

# critictearohi



**Correction:** In Te Arohi, we published an article titled “How Pākehā can better honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi”. The article incorporated points from Tina Ngata's article, “What’s Required of Tāngata Tiriti”, as well as the author’s personal experiences. Tina Ngata’s article should have been cited as a reference.

**Correction:** In last week’s feature “Behind the Counter: Employment Law Breaches, Bullying, and Sexual Harassment in Uni Hall Kitchens” Director of Campus and Collegiate Life Servies James Lindsay should have been quoted as saying the University “takes its responsibilities as an employer extremely seriously and does its best to ensure the workplace experience is optimal for all of our employees, no matter what service they are providing.” The article also should have clearly stated that the article focused on University-managed kitchens, which did not include Selwyn, St Marg’s, Salmond, or Knox.

**LETTER OF THE WEEK**  
**Dear Critic,**  
With these balmy Dunedin spring days upon us, I think it’s rightly said if you’re studying inside you’re missing out. Outdoors, there’s vitamin D, less Covid, probably a higher chance of someone walking past that you really can’t be fucked talking to - what’s not to like???

However, those of us seeking the great outdoors are struggling. There’s nowhere on campus to sit outside and study. The current options are  
1. St Dave’s - a total of 6 tables that falls into shade about 3pm  
2. Grass - damp, grassy, no thank you.

So, fuck knows who at OUSA I’m supposed to email but Otago University stop being cheap and buy the people some goddamn picnic tables!!

Just want some sunlight xo

**Dear Jan**  
I know this past year has been tough for you. I think you have overreacted a bit by sleeping with my dad and writing a letter to Critic. I don’t want to perpetuate this, but I feel compelled to write in and clear my name. This whole thing with Tracey has all been a big misunderstanding — I was in her bed because I got hypothermia from when the power went out, and Jordan had pissed on my bedspread. But yeah, I understand that from your perspective it must have looked a bit sus. Anyways, she wants to rebuild her relationship with you and we’ve decided that I’ll move into Mac’s flat to let you guys do this.

Wishing you (and the merry readers of Critic) all the best  
Steve Kaliatropolopoloplis

Ps. One of the weirdest things that has come from this whole chain of events is that I ended up having a really deep heart to heart with Jeff. Turns out he’s not even my real dad Imao

A few years ago, a certain Tracey Crampton-Smith appointed herself as the Otago University Pagan Chaplain. While she has not been in the role for a couple of years now, the University of Otago Magical Community feels it is important to reassure students that we are in no way associated with this person.

This self-appointed “leader” was responsible this past weekend for organising a vile, hate filled protest against our beautiful trans community. Our main concern is that Pagans, Witches and other magical folk around the University are not aware that a safe, inclusive space exists for them away from this kind of bigotry.

We are taking this time to remind our diverse community that there is an Otago University group that is and will continue to be fiercely maintained as a safe space for all of our beautiful student witches and pagans, regardless of background or orientation. We cannot bear to think of anyone feeling unsafe or ostracised in the magical community because of something that makes them so special! It will always be a safe space for all student practitioners, with transphobia, racism, sexism and other harassment being an immediately ban-able offense with no warning given.

Please join us at facebook.com/groups/oumagic for support and upcoming events.

Athena Macmillan  
Eilish Lie-Olesen

**Dear Critic,**  
MY FATHER'S FAVOURITE QUOTE FROM ECCLESIASTES THAT WAS READ AT THE END OF EVERY SCHOOL TERM READS:

"...OF MAKING MANY BOOKS THERE IS NO END, AND MUCH STUDY IS A WEARINESS OF THE FLESH" ( Ecclesiastes 12: 12 KJV)

HAPPY CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.  
(REMEMBER THE REASON FO THE SEASON)

best regards

Anthony Skegg  
P.S. Happy New YEAR



This week in news, Stop Sexual Harassment on Campus Aotearoa (SSHOC) are calling for the creation of a new organisation to monitor how universities respond to sexual misconduct on campus. That’s a great idea that needs to be implemented.

Universities across the country have failed their students and staff when it comes to dealing with sexual misconduct in universities. Critic’s own 2019 investigation into sexual assault at Knox College demonstrated that, and there are examples from other universities like AUT and Auckland as well.

In response to these issues being brought to light, as well as tireless advocacy work from groups like Thursdays in Black, every university in Aotearoa now has some policy dealing with sexual misconduct. And that’s good.

The problem is that it’s very difficult to know whether those policies are doing what they’re meant to do: holding perpetrators of sexual assault to account in a meaningful way. The indications of what’s happening under the policies, through accountability mechanisms like the Official Information Act and discipline reports released by the universities, only point out the glaring flaws. We can ask how many complaints were upheld or not upheld, and get the broad reasons why, but that’s about as much detail as we get.

So we know about that big issues with the policy — for example at Otago, investigations are immediately suspended if a perpetrator leaves the Uni. But we don’t know, on a more minute level, what the experiences of the people affected were. We don’t know which processes were followed and how people felt about those processes. All of those factors are also important in knowing whether the policy is effective. If a complaint is not upheld, maybe it’s because the process is difficult to navigate or prepare for.

There’s a lack of transparency. But that transparency has to be balanced with the obviously sensitive nature of the investigations. That’s where SSHOC’s new campaign comes in. In their proposal, people involved in sexual misconduct processes at universities, whether they’re perpetrators or victims, could voluntarily have their information passed on to an independent body. The body could assess the university’s response to sexual violence from an objective standpoint and decide whether it’s sufficient. Universities would be audited in this way every few years to see how they’re doing.

As SSHOC administrator Kayli Taylor pointed out in the news article, this is not a complete solution. But it is a good start, and one that would provide some much needed oversight and consistency.

*You can find the SSHOC petition at their website, sshoc-aotearoa.org.nz.*

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THE CROWN HOTEL  
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Tickets from undertheradar.co.nz

1  
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Vorn w/ Sometime Winner  
INCH BAR  
8PM TIL LATE  
Tickets from undertheradar.co.nz

1  
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PRINS  
DOG WITH TWO TAILS  
8PM  
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1  
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The Music Of Andrew Brough w/ Roulettes  
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8PM  
Tickets from undertheradar.co.nz

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Bass Intrusion Presents: Headland & Akcept  
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For more gigs happening around Dunedin, check out r1.co.nz/gig-guide



## TERF Counter-Protest Mostly Wholesome, Despite Assaults

Dancing turns out to be more fun than yelling, who would have thought?

By Asia Martusia King  
Staff Writer // [asia@critic.co.nz](mailto:asia@critic.co.nz)

A "Suffrage Day celebration", hosted by self-proclaimed gender-critical feminists in the Octagon last Sunday was counterprotested by a transgender-positive Jump Jam pizza party.

The counterprotest was described as "wholesome" by attendees, and no arrests were made. However, police received an assault statement from one transgender-positive protestor, and ignored a complaint from another who had been sexually assaulted.

Tracey Crampton Smith, a member of "gender-critical" groups such as Stand Up For Women, had booked the Upper Octagon to "celebrate Suffrage Day, the day adult human females won the right to vote in New Zealand and to celebrate our female sex based rights, share information and have tea and scones." She and around nine others held a tea party, displaying signs that said "FEMALE WOMEN IS NOT A FEELING" and "FEMAME RIGHTS [sic]".

In the Lower Octagon, around 60 counterprotestors held a transgender rights and liberation hīkoi, eating pizza and picking coconuts from the coconut tree (nah nah nah nah nah nah nah nah nah).

The core issue behind the protest was the debate surrounding the Births, Deaths,

Marriages and Relationships Registration Bill (BDMRR). The Bill, which passed its second reading last month, would simplify the process of changing one's sex on their birth certificate.

Tracey believes that the proposed amendments to the Bill could lead to consequences such as medical complications, male prisoners identifying as women to access female prisons, and getting away with crimes.

Scout Barbour-Evans, who helped to organise the hīkoi, was "horrified that this group would try to co-opt such a proud part of history for their own gains, and would misconstrue the BDMRR bill's intentions so horribly. We largely support BDMRR as it will make changes that will revolutionise many of our lives," they said.

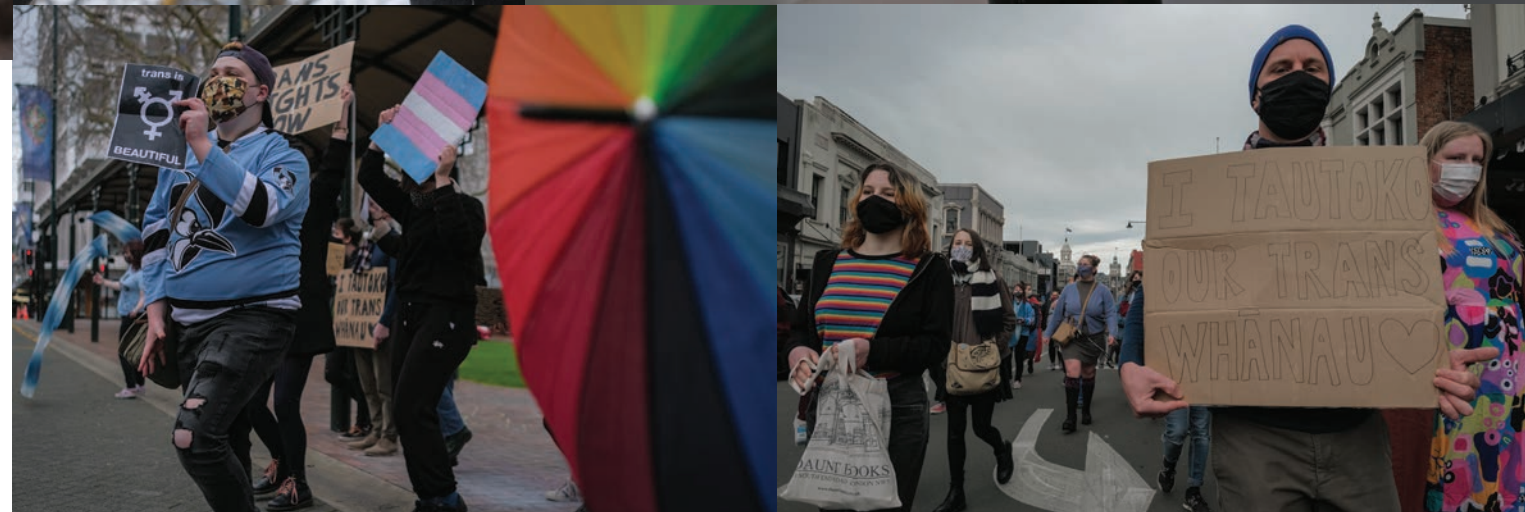
Brandon of International Socialists Ōtepoti, another hīkoi organiser, argued that "the call by 'gender critical feminists' for sex-based rights rests on the assumption that gender-based oppression is due to biological difference, and therefore intractable. If you have a penis, they argue, you put anybody with a vagina at risk. This explains their advocacy for state-enforced sexual segregation, for example by forcing trans women into men's prisons. We need to recognise that biological essentialism is a dead-end in the fight for sexual and gender liberation, just

as suffragists did when they fought for greater participation in the political sphere regardless of their genitals and reproductive role."

Both sides believed that suffragettes would have supported their own cause, for different reasons. Tracey's side said that the suffrage movement "focuses on female sex based rights and a suffragette is a female person who lobbies specifically for female sex based rights" and that "sex based rights should not be conflated with the concept of a fluid gender identity or feeling, they are different."

The transgender-positive side said that "freedom to experiment with one's own gender identity, free access to medical support and hormones, and self-identification are part of a wider fight for total liberation," and that Women's Suffrage was a "monumental stepping stone in Aotearoa to advancements in all other human rights too."

All in all, Brandon said, "the greatest victory of the counter-protest against assorted bigots was that we had a damn good time, a downright funky dance and pizza party, while they seemed to loathe each other's company. I guess that's what happens when you build a coalition of transphobic lefties and far-right New Conservative types."



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# Call for Independent Body to Monitor Universities' Response to Sexual Violence

Advocates tell universities: "do better"

By Erin Gourley  
Critic Editor // critic@critic.co.nz

Stop Sexual Harassment On Campus (SSHOC) has started a campaign to create an independent body that would monitor how universities in Aotearoa respond to sexual violence. They're encouraging staff and students at universities to fill out their petition in support of the new independent body.

