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LETTERS

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

LETTER OF THE WEEK

RE: Letter of the Week,

C.H shows a complete disregard for the situation that staff find themselves in. Many staff are under enormous work and personal pressures. Many staff have children and family who have COVID or are isolating, if they are not themselves. Teaching staff are expected to teach, research, and undertake service to the university. There are only 40 hours in a working week, and yet most teaching staff easily do 60+ hours a week. It is not hard to find compassion in these times.

Underlining C.H's criticisms is their fundamental misunderstanding of the purpose of the university. Education is a not a product to be bought and sold, students are not customers, professors are not tools, and the university is not a factory.

Sincerely,
JJ

Greetings Critic,

I am using this platform to reach out to everyone playing a social sport. All I want to ask is, if you have a group of friends, and you've all played netball or basketball competitively before (or are just somehow very good at it), why are you in the social league? Unipol at one point had separate competitive, social, and competitive-social leagues so surely you could join one of those. The social league should be reserved exclusively for teams who are absolutely hopeless (like me). We want to play against other teams that are also going to drop the ball every few minutes, so maybe unipol should set up a separate league solely for people who suck at whatever sport they're playing. The people with skills can go play well (while somehow still looking hot) somewhere else, give the rest of us some space to sweat and be out of breath in peace.

Yours clumsily
Xx

Dear Critic,

As a proud wāhine I was shocked and disappointed that your cancer star sign for the past weeks issue did not include anything to do with women. This was especially saddening as last Tuesday was international women's day, it only seemed appropriate to have something for the lovely women out there. I was looking forward to finding out my prophecy for the week. Please, do better, don't we deserve a little loving?

Best,
A women in STEM

Editor's response: I swear we wrote this week's Cancer horoscope before we read this letter.

To Mr Critic,

The absence of the wordfind from Critic this year has made me beside myself with bad vibes. How am I meant to learn to read without my weekly word recognition exercises? If you want me, and presumably many other students to become literate, then please add it back in. I had to use speech to text to make this message.

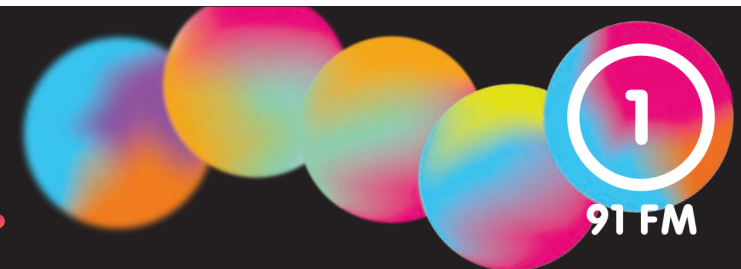
Sincerely,
Joe (concerned)

Hi Critic,

Hi,
Please can you fulfill the empty promises of last year and bring back the wordfind?

Love,
Hannah

RAD TIMES GIG GUIDE



THURSDAY 17 MARCH

Daniel McClymont's Tryhard Concerto
DUNEDIN PUBLIC ART GALLERY
8PM
Tickets from dunedinfringe.nz

FRIDAY 18 MARCH

Jared Smith
INCH BAR
7PM / KOHA ENTRY

Michael Morris
DOG WITH TWO TAILS
8PM
Tickets from undertheradar.co.nz

SATURDAY 19 MARCH

The Dark Eighties: Cult 80s Hits Party
DIVE
9PM

Gringodevil
THE CROWN HOTEL
8PM / FREE ENTRY

Rennie Pearson
CLARK HALL
7:30PM / \$20 / ALL AGES

SUNDAY 20 MARCH

Chris Priestly & The Unsung Heroes
tour
DUNEDIN FOLK CLUB, 80 LOVELOCK
AVENUE
7PM / \$10-15 / ALL AGES

Big Jazz Apple
INCH BAR
4PM / KOHA ENTRY

For more gigs happening around Dunedin, check out r1.co.nz/gig-guide

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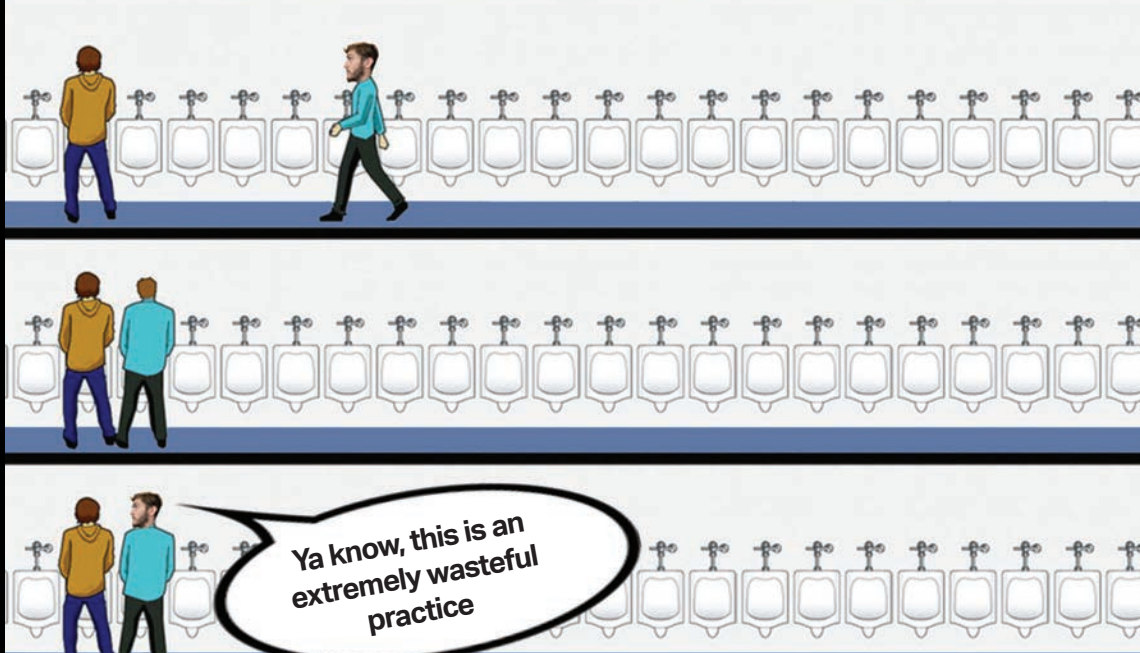
critic te arohi.

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

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Editorial: We Need to Re-Think Toilets

By Fox Meyer

The porcelain throne, like any monarchy, is outdated. It's an invention that was brought into the mainstream in a time of unprecedented wealth and prosperity. It was a groundbreaking innovation, one that brought sanitation into the homes of millions. But we can do better.

Every time you flush the toilet, you are using perfectly good drinking water to literally wash away garbage. You are pouring a valuable resource down the drain. Now, in water-rich parts of the country, we can afford to do this. But in places like Auckland, where water is increasingly becoming something of a concern, it may start to seem insulting to use this cherished resource as a means of disposing of human waste.

Imagine, for example, if we used to have so much petrol that it made sense to use it to flush away our waste – that would look pretty absurd today, wouldn't it? Looking forward, freshwater flushing seems like an incredibly wasteful practice. It feels like one of those things we'll look back on with our grandkids, assuming that we make it far enough to have grandkids (plural) without sucking our planet completely dry. I can picture it now: "you won't believe this, kids, but back in MY day, we used to use water to wash away our number ones and twos! Ha! Now, pass grandpa that state-sponsored bottle of nitrate-free H2O, I need my daily dose."

We need to think critically about the big-picture ways that we use water, like how we use it to wash away our poop. That seems unnecessary. I don't know what the solution is, because any solution would probably involve a complete overhaul of the freshwater delivery system and that is, to put it

simply, a big job. For example, we can't just hook up a big pipe to the ocean and flush toilets with seawater, because the entire municipal water system has already been designed and built around fresh water – not salt. But there is at least one alternative: a new design concept involves collecting human waste from a residential complex and using it to feed a culture of bacteria, which then produces energy that can be used to heat the very same complex. But this is expensive. In short, there are no simple solutions. And this brings us to why you should piss in the sink.

While we work on other solutions, we can at least start pissing in the sink or normalise pissing in the shower. It's, like, the cleanest possible way to pee, and so long as you're quiet about it, your flatmates will never know. Besides, you're either pissing in the shower, or you're lying. Pissing in the sink, for those who are able to piss in the sink, saves a lot of water. The water you use to wash your hands is also used to flush, although it will quickly start to smell. You can also use this time to spray away toothpaste stains.

Those proposals might be a bit facetious, but the point stands. Our current concept of what a toilet is and what a toilet can be is extremely one-dimensional. It's built on the stalwart assumption that we will always have enough clean water to do anything we want with it, including using perfectly good drinking water to clean away faeces. And we don't actually have that much. We need to start thinking about a better toilet. In the meantime, to all the sink-pissers and piss-sinkers of Dunedin, I salute you. But I probably won't shake your hand.



Official Endorsement for Mirror on Society

Student leaders play role in reshaping competitive entry pathway

By Fox Meyer & Zak Rudin

On Tuesday, 8 March, the University Council formally endorsed Te Kauae Parāoa, also known as the Mirror on Society Selection Policy. A recent review, involving staff as well as student voices, highlighted a need to provide more support for students with disabilities, which was incorporated in the most recent version of the policy.

Te Kauae Parāoa is a policy designed to facilitate "academic equity" within the Division of Health Sciences' professional programmes (e.g. Med, Dent, Pharmacy). There is a focus on Māori students, as well as "students from other under-represented groups who have the potential to succeed academically," such as those with lower socioeconomic status, and students with refugee backgrounds.

Although around 16% of Aotearoa's population is Māori, less than 4% of our doctors are Māori, and less than 2% percent are Pasifika. Te Kauae Parāoa is designed to change this. In an earlier interview with Critic Te Arohi, Vice-Chancellor Prof David Murdoch said "there's no question that having [healthcare staff] that reflect our

communities improves health... people from various communities tend to go back to their communities".

This recent review of Te Kauae Parāoa was run by a policy working group, comprised of more than 20 University stakeholders representing staff, students and academics. Student voices have played a key role, with both the 2021 (Michaela Waite-Harvey) and 2022 (Melissa Lama) OUSA presidents and Karamea Pewhairangi, the 2021 Te Roopū Māori president, adding their voices to the kōrero.

A University spokesperson said that "all three [student voices] provided both an important presence and insight into the group, and I would like to thank them for their hard work." Melissa further highlighted the need for education for students in health professional programs on the importance of equitable affirmative policies to negate the "constant need for Māori and Pasifika students to have to defend the policy".

According to Prof Paul Brunton, Pro-Vice-Chancellor at the Division of Health Sciences, a key finding from the review

was that "more needed to be done to support students with disabilities to make a meaningful contribution to the health workforce." To help with that, "a separate group, led by the Manager Disability Information and Support, will be established to examine how best to include students with disabilities into the policy."

This current policy is not set in stone: a University spokesperson clarified that the policy will keep being reviewed to "ensure the policy is fit for purpose... a three-yearly review gives us a stronger mandate to do what is best for that health workforce". This means that any future changes will likely be focused on keeping up with shifting demands, demographics and equity.

The policy will affect entry into one of the most competitive degree pathways on campus, and eligibility criteria are a concern for prospective students. These criteria "are currently being considered by the admissions committees of the various Division of Health Sciences programmes." They will be available online "well before" applications for the 2023 programmes are due.



STAY TUNED!

COMING SOON TO RADIO ONE

Small but Vocal Socialist Counter-Protest On Museum Lawn

Studlt ain't much, but it's honest work

By Denzel Chung

News Editor // news@critic.co.nz

A protest intended to oppose the Wellington anti-mandate protest had to quickly pivot after the shutdown of the Wellington protest just two days before. Despite being small in number, those attending insisted the cause was still urgent enough to motivate them.

Organised by International Socialists Ōtepoti Dunedin, the protest was originally scheduled to be held on Saturday February 26 in the Octagon. This was to coincide with an anti-mandate convoy passing through at the time. However, after an anti-war protest was also organised in response to the war in Ukraine (which Critic Te Arohi reported on in last week's issue), a decision was made to postpone it to the following Saturday. In a statement, the organisers said they hoped to "cede the space, rather than take any, from Ukrainians in New Zealand". The anti-mandate protestors did not follow suit, and some instead suggested that the

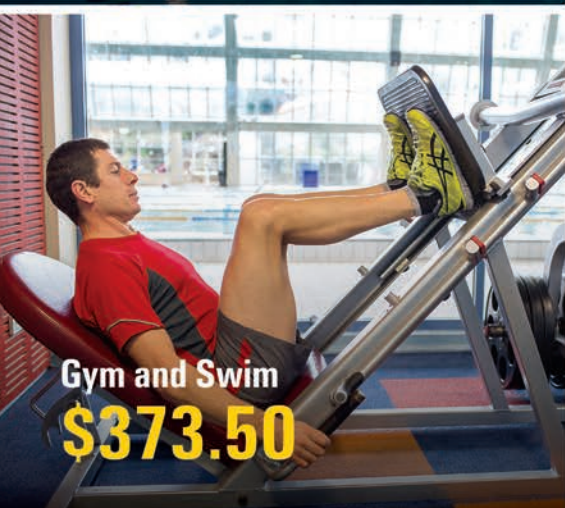
war in Ukraine was somehow connected to a global conspiracy that a few of their members heralded as undeniable truth.

The change of location was meant to "avoid confrontation and escalating tensions," said Brandon, a community activist at the protest. Along with the venue change came a change in focus: in a statement, the International Socialists Ōtepoti Dunedin said that they wanted a "less rowdy gathering... under the kaupapa of Aotearoa Stronger Together". Brandon explained: "We want to oppose the mindset of 'living with the virus' that is being promoted now." He told Critic Te Arohi that the discussion now was being largely driven by business lobbies, leaving the most of the burden on our most vulnerable, such as those who are disabled or immunocompromised.

