

# Critic

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in common but these two nerds



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## Please Email Me

Around half the emails I get are from people wanting to do the Cookin' Up Love blind date. That's cool, but seriously, guys, you can do a whole lot of great things for Critic that don't involve ogling a stranger over a table.

We're a quarter of the way through the year. Thank you to all our volunteer reporters, reviewers, columnists, artists, and photographers. We love you. Don't leave us.

Things got a bit wacky in Critic this week. Have a look. We hope you enjoy it. We want things to get more fucky for the rest of the year.

We're mixing things up and have a bunch of new areas for you to contribute to. We're doing full-colour printing, which means we get to have colour centre-folds of artwork. Imagine seeing your artwork in the hands of everyone who's anyone on campus, and you've just imagined the glory of having your art as the pull-out poster for Critic. Form an orderly line at your nearest computer and email your pics to us at [critic@critic.co.nz](mailto:critic@critic.co.nz).

If you're interested in hearing people's stories, have some concerns about the world, or want to investigate something you are passionate about, you should write us a feature article. They're challenging but absolutely worth it – you get to work with our editorial team, and see your work illustrated and laid out by our designers. We are also interested in photo essays and graphic features. If you want to help with the features but are more into drawing and spooked by other people, we can set you up with a piece of writing to illustrate.

If fiction is your thing, we have a weekly horror column where you can share your worst nightmares with the whole of Dunedin. They can be as gross and gruesome as you like—we're not squeamish, we love it. We live for it. We also take short stories of other genres.

If you are good at art and words, we have a cartoon section that needs some variety. Actually, we don't care if you can't draw. That makes it funnier.

Our treasure, Brandon the Game reviewer, is leaving us, so we need another one of them.

For the Beats, the Slammers, the Concreters, Haikusers, Limerickians, Sonnetians, the Epic Heroes and even a couple of Couplets, we have a brand new place to free your verse at Poetry Corner.

We always want to hear from you about your concerns, whether it's about something you read in Critic—something you think we've messed up, what you liked, what we should do next time—or just something you want to get off your chest about the world in general. Write us a fricken' letter! You could win a book voucher. If you want a tricky question answered, you'll get both good and evil advice from Ethel and Hyde.

AND if you have any suggestions for us to make Critic even better, come and visit us in the office (we're always here) or email [critic@critic.co.nz](mailto:critic@critic.co.nz). Please email me. Please.

**Lucy Hunter**

Critic Editor

### THE CRITIC TEAM

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**DESIGN** NATASHA MURACHVER

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### CONTRIBUTORS

CHELLE FITZGERALD, ESME HALL, SOFIE HAGLAND BØRSETH, MIKADE BARNS-GRAHAM, MEL ANSELL, ERIN BROUGHTON, JACK TREVELLA, SASKIA RUSHTON-GREEN, DAVID CLARK, HELEN HEATH, JUSTENE ALLEN, MAT CLARKSON, TYLER WEST, ALEXANDER WOOLRYCH, RADIO ONE

**DISTRIBUTION** SAM LLOYD & WAHAHA FLAT  
**ONLINE CONTENT MANAGER** AMAN JAMWAL

### ADVERTISING SALES

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[FACEBOOK.COM/CRITICTEAROHI](https://www.facebook.com/critictearohi)

TWEET: @CRITICTEAROHI

(03) 479 5335

P.O. BOX 1436, DUNEDIN

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





by Joe Higham

Congratulations to the executive for their work and participation with Relay For Life, an event that saw Otago University Vice Chancellor Harlene Hayne and Arana College Warden Jamie Gilbertson shave off OUSA Colleges Officer James Heath's hair. This year's OUSA contingent at Relay For Life managed to raise almost \$1,000 for Cancer Awareness, a fantastic achievement.

New Zealand Union of Students Association (NZUSA) President Jonathan Gee was present at the meeting, having recently begun a trip to each of New Zealand's university students' associations. He initially spoke about the results of a national survey that discovered that a lack of money, poor housing, and climate change were, in order, the three most worrying aspects of student life.

Being an election year, Gee was keen to see an increase in the student turnout at the September 20th General Election, which was as low as 40 percent in 2014. The organisation will also produce a monthly newsletter that will be sent out to each of the

student associations to show what they're working on in relation to the election.

An 'Income and Expenditure Report', released by NZUSA in early April, was needed, Gee explained, to "shed light on the reality of our situation" and "to create a narrative about what it's like being a student." The report found that  $\frac{1}{3}$  of student respondents don't have income to meet their basic needs. Gee outlined that NZUSA is planning on "creating a power shift in this country to create more opportunities between students and national politicians."

A draft proposal was included in the agenda for the New Zealand International Students' Association (NZISA), which, according to International Officer Max Chan, will finally give a voice to New Zealand's international students, who currently don't have a singular, centralised voice as domestic students do. Gee noted that NZUSA were in full support of the NZISA forming, adding that Chan's work "deserves a big thumbs up from me".

## Female Workers Set for Historic Pay Rise After Government Announces Pay Equity Settlement

by Mikade Barns-Graham

Unions, organisations, and workers in the disability, care and support industry enthusiastically welcomed the recent announcement of the Government's pay equity settlement last week.

After 20 months of negotiations between the government and unions such as E Tu union, New Zealand Nurses' Organisation (NZNO), the New Zealand Public Service Association (PSA) and the New Zealand Council of Trade Unions (CTU), the government has announced a pay equity settlement worth over \$2 billion, which will be installed over the next 5 years.

The settlement will affect 55,000 workers, with the aim of increasing their income from an average of \$16.00 per hour, to between \$19.00 and \$23.50 per hour by 1 July 2017. The settlement also includes long-term goals of having an entry level pay rate of \$21.50 and a top rate of \$27.00 by 2021. Health Minister Jonathan Coleman has said that, "there has never been a pay rise like this in New Zealand."

Thousands of support and care workers will attend workplace meetings in the coming weeks to vote on whether they should accept the proposed settlement. E Tu Assistant

National Secretary John Ryall said in a media release that this will be a historic "once in a lifetime pay rise" that can uplift the mostly female workforce from earning 'poverty wages' and therefore hugely increase their quality of life".

The need for a pay equity settlement was initiated in 2012 by Kristine Bartlett's Equal Pay Act case against her employer, Terranova Homes. She argued that she had been kept on low wages for the past 20 years because the care and support workforce consisted of mainly female workers, and therefore seemed to be placed on lower wages. The Supreme Court found gender bias to be the reason for Kristine's low wages, which led the government to intervene. They commissioned E Tu, NZNO, PSA and CTU to work on a negotiated settlement to avoid further court intervention, and to ensure that Kristine's case would also help solve issues regarding pay equity for other care and support workers.

E Tu stated in their media release, "Unions say the government is to be commended for agreeing to negotiate this settlement offer, rather than waiting for years before the legal process was finally exhausted."

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## Local News

# Tinder, Wine, & Sleeping Naked Prove Popular in Dunners

by Joel McManus

Otago residents are more likely than any other region in New Zealand to be looking for love on Tinder, be munching crunchy peanut butter, and smashing back some Central Otago Pinot Noir, according to the results of a nation-wide census.

The Vogel's Big Little Kiwi Census surveyed 23,000 New Zealanders up and down the country on everything from their preferred way to eat toast to the greatest NZ song of all time (Slice of Heaven by Dave Dobbyn if you're wondering).

Dunedinites stood out from the crowd on a number of categories. We're significantly more likely to binge our TV than watch it weekly. We're more likely than the rest of the country to be dog people as opposed to cat people, something which is backed up by DCC registration figures; Dunedin consistently ranks among the higher rate of dog registration per capita. We're also less likely than anywhere else in the country to know the location of both of our jandals.

The South Island as a whole found that the Irish accent was the sexiest in the world, while the North Island, with all their coffee-drinking metropolitan elites, preferred the French accent.

Local pride stood out on a few of the answers given. For example, 14.7 percent of Otago respondents thought St Clair was the best beach in the country, despite it not even ranking on the national level. The aforementioned affinity for local wines also stood out, with Dunedin showing very little interest in quaffing Marlborough Sav.

One where Dunedin surprisingly did not differ from the rest of the country was sleeping naked vs. with pyjamas. Despite the cool southern temperatures, 39 percent of us sleep naked, slightly above the national average of 38 percent. We also ranked in line with the nation as a whole when it came to being an Early Bird or a Night Owl. Apparently the student attitude of constant all nighters and sleeping through 10am lectures because they're too early hasn't rubbed off on the rest of the city.



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# Will the University Have Any Staff Left After Yet More Redundancies?



by Joe Higham

Otago University's Support Services Review is reaching the end of its 'Solution Design' phase, coming as rumours have been circulating that as many as 300 jobs will be lost once the final 'Implementation Stage' begins.

However, Otago University Human Resources Director Kevin Seales told Critic that, "this [figure of 300 redundancies] is incorrect and is not something that is based on any information coming from the Project."

The review is taking a broad look at how support services are provided across the university to ensure that they are efficient and fit for purpose. According to the university the review did not set out any financial or staffing target, meaning the amount of redundancies will only become apparent once this 'Solution Design' phase has reached its conclusion.

The university plans to have a business case containing a number of options to be presented to the Project Steering Group in "the middle of this year." They were keen to ensure "there is flexibility in the final outcome to enable the Steering

Group to weigh up the options in light of the objectives of the project."

The Tertiary Education Union (TEU) informed Critic that, if the university's genuine desire was to improve the way things are done and not just to make savings by cutting staff, they should have "given an assurance that the process would not lead to job cuts, and then to genuinely engage with staff about how processes could be improved."

This comment comes largely on the back of the disruption and disunity within the Division of Humanities as a result of the Management of Change (MoC) process the university embarked upon in July 2016 that resulted in 16 equivalent full-time staff being made redundant. Several staff members, who wished to remain anonymous, have repeatedly informed Critic that the MoC process has caused a 'culture of fear' to become instilled in their workplace, leading to them becoming scared to speak openly to management about the flaws in the way the process is being carried out in case they are reprimanded or are made redundant as a consequence.

Seales was quick to address these concerns, outlining that "the project is being undertaken with an unprecedented level of transparency and consultation," specifically mentioning the fact that 74 workshops were conducted in Dunedin, Wellington and Christchurch during the 'Research and Scoping' phase alone; attendees to those workshops totaled as many as 1,200, and included heads of departments, general staff, academic staff, directors, and managers. Moreover, "Academic Staff and General Staff Advisory Groups have met three times during the course of the project."

However, TEU Dunedin Organiser Shaun Scott explained that "This is not consultation - there has been no proposal put forward for unions and members to consider and respond to. Union representatives have continually pointed this out to university management. People have no idea how the information provided has (or has not) been taken into consideration."

Seales has admitted that some attendees of the workshops were disappointed that they were not given more detail on the project, however he did not want "to give staff incomplete or partially thought-through information".

"There has been a regular newsletter and we are also meeting with the Unions fortnightly," Seales revealed, which will "provide them with most of the information that is being considered by the Steering Group."

The University has explained that they are "acutely aware" that processes such as these create uncertainty and anxiety for staff, and are putting in place a number of measures to mitigate these symptoms, including increasing Occupational Health Nurse support, doubling their Employee Assistance Programmes from three to six, and providing ongoing training to help affected people respond and adapt to change.

The Support Services Review comes on top of the aforementioned Division of Humanities MoC, while more recently a number of university departments, including Physical Education, Sport and Exercise Sciences, Nutrition, Classics, Philosophy, and the College of Education are also expecting cuts after they have been placed in similarly precarious positions.

The TEU extended the blame to the National Government, who "has underfunded the tertiary education sector for too long, with restructuring and redundancies widespread. In conjunction with this chronic underfunding, we are now faced with the Education Amendment Bill which looms as a further attack on the notion of publicly funded tertiary education, threatening to fund private providers on the same basis as public providers."



# Uni Strives To Be A Leader On Environmental Issues With New Plan

by Joel McManus

The University of Otago announced a new plan last week to increase environmentally sustainable practises throughout the institution over the next four years, something it hopes will showcase its "desire to strengthen our efforts towards sustainability, becoming genuinely world class in how we respond as a tertiary institution."

Vice-Chancellor Professor Harlene Hayne says achieving the goals starts with ten priority actions this year, to quickly show substantial progress and propel the University forward as a leader.

She is adamant the University's commitment must be real and measurable, and says she is so

passionate about the cause that she created the programme's slogan slogan: "Boldly Sustainable —Our Promise to the Future."

The 'Sustainability Strategic Framework 2017-2021' outlines 22 specific strategies and activities which aim to create a culture of sustainability "embedded as part of the core ethos" of the University. Some of the bolder goals were a plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 30 percent by 2020, and improve energy efficiency 20 percent over the next eight years, cut landfill waste in half, and eliminate non-renewable energy sources by 2030.

Dr Hillary Phipps, the Manager of the University's Office of Sustainability, says that particular attention is being paid to the priority actions of establishing clear targets, getting independent analysis and readings of the University's carbon footprint, monitoring usage to improve energy efficiency, reducing costs, and developing standards for green buildings.

The OUSA affiliated group Students for Environmental Action (SEA) praised the plan, saying in a statement "We congratulate the students and staff who have been working hard over the past few years to let the University know that it's time to change the conversation about sustainability on campus. It's good to see the University Council stepping up, given the importance of institutions such as ours in driving positive change. This document and the goals it contains are a great first step to the change we want to see. However, this is only the first step, and we look forward to action being taken to achieve these goals, as more concrete targets and accountability measures are developed."

The official launch of the plan and further detail about top priorities is expected for mid-May.

## A conversation with NICKY HAGER

co-author of the bestselling and disquieting book *Hit & Run*



MC. Prof Kevin Clements

Director of National Centre for Peace & Conflict Studies, University of Otago

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Nicky Hager's last Dunedin event was fully booked.  
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# New Zealand Unprepared for Future Climate Refugee Crisis in the Pacific



by Sofie Hagland Børseth

Climate experts are saying that climate change could trigger a future refugee crisis in the Pacific if New Zealand does not start a mass migration soon.

Professor in Meteorology and Climatology at the University of Otago Dr Nicolas Cullen said that the communities in the Pacific are vulnerable to sea level rise and more intense and frequent extreme weather events.

"My expectation is the Pacific will require assistance and New Zealand can play a key role in providing this support."

President for Students for Environmental Change (SEA) Claudia Palmer said: "It is an obvious solution for Pacific Islanders to move here given our existing Pacific populations [7.4 percent]." The UN reported that 140 million people have become climate

refugees over the last six years, and that by 2050 one in 30 people could be displaced.

The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre's global report for 2016 shows that East Asia and the Pacific made up 44 percent of the people displaced by disasters in 2015.

However, New Zealand's 30-year-old refugee quota only allows for 750 refugees a year, and our immigration protocol, based on UN's Convention from 1951, does not include environmental refugees or migrants in its policy.

Shawn Shen and Tony Binns say, in their research on Tuvaluan migration to New Zealand, that New Zealand needs to "carefully re-think its migration policy" as climate change has provoked "new ways of thinking about human mobility."