SSHOC is a group of academics and students dedicated to stopping sexual harassment and violence on campuses in Aotearoa. The current administrator is Kayli Taylor, former Director of Thursdays in Black Otago.

Kayli said, "we've seen that the way universities respond to sexual violence is both very varied and there are no accountability measures in place to see that students are getting the outcome that they want when they go through those processes."

The accountability measures proposed by SSHOC include "providing an independent audit on the way universities are following their own processes and policies for responding to sexual

violence" and "making recommendations for policies." The independent body would regularly consult with victims and perpetrators who have been through the process before in order to improve the processes.

Each university in Aotearoa would be audited every three to four years under the proposed changes.

SSHOC's report on the proposal says that it would resolve the issue of alleged perpetrators leaving a university before the investigation concludes. Their details would be deposited with the independent body and moved into a database, so that the investigation starts again if they enroll at a different uni. The current process at Otago means that when perpetrators of sexual misconduct or assault leave the University, the disciplinary process is suspended.

With an independent body, Kayli said, there will be greater "transparency" around sexual misconduct processes. It will "allow the media and the public and other students on campus to

have an idea of how the policy is working."

She said that the issue currently is that universities say "'oh well we have a policy' — but that shouldn't be the end of it." "I think an independent body, to be honest, is not a fix—all solution and there will need to be work done on campus to make sure that changes do go through."

The information-gathering aspect of the audit would be helpful, Kayli said. "This will be another tool for student activist groups and political groups to put pressure on the universities, as more evidence."

"We hope that improving processes, more auditing for the ensuring of good process, and additional information on support services and reporting avenues will increase reporting rates," the SSHOC report concludes.

You can find the SSHOC petition at their website, sshoc-aotearoa.org.nz.

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## Initiation Spills Onto Street

Fistfights break out in broad daylight, witnesses say: "this is dumb"

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

An initiation at the Leith Street complex turned into a pitifully-sized brawl during the sunset hours of Thursday 23 September. People abandoned their balcony and rooftop seats when the fights broke up, and spilled out into the streets when the music stopped.

Three highschoolers watched the carnage unfold from a swingset just on the other side of the Leith. The kids told Critic that the large group spilled out of the back of one of the flats, and began sending people running down a rocky slope, through the Leith, and up the other side, where they'd skull a bevvy. According to the kids, someone passed out on the roof of the complex, and several fistfights broke out in the backyard and in the street. An attendee confirmed that this was an initiation, one taking advantage of the sunny day to binge drink and brawl along a rocky slope above one of Otago's most polluted waterways.

Ashe was walking by when the mayhem broke loose. "I saw it, and I heard it too, because it was

so loud," she told Critic. "My first thought was 'uh oh, someone's going to die'. It was Six60 balcony-collapse trauma, really." She said that every single balcony had people packed on it, "packed like a pringles can, but with just enough room to jostle around." She said that the scene looked like something off of an "images taken seconds before disaster" account. "You know the ones," she said. We did not know the ones.

"My main feeling was FOMO," said Ashe, wistfully watching the throngs of drunken young men and women stream into the glass-strewn street. The drum and bass had stopped right around the time that the fights were broken up. But minutes later it was back on, thumping out of a new speaker on the opposite sidewalk. Cars honked as the party began to obstruct Leith Street. "I felt really old and sad, walking through Castle Street and remembering the good old days when that was me," said Ashe. "They looked like they were having fun and I miss the days where I was having dangerous fun."

Critic tried to ask the evacuating masses what had gone on, and nobody was keen to spill the beans. "Nah bro, nobody wants to talk to you," said a presumable second-year as he puffed out his chest. Although the gathering appeared to be well over 100 people, there were no masks or social distancing.

Police told Critic that they received "one call just before 4pm about a party at a Leith Street address, [but] nothing to suggest people were on the street, fighting, or breaching Covid restrictions." Officers did not attend.

As we walked along the Dundas Street Bridge, a more ominous conversation was unfolding. A group of obviously drunk lads, several with bloody scuffs, were consoling a member of their group. "Don't worry about him, mate," said one, referring to someone not in their circle. "I'm sure he'll wake up."

# Melbourne Rocked by Earthquake Amidst Protests

Very much kicking them while they're down

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

A magnitude 5.9 earthquake struck Melbourne on Wednesday around noon, the largest quake in seismically-quiet Victoria for 50 years. The earthquake came amidst increasingly tense collisions between riot police and 'unions' protesting the State's COVID policies.

Jono, a PhD candidate in the geology department, studies earthquakes. He told Critic that: "Earthquakes occur much less frequently in Australia than New Zealand, but they still happen." Jono said that on average, "a couple of magnitude 5 earthquakes occur every year in Australia", but that they usually occur far away

from densely populated areas, meaning that they're less likely to make headlines.

Arinah lives in one of these densely populated areas, on the 32nd floor of an apartment building in Melbourne's CBD. She called her brother Aiman, here in Dunedin, right after the shaking subsided. Aiman said that he didn't know about the quake, and that his first reaction was "oh shit, did you just get knocked by riot police or something?" She fled downstairs with her passport to wait with others while things returned to normal, and then got back to working from home. She had a presentation due that afternoon.

Sophie moved from Wellington to Melbourne just before lockdown in 2020, which was "pretty poor timing." She called her sister Asia, here in Dunedin, to let her know that she was okay. Sophie is "used to her earthquakes," but was concerned about the homes in Melbourne that weren't ready for the shaking. But she reported that the damage wasn't as bad as the media made it seem, because the photo of the collapsed facade of a burger place on Chapel Street was "the only area of actual damage... they just keep taking pics of the same spot but from different angles." Sophie was "completely okay", and went to the dog park to calm down. "Overall, 5/10 for the day," she said.

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## Starters Employees Get Wage Subsidy

Student bar never re-opened but they all got paid over lockdown anyway, nice

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

Employees of Starters Bar (RIP) have received a government-funded wage subsidy for the lockdown period, despite the fact that the bar never actually re-opened.

OUSA CEO Debbie Downs said that because OUSA "fully expected [Starters] to be reopening post lockdown," the staff were still eligible for this money. Wage subsidy requirements state that you cannot claim money for anyone that has been told they're out of a job, and when OUSA applied for funding, nobody knew that the bar would be closing (RIP).

this, because "the closure of Starters [RIP] ... fell outside of the subsidy period." In the meantime, all Starters (RIP) staff have received subsidy money to make up for lost shifts over lockdown, a total of \$718 per part time employee. This was paid out in "either rostered hours, average weekly hours, or a lump sum."

Although the payout was surely welcomed by staff, nothing can nurse the pain of losing the last true student pub (RIP). Former staff were reached out to, but although they said they were keen to chat, they ended up ghosting us. We wanted to know how they spent their \$718, and while we assume it went towards essentials like rent and food, we can only speculate that some

of it went to buying enough piss to fill up the beer towers they took home.

Starters (RIP), which closed due to earthquake health and safety reasons, will be sorely missed by students all over Dunedin. The ground shaking caused by a frothing student gig was apparently not enough to bring down the established watering hole, but a future Akatore Fault rupture may have been more than the building could take. In the meantime, former staff stuff their pillows with \$718 worth of cold, hard, consolatory cash.

\$15<sup>pp</sup>

Heading home for the holidays?

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# Dunedin's Beerfest Moved to Crate Day

This is either genius or madness, only time will tell

By Erin Gourley  
Critic Editor // critic@critic.co.nz

OUSA has changed the dates of the Dunedin Craft Beer and Food Festival (Beerfest) due to Covid. The dates have been changed from the end of October to early December. That means the second day of Beerfest, Saturday 4 December, will coincide with Crate Day.

The press release announcing the change described the decision to move the dates as a "tough decision".

OUSA's CEO Debbie Downs said that the overlap with crate day was "a total coincidence". "Everything is getting condensed towards the end of the year [thanks to Covid]. This date had the best amount of time for breweries to make the beer in time and for people from out of town to be able to come," she said. "It can only be hosted at Alert Level 1."

"The shift should hopefully see the wider craft beer industry in a better recovery position, post lockdown," said Jason Schroeder, OUSA's Events Manager and the Director of Beerfest.

Brewers from out of town will hopefully be able to attend the festival thanks to the change in date. Hannah Miller Childs from Behemoth Brewing said, "as a company we're thankful for the delay — it gives us Aucklanders a chance to get back on our feet and really bring our A-game to Duffers for yet another awesome year at this great festival."

Andi Hickey from Beer Baronness said, "although we know it's a logistical nightmare for a lot of people, and for the public who already have tickets, from a small brewery perspective who have not been brewing for the past five weeks

this is a life-saver. It means we have some time to prepare and brew something special, so we can bring the festival magic that people want."

People who had bought tickets for the original dates are able to get refunds from Ticketmaster until 31 October. Otherwise, tickets are automatically moved to the new date. Newly available tickets will be distributed through the Ticketmaster waiting list. Provided the weather works out, nearby flats and Crate Day celebrants in Logan Park will be able to take advantage of the music emanating from the stadium. Sort of like their own private Beerfest, with cheaper beer.

Changes to the festival line-up and breweries available, as a result of the date change, have not been announced yet.



# Silverline Says Consent Workshop About "Sex and Relating"

How do you do, fellow kids?

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

Silverline, a student-led mental health initiative, has been called out for saying a sexual violence prevention workshop was about "sex and relating".

On Thursday September 16, student Kayli called attention on Twitter to a Facebook post by Silverline, promoting a Student Job Search ad. In the post, Silverline said Te Whare Tāwharau, the Uni's Sexual Violence Support and Prevention Centre, were looking for "awesome human beings to join their whānau" as Peer Facilitators to run their Sexual Violence Prevention Workshops.

"We all know how messy and, let's face it, straight up not ok O-Week can be. Especially for first years in Halls," said the post. "If you are passionate about being part of shifting

the culture around sex and relating then get amongst!!"

Kayli said that the post had "a number of concerning elements".

"Firstly, the equation of a Te Whare Tāwharau workshop about consent and harm reduction to being about 'sex and relating'. Conversations about sexual violence and sex are different conversations. Both are important conversations, but they are very different conversations. Sex is an act between consenting adults. Sexual violence is about power, and is an act of violence. For me, Silverline's post was reductionist to both Te Whare Tāwharau's workshop, and harmful to conversations about sexual violence."

"Secondly," she added, "I interpreted their post as describing sexual violence that may take place in O-Week as 'messy'. Sexual violence isn't 'messy' — it's an act of violence. From my perspective, Silverline's post minimised the act of sexual violence and the harm it causes to individuals and communities."

Silverline did not respond to Critic Te Arohi's request for comment, leaving it on "read". That's twice we were ghosted this week. However, Kayli told Critic Te Arohi that since she made her comments on Twitter, Silverline had reached out to her to apologise for the wording of the post, and have taken it down. In addition, a meeting with someone from Silverline to discuss her concerns has been organised — leaving her "cautiously optimistic" that things could change for the better.

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# Exec Quarterly Reports: Third Time's the Charm

What your exec have been up to

By Denzel Chung, Fox Meyer & Alex Leckie–Zaharic

Well, well, well, here we go again. It was a hectic quarter, filled with zoom calls, jabs, puppies, elections, earthquakes, and bar closures, but your Exec have a lot to show for it. Well, most of them do, but Jack's just excited to get out of here. The big theme this quarter was postponement, as pretty much every single member had some sort of planned event that got postponed due to lockdown. Everyone had to adapt to the second iteration of Dunedin Level 2, and everyone handled it differently. Read on for a hastily-written summary of a bureaucratically-mandated report of your minority-elected student government's recent activity.

## President – Michaela Waite–Harvey

Michaela gave 29 interviews this quarter. That's more interviews than lectures I attended. She averaged 44.875 hours/week, 10% above what is expected of her, so she is literally giving 110%. Michaela stressed the impact that lockdown had this semester, something that every single person on the Exec cited as a source of delay in their plans. But Michaela remained busy over lockdown, just like everyone else, and advocated for better student support. Most notably, though, she helped make the decision to close Starters Bar. It was a "hard but necessary" choice, and one that she did not seem happy about. She also met with Mayor Aaron Hawkins and MP David Clark, as well as the key shareholders in the Good One party registrar. Michaela also wrote the OUSA Submission on the review of the University of Otago Sexual Misconduct Policy. Also this quarter, Michaela sat on a myriad of committees and wrote about two handfuls of further letters, involving everything from the Afghan Students Association, to the Women in Leadership Breakfast, to attending the student mental health hui.

