

LET YOUR LETTERS LOOSE AT US

UBS

LETTER OF THE WEEK WINS A \$30 VOUCHER FROM UNIVERSITY BOOKSHOP EMAIL CRITIC@CRITIC.CO.NZ Campus

LETTER OF THE WEEK

H, The university is giving \$400 to permanent or fixed term full and part time staff who are considered 'low earners' (less than \$66,647 per year earnings) next week for working during the lockdown as a thank you. I am a staff member in the kitchen and front of house at a halls of residence but don't want to give names. I, along with 2/3 of my workplace are under casual contracts, and are therefore not able to receive this payment (detailed in the staff information email sent on the 6th September, I'm unaware if you have access to this). We had full time staff who were unable to work due to health reasons who were covered by casual staff, young people who are in high school or university working double to triple their usual hours during lockdown, getting behind on their studies to do so. I'm unaware of the finer details as to why we are unable to get this money, and I lowkey consider it a kick in the teeth to these staff members who will not get anything greater than a generic thank you email sent out to the whole university. We worked very hard to keep dining running smoothly - not just during this lockdown but the one last year also.

I don't know if anything can be done with this info, just needed to vent lol.

Hey Critic,

Great job on the Mahuru Māori issue except for one small thing: the Tohutō edition of the ODT watch is specifically calling out about the lack of macron usage on the township name of Wānaka within their newspaper however if you flick to page āhua noho (22), there is indeed a macron missing from Wānaka in the very first sentence. This is very hypocritical. Hypo-critic, if you must.

Sincerely, someone who is emailing not only for social justice but also puns. Two birds one stone baby.

Hi Critic,

What the fuck. How the hell did you DARE not tell me that they were selling Nippy's iced coffee at the campus store in the link? How the hell dare you Critic? I used to think that you were cool. But we're through. I'll be reading Craccum from now on.

Cheers, Fonterra Rex

Dear Critic,

Karl Marx wrote Das Kapital as an anonymous reader of the British Museum Library. "Das Kapital made no money for its author. Few people read it. And even fewer bought it," (Nigel Hunter, Karl Marx).

Dunedin's jewel in the crown of libraries is the Hocken Library. It has warmth, quietness and cleanliness. Readers are given a cloakroom and a locker, free tea and coffee, the paper and helpful librarians. There is even a glass elevator to take readers upstairs to the enchanting Hocken Art Gallery.

To me it is like an English gentleman's club- without subscription. It houses the works of many great Dunedin poets who are no longer with us. As ex Burns Fellow Peter Olds wrote, "I went to the library and met lots of old friends."

Do visit and find a warm welcome on Anzac Avenue near Forsyth Barr Stadium.

Yours sincerely,

Anthony Skegg (BA Otago)

Dear Steve you fucking maggot

I can't believe you slept with Tracy. She was my best friend! You knew that we went to primary together, and you still fucked her in MY bed. Well guess what Steve you DOG. I banged your dad in your bed. Karma's a bitch huh?

Cheers, Jan Dek

Dear Critic

I'm writing to say that I quite enjoy wearing a mask around the streets. Not because I'm worried about Delta (honestly, I'm more scared of Aucklanders a posteriori), but because feels like we're all finally realizing and acting like this world is the (pre? ongoing? post?) apocalyptic hellscape which it is.

Yours languidly, Theo Bundy



Editorial:

NW/

MRS MILLS

Pour one out for Catherine Mills, "habitual drunkard" and original owner of Starters

By Erin Gourley

We're all mourning the death of Starters. No more afternoon pints in the courtyard, no more underrated cheeseburgers in the dingy light, no more ordering too many beer towers, no more being grossed out by the bathrooms that never quite stopped smelling of vomit. But the bar wasn't only a student icon, it was a Dunedin icon too.

The bar has been serving alcohol for-fucking-ever. The name has changed many times — the Oriental Tavern, the Fat Ladies Arms, the Last Moa, the Oriental Hotel, the Middlemarch Hotel, and Mrs Mills's Commercial Hotel — but the building has been a bar for 140 years. The original publican was a woman who fought hard to get the place up and running.

In 1881, Catherine Mills applied for a liquor licence for her hotel on the corner of Frederick and Clyde Street. It was not easy to get. Firstly, it was pretty unusual to have a woman as a publican back in 1881. Secondly, she'd been fined at least three times for being a "habitual drunkard" in the 1860s, which didn't help.

Cath had run a previous hotel, with a liquor licence, which had fallen into a "state of dilapidation". That was probably because of something to do with the drunkenness, and maybe because it was a brothel as well. Her dad paid for someone to build her a new hotel, because women couldn't own property at the time. It seems like he felt sorry for her, being a woman and a drunkard and all, and the liquor licencing committee felt the same way. As she applied for her licence, her lawyer said, dramatically, that she was "a woman fighting an uphill battle with the world." Despite some opposition, her application was granted.

Mrs Mills' Commercial Hotel was up and running and serving alcohol in December 1881. Cathy remained publican of the Commercial Hotel until 1893, when her daughter, who was also called Catherine Mills, became publican.

Today, we know the Commercial Hotel as Starters Bar. It's been through a lot of name and licence changes, but has almost continuously been licenced to serve alcohol since Catherine got that first licence back in 1881.

Catherine, the habitual drunkard, knew how to have a good time. She would want you to have a drink and celebrate the life of Starters. Whether you knew the bar as the Ori, the Fat Ladies Arms, the Last Moa, or Starters, you've got Catherine to thank for starting up the bar and getting that first licence.

Catherine and her dad couldn't have known that 140 years later their hotel would be deemed unsafe for earthquakes and closed. With that closure, we've lost Catherine's legacy, a piece of Dunedin history, and the last student bar in Dunedin.

Rest in Peace Starters Bar. I will never forget you.



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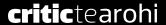
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Starters Shuts Down, Forever

Fuck this is so sad I can't even come up with a witty subheading

The iconic Starters Bar, beloved by freshers and freshers at heart, has suddenly closed down following a decision by the OUSA Executive.

OUSA, who bought the North Dunedin bar in 2018, cited earthquake safety concerns as the reason for closing down. They are hopeful that a replacement bar in North Dunedin will be up and running by 0 Week 2022.

In an interview with Critic Te Arohi, President Michaela Waite-Harvey said this was "100% a health and safety decision. We don't really run things for a profit here, we're a union, so there's definitely no financial avenue or angle, which was what made the decision the hardest. This was just a situation we had which sucked."

OUSA had been weighing their options with the building. "We weren't taking it lightly before," Michaela said. But the seriousness of the risk was brought home to them when Otago Uni suddenly shut their Wellington campus after finding that the building scored just 15% on the New Building Standard. The University considered that too dangerous to have anyone working or studying in the building.

"Seeing the University respond so quickly to the risk changed the game for [OUSA]", Michaela said. "It was definitely a moral decision. Thinking a lot about the what-ifs, of student safety and staff safety, made the decision a lot more clearcut."

Starters has not reopened since the Tuesday 17 August lockdown. At that time, their Facebook page announced they would be closed "for the next few days" as Aotearoa moved into Alert Level 4. Even while lockdown restrictions persisted, there was no hint they would be forced to close for good.

Less than a week ago, Starters had announced their re-opening on Facebook, set out a full week of events, including two (!) guizzes, and detailed protocols for how Starters would operate under Alert Level 2.

Less than 24 hours later, a second, cryptic post said that Starters they would be unable to open that week "due to unforeseen circumstances".

The decision to pull the plug was sudden, but Michaela insists this wasn't a decision that was made lightly. "I feel there's no really soft way to announce a bar's closure. No matter how we announced it to the public I think it would look sudden, but it was definitely thought-out. There were many sleepless nights, definitely from me."

About thirty staff bar staff, many of them students, will no longer be able to work at Starters. Affected staff "are being looked after," with OUSA CEO Debbie Downs taking charge of those negotiations.

However, Michaela says OUSA remains "100%" committed to a student bar in North Dunedin,

saying it is vital for harm reduction and looking after students. "It's been a core part of Dunedin's culture for a really long time, and everyone wants a place where they can hang out and drink and have a good time, without it being too expensive."

By Denzel Chung

Chief Reporter // denzel@critic.co.nz

OUSA are aiming for a replacement venue to be up and running by O-Week next year, says Michaela, but finding a suitable venue in North D will not be easy, and "time is ticking."

David Bennett of advocacy group Save Dunedin Live Music called the closure a "heavy blow to the longevity and vibrancy of the Dunedin music scene." He said the closure of Starters meant the loss of an important venue for student musicians and mid-level touring bands. "Many tours will have to cross Dunedin shows off their lists."

Michaela acknowledged the importance of Starters as a live music venue, but said OUSA's priorities in owning a bar are harm reduction and looking after students. "We're not going to toil over finding the perfect bar. So if we found somewhere that's suitable as a bar but doesn't necessarily have that music aspect, would we consider it? I wouldn't take anything off the table right now. Ideally we find a place that's both a good bar and a music venue."

"Maybe someone in the community knows a place we haven't thought of. Or maybe one of our alumni will give us \$60 million to build us a massive bar, who knows.



Where Should OUSA Put the New Student Bar? Have your say!

With the untimely demise of the "last great student pub", Otago students will be thirsty for a new watering hole. OUSA mentioned that a replacement venue will be sussed, and we came up with a few ideas to help them expedite the process. If you're a fan of any of these alternatives, or if you think you have an even better idea, feel free to reach out to president@ousa.org.nz and voice your opinion.

Party Boat on the Leith

This one is for the truly refined among us. Instead of investing in infrastructure and renovating a whole site, why not just buy a boat and send it down the Leith? Of course it would have to be a little more exclusive than Starters (can't have too many freshers on the boat) but how much cooler would you feel drifting out under a clear starry night sipping on wine or a craft beer?

The Third Floor of Central Library

Close to campus, funky architecture stuff happening, no one actually likes studying there anyway. The Third Floor of Central Library is the perfect location for a bar. What, you're trying to study? I don't care because I'm very drunk, they're serving beer towers up here, you should come along. Drunk students and studious students will conflict, but the drunk students will win through the power of peer pressure.

Union Hall

What's better than U-Bar? Another bar, right on top of U-Bar. So that you can drink at a bar while you queue to drink in another bar. Union Hall does get its uses, and transforming it into a student pub doesn't mean that we would have

to stop using it for other things. It's just that this way, it can have more of a night-life presence, and the Uni will be getting more bang for its buck. We already host plenty of gigs there, so why not put in a few taps?

Rooftop of Burns

Rooftop bars are fancy. You know what else is fancy? Cocktails. No one can be fucked walking all the way to Carousel on a night out, plus we all know BA students' signature vibe of superiority means the drinks will have to be good atop the Humanities' headquarters.

Even better, why not wrap up a long study session in the library with a quick trip across to the top of Burns for a cheeky margarita? The nights alone in Central would pass so much easier if there were promises of an old-fashioned by the end. If the Uni wants to really keep a lid on student drinking, why not host a second bar on campus?

Ruins of the Cadbury Factory

The scattered piles of rubble and disused machinery would give you a very cool, grungy, industrial-chic aesthetic. Random drops and assorted hazards would easily weed out students who can't hold their booze, ensuring only the strong survive and thrive. As a bonus, the ODT offices being right next door would mean an endless supply of stories about students being "drunk irresponsible pricks".

Staff Club

Alright, hear me out. It's central. It's classy. It's in a safe area. It's everything that is important in a student bar. And yet, it's never going to happen.

Tune in weekdays at 12pm, 2pm and 5pm or catch up at r1.co.nz/podcasts *r1.co.nz*

By Critic Staff

But why? It would be easily monitored by security, it would be a close for every student, and it would generate heaps of money. The venue has two floors, so the bottom could be used for gigs and the like, while the top could quickly become the best guiz locale in the entire town. I see no problems with this plan, honestly. Location, location, location.

Student Health

I'm not saying we should eliminate Student Health. I'm just saying that we could condense the entire thing down to one or two rooms, and use the rest of the building as the new Starters venue. Conveniently, this means that the riskassessment of injury or drinking to excess at the student pub would dramatically decrease, as access to health services will be closer than ever before. The curved staircase could prove a challenge for partiers, and some walls would definitely need to be knocked down, but overall I think this is a solid contender.

Hanover Hall

The old Monkey Bar? Bring it back! It's only being used for the dirty, slothful, and irritating Dunedin Symphony Orchestra anyways. Screw them. (If you're from the Dunedin Symphony Orchestra please understand that we respect you and this is a joke). Students deserve to party, baby. Monkey used to be famous for floors stickier than a glue trap, and more STIs than Josh Jackson at 546 Castle Street. Other pros include a 110% earthquake code compliance level, and a nice, aesthetically pleasing roof. We know how much students love vintage tiles.

No Grade Bump This Time Round

There will be no universal grade bump for Otago

consider passing students with a final mark of 47

Professor Pat Cragg, the University's Academic

Deputy-Vice-Chancellor, told Critic that the key

reasons for not allocating a grade bump were

due to the level of disruption. Pat pointed out

that 2020's lockdown lasted for seven weeks.

experience for everyone involved.

and only came down to Level 2 with two weeks

left in the semester. It was also a completely new

students due to lockdown. Assignments due

between 18 to 27 August will be given an extra

five marks, and markers have been urged to

to 49 percent.

