

### **LETTER OF THE WEEK**

### Critic.

In mid-March I picked up my regularly-scheduled issue of this illustrious publication and found an article about an absolutely preposterous mad lad who decided to take on all the Great Walks in jandals after an accidental moistening of the boots on the Kepler. "Bizzare!" I thought, "There is absolutely no way anyone could outrun an angry swan, even if they had sports-mode

That very weekend, my girlfriends and I took on the Milford track (in boots). Along the way we saw whio and riflemen and eel and even a flowering orchid. The weather was incredible, and the scenery spectacular. Most importantly, as we were groaning about our aching feet, I regaled them with the tale of the Great Jandal. "A madman," we all agreed

Speak of the devil and he shall appear, or so they say, and GUESS WHO was starting the Milford Trek that very same weekend, and into whom we stumbled as we made our descent from the pass? It wasn't the devil – it was a dishevelled and sweaty young man hiking up the way in flip-flops. "Haha," my friend said, "It's like the jandal guy, that would be crazy if it was him!"

And so it was. The Great Jandal himself, and a team of assistants who were all wearing not-jandals. Of course we stopped for a selfie (attached) as we chatted, because I knew the readers and writers of Critic can't resist a good callback. So I'm happy to report that as of mid-March, the Great Jandal is alive and well and making his way to whatever future his unbound feet can carry

Yours -Liquid time

Ps. I've been watching the "Students are being fucked over, staff are entitled boomers that swim in pools of money and power, indignation goes Brrrr" vs "Students are really mean and staff are at wits end please for god's sake treat us with some humanity" exchanges with some interest, but mostly disappointment because lecturers and students should really be uniting against our common enemy - the high-level Adminstrators who oversee us all.

### Dear Critic.

I'm going home for Easter but my boyfriend isn't, and it's when our very important 1-month-anniversary is. So can you please publish this to wish a certain Nerd a very happy day on my behalf?

Kindest regards, Dork

### Dear Critic.

Please tell me why adulthood consists of sending emails and waiting for a reply. It's a little disappointing really. Since arriving I have sent emails regarding applications, clubs, competitions, and many more to clarify what the lecturer is actually asking for my assignment.

After a year of emails back and forth applying to Halls, University, and scholarships I have come to the realisation it simply does not end there. As a naive and ignorant high school graduate, I began my long journey to the beginning of the end. Yes, the irritating reality of adulthood. Ironically, I find myself here, writing another email at 9pm just for the curiosity of getting into

With complete honesty I will admit - the "letter of the week wins a \$30 voucher from University Bookshop" is tempting and a large reason why I am writing to you. As a broke and desperate University student why would I not take the chance right? I may be a cheapskate, but I have no shame. I guess I will never know if this is yet another unanswered message into the void of my sent inbox unless Critic is gracious enough to gift me with a reply. Who knows maybe my petty voice will be heard among the dozens of other intellectual letters you will shovel through in the coming weeks? To summarise, my question remains; why does adulthood consist of sending emails and waiting for a reply?

A desperate first year

# RAD TIMES

THURSDAY 14 APRIL

COVEN feat. Hystera, Filth Wizard, Dale Kerrigan, and SLUR THE CROWN HOTEL 7PM / \$15 WAGED / \$10 UNWAGED

WEDNESDAY 20 APRIL

Midnight Caffeine - Welcome To The Party Tour w/ Sunflower Scent THE CROWN HOTEL

Tickets from undertheradar.co.nz

**FRIDAY** 22 APRIL Mousey - 'My Friends' Release Tour w/ **Neive Strang** DIVE

7:30PM

Tickets from undertheradar.co.nz

Tickets from undertheradar.co.nz

SATURDAY 23 APRIL

Saint Peter's Thursday - Red Light Tour w/ Mads Harrop and Black Sale House THE CROWN HOTEL

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



# Editorial: GHOTI

By Fox Meyer

If you're trying to learn English, good fuckin' luck, because "GHOTI" is pronounced "fish" (touGH, wOmen, acTlon).

English is a bizarre and wonderful language, and I am so, so glad that I was born into it rather than having to learn it as an adult. Of all the major languages out there, it's gotta be in the top three hardest to learn, because the sounds made by various letters have almost no consistency. And the reasons for that are absolutely fascinating.

English is really three languages, maybe four. It's a mixture of the original Germanic stuff, high-falutin French, and then an injection of Greek and Latin. Each of these mutations happened at a specific point, and each brought with them a whole host of new words and sounds that we now just call "English". French was the first major change, and the best way to examine it is through meat.

In 1066. Norman invaders sailed from France into the British Isles and took over. They became royalty, and their language, French, became the language of the ruling class. French words became fancy-talk, and we can still see that today: french terms are usually reserved for the more eloquent style of discourse (like that, right there). But the most obvious example of this is the meat that you eat. English peasants raised animals, which were butchered for and consumed by the French aristocrats. So the living animals (the pigs, cows and chickens) were known by one name to the Germanic-speaking peasantry, and the meat that they produced (the pork, beef and poultry) were known by a completely separate name to the French-speaking rulers.

The next mutation happened during the Renaissance. Suddenly, this whole world of "the Old Masters" opened up, and with it, their languages. Latin, Greek, and some Arabic made the jump into English with the "re-discovery" of astronomy, physiology, and all those other "-ologies". What this means is that in modern English, there's usually three ways to say something. There's the original, simple, Germanic; there's the fancy, erudite French; and there's the technical, scientificsounding Latin or Greek. Like with the word

You can say "green" and people know what you mean, it's clear-cut, it's simple. It's Germanic. Or, you could say "verdant", and add a bit more linguistic spice by using the language of the ruling class (although it has its roots in Latin). Lastly, if you're talking about something scientific, you're probably using words like "chloroplast" or "chlorophyll", both of which are rooted in "chloro": the Greek word for "areen".