Thea, a student at the protest, said she felt it was still important to show up, despite the Wellington protests having been

shut down. "It doesn't mean the threat is gone, it's just moved to different parts of the country now, but it's still active," she said. "I've been called a 'mask whore' while walking past the protesters in the Octagon... but I just want us to keep each other safe." Thea pointed out that she had vulnerable family members, and she didn't want to be the one to give them Covid.

The protest seemed sparsely attended, with only about 8 members present when Critic Te Arohi visited, a far cry from the 113 who said they were interested on Facebook, or the 27 who marked "going". Brandon explained that "some people were isolating", and some had been reluctant to attend a public event with Covid raging. He admitted, though, that it was probably less motivating without an active protest to demonstrate against. Most walking past seemed indifferent or mildly supportive, with the exception of one old Pākehā lady, who reminded Brandon "It's New Zealand, [not Aotearoa]". Thanks for that.



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"Systemic Racism, Discrimination, Bullying" Found in PE School, Wider Uni

VC looks to "create a transformational change in culture" in response

By Denzel Chung

News Editor // news@critic.co.nz

A scathing review of "conduct and culture" in the School of Physical Education, Sport and Exercise Sciences has found serious concerns about "systemic racism, discrimination and bullying at the School and... within the [wider] University". In response, new Vice-Chancellor Professor David Murdoch has promised that "creating transformational change in response to this report has the highest priority for me."

The review was set up in January 2021, in response to allegations raised by Te Koronga, a kaupapa Māori research and teaching rōpu within the PE School. According to a statement, in August 2021, they "took a peaceful stand against systemic racism by peacefully removing ourselves and relocating our offices, work and study spaces... to maintain our mana and those of the communities we represent".

According to an all-staff e-mail from the VC, the review was set up in response to "staff members raising serious concerns with senior leadership" throughout 2021. The review was conducted by Dr Darryn Russell, the CEO of the Heretaunga Tamatea Settlement Trust and former Assistant Vice-Chancellor Māori, Pacific and Equity at the University of Canterbury. The review found "allegations of systemic racism, discrimination and bullying at the school are upheld... [and went] beyond the Māori focus (from a racism lens) [to] affect other under-represented groups in the School with evidence of discrimination and bullying."

The review pointed out the problems went far beyond the PE School, with "allegations of systemic racism, discrimination and bullying... within the Uni" also upheld. According to the review, "the institutional structures, processes and policies set up to address culture and behaviour issues have failed staff over a long period of time." In particular, "the authority, empowerment and resources to lead, mediate and enact the Māori academic agenda is not anywhere at the University of Otago."

The Human Resources Department was singled out: despite having "an awareness of these issues [they have] failed to act on these and on the allegations and consequently has lost the confidence of some people that they will be provided with a safe workplace". Despite "articulating a commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi and Māori advancement," the review argued that "the institution has failed to give effect to such statements or resource those commitments."

In his e-mail, Prof Murdoch acknowledged that "the mamae felt by staff in this School is likely to be felt more widely throughout the University," and that "previous attempts to address overt and covert forms of racism and discrimination throughout the University have not been satisfactory and have at times been ignored." Thanking the contributors to the review for their "mana and leadership," he continued by saying "failing to provide care and support for our kaimahi needs to change immediately," before promising that "this will change, and this change will start now."

The recommendations from the review have been "unanimously endorsed" by Prof Murdoch, the wider Senior Leadership Team and the University Council. These recommendations include reviewing the Uni's Ethical Behaviour Policy, "address[ing] the absence of senior Māori academic leadership," and "re-establishing that Māori Strategic Framework responsibilities and implementation must be embedded across the institution... and that all staff are engaged in its prioritisation." It was also recommended that "resources [be provided] to support the cultural and individual safety of staff and students during this next period, post-Review." Further recommendations to the specific PE School were raised separately with their staff, "to address the seriousness of these allegations."

In response to the review, Associate Professor Anne-Marie Jackson, the Chair of

Te Koronga, said in a statement that they would be "no longer structurally located within" the PE School, saying that "we need the ability and space to heal, to support our staff and students and continue our programmes of research and teaching excellence". They aim to "re-ignite the discussions to create a Department of Indigenous Science, as part of the transformational actions moving forward".

Prof Murdoch pointed out that "we are doing a number of things well," saying it was also "important... that we remember some of the incredible feats of our Māori and Pasifika staff and students," including record numbers of Māori and Pasifika enrolments, graduates and "two new wāhine Māori in senior leadership positions".

Admitting that "significant structural change is needed to deconstruct systems that have consciously and subconsciously harmed groups within the University," David struck an optimistic note, saying that it "will only continue to strengthen the University for Māori, Pasifika and the wider University whānau". "By making these changes," he said, "we are taking hold of an opportunity to create transformational change." The ultimate goal of the changes would be to "provide staff throughout the University with a refuge from issues of structural or overt racism and discrimination... a place of excellence where they can thrive in their own identities."

"Creating transformational change in response to this report has the highest priority for me as Vice-Chancellor," he concluded. "We have a real opportunity to shape the future of the University... [and] everyone in the University has a role to play in changing our culture." He promised that "over the coming weeks and months, you will be hearing more from me about how we progress the Review's recommendations as a catalyst for change."

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Second Week of Protests as Situation in Ukraine Intensifies

"Until the skies over Ukraine are clear, it is hard to relax."

By Aiman Amerul Muner
Critic Photographer // aiman@critic.co.nz

For the second weekend in a row, a small crowd consisting of Ukrainians, Russians and others gathered in the Octagon to oppose Russia's attack on Ukraine. Among them are students whose families have been forced to flee what has now become a war zone.

Among those in attendance on Saturday March 5th was Ukrainian student Khrystyna Samsonova. A Masters of Information Science student who has been in Aotearoa for 9 years, she told Critic Te Arohi that as the situation worsened, she was feeling tense and "useless".

"There are little words to describe how I have been feeling," said Khrystyna. "Many sleepless nights, and constantly checking my phone for notifications and updates while simultaneously being terrified of what [those notifications] might turn out to be."

In the early hours of Friday March 4th, a fire broke out at Europe's largest nuclear power plant after an artillery strike was carried out on the plant, located in the city of Zaporizhzhya, by the Russian military. Khrystyna, who has a lot of family members in Zaporizhzhya, felt a sense of dread waking up to a story like this.

"You know these places. You've walked, drove past it many times," she said. She was particularly worried about friends and family "who are staying in their homes, either not having the means to leave or just not wanting to."

Having grown up in Brovary, near the capital city of Kyiv, and with many friends and former classmates still there, she said it was also hard for her to see the capital effectively transform into a warzone.

When asked how it has been communicating with loved ones back home, Khrystyna was very thankful for modern technology. "For those (Ukrainians) who can access the Internet, social media platforms like Instagram, Messenger and Telegram have increasingly become a way for people to communicate with each other at the moment." Social media has been a double-edged sword, though, she said: "It has been super hard viewing everything unravelling through a screen. No good feeling comes out of it."

As more cities become targets for Russian shelling, Ukrainians are increasingly desperate to leave; according to a tracker from the United Nations Refugee Agency, more than 2 million people have fled the country. However, Western journalists, media pundits and political figures have been accused of double standards regarding their reactions to the crisis in Ukraine. As one Twitter user put it: "If they were brown people in Yemen or Palestine prepping molotovs for self defence, they would be labelled terrorists," a social media user posted on Twitter.

However, Khrystyna rejected this claim as unhelpful right now, saying: "This is about all refugees, regardless of their colour and background. They need help." According

to a protester at the anti-war rally, "You do not have to be white or brown to be a refugee. This is a classic example of what can happen to anyone, regardless of their skin colour and background."

Despite her difficult situation, Khrystyna was grateful that her course supervisor has been very understanding of her and her situation. Her flatmates have also been supportive _ she even managed to bring them to the protest. At the protest, a flatmate told Critic Te Arohi: "There is not much we could do down here but that would not stop us from showing our support and love towards her and the people of Ukraine."

Ukrainians in Aotearoa are a small and tight-knit community, she said: "Hearing about any region or city being under attack will never be easy. Our community in New Zealand is not big... you meet with other Ukrainians and share updates on what is going on, [about] people whose families are still there and fighting."

But even with the odds seemingly stacked against them, Khrystyna emphasised that morale among Ukrainians, whether in Aotearoa, Ukraine, or around the world, was high. As Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky recently vowed in a speech, "I am not hiding and I am not afraid of anyone." He ended his speech with a Ukrainian salute, now globally famous as a symbol of Ukrainian resistance: "Slava Ukraini," he said, "Glory to Ukraine."



New Pastoral Care Code

We read the report so you don't have to

By Zak Rudin
News Reporter // zak@critic.co.nz

A new Pastoral Care Code of Practice has been introduced this year, formalising the guidelines for how unis will take care of their students. It remains to be seen whether the changes on paper will translate into changes in practice.

The Code of Practice came into effect on January 1st this year. Weighing in at a whopping 15,000 words, it introduces a "whole-of-provider approach", meaning previously separate codes covering domestic and international students have been merged into a single "mother code". Despite being weighty, a Uni spokesperson told Critic Te Arohi that "the vast majority of the Code relates to things the Uni already does... [so] there is no massive

implementation required to operate under the Code."

The code is currently in the "initial implementation phase". As it's being introduced, it's overseen by the Uni's Office of Strategy, Analytics and Reporting in conjunction with residential colleges, the International Office and Student Services. The results of the self-review process are periodically shared with other universities.

In line with the previous code, the Student Mental Wellbeing reference group was created in 2021, which comprises "student pastoral support, mental health support, students and OUSA student support representatives" and is designed "to

increase the University's understanding and support of student wellbeing challenges". The code includes obligations for halls of residences to inform students of their "rights and obligations as tenants".

Asked about how Te Tiriti and tikanga Māori was being incorporated into the implementation process, the University pointed to their Māori Strategic Framework, "which informs our approach to meeting all of our obligations under the Code... [including] describing how the organisation will contribute to an education system that honours Te Tiriti o Waitangi." We reached out to the Office of Māori Development for comment on this, but couldn't get a response before the deadline.

Polytech Provides Frozen Meals to Isolating Students

"Fuck!" says decade-old bottle of Pad Thai sauce in cupboard

By Zak Rudin
News Reporter // zak@critic.co.nz

Polytech students rejoice: thousands of frozen meals are winging their way to your flats, dreamt up and prepared by a team of staff and students.

The project began with Polytech senior lecturer Tony Hepinstall, who started the initiative as "a social enterprise where students could give back to their peers." With many students being in isolation, and unable to properly shop for groceries or cook, they've been forced to rely on food delivery services or stock up on frozen meals. The issue, said Tony, was that frozen meals are expensive – \$7 to \$8 a piece. Gazing on the fluorescent blue boxes in his flat freezer, he had an epiphany: "We can do better food at a cheaper price."

A quick call to the Polytech's Student Success team later, they were on their way. Bachelor of Culinary Arts students developed a menu of 14 dishes, from pumpkin and kumara soup to lasagna, meatballs, mac and cheese and chicken to tofu Pad Thai. A "ghost kitchen" was set up, which is culinary-speak for a kitchen preparing food which is then served somewhere else. These meals were then cooked up, packed and frozen for delivery to isolating Polytech students. Around 1,000 meals were prepared in the space of about a week, with an Instagram video showing a slick, factory-like operation cranking out meals from the Polytech kitchens.

"The meals are more comfort food than healthy food," according to Tony, "but they were all made from scratch". Satisfyingly, the wholesome student-prepared meals were significantly more affordable, costing around \$4.60 each including packaging. But more important than the financial aspects, it was also about manaaki, according to Tony: "making people feel better by receiving our food, [rather than] what we teach through most of the Bachelor of Culinary Arts, which is how to make money out of selling food."

whoever took the sign from outside the cumberland st petrol station/subway could you please bring it back...no questions will be asked! we understand satdee night antics but we really need it back thank you 😊

"Satdee Night Antics" Lead To Stolen Sign

Pricey promotional placard pilfered by presumably-pissed pricks

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

A brand-new promotional sign outside on Cumberland Street was stolen, with the theft blamed on "satdee night antics". As of press time, it had not been found despite a juicy financial reward on offer.

The sign was purchased just before Christmas by the Northgate Shop, which runs the convenience store next to the (separately-owned) Waitomo petrol station on Cumberland Street. Standing 69.5cm tall (nice) and 60cm wide, the plain black sign had advertised the delights on offer in the shop: drinks, ice, coffee and trailer hire. It had only been there for a few weeks, but that was long enough to make its presence felt, as the grass underneath it had already changed colour.

Disaster struck on the night of March 5. It was a warm Saturday night, and with the first wave of students beginning to emerge

from their plague dens, an irrepressible urge to get on the rark was thick in the air. Sirens wailed up and down the one-ways all night, but right under their noses, at 2:02am, the crime of the century was being committed.

At 9:30am the next morning, a desperate cry for help went up on the Otago Flatting Goods page from Narese, a co-owner of the shop. "Whoever took the sign from outside the cumberland st petrol station/subway could you please bring it back...no questions will be asked! We understand satdee night antics but we really need it back thank you," it read. Alongside the plea was a forlorn picture of the grass patch where once stood a sign.

The Facebook community was less than helpful. When we last checked, the post had received 27 "haha" reacts and 15 likes,

with only 1 "sad" react and, intriguingly, a single heart. The comments section was no more inspiring, with the exception of Christopher, who confidently blamed "typical limp-wristed townie students" for the crime despite the fact that strong wrists are a well-known requirement for any up-and-coming sign bandit.

When a grainy CCTV image of the crime was posted, the (very real) crack analytics team at Critic Te Arohi pointed out at least two humanoid-looking bipedal figures, sign in hand. Alongside this footage was dangled a juicy financial incentive: a cool \$100 in Northgate Store credit for anyone who returns the sign. As of press time, though, no one had stepped up and the sign bandits were still at large. Who are they, and where will they strike next?