"Less disruptive" lockdown means you'll have to try 5% harder

By Fox Meyer News Editor // fox@critic.co.nz

students who achieve 47–49 percent and have

assignments in that paper, to consider whether

a pass mark is more appropriate for the final

No other New Zealand Universities are offering

grade bumps this year, even the ones up North,

Students remain hungry for any free marks they

who were most heavily affected by lockdown.

can get, with one anonymous student telling

out free marks once, now I'll be chasing that

forever. I'm hungry. I've tasted blood. They're

want that grade bump."

Critic that "they've shown me that they can give

going to have to put me down like a rabid animal. I

shown evidence of pass marks in all other

exam.'

An international student says Student Health needs to do more to raise awareness of their services, in particular saying their provision of language-appropriate support is lacking.

Jess* told Critic Te Arohi that although she had began studying at Otago last year, she was not aware of the types of services that they offered, to reach out to them herself. It took a lot of "exploring," she said. "If I didn't approach them, I wouldn't know at all."

Psychology student Hannah was not surprised that Student Health's marketing was not effectively reaching international students: "Student Health's marketing is generic — it is where any considerations of cultural context are given little space to exist. Their only nod to aspects of Asian cultures comes in the form of you eat so don't be an instant noodle'. Even some

attempt at tokenism would be better tha ethnic food getting more attention than

Margaret Perley, Head of Student Health Services, said: "Our services are not adve in languages other than English, however there is the option to use Google Transla information on our website and Faceboo Our staff are always available to help with queries."

A University of Otago spokesperson said "We believe our marketing, advertising, pu information campaigns and other outrea methods do cater to a diverse student population. However, we are aware that y always improve and will always endeavou broaden the offerings to cater to as man as possible.'

Within Student Health, Margaret says: "St for whom English is not their first langua can ask for an interpreter to be present a appointment, and we will arrange as requ

University Asks Students Not To Cheat In Online Exams

said Pat.

"Fuck you, we'll do it anyway" say first-years

In an email sent to students last week, the University asked them not indulge in rulebreaking during their online exams. They said that "academic integrity is paramount" and that they require all students to follow the "honour code"

Some students, already pushed to the breaking point under the stress of their competitive courses, had other ideas. One stressed law student told Critic that: "I don't feel compelled to cheat, but I do worry about losing focus if I'm not in exam conditions. I also worry if the grade threshold will go up and people will be incentivised to cheat to reach that threshold.

In an email sent to law students, lecturers reinforced that cheating in the upcoming LAWS101 exams could have far reaching consequences for their career, noting that "when you apply for admission to the Bar, the Law Society contacts the Faculty, the Proctor and the Academic Integrity unit for information on your time as an Otago student" and that "academic misconduct is disclosed to the Law Society, and may jeopardise your qualification for admission [to the Bar]."

The "competitive nature" of courses such as Health Sciences First Year and LAWS101 have "effectively turned exams into arms races for

By Alex Leckie-Zaharic News Reporter // alex@critic.co.nz

who can outwit the system the most" according to one tutor, noting that some of their students aren't studying at all and are instead trying to gain an edge another way. These competitive exams use the software ExamSoft.

For students who aren't forced to use ExamSoft for their exams, dodging the watchful eye of the University becomes a little easier. According to another student, it was "piss easy" to avoid getting caught last year, with another telling Critic that they "actively Googled answers" when taking a multiple-choice exam and only avoided getting full marks to ensure they didn't arouse suspicion.

The Meningitis Foundation wants every school

School leavers identified as a key group to vaccinate

leaver to be vaccinated against meningitis, not just those going into residential halls.

"Meningococcal disease" is a mouthful, but the numbers speak for themselves. New Zealand has 24 times the rate of meningococcal disease than the USA. Even with appropriate medical care, one in ten people who catch it will die. One in five will be permanently disabled.

The World Health Organization has said that they want to eliminate bacterial meningitis epidemics globally by 2030, but in New Zealand, where the disease is much more prevalent, there is an effort to speed up this process. And while the disease is rare, it does not strike all Kiwis equally.

Meningococcal B (Aotearoa's most common variant) most commonly infects people under five years old and people in their teens. It is also about three times more prevalent in Pacific people and twice as prevalent in Māori.

Right now, the push to eliminate this threat is focused on creating equity for those who want the vaccine. Andrea Brady, the director of Meningitis Foundation New Zealand, described how some young adults are unfairly left out of the vaccine effort. "Any adolescent can get the vaccine for free — so long as they are in a private school, in a hall at uni, in the military, or even in prison. But if they are leaving school to head into the workforce, learn a trade, or support a family then they are not protected against any form of meningococcal disease," said Andrea.

Leading vaccinologist and Associate Professor Helen Petousis-Harris echoed this sentiment. She said that young adults, the people most at-risk for this disease, need to be better protected. "When adolescents are living at home with mum and dad and attending school, it can be hard to keep an eye on them. But for those living in hostel accommodation or in flats, it can be even harder to keep an eye on them and they are likely to be in closer contact with a larger number of people.

This year, with everyone already familiar with

lockdown, things didn't last guite as long. "We

after only three weeks of lockdown and with six

more weeks of the semester still left. Hence the

disruption for most students is far more minor,"

But that's not to say that there is no relief for

struggling students. Pat reminded Critic that

"should [a student] feel they have particular

circumstances that should be taken account

of." Additionally, students on the cusp of failing

a paper this year may be in luck. Pat said that

"academic staff have been asked to carefully

consider the pass/fail margin. In the case of

special consideration is still open for applications,

have reached Alert Level 2 in semester two

International Students Find Barriers to Student Health

Hard to talk about your problems when English isn't your first language

some awareness about Student Health when she including mental health support, until she needed

targeted towards the general student population catchy, student-esque slogans like 'you are what

NEWS / KARERE / 23







DEP FROM OTAGO UNI FRIDAYS & SUNDAYS

BOOK NOW ATOMICTRAVEL.CO.NZ PROMO CODE: OUSA

By Denzel Chung Chief Reporter // denzel@critic.co.nz

an our us.''	Telephone interpreters are also available for free, 24/7, through the Ezispeak service.
ertised er ate for ok pages. h any d: public ach	Despite this, though, Jess says she was never offered an interpreter in any consultations. In fact, she expressed surprise when told by Critic Te Arohi that interpreters are available at Student Health. While she says she could cope in simple appointments like renewing prescriptions, an interpreter would have been helpful for more complex issues like mental health appointments, where there could be new terms that are more difficult to understand.
we can ur to ny groups	When asked what she would do to improve Student Health, Jess said: "Give us a list." She wanted Student Health to be clearer about the support that was available for international students, including what could be covered in their insurance policies.
tudents age at their uired.''	*Name changed for privacy.

Push to Fight Meningococcal Disease in Aotearoa

By Fox Meyer News Editor // fox@critic.co.nz

This can lead to higher carriage of the bug as it is transmitted through respiratory droplets such as coughs and sneezes.'

She also described how the uni lifestyle makes for perfect meningitis spreading grounds. "We do think that lifestyle factors play a part. Sharing of spit, drinking, smoking, staying up later and living in crowded flats can all be risks which is why we think it's so important to vaccinate students before they leave school," she said.

Young people don't seem to be acutely aware of what meningitis is. A cursory query of the Critic Te Arohi office, filled with people who have just left this at-risk age group, yielded mixed results "I think it's bacterial," said one, "I hear it's pretty brutal, pretty awful," said another. "One of my best friend's childhood friend's brothers was flatting with someone who came over one night and literally died that night because he had it,' said a third. All said that they would gladly take the vaccine.

Med Students Make Public Apology for Med Revue

Well, except for the jokes about Pharmacy, Physio and Dent students

The Otago University Medical Students Association (OUMSA) issued a public apology on Facebook for offensive jokes in their annual Med Revue. This statement is believed to be the first of its kind for a student performance at Otago Uni.

The statement, released on Monday 13 September, was co-signed by OUMSA President Molly Elliott and Med Revue producer Amiel Khan. In it, they said: "After the show, it was brought to our attention that some of the jokes offended attendees, due to their racist and homophobic nature. For this we are deeply sorry." A personal apology was also extended to the Dean of the Medical School, Professor Ratham Subramaniam.

Critic Te Arohi understands one of the skits which led to a student complaining involved four male flatmates acting out homosexual tropes. Another joke revolved almost entirely around Ratham's name being mistaken, mispronounced or generally butchered repeatedly.

"Moving forward we will be reflecting upon the things OUMSA chooses to support, including what is incorporated into Med Revue. OUMSA does not support anything that in any way makes our community feel unsafe or unwelcome. We recognise that in making light of these experiences we feed into the idea that these behaviours are okay. They very simply are not. Our actions trivialised the traumatic experiences members of our community feel.'

A cast member told Critic Te Arohi that the statement seemed to have come out of the blue, released with little notification or consultation with the cast, and over a month and a half after the performances.

By Denzel Chung

Chief Reporter // denzel@critic.co.nz

As of the time of writing, it had received 28 reactions on Facebook — including, rather intriguingly, two "haha" reacts.

This is believed to be the first time a student-led performance at Otago Uni has resulted in a public apology being made. Whether this statement will have any impact on future performances, such as the other schools' Revues or the Capping Show, remains to be seen.

No Regulations on Lead in Plumbing

"Wow, Oscar, this is actually guite scary," says Critic's News Editor and **Resident Geologist Fox Meyer**

Government inaction on lead fittings could be causing irreversible harm to millions of children.

Lead levels in plumbing fittings are currently unregulated, and the government is doing sweet fuck all about it, according to Greg Wallace, CEO of Master Plumbers Gasfitters and Drainlayers New Zealand (MFPDNZ). Greg told Critic Te Arohi that his organisation raised the alarm back in 2018. "We got rid of the lead out of petrol in the early '80s. We got it out of paint. Surely we want it out of our drinking water?" he said. "We're just not being a sophisticated society here."

National testing undertaken by MFPDNZ over the last three years has shown lead levels up to 11 times higher than the New Zealand standard for drinking water.

National testing undertaken by MFPDNZ over the last three years has shown lead levels up to 11 times higher than the New Zealand standard for drinking water. "To put that in perspective, New Zealand's drinking water standards are twice that of the US," said Greg, while Australia and Europe are moving towards a zero standard.

Despite the clear dangers posed by lead poisoning, especially to youth, the issue has faded into the background since the furor caused over the Waikouaiti contamination scare at the beginning of this year.

"20 years ago, a lot of plumbing products used to be manufactured in New Zealand. Now about 95% are imported," Greg said. "Tomorrow, you could go online, you could import a 20-foot container of tapware and sell that through the internet." Those taps could be chock full of lead, and the legal liability would rest with the installer something Greg says is "completely unfair".

Attempts to bring light to the issue have had limited success. "We've spoken to National about it. It doesn't seem to be their main priority," said Greg, diplomatically.

The Green Party's infrastructure spokesperson, Julie-Anne Genter, said she tried to raise the issue in the last government, where she was Associate Minister for Health. "The truth is we don't know if there is a problem," she said. No

systematic data is available, and public awareness of risk is low. According to Genter. "it just feels like there hasn't been a public health campaign around this issue. Other parts of the world have dealt with this problem. And it's something that we should be doing, because there is no safe level of lead."

"It just feels like there hasn't been a public health campaign around this issue. Other parts of the world have dealt with this problem. And it's something that we should be doing, because there is no safe level of lead."

Both Genter and Greg told Critic Te Arohi that the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment (MBIE) and the Ministry of Health (MoH) have been passing the buck between each other. MBIE is responsible for regulating building supplies, while the MOH is responsible for drinking water. Greg says, "they're just hitting the ball to one another without taking responsibility."

"I think their philosophy is guite light touch," said Genter about MBIE. The MOH has changed the notifiable levels of lead to a lower level, but they haven't instituted regular testing like they do in other comparable countries. "In New Zealand, nobody wants to deal with the problem. The Ministry didn't seem to think it was a big issue when I asked them about it.'

"The government has to regulate it," said Greg. He described the current approach the government is taking — to "ask suppliers to sign a declaration that their products comply with relevant standards" as "frustrating". "We just don't think that legislation is strong enough. There's nothing to enforce it."

Both Genter and Greg supported taking your landlord to task to ensure that the water coming out of your taps is safe and clean. "We talk about insulation and heating. Is drinking water being safe for use also important? I think so. That should be part of providing a healthy and safe environment," said Greg.

Genter agreed, saying "obviously, I think landlords should be accountable a lot more.'

Big Storm Cuts Off West Coast's Cellular Connection

Phones, WiFi, Eftpos machines all go offline for about a day

Most of the West Coast lost connection to wifi and cellular coverage last week, though nobody elsewhere seemed to notice. Sunday's crazy storm destroyed part of the fibre optic network on the Coast, cutting residents from Haast to Whataroa off from the rest of the country.

This is the second time in a year that the network has been cut off. This creates a health and safety risk for residents and tourists. Although power and TV remained connected, it was impossible to contact emergency services from 5am Monday morning until about 1pm Tuesday afternoon.

Critic's News Editor happened to be in Franz losef at the time, and was able to interview locals about the issue. The town, already financially stricken by Covid, was forced to turn away what business it did have because Eftpos machines were inoperable.

Kaeli, a tourist in town at the time, said that she heard that the supermarket tills would accept a single purchase off of your card while offline, and that she was advised to purchase wisely. "I bought 12 bottles of cider, two avocados, two carrots, a bag of crisps, and some hummus," said Kaeli. "That seemed about right."

Rvan, manager of the petrol station in Franz Josef, said that he had to turn away business. He reported that this may have sent the wrong signal to potential customers, unaware of the blackout, and that he didn't want it to seem like service here was typically "unreliable". For what it's worth, he also seemed relatively unfazed that his petrol station is built directly on top of the Alpine Fault, which is expected to create eight metres of horizontal displacement and two metres of vertical displacement, potentially breaching the 100,000 litres of fuel stored in tanks beneath the forecourt.

