



Official press statement, from a university spokeswoman,
regarding the Critic magazines that went missing.

[CENSORED BY CRITIC]

After [REDACTED] copies of [REDACTED] Critic magazine were [REDACTED] removed from [REDACTED] Campus [REDACTED]

The assumption was made that, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] rightly or wrongly, [REDACTED] the University is [REDACTED] a [REDACTED] place, where [REDACTED] many people [REDACTED] might be exposed to [REDACTED] issues [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] they were initially unaware of. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] no [REDACTED] opinion [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] should [REDACTED] be removed from campus.

[REDACTED] This was a mistake.

CRITIC

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Editorial: Bloody Hell, What a Week

By Joel MacManus

There're too many things I want to say and too little space to say them in, so here's a big ol' list of random thoughts about the Menstruation Issue.

- It wasn't 500 copies, as the Uni insisted. I reckon it was somewhere around 1500-2000 copies. We print 4500 copies. We put about 500 copies in halls, and normally have around 2000 copies picked up on Mondays. All the rest were taken.
- The chief censor's office was cool with it. "While the image does depict an explicit view of female genitalia, the image is not sexualised, nor is it particularly degrading or dehumanising."
- The Uni's statement that we removed copies from the Public Library isn't true. We never got a complaint from the Library. In fact, Public Library General Manager Simon Pickford said he wasn't aware of any complaints and that "I would be surprised (and disappointed) if it had been a staff member."
- We removed them from the Hospital after a polite request. It wasn't even a complaint. They asked us to put them in the Medical School instead of the foyer.
- We were the number one most read story on The Guardian World News for most of Wednesday, just above Trump/North Korea talks. That seems wrong.
- Andrew Geddis is a boss on Twitter. I officially forgive him for giving me a C in Law and the Democratic Process. Admittedly, I only took the class because it was called LAWS420.
- Holy fuck there are a lot of people in media that used to work for Critic.
- It wasn't Harlene; she was cool with the issue.



- Although I received an apology from Dave Scott, the Proctor, I personally suspect it wasn't him either. He's just being a good boss and taking the fall.
- I found about 60 copies in a cardboard recycling skip. Come on guys, if you're going to censor us, at least recycle properly.
- The Womens+ Club made stickers and spent hours stapling them inside the front cover. The fact that all that work went to waste was a real shame.
- Critic had nothing to do with the protest on Friday or the posters that were put up around the uni.
- Some of the posters were in unauthorised spots. But even ones that were on the bollards where they are allowed to be were torn down.
- A Campus Watch officer told someone that they were tearing down posters because Harlene Hayne didn't like it. Sounds like some serious miscommunication going on there.
- CNN rang me at 1:30 am. Learn how time zones work, dude.
- The Guardian, BBC, Norwegian newspaper Aftenposten, and the Belgian Het Laatste Nieuws all reported it without blurring the image. The Spinoff was the only New Zealand media outlet to publish it without blurring.
- Interestingly, NewsHub was the only outlet to blur the little penis as well.
- It's not 'The Critic'. It's just 'Critic'.
- Lastly, my favourite comment from Andrew Geddis. "The day that university campuses become safe places that cannot possibly offend seven or ten-year-old children is the day we should turn out their lights and lock their doors. Because then they will have no reason to exist anymore."

University Book Shop



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LETTER OF THE WEEK

Hello,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the 40 year old international Society for Menstrual Cycle Research, I write to express our extreme dismay at the University of Otago's censorship of the student magazine Critic's Menstruation Issue, and our support of and solidarity with the current and former editors of the magazine.

Censoring material relevant to menstruation has a long and shameful history, of which the University is now a part. University officials' justification of their removal and destruction of 500 copies of Critic under cover of night is disturbing.

In so doing, the University ironically made the students' point for them. That depictions of and education about menstruation are considered "objectionable" and unfit for public consumption makes plain the very need for the special issue! We would point out the hypocrisy of such censorship in a world where every media format is rife with images of victimized girls, women and trans people that are actually sexually explicit and bloody, from Law and Order: SVU to the nightly news, while most people remain uneducated about the menstrual cycle and other aspects of their body's health and functioning.

Critic's menstruation issue was designed to address the taboo that silences, hides and makes shameful what is actually a simple fact: blood happens. To censor this effort is to reflect and sustain misogyny. We call shame on that.

Sincerely,

Tomi-Ann Roberts, PhD
Professor of Psychology, Colorado College
President, Society for Menstrual Cycle Research

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From the Vice Chancellor,

I can assure you that Critic is regarded as an important part of the fabric of life at our University. We respect Critic's independence and freedom as publishers and understand and support the important role they play in challenging ideas and currently accepted beliefs.

It is important to stress that the "University" made no decision to remove the editions of Critic this week. What did occur was an incorrect assumption by staff independently in the Proctor's office late on Monday. Because Critic staff had removed copies of the edition from the Dunedin Public Hospital on Monday, as it is a public place, staff in the Proctor's office believed that copies should also be removed from campus. Unfortunately, they removed approximately 500 copies and disposed of them. No directions were given to Campus Watch from senior staff on this matter. This was a mistake, based on a misunderstanding. The actions that were taken are regrettable and the Proctor has personally apologised to the Editor of Critic who, I understand, has accepted the apology.

Although these events are regrettable, there is a silver lining here. First, this edition of the Critic has received a much wider readership than it otherwise might have which I view as a really great outcome. Personally, I felt the content was excellent. I grabbed a copy as I walked through campus on Monday morning, read it Monday afternoon, shared it with my family on Monday night and emailed the Editor of Critic on Tuesday morning telling him I thought it was a particularly good edition. I am pleased to see that access to the online edition has been substantially higher than normal.

Second, this experience has highlighted how much we all value not only our rights of freedom of speech, but also the important role of universities as critic and conscience of society. In the midst of our busy daily lives, it doesn't hurt to remind ourselves about the values we hold most dear.

Harlene Hayne
Vice-Chancellor

Dear Editor,

I have been astonished to find such a news. I wasn't aware that in a country like NZ such mentality still exists. I fully agree with the views of the past student editors and the democratic representation of the protest. Thank you and

thanks to all the students of your University.

Amitava Hazra from Kolkata India.

Dear Critic

As an ancient former editor of Critic, I wish to join other former editors protesting the removal of hardcopies of your "Menstruation" edition.

Back in my day, there was intense debate about the role of the Proctor in the "mixed flattening" imbroglio. Perhaps it is time to revisit the role and purpose of a Proctor?

I also note that whilst the online edition of the Australian Guardian has an unexpurgated picture of the cover, NZ media have used pixellation. Which rather proves your artist's point!

Regards
John Robson

Kia ora,

I understand that the Proctor of the University has issued an apology to Critic for what occurred in relation to the removal of copies of Critic and while that is a positive step, how this happened in the first place must be examined to ensure it does not happen again.

There seems to be an unclear pathway as to who authorised the removal and what authority they had to do so.

- If the Proctor personally, then an examination of whether he had that authority;
- If persons under his authority, then an examination of who authorised the removal and what steps were taken to check the right to do so; and
- An examination of why there was no conversation with Critic staff or other OUSA personnel before the action was taken.

In my view the University, universities in general, must come out clearly in favour of freedom of expression unless harm is imminent. Where there is debate about the causing of offence, conversations need to be had, so that the moral views of some in administrative areas of the institution are aware of how that is a different issue and not within their prerogative to impose. I do hope there will be an attempt to work this through for the future.

On this issue in particular I applaud the Critic staff for the production of such a courageous issue. I'm now 57, now through the menopause, but I, like many of my friends have experienced the highs and lows of menstruation. I also support

all initiatives to ensure girls and women do not lose out on opportunities, in particular educational opportunities due to "period poverty" – both here and overseas.

Ngā mihi

Robyn Gray
OUSA president 1984

Hi team at critic,

As a graduate of Otago and former editor of OU literary review I would like to give my opinion on the current situation.

It is true that you did run a risk with that cover but if it was the cover that was deemed inappropriate the covers should have been removed and the magazine left.

I think the registry should pay for a reprint with another cover.

Keep up the good work.

Tilly Flood

BA 1989

Hi there,

The censorship of this issue angers me. I sincerely volunteer to pose nude with period blood (real or fake) on my leg or crotch. Get back to me if you're interested.

love,

Ruby

Hi Critic,

In 2003, most of us weren't exactly aware of scandals that didn't include playdough. So what was the great orange juice supplier scandal?

Sounds like some juicy goss.

Cheers

Hey Critic,

Just wanted to say that I'm deeply saddened to hear that Finn Shewell is running for NZUSA VP when he is actually Harlene's bobble head prodigy. Why you may ask? Well on one particular occasion, I saw Harlene spouting some (irrelevant) shit on campus about topics she has no idea about and Finn just sat there nodding so much, I'm surprised he didn't dislocate his vertebral column from his head. He is too far up any university bureaucrat ass to actually be a decent student representative at something as important as NZUSA, so here is

hoping the National Executive don't vote him in. Also can we talk about how he's been in hiding since losing the OUSA President role to Caity?

Sincerely,

[Cry Emoji]

This is blatantly saying that womens bodies hold no place in public spaces. The reason this makes people uncomfortable is because of the lack of conversation, understanding and knowledge about periods. Censoring womens health issues only makes people feel more shameful when discussing them, and teaches young girls that it's something to be embarrassed of. University of Otago should be ashamed of this censorship and demonstration of disregard for womens health.

hello

this a short note to offer my thanks for what you were trying to achieve with the latest issue which was binned for being - inexplicably - 'degrading' to women. The issue of 'period poverty' is really important and should be highlighted. It's just a shame people don't talk about it because some people find the topic vaguely icky. I suspect this is the real reason people wished to bin your magazine - they don't want to be reminded that such tawdry activities as menstruation might be taking place near them.

I would also add that, as a woman, I don't feel degraded by the magazines cover in the slightest, though I do feel degraded by the attempt to censor it.

Best regards

Dear Critic

Bloody stupid of them to pull all the Critics off the shelves; with one fell swoop, the only source of entertainment and happiness in my dark and dreary HealthSci life is gone up in flames.

Literally.

Please do me a favour and put a giant middle finger on the front cover of your next issue so the bastards can get a piece of my mind.

Cheers :)

Casper

Issue 13, 2018

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Sub Editor – Nat Moore

Sports Editor – Charlie Hantler

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Designer – Erin Broughton

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NZ Media 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 NZ Media Council. Complaints should be addressed to the Secretary, info@mediacouncil.org.nz.

An Angry Menstruator!

(I'm not angry cuz I'm menstruating, I'm angry because of the university and their silencing BS)

Dear critic,

I am horrified and disgusted by the recent cover photo you published.

The bottom left corner of the cover showed the oxidation state of iron in blood as $fe3+$. This is incorrect. Unless there is a serious pathology, menstrual blood is $fe2+$ not $fe3+$ as was falsely portrayed

I am disgusted that my children might see this cover and have their innocence defiled. The university was right in destroying copies of this misinformation campaign.

Sincerely,

Grant

Correction:

Critic would like to apologise to Abby Smith, Marine Science for publishing a letter to the editor last week which was not intended for publication.

Woman Unbound: Travels in the Hypercube

The proctor smiles at his freshly-pressed pants, stiff crotch creased like the solid bodies of Roman gladiators striding the midday sun. Ancient scents, bodily torque—DESCARTES, KANT, LOCKE—I HAVE READ THE ANCIENT MANUSCRIPTS OF MY FOREFATHERS. He descends into the HYPERCUBE, latest technological development of the MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL-COMPLEX, BILLION DOLLAR INVESTMENT, STATE TERRORISM. Hard edges, long lines, the rectilinear destiny of manifest enclosure. I as the SOVEREIGN SUBJECT, the ONE, the PANOPTIC GAZE that penetrates all OTHERS. ME! ME! ME!

But what is this? The proctor squints at his infinity screen. The twelfth issue of Critic (2018)? He leans in, the creases upon his crotch multiplying. Is that . . . A WOMAN? No! Flashes of The Revolution Betrayed assail the proctor's mind. NO! He shirks back in fear, not only at the BLEEDING VAGINA, but also, the thumbs up, the signifier of approval. Unable to take his eyes off the MATERIAL SCENE, the BODILY FLOW, the ORGANIC INTERPENETRABLE SUBJECT OF POSTMODERNITY, the proctor screams.