Kathryn Louise Paton's social research on Policy and Law shows that lives, money, and cultural conflicts will be saved if Pacific Islanders can voluntarily migrate in their own time.

Besides extreme weather, the Pacific region is experiencing slow-onset disasters making it hard to survive.

A project on displacement by the London School of Economics (LSE) reports that erosion, droughts, coral bleaching, and salination of drinking water and crop soil are the main issues.

The increasing poverty in the Pacific makes it harder for the Islanders to protect themselves and rebuild their communities after extreme events.

The most endangered islands are Tuvalu and Kiribati, according to the UN's Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) report.

Overpopulation is also an urgent issue on these small islands. ESCAP reported that both Tuvalu and Kiribati are expected to double their population before 2050, Tuvalu going from 10,900 to 19,600 and Kiribati from 103,000 to 208,000.

The main city Funafuti populated by 6000 people in 2,4 square meters.

Shen and Binns argue that "13-15 people living in a 10 x 6 metre house" in Tuvalu is putting "pressure on the family's food and water supply, sanitation and children's health." Overpopulation creates high unemployment and limits access to land, clean water, food, and waste and sanitation systems.

However, Vaasili Moelagi Jackson said to the LSE: "To take a Pacific Islander to the mainland is a sin." The LSE reports that internal migration is more economic and many Islanders want to stay on their islands.

Paton said that the media portrays Pacific Islanders as "the victims of a pending disaster created at the hands of the industrialised world rather than as a group of resilient island communities."

SEA president Palmer said that, "We need to stop infantilising Pacific states and start treating them as equals by including them in determining their own futures."

It is pretty simple: if we allow environmental migrants now, we can avoid an environmental refugee crisis in the future.

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## POST-FACT WORLD

### You are more likely to believe a false fact than a real fact

In ten-pin bowling, the highest possible score is 10 (one point per pin). When players hit all of the pins at once it is called a “trike”. There is controversy over whether this term comes from the triangular shape the pins are arranged in, or because a person on a tricycle rides down to rearrange the pins. When they get a “trike”, players yell out “ten pin points!” as loud as they can.

Old people get a daily quota of talcum powder from the government.

“Ten-pin bowling” got its name because, in the original version, the winner got to stick ten pins in a voodoo doll of the loser.

Whales are space moos.

The designer used up ten pens while inventing ten-pin bowling, hence the name “ten-pen” which morphed into “ten-pin”.

Turn to the right, shepherd’s delight. Turn with a sigh, shepherd’s pie.

Ten-pin bowling got its peculiar name because it used to be played inside a giant bowl, by giants.

What’s up with wolves? Are they just scary?

In 18th century England, soldiers used to line up tent pegs and take turns knocking them over with the heads of their enemies. When the war was over, people wanted to keep playing the game, even though they were back home with no tents and no heads. They made objects that resembled both the tent pegs and the heads of their enemies, with holes where the eye sockets and mouths had been. The game was called “ten-pin bowling” after the tent pegs, and the “howling” (bowling) shape of the dead mouths.

## WORLD WATCH



### Gold Coast, Australia

Terry Peck, 33, tried to avoid having to pay for a swanky seafood feast by getting in the sea. The meal, consisting of two lobsters, a baby octopus, 21 oysters and some Coronas, cost around \$600. Peck ran out the door of the restaurant and dived into the nearby ocean, before getting arrested by police on jet skis.

### Guangdong Province, China

An ostrich caused chaos on a main road after he escaped from his enclosure. The bird managed to smash its way through a bamboo fence and onto the main road, forcing many motorists to pull out of its way. The bird was finally returned to his owner, who gave him a good shower before reinforcing the fences

## BUNCH OF FIVES



### PHTEVEN—Audioengineering

- 1 Jaws
- 2 Pineapple
- 3 Raptor
- 4 Tables
- 5 T-shirts



### TOM—MFCo

- 1 Hoenn
- 2 Pineapple
- 3 Dunkibosteus
- 4 Tables
- 5 Jeans



### CHELLE—Geology

- 1 One in which Independence Day Jeff Goldblum is my boyfriend
- 2 Negativity and sarcasm, and placenta
- 3 Ankylosaurus—it doesn’t give a fuck
- 4 Chairs. I’d rather stand up than have nowhere to put my shit
- 5 Jeans. Jeans are for soccer moms.



### RACHEL—Nothing

- 1 Lord of the Rings—Rivendale
- 2 Milk
- 3 Little Foot
- 4 Chairs
- 5 T-shirt



### ERIN—English/design/comms

- 1 Princess bride
- 2 Asparagus and any green thing
- 3 Little Foot
- 4 Chairs
- 5 T-shirts, but only if bands made branded jeans as merch



## Mexico City, Mexico

Owners can now bring their dogs with them to satisfy their sweet tooth. The Don Paletto parlour in Mexico City is now offering a variety of ice creams and lollipops especially made for dogs. Unlike normal ice cream, which can cause diarrhoea in dogs, the new dog treats can help digestion. The dogs get the option of licking the treats off a stick, out a cone or out of a bowl.

By Jack Trevella

## Q's

- 1 What fictional world would you live in if you could live in any?
- 2 What ingredient shouldn't you put in a milkshake?
- 3 What is your favourite dinosaur?
- 4 Would you rather a world without tables or chairs?
- 5 Would you rather live without jeans or t-shirts?

# ODT WATCH

They march out of the dramatic mist, the team that will save us. Dripping with heroism, they strike a pose, ready to confront the forces of evil.

17 take on  
Otago soil

Next, we head to the toxic swamp that is the column section.

Martin Luther's message  
still relevant 500 years on

Yeah, that message about how shit it was that the Pope was giving out pardons for money in the 1500s is totally still relevant.

Then there was this.

you can take the New Zealander out of Christianity but you cannot take Christianity out of the (true) New Zealander.

Moving on, the ODT seems to be confused about words and things.

'Crazy' to think  
tribute bands  
the real thing

Yes, that is 'crazy'.

And finally, the ODT appears to have lost something.

Where is our  
oldest chimney?

By Charlie O'Mannin

## FACTS & FIGURES

In the time it takes to listen to I'm Gonna Be (500 Miles) by the Proclaimers, the International Space Station travels 500 miles, then 500 more

A beauty contest held in Singapore in 1998 awarded 60% of the marks for knowledge of the internet

"Twitter" was a 19th-century word for an abscess on a horse's foot

In 1867, the man with the world's longest-ever beard broke his neck and died after tripping over it

It is impossible to hum while holding your nose

The Japanese word "kareishu" describes the smell of old people

The letter Z is worth only one point in the Polish version of Scrabble

Turning up a bar's music by 22% makes people drink 26% faster

The correct way to make a cup of tea is set out in a 5,000-word report by the British Standards Institution France last used the guillotine in 1977

By Jack Trevella

Issue 02 | Mar 2017

Mazagran  
ESPRESSO BAR

36 Moray Place Dunedin  
03 477 9959



## International

# Struggle? In 2017?

Look at that, four months have passed already! It's been an active year thus far; students are still getting themselves into strikes, riots, killings, and occasionally a victory. So maybe it's worth keeping half an eye on what those damned young radicals are up to an island, country, or continent away.

by Tyler West

## 1,200 ON HALF-DAY STRIKE AT AUCKLAND UNIVERSITY, NZ

Academic and general staff walked out for four hours in mid-March as part of a long running pay dispute over the next collective contract. The union are aiming for a 1.2% pay increase, followed the year after by a \$1,200 raise for higher paid staff and \$3,500 raise for staff in lower pay brackets. 300 strikers were joined by students for a boisterous but uneventful rally on campus.

## FAR RIGHT ATTACKS ON DALIT STUDENTS, INDIA

Dalit students at Delhi University have blamed members of the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) for multiple assaults on campus in January and February. This comes after a prolonged campaign across India sparked by multiple high profile suicides of Dalit students. The ABVP are a student wing affiliated to the hardline Hindutva nationalist Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, itself closely aligned to the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Elsewhere major clashes have also occurred at Panjab University in Chandigarh in early April between students and police, involving teargas, watercannons and baton charges. The campus has seen weeks of unrest over a round of steep fee hikes, which are set to continue.

## STRIKE WAVE FOLLOWED BY 24-HOUR GENERAL STRIKE, ARGENTINA

Argentina has repeatedly ground to a halt as rolling national strikes in various sectors, including a two-day teacher strike in March, were rounded off by a 24-hour general strike in the capital Buenos Aires on April 6th. It is a major challenge to the government of President Mauricio Macri, with upcoming elections this year. Ongoing strikes have been especially widespread in the Buenos Aires province, with marchers numbered in the tens of thousands in the provincial capital of La Plata. The strike wave was sparked by job cuts, lifting of import restrictions, union busting, and various other free market policies under the centre-right government. Provincial governor and close Macri ally Maria Vidal has responded to the strikes with a threat to levy fines against striking.

## RIOTS OVER POLICE BRUTALITY IN THE PARISIAN BANLIEUES, FRANCE

Weeks of rioting over multiple incidents of police brutality reignited after the killing of local Parisian Chinese man Liu Shaoyi in his home on March 27th. Sporadic large-scale clashes ran over several nights, continuing two years of political unrest around state repression and labour law reform. High schools were blockaded by students throughout March while student strikes have, on and off, been held at several campuses in the capital.

## MASS SACKING & MED STUDENTS STRIKE, KENYA

The government has threatened the sacking of 134 teachers over a three-month strike in Nairobi, while medical students were ordered to end their own strike in order to break their teachers strike and return to class. The dispute over pay grievances had halted classes at 33 institutions, until it was finally resolved in mid-March with education workers winning a 17.5% pay rise. Public university staff had been on strike since January 19 when an already negotiated increase in pay and improvement in conditions failed to materialise on time.

## EDUCATION REFORM PROTESTS AND 'DAY OF THE YOUNG COMBATANT', CHILE

National demonstrations, the largest of which in Santiago numbered in the tens of thousands, took place on April 11, demanded reforms against tertiary education privatisation. The current government under President Michelle Bachelet has scaled down promises of widespread reforms to tackle rising fees. Meanwhile violent clashes between riot police and young people occurred on the night of March 29-30 marking the Day of the Young Combatant, an annual commemoration of dissidents killed since the 1973 military coup and under successive governments after the regimes fall.

## STUDENT KILLED IN MOB ATTACK, PAKISTAN

At the Abdul Wali Khan University in Mardan in early April, 23 year-old journalism student Marshall Khan was killed in mob violence after accusations of blasphemy. Various civil societies have organised protests over the killing in the weeks since, with demonstrations across the country.



## MASS DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST UNIVERSITY CLOSURE IN BUDAPEST, HUNGARY

April have demanded the proposed closure of the Central European University (CEU) be stalled, after new legislation toughened licensing awards for foreign-based universities, making the closure of the CEU likely. The movement is another in a long line of recent Hungarian movements over issues as diverse as internet freedom, curbs to democratic institutions, economic reforms, and the strict immigration policy under the right-wing Fidesz government of President Viktor Orbán.



# National's 'Kiwis first' Immigration Rule Labeled Meaningless By Labour

by George Elliott

Under the government's new immigration rules the classification of temporary high and low skilled workers and their residency eligibility will be determined by income, regardless of their industry position.

Immigration Minister Michael Woodhouse announced last week that temporary migrants would need to earn at least \$48,859 a year to qualify for the Skilled Migrant Category (SMC) visa. Those earning \$73,299+ will automatically be classed as "high-skilled", collecting points towards permanent residency.

Those temporary migrants earning less than a median income of \$48,859 will be classified as low-skilled. These so-called "essential skills" visa holders will only be able to stay for three years and be required to leave for a year before getting another three-year visa. The newly classified low-skilled migrants will not gain points towards permanent residency.

"It's important that our immigration settings are attracting the right people, with the right skills, to help fill genuine skill shortages and contribute to our growing economy," Woodhouse says.

The new rules will also mean that partners and children of temporary migrants will not be automatically eligible and will instead have to meet their own individual requirements. Furthermore, seasonal workers will

be issued a season-long visa, rather than the 12-month visa currently issued.

Separately, 4,000 temporary migrants in the South Island could receive a special pathway to residency if they stay in the same industry and region over the next two years.

Business NZ Chief Executive Kirk Hope supported the adjustments, which he said will "reduce the potential for residence applications to be dominated by lower-skilled workers."

Opposition parties have also blamed immigration for new pressures on transport infrastructure and social services. In the year preceding February, the country's net migration rose to a record 71,333 with 57,156 arriving in Auckland.

The king of immigration politics, NZ First Leader Winston Peters, says the changes are a dog whistle and a con. The government "are fiddling with the issue while the plain fact is foreign workers will still be able to come here when employers claim they can't get Kiwis," Peters says.

Peters adds, "The underbelly of National's borderless free-for-all to get money from foreign students and to prop up industries with cheap labour is being exposed repeatedly."

Labour leader Andrew Little says the government's proposals "don't address the huge numbers of people coming here to do low level qualifications or low skill work, then using those visas as a stepping-stone to residency," Little says, while noting that Labour supports high-skilled immigration where and when it's needed.

While the policy may provide a perception that the government is tackling immigration it is still unclear how the number of temporary migrants will be affected. The government estimates there are only about 1,700 low-skilled workers who have held a temporary visa for longer than the new three-year limit.

Minister of Immigration Michael Woodhouse says National aim to have the new policies introduced later in the year. Public consultation on the changes closes on 21 May.



David Clark

## Dunedin, the Future is Right Here!

To keep my finger on the pulse of goings on in Dunedin North, I like to visit local businesses regularly. Some of my favourites of late have been in the tech space. Animation Research and Tussock Innovation in the CBD, RocketWerkz down by the wharf, and Runaway over at NHNZ are all established companies doing amazing things right here in Dunedin. Equally, there are many start-ups making names for themselves here.

Speaking with the people building these tech companies, they say that Dunedin offers them a relatively low-cost environment in which to take greater commercial risks and subsequently greater possible rewards. Dunedin also offers them a beautiful natural landscape with alpine adventures just a few hours' drive away, as well as access to the talent streaming out of the university and polytechnic here when they look to expand.

With the tech industry growing in Dunedin, collaborative opportunities abound. Just a few weeks ago, Otago Polytechnic hosted "Start-up Weekend", where developers, designers, marketers, product managers and start-up enthusiasts came together to share ideas, build products and launch start-ups—all in just 54 hours!

To meet the growing local demand for tech expertise, tertiary institutions in Otago and Canterbury have collaborated to open an ICT graduate school in the South—"Signal". It opened in Vogel Street in February and lectures there are now under way.

Dean Hall, chief executive of RocketWerkz, estimates that although the game development industry is now worth \$90 million a year to the New Zealand economy, with a little investment over time it could easily grow to become a \$1 billion a year industry. The potential for Kiwi entrepreneurs in the tech sector is huge!