English has had several major mutations, and I reckon we're about due for another. The introduction of the internet has completely changed the way we interact, and with it, the words we use for interaction. New slang, new abbreviations, all sorts of new stuff are moving into the way we talk, like LOL, which we looked into in this issue. So, to all future and current learners of English: I wish you the best of luck. Because there's a hard thing about this language, a certain je ne sais quoi, a multi-lingual convergence, that you'll have to get used to.

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### Taj Mahal Gutted by Early-Morning Fire

Is it too soon to make jokes about someone ordering Indian hot?

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

An early-morning fire engulfed Dunedin's Taj Mahal, bringing a tragic (but hopefully temporary) end to a BYO institution beloved by students. No one was hurt in the incident. The fire is not believed to be suspicious.

Senior Station Officer Mark Leonard, from Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ), told Critic Te Arohi that the fire was reported to them at 3:12am. There were two separate 111 calls reporting black smoke from the George Street building, the first from a passing truck driver. Shortly after that, the three people living in the flat above reported black smoke coming in through the window.

Two fire engines arrived at 3:17am, and fire crews evacuated the flat occupants before putting out the fire, which Leonard said was a "pretty straightforward operation". According to him, the fire started in the kitchen area, but did not spread outside of it. Viewed by Critic on Monday morning, the inside of the building was severely damaged, with significant smoke and heat damage to the furniture. Practically the only thing left untouched was the drinks fridge, still stocked full of beers. Most of the tables were already set with cutlery and serviettes, ready for lunch that day.

On Monday, two fire investigators were on the scene investigating the cause of the fire. A media spokesperson from FENZ advised Critic Te Arohi that, as of press time, "an investigation into the cause and origin of the fire is still underway." The Taj Mahal has long been a beloved institution among Otago students, hosting more icebreaker BYOs, club events and end-of-semester parties than could possibly be counted. Its manager told us they regularly got about 100–150 students dining with them every single week. It clearly holds a special place in students' hearts, with Critic Te Arohi's Facebook post breaking the news receiving nearly 1,500 sad reacts and close to 500 comments as of last week. Most of these comments expressed shock and sadness at the news. Some recalled memories of visits to the Tai, both the wholesome and the not so wholesome.

Holly had one of the more wholesome stories. She told Critic Te Arohi that she was a regular at the Taj for the five years that she was in Dunedin (2016-21). "Most of my memories of the Taj were an alcohol and garlic naan induced blur," she said. "You were always quaranteed an exceptional BYO night at the Taj, from its mouth watering food, to the lovely and extremely patient staff, the raging Bollywood tunes, and to the new friends you made queuing for the loo down the alleyway. Sometimes I even cured my hangover with a \$10 lunch deal the following day. Even though my curry order was always mild - my heart will forever be warmed."

The owner of the Taj Mahal, who did not wish to give his name, told Critic Te Arohi that the restaurant was "going very good" before the incident. While Covid-19 has been rough for many restaurant owners,

he said having students ordering through delivery apps helped keep the Taj ticking over when many of them were in isolation.

"We always used to talk with [students], and always used to get lots of good comments from them, as well as from [students ordering on] delivery apps." He showed Critic some Snapchat videos, showing the restaurant packed with students pretty much every night for the week before the incident. "We had a lot of bookings lined up for that day [Monday] as well," he added.

The incident has been devastating for him. He wants to reopen soon, maybe as soon as 3–6 months from now, but it will not be an easy journey. "Everything needs to change," he said, with almost everything in the restaurant, from furniture to kitchen equipment, needing to be replaced.

After taking a bit of time to take stock and plan his next steps, the owner is looking at setting up a Givealittle page by this week, to help the Taj Mahal "get back on its feet". A link will be posted in the online article when it goes live. "If you have space in your heart for the Taj Mahal, you can contribute. Even a dollar or two dollars. Everything counts," he said. They promise they'll be back soon, and they'll be stronger than ever.

Critic hopes students will contribute the coins from your games of Save the Queen, or a few bucks even if only to pay back the corkage for all the extra bottles of wine you've smuggled in over the years.

### Uni Giving out Free Shots

The nice flu-fighting kind, not the nasty acetone-and-pickle flavoured kind

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

Some nasty viruses are heading our way once again – and no, their names don't start with C. As things get cold and flu season approaches, Critic Te Arohi spoke to Otago Uni expert Dr. Lucy Telfar – Barnard about why students should be ready to roll up their sleeves one more time.

Dr. Telfar-Barnard, who's based in the Department of Public Health in Otago Uni's Wellington campus, said that getting your flu shot is even more important this year than most. She said that Covid lockdowns have pretty much crushed the flu for the last two years, which has prevented immunity from building up in the population. "The things we did to get rid of Covid got rid of the flu as well, which is great. But now here we are, not having had it for two years, and now we have to be prepared for it."

Similar to the Covid vaccine, the shots give two types of protection, she added: "Protection for yourself, and protection that other people get from you being vaccinated." This is particularly important as, unlike the Covid vaccine, the flu shot is not freely available for most people.

Otago Uni students can get their shots for free at Student Health, and they're available right now. Some others can as well, such as over 65s, Māori and Pacific people over 55, those who are pregnant and those with underlying health conditions. However, for everyone else, getting a flu shot will set you back anywhere between \$20–50 at a pharmacy or GP. This means having your shot will also protect people who can't get it because they can't afford it, as well as those who may be allergic to it.

Having your shot is fantastic, said Dr. Telfar-Barnard, but it does not make you superhuman. Cold weather brings lots of nasty bugs. "The flu is just one of the viruses going around in winter that does have a vaccine, which is great. But there are still others." She emphasised it was still important to keep your masks on, and try to keep places warm and well-ventilated if you can, to minimise the spread of disease.

With plenty of practice getting their Covid jabs, Dr. Telfar-Barnard hoped that students will see the flu vaccines as a piece of cake. "We know now that it's just a needle in the arm... we really need to get used to the idea that vaccination is something you do regularly."