Other services, such as one helicopter tourism business, had creative solutions. A satellite phone was used to check weather conditions and report with choppers, and radios were popular in town. Locals in general seemed to welcome the isolation, but were frustrated with what it implied for their safety in the case of an emergency. Mostly, they were just peeved that it further hampered business in a town already hungry for whatever business it can get.

By Fox Meyer

News Editor // news@critic.co.nz

Kaeli said that it was impossible to tell exactly what had happened to the cell service. "Some people were saving it would be back in minutes. some said it would be back in months. And I was trying to see news about it on TV, but literally nobody was talking about it. I was asking myself what the fuck was going on and getting no answers at all.'

Jan Hains, Communications Officer for the New Zealand Property Investor Federation, said "sorry we haven't any data on this issue."

However, even if lead shows up in your tested tapware, it doesn't necessarily mean that it's the fittings at fault. Greg said the water tobies (the isolation valve which sits outside and connects your flat to the water mains) can contain lead too. "We had some of those leaching lead. I think it was conveniently brushed over as an issue [when the Karitane lead scandal blew up].

He said the reports on the Waikouaiti contamination incident are "very detailed, however, it's also very helpful for the council because it removes responsibility and puts it on consumers. Having a water main that's over 80 years old, with lead joins, is not what I call acceptable. It should have been replaced 20-odd years ago."

This sentiment was echoed by Dr Mike Palin of Otago's Geology Department earlier this year. In our 9 May issue, he told Critic Te Arohi that lead poisoning of the environment is "insidious", and that "as a society, we've decided [lead is] too pervasive to clean up so we just continue to live, eat, and drink the shit." He told Critic this week, "bottom line: ignorance isn't a defence."

Greg laughed when asked about the advice being given to flush taps for 30 seconds each morning. "It's ludicrous," he said — hardly anybody is aware of the advice, it contradicts the advice being given in other parts of the country to conserve water use, and it will reduce lead leaching, but not remove contamination completely. "Why don't they do something concrete and support getting rid of lead in products, including the water tobies they supplied?" Greg asked.

According to DCC Three Waters Group Manager Tom Dyer, "water tobies have been identified as one potential source capable of contributing very small amounts of lead to the water supply. These sorts of fittings are already being progressively replaced with lead-free equivalents as part of routine renewals work.'

The office of Health Minister Andrew Little told Critic that our request for comment should be directed to the Ministry of Health or to the office of Hon Poto Williams, Minister for Building and Construction.

Williams' office said that MBIE is considering introducing comparable standards to Australia, if those become mandatory across the ditch.

Covid Dissuades Potential Postgrads

Students not finding the certainty they expected in the postgraduate lifestyle

By Fox Meyer News Editor // news@critic.co.nz

Earlier this year, we wrote about a surge in postgraduate enrolment rates due to something we called a "panic Masters". This year, still unsure of what the future holds, some students have expressed that they'd rather stay away from further study than enrol in it just to feel like there is at least one thing certain about their plans for the next few years.

Many students who began a "panic masters" did so because the world they graduated into was uncertain and scary. Continuing study was a means of providing some stability in this otherwise chaotic environment. However, many of those students went on to express regret,

saying that the disruptive effects of Covid meant that even their study plans became messy and complicated and stressful, which is exactly what they were trying to avoid.

Steph, who has just finished a BCom, told Critic that "despite my lecturers working really hard to provide what they were capable of, my final three semesters were disappointing." The amount of miscommunication and disorder surrounding alert level changes ultimately made doing postgrad during Covid "not worth it".

Steph said that she "wasn't willing to throw away any more money", and that this disorder all came

down to "communication, and to Otago Uni being lacklustre when directing different departments as well as with us students."

Aidan, who identified as a panic-postgrad, said that he didn't regret the decision, but that he understood why people may be put off of it. "My degree required a lot of technical work on a computer, and during lockdown, I couldn't do any of that. Now that we're out, I have to condense all of that work into the space of a few weeks. It's stressful. I'll get it done, but I can understand why people wouldn't want to sign up for a course that nobody can promise will be anything like they expect."

OUSA "Strongly Supports" Gender Self-Identification

SOP 59 is just ten SOPs away from SOP 69

OUSA has submitted in strong support of gender self-identification on birth certificates. The proposed Bill, currently at its final stage before the House of Representatives, would make it easier for people to change the sex or gender on their birth certificates without going to court.

The official name of what OUSA submitted to is the Inquiry into Supplementary Order Paper (SOP) 59 on the Births, Deaths, Marriages and Relationships Registration Bill. Which is a bit of a mouthful. For context, this Bill has been before the house since 2018, which is a weirdly long time. That's mainly because the Select Committee, back in 2019, heard public submissions arguing that the Bill should allow people to self-identify their gender on their birth certificates. The Committee agreed with those submissions and suggested that the amendments be made.

The Bill is now stuck at the last stage of the law-making process, but there have been a lot of proposed changes at this final point. One of those changed versions of the Bill, called Supplementary Order Paper 59, was sent out for consultation on 25 August 2021. That's what OUSA are submitting on. The Bill is likely to go be sent back to Select Committee again after these submissions are considered.

The submission was written by the Exec's Political Representative, Mhairi Mackenzie-Everitt. The basic position, as OUSA saw it, is that the proposed changes create "a fairer and more accessible process." The submission said that, "while current processes no longer require outright physical transition in all cases, its reliance on judicial procedure and the involvement of medical experts in seeking to externally validate individual's identities remains problematic. This process is inequitable and unduly burdensome."

"The ideal benchmark for our law should be one that reflects the fluid and personal nature of identity, and enables gender diverse individuals to easily access legal confirmation of their identities on their own terms," the submission said. "Self-nomination and the outright abolition of legal tests relating to physical conformity is the key outcome to be sought, and one that reflects the increasing diversity of New Zealanders' lived reality.

The submission noted that there was likely to be submissions in opposition to SOP 59 and said that they reject the idea that self-identification threatens women's rights. "These submissions are informed by ideologies founded on inaccurate and misleading disinformation that is harmful to the LGBTQIA+ community," they wrote.

By Erin Gourley

Critic Editor // news@critic.co.nz

They noted that a specific section of the Bill allows officials to take into account matters other than the information on a birth certificate. "This demonstrates that the sex as identified on a birth certificate is not the be-all, end-all of identification — if there is basis to believe that an individual's self-identification on their birth certificate may pose a risk to others, then this may be taken into account under existing processes," OUSA wrote.

OUSA highlighted that Argentina, Belgium, Ireland, Malta, Norway, and Portugal have similar laws allowing self-identification. OUSA also proposed making it easier for young people to change the gender on their birth certificate, as well as saying that SOP 59 should be extended to cover all permanent residents, migrants, and refugees rather than just New Zealand citizens.

Geology Department gets \$8.6 Million to look at Mud Funding excites students who also care very deeply about mud

Otago's Geology Department just secured \$8.6 million to study carbon sequestration in Fiordland. The funding, which will run for five years, was secured by a multidisciplinary team led by Associate Professor Chris Moy and Honorary Professor Gary Wilson. Professor Claudine Stirling, also in Geology, was awarded a separate \$1 million for yet another mud-based investigation.

Chris's award was the largest of nine grants awarded to Otago, but he's excited about more than just the money. "Not just the dollar amount, but also the timescale involved. It's just so rare in science to have a programme run for this long, and we're so grateful for this opportunity," said Chris. Five years in Fiordland means that his team has the time to really hunker down in the area, to install instruments and make seasonal visits to conduct research. And the \$8.6 million means that any students interested in Fiordland will now have the financial backing to study one of New Zealand's best natural laboratories with the best tools available.

Fiordland is a major carbon sink in New Zealand. The fern-choked cliffs and mud-filled marine channels make the area critically important to New Zealand's sustainability goals. Chris's team

wants to look at how human activity will affect this "carbon sponge", and he stressed that their application was successful and exciting not just because of the science involved, but because of the diversity of backgrounds working on the team.

"We have economists, we have climate scientists, we have Ngāi Tahu collaborators and people from Fiordland Marine Guardians," said Chris. "What makes this really strong is that we're all coming at this from different perspectives and disciplines." Chris also helps lead the Winds of Change network, which connects climateconscious postgrads in Chile and New Zealand - two countries with analogous climates and challenges. That programme kicked off last year, and its demonstrated impact was something Chris cited as a reason for winning this most recent award.

\$8.6 million is a lot of money. Fortunately for students, much of this award will fund activities and opportunities that we can take advantage of. Dan, one of Chris' Masters students, said that he was excited that his research field just got such a big cash injection. The money will "open up opportunities all around. More people can get involved, it's good for everybody." Dan joked that "I'm sure there will be turkey for lunch every day in the field now. We're gonna eat well."



By Fox Meyer News Editor // news@critic.co.nz

According to Dan, studying submarine muck is "unlike anything else. A lot of geologists can't even understand what we do, 'the mud people', but if you're interested in climate science and having a better understanding of the natural world, it's good to get involved in this. It's way more interesting than one might think - I think it's about \$8.6 million worth of interesting."

Chris said that regular work in Fiordland will open opportunities for students of all levels, which sometimes involves sailing Otago's research vessels into Doubtful Sound. The work isn't always glamorous, but it's always exciting. "At the end of the day, it's about looking at the mud that's accumulating at the seafloor of these environments. We can start at that fundamental level and add layers of complexity as we go." But no matter the level, be it an undergraduate field trip or a PhD, "you just have to dig in. Get your hands dirty."

"Whether you're interested in geology or biology or chemistry, all those fundamentals are there in Fiordland, and they're all really important for our future," said Chris, "And we're just so incredibly grateful that we have this opportunity to keep working there."

ODT Watch:

"Birthday parties for a child are important, but so is the health of the nation and the need for people to respect a lockdown.

If you pull the lever, the trolley will hit an important birthday party for a child. If you don't pull the lever, it will hit the health of the nation and the need for people to respect a lockdown. Do you pull the lever?

ALPACAS have not had their day; their day is still coming, Dunedin breeder Andy Nailard says.

Is that a threat, Andy?

Auckland couple's jaunt to Wanaka home condemned

Jaunt is one of those words that is solely kept in usage by ODT writers.



PETER Collins is the Santa of spuds.

For the second year running, the Pareora farmer has rallied his family to make up 10kg bags of potatoes to deliver to every household in the small town.

Good on him. Doesn't mean he's the Santa of Spuds tho.

"You can't do anything with it ... if they keep them and start showing them off people will say, 'well, where did you get these?'.

"God knows what they are going to do with it."

He's talking about me and the baby ducks that live in my flat.

OUSA SURVEY 16th SEP - 10th OCT **BE IN TO WIN**

THME TO.

\$10 Coffee Vouchers **\$50 New World Vouchers** \$20 Mobile Top-Up Vouchers Kawarau Bridge Bungy Double Pass **Nevis Swing Tandem** Single Passes Kawarau Zipride Double Passes AND MORE....

bit.ly/ousasurvey21



DUSA

WELFARE & EQUITY REPRESENTATIVE Maya Polaschek

Kia ora koutou.

Given the current situation, I hope everyone is studying as well as they can for exams, but more importantly, looking after themselves and their mental health. This week, I thought it would be good to remind everyone to ask for support if you need it.

One big thing I want to emphasise is that I know it is easy to feel alone when you are going through tough times, sometimes because you think others have it worse. But ýour problems aren't insignificant and there is still so much support available to you, whether that is financial, about your flat, or you just need someone to chat to!

One great place to go is Student Support's HUB at ousasupporthub.org.nz. The



DUDJ201/1111. Sweet whey powder was not offered at this event. The volume of product traded

How disappointing. Sweet whey powder is my favourite type of powder



The best photo the ODT have ever published. If you want to buy a local wellmaintained "little shipyard", contact Bill in Carey's Bay. Looking at you, Rowing Club.



HUB is pretty much a one stop hub is pretty much a one stop shop: covering everything from handling flatting issues to handling your own wellbeing. It also has links to the Foodbank, the OUSA Hardship Fund (for a one-off payment up to \$250 for urgent financial hardship) and Putea Tautoko (for larger amounts of money, but can take a little longer to process). You can also longer to process). You can also talk to the Campus Chaplains, who can provide support for urgent issues at any time of day.

As a final reminder, one issue I've heard heaps about has been that people struggle to create a good study space in their flats or houses. Luckily, the library is available for study at level 2, and should have available spaces when you are sitting your exams!

