessive use of home phones, the ones wired to the wall, made me think it was the '70s. Eating at a club, maître d's, chintz chez lounges and paying by cheque made me think it was the '80s (chintz was huge in the '80s). The use of credit cards and coke at crazy frat parties plus vague mentions of people randomly sleeping with other people helped me narrow it down to the '90s, which was when Tartt first published this masterpiece. The elusiveness of a temporal setting makes the misted lawns and tautological Latin lessons seem as if they slipped right out of a prospectus for the Oxbridge Universities.

The biggest head f*** of The Secret History is how f***ed in the head its main characters are. What starts off as a nerd desperately trying to get his 'ins' with a crowd of richer, and hence slightly cooler, nerds, changes deep guttural Ford Thunderbird gear into a jovial Midsomer Murderesque mystery, before clattering like your mother's best china into a psychological thriller eventually coming up for air as an "I Came of Age Once, and I Think I Died" poem, the kind you are going to write during some heinous quarter-life crisis.

What is most invigorating about The Secret History, its utterly hopeless and circumstantially blind protagonist-come-narrator. The pages slosh with cynicism as the narrator reminds you about clues to this 'why-done-it' mystery that he knows you've seen and won't remember. His apathetic resignation to how goddam keen he was on this weird sadistic group of people. His inability to ever step away and do the right thing.

The best thing about this novel is that you find out who dies on the first page.

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APPLE TREE YARD DIRECTOR: JESSICA HOBBS

RELEASED 2017

Following the likes of successful BBC mini-series like Happy Valley comes Jessica Hobbs's Apple Tree Yard. Based on the novel of the same name, Apple Tree Yard centres on Dr Yvonne Carmichael (Emily Watson), a scientist who is unhappy in her marriage. She begins an affair with a guy called Mark Costley (Ben Chaplin), a mysterious womanizer whose true identity won't be revealed until the end. Basically a whole lot of drama happens.

Hobbs nicely sets up a bit of mystery throughout the program. We see Yvonne in the opening of the series in a police van, so we know something's going down. Mark Costley's identity is also a source of mystery.

Apple Tree Yard was a fairly good watch overall, and since it's only four one hour long episodes you don't have to dedicate precious amounts of time to watching it. The fact that it's British makes it better too. I don't think I've seen a more British sex scene than two middle aged adults going at it in a broom closet in the House of Commons.

If you like British drama shows like Broadchurch, then you'll probably like this. Your parents will probably rate it more though, seems like it's aimed at an older demographic. Although it's not a good idea to watch this show with your parents, due to the reasonable amount of graphic sex scenes. I watched one episode with mine and it was pretty awkward. The fact the characters are British and they've been drinking tea, or doing something British like that, beforehand makes it worse. Just don't do it, watch it on your own. Review: Shaun Brinsdon



FILM

KALINKA DIRECTOR: VINCENT GARENQ

RELEASED 2016

Kalinka is an honest and thoughtful portrayal of the true experiences of André Bamberski in his quest to find justice for his daughter Kalinka, who was raped and murdered. While spending the summer with her mother and stepfather, Dr Dieter Krombach, Kalinka suddenly dies of an unknown cause. Upon discovering suspicious circumstances surrounding her death implicating Krombach, Bamberski battles for 30 years to bring the truth to light and have Krombach convicted.

Often, adaptions over-dramatise history, but the real-life events here need little exaggeration. The case is well known and the film does not try to throw in any saucy conspiracy theories, but instead embraces the human element of everyone involved.

Daniel Auteuil is electric, and his André Bamberski is powerful and emotional; he charges up every scene. André is a fantastic character, articulate, intelligent and determined. These traits also make him crazy, and he is so logical and self-assured, that, except for his rare moments of vulnerability, he seems more crazy than the true villain, Krombach. Garenq avoids the obvious path of demonising Krombach and glorifying Bamberski. The complexity of the characterisation, acting, and dialogue, more than compensate for good, but unexceptional, cinematography and music.

