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arohi



LETTERS

EMAIL CRITIC@CRITIC.CO.NZ

LETTER OF THE WEEK WINS A \$25 VOUCHER FROM UNIVERSITY BOOKSHOP

LETTER OF THE WEEK

Dear Sir,
OUSA's submission on the Fair Pay Agreements leaves a lot to be desired. They conclude their submission with "OUSA neither supports or rejects Fair Pay Agreements, but rather encourages the Education and Workforce Committee to further explore ways for workers and employers to negotiate and rule fair pay." This - in my view - is a complete abandonment of OUSA's mandate to represent student interests.

Students overwhelmingly work in sectors which will benefit from Fair Pay Agreements, notably retail and hospitality. Fair Pay Agreements offer the opportunity to dramatically lift wages and conditions for workers in these sectors, ultimately leaving students with more pay, more time for recreation and study, and a better quality of life. OUSA should wholly endorse such legislation.

Further, it is interesting to see that on the Parliamentary website OUSA has only submitted evidence on two pieces of legislation this year. It would be great if they could step up and more strongly represent student interests through the select committee process.

Sincerely,

Student-who-wants-higher-wages

Dear Critic,
What is in "mixed pickle" from curry takeaway shops?

Please and thank you,
Picked Profs

Editor's response: It looks like this can vary based on the chef, but common ingredients were cauliflower, aubergine, capsicum and carrot. Mangoes made it in there every now and then, too.

RAD TIMES GIG GUIDE



**TUESDAY
19 JULY**

Inch Open Mic w/ Keira Wallace, hosted by Andy P
INCH BAR
7PM / KOHA ENTRY

**WEDNESDAY
20 JULY**

L. Hotel, Hot Sauce Club, and Undertow
U BAR
9PM / FREE ENTRY

Silly Duck Comedy Open Mic
IMCH BAR
7:30PM
Tickets from eventfinda.co.nz

**FRIDAY
22 JULY**

Hystera, Flesh Bug, and Human Susan
THE CROWN HOTEL
8PM / \$10

The Dunedin Youth Jazz Orchestra - Isaac's Shack
DOG WITH TWO TAILS
8PM
Tickets from eventfinda.co.nz

**SATURDAY
23 JULY**

Blisspoint, Sense Of Time, Ghost Colored Faces, and Out Of Luck!
PORT CHALMERS PIONEER HALL
8PM
Tickets from undertheradar.co.nz

Organectomy - 'Nail Below Nail' Album Release
DIVE
8PM
Tickets from cosmicticketing.co.nz

Musical Comedy Night feat. Dazzling Demeizas, Rompusing Rolands, Silly Sams, Tilted Tamas, Goofy Gerards, and MC Gerard Dougherty
INCH BAR
7PM / ALL AGES
Tickets from eventfinda.co.nz

**SUNDAY
24 JULY**

Big Jazz Apple
INCH BAR
4:30PM / KOHA ENTRY

University Book Shop Great King St + On Campus

Hi Critic!

I thought I'd contact you guys about the state of lecture recordings this semester. In two of my papers, lecture recordings aren't being provided - one paper is recording lectures but only providing recordings to isolating students who have filled out a health declaration form, and the other paper isn't recording lectures at all because "the learning is better in person".

This is obviously encouraging students to come to class while sick as if we aren't fully in a pandemic, but it also makes these papers inaccessible to disabled students such as myself. I can't always attend lectures because of chronic pain and fatigue. Without recordings I have to rely on peer notes and lecture slides (which, as lecturers love to remind us, aren't a good substitute for actually attending class). I often rely on re-watching recordings as fatigue/brain fog means I can't always concentrate in lectures. This decision by my lecturers means if I can't attend classes I'm basically screwed (also, on a slightly related note, it forces disabled and immunocompromised students to attend classes where most students aren't wearing masks. Yikes).

One lecturer told us that "this paper is designed to be done in person and if you can't reliably attend lectures then there are other papers you can take instead" (so if you're disabled, get fucked I guess?). This lecturer said something can be worked out in the short term if we get Covid, but if we get long Covid "you're not going to be doing much anyway so it probably doesn't matter". Bit of a marginal ableist comment if you ask me.

From 2020 until last semester the Uni showed that it has the capacity to make its papers accessible, and I absolutely understand that learning in person is often better than online, but some of us don't always have the choice.

Cheers,
Cassie

P.s. doing the word wheel is the best part of my week I love you guys



Editorial: Chlöe Swarbrick Knows Muay Thai

By Fox Meyer

Last week, experienced Muay Thai champion and Green MP Chlöe Swarbrick defended her title against the underqualified and inexperienced challenger Fox Meyer, editor of Critic Te Arohi, in what viewers described as a "one-sided beatdown for the ages".

"I didn't know this was going to be a combat-based interview," said Fox, as Chlöe used her years of experience to execute a perfect leg sweep and takedown. "This is pretty standard procedure for the office," said Chlöe, as she released Fox from a chokehold to sign a submission for her new Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Harm Minimisation) Amendment Bill.

"The Bill is designed to provide proper local control over alcohol regulation," said Chlöe, "sort of like how I can locally control Fox's arm here by putting him in an armbar," before demonstrating the grapple on her opponent. While she stalked her opponent around the ring, Chlöe turned to cameras to give a press release: "Supermarkets have dragged the people of Auckland through the courts to safeguard corporations' profit margins at the expense of public health needs," she said. "See how unfair it is that I can use my superior strength and experience against a smaller opponent?" she asked, as she pulled her flailing challenger across the ring and towards the cameras. "This is the type of power imbalance

we're trying to rectify. Now, watch me suplex this fool."

In the post-fight interview, barely-winded Chlöe fielded questions about the state of alcohol marketing policy in Aotearoa while Fox iced his bruises and muttered something about a rematch.

"My background is mostly striking, y'know, using knees and elbows and stuff," said Chlöe, "but I also have a background in public speaking, debate and policy-making, all of which are useful in the ring." She said that "the harm done to our communities by alcohol isn't inevitable, but my victory in the ring was always certain," and snubbed the prospect of a rematch. "I've got bigger fish to fry," she said.

The decision was unanimous, and Chlöe kept her titles. "Now, if Fox were a big company like Foodstuffs, he could use a special appeals process to contest that decision and take me to court. That would seem bogus -- but that's what these companies can do right now when it comes to Local Alcohol Policies."

After her victory, Chlöe is preparing to return to her other arena: Parliament. There, she only expects to use half of her skillset -- though she didn't specify which half. "I'm ready to fight for this Bill to go all the way," she said. "And if we can't settle this with decorum, you can find me outside."

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Critic is a member of the Aotearoa Student Press Association (ASPA)

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Everyone's Favourite \$4 Lunch Lady Begins A "New Incarnation"

A "chat room" promising support, encouragement and treats

By Denzel Chung
News Editor // news@critic.co.nz

Jane "J-Ma" Beecroft, long-known as the \$4 lunch lady, is beginning a "new incarnation" on campus. She's hoping her new "chat room," which she calls "Life, the Universe and Everything", will help provide a space where students can feel "safe, nurtured and understood".

After stepping back from running the \$4 lunches at the start of this year, Jane told Critic Te Arohi that she was missing getting involved in the student community: "It was my home for 25 years... providing [not just food, but] a place of shelter, a community, a real safe place with nurturing and love." The spark that kick-started this new initiative, though, came from a personal tragedy involving a student she knew: "It made me very sad, and made me think I want to get down there, and just be there

to kōrero, to talk about anything [students] want."

"Life, the Universe and Everything" is a homage to how Jane began her work in the student community over 20 years ago: an open-door, open-topic "discussion group" in which students could "talk about anything they wanted".

The idea's the same this time around, says Jane: "I've gone full circle. Or full spiral, I'd rather call it, because we're always moving upwards." However, she now has "a bit of experience in the world... From vegetarian cooking to yoga, meditation, motivational psychology, Hare Krishna... I've dipped my fingers in a lot of pies, literally and figuratively!"

Asked about what she's hoping this group would achieve, Jane said that she hopes it can be a "heart space," where students can receive "support and encouragement," whether as a "J-Ma, a friend or whatever they want me to be". She recounted a story about how "even a beautiful smile can be what makes a difference to someone's life," saying that: "if I can create that opportunity for one person, it'll be worth it."

"Life, the Universe and Everything" will be happening every Wednesday, from 12-2pm in the Clubs & Socs Building, Room 1. And if the prospect of DMCs, support and wisdom isn't quite enough to get you down there, Jane also promises attendees that she'll "always have some treats" waiting there.

Ireland Screws All Blacks, Unscrews Lightbulbs

Rugby victors engage in light-hearted fun after their win on the field

By Fox Meyer
Critic Editor // critic@critic.co.nz

After handing the All Blacks their first-ever Dunedin defeat on Saturday 9 July, the Irish national rugby team parked up at Vault 21. And evidently, they weren't too keen on leaving.

Chris Dickie, a bartender at Vault, said that as closing time grew near that night, staff at the bar started turning on the lights to give patrons the hint that it was time to go home. It was around this time that some genius on the Irish team had a bright idea: promptly unscrewing every single lightbulb in the bar to prevent the staff from ending the party.

"He didn't unscrew them all the way, though", said Chris. "He unscrewed them just enough that the lights wouldn't come on, but not enough that the bulb would fall

out. It was quite brilliant, actually." Chris told Critic Te Arohi that the team didn't stay long after that. He heard them give a rowdy team chant with the lights off, and then "actually screwed them back in as they were leaving." Chivalry still isn't dead, it seems.

Chris worked at Vault until the wee hours of the morning, after the Irish team eventually made their way out into the Guinness-tinged night, towards presumably shamrock-greener pastures. They were quickly surrounded by throngs of green- and black-clad rugby supporters, in what became a rather tumultuous and thoroughly packed evening in town.

The match itself was a bit of an embarrassment. It was the All Blacks'

biggest loss in Aotearoa since 1992, meaning that it was the biggest loss in the lifetime of some of the players on the line. With the Irish coming in 5:1 underdogs, some punters in the stands made a handsome profit, despite betting against the All Blacks being legally considered treason. Other, more patriotic folk made a hearty loss, with one disgruntled punter saying simply that the match was: "a shitshow for my TAB account".

Critic Te Arohi generally avoids too much sports content, mostly because we couldn't name an All Blacks player to save our lives (this may also legally count as treason). We are, however, very much for the drunken shenanigans that a night out can bring – and it appears that the Irish team came prepared for hijinks galore.



Aotearoa Continues Imports of "Blood Phosphate"

Activists gather for a "Morning of Mourning"

By Zak Rudin

News Editor // news@critic.co.nz

A group of around 15 activists gathered outside Ravensdown's fertiliser factory at Ravensbourne last Tuesday, for a "morning of mourning" over a "shipload of shame". On a cold, dark and wet morning, the black-clad protesters were opposing the "unwelcome" arrival of the Sea Breeze, a ship carrying an estimated 55,000 tonnes of phosphate from Western Sahara. Set to be sent to farms across Aotearoa, critics call this "blood phosphate," citing its decades-long link to human rights abuses.

As the title would suggest, the protest was a solemn affair. People stood in a semicircle, symbolising the crescent in the flag of Western Sahara flag, listening to kōrero from the organisers. A spokesperson from protest organisers Environmental Justice Ōtepoti (EJŌ) said that they aimed to "send a message of solidarity to Western Sahara and to acknowledge the pain of Sahrawi people." In a press release, the environmental activist organisation said: "We call on Ravensdown to stop this illegal purchase, to stop funding an ongoing war, which will allow the Sahrawi people to have an independent UN referendum liberating them from Moroccan rule for sovereignty on their homelands." Their message was summarised by the protest chants that rang out across the harbour: "No blood phosphate! Free Western Sahara!"