Ngā mihi

Maya Polaschek

Welfare and Equity Representative



WEEK 22 CROSSWORD ANSWERS

ACROSS:

14

2. Te Waipounamu 5. Maunga 6. Toyota 9. USA 10. Rorohiko 12. Three 13. He tāngata 16. Tūī 19. Manawa 20. Eel 22. Aoraki 23. Waiata 24. Tekau mā whitu

2 7 1

2

1 3

4

9

4 3

98

DOWN:

1. Tamariki 2. Tauira 3. Upoko 4. Motu 7. Asked 8. Goodnight 11. Honest 12. Tütira 14. Pleasant 15. Pütea 17. Oamaru 18. Rākau 21. Love

8 2 7

9 5

5 7

1

4 5

6

2 3

3

2

1

7

9

WORDWHEEL ANSWER: Õtepoti

SUDOKU sudokuoftheday.com

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

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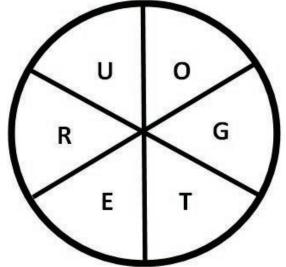
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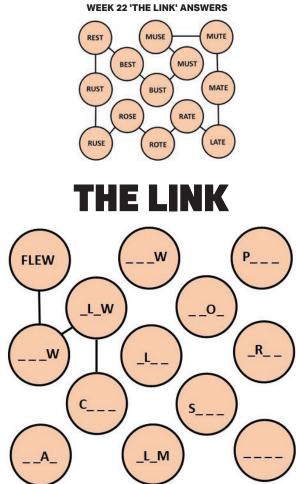
2

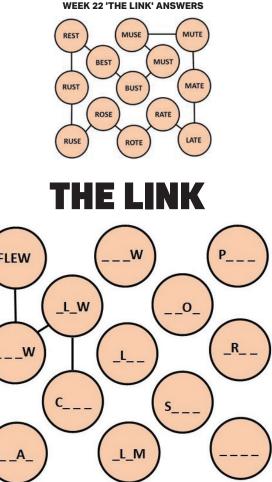
ACROSS:	21. Infamous (9)					
2. Smartness (12)	22. Crazy (4)					
7. Vanish (9)	24. Clue (4)					
9. Arrogant (4)	25. etc. (2,6)					
10. Pain (4)	26. Simba's uncle (4)					
12. Brooklyn 99 character (4)	29. Lists food options (4)					
15. Fly (4)	30. Large amount (1,3)					
18. 'Seafood' in te reo Māori	0					
(8)	33. Hobble (4)					
19. Story (4)	34. Rascal (9)					
20. Small amount (1,3)	35. Hell's Kitchen chef (6,6)					
DOWN:	14. Answer to this week's					
DOWN: 1.Comprehends (11)	14. Answer to this week's Wordwheel (7)					
1.Comprehends (11) 3. Stadium in Tāmaki-makau-						
1.Comprehends (11)	Wordwheel (7)					
1.Comprehends (11) 3. Stadium in Tāmaki-makau-	Wordwheel (7) 16. Sphere (3)					
1.Comprehends (11) 3. Stadium in Tāmaki-makau- rau: Park (4)	Wordwheel (7) 16. Sphere (3) 17. Name of a dish and a					
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 Comprehends (11) Stadium in Tāmaki-makau- rau: Park (4) Currency of Turkey (4) Pointy-eared supernatural beings (5) Country with the largest population (5) Wakes up (7) 	Wordwheel (7) 16. Sphere (3) 17. Name of a dish and a Pixar movie (11) 20. Embarrassed (7) 23. Gossip that gets spilled (3) 27. Capital city of Egypt (5)					



WORD WHEEL







Insert the missing letter to find the word that runs either clockwise or anti-clockwise around the wheel.

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE



Link all the circles in a chain by changing one letter in each word. e.g. MEAN – BEAN – BEAD

There are 10 differences between these images.





DEHI and racism. NIEK: **EMPLOYMENT LAW BREACHES, BULLYING, AND**

SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN UNI HALL KITCHENS

BY ELLIOT WEIR

Kitchen staff are a key part of the first-year experience in residential colleges. They dish up mashed potatoes and chicken cordon bleu for hundreds of already-drunk freshers on a Thursday night, and take their dishes from them afterwards. Not many students know what kitchen staff experience once college residents have left the dining room, and what happens behind the counter. Sometimes, it's not pretty.

Critic Te Arohi spoke to dozens of current and former employees of kitchens at Otago Uni's residential colleges about their work experiences. Employment law breaches, "toxic and stressful" work environments, and sexual harassment are reportedly widespread.

Staff working in kitchens at Otago University's residential colleges are not being paid their legally required breaks. Many staff who spoke to Critic Te Arohi said that for shorter shifts, two to four hours long, they received no breaks, paid or unpaid, and "were expected to work through the entire shift". For longer shifts, employees told Critic that they received some breaks, but not the minimum required legally.

Since May 2019, employers must give employees a minimum number of breaks based on the length of the shift. For two to four hour shifts, the minimum break is one paid ten minute break. For four to six hour shifts, it is one paid ten minute break and an unpaid 30 minute break. For six to ten hour shifts, it is two paid ten minute breaks and an unpaid 30 minute break. According to employees, the Uni is breaching employment law.



CONTENT WARNING: Sexual harassment. homophobia, sexism,

One student who works in a hall kitchen told Critic Te Arohi that they "did 11 hours of work one day over two separate shifts, and only got 15 minutes of break total. We used to be able to eat during the shift, after all the residents had been served, but they decided that now we have to wait until the end of the shift. I've had shifts where I've felt sick because I've been so hungry, and I had to sneak to the bathroom and scoff down a bag of chips."

"There was a point when we did take a ten minute break during our shifts and when our boss found out this was happening they were not impressed and reminded us that we couldn't take a break," another staff member told Critic when they pointed out their break entitlements to their managers, they would be shut down.

Staff in other colleges said that while they wouldn't be stopped from going on their breaks, management would often express disappointment or dissatisfaction when they did. The staff said "in order to not get told off, you don't feel like taking your break."

On special occasions, like themed dinners or ball nights, the kitchens were even busier and some staff said that they worked shifts of up to eight hours without any breaks on such nights.

Some staff also claim they were not paid overtime after working later than their rostered shift. "We always had to finish by 8pm. Any later, we would not be paid. Which was kinda BS when you did a formal dinner where food service finished at 9pm." One employee told Critic Te Arohi. Another employee said that when they logged the hours they had actually worked their manager would change their times back to what they were rostered for, despite having to stay later.

John Crocker, National Secretary of Unite Union, told Critic Te Arohi that "there's a culture in hospitality of pushing through and helping the team out but there's an obligation on the employer to provide those breaks. They're laid out in the legislation, they're not optional." He said that staff not being paid overtime was "pretty straightforward wage theft, you're doing work that you're not being paid for."

Many staff also found themselves pressured to take shifts, with rosters regularly changing and most staff being Uni students who had obligations they had previously informed management of. One employee said they were told of a shift "two hours before it started. And I wasn't meant to be rostered on that day and couldn't find cover. My boss told me to leave my lab early to go to work." Other employees said that they "are made to feel like absolute crap if you can't make a shift" and their bosses would get "pretty annoyed" when they weren't able to cover a coworker's shift at late notice.

There were also issues with employees accessing their pay. Two students said that it took a month for them to first get paid, as their contracts were still being processed. They expressed frustration at how long it took as well as how little the University assisted in the process. Other employees told Critic Te Arohi that the timesheet system employees told critic te Aroni that the timesheet system used by the residential colleges was confusing and cumbersome. "I had trouble getting a logon and talked to [my manager] about this, and she told me if I didn't have it sorted within that day I would not be paid, and we get paid fortnightly so going four weeks without pay as a student would have been hard."

For some staff, Level 4 lockdown only exacerbated these issues. In some colleges, with fewer staff available to work and more dishes as a result of safety procedures, staff felt burnt out. They expressed frustration at a lack of appreciation from the Uni. While the University announced a \$400 payment to staff as a thank you for working through lockdown, kitchen staff who spoke to Critic Te Arohi said that as they are casual staff they are ineligible to get this

In one residential college, kitchen staff were promised last year that they would receive a bonus for staying through the Level 4 lockdown. They later found out that their 'bonus' was free entry to Otago Museum's Discovery World, a revelation that employees were reportedly "really annoyed" at.

THEY LATER FOUND OUT THAT THEIR **'BONUS' WAS FREE ENTRY TO OTAGO** MUSEUM'S DISCOVERY WORLD, A **REVELATION THAT EMPLOYEES WERE REPORTEDLY "REALLY ANNOYED" AT.**

In addition to issues with pay, employees reported toxic work environments and poor treatment by management. "You weren't really told what was not okay until you did it and got yelled at for doing so," said one employee. They were treated poorly by management, with some staff picked on or yelled at aggressively and arbitrarily.

"I got yelled at every time I went to work, often by multiple different staff. More senior staff would also say some pretty awful things about other staff behind their backs. One staff member in particular would deliberately embarrass others by making fun of them or shaming them in front of other staff," one employee told Critic Te Arohi. Another said that "people were chosen as favourites by the boss and the ones who weren't in that group were treated unfairly. The boss made me cry multiple times due to stress."

Another employee said that in their first couple of shifts they were called "stupid" and an "idiot" after asking where to put some dishes. Another said that their manager stood over them and berated them "for minor issues or problems that I had no control over — such as someone else calling in sick, or us running out of something like lemon slices."

EMPLOYEES TALKED ABOUT SENIOR STAFF, INCLUDING CHEFS AND MANAGEMENT, MAKING COMMENTS **ON YOUNGER FEMALE WORKERS' BODIES, MAKING INAPPROPRIATE** JOKES, AND "FINDING EXCUSES TO TOUCH" THEM.

Multiple staff members, from various residential colleges run by the University, spoke up about both sexism and sexual harassment occurring within residential college kitchens. Employees talked to Critic Te Arohi about senior staff, including chefs and management, making comments on younger female workers' bodies, making inappropriate jokes, and "finding excuses to touch" them.

One staff member complained to management about a chef commenting on the size of her breasts. The issue was never resolved. In some residential colleges, jobs were implicitly divided by sex. One employee claimed that only men were allowed to cut the meat on Sundays, and another claimed that female staff were given cleaning jobs and were told "we would be good at the job because we were women."

One student talked to Critic Te Arohi about a senior staff member, who allegedly called another worker "f*g" and at a Māori scholarship dinner discussed with a coworker about how some of the students did not "look Māori" due to the lightness of their skin.

Another employee spoke out about a lack of care regarding dietary restrictions. They claim that in 2020 there was a dish with sausages that potentially contained pork, and they were told not to mark the dish as containing pork as students in the residential college who could not eat pork. The employee also claimed that there wasn't a separate gluten-free fryer and so any chips cooked had traces of gluten, and that they were told not to label these chips as having gluten, potentially endangering celiac students residing at the college.

The employee told Critic Te Arohi that on both these labels, despite being told not to.

Staff also expressed despair at the amount of food waste in the halls, which they felt was made worse when in recent years, staff at University-managed residential college kitchens were prohibited from taking excess food back home to their flats, with all food having to be consumed on site or thrown out. Staff "weren't even allowed to take a piece of fruit off premises."

These issues may not be present in every Universitymanaged residential college kitchen, but the number of staff who spoke to Critic Te Arohi, and the range of colleges they worked at, suggest these issues are widespread.

While some employees brought their concerns to management at their colleges, many others said the management fostered a culture of fear that prevented them from speaking out for fear of retaliation. Employees describe having to gauge the mood of their manager before telling them bad news or expressing a concern, leading to "an atmosphere of walking on eggshells." Employees also claimed that if you raised a concern it would be spread around to the rest of staff as gossip. "You had to be careful about what you said," one staff member told Critic Te Arohi, while another claimed their manager "fostered an environment of competition and catching each other out."

James Lindsay, Director of Campus and Collegiate Life Services at the Uni, stressed that "this is the first time the University has been made aware of any of these general issues relating to employment of kitchen staff."

He said: "We employ a large number of staff in the Residential College kitchens and while there are specific issues that crop up from time to time, College management have been very good at dealing with these matters with support from the University's Human Resources division. The University cannot comment on the specific concerns raised without knowing specific details." He encouraged any employees affected to report their allegations to the

Lindsay said the University provides a "workplace experience [that] is optimal for all of our employees, no matter what service they are providing."

Whilst many students said that working in a residential college kitchen was "absolutely not" worth it, several current and former employees told Critic Te Arohi they "really enjoyed" working in a residential college kitchen. Some employees experienced no issues during their time working in kitchens, and found management to be personable and helpful. Others experienced issues with management and pay, but believed that the friendships they made with some of their coworkers made it worth it, telling Critic "that's the reason I stayed so long, the friends and family I made along the way."

One former employee said they "learnt some really cool skills like how to cure hams, make cheese, and brew beer — everything there was made from scratch. As a student at the time, a major bonus for me was getting a meal for every meal worked."



ST-GLAD SAD? WHAT POSTGRADS WISH THEY **KNEW BEFORE STARTING**

By Susana Jones

It's the second half of semester two and the countdown to graduation for some of you undergrads is well and truly on. You might be thinking, what comes after graduation? Will you go straight into the workforce and hustle your way up capitalist ladders? Maybe you'll make some serious bank in a summer job, and take a break from the typical trajectory of life after Uni by traveling the North Island in a campervan.

As time keeps ticking away and you get more and more worried about the uncertainty of your future, maybe you'll ponder enrolling in a panic-Masters or another panic-postgrad course. Before you sign yourself up for a dump truck load more of student debt and a perpetual state of questioning everything you thought you knew, Critic gifts you with some words from the wiser, more worn-out individuals that are postgrad students.



THE POST-OKAY

Make sure you know what course you're signing yourself up for. There are mega differences between honours, honoursmasters, masters, and PhDs, and it's crucial you make sure you're clear on which postgrad course you want to do and what it will do for you in the future. "I did not know the difference and honestly just signed up to do honours 'cause my friend did." said Niamh.

You could either become a leading world expert on a super niche topic, or never know what the fuck you're researching at all. "I wish I knew that I would never really ever know what my dissertation is actually on. I thought that writing one would make me an 'expert' on a very niche topic, but really I'm a quarter of the way through writing it and I still couldn't tell you what it is I'm actually researching," said Sarah*.