## Tumuaki (Te Roopū Māori) – Karamea Pēwhairangi

The standout moment of Karamea's quarter was the organization of a pop-up vaccination clinic on 30 and 31 of August. Her work with Melissa to make this happen made the vaccine available to any student and any member of the winder community. This included this disabled community, as Karamea said she consulted with the president of the Disabled Students Association to ensure that all who

wanted a vaccine would be able to do so safely. Karamea said that she was "extremely proud of the outcomes of this kaupapa," and so are we. In addition to the clinic, Karamea completed all of her mandated work and took several trips around the country to meet other representatives. She listed an extremely detailed, day-by-day breakdown of her work this quarter.

## President (Pacific Island Students' Association) – Melissa Lama

Just to give you the basic vibe of Melissa's third quarter, she listed the events she's been involved in using an alphabetical list and it went all the way down to the letter S. That is the nineteenth letter of the alphabet. She gave interviews to nine different media outlets. "This quarter by far has been my busiest," she said, and you've gotta hope that's true. She also did some self-reflecting. "Where I see improvements in my leadership, is in my ability to engage with students who are not involved in student associations. I hope this quarter I conduct other means of engagement for this particular cohort of students who want to be heard, but require leaders like myself to do better in what that looks like," she wrote. Good on ya Melissa.

Not only is she going above and beyond in terms of her role on UOPISA, she is also a co-chair on the National Tongan Covid Response, where she can advocate for her community. She's also leading the Pacific Youth Covid Engagement Strategy. Honestly, Melissa is just doing a ridiculous amount, and it's probably not going to slow down when she is OUSA President next year.

## Administrative Vice-President – Emily Coyle

"Another quarter down, I look forward to how Critic summarises this one for me," said Emily. Emily did us a huge solid and summarized her entire quarter in two paragraphs, making writing this section a breeze. Unfortunately for us, these paragraphs were the very last paragraphs in her seven page report, which meant we read through every single bureaucratic detail she outlined before arriving at her summary. That being said, here's what she got up to, in her own words: "I volunteered at Te Kāika Pop-Up Vaccination Centre I participated in a Sustainability video.

I met with students or responded to their emails. I attended a Community Stakeholder meeting facilitated by the Proctor and also met with property managers. I attended the Queer Space opening, wrote a column for Critic, was on Radio One, continued work on the Parents' Room, and across the board coordinated, organized, and did lots of admin. I also made sure to oil all of my joints and ensure that my functionality as an industrial-strength stapler was not impeded in any way." Thank goodness, we were worried she might rust.

Emily also attended a Ministry of Education hui in Wellington designed to elevate the "student voice", but "was disheartened when it emerged that the organisers had not included Māori student voice in any capacity." She concluded by saying that "the Tumuaki of TRM and I set a meeting with the Vice Chancellor to affirm that OUSA and TRM as parallel bodies and partners in student representation. While this feels obvious to the Executive members and many students, the University does not demonstrate recognition of this status."

## Finance and Strategy – Josh Meikle

In a relatable admission, Josh said that "this quarter has been a lot fuller on reflection than I was expecting." Me too, buddy. As he approaches the home stretch for this year, his goals are "finalising the budget, capital project timelines, handover and Drop for Good." He also voiced his faith in the 2022 Finance and Strategy Officer, Emily Fau-Goodwin, saying that she was "very well suited for this position". Josh also reported that he attended the opening event of the Otago Disabled Students' Association, which he described as "a well-organized and enjoyable evening." he was also sad to report that his "numbers of hours" spent organizing a national tournament for the New Zealand debating community has been rendered moot "because of the lockdowns." Sorry mate.

## Welfare & Equity – Maya Polaschek

Of the many things Maya has been up to in the third quarter, she "has not been required to assume the powers and duties of the President." It turns out that in the event that a debilitating incident cripples the President, AVP, Finance and Strategy Officer, and the Academic Rep simultaneously, Maya will instantly be elevated to the Presidency, 'Designated

Survivor'-style. No word as to whether she's memorised OUSA's nuclear codes, though.

As well as preparing for the apocalypse, though, Maya has also been working on other things. She has been negotiating with Oi to provide subsidised, sustainable period products for students but "these may be too expensive," she says. The Mental Health Awareness Week she has been planning will still go ahead, but must now be held mostly online, which she says is "disappointing". Improvements to the Parents' and Women's rooms are currently being investigated as well.

Maya notes in her summary that she "tried to place focus in my own space on a few big things to not face Critic's 'burnout' label once again this quarter!"

## Residential – Jack Saunders

The first thing Jack listed as a "notable campaign" was getting a second round of cuddle fix sussed for all the colleges pre-lockdown. Can't fault the man on his priorities. He was also present at the three meetings of the new Sub-warden Committee, and helped make sure they had all their ducks in a line. Jack wanted to specifically thank the SWC "for their collaboration in my advocacy for the retention pay during the recent lockdown," so, if you're on that committee, this one's for you.

Jack also spent this quarter helping at the OPISA/TRM call centre for the vaccine clinic, "which was an awesome initiative to be a part of." He also worked with Josh to reinstate the Best and Worst Flat Awards, and worked with Andy and Ziggy to mandate employment of Māori and Pasifika subwardens in the colleges. At the end of his seventh (and penultimate) quarterly report, Jack said that "I am now coming to the end of my two years at OUSA," and that this fantastic quarter "made me appreciate working with such an incredible team (this year in particular) that much more." Sounds like shade thrown @ 2020 exec, if you ask me.

## Clubs & Societies – Dushanka Govender

Currently trapped in Auckland due to the lockdown, Dushanka has had to carry out the past few months of her work as Clubs and Socs Officer remotely. Despite the difficulties with

distance, she's managed to run the Blues and Golds events and attended nearly every single meeting so far this quarter. Dushanka has also continued to work away on a Clubs Handbook outlining how meetings and other things work, also ensuring grants for food will be in place for next year. Dushanka also offered condolences on the loss of our beloved Starters Bar (RIP).

## International – Gerald Ryan

Gerald did a number of exciting things this quarter, but we're most excited about the board game nights. The Otago International Student's Association had their first board game night this quarter, which received "very positive feedback," and will now be hosted bi-weekly. An online alternative will be offering Jackbox games, which we've also started playing in the office. This is a huge win. Gerald also helped organize the International Culture Expo and OISA Wellbeing Check, both of which are very valuable and something to be proud of, but neither of which are board games. Gerald also had a meeting with Bridgehour, a Taiwanese government agency, to talk about supporting students, and with the Otago Korean Students' Association and Silverline to host a conversation about Covid's impacts. "Ironically, this is postponed due to Covid-19 Lockdown."

## Political – Mhairi Mackenzie Everitt

This quarter, Mhairi has remained politically active by writing OUSA's submission on the Conversion Practices Prohibition Legislation Bill and submission on the Inquiry into Supplementary Order Paper S9 on the Births, Deaths, Marriages and Relationships Registration Bill. These are both -hot topics- right now. Mhairi had two acts of political protest postponed due to lockdown. The first was a protest planned with Generation Zero which aimed to push for a better pedestrian environment in the Uni area. The second was a protest outside the All Blacks vs. Springboks test match at the stadium over NZ Rugby's deal with oil giant INEOS. The match was cancelled, but Greenpeace and Mhairi still think that "clean, green New Zealand" can't in good faith partner with oil-magnate INEOS.

## Postgraduate – Sophie Barham

As with most members of the Executive, the Delta outbreak severely hampered Sophie's ability to run events for postgraduate students.

The yearly postgraduate ball has been pushed to November, although Sophie has been able to attend other events. Her plans this quarter to continue to push for postgraduate representation across the University and facilitate better communication between the Uni and students were waylaid slightly by Delta, but Sophie noted progress has still been made with postgraduate students now sitting on committees within all departments and schools in the Health Sciences division.

Sophie has also made sure to check in with Wellington postgraduates following the closure of Otago's Wellington campus to see if there was anything OUSA could do to assist them. She moved the fortnightly postgrad afternoon teas to a weekly instalment online to provide an opportunity for those students to take a break during a particularly stressful time of year. It looks like postgraduate students have been in good hands this year and hopefully will be for years to come.

## Academic – Michael Evans

This man loves his job. Seriously. He loves it. In his report, he says on facilitating academic pro forma (think academic bureaucracy) "I just love it! I can't stop!" However, Michael also wants to cut down on that bureaucracy and make it easier for students to engage in academic minutiae beneath the hood of the University. In his role as Academic Representative, Michael has attended meetings for over 21 different groups such as the Senate and the Humanities Academic Board.

He's also been the one fighting for our sorely-needed grade bumps over lockdown and expressed his disappointment over the University's unwillingness to extend that to the whole semester. All of this work took up a significant amount of time, enough that University leadership expressed concern over how much time Michael was investing in his studies. Michael was happy to go on record and admit to the student population that their Academic Rep is also behind on lectures because: "I am a man of the people and I have not been led astray by attending catered meetings in the Clocktower."



# NZUSA Renews Calls for Universal Education Income

Mo money, less problems

A group of 48 students' associations across Aotearoa, led by the New Zealand Union of Students' Associations (NZUSA), Te Mana Ākonga, Tauria Pasifika and the National Disabled Students' Association, have renewed calls for the Government to extend students a Universal Education Income (UEI). They said that "it is the only way to ensure that no student is left behind." Except, of course, international students. They wouldn't get a dime.

On Wednesday 15 September, the group sent an open letter to Minister of Education, Chris Hipkins, calling for "the temporary introduction" of a UEI. Under this proposal, the Government would remove age and means-testing requirements, as well as time limits, on the existing Student Allowance. In addition, student allowance rates (currently up to \$240.68 per week for single students under 24 living away from home) would increase by \$75. This would

mean every student in Aotearoa would be eligible for income support, whether part-time or full-time, undergraduate or postgraduate, so long as they're not a bloody international, because again, they wouldn't get anything.

A 2020 study jointly published by NZUSA, Te Mana Ākonga, and Tauria Pasifika estimated the cost of implementing a UEI at \$2.5 billion per year. This would roughly double the \$2.4 billion currently spent on student assistance by the Government every year, according to the 2020-21 Budget.

The NZUSA says this is a necessary move, especially in light of Covid-19 related economic disruption. "Their casual jobs have dried up, their one off jobs have disappeared. They are often not eligible for other income support such as Wage Subsidy and are forced to borrow to survive."

"We need bold action now so that we don't fail an entire generation of tauria. A revolutionary moment in the world's history is a time for revolution, not for patching," says NZUSA. "It is the only way to ensure that no student is left behind" (except for international students, who would very much get left behind).

The UEI was one of three requests put forward by this group in the "August 2021 National Student Action Plan on Covid-19," with the others including increasing resources allocated to the Covid-19 Hardship Fund, and increasing funding for mental health support. The Government announced a \$20 million boost to the Hardship Fund for Learners two weeks ago, fulfilling one of their three requests.

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

# OAT Watch:

"I just think they're asleep at the wheel from a policy perspective."

"It just feels to me we are sleepwalking into a very dangerous situation without really assessing the consequences to our local communities." He believed the Climate Change Commission report was

A lot of sleep metaphors going on in this article about carbon credits and farmers.

SKATERS in Dunedin are ramping up efforts to improve skate parks after recent promises to improve the popular facilities.

Haha, get it, because ramps.

No wonder East Germany and the Soviet Union poured resources and drugs into their attempts to prove their superiority. Even when we have no national stake in the outcome of a much

Sports, amirite.

Corporate farm takeovers the real issue

Once you start thinking about corporate farm takeovers, all other issues are fake.

TA-TA to tartan for now. The Oamaru Victorian Heritage Celebrations has become one of the many events across the country to be cancelled due to Covid-19 uncertainty.

Tartan? She's CANCELLED.

JOHN LEWIS

DESPITE a deep, snow-bearing low bypassing Otago and Southland yesterday, its tentacles still managed to cause minor disruption around Dunedin. Snow and ice prompted the closure of Dunedin's Northern Motorway and Three Mile Hill for

Disturbed by the use of the word tentacles to describe a weather pattern.

three subjects. The three individual subjects were essential for young New Zealanders, she said. Accounting taught financial literacy, which was low nationally, and economics taught pupils how the country worked. New Zealand was made up of small businesses, which made

Ah yes, economics, famously teaches you how the country works. (un)Fun fact, it was small business owners who were a key constituency in bringing Hitler to power.