And in case you're wondering: yes, it is generally safe to reward yourself with a shot after your shot. You may feel a bit woozier after, though, so watch out for that.

### Muslim Students Ring in the Month of Ramadan

A time of fasting, prayer, charity and getting closer to Allah

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

This year, April 1 marked the beginning of the month of Ramadan, a sacred month for Muslims across the globe. Critic Te Arohi checked in with the Muslim Students' Association (MUSA) to see how students are spending this time.

MUSA, alongside the Otago Muslim Association, are hosting iftar (fastbreaking meals) for students throughout April. Held at the Masjid Al-Huda on Clyde Street, it is very much a student-driven event, with students helping out with everything from setting up, to cooking and serving the iftar and cleaning up afterwards.

During Ramadan, Muslims cannot eat, drink, smoke, or engage in sexual activity from sunrise to sunset, much in line with the typical Dunedin student schedule. According to Islamic tradition, they try to strengthen their faith at this time, deepening one's relationship with Allah and doing more charitable acts. It's often a time spent with family, but George says that for many students here, who are away from their families, "We become their community."

The timing of the iftar varies every day, but for this month, it happens around 5:30–6pm. The fast is traditionally broken by eating a date. Worshippers then perform the Maghrib (sunset) prayer, after which the main meal is served. When Critic Te Arohi visited, a chicken curry with basmati rice and salad was on offer.

For George, who converted to Islam 3 years ago, Ramadan is an opportunity to "put the material world on pause". "You spend so much of your time thinking about what to eat, but this takes it all away," he said.

Sahil, an Indian international student who also converted to Islam, told Critic Te Arohi that Ramadan "helps you to think of others who may have less than we do. And it gives you a sense of peace. It's indescribable."

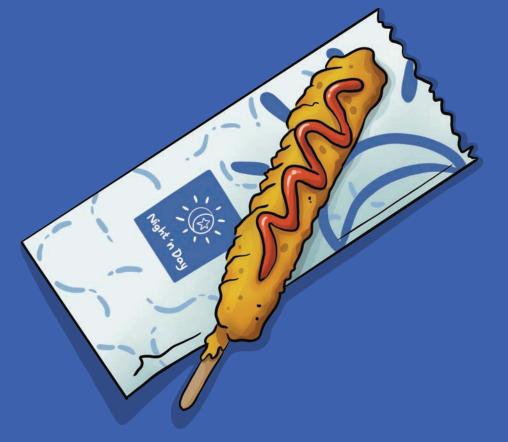
Asked about balancing religious observance with a Uni schedule that isn't often built with Muslim students in mind, George said "I don't find it too hard," but added jokingly that "I do a BA. Nothing's hard." Sahil said it was a bit more challenging, especially with mid-semester exams coming up, but that it helped having a small, tight-knit community who are observing Ramadan together.

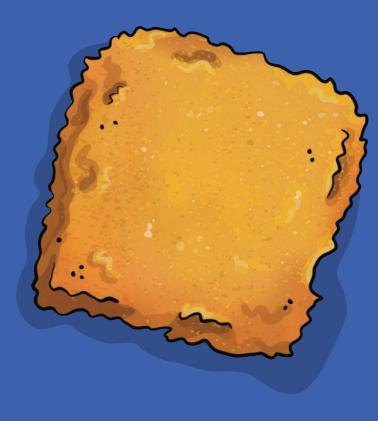
For students who want to learn more about this important and sacred month of the year, George extended an open invitation for anyone, Muslim and non-Muslim alike, to join the iftar. "All are welcome," he said.











### **Night 'n Day Sauce Stories Continue to Spill**

No use crying over spilt sauce, aye?

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

After reading about Flynn's misadventure at Night 'n Day, Ruby and Angus reached out to Critic Te Arohi to share their suspiciously similar stories. Turns out, there are quite a few people who have faced a saucy fine from the 24hr store.

Ruby described going to the Night 'n Day on Regent Street on a warm Friday night in February. Ruby took a packet of sauce, apparently without realising she had to pay for it. Upon being apprehended by a security guard, Ruby apologised, explaining that she had simply made a mistake and was more than willing to pay for it.

In response, Ruby said that the security guard called her a "stupid, selfish student", and continued to say something along the lines of "I bet you've come here from a big oversized party. You won't even feel bad when we have to shut for 10 days because you've selfishly brought Covid in." In

reality, said Ruby, she was wearing a mask, obeying all Covid rules, and had not been to any party.

Just like in Flynn's story, the police soon responded to the scene of the alleged crime. Ruby described one officer telling the manager to let Ruby pay for the sauce and that "from their point of view they did not believe I was trying to steal." Things appeared to be looking up for Ruby as she was allowed to pay and the police left. However, before she knew it, Ruby was slammed with the classic \$300 fine plus the price of the allegedly stolen sauce, and a trespass notice.

Ruby, shocked and taken aback by the course of events, called the Night 'n Day head office the next day to recount the story. The receptionist told Ruby they would "be in touch". A few days later, having heard nothing, she called again

but to no avail. Fast forward a week, Ruby received an email from the proctor saying that the incident had been reported to him but that he wouldn't take action. It has since been over 3 weeks since Ruby's last call with Night 'n Day, and still she has heard nothing, with the fine apparently having been due on 4th March. Critic Te Arohi wonders if Night 'n Day has the same admin system as StudyLink.

The sauce continued to thicken with Angus' story. Angus tucked a sauce packet into his pie bag and paid for whatever the cashier charged him, assuming the sauce would be included. He was stopped at the door and informed that he had tried to steal the sauce. "I giggled and said 'sorry I will go pay for the sauce if I haven't'," said Angus. And again, Angus was issued a \$300 fine and a trespass notice. Despite thinking "it's a total joke," Angus paid the fine quickly, fearing the prospect of going to jail or facing a further fine if he didn't pay up.