You're going to out-age most of the student population... dinosaur status well and truly achieved. I see this as neither

You can't compare yourself. The nature of research means there's no way to logically compare yourself, your process and vour research to other students. "It's okay if you work differently to your peers. It's about how you work best and that doesn't always look like nine to five in the office or lab," said Bonnie.

Failing is simply a part of the process. There will definitely be times when you fall flat on your ass during postgrad. "You have to be ready to fail. Experiments won't go perfectly like they did in undergrad labs and that can be really hard for straight-A students to come to terms with at first," said Bonnie. Trust the

As old friends leave, new ones will come. Although your younger, wilder and freer friends will move past you at least physically, new baddies will come into your life. "You make so many new friendships and relationships, including with lecturers. Classes are smaller, people have matured, and your lecturers actually get to know you," Jada said. Deadass lecturers are quirky and funky. "It's lovely being surrounded by people who are equally excited about their research (if not equally as tired/close to death). That's the biggest difference between undergrad and postgrad — people (theoretically) WANT to be here, and that's real nice," said Asia.

Your classmates are bussin' and become your actual real-

life friends. The camaraderie is real in postgrad and having people slogging it out with you definitely makes the journey more bearable. "I wish I knew that when you do postgrad you automatically make a group of amazing friends, because you all need each other to survive. You will spend all day every day with these people, and they have no choice but to like you. These people will also be your soundboard so that your other friends and flatmates don't have to listen to you complain about your classes and research all day," Sarah said.

Even though it might feel like your whole life is about

postgrad, this simply shouldn't be true. It's important to strive for balance in your life as much as you can. Keep doing things that make you happy and make you feel like yourself. "Even if

THE POST-SAD

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The longer you stay, the more people around you will leave. It's kind of like a game of last man standing that nobody knew they were playing. "All of your old friends leave and your year group becomes a lot smaller," said Jada*.

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It's so much fucking work, no cap. Sure, there are fewer little assignments and conventional exams are a thing of the past once you hit your Masters, but holy cow the workload is intense. "I wish I knew how much work it really is and how lost you feel at times. There's a constant feeling of being overwhelmed but somehow, someway, you always get it done," said Jada. Growan* said "The Uni should be paying me for being my own lecturer at this point. It's hard. I really expected fourth year (honours) to roll on from third year (undergrad) but it really levels up." Bonnie* had more to add, saying: "Everyone feels like they've been thrown in the deep end for the first few months. I felt like I was flailing around like a fish out of water."

The onus is well and truly on you to get stuff done, and you suffer the cold consequences of your inactions when crunch time comes. "Self-directed research isn't kidding, you have to motivate yourself hard out and it's really easy to fall behind and be cruisy when there's no classes or compulsory times to show up," said Bonnie. Bee* touched on the importance of managing your time to avoid being your own worst enemy. "Begin your research project early. I ended up with many late nights and a super hectic final crunch near the submission deadline," they said

People think you actually know what you're doing? Coming out of an undergraduate degree into postgrad, there's the baseline expectation that you're the cream of the crop and know what you're doing and where you're going. It can feel like that could not be further from the truth. "There's a bit of a jump in how self-reliant you need to be to get shit done. It feels like there's a lot more expectation that you know what you're doing. But in saying that, there are a few good resources out

there, like writing days and workshops. The Māori postgraduate coordinators are really good at reaching out and supplying resources too," said Niamh.

Asia touched on the fact that you're expected to know a bunch of things pertaining to postgrad and research in general. "My course just expected us to know what a literature review is, how to conduct specific methodology, what a thesis is actually composed of. It seems like basic knowledge, but literally no one taught me any of this," she said. Although there is help if you look for it, there is an implicit assumption that you know the basics. "Even the thesis workshops expect you to have some sort of basic understanding, when in actual fact my brain is completely empty and I did not know a single thing," Asia said.

Postgrad is a full-time job. There's not much time for anything else, so if you can avoid having to work, please do. Unfortunately, the reality for many, myself included, is that working at least part-time is an absolute necessity. "I wish I didn't work while studying. It's so hard trying to manage your own thesis workload with zero guidance whatsoever, let alone having a job as well. If you can subsist on Studylink alone, do it. It'll be worth it for your mental health and studies in the long run," said Asia.

There is absolutely no rest for the wicked (you, postgrads).

Sleep is a thing of the past. REM can often take a backseat even in undergrad, especially when due dates and exams get closer and closer, and it just seems to roll over into postgrad too. "I wish I knew that sleep and postgrad are mutually exclusive. You have to pick one or the other, you can never have both. At some point in the year, postgrad will win this battle and you will be running off of four hours a night and every week that passes will take about five years off of your life," said Sarah*. In terms of breaks in general, you can kiss them goodbye. "You will never get a holiday again. You will never have weekends, a midsemester break, or any form of respite whatsoever," said Asia.

THE POST-GLAD

process.

So, before applying to do your PhD (like Kanye said on Breathe In Breathe Out) or other postgrad course, consider the above pieces of information so generously donated to us by some of the grandmummies, granddaddies, and grand-rents of the student population. Despite all the challenges and obstacles postgrad seems to present, I for one have found it to be one of the most growth-enhancing journeys I have ever taken up.

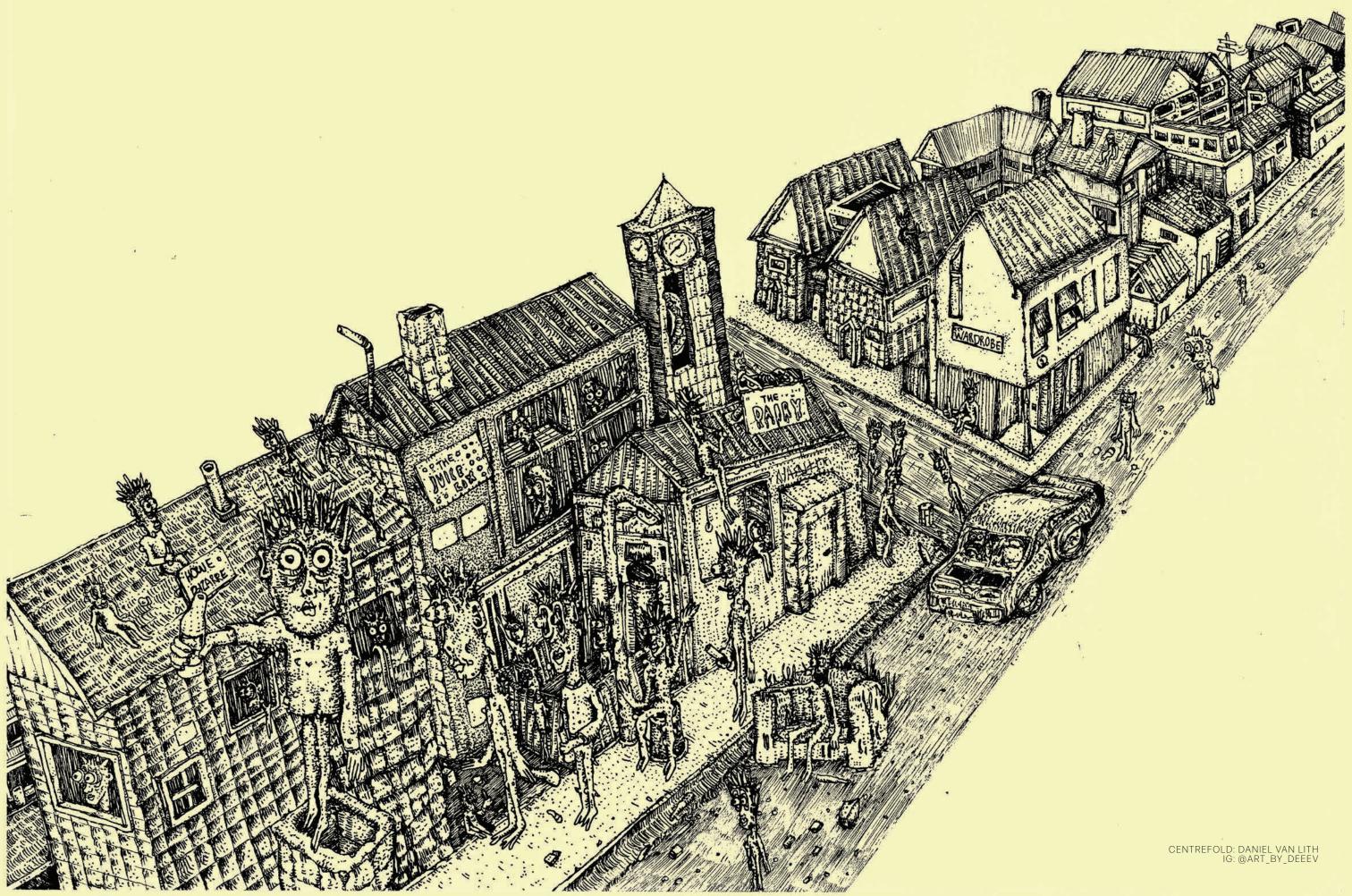
"It's so, so important that you study a topic you love with all of your heart; that passion will keep you going, even reading tedious academic literature can be fun if you enjoy the topic enough," said Asia.

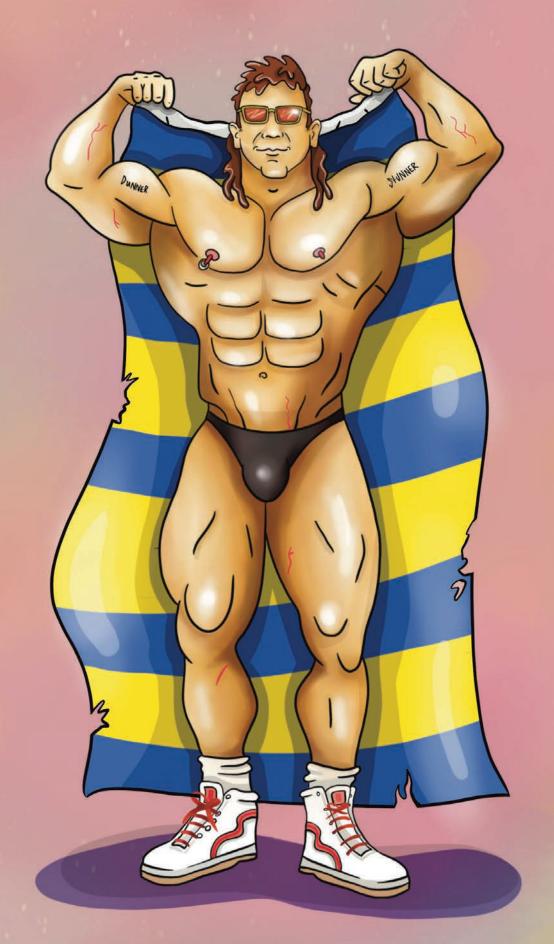
*Names changed.

a good or bad thing, just something that is. I'm (definitely not) pioneering the idea that getting old isn't something we should be afraid of! Old is cool! "I feel old... I'm only 21. It's like when freshers are told not to say they're first year, but now it's with being fourth year," said Growan.

you think you have no time it's still important to make time for things that you enjoy. At the start, I felt guilty taking breaks from my study. But I quickly learnt in regularly keeping up the gym and watching my fav shows, I gained energy," said Bee*.

If you do end up doing postgrad and feel like you're not the spitting image of what a postgrad student should be, everyone around you probably thinks you're well within the means of your abilities. Fake it till you make it. That's the only way I've ever gotten shit done that I never thought I could do, and that's on imposter syndrome vibes.





The Ultimate CUGEL Duhedih ummer

Spring in Dunedin has arrived. It is the time of the year to drag our pasty bodies and damaged livers back from the brink of collapse and get them ready for the joys of the summer season. With Unipol restricted and many sports winding up, it can be a struggle to find a routine in these uncertain times. But Critic is here to help.

Follow these handy tips for nutrition and exercise and you'll be well on your way to getting that Dunedin summer body whipped into shape. What shape? That's not for us to say.

Nutrition

A key aspect of getting absolutely shredded for summer is becoming incredibly unhealthy. Here are some ways to put both your mental and physical health at risk.

Sketchy BYOs

By exclusively attending BYO restaurants that have low health ratings, you can ensure that the \$20 butter chicken and naan you bought ends up splattered on your toilet bowl at 8am the next morning. These effects can further be enhanced by going for the spiciest dish on offer. The subsequent burning of your arsehole is a minor price to pay for a godlike body.

Drink lots of water

You should be pounding upwards of 5% of your bodyweight in water per day. The key here is to push yourself to the limits of hyponatremia without your body totally shutting down. Drink the water, feel the water, become the water. Warning signs of excessive hydration include nausea, headaches, and confusion, so once you start to develop those symptoms you know you're on the

Eat like a caveperson

has never been the same since. By reverting to our savagery but you can also trick your body into eating

Do questionable drugs

While getting shitfaced at least twice every week is a bunch of fun, the downside is that every can you consume is one extra rep that you have to do at the gym. If you want gains you have to put down the drinks.

Employ revolutionary medical technology

bounds in the area of dietary science in recent years by employing the deceptively simple logic of if you

Exercise

The first thing people think about when they hear the word cardio is likely pain. But pain is temporary, and your summer body is going to last until at least December 24 — you can push through it!

Become a nudist

Wearing no clothes in public is certainly frowned upon, it may even be a crime, but wearing no clothes around your flat is totally fine. The consistent chill that you experience will keep your body running 24/7. The worst case scenario is you drive all your flatmates away because they can't handle you being free, the best case scenario is they join you, and nothing brings you tighter with your mates than huddling for survival every night.