Outcry Over Positive RAT Sale

Shitposter RATted out to Police

By Sean Gourley
Staff Writer // sean@critic.co.nz

A local caused a minor uproar when he claimed to be selling positive COVID tests for just \$49 on the Facebook group Otago Flatting Goods. It is unclear from the post whether the four tests on offer were being sold separately or as a pack, or if it was even a genuine offer.

The post first asked Facebook users, "Have you been overworked due to high demand and short staff? Feel like a 10 day break?" It then offered "4 positive tests for sale (aka) get out of jail free cards." The poster also claimed the tests were in "very good condition". In an ODT article the same week, Professor Michael Baker, an Otago Epidemiologist currently favoured by the media spotlight, claimed that the post was "not funny". Critic was not able to reach the original vendor for comment.

Dr. Brett Nicholls, an Otago expert on media, stated "[h]umour is probably the most difficult thing to analyse because it is highly complex and doesn't travel well across discourses and contexts. We might say the ironic post is signalling the novelty of the situation along with this tension in Dunedin student culture between studying and leisure... it comes with risks. Irony produces unintended effects and there is no way of knowing how the joke will be read."

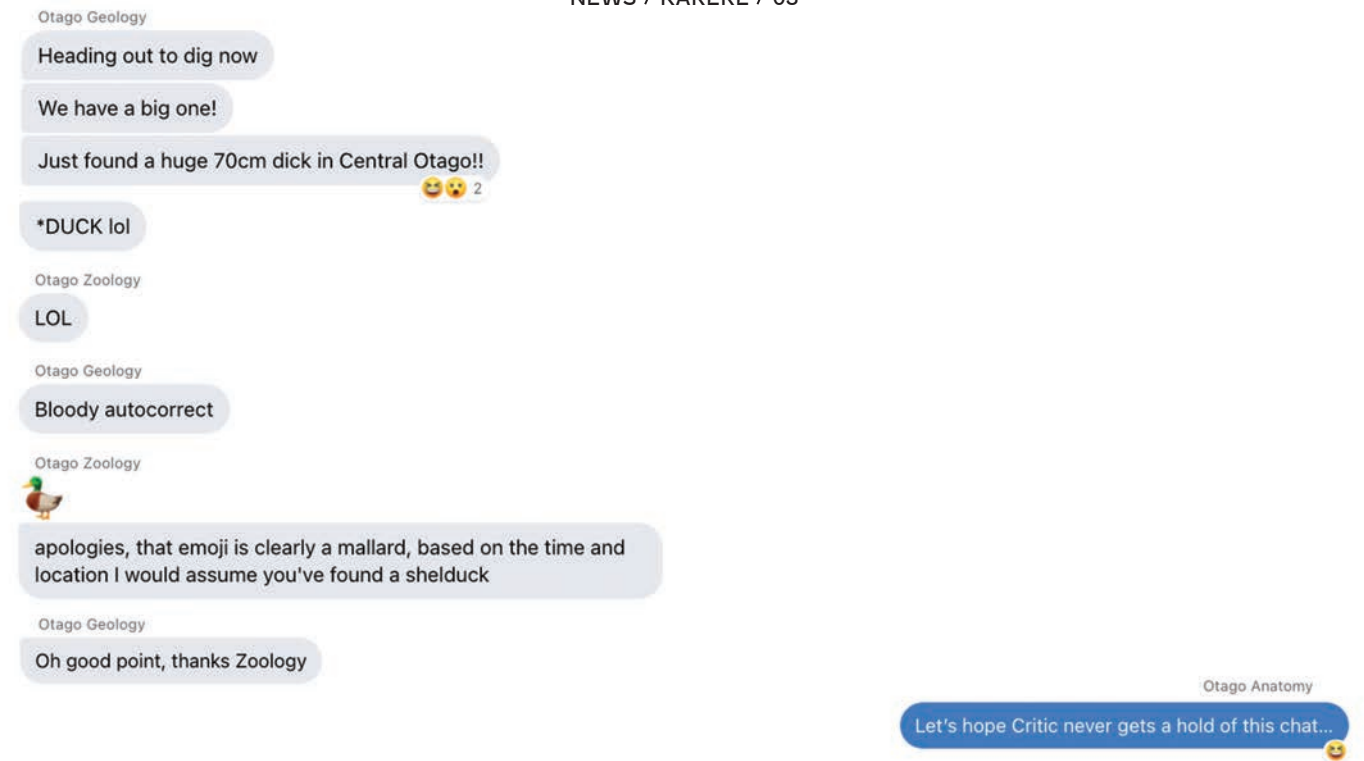
Baker stated, "It's no joke. If you are using some method to defraud your employer by having them support you with a period of sick leave, I would have thought that was criminal behaviour."

The original poster is laying low and has not made any comments about the post. As

of last Wednesday, the ODT had reported that police were now investigating this shitpost-gone-wrong, which may explain the silence.

One last thing, Baker added, "[what] I think is particularly distressing about this sort of behaviour is that we know one of the features of the Omicron wave is that not only does it make people very sick and put them in hospital, it also puts a huge strain on essential services." Presumably, a bogus 10-day sick leave would add undue stress to an already stressed workforce. While buying and selling fraudulent tests may be illegal, it remains completely within your rights to go around licking doorknobs or huffing the air coming out of the Octagon protest. If you're that desperate to catch a virus, that is.





Researchers Find Big Fossilised Duck in Central Otago

Haha Big Duck go Quack Quack

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

A team of researchers, including Otago staff and students, have discovered an exciting new fossil at St Bathans in Central Otago: a species of shelduck. The original animal is believed to have been massive, standing at a whopping 70cm. For a duck, that's pretty tall.

The duck was believed to have lived somewhere between 15–19 million years ago. Dr Nic Rawlence, from the Zoology department, emphasised that the world where giant ducks waddled the earth was vastly different to the Aotearoa we know today. "It was a greenhouse world, with palm trees, coconut trees and eucalypt forests... and a giant lake." That giant lake, Lake Manuherikia, was believed to have covered at least 3,500 square kilometres, or around the size of six Lake Taupōs.

In what Dr Rawlence called an "Alice in Wonderland" version of our world – "strangely familiar, but with outlandish aspects" – were the tūpuna of familiar animals like kiwi and tuatara, but also flamingos and crocodiles. Cruising around in this humid, almost tropical atmosphere were also at least seven different species of duck – although this specimen was probably the biggest and baddest of them all.

A team including staff and postgrads from Otago's Zoology, Anatomy and Geology Depts., Massey Uni (in Albany) and Te Papa stumbled upon a bone which "looked like a duck, but not like any duck we know of," according to Dr Rawlence. "It was a lot bigger, and the proportions were all wrong".

Further investigation unearthed that it was indeed a new species of duck, and while Dr Rawlence was keen to emphasise that they were "still processing through the material we've excavated," they know enough to make a few assumptions about what these ducks would be like.

A bit like the shelducks we know and love around campus today, they would be "most happy to be on the ground, grazing on grass," although they would also be "quite happy in the water". However, don't let this seemingly docile behaviour fool you: despite it being too early to determine whether they would have alpha-ed over the six other species of duck around at the time, "knowing the shelducks we see today, this was probably a duck you don't want to mess with," warned Dr Rawlence.

He spoiled Critic's fantasies of using these fossils as the foundation for a new Jurassic Duck Park, warning that "there wouldn't be enough genetic material to bring it back. The current record [for extracting genetic material from fossils] is around 1.2 million years... any traces of genetic material would be gone by now."

Discovering a new species meant he also has first dibs on naming it, and rather wholesomely, he decided to name it after his mum, Catriona. "My mum inspired my love of natural history... Mum loved hearing stories of my outdoor adventures, wanting full reports on what had been found – she would have been excited by this discovery." The prospect of having a giant duck named after us is what gets Critic up in the morning.

If discovering giant ducks is what gets you up in the morning too, Dr Rawlence encouraged students to "take a Zoology or Geology degree, or even both," and emphasised that their "researchers, including myself, would welcome any postgrads. We've got plenty of projects".

Data Mining Dunedin Noise Complaints

Students say speaker sovereignty should stay secure

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

Data seen by Critic Te Arohi has shed light on where, when and why noise complaints were lodged around Dunedin. One Otago student managed to rack up nine in a single semester.

According to Dunedin City Council data seen and painstakingly analysed by Critic Te Arohi, 3,613 noise complaints were recorded for the year 2021. According to a DCC spokesperson, these were mostly due to "party and stereo noise". Of these, North D and the CBD accounted for 69% (nice) of these complaints.

North D, interestingly, accounted for less than 20% of the total noise complaints in the Dunedin area. You may expect that February would see the most complaints there, but although February's 192 noise complaints (almost 7 per day) is a pretty good effort, it was beaten out by October, with a whopping 289 complaints. In other words, that's over 9 people calling

noise control into North D every single day. Maybe students just want to cram in silence.

Throughout 2021, there were 61 unlucky people who got their equipment seized by noise control throughout the entire Dunedin area. May seems to be the month when noise control gets real trigger happy, with 12 seizures. Henry, a DJ and Otago student, racked up over 9 noise complaints in the first semester, all on his own. In his words: "if we got one more complaint the council could come in and take our loud boom boom machines." Good luck prying these loud boom boom machines out of Henry's cold, dead, Billy Mav-soaked hands.

Henry described some of the situations where they've had noise control called as "music we were listening to while studying, eating, or having DMC's in a bedroom". He worried that with equipment being seized and Dunedin venues charging high rates

for bands to play, it could potentially hurt "the up-and-coming music industry in Dunedin".

Sam, a student, was unsure as to whether noise control has been more aggressive in recent months. He thought that "noise control has gotten a lot worse in the past years... but we gave them a fake name and fake address twice and they didn't really care so it's definitely a mixed bag".

Outside of stereo noise, though, the most interesting noise control complaints include: TVs (four noise complaints), roadworks (seven noise complaints), a dog (one), a ship (one) and a church hall (one). It seems the presence of Jesus in that church was interrupted by noise control officers that day. Rather intriguingly, there was also an "other" category. While the DCC spokesperson did not disclose what type of noise falls into this unspecified area, Critic Te Arohi can only assume it has something to do with extremely noisy sex.

PHOTOGRAPHY
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PAINTING
SCULPTURE
OTHER

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World Music Assignment Ridiculed for “Unholy” Font Choice

People hate Comic Sans MS even more than they hate icebreakers

By Elliot Weir

Features Editor // features@critic.co.nz

First-year music students studying MUSI104 (World Music) were given an assignment designed to help students in the class get to know one another better for an upcoming group project on the first of March. The assignment was pretty straightforward, but students were taken aback when the eight-page document they were sent was written entirely in Comic Sans MS.

MUSI104 is an introductory paper that allows students to explore music from cultures across the world, but the “unholy font” reportedly distracted students, one arguing that “such an atrocity ought to be protested for weeks on end at the Octagon” and that the font choice made them question “the legitimacy of the university”.

Comic Sans MS is one of the most maligned fonts on the internet, and has repeatedly caused headlines when used in

serious situations. When CERN announced the monumental discovery of the Higgs Boson particle in 2012, the results were presented in comic sans. In 2019, during the Ukraine scandal that led to President Trump’s impeachment in the US, his lawyers were mocked for writing legal documents to congress in comic sans. Many believe the font should be reserved for doge memes and nothing else, although some defendants of the font argue it is one of few fonts easily legible to dyslexic readers. The British Dyslexia Association recommends a number of fonts that are dyslexia friendly, including Arial, Verdana, Trebuchet, Calibri, and yes, Comic Sans.

Naturally, Critic reached out to a graphic design student to get an expert take on the font. The student, Maddie, thought that the font had caught a bad rep. “I think hating on Comic Sans is like the people who say they hate the word ‘moist’

and that Nickelback sucks”, she said. “Comic Sans has a place, form your own opinions.” And while she agreed with a “flat no” that this place was not in official University assignments (“never mix business and pleasure”), that it was important to “let people have a little bit of fun sometimes. Sometimes, you just gotta be a little bit silly.”



The Curious Case of the Crook's Consistent Covid Cancellation Curse Continues

Fifth gig gets gagged

By Fox Meyer

Critic Editor // critic@critic.co.nz

Rezzy Crooks, Covid's least favourite band, has had another gig cancelled. After at least four Pint Night cancellations over the past two years, the band was excited to play a gig with Hot Sauce Club at the Crown Hotel. And then it was cancelled.

"It's hard to put a number on how many gigs we've had cancelled, last lockdown cancelled at least four and postponed one. We've had four Pint Nights cancelled the day before. Five gigs cancelled within a week of showtime. Heaps of other bands have had shit cancelled because of Covid, but this was like a week before", bemoaned frontman Sam.

"We wanted to say that Jacinda is out to cancel us because she doesn't want the New Zealand public to witness the Rezz", said Sam. Rezzy Crooks, of course, being shorthand for "resin". "Because Jacinda is

purely anti-resin." Another band member, Toby, said "it just makes sense, doesn't it? Otherwise why is this happening? It's like the only conclusion we can come to."

The band's gigs have had a history of coinciding with Covid outbreaks. "The day after we booked the gig at the Crown is when omicron came into the community", said Sam. Their past gigs have been similarly cancelled by lockdowns one, two and three. All within four days.

The band was now worried about their newfound power. "It seems like if we decide to have a gig then it'll cause Covid. It's like our fault", said Sam. "Every time we decided to set a gig, the government responded and unleashed Covid." Guilt was clearly wracking the band's collective consciousness.

"The conspiracy needs to be extended further", said Sam. "The stock market crash? Petrol prices? Big pharma? And The Man? What does this all have to do with it? We don't know, but we're sure to find out."

"They're conspiring against us because in our last EP we let out the full secret on how to make resin and smoke it. And they wanna suppress it because if you smoke it you'll wake up and realise you're living in a tyrannical regime", said Toby.