Critic Te Arohi reached out to the Otago Law Department for some expert advice on the issue. Fines are typically imposed through the justice system and not by a private company. Dr Simon Connell said that while Night 'n Day are "probably entitled to issue a trespass notice," in terms of enforcing their fines, "they are not on especially solid ground". Dr Simon Connell raised the possibility of "approaching the Commerce Commission on the basis that there might be an unfair contract term".

Tim Mackenzie, a barrister at Canterbury Chambers, told Critic Te Arohi that he is happy to assist students being hassled for "fines" by Night 'n Day for free. "My initial advice is — just do nothing. Don't pay it, ignore them," said Tim. Night 'n Day would apparently have to go to the trouble of filling a civil claim in the Disputes Tribunal if they want to try to enforce their "fines".

With all this in mind, we had a yarn with Matt Lane, the manager of the store. He was sympathetic to the plight of accidental student sauce thieves, but maintained that intentional student theft is a problem that these unfortunate cases have gotten mixed in with. Matt said that "Students are a really important base for us, they have been for the last 30 years. We know that 99.9% of them are great, and we love them, but there are some that cause problems with us, mostly when alcohol is related and mostly during big party weeks. I don't like issuing these fines, but it's more of a deterrent than revenue collection."

Coverage like these articles, Matt said, does help reduce the theft rate. Last year, for example, we published an article about a student who was too drunk to remember to pay for an "awesome" Thai green curry pie that he'd eaten in the queue. He was slapped with the same \$300 fine, and after our article came out, Matt said that pie theft rates plummeted.

Matt has already spoken with security guards about determining the "intent" of people in this specific situation, but there are pitfalls. "I think it's important to know when something is a genuine accident, but also, it's really easy then for people

to know that we'll forgive an accident and take advantage of that", said Matt.

As an example, Matt described a different sauce theft from earlier this year. There were two perpetrators. According to Matt, a security guard overheard the first person say to his mate "watch – I'm going to take this", before hiding a sauce packet under his pie bag. Matt said he "went to the counter, made no attempt to show or disclose it and left without paying. While he was at the counter, his friend put six [packets] in his pocket and also left without paying." If Night 'n Day made it known that they'd forgive sauce fines, Matt was worried that students like these would be able to say "oh, just a mistake" and ruin it for everyone.

There is a solution, Matt said. Night 'n Day could just "move the sauce packets behind the counter". That way, you can't just grab one and assume it's free. In the meantime, if it's not already clear enough, sauce packets from Night 'n Day are not free.

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## Easing Covid Restrictions: What Does it Mean for Disabled Students?

"Woo-hoo, life's back to normal!" — white, able-bodied people, presumably

By Zak Rudin

News Reporter // zak@critic.co.nz

For many, the Government lifting most Covid restrictions has been a welcome relief. But for those who are disabled and immunocompromised, it represents a scary step into a world now fraught with

Sean Prenter, co-president of the Otago University Disabled Students Association (OUDSA), explained to Critic Te Arohi just what the move away from a zero-Covid strategy means for their community. He described the changes to traffic light settings as a "huge shock," saying that: "Moving away from an elimination strategy means the risk of spread is going to be far more certain."

Sean expressed concerns that these changes leave the disabled community out of the often-referenced "team of 5 million", noting that "[The] policy is completely out of touch with the realities of the disabled community." He said that the root of the disconnect was a "lack of adequate consultation with the disabled community throughout the pandemic". Instead, the hegemonic narrative has remained entrenched in the outdated "medical model of disability", in which disability is seen through a "lens of deficit" requiring a remedial cure, rather than "considering the diversity that disability brings". As such, the Disability Rights Commissioner is launching a human rights investigation over the government's handling of the pandemic.

Meanwhile, the University told Critic Te Arohi that they plan to consult with OUSA and OUDSA surrounding the future of vaccine mandates, whilst announcing the future learning arrangements prior to the mid-semester break. Sean stressed that there is still a need to be careful in order to protect vulnerable communities. He asked that "students and staff maintain hypervigilance, hygiene, social distancing, wear masks and get vaccinated".

The collegiate structure of Otago Uni (where individual colleges/departments run mostly independently), means that there are no uniform accessibility standards for teaching. Sean is a firm advocate for hybridisation, where students are able to effectively engage with adequate online resources as well as with in-person lectures. These online resources need to be carefully prepared: as anyone who has struggled with a silent Zoom lecture or a patchy Echo360 recording will know, just having stuff online does not make it any more engaging or effective.

"Tertiary education is a space where disabled people can reclaim their position as equal citizens," said Sean. He added, though, that this ideal was being undermined by under-resourced and poorly-standardised accessible learning. While he praised Disability Services, calling it the "best disabled students' support in the country," he said that they should be there to support learners rather than doing all the work to "make up for inaccessible learning".

At the heart of the issue, Sean thought, is that many people are simply unaware of the intersectional effects Covid-19 has on our communities. Basically, intersectionality means different categories (e.g. ethnicity, gender, disability status) give you different levels of privilege and disadvantage, and these categories can intersect with each other. As an example, Sean pointed out that "the disabled community, youth, and Asian communities are vulnerable, and the outcomes for Pasifika and Māori are disproportionate[ly negative]". So, as an example, a disabled young Māori person would have three separate levels of disadvantage, and understanding how these interact is the essence of intersectionality.

The Uni has already been making some positive progress in this regard, Sean said, with the Sustainability Office and Social Impact Studio being helpful in providing accessible resources to make sense of updated government restrictions. Sean's keen for more to be done though, urging students to push for "social accountability and allyship to the disabled community," including by pressuring the Uni to mandate hybrid lectures amongst all departments. There needs to be a shift away from simply being "responsible sensible students," he said, towards building "civic cohesion", where students can more actively push back against ableism and stigmatisation.