Use your local steep hills

Swimming fully clothed

Most so-called "professional" swimmers will tell you that you need to wear slim-fitting lycra to properly swim. But this is nonsense. By swimming fully clothed you add to the resistance of normal swimming. It will get you in shape in no time. If you are truly after the gains you can

Carry textbooks

Textbooks are generally useless and unnecessary scams that your lecturers force you to buy because they wrote them themselves. But they have one thing going for them: they are heavy as fuck. By carrying around all your textbooks in your bag, all the time you can greatly improve your endurance and potentially give yourself lifelong back problems which usually come with bonus opiate prescriptions. It's a win-win.

Take chilly showers

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VIA THE GOOGLE FORM ON CRITIC'S FACEBOOK PAGE

delivereasy 9

Oops, Newshub Reported on My Fake Landlord Post

By Asia Martusia King

It all began when my flatmate didn't do the dishes. I wondered what would happen if she died under mysterious circumstances. Would the rest of us get free rent, or would we have to cover our deceased flatmate's share while mourning?

It's a deeply upsetting scenario. When devastating events like this do happen, friends and relatives are left to grieve while the world moves on. I joined a few landlord forums and asked them how they'd handle it. I didn't say that I was a landlord, but I didn't exactly say that I wasn't a landlord, either.

"I don't want to cause a scene but let's say hypothetically if you rent a flat out jointly to four students and one sadly passes away, what the hell do you do?" I wrote on one forum. "Answer quick pls." In the Facebook community page Property Investors Chat Group NZ, I asked what you'd do if your tenant entered a coma, and was unlikely to recover.

\leftarrow Property Investors Chat Group NZ

What do you do if you have rented a flat to four tenants jointly, and one sadly enters a coma? They are about to pass away.

It's a touchy subject but rent needs to be covered even though they're grieving. Either by finding a replacement tenant or covering rent for the one who is passing away. RTA only covers sole tenants. Has anyone been in this situation before?

Hell broke loose. Arguments between landlords exploded within the comments of Property Investors, and the thread was locked within an hour. The post was screenshotted and shared on Reddit's r/newzealand, where it received almost 300 comments, a hectic mix of sympathy and rage alike.

Newshub.

Internet split over landlord's question about recovering rent from tenant in coma

Yes, the question "appears to be genuine". It was a genuine question I had, but certainly not from a genuine landlord, as Newshub reported.

I originally felt guilty of entrapment, for being complicit in misinformation. It's understandable to assume that I, a poster in a landlord-based group, would be a landlord. But it's not my fault that Newshub reported a post they found on social media as fact. Newshub did not check the original source, nor make any attempt to contact my landlord-sona. They scrolled through Reddit, found a spicy post, and decided to share it as news.

The funniest part is that I used a fake account I made in year eight for my furry character 'Agnes', an anthropomorphic sheep whose job is listed as having worked at 'The War'. If Newshub actually bothered looking at the original source, they'd realise that even the admin of Property Investors Chat Group NZ had the foresight to realise my account was blatantly fake. "It appears that the post regarding the person in a coma was made by a false profile and the post has been removed," the admin wrote after booting me out. "Quality journalism there!" (Thank you, Scott.)



It appears that the post regarding the person in a coma was made by a false profile and the post has been removed.

Their profile while saying they had been on Facebook for 10 years it does not appear to be the case.

Page members who are very much in the know on such matters have messaged information to the admins so the poster has been blocked and the post removed.

Quality journalism there!

A couple of days later, Newshub released an article: "Internet split over landlord's question about recovering rent from tenant in coma."

It was my post, reported as genuine news. "While the question appears to be genuine, the landlord has been put on blast for the post - with some complaining that it's distasteful and others questioning their human decency," the author wrote.

Quality journalism there! Quality journalism there!

Quality journalism there!

Quality journalism there!

There's a reason that I didn't explicitly state I wasn't a landlord. No landlord was going to give me an honest answer if they knew I was but a lowly serf. Doing what I did gave me valuable insight into landlords' psyches, who offered me touching advice such as this:

"Rentoids should pay you no matter what."

"Life goes on, the rent still needs to be paid. If you wanted you could give a weeks free rent to show courtesy and respect for the deceased. I have had a tenant die and its a straightforward process [sic]."

"This is a business," said one simply. Another comment echoed this: "At the end of the day this is a business. Forgiving 25% of the rent for four weeks is cheaper than eviction," possibly implying that the remaining tenants would be evicted after their flatmate's passing.

"Almost every lease is a joint lease, unless otherwise stated, aka everyone involved is most likely on the hook. It's up to them to pay," continued another.

"Everyone's expecting the landlord to shoulder this and I understand why, but at the same time, would banks do the same if someone died and the other person couldn't cover the mortgage?" one landlord wrote. "Or would they force you into a mortgagee sale? Banks hold a LOT more wealth than individual landlords."

"I find it interesting that it's always the landlords who are expected to have the morals and compassion to forfeit rent, never the supermarkets that people buy food from, nor banks with mortgages nor government with rates and taxes nor power and water companies," was a response. "The 1% are untouchable," lamented another commenter.

"Not [a difficult situation] at all. This is a business and the total of the rent needs to be paid by anybody on the lease

> **Property Investors Chat Group NZ** ... • 8h • 🔜

Shame on you whoever shared the post about the tenant in a coma, someone was reaching out for help and all you have done is added more stress

Keyboard warriors fill your boots, opinions are like arseholes everyone's got one !!!

> Alot of people have joined this group for the Bunnings discount which has been advertised on another website.

> > Are the resident press pests going to print that it was a wind-up?

and it isn't your job to figure out who pays what. They need to figure it out. I'm guessing they decided to live with each other."

"Unfortunate situation but the tenants are 'jointly & severally liable' so if one flatmate cannot pay then the others are still responsible for ensuring you get the full amount."

"did they each sign a seperate tenancy agreement? If they all signed together I suppose you could ask them all to chip in [sic]."

"I would imagine it's up too the other Tennants to sort this [sic]."

"Could that tenants part of the bond be released for rent? [sic]"

Heartwarmingly, in the original comment thread, an enormous number of pitchforks were raised at me. "The fact that you even have to ask this question says a lot about your business ethics," one landlord typed, flanked by a dozen comments telling me to apply compassion and postpone or reduce rent. It's reassuring to know that many landlords do, in fact, have their tenants' wellbeing at heart. It's simultaneously perturbing, although unsurprising, to see the opposite as well.

I learnt two things from this. Firstly, yes, you are obliged to cover your deceased flatmate's rent, unless your landlord has a basic understanding of what compassion is. Secondly, there's a high chance that the 'news' you read online is just a Reddit post that some dude found, created by a random student who will never own property in her lifetime.

Anyway, did you know that Jacinda Ardern is actually a lizard?

> Ignoring any ethical debate, if you can't stay afloat because one of FOUR tenants in a property may need a temporary reprieve then you're overleveraged.

Should we all join a journalists group and get revenge. These groups have admins and moderators don't they ? So now we're going to pile on someone else and those with a minority view . Grab ya pitchfork CULTURE / ĀHUA NOHO / 23

Joseph Jakicevich is an artist currently based in Wellington who popped down to Ōtepoti at the start of the year. His unique artwork often features eye-catching distorted subjects. Critic checked in with him to see what it was like collaborating with artists from all over Aotearoa.

Joseph recently worked on an album cover for Dunedin artist Tom Sharp and has recently designed labelling for Sunshine Brewery in Gisbourne. "I've worked with a few cool artists from around New Zealand, and for a brewery. Not a long list of affiliates, I am new to the professional scene but definitely wanting to make that grow," he says.

Joseph has been creating art for a while, and is now taking his creations to the next level. "I've drawn (with whatever medium) for ever and ever. I have always had an affinity with pen and ink, but in terms of professionalism and the realisation that this is what I want to do, it has been around three or four years," he says.

He keeps it simple with his materials. Ink is always the main ingredient "Ah, Just a fountain pen, Sumi Ink. I like Colorex water based Inks (they're also the cheaper version), but Winsor & Newton are pretty good." But not all inks are created equal, "I try to avoid Sennelier inks as they're all slimy and I don't like that."

The amount of time he puts into his work can vary, he said, with each work being different. "It depends on the size of the drawing, a drawing can take up to three days or it can be done in four hours." He doesn't have a set process either. "It's weird. I don't do the same thing every time. I like to not care too much and skip the whole 'pencil step', meaning I make a lot of mistakes and throw stuff out. It varies."





Joseph mainly works at home. "I'm working in my flat at the moment, meaning I have to be a bit more reserved. I can't get as messy as I want to." He doesn't really have a set work space. "It's more just wherever, although with the messy nature of my work I'd like to have a set space, somewhere that can double as a studio and as an apartment, and just go crazy in there."

Inspiration for his artwork comes from a variety of sources, noting that other artists are also a source of inspiration for him. "In terms of style my most favourite artists and illustrators are Shaun Tan, Istvan Banyai, and Ralph Steadman. So when I'm stuck I tend to refer to them, which probably directs my style towards them." But experience is also a big factor he said "But again I don't know, I find inspiration mostly from other people, or humanity as a species. We are weird. So there's always something that's gonna spark some sort of ideas."

Joseph isn't entirely sure about his motive, beyond just a love of his work. "It's just like that one thing that I really like. I just want to do it more and more. At the very moment I've completed one drawing, I want to do it again but better. That's the drive. Fortunately we live in a world where other people can like your stuff too! I guess that helps."

He likes that his work exposes people to something different. "I also think it's good for people to have an access point for darker/ provocative visuals. To constantly be able to allow people to perceive the world in a different manner for even just a moment, is a good thing, even if that visual wasn't 'good.' I think it allows for a change of perspective. A new way of thinking."

Find Joseph on Instagram at @josephjakicevich_.

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OLDING OUT FOR A HERO:

students who worked as essential workers during Covid-19

By Susana Jones

Essential workers are out there grinding despite the drama of lockdown, providing us with food, healthcare, petrol, and all the essentials. As I sit up in my room doing my daily tasks, eating my daily food, going on my daily walks, watching my daily updates, I wonder what it might be like to live a life much less simple. What would it be like to be an essential worker serving this country and, more specifically, dirty Dunnaz? How do these students balance the pressure of essential work, dealing with Karens and studying?

Viki works at Pak 'n Save when she's not too busy studying and being a TikTok star. She said being an essential worker makes her feel "important and needed. To be able to serve others is rewarding and I consider myself blessed to still be able to provide service." To us general public (the fans), she says that people should "be more appreciative of all our essential workers, they sacrifice their time and themselves to be on the front line providing services to everyone during this time. As we do our part, we ask you to do yours by wearing your masks, social distancing, and staying safe. And as Dr. Bloomfield said, spread your legs, not the virus," she said.

Luka* is an essential worker at New World and finds it "kinda strange". "Without Covid-19 people don't really think these minimum wage jobs are important but when lockdown happens a lot of minimum wage workers have to pretty much keep the country going," they said. Luka also studies, and touched on the difficulties working during lockdown brings regarding this, saying that "trying to keep on top of uni, extra curricular activities, and then working as an essential worker

is kinda hard to balance." They also flat, and said they get "a little scared that I can get my bubble infected just for being at work and then returning back home." A parting message from Luka: "be nice to essential workers. We don't have to go to work, we would also like to be at home being safe. I also must say that being at work is a kinda nice social outing."

Meli is a legend who works at Countdown. He says that it's an "honour and privilege to be able to serve people during a global pandemic." "I haven't been an essential worker for that long but I've grown to appreciate and respect people who have done this daily for years. I've worked with people who've been at the supermarket for 30 years. They wear their hearts on their sleeves and they serve selflessly," he said. Compared to last year's lockdown, he said that "people still panic buy with long lines outside the supermarket even though Jacinda said we will not close," you fools! To everyone at home, Meli says "please be kind and considerate of others when shopping." A truly impeccably mannered king.

"I haven't been an essential worker for that long but I've grown to appreciate and respect people who have done this daily for years."

Rutz works as a kitchen hand at Studholme College. "Shout out to the kitchen assistants and chefs out at Stud. The students and staff there make work rewarding during lockdown. Also a big thanks to my flatmates who are always providing transport when I need it. There are also so many other essential workers doing the most for the community," she said. Being an essential worker has made Rutz realise how privileged she is to do what she does. "Most of my family and friends have been affected by this pandemic by experiencing job loss and struggling financially but also having to increase their workload, doing things such as acting as teachers for their kids," she said. To the people she serves, Rutz says: "look after your mental health and wellbeing during lockdown. Reach out to your lecturers and support staff and services around at Uni, they're there to help you. Kindness is gangsta so be kind to yourself and others and stay safe."

Michelle works for the Southern Community Laboratories in the Microbiology Department in the Dunedin Hospital, and she's also studying Medicine. "We receive thousands of Covid-19 samples daily from the Otago region as well as some from the Auckland region to help increase turnaround times for results. Being an essential worker is a service that I'm proud and happy to do for my community, although it can be stressful and very unpredictable, we have an exceptionally diligent team who strive for accurate and swift results," she said. Working with Covid-19 samples, Michelle said she can become "a bit anxious, but I have full trust and belief in our department's protocols for handling samples to keep us safe."

Like Luka, Michelle touched on the struggle of being a student and essential worker, but said "service and community are very important values in Pacific cultures and are values I ground myself in, so no matter the hurdles, I always strive to

give back to my community. Seeing an increase in samples at the lab shows me the solidarity and resilience in our community." To us commoners, Michelle says: "I have aroha for the amazing mahi all of you are doing in response to Covid. It's a trying time and as essential workers are doing their part, it's important you do your part and follow the rules. It's also important to keep a balance during this time, eat well, sleep well, watch your lectures, keep in touch with your family, and to echo Minister Chris Hipkins, spread your legs x. Please wear a mask in public, get tested, get vaccinated and keep your community safe. Kia kaha!"