This a solid film. It does not try to be a psychological thriller about a crazy serial rapist, it does not try to stir political tensions, and it does not present a nihilistic view of the law. It is an unpretentious illustration of one father's personal story, reflecting on the strength of his love and his need for justice. Review: Diana Tran



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MIRANDA PARKES: THE MERRIER

21 July-28 October Hocken Collections-Uare Taoka o Hakena 90 Anzac Avenue, Dunedin Monday-Saturday 10am-5pm



The Frances Hodgkins Fellowship comes around once a year, and when it does, Christmas comes early. Established in 1962, the Fellowship aims to "encourage artists in the practice and advancement of their art" by providing them with a studio and a year's stipend. All mediums are supported; the gallery is malleable to suit the artist's desires. Miranda Parkes has transformed a once banal white-walled shell into an artistic candy shop with barely a medium left untouched.

The work can be viewed in light of the recent news of Parkes' pregnancy; there is a feminine, maternal undertone in the playful titles and the scribbled works of her young niece, Aria. This momentous event, however perspective altering, is not set to define the pre-conceptive work. Nonetheless, motherhood continues to influence her methods and final product to a degree that cannot go without mention.

Sourced from various facets of her everyday life, the materials flourish within the Hocken walls. A silk sheet attached to the pair of feature walls incorporates small slits along the bottom edge, the height of a toddler, as if beckoning play and exploration. Sister pieces titled 'baby-daddy drop sheet: xerox' and 'baby-daddy drop sheet: cosmic' were scavenged from commercial painting jobs completed by Parkes' husband. Stretched on canvas and partnered alongside each other, they stand as a perfect tribute to the family oriented tone of the work.

Parkes' concept of perspective further deviates from the norm. The standard hanging height of artwork is 1.5m, an average height for an average audience. However, considerate of a smaller human's perspective, a few works have been hung low in corners or sculpted for viewing from the ground up, encouraging inclusivity. Video dominates a corner of one room, the camera work unsteady and the film superbly abstract, the variety of perception set to impress with every step from the entrance doors.

The overlap between art, poetry and everyday life rings clear in the adaptive painting pieces included in the periphery of the exhibition. Salvaged op-shop paintings and photographs are slathered in paper mâché and non-toxic paints, safe creative materials. Every framed explosion of colour is double sided (a picture of Max Key adorns one of the non-display sides, sacrilege), giving rise to the possibility of a B sided exhibition in the future. Parkes employs bright and often tongue-in-cheek reinventions of the original beneath, such as 'joan madge on holiday', a painting by Joan Madge herself clearly visible beneath the neon exterior.

There are too many charming idiosyncrasies to list; this exhibit is to be explored with an open mind and playful attitude. If you encounter any questions during your visit, the friendly Hocken staff are always on hand to inform and inspire. May Waveney Russ


GAMES Critic Interviews: RUDEISM

Dylan Beck is a good friend of mine and I got to know him before he became Rudeism, a Twitch stream extraordinaire who has over 35,000 followers and can turn anything into a videogame controller. I sat down with him to ask about his newfound popularity and creative genius.

When did you start streaming on Twitch?

Mid 2015. Hearthstone was my main game, and I tried to be all pro at it, wanting to go to competitions and stuff. I soon gave up on that because the game got a bit too random for my liking, and no-one wanted to watch someone be terrible at Hearthstone, so I switched to Rocket League and tried to get pro at that instead. I did better, a few people would come by to watch, but it was pretty uneventful at that time, since it was always just me playing Rocket League normally with a controller.

Was it really exciting when one person would come into the chat and say hey?

Oh fuck yeah! It's the most exciting thing ever! It still gets exciting when I see someone I don't recognise. For months it was just streaming to two or three people at a time, so if anyone came in, it was a huge deal. Even if it was just a friend of mine.

And when did this all change?

In late October 2015, a friend of mine from high school was joking around that I should play Rocket League with a Guitar Hero guitar. At first, I thought it was really dumb, but then I was like well, if I could do it, how would I do it? So I started mapping out the buttons, using the accelerator as the whammy bar, use the strum bar to steer; the buttons on the neck could do a bunch of other stuff. The next night I got all the equipment to do it and got started playing. Playing like shit, but playing. My long-term goal was to just get an aerial goal. Fly in the air, get the goal. After an hour I got it by pure luck—I was screaming and yelling and it was awesome! I finished the stream, went to bed, woke up the next morning, and at the top of the Rocket League subreddit was a post that says, "Guy gets an aerial with a guitar hero controller" and I was like huh, who did that? Oh shit, it's me! That's sort of how I got my initial following.