### PRANK101: Chewbacca Impressions Chew Student's Ear Off

Rhhhhhhheoorrhhhaw, rhhhhhhheoorrhhhaw

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

Chewbacca, affectionately known as Chewie, is known for his big heart and unwavering loyalty to his friends. Critic Te Arohi hopes Tom still feels the same way about his mates, after his flatmate put his phone number all over campus advertising a Chewbacca impression contest. A box of Major Majors were up for grabs for the champion.

Harry, the mastermind behind the prank, spent all of Friday morning putting the 100 posters across North Dunedin. His morning mish helped him set a new personal best on Strava, clocking in 6km over 2 and a half hours. Harry claims he stuck posters to "every single pole on Castle Street," as well as handing "15 or 20 of them out to people directly in the library". He recalled that he received "strange looks" for that.

Within five days of the posters going up, Tom, whose number was now posted 100 times around North D, had received around 120 Chewbacca impressions over the phone. They haven't all been top quality, said self-described "moderate Star Wars fan" Tom: "Some have been pretty good but some sound like a cat screaming or some are just a genuine scream." There were also polite calls, threatening calls and someone claiming "they were the proctor and I was in trouble," Tom said. Katie, a student, felt the competition revealed a vital part of the Dunedin student psyche: "People are too gullible, they'll do anything for a box."

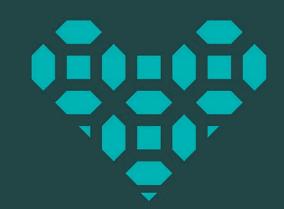
One female caller confessed her love of Chewie to Tom, saying she made out with one of the posters three times, and that it now has pride of place in her room. Mrs. Bacca then confessed her love to Joe, Tom's other flatmate, over the phone. But despite accepting an invitation over to their flat for Monopoly and apple crumble,

"the mysterious romantic must have disappeared into a galaxy far, far away, because she never showed." A heartbroken Tom, holding back tears, told Critic Te Arohi that "I thought I found the one".

Of all the attempts, though, only one caller could claim victory. According to Harry, Max's call stood out from among the rest: "He called us when we were drunk and I just remember it being really good". Max's prize was a box of Major Majors, and in true Wookiee fashion, Harry said that "[Max] was pretty stoked about it. He stood outside for like 15 minutes – probably thought he was getting catfished or something."

Of course, no good deed goes unpunished. Tom, the unsuspecting judge of Dunedin's first and largest Chewbacca impression competition covered Harry's "drawers, pillow cases and bed with bean bag beads," most of which are still there today.





ōtepoti | dunedin

# tō tātou āpōpō the future of us

an update on our 10 year plan 2022-23









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# Highest GHG Categories for 2020 Student Travel – Air Travel (all categories): 30% Electricity: 18% Purchased Goods & Services (food): 15% Waste from operations (waste to landfill): 6% Business Travel – Air Travel (all categories): 5% Stationary Combustion – Coal: 4% Employee Commuting – Private Vehicles: Steam & MTHW – Coal: 4% Stationary Combustion – LPG: 4% Other: 10%

### **Uni's Carbon Emissions Dropped In 2020**

Levels of hot air emitted from Clockower unchanged, weirdly

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

A new report has found the Uni's carbon emissions dipped by 40% in 2020, to 30,661 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO2e). Reasons for the decrease include a lockdown, fewer jet-setting employees and a coal phaseout.

The Uni's latest Greenhouse Gas Inventory was released in February 2022. The report encompasses emissions from all of Otago's campuses (in Dunedin, Christchurch, Wellington and Invercargill).

The report divides the Uni's emissions into 3 categories. Scope 1 emissions (6.8% of the total) come from sources owned by the Uni. Almost half of these came from coal, which the Uni has been trying to phase out. Arana, the last spot on campus that relies on coal heating, got \$200k of Government dosh last year to convert their coal boiler to run on biomass (forestry byproducts)

LPG gas, used in kitchens, heating and science labs, makes up another 40% of the Scope 1 emissions. The Uni has committed to "phase out" its use by 2030. The rest of Scope 1 was made up of emissions from the Uni's vehicles (5%), leakage of refrigerants from heat pumps and chillers (3.7%), biomass (2%) and marine fuel for the Uni's 10 vessels (0.7%).

Scope 2 emissions, which make up a quarter of the Uni's total emissions, come from stuff the Uni spends money on, but doesn't own. This is mainly emissions from electricity generation (75%). Interestingly, despite the Uni being shut for several weeks during the 2020 lockdowns, electricity use went up 6.8%. The report says this was "due in part to increased usage at residential colleges [and] Uniflats," and also added that "electricity use in many on-campus facilities does not scale down directly with occupancy". Critic assumes someone just forgot to hit the lights when they last left the Link some time in March last year.

The rest came from the Dunedin Energy Centre, across the road from Te Rangi Hiroa, which heats the Dunedin campus (along with the hospital). This system originally used coal, but switched to biomass in early 2020. This led to a huge drop in emissions; despite the boiler running on biomass for most of the year, the emissions produced from burning coal for those first few months accounted for the yeat majority of its yearly emissions.

These first two categories pale in comparison to the Uni's Scope 3 emissions, which make up a (nice) 69% of total emissions. These come as a result of Uni activities, but from sources not directly owned or paid for by the Uni (such as student and employee travel, and emissions from food and waste).

Employee air travel, which made up the largest portion of Scope 3 emissions in 2019, fell 86% in 2020. This was unsurprising, given that the 'Rona made

most flights pretty much non-existent.
Despite this, Otago employees jetted over seven million km on the Uni budget during 2020 – including 6,300km of First Class flying.

The Sustainability Office was pleased with the fall, but committed to "ensure air travel emissions... remain below 50% of [the 2019 peak] annually... using alternatives to flying that we are all familiar with, and flying smarter (trip chaining, avoiding stopovers) when this is unavoidable".