Kim^{*}, a registered nurse, kept it plain and simple with a message to everyone. "Stay the fuck home. I've been seeing way more people outside going for a walk, most not wearing a mask. This shit is airborne which means if you walk past someone who is positive with the Delta strain and you both don't have a mask on, you will probably get it. So stay the fuck home, mask up or face the consequences and end up in a healthcare system that will probably collapse under a major delta outbreak," Miss Queen said. If you weren't already listening to Dr. Ashley Bloomfield, listen to this REGISTERED NURSE who also KNOWS THEIR SHIT.

Essential workers are quite literally keeping this country up and running. After talking to all these folks I am also convinced that they are the most polite and nicest people in the world, and we don't deserve them. They thanked ME for asking for their thoughts and comments. Literally what the fuck! I love all essential workers with all my heart and soul. Thank you for your service!! If anyone in your bubble is an essential worker, please give them a big hug and smooch for me.

*Names changed.





The Best Brews: Which form of home-made coffee is the best

By Sean Gourley

Coffee is the peak of caffeinated beverages. Tea is too weak and British; energy drinks are for incels and children. Coffee is a gateway drug to becoming a functional member of society. Most students wouldn't be able to take their exams or morning shits without it. But which method of brewing brain juice from home is the best?

Three simple metrics were used to determine which form of coffee is the best, and most effective. First, the taste, based on how close it gets to espresso. Second, the caffeine content, generally measured by dissociative feeling and urge to shit. Third, the value, measured by how much coffee is required per brew. These were then averaged into an overall score for each form of coffee.



Espresso

We'll start out with espresso because it is definitely the peak of coffee brewing. No other method of brewing can rival the taste of fresh coffee straight out of an espresso machine. This is the benchmark for other coffee, what they should aspire to. The only problem is espresso is fucking expensive.

Taste: 10/10, perfection Caffeine: 8/10, makes your hands shake Value: 2/10, breaks the bank Overall: 6.7/10, not suitable for a student loan



Instant

There is no instant coffee that doesn't taste like some form of dirt. Sure, one instant coffee might taste like wholesome garden dirt in comparison to another that tastes like the dirt at the bottom of a landfill, but the general flavour profile (dirt) is still there. Instant coffee does a mediocre job at filling you with adrenaline, with each sip usually sending a bitter taste down the back of your throat. You don't drink instant to enjoy it, you drink it to feel something, anything. Adding to the trauma,

if you live in Dunedin, you are subject to the horrors of the manufacturing process when Gregg's spews out enough smoke to choke half of the city.

Taste: 1/10, manure Caffeine: 7/10, respectable but still gross Value: 8/10, cheap and cheerful Overall: 5.3/10, enjoyable if you lack taste buds



Plunger

Because the beans in the plunger are exposed to hot water for the longest time, plunger brewing has to be the most efficient way to extract the caffeine from whatever grind you have. In contrast to the weak trash most people make in a plunger, Critic has discovered if you put enough beans (a 1:5 bean:water ratio) into the jug you can reach almost espresso levels of strength and taste, without the need for a monster of a machine. Also better than other methods because

the temperature of the water can be better controlled to prevent the beans from burning.

Taste: 7/10, can be done very well with the right ratio

Caffeine: 10/10, puts hair on your chest Value: 7/10, amount of coffee required varies

but generally always effective

Overall: 8/10, a solid contender



8

Percolator

The main limiting factor for percolators is the small amount of coffee you get from each brew. Having said this, a well done percolator brew can achieve near-espresso levels of taste and richness. It is hard to control the temperature in a percolator, so the coffee does come out burnt tasting more often than not.

Coffee tea-bags

Coffee in tea bags is the weakest trash you can buy. It takes about five of them to make a drink that tastes even slightly like coffee, not to mention the fact that it costs \$5 for a box of ten. It seems like these were devised as some sort of scheme in a coffee rehab clinic to wean people off coffee. Just why?



Nespresso

The capsules always seem to make the most stale-tasting coffee possible. They always leave some kind of plastic-v aftertaste. It makes you wonder what's really hiding in those pods, plus it takes two capsules to get any sort of caffeine kick. You have to buy a machine and even the shit ones are expensive. Nespresso is a pure scam if you ask me, it's capitalism at its finest.



Drip coffee is a bit of a dark horse really. The favourite beverage of Americans in movies, we don't get a lot of it in Aotearoa. For personal coffee consumption it can seem like too much, but if you can get your whole flat to contribute to a drip coffee pot, it will provide warm, average coffee for an entire day, with minimal effort. While it may not be the greatest taste in the whole wide world, it for sure does the job better than some of the other options. Set

Aeropress

Aeropresses are obscure devices used by holier-than-thou types that think just because their Dad got conned into buying a device that makes sub-par coffee, they are in on some cutting edge coffee secret. The reality is that Aeropresses are just glorified plungers with only a quarter of the capacity of normal plungers.

Taste: 9/10, getting near espresso Caffeine: 8/10, not too shabby Value: 4/10, coffee intensive Overall: 7/10, requires a careful balancing act of brewing

Taste: 1/10, may as well just drink tea Caffeine: 1/10, makes you actually want to go to sleep Value: 1/10, expensive for no reason Overall: 3/10, pathetic and lame

Taste: 5/10, average and stale Caffeine: 4/10, you need to use double to get some sense of happiness Value: 2/10, a pure scam, wrecks the planet Overall: 4/10, below average at best

these machines on a timer so the coffee is ready when you wake up.

Taste: 5/10, watered-down but fine Caffeine: 7/10, but you have to drink a couple CUDS Value: 7/10, pretty cost effective Overall: 6.3/10, another solid option

Taste: 7/10 plunger quality Caffeine: 8/10 too small Value: 4/10 the machine is a scam Overall: 6.3/10 medium tier

SETE ROOPU MAORI 2022 EXECUTIVE NOMINEES

Tuu mai maunga Taupiri, oo ihi,

oo wehi, oo mano kua hora nei i

Ko Waikato teeraa e rere ana i

ngoo huuhaa, he piko, he taniwha

- Waikato Taniwharau! Kei ngaa

maataawaka kua whakatoopuu

motu, hiinei a Mahuta Takaroa,

a Porourangi, a Tuutaamure, a

Apanui Ringumutu te oha atu nei.

mai ki teenei whaarua o te

te nuku o te whenua.



TUMUAKI

JADE MILLS

KAIPĀPĀHO MATUA

SHAKAYLA **ANDREWS** E rere kau mai te awa nui, mai i te kāhui maunga ki Tangaroa ko au te awa ko te awa ko au.

Kia ora koutou, my name is Jade and I come from the beautiful Whanganui awa. This year I am fortunate enough to be Apiha hauora (Recreation and Welfare officer) for Te Rōpū Māori and Kaitiaki pūtea (treasurer) for Ngā tauira o te kete aronui (Humanities Māori students exec) these experiences have inspired me to take a step further and apply for the role of Tumuaki for 2022. I am a kaupapa driven person who's passionate in supporting our tauira and ensuring that they have the best experience possible while studying here.

Next year, if successful, I want to continue the mahi that we have done this year and use this experience and skills to continue to advocate for the best outcomes possible for our tauira.

Kia Oral Ko Shakayla Andrews

Something that I bring to the

table is my experience within

and take charge of our social

media platforms. Because

that hononga strong.

of my mahi, I've established

One vision that I have for Te

all students, from first years

to postgraduate to join our

opportunities it has to offer!

the media outlet. I'm the Ōtākou/

Murihiku reporter for Tahu News

connections with the clocktower

and the Māori communications

office and will continue to keep

Rito is to encourage and entice

kaupapa because of the many

Kaipāpāho Matua.

tōku ingoa and I'll be running for



TUMUAKI TUARUA

MAAPIHI RAPANA

ĀPIHA HAUORA

MAIOHA

WATSON

Teenaa taatou, my name is Maapihi Rapana & I'm currently studying Law and a BA in Maaori Studies. I'm applying for the position of Tumuaki Tuarua (Vice President) as I'm passionate about my culture and connecting with other students. I want to help spread more awareness around the support and aroha that Te Roopuu Maaori offers to Maaori students studving at Otago University and to help them understand that Te Roopuu Maaori is more than an association, we're a whaanau.

Pai Maarire.

Kei ngā tauira Māori, tēnā koutou.

Nō Tainui, Tūhoe, Taranaki ahau. Ko Majoha Watson tōku ingoa.

I am running for Recreation and Welfare Officer on Te Rito 2022. TRM has been my home away from home and I would cherish the opportunity to give back to our tauira. I am passionate about hauora Māori and want to implement my knowledge to the role. I believe, a strong voice for mental health is imperative to the experience of tauira Māori. Above all, I want you to find your home away from home. Spread love and happiness, but especially, spread your legs!



MATAURANGA

EMMA-MAY LORETZ



ĀPIHA HANGAREKA



Tēnā koutou! Ko Emma-May Loretz tōku ingoa, he uri tēnei no Kāi Tahu, Ngāti Tamaterā me Ngāti Paga hoki. Ka tangi te pīpīwharauroa, ko te karere o Mahuru!

I want to be your Apihā Mātauranga for 2022 as I believe that we must foster all aspects of our culture in order to really succeed in our education. Our reo, tikanga me ngā mea katoa o Te Ao Māori must be given a place of importance and I hope to provide that for my fellow tauira. Through cultural success, we will achieve educational greatness!

Ngāi Tūāhuriri, Ngāti Hateatea, Ngāi Tahu, Ngāti Māmoe. E aku nui, e aku rahi, naia ka mihi kia koutou katoa. I am Gemella Reynolds-Hatem

running for Āpiha Hangareka 2022. I'm Māori and Lebanese-Syrian decent. I am a current third year student majoring in Genetics and Indigenous development. Through life I have understood the importance of whanaungatanga and manakitanga for our people and beyond. Being in this role will enable me to build that bridge for our tauira through an array of events that will accommodate for our people and build a foundation that will enable genuine connections in welcoming environments.







Kia ora e te whānau, ko Maioha Ohia ahau. He pāpaka o Rangataua, he tukemata o Kahungunu, he raukura o Te Ātiawa. Flourishing in te ao Māori, l've had the privilege of experiencing the beauty and fruitfulness of our culture. Coming down to Dunedin I found my kāinga rua (home away from home) in Te Roopū Māori.

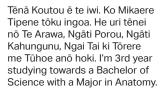
My whāinga is to encourage a safe space for tauira to be loud and proud of their Māoritanga!

Despite the stage of your cultural identity journey, I invite you to board our waka to sail the seas of Te Ao Māori.

Mauri ora!

ĀPIHA HAUORA

MAIOHA OHIA



I'm running for Kaituhi Secretary 2022. I'm a proud Māori and European descent. I am here to not only rise to the challenge of becoming a Tuākana but to listen, understand and take care of our future tauira Māori. I aim to ensure that I will provide the best support, assistance and advocate for Māori.

Ngā mihi

KAITUHI

MIKAERE TIPENE

FOROSCOPES



Aquarius Jan 20 – F<u>eb 18</u>

Your mental stability might scare you at the moment. But it's okay, you can't be unhinged forever. It's all part of the character development.

Beverage of the week: cheap bottle of sav



Pisces Feb 19 – Mar 20

Romanticise every silly little moment of your silly little life because you're a silly little sentimental water sign.

Beverage of the week: vodka soda with a hint of lime



Aries

Mar 21 – Apr 19

Heading into the spring season, things are looking cruisy and chill for you. Crack open a cold one and feel the vibes.

Beverage of the week: Raspberry Cruisers



Taurus Apr 20 – May 20

Communication may be muddley for the next couple of weeks. Ensure you are being clear and concise to avoid misunderstandings in the future.

Beverage of the week: Emerson's Pilsner



Gemini

May 21 – Jun 20

Get a root, it'll do wonders for you. Just remember to use protection and don't get attached.

Beverage of the week: Long Whites



Cancer ın 21 – Jul 22

Get out and explore a little more. Nature will make you feel more balanced, and will do wonders for the ol' noggin.

Beverage of the week: Rosè





Leo men, what's up with y'all? Who made vou like that?

Beverage of the week: Fizzliss RTDs



Aug 23 – Sep 22

/irqo

You have just gone through a great period of healing and reflection. It's time to move onwards and upwards and soldier into the future. Celebrate with a box and some DnB.

Beverage of the week: Woodstock Bourbon and Cola



Sept 23 – Oct 22

Your social media activism does nothing. Please stop spamming everyone's feeds, you don't have to be woke all the time.

Beverage of the week: Pinot Noir, the aood kind



Procrastination isn't a personality trait. Stop putting off work and study, it will just make vour life worse.

Beverage of the week: Jagerbomb

Sagittarius

Nov 22 – Dec 21

It's time to do something funky. Drop off the face of the earth for six months, pierce every part of your body, get a tramp stamp. Stick it to the man. Godspeed, my friend.

Beverage of the week: grapefruit seltzers

Capricorn

Dec 22 – Jan 19

What's it like? Being grounded and rational? Is it a nice experience?

