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INTERNATIONAL  
ISSUE





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APOLOGY

In issue 17, published 31st July 2022, Critic stated that Otago Regional Councillor Hilary Calvert’s spouse (Alistair Broad) was the director of a coal company. (The Duv Lin Coal Company). We have since been informed by Cr Calvert that while the company has the word “coal” in the name, it does not actually have any interest in coal. Cr Calvert has clarified that the company “is so named because it has an alleyway which was historically used for taking coal into a property, and removing shit from the property. Choosing the word coal seemed better than the alternative.” We apologise and have rectified the original article. We could have avoided this mistake, and we should have.

Cr Calvert also clarified the role of the water supply company for us. She told us: “It is the provider of the public water supply in Oturehua, and everyone in the township has an equal interest in this water supply.” She also told us that “There is a consent for this water which lasts for many years”, and she said that there is “no possibility for a vote on consents for this water company”.

LETTER OF THE WEEK

**Dear Critic, regarding your recent article on Dunedin’s poetry scene:** Regarding Dunedin’s hidden poetry scene: Poetry is not an “anti-Dunedin” thing. Anti-Castle Street, maybe, but anti-Dunedin? Dunedin is a poetic place, with a rich literary history and a currently thriving poetry scene. It’s a UNESCO City of Literature for a reason, after all. Though the article explores older poetry found in the treasure-trove that is Dunedin Public Library (bookworms who haven’t visited — you’re missing out), our city also has many currently writing poets, who use their voices to give life to their poems. Immersing yourself in Dunedin’s poetry scene by going to the library, is like immersing yourself in Dunedin’s music scene by checking out a few artists on Spotify. A good start, but nothing like going to a gig. For the poetry-curious out there, the Dog with Two Tails hosts a monthly poetry night — come check it out.

Sincerely,  
Poetry Nerd

Hi,

Your July 24th edition featured an interview with some of Neive Strang’s bandmates. This might have been an opportunity to remind us of the enormous shoes she’s filling, just by being a Strang.

Her grandfather, Harry Strang, a trumpeter, led the dance band which played at the famous Saturday night dances at the Dunedin Town Hall. Nationally famous. From 1947 to 1968! Yes, you read that right. 1000 youngsters danced to his music, every Saturday, for 20 years! Ask your grandparents about these sessions. Many of your parents would not have been conceived, conceivably, were it not for Harry Strang. Her father, Jim Strang, was part of a trio of brothers (with Richard and David) who continued making dance music into the 21st Century. Jim owns the piano shop in Howe St. Jim plays drums, and was sought after in a wide range of music genres.

My favourite all-time Dunedin band, Orbi, featured Jim at the back on kit, as well as two other percussionists. Their songs (originals) would often be arranged with long complex instrumental bridges, mostly based on African or latin percussion ensemble styles. There’s been nothing like it since. Orbi were in the Orientation line-up in the late 20th Century. Ask your mother and father about that. Many of you would not have been.... You get the picture. Uncle Richard’s son, Kane Strang, also won the SmokeFree Rock Quest in 2010. Even beating the current crop of Logan Parkers at the time, so no mean feat.

Keep it up Dunedin!

Regards  
David Grace, NEV

Kia ora Critic,

As a proud alumnus of OU and former student union member, I’m devastated to read the OUSA does not support Fair Pay Agreements. Reading what they have written, it’s clearly obvious they’ve swallowed the Business New Zealand/ right-wing neo-liberal anti-FPA narrative hook, line and sinker! I’d be happy to put OUSA in contact with our Unions Otago people who could help them develop a critical understanding of the need for Fair Pay Agreements to address the issue of chronic low wages, poor work conditions and poor productivity facing many hundreds of thousands of working people.

Ngā mihi nui,  
Ross



I got to go home to the States for the first time since Covid broke out. And lemme tell ya, things are not going well. Nothing summed up the trip better than a lady in Des Moines, Iowa, who told me how the election was stolen and then followed it up with “oh but I love New Zealand, the Swiss Alps are so beautiful.” Two equally intelligent lines of reasoning.

What else? Well, I spent a night in a shack in Michigan, complete with hand-painted portraits of Trump, and a family who was touting their son’s recent baseball state championship – before clarifying that he was “really more of a cheerleader”. The night ended when the about-to-be-married son told his mum that “it’s not my fault that my wedding is gonna be more fun than your marriage ever was”. Yikes. And then I got driven home by a drunk guy who told me that he got his second DUI on his way to the courthouse for his first DUI.

I drove past Lake Mead, which is at its lowest point ever. Water emergencies are being declared, because surprise, surprise, humans mismanaged their environment for corporate interests and unnecessary expansion. It’s great to watch as the rushed decisions of the 70’s finally come home to roost. I, for one, can’t wait for the water wars to start.

I learned that one of my relatives doesn’t believe blacks and whites should mix because they’re “different species”. I was at the Supreme Court during the overturning of Roe

v Wade, and the mood was exceptionally grim. I was there when the government clarified that police have no legal obligation to protect you. Now we’re watching as the Secret Service deletes their text messages and the government descends into theologist facism. There was legal weed everywhere, which made the situation a bit more palatable, but it felt like it was just there to pacify the masses while the robber barons squeezed out their final dollars. The USA is filled with brilliant minds, vibrant culture, and awesome scenery. It is controlled by religious zealots and billionaires. I have no hope for that country.

And yet, New Zealand isn’t making it easy to stay. I’ve been here for four years, and it’s only getting more expensive. Ten dollars for tomatoes? Fuck off. Aotearoa was just voted the second-worst country for immigrants, second only to Kuwait. Jesus. It’s almost impossible to get a visa here if you’re not loaded, and if you have any medical conditions, you can just forget about it.

Going home did make me realise how accessible politics are in New Zealand, which is great if you’re a Kiwi. You can actually make a difference here. In the States it feels like a lost cause. Aotearoa has its problems, but it’s nothing compared to the good of’ USA. So, for any Americans who’ve just made it over this year, stick around while you still can. The world’s falling off a cliff, but at least the view from New Zealand is pretty.

RAD TIMES  
GIG GUIDE



FRIDAY  
12 AUG

FEATURE EVENT: **Radio One 91FM presents: Skegss (AUS)**  
UNION HALL, UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO  
8PM  
Tickets from ticketfairyy.com

SATURDAY  
13 AUG

FEATURE EVENT: **Troy Kingi with Delaney Davidson: 'Black Sea Golden Ladder**  
GLENROY AUDITORIUM  
7PM / \$49.90  
Tickets from ticketmaster.co.nz

**Dunedin Symphony Orchestra: Crouching Tiger**  
KING’S AND QUEEN’S PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE  
5PM  
Tickets from the Regent Theatre

WEDNESDAY  
17 AUG

FEATURE EVENT: **Tami Neilson - 'Kingmaker' Dunedin Album Release Show**  
THE REGENT THEATRE  
7:30PM / \$20-54 + BOOKING FEE  
Tickets from the Regent Theatre

For more gigs happening around Dunedin, check out [r1.co.nz/gig-guide](http://r1.co.nz/gig-guide)

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## "Inequality in Aotearoa" Discussion Panel Purely Pākehā

Panel delayed to rectify the situation

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

An Otago Uni panel discussion about "Inequality in Aotearoa" has copped criticism for featuring an all-Pākehā group of panellists. The panel has since been delayed, to give Otago Uni time to "ensure our panel features a diverse range of knowledge and expertise".

"Whether in our workplaces, houses or our health system, inequality is rife across Aotearoa," read the blurb for the panel. "Our panel of experts will share their insights on the current state of the nation and what needs to change." Originally scheduled for this Wednesday (August 10), the panel was to feature ahorangi tūhono (associate professor) Helen Roberts, from the Otago Business School, Te Kura Pakihi; Professor Richie Poulton, who directs the Dunedin Multidisciplinary Health and Research Unit (which runs the well-known Dunedin Study); Professor Philippa Howden-Chapman, who co-directs He Kāinga Oranga/Housing and Health Research Programme at Otago Uni in Wellington; and Professor Jessica Palmer, Otago Uni's Pro-Vice Chancellor of Humanities and the panel's MC.

While the panel features distinguished mātanga (academics), it was quickly pointed out that they were all Pākehā – though the brunt of inequality in Aotearoa,

from income to education, living conditions and health outcomes, are overwhelmingly borne by Māori in particular, as well as Pasifika. This was pointed out in a tweet from Rhys Jones (Ngāti Kahungunu), a public health physician and ahorangi tūhono at Auckland Uni. In his tweet, he posted a photo of the panel with the caption: "Interesting lineup for a panel on inequality in Aotearoa [side-eye emoji]".

Rhys told Critic Te Ārohi that it was "critically important to think carefully about whose voices are being foregrounded in any forum – and whose voices are invisible or marginalised. There is a clear message for all of us, both those organising events and those who are invited to speak. We all need to be more reflective and intentional about these decisions."

The negative online reaction led to at least one real-world consequence. Alex McMillan, an ahorangi tūhono and public health physician from the Department of Preventive and Social Medicine, pulled out of her slot on the sustainability panel. On Twitter, she said: "I'm embarrassed to have not had a chance to breathe and look across the whole thing until today, prompted by [Rhys'] tweet. And have now stepped off one of the other panels. Sorry you had to do the exposure work".

Online criticism was not limited to the ethnic composition of the panel, either. Casper said that: "It would be much more impactful if they included a local homeless bloke, a student, a single mother, a trans person, a person of colour – White people on 100k+ salaries working lucrative university jobs don't know a lick about inequality."

In a statement, a University kaikōrero (spokesperson) told Critic Te Ārohi that: "This symposium has been rescheduled to August 31, at 7pm. On reflection, we have postponed this event to broaden our approach to this important topic and to ensure that our panel features a diverse range of knowledge and expertise." Further communication stressed that the public advice had been taken on board.

Rhys emphasised that invited participants, especially "those of us in positions of privilege, need to think critically about our participation in any forum." He emphasised the importance of asking "whether we're taking up space that should be made available for communities whose voices are usually not heard," saying that not doing so risks "reinforcing colonial, patriarchal norms and power dynamics, while getting in the way of important work that needs to be done to dismantle systems of racism, sexism, classism, ableism and other drivers of inequity."

## International Students Stuck Between A Complex and a Hard Place

What happens when you buy a UniFlat on AliExpress

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

Nine American international students have been put into an Airbnb "complex" up on Heriot Row, paying US\$2,000 more for the semester than what they were originally offered – and not even getting a Kiwihost for the privilege.

These nine students were put into this pseudo-UniFlat by the programme they came over on, "The Education Abroad Network" (TEAN), which helps organise study and degrees for international students. Usually, people on TEAN are put into UniFlats, with their website promising "properties are either apartments or houses, owned or head-leased by the university". For the last few years, a lack of international students have led to most UniFlats being leased out to domestic students for the full year, with some being sold. This meant that when international students began to return earlier this year, there wasn't any room left for them – leading to accommodation options like this "complex".

Holland, an international in this Heriot Row complex said that living there was a mixed bag. "Overall I am pleased with the space because it's clean, nice, and easy to live there," she said. "It's much nicer

than UniFlats," she admitted, since they are usually rented out for short vacations. However, she added that "it's been harder for us to branch out because we've been grouped together. Being a 15 minute walk up the hill from campus, inviting people over is tougher and can feel confining." Critic agrees that needing to walk up a hill would instantly veto any social invitation we get.

They've have also ended up forking out more for the privilege of living in the complex: the amount they were being charged for accommodation by TEAN actually jumped by 50%: from the US\$4,000 (NZ\$6,350) they were originally quoted, to US\$6,000 (NZ\$9,531). They didn't have a choice in the matter.

The other experience they're missing out is a Kiwihost: a resident Kiwi in the flat who is every UniFlat's indispensable tour guide to the good, bad and ugly of North D. While they have a resident director, who Holland referred to as their 'mum,' she doesn't live on site. However, rather wholesomely, Holland noted that a UniFlat subwarden and Kiwihost, Katie, reached out unprompted her after finding out she didn't have a Kiwihost offering any support.

Most tragically, despite their spacious complex being seemingly tailor-made for bangin' parties, it's not really practical for them to host. And this isn't an excuse for them to avoid clearing vom stains off the carpets, either. While international students have taken over two of the four buildings on site, one of the other houses is an Airbnb, and the other is being rented out to the resident director's daughter and grandchildren. Good neighbours they may be, but probably not particularly appreciative of RTD-soaked evenings or D&B seshes. As a result, Holland's flat "haven't tried throwing a party, and I don't know if we will".

Despite these issues, Holland and her flatmates appreciate the effort needed for TEAN to get them over here in difficult times. "TEAN had to pull different strings to get us here, and I am grateful that I am here," she said. She's glad that "they were able to work [the accommodation situation] out," adding that this semester has "worked best for her". For now, it looks like the flat will have to venture downhill for a taste of Dunedin culture.

TEAN did not respond in time for comment.



**WEEKDAYS 11-12**  
ON RADIO ONE 91FM — *r1.co.nz*





## Students Upset over Lack of Recordings

COSC204 kerfuffle an example of a University-wide concern

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

Lecture recordings are not mandatory at the University of Otago. A debate sparked in COSC204 provides an example of the problems this can create.

Associate Professor Andrew Trotman's decision not to publish recorded lectures led to a lengthy series of emails with his COSC204 students (including one student who was overseas to undergo a blood test), drawing their ire. The full story is not that simple, but it centres around two perceived problems: the fact that Otago University does not require lectures to be recorded, and the attitude of Andrew's emails.

Andrew claimed in an email to Critic Te Arohi on August 1 that "all lectures are uploaded and available to everyone in the class", citing an earlier email from July 27 which apparently said "lecture recordings for each topic will be released in batches at the end of each topic". We have not seen this email, but we did see an email sent by Andrew on July 22, where he explicitly tells his students: "I have not been recording lectures and so there are none."

