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LETTERS

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EMAIL CRITIC@CRITIC.CO.NZ ——— LETTER OF THE WEEK WINS A \$25 VOUCHER FROM UNIVERSITY BOOKSHOP

LETTER OF THE WEEK

Dear Chug Norris,
Respectfully, I have to disagree with your assessment of Guinness as you have disrespected me and all of Ireland by drinking it out of a can. May I suggest that you treat the drink with respect and drink it as a pint. I recommend the Bog as the pub of choice.

Sincerely,
A Guinness Lover

Dear Editor,
The amount of lecturers and professors that cannot pronounce the word “Māori” correctly is astounding and depressing. How hard is it to say it right? Don’t care where you came from originally, you are living on Māori land now, have some respect for tangata whenua.

Sincerely,
T

Critic,
Shopping malls are "cathedrals of convenience and consumption" young people go to instead of church on Sunday/Sabbath.

Yours truly,
Anthony Skegg

Dear Critic,
What people don't understand is that Nev from Catfish is really the closest thing we'll ever get to a true vigilante. He does it out of passion. He works in a duo, and does it to stop what happened to him happening to others, just like Batman? He defined, created the term catfish, and he works by people being afraid of him appearing, confronts people, and works pretty exclusively for the most part within America. Not to mention both having animal associations. Wake up people.

Sincerely
Nev-ermind



Editorial:
Make Otago more like Vegas

By Fox Meyer

Local elections are coming up, and I think we need to stack the regional council with people like the ones that run Vegas.

In the mag this week, Elliot’s written an excellent piece about the Otago Regional Council (ORC) and their management of a major river in Otago. It’s completely absurd, and it made me think of another river experiencing flow-woes: the mighty Colorado, which no longer even reaches the ocean. The western US laps up pretty much every single drop of water in the river, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Vegas - for all its sinful reputation - actually has a remarkable track record when it comes to water retention. The Colorado is drying up very, very quickly, spelling doom for any cities that haven’t already made major changes to their water restrictions. Vegas is way ahead of the pack; thanks to strict legislation, they now recycle up to 40% of their water, making them one of the most water-sustainable cities in the world. They have to be. It’s in a desert.

Over here in Otago, the Manuherekia river is managed by the ORC, and they’re not quite on par with the Vegas leaders. They’re currently allowing consents to pull nearly 26,000 litres of water every second from the river, a river whose recommended limit is 3,200 litres per second. The ORC have explicitly and purposefully retained this standard, flagrantly in spite of scientific advice and national recommendations. The council is run by a group of 11 people, of

which seven have direct investments in local industry, specifically agriculture. Guzzling water undoubtedly protects their interests, which include growing crops in literally the driest environment in Aotearoa.

But unlike management of the Colorado, management of the Manuherekia is run by a very accessible group of people. Those 11 seats, deciding what the fate of this river will be, are up for election in October. And young people don’t usually vote in this election, so a surprisingly large turnout of students could make a big difference. This is a rare opportunity to make an immediate, tangible difference in a world where the people who perpetuate environmental damage usually feel impossibly far out of reach.

Otago isn’t a desert, but water woes aren’t far away for anyone in today’s changing climate. Cities like Vegas have proved that when push comes to shove, drastic action can be taken very quickly to keep the water coming; for once, what’s happening in Vegas should not stay in Vegas. So we’ve got two options. If we want to change who sets the rules on the Manuherekia, great. We can do that in this election. If that fails, and the ridiculous rates of water-guzzling continue, then we need to seriously start looking at strategies employed by cities like Vegas. Or both. Either way, the status quo is not sustainable. Leaving the future of our water supply in the hands of an unrepresentative, uncooperative council is a gamble we can’t afford to lose.

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RAD TIMES
GIG GUIDE



THURSDAY
04 AUG

Doing Thirty feat. omedians Richard Dowling and Mirandca Camden
DOG WITH TWO TAILS
7:30PM
Tickets from eventfinda.co.nz

George St Normal - 'Look Mum, I'm Riding a Fish' Album Release w/ Sunflower Scent
THE CROWN HOTEL
9PM

FRIDAY
05 AUG

Sun Veins w/ Black-Sale House and The Edmond Brothers
THE CROWN HOTEL
8PM / \$10

Jordan Luck Band Tour
DIVE
9PM
Tickets from undertheradar.co.nz

Capital Theatre - A Hero's Journey NZ Tour
GLENROY AUDITORIUM
7:30PM
Tickets from ticketmaster.co.nz

Both Sides Of The Line
THE GALLEY CAFE & BAR
8PM / FREE ENTRY

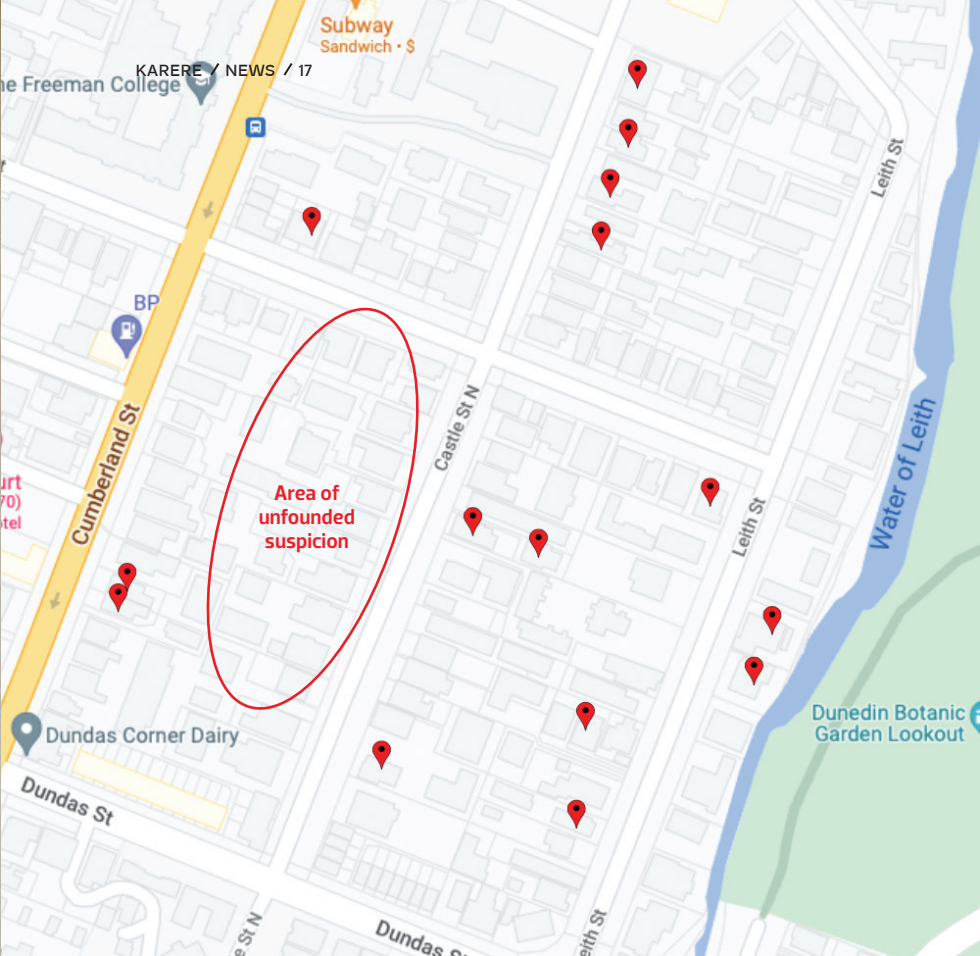
Matt Joe Gow w/ Melissa & The Dr.
DOG WITH TWO TAILS
7PM
Tickets from undertheradar.co.nz

SATURDAY
06 AUG

Zelle Fest feat. Ghost Bells, Alpaca Brothers, Robert Scott, The Living Clipboards, David Lynch Mob, Francisca Griffin & The Bus Shelter Boys, The Fuzzies, Seafog, Jay Clarkson & The Containers, Buddy, Chris Heazlewood, and more
PORT CHALMERS TOWN HALL
DAY SESSION FROM 12PM / NIGHT SESSION FROM 7PM / R18
Tickets from undertheradar.co.nz

Jordan Luck Band Tour
DIVE
9PM
Tickets from undertheradar.co.nz

Robots In Love, Pretty Trippy, and Les Marionettes
THE CROWN HOTEL
8PM / \$10



North D Flats Receive an Unwanted Interior Makeover

At least have the decency to make your graffiti match the interior

By Keegan Wells
Staff Writer // keegan@critic.co.nz

Several Castle St flats have been broken into recently. Unlike most break-ins, nothing was taken: instead, they've received an unwanted interior design makeover, with a face being spray painted on the inside. The culprit is still at large.

On the Saturday night of Re-O Week, the residents of a Castle St flat were sleeping soundly. Well, all of them except for one restless soul, who let in their late-night booty call around 2am or so. The flatmates suspect that these horndogs forgot to lock the door before they got down to business, and it was this fatal mistake which allowed an artistic intruder to take their chance. The next morning, around 9am, a giant

spray-painted face had shown up right next to their entryway.

"We were all shocked, and we have no idea who did it," said Joel, a student who lives in the flat. A noted art aficionado, Joel told Critic Te Arohi that he liked the art, a point of view not shared by his flatmates and landlord. "On the bright side," he said cheerily, "our landlord is fixing it for free," which Critic notes is both shockingly generous and also the bare minimum that should be expected from a landlord.

This face, tagged in red and black, has appeared seemingly at random in flats down Castle, Leith, Howe, and Cumberland

in the past week. In the last week, Critic Te Arohi have tracked at least 13 affected flats, with the mysterious face appearing everywhere from walls to fences and fridges. As seen on the map, this leaves a suspiciously tag-free area near Castle and Howe. If the perpetrator is trying to put distance between themselves and their dastardly crimes, perhaps this is the place to look.

As of print time, though, our (very real) crack team of criminal investigators are no closer to figuring out the motive or psychology for our trigger-happy culprit. If you're the one doing the tagging, please reach out to keegan@critic.co.nz so we can psychoanalyse you and your art.

Med Students (Even More) Stressed by Ballot Delays

Prepping them for a lifetime of fear and uncertainty starts early

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

Concerns have been raised by some medical students over the "unnecessary uncertainty" caused by this year's drawn-out Medical School ballot process. Attempts to address an unusually large third-year cohort heading off in 2023 for placement resulted in a lengthy consultation over potential changes to the process, as well as significant delays in the announcement of ballot results.

Historically, med students entering their fourth year of study have been able to choose a preference between Dunedin, Wellington, and Christchurch Hospitals for placements. Each location has a certain number of spots available, and any mismatch between preference and capacity results in a ballot and appeal process to even out numbers between cities.

Largely due to the exorbitant expense of living in the capital, Christchurch and Dunedin have become increasingly popular in recent years. According to an email sent to students by the Medical School, Wellington was about 40% undersubscribed this year – meaning roughly a quarter of the class would have been part of the appeal process. The email explained that "a major concern" was that "despite having a clear appeal evaluation process, and good intent, to make equitable decisions across a large number of diverse appeals is incredibly challenging and runs the risk of making inequitable/unfair decisions."

In what was described by the Medical School as a "genuine consultation",

and by one student as a "random Zoom presentation," on March 23 the option of a whole-class ballot was proposed to address the equity and admin issues being experienced. The change would have meant that no student would have had a choice in where they lived for the next three years, with the only exceptions being for home-owners or parents.

The option was dropped two months later after the Medical School received significant student opposition, both in the form of emails from individual students and a statement produced on their behalf by the Otago University Medical Students' Association (OUMSA). "There was a unanimous disapproval of the med school's consideration of the whole class ballot," said Ben*, a third-year med student.

According to Tony Zaharic, Associate Dean for Te Aurorotanga/Early Learning in Medicine, there was "a significant amount of effort put into trying to address what we anticipated would be an issue... significantly more students selecting Dunedin or Christchurch campuses, rather than Wellington." He said that the whole-class ballot was floated "because we anticipated there would be so many students potentially impacted by the situation... In response to student feedback, we did not take that further. We apologise if this caused any distress for students."

To add to the uncertainty, the balloting process ended up being delayed by over a month. Zaharic told Critic Te Arohi that this was due to a longer consultation process, as well as "an attempt by the Uni to try and

increase the number of training places at Christchurch and Dunedin", which required further discussion with staff and Te Whatu Ora (who run the hospitals). As a result of this, the Uni managed to snag an extra 18 spaces for med students in Christchurch, and 16 in Dunedin.

While many of the students spoken to remained sympathetic to the difficult position of the Medical School, there was a general feeling of being kept out of the loop: "We weren't aware at which stage of the planning process we were in, when we would ideally know where we would be sent, and reasons as to why they made the decisions they did," said Ben*.

Luke* added that "it felt like we were being kept in the dark a bit, about a decision that really shapes our future...they did have reasons for it, but that wasn't always communicated to us I don't think." Luke* estimated he received four to five emails thanking him for his patience, much to his chagrin.

Zaharic said that throughout the whole process, the Med School's "intention was to explore as many ways as we could to make the process as fair as possible for all." Looking forward, he said that "There are currently no plans for any substantial change... [but we aim] to make the process fairer and more transparent... including updating the appeals process and including representatives from our equity groups [in this]."

*Name changed.



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CHRISTOPHER ULUTUPU **THE FALL**

New Covid Wave Raises Mask Questions

ODSA calls for mask mandate to protect vulnerable students

By Zak Rudin

Chief Reporter // zak@critic.co.nz

With another semester comes another wave of Covid, and students and staff are once again in the firing line. Despite years of grim Zoom calls making many staff and students desperate for in-person learning, for some, the risk of getting Covid still outweighs the benefits of being on campus. This risk is exacerbated by the lack of any mandatory mask mandates, allowing individual departments and lecturers to set their own rules.

As of writing, the Uni "strongly recommends masks are worn indoors". A Uni spokesperson told Critic Te Arohi that "there are staff and students who are vulnerable to Covid and flu and everyone wearing a mask is their last line of defence." Despite this, masks are not mandatory in lectures, tutorials and across most of campus.

Critic Te Arohi spoke with Sean, the co-president of the Otago Disabled Students Association (ODSA) to better understand the situation. Sean said, "[The Uni's response to Covid] has been largely reactionary," adding that "not having a generalised consistent policy on mask usage does not make a lot of sense and puts staff at risk." Danica, a University lecturer in the Law department, told Critic Te Arohi, "I am worried about getting Covid at work," adding, "I'm very, very grateful to students who wear a mask (and wear it properly)." The Uni told Critic Te Arohi that they have been "as proactive as possible in our response", and that "University policy on use of masks has been consistent...

we have always strongly recommended use of masks by both students and staff while indoors." They cited consultation with infectious disease experts and student representatives in defence of their policies, maintaining that they're doing their best to confront "the biggest disruption we have faced as a nation in generations, and easily the biggest disruption to tertiary education globally since the Second World War."