Labour announced its Young Entrepreneurs Plan in April last year, which would allow a small number of smart and innovative young New Zealanders to apply to 'cash in' their three free years of post-secondary education—instead receiving a start-up business grant, training and a business mentor. This was music to the ears of many of the tech start-ups I've spoken to in Dunedin.

However, Labour took things one-step further with its tech-inspired regional development policy announcement in Dunedin earlier this year. Andrew Little revealed that Labour would invest in the burgeoning industry in Dunedin by setting up a Centre of Digital Excellence (CODE) here (accelerating tech start-ups with a kitted out communal incubator space), instituting an endowed professorship for Game Development at Otago, and establishing a funding pool for tech start-ups as a truly innovative alternative to risk-averse grant schemes like Callaghan Innovation.

We need to support entrepreneurship by giving young innovators the tools they need to succeed. We also need to support economic development in the regions by really listening to our businesspeople there. A whole range of meaningful investment opportunities exist in the tech start-up space and in smaller centres across the country. Dunedin's CODE is a shining example of both rolled into one. Now we just need a government with its eyes open to these opportunities.

# All Ring James's Horses & All of His Men

## NBA Playoffs Preview

by Charlie Hantler

With the NBA regular season wrapped up for another year, and packed with intriguing storylines and stat-lines, we now enter the business end of the season: the playoffs. Do or die ball. After Russell Westbrook and James Harden's MVP battle, LeBron James maintaining his normal standards, and teams such as the Celtics and Bucks surprising many with just how swiftly they are rebuilding, the regular season was one to remember. But now teams do battle with the threat of their season coming to an abrupt end, and their quest for the Larry O'Brien Trophy being put on hold for another year.

I'm expecting Kevin Durant in particular to be clutch as the Warriors narrowly conquer the Spurs

in the Western Conference Finals, while the Cavs will make light work of the Wizards in the Eastern Conference. From there, we get a glorious repeat of last year's finals series. God I loved it. Enticing match ups of LeBron and Kevin Durant, Kyrie Irving and Steph Curry, Klay Thomson and the top-tier defence of Iman Shumpert, and Draymond Green trying to kick the nuts of anyone in sight. The Cavaliers have shown that if they make it this far, by this point they are inevitably running as a beautifully oiled machine. So expect this series to both go to the full seven, and contain more iconic moments like LeBron's block on Andre Iguodala or Kyrie's three over Curry.

**To keep you in the loop, here's a few key predictions for the playoffs:**

### Lebron James to Average a Triple-Double Throughout the Playoffs

Yeah yeah, Westbrook did this during the season (31.6 points, 10.7 rebounds and 10.4 assists) and Harden came awfully close (29.1 points, 11.2 assists, 8.1 rebounds) without potentially stat-padding, but LeBron is definitely in his zone come post-season, and averaged 29.7 points, 11.3 assists and 8.9 rebounds IN THE FINALS last season. The man truly is a contender with Jordan for the G.O.A.T. (greatest of all-time) and another ring this season would go a long way towards making that argument overwhelming.

Oh and there's also the small matter of LeBron likely becoming the all-time playoffs leading scorer. Only Jordan (leading with 5,987), Kobe Bryant and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar have more points currently. Having knocked off 57 in the first two games against the Indiana Pacers, he only needs 358 more points to become the King of another throne.

### Ryan Anderson to Shoot over .500 From Three-Point Range For The Houston Rockets

The Rockets outfit has built their playoffs charge on James Harden's well thought out move to point-guard and a barrage of three pointers from the likes of Harden, Eric Gordon and Ryan Anderson. Anderson will likely be given the sole roll of letting fly in the post-season, and expect him to up these numbers to .500 as Harden opens the floor with his distribution.

If Harden, as he likely will, wins the clash with Russ and our beloved Stevie in the first round then he comes up against Pop's semi-arousingly structured Spurs in the second round. Outwitting Kawhi Leonard on defence will be the key here. Ha. Good luck.





## Celtics and Wizards To Go To Seven

If they get past the Bulls and the Hawks respectively in the first-round, as they are expected to, then we get the beautiful John Wall vs. Isaiah Thomas collision in the second round. Although the Wizards rank fifth in PPG (points per game), the Celtics rank ninth in defensive least PPG given up. Al Horford, Avery Bradley and company will have to be working overtime on Wall (10.7 assists per game), Bradley Beal (averaging 2.9 three-pointers per contest) and the Wizards. Other stats which make this a mouth-watering contest are Marcin Gortat's double-double average for the Wizards this season and Boston's third ranking in three-pointers made.

At the time of writing, however, Rajon Rondo has just led Chicago to a 2-0 lead over Boston, and the road to even get to this encounter looks ominous. Watch this space.

So there we have it, a few predictions to help you look like you sort of know what you're talking about around your friends who actually follow basketball.



# Now for the season awards:

**MVP:**  
Russell Westbrook

Having joined Oscar Robertson (1961-62) as the only player to average a triple-double throughout the NBA regular season, his 42 for the season makes Westbrook the obvious candidate. Although James 'The Beard' Harden comes close with his phenomenal aforementioned stats, and having lead his Houston team to a surprise third ranking in the West, the pure iconic nature of what Russ has done ensures that the gong is his.

**Honourable Mentions:**  
James Harden, Kawhi Leonard, LeBron James, Kevin Durant, Isaiah Thomas

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**Rookie of the Year:**  
Dario Saric

Pre-injury, Joel 'The Process' Embiid was a shoo-in for this. Now, however, it seems to be a two-man contest between the Philadelphia 76ers' Dario Saric and the Milwaukee Bucks' Malcolm Brogdon. Brogdon was fourth amongst rookies in scoring while shooting, over 45 percent from the floor and over 40 percent from three. The Bucks have huge faith in his perimeter defence and ability to take clutch shots. Saric, the 6 foot 10 Croatian monster, finally arrived in the NBA this year after being a stash-and-dash pick two years ago. Averaging 12.8 points and 6.8 rebounds per game while showing a sweet jumper and post game, Saric's victory here shows there's life in European ball yet following the likes of Nowitzki, Parker, Ginobili, Gasol and Antetokounmpo.

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**Defensive Player of the Year:**  
Rudy Gobert

Leading the league in blocks with 2.66 per game and fourth in rebounds with 12.8, the titanic Frenchman's interior defence is a huge reason this Utah Jazz team are in the playoffs as the number four Western seed, as Utah allowed the fewest PPG of any team this season.

**Honourable Mentions:**  
Draymond Green, Kawhi Leonard, Paul Millsap, Anthony Davis

**Most Improved Player:**  
Giannis Antetokounmpo

The stats say it all; his season averages per game are insane: 22.9 points (2015-16: 16.9), 8.8 rebounds ('15-'16: 7.7), and 5.4 assists ('15-'16: 4.3). Giannis went from a man desperately yearning to lead his team to the playoffs to a man who has done just that, and in some style too. At just 22, 'The Greek Freak' is the only player in the league to boast a top-20 finish in total points, rebounds, assists, blocks and steals. He also led his team in all of these categories. From barely an all-star contender last year to an automatic selection this year, I really don't need to say anymore. Honestly, just watch this guy play, you'll really fucking enjoy it.

**Honourable Mentions:**  
This wasn't even close.

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**Sixth Man of the Year:**  
Eric Gordon

Houston has been dropping major bombs from three this season, and having ranked second on the team behind Harden with 16.3 PPG, Gordon ensured that the Rockets didn't skip a beat when the second unit took the court. Gordon was a major reason behind Houston having the second-highest PPG behind Golden State.

**Honourable Mentions:**  
Lou Williams, Andre Iguodala, Zach Randolph


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**Coach of the Year:**  
Mike D'Antoni

Taking the underachieving and dysfunctional Rockets to the third seed is an outstanding achievement, having used a masterful combination of screens and movement to utilize the vast array of outside shooters at his disposal. Here's hoping they can make us laugh and beat the Warriors.

**Honourable Mentions:**  
Brad Stevens, Quin Snyder





# Historical Reasons People Believed in Ghosts (*That Don't Make Sense Anymore*)

by wee doubt

**G**hosts could be real, but it is interesting that the more advanced science and technology has become, the less likely it seems that they are. Now that everybody has a video camera on them at all times, we should be getting some sweet ghostly footage. But we are also getting better at spotting bullshit when we see it. Here are some reasons some old-timey people could have had to believe their dead grandma was watching them masturbate.

## Mediums

In the Victorian period, photography was a pretty new and terrifying thing. You could chuck a papier-mâché head in a photo, say it was a ghost, and a lot of people would believe you. And then there were spiritual-

ist mediums who were using cheap magic tricks to fool the public for profit.

The world of paranormal beliefs is full of lovely ideas like guardian angels, meeting all your childhood pets, and eternal love from a benevolent being. Then there are gross things, like ectoplasm. Ectoplasm was believed to be a substance excreted by mediums during trances: a slime-like goo made from the lining of cells that emerged from all (yes all) of the body's orifices to take the shape of a human spirit. Old photos show remarkably unconvincing "ghosts" with disgusting mucousy cords going up stoned-looking mediums' noses, mouths, ears and, yup, bums, and vaginas. Thankfully the latter two "portals" are discreetly covered by skirts and tablecloths in photos,

but you can tell what's going on. Ectoplasm was said to be a substance between a solid, a liquid, and a gas that could take the shape of the spirit the medium was contacting. The photos are gloomy and often blurry because, predictably, ectoplasm would disintegrate on exposure to light.

Surely no self-respecting spirit would go through with that? If I were a ghost and the only way to reach my loved ones was to squeeze myself out of some creep's anus in a big snotty blob, I'd probably give it a miss. Thanks, but no thanks.

But, of course, it's not real. When flash photography became a thing, ectoplasm manifesting into solid spirits was shown to be (surprise!) wads of wet cloth shoved into various bodily orifices, pulled out (bleurgh!!!)



and connected to papier-mâché dolls. Cheesecloth could be coated in egg white, swallowed and regurgitated. There were tricks like putting a rubber glove on the end of a tube so it looked like you were vomiting an arm. A famous medium called Carrière was caught out when it was revealed that his "spirit faces" were cut out from newspapers and magazines. Some ectoplasm was said to emit a strong odour - I'm guessing this was the stuff people pulled out of their bums. These people were charging money to indulge in their weird exhibitionist fetishes and trick grieving clients into thinking they were talking to their dead loved ones.

### Sleep Paralysis

There were more convincing reasons to believe in ghosts than egg-covered butt cloth. Anybody who has experienced isolated sleep paralysis (ISP) knows how scary and alien it feels. I used to wake up in the night completely paralysed but conscious, with a roaring static in my ears and a deep feeling of dread. Sometimes my thoughts would mingle with dreams that were so lucid I believed I was having some sort of out-of-body experience.

What I was going through was a very common form of ISP in which a person regains consciousness before the natural bodily paralysis that helps us to sleep peacefully has retreated.

While we now know its probable physiological cause, different cultures have had varying traditions to explain what ISP is. In Scandinavia, it is a "mare", a damned woman whose spirit leaves her body when she sleeps to sit on the rib cage of villagers and give them terrible nightmares. In Fiji, the sufferer is being eaten by a demon. In Nigeria, it is the devil on your back. In North America, it is an old hag or a witch on your back. In Turkey, the culprit is a supernatural being called a jinn that is trying to strangle the sleeper. In Thailand, it is a spirit that can reportedly leave physical bruises. In Eastern China, it is a mouse that steals your breath. If you haven't experienced sleep paralysis, these superstitions give some idea of how real and distressing the feeling is.

### Phantom Limb Syndrome

Personal experiences like ISP have always been the most common 'evidence' for the

existence of ghosts. Some people endure what feels like a ghostly apparition wherever they go.

When you lose a limb, it's pretty common for your brain to act like nothing happened. Phantom limb syndrome is a usually unpleasant, often painful phenomenon where it feels like the missing limb is still there. Sufferers report feeling like absent fists are clenched uncomfortably, like a missing leg is twisted underneath them, and itching and pain in a limb that is not there. Now there are medical explanations as to why phantom limb syndrome happens, but in the past?

Imagine you have lost your physical arm but you can still feel sensation in it. The obvious conclusion is terrifying - we keep feeling sensation in our flesh after our flesh is missing. It would be easy to believe in a ghostly afterlife if you could feel physical sensation in a non-physical arm. Surely it indicates that a person could continue to feel sensation after their physical body is gone?

### Haunted Plumbing

Ghosts could be living in your plumbing, and I don't mean like the basilisk in Harry Potter (pipes).

You walk into a room and get a sudden, creepy feeling - doom, depression, and holy-shit-someone-is-watching-me. You turn to leave RIGHT FUCKING NOW and you see out of the corner of your eye a shadow, something moving in the corner, a human-shaped thing. Obviously you have a ghost on your hands (and a poo in your pants).

It turns out that sounds between 7 and 19 Hz can induce fear, dread, and panic in around 22 percent of people. In nature things like volcanos, earthquakes, strong ocean waves, winds hitting the hillside, and tigers produce sounds of this frequency. This could mean we evolved the 'ability' to be scared when we sense it, even though we can't hear it.

Organ pipes can also make sounds this low. In fact, pipes are pretty good at making all sorts of noises, and that includes the pipes in your house, especially if the house is old, with weird old plumbing, and especially if you're kind of jumpy anyway.

And then there are the hallucinations. According to NASA, the ultra-low frequencies can be strong enough to vibrate the jelly in a human eye-ball, causing "smeared" vision, which can make specks of dust or the edge of

your glasses look like large, shadowy, moving shapes. Couple this with our tendency to assume that shapes in our peripheral vision are humans, and you have yourself a full-blown spook encounter that will have you calling in a gaggle of priests and a truckload of smokin' sage leaves.

### Gas lamps

So you have yourself a spooky old Victorian house, full of rotten old pipes that make tiger sounds, you've just been given the collywobles by a wacky old lady with a sheet up her bum, and then you woke up in the night because it felt like your dead uncle was sitting on your chest. To make everything worse, the arm you lost in a glue-factory accident is bugging the shit out of you with itches from beyond the veil. You are already feeling skittish, when, to top it all off, you begin suffering headaches, auditory hallucinations, fatigue, and melancholy in the way only a Victorian can. Time to get a new house my dude!

Or maybe just check for gas leaks. According to Albert Donnay, consulting toxicologist and environmental health engineer at the University of Maryland, carbon monoxide poisoning can cause all of these symptoms. Since Victorian houses were just lousy with leaky gas lamps, it's likely that a good number of your ancestors had chronic CO2 poisoning, contributing to fainting fits in house-bound ladies, and haunting experiences in general.

Natural gas used to be odourless - the familiar sulphur smell we associate with gas actually comes from mercaptan, a substance added to the gas to make it easier to detect. Mercaptan was first added to natural gas in Germany in the 1880s, and steadily became so normal that it is now recognised as "the smell of gas". Donnay says that carbon monoxide poisoning has been linked to haunted houses since at least the 1920s, right before electric light became the less ghostly way of illuminating your home.