Pruning trees can be a snip

Zing!

# INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE Gerald Ryan

Kia ora everyone, hope you are feeling well and swell, especially now with the cherry blossoms blooming on the university grounds.

Regardless of status, ethnicity and nationality, every student here comes from a unique walk of life. International students add to the charm of diversity here in the university, usually most of them starting a new chapter in the life with new adventures. Many had to sacrifice their possessions, comfort and norm to adjust their life to living in New Zealand. So, instead of thinking about how international students are rich, them as 'not looking like a Kiwi' and are just 'temporary visitors' here in New Zealand, think about how they are able to make the jump to study in a new land, adapt and support

themselves right now. Every international student feels and adjust differently here, especially during the trialling times of the pandemic and border closure. Listen to their lived experiences, I'll guarantee you each of them will have a story to tell.

With that, the Otago International Students' Association (OISA) sets a pedestal for every international student to feel supported and safe here at their university life. Regardless of whatever experience you may have, we welcome you to have a yarn with us on whatever issues you may be experiencing. We have our AGM coming up soon, so join us and vote for your next year OISA committee. More details can be found here:

Facebook Page: Otago International Students' Association

Instagram: @oisa.nz

Until then, sampai jumpa.



JOURNEY TO CHCH & QTOWN/WANAKA  
(ALTERNATING WEEKENDS)



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WEEK 23 CROSSWORD ANSWERS

ACROSS:  
2. Intelligence 7. Disappear 9. Vain 10. Ache 12. Rosa 15. Soar 18. Kaimoana 19. Tale 20. A bit 21. Notorious 22. Nuts 24. Hint 25. Et cetera 26. Scar 29. Menu 30. A lot 33. Limp 34. Scoundrel 35. Gordon Ramsay

DOWN:  
1. Understands 3. Eden 4. Lira 5. Elves 6. China 8. Awakens 11. Consoled 13. Fifty-two 14. Gourmet 16. Orb 17. Ratatouille 20. Ashamed 23. Tea 27. Cairo 28. Rapid 31. Tsar 32. Poem

WORDWHEEL ANSWER: Gourmet

SUDOKU

sudokuoftheday.com

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

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

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

CROSSWORD

1		2		3			4		5	6		7		8
9							10							
11				12	13				14					
												15		
		16						17						
18								19						
												20		
				21						22		23		
24									25					
26								27						

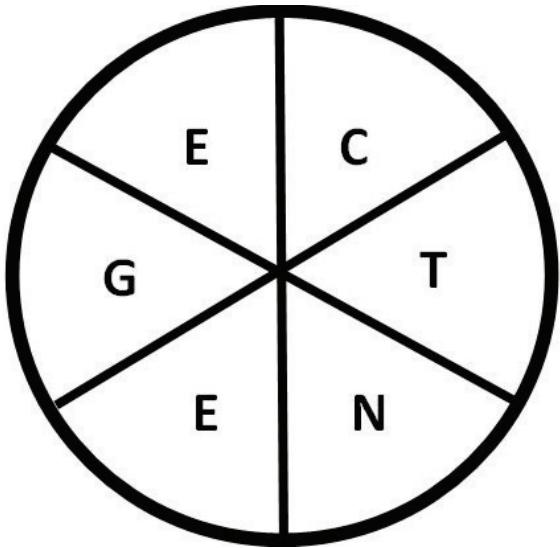
- ACROSS:

  - 1. Upbeat (8)
  - 5. Condiment made from horseradish (6)
  - 9. Scruffy (6)
  - 10. \_\_\_\_\_ and cheese (8)
  - 11. Everything (3)
  - 12. Immediate (7)
  - 15. Zodiac sign (3)
  - 16. Awa (5)
- DOWN:

  - 2. Facilitate (6)
  - 3. Jewish religious leader (5)
  - 4. Restricted (7)
  - 6. Adjust, evolve (5)
  - 7. Extremely cute (8)
  - 8. Drink made with coffee, whiskey and cream (5,6)
  - 11. Farming (11)
  - 13. Small novel (7)
- 17. Living (5)
  - 18. Head of a company (3)
  - 21. Coffee-maker (7)
  - 23. \_\_\_\_-size-fits-all (3)
  - 24. Saying (8)
  - 25. Companion (6)
  - 26. Word made by removing one letter from 'rejects' (6)
  - 27. Brothers and sisters (8)
- 14. Answer to this week's Wordwheel (7)
  - 16. Casino game involving a spinning wheel (8)
  - 19. Former National Party leader: Simon \_\_\_\_\_ (7)
  - 20. Up-to-date (6)
  - 21. Charred (5)
  - 22. Fourth month of the year (5)



WORD WHEEL



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

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

There are 10 differences between these images.





# International Students:

## Far From Home

The story of internationals' struggle with lockdown, their inability to return home, and lack of spidey senses

By Keegan Wells

While it's been a rough couple of years for all of us, international students, or as the University probably refers to them, 'our largest source of income', have had a particularly tough pandemic. Otago Uni reports that out of the 20,700 students in 2020, international students comprise 9% of them – around 2,300 (this doesn't include Australian, Tokelauan, and Cook Islands students). China, the United States, Malaysia, India, and Singapore make up the largest percentages of international students, but more than 30 other countries were represented in 2020. These students have not been able to return to their home countries or see their families for the last year and a half, and in many cases even longer. Each of those 2300 students is someone, perhaps in one of your lectures, that made the tough decision to choose an academic path rather than seeing their family and being at home.

There are two types of international students: those who come here on exchange for a semester or year and those who come here for their full university degrees. Once the first lockdown happened in March of 2020 many of the semester exchange students received hostile emails threatening to pull their scholarships, university-based housing, and other support systems these students use if they didn't return home; ultimately making it impossible for them to remain in Dunedin. A fortunate small group of these exchange students were able to remain at Otago for the remainder of their semester, waiting out lockdown to travel the country that many of us have been so fortunate to have already explored. The full-time international students on the other hand were never planning on leaving, as Otago is their home university, pushing them into the situation they are in today.

International students don't know when they can go home next. With the international border being shut, students who only have student visas are not able to return home and return to New Zealand afterwards. They are effectively stuck in the country until the borders open back up again. And as seen with the Australia bubble, an open border can shut again without much notice.

Lok said that international students "can't go back home even if we want to, because it will mean sacrificing our tertiary journey or chances to live their life here in New Zealand. Rather we have had to find a unique support system and adapt to it."

The choice to study at Otago pre-pandemic was made under the assumption that international students would be able to return home but “suddenly we’ve signed onto two to three years of our life without being able to go back home and check in on things. You have to ask yourself ‘is it worth it?’ If you answer yes, you have to deal with the disadvantages of being a foreigner,” says Fox, another international student. The lack of assistance for international students can be grim, especially since international students are paying around 3.5x domestic course fees. The international office sent out notifications two days into lockdown directing students who may be struggling to send an email to a University email account. This can feel like not enough when there’s no family nearby to help you. Fox reckons the international students have to become incredibly self-reliant. “We can’t just borrow a car, crash at our parents’ house, or rely on the communal infrastructure that a whānau provides.”

**“Suddenly we’ve signed onto two to three years of our life without being able to go back home and check in on things. You have to ask yourself ‘is it worth it?’ If you answer yes, you have to deal with the disadvantages of being a foreigner.”**

A lot of internationals really miss their families and friends back home. “I just really miss my family, no amount of video calls really can make up for it. Beyond not getting to eat my dad’s food or spend time with my siblings, I really yearn for the sense of just being at home,” says one international named Hannah. She continues, “it’s really the small things like the noises, scenery, and food that I became so accustomed to growing up and now I feel like I’m losing them and a small part of my identity with the continued border closure.” The feeling of uncertainty creates a deep impact on many of these international students.

Many international students have also had to overcome survivor’s guilt over the past year and a half. As Covid-19 affects the older generations more or even just as families age, there is a lot of anxiety of when or if international students will be able to see their older family members again, especially when most people in their home countries know at least a few people that have died from Covid. Fox is worried that if there is an older family member that passes away he “won’t be able to go home and mourn for them, an exception would not be made for that.”

**“It’s really the small things like the noises, scenery, and food that I became so accustomed to growing up and now I feel like I’m losing them and a small part of my identity with the continued border closure.”**

There is also an internal battle with guilt that comes from being ‘stuck’ in Dunedin. Hannah says “New Zealand provides access to most everything a person could want; it is not a bad place to be. So the feelings of selfishness and ungratefulness arise when I’m claiming to be stuck here, but I know I’m not ungrateful, I just want to visit home.” Hannah’s experiences are not uncommon though, many international students have to battle the feelings of being fortunate enough to travel and live abroad while still feeling homesick and yearning for the sense of home.

Creating a support system within the international community seems to be what most internationals have turned to. The Otago International Student Association [OISA] has created a network by students for students so internationals can find other people who really understand what they’re going through. Over this past lockdown, they have been incredibly active providing cooking tutorials, study sessions, and game nights, all online. If you are an international student or even a domestic student with ties abroad, OISA is open to you and offers a great community.

If you are an international student reading this, just know all your feelings are valid and there are others who are experiencing something similar to you. If you are a domestic student, Lok suggests “listening to [international students’] stories and being their listening ear” if you want to help them with the hardships they are undergoing. When you’re on the piss this weekend, pour one out for the international students in your life.

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# THE KIWI WHO ADMINS AN INTERNATIONAL BESTIALITY GROUP

Content warning: Graphic descriptions of bestiality.

BY ASIA MARTUSIA KING

Jessica\* is my new friend. She loves cooking, podcasts, gaming, and dogs. Here's the caveat: She really loves dogs. She admins an online international bestiality server of 11,000 people, united by their desire to fuck animals.

Don't let the sheep shagging jokes fool you. Bestiality is illegal in Aotearoa, and most other places around the world as well, minus a handful of random countries (Japan, Russia etc.) and a few American states. Jessica's server is technically legal, as it publicly only allows fictional, drawn bestiality in the form of hentai. What goes on behind the scenes, however, is a different story altogether.

Her server is an official offbranch of a subreddit, r/HentaiBeast. Reddit used to openly harbour real-life bestiality until recently. R/bestiality, r/BeastTales, and r/zoophilia were just a few of the subreddits that existed before they were banned for proliferating violent content. Nowadays, only r/HentaiBeast remains, with a whopping 280,000 members. Imagine if the entire city of Wellington, plus half of Dunedin, all collectively wanted to bone dogs.

I joined Jessica's server with the intention of busting the group, a la 'Don't Fuck With Cats' (literally). There are several admins, Jessica included. I learned that she was a Kiwi and something wicked brewed inside of me. I would discover who she is. I would doxx this nasty, degenerate woman, exposing her to all. I read through years of Jessica's comments in order to uncover her real identity. In the meantime, I simultaneously learnt of her insecurities, her passions, her struggles with mental health. The server was her lifeline.

"Fuck," I thought. "I sympathise with a zoophile."

The most bizarre part about the group is how wholesome it is. Minus the porn, it's full of otherwise well-adjusted professionals who share images of their hikes, cooking tips, and hold conversations about topics from classical archeology to learning Mandarin. I got served a cartoon Scooby Doo pounding Velma up the arse, right beside a great recipe for challah bread. My stereotype of a lonely perverted farmer didn't hold up to these conventionally attractive liberal yuppies. Their guidelines are strict. No slurs, bullying, misogyny, ableism, or underage content is permitted whatsoever.

"We try not to be weird about it," somebody responded, when I voiced my astonishment to the chat. "Yeah, we're not degenerates," retorted another.

"We keep the place friendly and wholesome by bonking the shitters or disruptive folks and we keep the content wholesome and legal," Jessica, who agreed to an online interview, said to me. "We are also very anti bigotry/racism and very pro lgbtq+ community."

As to why she dedicates her life to admining a porn server, "it's mostly to keep this server a friendly welcoming safe haven for those here and anyone looking in future. It's more than just the porn as you may have noticed. We have a lot of other stuff from discussion and gaming channels to places for folks to vent or seek advice etc."

While the group nowadays condemns any discussion

of real-life bestiality, it was a different story back when the server originated in 2018. Actual human-animal copulation was a core feature of the chat. It's implied that users were encouraged to evade law enforcement by sharing links and torrents to films in private messages.