Tell us about World of Dancecraft

After gaining a solid following of around 600 people on Twitch, a lot of people starting suggesting other games and ways of playing with a guitar. Then I decided, why not use other controllers? Stuff like a steering wheel to play Mirror's Edge. Then at that point I started playing World of Warcraft





with a dance pad and was determined to get to level 100. I was averaging 6 or 7 viewers a day and I also put the idea out to my 5 or 7 or whatever Twitter followers. Then I got a buzz on my phone about an hour into the stream and it said "@Warcraft has retweeted you!" and I was like ohhh here we go. Suddenly this swarm of people come into the stream from Warcraft's Twitter and a whole bunch of popular streamers also caught wind of it. I went from around 800 followers to around 3000 on the first day of streaming. This is also when I just started, so a lot of people were like "haha he's not going to get to level 100". But I did! It took me about a month, but I did it!

So, there's dance pads and guitars, what other controllers have you used and built?

I got my hands on a MakeyMakey and after that I've tried almost everything. I bought a whole bunch of bananas and played Overwatch. Used a Nerf bow for Hanzo in Overwatch. I've built controllers out of microwaves, teacups, I played Civilization with kitchen sieves, wired up my car to Forza, used a rocking horse in Overwatch. I hooked up an actual baguette the other day.

I love your enthusiasm for accessibility and alternative controls; can you talk a bit about that?

When I started, I never thought any of this would have any use outside of streaming for laughs. But I've since talked to people who now build controllers for accessibility and gamers who aren't able bodied with physical disabilities. I've had individuals come up saying they have issues with gaming controllers but have been inspired because of what I'm doing! Which is super cool.

Check out Rudeism on Twitch at twitch.tv/rudeism
Lisa Blakie

MUSIC

Dvorak & Brahms



Following the last DSO concert, which proved to be a very pleasant evening with my dad (even if he was stingy on the ice cream front), I managed to find a friend to accompany me to the most recent event. I am 85 percent sure she forgot she was supposed to be coming, as when I arrived at her flat to pick her up before the concert, she was in her slippers and had not yet had dinner. After frantically finding her sneakers and cooking some toast, she proceeded to drop crumbs through my car. But it's ok. A friend is a friend, and I was happy for her company, if not her crumbs.

The concert started with John Adams's The Chairman Dances (Foxtrot for Orchestra). He may be turning 70 this year, but I have a small (major) crush on John Adams. His work is next level amazing, he makes interesting and articulate political comments, and I lowkey enjoy confusing my peers by talking about him and playing his music and watching them slowly realise that I'm not in fact referring to the second President of the USA. The work has a strong pulse and complicated rhythms. The prominence of the piano is clear, which John van Buskirk played very convincingly. The orchestra eloquently presented the sequence of dances, handling the complicated cross-rhythms and runs with ease. Li-Wei Qin then came to the stage for Dvorak's Cello Concerto in B minor. Everyone loves a bit of Dvorak, and everyone loved Li-Wei Qin. He played with great virtuosity and emotion. Conducted by Simon Over, and led by Concertmaster Tessa Petersen, the orchestra supported Qin superbly. As an encore, Qin performed Chonguri, by Sulkhan Tsintsadze, which involved plucking and strumming the instrument, and was mind-blowing.

After intermission, the orchestra performed Brahms's Symphony No. 4 in E minor. The DSO handled Symphony No. 4 extremely well. The first two movements were particularly lovely, although, personally, the Allegro energico e passionato seemed a little bit fast and not as tight as the other movements. However, the passion all the performers put into the work, as well as the challenging moments throughout the piece, which showcased the talents of various sections, left the audience in awe of the high-quality orchestra that Dunedin is very lucky to have.