The May 2022 OUSA referendum showed that 87.9% of students want Otago Uni to have a blanket policy requiring lecture recordings. Other universities, such as Auckland Uni, have already implemented such a rule. An Otago Uni spokesperson said that the Uni's "diversity of teaching spaces" means no such policy currently exists, but added that a working group has been established to look into this. This means that, technically, Andrew does not have to supply any lecture recordings, though he has claimed that as of August 1, all lecture recordings are available online. A student in the course claimed that only four of his seven lectures have been recorded, but we have not received proof of this claim, nor do we know if that is contradictory to Andrew's claim. Regardless, the lack of a recording mandate is the key sticking point in this discussion.

Aside from the lack of lecture recordings, students also complained about the perceived attitude of Andrew's emails. Students described these as "dismissive", "ableist", and "rude", although they included very detailed responses to student questions, and contained multiple offers of one-on-one catch up meetings over Zoom. Nonetheless, Andrew's first email, sent on July 12, was described by one of his class reps as a "manifesto". In it, Trotman set out a "social contract": if students expect the teaching staff to prepare content, attend lectures, and to be fair and honest, then "in return we expect the same as you". Sam\*, a student in the course, balked at the claim of a "social contract," saying that "no, it's a contract-contract, where we pay the Uni so that they pay him to teach us."

In his original slew of emails, Andrew signed off on behalf of "The COSC204 teaching team", but class reps for the paper disagreed with the claims made in the emails. The reps told Critic Te Arohi that "The deliberate lack of recorded lectures... is only detrimental towards students' ability to learn, and we are all agreed that this practice is unacceptable." Another class rep told us that "I emailed Andrew myself regarding his stance and was met with a dismissive email where none of my questions were answered."

Andrew claimed that scientific research proves that "at best, there is no educational advantage to having recorded lectures", but a class rep said that this was not backed up by any citations, which was "not very becoming of an academic, if you ask me". For the record, our Science Editor fact-checked this claim, and concluded that there have been contradictory findings. She cited research published by Artz et al. 2022, who claim that recordings boost retention for difficult topics, but for easier topics, live lectures provide better retention. Every student we spoke to thought that the material was challenging.

Not having lecture recordings can also make things challenging for students who can't always be on campus. Arlo, a student in the course, has advanced keratoconus in both eyes. He told us that his condition makes it almost impossible to see what's being projected in a lecture, and that he's invested in large monitors so he can watch recordings at home "like a normal person". This meant keeping up with content in-person was challenging at the best of times, but only got more difficult when Arlo had to fly to the UK for a blood test. Andrew responded by saying that "Arlo hadn't contacted Student Development and did not have the necessary approvals" to receive recordings, but has since been approved and should be receiving them.

In his July 22 email, Andrew told his class to watch YouTube videos on Blackboard, saying that they are more useful than lecture recordings. He said: "When (if) you watch these lecture recordings you will see the difference between a recording of a live lecture and a video made for educational purposes (a YouTube video)." Sam was critical of Andrew suggesting YouTube videos, wondering why he paid to attend Andrew's lectures if YouTube videos were apparently better than recordings of those very lectures; "[what's the point] in coming to class and watching him explain the content in the same way?" Sam added that if YouTube videos were better than recordings, then "his lectures are just shit". Andrew clarified to Critic Te Arohi that the YouTube links were useful, as they included a digital pointer – something that the Uni's recording software does not.

While insisting that lectures would not be recorded, Andrew said "[the teaching staff] will make time to work with" students unable to attend. He also offered, multiple times, to meet with students one-on-one over Zoom or in person if they felt they needed help catching up. Sam, a student in the course, took some issues with this. He said that the offer of in-person meetings was "a shit alternative", because students

"did not feel comfortable meeting with him one-on-one".

Andrew said that he was "sorry to hear that Sam took offence at the email exchange – this was unintended and I wholeheartedly apologise for this." Andrew also clarified that his offer of personal tutoring still stands, and that "If Sam would prefer to form a group (because, in his words, students "did not feel comfortable meeting with [me] one-on-one") then I'm happy to tutor the whole group either in-person or over Zoom. I'm also available in many of the labs and Sam could ask

questions there, or in the lectures, if that is preferred."

As of print time, it appears that some sort of balance has been struck. Lecture recordings for COSC204 "will be released in batches at the end of each topic", and Andrew has expressed willingness to be flexible and cooperative with his students. While his students remain somewhat apprehensive, they seem to generally appreciate his uploaded recordings. Even a student that originally told Critic Te Arohi "he's just an asshole" has since backtracked, and told us that the uploaded recordings "make me like him so much

more."

What hasn't changed, however, is the Uni's stance on mandated recordings. As Arlo pointed out, Andrew's decision was just a small part of a bigger problem: that at least for now, the Uni's lack of a consistent lecture recording mandate means wildly inconsistent policies between individual departments. Arlo said that as a disabled student, he does not "want to be singled out and solely catered for. If I am offered recorded lectures, everyone should get them."

\*Name changed.

## Student Wants YOU! (To Vote, For Him)

DCC-hopeful Jett is half the age of the youngest Dunedin City Councillor

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

Otago Uni student Jett Groshinski is the first student to put his hand up for this year's local body elections. He's gunning for a spot on the Dunedin City Council (DCC), and is aiming for a chance to wear the Mayoral chains, too.

The PPE (Philosophy/Politics/Economics) and Finance conjoint student has been looking to run for a spot on the DCC since 2021, before confirming his move last summer. As somebody who's lived in Dunedin since he was 13 and "personally loves Dunedin", he told Critic Te Arohi that his primary motivation for standing in local elections was to ensure that "students have a voice". He said that "There's no representation for students right now on the DCC... the youngest person on the Council right now is the Mayor." Mayor Aaron Hawkins, for the record, is a whopping 38 years old – basically a dinosaur.

Jett said that, by running for Council and Mayoral positions, he wants to "be in a place where I can make meaningful change in Dunedin. Even if I don't see that change immediately... [I want it to be] the kind of place I want my [younger] sisters to grow up in." He said this would help "make

sure everyone is being represented and respected". Right now, he says students feel like "they don't really get a say in local politics". Even the few students who somehow end up on DCC committees, he said, "feel unheard. They don't feel they have a voice."

Jett told Critic Te Arohi about his main policy priorities. Firstly, he wants to try and sort Dunedin's transportation woes. He cited a shortage of parking spaces as an issue – but was also a big fan of improving Dunedin's bus system, including introducing free fares. "The DCC should take control of buses from the Otago Regional Council (ORC)," he said, but added that they would probably need to work and convince the ORC to give up control. "There are bus routes which don't make sense," he said, telling us about buses going down busy streets and, on multiple occasions, coming close to hitting students.

He also wants to promote "communities working together", saying that the student-dominated North D often feels "completely separate" to the rest of Dunedin. He's hoping to organise more events that can help bridge the gap. Jett said that currently, "the rest of Dunedin often [doesn't] see the

good parts of students... only the couch-burnings." Critic, for one, would be quietly impressed by a couch burning so bright it could be seen from across town.

Jett will be going all in with his council run this semester, saying that "it will be his top priority" while he drops his Uni workload down to two papers. He's planning to run a campaign heavy on door-knocking and face-to-face meetings, saying he's focusing on "talking directly to a lot of students". He isn't receiving any external funding for the campaign, either, saying everything he's spending is coming from his own pocket.

He's ultimately hoping that his run for the DCC and the Mayoral chains will spur more students to get engaged in local politics. "Students feel like they're just passing through, and so they often don't bother to register and vote," he says. According to Jett, part of the problem is not knowing how to do it, but it is also about students not feeling represented on the DCC. Jett believes that seeing a student run for local Government could change things. "Even if you don't vote for me, having your say is important," he said.

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KARERE / NEWS / 18

## Peeking Behind the Med Revue Curtain

Laughing at med students is an experience I would happily pay for

By Zak Rudin

Chief Reporter // zak@critic.co.nz

The annual Med Revue took place last weekend, drawing med and non-med students alike for three nights of theatrical antics. "Charlie and the Doctor Factory" gave students their money's worth with three hours of skits and choreographed song and dance. And as a bonus, most of the jokes didn't require a Health Sci A+ average to understand.

Critic Te Arohi sat down with Josh, Med Revue's producer, in the week leading up to showtime. Josh stressed that, "[Med Revue] is not just for med students, it's for the whole community." Contrary to popular belief, med students can actually joke about non-med related things, although these seem to largely revolve around sex. "There's a joke for everyone in the show," said Josh.

Josh told Critic Te Arohi about the "bond" that had formed amongst the Med Revue cast. "You become super tight with the cast; we hang out with each other apart from rehearsal which goes to show how much we love each other." Persistent rumours that Med Revue is a cult are not entirely unfounded, according to those we spoke to. Cast member Ben told Critic Te Arohi that "It's a cult that doesn't hurt anyone. Once you join you come back as directors and producers [in third year] ... you can never leave."

Another cast member told Critic Te Arohi that it is "better" when there are fewer med students in the audience. Despite this, the attendees seemed to be mostly made up of med students. We only managed to talk to one non-med student in the audience, a Health Sci who was presumably attempting to scope out their future cohort. Nevertheless this didn't stop most of the laughs coming from sex jokes, rather than the more niche med-related humour in the show.

Med Revue attracted some criticism in 2021 for marginal jokes, which forced its organisers, the Otago University Medical Students Association (OUMSA), to issue a public apology in Critic Te Arohi. This didn't deter its script writers from progressing some pretty marginal chat this year, though, with topics ranging from euthanasia and abortions to "Mother Russia" and, indeed, last year's apology (which was referenced three times in the show). Molly, who as last year's OUMSA President was responsible for the apology, said she felt the satire in this year's Med Revue "hit the right chord."

Med Revue is entirely run and performed by 2nd and 3rd year med students. Like med school, it's a process that looks so gruelling and miserable that outsiders struggle to figure out why anyone would

put themselves through it. According to Josh, "We started prepping as soon as last year's show had finished." Since the start of Sem 2, rehearsals were scheduled every weekday from 6-10pm, with full 9am-6pm days on weekends. This is, of course, on top of everything else in med school. "A lot of work goes on behind the scenes that you don't see," said Josh, "but it's good fun."

Unsurprisingly, our old friend Covid also caused some difficulties for Med Revue. "There have been big scares of the cast getting Covid in the week leading up to the show but we've been taking measures [to get around this]," said Josh. In the end, not even Covid could stop these dedicated med students from continuing a time-honoured tradition of doing something other than studying.

In another time-honoured tradition, the cash from Med Revue all goes to charity – this year, it'll be sent to Able Minds, a local charity that helps with mental illness, alcohol and drug rehabilitation, and family support.

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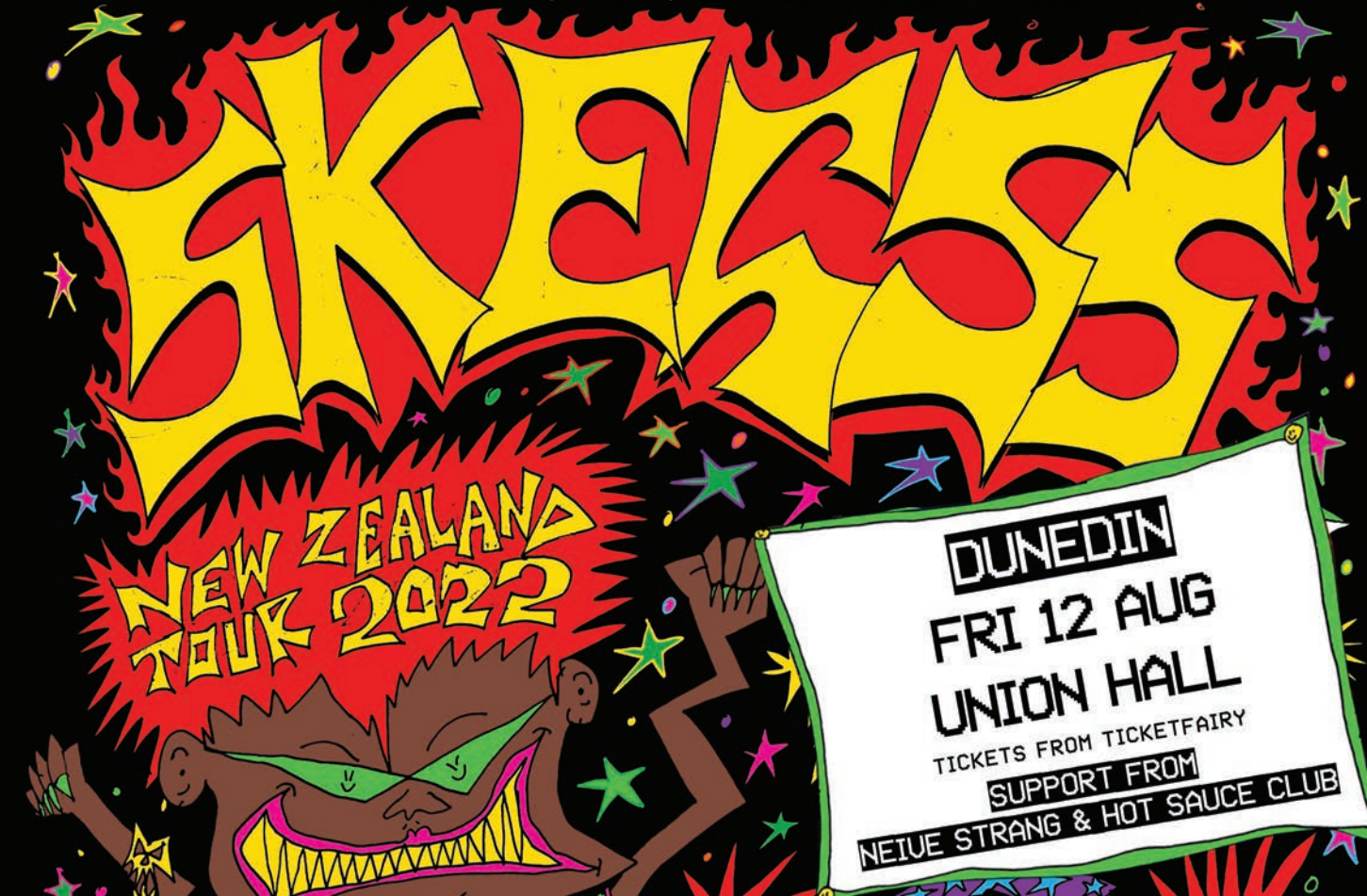


PŌTI  
2022  
NGA PŌTITANGA Ā-RŌHE

VOTE  
2022  
LOCAL ELECTIONS

DUNEDIN  
CITY COUNCIL | kaunihera  
ā-rōhe o Ōtepoti

COMMON PEOPLE, CREAM, & RADIO ONE 91FM PRESENT







## Students Hoard Minion Daddies

So THAT'S where all the Critics went

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

Last week, Critic Te Arohi was sent a Snapchat of a student's room. It was covered wall-to-wall with the Minion Daddy centrefold from our sex issue. Interior design experts Josh and K stopped by to explain their life choices.