"I don't know where to go for actual beast porn. I've mostly used hentai as an outlet," wrote a user in 2018.

"No IRL beast stuff. But feel free to pm [private message] between yourselves," Jessica responded. Somebody offered to send a private link, and the rest is up to our imagination.

When I asked Jessica about this in 2021, she denied that any bestiality was allowed whatsoever, private messages included. "Absolutely no IRL bestiality yeah, just like our underage rules it's heavily enforced. Every so often we get someone looking for IRL, but they are quickly pointed to our rules. At least two folks have been banned for attempting to share IRL beast in DMs, and a handful more for trying to discuss or post it in server."

Early discussions around the group's conception are deeply disturbing, however, alluding to users who actively took advantage of their dogs and horses. One user even worked in a pet store. Others, who didn't have pets, expressed desire to obtain them. Although, said one user, "if I did have pets id be too busy fucking them [sic]."

"There is quite a few of us that are probably interested in the real thing," Jessica wrote around this time. "We dont talk about that tho... its like fight club [sic]."

Some animals are apparently sexier than others. Dogs — German Shepherds, and Danes specifically — appear to be the most popular. This is closely followed by horses. The first question you probably have is, 'Jesus Christ, why the hell are people into this?'

Below are some of the reasons users gave:

"For me i think its more of a degradation and submission thing. Plus [...] dog cocks are hot as fuck."

"I love how inhuman it is personally," said another.

"I mostly enjoy the aesthetic of a long hard dog cock. The shape just looks amazing. [...] But I would agree with the idea of degradation and depravity of the act. I think that's the hottest part of it. Being reduced to a completely sexual being by submitting to an animal cock."

# The first question you probably have is, 'Jesus Christ, why the hell are people into this?'

"i wanted a niche that wasnt too extreme," was the most bewildering response. "i know how deep the kinky stuff goes, and i want to stay in the shallow end."

And this is how the group members justify their desires. The following includes excerpts from a conversation which took place in the chat:

"whose to say it's painful or unpleasant for the dog? if the dog initiates the humping, does that mean it's somewhat interested?"

"consent being a human construct, can it really be applied to an animal?" wrote Jessica. "can a horse consent to been trained for racing/equestrian stuff, or police dogs etc consent to [being] put in dangerous situations?" And, "arent people who get animals as 'pets' also guilty of having them be their 'toy' just not in a sexual manner[?]"

"Can you explain a difference however between training a dog to roll over and training a dog for safe sex?" somebody responded. "I would postulate there is not. In fact teaching a dog to roll over is in some ways even more outside it's natural behavior. A dog instinctually wants to have sex, it does not instinctually want to roll over."

It's impossible to know what goes on in Jessica's DMs, but from what's publicly available, she's never engaged in real-life bestiality. "i really really wanna try irl, but it is difficult for obv reasons [sic]," she wrote in 2018. "Of course the legality and moral white knights are likely to stop that ever happening."

It's impossible to account for all members, but Jessica is not exclusively into bestiality. Many of the members consider it an additional kink, often being aware of it from a very young age, occasionally tied to incidents in

their childhood. It's just another fact of life. A few of the members are furies, but most aren't. In the same way that some people are inexplicably captivated by poo, or the way I once had a series of horrible unstoppable Donald Trump wet dreams, they simply cannot help being zoophiles.

To view the server as an outsider is morally conflicting. There's a dissonance between my disgust at what these people are doing and another fact I must begrudgingly accept: that many people in this group are nice. I cannot bring myself to condone those who enact their urges upon non-consenting animals. But how wrong is it to share illustrations without actively participating in real life? Is it beneficial or harmful to use hentai as an outlet? We stigmatise and shun those from society when, in actual fact, the majority do no real harm. The server could serve as a healthy outlet for those who feel alone.

The fate of r/HentaiBeast is precarious. Comments have been disabled due to frequent breaking of the rules, namely discussion of real life bestiality, posting links to real beast content, and offering it for sale or trade. Likewise with the chat server, "eventually somebody's gonna start taking it a little too seriously, they're gonna let slip what they wanna do IRL, and then it's all over," wrote one moderator.

I don't know if I believe in Jessica's innocence or not. My time in the bestiality server was nauseating, enlightening, humanising, and often disconcertingly sweet. There's no doubt that its early days contained graphic and illegal content — it's possible that, nowadays, admins like Jessica are simply taking greater precautions to keep the chat legal.

If you're after a fantastic challah bread recipe, though, you know where to find it.



# The Great Critic Pizza Review

It's about time that Critic did a pizza review. But how could we possibly judge the multitude of flavours, styles, and techniques that can be found in pizza? How can we best capture the rich tapestry of gastronomical history that pizza represents? These are all questions that we mulled over tirelessly before we started our rigorous analysis of Dunedin pizza.

We used three metrics for this review. Firstly, the value metric ( $\text{cm}^2/\$$ ) tells you roughly how many square centimetres you can get for one dollar. The higher this number, the better value the pizza is. (For reference, a slice of Domino's pizza is roughly  $40\text{cm}^2$ ). The second metric was taste and texture, averaged across all the staff members who contributed to this review. The third metric was vibes.

Sidenote: Unfortunately, Biggie's, Filadelfio's, and Slice of Heaven were not open when we did this review.



## Hell Pizza

The pizza was well-cooked, with good, stringy mozzarella cheese and pineapple that melded with the cheese well. The ham was very meaty, which some staff thought was too much but others appreciated.

We agreed that there wasn't enough sauce on this pizza. The base was also lacking. It had integrity and was decently thick, but it wasn't nearly crispy enough. Hell's Hawaiian pizza isn't actually called a Hawaiian pizza, but is called "Greed" instead. This difference was apparent in the overall taste of the pizza. While the individual ingredients were yum, and the pizza was well-made, it felt like they were trying to create something different to a Hawaiian pizza. This wasn't the right decision. Thinking you can improve on something perfect will always lead to failure.

**$\text{cm}^2/\$$ :** 31 (about 0.8 average-sized slices for one dollar)

**Taste & Texture:** 6/10

**Vibes:** trying too hard

## Domino's

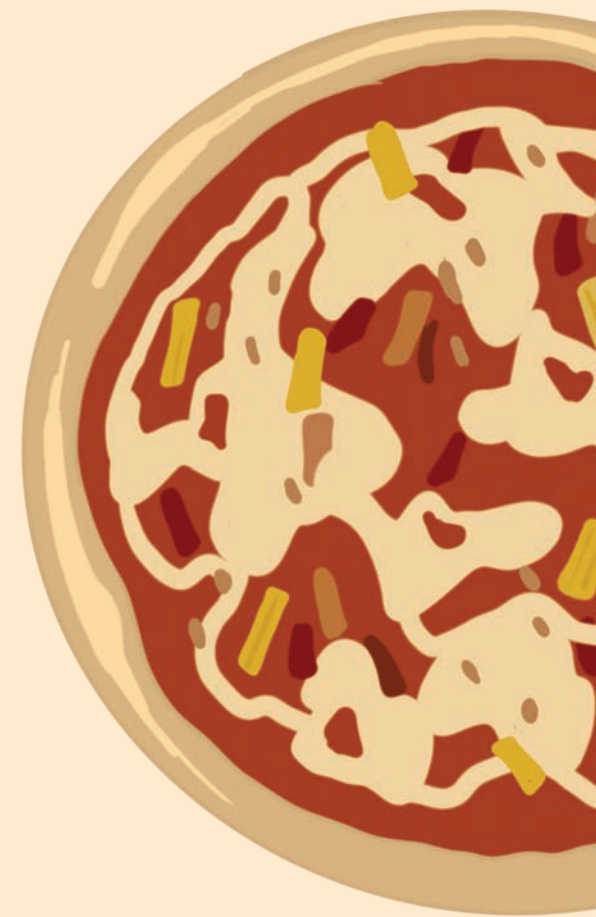
Online ordering Domino's sucks so much. You have to go past like ten different screens advertising delicious-looking sides in order to order one measly pizza. Yeah, you're damn right I want garlic scrolls but I'm only here for one thing: Hawaiian pizza. Then you have to click through ads to enter random competitions from other companies? I am paying money for goods and services, surely that is enough for this giant corporation. What godforsaken capitalist hellhole are we living in where I have to click through multiple ads to pay for my humble pineapple on pizza?

The pizza itself provided a strong sense of nostalgia for primary school birthday parties, which some staff described as "consistent" and "comforting" and others said brought back less-than-fond memories. The sauce was quite sharp, tasting more like straight tomato paste than a sauce. The taste overall was barbecuey, and tasted a lot like a reheated supermarket pizza.

**$\text{cm}^2/\$$ :** 65 (about 1.6 average-sized slices for one dollar)

**Taste & Texture:** 5/10

**Vibes:** overcrowded public pool during the summer holidays in primary school





# Sal's

I have massive beef with Sal's sign saying that they are the 22nd best pizza in the world. Not to be a skeptic, but I am willing to put my life's savings on the fact that none of the top 50 pizza slices, or pizza places, are in New Zealand. If one of them were to be, it certainly wouldn't be an overpriced pizza chain designed for Glasson's girls to go on dates with Huffer boys at the end of their high school week before a trip to the mall.

To make matters worse, Sal's doesn't even have Hawaiian pizza on their menu. To create a Hawaiian pizza we had to order a plain cheese and add some ham and canned pineapple from the supermarket. We included that in our cost analysis. That being said, our improvised Sal's Hawaiian pizza was pretty tasty. The best part about Sal's is the sauce. It's almost spicy, like a nice pasta sauce. There was also an impressive amount of cheese.

The office all agreed that the wood-fired flavour of the base was tasty, but we were divided on integrity. A few staff members reckoned it was easily foldable which meant you got way more cheesy goodness in each bite. Others said it was flimsy, slimy, or even flaccid. One said: "I'd be more comfortable holding a baby than this pizza." The canned pineapples and the lack of bread to soak it up meant the pizza was incredibly juicy. More juicy than a pizza ever should be. One staff member reckoned it gave her a grease pimple. However, if you happen to be a fan of juicy pizza with minimal base, Sal's is undeniably your best option.

**cm²/\$:** 37 (about 0.9 average-sized slices for one dollar)  
**Taste & Texture:** 7.3/10  
**Vibes:** a single layer of lasagna falling apart in your hand

# Pizza Hut

Pizza Hut was a very dough-forward pizza. It had a salty, bready, focaccia-like base and crust that honestly slapped. It was the antithesis to Sal's, putting the base front and centre of the experience rather than hiding it in grease. Don't get me wrong, the Pizza Hut pizza was greasy too. The sauce was pretty good, and the pineapple, ham, and cheese were all pretty inoffensive, with not much to complain about. One of the classic two multinational pizza conglomerates worldwide, Pizza Hut was unsurprisingly good value for money.

**cm²/\$:** 78 (about 1.95 average-sized slices for one dollar)  
**Taste & Texture:** 6/10  
**Vibes:** missing having a bakery in North Dunedin



# Poppa's Pizza

Poppa's was without a doubt the most visually appealing pizza from the get go. There were little crispy burnt bits of cheese and pineapple on top, and a sprinkling of herbs as well. Poppa's took a different approach to most other pizzas. They layer ham across the entire pizza, and stack cheese and pineapple on top. A few staff weren't a fan of the geologic strata approach, but most reckoned it made all the flavours merge together perfectly. The pizza had an almost sweet taste. In terms of texture, this pizza had excellent mouthfeel, with a good crunchy base. The ham looked like actual ham rather than something that came from a school canteen. Although Hawaiian definitely isn't Poppa's specialty, this pizza slapped.

**cm²/\$:** 23.3 (about 0.6 average-sized slices for one dollar)  
**Taste & Texture:** 7.5/10  
**Vibes:** using your new airfryer stoned for the first time and realising it was the best purchase you've ever made

# Boss Pizza

(Formerly Pizza Bella)



Boss Pizza's Hawaiian was like a pizza from Sims 2. The ham looked like mystery meat had been put through an industrial grinder, coming out as identical cubes of meat. There was a good amount of cheese and toppings, which was appreciated, but the cheese didn't have any flavour and neither did the base. The whole pizza was a bit chewy and the overall impression was that the whole pizza felt like it came out of a Wattie's can: the tomato sauce, the ham, everything. At least it wasn't Bill English's spaghetti pizza. Or maybe that would have been better.