But while the University may be "satisfied that the campus is as safe as possible for our students", the messaging around mask "recommendations" has led to confusion amongst some students and legitimate concern over the risks among others. Danica told Critic Te Arohi: "it's not fair that those students [who do not feel safe coming to class] are excluded from in-person learning and isolated from their peers." "I think there's a definite conflict and contention around the lack of a mask mandate, and then expecting in person attendance," said Sean. "You've got some departments and specific lecturers that are encouraging mask wearing, [creating] varying degrees of compliance."

The discrepancies were not limited to departments; while one grad student we spoke to said that masks were "a necessary evil," a second-year said that they "genuinely do not give a fuck about masks", because "everyone just takes them off anyway, they're useless, they're just for show." As of writing, the Disability Information Support Service is one of the few spaces on campus where

masks remain mandatory. However, as Sean pointed out: "Disabled [and immunocompromised] people exist in more places than just the Disability Information Support Service."

If that weren't enough, inconsistencies around the availability of online learning options, such as live-streamed or pre-recorded lectures, mean that many disabled students feel they are forced to chance catching Covid on campus or risk falling behind. While it can be easy to point the finger at lecturers and departments, Sean acknowledged that this isn't entirely their fault. With many departments struggling with limited resources, online learning is "either not a feasible or intuitive option for them, or they're having to [provide online learning options] based on social accountability or responsibility." The Disability Information Support Service has been working to try and change this, by liaising with departments that do not have accessible online learning options set up and helping them to find solutions.

However, ODSA maintains that the best long-term solution is a mandatory mask mandate on campus, saying that it would be a good way to "balance the benefits of in-person learning while easing this threat to the disabled community". They have drafted an open letter to Vice-Chancellor David Murdoch, and are currently distributing it to student clubs and Uni departments for their feedback, comments and signatures.

OUSA

OUSA Doesn't Support Fair Pay Agreements

Wants to see some verbiage changed before signing on

By Denzel Chung

News Editor // news@critic.co.nz

OUSA has criticised the Government's proposed new Fair Pay Agreements, with their submission on the Bill currently before Parliament calling it a "fundamentally flawed... [and] restrictive model". This stands in contrast to other student submissions on the Bill, which have been strongly supportive.

The Bill would allow unions and employee representatives to negotiate Fair Pay Agreements (FPAs), which will set minimum pay rates and working conditions for all workers in a job or industry. This would change the current system, wherein unions have to negotiate with employers individually. Negotiations can be started if 1,000 workers in a job/industry (or 10%, whichever is lesser) want them to begin, or if the Government decides it is in the "public interest".

In its four-page submission, written by Political Representative Te Āwhina-Pounamu-Waikaramihi, OUSA said that "there is a widely shared consensus that the Fair Pay Agreements Bill is fundamentally flawed, and creates a restrictive model where decisions about one's pay and working conditions are taken out of their hands". They added that it "has

been perceived as unfair by many," with "all employers and employees... locked into the conditions of that Fair Payment Agreement... [and making it] difficult for everyday workers to negotiate flexible conditions with their employer".

They stopped short of outright rejecting Fair Pay Agreements, acknowledging that they "could be a useful tool to address large-scale challenges that are faced by workers." However, they recommended several modifications, including removing the power for the Government to initiate a Fair Pay Agreement, ensuring employees can "have representative bodies that will represent non-(union) members in true and good faith", that they have "the freedom to nominate a representative group or organisation to bargain on their behalf", and that timelines be set for implementation of Fair Pay Agreements, "to prevent lengthy processes and excessive uncertainties or costs". They even recommended that "in the place of a Fair Pay Agreements system, [the Government should] instead identify sectors facing wage challenges... and if there are issues in a particular sector, there should be steps and processes in place to rectify them."

OUSA ultimately called for the Government to "further explore ways for workers and employers to negotiate and rule fair pay". They added that "If the Government is capable of enabling industry-wide and occupation-wide minimum employment terms that ensure equity for all employees, we are in full support."

In contrast to OUSA's approach, other student submissions on the Bill have been more strongly supportive. The Massey University Students' Association said that Fair Pay Agreements "will put in place fair and reasonable standards of remuneration and terms and conditions of employment, removing the economic wellbeing of student workers as a bargaining chip... [and provide] one way to lift many student workers out of the poverty trap." The New Zealand Law Students' Association are also supportive of the bill. In fact, their submission asked for modifications so that "the Bill's impact could be strengthened," including by closing legal loopholes and removing a clause that prohibits strike action related to modifications.

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Ultimate Frisbee Club Ultimately Unhappy with Unipol

Knock knock knockin' on Unipol's door

By Keegan Wells
Staff Writer // keegan@critic.co.nz

A new Unipol system which replaces most court bookings with a free-for-all "drop-in-and-play" system has been questioned by Otago Uni's Ultimate [Frisbee] Club (OUUC), who say that it has been disruptive to training and "makes it hard for small developing sports to grow, especially during the winter months".

Abi, Club President at the OUUC, said she wants to keep growing their small, yet fiercely competitive and high-performing sport. They're regular attendees at national-level competitions, and in August, four members of OUUC will be representing Aotearoa New Zealand at the world under-20 championships in Poland. However, raising their profile is still a work in progress, said Abi: "No one really knows who we are. They even called us frisbee golf when we play ultimate!"

One thing that would help them, said Abi, would be the chance to consistently run trainings indoors. It's an easier environment for new players, she said, especially because "You don't need cleats or [to] deal with the wind when you're indoors." Even when it's not raining, getting people to attend trainings, or even to give a new sport a go, can be pretty grim when it's three degrees outside with a southerly gale.

Under the current system, it's difficult to do that. Before good ol' mate Covid came around, Unipol used to have a court booking system available, similar to study room bookings. This meant that in winter months, when the Dunedin City Council closes down sports fields due to rain, there was always a reliable backup option available for clubs like OUUC to continue training. This option, however, was removed post-lockdown. According to University of Otago's Manager, Recreation Services, Daniel Porter: "Due to Covid-19 requirements, equipment was spread out and this changed the availability of court space. The growth of functional training – space that caters for more than one activity, such as stretching, body weight exercises, rehab and kettle bell movements – has meant this court space is now being used in a more sustainable way."

Daniel said that "Unipol still accepts court bookings at off-peak time." However, "at peak times, Unipol cannot guarantee a dedicated space due to the volume of demand that exists." These times, said Daniel, include rainy days when the DCC shuts sports fields. At those times, "demand for court space increases dramatically... [and] there is no dedicated space available for one-off requests when the grounds are available."

This leaves OUUC in a bit of a bind when the weather starts to get damp. According to Abi, the only other indoor option available to them is the Edgar Centre, which isn't ideal, as "it costs \$5 and is not accessible to students since it's so far away." In comparison, Unipol is free, easier to access, and more ideal for students in general. When the weather's good, OUUC can get "consistently around 30-40 people" to show up to their weekly trainings on sports fields around North Dunedin. However, in winter, it's far from certain that the weather will always play ball (or ultimate frisbee). At a recent training, Abi says they had to resort to bargaining with a group of basketballers so they could run their training session on one of their courts. She's hoping that this sort of situation can be avoided in future.

While off-peak bookings at Unipol still remain a possibility, Daniel added that there are other options for clubs wanting indoors training space. Clubs can be "allocated space in other gyms, such as the Smithells or the College of Education alongside other user groups."



Apartment Development Concerns Musos

What did you expect living next to our best gig venue? Silence?

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

Around 60 supporters of Dunedin's music community gathered for a hui to support the Crown Hotel, amidst fears that the renowned music venue could be threatened by a new apartment building next door. The group are hoping that a protest on Sunday 7th of August could help raise further awareness of their cause.

Dave Bennett, an organiser of Save Dunedin Live Music, said that the Crown Hotel on Rattray Street is "the heart and soul of [Dunedin's] music community... with no barriers, they've been a great supporter of live music." As one of only a few remaining live music venues left standing in Dunedin, though, Dave said that its future is potentially being threatened by the "residential apartment block right next door".

Central to their concerns, they said, was that current soundproofing rules were woefully insufficient. Hugh, a music production lecturer at Otago Uni, was on hand to explain the technicalities of the current system. Under current rules, new buildings in Dunedin only need to provide enough soundproofing to reduce noise levels by 30dB, at 500Hz frequency. Soundproofing was not measured below 100Hz – meaning that the noise from a normally-tuned bass guitar (at 41Hz) would not be reduced at all. He added that the sound spectra used for measurement means soundproofing would effectively only reduce noise levels by 20dB – "levels which would not even render a conversation unintelligible".

Speakers expressed fears that this meant the Crown Hotel was effectively being set up to be a magnet for noise complaints. The current rules call for "reverse sensitivity", which according to speaker Fiona, "means nothing". As long as apartments are built following the soundproofing rules above, "the onus is entirely on musicians" to reduce their noise levels. When a noise complaint is laid, there is no room for negotiation, either. According to the Dunedin City Council's (DCC) guidelines: "assessment of [excessive] noise is subjective and noise measurements do not need to be taken... If the noise is not reduced, the Noise Control Officer may seize and impound the equipment, or... make it inoperable."

This means noise complaints can quickly become fatal for live music venues. Steven, who ran the former Arc Café on High Street, said that despite spending \$78,000 on soundproofing, they were considered a "nuisance" by noise control officers and residents, who frequently shut down gigs with noise complaints and eventually forced its closure. The threat still hangs over live music venues today. Sound engineer Doug said noise control was called three times to the Garbage Day concert at New New New Brewery on Saturday 23, as early as 5:45pm.

Keeping Dunedin's live music scene healthy, said Steven, was vital: "If the only game in town is the University, you become like Canberra. And no one ever has a good time in Canberra." Speakers

pushed for sustained pressure to be put on the new building's developers, to encourage them to engage with the music community's concerns; and the DCC, to make amendments and protect live music venues from being threatened by noise complaints.

The new four-storey building, featuring a retail shoplot, offices and apartments, is being developed by Anchorage Properties Ltd., owned by local businesspeople Lincoln Darling and Chris Murphy (who also own real estate firm Darling Realty). Speaking to the Otago Daily Times in July, Darling said the area was "neglected through economic factors for too long", and that his new building would "enhance the area and complement the Crown Hotel next door". Lincoln and Chris did not respond to our requests for comment, saying they were on leave until August 8. They encouraged any comment to be directed to Nick Darling, who also did not respond in time for publication.

Save Dunedin Live Music hopes to capitalise on the momentum from this hui, with their "Damn the Man, Save the Crown!" protest this coming Sunday, in the Octagon. They're encouraging those who are interested in "protest[ing] planning regulations that are eroding our music scene... [to] join us for a day of music, speeches, and some good old protest action like chanting catchy slogans and shouting at Town Hall." The protest is expected to begin at noon.

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Super Sick Students Surf Stormy Stream

"Hit the Leith, wapuah, drop down say wahhhh, and get pitted, so pitted"

By Keegan Wells

Staff Writer // keegan@critic.co.nz

While students across North D were busy hunkering down during last week's storm, two looked at the waves of the Leith and saw something else: a mid-winter surfing opportunity. They promptly chucked their wetsuits on, rented Unipol boards, and hit the eddy just near the Clyde St bridge on last Wednesday morning. Critic Te Arohi spoke to them to figure out just what was going on inside their heads.

Toby and James' plan began on Tuesday night. Somehow, where everyone else saw a teeming mass of stormwater, Speights bottles, and old Lime scooters rushing out to the ocean, they instead saw surf worthy of a Hawai'ian postcard. There and then, the pair made a plan to hit the surf early the next morning, to "avoid publicity". However, like most students, getting up early wasn't James and Toby's forte: "By the time we started surfing," said James, "everyone was out, so it was probably the worst time to go".

The whole decision was "pretty spontaneous", said Toby. "We thought it

might be fun, and it was." The surf itself wasn't actually that spectacular. "If you saw those waves in the ocean you would be pretty bummed, but it was more about the novelty of it," said James. They managed to enjoy the surf for about an hour and half before the cops arrived and advised them to stop. While the Otago Daily Times dramatically reported that the cops "firmly recommended" that the pair stop, Toby told Critic Te Arohi that "They were super good about it." The pair insisted, though, that despite being talked to by the cops, "Surfing is not a crime."

The only downside from the escapade was Toby breaking, and needing to pay for, the fin off Unipol's board. Word of their impromptu adventure spread quickly, though; by the time the pair headed to Unipol to return their boards and pay for the damaged fin, they were being recognised by the staff there. "They were laughing about it," the boys recalled. Hopefully laughing with them, and not at them.

Toby and James' surf ended up garnering national media attention, being picked up by the ODT, Stuff and One News amongst others. Pictures of their adventures also spread quickly through the Internet, including boomer hangout space Dunedin News. There, opinions seemed split between the two wolves that live inside all boomers: the outraged commenters baying for "natural selection to run its course," and others congratulating the pair for being "out there doing it rather than surfing on their phones" while condemning the "fun police" for good measure.

Rather sensibly, Toby and James don't recommend this to anyone who is new to the sport. Especially with the river running so fast, Toby said, "There is no way you could paddle against the current, you had to ride it out to the side." However, despite drawing heaps of media attention, earning a talking-to by the cops and copping social media scandal, both unanimously told Critic Te Arohi that they would do it again.

Burger Plant Changes Ownership

Vegan burger takeaways: now with spring rolls

By Zak Rudin

Chief Reporter // zak@critic.co.nz

Burger Plant, the vegan burger joint on Fatty Lane, has just changed owners. Critic Te Arohi spoke with Tom, the previous owner and a culinary arts Polytech student, to get to the meat of the issue.

What is now Burger Plant began with a little setup at the Farmers Market in 2019: "\$600 worth of ingredients, a little gazebo and a BBQ". Little did Tom know, he had struck vegan gold. Before he knew it, he had transformed a market stall into an established business, which opened in March 2020 – just before the first lockdown hit. Critic reported about this in Issue 4, 2020.

The vision for Burger Plant has always been to make vegan food more accessible and normalised, while "not being in your face about it", said Tom. This laid back approach to veganism, he says, was designed to "not scare people away from giving it a go". Despite students' give-it-a-go attitude and their increasing openness to plant-based alternatives,

their general lack of disposable income meant running a student-focused business can be tough at the best of times. The chaos wrought by Covid-19, from lockdowns to staff shortages and inflation, didn't help either.