After an hour of panting, the proctor crawls limp out of the HYPERCUBE. Th-that woman!

He hisses, searching his neck for the key to his drawer. Sh-she cannot—! WOMEN ARE VIRGINAL! WOMEN ARE MOTHERLY! WOMEN ARE ENCLOSED. NEED TO BE CLOSED. CLOSED CLOSED CLOSED—He pops open his drawer and the latest issue of Women's Weekly lands at his feet. He grasps it with shaking fists, eyes darting between it and the Critic. The complete woman the complete woman the complete—Mother . . . MOTHER!

Gargh! The proctor falls back into the HYPERCUBE, activating SELF-SURVEILLANCE mode with his flailing limbs. His chair whirs into motion; a kaleidoscope of the Critic blossoms before his eyes. THE FLOWING ORIFICE; THE WOMAN UNBOUND. He screams, and the images scream with him, spraying tears and snot across a fractal infinite. In a sudden bout of insight, the proctor realises he is not looking at the Critic. No—he has been looking at himself all along.

From Babel

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The Cover Story

What the heck just happened?

By Esme Hall

If you were wondering why there were no copies of Critic on campus last week and don't follow any news outlets in the world, last Monday 2000 copies of Critic's Menstruation Issue were seized and destroyed by Campus Watch in a night-time raid because of its cover illustration depicting a menstruating person.

Here's what happened: at 7pm Monday, we noticed that a number of campus stands were empty. We checked the stands again on Tuesday morning and realised that there'd been a theft, not just an unusually high pick-up.

We were missing around 2000 copies. The university claims that there were 500 copies destroyed, but we question those numbers. "How would they know how many issues constitute a stand?" said Charlie O'Mannin, Critic News Editor. "That number was pulled out of their arse."

Around noon on Tuesday, Joel got an email for Vice Chancellor Harlene Hayne saying "I did want to let you know that this week's issue of the Critic is particularly good."

Hunting for the missing copies, Joel emailed Property Services who said it "categorically" wasn't them. They pointed us to Campus Watch, who have CCTV footage. They said they would look into it.

We posted on our Facebook page that the copies had been taken, expressed how disheartened we were, and asked anyone who knew who was responsible to get in touch.

Stuff, Newshub and the Otago Daily Times called us and wrote stories about the mystery of the missing issues. They all reached out to the University for comment.

At 6pm the University sent out a press release in response to the requests which said that Campus Watch had thrown out the

issues because the cover was "objectionable" and children might see it.

This was the first we heard that the University had any problems with the issue. We found out in the same way and at the same time as the rest of the media.

The University said it "has no official view on the content of this week's magazine. However, [we are] aware that University staff members, and members of the public, have expressed an opinion that the cover of this issue was degrading to women."

This "really pissed us off," said Joel. "I read that as a backhanded attack on our magazine and a personal insult to the integrity of our staff and the Otago Women's+ Club who suggested we do a menstruation issue. They didn't even have the integrity to put their own name to it."

"The statement weirdly tried to say that the removal of copies was an error but also hinted that they kinda supported that removal."

After the story blew up in national media, the University released another statement. They said it was "a mistake and never intended as censorship." They said the removal of magazines was "an incorrect assumption by staff in the Proctor's office." So, basically they're saying Campus Watch went rogue.

Critic staff had removed copies from the Dunedin Public Hospital upon request. The request was not because of the cover but because they wanted the foyer to be exclusively for SHB material. They suggested we move them to the Medical School.

We don't know how Campus Watch found out about this, but they apparently thought it meant every copy on campus had to be destroyed.

They never contacted Critic about this.

Despite reports, Critic was not removed from the Public Library. All copies were picked up by members of the public, according to Bernie Hawke, the Dunedin City Council library services manager. Hawke also said that there were no complaints.

The chief censor's office told RNZ that the cover was not legally objectionable. "The image is not sexualised, nor is it particularly degrading or dehumanising."

17 former Editors of Critic, including Editor-in-Chief of Stuff Patrick Crewdson and former Green Party MP Holly Walker, penned an open letter to the University expressing "deep concern" and calling for the university to "apologise unreservedly".

"Universities should be environments where students and lecturers alike are free to express their minds and debate ideas."

"The decision by the university to confiscate without warning Critic's latest issue is directly contrary to these ideals."

The Proctor Dave Scott apologised to Joel on Wednesday. Joel says "he was genuinely sincere."

Since the copies were destroyed by the University, the story has become a media sensation. We were contacted by CNN, BBC, Reuters, the New York Times, the Australian Associated Press, the Guardian, Newshub, One News, The Project, Stuff, NZ Herald, TVNZ Breakfast, Radio New Zealand, Radio Live, Newstalk ZB, Triple J, and, most importantly, The Otago Daily Motherfucking Times.

We hope you've had good conversations this week and heard a range of perspectives on our cover and the topic of menstruation. We certainly have. Periods can be gross. But, they're completely normal. Let's be okay with that.

Students Protest University Censorship

Protestors claim "intimidation" from Campus Watch

Otago University Students formed a protest movement last week, while facing close scrutiny from Campus Watch, following the University's decision to seize and destroy issues of Critic last week.

Immediately after the University admitted to destroying copies of Critic's Menstruation Issue on Tuesday night, students converged on campus and started planning action.

Organiser Matthew Schep said that one of the first things they did was print out posters of the offending cover and put them around the university. "Nothing was illegal but we did place posters outside the Uni's approved notice-boards." Organiser Laura Cairns said the group have also done flyer drops and are organising a protest march for Friday. Critic would like to point out that this is after we went to print so we couldn't cover it; this was not very considerate of them.

Campus Watch were closely following the protesters and taking down posters, including a black and white censored version. Protesters said Campus Watch were circling them while they were planning in the Link. Organiser Laura Anderson said "two Campus Watch employees were pacing and looking to see if there were any posters up. It was intimidation."

Matthew said "we'd like to know what training Campus Watch goes through and what powers they think they have. It seems they're taking on a duty to police the University's brand."

Laura said "even after the statement came out that it was a miscommunication mistake, Campus Watch was still taking down our posters of the cover." Another Campus Watch employee told Laura, "Harlene Hayne found it disgusting."

Harlene Hayne has publicly stated that she did not find it disgusting. "Personally, I felt the content was excellent. I shared it with my family on Monday night and emailed the Editor of Critic on Tuesday morning telling him I thought it was a particularly good edition. I am pleased to see that access to the online edition has been substantially higher than normal."

As far as Critic is aware, removing posters from campus is not part of Campus Watch's job description. This would usually fall to Property Services.

Although the posters weren't put up by Critic staff, one Lecture Theatre Technician let Critic know that they had removed some posters from unauthorised locations, but left them

By Esme Hall & Charlie O'Mannin

up on noticeboards where they were allowed. They said we could pick the posters up again from their offices if we wanted.

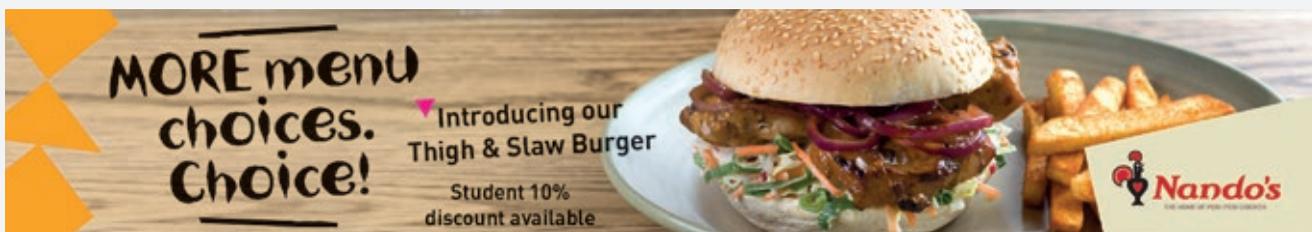
The student outrage has coalesced into the group Student Voice. Laura said "we've moved from just being angry about Critic to calling out a systemic problem. What happened to Critic is a blatant, obvious example of silencing, but this kind of silencing of student voice is constantly happening."

Laura Anderson said "we have talked to so many people who haven't said a political word in their entire life, couldn't give a shit about OUSA or student politics and have still been like, 'that's so fucked up, I'm angry about it and I will come to a protest if you make one.'"

The OUSA Exec unanimously passed a motion to support the student protests. Te Roopu Maori also voted in support.

During the meeting Welfare Officer Abigail Clarke expressed concerns that "protesting and yelling and screaming makes the University listen less," and International Officer Umi Asaka suggested that sit-down meetings could be more productive.

Campaigns Officer Roger Yan said he couldn't wait to get banners out. "I think it could be fun."





Postgraduate Officer Kirio Birks Narrowly Escapes Vote of No Confidence

Two votes were the only thing that separated Kirio from the abyss

By Charlie O'Mannin

Kirio Birks, OUSA Postgraduate Officer, has avoided being removed from his position by a margin of two votes after a motion for a vote of no confidence in him was raised at a Student General Meeting last Friday.

Matthew Schep, postgraduate student, introduced the motion, claiming that Kirio had not been fulfilling his job responsibilities and advocating for postgraduate students. Matthew described Kirio's work as "lacklustre and tokenistic". "What is the point of having a representative on the executive if they do not represent us?" said Schep.

Nine students spoke against Kirio, while four spoke in support of him.

Sinead Gill, a postgraduate student, said Kirio was "a good guy but he is a shit representative".

Greg Hughson, University Chaplain, condemned the meeting as a "public trial". He said that Kirio has "contributed well" to the university committees they both sit on.

Postgraduate student Isaac, who had worked with Kirio, said that "Just because you hear from a few voices that have talked to Kirio and not gotten the exact response they wanted, doesn't mean that he hasn't done a lot of work for postgrads".

Abigail Clark, OUSA Welfare Officer, and Umi Asaka, OUSA International Officer said they had seen him do "excellent work" and

pointed out that because his time is taken up a lot by committees he does not have the time to reach out to every student.

In a speech to defend himself, Kirio said that the 10 hour a week position Postgrad Officer position is not sufficient for "good postgraduate representation; you need more people."

"OUSA does not do the political stuff it should be doing, because it is an association that has chosen, by design, to work with the university closely and intimately so that we can make particular changes on committees." He said that, taking this into account, "In this role I'm going to sit on committees. I have a \$1500 budget; I cannot afford to be out there campaigning and I will not waste money to do so."

The 123 students present then voted using the archaic system of raising hands. Kirio was given the option to leave, but chose to stay in the room during the vote. 53 people voted against him and 31 voted for. 39 people chose not to vote. Tim Austen, who chaired the meeting, announced that the motion had passed and Kirio was removed from office.

BUT THERE WAS A TWIST.

According to arcane OUSA lore, two-thirds of the students that voted must vote against someone for a vote of no confidence to be successful. The ratio came out at 64.6% (Critic got someone else to do the math)

which meant that the motion was two people changing their minds off passing. Critic hasn't been this excited since, well, last Tuesday, when we discovered that the uni had stolen our magazines.

Anyway, after some kerfuffle and maths, the moderator announced that Kirio is still the Postgrad Officer.

Matthew Schep told Critic afterwards that while his motion lost, he's happy that students "got the opportunity to hold Kirio to account". He said that hopefully the meeting "serves as a warning call to anyone who is on the exec now or who will be in future years that these processes do exist and we have the right to use them if they are not performing in their role the way they should be".

Kirio Birks told Critic that "I'm humbled by the love and support shown by those who spoke in my favour. This was an incredibly close call. Today we saw student politics at its most passionate in a long while. This is a perfect time to get back to work and get stuck in."

This SGM was better than Critic's wildest dreams.

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VATANAJYANKUR**

**PERFORMING
TEXTILES**

KAWITA VATANAJYANKUR Untangled 2018
Video still. Licensed Courtesy of the artist.