If you think it is sad that we don't see ghosts as much as we used to, you can at least be thankful that we aren't plagued by the terrors of sleep paralysis, vibrating eyeballs, and gas poisoning.

Ghosts could still be real, and we want to hear what you think about them! If you have a true ghost story, please email [critic@critic.co.nz](mailto:critic@critic.co.nz)

**THE BRITISH ROYAL FAMILY, AND MONARCHIES** generally, have a lot to answer for; they manage to sponge millions off the state each year and have an unnerving amount to do with politics and legislature. If you were to describe the system outside of the context of the Western monarchical tradition, most sane members of society would surely dismiss it as ridiculous. Yet monarchical apologists often reply with that tradition as an answer for why that system should remain intact. The other common answer, that it's a big moneymaker for the nation, is both insignificant in light of the negative aspects and at the same time misses the point entirely. Forget a flag referendum; we need a referendum on the monarchy.

Just like the pious, republicans (not the American political group) constantly get swept up in the financial gain the monarchy provides to the national purse, as if the cost of our lacking democracy may be offset at a price unknown to the rest of us. The annual revenue associated with the palaces and castles in Britain that are owned by the 'Royal Collection Trust' tops £54 million (NZD\$97 million), an astronomical sum to us mere 'subjects'. But these palaces would work equally as well, if not better, as tourist attractions as opposed to being occupied. We only need to look at France to see this. The Palace of Versailles was visited by 7.5 million people last year, with Buckingham Palace languishing back at just under 500,000. This is all while a £370 million (\$672 million) refurbishment upgrade was approved by then Prime Minister David Cameron in November last year. The Queen herself is worth £330 million (NZD\$592 million), and with that level of obscene wealth secures the 285th place on The Sunday Times Rich List, so she could have almost forked out the cash herself instead of relying on the taxpayer to pay for her new curtains and plumbing.

Of course, it's not as though deposing monarchs is absent from British history, it's just that when it has occurred, its intention was simply to replace the former monarch with yet another unelected, despotic, tyrant. New Zealand doesn't even reap the monetary reward of the monarchy in the same way that the United Kingdom does. If anything the monarchy comes

with a net loss for New Zealand that's not exclusive to finances. In retaining this antiquated institution, the commonwealth nations also retain the undemocratic, unmeritocratic, benefit scrounging hallmarks the system thrives on. The handouts to the Windsor Family are the bane of governments, who commonly try to create 'initiatives to see them back into the workforce in the near future'. If only someone could muster the courage to tell the Royals that their benefit is ending and will soon have to seek work if they want to continue on the state welfare they have become accustomed to for centuries. It's all well and good to enjoy the birth of Prince George or most recently Princess Charlotte, but to take pleasure in this whole show of vulgarity, pageantry, and grandeur is verging on masochistic seeing as you paid for it in part.

Thanks to Prince William and Kate (Duke and Duchess of Cambridge) the Royals are now resurrecting some of their age-old support, but what they represent is totally obscene to the values that we should stand by wholeheartedly. Though the vast majority of the public have to work hard to puncture industries and forge careers on the back of mounting student loan debt and the sweat and tears of a challenging and stressful job market, the monarchy lap it up, untouchable from the reality their subjects experience. Their various prerogative powers may have been rescinded over the last

few hundred years to the point where they are essentially figureheads, but their position still retains the classic hallmarks of the despotism and tyranny of old. My hope is that we are surely now just playing a waiting game until a government or opposition considers the disposal of the monarchy both necessary and feasible for their own political revival or until the monarchy themselves abuse their position and run their privilege squarely into the ground.

You may think the latter is the less likely of the two, but you may be surprised. Heir apparent Prince Charles, next in line for the throne, has regularly 'dabbled in politics', something that should make even the most vehement modern republican shudder. A "secretive constitutional loophole" was discovered by a Guardian investigation, which forced members of parliament to seek permission from the prince before introducing legislation, effectively giving him a right to veto legislation that might affect his private interests. The investigation revealed that he used this secret power on twelve separate occasions between 2005-2012. Let's be clear though, this is additional to the Queen's absurd power of 'Royal Assent', in which the Queen herself must provide her personal assent to all parliamentary bills within the commonwealth before they are enacted and become legislation. Despite this being a more or less powerless activity, she does theoretically have the power to refuse her assent, an action that

# The French Did It By 1799, Surely 218 Years Later We Should Join Them?

*By Joe Higham*





would propel the country into a 'constitutional crisis' in which, in all seriousness, no one really knows what would happen. This is most likely to occur when a bill was passed in 'bad faith', but quite frankly it is ludicrous to think the monarch has a better interpretation of what 'bad faith' entails than anyone of her 'subjects', or those given a mandate to govern from the people. Many countries, including New Zealand, have a 'Governor-General' to complete that task on her behalf, but that provides an absurdly farcical result. We have created a position occupied by a figurehead to work on behalf of another figurehead instead of realising the ridiculousness of the practice of unelected assent to bills in the first place. This re-politicism of the monarchy may seem a futile issue to discuss – especially when Prince Charles only exercised this power on twelve occasions – but when his consensus is needed to create legislation simply because it may affect his private interests, it is obvious that his fingers are firmly wedged in a few pies, and often corrupt pies at that.

Moreover, it's not as though the political endeavours of the royals are the only critical activity of the family. They are regularly embroiled in controversy through decision-making that would cause friends and family to question our own sanity if it happened to us. Prince Harry, Prince Charles and Princess Diana's youngest son – who has just lost his

place in line to the throne to his brother's children, George and Charlotte – has been the usual culprit. He has been snapped at a Las Vegas party by various media organisations sporting a Nazi swastika on his arm, physically clashed with paparazzi on several occasions outside nightclubs, and referred to a Pakistani friend of his as "our little Paki friend" – a phrase which would turn heads (and fists) in England if not here in New Zealand. This is a distinguished representative of the British Royal Family and the Commonwealth at large, and wearing such a vulgar costume in his position is simply an obscene display of entitlement.

You would expect the prince's popularity to decline when a swastika adorns his arm and news media explodes with full front page spreads detailing his gaffe to the world, however he remains the third most popular royal after his brother Prince William and his grandmother Queen Elizabeth II. His popularity seems to ebb and flow in much the same way as Donald Trump's; the stupider the action or remark, the more popular he gets. His antics don't even appear to affect the wider royal family, with a YouGov poll revealing that only 17 percent of UK citizens thought an elected head of state would be better for the country than a monarch. Additionally, 62 percent believed that a hereditary monarchy will still be present in the UK in one hundred years time – a bleak thought. These statistics go some

way to showing how entrenched this obsession with the monarchy has become.

For someone to truly gauge how obsessed the British are with the royals though, all they need to do is to look at the public's reaction to the death of Princess Diana, who by that stage had already been divorced from Prince Charles for a year. People who had never met 'Princess Di' were inconsolable; as if their own mother had died rather than someone they'd never even met. Headlines such as, "Goodnight Our Sweet Princess", "Prince comes home with 'the People's Princess'", and "Your People Are Suffering, Speak To Us Ma'am" were splayed across the nation's tabloids and broadsheets as the nation itself, bar a few grounded people, ground to a halt as soon as they heard the news. Diana was regarded as a sort of goddess, with her charity work and 'service to the nation' giving her the nickname 'People's Princess'. However, the truth is often lost in the clouds of royalty and pageantry. Diana Spencer was not born into an average middle class family; in fact, she was herself born into royalty. Her father was a Viscount, educated at Eton College and then, like much of the British royalty, went to the Military College at Sandhurst (Prince William and Harry both went there, as well as countless other royals before them). Diana's mother, Francis Kydd, was born in Sandringham (an estate privately owned by Queen Elizabeth II herself), and her father was not only the 4th Baron Fermoy, but also a good friend of the Queen's father, George VI. She managed to make £17 million and then £400,000 per year from her divorce settlement, so she did exceptionally well out of the British taxpayer. All this should illuminate the fact that Diana was born into aristocracy and nobility before choosing to join the royals ranks, and should by no means be a "People's Princess" as a result of simply choosing to marry in.

The monarchy really is something that only Britain (along with the commonwealth – and eight other nations) could not only live with, but also cherish so passionately as to not have abolished the institution as the French so gallantly did in the late 18th century. Let's get rid of this benefit-scrouring family once and for all.



## Where the Plot Holes are Mightier than the Dinosaurs

written & illustrated  
by Chelle Fitzgerald

As a child, Jurassic Park was my favourite movie – I was hell-bent on becoming a palaeontologist (until I was exposed to Ross Geller from Friends). Jurassic Park was also everything I needed in my adolescence – a Michael Crichton plot, scientific progress versus ethics, and some goddamn excellent dinosaur CGI. In my youth, I was able to suspend disbelief and fall head over biscuit into the film, ensuring a lifelong lust for Jeff Goldblum (which was only further fuelled by Independence Day), and a burning desire to find myself on many an archaeological excavation in awkward '90s-looking khaki shorts and hiking boots.

As an adult who can no longer generate any real wonder or excitement without some form of chemical aid, this shit plain doesn't fly anymore. Every time I watch Jurassic Park as an adult, I just get angry at the gaping plot holes and discontinuities. Don't get me wrong – it's still one of my favourite films. But like a petulant child that you have to love out of motherly duty yet still secretly hate, it irks the shit out of me.

Let's begin, shall we?

For starters, there is no way any amber found in the Dominican Republic would even exceed 15 million years in age, let alone 65 million. And

even if the amber WAS that old, there's no way that the dinosaur DNA would still be viable – the half-life of DNA is around 520 years. While we're at it, with the exception of cameos from Brachiosaurus and Dilophosaurus, none of the dinosaurs are even Jurassic specimens. It should be called Mostly Cretaceous Dinosaurs feat. Assorted Mesozoic Era Plants Park (or, Stupid Plot Holes Park). Velociraptors weren't six feet tall. Brachiosaurus couldn't reach up on tiptoe to graze, nor could it sneeze. Where the hell did the Mesozoic plant life come from? Certainly not old amber specimens. At the start of the film, when Doctors Grant and Sattler are uncovering an entirely complete and perfect



Deinonychus skeleton just casually lying there in situ in the dirt, that's not how your typical excavation actually goes down. And, on a real dig, if you were to actually use your bare hands to roughly wipe some dirt off a fossil, you'd be the most unpopular member of the team. So, that's some of the overarching science dealt with.

When the cars are stopped at the Tyrannosaurus Rex enclosure and the Rex gets loose and hunts them, it pushes the first car over a giant precipice into the enclosure. But that crevasse was never there before; that's where the goat (and the T-Rex) had been standing earlier. How did this happen? Sudden rapid plate tectonics? A glitch in the matrix? I'm not buying it. And neither should you. Caveat emptor, my friends.

In the next scene when Timmy has to be rescued from the car in the tree by Dr. Alan Grant and the car is threatening to crash down on top of them, old mates Dumb and Dumber start trying to speed-climb down the tree directly in the path of the oncoming car, despite the presence of an entire, fully-branched opposite side of the tree that they could have just shimmied around to safely as the car continued on its merry way downwards. I'm so mad about this. They deserved to die in that scene.

Right. WHAT THE ACTUAL FUCK IS A 12 YEAR OLD DOING JUST CASUALLY BRINGING JURASSIC PARK ONLINE?! If a 12 year old can hack your theme park's entire systems, you're a couple of stupid idiots, Samuel L. Jackson and Dennis Nedry.

"It's a UNIX system, I know this!" Lex gasps (excitedly, faced with the joyful prospect of being an insufferable know-it-all). But she DOESN'T know it all. If she did, she could have issued a command to locate the system she needed via a terminal, however she went the long dumbass way and navigated some crappy 3D file playground-looking bullshit. Let's not forget that this is the highly gifted individual that spent about five minutes trying to turn off a fucking torch with her dipshit brother in the car earlier.

Moreover, if Lex is truly a "hacker", as she embarrassingly proclaimed at the start of the film, I find it hard to believe that she would lose her shit at the mere presence of an "interactive CD ROM interface". With a ridiculously wealthy grandfather like Hammond, that kind of

technology should be old news to her. I call bullshit on Lex overall, she's a snivelling little twerp who thinks she's much smarter than she really is.

Speaking of the dipshit brother, remember how he got electrocuted from climbing over that fence? That huge electric fence that he was too frightened to climb? DESPITE THERE BEING A GIANT GAP THAT HE COULD HAVE CRAWLED THROUGH RIGHT AT GROUND LEVEL? As a rotund geology student who has to squeeze through gaps in fences all the time, I can assure you that the kid could have fit through that gap. So he deserved what he got - electrocution style. I'm glad he didn't get to finish his jelly and ice cream in the next scene.

Perhaps it was the aftermath of being electrocuted (or more likely just plain stupidity), but in the scene where Lex is busy hacking the system, even though she can't possibly know the unique codes for the park, Dr. Ellie Sattler is frantically trying to keep the raptors from entering the room. She's desperately trying to use her foot to reach her gun, while holding the door closed against the maniacal raptor. And what's Tim doing in this scene? Oh, nothing in particular. Just casually watching his sister dick

around on the UNIX system. WHY DIDN'T HE GRAB THE GUN FOR ELLIE? WHY DIDN'T SHE ASK HIM TO GET IT? Just another moment in which these stupid characters deserved to die.

Dennis Nedry's another genius. He's trying to drive to the boat dock, when, through a series of unfortunate events, he ends up bogging his car down in the mud. Then, hark! A wild Dilophosaurus approaches! Nedry, rather than just hightailing it straight back to his car, stands there attempting to make small talk with the dinosaur. SMALL TALK. Fuck you, Nedry. He even goes so far as to pick up a stick and proceeds to play fetch with the creature, even though he knows he has mere minutes to find the boat dock. I can't even swallow my revulsion at the stupidity of this man. I'm glad you died Dennis Nedry, you unendurable buffoon. See you in hell cunt.

Basically, with the exception of chaos mathematician Dr. Ian Malcolm (Jeff Goldblum) and chief engineer John Arnold (Samuel L. Jackson), every single one of the characters deserved nothing less than a dazzlingly slow and tortuous death by dinosaur.

It's still my favourite movie, though ■











**BE OUR  
CENTREFOLD**

next week by sending your  
artwork to: [critic@critic.co.nz](mailto:critic@critic.co.nz)



Esme Hall

# I Escaped Getting Baptised Into A Cult

Tina\* is a new friend. We're in that stage of bonding over things we have in common, like both studying Politics and English, loving podcasts, and being recruited by the same cult. Our stories are months apart, but have the same innocent opening. Enter two Korean girls who ask if we'll do a survey for their 'Bible study group'. Enter us being like 'what the heck' and agreeing.

The girls pull out a tablet and play a montage of animals accompanied by plinky music and narrated by a soft-spoken Korean lady. The image pauses on a pair of lions and the voice says that just as every animal has a father, God is our father. Now we see zebras and are told that just as every animal has a mother, God is our Mother.