Despite these challenges, though, Tom was upbeat, saying that it was a "good few years but it definitely was not easy". "Any business that survives through Covid," he said, "is in my eyes a success." Ultimately, Tom's decision to sell the business came down to wanting to start a new chapter. "It's a bit sad for me because it's my baby ... [but] I want to kind of just take it chill and be 23 again, and not feel like I'm in my mid 30s," he told Critic Te Arohi.

While Tom will not have any involvement in Burger Plant from now on, he reassured his customers that the "business is in good hands". In a rather wholesome Facebook post on 6 July, the new owners said that: "After a few days of learning we believe we can continue to operate this store... please

don't worry, all dishes will be vegan." New menu items are also being rolled out, including deep-fried spring rolls and wontons. While they're technically not burgers or plants, we vegans take what we get, I guess.

Customers we spoke to said they had not noticed changes in the quality of food since the ownership change. Lucy, a student, described the That Fungi burger as "soggy but tasty," though the sogginess might have been due to the recent torrential downpours. Meanwhile, Finn's mum had a more scathing critique, saying, "[the burger] tasted like they deep fried a vegetarian sausage."

The new owners told Critic Te Arohi that they intend to keep Burger Plant vegan as there are not many vegan restaurants in Ōtepoti/Dunedin. Meanwhile the new owners said that students can expect to see more Chinese food options in the future.



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MĀOR110 Enrolments Up 52%, While Health Sci Numbers Fall

Freshers finally realise Health Sci isn't the way to happiness

By Leo Lublow-Catty
Contributor // critic@critic.co.nz

The Strategy, Analytics and Reporting office (SAR) at Otago Uni have released this year's enrolment growth statistics, revealing the fastest-growing and fastest-shrinking first-year papers in the 2021-22 period.

The paper with the biggest percentage increase in enrolment was EAOS111, "Earth And Ocean Science", which grew by a staggering 73%. The fastest-growing paper this year by raw enrolments was MĀOR110, or "Introduction to Conversational Māori", with numbers jumping 292 from 2021, or 52%. The fastest-shrinking paper was, interestingly, also a Māori paper: MĀOR102, or "Māori Society", whose cohort shrank by 340 (29%) compared to last year.

The high growth for MĀOR110 this year could be attributed to high-profile efforts over the last few years to more widely promote the regular use of te reo Māori among more of the population. According to Statistics New Zealand, te reo proficiency across Aotearoa

grew 1.8% between 2018 and 2021. This combines with the fact that, from 2022, MĀOR110 began to be included in the HSFY curriculum as an optional eighth paper, making it more accessible than ever for a significant number of first years.

SPEX102 "Principles Of Exercise For Health And Performance" put in a solid result for the PE School, growing by 59 students to place as the 5th fastest-growing paper in 2022. Former SPEX102 student Laura believes that this paper is growing in popularity among students due to a variety of appealing factors: "Sport is a growing sector, with a lot more jobs available... the PE school restructured in 2019 to provide three different types of degrees, and it recently became an optional Health Sci paper."

The bottom five performing papers were dominated by science papers, with compulsory papers in the Health Sci First Year (HSFY) meat-grinder programme being particularly hard hit. BIOC192

"Foundations of Biochemistry", the second-fastest declining paper, shed almost 200 students, with numbers shrinking by 13%. Despite being the biggest first-year paper at Otago Uni, with almost 2,000 students enrolled, CHEM191 "Introduction to Chemistry" still dropped 150 students. Enrolment numbers for HUBS192 "Human Body Systems 2" and PHS1191 "Biological Physics," meanwhile, fell by 94 and 85 people respectively – a drop of around 6%. Danielle, a 2021 student enrolled in CHEM192, HUBS192 and PHS1191 as part of the Health Sciences course, believed that online learning and lockdowns may have affected students' interest in taking on the high-pressure HSFY papers. She told Critic Te Arohi that "These courses are dense in learning and can be really difficult without a lot of past learning in those topics."

Of course, signing up for a paper is the easy part – whether all these freshers end up discovering a newfound passion for earth and ocean science or human nutrition is another matter altogether.

OUSA Exec Breach Own Policy

"What's OUSA?", asks student

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

The Student Executive board for OUSA have breached their own accountability policy, according to minutes from the 14 July meeting this year. All Exec members are required to submit weekly breakdowns of what they've been up to, to provide a record of their work and also to prove that they're doing their job. It hasn't been happening. Student President Melissa Lama acknowledged that while the weekly reports haven't been getting done, their quarterly reports and "regular check-ups with all our executive members" are other ways that they've worked to "measure and hold executive members to account for their work and output."

This breach of policy was received with pure ambivalence by students Critic Te Arohi spoke to. One said that since they didn't know what the Exec did, they "likely didn't care about the breach". Another told us: "I don't even know who the fuck [the Exec] are." A student, Alex, actually asked us: "What's OUSA?". It seems the internal workings of the organisation meant to

govern and represent Otago students actually fly somewhat under the radar of the average student.


Egregious policy breach aside, the most alarming aspect of this investigation was students' utter lack of awareness of student politics. Despite the fact that OUSA is ostensibly set up "by students and for students," only one student we interviewed at random actually understood what OUSA was and what it does. This attitude is likely a big reason for the consistently low turnouts to OUSA referenda and elections over the last few years. These events allow students to submit their own proposed changes to the way that their governing body functions. However, with turnout generally hovering at 10-20% of students every year, they can also easily be taken advantage of by a well-organised group of scheming students.

Last year, the Sign Up Club (SUC), effectively a product of meme culture, galvanised enough student votes to force

a Special General Meeting. This forced OUSA to consider topics like giving all Sign Up Club members designated parking spots on campus, making all graduation ceremonies include a speech from a SUC member, and requiring all OUSA email signatures to link to their Facebook page. Results only need a turnout ("quorum") of 100 to be binding on the Exec.

While a strong turnout of SUC members meant they easily met quorum and passed their motions, technicalities in their proposals resulted in OUSA ruling them all as null and void. Still, the SUC situation demonstrated how easily a group of students could take advantage of low-engagement democracy to further their own agendas.

On the 23rd of August, OUSA will host their Annual General Meeting, where new Exec members may be elected and the constitution may change. You can get involved by attending at 1pm in the Main Common Room. Remember: democracy is fragile.



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Main Common Room

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Free Speech Debate Looking for Student Voices

Group has drawn criticism for harbouring far-right sentiment

By Fox Meyer

Critic Editor // critic@critic.co.nz

Your student president has pulled out of a "free speech panel" hosted by the Free Speech Union (FSU) on 17 August, citing "pressing work and study commitments". The FSU has previously faced controversy for promoting and platforming views critics say are "extremist, trans-exclusionary, homophobic and racist".

The FSU's upcoming event, called "Responsible politics and free speech", is being held at Otago Uni, in a location yet to be decided. They say that the events, one of several held on university campuses across Aotearoa, are intended to "open up contentious subjects to debate and discussion".

The group professes to offer representatives from all across the political spectrum, but the upcoming Otago panel features National MP Michael Woodhouse, ACT MP Dr. James McDowall, local Councillor Lee Vandervis, and OUSA President Melissa Lama. The panel discussion is also being moderated

by broadcaster Peter Williams, a board member at the right-wing Taxpayers' Union. Now, without Melissa providing the (presumably-leftist) student voice, the panel seems to be politically veering strongly to the right.

The panel organisers have apparently attempted to fix this, reaching out to Generation Vote Otago (GVO) in an attempt to replace Melissa. A GVO spokesperson confirmed that they had received an invite from FSU, but declined to attend, saying that "a non-partisan civics education group was perhaps not quite the student representative they were looking for, and that a discussion like this is outside of our remit." While the FSU responded by saying that they, too, were non-partisan, GVO was firm on their refusal, saying that "this update regarding FSU's non-partisan nature will not make us reconsider."

The FSU was formed in 2018 after public pressure forced the cancellation of an event in Auckland by Canadian far-right

white supremacists Stefan Molyneux and Lauren Southern. Mayor Phil Goff said at the time that they were "not welcome to use city-owned venues to stir up ethnic or religious tensions". In response, the FSU unsuccessfully took Auckland Council to court twice about the cancellation.

In May, they hosted a similar panel at Victoria Uni, aiming to create "freedom cancel culture." Salient, Victoria Uni's student magazine, reported that at the event, speaker Karl Du Fresne called the Black Lives Matter movement a "crusade," made "derogatory comments about trans women" and "spread harmful misinformation about the terror attacks in Christchurch". At the time, the Vic Uni's student assoc (VUWSA) Engagement VP, Katherine Blow, told Salient that "VUWSA does not support the FSU event, because the group is known for their extremist, trans-exclusionary, homophobic and racist views," adding that "ideally, the event wouldn't have taken place."

ODC Watch

Beef-drinker .

When gravy's your favourite mixer.

"Some of my best friends have mullets."

ALL of my best friends have mullets.

Man 'went to crazy place'

Visiting Milton.

A strongly held fair opinion has to be espoused carefully and respectfully, otherwise it can very easily tip over into the "hate speech" category.

When you need to meet the word count.

He is just one of 202 bar managers to have had their certificate suspended for drink-driving since January 2019.

Work/life balance needs adjustment.

IF you love fruit pie, turn over now.

Picture this — Grandma is about to make her famous fruit pie when a monkey steals her bucket full of fruits.

Her grandson gives chase, but the naughty monkey climbs a nearby tree and starts throwing the fruit down at him.

What the fuck?



Think twice ... Young New Zealanders are being warned that what they hear online is not necessarily going to make them rich quickly. PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES

Sounds like someone invested in GameStop.



After two pints.

After her submission, Mr Hawkins, who appeared visibly shaken, told Ms Scott her submission was "hard to listen to, and it was at very least distasteful, if not repugnant".

It certainly was repugnant.

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Te Roopū Māori TUMUAKI Jade Mills

Tēnā tātou! Nau mai, hoki mai ki Semester two! I hope everyone is well rested and ready to kick off into a busy but great semester. We can't wait to see all our taura in our whare (next to Māori centre and diagonally across from St Daves) and at all our upcoming events.

Over at Te Rōpū Māori we are busy planning a few big kaupapa (events) such as our annual ball—Te Hōkai, kapahaka trips and a leadership weekend that we plan to run throughout this semester as well as our usual social sports, kapahaka, Te Reo Māori classes and more. If any of these events interest you or if you would like to know more, follow our socials to stay up to date and see any relevant information!

Facebook: **Te Rōpū Māori**

Instagram: **teropu.maori**

When life takes over and things get a bit overwhelming please remember the many support services around who are dedicated to helping our taura, places such as Te Huka Mātauraka - The Māori Centre and Te Rōpū Māori are here to help! Whether it's academic support, cultural support, social support or something in between we are ready and willing to support you all in whatever it is you need!

Don't forget to take time for yourselves this sem and look after yourself and each other! Stay home if you're sick and make sure to keep up the communication between you and your lecturers.

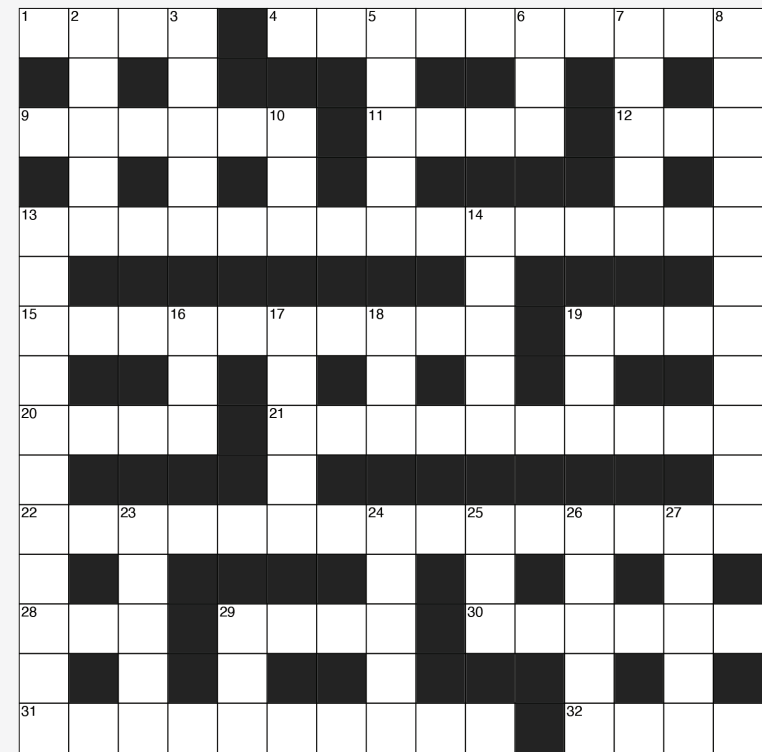
Be safe, be kind and be well!

Arohanui nā Jade Mills
Te Rōpū Māori Tumuaki

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EXECUTIVE

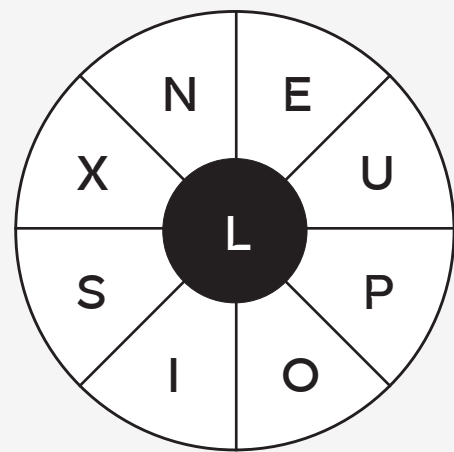
PUZZLES

CROSSWORD



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

WORD WHEEL



Make as many words as you can using the central letter and without repeating any letters.
6–15 good / 16–20 great

WEEK 16 CROSSWORD ANSWERS

ACROSS: 1. SUGARDADDY, 6. OWLS 9. KINGFISHER 10. INCA 12. BIRDSOFPREY 17. ACADEMICS 18. ASH 19. LSD 20. TOBLERONE 21. BAYOFBENGAL 27. ALLY 28. INCINERATE 29. RISK 30. UNDERTAKER

DOWN: 1. SAKE 2. GENE 3. REFRIGERATOR 4. ASSAD 5. DIEGO 7. WINNEBAGOS 8. SPAM 11. SPOILERALERT 13. SUCROSE 14. EAGLE 15. BALDEAGLES 16. CHIEF 22. BENIN 23. NAIVE 24. LAIR 25. HAWK 26. GEAR

WORD LADDER SOLUTION: BACK-BARK-BARE-FARE-FIRE

- ACROSS:**
- 1. Electric rock band (4)
 - 4. Masonry worker (10)
 - 9. Not the best picture quality (6)
 - 11. Something you lend, to help (4)
 - 12. Married to the (3)
 - 13. Degree that doesn't come with a sex life (15)
 - 15. Supermarket duopoly member (10)
 - 19. You'd screw it (4)
- DOWN:**
- 2. Ship's goods (5)
 - 3. Bird noise or sports heckle (5)
 - 5. God's blood (5)
 - 6. Jar topper (3)
 - 7. Arabian Peninsula country (5)
 - 8. Old-fashioned word for capitalist kingpins (11)
 - 10. Menacing followup to "it hasn't happened" (3)
 - 13. Something from the ocean used to pay a West African dowry (11)
 - 14. Makeup magazine (5)
 - 16. Set down (3)
 - 17. Chicago airport (5)
 - 18. Song by 1A (3)
 - 19. Type of buns (3)
 - 23. Type of carved pole (5)
 - 24. Savai'i and Upolu (5)
 - 25. Eminem said they won't let him be (3)
 - 26. Hispanic mate (5)
 - 27. Japanese cartoons (5)
 - 29. Tool used by 31A (3)

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.