The quality of the music I listened to for the rest of the night quickly deteriorated at the Law Ball, and I was left with ringing ears and a headache. This served as further evidence that a DSO concert is the best way to spend a Saturday evening. *P* Ihlara McIndoe





CULTURE



DUNEDIN YOUTH ORCHESTRA ndergroun Concert Romant

Do you find the concept of classical music enticing, but don't yet feel like you have enough grey hairs, or cough lollies in your pockets, to fit in with the usual classical concert crowd? Are you vaguely interested, but don't want to give up two hours getting a numb bum sitting in the Town Hall? Would you rather spend your Friday night out on the town with your friends? Well, the Dunedin Youth Orchestra have the solution! Come along to their open rehearsal and Romantic Underground Concert, held in the Underground Market at 177 George Street on 15 September.

You'll be able to walk around the orchestra as they play, and take a closer listen to individual sections (warning: it's probably best to avoid the violas). You can experience the

work of some of the classical greats from right in the midst of the orchestra, and be wowed by the new sounds of one of Otago's up and coming composers, Nathaniel Otley. A textural soundscape, using a variety of extended, unconventional instrumental techniques, Otley's work provides a range of modern textures, unusual timbres, and fragmented rhythms. It's a cool piece. Beethoven and Bruch write good tunes too.

So, come along from 6pm until 8pm for the open rehearsal, and from 9pm for the concert. You can also check out some of the orchestra's members busking along George Street between 8pm and 9pm. Or, come along to the full-length concert at Knox Church on the 23 September at 7.30. Bring your friends! 🥟 Ihlara McIndoe





Winston Peters

PUBLIC MEETING

1.30pm

UNIVERSITY

OTAGO

Te Whare Wilnunga o Otdge

Thursday 14th September, 2017

Dry Weather Wet Weather Upper Octagon Fullwood Room The Dunedin Centre (Town Hall)

f y winstonpeters ◎ @winstonpetersnzfirst

Authorised by A. Martin, 13 Brown Road, Warkworth



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ETHEL & HYDE

DRINKING

COLUMNS

FACING A VOID OF THE UNKNOWN

I am graduating at the end of this year and I have no idea what I really want to do. I have some ideas, like doing a PGdip or working for a year and then doing some post grad, but mostly I am really confused about what's the right thing to choose and don't want to make the wrong decision or ruin what I have already achieved. What should I do?

Yours sincerely Confused and anxious

Ethel says



There's no clear answer to your question, as truly the only person who can decide the best next step is you. Sometimes when getting to the end of your degree has become the goal of life itself, out of necessity and/or pressure to follow the academic pathway, it's easy to stop setting longer term goals,

only to find ourselves facing a void of the unknown. We as humans struggle with the unknown; it usually makes us anxious, stressed and fearful. It can be useful to sit down and brainstorm a list of possible things you could do. Don't be restricted in this list; include radical ideas and silly ideas along with the sensible ideas which have probably already been suggested to you by various people. Also, speaking to your department's course advisor about your post-grad options could be helpful. However, if you don't have a clear goal for where it will be useful in your possible future, you'd be better off waiting until you've got a goal before doing further study just because you didn't know what else to do. If anxiety about the future is affecting your study now, you may benefit from talking things through with an advocate at the OUSA Student Support Centre.

Stupid essays, stupid reports, stupid assignments, stupid group work, stupid notbeingpaid, stupid student loan, stupid referencing, stupid cold damp flats. You will be FREEEEE. A Recovery Year is in Order. UNLESS, you can use the power of your degree to demand the Dream Job. HAHAHAHA.



Send out a request for suggestions to your peeps, and put the top 20 on a dart board. Toss to decide what to do next year OR make it a bucket list type thing and use the dart to decide the order of the next moves. My suggestion for the DART-ON is an alphabet themed resort crawl around the world, starting in Amari, Phuket and finishing in Zee Bar, Broome, Aussie. Although you will end in the dreaded neighbour land, you will be able to find work there as a miner at the end of your year. Fund by faking your own death and claiming the insurance. Use all the previous disguise tips I have given to help with the whole thing.

Ethel and Hyde is brought to you by the Student Support Centre. They advise you to take Ethel's advice. Send your questions to: ethelandhyde@ousa.org.nz



CODY'S

Swilliam Shakesbeer



Cody's: the official drink of obnoxious 12 year-olds getting drunk in skate parks everywhere. This has been by far the most requested drink review.