Some emissions are a little bit trickier to calculate, and require some interesting assumptions. For example, almost half of the Scope 3 emissions come from student air travel, which assumes that every student over 300km from their home address would fly back to their nearest airport at least once every year.

Another 22% comes from hall food. They calculated emissions based on a "typical [omnivorous] NZ diet," going on to optimistically assume "the student intake might be slightly healthier" than the average, which is certainly a statement.

On the other hand, figures for student commuting (4% of Scope 3 emissions) make the frankly heroic assumption that students will show up to campus a whopping 6 times a week. This sort of positive thinking is exactly what we need as we face up to the looming climate crisis ahead.

## Multi-Million Dollar Church Reportedly Tells Students to Donate their Course-Related Costs

It's all good, Jesus famously loved rich people right? Right? (James 5:1-6)

**By Elliot Weir** Features Editor // features@critic.co.nz

Journalist and documentary filmmaker David Farrier has published an exposé of Arise Church. The piece alleges exploitation of their interns and attendees, including an account from an Otago Uni student who attended their Dunedin branch.

Arise Church is one of the largest churches in Aotearoa, if not the largest. It's also a bit different to most churches. For one, it has 14 campuses around the country, boasting an estimated 10,000 followers. These all effectively act as one church, with attendees at all these campuses watching live-streamed sermons from their leader, Pastor John Cameron, every Sunday. Also unlike a lot of other churches, Arise has a notably young following, with a high proportion of university students. In Dunedin, they have an Otago Uni "Students of ARISE Church" club.

One Otago student, who began attending as a first-year in 2017, shared their experience with Farrier, "In the front row there is a stage manager, although I'm sure they call it something more spiritual. They have on a whole headset — like, over-ear headphones and a mic. In the Dunedin church, it was a woman in her late twenties. In that front row there was also an iPad that had a set of timers on it. It only faced the stage, and was there so that every single element ran for only a specific amount of time [...] They would then beam in John Cameron from the Kapiti campus. This kind of bugged me from the beginning, because they had campus pastors in Dunedin, but they seldom actually delivered messages. I just found it odd to go to a church full of people to watch a video from Arise headquarters."

The student stated that followers were encouraged to give tithes (10% of their in-come) however they could, despite the fact that they were mostly, well, broke students. Churchgoers were also strongly encouraged to attend Arise's conferences, in some cases "being told to use their course related costs to pay for conference tickets". This messaging comes from a registered charity that, by the way, raked in a cool \$12,969,889 last year.

According to the student: "They have a women's conference, and then just a normal conference. They are both super expensive, and if you want to be anything more than someone who turns up for church, you are constantly told you should go. They spend all year running promo videos of previous conferences and having 'early bird' specials. They show you clips of crying people and a few famous Christians, alongside the free gifts and the selling of the experience itself. They even have merch now. It's bordering on ridiculous."

Farrier also reported on Arise's internship program, which followers actually need to pay to join. Under their program, interns would reportedly work "four days in the office, plus evening events most nights, work a huge day on Sunday, and then work somewhere for actual money on your 'days off'." If this schedule was not enough, Arise interns were also allegedly used by staff as babysitters, drivers, and cleaners.

Former Arise members also raised concerns to Farrier that Arise pushes a strong political agenda. One said that "We were told from the stage pre-election to vote National because that was a 'good

Christian vote'. A lot of people in the congregation would vote for whoever they were told to vote for, without doing their own research. I remember also being told from stage to oppose the Marriage Equality Bill, and feeling like if I didn't, then I was doing something wrong."

Critic Te Arohi reported last year on Arise Church's political activities, when they sent a mass email telling their members to oppose the Conversion Practices Prohibition Bill (which outlawed conversion therapy). Arise claimed at the time that the bill would limit freedom of religion. The Campus Chaplains, however, notably disagreed with that view. Reverend Dr. Jordan Redding told Critic Te Arohi then that "it is well-established that attempting to change or suppress one's sexuality or gender is not only ineffectual but also (and more pertinently) harmful. We are firmly against any such practices."

He also told us that "the new legislation protects the right of religious groups to express their beliefs. On campus, there are many different religious (and non-religious) groups, who hold a wide range of views when it comes to sexuality and gender. The Campus Chaplains recognise this diversity and the importance of protecting religious freedoms. However, we stress that freedom of expression must never cross over into coercive practices that cause harm."

Critic Te Arohi reached out to Arise Church for comment. As of print time, we did not receive a response.







Available now at Nando's Octagon.

### SHOCKER: Study Finds "Students Shivering inside Cold, Damp Homes"

Validation from Uni hits just different

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

A recent study conducted by Otago Uni has found that many students live in miserably cold, damp and mouldy homes. Most students also don't know that StudyLink can help with massive power bills.

The nationwide study, led by Dr. Kimberley O'Sullivan, was conducted by He Kāinga Oranga, the Housing and Health Research Programme, at the Uni. Of the 522 students who participated in the study, almost half confirmed that their flats were "sometimes or always damp". Leah told Critic Te Arohi, "no matter how much dehumidifier time, there was constant dampness and nothing could dry". Twothirds of students said that it was cold enough for them to see their breath inside their flats, while a whopping 79% said that they were cold enough to be shivering in their flats. One student we spoke to earlier this year said it was cold enough "to refrigerate our milk in the bedroom". Yikes.

A common symptom of a cold damp flat is mould, and not the nice kind on your blue

cheese. Around one third of students have mould the size of an A4 sheet of paper being cultivated in their home. Shockingly, around half of Māori and disabled students' flats have visible mould, demonstrating the intersectional inequality of the issue. Lawrence told Critic Te Arohi that they have "6 square metres of mould growing on the ceiling" in their "painfully cold [flat]". The landlord never fixed it, instead telling him to open windows (you know, to freeze). Maybe they wanted to advertise it as a flat garden. Speaking of which, you should register that mould for our flat garden competition.