SPIT

GLOB

Mazagran

BROUGHT TO YOU BY MAZAGRAN

KEEPING CRITIC CAFFEINATED

ESPRESSO BAR

36 MORAY PLACE, DUNEDIN

SUDOKU

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

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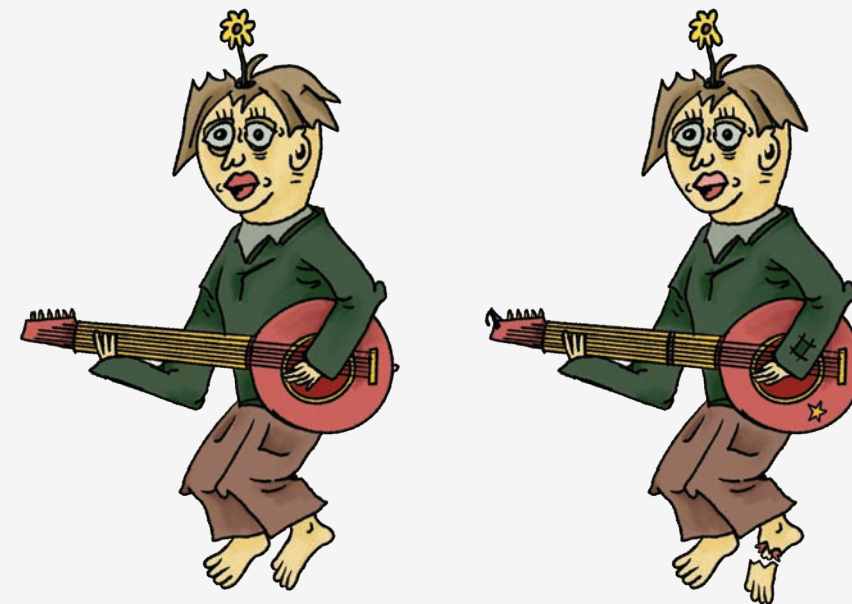
					5		4	
	8					5		6
				9	7	1	3	
4				8	9	7		
		5		1		4		
		1	4	5				3
	7	8	5	2				
2		3					8	
	4		9					

WORDFIND

- BUBBLEOBILL
CALIPPO
CHOCBAR
CORNETTO
CYCLONE
FRUJU
JELLYTIP
JOYBAR
- MAGNUM
PADDLEPOP
PARADISO
PEANUTSLAB
POPSICLE
SPLICE
TRUMPET

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

There are 10 differences between these images.



Tattoo Tour

By Ruby Werry

University is all about reinventing yourself, discovering who you really are, and the earth-shattering realisation that you ain't shit compared to everyone else. Luckily, this particular existential dread has a remedy! Start altering your appearance, whether that's dying your hair, getting piercings, or my personal favourite: tattoos. But where to start? To give the students of Dunedin the best advice, and a look into some of the best places to get some sick body art, I embarked on my ultimate tattoo tour of Ōtepoti Dunedin. Cue guitar solos and a frantic stockpiling of socks to hide the evidence from my parents.

Cornerstone Studios Eloise (@eloise_tattoo)

This entire quest was triggered by an Instagram frenzy. I had entered Eloise's giveaway for a free tattoo of the winner's choice, and as God's favourite, I won. But like most things, once my too-much gene got going, I couldn't stop at one tattoo. This must have been what Frodo felt like when he saw the Lord with the Ring, or something. I dunno, I've not seen the films.

I had to get tattoos from every tattoo studio in North Dunedin (anything five minutes past the Octagon is practically another dimension to me). And it would all start with Eloise. Her preferred fine line style gave me plenty of inspiration. The base of every tattoo would be a postage stamp, with the artist able to put whatever they wanted inside it – within reason. And since the entire tattoo was free, the time would never be more opportune to secure my journalistic tenure, and get "CRITIC" tattooed on myself.

Eloise mentioned that her favourite tattoos had a lot more to do with the clients than the actual tattoo. "It could be a fairly simple design, but who the person is and the conversation they bring with them makes me remember the tattoo fondly." With that in mind, I was determined to make a splash and bring my wittiest banter and retorts, as well as garner some good advice for all the students of Dunedin, looking to get their first or maybe seventeenth tattoo. "Research an artist that matches what you're wanting to get and make sure to speak up if you want to adjust something or if your design isn't quite how you want it", said Eloise. Solid advice. After all, this isn't something to be undertaken lightly, like a commerce degree.

Eloise also commented on the psychology of her subjects. "People often get in their heads a lot and hype themselves up to be more scared than they need to be. Just make sure you breathe and enjoy the experience." Eloise noted that fine line tattoos are an incredibly popular style right now, and there were far more girls coming in for tattoos than boys. I guess it's true what they say: men are weak. "[Fine line] would probably always be a bit of a trend but definitely I see a lot of influence from Tiktok, so whatever's popular at the time on there will often sway a style or type of common design." Glad to see that if individual thought was dynamite, the student population wouldn't even have enough to blow ourselves up.

Cornerstone is unique with their 10% student discounts. "We understand that Dunedin is a very student-based town, where student life can be a bit tough due to limited amounts of income, but we still wanted to be able to give students affordable options to things that could make their experience a little bit more fun." Unfortunately, Eloise has since moved her work to Auckland, to which I wish her best of luck. Cornerstone's 10% discount is still available at their studio for any thrifty bitch with a student ID to take advantage of, and if you're up in the Auckland end of the country, Eloise will give you an excellent tattoo.

Student Clientele: "I would say about 85%."

Favourite Movie: "White Chicks or 2004 Dawn of the Dead."

Favourite Song: "Honestly couldn't pick, I love all genres and music."





Subconscious Studios feels like if that supportive English teacher decided to quit teaching after their maternity leave and open a tattoo studio (in the best way possible). The spot features plenty of plants and inclusive messaging, as well as frequent walk-in flash days for anyone willing to get up early enough to wrestle a spot. One flash day had students lining around the block at 4am like Victorian children in a Dickens novel waiting for soup, even though doors didn't open till 9:45. The early bird gets the ladybird tattoo, or something.

Subconscious Studio's contribution to my leg was courtesy of Kesi, who has been tattooing just over two years now. Although trying to pitch 'literally just do whatever you want within a postage stamp' can be a bit of a weird sell, Kesi handled it like a champ, and used the opportunity to practise some perspective skills. My hopes were dashed to become Kesi's new favourite customer as they told me about Carol, potentially the most wholesome person in Dunedin, who got her first tattoo, at age 66, of a ladybird.

Not all customers are created equal, though, and to distract me from the needles that were getting close to my ankle bone, I heard about a best friend tattoo gone wrong. "When I first started I had a couple friends come in to get matching tattoos from me. A couple weeks later, one of them came

back and they had stopped being friends. They didn't get the tattoo covered up, at least not by me!" One can only assume they met in O-week, on the same floor in the hall, besties forever, before someone's Glassons corset top was stolen and they realised they were fundamentally incompatible. Oops.

Kesi's recommendations for tattooing were all about finding an artist you vibe with. "Please research your artist! This is the most important thing. Find someone who tattoos in the style you like. If you feel uncomfortable or pressured at any point in the process, speak up or leave the studio. It's your body and consent is the most important thing with tattooing." What are the designs hot on students' minds right now? "Always popular are things like Roman numerals and butterflies. I tattooed a frog on a client a year or so ago and ever since then it's kind of become a thing for me to include a frog in every flash sheet so I've tattooed a lot of frogs. Florals are always a classic."

Student Clientele: "I'd say a good 60% are students."
Favourite Movie: "Anything with Winona Ryder in it. One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, and Howl's Moving Castle."
Favourite Song: "I really like songs by AJJ and Kokopelli Face Tattoo."

Agency Tattoo

Bailee (@bopsiart)

Bailee has been tattooing for about a year and a half but has been with Agency Tattoo much longer. Agency is as professional as it gets, the kind of studio you could bring your Grandma to and assure her that yes, it was hygienic, and yes, you can still get hired with tattoos.



Armed with a squish ball for the pain, I was a very brave girl as Bailee got to work on my next postage stamp: a sleepy fox in a mushroom forest. Although I normally would immediately slander and reject anything with British associations, it was cute enough that I had to have it. Most students are after similarly fine lined and simplistic tattoos, and Bailee echoed Eloise in students' inspiration. "I notice a lot of students want Pinterest tattoos. Or more recently TikTok tattoos. Tattoos on these sites are normally fine lined and simplistic. Generally though it's small simple tattoos with mostly line work."

Bailee's own favourite style is a mix of everything. "I wouldn't say I have found my favourite style yet. I like doing a variety of different things, always mixing it up." Currently, her

favourite work is a dragon back piece she's chipping away on. "I love it 'cause it's my first back piece and I just love dragons, plus I am really proud of the design and placement. It's just a fun piece, simple as that." Her advice for getting tattooed? Same for anyone's first time: start low and go slow. "I'd suggest thinking hard about placement and size. Don't choose something massive in a super painful spot. You don't want to put yourself off tattoos for good! Start small and simple and then once you know how it feels go bigger and bolder."

Student Clientele: "A fairly large portion, definitely over half."

Favourite Movie: Currently Love and Monsters.
Favourite Song: 'In Need' by Gert Taberner.

George Street Tattoo

Nicola (@nicolajanetattoo & @georgestreettattoo)



Nicola Jane has been around the block, doing tattoos full time for over eight years, and has been tattooing in Dunedin for four and a half years – the perfect woman to complete my quest. George Street Tattoo is a co-owned venture with one of Nicola's best friends, Dom, and it seems Nicola was divinely destined to tattoo, as she had been curious about tattooed people when she was younger and started getting tattoos as early as possible. Given the fact that she too hails from Lower Hutt, I knew I was in stable hands.

When it came to specific styles, Nicola thought more about longevity. "Personally, I think it's important to take into consideration how a tattoo is going to look in 20/30 years, so I tend to reference trad images a lot in my designs. I have seen in the flesh how well they hold up over decades and that style is built to last!"

George Street Tattoo had customer service built to last as well. I rolled up, shades on (it was a bit of a dusty Sunday

morning), and within minutes I had a Sprite and a hash brown in my hands. Nicola even had the kindness to ignore my tears as I devoured the hash brown. With She-Ra playing on the TV, my cowgirl postage stamp came to fruition and Nicola told me I had permeable skin (which I quickly started bragging about), as well as giving me some actual advice. "Your first tattoo doesn't have to be meaningful, it can simply be something you want because you like it." With an ankle full of aesthetic-only tattoos, this was incredibly validating for me. "If you're apprehensive, get your first tattoo somewhere that's not front and centre and be open to your tattooer's suggestions on placement. Find an artist you resonate with as well."

Student Clientele: 50%
Favourite Movie: Anything by John Waters ("He's magic!").
Favourite Song: "I've been listening to a lot of Chelsea Wolfe, the Hiss *Spun* album, particularly '16 Psyche'."

SOLD DOWN THE *River*

What's Going On With the ORC?

By Elliot Weir

The council's current water plan suggests the Manuherekia should have a take limit of 3,200l/s, but current water consents allow nearly 26,000l/s to be syphoned off.

Air quality breaching national standards, in towns where coal is still commonly burned in houses; a rabbit plague “as bad as it has ever been” after years of no rabbit control; an understaffed public transportation system, mired by reduced bus timetables and no-shows. The Otago Regional Council has a lot on its plate. But this story is not about rabbits, buses, or coal. It is about two sagas, connected by the river system they both concern and the council that failed to solve them, both of which demonstrate the mess the ORC finds itself in.

Drama, conflicts of interest, and internal strife – much of it linked to the Manuherekia River conflict and the Clutha River incident – continue to overshadow serious issues the council needs to tackle, and hard questions it needs to answer.

The Manuherekia River, an 85-kilometre tributary of the Clutha River, is not the largest or most famous river in the region, but it is arguably one of the most important – and almost certainly both the most studied and the most controversial river in Otago. It runs southwest through Central Otago until it hits Alexandra, and has a long history of ecological and economic importance in the driest part of the entire country, first for Māori, then for miners during the gold rush of the 1860s.

When communities around Central Otago shifted to being centred around beef, lamb and dairy farming, so too did water usage. But laws dating back to gold mining times meant that there were little regulations on water usage for many years. Outside of Otago, most rivers in Aotearoa have minimum flow limits, meaning that on average only 25% of the water can usually be taken for use. In the Manuherekia, on the other hand, 75% of the water is taken. 97% of the water taken is used for pasture irrigation. Stuff reported earlier this year that the council's current water plan suggests the Manuherekia should have a take limit of 3,200l/s, but current water consents allow nearly 26,000l/s to be syphoned off.

When the Resource Management Act was enacted in 1991, it set a 30-year limit on all the consents at the time, meaning they were set to expire in October of 2021. The ORC was meant to have a plan in place by then for what would replace them. It was clear by 2019 that the council was not on track, and the Minister for the Environment David Parker commissioned a review that year into the council's preparedness on the issue, which found the council was critically behind.

The review came out right before council elections, where newly-elected councillor Marian Hobbs was voted chairperson of the ORC. Marian Hobbs was a former Minister for the Environment under Prime Minister Helen Clark, and quickly set to work on the very long to-do list the ORC was behind on. She didn't get very far.

Hobbs faced pushback from other councillors, and criticism for being too sympathetic to the Labour government and for rushing public consultation policies, particularly for the council's land and water plan. In June it was revealed that she had written to David Parker and asked if Parker would consider replacing the council with a group of commissioners if disarray continued, similar to what happened to the Canterbury Regional Council (ECan) in 2010, and Tauranga City Council in 2020. This didn't happen (or hasn't happened yet), but the revelation of the letter Hobbs had sent infuriated other councillors. A clash with Federated Farmers also didn't seem to help her popularity within the ORC.