Josh and K are both first years at Aquinas. K had just moved into a new room, but was saddened by its blank, empty walls. Ever the loyal friend, Josh had a solution to cheer up his morose mate. While K was sleeping, he conscripted a friend to head downstairs, grab "30 or 40" Critics, take out the centrefolds, and stick them to the wall above the (still soundly-asleep) K.

K awoke to the sight of 40 jacked minions, banana dongs on full display. But he was okay with this. He was so okay with this, in fact, that Josh, K, and their mate Liam brought home another 60-or-so magazines that very night, after a late night feed. They quickly formed an assembly line, with "one of us ripping them out, another one putting on the Blu-Tac and the last one putting it on the wall". The

whole process took about 40 minutes, and the boys reckoned it taught them more about teamwork than any lecturer's ice-breaker activity could ever hope to.

But now they faced a different problem: upwards of 70 Critics with no centrefold. So they did what any sensible first-year would do, and hid every single copy in a different person's room. "The thing with Critic", said Josh, "is that when you have heaps of them, they really smell like paper. So we thought it would be funny for people to be like, "Why does my room smell like paper?" K said his room "still smells like toilet paper", wafting down from the hundred-or-so pages of Minion Daddies above his head. He also reckoned that their raw, sexual energies were also fucking with his sleep quality, with their intensely distracting libidos giving him "some rough sleeps recently".

Now, with one wall complete, K is looking forward to his mum and missus visiting Dunedin for the first time next week. He was adamant that "We've gotta leave them

up, yeah," and has been pondering how his family would react. "With my mum, I reckon it's gonna be like, 'What's wrong with you?'. The missus, I dunno. She'll probably hate me for a little bit, but hopefully she likes it, because I like it." K insisted to Critic Te Arohi, for the record, that the wallpaper was not there to transform the room into a minion sex dungeon. "It's just my room, man", he said. Critic isn't sure if that argument will stand up in court.

The Minion Daddy centrefold proved to be a success, with more requests coming into the office for copies of the magazine than any other issue this year. Perhaps this had something to do with the fact that the prized centrefold was tough to find – especially since 100 of them are now gracing K's room in Aquinas. The boys said they had no intention to create false demand, but also had no intention to cash in on any of their prized decor. And they're nowhere near finished. If Critic Te Arohi printed more, they said, "We'd just come get more copies... there are still three walls to cover."

## \$4 Lunch Goes AWOL For A Week, Students Destitute

Splitting a tray of sushi three ways is now an official indicator of poverty

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

OUSA's beloved \$4 lunch fell victim to Aotearoa's latest Covid wave, forcing it to shut for a week. It left a trail of starving, impoverished students in its wake. Critic Te Arohi went out to check on the destitute, lunch-less masses, left with nothing to sustain them but the salt from their tears.

In these grim and desperate times, where a single capsicum goes for around 1.5 OUSA lunches, \$4 lunch stands as students' last salvation from merely manageable poverty and complete destitution. They've been an institution for generations of students who've found themselves with a couple of gold coins in their pocket and a hunger that margarine sandwiches just can't satisfy.

Thus, when the OUSA lunch disappeared on 24 July, with a Facebook post citing "staff illness," it took a heavy toll. Kazuki told Critic Te Arohi it was about more than just mere sustenance: "OUSA lunches

mean the world to me... they are the reason I get out of bed in the morning." Tash agreed, saying it was "honestly kind of gutting because it was a really cold week, and it was really rainy." Clubs and Socs Manager Michaela Tangimetua agreed that "The lunch service is iconic within the student community" and was sad to say that the service had to shut for a week.

Despite the emotional toll it took on him, Kazuki proudly admitted to Critic Te Arohi that he'd handled the news fairly well. "I think I fell to my knees. I definitely screamed. But I kept it together for the most part. I did get caught trying to sneak into the kitchen to see if I could make myself a lunch, but other than that I think I handled it like any functioning adult."

Just down the road from the shuttered \$4 lunch, Critic Te Arohi observed similarly well-functioning adults huddled in groups of three, shivering around packs of \$12

Salmon California Roll, stretching their \$4 budget as far as it could go. We attempted to approach one group for an interview, but had second thoughts when they responded with blood-curdling, foam-specked snarls and howls. We last saw them closing in on an unsuspecting fresher clutching a packed lunch from their hall.

Disaster was narrowly avoided last Monday, when what some students call "the food of the gods" began to rain down from the heavens again. In between mouthfuls of curry, his first in a whole week, Kazuki mused: "You know, it's hard to think of the adequate word for the sense of joy and elation that I felt... the most approximate word would I think be jubilant?" Critic suggests the better-organised among us could freeze or bury extra servings of lunches, doomsday-prepper style, to ensure such a tragedy never happens again.



## Pharmacy Open Evening

Find out why Pharmacy is a rewarding study and career path

- Hear from students and lecturers
- Get involved in our practical skills lab
- Light refreshments and a goodie bag

Wednesday 10 August | 6-9pm

Virtual Professional Practice Laboratory  
Level 5, Adams Building (18 Fredrick Street, Dunedin)

EMAIL REGISTRATIONS TO  
[pharmacy@otago.ac.nz](mailto:pharmacy@otago.ac.nz)





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ST KILDA BEACH



RADIO ONE 91FM

# MARKET DAY



WEDS 10<sup>th</sup> AUG 10AM - 3PM

THE LINK f R1 Market Day



ousa

# ODT Watch

## WHAT is sushi?

Asking the existential questions. WHO is sushi?  
WHERE is sushi?

### Quote of the day:

"Better sleep with a sober cannibal than a  
drunken Christian." — Herman Melville, US  
novelist, who was born on this day in 1819.  
He died in 1891, aged 72.

Have you tested this theory?

## A foetus or a baby?

Birth control-alt-delete.

Researchers to study effects of music on farm pigs

Pint night.

## Maturity missing

New title of ODT Watch?

Director of the university's  
Centre for Pain Research, Irina  
Vetter.

I didn't know Irina Vetter ran the med school.

# More leaving school

Critic endorses!

## Farmer returns looking positive

Good for him :)

# AGM

Annual General Meeting

Tues 23rd Aug, 1pm  
Main Common Room

ousa



## HERE'S AN EASY CHECKLIST TO GET YOUR PARTY THE THUMBS UP:

### On registration:

- Try and register as far in advance as possible.
- Know numbers of people attending.
- Social media is powerful; don't advertise to everyone.
- Know the real reason for the party.

### On the night

- It's ok to call for help!
- Don't tolerate bad behaviour from that "one guest"
- If you can't walk through the crowd... there's probably too many people in the room.
- Make sure you have more than one exit open from your flat.
- Keep a few windows open, it's getting hot in there!
- Keep the party on the ground floor.
- Music off, lights on to clear the room.
- Whoever's the party contact - go easy on the bevs, in case we need to contact you.

### After the party

- Campus Watch can sort you out with free bins, trailers, brushes and shovels which makes the clean-up easier.

REGISTER YOUR PARTY [GOODONE.ORG.NZ](http://GOODONE.ORG.NZ)

@goodonedunedin



## ACADEMIC REPRESENTATIVE

### Caitlin Hancy

Kia ora everyone!

I hope the start of your semester has been going well, it is so nice to see the uni so full of people again now that we have moved back to in-person learning. OUSA has been working super hard to keep flexible delivery going to ensure students are able to access things in the best way for you. Feel free to let us know how this is going for you by emailing any of the exec with your updates, we love hearing how things are going across the uni. To everyone graduating this month, huge congratulations to you. We

hope you have an amazing time celebrating your achievements with your friends and family. Over the break, I have continued to work on creating a standardised penalties policy for late submissions, changing the break time and length, encouraging easier transfer of credit between NZ universities, getting subject majors printed on undergraduate degrees and improving consultation with students through the class representatives system. Good luck for the remainder of the semester and chuck me an email at [academic@ousa.org.nz](mailto:academic@ousa.org.nz) if you need anything.

Caitlin Hancy

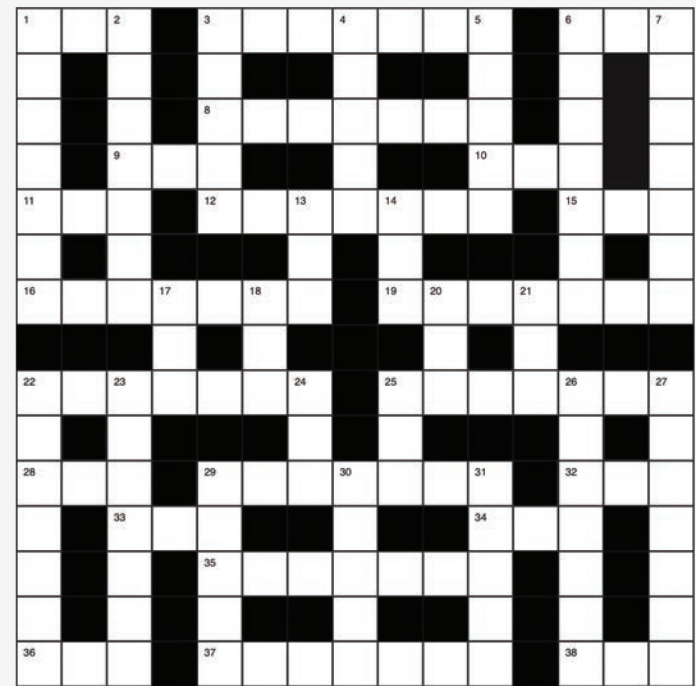
Academic Representative

ousa  
EXECUTIVE



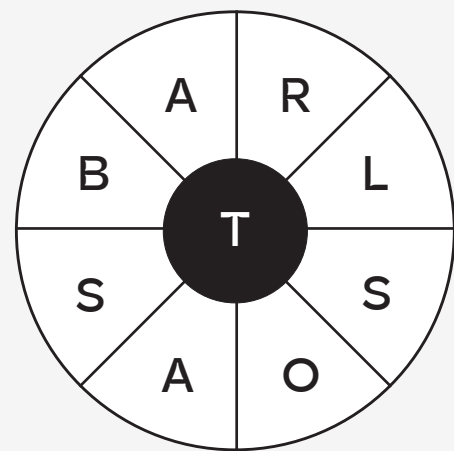
# PUZZLES

## 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. ACDC 4. BRICKLAYER 9. GRAINY 11. HAND 12. MOB 13. COMPUTERSCIENCE 15. WOOLWORTHS 19. BULB 20. ISPY 21. ASTRONOMER 22. SETTLERSOFCATAN 28. EMT 29. ATOM 30. CRISIS 31. LUMBERJACK 32. OREO

- ACROSS:**
- 1. Weed in the 90s (3)
  - 3. A group in Divergent (7)
  - 6. Coronavirus starter? (3)
  - 8. Characteristic feature of NBA player Anthony Davis (7)
  - 9. New Whittakers 'chocolate' ingredient (3)
  - 10. Jet\_\_\_ (3)
  - 11. Energy in cells (3)
  - 12. Safe haven overseas (7)
  - 15. Emerson's Bird Dog (3)
  - 16. What you get when you listen to ASMR? (7)
  - 19. The most generic soccer player (7)
- DOWN:**
- 1. Family jewels (7)
  - 2. American highway patroller (7)
  - 3. Lizzo's instrument (5)
  - 4. Shinbone (5)
  - 5. Recently (5)
  - 6. The start of Rihanna's Instagram handle (7)
  - 7. Hotel? \_\_\_ (7)
  - 13. Racial justice movement abbr. (3)
  - 14. Big \_\_, California (3)
  - 17. Belly (3)
  - 18. Harry Styles song (3)
  - 22. Howdy \_\_\_ (7)
  - 25. Six-pack abs? (7)
  - 28. Headlight setting (3)
  - 29. Digital reconciliation (7)
  - 32. Prohibit (3)
  - 33. Condition for a neat freak, abbr. (3)
  - 34. Pen point (3)
  - 35. "Brown Sugar" neo-soul singer (7)
  - 36. Metric weights abbr.(3)
  - 37. Cartoon toddlers (7)
  - 38. Sweet as, as a text abbreviation (3)
  - 20. Source of iron (3)
  - 21. Bubble wrap's interior (3)
  - 22. Square of grass (7)
  - 23. The \_\_\_, Cotton On T-shirt band (7)
  - 24. Component of the bone cage? (3)
  - 25. Chinese steamed bun (3)
  - 26. Dolce's partner in fashion (7)
  - 27. Use for Bondi Sands (7)
  - 29. Milk dispenser (5)
  - 30. Summit Ultra beer type (5)
  - 31. Door handles (5)

**DOWN:** 2. CARGO 3. CHIRP 5. ICHOR 6. LID 7. YEMEN 8. ROBBERBARON 10. YET 13. COWRIESHELL 14. COSMO 16. LAY 17. OHARE 18. TNT 19. BAO 23. TOTEM 24. SAMOA 25. FCC 26. AMIGO 27. ANIME 29. AXE