The band concluded with a shoutout to their two new songs, which we highly recommend you tune into as a way to rage against the machine. You can find "Cellophane" and "Strawberry Milk" on Spotify, as well as "Toni Hawke" and "Again, and Again" by accompanying act Hot Sauce Club.



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8:30 – 9:30am*
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PRESIDENT Melissa Lama

Kia ora taurira mā, Mālo e lelei and warm Pacific greetings!

Ko Melissa Lama tēnei.

It's my pleasure to be your OUSA President for 2022!

Massive shout out to all our Taurira doing it tough at the moment, your efforts do not go unnoticed and if anything, y'all deserve to take a bow for your patients and ability to navigate the current climate that we are in.

I have had the pleasure of being a student at Otago University for 4 years, did an Undergrad degree in a Bachelor of Arts majoring in Political science and just recently completed a Master in Business Administration. University was never an option I saw possible, in fact my NCEA credits will confirm this LOL!!!

But here we are, taking life one day at a time and in that process finding

who I am in this space and doing me the best way I know how "You do you boo".

I was excited to this write up, because I really wanted to share all the favourite activities and hobbies that I enjoy beyond the role of OUSA President. I am a huge foodie, who can procrastinate for hours with watching Mukbang on YouTube, I enjoy jumping on the bandwagon when it comes to sport and every now and then I enjoy a good boogie with friends and pretending I am good at karaoke.

I am always here to hype and support students through their journey, whether that is through your studies or personal goals, Otago University is really place that can help you find that for yourself.

My last words of encouragement are to stay true to who you are, reach out to OUSA if you are needing that extra support and make this journey ahead something you would be proud to look back on!

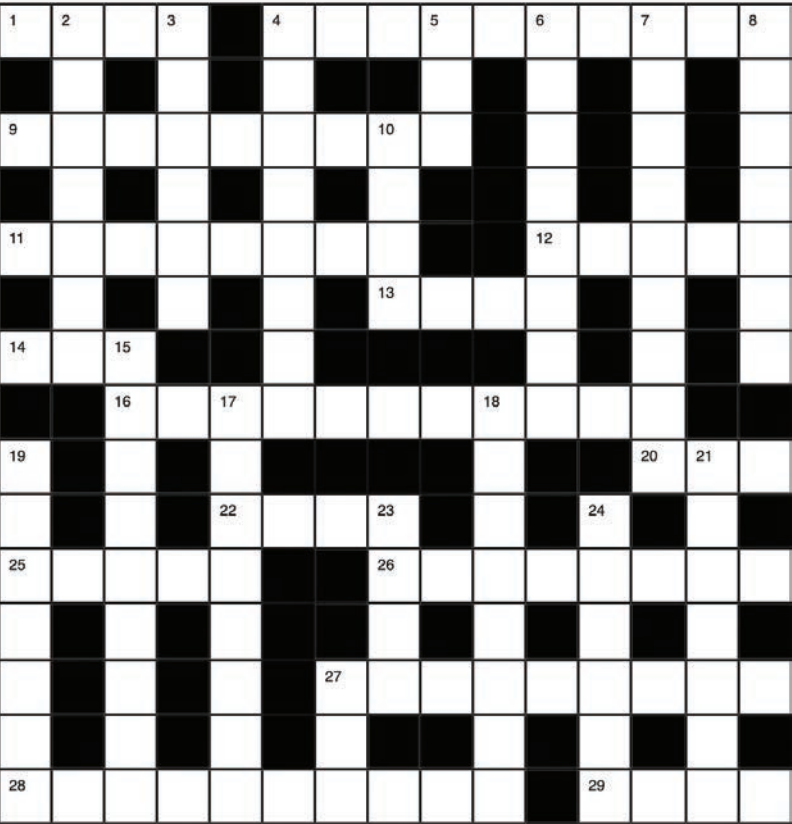
Malo 'aupito,

Melissa Lama

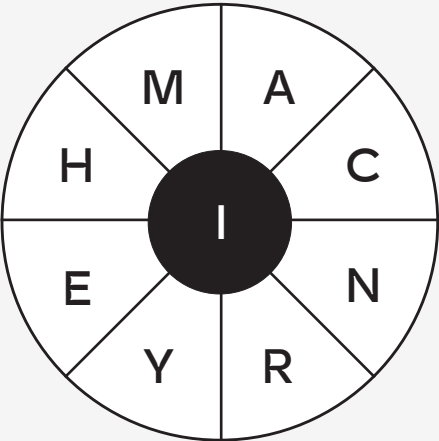
ousa
EXECUTIVE

PUZZLES

CROSSWORD



WORD WHEEL



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

WEEK 02 CROSSWORD ANSWERS

ACROSS: 1. Octagon 5. Caskets 9. Comrade 10. Prank 11. Knead 12. Obscene 13. Tools 15. Royals 17. Tease 20. MTV 21. Gin 23. Icons 27. Irish 30. Indie 32. October 33. Cameo 34. Igloo 35. Kayaked 36. Sees red 37. Vampire
DOWN: 1. Otepoti 2. Tomato 3. Geckos 4. Namaste 5. Chalets 6. Seeker 7. Eatery 8. Sandfly 14. Levis 16. OBGYN 17. Tui 18. Ado 19. Eos 22. Finches 24. Cat-eyed 25. Nabokov 26. Heroine 28. Immune 29. Hooker 30. Iridum 31. Delphi

MINI CROSSWORD ANSWERS

ACROSS: 1. Wes 4. Soak 5. Ponzi 6. Inky 7. PSA
DOWN: 1. Wonka 2. Eazy 3. Ski 4. Sons 5. Pip

WORD LADDER SOLUTION: LASS-LASE-BASE-BALE-MALE

WORDWHEEL SOLUTIONS: 6–15 good / 16–20 great



BROUGHT TO YOU
BY MAZAGRAN
KEEPING CRITIC
CAFFEINATED

ACROSS:

1. Layered like an onion (4)
4. Spelling bee blunder (10)
9. New Zealand's rarest native breeding bird (5,4)
11. Played guitar (8)
12. Hectic party (5)
13. Sex as the Brits call it (4)
14. Franklin Crick and Watson's spiral (3)
16. Announcer (11)
20. Man cave (3)
22. Sonic bounce (4)
25. Ancient Peruvian (5)
26. Indication of a large penis, perhaps? (3,5)
27. Six-sided (9)
28. Urge to live in a van (10)
29. Cake layer (4)

DOWN:

2. An Auckland University campus (7)
3. Scolding: to give someone an ____ (6)
4. Hobbiton's host town (8)
5. Ra, among other names (3)
6. Edible snails (8)
7. Pool hero (9)
8. To perish of (3,4)
10. Retinal part (4)
15. Kidnapping, noun (9)
17. Start shooting (4,4)
18. Not flowing (8)
19. Pride flag (7)
21. First MCU flick without a post-credit scene (3,4)
23. Large woodwind instrument (4)
24. Quiz platfrom you may have used in school (6)
27. "2001" talking computer (3)

WORD LADDER

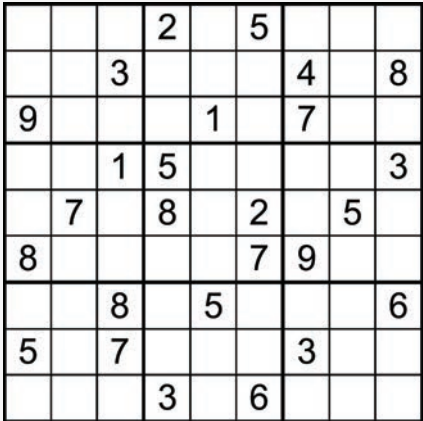
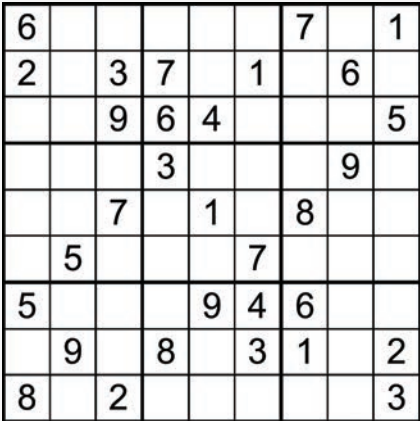
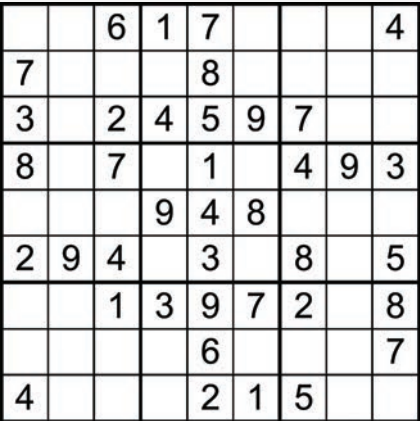
Change one word into another by only changing one letter at a time. The shortest solution should fit between the rungs of the word ladder.

MORE

LESS

SUDOKU

sudokuoftheday.com



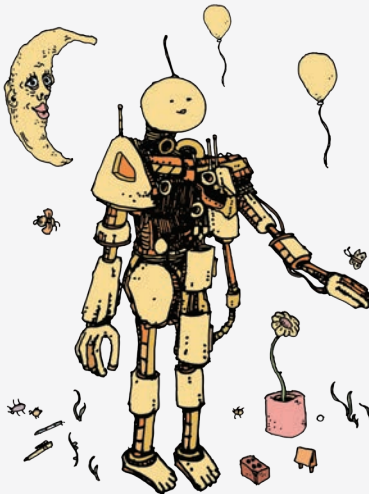
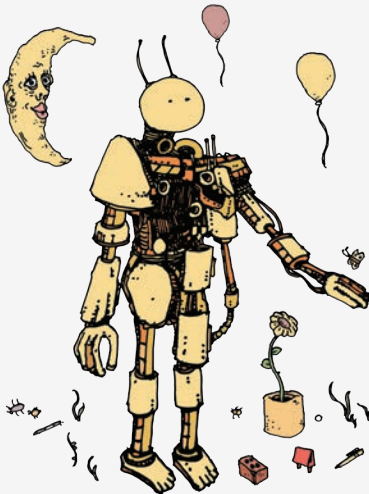
WORDFIND

QUEEN
DUNDAS
HERIOTROW
LEITH
CLYDE
HYDE
CASTLE
HOWE
GEORGE
CUMBERLAND

COSYDELL
ALBANY
FORTH
DUKE
LONDON
GRANGE
UNION
AGNEW
PITT

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

There are 10 differences between these images.





DUNEDIN HOUSING AND FLAT-TENING THE CURVE

/// WHY OMICRON LOVES YOUR HOME

BY FOX MEYER

We all know that Dunedin student housing is not exactly the best. So what happens when you introduce a highly transmissible virus to a population that lives in cold, damp flats? Critic wanted to know how our unique housing situation would affect the spread of Omicron in our community, so we reached out to Dr. Lucy Telfar-Barnard, a PhD Senior Research Fellow at Kairuruku Matua Department of Public Health on Otago's Wellington campus.

"I'm exactly the right person to be talking to," she said. And that she is: Lucy reports regularly on "New Zealand's respiratory disease burden" and has also researched home ventilation, as well as Covid-19. If there was anyone who could answer our question, it was her.

One of the first things that Lucy told us was that a recent analysis rated the health quality of Dunedin housing as "the worst in the country". She clarified that "it's not a perfect measure, but it's an indicator of where we're at." Anyone who lives here is familiar with this, with draughts, drips and general dirtiness being very much the norm in Dunedin. And shockingly, none of these features make your home any more resilient to Omicron.

Before explaining how the homes affect the spread of the virus, Lucy explained that poor student housing conditions have a lot to do with a broader power imbalance in the rental system. There are nice flats out there, sure, but Lucy mused that students may not be renting these places because there are just cheaper options, and students aren't exactly loaded. "How desperate are they when they're renting?" she asked. "Will they take [a dingy flat] because they're desperate?" The answer seems like a yes.

Factors like poor insulation and a lack of heating lead to something that Lucy called "functional crowding". Sure, you may only have five people in your flat, but if you all have to huddle around the same tiny heater, you're going to be exposed to a much higher load of germs than you would if all five of you could stay in your own rooms. That's the first big way that Dunedin housing promotes the spread of Omicron.

The second is a lack of ventilation. The same reason that Dunedin flats are great for hotboxing means that they're awful for dispelling an airborne virus: stuff just lingers. In the winter, when your already-cold flat is even colder (one flat told Critic that "we don't even have to refrigerate our milk"), opening the window seems like a terrible idea. In this way, we're lucky that the virus arrived in summer, when people are already enjoying a nice breeze. "In general, yes", agreed Lucy, "I'd rather it didn't come here at all, but [arriving in summer will] certainly help avoid overwhelming the hospitals."

But pushing back the curve doesn't come without consequence. Lucy said that we may be in "for a cracker of a winter". When Lucy looked at the "trajectory for this wave, spreading it out does mean that it pushes the peak through March when the weather can be quite changeable. We often see a bump just after Easter for respiratory infections, so there's potential there for it to give us a bit of a kick."

With damp conditions comes mould. "A lot of people have respiratory responses to mould as well," Lucy told us. "So when that virus comes through and says to your immune system 'hi, here I am, I'm here to multiply', because your lungs are potentially irritated because of the mould and the cold, then it's easier for that virus to replicate and attack. There's a risk of a worse outcome," she said. But she wasn't entirely conclusive when it came to specifics. "There has not been work done in this area yet. I guess I should be doing that. But right now we're dealing with the 'oh my god this is all terrible' phase."

There's also the problem of shared saliva, which is not so much a Dunedin housing problem as it is a Dunedin human problem. Lucy agreed that, in general, the "safe sex" approach made a lot of sense for avoiding the spread of the virus at parties: limit the numbers, use protection, and get tested. "But try to have an outdoor party if you can, which makes it not like the safe sex things," said Lucy.