That July, less than a year into her role, Hobbs was ousted as chairperson in what she described as a “coup”, with discussion being opened by deputy chairperson Michael Laws, and the motion to remove Hobbs moved by councillor Hilary Calvert. The meeting was tense. Environmental protestors were present to oppose Hobbs' removal, and Laws left his chair to address the protestors before being told by fellow councillors to return to his seat and to “calm down”, “otherwise you'll lose, it mate”. Eventually, the council voted to elect farmer and second-term councillor Andrew Noone as chairperson with Michael Laws remaining deputy until June of this year – but more on that later.



Orlando reading critic.
Justina King 2022

Those who voted for Hobbs’ removal cited her inability to work with other councillors as the reason for the vote, with one saying it was a matter of "personalities, not policies". Others, including Hobbs herself, placed the blame squarely on her water conservation efforts. "I was too effective in pushing the water reforms. [...] Of course this was all about water. Farmers are really important people but they can't just claim to own all of the water and use it however they like", Hobbs said. Councillor Bryan Scott, who voted against Hobbs’ removal, said "our chair called a spade a spade and, frankly, some people didn't like it."

A year later, with the October 2021 deadline looming, disorder within the ORC did not appear to have improved. A meeting was set for August 2021 to decide once and for all what the minimum flow limit for the aforementioned Manuherekia river would be. After six years, \$4.4m, and 26,587 staff hours of research, a Technical Advisory Group presented a number of options for minimum flows. Their recommendation was starting with a minimum flow of 1,200 L/s by 2023, slowly increasing it to 2,500 L/s by 2044.

The resulting Zoom meeting lasted for four hours, full of councillors raising their voices at one another and struggling to work their computers, and in the end, the council decided to do... nothing. Councillors voted 6:4 to delay the decision, ostensibly to get more scientific work done before a decision was made. For the councillors opposed, and environmentalists in the region, this was the last straw.

"Your arguments all focus on delay, grasping at straws to defend an indefensible position, and I can only assume this delay is to find something that might support the continued economic exploitation of this river," councillor Alexa Forbes said during the meeting.

Forbes, alongside fellow councillors Marian Hobbs, Bryan Scott, and Gretchen Robertson signed a letter to David Parker communicating their frustration with the council's inability to carry out its duties, asking him to intervene. Local iwi, Forest & Bird, and Fish & Game all expressed their exasperation. The Central Otago Environmental Society (COES) published a petition to David Parker to sack the ORC, arguing local groups "have now lost faith in the will of Council to implement change, and are calling on the Minister for the Environment to intervene in order to implement a framework for this to happen under the National Policy Statement on Freshwater Management (2020)."

Former chairperson Hobbs announced in the months following the meeting and subsequent fallout that if David Parker didn't replace the ORC with commissioners she would quit anyways. She lasted another two months.

The conflict surrounding the Manuherekia river, and the internal strife within the ORC, is often framed as a difference of priorities. At a low minimum flow limit, the ecology of the river would stay degraded and there would be little life, other than frequent algal blooms. But irrigation reliability would remain, farms could continue as usual, and no one would lose their jobs. At a higher minimum flow limit, irrigation would be much less reliable, and many farmers relying on the river would suffer financially and quite possibly lose their jobs. But the river would become "a productive freshwater ecosystem" with plenty of life, and an important catchment for surrounding ecosystems.

For many years, this debate between prioritising short-term economy or long-term ecology dominated regional councils. In September 2020, however, the government

essentially made the decision for them. The new National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPSFW) came into effect, laying out a number of principles councils must follow when making decisions about freshwater management. Te Mana o Te Wai is the central principle, meaning that the health of the water must be prioritised first, then the health of people, then the social, economic and cultural well-being of communities.

The ORC doesn't have a choice here – they have to follow this policy. This apparent failure to comply with the NPSFW was the main reason behind the petition to replace the ORC, and remains unresolved today. Earlier this year, David Parker announced another investigation into the ORC, which began in May and is currently ongoing.

Of the eleven current councillors, seven are financially involved in an agriculture, forestry, or coal business (either directly, or in a few cases, through a spouse).

Often blamed for internal disputes and obstruction of progress within the council are the widespread conflicts of interest of councillors, something also brought up in the letter from four councillors to David Parker. Critic Te Arohi found that of the eleven current councillors, seven are financially involved in an agriculture, forestry, or coal business (either directly, or in a few cases, through a spouse). Combined, these industries account for around 13% of the GDP of Otago. None of these industries are in the top five industries for employment in the region, but their greatly disproportionate role in regional politics comes as little surprise to anyone familiar with the cultural zeitgeist of rural Otago. The rate of industry representation on the council far outweighs the actual demographics of the people it stands for. And it's critical that those connections are made clear.

Andrew Noone, the councillor voted in to replace Hobbs as chairperson in 2020, is a sheep and beef farmer who is also a partner in a forestry company. Noone is also a shareholder of CP Wool, Silver Fern Farms, and controversial fertiliser company Ravensdown.

Councillor Carmen Hope runs a sheep and beef farm with her husband. Her family members are dairy farmers with water consents from Otago rivers, including her brother-in-law who is part of the Manuherekia water scheme, and minimum flow limits for the river would have major financial impacts for him.

Councillor Hilary Calvert's spouse is the director of a coal company. Public records show that her spouse also directs a water supply company, although Calvert has not declared this as a conflict of interest. There is little information available on what consents this company has and where the water is taken from.

Councillor Gary Kelliher is a sheep farmer and the director of two water supply companies. Kelliher has water permits for the Manuherekia river and thus had a "direct financial interest" in the matter according to the Office of the Auditor General, who ruled that he couldn't be involved in related decisions. Despite this, Otago Fish & Game chief executive Ian Hadland wrote a letter to the Minister for Local Government Nanaia Mahuta and the Department of Internal Affairs at the start of this year detailing "evidence of a continuing conflict of interest by Cr Gary Kelliher" and accusing him of working behind the scenes to influence minimum flow decisions, evidenced through 900 pages of emails. The Office of the Auditor General declined to investigate the matter, saying it was not their jurisdiction, but Fish & Game are adamant that Kelliher "is attempting to work around public interest safeguards and use his position of power as a councillor to influence how water resources may be allocated in future." Kelliher has denied any wrongdoing.

These and more conflicts of interest likely bolstered the perception that council is run by farming interests rather than for the greater good of the region, and that for many councillors, delaying progress by not doing their job is exactly their goal. "It's been the fox looking after the henhouse," says Phil Murray, chairman of COES, the environmental group that created the petition to replace the ORC. "The farming industry has totally dominated the decisions around the allocation of a public resource in favour of a very narrow, small part of the community."

Another key problem in the ORC is communication, which is evidenced in the council's handling of a waste-dumping saga last year. 20 truckloads of contaminated demolition waste was dumped in the Clutha river in March 2021, after an ORC staff member had advised the company it would be allowed. After public outcry, the Environmental Protection Agency gave the council a warning saying "The ORC, through the actions of its employees, is considered to have contravened sections of the Resource Management Act by permitting [the demolition company] to deposit any substance on the bed of the river when not expressly allowed by a national environmental standard".

The hazardous material remained in the river for 95 days while the council tried to figure out what had happened. An independent inquiry into councils handling of the matter was held, and found that the "communication void and absence of transparency that occurred in relation to the Clutha River incident was significant" and "difficult to fathom".

Of particular interest was the relationship between the Chief Executive of the ORC, Sarah Gardner, and the councillors, as it was revealed that it wasn't until July that councillors were told all of the relevant details. The report said that the saga was not simply a mistake, but evidence that the relationship between the CE and councillors was "unwell, if not broken". "Action is needed in relation to communication and transparency. Unfortunately, the problems exposed in July 2021 in relation to the Clutha River incident are not unique."

As recorded in subsequent council meetings, comments about council staff prompted the CE to file a Code of Conduct complaint against councillor Michael Laws. The complaint was not upheld, but the lawyers investigating it found that the Code of Conduct itself was not "up to scratch". "The problem with things like a Code of Conduct is that they are not really looked at until something goes wrong," one of the high-profile lawyers told the ODT.

In May 2022, as the Ministry for the Environment began its second investigation into the ORC, Chief Executive Gardner resigned. A few weeks later, the council adopted a new Code of Conduct, with only Michael Laws voting against it. In the same meeting, councillor Kevin Malcolm was appointed deputy chairperson, after Laws had stepped down in April.

Environmentalists like Phil Murray of COES argue that the interests of the majority of councillors don't align with the interests of the region. Conflicts of interest, and failures in communication and transparency, have been pointed to by the Clutha River incident inquiry and the letter to Minister Parker as reasons for the ORC's troubles.

It is possible that the second investigation by David Parker and the Ministry for the Environment will lead to the Otago Regional Council being replaced by commissioners, but it is certainly not guaranteed. A more likely scenario is that Parker may intervene in some small way, but the future of the council will ultimately be decided by the local elections happening in October this year. Historically, students and working young people have not voted in great numbers in regional council elections, and their representation on these councils has been minimal. Perhaps this is why, despite concerns raised by other councillors about diversity, the chairperson, deputy chairperson, and acting Chief Executive of the ORC are now all older white men.

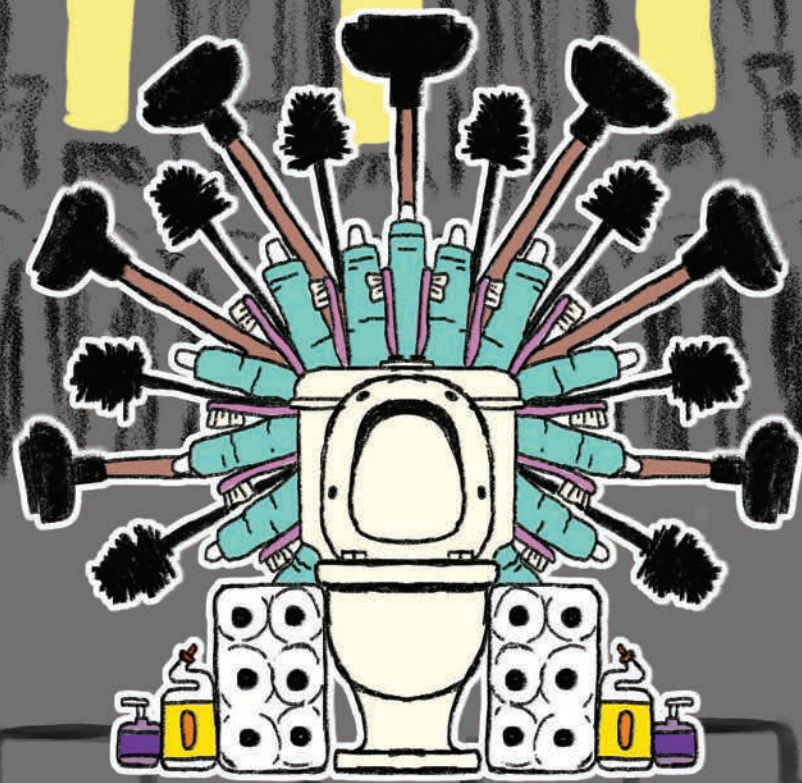
As a first-past-the-post election, a relatively small number of votes could dramatically shift the balance of power in council, leading to a council more representative of young people, one willing to take bold action on decisions about the future. This, however, would require students and young people across the region to care about the Otago Regional Council – a desire seemingly absent from all of them, save for the few people who have managed to read to this point.



TO PEE OR NOT TP:

AN UNHINGED BOG ROLL REVIEW

BY LOTTO RAMSAY



Buying toilet paper is never fun. The options are overwhelming, the strange metrics require 100-level calculus, and it's always somehow a little embarrassing. What if someone sees you buying it and finds out that you shit? Critic Te Arohi decided to face the issue asshole-on, and subject one reporter to bigger embarrassment. You know, for the greater good.

As someone who regularly spends entire weekends on the loo, I figured I'd be perfect for the job. Yet nothing has ever humbled me more. The pace was set right from the start, when my card declined at self checkout with seven packs of toilet paper—and only toilet paper—that I was trying to cram into a small wagon to wheel home. I was hoping I was dressed punk enough that I looked like I was gonna TP someone's house, but I know what everyone in Gardens was thinking: "this bitch *shits*." And shit I did.

I arranged the doomsday prepper's wet dream of loo rolls on my bathroom floor, making sure they were in arm's reach of the throne. It was more than my tiny bathroom could handle. I couldn't tell if this show of toilet paper wealth would scare off unsuspecting guests or get me laid as the apocalyptic asset I am. The day of the experiment came, and I was more than ready—I'd had someone over that night and been too self conscious to take a dump in their vicinity, and my bowels were furious about it. I'll spare you the details, but my hot girl IBS and general lifestyle choices ensured that this was a thorough test, one involving many fluids throughout the weekend, and also regrets.

As well as the, uh, more practical applications, I tested somewhat more scientifically by wiping three sheets of each on a damp sponge, to eyeball absorbency as well as how much they peel. The three sheets were folded and then scrunched, to appease all parties, and then received three wipes across the surface of a saturated kitchen sponge. I have no reason for choosing threes, but it's Biblical, I guess. No one likes those little dregs of piled-up TP up in their crotch, especially those with vulvas who use more TP anyway, and I usually spend more to avoid this. Maybe it's just me, or maybe you have lint in your dryer too, if you know what I mean.

While most of the brands tested are owned by the same corporation, there were marked differences. Critic has previously covered the allegations against CottonSoft, which produces Value, KiwiSoft, Paseo, Pam's and EarthSmart, as well as CottonSoft toilet tissues. This was six of the seven brands tested, which all varied wildly in quality, begging the question: Do they just want to watch us suffer?

VALUE



First impression: Bleak. Demoralising. Like spending forty days in a completely white room, and emerging a changed man. Your loved ones won't recognise you.

Performance: Absolutely cooked. This toilet paper was so thin I swear you could make rice paper rolls out of it. If toilet paper is usually made from wood pulp, this shit was made from the drywall crumbs on your flat carpet. No substance whatsoever, like the radical centrist of loo roll. I went to damp sponge test it, but the humidity in the air made it decompose into soggy rags before it even hit the surface. I accidentally breathed in its direction, and it got so wet that Ben Shapiro emerged and debated its existence.

Takeaway: Not to be used if you Value yourself

Price Per Ply* (PPP): 0.1104

*Price per ply was calculated by dividing the price of each roll by the number of sheets in each roll, and then further dividing by the ply (2 or 3) and is in cents, not dollars.

COTTON SOFT



First impression: Though the embossed cloud design is a nice touch, the promise of “cotton soft” takes a lot of nerve. I do not appreciate it in the slightest.