Out comes a Bible and one girl points to Genesis 1:27. "God created mankind in His own image ... male and female He created them." A triangle of yellow highlighter links 'male', 'female', and 'God'. "Therefore, God is Father and Mother," she's very insistent.

This is the point in the pick-your-path adventure where one storyline gets very strange very fast.

You see, I had somewhere to be and escaped just before I sold my soul. I was pretty stoked with the 'God the Mother' concept, and told all my friends. But I soon forgot about the whole thing.

Tina was too nice to get out of there. "I think they could tell I was bad at saying no."

The girls started saying that as soon as you think of baptism, you must get baptised. "Maybe they'll just baptise me in the Leith." She told them she didn't believe

in God and "felt like it would be dishonest" to get baptised. She even said "eternal life sounds like too much life". But they said it didn't matter. They'd dropped the sweet exterior and weren't taking no for an answer.

Next minute, Tina is in a car with two Korean girls she had just met, going to get baptised.

"In hindsight getting in their car was really dumb. But I just felt bad." She felt like she was too far gone and just had to follow through.

They drove to what used to be the Roslyn Presbyterian Church. It's your classic Dunedin Gothic Revival church, featuring Oamaru stone and designed by James Salmond. It doesn't look like a base of a worldwide cult.

They made Tina change into a robe. The girls wore veils and Tina knelt in a bathtub while a man poured water over her. "He prayed to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit and said that the sins of my life were being washed away. They told me when to say amen."

After making her write her name in the Book of Names (which was more like a Book of Personal Details), they dropped her back at university. That was that.

That night, a quick Google revealed that she'd met World Mission Society Church of God. They're a worldwide church with over 300 branches in New Zealand. Tina had been baptised in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Spirit, and a Korean guy called Ahn Sahng-hong. Apparently Christ was reborn in South Korea in 1964 and his name was Christ Ahn Sahng-hong. They believe an elderly woman called Jang Gil-ja is God the Mother and

# Members must evangelise 'lost sheep' in shopping malls, campuses, and on the streets for their own salvation.

that they must obey everything she says. Oh and, apparently, they thought the world would end in 2012. Solid.

The frightening website [www.cults.co.nz](http://www.cults.co.nz) says that Church of God is a certified cult, and gives it a 'DANGER' rating. However, the website is pretty happy to slap the 'DANGER' rating on a lot of things, including Oprah Winfrey. Though she says some weird things, I don't think I'm going to run away from Oprah if she asks me to do a survey on Leith Walk.

Today, it's more politically correct to use 'new religious movement' instead of 'cult'. 'Cult' gets thrown around a lot, and carries serious negative baggage. Church of God rejects the title, saying that it is a form of "religious intolerance used to denigrate groups with views contrary to the norm". They've filed a ridiculous number of lawsuits against ex-members to reinforce this point, and have prevented members speaking out online.

But what's actually so dangerous about Church of God? Former members and experts say that the church uses psychological manipulation and brainwashes members. The Church itself says that "these malicious accusations misrepresent the World Mission Society Church of God, its belief and practices". I quickly got sucked into the online back and forth. But the fact that such accusations are made and have to be 'disproven' is enough to suggest that the Church is not all good.

The church believes that Jang Gil-ja is God in the flesh, and that followers must give her total and unquestioned obedience. Though they got it wrong with 2012, Church

of God still believes that the end is nigh. Members must commit everything they can before it's too late. This includes money, and former members claim that tithes of 10–15% of their salaries were mandatory.

Videos on their website of their churches around the world give off the impression that these tithes generate a lot of money. That's probably why the Dunedin branch experienced backlash in 2012 when they bought the Roslyn Presbyterian Church for \$300,000 less than its rateable value. However, no one was really speaking up about the Presbyterian Church passing over the premises to a cult.

Members must evangelise 'lost sheep' in shopping malls, campuses, and on the streets for their own salvation. Members devote so much time to the church that they become isolated from their families (who are thought of as 'non-believers' anyway) and their studies. Former members also claim that the church leaders encouraged members to get abortions because it was selfish to bring a child into a world that was about to end.

Founder of the Cult Education Institute Rick Alan Ross said in People Magazine that such statements from past members are questionable, but "if that is, in fact, true, the reason is that they want total devotion. They want no distractions. That's why everything must be permitted by the group, including who you marry, who you date, if you have children. They want the group to be maximally productive and a child is ultimately counterproductive."



When I met recruiters on campus, they were very vague about who they were. I asked them multiple times what church they were from, but I didn't get past 'Bible study group on campus'. This is because certain teachings are only available to certain members in confidence. A former member Michele Colon told People Magazine that "they don't tell you what they are all about upfront, because if they did, no one would join them". Instead they spoon feed "information when they feel you're ready to hear it ... they just tell you that all of your questions will be answered if you keep studying."

Ross calls the group a cult because while not "physically dangerous" to outsiders, they do not accept the idea that any other church is valid. Theirs is the only path to salvation. They use this to financially and emotionally exploit members and "dominate a person's life so that they have no other life".

But this is where I got caught in a loop. The church published a response to People's article where they called Michele Colon a liar, and reporter Chris Harris unethical. They dispute preaching the end of the world in 2012, directing members to get abortions, and forcing 10 – 15% income tithes. They said that although they can prove their "belief in Second Coming Christ and God the Mother" in the Bible, "they [Ross, Colon and Harris] do not even believe in the Bible." They went on to say, "If you really want to know the World Mission Society Church of God, you just have to come and see for yourself what the

Church is about." I personally won't be taking up that offer.

Tina and I aren't the only ones who've met Church of God. Two of my flatmates have been asked to do 'the survey' in the time I was writing this story. Another friend was approached outside Student Health and pretended to be deaf to avoid unwanted baptism.

The University of Otago Proctor Dave Scott said I was the second person to report "this religious group attempting to recruit on campus." He advised not providing them with any personal information such as name, cell phone number or email address (too late Tina). Anyone who meets them should call Campus Watch as Scott wants a word with "the recruiters and [is considering] trespassing them from the campus".

The Chairperson of Aotearoa NZ Tertiary Chaplains Association Andrew McKean warns that several Korean cults of this nature are operating in New Zealand tertiary institutions. The people I've spoken to who've been approached by Church of God have been female students, walking alone, particularly outside the Dentistry School and in St David. There are enough worries for girls walking alone around Dunedin, without being targeted by cults.

Tina's story could have ended a lot worse, but she's fine. The Book of Names wasn't as confidential as she was assured, but she's blocked all the numbers that have tried to call her. She did see the two girls in St David a week later, but pulled the classic technique of faking deafness and they left her alone.



# University Book Shop



## LETTER OF THE WEEK

### ODE TO WEED

*it's currently 4.20pm on 4/20, so it's high time I wrote an ode to weed.*

#### Ode to Weed

*Marijuana, dope, cannabis pot,  
Whatever you wanna call it, I'll smoke the lot.  
Burn me some dotties over an element ring  
So me and my mates can go adventuring.  
Or if you prefer a classic lungy to smoke,  
Made from an old bread bag and a bottle of Coke.  
My dad was always partial to a small metal pipe,  
"It fits in the jeans pocket and is always ready to light."  
Getting hell baked gets you through humanities,  
The classic line uttered, "C's get degrees."  
It's perfect, it's fun, it helps the old brain,  
When watching The Simpsons again and again.  
So lift up your bong and raise a toast with me,  
To our dearest companion, old mate THC.*

<3

Keith Green

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

### CRYSTAL CLEAR

Dear Critic,  
I want to express my dismay at your last issue's comic strip.

Does the author, "Chelle" not have the open-mindedness to accept that there are many people whose lives have been improved by using the guidance and healing power of crystals?

As an open-minded and factual magazine, you should really be considering the narrow-mindedness of your comic illustrators.

Do your scientific research Chelle, crystals have powers.

Karen

### DINNER ROLL SURPRISE

Hi Critic,  
I just wanted to let you know that I went to see the hit new picture out at the cinema this week - The Fate of the Fast Furious. I'd like to share my opinion of the film, so that your readers might consider seeing it.

The film opens with a wonderful dinner between Vin Chassis and Michelle Rodriguez, they are on their first year anniversary date and Vin has hidden a ring inside Michelle's dinner roll. It's so romantic and she says yes immediately, of course. They are fated to be together, but the wedding has to be planned really fast, and possibly quite furious. Paul Walker is going to be the head bridesmaid and he is going to wear all white because he is coming down from heaven, so Michelle Rodriguez decides to wear lemon.

The plans for the big day are coming along nicely, and it looks like nothing is going to get in the way of the perfect wedding. But suddenly, Michelle Rodriguez becomes a real bridezilla and Paul Walker pulls out of the festivities.

Can Vin and Paul mend this bridge to once again be fast and furious?

Make sure you check it out at a theatre near you.

Sincerely,  
Dom

### NOTICE:

Critic have two double-passes to give away for A Conversation with Nicky Hager, co-author of the bestselling and disquieting book *Hit & Run*. Check out our Facebook page to find out how.

## A conversation with NICKY HAGER

co-author of the bestselling and disquieting book *Hit & Run*



MC. Prof Kevin Clements

Director of National Centre for Peace  
& Conflict Studies, University of Otago

Thursday 27 April  
7-8.30 p.m.



# Letter From The Music Editor

Has music helped you get through the hard times?

The song that, five years on, still signifies a breakup, a moment suspended in time, a parting, or a passing... Or the album that articulated what you were unable to put into words, aptly expressing your feelings of shock and outrage at a world event, a moment in history or a claustrophobic system. A lyric that reminds you that there is hope, and that you are not alone.

This week: A call for world peace performed by the Dunedin City Choir and the Dunedin Symphony Orchestra (DSO) as they reinterpret Jenkins's *The Armed Man* (reviewed by our Classical contributor, Ihlara McIndoe), a call-out prior to a fateful Inauguration Day summed up in 42 techno tracks, and, guided by the pop vox of Chelsea Jade and the keen ear of Radio One's Music Director, Erin Broughton, a call to be cautious when playing the fame game. We look at a selection of artists creating, curating, performing and releasing music for 'getting through it'.

Bianca

## TRACK OF THE WEEK

Selected by Erin Broughton, MD

Chelsea Jade has released her first single since making the move from Aotearoa to Los Angeles. Staying true to the dreamy pop aesthetic of 2014's *Beacon* EP 'Life of the Party' is layered and immersive. The track is glazed with (perhaps ironically) an air of confidence and certainty, which could come down to Leroy Clampitt's production (who has also collaborated with Justin Bieber on his single 'Company'). 'Life of the Party' describes an introversion in social situations that toes the line of aloofness, arrogance, and self-hatred all at once. "It's about never showing up in party pictures," CJ says, showing an apprehension about moving into the glitz and glamour of the pop world, even if sonically she is already there.

Keep your ear to the ground for the upcoming album *Personal Best*.

Dunedin Symphony Orchestra

# Totus Tuus —Gorecki, The Armed Man —Karl Jenkins

by Ihlara McIndoe

The Dunedin City Choir alongside the Dunedin Symphony Orchestra gave a stunning performance of Gorecki's *Totus Tuus* and Karl Jenkins's *The Armed Man*, on Saturday 1st April, earning themselves a standing ovation.

The opening work of the concert, *Totus Tuus*, provided challenges for the choir in its repetitive phrases and lack of accompaniment. The gradual building to the musical affirmation of faith was expressed convincingly, and the choir's attentiveness to conductor, David Burchell, was evident.

Featuring texts from classic poets, biblical verses, the traditional mass, as well as Muslim, Hindu and Japanese texts, *The Armed Man* is a moving work communicating a powerful message for world peace. Accompanied by the simultaneous showing of a film, which was created by Jenkins's good friend Hefin Owen, to complement the music with various images of war and its impact in recent times, the overall performance was striking. Auckland muezzin Dhafir Moussa contributed to the performance in the 'Call to Prayer', near the opening of the work. Such tonalities are not often heard in a Western Art Music setting, and Moussa's performance was a highlight of the concert. Other featured soloists included Jesse Hanan (treble), Sophie Gangl (soprano), Claire Barton (mezzo-soprano), Ben France-Hudson (tenor), and Nigel Tucker (bass), all of whom performed to a high standard. Heleen du Plessis's cello solo deserves particular note. Dunedin is lucky to have such a talented and passionate performer as du Plessis.

As usual, the Dunedin Symphony Orchestra was extremely polished, and supported the choir well. Their continued focus and precision on the, admittedly rather repetitive, orchestral accompaniment is to be congratulated. The Choir and Orchestra worked well as an ensemble, convincingly portraying the horrors of war, interspersed with moments of reflection and hope for peace.



# Music to Get Through It

by Bianca Prujean

## If I Can't Handle Me At My Best, You Don't Deserve You At Your Worst—Helena Celle

Glasgow-based hardware synth artist Helena Celle, aka Kay Logan, cited music as a "guiding light" when facing challenges related to LGBT homelessness. Regardless of whether or not it is explicitly addressed in her musical works, she said, in an interview last year with Factmag, that these experiences were reflected in her music and performance. Logan, a trans artist herself, went on to say that she hoped to show others who faced similar challenges that their lives, and the lives of those who came after them, were "worth fighting for". Music is the medium for her message.

As an artist, Logan's interest in power dynamics is expressed through the interplay between technology and sound. She approaches technology, the machine, cold and rigid, in a way that embraces chance and randomness. Logan recorded the tracks on her 2016 release *If I Can't Handle Me At My Best, You Don't Deserve You At Your Worst* on dictaphones using an MC303. The sounds were then sent through an amp and captured again on dictaphone. The choice of recording device and lack of overdubs introduces an element of chance, resulting in textural sound experiments that appear emotive and disarmingly human. Through music Logan creates a space of her own, unhindered by social constructs.

Don't be swayed by the lo-fi crunch of the recordings. The tracks are sophisticated techno explorations with an underbelly of synth-punk. Tracks like 'Distributed Denial of Reality' and 'Live Slug Array for Information Processing' may not seem dancefloor ready to the Octagon bar circuit, but they invite us to carve out a new kind of dancefloor and create some shapes of our own.

If I Can't Handle Me At My Best, You Don't Deserve You At Your Worst is out now on Night School Records.

## Physically Sick—Allergy Season

The bi-line on Allergy Season's Bandcamp page warns us that there is a sickness in the air that's playing havoc with our allergies; "The pollen of hatred and bigotry". Though the cure is yet unknown, 'Ew', 'Dying and Denying', and 'My Sorrow is Luminous', are just a few of the songs that "taken once a day [...] can help to alleviate the symptoms of discrimination and demagoguery."

This is *Physically Sick*, a 42 track compilation of electronic protest music devised by New York record label Allergy Season and Discwoman, a Brooklyn-based collective and booking agency representing cis women, trans women, and genderqueer artists working in electronic music. The compilation became available for download on 19 January 2017, deliberately timed to counteract the Inauguration Day that followed.