Parties often see the sharing of drinks and balls and cards, but one thing Lucy hadn't considered was the sharing of vapes. We had to clarify that we didn't just mean sharing between one or two people, either. We wanted to know what the consequences were of Dunedin's extremely liberal approach to vape ownership. "Oh gosh, I didn't even know they did that, ew," said Lucy. Critic is always happy to shed light on potential new areas of research. "That's a bad idea. You're sharing your saliva one way or another. So don't do that," said Lucy. "Yes, even if another person has a flavour that you want to try." Remember, kids: sharing a hoon gives the virus a boom.

Lucy compared the current situation to a different outbreak from a few years ago: "Remember back in the day when people said 'don't share drink bottles because glandular fever is going around schools'? It's just like that. You don't want to share the contents of your mouth with someone else. I'm not gonna turn into a parent about who you're snogging, but whatever. That's something else to think about. Ask to take a RAT before you share spit."

Dunedin's already abysmal housing conditions will boost the spread of Omicron in a few ways: the lack of ventilation leads to a built-up viral load, the lack of heating can lead to functional crowding, and the already-mouldy conditions can predispose your immune system to weakness. All of these factors conspire to build a student population that is specifically vulnerable to this new and contagious virus. But Covid isn't the only illness in Dunedin: seasonal flu has a heyday here whenever it comes to town. And while the usual viral suspects haven't made headlines, perhaps the spread of Omicron will force a much-needed change in Dunedin's rental market.

"The building code is being reviewed right now," said Lucy. "The proposed improvements are still far less than they should be, they're not improving requirements for wall insulation for example. The level of improvement in the building code is pitiful. We should be building for a standard that recognizes the 15-20 year environment we'll be living in rather than doing some mediocre upgrades to new builds - that really isn't addressing the problem. And that's just new builds, and most homes in New Zealand are not new builds." The Healthy Homes initiative was definitely a step in the right direction, but Lucy said that she doesn't know how much of a difference it's made yet. These regulations mean that old flats may have to renovate some out-of-date infrastructure, but unless you check if your flat is up-to-code yourself, there's no guarantee.

"I wish I could say I knew what can be done in the short term," said Lucy, "but we don't know at this stage." She clarified that this was a matter of "how", not "what", and that while the needs have been identified, the means have not. "We need affordable energy so we can heat our homes, and we need homes that will retain the heat that's put in them even when they're ventilated appropriately. What we don't know is how to achieve the things we need."

Heating and ventilation are a double threat. It comes down to energy poverty, said Lucy. "A huge chunk of students' money is going to rent and they can't afford to pay a power bill, even if the landlords put in a nice new heat pump." In an area where renters are poor, good rentals are pricey, and average conditions are paltry at best, finding cheap heat is often a scavenger's task. But although we have a time-old solution to this, it's one which Lucy admonished: "No", she said, "I would not advise burning couches indoors. The off-gassing from couches would not be especially healthy. The smoke inhalation as well, ha. I don't know what the solution is there."

In the meantime, while it's warm, the solution is open windows and common sense. When it's cold, reliable, cheap heating and good insulation are imperative. And while many of these solutions are either not mandated or too pricey for the average student, legislation is in development that could bring relief to people in flats as dingy as yours. A WoF system for rentals, for example, or a new building code that actually looks for preemptive solutions. But these systems weren't in place in time to slow the spread of Omicron, or any of the other seasonal illnesses we're in for.

Dunedin student housing is at the bottom of the barrel, and while Omicron may not be the biggest risk to the average, immuno-normative student, the fact that it's suddenly everywhere will put a massive burden on our health system. You might not need to go to the hospital for Covid, but what happens when you take a tumble off the roof, or drink too much, or come down with some other illness? An overwhelmed health system may not be able to provide you with the care that you'd expect, and if it gets to that point, there'll be no doubt that our atrocious housing conditions contributed to the problem.

Lucy agreed that, in general, the "safe sex" approach made a lot of sense for avoiding the spread of the virus at parties: limit the numbers, use protection, and get tested.

FOR A FLYING START TO UNI LIFE.



RED BULL GIVES YOU WIIINGS. 

Shaken, Not Stirred: The Critic Te Arohi Milkshake Review

By Sean Gourley

Night 'n' Day Regent Street *Jelly Tip* \$5.50

The Night and Day Jelly Tip Milkshake was the milkshakeiest of all the milkshakes sampled. It was as chunky as vomit and did not taste like a Jelly Tip in the slightest. Despite the average state of the milkshake, it is not hard to imagine that a stoned and/or drunk person at 2 am would consider this one of the best things they ever tasted. They would then revisit Night 'n' Day sober, having raved to their friends about the fantastic qualities of this shake, only to discover the truth, that the Jelly Tip milkshake tastes exactly how it looks: curdled 6th-birthday-party-vomit in a chest freezer.

Milkiness: 10/10

Stomach churnability: 8/10

How it tastes on the way back up: Jelly-ish but with an overt vodka flavour.

George Street Dairy *Caramel* \$3.90

This is by far the foamiest milkshake on offer in Dunedin, and some people really froth their froth. Besides that nice little feature it was just... weird. It tasted like some sort of liquid that you feed to undernourished animals to bring them back up to strength. Gingerbread is probably the closest comparison to the flavour and it sure as shit did not taste like caramel so who knows what was going on there.

Milkiness: 9/10

Stomach churnability: 7/10

How it tastes on the way back up: Just like Christmas morning, hangover and all.

Rob Roy *Coffee* \$3.80

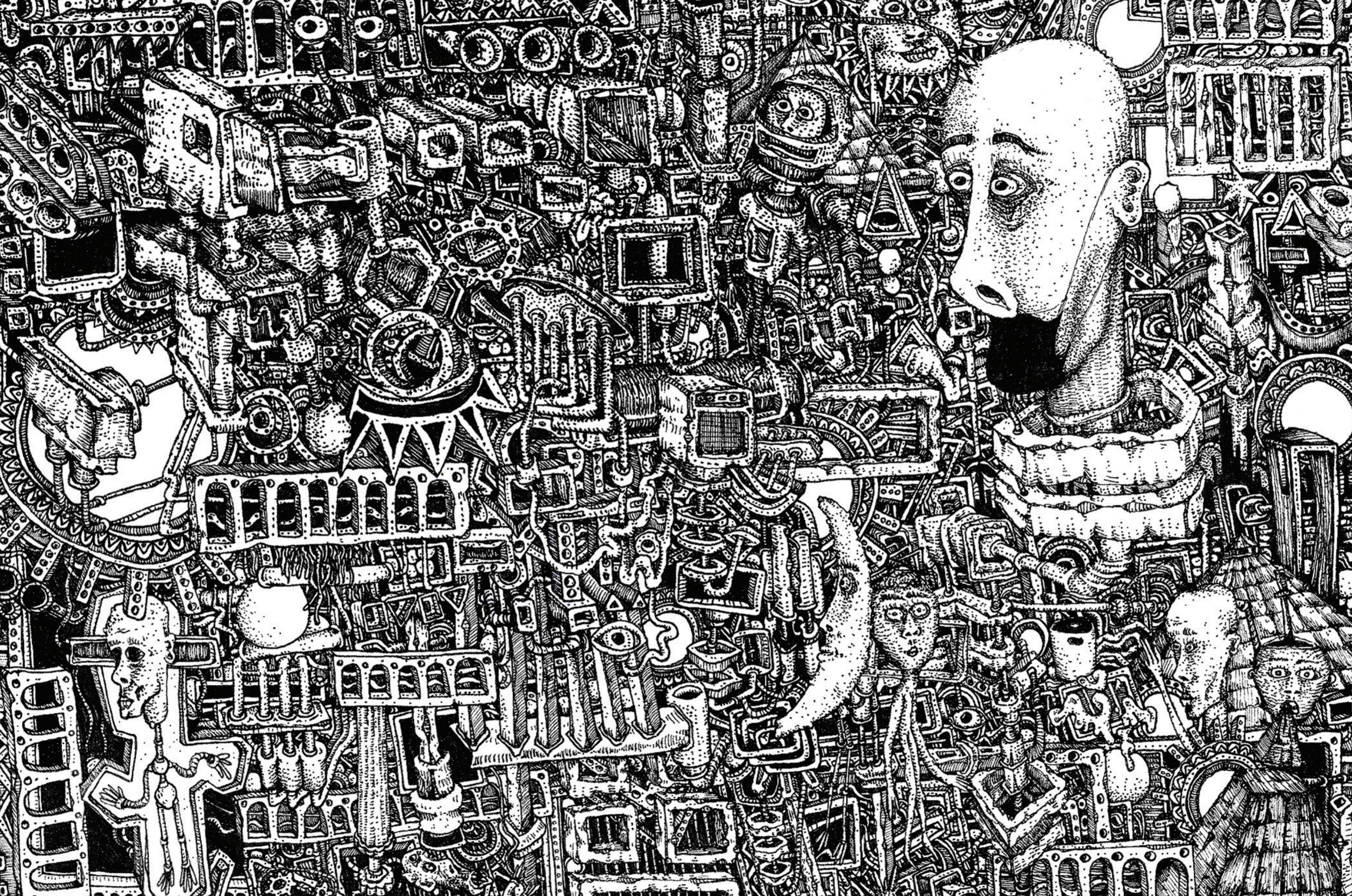
If the Rob Roy milkshake was a sex position it would be shaking hands. But after the trauma of the Maccas milkshake, the bland coffee flavour of this shake was a godsend. The texture was probably too clumpy, but this was all good as it made up for the boring flavour. Why people would spend good money on a coffee flavoured milkshake when they could buy an iced coffee, with actual caffeine in it, is beyond me. But, that said, it was better than expected. Rob Roy does give you the tallest drink in town cups, which is absolute nostalgia bait and by far the coolest milkshake cup you can possibly receive. Points for that.

Milkiness: 6/10

Stomach churnability: 4/10

How it tastes on the way back up: Still better than Starbucks.







Maccas *Strawberry* \$4.90

This milkshake was absolutely fucked. The first concern was the neon pink colour, which just screamed that this drink was not fit for human consumption. The second red (pink?) flag was the taste. The wage slaves at Maccas must have run out of milkshake flavouring and just used the handsoap in the bathrooms instead, because the overpowering jam-flavoured strawberry syrup was sickening. Also, for the price, it was far too small. Despite the size, though, it left a lasting and loathsome impression. If you want to feel ok after drinking a milkshake of this calibre, you need to bathe in holy water. This drink is plastic. This drink is Type II diabetes. This drink is how you get ants.

Milkiness: 5/10

Stomach churnability: 10/10

How it tastes on the way back up: Like it could sterilise your oesophagus.

Burger 'n' Beast *Chocolate Fudge Brownie* \$8.00

There is no phrase that sums up the essence of this milkshake as perfectly as "It is like someone half-chewed a biscuit and then spat it into your mouth." Somehow this was not an awful experience. It was sorta salty which was weird, given the aforementioned half-chewed biscuit texture. Burger 'n' Beast does get some slack because the milkshake was melted and almost warm when it was sampled which clearly added to the generally terrible experience. Can't blame them for that one. But it was weird. It was also milkshake number five and we were really starting to suffer from milkshake fatigue.

Milkiness: 5/10

Stomach churnability: 8/10

How it tastes on the way back up: about the same as the way down, honestly.



Burger Plant *Chocolate* \$6.50

This was the only vegan shake and honestly, it was a cut above the rest. Maybe it was because the coconut milk provided some relief from the dairy deluge that this review had become, but this one was light and refreshing. Veganism really starts to sound reasonable when you're six milkshakes deep and battling. Yes, it did possibly taste a little bit like conditioner, but who doesn't like conditioner? It makes your hair silky and smooth, just like this milkshake. Fuckin' slaps, and didn't make us shit ourselves.

Milkiness: 0/10, technically

Stomach churnability: 1/10

How it tastes on the way back up: you can keep this one down, actually.

Kiki Beware *Banoffee* \$6.50

Seafoam-like froth overflowed from the top of this milkshake, but beyond that it was exceptionally boring. The flavour was supposed to be banoffee but it just tasted like someone just blended up a slightly burnt loaf of banana bread. Texture was minimal but thank God they didn't try to put chunks of half chewed banana bread in it. To be honest after consuming multiple litres of this milky gunk it was pretty hard to be impressed. It looks like yak and made us want to yak. Sorry Kiki. Admittedly this may be entirely due to the fact that the last thing you want after six milkshakes is a seventh, so definitely try it out yourself and make your own conclusions. Our brains, at this point in the review, had been completely soaked in milk.

Milkiness: 10/10

Stomach churnability: 5/10

How it tastes on the way back up: probably like the George Street one did on the way down.

BOP OR FLOP?

By Lotto Ramsay

Your One Stop Op Shop Opinion Drop



Need a wardrobe makeover on a budget? Are you craving a whiff of that specific, musty, secondhand smell? Have your bootstraps gotten worn out from all that pulling-up you've been doing? A solution is never far away. Critic Te Arohi visited seven secondhand clothing stores north of the Octagon to conduct a thorough vibe check.

Take note: it's well known that op shop smell is a potent aphrodisiac, and bargain hunting makes for a perfect first date. Much like penguins arranging a pile of pebbles, or trash birds making piles of trash, foraging for shiny objects together is crucial when selecting a mate. This method appropriately lowers the bar for any future encounters, and if it all goes to shit you can simply commando crawl under the cluttered clothing racks and make a run for it. Not all op shops are created equal, but whether you're a "racks organised by size and colour" thrifter or a "choking on dust mites in a grotty bargain bin" creature, Dunedin has something for you.

Op Shop on
St Andrews/
Presbyterian
Support Op
Shop
61 St Andrew Street



CHARITY

Vibe: Being in there is like being inside the mind of someone named Carol or Debbie. The garments are carefully organised by season and colour (good) and the displays feature assorted items of questionable value and taste (very good). They consistently give discounts, and they're very liberal with free bags.

Best item: 1980's Homemade Halloween Costume Handbook for \$2.00. Pre-LookSharp you had to DIY everything, and apparently some people fucking hated their kids. Beautiful.