THE BEST ANONYMOUS COMMENTS FROM THE OUSA REFERENDUM

By Charlie O'Mannin

The OUSA Referendum happened and everything went pretty much as expected. All the boring questions passed because no one properly understood them. The environmental, drug, and miscellaneous ones pretty much passed with high majorities. The only close ones were whether OUSA should ban tickets in its election, 51/49 in favour, whether OUSA should increase Hyde Street's capacity, 51/49 in favour, and whether OUSA should support the sale of alcohol in the main common room, which had 43/57 against.

Yawn. The most interesting thing about the election was that OUSA released the anonymous comments submitted with the questions to us, after they couldn't think of a reasonable reason not to. Here are some of the best.

Boring question about auditors

- I have no idea what this means. I'm sure it's fine tho
- That Garfield poster was a disgrace
- If it aint broke dont touch it boi

Boring question about lawyers

- i dont care
- I have no idea who Anderson Lloyd is and cannot be bothered with the research. There are some questions I want to answer but why are you forcing me to answer everything when I cannot give a valid answer. This is a crappy referenda.
- guess they are doing a good job, if they get expensive shop around #let's go the thrift shop

Boring question about minor Constitutional details

- OUSA are the funny sidekick for when the stress of lectures gets too much.
- I don't believe that Te Roopu Maori should have to give a quarterly report. If the partnership is Treaty based then equality is what is strived for not one partner having to constantly report to the other. If the amendment goes through then you can expect a motion sponsored by me to say that: The Executive of OUSA shall given a quarterly written and

verbal report to Te Roopu Maori of OUSA activities and finances that reflects its commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

Getting a marae on campus

- We should definitely have some sort of acknowledgement towards Maori heritage other than the weird broken archway on the way to the link. Is it supposed to be like the entrance to a marae? Can't really tell. One of my mates today said it looked like a portal to another universe so there you go.

Stupidly general question saying that OUSA should run a campaign against bullying

- it should run a campaign on hardening the fuck up
- Would love for OUSA to run any campaign at all.
- I'll bully u if u do this >:(

Introducing composting on campus

- Ye cause where tf do you put your apple cores
- it shall smell

First drug question

- Re-creation

Second drug question

- yes drug users need help not jail. everyone makes mistakes. #gotta stay fly
- yes o h y god
- Hugs not drugs

Third drug question

- No! Why? This is not a priority for students. We don't need drugs. Does anybody actually need marijuana? No.
- Please
- The majority are gonna vote yes amirite?

Banning tickets

- Tickets are for wankers.
- The elections are very dumb. Anyone who would voluntarily put themselves forward shouldn't be elected.

Fourth drug question

- Why is OUSA so focused on drugs?

OUSA buying some flats

- This will probably backfire let's be real.

Recycling on campus

- We like animals, pls keep them alive

Recordings of all lectures

- It's dunedin, so im cold and sick all the time please
- The microphones never work anyway, and the 'this is the university of otago' voice is too annoying.
- This one would be nice

Continuing the free breakfast

- What free breakfast? I want free breakfast
- THIS IS THE ONLY GOOD THING ABOUT MY DAY DO NOT CUT THIS!
- I have only used this once. The breakfast wasn't that nice - meaning cheap - meaning you can afford to keep doing it for those that need that.

Increase Hyde Street capacity

- Don't really care, just had to tick something.
- I mean if it's entirely self-funded sure, but don't expand it to whatever street my flat is on next year.

Lobby for RAs to be paid fairly

- OUSA should keep all students up to date as this progresses and NAME AND SHAME any person or college that refuses to do so. If the colleges refuse to do so, then OUSA should withdraw (any) support for them and actively warn students not to become RAs.
- please, oh my god, we are so undersupported.

Repeal VSM

- David Seymour you need to get out and see more, stop what you're dancing I mean doing.. man i'm dry. Leave us alone



Teddy Bear Hospital Is So Cute

A small oasis of wholesome news yay

By Esme Hall

Otago University Medical Students' Association (OUMSA) has run its adorable Teddy Bear Hospital for the eighth year in a row.

Busloads of kindergarteners arrived at Elim Church and the Hunter Centre last week to get check-ups for their soft toys. Health Professional students donned their lab coats and stethoscopes and did consultations.

Savannah Adams, OUMSA Community Outreach Officer and Co-Leader of the Teddy Bear Hospital Committee, said Teddy Bear Hospital is about reducing the "anxiety and apprehension kids feel around the medical environment." Toy doctors, dentists, physios and pharmacists make a normally scary experience "more

friendly [for kids] by going through a teddy". The soft toys get bandaged up and the children get to take home a certificate and a teddy bear x-ray.

Megan Lord, Co-Leader of the Teddy Bear Hospital Committee, says "Teddy Bear Hospital is so rewarding" for everyone involved. The kids are "wonderful and well-behaved" and get a "simulated doctor experience' through the treatment of their teddies." The University students involved "come away saying how heartfelt the experience is".

Adams said "pre-schools don't have huge engagement with the University, so it's great to involve them. We have a loyal following

from the preschools. We send our bookings out and they just fill up."

This year Teddy Bear Hospital offered Te Reo consultations at Community Day, which was a new addition to the event the committee hopes will continue.

Lord said it's great to see how everyone "plays a massive part in making this event happen - the kindies that visit, the students that volunteer their time, the sponsors that we attain, the extra help we get from other staff and students and of course our wonderful committee members."



T. M.
AUTO

Heading away for the break?
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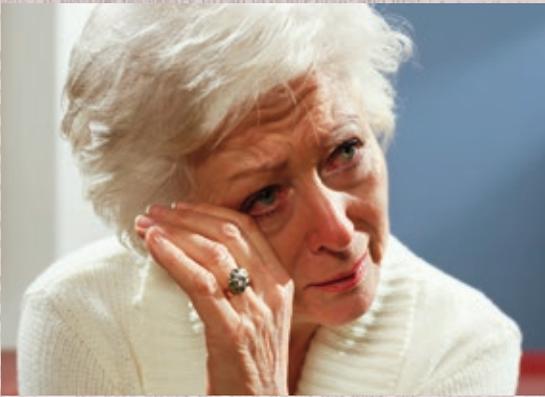


The Critical Tribune



MODERATELY RACIST DAD GROANS AT GRADUATION HAKA

(Insert dad name here) was seen last weekend awkwardly staring at the town hall ceiling as each celebratory haka started up. He was later overheard saying "it was bloody ridiculous, we don't sing 'for he's a jolly good fellow' every-time a white kid gets a degree". When asked about the nature of the entire ceremony being European he responded with a long-winded explanation that the conquering of indigenous peoples has been happening in New Zealand "since the Māoris ate the Mori-oris".



YOUR MUM STILL OCCASIONALLY TEARING UP TWO WEEKS AFTER ROYAL WEDDING

"I'm just so happy to see another one of Diana's boys getting the happily ever after they deserve, those kids have been through a lot you know".

Yes Mum, it's very nice that they're getting a happy ending but they live off the back of the working class and will be among the first to go when the revolution comes. All I'm saying is they should enjoy their happiness while it lasts, all the proletariat have to lose are their chains.



CRITIC RELEASES LIST OF REPARATION DEMANDS AFTER UNI DESTROYS COPIES OF MAGAZINE.

1. The complete abolishment of menstruation
2. Let the Waters of Leith run red with blood
3. Enough free tampons to build a couch
4. Enough lighter fluid to burn said couch
5. Disestablishment of capitalism
6. One member of Campus Watch to stand on Union Lawn and slowly say the word "period" louder and louder until he gets very embarrassed. (It must be a he.)
7. Make Southern Gold \$28 a tray again
8. Get rid of the annoying "This is the University.... of Otago" from the start of lecture recordings
9. Let everyone access lecture recordings
10. Get rid of the D from the end of Salmond College because it is a weird word and I always mess it up
11. Move Aquinas further away
12. Rename it the University of Otaaaaaaaaaaaaaagooooooooo
13. Bring back Buck
14. Also ban our next issue. This was honestly great for us.
15. Let Critic sell alcohol ads. Holy shit we would make way more money.
16. Kendrick Lamar mural
17. Make someone actually listen to Radio One
18. The Guardian UK becomes Critic's legal guardian.
19. Erin gets a dog. A good one. She'll feed it and take it for walks every day. She promises.
20. Jack gets a new chair
21. Library computers get something other than Internet Explorer installed.
22. Lucy Hunter gets into med
23. Josh Smythe is appointed Emperor of OUSA forever
24. Campus Watch release the footage of Campus Watch stealing Critic magazines
25. Another Shrek movie

The University said they would consider points 1, 6 and 10, and had already committed themselves to making points 5, 14 and 20 happen.

POPULAR BOIZ.

Barry: Works at the ODT, there are hundreds of him. They're all between 55-64 and have glasses and white goatees. When Barry dumps you your mum says "don't worry honey there are plenty of Barrys at the ODT".

Buck: Is a hunk. Bring him back.

Jeremy: Gets his period every month and still can't change his tampon at uni because there are no sanitary bins in the men's bathrooms. Sort it out Otago you bloody cunts.

Charleene Chainz: Rapper. Down with the kids. Def not Harlene Hayne in a backwards hat.

Chopper: Comedian. Got interviewed by Critic months ago. Has been cut every week. Was cut this week in favour of a 54 year old interview with a dead guitar player and his mates.

Follow all the action!
2018 WORLD CUP WALLCHART
Don't miss this special guide to the games in the *Otago Daily Times* on June 9.

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ODT WATCH

By Nat Moore

The Week ODT Watch Was Leaked the ODT's Biannual External Review

Sources within the ODT have confirmed that Editor Barry Fitzbarry has spent the last week laughing at the moon and hosting debauchorous orgies in the ODT boardroom, assuming that because Critic has been dealing with international media attention (your time will come, ODT), we'd be too busy to catch their crimes against journalism. The joke's on you, Fitzbarry.

Justice doesn't sleep.

Water-ski club still searching for land

ODT Watch also still searching...for love. Txt me: 0278221594

New Zealand volcanoes erupt too

Is there a small, localised volcano around the vicinity of 52 Stuart Street? And if so, what rituals do we have to perform to make it erupt?

Our mole in the ODT, Deputy Puns Editor Barry O'Barrigan, leaked us the ODT'S biannual external review, excerpts of which appear below.

Otago should embrace change, not fear it

Sweat poured down the face of the ODT's Chief Financial Officer, Barry Barryson, as he shifted beads around his abacus as fast as his arthritic fingers allowed. "It's a lot of shillings, Barry," he said to the Editor, "but if you really think these 'computers' are worth it, we can start divesting. I'll send a telegram to Baz in sales to take our cart and horse to market."

We reproduce the conclusion to the ODT's external review below, without comment.

A path ahead, if you search hard enough, but it's hardly transformational

POST-FACT WORLD



In 2018 a bill was passed to change MENstruation, to PEO-
PLEstruation.

The airport was originally called the plane station until Hugh Grant fucked up his voice over in 2003's Love Actually and no one was willing to admit the then-heart throb was incorrect.

Campus Watch was originally called Crampus Watch until they realised it was a period joke and threw all of their contracts in the skip.

The proctor did it.

Nexus Magazine is supportive that Critic is now famous and they are not jealous. At. ALL.

Salient is currently in a desperate meeting trying to find a way to out-feminist us.

There is apparently a student magazine in Canterbury.

Do the crime, say the rhymes. Step on a crac(cum), break your mother's back. Throw Critic in the skip, it's a funny quip.

Campus Watch is afraid of menstruation because the smell of blood could attract bears.

Bears are very strong and rather scary.

Campus Watch are not.

Currently there is a mass group of bears swimming towards NZ because they smelt out period week (and they are bringing MOON CUPS yeahboi).

Truth is stranger than fiction

Walt Disney made a movie about menstruation titled "The Story of Menstruation" in 1946. It most likely is the first film to use the word "vagina."

The only mammals to undergo menopause are elephants, humpback whales, and humans.

The Romans attributed the deformity of the god Vulcan to the menstrual intercourse between his parents Juno and Jupiter.

The term "ritual" is derived from the Sanskrit word R'tu, which means "menstrual". This etymology suggests that ritual in a general sense and menstrual acts have a common origin.

Periods tend to be heavier, more painful, and longer in the colder months.