These reviews are not just shit chat spun out of nowhere; they're an intensive process. We start with a blind taste test to pick up the more delicate flavours. Then we drink an entire box to really immerse ourselves in the experience. And thirdly, we call on our nostalgia to provide that special 'x factor' which makes some drinks so special.

Visit any provincial town on a Friday night, and you will see old mate Cody being chucked back by hoards of youths as they do burnouts in their Mitsubishi Skylines.

It tastes almost exactly the same as any other bourbon and coke, but despite this Cody's has legions of fans who define their entire self-identity by these cans. Rural New Zealand loves these things more than John Deere and Richie McCaw combined.

I think Cody's pair the sweetness of the cola and the kick of the bourbon in a more balanced way than Billy Mavs. The flavours accentuate each other, rather than fight for superiority. But, at the end of the day, you're still basically drinking lolly water. Anyone who dares call Cruisers a 'bitch drink' while holding a box of these needs to be taught the meaning of the word 'hypocrisy'.

These things do have a fucking grunt to them though. Easy to get down, and quick to fuck you up. You fall, unsuspecting, to a night of headbanging to Atlas and arguing about rugby league. I don't even like rugby league, but after I have nine of these inside me I apparently have very strong opinions about the state of the Paramata Eels kicking game.

I find a Cody's pairs excellently well with a cask of red goon, particularly the Banrock Station Merlot currently selling at Leith Liquor for a criminally cheap \$10 a cask.

Taste: 7/10

Froth Level: Fuck

Tasting notes: Honey and oak, maybe a hint of blackcurrant. Pairs well with: Being angry and illiterate.

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4

SAGE ADVICE:

"HOW TO BE A FAILURE BUT STILL SWAG DOE"

🖬 Mat Clarkson

This week's question comes from another loyal reader: "How can I cope with failure? ()." Thanks for another great question. The word 'failure' is such a loaded term. It carries a lot of negative and unnecessary connotations. I prefer phrases that I've invented, like 'success light' or 'success zero'—it's just better branding. But alas, these slogans are themselves huge failures, because they will never catch on or be used by anyone. And this sad fact, in turn, helps create a dreadful and never-ending loop of soul-crushing 'success light' that banishes my ego to an abstract wilderness—screaming, naked and alone in a cave. But I digress. This week I've been in contact with a local failure who's kindly shared some failure-related advice. He wishes to remain anonymous, but he currently resides in the mildly successful suburb of St Leonards.

"Greetings. I am a failure. I am a failure, but still swag doe. I feel there's an unhealthy obsession with success in today's society. We only need to look at history to see that success is not all it's cracked up to be. In 1974, the chemist Spencer Silver 'failed' to create industrial-strength glue, and was left holding a tub of only mildly-sticky ooze. Big failure, right? Wrong. All Spencer had to do was get his friend to add a little paper and BOOM: the guy just invented Post-it notes. And you'd better believe the motherfucker got paid for that shit."

Herein, I believe, lies a profound life lesson: success and failure are just two sides of the same Post-it note. It's all just experience. Whatever you think 'success' is, might not always be so great. Just look at me - I currently work at a very successful car wash here in Dunedin. Just imagine what sort of hellhole I'd be stuck in if I had 'succeeded' at finishing my BCom. Forget about it. I'd probably be stuck in an office cube somewhere, pulling the manager's metaphorical pubes out of my teeth, whilst figuring out a way to pull the manager's non-metaphorical pubes out of my teeth. No, the car wash is where I belong. I have time to think here, time to observe and ponder the ways of the world. 'Why must we be so cruel to one another?', 'Why am I no longer welcome at my girlfriend's parents' house?', 'Why won't her father make eye contact with me at family gatherings?' It is all, I believe, down to the unhealthy definitions of 'success' that people hold so dear. Just imagine if Spencer Silver had 'succeeded' in creating his shitty glue. If he's anything like me, he'd probably have glued his own dick to the floor by mistake and died alone, cold and forgotten, collecting dust in his workshop. Success is overrated. Success is boring.