Worst item: Evil, evil, evil handmade monkey, carefully crafted and yet bestowed with a truly satanic face. \$6.00 and somehow scarier than any of the Halloween costumes.

Best bargain: \$1.00 rack out front!!! Bruh.

Hot date spot? Unlike many other op shops, this is too well-organised to be a spot you bring someone when you want to signal to them that you're fully McFucking Unhinged. It's a great precursor to another shop, or you could duck into the art gallery nearby. Y'know, cause you're just so cultured, aren't you? Best suited for actually shopping or for when your mum comes to visit.

Overall Sexiness: 8/10 hand-knitted teapot cosies.

SPCA
Op Shop
17 North Road



CHARITY

Vibe: Being in here felt wrong, like taking dibs on a dying relative's possessions before they properly kick the bucket. It's hard to make sense of the overall layout, and garments are placed with little organisation which can make browsing tricky. The racks seem to move around like Hogwarts staircases while your back is turned. There are hidden treasures for sure, but they might be pricier than expected, and some may actually be cursed.

Best item: Buff-chested apron produced by a Thai chilli sauce company for some reason, for \$5.00. I don't understand it but I can't fault it, especially since the nipples aligned with mine.

Worst item: A NZ Woman's Weekly magazine with Christopher Luxon as the covergirl, only selling for 50 cents. Worth noting is the fact that the heading describing Chris as 'National's new hope' is in the exact same style as the subheading for 'Real life horror: I had a flesh-eating disease'. Maybe they got their section titles mixed up.

Best bargain: Free crap outside, and \$5.00 handknit legwarmers. I don't know who's knitting funky leg-warmers that cheap, but it's more than worth it if you like the SPCA.

Hot date spot? It's best to take a partner with you for moral support, or at least so you can trip them as a distraction if a threat were to approach.

Overall sexiness: 5/10 watchful ceramic figurines.



Vibe: The vibe depends entirely on which pleasant but strung out employee has control of the aux. Expect a lot of jeans with the hems cut off. The walls are a delightful egg yolk yellow, and the maze of oddly placed full-length mirrors is good for fit checks but also super disorientating. Where am I? Where am I going? Am I where I want to be in this stage of my life?

Best item: ASSLESS FUCKIN' CHAPS for just \$24.99. Genuine leather and clearly cut shorter at the hem, hinting that the owner was a fellow short king with excellent taste.

Worst item: It's a tie between the graphic tee commemorating the 2016 Kaikoura earthquakes (Beached As!) for \$6.00 and a University of Auckland lab coat for \$5.00. It's funny because we don't like jafas or nerds, get it?

Best bargain: There's a \$2.00 clothing rack almost exclusively filled with denim booty shorts. Everything is quite reasonably priced for a for-profit op shop, and despite being a chain the prices here are way better than the other locations across the country.

Hot date spot? If you're a fresher who's into "thrifting", you and your mates are going to start camping out here. Plus, you'll likely get a mild high from the clout of 'introducing' your date to this spot. On that note, the aura of burgeoning adolescence may be a turn off to anyone over the age of seventeen. Still though, it's a decent dig if you have the patience and there's always tons of treasures.

Overall sexiness: 6/10 good Nirvana tribute bands.



Vibe: Much like a closing-down adult toy store, Recycle Boutique is completely devoid of vibes. It's a shop. With clothes. Nice ones, even, since they're carefully selected and displayed. It's tidy, it's recycled, and it's a boutique, I guess. You might find something you like, or you might find your way to the exit instead. It's certainly an op shop.

Best item: Dark-wash Levi's denim vest with hand-painted flowers. We got sentimental ruminating about its previous owner: who painted you? Did they love you? Who will love you next? Not me, 'cos you were \$48.30, but it's nice to think about.

Worst item: Strappy fur heels with HAIRY SOLES for \$18.40. Why?! Who enjoys that? What benefits could that possibly have? Borderline surrealist art, like Oppenheim's fur-lined teacup. Repugnant yet intriguing.

Best bargain: They always have a discount rack where they mark down items that they're about to either throw away or "donate" to another store.

Hot date spot? Look, if you're being pestered for a date by a guy who put his number in your phone at a club, be my guest. He might finally catch on that you're as dry as the fashion here.

Overall sexiness: 1/10 breathas who give toothy head.



Vibe: Like slowly lowering yourself into a tepid bath, but on a day where a tepid bath is the perfect temperature, and in a world where you could afford to run a full bath. It's spacious and well-maintained, with garments organised by type, size AND colour. Prices vary a lot between items but are mostly fair, and the staff are so nice that I would let them adopt me.

Best item: An exceptionally delightful ceramic pig for just \$4.00. I mean, look. You can't hate it, and you can't help but want to BE it. What I wouldn't give to swap my mortal coil for his porcelain perfection.

Worst item: A ziplock bag full of hair for \$5.00. On close inspection it appeared to be several uncannily realistic dolls' wigs, so I guess that would be a steal if you had a bunch of bald dolls lying around.

Best bargain: Free stuff outside! A lot of it.

Hot date spot? This is where you take someone who you want to impregnate, be impregnated by, or lovingly adopt a baby/cat/plant with, and it will honestly improve your chances tenfold. Like, you're gonna need to have a steady income, plenty of space, and the emotional capacity to be responsible for another lifeform that's fully dependent on you for survival. Don't say we didn't warn ya.

Overall sexiness: 9/10 child support cheques, sopping wet.



Vibe: The radio was dead quiet, which I didn't realise until after I had spent the whole trip rambling loudly to myself. I don't think the attendant liked me, but she was polite nonetheless. Very cat-like vibes, honestly. The shop's small but has a good assortment of items with tons of character, like the wallpaper, but that isn't for sale. Probably.

Best item: 'Pineapple Prince' vintage pineapple slicer for just \$3.00, cheaper than the pineapple itself. Just think how much money you could save on the New World machine each week! It included long winded instructions on hollowing out pineapples to use as cocktail glasses for your patio picnics, and as someone who can totally afford to buy fruit - what a fucking lifesaver!

Worst item: LIFE Education polo shirt for \$4.00, featuring the twisted, loathsome grimace of Harold the Giraffe. God, I hate Harold. I hope my sins make him cry. I'm an atheist, except for when it comes to Harold the LIFE Education Giraffe - he's going to hell.

Best bargain: Unlabelled clothes are \$4.00, which you absolutely can't hate since there's some great quality stuff mixed in.

Hot date spot? Assuming you're shopping your way north, Cat Rescue is a fitting climax to any sensual op shopping saga. It's got a tantalising amount of clutter but is kept super tidy, perfect for letting your date know that you're in it for the long haul. And if you're not? Fuck it. "Op shop" is short for opportunity shop, not open communication shop.

Overall sexiness: 8/10 dead birds on your doorstep. Meow.

DUNEDIN'S ZINE SCENE

SMALL PUBLICATIONS WITH BIG PROCLAMATIONS

BY RUBY WERRY

Zines are a popular, ever-growing trend which has recently found a place in the Dunedin scene. Short for “magazine”, Google tells us that a “zine” is “a small-circulation of self-published work of original or appropriated texts and images, usually reproduced via a copy machine.” The content of zines is wide and varied, and they can be used to promote anything from bands, artists and gigs, to social and political movements. They can also just be for a bit of fun, with people making their own comical zines.

Most zine makers start out with the good ol’ folded A4 method, which will produce an easily photocopiable and immediately distributable booklet full of goodies. But zines can also be as complicated, crazy, and sometimes incomprehensible as a drunken rant. Zine content is always up to the artist, and can feature pretty much any medium. Writing, drawing, painting, collages... there are more clashing aesthetics than a first year hall corridor on move in day.

SPENCER

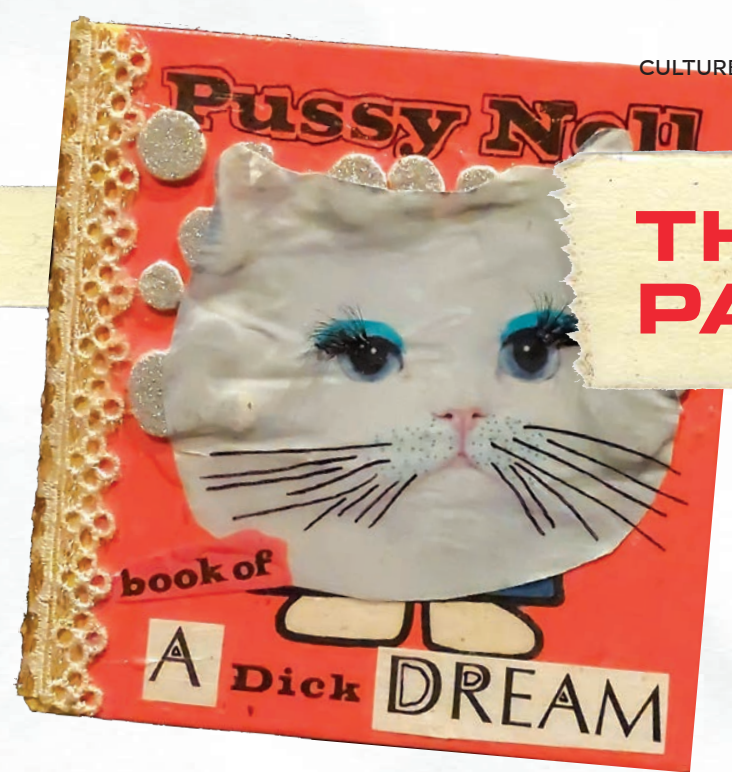
Spencer (@Spencerhallnz) is one of the founding Dunedin zine creators. After falling in love with Mad Magazine and 70s underground comics, Spencer has been making zines since 2010. A backbone of the Dunedin zine making scene, he’s running this year’s Zinefest (which we highly recommend checking out when it rolls around) and is working on the 4th issue of his zine series: Scraps. “Zines are inherently social,” Spencer remarks. “The idea of zines and artwork is a beacon for other like minded people. You put it out into the world, and you don’t know who will see it or connect to it, but hopefully some people will. Some of my best friends, I’ve met them through their art.”





JESSE

Jesse (@dzesideckel) is a zine artist working primarily in the medium of writing, and has been creating and distributing zines for three years. Jesse is involved with organisations like the San Francisco chapter of the Democratic Socialists of America, and Montreal-based Sex Work Autonomous Committee. She's published zines within the organisation on topics such as why socialists should care about the decriminalisation of sex work. On the medium of zines, she says "it's total freedom, we can write anything we want. You don't have to submit pitches to people, you can just write. You can do what you want and you don't have to commit to anything with it. It's freedom, that's what I like about it."



THE PANTYBAGGERS

The Pantybaggery (@pantybaggers) are a group of four friends whose zine-making has massive Sisterhood of the Travelling Pants energy. With a 1950's school reader loaded into a panty bag, each person changed the zine before leaving it in the next person's mailbox, over and over again until the booklet had reached its final form. Now, five years on, their zines are collage-heavy, and tackle a lot of women's issues in a charming way. Commenting on the zine ethos, the Pantybaggery are particularly fond of the lo-fi nature of the medium. "Our work isn't super slick, it's kinda rough and handmade. The lo-fi processes such as collage means everyone can do it - it's not a high art form."

ESMOND

Esmond (@_eastmund), who studies Visual Arts at Otago Polytechnic, fell into zine making as part of his project proposals, in which he focused on homoeroticism and appropriation. Esmond ended up working the concepts into a zine format just in time to publish at the annual Zinefest festival. He says that the beauty of a zine is that "it doesn't have to be 'good'... there's no criteria for what makes a good zine, just produce what you wanna produce. One of the most significant artists in history is Duchamp who literally signed a urinal and shoved it in a gallery and called it art." Presumably this means that the Fredrick street public bathroom I <3 MILFS tag is worth billions.



DUNGEONS & DADDY ISSUES



ZAK

Zak (@moorchild_) has made zines for a while but had never published anything until last year's Zinefest, with the Ôtepoti Grimoire. "I've always bought them, they're cool, and you can support someone - they cost barely anything, and you can get some cool art." Preach. Again, the accessibility and ease of the medium is a large part of the appeal. "It's simple, it's cheap, I like how creative people can get especially when people have no money," Zak says. "I have a few zines that are like top tier, and the shittiest-made things ever. There's one staple in the middle, they're falling apart, but I love the effort that's gone into it." This is a hobby that's broke bitch inclusive; something you can do even after spending all your student allowance at the campus Chatime.



Ôtepoti Grimoire

Volume 1

Pop over to Blackstar Books at 111 Moray Place to add some zines to your literature collection, or at least pretend that you're in with the English department. Or you can just start up your own zine! Zine making is a hobby that's easier to achieve than a BCom, it'll make you feel like a manic pixie dream love interest in a Wes Anderson film, and they really are for everyone. Go get some inspiration from our local artists and check them out on Instagram.