Performance: If you were to forget whether this TP is two or three ply, don't worry—it reminds you! It basically shatters on impact, splitting into two wafer-thin sheets that float mournfully onto the ground. In the distance, a child shrieks. In the damp sponge test, it disintegrated entirely by wipe number three. I wanted to cry, or maybe call the cops.

Takeaway: Kill on sight, unless you like breaking through and fingering your buttohole mid-wipe. If you do, then... I don't know. You do you, dude.

PPP: 0.1573

KIWISOFT



First impression: This goliath of a bulk pack became what I rested my feet on while straining to review the others. When I put weight on it, a high-pitched scream burst out through the plastic wrap. I screamed back in response. The kiwi on the logo has cold, dead eyes that see all. Chilling.

Performance: Honest to god feels like the napkins Bunnings snags come in, right down to the trypophobia-triggering texture. Super scratchy. In the damp sponge test, it was already disintegrating on the first wipe, and by the third my fingers had made full, intimate contact with the sponge. Not amused.

Takeaway: The name KiwiSoft is either a cruel joke or a cutting commentary on the state of toxic masculinity in New Zealand, because it most certainly is not soft. It's also barely even Kiwi.

PPP: 0.0986

PUREX



Impression: I don't know if it's because they're produced by a different company, but they have a markedly different appearance and feel. The texture is more like crepe paper, and the pattern on them is slightly unsettling, almost like a paisley print, which you can definitely feel.

Performance: I wanted to like Purex as the underdog of the group and the last bastion of hope in the face of megacorporations, I really did. It was soft, but weaker to use both practically and when tested, completely dissolving on the second wipe of the sponge. My notes from the test say “I will kill the squashy dog with my legs.”

Takeaway: Great if you like sticking it to the man, even better if you like sticking your fingers up your own colon – 'cause it will happen.

PPP: 0.134

PAM'S



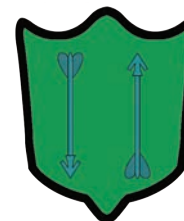
First impression: Being a classy female lady, I opted for the botanical print to match my classy female lady lavatory. I thought it was just an attempt at aesthetics, but really it's tactical camouflage; the people that use this absolute unit of a loo roll are the sort of people who shit in the woods. You know, lumberjacks, trampers, kids who think they're bears. Those sorts of folk.

Performance: In my phone notes (recorded mid-shit for real, on-the-ground journalism) I simply had “feels like a thick wool blanket”, and I stand by it. Like, not necessarily a soft one, but imagine, if you will, the plush coarseness and frightening density of a decorative throw pillow against your anus. It does the job, and it does it well, but do you really want it to?

Takeaway: Cost-effective, utilitarian, reliable. I respect it, and will definitely purchase again, yet it scares me.

PPP: 0.1291

EARTH SMART



Impression: Kinda seems like a tactical greenwashing branding decision, especially compared with the similarly styled Earth Care brand that's also on shelves. However Earth Care, unlike EarthSmart, is not owned by a corporation that contributed to deforestation in Sumatran rainforests.

Performance: Soft, which you would hope for at the price, but tears kind of awkwardly and sometimes the layers come apart. In the damp sponge test, EarthSmart survived three light wipes, but left large amounts of clumps after the first one, like paper shredder confetti.

Takeaway: Mid. Soft and semi-durable, but leaves more residue than I would want, which is none. Not to mention suspiciously marketed.

PPP: 0.1618

PASEO



Impression: Opulence. Bougie as fuck. Stylish yet understated embossed leaf pattern. If this toilet paper was a person, she would trail me around department stores and accuse me of shoplifting.

Performance: The softest thing that will ever be near your crotch, aside from a breatha with whiskeydick, I guess. My notes say that they're cum proof. Take that as you will. Miraculously, it leaves no paper residue whatsoever, and passes three wipes on the sponge with flying colours. Out of curiosity, it took six vicious wipes to break through, and at that point you should just invest in a bidet. But buy a pack of these, too, just for decor reasons.

Takeaway: This TP receives a sitting ovation. I'm naming my firstborn child Paseo. Like, 'Seo for short could be cute, right?

PPP: 0.1526



How Reo Changes with Region

Nā Skyla o Ngāti Hine, Te Rarawa

Whether you’re from Dunedin or just here for the moment, you’re likely to have encountered the dialect of the Kāi Tahu iwi here in Ōtepoti. And while the mita is distinctly different from other unique dialects, its history tells a similar story of colonial invasion, subjugation, and repression. Kāi Tahu suffered a massive loss of spoken reo Māori. The smaller population here saw colonialism erode spoken Māori within whānau at a faster rate than it did in the North. Critic Te Ārohi spoke with local student Ōriwa of Kāi Tahu and Kāti Huirapa, who recognises the loss of both te reo Māori and Kāi Tahu reo within their whānau. “Reclaiming my identity is using the mita of my ancestors,” they said.

Ōriwa shares a firm, grounded connection to Kāi Tahu, and emphasises whakapapa to Kāi Tahu rather than Ngāi Tahu. “For me, it’s so important to make it clear that I don’t identify as Ngāi Tahu - it disrespects me, my identity, and who I whakapapa to.” A proud descendant of the South, Ōriwa also claims heritage to Kāti Huirapa ki Puketeraki, a half-hour drive from central Dunedin. “As Kāti Huirapa, we encourage the mita and actively use it.” When you consider the difficulties faced in reacquiring what was once considered a “dying language,” it is understandable how deeply Kāi Tahu and Kāti Huirapa have nurtured the Kāi Tahu reo.

Regarding the importance of upholding the dialect, Ōriwa described sometimes feeling whakamā, too shy to speak on reo-related matters: “People do challenge me sometimes, but I make sure to tell them that I also whakapapa to Waitaha and Kāti Māmoe - we’ve been here forever.” When asked about what high schools here in Dunedin learn regarding Māori history, Ōriwa said that “It was unheard of to learn much about ourselves as Kāi Tahu. We learn about the Treaty of Waitangi and the Kīngitanga, but not much of and about ourselves. That representation just isn’t there.”

A large element of te reo Māori is the role that mita, or dialect, portrays in iwi differences. Each iwi or takiwā has its own distinct approach to spoken reo. Often quite subjective, the use of dialect has been challenged and questioned within several areas, especially today. The differences in the mita are reminiscent of the origins of each iwi or takiwā, however, iwi across the motu have more similarities rather than differences. These differences are what make each iwi inherently unique. Even within iwi, there are differences in the mita. Some identify with the title of Kāi Tahu, others with the title of Ngāi Tahu; some speak with a recognisable mita, others do not.

For example, the dialect in the Manawatū-Whanganui area is known for the absence of the pronounced letter H in many words, the most popular being “Whanganui”. In written form, the “H” is maintained and not pronounced when spoken. You can hear this in

words such as whānau, pronounced as “wānau”. On the other hand, Ngāpuhi and several other iwi from the Far North are renowned for their quick-spoken reo, and the absence of the letter W in the prefix of “whaka-”. Whakapai, meaning to clean or tidy up, is said as “hakapai”, or whakarerekē, to change or alter, is pronounced as “hakarerekē”.

Iwi across the East Coast such as Ngāti Porou are known to favour the letter A in the pronouns mātau and tātau, which other iwi pronounce as “mātou” and “tātou”. This preference is also shared with the nearby iwi, Nāi Tūhoe. A common feature in the spoken reo of Tūhoe is the tendency to drop the digraph of “Ng” in words such as ngā tāngata which become “nā tānata”. You’re also likely to hear the phrase “Kei te pai” pronounced as “Kai te pai”.

Iwi across Te Waipounamu, the South Island, also drop the “Ng-” digraph for a K. This can be heard in words such as kāinga and tāngata becoming “kāika” and “tākata”. The Kāi Tahu reo or mita also utilises mātau and tātau, as well as kai and hai, features shared with several iwi along the East Coast of Te-Ika-a-Māui, the North Island. These similarities are due to the undeniable whakapapa links that Kāi Tahu shares with Eastern iwi. But the reo of Kāi Tahu thrives in its own right.

When asked about hopes or expectations for the Kāi Tahu reo, Ōriwa expressed interest in pushing the University to embrace the Kāi Tahu dialect in papers such as ‘Ngāi Tahu Society’. “There should be a portion that focuses on the mita as equally as the history. In the future, I’d like to see the dialect encouraged and normalised in all areas.” Ōriwa emphasised the importance of making sure to whakamana the work that Kāi Tahu have put into helping whānau become matatau i te reo, which “should be reflected at an academic level”.

Ōriwa challenged Critic Te Ārohi on the use of the name Te Ārohi: “What are you gonna do to keep the momentum going? This is Kāi Tahu land, embrace the dialect.” It’s certainly worth the effort; although te reo Māori wasn’t quite erased, the absence of te reo speaks volumes.

“One thing is for sure - you can learn all the tikanga, stories and history, but you won’t understand any of it until you acquire the reo. Te reo Māori is central to all things Māori. It is the core of our culture regardless of iwi. That doesn’t change.”

So, taura mā, how can Critic Te Ārohi live up to its Māori counterpart, Te Ārohi? Let us know at kaituhi@critic.co.nz

Kāi Tahu land, Kāi Tahu reo.

AOTEAROA'S POLITICIANS IF THEY WERE YOUR FLATMATES

By Annabelle Parata Vaughan

Despite what they do now, many of Aotearoa’s politicians come from humble backgrounds, including being former Otago University students. Much like you and I, they were once flatting in cold houses, cooking shit meals, and bickering over power bills. Here, presented to you, are Aoteaora’s politicians measured by how they’d be as a flatmate.



DAVID SEYMOUR

ACT leader David Seymour would definitely be the devil’s advocate of the flat. As an economics and politics major, he’d also be the one to start drunken debates and arguments at parties because he literally just can’t help himself. You would have to watch him painfully flirt by mansplaining the stock market, and he would talk a lot about his humble beginnings while he buys the boys a round using his trust fund. He’d be sure to voice his opinion on every single thing possible – from the guy you root to how long the heat pump can be on for. Because David is a “libertarian,” he wouldn’t share anything. He’d have a separate fridge shelf for his tomato sauce and blue top milk, because it’s every man for himself when it comes to flatting, and he isn’t into shared cooking because of his gluten intolerance. He’s the one who looks down upon you for drinking instant coffee, because that shit’s for peasants. David also would track the wattage of your electric blanket, so he can divide the power bill up by the cent, because anything other than that is just straight fucking socialism. He would, however, be an excellent pong partner, and always keen for a pub quiz, where his talents can really shine.



CHLÖE SWARBRICK

Chlöe Swarbrick would be the flatmate that everybody loves. Your friends love her, your parents love her, and you’re definitely going to have a flatmate who’s got major feels for her. However, you would find yourself exploring some pretty existential topics when it comes to flat dinner chats. Chlöe would be doing a B.A., probably in English or Sociology. She’s the flatmate that will drag you out to cool gigs at Dive when you’ve had your heart broken by a breatha, or will make you a cup of tea while unpacking your deep-seated emotional issues. The one who strictly drinks red wine on a night out, and will square up to seedy men, or argue with rich white fuckboys on the piss. However, flatting with Chlöe also means flatting with all of Chlöe’s mates, as she will frequently have them over for debates and meetings in the lounge. You can’t really argue with this, though, because while they may be loud and run late into the evenings, they’re about trying to fix the student poverty crisis.



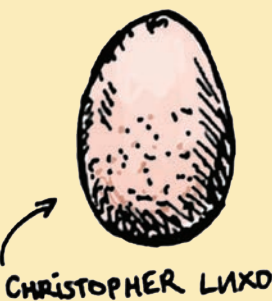
JACINDA ARDERN

Jacinda Ardern would be your type-A flatmate, who very much embodies the ‘flat mum’ stereotype. She doesn’t drink, but will be ready to hold your hair back at any moment when you need to tacky. She leaves the kitchen spotless, and always cooks double the portions for flat meals, even if it goes over the budget. She’s a serious and innocent soul who doesn’t partake in the student shenanigans, but would much rather watch from afar, living vicariously through the turmoil. Jacinda has a quiet, long-term boyfriend, so doesn’t really relate to hookup culture, and is often horrified by the stories she hears at dusty Sunday brunch. However, Jacinda is slightly uptight. She would definitely send clear, concise paragraphs about noise and disruption into the flat chat, or would leave a passive aggressive sticky note on the bathroom door because it’s YOUR turn to buy the toilet paper. Although caring, Jacinda can sometimes be a bit intense, and doesn’t really loosen up when it comes to keeping the flat spick and span.



JUDITH COLLINS

By June, you’ll be advertising Judith’s room on Otago Flatting Goods. Judith Collins would be the worst fucking flatmate you could ever imagine; aggressive, confrontational and judgmental. Because she has a problem with any kind of authority that’s not her, flat rules don’t apply to Judith. So what if she’s left her dirty dishes around the house? So what if she’s too loud in bed? Doesn’t matter, all you other flatties can just suck it up. Some might argue Judith is just misunderstood or doesn’t gel well with youth culture, but this isn’t true. She just never learned how to compromise, so it’s always her way or the highway. However, with that being said, Judith would be a good flatmate when it comes to hosting. She’d kick anyone out who caused the slightest inconvenience, often without hesitation. She’d also be great at stealing drinks and stashing them away in the flat cupboard for later.



CHRIS LUXON

If you lived with Chris Luxon, you’d constantly be reminded of what an unholy soul you are. Chris would study a culty combo like religion and education. Although he’d be clean and cook a good Sunday roast for the flat, not a day would go by where he didn’t make some passive-aggressive comment about your drunken debauchery and bad habits. Flatting with Luxon means no weed in the flat, and he and his girlfriend would love to tell you about how they’re waiting until marriage (however, you’ve heard otherwise). He is tolerable but also slightly nauseating. He always likes to dodge the hard questions, especially when he’s accused of a fuck-up. No, Chris didn’t forget to take the recycling out! Of course not. No, Chris didn’t steal your last tea bag – how could he? Works fine for him, since he can just repent for these lies at church on Sunday. However, Chris does redeem himself slightly, as he’d make a great designated sober driver.



GRANT ROBERTSON

No matter where you sit on the political spectrum, you can’t deny that Grant Robertson would be a great flattie. Humble, honest and here for a good time, G Robbo is one of the best blokes you could have around. Because he studies sports management and commerce, he’s always up for anything, because he’s not really doing anything else anyways. A rugby game, a trip to the Baaa Bar, a red card; you name it, Grant’s in on it. Although he may splurge a little when it comes to drinks and going out, it’s all in good fun. Grant admits when he’s been a dick, and is always straight up. Those glass bottles he forgot to clean up? He’s relentlessly apologising. Accidentally used your toothbrush when he blacked out? He’ll replace it, no questions asked. Did you forget to pick up the milk? Don’t worry, Grant will get it. He’d pick you up from Tinder dates, and follow them up with a KFC and debrief sesh. No matter what, Grant is always there for the flat.