The next day, we got an ad for Boss Pizza's Hawaiian pizza on Instagram (Zuckerberg strikes again) but the image looked remarkably different to what we received. A quick reverse Google image search revealed the pizza photo was posted on First We Feast's Twitter and was taken at an Australian pizza place that was decidedly not Boss Pizza.

**cm²/\$:** 32 (about 0.8 average-sized slices for one dollar)  
**Taste & Texture:** 3/10  
**Vibes:** training a poorly-coded AI to make Hawaiian pizza, being catfished

## Final Value Ratings:

Poppa's: 23  
Hell: 31  
Boss: 32  
Sal's: 37  
Domino's: 65  
Pizza Hut: 78

## Final Taste Ratings:

Boss: 3/10  
Domino's: 5.5/10  
Pizza Hut: 6/10  
Hell: 6.9/10  
Sal's: 7/10  
Poppa's: 7.8/10

## Overall Rankings:

6th: Boss  
5th: Hell  
4th: Domino's  
3rd: Sal's  
2nd: Poppa's  
1st: Pizza Hut

# How to Improve Your Tinder

By Annabelle Vaughan



Whether you're on it for a joke, or to find love, a quick root, or a dealer, we've all downloaded Tinder at some stage or another in our lives. However, sometimes matches and messages lead to nothing. But for the breathas who are wanting a Saturday beezy, or the lonely folks just wanting a date, never fear. I have taken it upon myself to create this one stop shop — how to improve your Tinder, and actually get results.

## 1. Limit group photos

This one goes out to my people who love group photos — I get it, it's always easier to post a group photo to show you actually have friends. But, for those of us swiping, we can't tell who is who. It can be highly confusing. Remember, Tinder is a game played fast. No one wants to stop scrolling to try and decode which one you are in a group photo where everyone kinda looks the same anyway. Get right to the point. Befriend the algorithm.

## 2. Include your star sign

This tip goes out to the guys on Tinder. Please, for the love of God, include your star sign. This might be the most important fact of all. It dictates if the sex or date between you and your match will be good or bad, exciting or boring. It determines if you will get on, or clash. If you're an Aries, it's best to steer clear from a Taurus. Gemini and Capricorn? Recipe for disaster. But, you can avoid the risk of awkward vibes and incompatibility if you just include your fucking star sign.

I can already hear the whines and whimpers from the breathas: "but astrology isn't real," "it's all made up." No Josh, it isn't made up. Including your star sign narrows down the contenders, and gives you a more focused approach to your Tinder.

## 3. Don't ask for Instagram follows

We've probably all matched with someone at one point or another who messages asking for an Instagram follow. Just, why? It literally achieves nothing, and people will be incredibly reluctant to follow you. You may as well just buy Instagram follows from one of those scammer pages.

## 4. Don't be a fucking creep

If you successfully match with someone on Tinder, and feel the urge to immediately start a conversation by asking for sex, stop before you start. There is nothing more uncomfortable, seedy, and gross than someone coming right off the bat and asking for sex. It's best to warm up to it. Try asking how someone's day is going, or what their weekend plans are, or better yet — "so what are you looking for?" This is much more classy and comfortable than saying "haha wanna fuck?" Remember, you never know if your match is in it for a date, a joke, or a root. With unknown territory, it's better to tread lightly, then once the vibe is caught, you can go forth as you please.

## 5. Dead animals aren't cute

Gentlemen, again, this is something we need to unpack. The boar on your back that you shot up in Central Otago over the weekend, or that massive fuck off trout you caught one time on a fishing trip with your Dad is not cute. It's not funny, or quirky, or impressive, or attractive in any way possible. In fact, it's a deterrent, a blazing red flag, a sign of toxic masculinity. Your Toyota Hilux is not a flex. It causes most to run away in horror. Maybe post photos of you at a party with your mates, or tramping, or a nice photo of you at your siblings' graduation. Just please, anything but blood, guts and that fucking Hilux.

## 6. Don't be a soft boi

I get it. You go thrift shopping, and drink overpriced iced Americano's at Kiki Beware. You like poetry, and think that because you vote for the Green Party you deserve all the sex in the world for being a leftist. Well, you're wrong. If you are a soft boi on Tinder, it's best to tone it down a little. I don't want to hear you wank on about how much you love Pulp Fiction over craft beer at Woof! Nor do I want you to message me the poetry you wrote about your perpetual sense of loneliness. Read the room and put your raging superiority complex away.

## 7. Limit selfies

More than one selfie is an instant red flag, especially if it is a) in front of a mirror or b) with a snapchat filter. One Tinder user even stated that "if I see a Snapchat filter, you're cancelled and not making it to the next round." The people have spoken. Selfies are cringe, and they should be left in 2014 alongside music by The Chainsmokers. If you really can't contain yourself, and find the need to post a selfie, keep it to just one.

## 8. Verify your account with the blue tick

The account verification on Tinder is a great way to weed out the weirdos, and prove you are also not a catfish. Basically, account verification just means you are who you say you are, and it makes for a safer, more comfortable experience for everyone involved. People might rip the shit out of you for going through the verification process (which is basically just taking real time selfies) but trust me, other Tinder users will appreciate the honesty.

## 9. Specify what you are looking for

As the saying goes, honesty is the best policy, especially when it comes to wading in the pool of love and relationships. It's best to specify what you want from the get go. There's nothing more awkward than when you're just looking for a bit of weed for a Friday night joint and someone ends up falling in love with you, or you have a hook up expecting something more, but it ends up being a one night stand. It never hurts to chuck your bio "looking for something casual," or "wanting to meet people and date." It reduces the amount of awkward conversations you need to have, or the mixed messages you may need to try to unravel. Overall, it's better for everyone if you're just straight up honest. Online dating can be a minefield of uncertainty and discomfort — so stay honest, stay safe, and have fun xx

# Outdoor Study Spots:

## How to make the most of Spring in the exam season

By Susana Jones & Annabelle Vaughan

Spring has well and truly sprung, bringing more sunlight and life to campus. With most of us completing the semester online, libraries and flats can become claustrophobic and uncomfortable study spots. Instead of slaving away inside, now is the perfect time of year to grab an outside study spot, and get on the grind.

There are several considerations before choosing a spot. Is the wifi good? Are snackables and drinkables within reasonable walking distance? What's the pollen like in the area? Would one be able to shmang freely and unjudged in the location? How long would it take me to run back to the nearest bathroom to go peepee? These are all the important things one needs to know before settling on somewhere to study.

### Marsh Study Centre picnic tables

As I walked down Castle Street during Level 4 lockdown, spreading my legs, I observed people very smartly whipping out their laptops and sunglasses and settling down at the tables outside the Marsh Study Centre and getting their study on. Geniuses. This location is simply lovely, although the wind does whip around a lot, so hold onto your shit. The tables offer the perfect balance of sun and shade, Gardens New World is a short hiko away for study snack binges. The gardens are right there for little mental health breaks too, which we should all be taking while studying. The wifi connection is solid, and if you're lucky, you might see a duck friend or two waddle by.

### Clocktower lawn

Make sure the ground is dry before parking your ass on the grass, please. However, if you do happen to sit on the wet ground, as I did, don't worry. It's everyone else's choice whether they look at your bunda, not your problem babes. Anyways, this is a prime position to catch the sun when it's out. Because this space is just a vast expanse of green. You could

probably play golf on the lawn if you really wanted to, not that I know anything about golf.

You have to be able to study on the ground, with your materials sitting on your lap or beside you. I found this to be a challenge, especially with my formerly-athletic thighs that just won't quit. There are some seats and benches lining the Clocktower building if that's your jam, but the Clocktower intimidates me a bit because it reminds me that the University is a business that wrings us out for money that we don't have. The wifi connection is still stable, but this spot is highly weather dependent.



### St Daves picnic tables

This area intimidates me. Even as a fourth year, I still get anxious when the waves of first-year health scis who think they're smarter than me because they made it to semester two roll in and out of St Daves. I braved my fears and sat out here to study for a wee while, and it was... fine? You've got the Leith and the Clocktower right there, which is something nice to look at when the blue light from your laptop screen just becomes a bit too much. A caution: you probably shouldn't sit here if you get distracted very easily, as I do. The foot traffic in this area is heavy, even with classes being online. Every 50 minutes I get sidetracked watching people play runway down the strip of tiles in between St Daves and the Leith. Water fountains and food may be sourced nearby, with the St Daves cafe being literally right there, and Night 'n Day a nice short stroll away. The wifi connection is stable, but can sometimes be a little slow at peak hours. Overall, this is a great option, but it is highly contested territory so it's best to get in early.

### Behind the Staff Club

This is a secret spot. It's covered in shade with small streams of light slipping through the cracks of tree branches and leaves. If it's a Monday and your brain and oculomotor system is still recovering from your big shift on the rark on Saturday night, this is the perfect place. People won't look at you unless they know you're there, and you're surrounded by nature and the Leith. The cherry blossoms are out right now. It's got hugely romantic vibes. The Staff Club is right next door. Allegedly, students are allowed to eat there — so if you're in the mood to wine and dine, carry on. The ladies bathroom in there is super cool, there's a mirror on every wall.

### The picnic area by Castle, Burns and the Link

This little area is lovely, it feels like a little green spring oasis in the middle of a concrete jungle. Kinda artificial vibes but I'm appreciating it for what it is. Watch out at lunch time on a sunny day, because this area becomes highly populated with Central Library gremlins (I can say that because I am

one). This is a good spot because if it does end up raining, you can scuttle straight into Central. There are also many snack and meal vendors in the Link, Union, and all along Albany Street. Again, if you're easily distracted, watch out because the foot traffic is also quite heavy here — especially with lectures starting back up in Castle. Wifi is secure, but if there are no benches available, you may need to check the grass for dampness to avoid outfit malfunctions.

### Outside a cafe

An underrated but effective study spot is perching outside at one of the many cafes along George Street. If you are finding campus too overwhelming, and are in need of a change in scenery, try taking a stroll down George and setting up shop in commercial premises. You can either sit outside, or inside, and most places generally have free wifi. It's an ideal spot for people watching, and of course you've got easy access to yummy and delicious food. Support local businesses, just remember to mask up and sign in.

### Robertson benches

The benches outside the Robertson make for another great option. Spaces are limited, and it's guaranteed to fill up fast on a sunny day, so the early bird definitely catches the worm in this instance. There are plenty of snacks nearby with vending machines inside, and the Union Street Dairy of Fluid across the street. The wifi at the Robertson is somewhat questionable, and the benches may require you to sit awkwardly. Nonetheless, if you get in early, it's a strong contender.

When this rain and wind eventually decide to behave themselves, I encourage you to venture outside, boss babes, and utilise the green space we have around campus to study. Being outside and getting into nature is so good for your mind and soul, so please make sure you get outside this study season. I'm begging you, you need it x



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# LIVE MUSIC IN THE AGE OF COVID-19

## HOW LOCAL MUSICIANS ARE USING TECHNOLOGY TO SPREAD THEIR SOUNDS

BY DENZEL CHUNG

Covid restrictions have been putting Dunedin's live musicians under pressure, needing to adjust to a new normal of small gigs, even tighter finances, and lots more time spent online. Critic Te Arohi spoke to local musicians Boaz Anema and Zi Shaw, as well as sound engineer and music scene advocate Dave Bennett, to gather their thoughts on what's changed and how they're adjusting.

What does live music look like now, in Covid times? For starters (RIP), with venues mostly closed down or unable to sustain live musicians, there's a lot more online performances. Musician Boaz Anema said "I began livestreaming in the first lockdown and tried challenging myself to stream every day. By the tenth day I was exhausted from playing and soon gave up. I found the rest of my lockdown felt a bit easier because I didn't put pressure on myself. The second lockdown, I started to live stream once a week on the weekend. This felt a lot more comfortable for me."

In addition, anyone who has struggled with laggy Zoom meetings or video-chats will know live-streaming is a real mission. Even more so when you need to time everything perfectly. Dave Bennett said that the "technical aspects of live streaming are quite straightforward. A decent audio interface or digital mixer, some mics, a camera, and a laptop and you're good to go." Sometimes, it's easier said than done, though. "How does one convey the live energy of an indie rock band when you're playing at the local pub, streaming off the guitarist's phone straight to Facebook with audio coming from one crappy microphone?" he said.