I know the world is not ready for these ideas, but that's OK. If you can't convince people you're not a so-called failure, that's OK too. I assure you I'm a bigger one, but I still manage to keep it swag level 100 24/7 365/6. Let me illustrate this with a story. I had to move back to



my parents' house when I first dropped out of Canterbury. As soon as the plane landed I got in touch with my old weed hook-up, because I figured that if Commerce was not my true calling, maybe getting blazed was. The next day he came around to my parents' house to drop it off at the back door, and, as we were talking, my mum came out without warning to hang the laundry out. She looked at the little bag of herb in his hand, and, without even thinking, my failure-proofing software kicked in: "Hi Mum, you remember Josh. He's doing culinary arts at Polytech now-and big surprise! He's dropping off some special seasoning he's just made. I'm cooking tonight!" The 'culinary arts' bit was true, by the way. I'd hoped that Mum would have forgotten about the whole thing by dinnertime, but unfortunately she didn't. When your Dad laughs for thirty minutes straight because he uttered the words 'more like culinary farts!' after farting, and having just unknowingly consumed his third weed-laced chicken leg-that's when you can say you've failed somewhere along the line. But even then, I made the best of the situation. Because with their minds fully open, I was able to school them on politics, and why the only reasonable solutions to the world's problems are DMT: the spirit molecule and world-wide Anarchism. They're both really into Joe Rogan, and are in the Black Star Books Otepoti Facebook group now. They've also turned into huge Death Grips fans. The moral of this story is that it's good to make the best of bad situations, and cash in on whatever experience comes your way—whether or not you smoke weed every day. Peace, playa.





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COLUMNS



FLUORIDE

Chelle Fitzgerald

Conspiratorial people love to claim that the government adds fluoride to water and toothpaste in some dastardly plan to make us all sleepy slaves, helpless to resist their evil bidding.

The truth, however, is far less scandalous and far more reassuring—fluoride is your friend, my friend, and geochemistry is how we know this!

Teeth are comprised of a calcium phosphate mineral called apatite - which is the most common phosphate mineral—it's got what plants crave, which is why fertiliser brands give themselves names like "Blood and Bone".

Like most minerals, apatite has different compositional chemical varieties, known as "end members", and the end member of the apatite that our teeth are made from is called hydroxyapatite. Hydroxyapatite is structurally rather weak, and so it is easily penetrated and dissolved by acids from plaque, otherwise known as tooth decay.

Luckily, there is a different end member of apatite which is much stronger and can step in to shoulder hydroxyapatite's burden, taking one for the team. This guy is fluorapatite, and has a much stronger crystal structure, which means that the introduction of fluoride to hydroxyapatite fills in the weak spots and remineralises the teeth, reversing lesions in damaged teeth. Topical fluoride, such as that from toothpaste, increases the size and rate of growth of the apatite crystals, making your teeth great again, and making them a bit less susceptible to further decay. When you ingest fluoride via drinking water, it absorbs into the bloodstream and is carried to new teeth sites, where the fluoride reacts with the hydroxyapatite, resulting in the developing crystals growing as fluorapatite—and therefore much stronger.

SUE 22 -

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ssional Inting





CRITIC BLIND DATE



BILL:

JACINDA:

I was filled with optimism when I found out that I was accepted to do the blind date. I decided that I better get my hair cut to avoid any confusion of my gender. So I rocked up at Klone hair at 10.30 where they had only two spots free 11.45 and 1.00. I booked the first spot and went back to the library to read a book on "Stop fixing women; why building fairer workplaces is everybody's business" to grasp a better understanding of women. When I arrived back to Klone, the first thing I was asked is do you want a coffee, tea or juice and replied a coffee. As I was getting my hair washed I had an electronic back massage from the chair, from which I had a bad sleep and a sore back. By fluke I killed 3 birds with 1 stone.