MICHAEL WOODHOUSE

If Michael Woodhouse was your flatmate, he’d be the one to worry about on a night out. You’ll find Michael shot gunning Long Whites, pushing past people at gigs and shouting about the fact he’s a law student. However, he will inevitably pass out somewhere weird, because his small frame can only handle so much alcohol. Despite how shitty and rundown your flat is, Michael never gives the landlord a hard time for it, because the landlord is his dad, who actually is a “really hard worker”. His go-to flat meal is a fairly average spag bol, and by go-to, I mean every single week. He’s from Dunedin, and takes his laundry home every week so his mum can do it. Michael also loves to use and abuse the heat pump and dryer, but swears the expensive power bill isn’t his fault, instead it’s “because of inflation bro”. Sure, he’d be alright in an all-boys flat filled with people exactly like him, but that’s kinda the problem.



WHICH DUNEDIN-FILMED MOVIE SHOULD YOU WATCH?

Not sure what it is about broken glass and burning vistas that attract film crews, but people sometimes decide to shoot their movie here. And that's... certainly a decision they can make. While Wellington might be the film capital of the country, Dunedin has had its fair share of moments in the limelight – especially in recent years. If you're wanting to see the city and campus surrounding you re-contextualised around marriage, murder, or other movie mayhem, you may find yourself struggling to choose exactly which film shot in Dunedin you should watch next. Answer the questions below and we'll tell you.

1. IT'S MIDNIGHT AND EVERYWHERE ELSE IS CLOSED, WHERE ARE YOU AND YOUR MATE EATING?

- a. Macca's
- b. Night'n'Day
- c. The servo
- d. Food from the pub
- e. Kebabs

2. YOUR MATES ALREADY DECIDED ON MACCA'S, BUT YOU'VE ONLY GOT ENOUGH MONEY FOR ONE THING. WHAT ARE YOU PICKING?

- a. Big Mac
- b. Large milkshake
- c. 6 pack of nuggets
- d. Large fries
- e. McSpicy

3. PICK A HOUSE TO LIVE IN

- a. Castle
- b. Ranch
- c. Sorority house
- d. Cabin in the woods
- e. Dingy abandoned flat

5. PICK A WEB BROWSER GAME

- a. Wordle
- b. The Wiki Game
- c. Slither.io
- d. Geoguessr
- e. The Dinosaur Game (on Google Chrome)

7. WHICH KITCHEN APPLIANCE CAN'T YOU LIVE WITHOUT?

- a. Waffle maker
- b. Sodastream
- c. Rice cooker
- d. Air fryer
- e. Toaster

4. WHAT'S HIDDEN IN YOUR WALLS?

- a. Last year's tenants that couldn't find a new flat
- b. Family of possums
- c. Ghosts
- d. Black mould
- e. Copious amounts of weed

6. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT CRYPTO?

- a. Neutral
- b. Not a fan
- c. I think it's cool
- d. I lost 70k to a monkey drawing and another 100k investing in CriticCoin. Please help me
- e. I think it's stupid and harmful

MOSTLY A'S: THE ROYAL TREATMENT (2022)

Basic, forgettable and predictable, this Netflix rom-com was inexplicably popular when it came out at the start of this year. Maybe you'll be one of the many who, for some reason, chose to watch it for fun. Maybe you'll watch it because your friend was an extra, and you're proud of them because they're great. Or maybe you'll watch it because you're too tired to scroll past the homepage on Netflix and need something now. Whatever your reason, you'll find this film basic but lovable, like a waffle maker, and you'll recognise a range of local scenes filling in for the fictional land of Lavania.

MOSTLY B'S: POWER OF THE DOG (2021)

This Oscar-winner is a wild and oftentimes painful ride through the West following rancher Phil Burbank, played by Benedict Cumberbatch. If you're watching this you probably think you're better than the people watching The Royal Treatment, but not every movie has to make you think, film nerd. Most of the film was filmed across Central Otago, but a key scene was very noticeably filmed at the Dunedin Railway Station, so it counts.

MOSTLY C'S: BLACK CHRISTMAS (2019)

The second remake of a 1974 slasher film about a serial killer targeting a group of sorority sisters, because I guess they didn't do it right the first time. The Uni campus is transformed into 'Hawthorn College', and while it's a pretty terrible movie, it's cool to watch the actor who played Wesley in the Princess Bride play a lecturer teaching in Quad 4.

MOSTLY D'S: X-MEN ORIGINS: WOLVERINE (2008)

One of the worst films to come out of the DC franchise, this 2008 movie had students spotting Hugh Jackman and other stars wandering around the city where they were staying. A key scene was filmed out in Burnside. That's about as far as we can go in terms of praise.

MOSTLY E'S: SCARIES (1999)

A bit of a cult classic, this dark comedy saw a young Taika Waititi on screen for the first time. The raucous and chaotic movie is both filmed and set in Dunedin, and features flatting, weed, rugby, and murder. It's surprisingly relatable until it very suddenly is not.

Immersing Myself in Dunedin's Hidden Poetry Scene

By Hugh Askerud

What is possibly the most anti-Dunedin thing to ever exist in Dunedin? Poetry. While the shades of autumn may give rise to some compelling imagery, there really isn't that much in the way of beautiful land or people to show off, or at least not in the sunless boglands of North D. Dunedin is also staunchly a muso's town, making it seemingly harder for poets to get a word in edgeways.

Yet Dunedin's collection of older poets are a group to be proud of, perfectly embracing some of the core values of our vibrant microculture. Instead of painting picturesque pictures of people prancing playfully, Dunedin poetry is characterised by a blunt free verse which gives life to the harsh subtleties of this city. While this 'no casualties taken' approach may be a bit much for some (RIP my innocence), you've gotta appreciate the fresh light our beatnik poets are shining on the city we all know and tolerate.

Stumbling around the Dunedin Public Library with fiery intent, I decided to uncover some of the poetic gems that could be found within the shelves. On my journey I also came to realise that the library, which I had ignored for most of my life, actually slaps ridiculously hard. The friendly staff and cosy vibe of the place made me feel as if I was on some grand literary journey like the authors of old, despite spending half the time distracted by books with titles such as 'Moonwalking with Einstein' and 'Combating Cult Mind Control'. Eventually I got around to reading some poetry, and a key dichotomy struck me—between the poets who employed a free verse, beatnik style—and the poets whose writing worshipped Keats and Milton (to all the Johns out there: slay). Obviously these poets didn't just all write in the exact same style, but there were some clear enough preferences to roughly categorise them into two groups.

On my literary expedition I first stopped at the doors of the King and Queen of

Dunedin poetry, these being James K Baxter and Janet Frame. While Baxter is a legend who rightly deserves the immortality only time can bestow, he does at one point suggest that Otago University is basically devoid of culture. According to him, "If there is any culture here it comes from the black south wind." Slanderous comments! He clearly lived before the age of your flatmate's excellent performances on the decks in the middle of a Tuesday. Baxter falls firmly into the eccentric Beatnik category, although there are traces of the Romantic in some poems (sly dog).

One shelf down sat the small collection of Frame's poetry, which seemed marginal compared to Baxter's huge chunk of poems. Frame definitely digs deep on the personification within her poetry, creating a Disney-esque reality full of magical talking chairs who unfortunately only talk about stuff like looming mortality and corpses. Frame's poetry falls into the free verse beatnik category but with much more of a subtle impact; she leaves you in quiet turmoil.

Turning the corner to the whole other section of poetry shelves in the library, I found many of the B-siders of the Dunedin poetry scene. You can also find the works of the great Hone Tūwhare, who we can't really count as our own because he spent much of his time in the Catlins. There's a reason 'Rain' is his most famous poem. Nonetheless, I managed to grab armfuls of poetry collections from other Dunedin poets. One such character was Peter Olds, a long-time resident of Dunedin and committed to the brutal lifestyle evident in his poetry. Peter spoke to the grungy black heart of the town when he wrote, "Fumes belch up Andy Bay Road, who would live here? You can walk to St Clair Beach, swim for nothing in shit DCC pumps daily into the sea." Peter's rather bleak approach to city life was explained when he said, "it's only because I'm bored and can't get sex". Fair enough lad, we've all been

there. Peter committed himself, troll-like, to living under the Dundas Street Bridge for a period, only coming up to badger students, reminding them of their duty to this great city. Definitely falls in with the beatnik lot and is arguably their champion.

Across and down a wee way I found Sue Wooton who gave me Port Chalmers hipster vibes from the outset. Along with the traditional landscapes there was a lot of poignant stuff in her collections, although a lot of it went right through me. This is definitely the shit-hot poetry which makes you want to walk around kissing trees and singing about how wonderful life is. Wooton falls into the romantic category only narrowly, as her poetry is really only her own.

Denis Glover was right at the top of the shelf with only a few collections to his name, yet his importance goes beyond his poetry. Glover established the Caxton press which allowed other poets such as Frame to have their time in the limelight. One surprising aspect about Glover's poetry was the fact that it actually tended to rhyme. While Baxter had a go at it, there were a ridiculous amount of Baxter poems I surveyed which had no rhyme and just enough words to make you think "shit, that's deep aye." Glover definitely worshipped the Johns of yesteryear, which explained his ability to sling together rhymes like nobody's business.

After a good read, I left the library feeling whimsical and thoroughly indebted to the joys of the Dunedin Library. However, I soon began to worry that my own student lifestyle, trapped in the institutions of Uni, would render me incapable of producing such art. So I've decided to become an ascetic, living only in the forests outside of the city's fringes (the Botans), talking to and subsequently eating friendly animals, and staring into the Leith for inspiration. Perhaps one day I, too, will create something to rival the Dunedin poets of generations past.

THE EDMOND BROTHERS

LOCAL PRODUCE
By Jamiema Lorimer



By the time you're reading this, Edmond Brothers will have released their latest track 'Waiting For A Sunday' and will be gearing up for their Thursday night gig at U-Bar. Critic caught up with the literal bros on their new music, and on sussing your Thursday night plans.

The Edmond Brothers are Reid and Dom Edmond. Both the brothers grew up playing music, but it wasn't until the first 2020 lockdown that they started making music together. Youngest brother Dom, a second year biomed and music student, had the idea to sing a song together every day to tide them through our collective isolation. They covered fifty songs, uploading their daily session to Facebook each day, keeping them connected with their mates and family. This provided the run-up to them writing their own material. Reid, who recently wrapped up his commerce studies, shared "we complement each other really well in terms of song writing. Dom's a fiend on the guitar and comes up with the licks and the chords. Then we both sit down, write the melody together, and then often I'll do most of the lyrics." They found that being siblings allows them to communicate as honestly as possible in their creative process, even when that means dishing out harder criticism. "You don't butter it up," says Dom. "You say 'no that sucks, be better' or 'you're flat' but you don't take it to heart."

So far, the pair have played some iconic gigs. Last year, as a duo, they played the infamous Sign Up Club shindig at The Maharajas. They recently expanded to a full band, with Logan Edwards and Cam Macfarlane on drums and bass respectively, just in time to

open for staple Kiwi rockers, The Feelers, at Dunedin Town Hall last month. "It's really set the benchmark for us," Reid beams. "We want to at least get back to that." Although they're fresh from such a high-profile gig, the Edmond Brothers, dropping big hints here, are very keen to bring their set to a flat party near you. The high energy of student crowds, plus the shared lived experiences between the creatives and their fellow students, seem to be the perfect match to keep up their momentum.

The pair have a great appreciation for Dunedin's student culture, an inspiration to them, and even the subject of their song 'Love This Place.' Reid describes the tune as an ode to the student lifestyle. "The whole track's about what Dunedin encapsulates as a city... Young people having fun, not wanting to grow up, [and] pushing boundaries." Their gig this week is set to celebrate this release. With Ollie Crooks, Sun Veins and Idyllic also on the line up and no charge on the door, this Thursday is set to be banger. As a wee bonus in the lead up, the Edmond Brothers also just dropped 'Waiting For A Sunday.' A longing ballad, it's Dom's favourite of their material so far. Their releases are available to stream on Spotify.

One question looms over all brothers-in-music-together projects: do you live in constant fear that one day you'll have an Oasis moment? "You're the first person to bring it up to be honest..." Reid laughs. "I can never see us hating each other ever," he paused, "more than we already do now." "Obviously," agreed Dom. "We're too laid back."

OTAGO
MUSEUM

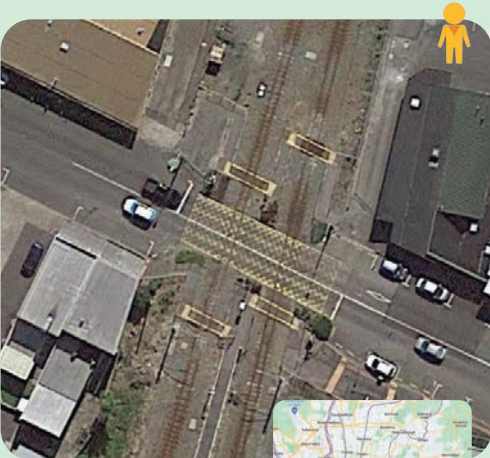
More than a Museum.
Free galleries, free events, great coffee.

≡

MR. WORLDWIDE

This week, we have an image supplied by "A". We nailed last week's submission; Jeff was at the Three Sixty bar at the Hilton, St. Louis, Missouri.

First thoughts: Looks like Aotearoa to me. I can see a railway crossing in the back, too. So it's probably a decently-sized town or city.



I'm gonna just go straight to google maps and look at all the railway crossings in major NZ cities, starting with the North Island. I don't want to start with Auckland because it's so large, but I'm going to do it anyway. I'm looking for a pharmacy to pop up and, of course, Pizzahub. Fortunately for me, it looks like this railway is orthogonal to the road, so I only have to look at right angle crossings, and only those without an overpass. Time to use the satellite map.

Didn't see a crossing with these requirements on the red, blue, green or yellow lines in Auckland. The fact that someone was out at night when they took this photo also makes me think it might be somewhere more centrally-located, but I'm sure there's at least a dozen people out there who know exactly where this is from memory. Time to head to Wellington, specifically Upper and Lower Hutt.

Nothing en route to Masterton, but these small towns have me thinking that this might be more rural than I imagined. In the cities, the line is usually passed over by bridges, and the only consistent places to find crossings like this have been small towns. The street patterns in Porirua match this image pretty nicely, and I feel like I'm getting close. I won't call it yet, though, because I'm known for having trouble with premature exuberation. And... nothing. Nothing by any city or town in NZ with a rail line this small that moves through a small town. That means the worst has been realised: this is international. Fuck.