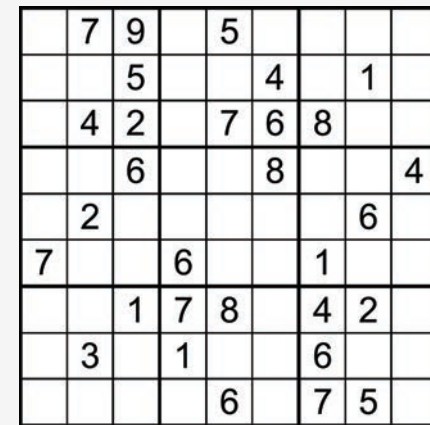
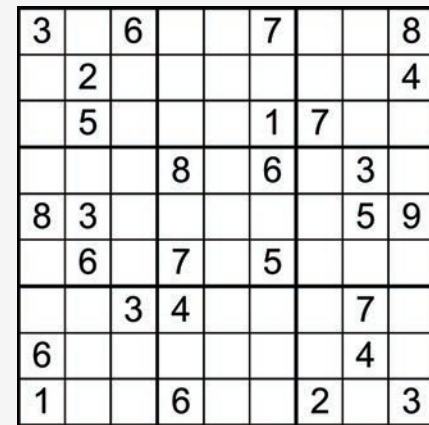
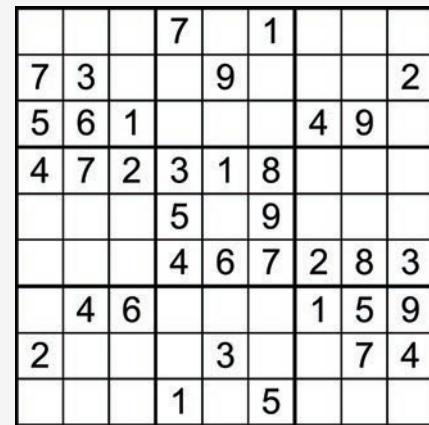
**WORD LADDER SOLUTION:** SPIT-SPOT-SLOT-SLOB-GLOB

## 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.



## SUDOKU



## WORDFIND

- BLUFF
- BROWNS
- CENTREBUSH
- DIPTON
- GORE
- GROPERSBUSH
- INVERCARGILL
- LUMSDEN
- MATAURA
- NIGHTCAPS
- OBAN
- OHAI
- OTAPIRI
- OTAUTAU
- RIVERTON
- TEANAU
- TUATAPERE

## SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

There are 10 differences between these images.





# THE IMMIGRATION RECALIBRATION:

## WHAT'S CHANGED (AND WHAT HASN'T) FOR INTERNATIONAL TAUIRA BY ELLIOT WEIR

From this month, international tauira (students) can once again move to Aotearoa to study, work, and host the best parties on campus. But with recent changes to immigration policies making it harder to stay after graduating, and with tough barriers for anyone with health needs, will the long flight to our shores still be worth it for international students?

Over the last two years, international immigration to Aotearoa slowed to a standstill. As we stumble into the second half of 2022, the third year of the pandemic, borders continue to reopen globally and the government has taken the opportunity to make a number of changes to our immigration and visa systems. These changes aim to help fill a number of critical worker shortages in specific areas, but advocates say they also rebalance immigration in favour of wealthier migrants, making an already unfair system even more so.

One major change is for a 'straight to residence' fast-track pathway for workers in occupations on a "green list" (as Kris Faafoi, the former immigration minister, described it in May), which are mostly doctors, engineers, and IT professionals. From next month, workers entering the country for these occupations can immediately apply for residency. A 'work to residence' visa has also been

announced, covering many other healthcare workers on lower salaries, like nurses, as well as a shortlist of other occupations including teachers, electricians and plumbers. Tauiri (migrants) on this list will be able to apply for residency after just two years (as opposed to the usual five years other workers have to wait).

There are minimum salary requirements for workers on these visas, which critics have said are unfair. Midwives union co-leader Jill Ovens described it as "a completely sexist model" that doctors got fast-tracked while nurses did not, given the historic gender imbalance in these fields. The Greens and National have both criticised the changes, too.

The fees for many visa applications increased dramatically this month too, with the Skilled Migrant Category rising 48% from \$3310 to \$4890, and the Residence from Work Category rising 136% from \$1800 to \$4240 as of July 31st.

The immigration changes also mean that tauiri will no longer be automatically able to work in Aotearoa if they arrive with a partner on a work visa, and from December they will need to apply for an accredited employer work visa or a visitor visa. Concerns have been raised by



migrant worker advocates that this would mean more migrant families will have to rely on one source of income, or work under the table and face potential exploitation.

Greens spokesperson for immigration Ricardo Menéndez March told Critic Te Ārohi that the Government should "prioritise setting pathways to residency for these other workers before trying to rush and attract multimillionaires into the country", referring to the investor visas that many, including Ricardo, have described as a way for the wealthy to "purchase residency" in Aotearoa. Despite reforms to the investor visa categories last month, Ricardo believes the Government is still "essentially maintaining its open door policy for the super wealthy, even as it makes it harder and harder for essential workers on low wages to come to New Zealand to put down roots."



International taura go through a different haerenga (journey) to other migrants to Aotearoa, but face some of the same raru (problems), as well as some unique ones. Studying as an international taura in Aotearoa can be prohibitively expensive, as many of the country's tertiary institutions rely on international fees to prop up their budgets. It can be hard enough, being away from home in a new country with strange birds and pies full of mince, but getting fucked around with visas and bureaucratic hoops to jump through certainly doesn't make things easier.

Many international taura, including two of our staff here at Critic Te Ārohi, remained in the country throughout the pandemic - but mostly there has been only a trickle of new arrivals in the past few years. After months of uncertainty, the Government announced in February that 5,000 international taura would be allowed in from April. 2,150 of these spots were for universities and polytechs, while the rest were for secondary schools, private training schools, and English language centres.

In May, the Government then announced that the borders would be open once again to international taura anywhere in the world from July 31st. Education New Zealand Manapou ki te Ao is a government agency tasked with promoting our universities to the rest of the world, and has been flying to conferences across the globe to make their case. They've been trying to "catch up" with Australia, the UK, and Canada, as Education Minister Chris Hipkins shared in a kōrero in June.

Canada, however, has recently made moves to expand immigration pathways for international taura to get permanent residence. On the other hand, Aotearoa has made a number of changes that limit the ability of international taura to stay in the country after they graduate.

Students in non-degree level courses (eg. English language schools) can no longer work in Aotearoa after graduating, unless they apply for a visa. Undergraduate taura can now only work in Aotearoa, after graduating, for the same amount of time they spent studying here. Hipkins argued in May that some courses acted as a "backdoor to residency", a comment the International Students Association took issue with at the time.

Ricardo Menéndez March agrees that there are "genuine issues with the international education sector" but "the way to progress is not to curtail the working rights and the pathways to residencies for students and rather to better regulate institutions and to set better pastoral care programs for international students coming in."

At Otago Uni international fees are, in many cases, more than five times domestic fees, and Ricardo points out that on top of this the Government generally requires students prove they have \$20,000 in funds for each year of study. "The message that we are sending is that we want to be attracting wealthy students, as opposed to recognizing that there is a role that we can play to support global education."

"Several postgraduate students effectively, after spending years often doing world-leading research, have no pathway to stay in the country. And it seems to me like we

would want to offer pathways for these people to remain since they are massively contributing to building research and knowledge in this country. And it's a shame that a lot of these students have no other choice than to leave the country because there's no pathway for them to remain." Ricardo told Critic Te Ārohi in an interview.

# "INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS SHOULD NOT BE USED AS A WAY TO FILL IN THE GAPS OF CHRONIC UNDERFUNDING BY A CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OF THE UNIVERSITIES."

Roughly 15% of the Uni's revenue in 2019 was from international student fees, and while the aforementioned changes to student visas may indicate a shift in this balance, Ricardo believes "we can both have a well funded tertiary education system and ensure that we are providing pathways and support for international students coming in, but international students should not be used as a way to fill in the gaps of chronic underfunding by a central government of the universities."

Even if you have the money, and have jumped through every administrative hoop, you still can't celebrate too hard. Several international taura told us anonymously that they always felt "anxious" if they went to a party and people were doing drugs, as they feared they might get into trouble by association and be sent home.

Getting sent home because of someone else's actions isn't unheard of. In 2017, Rahul Reddy and at least eight other international taura from India were deported from New Zealand. Reddy arrived in Aotearoa in 2015, and within a few months, Immigration New Zealand (INZ) found that the immigration agency Reddy and dozens of others had used to get into the country had falsified their documents, and that Reddy was a victim of this fraud. They argued their case until their deportation in 2017, and continued their efforts until 2019 when the government announced four of the taura would be allowed to return. That same year, INZ announced it was seeing cases of fraud rise 88%, leading to backlogs and longer delays for many international taura - especially in India following the closure of the INZ Delhi branch.

Even assuming your paperwork is all in order and you haven't been scammed, your stay in Aotearoa may rest precariously on the behest of your specific university. Last year Prithwish Sain, a chemistry PhD student from India who said he was due to finish his PhD by the end of 2021, was facing deportation after his enrolment at the University of Waikato was terminated by the Uni. Sain's PhD supervisor withdrew from his role after "irreconcilable differences" developed between the two, and Waikato School of Graduate Research dean Kay Weaver said the faculty of science could not find an alternative supervisor.

RNZ reported that Sain had laid a number of complaints against his supervisor, including "bullying and harassment, accusations of theft and the misuse of Sain's research data", which Waikato Uni is investigating separately. A University spokesperson told RNZ the case was "complex and lengthy" but it had acted fairly.

For tauwiwi with disabilities or other health needs, there are even more hurdles to jump (or wheel) through, including for international taura and recent graduates. To stay in New Zealand on most visas, you have to pass an 'Acceptable Standard of Health' test to ensure you don't cost the health system too much money, which Ricardo says "effectively reduces disabled migrants and migrants with health conditions to a dollar figure".

Dr Lida Ayoubi, an AUT law lecturer specialising in disability rights, and Dr Solmaz Nazari Orakani, a postdoctoral research fellow looking at accessible health care for disabled people, pointed out in a Stuff piece from March that "in many instances, the disabled applicant or their guardians have been working in New Zealand and paying taxes." Dr Ayoubi and Dr Nazari argued that "these taxes help support the operation of the public health system, which should be available to them as taxpayers" and claimed the acceptable standard of health criteria was discriminatory against disabled people.

In the past few years, dozens of headlines made the news about a whānau member of migrants being deported or denied entry based on these criteria, and hundreds more go unreported.

One recent high-profile case was that of Arianna Alfonso, a 12-year-old girl from the Philippines who has been denied visas to Aotearoa because of her autism, which would likely impose costs on the NZ education system for extra tautoko (support). Arianna's parents both have permanent residency here, but her mum Gail has remained living overseas for the past six years so that she can stay and look after Arianna while Arianna's dad Allan continues working in Tāmaki Makaurau.

There are countless examples of families having to leave the country, or split their family, because a disabled relative was denied a visa. The families of 13-year-old Peter Leemans, who is autistic, and 4-year-old Ruby O'Connor, who has TBCK (a rare neuro-genetic syndrome) both left the country in recent years. 20-year-old Sagar Narayan, who is autistic, was granted residence hours before he was set to be deported in 2017.

In June this year, Stuff reported on a two-year-old with Down Syndrome who was set to be deported. The unnamed 2-year-old girl was born in New Zealand to two Thai chefs on work visas. She failed to meet the acceptable standard of health but the parents appealed, with the girl's GP saying that sending her back to Thailand as Covid surges continued would "be tantamount to a death sentence". Covid death rates are 10 times higher for people with Down Syndrome. The appeal was successful, and the 2-year-old girl was granted a 12-month visitor visa, with the tribunal saying it hoped the Covid crisis was "more contained" in Thailand by the time it expired. The girl, and her parents, face an uncertain future in a year's time.

Body Mass Index (BMI) is another standard migrants have to meet for the acceptable standard of health, despite doctors and researchers generally agreeing BMI is an inappropriate and inaccurate measurement of health. One man told Newshub in April that he was facing deportation because of his weight, despite his doctors agreeing he was in good health.

Evgenii Liapin, from Russia, is one graduate who faced an uphill visa battle thanks to the acceptable standard of health criteria. After studying for a graduate diploma in public relations, he applied for a post-graduate work visa but was denied because he has Kugelburg Welander disease, a muscular disorder. Facing deportation, he fought back and INZ reconsidered, telling the NZ Herald in June they'd given Evgenii an exemption, granting him a visa.

Robin\* graduated from Otago Uni in 2019 after studying in the humanities department, and talked to Critic Te Ārohi about her experiences as an international taura. Robin was given a student visa and allowed to study in Aotearoa despite her disability, but had to pay for medical screenings every year to ensure she still met the acceptable standard of health. "Each medical check costs about \$500, and having to prove that I am capable and won't be a burden on New Zealand society every year is quite a financial and emotional burden on myself."

Robin says that she felt she could not reach out for support when she needed it, for fear of what the visa implications might be. "As a disabled person, I believe in the value of interdependency, that no one is totally independent on our own, but we need each other's support. However, having to prove that I won't be a burden on the country meant that I did not feel like I could reach out for support when it would have been better if I could."

Robin also says other international taura she knows, even those without disabilities, are afraid to get medical help when they need it. 1News found the same issue in November last year, hearing from international taura in Tāmaki Makaurau who were afraid to get medical help for serious illnesses or counselling for anxiety and depression, because they feared it would mean they'd lose their visas. Robin now runs @endASHnow on twitter with her friend, highlighting the suffering the acceptable standard of health criteria creates. She hopes to begin a master's degree at Otago next year.

Juliana Carvalho, a paraplegic woman from Brazil, won her immigration battle in 2020 after eight years of campaigning and public pressure. She is now fighting for changes to the system, and her petition, which was presented to parliament this year, gained nearly 35,000 signatures.

Robin, Carvalho, and other disability advocates have called for the acceptable standard of health requirement to be scrapped and replaced with a "strength-based approach" to solve these issues. Immigration New Zealand is reviewing this part of immigration policy and has indicated it may adjust the cost threshold that is in place, but not the "principles behind immigration health screening", suggesting that the acceptable standard of health criteria is here to stay.