Despite police presence as the ship was unloaded, tensions remained low

throughout the morning. At one point, a police officer asked if anyone was planning to "jump the fence", to which one protester responded: "Not at this stage, we need to go to work." They then pointed to the Sea Breeze, asking: "Why don't you arrest them?"

Western Sahara, where this phosphate was mined from, was invaded by Morocco in 1975 shortly following its independence from Spain. It has been under armed occupation since then, despite the United Nations insisting the local Sahrawi people have a "right to self-determination and independence". In the subsequent conflict, characterised by near-daily bombings and separation of families, an estimated 200,000 native Sahrawi people have been displaced, resulting in one of the longest running refugee crises in modern history.

This "blood phosphate", intimately linked to and indeed financing an illegal and violent occupation of land, is considered by much of the world to be so ethically tainted that it is untouchable. Indeed, on its journey between Morocco and Aotearoa, the Sea Breeze did not make any stops in Africa or South America, with most countries in the region shunning the product as "illegal". Aotearoa, however, remains hooked: our largest fertiliser companies, farmer-owned cooperatives Ravensdown and Ballance Agri-Nutrients, are Morocco's biggest customers for this "blood phosphate", and among the last buyers of the stuff.

anywhere in the world. "If there's legislative power for [a ban] to be done there, why isn't it done here?" asked an EJŌ spokesperson.

With the arrival of spring, EJŌ expects more ships carrying this "blood phosphate" to arrive, although the certainty of protest action means their schedules are often shrouded in secrecy. "The fact that they're bringing more ships in more often shows that it's only getting worse," said one young protestor. "Students are the next generation [and] it's our role as young people to stand up."

Ravensdown did not respond to our latest request for comment. However, in a previous statement (as published in issue 8), a spokesperson said they had no problem buying Western Saharan phosphate because OCP, the Moroccan state-owned company that supplies the phosphate, "complies with the UN framework" by "promoting economic advancement", providing "non-discriminatory working conditions" and "conducting operations rationally and sustainably". They sidestepped questions regarding the "complex geopolitical situation," saying that: "The right place to reach any kind of solution for such a complex geopolitical issue is through the UN." In fact, the UN has been vocally opposed to the Moroccan occupation for the past 40 years.



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Leith Surges, Paddlers Rejoice

Torrential rain turns campus creek into "totally sick" Grade 4 course

By Denzel Chung & Keegan Wells
News Editor // Staff Writer

The nationwide storm last week saw the Leith rise to 70 times its normal flow. Local legends from the Otago University Canoe Club (OUCC) were all over it, tackling what they estimated was about a Grade 4 rapid.

While the Leith normally cruises along at around 0.8-1 cubic metres of water per second (cumecs), the torrential rain spiked it up to a peak of 70 cumecs on Tuesday night, before it dropped down to about 30 the next morning. By eight in the morning, five OUCC members were at the canoe sheds raring to go, and by nine videos of their exploits began doing the rounds on Twitter. They dropped from the Dundas Street bridge again at around 2:30pm. Rain lashed the paddlers as they navigated between rocks, rapids, and residual debris from the weekend.

It wasn't for the faint-hearted. When the river flooded in 2017, then-president of OUCC Fergus Farrell told us that the course was about a Grade 4, requiring "advanced whitewater experience" due to the "concrete sides and incredibly fast flow". Current president Taylor Gaude said on Wednesday that the hardest part is dealing with the wide weir in front of the Clocktower, but the most enjoyable parts are under the bridges where the Leith flows fastest and smoothest.

Other paddlers raised concerns about the Leith's particular hazards. "I was worried about running into a shopping trolley or a Lime scooter," said one paddler, which they'd seen down by the Botans. "We don't normally have to worry about that." Guess that's part of the local charm.

OUCC Vice-President Lotte told us that "the water in the Leith gave me instant chlamydia," but she didn't seem too concerned.

Taylor said that he "wouldn't recommend [taking on the course] for beginners, given how fast and non-stop it is... you need training for sure." He added that "safety is our number one priority. We always stop at that main weir in front of the Clocktower, to make sure you don't get fucked up."

Still, onlookers seemed to have a great time. One spectator told us she was "late to an appointment but it was totally worth it," while another described the scene simply as "sick as fuck, bro".



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From "Fuck! I Can't Cook" To "Fuck! I'm a Cook!"

MasterChef star still misses flat cooking, believe it or not

Former Otago student Alice Taylor's MasterChef run came to an end last week with a solid third-place finish. This isn't the end of the culinary road for her, though, with judge Michael Dearth offering her a new job at his Italian restaurant Baduzzi. Alice sat down with Critic Te Arohi to talk about what it all means for her.

Speaking just a few days after the episode went to air, Alice still seemed a little bit in shock about the result. "While part of me was gutted that I didn't make the finale, I gave it my absolute best." An academic at heart, Alice says that MasterChef was a once-in-a-lifetime chance to "add to her portfolio of food... Every single time you cook, it's a chance to express yourself, show your skills and grow. I got a lot out of the show that wasn't just about winning!"

With the end of MasterChef comes a new career in a new city, something which Alice is still grappling with. "I literally forgot that I've just completely changed my life... Fuck, there's been some huge changes!" Speaking to Critic Te Arohi the morning after a big dinner shift, she reflected on how her foodie journey all began.

As a first-year in Arana, where the only viable options for life seemed to be law or health sci, Alice said she "always worried about what people would think about me if I did go down the food route". Eventually, she decided that she wanted to "stop worrying about what other people think, and do something that makes me happy". So she quit law, and devoted more of her time to her passion. From working stints in restaurant kitchens to running a food Insta,

writing a cookbook manuscript, weekly recipes for Critic Te Arohi and whipping up countless birthday cakes, she said every little bit of experience helped. Even flat cooking was useful: "It's a bit like a mini cooking challenge; you're trying to extract as much flavour from shitty ingredients as you can, with time pressure and judges watching your every move!"

When asked about if she would change anything her fresh-faced, first-year self did, Alice was thoughtful but resolute. "I wouldn't... the person I was five years ago contributed to who I am now." She did, however, have some simple bits of advice: "It's all right not knowing what you're going to do... Life changes and shit happens. Just do what makes you happy, treat people well, and you'll figure it out!"

By Denzel Chung
News Editor // news@critic.co.nz

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Volunteer Service Abroad Bounces Back After Covid

All-expenses-paid OE? Sounds like a win-win

By Fox Meyer
Critic Editor // critic@critic.co.nz

Te Tūao Tāwhāhi (Volunteer Service Abroad, VSA) is gearing back up to send recent grads to work overseas. The whole "international travel" aspect was complicated by Covid, but a new "e-volunteering" strategy is now an option alongside the traditional approach.

Sam Mehrtens spoke with Critic Te Arohi about his experience with VSA, and his plans for the future. VSA gave Sam a stipend, funded his living costs, and sent him to a community that could make use of his academic background. Sam found himself en route to Papua New Guinea in 2015. "Initially, I was like 'Oh my God I'm gonna die of the heat', but it was honestly one of the best experiences of my life," said Sam. He says that the 10-month length of VSA's trips organised are "the perfect amount of time to turn up, form relationships [with the locals], to find out what's going on in their lives and how you can help them." The end result of those

trips, according to Sam? "Real-world experience and a wicked tan".

Sam spent his time in PNG working with a local teacher's college. "I realised that the lecturers at the teacher's college were starting to do academic research, so I emailed my field research lecturer [from Aotearoa] and he was able to help me with resources that I could share with them. So I felt like I was really helping to build their skills and knowledge on how to do academic research." He made some lifelong friends, even managing to have a baby named after him. "I still get tagged in their family photos on Facebook from time to time," he said.

Sam said that he was excited about VSA resuming their traditional, in-person approach to volunteering after it was interrupted by the pandemic. During the hiatus, VSA adopted an e-volunteering model, which, like many other creative

solutions fuelled by the pandemic, will be sticking around. But Sam reckoned that the best part of the organisation was the opportunities for hands-on experience, which are now available to a wider range of students. "Initially it was specific to development studies or geography students, but now it's a lot broader," open to "anyone who's got an interest in working in developing communities or comes from a background that there's a need for."

Lots of students feel stuck after graduating, but Sam said that his choice to sign up for VSA meant that he knew what to expect after receiving his degree. "It's nice to be part of that, to be able to go straight into something after your degree and have that opportunity to get some real personal growth and real world experience." He stressed the value of the programme for recent graduates keen on making the world a better place: "If you're interested in giving to the world, you'll get a huge amount back." And who knows, you might get a baby named after you too.

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660 Scholarship Winners: What're They Up2?

Because calling Six60 "the boys" is a totally normal thing to do

By Annabelle Parata Vaughan
Culture Editor // culture@critic.co.nz

Last year, Emily Bell and Samuel Leaper were two of the four students who received the University's inaugural Six60 Scholarship. The scholarship lets them live, rent-free, at 660 Castle Street, for the whole year, as well as giving them the chance to be mentored by one of Aotearoa's most successful music acts. Critic Te Arohi checked in with the scholarship winners to see how their year is faring and the projects they've been up to.

"It's been a really good year," said Emily. Her main focus in 2022 has been working with her band, Emily Alice, as well as working as a lighting technician at U-Bar. A perk of being in the newly-renovated flat, says Emily, is that "We can practise [in it]." It's not all work and no play, though: "I'm enjoying being on Castle street – it's a prime time for me as a second year!" She only hoped noise control would be kind to the most musically-notorious flat in the city. Samuel, who is the keyboardist for the band Black Sale House, agreed with her assessment of the year. He told Critic Te

Arohi that the experience has been "pretty bloody cool".

A few weeks ago, Emily and Samuel were lucky enough to spend some time with Six60, showcasing their projects to the band and receiving guidance on where their music is going, as well as just spending some quality time with "the boys". Samuel said that "they're really cool, fun people, and we all got some time with our bands and individual music projects working with them in the studio, getting feedback and advice." Emily said the experience had them "realise [Six60] were just, like, normal people. They were super chill."

During the meeting, the band reminisced on their time at Otago Uni. "It was so funny hearing their stories in the flat, you can tell it was nostalgic for them." Six60 even found the time to remember parts of their Otago experience most may rather forget, like their red cards. According to Emily, "the boys" never put much thought into them: most were as simple as "Sam wake up" or "drinking".

Asked to share some tips for budding musos aiming for a spot on this holy ground, Samuel and Emily both emphasised the importance of authenticity. "Just be yourself. If you go in, be like, 'This is who I am and what I've got to give,'" said Emily. "It's competitive, there were a lot of entries, they had a lot of interviews. So try and sell yourself, and talk about everything," said Samuel.

Along with this, they agreed that getting a spot was only half the battle: you've still got to make the most of the opportunity. "Be proactive because there's so much you can get out of it. Take advantage of what the flat offers you," said Samuel. He, for one, shifted to part time study to ensure he could put as much energy into his musical projects and creativity as possible. Emily suggested that future residents "make goals [and] be proactive... there's so much you can get out of a year or six months."

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Inhibition-Lowering Substance Lowers Inhibitions, Study Shows

37% of Kiwis have shopped while drunk

New research by global comparison site Finder has made the shocking revelation that people like to buy shit while drunk. Who would have thought a substance that lowers your inhibitions would also lower people's spending inhibitions? Every breatha who has bought a new vape after their first Mav of the night could tell you as much.

According to their research, involving "a nationally representative survey of 1,507 respondents," 37% of Kiwi adults – around 1.3 million people – have bought stuff online whilst on the piss. Common purchases included food deliveries, clothes, and (surprise, surprise) even more alcohol. More peculiarly, 3% of respondents admitted to getting pets while under the influence. I guess buying that teacup pig as a "long-term investment" for "unlimited bacon" doesn't seem like such a good idea the morning after.