Later, my flatmate's wanted to do my hair, which lead to a debate of what style I suited. I look at the time and thought shit it's 5.30, I better start preloading with pineapple juice and gin, which tasted yuck. That's what you expect from making DIY cocktails. After knocking down two and feeling a buzz, I moved onto a "Wobbly Boot" (A craft beer) that left me on a high, but only got through 2/3 of a bottle. I stumbled down to the Bog, arriving a few minutes early, kicking it off with a glass of the house red wine, speaking with a waiter that seemed uninformed about the Critic blind date. Asking me what it's all about. There was me and an old man there until my elegant date arrived. We talked about the United Nations and the politics of International Relations, as both of us had Robert Patman as a lecturer and respected his research. I asked her of what she thought of Jacinda Ardern and she said that she liked her. We both ordered a ribeye steak that only came with knifes. I had to ask the waiter twice for forks. My date liked her vodka as she asked for a second while I flushed the chips down with an orange and gin, which was a better mix than pineapple juice. We watched some of the open night music before hitting the road. Thanks to the Bog for the great meal as the peppercorn sauce had a bite. And thanks to Critic for this opportunity, as this was one achievement that I wanted to tick off my uni bucket list.

My weekly Pisces horoscope was looking optimistic for my lonely love life, so I was excited to get the call from Critic. I tend to live my life hoping for the best, but preparing for the worst. In this case, sadly, I did not receive the best. Setting off for the Bog after a healthy dose of KGBs, I had my hopes set high for a rugged, rugby playing, cricket bat wielding, typical New Zealand bloke type of thing. However, I arrived to find that D.I.Y. was probably not in this guy's D.N.A.

The chat started off well enough, my flatmates had given me a stern warning not to talk about politics because it gets me far too fired up, but I was glad to learn he also studied POLS and we were soon bonding over our mutual love for Robert Patman. When that topic came to an end I was grateful to the cheery bartender for making my next drink "a big one", and for jumping into the convo occasionally to give me someone to actually flirt with.

Dinner came along, and I was pleased that the combination of food in mouths and live music added another welcome limitation to the dreary conversation. The meal was bigger than what I eat over the course of two days on my student budget, and I would like to take this opportunity to plug a Party vote for Labour so that I'm able to consume \$50 more food each week.

As the night came to an end, the offer of a cheeky Rob Roy was put on the table, but a lack of any sort of spark made me say no, even though I was desperately craving two scoops of Tip Top's finest. We split our separate ways, and when he asked if I wanted to do something again I was mildly relieved to find he'd forgotten my name when I said to just add me on Facebook. In all honesty though, I did have a fun time and will be applying for the blind date with a new name and email address in the near future – the stars could align for me yet. Cheers Critic!

DE BOG

WEDNESDAY STEAK AND CHIPS \$15.00 ALL DAY SUNDAY ROAST OF THE DAY \$15.00 ALL DAY



President's Column

ousa page

Hey Team



Hope you're all coping and have managed to get back into the swing of things for the second half of semester two. It seems pretty unreal that we are already in the depths of September and there are only six more weeks until the end of the academic year.

If you happened to have been wandering through the Union area, having your lunch at the Grill or actively showed up to the Main Common Room last week, you would have heard some pretty passionate voices coming from the stage.

Your 2018 OUSA Executive Candidate's put themselves in the hot seats last weeks at the Candidate Forums. Not only were there some pretty heated questions, but also some healthy debate and a heap of student issues brought to light. Couldn't make those forums? don't worry we have you covered. Head to the OUSA Facebook page and check out the video streams to know exactly who and what you are voting for. Last year we had just over 4.5K of the student population vote in the OUSA Executive Elections, that's only (roughly) 22.5% of you. I reckon this year we can do a lot better! Your Exec is there for you, and is your student voice. If you want to make sure the elected Exec are the right people for the job, and who you want to be making decisions for you, then you've gotta get out there and vote. Take 2 minutes to head to **voting.ousa.org.nz** or pop to the polling booth in the link.

If a well-rounded 2018 Executive with your best interests at heart, elected by you, isn't enough of on an incentive, then how about a NW voucher? Yeah, if you vote you go in the draw. Voting opens Monday at 9am and closes Thursday 4pm.

Looking forward to seeing how it all pans out come Thursday

October

evening! Cheers!

Hugh Baird OUSA President president@ousa.org.nz



we've now met the candidates, heard where they stand on key issues, seen the sparks fly and emotions flare! Now it's time to make our voices heard and put together 2018 dream team!

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