TikTalks:

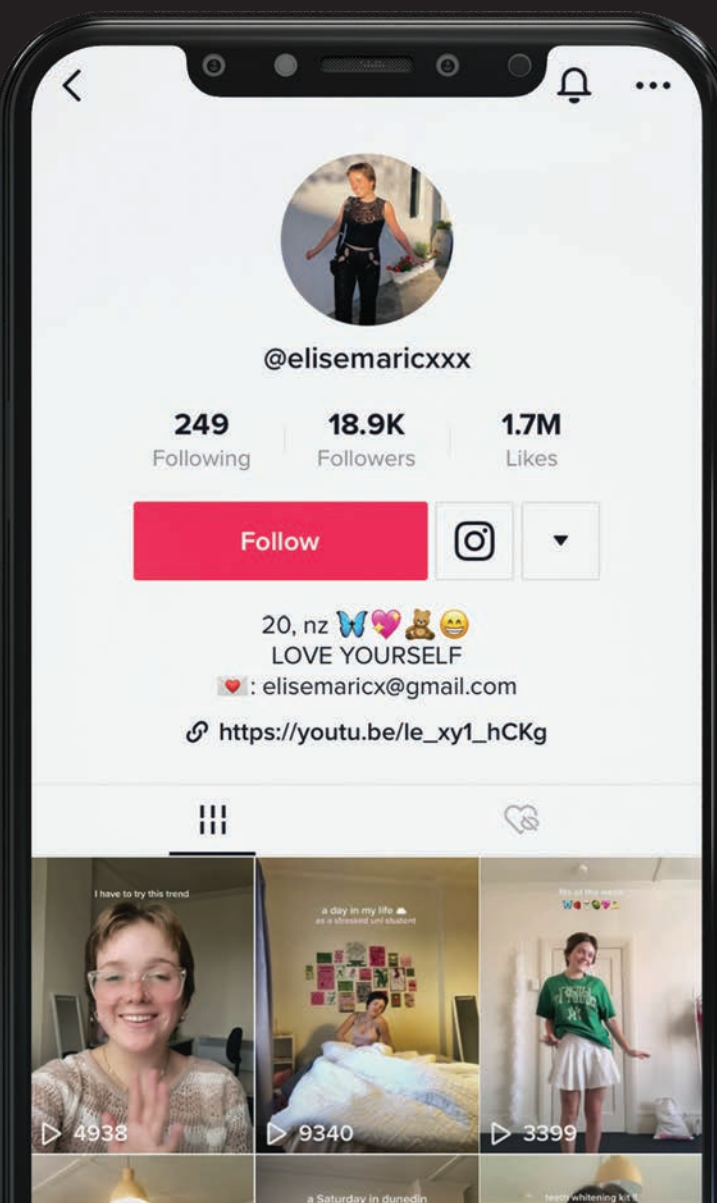
How two uni students achieved mild internet success from their college bedrooms

By Annabelle Vaughan

To a passer-by, Elise Maric and Amber Harrison seem like any other Otago University students. And they are. They love hanging out with their friends, partying and going for coffee at one of Dunedin's many cafes, and they also love their astrology (Elise is a Libra and Amber is a Cancer, for those of you wondering.) However, over the past year, the duo have managed to amass quite a bit of success on TikTok, a video platform you may have heard of. The pair sat down to chat with Critic about how they got into social media, its impact on their lives, and the pros and cons of being a local pseudo-celebrity.

At the time of writing, Elise and Amber have a combined total of over 21,000 followers, and 2.6 million likes on TikTok with the numbers growing daily. Their videos cover a range of topics, including all things lifestyle, from university to completing viral trends such as the "75 Hard" challenge. They've used their platform for good, and managed to fundraise over \$2,000 for the Cancer Society when they took part in the yearly campaign Shave for a Cure. "I had so many random people I didn't even know donating," said Elise. "It doesn't even matter if people donated or not, but people would DM us with their stories [about their experiences with cancer]" said Amber.

Although Elise and Amber had been creating content on TikTok throughout their final years of high school, things didn't really start to take off until last year when the pair met as first years at Arana College. "It was honestly a big joke," said Elise, who began posting TikToks during her failed 2020 gap year. "In [2020] I was working part time at Domino's, so my life was kind of a joke, I was just making memes out of everything." In 2021, Elise moved to Dunedin to study Marketing and Communications and began posting more regular content from her bedroom in her spare time with "no intention of blowing up."



Amber's is a similar story. She was casually posting on TikTok throughout year 13. "I was always doing it as a bit of a joke, I did it a bit more seriously in year 13, and a couple [videos] went kinda viral," she said. "I got to Uni, started a YouTube channel, and that's when I decided to hop on TikTok and was just like 'let's see what happens.'"

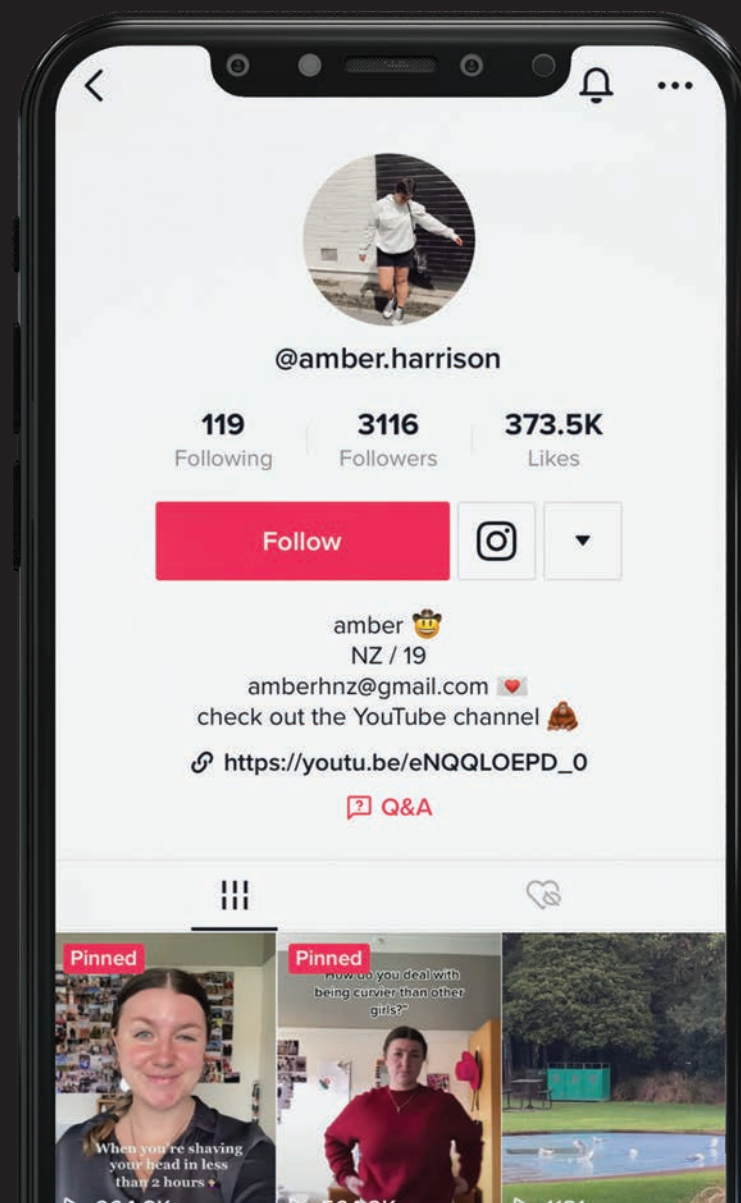
However, the following has led to them having some strange experiences. People have begun creating fan pages for the girls, taking videos of them while they walk down the street, and even asking them for photos when they go to parties. "People photoshop me, people have sent me embarrassing videos of me walking down the street," said Elise. Nonetheless, the two remain entirely aware of what's going on, and are not afraid to have a laugh. "Honestly, it's the most humbling thing, and I think you have to have a few more followers than us to be considered an influencer," said Elise. "Sometimes it's funny when you have a fan page, or you get a random message from someone and people know who you are. I went out on Saturday night and people asked for selfies," said Amber.

Although the pair speak highly of TikTok, and are amazed by the opportunities it's presented them, like anything, social media has its downfalls. "There's a lot of toxic trends going around, there's a lot of diet culture going around which you don't want to see, but you can't really filter out," said Elise. Critic asked the girls which TikTok trends they hated the most. Internet trolls and diet culture aside, thirst traps came out on top. "I hate thirst traps," said Elise. "You can be the most beautiful man, but if you post a thirst trap, you're dead to me."

"Honestly, it's the most humbling thing, and I think you have to have a few more followers than us to be considered an influencer."

There is also no shortage of hateful comments from internet trolls. Amber, who is a keen thrift shopper, recalled the time she received backlash over her shopping choices. "I posted a few videos about thrifting and sustainable fashion, then I went to Kmart, and I had all these nasty comments about how I went to Kmart, after I was posting about sustainable fashion," she said. "You just can't win, and there's always the anonymous accounts [sending hate]," said Elise.

When asked if they would pursue content creation professionally, both girls expressed an interest in it and believed that it helps contribute to their overall goals and ambitions. "We both study marketing and comms, and I want to do something with public relations, with that creative media side," said Elise. "It's fun to document stuff and make videos, it's helping us with what we want to do," said Amber. "If we keep pursuing it, people get paid a lot for social media, and for a Uni side hustle, it's not bad."



THE GREAT JANDAL

RIDICULOUS OR INSPIRATIONAL?
ONE MAN TOES THE LINE.

BY KEEGAN WELLS

It was a peaceful Monday morning when Critic Te Arohi met up with Gus. He looked dapper as ever, with a bow tie and three-piece suit on. He was clearly prepared for an interview. Gus, AKA @thegreatjandal on Instagram, is taking on a unique and completely self-imposed challenge: to complete all ten of the Great Walks in Aotearoa New Zealand in a pair of jandals. In addition to the challenge of heel support, he is taking on individual challenges for each track. That's right, Gus, a secret Australian, is doing the most Kiwi thing possible: going into the bush equipped with little but his confidence.

It all began one wet and fateful night on the Routeburn track. "I got a little bit too drunk for my mate's birthday and left all my shoes and stuff out in the rain overnight", said Gus, so instead of putting on wet socks and shoes to walk out, "I just chucked on the jandals and walked down." It originally started as a joke, with his mates saying he could do all the Great Walks in jandals. But after a quick DM to Havaianas he got his first official sponsor. "They sent me two pairs of jandals and a really nice t-shirt," he said. The two pairs of jandals, black and red, are used as hiking jandals and sport jandals respectively. Gus is constantly chasing "the good clap" that is produced "when you're walking fast, and you get the clap between the jandal and the heel." Critic Te Arohi did not ask if he had experienced the bad kind.

In addition to his Havaianas sponsorship, Gus just landed a new sponsor: Pit Viper. He was "really excited" about this. His group has a few pairs of the infamous sunnies already but "the crew and I needed an upgrade," which led to his second official sponsor. If any readers own a drink company and want to get in contact with Gus, please reach out because his next sponsorship target is someone to provide refreshments for all the long, gruelling days.

There are many benefits to having jandals: they're cost-effective, they have an amphibious mode for river crossings, and well, you just look great. In order to prepare his feet for strenuous walks, Gus says he paints the toenails first. "Then on steep sections of the Kepler I taped my ankles, but the second day was flat, and I wanted speed so I just raw dogged it." During the off-trail days, Gus is getting into training his feet. "On the downhill part you're gripping the whole time, so I need to figure out some kind of contraption like a little elliptical for my toes." Besides bulking his toes he does not really train. He reckoned that "the best thing to do is just go into it because I'll injure myself otherwise."

Before the Great Jandal, Gus never did that much tramping. "I really wanted to get into tramping and this challenge gave me an excuse to go out and do it and actually travel around the country as well," he said.

"AT MAXIMUM SPEED
I COULD DEFINITELY
OUTRUN AN ANGRY
SWAN."



Unsurprisingly, though, he's always been a jandals man. "I've worn them in places where I definitely regretted it afterwards but I wanted that feeling of freedom." He does not plan on returning to regular tramping boots anytime soon.

So far Gus has completed the Kepler Track, leaving nine more to go. "Ideally I'd like to finish it on New Year's, but definitely by the end of next summer," he said. After the Kepler "my ankles were really swollen, and feet were sore but way better off than I expected". Surprisingly, he didn't even get a blister between his toes, which is incredible considering that he said he wouldn't be caught dead wearing socks with his jandals. "Raw dog all the way," he said, brave words for a man with nine great walks to go.

The next Great Jandal mission was the Milford Track. The trip was named, "MILF in twelve hours" because if it took longer to complete "you have to pay for three nights which we didn't really want to do, so we decided to run it one day." He feels so confident in his jandals that he reckons "at maximum speed I could definitely outrun an angry swan." Unfortunately, due isolation, the "MILF in 12 hours" had to be postponed.

Gus is most looking forward to the Abel Tasman because it's on the beach. "That's, like, the Havaianas' natural habitat so they'll feel at home there," he said, but the most challenging one will most likely be the



Tongariro Northern Circuit "because it's all rock." Each of these walks will come with their own challenge. Gus is unsure of how he will match up, but his current plans are "one where I only eat peanut butter the whole time, one wearing a morph suit, wear dresses for another one, and on the Routeburn instead of carrying a pack I'll drag a suitcase with me."

Gus sees this as "my chance to put jandals on the map." He also hopes to see climbing shoes "develop the open toe technology". But Gus has much higher aspirations than just the sport shoe world: "I was gutted [when I learned] I can't wear jandals to work because they're not steel-toed, so I hope they'll take them into the lab and develop steel-toed jandals and see those in the workplace soon as well."

Spoken like a man who can handle the jandal.



Images: Nikolao Cockerell; @nikolao_cockerell

BEONY’s latest track ‘GREY SWEATPANTS’, an ode to the final days of summer, dropped last weekend. Critic caught up with BEONY to talk about the twinkly track, summer flings and moments of inspiration in the bathroom.

BEONY is the musical project of clinical dent tech student Joseph Yoon. Those close to him know him as Joey, and his Korean name is BeomSuk. The moniker BEONY is drawn from his many names: the first letters of his Korean first name ‘BE’, the final letters of his Korean surname ‘ON’ and the last letter of his nickname ‘Y’. “It’s like three incorporations of my identity.”

Like his name, BEONY’s lyrics also blend together Joseph’s cultural identities of South Korea and Aotearoa. He seamlessly switches between English and Korean in his lyrics. “I think it’s important, because it is a part of me, that I write in both languages” he said. Growing up as Korean and Kiwi, like many that are bicultural, Joseph often hovered between the two cultures rather than existing as both at once. “Growing up I was kind of like an outsider, always trying to fit in. I neglected my culture, like I was somewhat embarrassed.” The symbiosis of these cultures in BEONY’s music rectifies his past feelings, proudly embodying both cultures. “One of my main goals as an artist is appreciating your other side, [which] may not be mainstream or people [may] look at like ‘oh it’s kind of weird’, but you still embrace it.”