Gen Z were found to be the worst offenders; 55% had made a drunken purchase according to the survey. Naturally, it wasn't hard for Critic Te Arohi to find stories of students' drunken splurges. Perhaps the most wholesome online purchase was a delivery of 30 cheeseburgers to a local shopping mall by one charitable slosher, "in case homeless people lived there". Mother Teresa would be proud.

It doesn't always go so wholesomely, though. Aidan told us the sordid tale of how he mistakenly sent a midnight curry order to the wrong address. "I kept waiting and like an hour had gone by...I was even starting to sober up," he said. "Then I got a call from an ex asking me why I had just shipped an extra spicy curry to their house in the middle of the night, on the other side of the city."

Amelia, a student who enjoys the occasional bevv or two, told Critic Te Arohi about how a night on the piss ended with a "mysterious Chinese package" showing up at her front door three months later. While Critic has had its fair share of mysterious Chinese packages over the years, this one turned out to be far more sensual than even we expected: a whopping 1x 2 metre tapestry of everyone's favourite swamp ogre, posing seductively under the words "This is My Swamp Now". "It's in the fireplace of our flat, where it has been for two years because one of our flatmates fucking hates it," said Amelia.

Finder's editor warned against the drunken activity, fearing it may lead to buyers' remorse: "It's best to shop with a clear head...being alert and comparing more efficiently means you could potentially save yourself some money in the process." To this, we counter: where is the fun in that?

By Nina Brown
Contributor // critic@critic.co.nz

Swappa Cup App On The Rise

Ah, guilt free coffee addiction

Chatime has finally given single-use takeaway cups a hard pass, instead stamping its seal of approval on the Swappa Cup "cup-borrowing" app. Outlets across campus are expected to roll it out soon.

Every day, an estimated 800,000 disposable cups are (you guessed it) disposed of. In an effort to stop students' caffeine and sugar addictions from creating ever-greater piles of landfill waste, the Uni and campus businesses have been rolling out the Swappa Cup app. They aim to push students to trade their single-use cups for multi-use ones instead.

Swappa Cup is a reusable-cup initiative which doesn't require you to carry your own keepcup with you – participating

shops will have a stock of reusable cups to "borrow". Basically, you scan a QR code when you buy a drink with a Swappa Cup and scan again to return it when you're done. You can drop it off up to 14 days after you buy your drink, with the shop taking care of cleaning and sterilising it again for the next go.

Bubble tea has been seen as one of the most stubborn holdouts to the reusable cup movement, as they rely heavily on single-use plastic cups to go through their machinery properly. However, since the start of Semester 2, the Chatime on campus has changed that. According to Violetta, who manages the campus' favourite source of sugary, bubbly tea-based goodness, Chatime has committed to "NOT have any single use cups available [at the] uni store". Instead, "customers will

need to either bring their own cup, or use the Swappa Cup app." Violetta told Critic Te Arohi that she is "excited about the change."

The University has "made a commitment to become disposable cup free at the end of 2019," with the hope that private campus businesses will follow suit. Other than Chatime, Cafe Albany uses the app, and plans are underway to introduce it to St David Café later this semester.

A University spokesperson said that they'd still prefer customers to bring their own mug or reusable coffee cup, with mug libraries also available for students to take advantage of across campus. However, they added that: "Swappa is there as a plan B and it does a great job of doing just that".

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Alternatively, come into the OUSA main reception and fill out an enrolment form, it's that easy!

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ousa student support

OUSA Student Support Hub - 5 Ethel Benjamin Place
help@ousa.org.nz • ousasupporthub.org.nz
facebook.com/OUSAQueer • instagram.com/ellabellaousa

UniQ Top Pride Fundraiser In The Country

It's not a competition, but it also kind of is

Otago Uni's queer students' club, UniQ, raised nearly \$13,000 for Sweat With Pride – more than double what they originally aimed for. This made them the top fundraising team in Aotearoa.

Sweat With Pride is an annual fundraising event which encourages participants to do 21 minutes of physical activity every day over Pride Month (June). The UniQ Otago team committed to raising at least \$5,000 over the month, with each member doing 630 minutes of exercise (21 minutes a day over 30 days). The team of 16 "Sweaty Bettys" ended up raising more than double that, clocking in at \$12,898. This made them the top fundraising team in Aotearoa, and the third-highest fundraising group overall. Only two corporate fundraising teams, with far larger groups, ended up raising more: software company Salesforce (\$17,620) and the Bank of New Zealand (\$13,482). It wasn't easy mahi, either – the UniQ team collectively clocked in 11,898 minutes of exercise throughout the month, or almost 400 hours of sweat,

tears (and hopefully very little blood) every single day.

Beth Goulstone, who works as part of the fundraising team for the Burnett Foundation Aotearoa, sent UniQ her hearty congratulations. She told Critic Te Arohi that: "My first Rainbow event as a baby queer was a UniQ Quiz Night at Otago. So it was a proud moment to see UniQ at the top of the leaderboard this year!"

Jay Bailey, UniQ President, told Critic Te Arohi that "We had such a blast doing Sweat With Pride. It felt awesome to give back to our queer whānau and provide a stronger sense of community for the club during Pride Month." The highlight, they said, was the big Jump Jam session they held at Unipol: "We had a record turnout, and everyone really threw themselves into the nostalgia."

The money raised goes to a variety of LGBTQI+ support organisations.

80% goes to the Burnett Foundation Aotearoa (formerly the New Zealand AIDS Foundation), which provides sexual health support and testing services to the LGBTQI+ community, as well as running community events like the Big Gay Out. The remaining money is split between RainbowYOUTH, which focuses on providing support and advocacy for LGBTQI+ young people, and OutLine, which runs a free, confidential, 0800 counselling phoneline.

Joe Rich, the Chief Executive of the Burnett Foundation Aotearoa, told Critic Te Arohi that: "We were blown away by the support for Sweat with Pride this year." Across Aotearoa this year, 3,811 "Sweaty Betty" participants managed to raise a combined total of \$624,382 for the three organisations. But even though Pride Month may be over, the mahi doesn't stop: for people interested in supporting the cause, donations are still being received until the end of July.

Parakuihi TOGETHER
Free Breakfast at Clubs & Socs

Wednesdays from 13th July
Weekdays from August
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Classical Hatha Yoga with Wayne Everson

All Welcome! \$8 for students, \$10 for non-students
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Convenient location- Clubs & Societies Building, 84 Albany Street
More info at bitly/ousayoga

Clubs & Socs OUSA

#comeplayousa

ODT watch

Fox confident of old showing

Where no telescope has seen before

Hahaha, Uranus.

Moves to hit gangs 'where it hurts'

Sack tap incoming, police instructed to "aim for the groin".

Mr Bayliss said the pumps were "not significantly loud" and the building could be soundproofed.

Looks like the new brothel is coming along well, but...

"Carpet sea squirt is a problem"

They'll need some tarpoulin.

Disabled people aren't always white, wealthy, friendly and happy to help make you feel better about yourself.

This just in: disabled people actually represent the population as a whole. Who'd've thunk it?

Mr Hawkins said Dunedin had developed a degree of self-confidence unheard of in his lifetime.

Believe in urself Aaron <3

Body parts sold for exhibit

These must be the feet and mouths from earlier.

PACIFIC ISLAND STUDENTS' PRESIDENT

Elisepa Taukolo

Kam na mauri and Happy Kiribati Language week!

This year's theme for Te Taetae ni Kiribati, is Ribanan, karikirakean ao kateimatoan ara katei ma ara taetae ni Kiribati, which means – Nurture, enhance and sustain the Kiribati language and culture!

This week the Otago Kiribati Island Student Association have cool events throughout the week on their Instagram (@okisa.otago) to celebrate Kiribati Language week.

Monday: Kiribati treat cooking tutorial on Instagram

Tuesday: Word of the day on Instagram

OUSa
EXECUTIVE

Wednesday: Workshop for Kiribati stick dance and garland making

Thursday: Kiribati story time and word of the day on Instagram

Friday: Cultural performance night at Polytechnic hub from 6pm-9pm

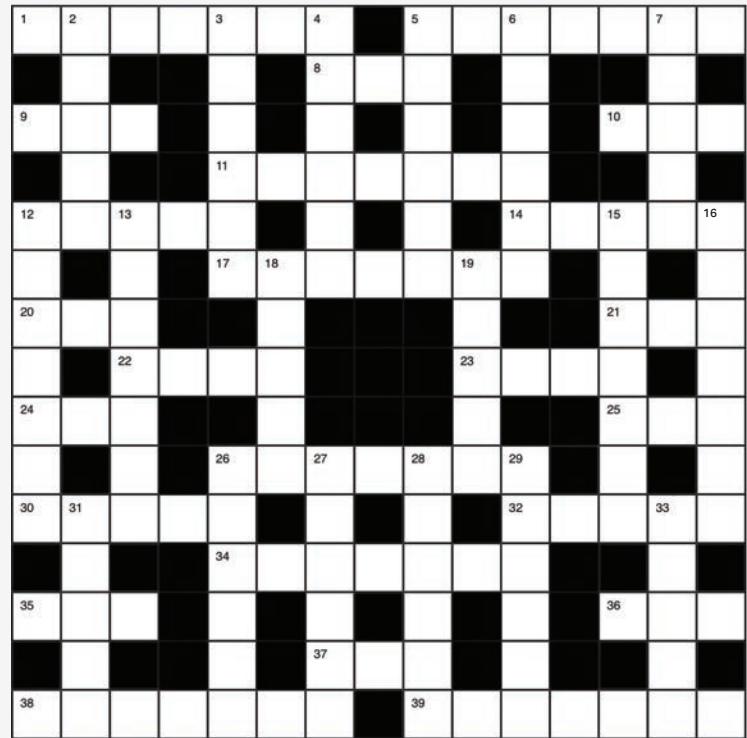
I just want to leave you with a Kiribati quote and it goes like this "Taeka n rabakau: Kateira ma rabakaura bon kinaakira: Our culture and knowledge are our identity"

Stay tune and come along and enrich your knowledge in the culture!

Elisepa Taukolo
University of Otago
Pacific Island Students' President

PUZZLES

CROSSWORD



Crossword note: We aren't including in the clues whether the answers are multiple words anymore.

ACROSS:

- 1. ___ Mode ("Personal Jesus" band) (7)
- 5. Deliberately underestimate a cost (7)
- 8. Two in Te Reo (3)
- 9. Historical period (3)
- 10. Big letters in gossip? (3)
- 11. Unsettle (7)
- 12. Edible namesake of 17 across's band (5)
- 14. Universal principle (5)
- 17. Flea's band role (7)
- 20. Sci-fi transport (3)
- 21. A Brit, to an Aussie (3)
- 22. Indian flatbread (4)
- 23. _____
- 24. _____
- 25. _____
- 26. _____
- 27. _____
- 28. _____
- 29. _____
- 30. 31. _____
- 32. _____
- 33. _____
- 34. _____
- 35. _____
- 36. _____
- 37. _____
- 38. _____
- 39. _____

DOWN:

- 2. Third rock from the sun (5)
- 3. "WAP" rapper (6)
- 4. Rubs out (6)
- 5. Lapis ___, gemstone (6)
- 6. Australian marsupial (6)
- 7. Transitional state (5)
- 12. Whipped up butter (7)
- 13. Superhero Musk wishes he was (7)
- 15. What Jacob did to Renesmee (7)
- 16. Extinct mammal (7)
- 18. Sleep disorder (5)
- 19. Oar type (5)
- 26. TV psychologist (6)
- 27. Ran wild (6)
- 28. Acid in vinegar (6)
- 29. Symbol (6)
- 31. Message board of a sort (5)
- 33. Ship's load (5)

Mazagran

ESPRESSO BAR
36 MORAY PLACE, DUNEDIN

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BY MAZAGRAN
KEEPING CRITIC
CAFFEINATED

SUDOKU

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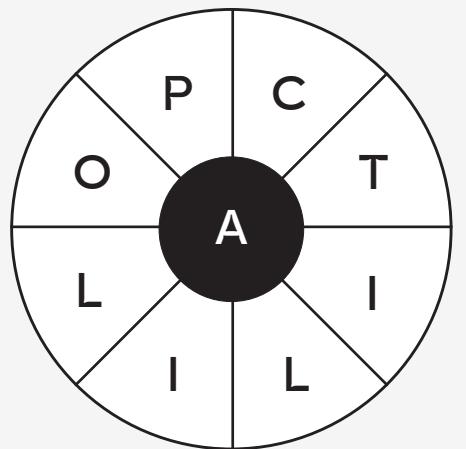
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| 4 | | 8 | 9 | 7 | | | | |
| | 5 | 1 | 4 | 5 | | | | |
| 7 | 8 | 5 | 2 | | | | | |
| 2 | 3 | | | 8 | | | | |
| | 4 | 9 | | | | | | |

WORDFIND

| | |
|------------|------------|
| ADAMS | MARSH |
| ARCHWAY | MELLOR |
| BENHAM | OBS |
| BURNS | OWHEO |
| CASTLE | QUAD |
| CLOCKTOWER | RICHARDSON |
| GODDARD | ROBERTSON |
| HOCKEN | ST DAVID |
| MARPLES | WALSH |

WORD WHEEL



Make as many words as you can using the central letter and without repeating any letters.