Because zero-gravity affects blood flow, NASA initially worried that a menstruating woman would die in space.

When Sally Ride, the first female astronaut went to space, NASA packed 100 tampons for a 7-day trip.

Menstruation huts were common features in pre-modern cultures. They were a place where women were separated from the community during their menses for various reasons ranging from fear to respect.

In the eighteenth century in Saigon, no woman was employed in the opium industry because it was believed that if a menstruating woman were near, opium would become ruined and bitter.

FACTS & FIGURES

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Dumpster Diving: A Beginner's Guide





Poverty for students is often so fundamentally ingrained that it can be hard to recognise — we make jokes about the lads who live off two-minute noodles and inhabit flats with holes in the walls. It's scarfie culture down to the bone; golden and beloved. It's easy to forget that Mi Goreng, no matter how delicious, is often not a choice. It's a lifestyle of bare necessities, lived by the people that struggle to get by from one StudyLink payment to the other.

Caroline Moratti

A trend of dumpster diving has reared its slimy head in recent years. The food is free, and you're practically saving the environment from another landfill disaster. Food wastage is hugely problematic, especially when there are people going hungry in Dunedin. More and more students have been getting behind the practice as a way to cut down on grocery costs, with some reportedly living off their findings for weeks. Truth be told, the idea of dumpster diving scared me shitless. If you're the kind of gal who never even got a detention in high school, the potential consequences of getting caught is not a particularly pleasant thought to entertain. Though the chances are slim, they exist, especially for places with security cameras. In 2009 there were three arrests in Dunedin for dumpster diving. Yet, despite this, Critic needed to know the truth. What is dumpster diving like, and is it a viable option for students to get a cheap feed?

I assembled a ragtag team of misfits to bumble along in some adventures. You know, the kind of people that are always unequivocally free on a Saturday night. Which turns out, was only my drunk flatmate, Alice.

Like any Saturday night plans, deciding what to wear was the biggest mission. I was inclined to wear my

darkest clothes, but unfortunately that included my high school leavers hoodie lovingly branded with my surname on the back. Feeling like I might as well just tape my credit card information to my chest, it was clear we needed a change of plan. Not to mention that the balaclavas that Alice had somehow produced made it look like we were going to rob a bank rather than a dumpster. Which is how, half an hour later, we stumbled into the dark streets of Dunedin wearing our sluttiest miniskirts and bralettes. Looking like the opening sequence of *Pretty Women*, we blended right in with the hordes of drunk freshers spilling into town. It was the perfect basic bitch disguise.

To our frustration, the walk to town was full of locked dumpsters. These included the likes of Otago Museum, Rob Roy, Market Kitchen, Taj Mahal, and almost every small joint we checked out. Like your first blowjob, you'd walk down a dark alleyway only to walk out a minute later, a bit damp and disappointed. If destruction of property really gets you going, you could probably attempt to break the locks, but there's really no point — I wouldn't even go to the Otago Museum cafe in the daytime, let alone face prosecution for some shitty granola slices.

Things started to perk up around Centre City New World. The dumpster was unlocked, but protected by a large fence and scary looking signs about surveillance. After a quick shot of liquid courage, we jumped the fence and scouted out our surroundings. It was pretty slim pickings, offerings of things like cardboard and packaging more so than anything decent. We found a couple of old apples and, weirdly enough, a bag of English muffins.

II

We found a couple of old apples and, weirdly enough, a bag of English muffins. Not much to write home about, unless you are English, or a muffin.

II





Not much to write home about, unless you are English, or a muffin.

Countdown at first glance appeared closed off by fences, only for us to slowly realise, like a pair of fucking idiots, that it's accessible by street if you just walk around the other way. Here, the trouble is that the dumpsters are located by the loading bay, so late-night employees were loitering about. This is where our disguises really paid off. Inching our way further down the alleyway by looking like drunk thots —“Omg, why hasn't Chad texted me back yet?” “Urgh, the line for 10Bar is so long” — we managed to stumble behind the bins without calling attention to our true intentions. We waited for our time to strike, only, to our disappointment, realising that the dumpsters were pretty piss poor. There were some bakery discards stewing in vegetable juice and cigarette ashes. It was a split-second decision of whether to grab it or leave it; ultimately, we decided that we'd probably just rather go home and suffer through another flat meal of under-salted spaghetti bolognese than risk getting sick. We closed the lid on the bread with a shared heavy heart.

The dumpsters outside Night 'n Day are one of the most technically challenging, but by far one of the most rewarding. The dumpsters are practically located on the street, unlocked and oh-so-seductive. But it's a Saturday night, everyone and their neighbours are pissing around outside the store, eating lukewarm chips and smoking darts. Waiting for the coast to clear was like waiting for your lecturer to finally upload your grades on eVision—it's just never fucking going to happen. To kill time, we made conversation with a couple of Polytech students. Ryan —if you're

out there, I'm sorry about the death of your childhood dog, truly I am. Thanks for showing me several blurry pictures of your golden Labrador, Bailey, before propositioning to finger me in the bathrooms of McDonald's. Maybe we'll meet again in another life. When the crowds had thinned down a bit, we took the opportunity to explore the dumpster. Surprisingly plentiful, we yielded a bounty of controversial deli items, such as chocolate cheesecake, butter chicken fusion rice, and ham sandwiches. The haul was like your grandma's funeral spread, a little bit sad, a bit thick on the relish, but also wonderfully exotic.

Last, but not least, Couplands. After suffering locked dumpster followed by locked dumpster, this was the motherload. An empty carpark, no cameras in sight, and a glory hole of pies, pastries and produce. Granted, these weren't the pies you probably would go for; much like the fleeting men in my life, there's a reason they got dumped. Rather than buy a cheeky mince and cheese pie for the already lucrative price of \$1, why not scavenge for a mince and vegetable pie that you could keep in your freezer for the next two months? There were trash bags stuffed with the most average food you could imagine. Think afghan biscuits, lamingtons and bread scrolls. It was like the sad birthday party of that girl with no friends in primary school, which your mum dragged you along to out of social obligation. So eager were we to revel in the beautiful garbage, Alice accidentally flashed her underwear to several wandering passers-by.

To be fair, when you're already breaking one law, suddenly public indecency doesn't seem like a big

“
**The haul was like your grand-
 ma’s funeral spread, a little bit
 sad, a bit thick on the relish,
 but also wonderfully exotic.**
 ”



thing to add to the list. Plus, mini-skirts aren't the most practical clothing choice, though we did get some cute snaps for the 'gram.

What did we learn? Stay away from the big supermarkets, it's really not worth it. They're the places with the biggest security and minimal pay-off. Supermarkets also have remarkably small food wastage now, due to charitable programmes such as the Countdown Food Rescue programme, which in 2016 donated more than \$3.5 million of food. Rather, consider checking out your neighbourhood dairy or convenience store. Granted, a lot of these are locked, but you'll find the occasional one that will surprise you. Couplands and Night 'n' Day were definitely the winners here, with enough carbs for Alice and I to binge eat our feelings for the next couple of weeks. You can catch me crying in a lecture with a stale iced bun (that's a joke, you wouldn't catch me in a lecture.) However, maybe instead of encouraging students to go out and raid their neighbourhood bins, there should be more public pressure put on corporations to donate to food banks, so people in need can access this support. Foodshare has done an amazing job in Dunedin, collecting excess food from businesses and donating it to charities. If you are thinking about going dumpster diving, approach it as if you're having sex for the first time. You need to do your research, stay safe, maybe bring some friends to stand and watch. Gloves aren't a bad idea, but don't be afraid to just throw yourself into it. Really wallow in that filth, you self-loathing bastard.

Executive's Column



Hey everyone! My name is Norhan and I'm your colleges officer for 2018!

First year is a roller coaster ride for the bathroom scales. After you head home for the mid-year break you'll find yourself underweight and pale from the fresher flu that had you spewing up more shit from your mouth than a conversation between a Knox and Selwyn student; and once you head home after 9 months of midday napping, drinking before lectures and college food, you will head home looking like you actually have a baby on the way.

But once you've experienced frostbite in your third year flat, you realise how much you took for granted. Whether it's the crusty Sunday night roast potatoes or blasting the heater at full tilt with no regard of power bills.

College life is a whirlwind of meeting new people, the start of your independence (sort of) and finding yourself just a little bit more. So remember to take a moment to enjoy your college experience, it will be an experience like no other, but if for any reason you have any issues or concerns about anything please don't hesitate to contact me at colleges@ousa.org.nz.

OUSA is here to support, advocate and lobby for your views, so take advantage of an association that cares about its members, before graduating and remembering you took that for granted too!

(Promotion; Exam specials are coming up so take advantage of the free student breakfast/fruit, the de-stress station in clubs and socs, free sauna and glow yoga!)

Love, Norhan x

Norhan El Sanjak

Norhan El Sanjak
Colleges Officer
colleges@ousa.org.nz



* Photo courtesy of Gravity Events



WHAT'S HOT AT OUSA

POSTED OUR PARTY ON FACEBOOK TO MAKE SURE AT LEAST A FEW PEOPLE CAME. NOT MANY DID! SO I CALL MY FRIENDS AND I WROTE THEM UP UNWANTED GUESTS. JUST TURNED UP DRUNK. TALKED SHIT WHEN YOU HAVE A THROWING BOTTLES AT THE PARTY. TAKE A BREAK FROM YOUR WORRYING YOU GET TO WORRYING ABOUT THE PARTY. YOU GET TO WORRYING ABOUT THE PARTY. YOU GET TO WORRYING ABOUT THE PARTY.

GOOD ONE

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WE CRASHED THE BEATLES

**A Critic Interview, Originally Published July 9
1964**

Well, we did it. We sent two of our intrepid, expendable reporters to the City Hotel – not to join the rest in the boozier – and told them to “see the Beatles.”

What actually rocked us on our heels was that they did. Our newspaperman and news hen walked in between the barricaded fans, crept surreptitiously upstairs and wilted in front of the biggest line-up of plainclothes detectives they’d seen since the powers-that-be caught up on Bias.

But no, nothing ventured nothing won, they eluded the pursuers and found sanctuary in Lou’s and Simon’s room. But when all four ventured out they were caught by the chief of security for the tour.

But our girl Friday stood her ground and assured the gentleman she didn’t have a revolver in her handbag. Eventually he relented and our friends went in.

The interview room was so full of visiting reporters and radio people that our bemused staffers thought they’d have more chance if they joined the crowds chanting, “we love you Beatles” all the way down Princes Street.

But they did get an interview and Critic editor while in a delirium said he’d print it on page four. And that’s where it still is. And our reporters are accepting offers for Beatle autographs and a cigarette given them by Paul McCartney.



Photography provided by: ODT



There we were – upstairs in the City Hotel, in a room crowded with newsmen of all varieties – everyone, except us, invited and let through a massive security cordon.

Then the Beatles came in. Once the bedlam started we were kept busy trying to keep our ears open to three concurrent conversations. We succeeded. And here, in no fixed order whatsoever, we print, daring the wrath of Capping Book, Noonan, Critic Editor, our readers and the world, our interview with The Beatles.

Enter the Beatles.

Ringo: Nice little place you've got here

ODT Reporter: Could you tell us which one of you is which?

George: If you don't know by now you shouldn't be here.

Ringo: I'm George

Paul: I'm Ringo

George: I'm Paul

With a casual 'hi' they sit down and apologise for John Lennon's absence.

"Sorry, Johns got a sore throat – he's upstairs all trembling on the floor," says George.

Critic: We hope you had some food before you came down?

George: oh yes, we had plenty to eat – a whole biscuit. The boys were all offered a drink but, except for Ringo, stuck to coke.

Paul: We're a bit disappointed with the weather. I always thought the further south you got away from England the warmer it would get – but now I realise that we've been travelling down so it must get colder.

At this stage the Beatles offer everyone cigarettes. George lights ours with a gold cigarette lighter. We notice Paul's hair particularly – he tells us he washes it every night because it becomes curly with sweat – "and I don't like that".

By now all our cigarettes are lit – except the ones we're keeping to sell.