With 42 tracks, the minimal-techno-therapy is holistic. The ambient underwater quality of Octa Octa's 'Only Tears' and Bookworm's 'Sacred Drama' emote a strategic cruise through the universal digestive system, targeting every symptom of the demagogue. The bass frequencies and panning synths of Aquarian's 'Hydropulse' hone in on the sinister particles we can't see, while simultaneously stimulating the club floor. Somewhere near the middle of the comp, a moment of space, a kick drum, and the clear tone of Yaeji's voice cutting through the digital mist. "As if I was mute for a while / My first words are silent / But violent." Yaeji's 'Full of It' is immediately followed by the vibrant, life-giving, sonic- tonic of Jayda G's 'Sestra's Cry'. These are tracks on a mission. Resistance. Therapy. Protest. It's time for your daily dose.

*Physically Sick* can be purchased from Bandcamp for "name your price". All proceeds go to selected charities "who oppose the hateful policies" of the current US Administration.



## We Got it from Here...Thank You 4 Your Service—A Tribe Called Quest

Opening sample—"The heat / It's comin' down hard / We gotta get our shit together."

Closing track—"The Donald", a song not explicitly referring to, though implicitly haunted by, Donald Trump. A song strategically released three days after the US presidential election, a tribute to Don Juice, a.k.a. Phife Dawg (1970 - 2016). Respect. RIP.

Cut to...warped bass synth-line ... kick in the heavy drum crunch ... sample siren ... "We don't believe you / 'Cause we the people" ... sirens blaring ... "All you Black folks, you must go / All you Mexicans, you must go / And all you poor folks, you must go / Muslims and gays / Boy, we hate your ways / So all you bad folks, you must go."

It's not a time to be complacent. It's not a time to sit on my butt on the couch writing reviews of albums that should be listened to, not read about. The artists say it, play it, and relay it better than I can.

Donald Trump is President of the United States of America (if only it had been Don Juice). It happened. We're living it. We're all fired. But we're not going anywhere.

We waited 18 years for the lyrical, rhythmic, sonic politics of Q-Tip, Phife Dawg, and Ali Shaheed Muhammad to follow up their 1998 release, *The Love Movement*.

"Who can come back years later, still hit the shot?"  
—A Tribe Called Quest.

Timing is everything.



# Room

## by Emma Donoghue

Review by Jessica Thompson

Winner of awards like the Commonwealth Writers' Prize, and based on the infamous Josef Fritzl case of 2008, *Room*, by Emma Donoghue, captures everyone's worst nightmare from a decidedly fresh perspective.

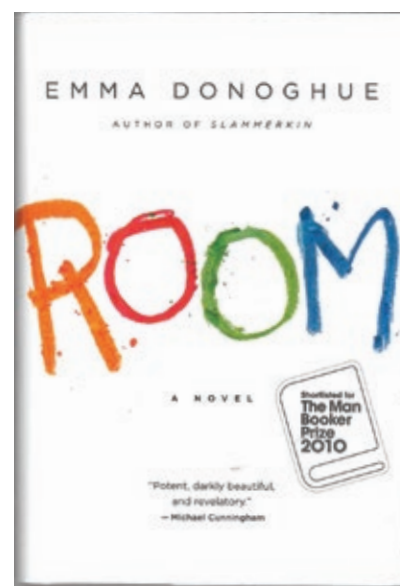
Told through the eyes of five-year-old Jack, who was born and raised in a soundproof backyard shed that he affectionately names 'Room', we are gently led through the day-to-day routines he shares with his Ma. It becomes clear that Jack's perception of the real world extends no further than the walls that surround him.

Everything within the room is 'real', everything else is just known from TV, and the concept of outside is not understood. But when he turns five, his Ma tries to explain the world to him. Before Jack was born, Ma was kidnapped by a creepy stranger on the street, 'Old Nick'. However, the main focus is not the brutality of the situation, but on Jack's development through it.

The book is split into two sections: imprisonment and escape. While reading an entire book in a five year old's voice got irritating at times (for example, his long winded descriptions of playing with something like a table or a lamp), it was more effective than an adult description, with his innocence and naivety hitting the heartstrings that little bit harder.

Donoghue writes Jack's character wonderfully, showing us enough without being vulgar, while maintaining a realism and respect. Instead of presenting the case in a sort of serial/scandal form (the other books I've read about kidnappings, fiction or fact, have been pretty repetitive, not to say that they weren't equally disturbing), Jack's voice provides warmth and insight into the psychology of the situation. His relationship with the small world around him and his view of the real world outside of his reach, taught to him by his Ma, reminded me of the film *Life is Beautiful*—a parent covering up the horrors of their circumstances, using their own better judgment to protect their child's innocence.

I would have liked to have learned more of Ma's feelings, or gotten a taste of her side of things, and I thought the book ended abruptly with no suggestion of the overall fate of the two. Even though they find safety, the real world becomes the true challenge. Nevertheless, it was still it was a powerful read and made me fairly paranoid afterwards. This soon passed, and I have just gotten back to long walks by the harbour alone. *Room* focuses less on fear and more on the wonders of the outside world, and reading it encourages one to appreciate the smallest things, like fresh air, or the simple pattern of a leaf.





# Fast & Furious 8

(2017)

Visionary: F. Gray Gray

Rating

★★★☆☆

Reviewer: Dick Swiveller



The eighth installment of the seemingly perpetual Fast and Furious franchise is now in cinemas across the world, smashing global box office records for an opening weekend, raking in an estimated \$761 million. I don't care how many people go to see it; Earth becomes an objectively worse place to live after each release of this fucking stupid film franchise.

Kudos must (reluctantly) be given to the film's creators for making an appealing film for the masses. Having seen the film, I seriously struggled to find any appeal beyond mild enjoyment of nice cars and each time Vin Diesel almost gets killed off.

I left the cinema angry at the fact that the plot was left open for yet another addition to the franchise, and after a quick Google found there are actually two more planned (being released 2019 and 2021), as well as spin offs involving both Dwayne 'The Rock' Johnson and Vin Diesel's characters.

Oh and the cherry on the top of this appalling film is that Ludacris is in yet it again. If there's any reason not mentioned above to put you off seeing F&F then his inclusion in the cast should do just that.

F&F 8 pairs well with: misogyny and low intelligence.

# The Fate of the Furious

(2017)

Visionary: F. Gary Gary

Rating

★★★★☆

Reviewer: Trash Morash



The trailer for another yet another Fast & Furious movie came as a surprise to me. Why another Fast & Furious movie, where the only trademark is an increasingly stupid title? The answer can be found by delving into the numbers behind Universal Picture's Fast & Furious franchise.

This movie cost around US\$250 million to make and raked in US\$532.5 million worldwide during its debut weekend. This is the highest earning in recorded history. The Fast and Furious 8 raced past to shatter the record held by Star Wars: The Force Awakens. I found this really surprising, but, to Universal Studios, the incredible box office takings were expected, and the film actually slightly underperformed in the domestic market. Ticket sales at home were around US\$50 million less than the opening sales for last Fast & Furious movie. If you know nothing about the franchise this won't make sense, what with Fast & Furious 8's mega-star cast and huge budget. However, for those in the know, Furious 7 lost an integral cast member due to a real life car accident which resulted in a huge surge in US ticket sales with movie goers eager to catch Paul Walker's last performance, similar to the box office success of Batman: The Dark Knight after Heath Ledger's death.

The international success of the film is partly credited to the multi-ethnic cast and global setting. The early films stay on the streets of LA, while as the franchise grew the films became more global in scope. The crew for Fast & Furious 8 travelled far and wide, filming on location in Cuba, Iceland, New York, Cleveland and Atlanta. Fast & Furious 8 sped

straight to number one in every territory and broke opening weekend records in just under twenty territories. The uncharted international success included a massive turn out in China (US\$192 million) the world's second largest box office. The film's undisputed box office success has helped to ensure deals for Fast & Furious 9 and 10.

Although the numbers might suggest otherwise, this movie isn't for everyone. Most of the dialogue is a mixture of shit talking and dragging: my dick's dick is bigger than yours. What this film does deliver is a healthy dose of escapism. Pesky things like plot, dialogue, or physics don't get in the way of all the incredible action. The people are beautiful. Everyone is so attractive. So many tanned and glistening muscles. Although, I will add, The Fate of the Fast & Furious perhaps missed an opportunity to show actors Ludacris and Tyrese Gibson in more tank top weather scenes. The cars are stunning and the stunts incredible. The imaginative use of technology to cause mayhem and spectacle is to be commended. The choreography, colours and shots through the chaos of the prison fight should make it in the top 10 fight scenes.

It's fun to speculate on what Universal will do to top Fast & Furious 8 in the next two movies. Who will join the already mega-huge stars and awesomely diverse cast? How do you level up from racing tanks, an international chase lead by a (metaphorically) cloaked villain in a jet plane, nuclear warheads, and a cresting submarine? Did I mention Dame Helen Mirren?

# The Faith of the Furious

(timeless)

Visionary: F. Gary Gray

Rating

★★★★★

Reviewer: Vin Dali



The Fate of the Furious is a surrealist masterpiece. Auteur F. Gary Gray subtly plays on the inherent absurdity of reality, presenting us with characters and scenes completely removed from our conception of the 'real world'. Instead the characters operate in a dream world where their shallow lives have meaning, blocking out the awful questions of existence with fantasies, which the film shows is like blocking an explosion with cars—ultimately ineffective.

The film emphasises its own plot holes. Like how someone imprisoned on a plane is able to set up a meeting with a crime lord? Or how the Russians would not know about a secret US military operation in Siberia? How did they smuggle a dozen cars and a tank into Russia? In this way the film makes clear that it is not supposed to occur in any logical world, making us question the value of logic in our own.

However there was one stark moment of realism in this otherwise highly stylised masterpiece: the hacking battle of the climactic scene. Tension clasped my heart as I watched fast cuts between two people typing, backed up with well-researched techno-slang. I was pleased to see the economically significant tech sector well represented for once.

The characters show us the flaws of consumerism, taking cars that society has deemed valuable and subsequently destroying them sans the emotional attachment to possessions that defines consumerism. The film attacks the value we ascribe to material possessions and forces us to confront what is truly important in our lives—breaking the speed limit and endangering civilians.

All in all, to the critical discerning eye the Fate of the Furious is F. Gary Gray's optimus prime.

# The Fate of the Furiosa

(2077)

Director: George Miller

Rating

?? ? ? ★ ★

Reviewer: Dog



I went into this movie as a longstanding fan of the franchise. I knew beforehand it was going to be a departure from the tone and structure of the previous films and was pretty excited to see where this would take the series. Nowhere good, it turns out.

This entry broadens the horizons of the franchise by travelling worldwide in a present day timeline before ending up in the pre-apocalyptic Russia directly preceding the original films – a nice touch. It was strange, but refreshing, to have an instalment set outside Australia.

I found the ensemble cast to be charmingly ragtag but suffering from poor writing. Vin Diesel as a maverick split from his found family was an appealing plotline obfuscated by unnecessary details that just confuse and contradict existing lore. It was a shame that Tom Hardy was too busy to reprise his leading role. Theron's return as the Imperator was a delight but the costume design choices (bad) reflected her revised characterization (also bad). She raced exactly zero cars but did quite a lot of hacking which leads the viewer to wonder what happened between this movie and the events of Fury Road.

The action sequences did not seem to just pay homage to those of the previous movie but appeared to be the actual footage. During the fruitless race to disarm the nuclear submarine that sets up the events of the rest of the franchise, we see actual roll from Fury Road, colour graded from desert to tundra tones. The vehicles also left a lot to be desired, being neither historic nor shiny and chrome.

While this eighth addition to the series was a weak and frankly confusing one, I am excited by the possibility that the missing four movies will be discovered in a New Mexico desert one day.

# The F8 of the Furious (eight)

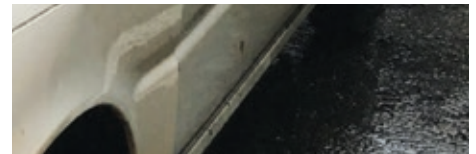
(last Wednesday)

Director: Vin Diesel

Rating:

1 crashed car

Reviewer: Michelle Rodriguez



I left work and went to my car, only to find a man standing by it. He was old, like 70 years old. He had his back to me, and he was wearing a skirt that was so short I could see his entire bum.

"What are you doing?" I asked.

"I'm Vin Diesel," said the man, "and it's time we went for a cruise."

He then started ripping all the outer panels off my car to make it lighter so it would go faster.

"Stop that Vin Diesel!" I yelled. "You can come for a drive with me but don't wreck my car!"

He put the panels back on. We got in the car and I took off towards my home in Port Chalmers. I was sticking to the speed limit, but he told me "YOLO" and then stomped his foot on top of mine on the accelerator.

We sped up faster and faster, with me frantically steering round the corners, until I lost control and drove off the road and went flying toward the sea. As we flew the car caught fire.

"I don't want to go swimming today," said Vin Diesel, and he pulled off his belt, opened a window, looped it over a tree branch, and grabbed my hand. We were both pulled out of the open window, but I'd grabbed onto the door handle of the car and it pulled right off. The car body caught fire and we rode the heatwave, using the car door as a sled, and flew away from the tree and back onto dry land.

Below me I saw my car fall into the water. The fire went out and it started to sink. Just then an enemy submarine burst out of the water like a whale, caught fire, and blasted my car up onto the road next to it. It landed the right way up, but its front was all bashed in. "What the hell?" I said. I turned to look for Vin Diesel, but he was walking away from me. Without his belt, his skirt had fallen off completely and he was naked from the waist down.

"COME BACK," I screamed, "YOU WRECKED MY CAR," but he ignored me. He disappeared, and I called the tow truck.

# Otago Wildlife Photography Competition

Otago Museum, Closes Sunday 23rd July, free entry  
Review by Monique Hodgkinson



Here in Dunedin we're pretty darn lucky. We've got an abundance of stunning wildlife perched right on our doorstep – the albatrosses, seals and penguins on the coast, the botanic gardens right by campus, and gorgeous countryside only a short drive away. The native birdlife is something to be proud of; our trees are constantly filled with song and the Leith dotted with ducks and gulls. It makes perfect sense, then, for us to be the proud hosts of the Otago Wildlife Photography Competition, held annually at the Otago Museum, across the road from campus.

The 2017 overall winning shot, Rifleman Perched by Douglas Thorne, was taken in Fiordland. It is an exquisite photograph, capturing a tiny Rifleman bird as it clings onto a tree

branch while searching for food. The image is of spectacular quality, containing a beautiful range of subtle tones and bringing into sharp emphasis the detail and poise of these small creatures. The difficulty of capturing such a quick, darting creature makes this work all the more impressive.

The winner of the Animal: 14 & Under category was Jack Aubin with Tui on Target, a powerful shot with a streamlined tui poised mid-flight. Helen (Mely) Whitman-Bell's Broken Bottle, Broken World won the Human Impact on the Environment category with a thought-provoking image of a Heineken bottle partially submerged beneath the lapping tide. A slinky Abyssinian cat and two gorgeous horses against a brooding sky deservedly

won the Pets: 14 & Under category and the Jury Prize, while the Plant winners included a bright and cheerful poppy by Lorraine Adams and a delicate image of decaying leaves by Isaac Steel. Time lapse photography proved a popular technique in Night Sky, with several photographers, including category winner Taichi Nakamura, creating blurred images of our beautiful southern stars. Ben Hawke's static approach to the sky resulted in an equally beautiful image emphasising the mesmerising detail of the constellations above in his 14 & Under winning image.