6-15 good / 16-20 great

WORD LADDER

Change one word into another by only changing one letter at a time. The shortest solution should fit between the rungs of the word ladder.

HAVE

LOST

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

There are 10 differences between these images.

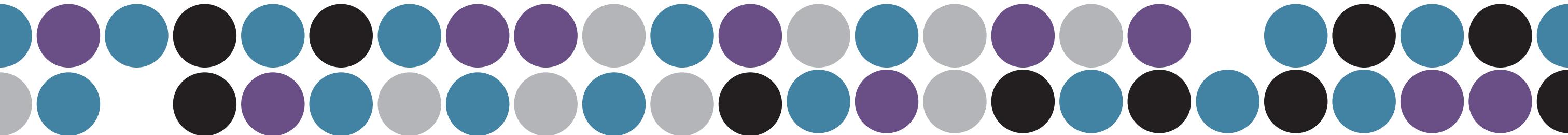


WEEK 14 CROSSWORD ANSWERS

ACROSS: 1. HEREDITARY 6. TART 9. OWL 10. GUSTY 11. BOOTY 12. ACROSS 13. VIOLIN 14. ENTS 15. SPENDING 18. STEED 21. HALAL 24. ENDORSES 28. OUST 30. NIKOLA 31. MANTIS 33. SWEDE 35. TYPES 36. MID 37. PREY 38. PADDINGTON

DOWN: 1. HIGHVIS 2. RESTORE 3. DAY 4. TALC 5. REBORN 6. TWO 7. ALOHAOE 8. THYROID 9. OBSESS 12. ANTI 14. EGRET 16. PEA 17. NRA 19. TAR 20. EVE 21. HANDSUP 22. LEAVEME 23. LOOMED 25. DENS 26. SHOTPUP 27. SWANSON 29. SONATA 32. IPOD 34. DIY 35. TIN

WORD LADDER SOLUTION: WIND-WAND-RAND-RAID-RAIN



critiq te arohi CENSUS 2022

Who will students vote for in 2023? What's the most popular vape flavour? Do women prefer Twitter or Reddit for porn? How do I find love? The answers to these questions and more are mere paragraphs away.

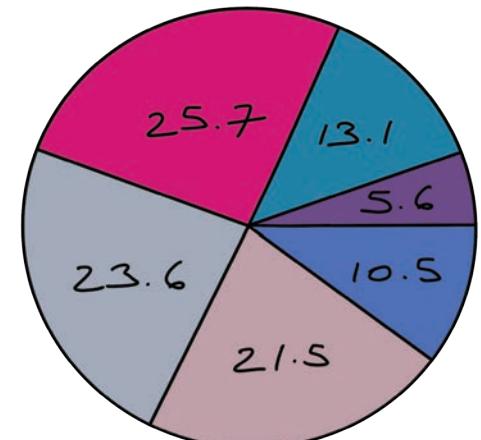
This year's census gave us plenty of interesting demographic data on the student body, covering topics from academia to finances to hot celebrities. 238 students valiantly completed the census, giving us that yummy yummy data to analyse. Student IDs and emails were separated from the rest of the data when analysing it. While we are reasonably confident in our analyses, the data isn't quite a sample of the entire student body, but is rather more representative of all students who are willing to fill out a 50-page-questionnaire, so it's important to keep that in mind.

Nerd bias notwithstanding, let's take a look at the results.

Studying & Uni life

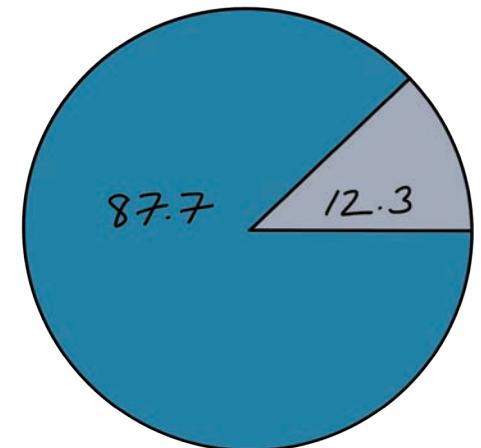
What year of study are you in?

● First ● Second ● Third ● Fourth ● Fifth ● Sixth +



Did you go straight from high school to University?

● Yes ● No



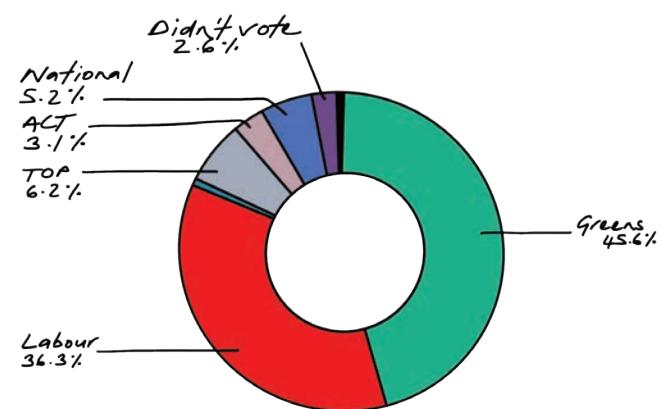
Census respondents were split pretty evenly across years of study, with fourth years being the most popular cohort. Age was similarly distributed, with the most common ages being 21 (24.1%) and 20 (21.1%). The vast majority of students went straight from high school to university (87.7%) and most people felt pretty prepared when they did begin university, as 67.1% of students gave a 6/10 or more when asked "how prepared did you feel starting university?"

Most people also seemed to be happy with what they are studying, with an average rating of 7.8/10 for how much respondents enjoy their degree. The most popular papers submitted were, unsurprisingly, the papers with the largest enrollment, so it's no shock that HUBS191, CELS191, and LAWS101 came out on top. Aside from these three behemoths, the favourite papers of respondents were Laws and Indigenous Peoples (LAWS461), Molecular Biology (BIOC221), Biopsychology (PSYC317), Psychology in Legal Contexts (PSYC325), Modelling and Computation (COMO101), and Gender, Crime and Justice (GEND210). These were followed closely by Ecology of Species Introductions and Invasions (ECOL321), Forensic Biology (FORB201), Physical Geography (GEOG101), and Conceiving Reproduction (ANTH222). When asked how long ago respondents had last read a book, responses ranged from "earlier today!" to "in year 8 lol".



Politics

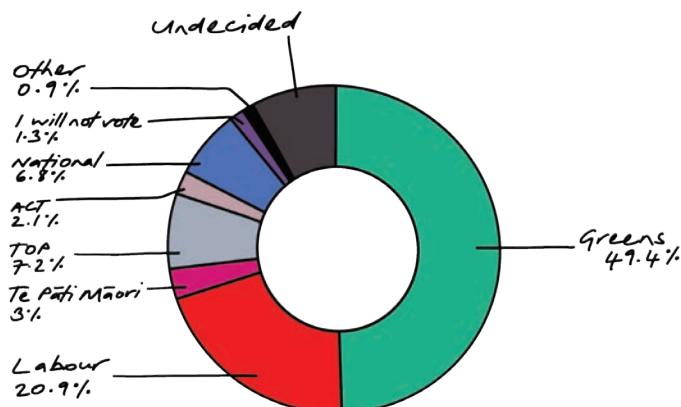
Which political party did you vote for in the 2020 election? (Party vote)



Which political party do you think you will vote for in the 2023 election? (Party vote)

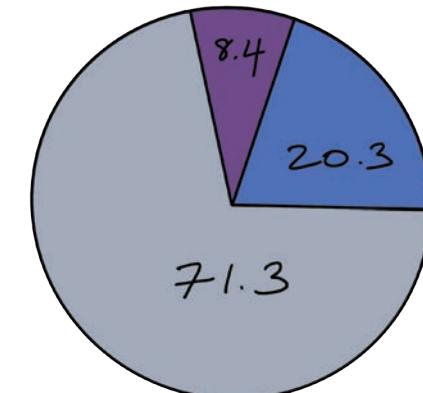
The Critic Te Arohi census makes it quite clear that the political makeup of Otago Uni students (or at the very least, our readers) is vastly different from the population at large. Excluding the 17.9% of respondents that weren't old enough to vote in the 2020 election, we see the Green Party dominated, receiving 45.6% of the student body vote. This was followed by Labour who received 36.3%, less than the landslide national result they received that year. National and Act also received less from students than the national average, whilst TOP received far more.

Perhaps due to the perception that the government has reneged on promises and left students out to dry with little financial support, only 20.9% of respondents said they would vote for Labour in 2023. This notion is supported by the fact that 89.8% of respondents said that students should receive more financial support from the government. The Greens on the other hand appear to have further grown their base, with half (49.4%) of respondents saying they would vote for the Green Party in 2023. TOP and Te Pāti Māori also both appear to have a few more voters for 2023 than in 2020. National appears to have gained a percentage point too, maybe the same percentage point that Act has lost within the student body.

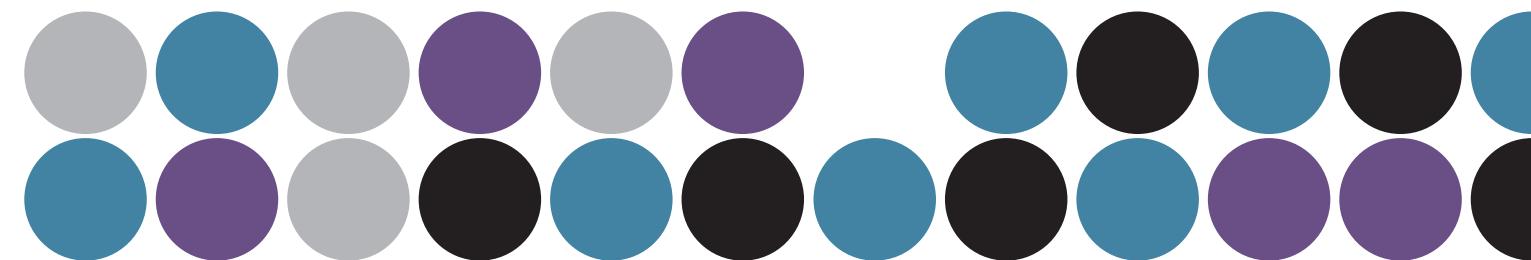


Will you vote in the local government elections this year?