George: I like this brand 'cause they're the ones with the L.O.N.G. filters

Critic: Does it worry you that all people smoking over 20 a day may get cancer?

Paul: You don't believe that do you – don't you believe it.

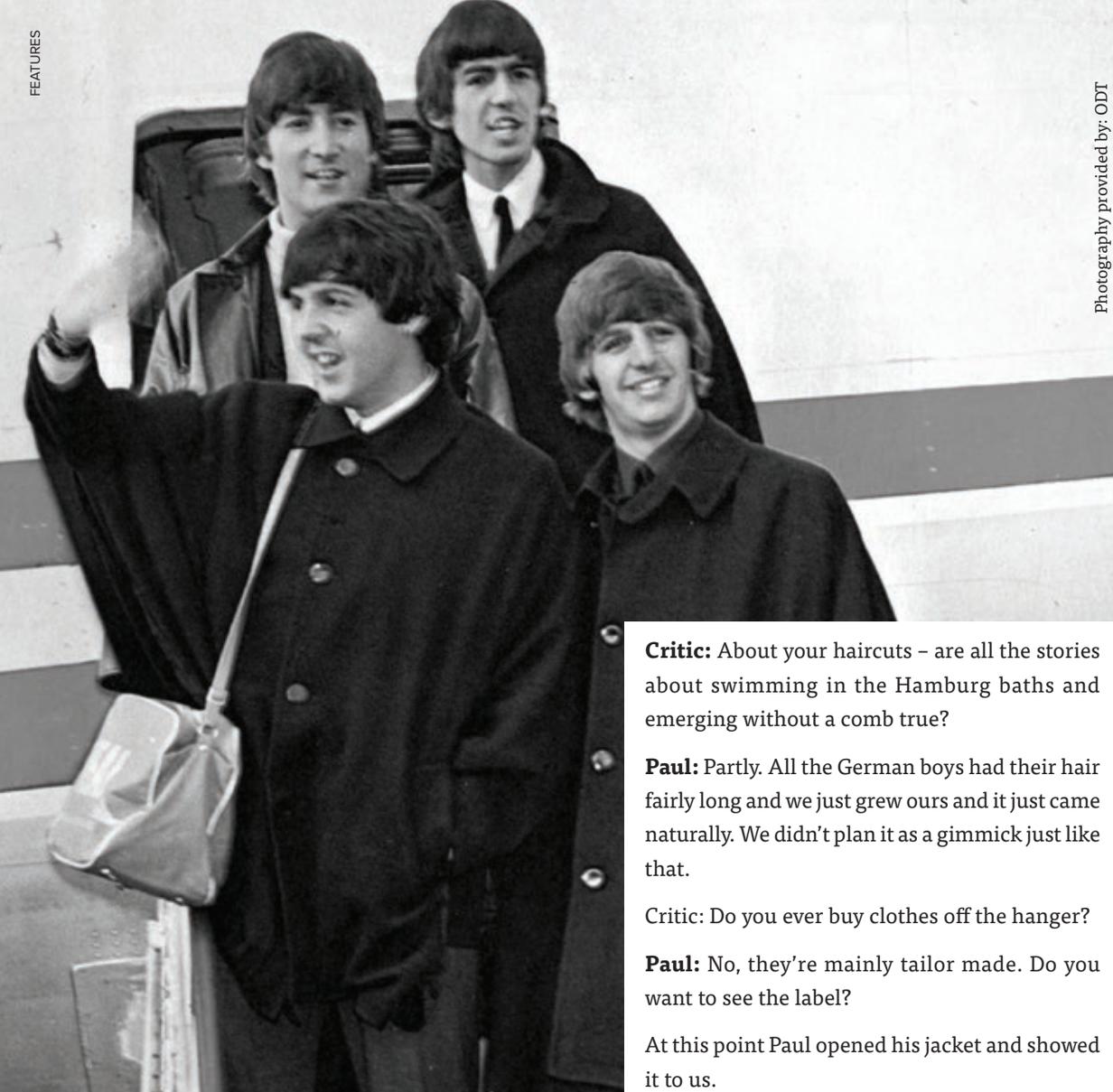
Critic: Do you like wildness?

Paul: Organised wildness is fine, like on stage or we're up here and the audience is down there. That's fine. As long as the barricades hold.

Critic: What is the main thing you want on holiday?

Paul: Only one thing – sun. I just love heat.





Critic: About your haircuts – are all the stories about swimming in the Hamburg baths and emerging without a comb true?

Paul: Partly. All the German boys had their hair fairly long and we just grew ours and it just came naturally. We didn't plan it as a gimmick just like that.

Critic: Do you ever buy clothes off the hanger?

Paul: No, they're mainly tailor made. Do you want to see the label?

At this point Paul opened his jacket and showed it to us.

Critic: Do the officials ever have trouble getting in to your hotel?

Paul: Yeah, the conversation usually goes like this – Official: Excuse me, could I get through, I'm with the Beatles? – Police: Oh sure, we believe you.

Critic: Do you ever take pills on tour?

George: Oh no – we aren't drug addicts or anything like that. We may use the hypo or marijuana – but pills – never.

Critic: What place do you like most in the world?

George: Oh, all the Britain and of course Liverpool although we're never there much now. Although I loved Miami as it was so hot.

Critic: What do you think of your new record "cry for a shadow"?

George: its awful. We only recorded it as a joke.

We know this 'ere German group that played like the Shadows and this record was just done for a laugh.

Critic: Ringo, how was hospital?

Ringo: Great, eight wonderful days. Every time I pushed the bell I got a different nurse.

Critic: Is Brian Epstein worth his 25 per cent?

Ringo: Every penny of it. If it hadn't been for him we would still be playing in local clubs. He's worth every penny.

Critic: Do you have many press agents?

Ringo: No. Everyone seems to think we have thousands but really we've only one and a tour manager. In fact, very few people travel with us.

Critic: Why did you come to New Zealand?

Ringo: We had nothing to do with it – we just go where we are booked. We don't do anything at all except sing.

Critic: What do you think of Beatle wigs?

George: Atrocious. Have you seen those plastic things? We get 2d a wig or something daft like that

Critic: Do you think the fame will last?

George: We would like to think it could. We hope to keep writing songs when we're finished with the initial fame and mania. At the moment we have 60 songs on record.

But among the trade secrets we found out was that none of them can read music. The Beatles just think up the tunes and play them on their guitars. Then the tunes are taped and later transferred to sheet music. Everything's done by ear.

Critic: What's your attitude to street crowds?

Paul: The crowd outside the hotel could have been more controlled, though they're quatter than Australians. Still, the gap between the two lines of screaming girls was the smallest I've ever had to dash down to a hotel foyer.

Critic: What do you think of students?

Paul: Students? They're just people like the rest of us, and it's good to see you CRITIC people along.

Critic: Is your hair too long?

Paul: No, I don't think so.

Critic: What things do you like?

Paul: Sea, sand and swimming. I thought I was going to swim while I was here but I didn't realise you were so low – like on the underside of the world. It's too chilly in Dunedin.

Critic: Do you approve of people selling the sheets you slept in?

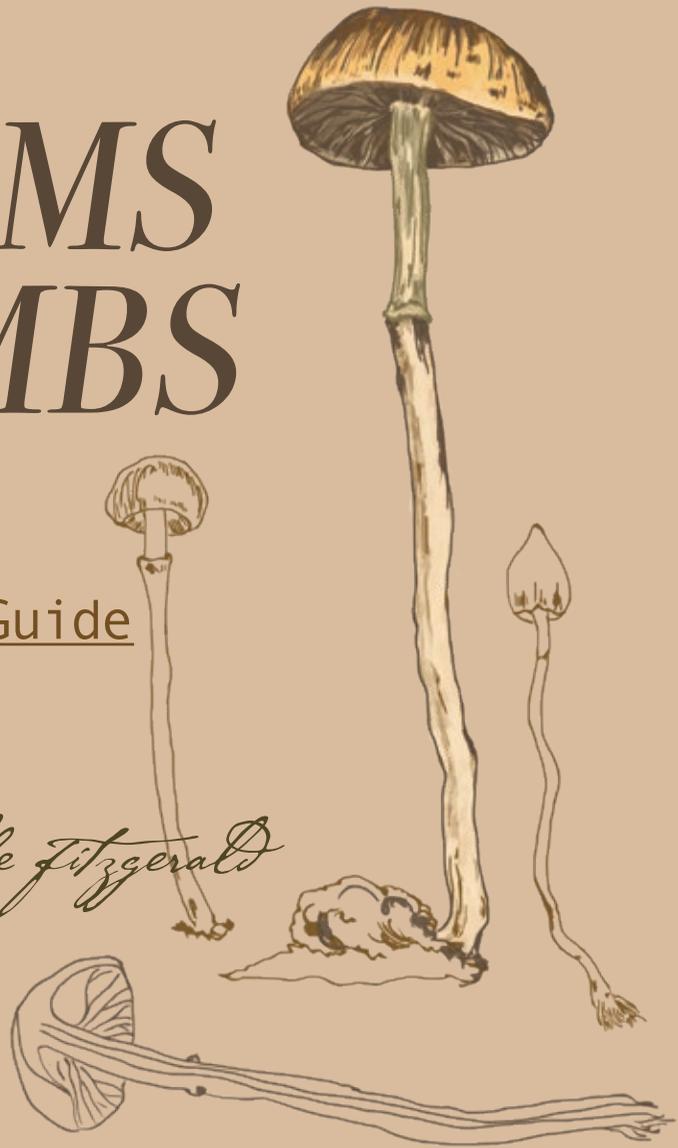
Paul: As it was for a good cause I think it was okay.

And that's our lot. We weren't meant to be there but we got in. Their tour manager congratulated us for our initiative and the boys seemed to get a kick out of somebody cracking the security cordon so it was no skin off anyone's nose in the long run. We'd be willing to do it again.

SHROOMS OR TOMBS

Magic Mushrooms: An Identification Guide

By Chelle Fitzgerald



So, the weather's getting cold, you've already failed two of your semester one papers and life's looking pretty dusty. What's a student to do?

Well, if you've attended any parties lately, you'd know that at this time of year the breathers like to turn some party banter to the wealth of magic mushrooms growing here in Dunedin. Everyone knows someone who knows someone who hunts for the little fun guys at the first signs of frost, yet nobody really has an "in", especially if you're not from around here. The dangers of hunting mushrooms without the correct information can result in some dire situations, ranging from a gnarly tummy ache to a very serious trip to the hospital, or morgue.

Magic Mushrooms are a Class A drug in New Zealand, with possession carrying a maximum penalty of 6 months imprisonment and/or a \$1,000 fine. However, if people are going to do them, they should do them safely.

NZ actually has some of the strongest shrooms in the world - and some of these species are more prevalent in Dunedin than a Kathmandu puffer jacket. Most 'magic mushrooms' generally refer to species in the genus *Psilocybe*, and if you're in Dunedin, there are three main types of *Psilocybes* that you may come across in your travels - *Psilocybe semilanceata*, *Psilocybe subaeruginosa*, and *Psilocybe weraroa* (also known as *Weraroa novae*).

So that you don't die, Critic has compiled an identification guide for the three types of shrooms most commonly found in Dunedin, as well as some of the ones that you should ABSOLUTELY avoid.



Psilocybe semilanceata

Psilocybe semilanceata, also known as “Liberty Caps”

In the 1980s, a British botanist saw some of these out on the Otago peninsula, and ever since telling all his tripper mates of the find, the mighty Liberty Caps have been some of the most hunted-for and long-standing faves of the Dunedin community. They pop up frequently around Dunedin and Otago, and they can often be found in the higher-altitude grassland areas. The easiest way to identify Caps is to look for a cream coloured cap with a 5-20mm diameter, which often has a distinct nipple on the top. The gills start out as olive grey and then turn to purple-black as the spores mature. The stem is 2-3mm thick, around 4-10cm tall and is cream coloured and fibrous, often wavy, and sometimes coloured blue near the base.

Dosage: 1-1.8g dried or 10-18g fresh.