All this makes flats pretty miserable, and the survey found many students directly associated their living situation with depression and anxiety. This "significantly affects students' mental health and their ability to perform daily activities," said Dr. O'Sullivan. As well as the damaging mental impact, having cold flats also raised significant health concerns, including increased the risk of chest infections and pneumonia.

StudyLink can actually offer some help in these situations, offering up to \$200 in cash grants to help people pay outstanding power bills, or to reconnect their electricity or gas if needed. However, only 8% of students were actually aware of this. Instead, the survey found three-quarters of students just cut back on heating to save money on power. Deborah told Critic Te Arohi that they only use heating during their free Hour of Power to save on costs; they just stay cold the other 23 hours of the day. Other people just suck up the high power bills, in some cases loading it onto their student loans via course-related

Critic hopes that the Government and universities will take Dr. O'Sullivan's advice, that "it's clear more targeted support is required for students." But at the rate things are going, students may as well just continue with internalising their pain. At least it's warm in your heart.

### **Clubs Week Helps Weakened Clubs**

Cheerful pessimism winner at the end of the day

By Hugh Askerud

Last week, OUSA Clubs and Socs held 'Clubs Week' celebrating the various oddities and misfits who call Otago home. Housed on the edge of the Link, each club was given 90 minutes to win over the hearts of passers-by heading through

As Critic Te Arohi has reported on earlier this year, clubs seem to have been really stitched up. With no real opportunity to promote themselves to students in person, advertising has turned entirely to the internet and other, more niche avenues. Some clubs have even been emailing halls individually, trying to get to the huge number of freshers who have not left the safe, warm comforts of their concrete boxes.

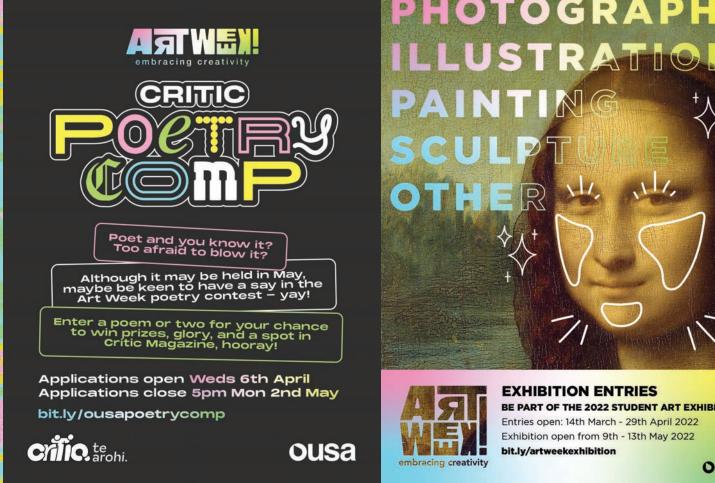
'Clubs Week' was Clubs and Socs' push to flip the switch. The event seemed to be a big win for anyone with a deep and unfulfilled passion, anyone looking for a community, or anyone who simply enjoys berating strangers with their questions. As someone who enjoys berating strangers with their questions, Critic went down to ask different clubs what they thought of the Clubs Week, and how they've been doing this semester.

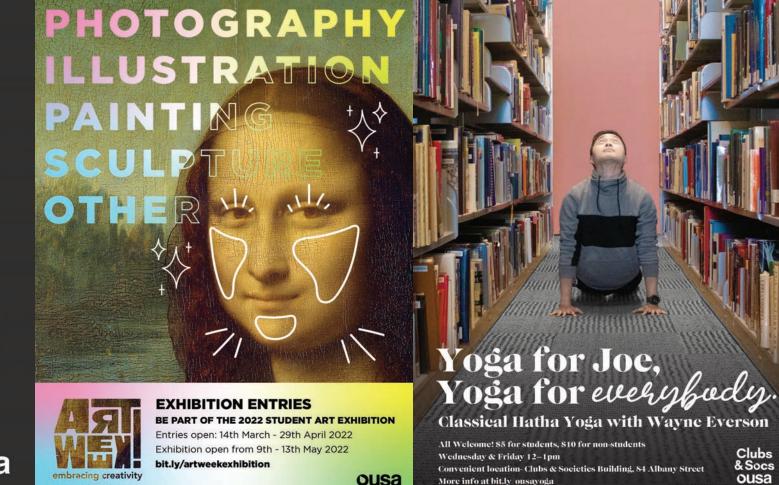
First up was Otago University Tramping Club (OUTC), a stalwart of the club scene in Dunedin and traditionally the largest of Otago's clubs with usually over 500 members. President Anita told us that getting the word out has been a massive issue: "People aren't going to look for clubs on the website, it has to be handed to them." OUTC, she points out, is "lucky" in this regard. "We're an old club so [we] have good membership through word of mouth, but for smaller clubs it's a lot harder."

Justine, from the Otago University Japanese Student Association (OJSA), agreed with that statement, saying "Not having Clubs Day was definitely a big loss for us." Amy, another member, said that "Low expectations are a must," probably encapsulating how most of us have faced 2022 so far. "Because of this," she added, "we're still happy with how things have turned out."

The Clubs Week table seems to have helped long-suffering clubs a bit. Hopefully it's driven more students to rediscover their passions, whether it's photography, home-brewing, arm-wrestling or disc golf.







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# The Critical Tribune

## ABBA Awards Richardson Building Highest Architectural Honours

The Richardson building has just received an award from the Appreciation of the Blind for Building and Architecture, or ABBA for short. This came as a shock to most people who have ever seen the building, but the Richardson building defended its title. "Most people don't see me in my golden hour from 4:15 to 4:40 during winter when the sun hits just right. You've gotta get my good side". The building, named after household legend Sir John Larkins Cheese Richardson, gracefully accepted the award against fellow nominees: Burns building, Greggs Coffee Factory, and the Sand Castle on Leith. ABBA's annual awards were most popular in the 70's, around the time the Richardson was erected, but have gained renewed appreciation.