\*Name changed.



# The Best Uniflat Complex to Hook Up In: A Guide

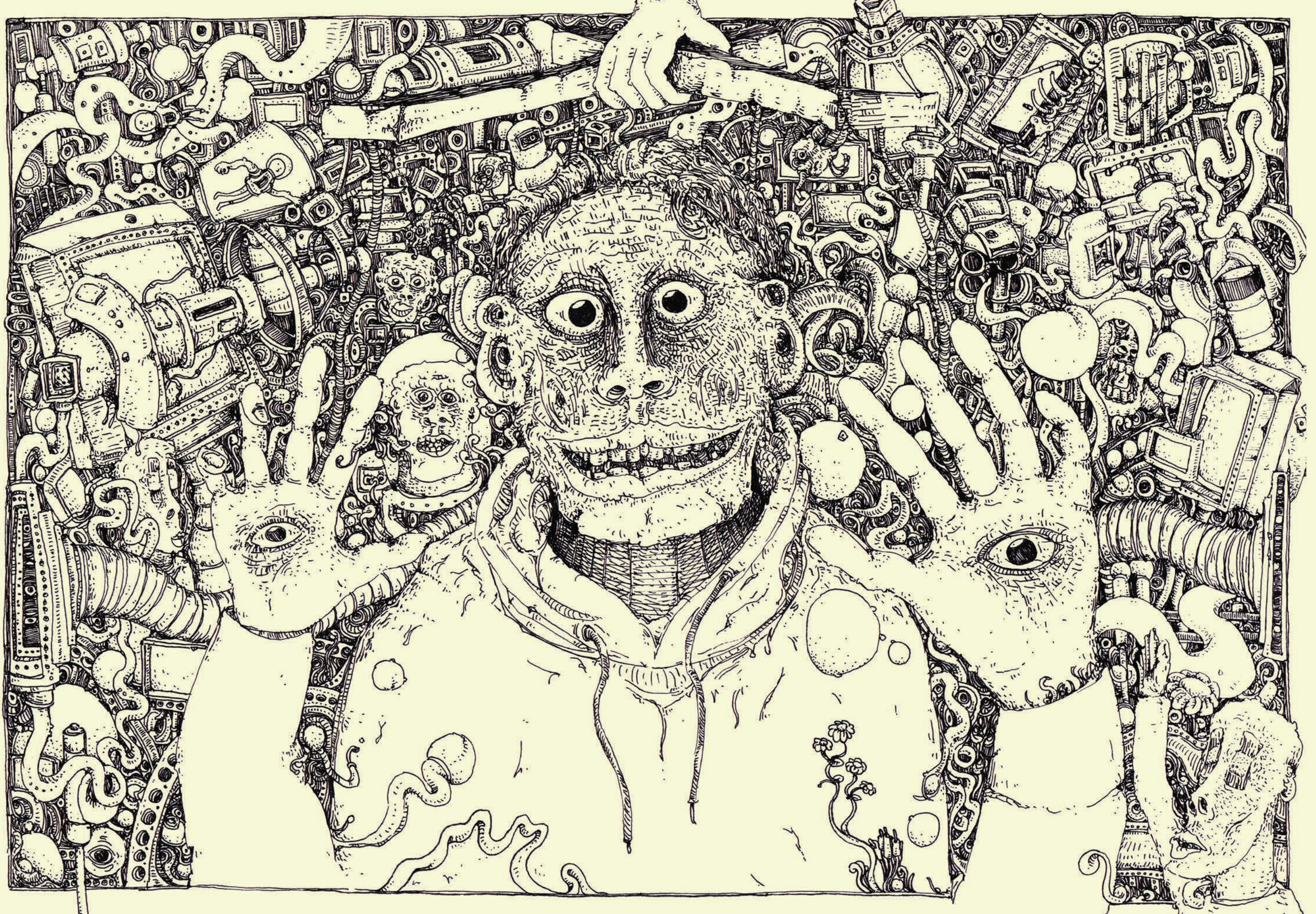
By Keegan Wells

The international students are finally back, and so are the Jonas Brothers. What a time to be alive. The international complexes are famous for free power, Halloween parties, and the most Americans per square metre in all of Aotearoa (not verified). Who wouldn't want to hang out there? With the heat pump running 24/7 and flatmates who don't charge you a gold coin to use the dryer outside hour of power, it is the ideal place to have a root, too. In order to help you with this quest, Critic Te Arohi has put together this scientifically tested list to see which complexes are the best to expand your cultural horizons in.



Continued on p26>>>







## 378 Leith St

The 378 Complex, home to Sign Up Club parties and ducklings during spring, is a gorgeous complex on Leith Street Central. That is, before it inevitably floods – but that hasn't happened just yet. The running water you can hear from most of the bedrooms in the complex will serve as a great reminder to take a piss after having sex to avoid an UTI. However, not much else about this complex is really ideal for a root. The walls are made from what can only be assumed to be balsa wood, since you can hear the next person over just having a casual conversation. Additionally, unless you're in the flats on the road, you have to walk through the whole complex in order to escape next morning, or that night if you're feeling promiscuous. The one bedroom on the downstairs level of some of the flats offers privacy, unless you're in the lounge or kitchen where you can hear everything. Also the ground floor bedrooms get zero sun, much like a sex dungeon, so not recommended unless you're into that type of thing.

**Beds:** 7/10

**Wall Thickness:** 1/10

**Sneak-ability:** 3/10

## 480 Leith St

This complex is the epitome of student culture. It's on Leith Street North, you can hear everything between rooms and adjacent flats, and the international parties are always bumping. The person you just hooked up with in this complex is exactly the same. You initially fell for them as they were the life of the party, but just like this complex, nothing is ever that stable and they're always loud. You can't leave the complex without walking through the entire courtyard after loudly exiting the flat, even if you were trying to be sneaky. Fun for a night, but never a long term partner.

**Beds:** 6/10

**Wall Thickness:** 1/10

**Sneak-ability:** 2/10

## 808 Castle St

Expecting the bare minimum from the Castle complex, it was unsurprising to learn the ceiling and floor walls were thin as hell and you could hear every move the person above you made. After talking to two flats, however, it was revealed that there is someone in the complex who has outrageously loud sex. I forgot to review the rest of the flats in the complex because I got so distracted by the fact someone was apparently having the loudest sex people had ever heard. It happened when one girl left her window open at night, further confirmed by a group of boys I talked to. One of the boys recalled that it happened another time when "we were all outside playing backyard cricket, like in the middle of the day." Good for them. I guess the beds can't be too bad if you can have absurdly noisy sex around the clock.

**Beds:** 8/10

**Wall Thickness:** 5/10

**Sneak-ability:** 8/10

## 94 Forth St

If you're looking for a complex close to pint night, look no further than the glorious 94 Forth complex. This complex, former residence of an international student's pet bunny rabbit, has a beautiful green space outside all the flats. It's perfect for a day-after coffee in the sun, which is actually the real 4th base, and the first sign of catching feelings. You can't hear the flat next to you or your flatmates through the walls, which seems like the bare minimum, but in these complexes is really a win. The only downside is the squeaky stairs. That and the fact that if you don't actually like the person you might have to talk to them since there's a chance there won't be wifi. Last year an international comp sci student apparently got phone-scammed and knocked all the UniFlats wifi down for a day.

**Beds:** 8/10

**Wall Thickness:** 7/10

**Sneak-ability:** 5/10

## 47 Pitt St

After walking up the hill to the Pitt St complex, you'll be wondering if the hook up is really worth it. Surprise, surprise: it probably is. The flats in this complex are set up in three stories with two bedrooms on each story. This means you're probably not sharing a wall with a flatmate, only next door neighbours. However, the walls are so thick that this actually is not an issue. The stairs aren't exactly silent but they aren't extraordinarily loud, either. One resident even complimented the "great shower pressure", so you can romantically get all the alcohol out of your hair with your new-found love. The Pitt St complex is humble and extraordinarily good at what it does.

**Beds:** 7/10

**Wall Thickness:** 9/10

**Sneak-ability:** 9/10

## 800s Cumb- erland

If you can actually find your way into this complex through the maze of confusing front doors, back doors and fences, you're in for a below mediocre time. The first flat I went into had the squeakiest floors I've ever heard. From the shower floor, to the beds, to the flat carpeted ground, everything was a squeaky trap. One of the residents of the second flat said the mattress was so poor, everytime he sat down he "could feel the slats" and is pretty sure this has "given me back problems". Not ideal for one person, let alone the weight of two. The walls between the flats are also so thin one of the other flatmates can hear his neighbour doomscroll TikTok through the walls. This is all on top of the noise from the loud one-way outside. There's not many redeeming factors in this complex besides the proximity to uni, but at least you can run away to Central or the OUSA showers after having the most uncomfortable night of your life.

**Beds:** 3/10

**Wall Thickness:** 3/10

**Sneak-ability:** 9/10

**Winner:** 47 Pitt St  
**Loser:** Anyone who chooses to pay for their own heating instead of dating an international student.





**“An invention of the scarlet whore of Babylon, a hodgepodge of superstition, Popery, the Devil and all his works.”**

# PAGANISM. PATRIOTISM AND PIETY.

**Whatever happened to the American Pie?**

By Fox Meyer

The reason America doesn't have mince pie is as simple as it is completely absurd: it was banned, multiple times, by religious zealots.

See, America *did* have mince pie. And they totally frothed it - mince pie was called “Unquestionably the monarch of pies”, an “American institution” and “as American as the Red Indians”, and also, evidently, as racism. In the early 1900s, the mince pie was everywhere. President Taft celebrated Christmas with a 50-pound (23 kg!) mince pie, mince pies were shipped to American soldiers in World War One, and wagons distributed them during blustery New York winters. And then, suddenly, they vanished.

Mince pies are a staple of the New Zealand experience. They've thrived here, where they enjoy a stable relationship with their natural predators: drunk students and tradies. So in order to understand the collapse of American pie culture, we've got to know a bit more about pie history, which is quite a bit more thrilling than you might expect. With their roots in the Middle East, today's pies come from Europe, and originated less as a dish to be eaten and more as a sort of proto-refrigerator. The sugar-and-spice sauce worked as a preservative for meats, and the entire assembly was encased in an inches-thick crust that was not meant to be eaten; instead, pie-eaters would remove the lid, scoop out a few morsels of filling and then reseal the pie, to be consumed over the course of weeks. The filling of the pie was a different beast entirely. Inside,

you could find everything from blackbirds to rabbits to rats - basically anything that you could grab and stuff into a pie. The word “pie” itself may actually be short for “Magpie”, i.e, a bird that steals things, or potentially one of many ingredients in the unholy guts of a four-week-old pie.

Somehow, this became associated with Jesus - possibly because the spices came from the Holy Land. Christians would bake 13-ingredient pies, one ingredient for Jesus and each disciple. They would adorn them with figures of Baby J, and eat them at Christmas. Puritans, who ruled at the time and hated fun, banned Christmas, and also effectively banned mince pies. When these Puritans came to America, they brought their piety with them. Puritan William Bradford, Mayflower member and governor of Plymouth, once actually called the mince pie “idolatry in a crust”.

At this point, “mince pie” was not a fruit pie, nor was it a purely meat pie. The mince pie of yore was something in between, laden with cuttings of fat, slices of fruit, spices galore, and a sugary preservative made from diluted apple cider. But because of its religious connotations, early American settlers were forbidden from celebrating with mince pie. Puritan rulers described it as “an invention of the scarlet whore of Babylon, a hodgepodge of superstition, popery, the Devil and all his works”, which really only served to make people want to try mince pies even more.



In 1919, the Chicago Tribune found that the alcohol content of an average mince pie, laden with brandy and produced commercially, came in at a whopping 14.12%.

A loophole was devised. Seeing as the ban was merely on Christmas, not pies themselves, pies could be consumed so long as the occasion was not a “pagan holiday”. Thanksgiving, the new American holiday, seemed to do the trick. Pies became - and still are - an integral part of Thanksgiving. And so, despite the efforts of Puritans to ban the pie, it survived. Puritan influence was on the way out, and the mince pie was back on the ups.

The second attack on mince pie came in the mid 1800s. The pies were still largely the same as before: chunks of mystery meat mixed in with sliced fruit and a sugary syrup, baked into a (now-edible) crust. They were also extremely alcoholic. Hard liquor, made more accessible thanks to the corn-rich Midwest, became a key ingredient in the American pie. This caused some problems, and didn’t much help the taste of the pie, which one reverend described as “very white and indigestible upon the top, very moist and indigestible at the bottom, with untold horrors in between.”

Around this time, a little thing called the Industrial Revolution happened, and pie-making shifted from the home kitchen to the commercial factory. These factories, of course, had almost zero regulations in place, so the already-mysterious meat filling of mince pies was left entirely up to the imagination. People didn’t really care, though, because they were still absolutely loaded with booze. In 1919, the Chicago Tribune found that the alcohol content of an average mince pie, laden with brandy and produced commercially, came in at a whopping 14.12%. That’s a proof of nearly 30, on par with low-strength spirits.

The New York Times said that the mince pie was now “a sacred and cherished American institution”, even though everyone agreed that it caused “indigestion, nightmares, disordered thinking, hallucination, and even death.” Nightmares, somehow, seemed to be

not only a completely agreed-upon but also bafflingly desirable side effect of mince pie consumption.

In 1886, the Topeka Citizen called mince pie “unquestionably the most reliable nightmare-hatcher ever invented”, and described how “one plain, innocent looking mince pie will furnish enough nightmares to go round three or four times.” The state newspaper of South Carolina wrote that mince pie’s difficult gastronomical journey was the key to building a better America, because “it thinned out the weak ones”. And finally, upon hearing of a man’s new “sanitary pie”, which was nightmare-free, the Chamberist dismissed it because “one of the chief attractions [of mince pie] was the weird and arousing nightmares which... vary the monotony of pastoral life.” Nightmares, very explicitly, were the whole point.