Psilocybe subaeruginosa

Psilocybe subaeruginosa, also known as “Subs”, or “Gold Tops”

Subs like to grow in woody areas, like pine bark or wood-chipped places. If you've ever seen some guy in a ratty hoody take a lot of interest in one of those woodchipped roundabouts in winter, he's probably on the hunt for these guys. They are generally the easiest species to find in Dunedin, because they grow in a lot of urban areas and in generous amounts.

Look for a gold/caramel/light brown cap of around 1.5-5cm diameter, a 2mm-4mm thick, 30-125mm long white stalk (MUST be white), and gills that are crowded, ranging in colour from cream to violet brown.

Look for blueish bruising anywhere on the cap or stalk that has been damaged, like after being picked. If there's no blue, there's no magic. Keep an eye out for them from April to August in light brown woodchipped areas, in sandy soil and in gardens, and anywhere you might find ground up *Pinus radiata* bark or woody debris.

Dosage: 0.8-1.5g dried or 8-13g fresh.



Psilocybe weraroa/Weraroa novae



Psilocybe weraroa/Weraroa novae

These little fellas are not as common as the subs and caps, but are still found here nonetheless. They prefer rotten fallen wood and are often hiding under dry leaves, making them a little harder to see. Slugs really like to nibble on these (so chances are if you find them, someone's already had a wee munch around the edges)!

Again, *P. weraroa* will stain blueish where damaged, so ensure you have the right specimen by looking for that blueish hue. The caps are light brown to tan when young, and grayish blue when old, measuring 10-30mm in diameter. The stem is up to 40mm long, and is white to grayish blue, with a yellowish-brown base. The gills are chambered and chocolate brown.

Dosage: 10-15g fresh (drying seems to kill the activity, so not recommended to eat dry).

How To Tell?

If you want to check whether you have a Psilocybin mushroom, first make a spore print:

- Cut the stem off the mushroom, as close to the cap as possible.
- Put the cap (top up) on a piece of white paper.
- Put a glass over the top to keep air away.
- Leave the cap overnight to let spores drop
- The next day, check out the colour of the spore print on the paper.

If your mushroom has purple-brown to black spores, AND the flesh turns bluish when damaged or bruised, then it's quite likely that your mushroom is a *Psilocybe* species.

If you're quite sure that what you have is the goods, then you're now ready to see the conception of the universe! But only if you're sure. People can get far too excited when it comes to magic mushrooms and don't take safe enough precautions.

IF IN DOUBT TOSS IT OUT!

Speaking of which ...

Amanita Muscaria

Although it looks like something Alice would eat in Wonderland, THESE ARE NOT TRADITIONALLY MAGIC!! They do have an intoxicating effect, but are not recommended; they are **poisonous** if not prepared correctly and are generally a shit time.



Amanita Muscaria

VERY BAD DEATH BAD TIME ILLNESS BAD NONO LIST:

***Galerina marginata* "Funeral Bell"**

(grows around Woodhaugh) - DEADLY

***Galerina patagonica* - DEADLY**

***Conocybe filaris/Pholiotina filaris* - DEADLY**

***Leratiomyces ceres/Stropharia aurantiaca* - POISONOUS**

***Stropharia aeruginosa* - POISONOUS**

***Rossbeevera pachydermis/Chamonixia pachydermis* - POISONOUS**

Clavogaster novozelandicus

Prev. Known as: ***Weraroa virescens*** - POISONOUS



Galerina patagonica



Galerina marginata

NB: While Erin is GREAT (and also very cool and smart) she is not a scientist so please do not refer to these illustrations for identification.



KAWITA VATANAJYANKUR: PERFORMANCE ART HAS NO BOUNDARIES

Interview by Waveney Russ

Kawita Vatanajyankur is a striking and transportive artist who has taken the world by storm – she’s about to exhibit at the prestigious Bangkok Biennale with over 75 other artists from around the world, but before that she’s exhibiting at the Public Art Gallery right here in Dunedin. Her work is bold, heavy with meaning, and visually appealing. Waveney Russ had the chance to interview this amazing creative.

Wave: So Kawita, you were the international visiting artist for the Dunedin City Art Gallery, could you give us a run down of what that entailed and where you come from?

Kawita: I’m from Bangkok, but I grew up in Melbourne and found work there as an artist, which caught some attention. This was my first New Zealand show. I had a six-week residency while I was down here in the South Island.

Wave: To what extent does your Thai birthplace influence your work?

Kawita: I grew up as a teenager in Melbourne, so when I went back to Thailand, I felt like I had to grow up as a woman again because the culture, background and social expectations were different. I was a bit of an alien in Thailand; I didn’t feel like I would fit in at all unless I re-learned how to be a Thai woman.

Wave: Sort of like a re-birth as a woman?

Kawita: Yes! I am constantly questioning social expectations and norms around growing up as a woman. The first performance art I made was about questioning social perceptions of women in Thailand.

Wave: Can you tell me a bit about your next series of performance art?

Kawita: The next series is about me looking at myself as a sort of a machine or tool in the work system. Thailand is a world of industry; when I worked there I was transformed into a tool/machine, working repetitively. Nowadays, machines are sort of replacing us. So my art questions the human conditions of labour, and how we value people.

Wave: A video of yours that really struck a chord with me shows you being dunked into a bowl of water. How do you physically prepare yourself for performances like that?

Kawita: It can take around a month to prepare and practice a performance, and the first attempt can be a complete disaster. It just takes practice. When I enter the performance I enter as myself, as a human, but I have to convince myself that I am no longer there, that I am actually the object/machine. It’s about losing your sense of yourself. When you lose that, you also lose your sense of emotional pain, fear, and anxiety. You’ve removed and decreased all of your feelings. You have entered new limitations.

Wave: What do you consider to be your physical and emotional boundaries when creating a piece of performance art?

Kawita: I don’t think that performance art has boundaries. Every time I make art, I want to challenge myself. I believe that our physical body and psychological self have an amazing ability to adjust if you practice continuously. When I think of an idea that seems impossible, I will think of ways to deal with it. It’s about practice.

Wave: Do you have any sort of political agenda when you’re creating these pieces?

Kawita: Well all the series I’ve done recently are about work. I’ve done a series about the food industry, and one about the fishing industry – because the world is materialistic, you just assume what you receive is from a machine, not the sea, not nature.

The fishing industry in Thailand is at a crucial point now where the labourers behind it are in a form of slavery, treated unkindly and violently. People are ignoring the human trafficking that drives the industry. When I was in Thailand before coming to NZ, I was researching and talking to the labourers and was overwhelmed by how materialistic this world is. No one wants to be a farmer anymore, they just want to climb the hierarchy. When I came to NZ, it was a completely different world; I talked to locals in the South Island and I saw how workers and farmers are so proud of their products. It crushed me, that you can live simply but fully.





Wave: How do these ideas of obscene consumerism affect the colour scheme in your work?

Kawita: I think that nowadays we live in a world where social media advertisements, posters, and packages look beautiful, but the workers behind the products are being treated unkindly. I think there's a massive contrast between advertisement and product colours.

Wave: Your videos place a central focus on the human body. How has this been received by different audiences?

Kawita: Well I've exhibited in many different countries and the reactions are always different. I've exhibited frequently in Japan and audiences there often say that they truly see themselves as machines and want to be perfect all the time. The illusion that physical beauty guarantees respect causes stress and depression. From Thai audiences I get a lot of reactions on the female body and everything reminds them of advertisements.

Wave: Do you see and work with the comedy of the situations you depict?

Kawita: Yes! Well, the content is quite violent and sad when you actually think about it, but I want to use humour so that I can make people laugh before they are offended or shocked. That's the trick that I want to play.

Wave: So how do you think New Zealand audiences will respond?

Kawita: I'll have to see – I think NZ is so different from the rest of the world.

[Interview originally aired on the DPAG Late Breakfast, Radio One 91fm]



Horoscopes

Aquarius



Jan 20 – Feb 18

Cosmic energies want to be there for you for your exam, they also don't want to be held liable for fucking it up. Don't be sad if you feel less spiritually guided this week. Where the stars step out, your lecturers and teachers step in (gross I know, but at least they almost get paid for it). **Exam Tip:** Work for 20 minutes, break for five mins. **Dream Hol Location:** Niue.

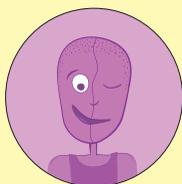
Aries



Mar 21 – Apr 19

Celestial frequencies suggest you try explaining your notes and essays out loud to someone, instead of just writing and writing and writing. Sure, rote learning notes works. **Exam Tip:** Call a friend or family member every day or so. It'll remind you that there is so much more to life than University of Otago exams. **Dream Hols Location:** Home and/or Mexico City.

Gemini



May 21 – Jun 20

You only have three exams this sem. The stars want you to challenge yourself and try for at least one of them. Give yourself something to be proud of; regardless of the grade you get, learning how to work hard is an invaluable skill. **Exam Tip:** If you're smart you can put vodka in your water bottle and take it into the exam. You don't even have to drink it. **Dream Holiday:** Roadie from Wgtn to Tauranga to Nepal. Zen-dog life is the tits.

Leo



July 23 – Aug 22

The stars and the full moon are combining to encourage your late-night study seshes when you're naturally the most studious. Roll with it. Also, apologise to you mate, forgiveness isn't something you give them, it's something you give yourself. **Exam Tip:** Just keep going. **Dream Holiday Escape:** Anywhere that isn't Dunedin.

Libra



Sept 23 – Oct 22

The local clan of Wicca have written in this week, with a specific warning for a Bobbie Marsland, don't leave the house on the next rainy day, you will trip, it will be painful. **Exam Tip:** burn wild sage and lavender and then take the smoldering husks into the exam room. Claim religious purposes. **Dream Holiday Escape:** Hollywood Boulevard.

Sagittarius



Nov 22 – Dec 21

The stars know that you've been having nightmares. So do your flatmates. Letting them in on the thing that's been bothering you is the first step to recovery. Second step is cleaning your sheets. Studying isn't an excuse to become a lice-ridden cave man. **Exam Tip:** Read all the questions before you answer, unless it's Umat. Fuck Umat. **Dream Holiday Escape:** Somewhere niche in South East Asia that no one's ever been to before.

Pisces



Feb 19 – Mar 20

Hellooo, this is our last week of contact. It's a bit sad, you'll do well without me/us. In prep for exams and holidays the stars want you to focus on the day at hand, and take ten minutes doing something you love, like downward facing dog or Far Cry 5, or your girlfriend. **Exam Tip:** Do at least one practice exam per paper. **Dream Holiday Location:** The North Shore, Auckland.

Taurus



Apr 20 – May 20

When you finally catch up on your lecture notes, you might see Deadpool 2 and really enjoy it. **Exam Tip:** Just don't even open Netflix. **Dream Holiday Location:** One of those cheap castles in the Czech Republic, you can legit buy one.

Cancer



Jun 21 – July 22

You've never really thought a great deal about Bic Runga or apple pies. On Wednesday, unrelated to a viewing of American Pie, you will take your shirt off and do a kitchen dance. **Exam Tip:** Enjoy it. Go on. I dare you. **Dream Holiday Escape:** New York, New York!

Virgo



Aug 23 – Sept 22

Your flatmate's thesis is due this week. The stars honestly say, this is the time, it will go well. Also, you'll all celebrate with a really nice home-made dinner and some wine *cough box-goona cough*. **Exam Tip:** take too many pens. If you get bored you can play with them. **Dream Holiday Escape:** A quiet cabin in the woods.

Scorpio



Oct 23 – Nov 21

Apollonian forces urge you to take a night walk and a day walk, grab a beer, sleep with a stranger, think about writing it down, but don't. Go to that exam, smile and freak everyone out. Live on. Shaka. **Exam Tip:** the bigger and more chill the smile, the more scary. **Dream Holiday Escape:** the Antipodes (yes that is Aussie and/or NZ, you pleb).

Capricorn



Dec 22 – Jan 19

You are a champion, just like everyone else. Don't let it go to your head. The particular alignment the planets take this week mean that you'll look great in speedos, but should really shave (boys and girls) before you hit the lanes. It's just a public courtesy at this point. **Exam Tip:** Studying. **Dream Holiday Escape:** Mental solace +/- solitude.