Other works of note include the odd and intriguing Sacrificial Snakes by Jayne Ladbroke, the stunningly beautiful Snow Monkey Takes His Passport Photo by Syn Jae Ng, and a snap of

possibly the sassiest dog ever, Smug Pup by Emma Mitchell.

Overall, I was very impressed by the excellent technical standard throughout the exhibition, and the heart warming, humorous tone which recurred again and again. Each work provides a stilled moment in time in which the detail, beauty, and personality of nature is able to shine through. If you've got a break between lectures this week, definitely head on over to the museum to check this exhibition out. You might be surprised, inspired, amused, or a delicious combination of all three. And if you've got a camera sitting around at home, it's never too early to start snapping away for next year's competition.



# How To Actually Cook an Egg

by Liani Baylis

Picture this—It's a bleak Sunday Morning. You wake up in a haze and get a sober look at the absolute babe you've pulled at Mac's the night before. Determined to impress the fine lass, you set on whipping up the breakfast of champions before this one wakes up "fresh" from a beauty rest. Only problem is, you don't know shit about cooking eggs. Despite multiple attempts, they're always

some variation of the same over-cooked, scrambled disappointment. Don't worry lads, I've got ya back! So much so your 'lover' will be running back for more (eggs, dick not guaranteed). Here's three ways, take your pick and MasterChef her sweet lil ass.

Make sure you get the free range ones, show her you're a compassionate lad.



## FRIED EGG

1. Bring an oiled frypan to a medium to high heat (if you want to get really fancy, add some sage leaves and crisp them up) and crack your egg straight into the pan.
2. Tilt the pan gently as the egg cooks and spoon the oil over the top of the egg yolk to help crisp the edges and cook the top. Cook until the egg white is no longer translucent, then take it straight off the heat.



## OMELETTE

- 2 eggs, 2 tablespoons milk, salt + pepper
1. Heat some oil in a proper non-stick pan on a medium to high heat. If it's not non-stick then you're gonna have scrambled eggs. Every. Single. Time.
  2. Mix the eggs, milk and salt + pepper in a bowl and pour into the pan.
  3. Let it sit for about 20 seconds before pushing back some of the partially cooked egg mixture and filling the gap with runny egg. Repeat four or five times until the top egg layer is thick.
  4. Fill your omelette with your desired fillings, fold it in half and keep it on the heat momentarily before serving.



## POACHED EGG

1. Bring a pot of water and two teaspoons of white vinegar to the boil, turn the element down to a gentle roll and use a knife to make a clockwise ripple in the water.
2. Crack the egg into the water. You may want to keep rotating the water so the loose egg white all comes together in a perfect little ball. Cook the egg for two minutes for a soft egg and three to four for a firmer one.



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# Mass Effect: Andromeda

Review by Brandon Johnstone

Canada-based developer BioWare has leapt from strength to strength over the last couple of decades, building the beloved franchises *Baldur's Gate*, *Dragon Age* and *Mass Effect* around teams of likeable, fleshed-out characters. In the process, BioWare has earned an uncommonly dedicated, diverse and often rabid fanbase. Expectations were high following what is often considered BioWare's crowning achievement, *Mass Effect 2*, but to many fans its sequel was seen as something of a misstep. Promising a fresh start in a new galaxy, *Mass Effect: Andromeda* should have learned from BioWare's past mistakes and embraced its successes.

But, for the most part, it did not. Instead, the title presents anticipating fans with a fist-clenching juxtaposition: on one hand we have ambitious world-building and vibrant characters, and on the other we have a plethora of bugs, long periods of waiting and poor direction. The open worlds end up feeling more daunting than wondrous, and are filled with repetitive menial side quests (think *Dragon Age: Inquisition*). Thankfully the ridiculously gorgeous environments that surround you

take some of the punch out of being forced into your fifth round of alien sudoku.

BioWare deftly sidesteps any narrative shackles to the original trilogy's multiple endings by centring *Andromeda*'s story on a group of pioneers who leave the Milky Way galaxy sometime during *Mass Effect 2*. You play as either Scott or Sara Ryder (with customisable appearances, of course) off to explore the *Andromeda* galaxy's new worlds, cultures and mysteries along with ten thousand inhabitants of the Milky Way, spanning a handful of familiar races. During the early events of the game Ryder becomes the Pathfinder for the human race, a leader tasked with finding habitable planets and establishing outposts for your colonies.

Naturally we run into the aggressive alien cannon fodder and learn about evil aliens' dastardly machinations through the course of the game. The story itself isn't terribly compelling and feels more like a setup for a larger story, despite BioWare's initial proclamations that *Andromeda* would be mostly self-contained, but a sense of investment really does grow on you over time. This is due almost

entirely to the likability of Ryder and their crew, each with their own distinct personality, motivations and insecurities. Beyond simply dialogue options, each member of your core crew offers loyalty missions reminiscent of *Mass Effect 2*, giving you an option to get to know that character while embarking on a mission important to them. And, naturally, you can romance and fuck half your crew, because what would a *Mass Effect* game be without oral sex from a blue cat-snake-dude.

The combat itself is very reminiscent of previous *Mass Effect* releases, although with more malleability and simplification. Many of Ryder's powers are similar (or identical) to those we've seen before, but with the addition of more depth to the class/profile system, and the ability to change between these classes on the fly to better suit your play style. Your ability to 'boost' short distances adds a punchy momentum to the flow of battle that can be hugely satisfying and pairs well with your (occasionally buggy) ability to take cover behind a wide range of objects while in combat. Unfortunately, battle feels hugely hampered by limiting you to a mere three equipped abilities out of a pool of a couple of dozen. While these can be swapped out at any point, it means fishing through menus to build new arrangements of abilities and class bonuses.

The weapon and armour systems suffer an even worse fate. You can find new weapons on occasion, but acquiring competent gear requires you to both research and develop these weapons and armour, all of which costs a combination of different resource currency, as well as having to craft items repeatedly to gain access to stronger gear, all through an unappealing UI. It's as much of a shitshow as it sounds, and I ended up playing through 75% of the game with underpowered gear just to avoid the headache of it all. The *Mass Effect* series has always felt clunky when it comes to inventory systems, but it seems to have thrown away past lessons and stripped away control over your squad's gear at the same time, accidentally incentivising the restrictive power system.

In the end, *Mass Effect: Andromeda* made some poor decisions but is an entertaining title that was released six months earlier than it should have been. Publisher EA's money-grubbing business practices are no secret, and it seems that *Andromeda* suffered the all too common fate of being released unpolished and bug-ridden. To BioWare's credit, they've been fairly transparent about their plans for continuous patches to fix everything from glowing stiff facial animations and overlong travel animations to rewriting poorly executed NPCs and even adding new romance options. With these changes, the game could offer a lot less friction and become a great stepping-stone for the future of *Mass Effect*.

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## Indian Vulture Crisis

by Alexander Woolrych

In India only 4% of the resident 500 million cows are destined to be consumed by humans as India's major religion, Hinduism, holds cows sacred. Instead, when a cow dies it is left to be eaten by vultures. Vultures in India are thus dependent on human activity and play a massive role in the ecosystem. Vultures are India's most efficient scavengers and their metabolism acts as an "endpoint" for pathogens, while in the other predominant scavengers in India, like dogs and rats, pathogens can survive and the animal can become a carrier for diseases such as plague, rabies and anthrax.

In the 1990s conservation groups noticed a drop in the vulture populations of India's National Parks. Between 1993 and 2002 the White-rumped Vulture population decreased to 0.3% of its original size and two other species were in dire threat of extinction. As a result the carcasses that would have previously been eaten by vultures were left to rot, leading to contaminated water and an abundance of disease carrying scavengers, creating a public health crisis.

Parsi, an important religious group in India, believe that when vultures

consume a body it liberates the soul and have disposed of their dead in this manner since before 500 BC. However the recent decline in vultures has meant that this practice has had to be abandoned as the bodies rot before they are consumed.

A team of researchers found that an anti-inflammatory drug, diclofenac, which was given to cattle, caused this significant decline in the vulture population. Diclofenac caused renal failure in the vultures, as they do not have the particular enzyme needed to break down diclofenac. Simulations showed that if 1% of cattle had diclofenac in their system when they died, then the Indian vulture population would be decimated. A study of cattle carcasses found that 10% of them contained diclofenac. In India, Nepal and Pakistan diclofenac is now banned for veterinary use and has been replaced with meloxicam. Meloxicam is decreasing in price, but is still more expensive than diclofenac, which has caused a black market for diclofenac, where diclofenac intended for humans is instead used to treat cattle.

In 2013, despite the findings of the scientific community, Spain, home to 90% of Europe's vulture population, approved diclofenac for veterinary use, and it continues to be used to treat livestock there. This is yet another case where veterinary pharmaceuticals are used to maximise short-term profit, with little regard to the long-term and far-reaching effects.



## Just Another Day in the Dirt

by Helen Heath

Come on body, move, I think to myself as I roll over onto my back and stare up at the white tent that encases my little world. Out of the corner of my eye Thai archaeologists and workers climb the wooden ladder out of our 4.5m deep pit. It is the final days of excavating, and saying that I am tired would be an understatement. I have calluses on my hands, bruises on my legs, dirt up my nose and I am loving every minute of it.

This is my third field season at Non Ban Jak, a late Iron Age site in Northeast Thailand. My role is to sample and study the 1700-year-old ceramics from the site. In short, I shoot pots with x-ray beams. Archaeology has come a long way since Indiana Jones, though we still dress the same, it's an aesthetic.

It has been a productive season and some amazing artefacts have come out of the site. Within a kiln, a small circular clay tablet was found; impressed on the tablet's surface was a crouching lion with closed eyes. The lion is an early representation of Buddha and an indication of the type of religion practiced onsite. Whoever designed the image had given the lion chubby cheeks and a sleeping smile, by far my favourite artefact this season.

In Thai, a voice calls from the top of the pit, asking if I am coming up for lunch. I respond in my best Thai and hear several people laugh. I cringe a

little. My workmate next to me smirks and tells me that my Thai is getting better. I sit up and continue to help her excavate a large pot.

The vessel is black and globular with small rows of impressed circles running along the neck. Soft dirt covers its surface, which we carefully clear away with our trowels, brushes and cloth. After we finish we climb the ladder, leaving the pit for lunch. I look back and see the vessel ready to be recorded and photographed in context, its exterior shining an impressive black.

I take in the current surface of the site. The large vessel sits near the northern wall of the excavation. Scattering the site are the remnants of walled areas, possibly burial chambers or residential spaces. Burials lie adjacent to these walls; mortuary goods of bronze jewellery, small black bowls and glass beads show variation in the wealth of the individuals.

As archaeologists, we do our best to construct a picture of the unknown past through excavation, research and collaboration with the local community. It is a privilege to undertake this work and I love it. My tummy grumbles and I make my way to the lunch table. I dodge the rolling boulder, the blow darts, and pull my whip from my hip to swing from a branch. I wonder what is inside the vessel we were excavating... I guess I will find out after lunch.



# Critic BOOZE REVIEWS

2016 ASPA Award  
Winning Column

by Swilliam Shakesbeer

## Banrock Station Fruit Fusion Summer Berries Wine

Holy fucking shit this stuff is a gamechanger. Banrock Station has taken some mediocre rose, mixed it with delicious juice and a whole bunch of sugar and produced the most scullable wine product on the market (seriously, the label says 'wine product', as if they can't legally call it 'wine').

If you need to pound through a whole bottle and then move onto that second bottle you hid under your table at India Gardens, this shit is the way to go. Alcohol is known to decrease your ability to handle spicy food, so an easy way to counter

that is to opt for a sweeter wine to mellow out the heat. As someone who struggles to chow down a Butter Chicken Mild, I've been running Rieslings for years. With a Banrock Fusion by my side I can smash a Beef Vindaloo with ease.

Yeah, it's not quite as strong as a typical bottle, but you're still getting over 6 standards for \$10, which is nothing to scoff at.

Holster two of them to your hips and you'll have a much easier time navigating difficult obstacles than trying to lug a heavy box of beers around.

Taste Rating:  
10/10

Froth Level:  
Not quite enough

Pairs well with:  
Fatty Friday  
dinners at Unicol,  
creampies, raw  
onion.



Banrock Station Fruit Juice Wine-Style Alcohol Grape Drink is like playing videogames with cheat codes. At first it's really fun and you can't believe how awesome and easy everything is. But eventually you realise you've robbed yourself of a challenge. Nothing is difficult, and when you inevitably win it doesn't quite feel like you've earned it. Sure, you beat the game, but it's just not the same. Banrock goes down a treat, but you don't get that same sense of pride from finishing a bottle that you do from a throat-burning, dry-retching vessel of Little Penguin or Fat Bird. It's like graduating from university but with a degree in tourism: It doesn't really count.

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# Mouldy Matters

Hi,

I got a cold a few weeks ago and it won't go away. Just when I think it is getting better it comes back again. The doctor told me it might be because of the mould in my house, which started growing after that big hailstorm at the start of semester. Is there anything I can do about the mould?

-Mouldina

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



Ethel says:

Mould, particularly Black Mould, can cause ongoing and increasingly severe symptoms of ill health, including coughing, wheezing, headaches, fatigue, sinus congestion and even nausea and vomiting in extreme cases. If you think you have black mould you should not be living with it and it will not go away with standard cleaning. Come and see an advocate at the Student Support Centre to get advice about how to deal with it. It is definitely best to do something about mould, and not just ignore it. Make sure you air your house regularly by having windows open as much as possible, not drying your clothes inside, keeping the lids on your cooking and regularly cleaning the bathroom walls and ceiling with a bleach based product, or a 50/50 mix of vinegar and water in a spray bottle for the more environmentally friendly version. Wiping condensation off your windows every morning is another important way to keep your flat healthy. Don't ignore moisture or mould, as your health will suffer and then so will your studies.



Hyde says:

One kickin' thing about knowing you're sick from mould is you can unashamedly snog and snuggle till your ...s content, this way you won't have to be in your cesspit of a flat. In fact you're being responsible and taking care of your health just like Mummy wants you to. As a back-up plan, on the off chance you are a lone shark when it comes to pleasuring and need to be home for the ultimate stress relief, you need to build yourself a bubble. You need industrial rolls of shrink-wrap, probably two, depending how big you want the bubble to be, and a frame for your bed. You could use the poles from a tent, or cellotaped pool noodles (don't steal lots of these from the local pool...) to make your frame, do some heavy wrapping, get in and breathe the clean air. When it gets too moist in there from your antics, and cooking, just re-wrap. You should be healthy in no time, and getting top marks for all your assignments again.