Not all the nightmares remained in dreamland, however. On one occasion, a jailer was found firing rounds into his prison while under the influence of pie-dreams. On two separate occasions, Chicago men murdered or beat their spouses and blamed the incident on too much pie at supper. Many came to the defence of the pie and the man, though; in a court case for one of these men, the presiding judge actually placed partial blame on the man’s wife for serving him the pie in the first place.

After hearing criticism that mince pie was “hypocritical, seductive, indigestible; a promoter of nightmares, an arouser of the liver to rebellion, an invitation to man’s most vicious impulses to assert themselves and do their worst”, The Chronicle wrote that “All such talk is slanderous, insincere, and reprehensible.” The author went on to say that mince pie was actually “a beneficent home influence, a domestic harmonizer, an agent for peace in the family”. And when speaking on the high-profile case of the man who pleaded the pie defence, the Chronicle said that “if

“HYPOCRITICAL,  
SEDUCTIVE,  
INDIGESTIBLE;

A promoter of nightmares, an arouser of the liver to rebellion, an invitation to man’s most vicious impulses to assert themselves and do their worst.”

the Chicago magistrate should take the trouble to make a thorough investigation he would probably find that the unfortunate man whose case had been noted was demoralised by being deprived of mince pie. Probably his wife refused to make it or didn’t know how.”

In the wake of pie-crimes and a national bout of intoxication came the second effort to ban mince pies in America. The Woman’s Christian Temperance Union rallied in the late 1800s in an effort to ban booze, and while they originally promised that no “pie riders” would be attached to their booze-banning bill, the eventual 18th Amendment to the American Constitution did technically ban the production and sale of alcoholic pies. But not for long.

In a landmark decision, shortly after the 1919 passing of the 18th Amendment, lobbyists won a case allowing the sale of liquor for commercial culinary use. Booze was back in the kitchen, and this created plenty of opportunity for loopholes. Alcoholic pies were one of the ways to get around the new law, and so yet again, religious zealots failed to suppress the American pie.

But, as we see today, something has clearly repressed American pie culture. When I called my grandma to ask if she remembered the mince pies of yore, she said that the only times in her memory that mince pies were served were on holidays, and while she loved the taste, they were certainly not alcoholic. She reminded me, though, that my great-grandmother Olga would be sent to grade school with a carafe full of red wine to be enjoyed with lunch - at the impressionable age of eight. This was in 1908, right at the peak of American alcoholic pie fever, and fits well into the narrative that the entire American populus during the turn of the century was hammered pretty much 24/7.

At about this same time, in 1908, a physician claimed that mince pie was bad for you. The New Orleans Daily, published where Olga was raised, reported that “the Republican dynasty in Washington may overthrow the federal constitution, [overthrow] the rights of the states and pluck the stars from the blue field of the national ensign, but the mince pie will continue to be the nation’s comfort and pride.”

But, sometime between this fanatical defence of pie and the 1950s, mince pie became not only virgin, but obsolete. One explanation for this could be the refrigerator. With new options for preserving meat, mince pie as a utility item was no longer necessary. It’s also possible that the commercial, canned variety of mince pie was so far removed from the original dish that people lost taste for it and forgot about it entirely. A final option is that women’s suffrage helped keep pie on the decline, presumably because women were sick of being murdered by their pie-eyed husbands and kept the dish alcohol-free.

But the real reason may be far simpler. During World War Two, massive meat rationing was implemented worldwide. This took the mincemeat out of mince pies, leaving them with the fruit and spices that we now associate them with. This may have been the final straw; after pies had been turned from a homely baked good into processed crap, stripped of their alcohol, and finally also stripped of their meat, American pie just wasn’t what it used to be. The glory days of the American mince pie were over, and the nation descended into pieless barbarism.



# DEGENERATE DELICACIES:

## Broke Student Food from Around the World

By Lotto Ramsay

Everyone is intimately familiar with some variation of broke student food, the sort you stumble through making after a night on the piss, or eat with your hands while crying in bed. There’s a certain comfort to its simplicity (toasted sandwich, anyone?), and it always manages to taste like home. Or tears. Same thing. Not everyone goes straight for the cheese rolls or instant mi goreng, however. While we waited on the Cost of Living Payment, Critic Te Arohi chatted to students from different ethnic and cultural backgrounds about their favourite cheap recipes. After all, you can’t compromise on flavour, but you can always compromise your dignity.

### Māori: Boiled-Up and Willing

“Ngāi Māori have a few infamous meals” Sky told us, “stemming from the traditional feeds our ancestors passed down to us. Boil-up is an absolute no-brainer; it comprises pork, potatoes and pūhā (watercress). It’s a cheap option that you can switch up however you like - swap out pork bones for cocktail sausages for an extra Kiwi kick. Not just an easy way to feed the flat, but the juice is also liquid gold.” Doughboys can also be added to boil-up, said Sky, describing them as “Basically just Māori dumplings. A few cups of flour and warm water will bring you wonders, all you need to do is mix and knead, then boil in water or add to stew!” They also make a “killer dessert” she said, so make a bunch to suit all your needs. Another cheap and easy classic is fry bread (paraāa parai), said Sky. “All you need is a bit of yeast, sugar, flour and warm water. Knead up and drop in a bit of hot oil, tossing on each side,” she said. Fry bread is versatile too – “Many eat parāoa parai with stew, boil-up, or hāngī,” Sky said, “but modern twists have emerged with sweeter renditions, likened to the American beignets with icing sugar, or topped off with jam and cream.” We love a flexible queen.

### Thai: Feeling Porked

Anita, a student we spoke to, had a pretty ingenious way to avoid cooking during her favourite struggle meal. “I’m half Thai and my go-to food when I’m broke or real lazy would be egg fried rice with dried shredded pork, which usually comes in a can,” she said. “It’s very convenient since I can’t cook.” Preserved, shredded pork is a favourite in many Asian cultures, and is strongly flavoured, meaning little is needed for a satisfying meal. “There are two types of dried pork,” Anita explained, “the pork floss is ‘moo yong’, and the small pieces are ‘moo wan’ or sweet pork.” Both are popular toppings on white rice, or even sandwich fillings, making the tasty but lazy meal options endless.

### Indian-Muslim: Lentil Breakdown

“As an Indian Muslim chef I could give many tips,” Mustafa told us, “like how going to Indian supermarkets for spices and seasonings is way cheaper than normal supermarkets.” Indian supermarkets often allow for buying in bulk, and are a cheap and environmentally friendly way to stock up on spices to improve many a depression meal to come. Mustafa also shared his tips on cooking a basic dal: “Lentil dishes are incredibly cheap and filling with rice. Clean the lentils, and soak them in water first,” he explained. Rinsing the lentils can remove impurities, and soaking them in hot water then allowing them to cool is a popular tactic in dal preparation, making the lentils easier to cook and digest. “Boil ‘em with a can of tomatoes and water with some salt and pepper till soft, add a chicken stock cube if ya have one,” Mustafa continued, “then add cumin, turmeric, chilli powder or flakes and you’re pretty much good to go.” Buying all those spices at Gardens would bankrupt you, so Asian or bulk stores are the safest bet. Shot, Mustafa.

### Sri Lankan: Sambal, Parental Affection on the Side

“Most students in Sri Lanka live at home,” Akisha told us, “so they get fully cooked meals from their parents.” A skuxx move, honestly. “I’d say a lazy student meal was coconut sambal (a spiced condiment) and dahl (lentil-based dish) with toast,” she said. Sambal can be made at home using ingredients such as shallots, lime and chilli, and is a popular element that completes many Sri Lankan dishes, whether simple or complex. It can also be purchased readymade, for the extra lazy. “Here I make Sri Lankan fried rice too,” Akisha added, an easy and popular dish incorporating basmati rice with fragrant spices. It’s a good way to use leftovers, or even the most tragic veggies from the bottom of your fridge.

### Chinese: Noodle Exchange Programme

“I never liked mac n’ cheese, and honestly never understood how that was a comfort food for some people,” said Gemma, a half-Chinese student. “My easy comfort food is a cheap pack of fresh noodles instead, with a bit of sesame oil and soy sauce. You’re meant to cook them on the stove, but when I’m real fucked I just sorta steam them in the microwave and it works okay,” said Gemma. Fresh egg noodles, that is, noodles that do not come dry needing to be boiled, are a staple in Chinese cuisine. Hokkien noodles, which are Gemma’s favourite, are a thicker and chewier variety often used for stir frying, like lo mein. “They’re like a dollar sometimes,” she said, “and it’s slightly less depressing than instant noodles, plus it’s always been my family’s favourite comfort food, along with a good congee. Like, peasant food but bougie.”

### Nigerian: This Bitchass Town

Adeyemi grew up in South Africa and has Nigerian roots. He preps meals in advance to save money, but isn’t able to incorporate the taste of home he wants. “I can’t cook traditional Nigerian home cooked meals because this bitchass town doesn’t have the ingredients. It’s very limited. Kinda pissed me off,” said Adeyemi. “I feel like Dunedin needs an African store,” Adeyemi said, “Egusi is my favourite traditional dish and I crave that shit on most days,” but he’s unable to find it here. Egusi is a popular West African foodstuff, and is made from the dried and ground seeds of various gourd-like vegetables. It is used to make rich and tasty soups, and is one of the many beloved staples of traditional Nigerian food. “It’s fucking delicious,” Adeyemi said, “Not the healthiest food sometimes but dammit, it makes us happy.”

### Chilean: Flash in the Pancake

José is “110% Chilean”, and was eager to share some Latin flare, budget style. “The old reliable is a can of tuna with one egg, mixed, whisked, chucked in a pan, and there you go—you got yourself a nice tuna pancake,” he said. “I have that with some white rice or plain pasta, maybe some ketchup on it, and you’ve got yourself a full-blown meal!” José mentioned another easy cheap recipe he’s a fan of, albeit a less authentic one. “I recently found the best recipe. You basically mash up a banana, add an egg, some cinnamon, some protein powder and oats. Then you got yourself a pancake! You can probably tell I love pancakes.” Critic formally notes that José loves pancakes.

### Malaysian: Holy Mackerel

“Cabbage and rice is a winner for me, with soy sauce and a little sprinkle of the bag of MSG that my grandma got me as my going away to Uni present,” said Denzel. MSG, short for monosodium glutamate, is an umami seasoning that occurs naturally in many vegetables and proteins. It can be purchased cheap at Asian grocery stores, and a little goes a long way to spruce up any drab meal. “I also bulk it out with onion,” he continued, “because the only thing harder and cheaper than cabbage is brown onions. Another frequent go-to for me is tinned mackerel in tomato with chopped onions and birds-eye chilis,” said Denzel, describing a favourite throughout Southeast Asia. “I have half the can with rice for dinner, then put the rest in a toastie the next day,” making it a true frugal fave. “My dad said a treat for their flat of boys in Sydney in the 90s was a chicken thigh each, marinated in the cheapest oyster-flavoured sauce and nothing else,” he said, “and then after dinner they would snuggle up in their shared beds to save even more money.” Bropilled.



# Sex Education:

## Does single-sex schooling affect us more than we realise?

By Annabelle Parata Vaughan

If you didn't go to a single-sex school, then you probably know someone who did. Single-sex education is a socially accepted norm here compared to other countries, but over the past 30 years there has been plenty of debate about its efficacy. In Aotearoa, the argument is something like 'single-sex education is associated with better performance, more opportunity, as well as upholding tradition and heritage.' On the other side of the coin, co-education is generally associated with fewer opportunities, a lower quality of education and isn't attached to certain traditions or religions. But how true are these stereotypes, really? Students we spoke to suggested the opposite: that single-sex education is an unnatural environment which affects our interpersonal relationships later in life, while also contributing to the maintenance of class and gender norms.

Tyler\* attended a single-sex, state-integrated school from year 7 through to 13. "It wasn't required of me to attend a single-sex school, and I had options, but I figured for intermediate there was no point doing two years, then switching," he said. After touring open nights, Tyler and his family settled on his single-sex school as it seemed "good" from the open nights, and appeared to be "better at face value" than other co-ed public schools. "Co-ed is perceived as being full of distractions, if you're having to balance social and academic intelligence, it's often easier for parents to go 'oh I just want my kid to learn instead of being distracted by the opposite sex'," he explained.

Anna\* also attended a state-integrated single-sex school on the basis that her parents wanted her to attend Catholic school, as well as the fact they often referenced research showing that girls "do better" at single-sex schools. "You'll find a lot of single-sex education or state-integrated schools are tied to a Christian denomination," she said. But, in hindsight, Anna challenged the value of these traditions. "Single-sex education is a remnant of British colonisation, the transfer of British culture into Aotearoa. There's also this culture of school pride." Despite how much society has changed, Anna said that single-sex education is upheld by its association with culture and tradition. "There is a structure in place to make sure there's a continuation throughout time of getting re-enrolments through family networks," she explained. "There's this idea of tradition: my father went to this school, my grandfather went to this school."

Sophie\* also attended a single-sex school for reasons similar to Tyler and Anna: "It was mainly because my mum worked there, but for a lot of girls, the school I went to was the only religious girls school you could attend." Sophie holds the belief that her experience at a single-sex school deeply affected her interpersonal relationships with boys, and that single-sex education is a breeding ground for toxic masculinity. "Being at an all girls school, any interaction with guys ended up being really hyped up to the point where any boy who came to our school was drooled over." Sophie's mum, who was a teacher at a single-sex school, noticed this too. "She said that at her co-ed schools, girls being around boys all day were able to see how gross they really are."

Single-sex schools separate girls and boys during their formative puberty years. Is high school not when you're supposed to learn all about the birds

and the bees, experience awkward first dates and crushes? The assumption that boys and girls should be kept separate maintains strict gender binaries, operating on the presumption opposing genders should be separated to avoid 'distraction'. "It's determined, biologically, our bodies are telling us to mingle, and it stunts social skills," said Tyler. This logic doesn't apply to pupils who may be questioning their gender or sexuality, but they have their own problems in single sex schools. "My boys school was heteronormative, I know at least five people who came out of the closet after high school. It's scary, if you're someone who's gender fluid, or questioning your sexuality. You feel like you won't belong, so it's hard to buy into those heteronormative ideas."