SUDOKU

Easy

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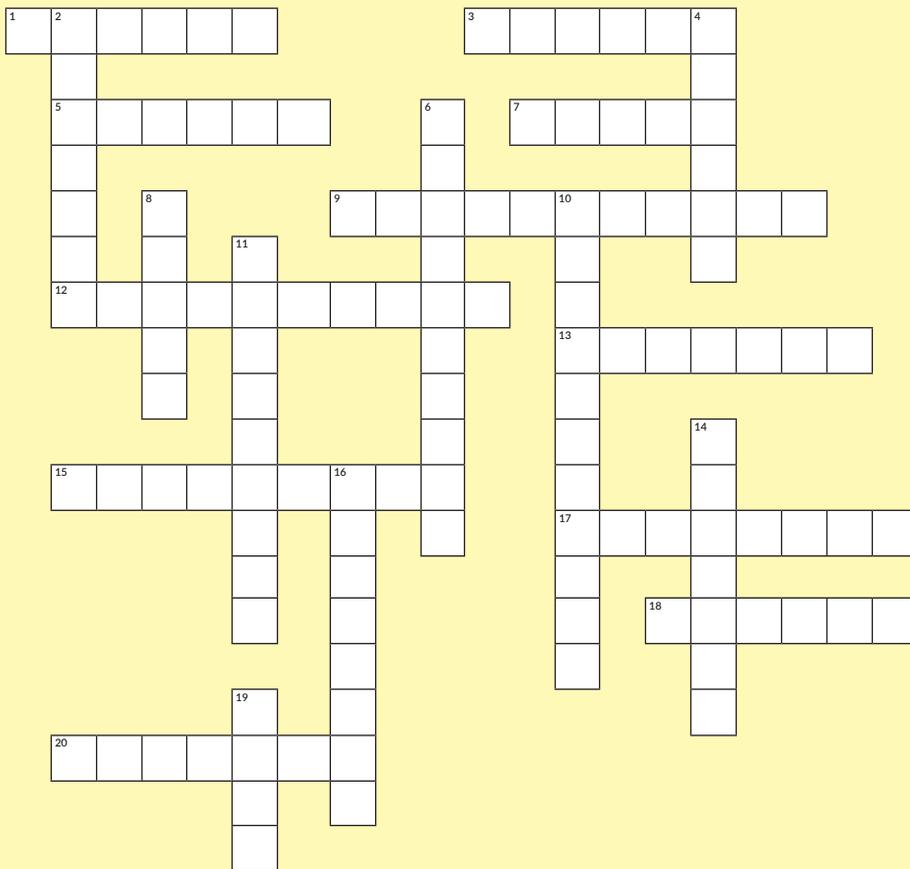
Medium

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							3	
8		4	2	9				

Evil

	4		3					1
	1		7					9
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	7					5		2
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9					5		2	
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CROSSWORD

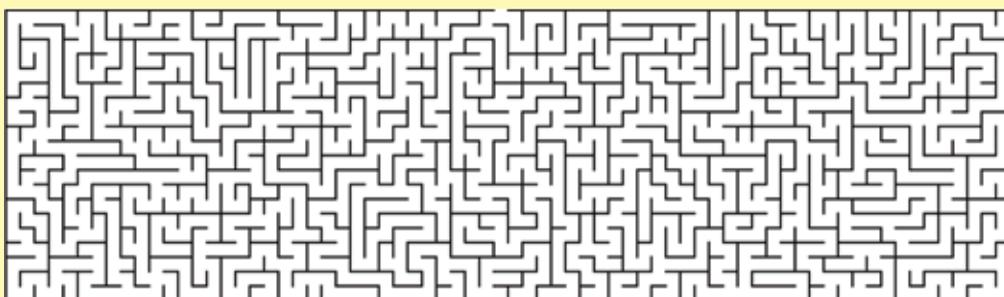


ACROSS

- Rugby player nicknamed 'beaver', who kicked the winning penalty against France in the 2011 RWC final, Stephen _____ (6)
- Prestigious scholarship to study at Oxford University (6)
- Chandler Bing's middle name on Friends (6)
- Rugby player named Player of the Century. Sir _____ Meads (5)
- Rich Armenian-American family (11)
- Ksp = _____ product constant (10)
- Poseidon's favourite accessory (7)
- Cambrian arthropod (9)
- $2\pi rh + 2\pi r^2$ = Area of a _____ (8)
- 2011 earthquake in Japan (6)
- Critic's News Editor, _____ O'Mannin (7)

DOWN

- Diffusion of a solvent across a semipermeable membrane (7)
- The set of rules, principles, and processes that govern the structure of sentences in a given language (6)
- Belgian-Dutch Formula 1 drive, Max _____ (10)
- The first kiwi author to win the Man Booker Prize, Keri _____ (5)
- The thing you hit in badminton (11)
- The active ingredient in Nurofen (9)
- Capital of Kenya (7)
- NZ is the first country to fly this flag in parliament (8)
- A group of people united by actual or perceived kinship and descent (4)



ANSWERS
 Across: 1.Donald 3.Rhodes 5.Murrel 7.Col-
 in 9.Kardashians 12.Solubility 13.Trident
 15.Tribble 17.Cylinder 18.Tohoku 20.Char-
 lie: Down: 2.Osmosis 4.Syntax 6.Verstap-
 pen 8.Hulme 10.Shuttlecock 11.lubuprofen
 14.Nairobi 16.Intertex 19.Clan

ADVERTORIAL: NANDO'S REVIEW



by Chelle Fitzgerald

Ah, Nando's – cemented firmly in the halls of Dunedin's upper echelons of fast food, this bad boi is most certainly a cut above. Last week I was keen for a squawkin' good hangover feed, and I was not disappointed at all by the offerings. I ordered meself a classic chicken burger with a plot twist of a second peri-peri chicken breast. I got it without tomato, because tomatoes are for losers who hate themselves. Because I'm offensively white, I went with the lemon and herb spice level, and added some cheese for extra zing. This burger was a whopping \$14 fiddy, but I dug into my "no

regrets" fund in order to treat myself. Adding a side of "seriously large chips" for another \$9 fiddy, I was pretty excited to tuck into these peri peri salted friends. For the record, I wouldn't call these "seriously large" though, unless you're a three year old or an Instagram #wellness hoe who is obsessed with "glutes".

On the other hand, the chips were FUCKING YUMMO. They were perfectly spiced, and just the right amount of crispy on the outside with just the right amount of softness on the inside. McDonald's hash brown level of perfect.

My companion Jack had himself a vegan version of my burger, which is the same burger but with a vegan patty in it instead. Metres away, my skin was burning with the radiation from his smug sense of self-satisfaction as he swaggered up to loudly order his ethical burger. All smugness aside, the Nando's vegan burger is a tasty-ass way to save the planet. My only issue with Nando's in Dunedin is that it is where a pub used to be, and any closure of a pub is a travesty in my opinion. But otherwise, keep that succulent goodness coming!

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CHECK OUT BEFORE MIDNIGHT

By Zoe Taptiklis-Haymes

I've built a hotel for the rest of the world
For the rest of the world to stay in
I'm going to tuck my day dreamer into bed
Make toast, butter with jam, on the veneer wooded
Bench top

A bench top to make love on
Like dusting it in flour
Rising and rolling out the dough
On pizza night
Blitzing the sauce
Testing the taste

I've built a hotel
That the rest of the world sleeps in
The carpets are the wrong shade of brown
But they're new
Their toes will grip and curl
Wrinkle with pleasure

A wardrobe to hang up
Selves in, red jacket Sue
Pearl necklaced Dusty
Yellow rosed Lili
There's a complimentary
Compliment, if you reach back
Past the bodies

I've built a hotel for the world to stay in

RADIO ONE 91FM *presents the* 2018 OUSA

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CARTOONS COURTESY OF MARK WINTER

Former Fairfax daily cartoonist, Mark Winter, now with the Morning Star in the UK, reached out to Critic after hearing the international hullabaloo over the Menstruation Issue.

"Many moons ago, more specifically in the late '70s, I roamed the hallowed halls of Otago Uni... well even more specifically the Critic office. In fact if I had spent more time in lectures I wouldn't just be a cartoonist... I would be a successful cartoonist. I have the publication to blame for my first published toon". 40 years ago, under the pen name Chicane to protect the innocent and the rest is history."



TWININGS ENGLISH BREAKFAST TEA

By David Emanuel



Twinings English Breakfast Tea is the opposing force to 2018, our last hope before we descend into complete censorship.

It is important to clarify that every year the big wigs who write the Oxford English Dictionary add a new word to the dictionary to represent the feeling of the times. This year they announced the addition of the new verb "2018'd". Examples of 2018ings include law camp, Mark Henaghan, drawing vaginas and not being able to criticise the DCC even though they are certified fascists.

What does this have to do with tea you might ask? Twinings represents Prince Phillip at that royal event politely enquiring as to whether the natives still throw spears at each other. If you drink Twinings English Breakfast, therefore, you may just end up in the desirable middle ground between being an outdated old racist and the University.

Upon waking up on a cold Dunedin morning, brewing a cup of Twinings English Breakfast is like Nigella Lawson coming into bed and spooning you while you watch *The Crown* on Netflix. It makes you just want to lie there all day and become as unemployed as Nicky Hager.

The correct way to brew Twinings English Breakfast is as follows: one, put the kettle on. Two, put a tea bag in a mug. Three, pour in the water. Four, add a splash of milk (but not too much!) Five, add sugar to taste. Anyone who flouts this process cares less about their personal well-being than the media does about actual world news. They have played a story about the

fucking royal wedding every day for the last week!

One major advantage of tea is that you can follow the above process and consume tea in the morning or the evening, just like alcohol! Be assured that when you do, you will be as soothed as if Her Majesty the Queen was whispering her Christmas address into your ear (before she realises that some of her great-grandchildren will be mixed-race).

Tastes like: tea.

Pairs with: Referring to indigenous peoples as "the natives," racism and generally ruining entire continents.

become a specialist
a geneticist
a neuroscientist
an ecologist
by becoming
a zoologist

SEMESTER 2
BIO112
 Animal Biology

BIOL112: Animals live in a hostile world where they must survive in the face of adverse weather and the presence of predators. They must find resources for body growth and fuel for their activities, and mate and rear their young, passing on genes to future generations. In overcoming these challenges, animals have developed a diversity of body plans, physiological adaptations and life styles.

This introductory course surveys the evolution and diversity of animal life. It explores the unifying relationships between form and function among animals from different environments and how animals interact with each other and with their environment. This 2nd semester course is hands-on, with lecture material complemented by practical classes. BIOL112 is on the approved list of optional eighth papers for HSFY students.

For more information, please check out the Zoology homepage (www.otago.ac.nz/zoology/) or contact the Department of Zoology (email: zoology@otago.ac.nz, phone: 479 7986)



Every week I'm tempted by the same tantalising offer. This sultry temptress is not that hot fresher at 10 Bar, but instead twelve 5% beers for \$22. I am of course talking about Kingfisher Premium Lager.

This beer created in India is cheap, easy to drink, and much like its slogan ("The King of Good Times") suggests, it's a fucking good time. However, there's a reason why you don't see hordes of Uni students drinking these delectable drunken delights, it's because these fuckers are sneaky.

One minute you're fine, then the next you're absolutely pissed off your tits, passed out in your mate's room, lounge or alleyway, most likely all three.

The secret in Kingfisher's deception is how easy they are to get down. They're crisp, light and taste fine, unlike most other higher percentage beers. My theory is that much like a fish is attracted to a lure, skint students see this price, fall for the ploy, and never make the same mistake again. It's like going back to that hot fresher: yeah it was fun, but they gave you gonorrhoea. Is the risk really worth the pay off? The answer is up to you.

But here's the real kicker, these kingfishers aren't even the strongest or the cheapest you can get. The creators of Kingfisher must have had breathers in mind because they made a big fuck off can called "Kingfisher Strong". Weighing in at \$3.50 per 500ml can with a whopping 7.2% alcohol content, this is where the phrase "can of whoop ass" came from. Strongies are a cost-effective way to get

rickity-reckity wrecked if you can cope with the hangover that is bound to follow.