● Yes ● No ● I don't know

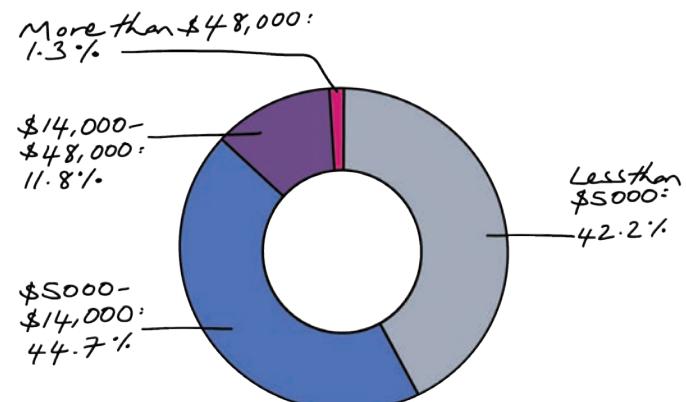


A large majority of respondents said they would vote in the local government elections, although 28.7% said they either wouldn't or did not know yet. The most common reasons people gave were that they "didn't know enough" or that there were "no good options". While that may be true, some options are definitely worse than others. You may think you don't know enough, or can't be bothered researching, but you probably know just as much as the older population of Dunedin that will vote regardless. A quick skim of candidate summaries (look out for them in Critic later this year) is better than nothing, and the people you disagree with most in the city are probably voting, so you should too.



Flatting & Money

How much money did you make this year? (Before tax, but excluding Studylink allowance or loan)



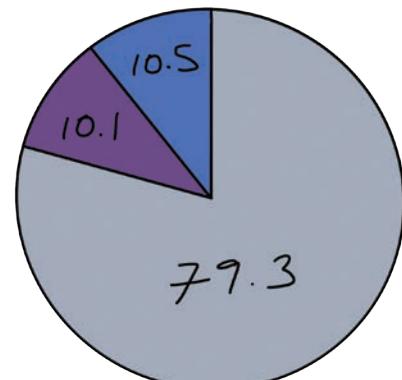
Are you eligible for student allowance?

● Yes, the full amount ● Yes, but less than the full amount ● No

●

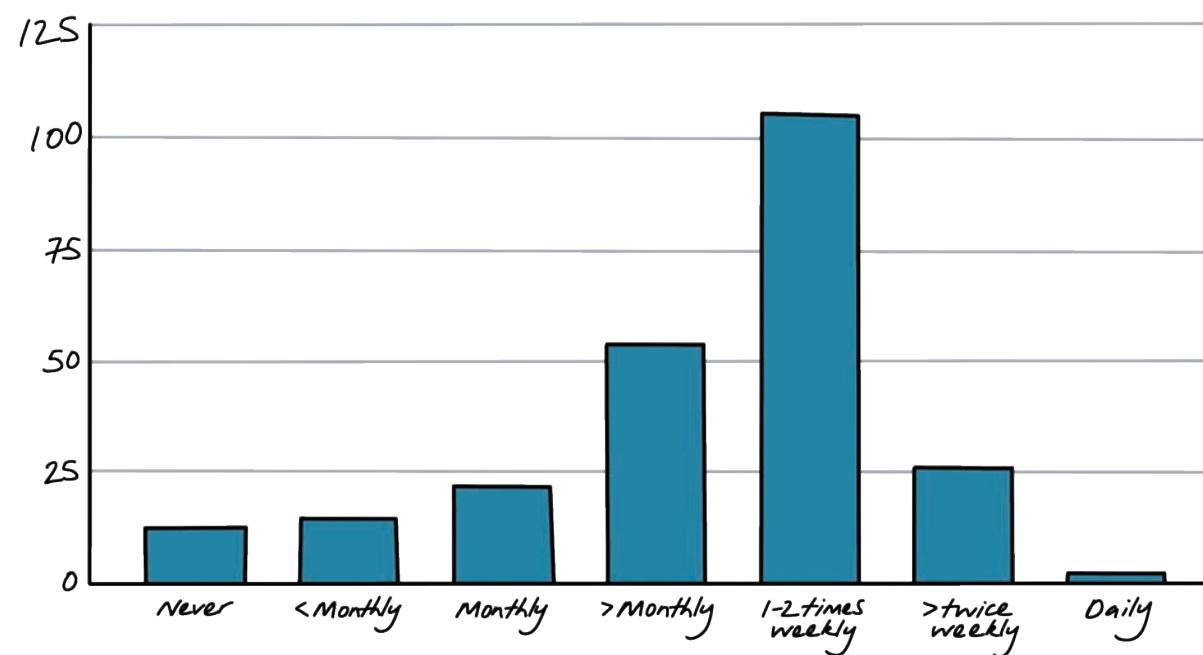
The Critic Te Arohi census 2022 revealed that, surprise surprise, students are broke as shit. The data suggests that 86.9% of students are earning less than 14,000 NZD a year, the lowest income bracket in Aotearoa. 42.2% made less than five grand. Despite this, only 20.6% of students were eligible for the allowance, and less than half of those eligible received the full amount. This lack of income was also despite 36.3% of students being employed by the Uni at some point.

The number of people living together varied evenly across respondents, but four was the most common number of flatmates (24.6% of students). Nearly a third of students (29.4%) did not receive their Healthy Homes documentation when they began flatting this year, while a further 36% did not know. When asked what supermarket item they would make cheaper, the most popular responses were cheese (62 responses) and fruit and veggies (61 responses); the most commonly cited vegetables were capsicum, cucumber, and tomatoes. Meat was also a popular choice, with 29 responses, including one for "those tegel chicken bite things". Preach. Milk, oat milk, and alternative meats were also popular responses. Some other unique answers included "cat food", "fresh chillis", and "crossword books".

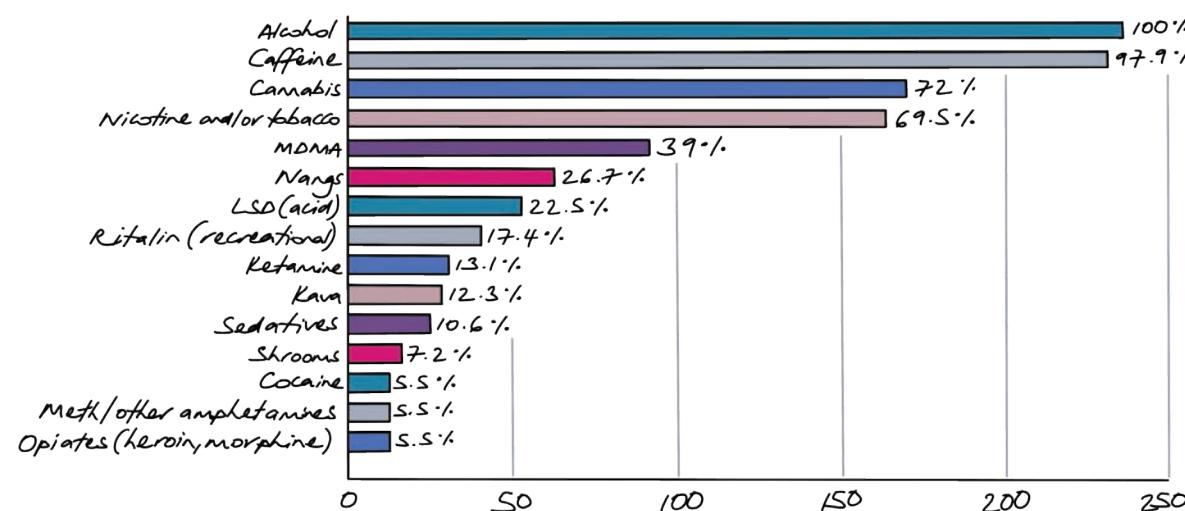


Drugs & drinking

How often do you drink alcohol?



Should you be worried about your drinking? Probably. 44.3% of students said they drink once or twice a week, although our editor reckons a lot of students are drinking more often than that. In other drug data, coffee was the most preferred method of caffeine consumption (45.1%), followed by energy drinks (19.4%), tea (11.8%), and caffeine pills (2.5%). 15.6% of respondents said they don't consume any caffeine. Three different caffeine fiends said "whatever is closest". While only 1.7% of students said they smoke, another 10.5% said they do smoke, but only when drinking, which, uh, counts. 34.7% of students said they vape, which was less than last year. In 2021, the most popular vape flavour was peach ice. This year, it was a clear victory for grape (including similar flavours like grape ice). Peach ice was second, followed by mint, and then cola. These results seem to indicate the prevalence of Covid in the community, as it appears no one has any taste.

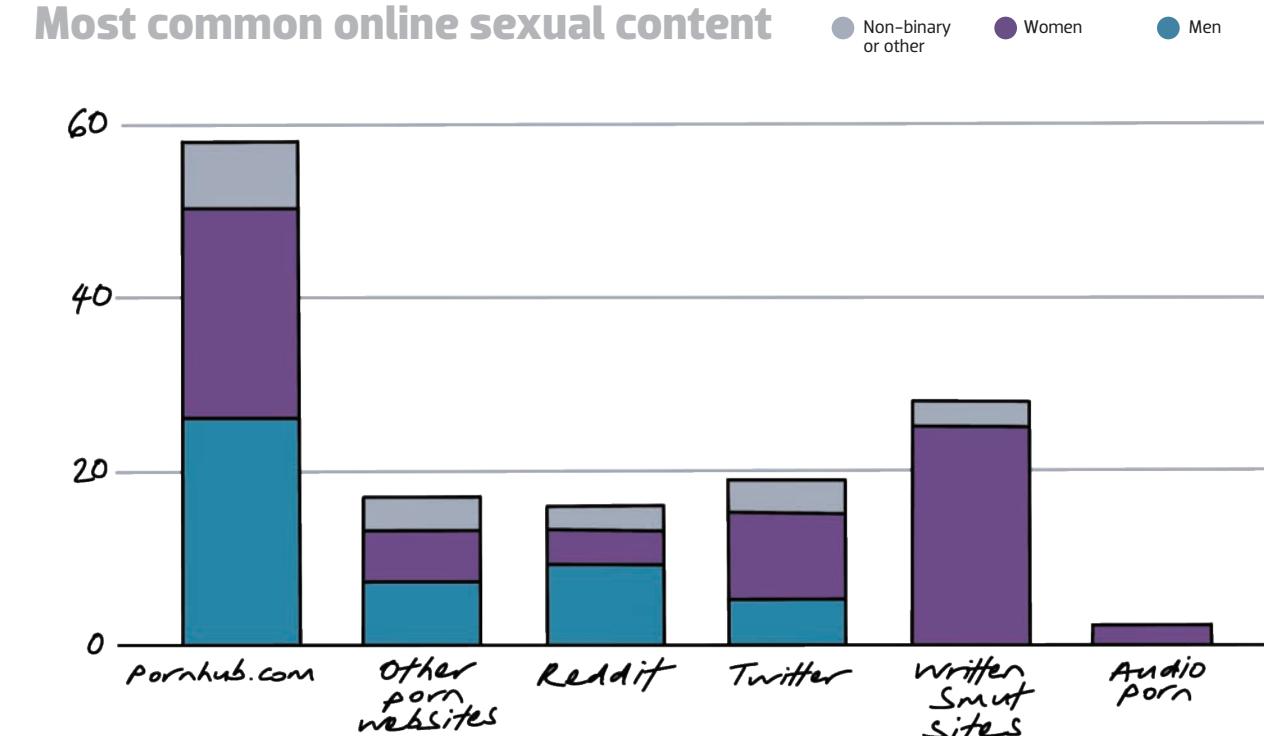


Of the top four most-tried drugs by Otago students, alcohol was reportedly consumed regularly (at least once a month) by 92% of respondents, and caffeine was consumed regularly by 89.4% of respondents. While more people said they had tried cannabis than nicotine, more people said they consumed nicotine regularly (34.5%) than cannabis (26.1%). Six respondents also said they consumed MDMA at least once a month.