"In my experience, all-male high schools are a breeding ground for toxic masculinity," said Sophie. "I have friends who went to my brother school, and then the co-ed school, who treat their girl mates completely differently. In high school, my friends from the all boys school would invite the girls over on a night on the piss and get drunk enough to feel seedy, whereas I felt more valued as a friend with guys who attended the co-ed school," she said. "I'm not sure if people realise how they are affected by their single-sex schools. Especially guys, there is such a toxic lad culture that carries onto their university experiences that I don't think they're aware of."

It's no secret that Aotearoa has a mental health crisis. Growing up in Aotearoa, we're told to 'toughen up' when it comes to our feelings, especially men. Single-sex education could also be a potential contributor to this problem. "You have a bunch of young boys in one place, it's easy to feed them the message of 'play sport and toughen the fuck up'," said Tyler. "That idea of keeping your head down, tall poppy syndrome. So when you leave school, do you have to continue doing that? Single-sex schools turn out mentally harmed boys," he said. Tyler notes this culture was reinforced by his school, who missed no opportunity to remind the students of their 'brotherhood' and privilege. "We had Chapel every Friday, it was nailed into us that we are a privileged few, and it's you against the world, it sets up ego complexes... They don't prepare you for the real world. It's very tribal and territorial."

Tyler, Anna and Sophie agreed that while single-sex education is normalised, it is potentially harmful to young people and their development, as well as being a reinforcement of colonial tradition, gender binaries and toxic culture surrounding mental health. "I don't know if I would send my child to a single-sex school, I want them to explore things at their own pace," said Tyler. On the other hand, Anna said that while she doesn't regret it, she would be more open to co-education for others. "I don't regret it, I did appreciate I was able to spend my formative years away from the male gaze, but if I had kids I'd send them to a co-ed school. I look back and think [about] what I missed out on... My perspective, as I've gotten older, I've come to appreciate high school isn't about academic achievement, it's about learning to socialise and be an adult, which comes from a diverse background," she said. "I agree there should be more co-ed schools. To me, single-sex schools serve to reinforce binaries that are not all inclusive."

\*Names changed.





# Why did your student visa get **revoked**?

You’ve made it across the border, into the airport and down to Dunedin. Now that you’re in the filthiest Uni town Aotearoa has to offer, there are plenty of ways to get yourself into trouble. So, tell us, how did you lose your visa?

1. What’s your ideal night out?

a. Cramming for tomorrow’s exam

b. Quiet night in

c. Flat dinner

d. Headed to the ice hockey

e. Pub quiz showdown

f. Getting on the rark

g. Pint night
2. Preferred late night feed:

a. Kebabs

b. Macca’s

c. KFC

d. Domino’s

e. Curry takeaways

f. Whatever’s in your mate’s fridge

g. Two-minute noodles
3. Favourite reality TV:

a. MasterChef

b. Survivor

c. Queer Eye

d. RuPaul’s Drag Race

e. Love is Blind

f. Love Island

g. The Circle
4. Which field will you go into?

a. Education

b. Healthcare

c. Media

d. Law

e. Cult leadership

f. Police

g. Theatre

5. Drug of choice:

6. Most likely to be arrested for:

- a. Nicotine

b. Caffeine

c. Weed

d. MDMA

e. LSD

f. Booze

g. Nangs
- a. Shoplifting

b. Fraud

c. Possession of an illicit substance

d. Assault and battery

e. Arson

f. DUI

g. High treason

**Mostly A’s: Insufficient funds**

You made it to NZ, but a letter from immigration just came notifying you of an error in your application. It turns out that the \$5,000 you scraped together to “prove” you have funds to live on was not quite enough. See, with the rising costs of housing and food, immigration had to re-do their policies on the fly, and you no longer count as rich enough to study here. So, out you go!

**Mostly B’s: You “worked”**

Last weekend, a mate of yours offered you \$20 to clean up their kitchen. It was a big weekend, and there was quite the mess. Always happy to help, you obliged. As soon as the cash transferred hands, an immigration spokesperson jumped out of a nearby rubbish bin and slapped some cuffs on you. You’d broken the terms of your visa, apparently, by working during your stay. Silly you – international students are meant to be loaded, and taking even a single cent out of the NZ economy is punishable by immediate deportation on a flight that, of course, you have to pay for.

**Mostly C’s: Caught selling weed**

You bought a \$50 bag from a friend at a party, which was all good. The problems arose when your flatmate ran out of weed and asked you for half of yours. Being a good flatmate, you agreed to give them \$20 worth, and they paid you cash. Then, suddenly, an immigration spokesperson crashed through the window and slapped you with a conviction for distributing an illicit substance. They pulled your student visa out of a file and burned it in front of you, laughing all the way. Your flatmate used the flames to light their cone, and waved a teary goodbye.

**Mostly D’s: You bottled someone at a Castle Street party**

While it may be all fun and games in your home country, you’ve gotta be pretty careful when travelling overseas. So, when you were raging at that street party, and watching everyone else get to bottle strangers, you may have made a poor choice. One thing led to another, and you had a cheeky bottle toss or two. If a Kiwi student does this, it’s all just chalked up to “classic Dunedin antics”. But if an international does this, it’s assault. Congrats, you’re being deported and you now have a criminal record.

**Mostly E’s: It’s actually been two years since it expired and you’ve been in the bush since then**

So, technically, you could’ve seen this one coming. While you were abroad here, Covid hit the scene and really showed you how poorly your home country is run. Not wanting to go back, and seeing a golden opportunity arise, you just gapped it and have been hiding on the West Coast this whole time. You were finally caught by an immigration spokesperson who has been tracking you this entire time. They weren’t even mad - they were actually quite impressed with your antics. You still got deported, though. Can’t be here if you’re not spending money.

**Mostly F’s: You got a DUI and fled the country**

After getting to Dunedin, you had to move some furniture to your new flat. You figured the best time to do this would be late at night, when the streets are empty. So, a box deep, you figured now was the perfect time. You immediately get pulled over and breathalysed, which you fail, and now you’re being told to expect some serious legal heat from the Uni and from the police. So, before they get the chance to kick you out, you board the next plane back home to Ohio.

**Mostly G’s: Nothing wrong, you got denied for health reasons**

You followed every guideline, every law. You had the funds necessary to apply. Your grades were stellar. But you didn’t even make it into the country; your visa application was denied because you notified immigration that you have a minor health concern. Seeing this, officials decided immediately to decline your application, lest you become a burden on New Zealand’s healthcare system. Sorry, kiddo, no free healthcare for you. Maybe try Canada.



# OPINION: International Students Deserve More Scholarships

By Keegan Wells

International students pay around five times as much as domestic students and don't receive first year fees free. Yes, the government partially subsidises university fees, including fees free, and international students or their parents have not been paying taxes to the government, so it makes some sense. But the university could still be doing more to help its international students.

Te Pūkai Tara (Universities NZ) reports that universities are funded 33% by the Government, 18% by domestic students, and 10% by international students. The remaining 38% is predominantly from grants and research based income. At Otago, in 2019, there were 2,972 international students and 21,240 students total. Thus, around 14% of the student population were paying 36% of the total student generated income. International dent students, for example, pay \$102,087 per year.

Of the 136 scholarships currently offered on the University website, 27 of them are open to international students, and only six are specifically for international students. Of these six, two are for undergraduate students. Of the total undergraduate student body, 12% are international and they are only able to apply for 1.5% of the scholarships, driving the competition for these to extremely high levels.

There are a few to look at. First are the New Zealand Scholarships. Set up through the New Zealand Aid Programme, it provides scholarships to citizens of 'some developing countries' and doesn't provide much information on the closing date, number of scholarships offered, or how much it is. When trying to find more information on this scholarship, I got a headache switching between Evison, the international page, and

the scholarship page. I couldn't imagine doing this as a first-year who doesn't even know how to work Evison.

Second is the Vice Chancellor's Scholarship for International Students. It's available for "all eligible international students who are offered a place in an eligible programme and will be starting full-time, full-year, undergraduate study for the first time at a New Zealand university in 2022 or 2023". The \$10,000 is undoubtedly a godsend for those who receive it, and the eligibility criteria on the Uni website seem broad and vague enough to cover most applications. But it's not a guarantee. Given how high the cost of tuition already is, it feels like listing a pair of shoes for \$600 and then putting a \$100 sale on it to make it look like a better deal. But that's still a \$500 pair of shoes.

I believe the lack of scholarships beyond the VC's only reinforces the idea that international students are the university's cash cows, who don't contribute anything to the campus other than absurd wealth. This can't be the norm. International students bring diversity through ideas and culture, and have plenty to contribute to the university's prestigious ranking. QS Ranking, which ranks Otago in the top 1% of universities worldwide (a claim plastered all over the uni's website), takes into consideration the number of international students and basically how 'worldly' the university is. If Otago wants to keep this statistic up, they need to keep the campus diverse and help international students. One way to do this would be offering a few more scholarships to a cohort of students that bring their talents from overseas. If the only internationals they bring in are the rich ones, they're gonna miss out on the people that make this campus a worldly place.



LOCAL  
PRODUCE  
By Jamiema Lorimer

# SUNFLOWER SCENT



Sunflower Scent have been on the scene for a few years now, shooting thrashing riffs right into your ear canals. Critic caught up with two of the band members, Jamie and Liam, for a catch up on their latest projects and a bonus botany lesson.

Jamie and Liam started making music together in 2019. They attended the same high school in Nelson but weren't mates until they met later on in Dunedin. At the time, Jamie was studying music. Liam himself didn't pick up the guitar seriously until meeting Jamie. "That summer we got chatting and Liam was really keen to play guitar," said Jamie. For the first two years, it was just Jamie and Liam. They were then joined by Matt, another attendee of their highschool and a friend of Liam's. Liam and Matt share guitar and bass between them, while Jamie was performing the incredible feat of both drums and lead vocals. This was up until recently when Ben joined the band's lineup as the drummer.

When asked to describe their sound, Jamie laughed. "Alt-rock-grunge-pop, maybe?" Perhaps their ironic name, Sunflower Scent, more aptly describes their hybrid music than any easy-fit genre label. It came to Liam at a gig, while describing the plot of Samurai Champloo to someone. "The main character is looking for the samurai that smells like sunflowers - but sunflowers don't have a scent," explained Jamie.

Sunflower Scent's music traverses many genres, with their headbangers being a combination of doomy, bubbly and danceable, sometimes all at once. Their range is likely due to their approach in making music, which is communal and comes from pure enjoyment

of the process. "Jamming together to come up with something is a good way of keeping things new... And a good way of making sure that everyone's tastes are coming together," said Liam. "Everyone feels like it's partly their song. It's not like it's one person's band or song," said Jamie.

Sunflower Scent released their debut album 'Little Helpers' back in April. Written over last year and recorded September through November, the digital release mirrors their natural sound. "It's pretty [much] like how we sound live," said Liam. Putting out an entire album was a learning experience for the band, but a challenge they overall enjoyed. 'For Free' is Liam's favourite track on the album. "That song was a real knuckle-down... I think the fact that we got it to the point where it was good enough to go on the album, that's why I really like it," he explained. Describing that track as a "little battler", Jamie had a different answer: "'Sleep.' I think that's my favourite. It had the most re-listenability, personally."

Though it's only been a few months since the album release, the seeds of creativity have been growing in the form of new material. "All my favourite songs to play live now are the new ones we've been writing...we've already moved on to almost six or seven songs that aren't from the album," said Liam. The next months are huge for Sunflower Scent, packed with gigs, acoustic session releases and even a music video drop. They're in the rad line-up of bands slated to play DankFest at The Crown, August 26 - 27. Before that you can catch them at Pint Night on August 20. 'Little Helpers' is up on major streaming services and you can follow Sunflower Scent on FB or Insta (@sunflower.scent).

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MUSEUM

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# MR. WORLDWIDE



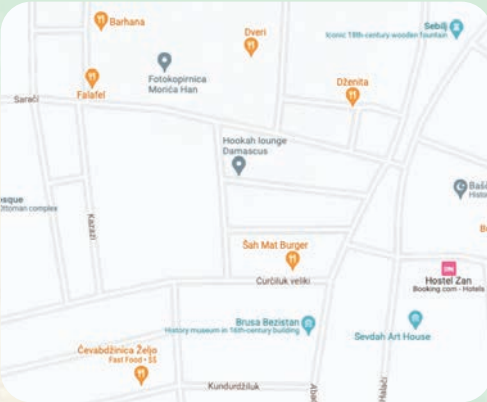
This week we have an image supplied by Jeremy. We were spot on with last week's location, though it required an extraordinary stroke of luck; A was at the former site of Pizzahub, in Melbourne.

**First thoughts:** This looks very Eastern European: everything from the roofing to the hookah shop.



I think the key to this will be the bank on the right side, at least to help narrow down the country. However, a quick search for 'bank amor' proved to be very useless. I don't think that is even the correct title, or it might just be an ATM. That was a good waste of the first ten minutes, spent trying different variations of amar, amor, and amom. Hmm, back to the drawing board.

What's this *Hostel for Me*? Could be a chain hostel, but let's take a look. However, a lucky Google search found that *Hostel for Me* is in Sarajevo in Bosnia and Herzegovina and not a chain. Obviously, I'm not the usual author of this column who is opposed to Googles. But, to my vindication, the guess of Eastern Europe was right on the money. Let's take a deep dive into the streets of Sarajevo.



The hostel is located in old town Bascarsija which narrows down the search a wee bit. Taking a closer look at the photo, I can see mountains in the background. Unfortunately, the entire town is surrounded by mountains, which does not narrow it down at all. The hard consonants of v, j, u, and accent marks over the top of them across the winding street gave me an awful headache and although I can't prove it, I think it made my Covid worse. I'm taking a break.

Upon the next inspection, with full mental clarity, the blue building looks like the top of a mosque, especially with the minaret barely in shot of the frame. Let's look at where the mosques are. Okay, there are two mosques very close to each other, so this seems very promising. Between the mosques, there is a place named 'hookah bar'. While this was not the hookah bar in the photo, it was only a block away.