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ANZAC Eve was commissioned by the Festival of Colour and funded by NZ WW1 Centenary Fund





Latest method of curing baldness, and preventing hair from falling out

The causes of baldness are plain: excessive action of the brain, such as intense study, great mental anxiety, etc., producing unnatural heat of the brain-surfaces, thus causing the hair to drop off.

People are often lead to try many so-called specifics, to prevent the hair falling off, but they are generally either useless or worse. Doubtless, there are many thousands of pounds of hog's fat sold every year as bear's grease, etc., to cause the hair to grow abundantly and prevent its falling off. Washing the head often with warm salt water and combing it with a fine comb, together with regular and temperate habits, are the best preservatives and restoratives of the hair.

The head should be as thoroughly washed as any other part of the person, and that weekly. When the hair is very thick and long, its roots can be washed without wetting its entire length. This is important for ladies and those children whose custom and fashion it is to wear the hair long.

The outside of the head has more to do with its inside than many people suppose. A muddy and confused mind is often the effect of external dirt and neglect. The natural perspiration is thereby suppressed, and serious evils are sometimes the result.

Look at one of these "martyrs of fashion"! Her head is loaded with hair, natural and artificial, and covered, under this load, with foreign mixtures, in the shape of hair-oils, perfumes, etc. While over all this is the bonnet, with a veil often attached and drawn closely over the face, to shut out the life-giving air from the poor starved lungs.

The following is one of the best remedies in general use for baldness. It has produced a luxuriant growth of hair for persons who have been bald for many years, and will nearly always restore it, if the hair-follicles are not dead.

A celebrated physician called our attention to a fine head of hair succeeding baldness, which was obtained by a moderate use of kerosene, gently but persistently rubbed on the bald spot.

Hair Invigorator - Wash the head once a day with warm strong sage tea. It will promptly check the falling out of the hair. If the use of this be continued for a sufficient length of time, it will make the hair thick and strong.

Girls' hair - This should be kept cut short until they are twelve years of age, allowing it to curl if naturally inclined to do so, but should never be tortured into wisps and kinks by hot irons, or other violent means. As it becomes longer, in later life, it should be twisted, very lightly, into a loose coil, and the ends, if tied, should be fastened loosely with a ribbon.

Men's hair - This, when it begins to fall out, may sometimes be saved by keeping it cut very short. Brush it well when quite dry, then wash with warm soapsuds, rubbed well into the scalp, and wipe the whole hair with a soft towel. Then, in the same manner, run into the scalp a little bay-rum or pure brandy. This should be done twice a month. The scalp should be brushed well three times a week.

Oiling the hair - The more hair is oiled, the more oil it will require, and it will only serve to keep a layer of grease and dust all over the scalp, which will prevent the air getting to the roots of the hair, and thus destroy its vitality. Nothing should be allowed to touch the hair of children, except soft, pure water; and, if it were regularly cut, every six weeks, from three years of age to fourteen, and the scalp kept clean, as above directed, the growth of the hair would be so strengthened that girls of twenty would have healthy, glossy, abundant hair of their own, instead of having to rely, for this natural ornament, upon the artificial contrivances of the hair-dresser.

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





# Naughty Goose

Naughty goose  
 It was pretty early in the day  
 And I was standing on the chopping block  
 Hanging out the washing in the conservatory beside the open front door  
 Two drunk boys I had never seen before  
 Ambled up and went into the house  
 "Please don't go into our house, guys":  
 Not much conviction.  
 They just want a piss.  
 I go on with hanging the washing,  
 Slightly nervous.  
 On the way out, they stop to  
 Appraise the room.  
 "Is this where you hang the washing?  
 A room for hanging the washing?  
 You naughty goose!"

—by Mel Ansell

*Warm our cold  
 dead hearts*

by sending your poetry  
 to: [melansell@critic.co.nz](mailto:melansell@critic.co.nz)

## Comic Time



by Chelle Fitzgerald

Tell us your inner thoughts via drawing and send your comics to: [critic@critic.co.nz](mailto:critic@critic.co.nz)

Each week, we lure two singletons to The Captain Cook Hotel, give them food and drink, then wait for their reports to arrive in our inbox. If this sounds like you, email [critic@critic.co.nz](mailto:critic@critic.co.nz). But be warned—if you dine on the free food and dash without sending us a writeup, a Critic writer will write one under your name. And that won't end well for you.

THE  
**CAPTAIN  
• COOK •**  
HOTEL

# Cookin' Up Love

## Robin

With Tinder telling me there were no new matches in a 150km radius, I decided it was time to try a new tactic for finding true love. After watching three seasons of the bachelor, I knew one on one time was the key to anyone's heart, so the Critic blind date was the perfect option. Like any good Otago student, I'm incapable of social interaction without being a few deep, so I moved my Friday ritual of drinking a bottle of red while listening to the greatest hits of Selene Dion forwards. After crying out all my feelings I felt like I was ready for whatever lay in store, so I got my flatmate to drive me 500m down the road to the Cook. I was raised right so I arrived at the correct time, but I'd be lying if I said it wasn't so I could claim the majority of the tab. Unfortunately I was stitched up worse than the younglings killed by Anakin when we were told we were only allowed 3 drinks each. Not letting this stifle my boundless optimism, I ordered a pint and awaited my date. Soon enough she walked in and I quickly found out that between us we had already drunk enough to kill a small child, perfect. We sat down in our booth and the conversation quickly winned and so did the flow. Luckily she turned out to be older than I am so we discussed the current socio-economic climate, and our respective escapades over the year. We were surprised when it turned out we had to actually order something so we decided to get something to share; it was a date after all. Soon enough we'd burned through our tab, but problem alcoholism shared is problem alcoholism halved, so we got another round of drinks. This part does get a little blurry but I know we had the excellent idea of getting \$2 sundaes from night and day. I didn't quite get this though as I bought an ice cream that my bank statement tells me was \$3.50, a real pit of the night. I know you dirty minded readers want to know what happened next but a gentleman never kisses and tells, so like any good story you can make up your own ending. Cheers Critic and Cook for the spread, and happy birthday to my mature student of a date.

## Marian

Let's rip right in: I arrived 16 minutes late, a bottle of wine down (after Hyde, that was rough), to find a superfecta waiting for me: tall, dark, handsome, and (as I'd find out later), with excellent fine motor skills. Like the 4th and 5th year scarfies we were, there was no problem drinking the bar tab, although my poor date didn't fight me when I forced him to drink sickly sweet cider and Carlsberg, which I drank half of anyway. I vetoed beef cheeks (what ARE beef cheeks??), he vetoed the seafood platter, and I ended up eating 2/3 of the beef ribs while he was in the bathroom (soz bud). After making fun of his academic failures and smashing a glass, I dimly recall the rest of the night. There was ice cream involved, running (I don't run, so I don't know what that was about), and a Nab-A-Cab back to his. An obvious pacifist and gentleman, he paid for everything. The most important point here is that he went down on me multiple times—a true HERO—(take note, boys), and was a superb cuddler, although he needs a less noisy bed. Cheers to his flatties, who I met both when I was still looking cute and again when I looked like a homeless potato, and thanks to my date (and his rich parents) for the ride home the next morning. Sorry to the uni for not making my tutorials and taking a test hungover—a girl has needs.

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# freak shake

words Mel Ansell, illustration Saskia Rushton-Green

OMG! If you haven't heard of freakshakes before, come out from beneath your rock and smell the social media, darling! These are the most delectable sweet treats and they have the bonus of being ever-so-instagramable. A freak shake is just a massive milkshake with a bunch of more evolved sugary snacks crawling out of its saccharine primeval sludge. So, if your sweet-tooth is itching, let's get in the kitchen and make one of these beasts!

Firstly, what you'll need to do is whip up a nice ganache. To do this, I like to take the darkest chocolate available and mix this with hot cream. Mmm-mm, cow juice. You want to mix the two together until it forms a glistening, shiny paste. This concoction will need to be goopy enough to go around the top of a mason jar, so I put it in the freezer in a plastic bag to cool to the right thickness.

Next you'll need to make the actual milkshake liquid. Of course, you'll need milk (mmm-mm). To get that creamy, foam moustache on your-upper-lip kind of taste, I suggest wholesome high-fat milk. Lewis Road, those restricted supply perverts, do a good one, if you are willing to hand over an arm and a leg. You are also going to need to decide on a base flavour for your shake; popular ones include strawberry, chocolate and gingerbread. For my shake, I'm going to truly make it a freak and blend all these flavours into one mega-flavour! Go big or go home in a handbasket, I say. So, I'm placing my creamy milk (mmm-mm) into a blender with a punnet of strawberries, the darkest chocolate known to man, lard, several gingerbread men, a leftover hot-cross bun, and a couple of fingers from my frenemies. Then blend on high until you get a nice even pink colour!

Next, spread the ganache around the rim of the mason jar, and lightly use a brulee torch to create a glossy effect. Next we colour the jar. You can just spread a little jam on the inside, but I like to take a raw steak and squeeze the juice on the walls of the jar. This will give you a nicer true-red effect, and add anti-oxidants. Then you want to pour in the milkshake, picking out any lumps and whispering a curse upon the sexual prowess of your foes as you go. Whip some cream (mmm-mm) until it begs for mercy. Place this into a large piping bag with a star shaped nozzle. If you have some willing friends or minions around, ask them to hold up the sides of the bag while you fill it. Then you want to build a structural support around your jar of diagonal beams of gingerbread dipped in a chocolate so dark that it sucks the light out of people's lives. Carefully pipe all of the cream onto the mason jar, artfully obscuring it and letting the cream come to rest on the supports.

Now for the fun part, decorating. Get creative, it's supposed to look crazy! Get a small shipment of sprinkles for the top. Chuck on a few pavlovas! A couple of blocks of cheese, why not? A few cartons of smuggled B & H's—toast them lightly with a blowtorch. An entire doughnut shop—now we're talking. The eyeballs of anyone who has ever smited you. Drizzle on some fossil fuels. Stick the dairy industry into the cream (mmm-mm), along with some pretzels. Add a dollop of the current political climate—horrific! Throw on the bodies of anyone who dares even whisper 'excessive'. Erect a circus tent over the whole thing and start charging people to see your exquisitely monstrous freakshake.

Delicious!





# THE HELL HOLE

## *The Dream Bike* by Mat Clarkson

Juliet was in the market for a new bicycle. She had dreamed of riding a shiny red bike to work, one with a basket on the front and mud flaps to keep her dry. But all she saw in the sports stores were mountain bikes and racers built for men in minuscule pants. Bemused, she entered a second-hand shop hoping to spy something to make her afternoon worthwhile. Inside, Juliet let out a silent squeal of delight because there, way in the back, was a spoked wheel poking out from behind a bookcase. She made a beeline for the bike, but a wrinkled arm lurched out, landing on a bookshelf and blocking her way. It was the owner, who looked at least second-hand himself.

"You aren't looking at that bike, are ya?"

"Well I was hoping to," replied Juliet sweetly, "Is it for sale?"

"No!" said the owner. "The thing's haunted! That's right—haunted!"

This struck Juliet as rather odd, but no matter, she thought; she knew how to get what she wanted. After a few minutes of screeching 'Bicycle' by Queen the old man relented—and lying flat on the floor, pained by her harsh trills, he offered one last caution. "Never r-ride it after dark." His head fell back, resting in peace at last.

Juliet examined the bicycle and it was perfect. Except for a little rust under the seat it was her dream bike.

Juliet left the money on the counter and thanked the old man, but as she wheeled the bike over the threshold something strange happened; the brake handles pulled themselves closed and the bike lurched to a halt. Juliet shoved the bike but it would not budge, and, as if from the depths below, a deathly voice came from between two seams in the seat of the bicycle.

"Tut-tut, Julia. Not out riding after dark, are we? That's right, I know who you are. I know everything about you Julia – I know I'm your dream bike. Well I hate to disappoint you, but this is going to more like a nightmare for you now." The brake cables shot forward and wrapped themselves around her ankle, squeezing tight.

"Step off, Ghoul!" yelled Juliet. This was her dream bike. Damn if it was haunted, she thought; she knew how to get what she wanted. Juliet swung her free leg over the crossbar.

"No! What are you doing?!" cried the seat. Juliet landed hard, smothering it with her hefty rear end.

"Ah! Ahhh! I can't breathe! Time out!" came the muffled cries of the seat. "I need oxygen! I'm a bike that needs oxygen!"

But Juliet just sat there, shifting herself from side to side until the screams became quiet. She pedalled off home, enjoying the sunset on the suffocated seat.



**THINK YOU CAN  
SPOOK US?**

Send your short horror stories  
to [critic@critic.co.nz](mailto:critic@critic.co.nz)

## President's Column

Kia Ora Koutou!

Hugh is sharing the love again with the president's column which gives me a chance to tell you about some of the awesome welfare initiatives happening around campus at the moment. As many of you have probably noticed, winter is coming and with it fresher flu. But this year there is no need to worry as OUSA has got you covered. Working with student health, we are funding 2500 free flu jabs so make sure you call up and book one in because spots are filling up fast!

Mental health and well-being day (it's a mouthful I know) is coming up on the 4th of May which presents a great opportunity to take a small sanity break and check out some of the awesome events we have planned. We will be holding most of the events in the Activities Hall at Clubs and Socs for the whole day so pop up and have a yarn (there may even be freebies!).

University is such a wonderful place to get involved and learn a little more about yourself but sometimes it can suck. If you ever find yourself down in

the dumps and in need of a friendly face or just a good rant feel free to message me at [welfare@ousa.org.nz](mailto:welfare@ousa.org.nz) (I don't bite, I promise). There is also an incredible team down at student support who are here to help you no matter what the problem.

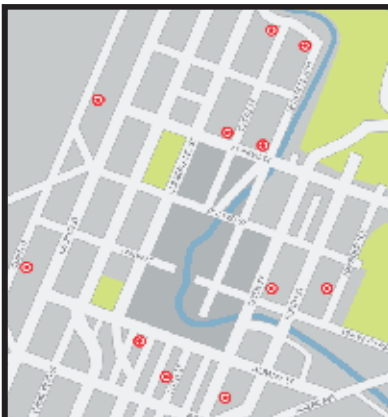
While this is normally the time of year where you suddenly discover everything you haven't done and begin the shift into exam panic mode, make sure you do take a break and have a chance to wind down. (A little chocolate doesn't go amiss either). Even as it is getting colder it is still important to get out of the library and stretch your legs so make sure to check out the world-class facilities at Unipol or sign up to one of the clubs through Clubs and Socs. The world is your oyster!

All the best for the rest of the year!

*D. Pope*

Danielle Pope

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



**Skips will be out on campus THIS FRIDAY!**

Head to  
<http://bit.ly/SKIPDAY>  
for more info.





*Honouring those who fought.  
Valuing Peace.*



# THE OUSA ANZAC SERVICE

1.30pm, Tuesday 25th April  
Outside the University Staff Club  
(Main Common Room if wet)

**ousa**  
otago uni **students'** association