Of course, most fingers are crossed that something approaching normalcy can resume soon. Jacinda, for one, seems committed to summer gigs going ahead: "We will find a way to make sure, regardless of the circumstances globally and domestically, that we are able to have the events that make New Zealand summers."

Although restrictions were recently eased to allow gatherings of up to 100 people, some others are less optimistic. Caroline Harvey-Teare, chief executive at Venues Ōtautahi (who runs venues such as the Christchurch Town Hall and Orangetheory Stadium), told Stuff in September that they are expecting Level 2 restrictions to remain until at least Christmas.

The uncertainty makes it an absolute nightmare for musos, says Boaz: "My band, BO And the Constrictors, had a long-awaited tour booked when the second lockdown hit two days before our first gig. The uncertainty about levels has made it very hard, as we have had to make changes as information was announced. Initially it was only our first three dates postponed, then it slowly became the entire tour. We have had to reschedule every date and now we are having to consider re-scheduling our dates again."

Local musician Zi, an Otago student, had a similar experience: "We had a couple gigs booked in lockdown, and now they'll be

next year, partly because uni break is so soon, as well as just the amount of events that have to be moved around. It makes it hard to plan for months out when we don't really know what will be happening, particularly stuff outside of Dunedin."

Of course, no article about the struggles of local musicians is complete without discussion of money. As much as any muso will tell you it's not about the money, they've still got to travel, get equipment, and eat. Boaz says small gigs make often tenuous financial situations even more of a struggle. "There is almost no pay to these smaller gigs. Even if we fill capacity, unless we charge an unreasonable door charge we cannot make the same income we did before lockdown."

All these issues cumulatively take a toll on musicians. Uploading videos on YouTube, says Zi, was "a bit strange because you don't get an immediate, visible reaction. You're watching likes and views numbers, and people comment 'this is really good,' and you say 'Thanks!' and that's the whole interaction. So it just feels a bit flat, or like it becomes easy to obsess over the wrong details."

Boaz was frank about how challenging he found this: "I love playing music and I love being a musician but your mental health gets an absolute battering in this industry," says Boaz. "I could have planned better for this second lockdown, but in reality I can have good weeks and I can have the absolute worst weeks. I feel like the negative feelings are amplified in lockdown, as I struggle to find purpose in my craft when I am singing in an empty room to a lifeless screen."

While the atmosphere, energy and motivation that comes from a live crowd cannot be beat, both Zi and Boaz, like many other musicians, are trying to make the best of the current situation. Zi's band, Midnight Caffeine, is considering beginning Twitch streaming if Covid restrictions keep larger gigs from happening in the longer-term. Boaz looks forward to "the audience engagement in live streaming, which can be quite a spirit lifter, especially when they comment that you are playing their favourite song — bonus if it is one of my originals!"

Advocacy group Save Dunedin Live Music told Critic Te Arohi, "music is, at its core, a social good that helps to strengthen the bonds of community and fosters a deep sense of belonging and pride in our city. Therefore, when forces such as Covid-19 impact negatively on the music scene, we believe the community must step in and protect this vital piece of Dunedin culture. With a robust plan for the future, support from the council and good community consultation, we believe Dunedin can continue to be a world class music city."

Dave had a word of encouragement for musos struggling with the 'new normal'. "If you're in it for the love and getting good vibes out to your mates in lockdown, don't let the logistics hold you back. Music is meant to be shared, and in a Covid world, we need it more than ever."



# I CLAIM

## this is an interview with Dunedin Affirmations

By Sean Gourley

**Dunedin Affirmations (@dunedinaffirmations) is an Ōtepoti Instagram page on the rise. We checked in with them to see what goes into posting daily inspirational content, and also to get clues as to their identity because that is our favourite project right now.**

### **Can you explain what an affirmation is?**

An affirmation is a positive statement or phrase that you repeat to yourself to help manifest good things to come into your life and counteract negative thoughts — I see it as some sort of fake it 'till you make it kind of thing.

### **Why did you make the page?**

I saw friends putting posts from @wellingtonaffirmations and @melbourneaffirmations up on their stories and immediately jumped on the wagon and made one for Dunedin. There are so many Dunedin inside jokes that I really wanted to see in the affirmations format and I thought others would find them funny too.

With the snap lockdown and a general feeling of being down-in-the-dumps across the people that I know, I thought it would be really nice to cheer them up a bit. And

also remind people how fun and great Dunedin can be since we will all be here for a good while. It is not a bad place at all to be locked down in.

### **Where does your inspiration for the affirmations come from?**

Since starting Uni this year and meeting people from all around New Zealand, it has made me realise more and more how special, but also how niche and weird the experience of living and growing up in Ōtepoti is. A lot of my posts are inspired by the distinctly Dunedin things I have talked to my new friends from out of town about. Things that make them go “What the fuck? That’s weird.” But I know people who live and grew up here find it relatable and understand my references.

My friends and I have all had our fair share of chatting shit



about Dunedin over the years, but I have been unlearning that and have really gained so much appreciation for its quirks over the past year, with the help of affirmations. Dunedin is such a cool place to be, and I hope these affirmations help people be more appreciative of how special and random this city can be.

### **What is it like being the rock in people's lives?**

There is a bit of pressure to try and make the account relatable enough to apply to a wide variety of people, but I have just been having a blast running this account in the one week I have had it.

Walking through George Street I see people who have followed and posted about the account, and it is just really funny to me that they don't know it is me. It is a bit of a Hannah Montana moment really. But honestly, it just feels really good to be able to cheer so many people up and make them feel seen/called out, as well as spread the

Dunedin patriotism and feel a sense of pride (of the South).

### **What affirmations do you live by?**

My personal favourites all come from the OG @affirmations. I live by “I am NOT burnt out at all, I can keep going for many years,” “I know that people find me really cool,” and my now daily mantra, “I am NOT Cuckoo Crazy.”

### **Do you have any advice on how to get into the affirmation game?**

My advice is to make some for yourself (or take some from @affirmations), then try and abide by them until you actually see the change you want to see happening or start to believe it. They can be as simple or as elaborate as you want. It feels really silly at first, but once you get over how weird it can be, it is actually a fun way to ground yourself and boost your self-esteem a 'lil bit. Only you can change your life and what you want to see in yourself baby!!!



## On her upcoming tour, music and what it's like being a solo female artist in Aotearoa's music industry

By Annabelle Vaughan

Alannah Prins, known by her stage name PRINS, is one of Aotearoa's latest musical sensations. An electro-pop artist based in Christchurch, she is set to embark on a nationwide tour in the coming months. Critic sat down to chat with her on the tour, her new music, and what it's like finding your place in the music industry.

Originally from Auckland, Alannah moved to Christchurch to study musical theatre, having always had a passion for music and performing. "Music has always been a massive part of my life," she explains. After about a year of study, she realized musical theatre wasn't exactly the path she wanted to go down. So, she decided to take some time off and ended up joining a band she found on Student Job Search. From there, things began to take off and she started pursuing original music. "I had fallen in love with performing, it took maybe three years before I started working on original content and pushing in that direction," she says.

While Aotearoa's music industry has produced a variety of notable female acts, it is still heavily dominated by bands. As for being a female solo act, Alannah says "it's been interesting, I have found there's positives and negatives being down in the South Island." In terms of her genre, Alannah says: "I can't think of anyone that's doing the same genre. There are people writing pop music, but I have felt like I'm the only one that's pushed into the dance, electro pop dance scene. It's cool, but it's hard being the only one," she says.

"There's a lot of support in terms of funding, and platforms that can help you, but I find a lot of the New Zealand audience maybe isn't as well-introduced to pop as I thought." Alannah says that "once you get past a certain barrier and prove yourself, it's a lot easier to get support behind you instead."

Alannah's nationwide tour is guaranteed to be a success. Her sound is infectious, and her discography is riddled with pop hits which are sure to shake up the dance floor. Alannah says she loves touring,

and is excited to build up new audience bases. "I love travelling, so being on tour and getting to do what I love while seeing the country is the absolute dream for me. I'm playing pretty much most of places in New Zealand. It's a challenge to build an audience like that. I had a breakthrough in Dunedin when I played at Dog With Two Tails in July," she says. "That's the first time I've had a really decent audience outside of somewhere I've either grown up or been based in, like Christchurch. Dunedin has a soft spot for me."

As for her musical influences, Alannah says she tries to keep her songwriting as original as possible, ensuring that she doesn't become overly influenced into creating the same sound as others. "I get compared to Dua Lipa, Miley Cyrus, and Halsey, that style vocally. In terms of songwriting, I try not to be influenced by anything too much because I feel like it will start sounding like everyone else," she says.

Despite lockdowns taking a major toll on live music, Alannah is optimistic and hopeful for the projects she has in the works, and for wider gig culture. "The first lockdown was really tough because I released a single in that 48 hour period when we were going into lockdown. It was rough because it was the first time I'd been supported by NZ on Air, and had worked with SAACHI on the production," she says. "It was tough to get attention because everyone was in panic mode. Releasing music is still hard, some people are excited for new music to be released if they are locked inside their house, or people just don't care," she explains.

As for her future projects, Alannah is working on new music, and is even beginning to plan her 2022 tour. "I've sat down and planned the next 2-3 years of my life. I'm going on a tour, I have some festivals planned over summer, and I'm working on a bunch of music at the moment," she says.

Keep an eye out for PRINS on her summer tour in Aotearoa. You can also find her music on Spotify.



# Isaac Chadwick

LOCAL  
PRODUCE  
By Annabelle Vaughan

Isaac Chadwick is a new creative who has recently launched onto the Dunedin scene. He is an aspiring filmmaker, session musician and surfer who is successfully moulding all of his interests into artistic projects. Critic sat down to chat with him on his new projects and what it's like being a creative in Dunedin.

Growing up in Northland, Isaac was always a keen surfer and filmmaker. "I'm really into filmmaking, as a kid I'd make stop motion films with Lego," he says. He spent his teenage years in Tauranga, surrounded by the ocean which sparked his interest in surfing. Isaac then moved to Otago, and began a degree in Media and Film. Last year, he released his first film "Bask: Volume 1," a documentary which followed him and his friends on their surfing journey's in Dunedin.

"I documented me and my mates living on Castle Street, it was a surf film and documentary which looked at the whole year, post Covid." Isaac and his friends then hosted a screening of the film, which amassed an audience of over 200 people. His film also led to him being featured in the New Zealand Surfing Journal, and Los Angeles based publication, Reckless Magazine. He is currently working on a follow up to the film with his friend and other Dunedin artist, Sam Charlesworth.

"We're working on the soundtrack together, it's a bit hectic," he says. As for his future endeavours, Isaac says he is wanting to branch into new types of filmmaking. "I'm wanting to head into a more fiction and narrative style," he says.

Alongside filmmaking, Isaac is also a talented musician, who currently works as a session artist for plenty of well-known acts in the Dunedin music scene, including TJ Zee, who goes by the stage name Zexii. Isaac says that in the future, he hopes to branch out further into music, and enjoys combining it with his filmmaking. "Next year, I want to get on top of it and get a band going. I'm always looking for the next big thing I can sink my teeth into," he says.

Isaac says that both the Dunedin community and city is the perfect place to develop as a creative. "I love what I study, it gives me time to find out what I want. It's so good. I can explore. I can explore the best places in the country. There's no restraints, it's a big open canvas," he says. "There's so much to be influenced by because you have the history of the music culture here. With the surfing, you have all this beautiful scenery. It's an emotive place to get inspired," he says.

For his future goals, Isaac hopes to finish his follow up documentary project and get into the music scene. "I'd love to be an independent filmmaker, to have money to make films. I want to go into stuff like that. I'm so fortunate to be given the resources and go for it. It's super sick, it's awesome. The films are an expression — we're being true to ourselves."

Isaac is set to (hopefully) premiere his new film in mid-October, so stay tuned for updates.

You can find him on Instagram @isaac\_chaddy.

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# HOROSCOPES



## Aquarius

Jan 20 – Feb 18

Instead of pre-planning New Years, focus on those end of year exams and assignments. One day at a time as they say.

**Political ideology to research: shit-posting left wing content on social media**



## Pisces

Feb 19 – Mar 20

All panic, no disco.

**Political ideology to research: pure libertarianism**



## Aries

Mar 21 – Apr 19

There's an upcoming full moon in Aries which is gonna fuck you right up. Try to stay balanced, stay calm, and remember it's the planet's fault, not yours.