In a moment of candidness, Joseph admitted that ‘GREY SWEATPANTS’ actually came to him in the midst of a dump. “I was on the toilet and was like ‘yeah that’ll be mean, so I voice memo-ed it. I’m pretty sure I was wearing grey sweatpants at the time.” The song is about summer love and finding comfort in its final moments, before the pressure of Uni returns alongside the relationship’s uncertain future. The song radiates warmth, the sun-saturated guitar the perfect counter to Ōtepoti’s sinking temperatures. BEONY’s wit (see lyric: Cooking pasta from a Pam’s recipe) and his vocal delivery are indebted to hip hop and R&B.

Though these genres were his most early influences, more recently he has been drawing on the blurring line between them, punk and indie pop. Right now his biggest influence is Jean Dawson, followed by Brevin Kim and Weston Estate. Patron to no sole art form, BEONY’s aesthetic has been inspired by filmography, photography, home decor and fashion, and even the wallpaper designs of William Morris.






‘GREY SWEATPANTS’ is the first single from BEONY’s upcoming EP. The series of songs capture the last four summer breaks he’s spent in his hometown of Sumner. The EP is not only about embracing the period of sun-kissed recluse, but understanding the summery months as a shared experience that connects many. It’s due to drop in its entirety in May or June. ‘GREY SWEATPANTS’ is up for streaming on Spotify and Apple Music. For the latest details, you can follow @be0ny on Instagram.



BUNCH OF Ss

- LAST WEEK'S
CORRECT
ANSWERS
FROM TOP TO
BOTTOM:
1. JONO
2. JULIE
3. TAMSYN
4. ELLA
5. TORI

Each week, Critic asks five students five of the same questions. See if you can figure out which row of answers came from which student. Answers are published weekly.

	When you're in the shower, do you face the shower head, or away?	What was the last book you read?	What's the crookest thing you've ever seen at a party?	What's the worst thing you've ever tasted?	Which movie title best describes your sex life?
ROXY 	I face away, for sure.	Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone.	Gotta be a Pelican.	Horseradish, actually, not a big fan.	The Dark Knight Rises.
REUBEN 	Face away! Too much in your face and you can't breathe.	Normal People by Sally Rooney, you should watch the show.	People trying to swallow a live goldfish and then vomit it into the next person's mouth.	Wasabi.	Can I say Shrek?
SUSAN 	Definitely away.	The Barefoot Investor.	People vomiting all over each other, ew.	Nic juice.	The Hangover.
RILEY 	Away. Obviously you have to wash your face though.	It Ends with Us by Colleen Huber.	I saw someone take a shit once outside.	Brown Park Rangers, for sure, those things are disgusting.	Shrek II.
CHLOE 	I turn around, like front, side, body, all of it.	The Tattooist of Auschwitz, which was really heavy but I recommend it.	I once broke down my friend's door to find a bunch of people I didn't know doing lines on their desk.	Probably just the taste of my own vomit, if that makes sense.	The Longest Ride.

SKUXX FOOD

BY ROSIE JOYCE @SKUXXFOOD

FISH TACOS WITH CRUNCHY ASIAN SLAW



This is the ideal student meal if you’re using frozen fish, but also one to blow your flatmates away with a boujee fresh fish option. Choose your fighter.

INGREDIENTS

Enough for six people to have two tacos each

TACOS	SLAW	DRESSING
6-8 frozen crumbed fish fillets; or 6-8 fresh fish fillets	Bunch of coriander (optional but so elite), chopped	3-4 cloves of garlic, finely minced
If using fresh fillets:	Bunch of spring onion, finely chopped	1 thumb of ginger, grated
½ to 1 cup of flour	⅓-½ cabbage, finely sliced	3-4 Tbsp soy sauce
2-3 eggs, whisked	2 carrots, grated	2-3 Tbsp (or to your tasting) of Chinese zhenjiang (“black vinegar”) or rice wine vinegar
½ to 1 cup of breadcrumbs	2 red onions, finely sliced	1 tsp sesame oil
2-3 tablespoons of oil for frying	½ cup peanuts, chopped	1 Tbsp brown sugar
Hoisin sauce		2 Tbsp lime juice
1 cucumber, thinly sliced		1 tsp chilli oil (if desired)
12 tortillas (soft-shell tacos)		

METHOD

1. If using frozen pre-crumbed fish, preheat the oven according to directions on the packet.
2. Combine the slaw ingredients, reserving some coriander and spring onion for garnish. Combine dressing ingredients in a separate bowl. Then mix the slaw and dressing together. Allow to marinate for at least 15 minutes or while you prepare the rest of the meal.
3. If using frozen fish, cook according to packet instructions. Slice the fish into small pieces.
4. If using fresh fish, dip each fillet in flour, then egg, then breadcrumbs to coat. Heat oil in a pan over a medium heat. When the oil is hot, fry each fillet for 3-5 minutes on each side or until cooked through and crunchy on the outside. Slice the fish into small pieces.
5. In another clean and dry pan, fry each tortilla (without oil) on a medium-high heat until colour appears in the tortilla (usually brown/black spots). Be careful not to burn – this should only take 30 seconds to 1 minute on each side if the pan is hot enough. This will give the tortillas more flavour and warm them up.
6. Assemble the tacos. Start with 1 teaspoon of hoisin and spread this around the tortilla, then slaw, cucumber, fish, coriander and spring onion. Enjoy!

BOOZE REVIEW:

Carlsberg ELEPHANT EXTRA STRONG

BY CHUG NORRIS

Picture this: your fuck-up of a flatmate got Covid so now you have to isolate with two people you can barely stand for at least 10 days with no chance of distraction or escape. What do you do? How do you get along with flatmates that you hate? The answer, I found, was to drink 10.5% Elephant Beer.

On night number seven of our isolation we found ourselves sitting in the lounge listening to the joyful sounds of a Saturday night outside, while we sat in misery barely suppressing thoughts of homicide. This grim scene was made far worse by my flatmate eating cereal in the loudest possible way.

Driven to the verge of insanity by boredom and the sound of that endless crunching, I turned, of course, to alcoholism. Returning from the fridge with one of my three ice cold cans of Elephant Beer 10.5%, I was immediately struck by the pleading stares of my fellow inmates. I tried to resist it but, after all, it is poor form to drink alone. I shared.

We all had our first sip at the same time, and despite it tasting slightly like petrol, it was incredibly drinkable.

We easily found ourselves halfway through the cans and the mood in the flat had greatly improved. One of us even laughed. By the end of our cans of Elephant Beer 10.5%, instead of thinking about murdering each other, we found ourselves screaming Whiskey River at the top of our lungs. For the first time in isolation, all was well in the flat.

This was not the first time I had straddled the line that a 10.5% beer walks (between way-too-strong beer and way-too-shit wine), but this time my alcohol-scarred stomach had me actually starting to like my flatmates instead of vomiting on a bush outside of pres. The beer itself is not exceptional, but the fact that it can completely defuse a tense situation makes it an excellent tool for world peace. I reckon we should send some to Ukraine, it wouldn’t be the first time that elephants revolutionised a war in Europe.

Tasting notes: acetone, methanol
Pairs well with: hatred, love, passion of all colours
Froth level: building bridges
Taste rating: 6/10 better than expected



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“I am a regular at Huzur Kebab - always have yarns with the brother. Absolutely love the place, the people, and especially the kebabs. Why have abs when you can have kebabs? Yee-yah x”



HOROSCOPES



AQUARIUS Jan 20 – Feb 18
Aquarius, why be so hard on yourself? Life is far too short to continue to criticise yourself. Be young, be free.

End of iso activity: exposing your deepest and darkest secrets to people whilst drunk.



PISCES Feb 19 – Mar 20
I get it, you wanna know everything at all times. But, sometimes you're just way too fucking nosey. You gotta take a step back sometimes.

End of iso activity: finding new people to Facebook stalk.



ARIES Mar 21 – Apr 19
You're brushing your teeth too hard. This is leading to gum recession and your teeth will fall out. Nightmare nightmare nightmare.

End of iso activity: sleeping with someone you shouldn't.



TAURUS Apr 20 – May 20
Taurus men are nice and kind. They're like the dad you've never had. If you have a Taurus man friend, give them a cup of coffee or more peace and quiet. They deserve it. Just no hugs, please.

End of iso activity: staying inside.



GEMINI May 21 – Jun 20
Things have been anxious for you lately, but that's okay. Take a deep breath and reassure yourself. You are not your intrusive thoughts. Stay calm, and just vibe.

End of iso activity: taking yourself on a date.



CANCER Jun 21 – Jul 22
Sweet, sweet cancer. While you are lovely and kind, you are not everyone's mother. There is a difference between concern and being overbearing, and right now, you're fucking irritating.

End of iso activity: make a move on that cute girl at your cafe.



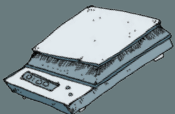
LEO Jul 23 – Aug 22
You don't get a horoscope this week. Why? Because you never listen to anyone apart from yourself. You better check yourself.

End of iso activity: hot yoga to calm the fuck down.



VIRGO Aug 23 – Sep 22
It's time to ditch the facade of pacifism and embrace your inner late-stage capitalist. Global stock markets are tumbling due to international panic, and right now, it's your time to shine. Buy buy buy.

End of iso activity: learning crypto.



LIBRA Sep 23 – Oct 22
Stop saying you're lonely when you haven't made the effort to shoot your shot. Don't hold back from that cheeky someone you've had your eye on. Worst case scenario, you'll find someone else!

End of iso activity: looking a gift horse in the mouth.



SCORPIO Oct 23 – Nov 21
YOU REALLY NEED TO CALM DOWN PLEASE I BEG OF YOU STOP SCREAMING AND CRYING AND LAUGHING AT THE SAME TIME.

End of iso activity: cognitive behavioural therapy.



SAGITTARIUS Nov 22 – Dec 21
They say "not all those who wander are lost", but this saying does not apply to you. You tell people you're great with directions, but it's time to face facts: you are very, very lost.

End of iso activity: cleaning your email inbox.



CAPRICORN Dec 22 – Jan 19
Judging people is fun. Right now, you're the go-to pal for gossip and all things spicy. A walking tabloid magazine you are. You're also cheap, forgettable, and excruciatingly mainstream. So there's that.

End of iso activity: go on a shopping spree.

MOANINGFUL CONFESSIONS

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How I Caught an S-T-Daddy

After spending 4 months in one of New Zealand's shittiest small towns, sleeping in a single bed, and spending all my time with my parents and the one friend I still talk to from high school, I was horny and ready to get back out into Dunedin.

It was my first night back and I was alone in my flat. "Perfect," I thought, "time to look for company". Tinder was giving me nothing and it wasn't until I turned the age limit off that things got interesting. Scrolling through an array of silver foxes, I came across a very sexy man, we matched and he agreed to come over in an hour. Now, I know what they say about stranger danger and I would usually agree but this man was old enough to be my father so I figured it would be fine (plus I was just that fucking horny).

He arrived and, not gonna lie, things started awkward. I can only liken it to when you go over to your friends house and their dad answers the door. Because of this we didn't spend long on the formalities and we headed upstairs to get down to business. I've heard people say with age comes experience and boy are they right! Never in my life have I felt the way he made me feel. Our man came from an era before digital porn made boys get self-conscious in bed, or overly dramatic. A bygone age of good old fashioned chivalry. Not only could this man find the clit, he actually knew what to do with it. I'm

talking many, many orgasms. Not gonna lie, towards the end I was pretty tired. But a girl's gotta do what a girl's gotta do and when he left I slept the best I had in years.

Fast forward three days. My vagina has barely recovered but I had at last regained feeling in my legs and was able to walk again. This was lucky because my new flatmate "Kate" was moving in that day. Now, Kate is from Dunedin but had been away fruit picking in Cromwell and just had returned. Once Kate arrived at the flat we sat and chatted for a good hour and she was so excited to hear of my sexcapades from the previous few days ago. The future of our Dunedin sex lives was looking good! I helped her move in, and all was well until Kate's dad arrived to drop off her bed.

It was the car I recognised first. As soon as I saw who got out of it I knew I was in trouble. I was suddenly face to face with the man who had rearranged my guts three days ago, who turned out to be none other than Kate's dad!!!! This led to one of the most awkward encounters of my life which I don't wish to recount.

Moral of the story: Dunedin students, specifically those aged 18-22, please just get good at sex so I don't have to fuck anymore of my flatmate's dads. And Kate, just know that your mum is a lucky gal.

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



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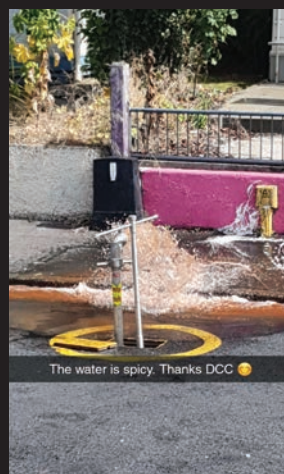
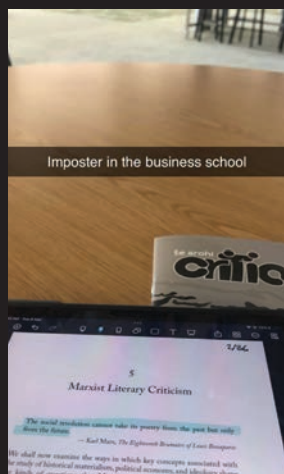
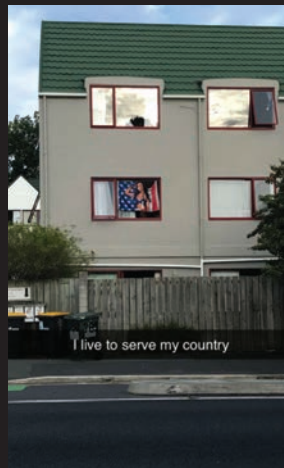
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