Sex & hot celebrities

Similar to last year, the census revealed that 42.6% of students believed they are having less sex than their peers, whilst only 24.3% of students believed they were having more. Have some faith, dear readers, you're probably getting laid more than you think (relative to your mates). We also asked students who they thought was the hottest celebrity alive today, and the answers were...disappointing. The winner was a tie between Ryan Reynolds and Margot Robbie. Yeah, they're both hot, conventionally attractive white people, but the hottest famous people alive? Really? Spiderman stans will be interested to know that Zendaya had the third most submissions, beating Tom Holland by just one point. Harry Styles, Robert Pattinson, and Theo James all did well too. Top Gun: Maverick had just come out when we published the census, and so Miles Teller got a few votes too. There were plenty of good answers (your boyfriend isn't one of them sorry) but the best I could find was "Me (if this doesn't count then Matthew Grey Gubler or Doja Cat)". Our intrepid editor Fox Meyer also got a few votes, congrats Fox.

Most common online sexual content



To analyse this data, we stacked gender identity onto the most common ways people found sexual content online. For the third category, we included everyone who was non-binary or genderqueer, as well as everyone who was questioning or did not answer. Pornhub was the go-to across the board, and saw a fairly even gender split as well. Other porn websites and Reddit were both most popular with men, while Twitter was most popular with women. Written smut sites were very popular, but not amongst men.

Conclusions

We also asked students who had taken the effort to answer all 50 questions how their day was going, and if they were all good. Here are some highlights from the responses:

- Fuck yeah I've been napping with my dog all day it's been sweet.
- I really need to pee but the cat is sitting on me, I have a fractured ankle and a form to fill out! So pretty good I s'pose.
- Feeling better than a slug underwater
- Yeah about to hop on a flight to Australia so it's going lovely, just getting otp in the lounge.
- Just had a cheese scone so I'm thriving.
- Dog wiped her poopy butt all over the couches... Had to wipe poo from both her butt and the couch. But life's chill.
- Spent \$50 on KFC, so my day is going great.
- Please don't ask, I'll cry.
- Fuck off.

Thanks to everyone who completed the 2022 Critic Te Arohi Census, see you next year xx

MAKE IT 16:

Young people pushing to change our voting age

By Annabelle Parata Vaughan

Young people face a plethora of existential issues, such as the housing crisis, climate change and student debt. But, if you're under the age of 18, you can't vote on the issues that will most impact your future. The crew of Make it 16, a non-partisan, youth-led campaign, want to lower the voting age. Ella Flavell and Cate Tipler are two key members of this campaign.

Ella, the general secretary, said her passion for lowering the voting age began when she was in high school and started working. Although she was paying taxes, Ella found she wasn't able to vote on the issues she cared most about due to her age. "I was really passionate about housing and transport and climate change, but I missed voting in the 2017 election by a month."

Cate, the co-director of Make it 16, had a similar experience. "I'm 16, and I'm currently in high school, and I became involved with the campaign after the 2020 election," they said. "I was super frustrated because it felt like all the issues being brought up by young people weren't being taken seriously by politicians, and nobody was talking nearly enough about how young people are going to inherit the world that politicians are creating." Cate says they found this "painful and frustrating".

"All the young people in my life had opinions about that election and they all deserve to have a voice in that election, but couldn't because of their voting age. 16-year-olds can already choose to leave school, they can leave home, work full time, they're paying taxes, they can apply for a gun licence, so it just makes

sense that young people should be able to vote as well when they're impacted by so many different aspects of society."

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Another driving factor behind the campaign is the feeling that older generations often don't understand what it is like to be a young person in our current society. "Someone who is old right now doesn't know what it's like to be a young person, they don't know what it's like to have the same struggles we do," said Ella. "16- and 17-year-olds [...] contribute a perspective that isn't there. They don't know what it's like to be in school."

The opposition to lowering the voting age hinges on the argument that young people don't know enough, or don't have enough life experience to be able to make informed political decisions. "If you needed experience in life to be required to vote, then that would be ridiculous because you'd have to put people through tests, that wouldn't be a democracy, that's a meritocracy," said Ella. "Lowering the voting age is a great way to get people to learn about civics in general, and you can apply it straight away. If you look at Scotland and Austria, the turnout for 16- and 17-year-olds was higher than those aged 18 to 24, which shows the value that it brings."

"There's this notion from adults that only a couple of us have strong opinions, but what I know from being in high school and speaking to young people every day is that most young people care about their communities and most young people would be just as capable of voting," said Cate.

The case for Make it 16 is based on the argument that our voting age is inconsistent with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act, as a form of age discrimination. This means that the voting age is not a political issue, but rather a legal issue. On July 12th, Make it 16 took their case to the Supreme Court after the Court of Appeal said the Crown cannot justify a voting age of 18.

"If we don't want to burn up, as we are the ones who have to live in the future that's being decided on, we need to be able to say 'this is what we want, these things', as these things disproportionately affect young people."

The case for Make it 16 is based on the argument that our voting age is inconsistent with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act, as a form of age discrimination. This means that the voting age is not a political issue, but rather a legal issue.

While the court cannot change the law on its own and the issue will need to go to Parliament, Cate thinks that this will lead to more momentum on the issue. "I'm optimistic because regardless of what happens at the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeal has said that the Crown cannot justify a voting age of 18. Regardless of the decision, our campaign will not be over."

Sometimes, many young people do feel apathetic towards voting. There are attitudes out there that voting doesn't matter, because either way, nothing really happens when it comes to tackling massive core issues like climate change. To those who feel disenfranchised toward politics, or aren't sure why they should vote, the Make it 16 crew has one message:

"If you're going to do one thing in your life, I'd say put in your vote. That's what motivates politicians; they want to keep their position and privilege, [and] you can vote because then you're their client," said Ella. "If we don't want to burn up, as we are the ones who have to live in the future that's being decided on, we need to be able to say 'this is what we want, these things', as these things disproportionately affect young people."

Keep up to date with the campaign by checking out makeit16.org.nz.



WHERE IS CASTLE STREET'S PET POSSUM?

BY KEEGAN WELLS

The conversation with Matt, James, and Peter was held through a layer of tears.

We found the boys reminiscing over their pet possum, Possmate. Yes, you read it right: this group of breathas had "adopted" and "domesticated" a pet possum in their Castle street flat. However, Possmate now remains in their memories and hearts. And, well, maybe in the gutter too, but this was neither confirmed nor denied.

It all began last year when this group of then-first year boys got their mate a chicken for his birthday. After putting said chicken in his room in the hall, scaring the shit out of both the birthday boy and most likely the chicken too, they moved on to bigger and hairier things.

One fateful day, the group of boys were shearing sheep on a farm outside of Dunedin when they heard a trap go off. Inside the trap: a possum. While the boys initially believed the possum had reached the end of its life, they looked further and found a "small ball of fluff" scurrying around. "It was a little pocket possum," said Matt, admiring the animal. "It was really all downhill from there."

Living with a possum is not usually recommended by anyone in their right mind. They can give you tuberculosis, leptospirosis, spotter fever, tularemia, goodcuntitis, coccidiosis, and more. The flat risked those germs, by their logic, for the sake of ethics. "His life had already been on the line, in a trap, on his own. We felt morally obligated to raise it ourselves," said James. So, they welcomed their furry friend in and named him Possmate. The compassion displayed towards the critter really calls into question the emotional capabilities of breathas, and leaves no room for excuses when they don't treat you right after a one night stand. Just for the record.

Possmate resided in one of the two bathrooms in the flat. However, the bathrooms were already designated to specific flatmates, "so you still had to use your indicated bathroom," said James. Even if that bathroom had a new inhabitant.

This created some sticky situations, but only for half of the flatmates. "When it was nighttime and you went for a shower, Poss's clingy nature made it very intimidating." One of the boys recalled that "You would open the door and he would run out and grab you, and next thing you know, you're butt-naked with a possum hanging off your leg." Maybe this actually forced some of them to wash their legs rather than expecting trickling water to do the trick. Matt gazed fondly away, reminiscing on the "couple

times that Poss did shower with us". They never used soap on him, though, and instead "let nature do its thing".

In what can only be reimagined as a weird montage, the next few weeks were spent hanging Possmate in different places because "Poss and all possums in general have really strong tails so they just act like velcro, you put him on people and he wouldn't leave," according to James. They also tried different genres of music, and unfortunately, Possmate did not froth DnB. Rather, he preferred the finer things in life, such as "80's Dutch house music, probably going back to his Dutch heritage," said Matt. Poss is, of course, Australian. Not Dutch.

The flat went away for a weekend trip, giving Possmate to a friend to look after. Unfortunately Possmate, missing either his dads or the taste of native birds, escaped. When they got the news, the boys were "distraught, as you could imagine". But miraculously, Poss returned two weeks later to the same complex, showing up with characteristically impeccable timing, just in time for a party. Everyone was screaming "There's a possum, there's a possum!" which drew in the attention of Peter from the street, who ran in and scooped Possmate up.

Matt remembers this fondly, and is near certain that this possum was Possmate, not just a random possum. "If you look deep into its eyes, it recognizes you. I saw a single tear fall from its cheek when it was finally reunited with us." Matt continued, "Our connection only grew stronger from there, we were inseparable. The possum actually started running towards us." This was until a few months later when the possum ran away again.

Possmate, like their ex-girlfriends, has not returned, despite repeated calls.

What did the boys learn on their brief venture into parenthood? Besides the fact that having a pet possum apparently makes it easier to get girls to come around, they reckon they're "massively more suited for fatherhood" now. With Possmate, they learned the basics; from "having to prepare dinner, making sure his school uniform was washed", and asking the simple questions like "Has anyone fed Poss today? Has he gone for his 10k run? Has he done his chin-ups?"

With a bigger flat next year, and more possibilities on the horizon, the boys are thinking about getting a bigger pet. "Maybe a native bird, we have actually thought about getting an albatross."

Pray for that albatross.

OPINION: _____ Roe v Wade Isn't Just America's Problem

By Annabelle Parata Vaughan

On June 24th, the conservative Catholic-dominated United States Supreme court overturned Roe v Wade, a landmark 1973 case which guaranteed the constitutional right to an abortion. The decision was met with pushback and protest, and rightfully so. Solidarity protests are being held across the globe, and social media has been inundated with messages of support for women across the US who have now lost their right to bodily autonomy and the ability to make their own decisions.

Here in Aotearoa, we have been watching this unfold for a few weeks now. But we have a problem. And that problem is that while we can offer our support and solidarity, there remains an attitude amongst some that this is just another one of 'America's' problems that doesn't apply to us, and that 'Jacinda should mind her own damn business'. This attitude is concerning for a variety of reasons: complacency can lead to control, and injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.

Abortion remains a heated political debate, and was only decriminalised here in Aotearoa in 2020, so the legislation surrounding it is fairly new. Alongside this, there are members of Parliament who have expressed pro-life, conservative stances towards the issue. These politicians could very well form our next government, reinforcing the fact that next year's election is not something to take lightly. Alongside this, there is also a cultural trend that has historically demonstrated that whatever happens in the States will generally make its way to our own country. For example, extremist protests and conspiracy started cropping up here shortly after people saw how well it worked for Americans. America has a global influence when it comes to social and political culture, and that influence can spread into the crevasses of Aotearoa often without us realising.