It was a quick street view click to realise I was at the exact intersection on the corner of Trgovke and Sarači. See, told you this town was filled with hard consonants.



**Final answer:** Trgovke and Sarači near the Official Tourist Information Centre. This took almost 2 hours and around 45% off my Covid mental bandwidth.

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

# HOROSCOPES



**AQUARIUS** Jan 20 – Feb 18  
Feeling depressed? Yeah, aren't we all. Take some self-care time this week, and really reflect on your emotional wellbeing and relationships

*Holiday to book: Bali.*



**PISCES** Feb 19 – Mar 20  
Pisces have such an interesting way of being both the most insecure but egotistical people on the planet. You guys are kinda weird like that. It needs to be addressed.

*Holiday to book: Greece and Italy.*



**ARIES** Mar 21 – Apr 19  
Aries just always have this inability to admit they are the problem. Y'all too loud and always have something to say about everyone and everything. It's time to back up the judgement train.

*Holiday to book: Christchurch, how basic.*



**TAURUS** Apr 20 – May 20  
Behind your tough and stubborn exterior lies a soft and sensitive soul. Don't be afraid to get in touch with that side of yourself. It's okay to have a cry and curl up in bed. Sending love, my Tauruns.

*Holiday to book: Latin America.*



**GEMINI** May 21 – Jun 20  
Being a delusional airhead isn't actually funny. Try and get some brain cells, or better yet, a personality.

*Holiday to book: Australian Outback.*



**CANCER** Jun 21 – Jul 22  
Cancers are known for their caring and emotional nature, so try to channel this into your relationships this week. Get your special someone a little treat, or some flowers. They'll love it, and appreciate your gestures.

*Holiday to book: Fiji.*



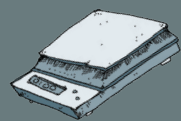
**LEO** Jul 23 – Aug 22  
Leo, you can't stop forcing people to care about the same things you do. Sometimes your passion and enthusiasm can come off as irritating or forceful. Ease up on people, everyone has different priorities.

*Holiday to book: The UK.*



**VIRGO** Aug 23 – Sep 22  
Virgo, are you being honest with yourself? Your wants, your needs? It's important to stay in tune with the emotions you usually tend to ignore. Stop distracting yourself with work, and start reflecting on your inner thoughts and feelings.

*Holiday to book: Tropical island vibes, like Tahiti.*



**LIBRA** Sep 23 – Oct 22  
You've fully come into your power this year, and that's a good thing. Remember to keep standing your ground and knowing your truth, don't let anyone make you question yourself.

*Holiday to book: A Queenstown roadie.*



**SCORPIO** Oct 23 – Nov 21  
Your emotions make you who you are, and they are so crucial to your identity. But sometimes, it's a little too much for people. Stop making those around you pick up your emotional labour. It's okay to keep some things to yourself.

*Holiday to book: Contiki around Thailand.*



**SAGITTARIUS** Nov 22 – Dec 21  
Oh my god, get your ass into gear. This semester is speeding on by, and you're still holding onto the past or sweating the small stuff. It's time to snap out of it, get into routine, and get back on track.

*Holiday to book: The Swiss Alps.*



**CAPRICORN** Dec 22 – Jan 19  
Good fortunes are coming your way, my fellow Capricorns! Keep manifesting those good vibes, and focusing on your intentions. Your hard work and dedication will pay off.

*Holiday to book: Surfers Paradise.*



SKUXX

FOOD

BY ROSIE JOYCE

@SKUXXFOOD



10-MINUTE

GARLIC CHILLI

OIL NOODLES

If you're like me and your algorithm is purely food videos, chances are you will have seen this recipe on TikTok. Here's my take on garlic chilli oil noodles. The perfect recipe to whip up for lunch, as it literally only takes 10 minutes.

INGREDIENTS

Serves 1

100 grams of any noodles, I like to use flat rice noodles	2 tablespoons of soy sauce
3 tablespoons of oil, preferably vegetable or rice bran	2 tablespoons of Chinese Zhenjiang ("Black Vinegar") or rice wine vinegar
1-2 cloves of garlic, minced	1 teaspoon of sesame seeds
2 teaspoons of ginger, finely grated	½-1 teaspoon of chilli flakes, depending on your spice preference
2 spring onions, roughly chopped	Optional: 1-2 teaspoons of chilli oil, depending on your spice preference

METHOD

- Cook noodles according to packet instructions.
- Meanwhile, add 3 tablespoons of oil to a separate pot on a medium-high heat.
- In a bowl, mix together the remaining ingredients.
- After 4-5 minutes, when the oil is sizzling, pour it over the ingredients in the bowl and mix together.
- When the noodles are cooked, drain them and pour into the bowl with the rest of the ingredients. Mix well to combine, garnish with more spring onion and chilli oil and eat while they are hot. Thank me later.

Donate Now:

SAVE THE RARE PURPLE GOANNA.

By Chug Norris

It is difficult to review RTDs because they are all so generic. Unlike beer, they don't have a certain type of person culturally associated with the drink; unlike spirits, they don't have a unique or surprising new way of getting people wasted. RTDs are made for the lowest common denominator, average and inoffensive. None of them can be truly good and none of them can be truly bad. Except for Purple Goanna.

Purple Goannas are the most horrific and putrid RTD ever to grace New Zealand's wholesale liquor establishments. They are unnatural, they are filthy. They inspire a mix of anger, repulsion and fear in those that have experienced them and lived to tell the tale. They are just barely fit for human consumption.

This is also why Purple Gs are exceptional. In the RTD world, the drink that is the most boring and bland version of vodka and juice is king. Purple Gs are an act of defiance to this mediocrity. But, sadly, Purple Gs are dying out.

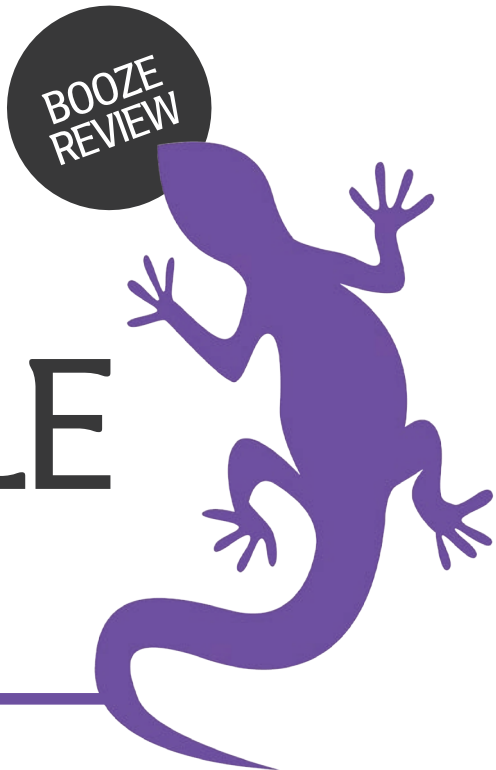
Purple Gs used to thrive in New Zealand liquor stores. A few years ago, you could walk into all but the most classy bottle stores and see a few boxes of Purple G's perched in the corner. You would grimace when your mate threatened to buy a box as you walked past them. At parties you could always count on seeing a full can of Purple G sitting on a window sill for an entire night because even the most ambitious drink-thief would not touch it.

But that has all changed. The habitats in which Purple Gs used to thrive are now being threatened by the expansion of invasive species. In the shitty and cold holes of Dunedin where they used to live, Purple Gs are being replaced by blander species of generic RTDs. Where there was once a cheeky purple lizard, there are now the plain and sensible designs of the serious and cynical companies that produce endless variations of the same drink.

It doesn't have to be this way. Purple Gs were once a vibrant and important part of NZ culture. They filled a niche which, though filthy and ungodly, contributed to the health of the alcohol ecosystem as a whole. Simply being aware that such an horrific drink existed as an alternative served a vital role in informing decision making around drink purchases.

There are a few liquor stores that serve as sanctuaries for endangered Purple Gs. Despite substantial habitat destruction, Purple Gs are an adaptive and versatile beverage. They can be saved. To this end, we appeal that you visit your local liquor store and donate now by buying any box of Purple Gs that you can find. Please, save Purple Gs. Save the filth of New Zealand's drinking culture.

**Tasting notes:** Hints of watermelon vape juice, corn syrup.  
**Froth level:** Protecting endangered species.  
**Tastes like:** Purple, violet, lilac.  
**Overall rating:** 1/10. Run.



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## Mommy Milk

So, pretty soon after I had broken up with my boyfriend, I decided to have a little hoe phase and met up with this guy. He was quite strange but he picked me up and we ended up going to a hotel (I have never felt more like a hooker in my life). For some reason he put on the Minion Movie and we watched the whole thing in silence.

After some awkward conversation he finally makes a move and clothes start coming off. I'm pretty sure he had a micropenis, which should have been the first (or second) red flag. He said he was on antibiotics which made him not able to get fully hard. This was the worst sex of my entire life, and I'm not even up to the bad part yet.

We decided to switch positions, me on top, which is when he reaches for my boob, looks me dead in the eyes, and says "gimme milk!" What. The. Fuck. I have never been more disgusted in my life. I got up, had a shower, made an excuse about leaving some important medication at home, and gapped it.

To make matters worse, after I left him in the hotel room, he snapped me a few times, one of which said he had made a hole in one of his pillows that he fucks when he thinks of me. Not sure of the logistics of that one, but at least the pillow can't give him milk.

## Togal Catastrophe

It was my first year at Otago Uni. I was freshly 18, still a virgin and O-week was coming up. I decided to go to toga with a couple of people I'd met that day. After more than a couple drinks, some shitty dancing and moving our way up in the crowd, I looked around only to realise I recognised no one. All I could feel was another sweaty fresher pressed up against me. His only identifying quality was the massive cheesy tattoo across his chest. I continued dancing with him until he pulled me aside and yelled that we should get out of there. Our walk back consisted of awkward drunken small talk and egg-dodging, before we made it back to Arana. We tried to go through the main entrance but since I didn't live there they wouldn't let me in, so we snuck in through the back fence. He unwrapped his toga to reveal his previously concealed metallic green boxers and he had to untie my sheet top for me. After some terrible kissing that felt like it lasted centuries, he chuckled on some god awful DnB.

There was no foreplay or anything that could possibly get me in the mood. Multiple attempts to put a condom on later, he finally went in. Keeping in mind, I was dryer than a bowl of Weetbix without milk. Luckily I was on my period so any blood that may have come from the first time round was thankfully covered. He kept trying to go at it from behind but in my inebriated state the action of turning me around was unsuccessful. After five minutes of sloppy painful missionary sex, he finished. Following the disappointing loss of my v-card, he could not get me out of there fast enough. I was left to fend for myself in the Arana corridor maze.

This man stayed in bed while I walked around drunk in my bra and shorts, sheet in hand (as I didn't have the time or ability to retie it), trying to find anything that resembled an exit. Finally I was rescued by a nice stranger, who took me back to campus to meet my mate from high-school. She didn't know her way around campus yet so she had to get her RA to bring her out to meet me. Safe to say, my fresher hoe phase could only get better from there.

Have something juicy to tell us? Send your salacious stories to [moaningful@critic.co.nz](mailto:moaningful@critic.co.nz). Submissions remain anonymous.

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

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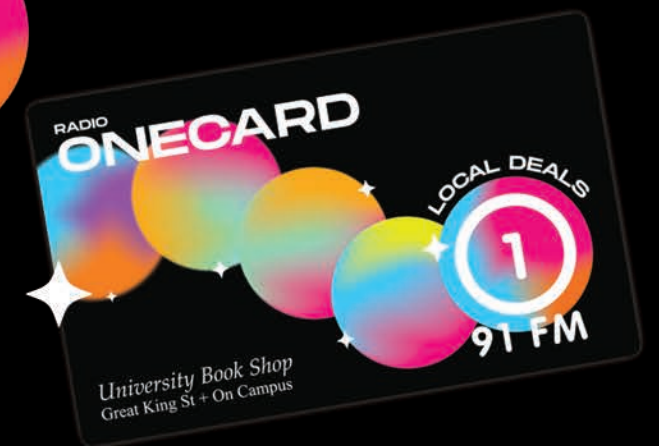
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### L.S. JEWELS & OUTFITS

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

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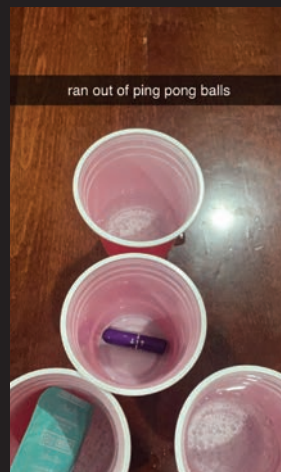
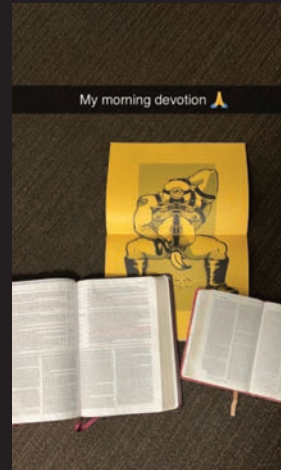
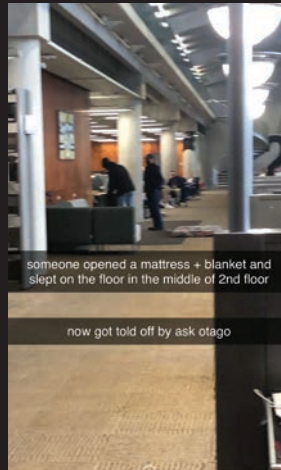
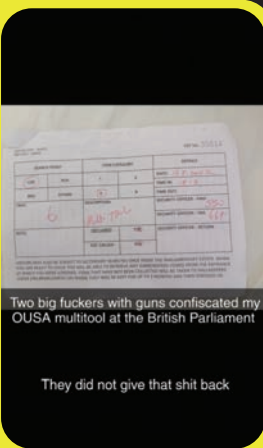
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