I guess our next best bet is Aus. Streets, etc look the same, so we're going with Aus. I'm gonna start with Melbourne. Oh my God, it's so much bigger than New Zealand. This is going to take forever. I've traced the pink and light blue lines from southeast to the centre city, and it genuinely took an hour. I'm going to the whole city's transit lines for crossings and then call it quits. This one is too hard, and it might not even be in Aus.

Well, by the grace of God, I think we've got it. This'll take a bit of explaining. After finishing all the major lines, I decided to do one more line, the blue line, headed south from where it meets the light blue and pink. I was looking only for intersections with that distinctive crosshatch pattern, and found one. When I went to street view, I saw no sign of Pizzahub, but I did notice that everything else lined up perfectly. I guess they've closed, which means even if I'd wanted to google it, it wouldn't have worked.

Final answer: Standing outside the business formerly known as Pizzahub, on Greville Street in Prahran, Melbourne. This genuinely took about five hours, and if it weren't for the extraordinarily lucky decision to start in Melbourne, I would've conceded.

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.

HOROSCOPES



AQUARIUS Jan 20 – Feb 18
NO, don't order that UberEats! Get the fuck up and do your grocery shopping. And buy some kiwifruit while you're there. When was the last time you took a shit that wasn't pebbles?

Tip to cure your seasonal depression: Make the flat a Sunday roast.



PISCES Feb 19 – Mar 20
You're initiating the tough conversations, and it's going to work out in your favour. Keep speaking your truth, and fuck how they feel.

Tip to cure your seasonal depression: Go out on a friendship date with someone who makes you feel empowered.



ARIES Mar 21 – Apr 19
If serial monogamy was a competition, you'd be the winner. You can't detach while they're in your bed, babes. Learn how to be alone, but not lonely.

Tip to cure your seasonal depression: Get in your favourite set of pyjamas, light your candles and park up with a good book.



TAURUS Apr 20 – May 20
Drive yourself out to the beach and spend some time with yourself. Watch the waves and listen to sad music while you ponder your measly existence. I'm not sure if it'll help, but it's better than wasting away in your freezing cold bedroom.

Tip to cure your seasonal depression: Turn on all the heaters in your bedroom and pretend you're on vacation.



GEMINI May 21 – Jun 20
If they're jealous, it's because they're projecting. Don't take it personally, and don't waste your energy fighting back. They'll never be you, babes.

Tip to cure your seasonal depression: Affirmations in the mirror.



CANCER Jun 21 – Jul 22
Stop talking to your ex. That shit's weird. Isn't it time to move on?

Tip to cure your seasonal depression: Meditate.



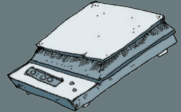
LEO Jul 23 – Aug 22
What's with the confrontation recently? It's not what you say, it's how you say it.

Tip to cure your seasonal depression: Call your parents.



VIRGO Aug 23 – Sep 22
Respect changing relationships. Adult friendships are hard, and sometimes it's just not worth clinging on. You're not the bad guy for having boundaries.

Tip to cure your seasonal depression: Go to the ice hockey with your flatmates.



LIBRA Sep 23 – Oct 22
You know what, Libra? You SHOULD post that thirst trap. You SHOULD overshare online. You SHOULD organise that coffee date. Who cares! Your self-awareness will be your downfall if you let it.

Tip to cure your seasonal depression: Focus on your hobbies.



SCORPIO Oct 23 – Nov 21
Weird dreams recently? That's cool. But stop messaging your friends about them in the morning. I promise, they don't care.

Tip to cure your seasonal depression: Buy some magnesium and take it before bed.



SAGITTARIUS Nov 22 – Dec 21
You're hiding yourself away, Sag. The only way to alleviate that social anxiety is to face it head-on. Allow yourself to experience something new.

Tip to cure your seasonal depression: Make mulled wine.



CAPRICORN Dec 22 – Jan 19
You're a light in everyone's life, but don't burn yourself out! We need you on top of your game, you little life of the party, you.

Tip to cure your seasonal depression: Take a mental health day or two.



BY ROSIE JOYCE @SKUXXFOOD



PUMPKIN,
SPINACH &
CHICKPEA
CURRY

I'm sorry for neglecting the vegans for so long: make this meal 100% animal friendly by swapping the butter for oil, the cream for coconut cream and using vegetable stock.

INGREDIENTS

1/3 of a pumpkin, cut into 3cm cubes	1 teaspoon of chilli flakes
Salt and pepper	1 teaspoon of turmeric
25 grams butter	3 tomatoes, diced OR 1 can of whole tomatoes, drained
1 onion, diced	1 cup of chicken or vegetable stock
4 cloves of garlic, minced	300mls of cream
1 thumb of ginger, finely grated	1 can of chickpeas, drained and rinsed
2 tablespoons of tomato paste	2 teaspoons of garam masala
2 teaspoon of hot curry powder	1 bag of fresh spinach OR 700 grams frozen spinach, thawed
2 teaspoons of ground cumin	

METHOD

1. Preheat the oven to 180°C. Place pumpkin pieces onto a baking tray, season with salt and pepper and drizzle with olive oil. Mix together and place into the oven for 20-25 mins or until it starts to become soft. Set aside.
2. In a large pan/pot over a medium/high heat, add butter. Once melted, add onion, garlic and ginger. Sauté for 5-7 minutes or until soft. Add tomato paste and fry for another 2-3 minutes. Add curry powder, cumin, chilli and turmeric and fry for a further 3-4 minutes.
3. To the pan/pot, add tomatoes and break down with a wooden spoon. Then add stock and cream and mix well. Add in chickpeas, roasted pumpkin and garam masala and cook for 10 minutes, stirring occasionally.
4. Add spinach and cook until wilted. Serve with rice and optional: naan, greek yoghurt and coriander.

BOOZE REVIEW:

MAJOR MAJOR

Blended Kentucky Bourbon
Lemon & Lime

BY CHUG NORRIS

Let's be honest, it really doesn't take a lot of effort to make people buy alcohol in NZ. Major Major's Blended Kentucky Bourbon drink is not a particularly innovative move by Asahi. They've just bought a bottle of bourbon and watered it down with some lemon soda. But sometimes the best things in life are achieved with the lowest amount of effort. Like a C- or a handjob.

For those that have not been permanently put off the taste of bourbon by forced binge drinking rituals involving William Maverick, these are a good option. But there is an initial learning curve in the first few sips. Drinking bourbon will naturally put your bodily defences up. Your back will arch, your pupils will contract as your body instinctively prepares for a brutal session of binge drinking. But, once you take a few deep breaths and realise that your system is not about to be assaulted by a coffin of bourbon and cola, you can really start to enjoy yourself.

What Major Major has essentially done is rip off Jameson's Whiskey and Dry Lime. A smart move, because the Jameson drinks were shockingly overpriced despite having a pretty unique combination of flavours, and tasting good. Lime and Bourbons achieve a similar flavour but at a much more realistic price-point.

The flavour is simple and refreshing. It combines the mischievous bourbon tang of a Cody's and the thirst-quenching citrus twist of an African Elephant to beautiful effect. They are lemony, but not to the point of tasting like dishwashing detergent. Also, unlike bourbon and colas, Kentucky Bourbons do not contain sickening amounts of sugar. You can spill one without immediately getting ants.

Kentucky Bourbons have yet to go to market, but it is very likely they will be sold at the same price as all other Major Majors, at 25 dollars a box. This would put them at 1.56 dollars per standard. Par for the course for RTDs.

Major Major Blended Kentucky Bourbon is a drink that nobody asked for. Much like Major Major itself, the flavour was created as an artificial money-grab from a soulless corporation. But even a broken clock is right twice a day and, by god, these Kentucky Bourbons are a refreshing beverage.

Tasting notes: aromas of the deep south, enough citrus to sink a battleship.
Froth level: overcoming bourbon and cola trauma.
Tastes like: Cody's and Schweppes.
Overall rating: 7/10, refreshing.

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Indecent Exposure

It's a Saturday in Dunedin. But this isn't a story of a Saturday night where you go to a flat and get super wasted while eyeing up the person you want to end up fucking later. No, this story is different. It was the middle of the day—12:34pm to be precise. I was working my shitty retail job, I had spilt something all down my top and customers had been yelling at me all morning. Instead of telling them all to get fucked (which would sadly result in me losing my job), I opted for a different approach. First I would change my top, but then I would be the one to get fucked. Stress relief, right?

My lunch break loomed, so I got changed and messaged the guy I'd been sleeping with recently, who just so happened to also be working a shitty retail job that day. I picked us up some food and decided to take it over to his work. We went to the top floor of the establishment, which was used mainly as a storage room, and has a great view of George Street, might I add. I ate my lunch in record time and suggested we have a quickie. Naturally he obliged.

Next thing you know, my skirt was over my head, his pants were around his ankles, and I was bent over a table, looking down on the general public doing their leisurely Saturday shopping. Life was good. I had quickly forgotten about my below average morning and the afternoon had definitely perked up. It was getting pretty heated, and right as things started to get harder and faster, the loud noise of a woman

exercising her right to freedom of speech echoed down George Street. As I had a perfect view, I gazed out the window and lo and behold: it's an anti-mandate protest.

Bit of a buzz kill, I'm not gonna lie. But the show must go on.

As the protestors marched closer and closer towards my upstairs sex attic, their chanting got louder and louder as the thrusting got harder and harder, and I was soon adding my own louder and louder moans to the chants. I also locked eyes with several young children who were a part of the protest (probably because their parents made them), which means the children experienced two things they probably didn't want to that day.

But I didn't want to think about that. I was trying to pretend the protestors' chants were not for the protest but in fact cheering us on, so with that in mind, we went a little harder and faster. Yet in an ironic twist, he decided to pull out right before he came. Like, right before. So, thanks to him behaving like a poorly trained snake charmer, I had my third outfit change of day as my backup top was... soiled.

In the end, my rage subsided, I had most likely traumatized some children for life, and I was forced to buy a new top (but hey, it's actually really cute).

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

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10% off full-priced items.

A+ BURGERS

10% off all menu items purchased in-store.

BOSS PIZZA • BURGER

Free upsze 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).

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 spray tans for \$48.

Guys eyebrow wax/ thread (top and bottom) \$16.

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

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

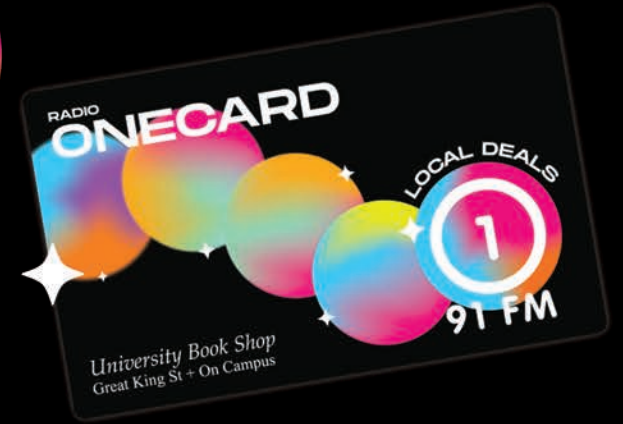
10% student discount on all full-priced items.

SUBWAY

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



REGISTER TO UNLOCK ADDITIONAL PRIZES!
R1.CO.NZ/ONECARD



DEAL OF THE WEEK

CORNERSTONE INK TATTOO STUDIO

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

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).

SAL'S AUTHENTIC NEW YORK PIZZA

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

TAKEICHI

Free special topping with every bowl of Ramen.

TM AUTOMOTIVE

\$60 warrant of fitness fee.

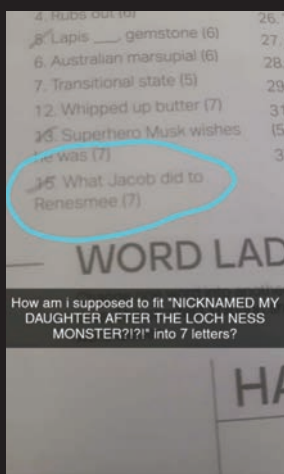
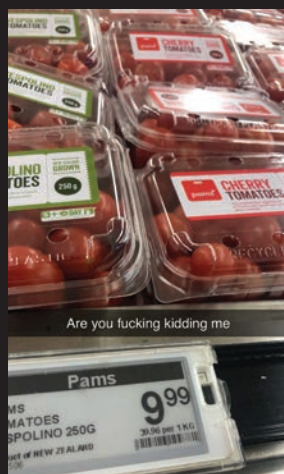
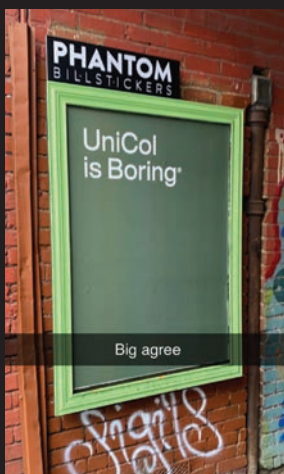
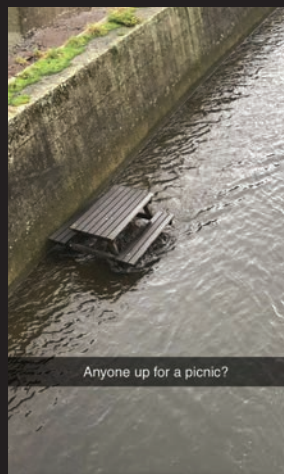
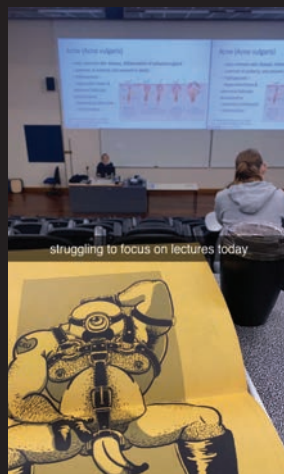
SNAP OF THE WEEK



SEND A SNAP TO US AT @CRITICMAG.
BEST SNAP EACH WEEK WINS A 24 PACK OF  Red Bull

SNAP OF THE WEEK

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TO CLAIM
YOUR REDBULL



XYZ

SMALL ROOM VENUE HIRE



KARAOKE
POLE PARTIES
BIRTHDAY PARTIES
SMALL ROOM VENUE HIRE

0800 ROOM HIRE

OTAGO YOUNG SWINGERS

13 August 2022 - 9pm

Private Parties, Fetish Parties
Sex Parties, & Rope Classes

www.clubrisque.co.nz

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