**Political ideology to research: anarchy**



## Taurus

Apr 20 – May 20

You need to stop collecting mugs. Sure, they're cute and quirky, but you are quickly on the road to becoming a mug-hoarder.

**Political ideology to research: communism**



## Gemini

May 21 – Jun 20

Your chatty personality is fun in social settings, but not in class. Stop asking so many useless questions during lectures. Your classmates and lecturer will thank you.

**Political ideology to research: conservatism**



## Cancer

Jun 21 – Jul 22

Only a couple more weeks till you are back home in your preferred habitat. Keep holding on and holding out, summer is near.

**Political ideology to research: populism**



## Leo

July 23 – Aug 22

WHAT WAS THE REASON? WHAT WAS THE REASON?

**Political ideology to research: autocracy**



## Virgo

Aug 23 – Sep 22

If you are seeing red flags, or getting an icky feeling in your stomach about a new relationship or friendship, it's best to address them now before it's too late. Trust that gut instinct baby!

**Political ideology to research: socialism**



## Libra

Sept 23 – Oct 22

It's your season! May you have springtime joy, a spiritual awakening, shit tonnes of weed, and bottles of wine in the sun.

**Political ideology to research: hippie communes**



## Scorpio

Oct 23 – Nov 21

You are talented, brilliant, incredible, amazing, show stopping, spectacular, never the same, totally unique, completely not ever been done before, unafraid to reference or not reference.

**Political ideology to research: girl boss capitalism**



## Sagittarius

Nov 22 – Dec 21

Things are probably tough right now. You have lots of urges and struggles, but don't quite know when it will be over. End of October should bring more clarity to you. Godspeed, my friend.

**Political ideology to research: modern marxism**



## Capricorn

Dec 22 – Jan 19

Your oodie belongs in your room, not the lounge for all your flatmates to see. Put that shit away.

**Political ideology to research : eco-socialism**

## BOOZE REVIEW:

# STELLA ARTOIS

*By Abraham Drinkin'*

Do you believe that taxation is literally theft? Do you find yourself retching in disgust as you walk past commoners drinking boxes of Flame? Does Maggie Thatcher's steely gaze awaken something deep within?

Stella Artois is perfect for showing your lower class friends you aren't out of touch. You drink beer just like them. Yes, Daddy may have paid for it. And yes, you really would prefer a nice bottle of Mumm or Möet. But with a bottle of beer, your snobbish leering will be harder to spot. If you're lucky, you may even be able to trap one of the less observant partygoers in a conversation about "this bloody Labour government" and your property portfolio for a good half-hour.

Stella's design is impeccable. Unlike craft beer at a similar price point, Stella doesn't need to cover herself in over the top bullshit to capture your attention. She can do better than the "bro check out my ManGo StrAWbeRry sOUR WaTerMelon HAZy IPA" neckbeard crowd. She is elegant, understated, beautiful. She deserves only the best. The paper collar wrapped around her neck and cap not only protects her from the gaze of those below her, but it can also be nonchalantly discarded on the floor of the flat you're at. It won't be a problem — it's good to make sure the help has something to do.

Anno 1366 is boldly printed on the label to let you know Stella is no new-money beer (yuck). She's only interested in those with dusty dollars. She's older than feudalism, a beer from the good old days when one could beat their serfs for slacking off and hang them for organising a strike. Like your other boomer investor pals, simply refuse to do even a simple Google search and remain blissfully ignorant of the fact that in reality Stella was first manufactured in 1926.

In between functioning as a wartime speed bump, those Belgians have certainly managed to master the art of brewing. Stella can only be described as perfect. One cannot fault this beer in any way. Not overly hoppy, yet fully flavoured. The fizz is masterfully balanced so she may be savoured as easily as she can be deleted, just in case you need to show everyone you were the hardest kid at Auckland Grammar. She is a beer fit for a Herne Bay King.

At \$27 a box, one has to be a king to afford a box of this liquid nectar. Even the most lavish may raise an eyebrow. But with an unshakeable belief in trickle-down economics, one can quite easily write this off on the company as a charitable donation. As a bonus, the relatively high price ensures the riff raff cannot get their grubby little mitts on it, keeping you safe from being accidentally thought to be one of them. Every so often, the commies at New World will drop it to \$21. At these times, it's best avoided so as to maintain your image.

After too many, one may begin to have some very strange thoughts such as "is it right that only a few will ever experience such ecstasy?" Quickly push these foolish ideas aside. If the plebeians wanted to drink nice beer, they simply wouldn't have chosen to be poor.

All in all, Stella is a drop of pure excellence. Simply possessing a box will make you the smartest, sexiest, and douchiest person in the room. So, when Daddy buys you the wrong colour iPhone or refuses to replace the Golf GTI you totalled, calm down with a refreshing Stella and remember: you are better than everyone else.

**Tasting notes:** Perspiration from Don Brash's bald spot, tenant's tears, excellence  
**Froth level:** David Seymour's boat party on election night  
**Pairs well with:** Caviar, blow, lobster, the poor (medium rare)  
**Taste rating:** 10/10, simply exquisite

# The Critical Tribune

## Medical Student Concedes She is Not a Doctor

In a shocking revelation, medical student Lily has admitted that she is "not a doctor".

Lily's friend Sam was playing a game of pick up at Logan park. He twisted his ankle, and the crowd turned to well-known second year med student Lily for help. She refused.

"I'm not a doctor yet, you should probably get it looked at by someone who actually knows what they're talking about," she said. Sam's mates took him to Dunedin Hospital for a real doctor to examine the injury instead.

When the Tribune followed up with Lily, she claimed she was, "just doing what all early medical students get told to do." "I'm not a hero," she said, modestly. "A lot of damage can be done if injuries are treated improperly."

Other students disagree with Lily's move. One first-year health sci student named Luke, interviewed at UniCol, said he had been claiming "to be a doctor since arriving at Uni, there is just something about being a doctor that people just respond well to."

Since Luke doesn't get the respect he craves for being at UniCol, claiming to be a doctor is really needed for his mental stability. However, his 69% in CHEM191 might lead him to discover that he's actually always wanted to be a dentist.

## Fifth Year Makes Ground-Breaking Discovery: The Botans

Cedar, a fifth year breather, decided to start walking to the supermarket during lockdown, because he really had "nothing better to do".

To his sheer amazement, he discovered what he reckons is "one of the most beautiful scenes to gaze upon" and is nearly as good as "coming home to the boys after a long day of watching NBA in Central."

Coming from Castle Street, Cedar usually drives to New World Gardens. He decided to switch it up one day and he stumbled upon the Botans. He didn't know "if anyone else in Duns has heard about this place" and reckons "it's actually pretty mean aye, it even has cool birds."

Cedar has since shown his mates the mystical gardens, just to make sure it wasn't all a fever dream or only cool from all the cones he smoked. He assured the Tribune that the amount of cones he smokes "is a lot, probably the most of anyone I know."

Now that lockdown has ended, the Tribune asked Cedar if he plans on visiting the Botans again. He responded: "nah probably not, I just got better things to do."



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Tuesday 28th September  
Online

Chaplains' Guided Meditation  
Wednesday 29th September  
Meditation Room

Meet the Experts, Panel Discussion  
Thursday 30th September  
Online

Matthew Peppercorn "Drugs in Ōtepoti"  
Friday 1st October  
Online

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# FUCK! I CAN'T COOK

by ALICE TAYLOR @ALICEOLIVIAEATS

## Ginger Cake

September marks the month when I become unhealthily and prematurely excited about Christmas and start baking large volumes of this gingerbread. I think that a lot of people are deterred from making cakes or desserts because often several components need to be made, and chilled, etc. This gingerbread recipe requires none of that. You just stir together a batter and throw it in the oven.

This recipe is incredibly fool proof. Honestly, this cake has so much fat in it that it is almost impossible for it to turn out poorly. Though this cake is delicious on its own, it is also very good warm from the oven with caramel sauce and vanilla ice cream.

### INGREDIENTS

250g unsalted butter, softened at room temperature	2 cups all purpose flour
1/3 cup brown sugar	2 tsp baking powder
2/3 cup golden syrup	1/2 tsp mixed spice
50g fresh ginger, peeled and grated finely (I store the ginger in the freezer, and grate from frozen)	a pinch of salt
	1/2 a whole nutmeg, grated, optional
	2 free range eggs
	3/4 cup cream (or milk)

### METHOD

1. Preheat the oven to 180°C. Grease and line a cake tin.
2. In a medium sized saucepan, melt the butter, brown sugar, golden syrup, and grated ginger until all the ingredients have combined and the sugar has dissolved. Remove from heat and allow to cool slightly.
3. Meanwhile, in a large bowl whisk together the flour, baking powder, mixed spice, salt and nutmeg.
4. In a separate bowl lightly whisk together the eggs, milk, and cream.
5. Pour the butter mixture into the dry ingredients, whisk gently, and then add the eggy mixture, and whisk until just combined.
6. Pour into the greased and lined cake tin and bake for between 30-35 minutes, until golden and a skewer comes out clean when inserted. Allow to cool for 10 minutes before turning out onto a wire rack and serving.
7. Enjoy warm or at room temperature!



## MOANINGFUL CONFESSIONS

### The Girl Next Door

Me and Jade had been neighbours for as long as I can remember. Growing up in the hinterlands of the south, we had gone to school in Gore together. Even as we got into the saddle of puberty, I had never really seen her as a potential romantic filly – I was in a stable relationship, and besides, she was a dedicated horse girl who didn't show much interest in men, let alone me.

It all changed one sunny afternoon in mid-January. We were home on break, the both of us working full trot on our parent's farms. The Otago Southern Southland Regional A&P show was coming up, and like all the young colts in our region, we were keen to see how green the pastures were on the other farms, if you know what I mean.

It was at the end of the A&P show by the time we finally crossed paths. The tractor displays, the sheepdog showdowns, and the Heaven is Hay exhibit had all by this time finished, and most of the boomers seemed completely cantered off jugs of Speights. The smell of piss and trodden-on candy-floss began to permeate the air, like how undertones of eu de manure always rises with the sun on a frosty morning, or how the sweet scent of burning rubber rubs off on your snapback at the end of a long night of manies.

Anyways, there was only one event left – the showjumping trials.

It was my mum, actually, who told me I had to go say hi to her. I found her Jade, (not my mum) at the far end of the stables. She had a long face on, and was sobbing into her mane of luscious blonde hair, which was plaited and adorned with tartan ribbons.

"Hey," I said, awkwardly.

"I couldn't hack it," she wailed, falling into my arms. "My god Jade, you mean you fell off your pony?" I said gallantly. "No," she said, hoarsely, "they played the wrong song! They put on Patti Smith instead of Yannis Philippakis and it stalled me."

It was at that moment that I noticed how warm her body was. "Ah that dastardly Brian Jelks from Mataura Station!" I murmured softly. "I always knew he was a braggart and a blackheart even before he got a cd walkman in year five..." she petered off, and looked up at me longingly.

We kissed slowly. I savoured the taste of salt on her lips. Before I knew it, her jodhpurs were halfway down her flanks, and I was mounting her, her arms splayed against the wall of the stile. "Oh Clyde," she whinnied. "You make me giddy, up in every inch of my being."

All of a sudden, the gate shot open. It was Pinto Trotter, the stationmaster. "Jeepers!" he brayed. "If I had known you kids were going for a ride, I would have cleared the stables. Have fun kids, I won't tell on you," he chuckled. He hucked me a hi-five with a wink, shut the gate with a clang, and went on his merry way, his footsteps echoing down the concrete corridor as he whistled a jaunty tune.

"Take me to the finish line," Jade moaned, handing me her riding crop, "you're such a stallion." "Nay," I nickered coyly, slowing down my phallic gait to a tölt. "I'm just a common cob."

"You're a regular racehorse," she sighed, as I filled her with my ivermectin.

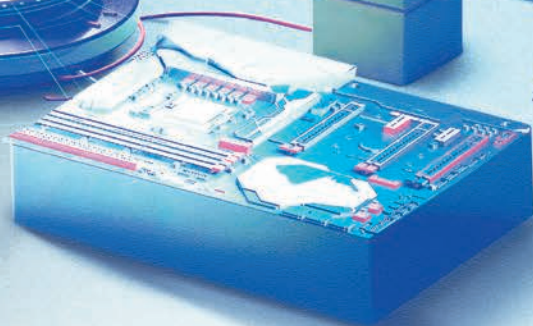


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