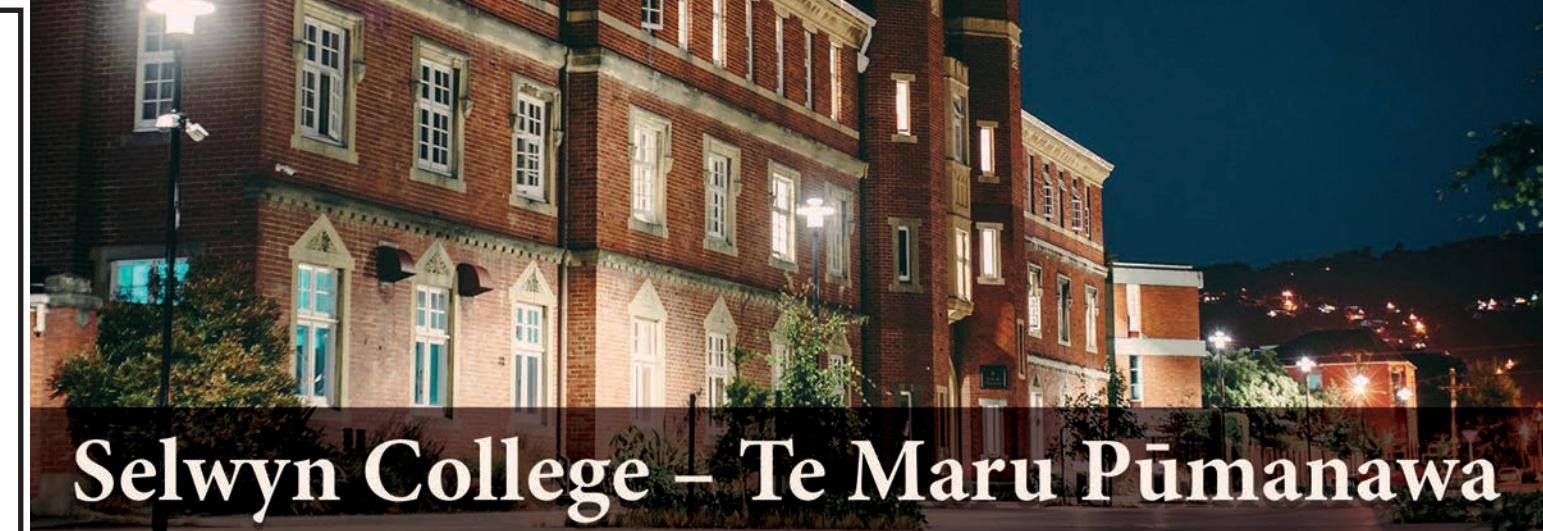
Aotearoa often can seem like a little bubble at the bottom of the earth, far removed from the crises and chaos that occur overseas. As Kiwis, it's easy to find ourselves shrugging off the goings on 'over there' because everything here is fine, and it doesn't seem relevant to us. Some may shrug their shoulders because we have a female Prime Minister, so therefore, respect and equality for women must exist, right? Or, some may think that no matter who is in power, things are usually pretty okay because we don't have a nutcase like Trump or Putin in charge (yet). Aotearoa's politics, for the most part, have indeed been relatively centrist, nowhere near as polarising as the political climate in the US. But American politics do not exist in a vacuum.

Just look at the 2016 presidential election. We watched from afar as Donald Trump was elected in all his misogynistic glory. Down here in the southern hemisphere, we thought it was shocking, but also a bit of a funny joke that a washed-up right wing reality TV star had become the leader of the free world. But again, wasn't that just America being America? So, many laughed it off and trivialised it as the problem 'over there'. We were at first entertained by how stupid America was, then recoiled as we watched the long-term effects of Trump's disastrous turn at the wheel. After all, Trump and Mitch McConnell appointed the current Supreme Court Justices.

From there on out, we witnessed the exponential rise of the far right, whose rampant racism, misogyny and public disruption were not adequately acknowledged or condemned by the Trump administration. Then came the Covid pandemic, fueling a new wave of conspiracy theorists and anti-vaxxers, who were the first to get up in arms at the government for making decisions about their bodily autonomy. We saw mandate protests break out, and troubling discourses surrounding false information and conspiracy circulating in American society. Then, it all made its way here.

The anti-vaxxer protests which took place on Parliament lawn mirrored exactly what had occurred in the US, with some protestors even sporting Trump flags. We have seen political parties become more polarised. People don't just dislike Jacinda, they fucking hate her. The once centre-right National Party which catered to business owners and agricultural workers is now, in my opinion, moving further to the right. It is apparent that there is a concerning crossover between religion and politics, with the likes of leader Chris Luxon actively sharing his religious views which clearly influence his conservative political stance, as he is openly pro-life. There was also National's Simon O'Connor, who posted "today is a good day," right after Roe v Wade was overturned. They're entitled to their free speech and the freedom to practise religious beliefs, and Luxon may have made placating promises that National will uphold the 2020 legislation, but so did the current Supreme Court Justices.

The bottom line is: overturning Roe v Wade will impact Aotearoa, and we need to be careful and conscious about this. What happens politically and culturally in the US will eventually trickle its way down here, and that isn't necessarily a good thing. A grand total of 0 people voted for the current Supreme Court Justices, but you can vote for the future leaders of Aotearoa. And you need to.



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NEIVE STRANG BAND

From winning the 2020 OUSA Bring the Noise competition, to opening for dreamy musician Mousey at Dive earlier this year, Neive Strang and her band have been making waves in the Ōtepoti music scene. Neive is the lyrical genius behind the operation, backed up by drummer Benny, guitarist Jack, and bassist Oliver. Dynamic duo Benny and Jack chatted to Critic Te Arohi on behalf of the band about their recent EP 'I am the Ribbon' and new producing ventures in the pair's home music studio.

The now-band moved in together straight out of high school and started playing together for competitions, often coming out on top. "We've known each other so long that we're sort of like a well-oiled machine," said Benny. But Benny and Jack go back even further. "I've known Benny for a long time. We started playing music together in high school and we've consistently been in many different bands since then together," said Jack.

The duo struck gold this year in finding a flat without neighbours and with a spare room to compile their accumulated musical equipment. "We kind of just crammed everything into that room and it turned into quite a functional space," said Benny. After getting their hands on a desk and some microphones, it became a home studio of sorts which allowed them to get more creative with their music. "The space has really opened up a lot of ideas and possibilities for us when it comes to our own music and also helping other friends and people possibly record, whether that just be demos or proper instalments of music for their catalogues," said Jack.

Drifting between alternative rock and folk, Benny explained that their music attracts a range of people. "I think compared to a lot of bands we have a very diverse audience...a lot of the older crowd really rate our music." Jack elaborated, "We've played a lot of different kinds of gigs as well... a lot at Starters Bar and U-Bar but then we've also played a few more in the folk scene – there's quite a big folk scene in Dunedin." They're certainly a breath of fresh air for this non-DnB-enthusiast living in the breatha dominated Dunedin scene.

Benny describes their sound as being similar to that of the Pixies – ethereal, yet boppy. "We like to make captivating music, for sure. Like, something that you can dance to but also songs that kind of draw you in." Fresh-out-the-oven EP 'I am the Ribbon' is best listened to on a long drive along the Otago peninsula, or walking the top of the Pineapple Track on a windy day. "Anywhere you can kind of let your mind wander... an environment where you can listen to the lyrics," said Benny. "Our music is very rooted in Neive's song-writing. It is very personal."

Although their EP tour was cancelled with Red Light restrictions at the beginning of the year, you'll be sure to see the frequently-gigging, poster-enthusiastic band about. "If you see a real hot poster, that's probably ours." Yummy. Be sure to check out their music on streaming sites and follow their socials (Neive Strang Music on Facebook, @neivestrang on Insta) for upcoming gigs!

HOROSCOPES

AQUARIUS Jan 20 – Feb 18



Your lust and love for life is admirable, but remember: sometimes shit is rough. Not everything can be fun all the time, and sometimes you have to do the hard yards.

Bad habit to break: being irresponsible with your finances.

PISCES Feb 19 – Mar 20



You need to calm down and stop overthinking. Everything is going okay, so enjoy your time and have fun, and don't stress over the small things.

Bad habit to break: self-doubt and criticism.

ARIES Mar 21 – Apr 19



Your immaturity and inability to recognise your faults is causing your relationships to fail. Sorry besties, but it needed to be said! Try seeing things from someone else's perspective for once.

Bad habit to break: being judgmental and critical of others.

TAURUS Apr 20 – May 20



Sometimes you need to learn to pick a side and stand the fuck up. Sure, it's nice to be everyone's friend and stay out of drama, but only to a certain degree.

Bad habit to break: being passive.

GEMINI May 21 – Jun 20



Cancer season has done a real number on you, but remember, better times are coming. Just try and get through the next few weeks, because there is light at the end of this lengthy tunnel.

Bad habit to break: not living in the moment.

CANCER Jun 21 – Jul 22



Ahem: mommy issues. That's it. That's all.

Bad habit to break: not speaking your truth.

LEO Jul 23 – Aug 22



I actually hate writing for Leo because everyone I meet is annoying or they @ you with some sort of bullshit criticism. So, this is all you're getting.

Bad habit to break: indulging in naughty substances.

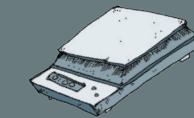
VIRGO Aug 23 – Sep 22



It's time to apply some perspective and balance to your life. Remember to make sure you are keeping your priorities in check, and focusing on the bigger picture.

Bad habit to break: imposter syndrome.

LIBRA Sep 23 – Oct 22



Your ego is tremendously huge right now. Try to tone down your inflated sense of importance this week.

Bad habit to break: wasting your energy on unimportant things.

SCORPIO Oct 23 – Nov 21



Not a bad word to say about Scorpions this week. Keep doing your Scorpio thing. Keep being mysterious and insane. Your secret admirers love it.

Bad habit to break: ignoring your emotional issues.

SAGITTARIUS Nov 22 – Dec 21



Your life is in shambles. Don't even try and sort yourself out, because it will just result in more chaos. Just yolo swag your way through.

Bad habit to break: trying to maintain a sense of sanity.

CAPRICORN Dec 22 – Jan 19



If you have any Capricorn placements in your chart, I am so sorry. The internal criticism along with a constant need for money and stability must be debilitating. Godspeed, Capricorns.

Bad habit to break: over-analysing your emotions.

SKUXX FOOD

BY ROSIE JOYCE @SKUXXFOOD

MUSHROOM AND SPINACH CARBONARA



Because it contains mushrooms and spinach, this is by no means a traditional carbonara, and is enough for your favourite Italian Davide to call you a "liar, an actress, and to get the fuck out", but that never stopped Ekin-Su and shouldn't stop you either.

INGREDIENTS

| | |
|--|--|
| 500 grams spaghetti | 2 eggs + 4 egg yolks |
| 350 grams bacon, chopped into rough chunks | 100 grams parmesan cheese, finely grated |
| 400 grams mushrooms, thinly sliced | Salt and pepper to taste |
| 4 cloves of garlic, minced | Olive oil for frying |
| 1 bag of spinach, roughly chopped | Parsley for garnish, optional |

METHOD

- Put a large pot of salted water on the stove on a high heat. When boiling, add the spaghetti and cook according to packet instructions, or around 8-10 minutes, stirring occasionally.
- Add 2-3 tablespoons of olive oil to a pan on a medium heat. Add garlic and bacon. When the bacon starts to brown, add the mushrooms and cook until mushrooms are soft and browned. Take off the heat.
- Meanwhile, add the 2 eggs and 4 egg yolks to a bowl. If you are unsure how to separate the yolks from the whites, over a separate bowl, crack the shell in half and keep passing the yolks between each shell until all of the whites have fallen through, and you're left with just the yolks. Alternatively, just watch a YouTube tutorial. Along with the eggs and yolks, add the parmesan and mix together with a generous amount of salt and pepper.
- When the pasta is almost finished cooking, reserve around 2 cups of the pasta water and add the spinach into the boiling water with the pasta. When pasta is al dente and the spinach is wilted, drain and mix in some olive oil to prevent it from sticking.
- Add the pasta and wilted spinach to the pan with garlic, bacon and mushrooms. Off the heat, add around $\frac{1}{3}$ of the pasta water, then slowly add the egg and parmesan mixture, pulling the spaghetti through the mixture until it fully coats the pasta. This step has to be done quickly, off the heat so the eggs don't scramble! Add more pasta water until you create a sauce thickness of your liking.
- Season with more salt and pepper and garnish with more parmesan and parsley, enjoy!