Beverage of the week: homemade fresh piña coladas

BOOZE REVIEW:

Corona Extra

BY CHUG NORRIS

The first time I ever had a beer, it was a Corona. My dad handed it to me, looked me dead in the eyes and said: "This is a Corona boy. Don't take your Coronas to a party, son, leave them at home for pre's." All my life I heeded his words. Every time I bought Coronas, I stashed them under my bed and never let anyone else see them. Over time, the seriousness of his lesson grew faint in my mind and I began to question it. Why shouldn't I take them? I thought, after all, they're a delicious, light and summery Mexican brew, perfectly suited for the binge drinking of a flat party.

And so it came to be. On the Saturday after Level 3 ended, I thought I knew better. I wasn't naïve. I came prepared with what I thought was a perfect plan. I knew that no one could bear to drink a Corona without a lime in the neck of the bottle. So, deep in my pocket, I placed a pre-sliced baggy of limes to keep safe for the night ahead.

After the initial shit that I got for possessing such a fancy beer, I thought I was in the clear. But as the night went on, I noticed increasingly envious glances from those around me. Each time I popped off one of the bottle caps it went ricocheting around the room, but the others hardly seemed to notice. Their eyes were fixed on me as I pulled out a fresh slice of lime and placed it in the neck of my bottle.

By only about the fifth Corona, I was getting creeped out by everyone at the flat party. Everyone I spoke to simply stared at the glistening Corona bottle in my hand. They were in a trance. Like vultures they circled my box, only held back by the fact that none of them were insane enough to drink Corona without a slice of lime. I patted the limes in my pocket. As long as they were safe, my box was safe.

I was pissing down into the trees outside the flat a little later when my flatmate approached me. Pissing beside me he said: "Hey bro, do you want to come do some tequila shots, we just need some of those limes you've got, it wouldn't be the same without the limes aye haha."

I was bloated from all the beer I'd had, so the thought of tequila won me over. My hand went to the limes and his eyes followed greedily. No sooner than I had pulled the edge of the bag from my pocket did he immediately snatch them from my hand.

As I grabbed his arm to stop him from making off with the precious limes, he pushed me backwards. My back foot slipped over the bank behind me. As I tumbled into the piss-soaked bushes below, he called after me, "sorry man, it's nothing personal, there's just no way we were going to steal your Coronas without some limes aye."

It took me several minutes to climb out of the bushes. When I emerged piss-soaked and enraged, I caught a glimpse of the party indoors. Every single person was holding a glistening 355 mL, topped with limes. In that moment I realised everything that had happened was my fault. I walked home from that flat party with my father's words ringing in my ears: "don't take your Coronas to a party, son, leave them at your flat for pre's."

Tasting notes: weak but refreshing, garnish is essential Tastes like: summer, betrayal, et tu Brutus? Froth level: not having olive oil freeze in your kitchen anymore **Taste rating:** 6/10, poor without lime





The Critical Tribune

Students Forced To Clean In The Leith Amidst Bathroom "Upgrades"

Peaceful spring mornings on University campus have been disrupted by hordes of students descending upon the Leith to cleanse in lieu of their own scummy bathrooms. With flat viewing season rapidly kicking into gear, landlords are once again doing the bare minimum to make their hovels hospitable, with this year's prevalent focus being that upgrading bathrooms older than your grandparents.

However, for some, the daily pilgrimage to the Leith is now the most enjoyable part of the day. James, a second year student flatting on Dundas told the Tribune: "I quite enjoy feeling that light breeze" and noted he "can definitely see why the Scotsmen wore kilts."

Local Google searches for "is it illegal to look at naked people in public" have also hit an all-time high, and small groups gather outside St Dave's daily to watch the Attenborough-esque ritual of lads and ladies swimming around in the freezing waters. Ford, a third-year, told the Tribune that: "I used to be quite self-conscious but it's extremely liberating to strip off as nature intended."

In unrelated news, the medical students who were unable to complete out-of-town placements due to lockdown have had a surge of students checking into A&E with symptoms of hypothermia. The Otago Property Investors Association declined to comment on the matter.

Desperate Freshers Signing Botans Park Benches For 2022

With North D flats increasingly scarce, freshers have been circling the next best option for affordable student accommodation in the area park benches in the Botans.

Local landlord Michael Moneybags was seen conducting a viewing of his park benches one afternoon, with six eager groups of first-years following closely behind. "It's really refreshing," Michael said, "when you wake up, you'll feel like you're surrounded by nature. It's got really nice outdoor-outdoor flow, and, of course, spacious, low-maintenance aardens."

First-year student Jock told the Critical Tribune, "our group of boys have been applying for flats since Waitangi Day, and we haven't had much luck. We were really struggling until my mate Carlos found out about this place."

"You get plenty of personal space, which is really nice. It's probably one of the warmest flats I've seen so far this year too. Plus, walking distance to Castle - and all for only \$130 per week? What a deal!

Meanwhile, Carlos was busy thinking of potential flat names: "Bench Warmers? Benched Boys? Ah, maybe the Green House — get it? Because, like, we like weed," he said, to raucous peals of laughter.

At press time, Michael was preparing to reject Jock's application, saying he prefers tenants who are "tidier and lower maintenance," before mouthing the word "females" multiple times and winking knowingly at the Critical Tribune's reporter.

Level 2, house parties are where it's at!! But pls theme your house parties for a more fun and interesting time.

Masks, it's so much easier to make eyes at people now because it's the only part of their face you can see.

Making yourself the main character. I am in fact in a Netflix Original movie and it's somewhere between He's All That and The Kissing Booth in guality.

Having a gardener. Our flat does NOT meet the healthy homes standard in so many ways but at least our lawn is well maintained

My parents' cat coming on a little vacation to my house while they're away. I am SO excited about this (and maybe she can help with our mice problem!!)

WE HAVE TO

FEELING CR 🔊 P7 **GET TESTED** & STAY **OUS**a

Monday - Friday 12 - 2pm **OUSA Clubs & Socs**

Full menu available at ousa.org.nz

Monday - Thursday HARE KRISHNA DUNEDIN

Friday TANDOOREE GARDEN

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ousasupporthub.org.nz

Mental Health Awareness Week

Take time to Kōrero 28 September 2021 - 1 October 2021

Becky Payne "What I Learned in Therapy" Tuesday 28th September

> **Chaplains' Guided Meditation** Wednesday 29th September Meditation Room

Meet the Experts, Panel Discussion Thursday 30th September

Matthew Peppercorn "Drugs in Ōtepoti"

bit.ly/mentalhealthweek21

ousa











That one Sunday morning we've all had where you wake up and realise you've lost absolutely everything. Now I have to buy new town shoes :((

The Uni making all exams online but not giving the five mark increase this year, academia is a cruel mistress.

CAN'T BELIEVE SAY THIS BUT...

COLUMNS / RANGITAKI / 23

by Alice Frylos Baliceoliviaea73

Mos Vezzz Pezzo Serolls

I created this recipe when I had the dark realisation that I was averaging about five scrolls per week, which really does make a dent on the bank account. These are so easy to make and the recipe doesn't involve any yeast. You can also change up the flavour to what you want caramelised onions would be fantastic, and so would some feta or even tomato chutney.

There is nothing better than bread and cheese.

INGREDIENTS

MAKES 6 LARGE SCROLLS

2 cups plain flour (you might need an extra $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of flour if the dough is too sticky)

3 ¹/₂ tsp baking powder

¹/₄ tsp paprika, optional

Pinch of salt

2 ³/₄ cups grated cheese

2 eggs 3/4 cup milk 1 tub pesto

METHOD

- 1. Preheat oven to 210 degrees celsius.
- 2. Whisk together the flour, baking powder, paprika & salt.
- Add grated cheese & mix until combined.
- 4. Add the egg and milk and stir until combined.
- 5. Turn the dough out onto a clean bench and knead gently until the dough just comes together and is not too sticky. Add more flour if it is too sticky. You might need as much as half of flour.
- 6. Press the dough out into a flat rectangle. Evenly spread over the pesto and roll into a log.
- Cut into six pieces. Then take each piece and flatten it on the cut side (where you can see the pesto) to around 1 inch
- 8. Lay on a lined baking tray. Bake for 15 minutes, or until golden.

No Ragrets

When the Critic asked us to spill our most

scandalous sexcapades I didn't know where to start. I still don't. So many stories. Do I start with the three-way in a sauna which ended with more than sweat dripping down my body? Or the twelve-man orgy in which I could only make out the shadows of the people I was fucking?

But let's start earlier, the night in which I meet the man of my dreams. In the gay world there are cruise clubs, where gay men meet to relax and have some fun. I visited one when I was traveling through Auckland. It's not all glamorous as it may seem, they're full of old men, but everyone has their price.

I had been there for two hours, but no one had really caught my eye so I sat at the back of the porn theatre instead, small towel around my waist. In front of me there were mats laid out on the floor beneath the screen. Eventually, a guy sat next to me (let's call him Bigshow). I'm casually jerking off to the porn on the screen, showing off a bit, but I'm not really interested in him.

Then, in walks this daddy of a man, late 30s, I can

Making good sex, great. a t m s www.adulttoymegastore.co.nz ADULTTOYMEGASTORE

dad from Inside Out.

RANGITAKI / 23

amazing time.

We finished together, cleaned up together, and at the end of it all he dropped me off at the bus stop.

I went home in love, full of semen and (unknowingly) Gonorrhea.

Moaningful Confessions

see his muscles by the way his chest hair is formed. He had dark hair, kind eyes, lovely smile, scruffy facial hair but a full moustache. Think the

Bigshow begins to blow him, and I'm dying to get his attention so that I can join in on daddy's dick. I show daddy what I'm working with and he seems down so he puts me up on the seat and blows me instead while Bigshow blows him. While this is happening, many people walk by and watch, occasionally touching to see if they can join in, but I wanted daddy for myself. We blew each other, ate each other out, then made our way to fourth base. I am usually the one on top but for daddy's dick I was willing to do anything and it was an

Get tested frequently if you enjoy sex with multiple strangers. No Ragrets.

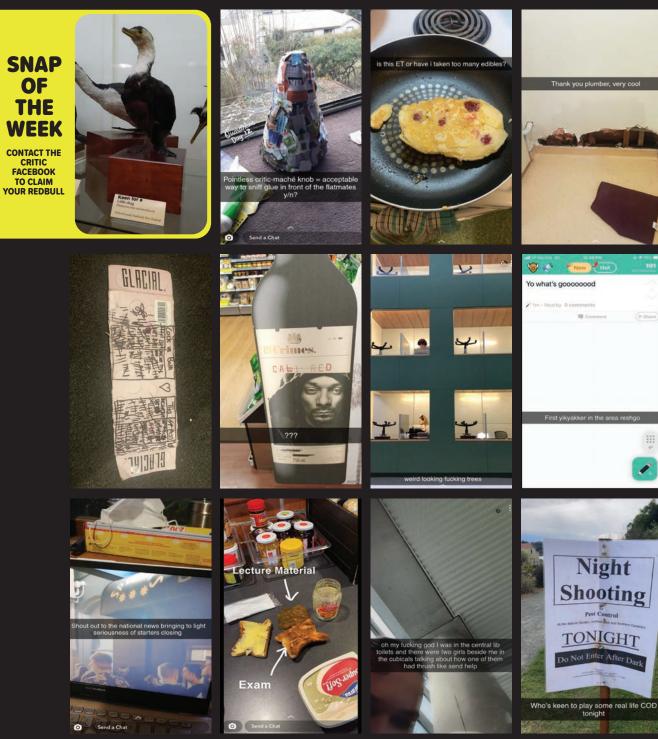




WANT CLOUT? SEND A SNAP TO THE TRAP. BEST SNAP EACH WEEK WINS A 24 PACK OF Red Bull

SNAP OF

THE WEEK



COSMIC 10% discount on full-priced items.

SUBWAY Buy any six-inch meal deal and upgrade to a footlong meal deal for free.

UBS ON CAMPUS 10% discount on full-priced items.

LUMINO THE DENTISTS \$69 new patient exam & x-ray, plus 10% off further treatments (excluding implants & orthodontics).

STIRLING SPORTS 10% student discount on all full-priced items

CORNERSTONE INK TATTOO STUDIO 10% student discount on any tattoo, not in conjunction with any other special.

RA HAIR Global colour or retouch, treatment, mini shampoo and conditioner for \$149. Keratin smoothing and supporting take-home product for \$199. Add on eye trio to any service for \$30.

OTAGO MUSEUM 2-for-1 entry to Tūhura Science Centre to see the butterflies, Monday to Friday only.

SLICK WILLY'S 5% off storewide





SAL'S AUTHENTIC NEW YORK PIZZA \$20 large cheese pizzas all day Tuesdays. Student ID required.

BURGER PLANT Cheeseburger OR Chook Burger & Fries for \$14.

TASTE OF TANDOOR

2-for-1 Curry Special - everyday between 4 to 7pm (dine in only). 15% student discount on entire bill after 7pm.

BAILEY NELSON (ONLINE) Protect your pupils this semester with 20% off. Use code 'OWEEK20' at

baileynelson.co.nz. Offer ends 5 April 2021.

ROB ROY DAIRY Mondays & Tuesdays upgrade to a free waffle cone*. *Excludes gluten-free option.





10% off everything at ADJØ (excluding already discounted deals and alchohol).

LA PORCHETTA 10% student discount on food and drink.

POPPA'S PIZZA 10% off regular large pizzas and waffles.

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ONLY UR'S BEAUTY PARLOUR Eyebrow wax OR Thread (top and bottom) for \$12 with Student ID. Ori Student Special: Brazilian Maintenance for \$28.

GELATO JUNKIE \$1 off double scoop ice creams.

TAKEICHI Free special topping with every bowl of Ramen.





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