In the eyes of this beer, the regular Kingfisher is known as "Kingfisher Weak". You know that a beer must get people truly rolled if it makes them call a 5 percent weak. I can attest to their might, as I once smashed back three of these canisters in quick succession before a BYO. One minute I was with it, next I was in a restaurant with Americans I didn't know calling me Post Malone and force-feeding me wine through a shoe. King of good times? Fucking oath it is.

Tasting notes: India's finest premium, malted barley, light hops, deception.

Pairs well with: The best darn butter chicken you've ever had, wanting to forget that shitty assignment, Post Malone's "Beer Bongs and Bentleys".

Froth level: 9,999/10

Taste level: 5/10

By William Shakesbeer

KINGFISHER PREMIUM LAGER



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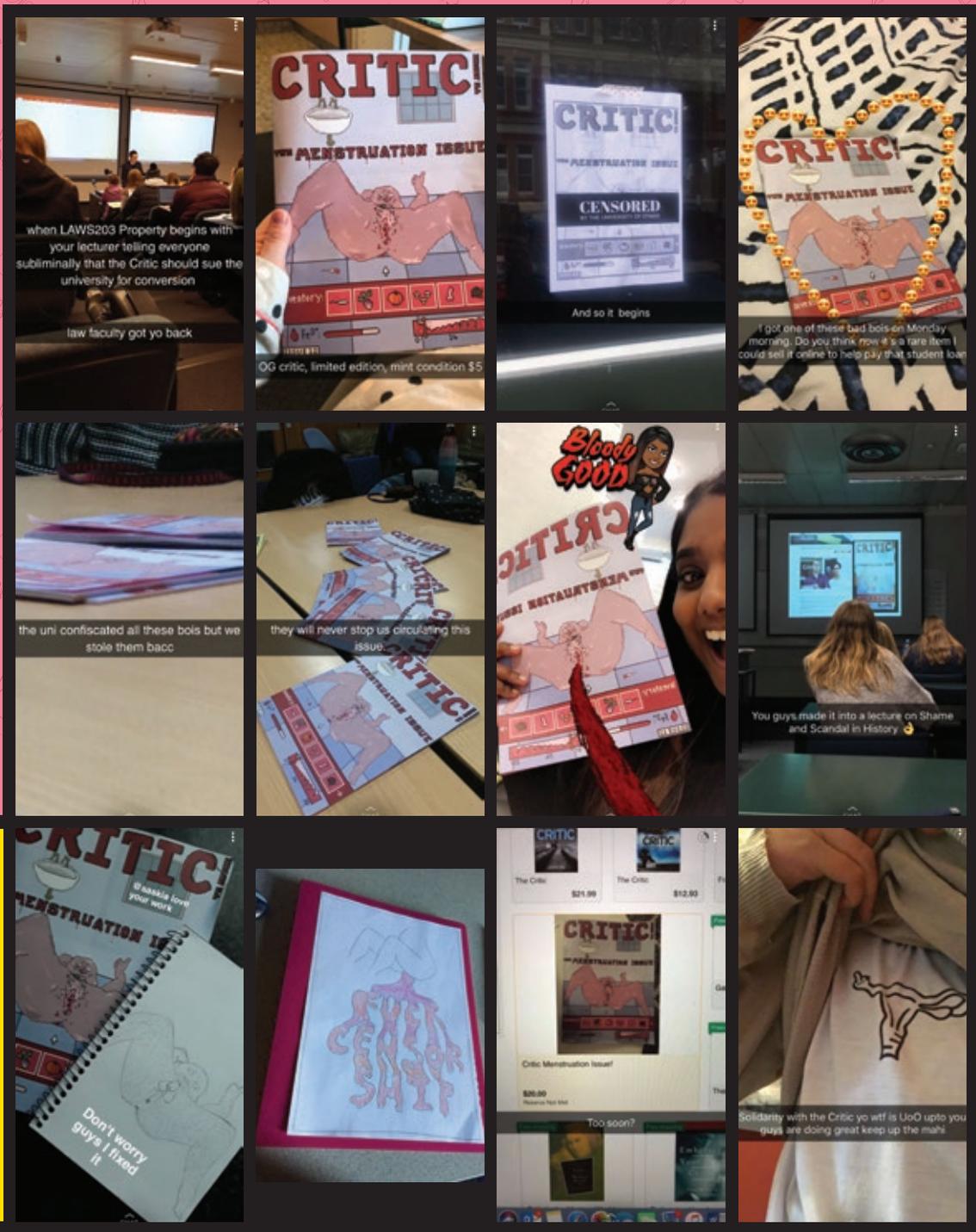
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SNAP, CRACK

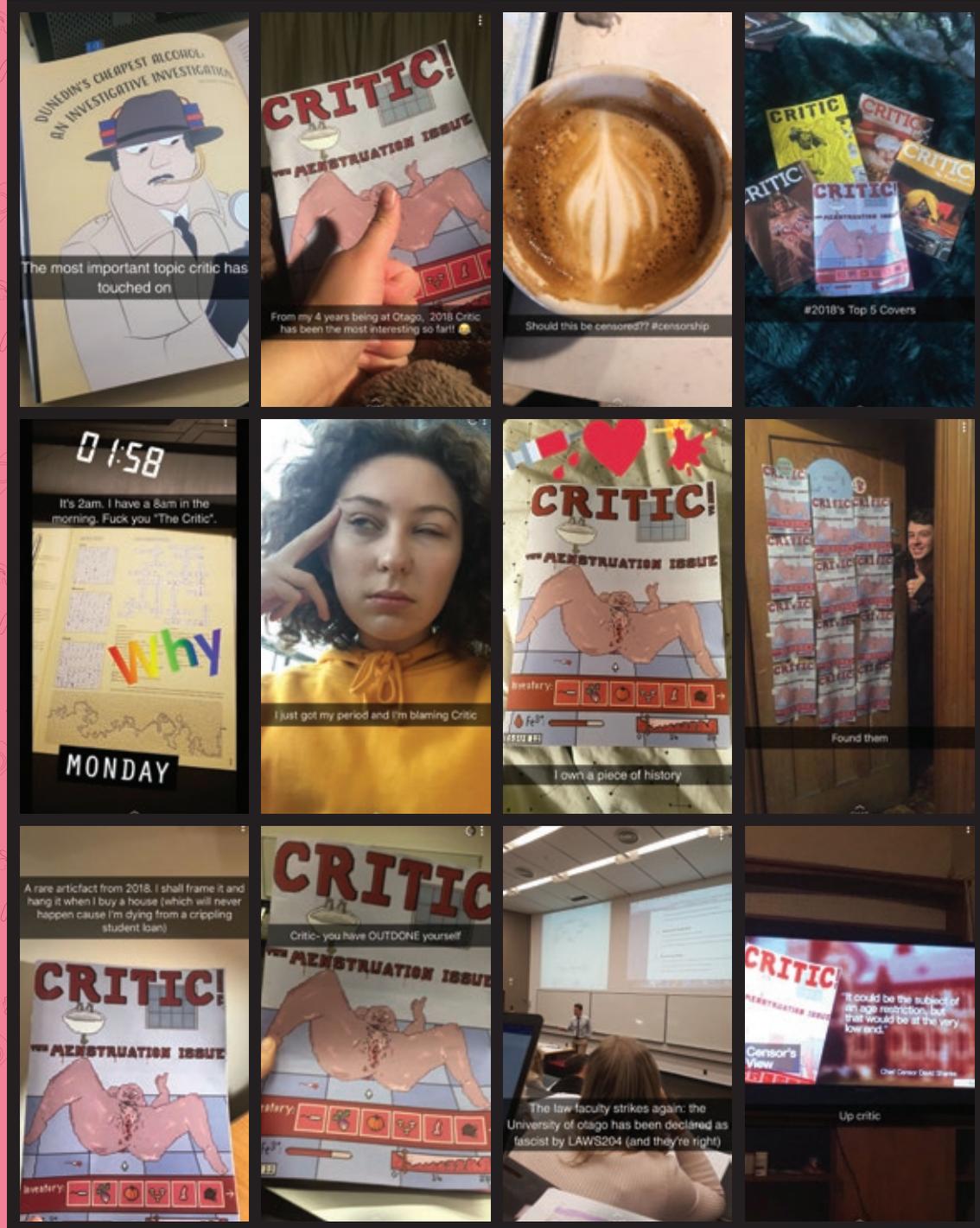
Send us a snap, crack open a CRITIC & popple up a prize*



THIS WEEK'S WINNER

& POOPLE US

*The best snap each week wins a 12 pack of V





The hopeful lovers on the Critic Blind Date are provided with a meal and a bar tab, thanks to the Dog With Two Tails. If you're looking for love and want to give the Blind Date a go, email critic@critic.co.nz

Shakira

On a chilly Thursday night, gut-wrenched, I found myself sitting across from a curly-haired surfer dude who we all once wished we were. I will say, I never understood the sex appeal of a moustache until we met. Also, he came in for a hug before I sat down, I mean what a gent. Diving straight in, we discussed his intrepid excursion to the Maldives for his geography masters testing how sand blew in the wind? I will confess, I was a bit confused.

While we ate dinner, with funky jazz music playing, his lecturer and many others put on a performance with what looked like ballroom with a weird twist? We shared dessert, and I lost my crème brûlée virginity that night, he even let me crack the top of it. Our date at the restaurant ended with a glass of pinot noir then walked to Social Club where I met some of his friends, flatmates and crew from his band. Then karaoke was on the cards, Vivace really did bring it home that night. Four other girls were there. Proud to call them our "Wishbone Cafe hype squad," they earned it with the energy they brought, then later a couple showed up and the man serenaded his wife, it really was beautiful. After doing a duet to "White Flag" by Dido, he whipped out "Monster" by Nicki, he knew every lyric I truly couldn't fault it, he ended with what looked like could have been the splits but wasn't. I was impressed. I had a go at "Hips Don't Lie" but it wasn't nearly as impressive. He left to get more song tickets then said he'd bought two shots, I'd told him I probably shouldn't have any more to drink, he then said "Don't worry I've already had them". He did mention previously that he was a big fan of karaoke. The night came to a close, he walked me home, I invited him in to have a look at my artwork on the walls to prove it wasn't a facade. After showing him my humble abode I whipped out the hula-hoop, his hips didn't lie, I'm sure he can practice. Walking him out we exchanged numbers and agreed upon possibly seeing each other again.

So, when I applied for the blind date I promised a life drawing of the lucky man, as I did not succeed I felt guilty and did a post-it note drawing whilst tipsy. I woke up to it the next morning. It was terrible. Thanks Dog With Two Tails and Critic she sure was a faaaab night!

Kanye

First of all, to all you perverts that read blind date for their weekly fix of softcore erotica I'm sorry to leave you sorely disappointed. A slightly tipsy, slightly nervous lad was chaperoned to the blind date by two flatmates who had curated the perfect playlist to calm anyone's nerves (Kanye, Netsky and Dave Guetta). Arriving first, I made the first power play by seating myself facing away from the entrance – mysterious. The wonderful Miss Waimate arrived not two minutes later, as the cacophonous (turn your fucking guitar down) jazz band began to set up.

I'll admit it's been a while since I've been on a date, but my nerves were slowly put to rest. Both coming from small towns riddled with orchards allowed a peachy place for conversation to start (Cromwell vs. Waimate – you decide). To be honest, it was a wonderful date accompanied by genuine conversation. But that makes for a boring read up in Critic, doesn't it? You sick fucks, all you want is to read about some alcohol-fuelled display of impotence. After the band reached the crescendo of their performance we decided to head off to Vivace for some karaoke. I had some Yeezy flavoured tricks up my sleeve and a girl to impress.

I was treated to a world-class performance of Shakira (Shakira Shakira) and I've gotta say esas caderas no mienten (thanks Google Translate). As per usual, I absolutely killed Nicki's verse in "Monster". On the way home we talked creative outlets and I was captivated by Shakira's passion for tasteful nude portraits. Sign me up.

I had an absolute waazoo of a time, thanks Te Arohi, thanks Dog With Two Tails and thank you to my wonderful date! Keep an eye on that phone of yours.

PS Even though you're a vegetarian, thanks for eating my ass.

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