BOOZE REVIEW:

JACK DANIEL'S

BY CHUG NORRIS

Although most American products are marketing-heavy and quality-poor, sometimes they get things right. Jack Daniel's is one such thing and it blows all of its poncy European rivals out of the water. JD is delicious, cheap, and, above all, it is far less pretentious than most other whiskeys.

First of all, JD tastes better than almost all whiskeys at a similar price point. Although Jack Daniels is not labelled as a bourbon but rather a Tennessee whiskey (whatever that means) it is made with lots of corn. In fact, JD contains so much corn that it is often referred to as "the Dorito of spirits." But, despite this name, JD doesn't actually taste like liquified Doritos, rather like a sweet and smoky Louisiana breeze, which essentially means it both stings and soothes - just like hearing a disturbingly racist comment spoken in a charming southern accent. It's like vodka mixed with just enough corn syrup to prevent it from burning your insides, or at least it burns your insides a little bit less.

The only big draw-back of the flavour is that if you have ever had a negative experience with bourbon and cola, and most people have, then the memories of that experience will come flooding back rapidly. But by the second glass, I promise you that those memories will fade. What I discovered at this point is that JD is that rare find: a spirit that can be drunk straight with minimal pain.

A 1 litre bottle of JD goes for \$50. This is not exactly cheap at 1.67 dollars per standard. However that is about the same price as most RTDs, and most other whiskeys (except for

fucking Bells) are at the same or above that dollar per standard ratio. So you could do a lot worse for price, especially when one bottle could probably accommodate 3 moderate or 2 heavier drinking sessions. As beer, RTD and wine prices continue to rise, spirits like JD are definitely back on the menu.

The reason a drink as delicious as JD is not considered as classy is simply because it is out-snubbed by its European rivals with names like Brookfaihdcarnebrun and Ladavaughtunbru. While other whiskeys always have difficult names and an obscure background, the simplicity of Jack Daniels' marketing may appear to indicate it is of poorer quality. This is not so. The simplicity of the marketing reflects the quality of the drink.

It seems that in the US Jack Daniel's is a drink associated with biker gangs and trailer trash (which roughly translates to bogans in NZ). But in NZ there need only be three considerations for whether you should drink an alcoholic beverage: What does it taste like? What will it cost me? And, can I handle the volume? JD tastes fantastic, is not overly expensive and is almost as low volume as you can get. Jack Daniel's does not insult its enjoyers with self-important tales about Scottish streams or Irish history; Jack Daniel's is good enough that the drink speaks for itself.

Tasting notes: Honey, the sweet sweet waters of the Mississippi, corn.

Pairs well with: Bikers, babes, beer.

Froth level: Throwing a pillow on a couch fire.

Taste rating: 8/10 silky smooth.

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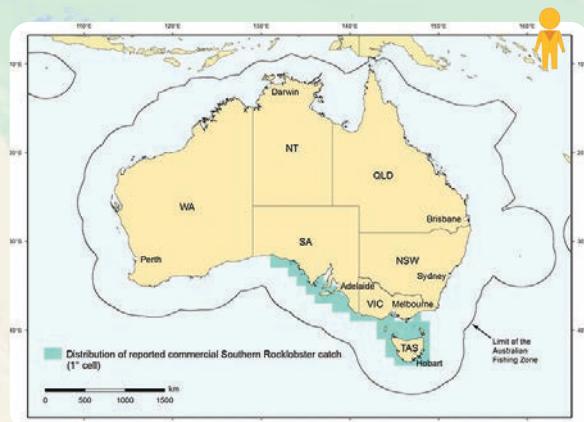


Submission image



This week, we have an image supplied by Fraser. We were close to last week's correct location, but not quite there. Paul's photo was snapped from a building window higher up and further back than we thought, because he cropped the photo to make it harder. Curses!

First thoughts: Hahahaha, awesome. Lobster. Rock lobster, even. Looks like it's the species native to this part of the world, which narrows it down, and I don't think I've seen this statue anywhere in Aotearoa, so I'm guessing this is somewhere in Aus.



Honestly, it's a total guess, but I'm assuming that this is a coastal sculpture, facing east, in a reasonably large town. If it's not that then I'm screwed. I would expect to see more rust on the sculpture if it was so close to the ocean, which has me nervous. I'm thinking: who would build this? Either the town must have a big history with rock lobsters, or there's a marine centre nearby, or something. I've been scrolling through beach towns in western Vic for a while now on Google Earth, trying to spot the big red monstrosity from the air. Nothing yet. And nothing for the next 45 minutes. Somewhere out there, small-town Aussies are laughing at me, but I'm laughing back at them because they're small-town Aussies.

I decided at this point that I would allow myself to Google "lobster sculptures". I thought this would be cheating, but as it turns out, there's heaps. I did see the one I was after, which said it was in Kingston. In a bit of karmic action, I assumed this was Kingston, Canberra, and spent about half an hour trolling the streets there to no avail, before realising that it was Kingston SE, south of Adelaide, which is exactly where I first started looking, and somehow missed the giant red lobster in the middle of town because I have an attention-to-detail problem. Ouch. All that small-town Aussie laughter is feeling a bit vindicated, now.

Final answer: Larry the Lobster, Kingston SE, but I don't feel good about this one. I got the answer, but I've lost my integrity. "It's a giant lobster - how hard could it be?" Yikes. Took the better part of two hours, but would've taken just 20 minutes if I'd been more careful. Take that as a lesson.

Want to send in your own picture? Send an email to maps@critic.co.nz and we'll give it a shot. Correct answers will be published next week.



MOANINGFUL CONFESSIONS

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Three's a Crowd

There I was, fresh into my first year at Otago, having spent the first-half semester with my virginity still intact. Not wanting to enter my Fresher Hoe Phase a novice, I was desperate to get some experience during the mid-sem break. Luckily, my friend had the smartest idea: "Why not knock out two birds with one stone?". I could get my cherry popped, and my friend and her boyfriend would get the threesome they've been fantasising about. "Sounds great," I thought, "what could go wrong?"

The day arrived, and like all classy breathas, our set up consisted of a single mattress on my hall bedroom floor, some "magic" brownies and a shitty R&B playlist. Two hours later, we were ready to have the hottest, most Pornhub-worthy threesome known to man. To anyone considering losing their virginity in a threesome I'll give you two words of advice. One: Don't. And two: If you're going to do it, make sure you're at least half a box deep beforehand.

We started with some innocent kissing and some stray fingers before things started getting heated. My friend was having the time of her life and the girl-on-girl action was sexy as fuck. The boyfriend

and I, however, both now stone cold sober, kept trading awkward glances. We didn't really know each other that well, and I think we were both starting to regret not downing some bevvies beforehand. Then my friend nudges him towards me.

It was finally time. I was trading in my v-card and taking my first step towards becoming the hot slutty fresher I was born to be. Then this man, bone fucking dry, no condom, no foreplay, shoves himself straight into me. I let out a shriek (he was not small, let me tell you that) and then there's blood all over his dick and the mattress. He starts apologising as I, mortified, immediately get up, tell them to finish it off themselves and go have a cold shower.

To top it all off was the incredibly awkward drive back to their flat afterwards to drop them home as my mum was coming to visit and I needed to clean the damage before she arrived. I've had a few more threesomes since then, all of which have definitely been Pornhub worthy. But hey, I'm still in contact with the friend and her fiancée, and now have a killer story to tell as a bridesmaid at their wedding next year.

Have something juicy to tell us? Send your salacious stories to moaningful@critic.co.nz. Submissions remain anonymous.

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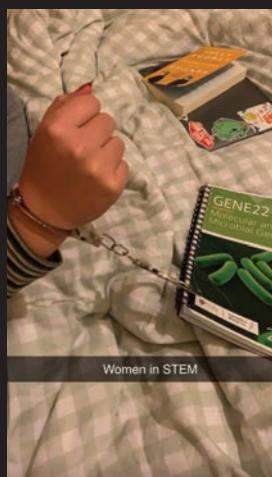
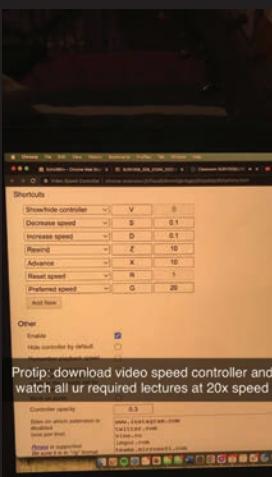
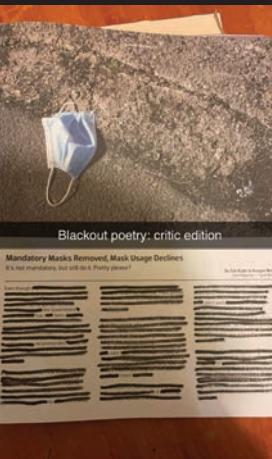


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BEST SNAP EACH WEEK WINS A 24 PACK OF RedBull



SNAP OF THE WEEK

CONTACT CRITIC ON FACEBOOK TO CLAIM YOUR REDBULL



THIS CARD GETS YOU FREE SH*T



University Book Shop
Great King St + On Campus
10% off full-priced items.

A+ BURGERS

10% off all menu items purchased in-store.

BOSS PIZZA • BURGER

Free upsize any burger from single to double OR medium pizza to large.

Burger + fries + drink OR snack pizza + fries + drink for only \$12.90.

Waffle Wednesday: \$5 ALL DAY!

BURGER N BEAST

\$10 burger and chips every Monday and \$5 burgers every Tuesday. (T&Cs apply).

CORNERSTONE INK TATTOO STUDIO

10% student discount on any tattoo, not in conjunction with any other special.

LUMINO THE DENTISTS

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

ONLY URS BEAUTY PARLOUR

Get a friend along and get 2 Guys eyebrow wax/ thread spray tans for \$48.

Eyebrow Thread/ Wax (top & Bottom) \$15.

(top and bottom) \$16.

Eyelash Lift \$42.

Brazilian Maintenance \$35.

OTAGO MUSEUM

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

10% off for all students at Otago Museum shop.

RA HAIR

\$20 spray tan.

\$159 1/2 head foils including toner, plex and hydration treatment.

\$209 keratin smoothing treatment and supporting take-home product*.

*Surcharges may apply.

STIRLING SPORTS

10% student discount on all full-priced items.

SUBWAY

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

DEAL OF THE WEEK

SAL'S AUTHENTIC NEW YORK PIZZA

Buy any large pizza online and get a free 1/2 cheese pizza using the code: DunedinStudent.

ADJØ

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

COMES FIRST DINER

\$10 Happy Burger, \$10 Wings N' Fries, \$10 Tap Wines & \$12 Crafty Pints.

GELATO JUNKIE

\$1 off double scoop gelato.

GO RENTALS

20% off any car hire in Dunedin using the code: explore20

LARNACH CASTLE & GARDENS

'Big Kids go Free': one free entry with one paying adult.

'Ride Share': Two or more in your car? Get a 50% discount on each entry.

LA PORCHETTA

10% discount on all items and beverages.

L.S JEWELS & OUTFITS

15% off for students using the discount STUDENTL15 online, and instore with OneCard. Excludes already discounted items.

NU YOGA DUNEDIN

Two week introductory pass for \$32 (\$4 off the concession price) with promo code nuROne. T&Cs apply. Limited to one person per pass.

PHONE SURGEONS

50% off all repairs (labour only).

TAKEICHI

Free special topping with every bowl of Ramen.

TM AUTOMOTIVE

\$60 warrant of fitness fee.





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