### Plot to Overthrow the NZ Government Discovered at MenuDeliverEats Offices

Agents of the Crown have recently unearthed plans for MenuDeliverEats employees to institute a coup in the highest levels of the New Zealand government. This has confirmed the suspicions of local residents, who said "They don't fear anything. I've seen one park on double yellow lines right in front of a parking warden." Armed with bulletproof hotbags and a disdain for other road users, Ardern is worried by the significant threat they pose to national security: "They outnumber our army 4 to 1, and their supply chains are unparalleled, they can have hot food delivered anywhere in the city in just 35-50 minutes (depending on restaurant wait times)... if they decided to rebel, we can't compete with that." A MenuDeliverEats spokesperson was unavailable to comment. More to follow.

### Parking Wardens Suspected as Cause for Pedestrianisation

Sources close to the Mayor claim that the attempt to make George Street pedestrianised occurred after a run-in with DCC parking wardens. Mayor Hawkins's close confidants reported that the recent attempts to remove cars from George Street is an attempt to put parking wardens out of a job. "Fucking fascists, all they do is drive up and down George Street on those stupid tricycle things, I'm just sick of it", said someone who claimed to be "the Mayor's soulmate and majordomo".

During one incident, this source said that the warden reportedly claimed that "I don't enjoy this anymore than you mate", although this statement was immediately invalidated by his clearly visible erection. Although removing all cars from George Street may be seen as a knee-jerk reaction, our source clarified that his knee has never actually "jerked" during a reflex test, so therefore this must be reasonable.

### "House DJ" Grateful that Red Settings are Still in Place

Local breatha Thomas Bangerson has been using his somewhat upcoming, mostly failing career as a house DJ as his prime drawcard on Tinder. The only reason he isn't playing the big stage, he claimed, "was because we're in red, so I'm at the same level as Subsonic, really". When Critic disputed this claim, Thomas said "yeah, well, whatever, man". This strategy may come back to bite the local second year when Covid settings are relaxed and he no longer has an excuse.

Thomas told his few matches "Yeah, it sucks man, I just really miss the buzz that performing in front of a crowd used to give me". However, in a rare moment of candour he admitted that he was glad that he has yet to be called on to follow through on inviting girls to his gig. He is still practising his set to his six flatmates three times a week just in case Cindy decides his time has come, and he is losing matches quickly. More to come.





# CLUBS & SOCIETIES REPRESENTATIVE

### **Tulsi Raman**

Kia Ora, kem cho and hello!

I hope you have enjoyed the past five weeks of uni and had the opportunity to meet lots of new people!

Omicron has defs been a downer for clubs and socs and I can't even imagine what it's been like for the freshers out there with your first year being mostly indoors. Good things will be coming soon though so stay tuned!

Clubs and societies are a great way to meet new people if you haven't had the chance. Signups never close, so head to the clubs and socs website or building to find what's on offer and what appeals to you! There are over 140 options! Whether you're in your first or final year, it's never too late to join a club and make

memorable experiences. Clubs and socs have so many things on offer including our recreation programme, so if you're ever wanting to try a new hobby this is your chance!

As the Clubs and Societies Representative I want to support you and your experiences at university. I'm here to prioritise and support YOU! I really value any feedback, questions, ideas or just want a yarn please feel free to get in touch with me!

Clubsrep@ousa.org.nz

I hope to see more of you walking through the clubs and socs building in the weeks to come or at club events as things start returning back to "normal":)

Arohanui ki a koe,

Tulsi

Clubs & Societies Representative



# **PUZZLES**

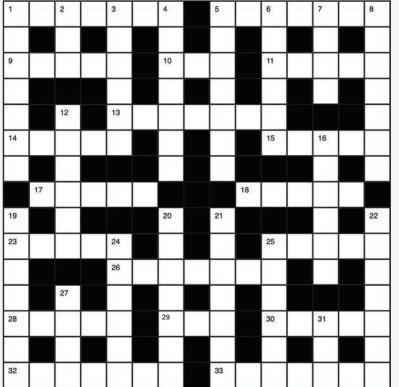
BROUGHT TO YOU BY MAZAGRAN

ESPRESSO BAR

GENERAL BUNEDIN CAFFEINATED

CAFFEINATED

### **CROSSWORD**



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

6–15 good / 16–20 great

### ACROSS:

1. Historical name of Czech Republic (7)

5. Captain Morgan rival (7)

9. Staunch (5)

10. Travel prediction (3)

11. Truthfully; colloquialism (2,3)

13. Shakespearean title character (7)

14. "Can I speak to your manager" (5)

15. Kazakhstan native (5)

17. Halo headed (5)

18. Boot-shaped nation (5)

23. Home (5)

25. Man who can't get laid

26. Clear (7)

28. "\_\_ That", Soulja Boy (5)

29. \_\_\_ Mahal, scene of recent fire (3)

30. Concerning a topic (5)

32. Extract (7)

33. Immoral amount of money to have (7)

### DOWN:

1. Tailor-made (7)

2. Game of Thrones network (3)

3. French presidential candidate (6)

4. Berserk (7)

5. Touch type? (7)6. Swindle (3,3)

7. The \_\_\_, turtleneck icon

8. Foreign goods (7)

12. App for twinks and bears (6)

### 16. Dunedin record store (5)

19. Fiasco (7)

20. Religious follower (7)

21. Trophy wife procedure

(4,3)

22. Adulterous U.S President

(7)

24. Local archives (6)

25. Nation since 1948 (6)

27. \_\_\_ n Yetis, George Street (4)

31. \_\_ Wan Kenobi (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.



### **WEEK 06 CROSSWORD ANSWERS**

WORD WHEEL

D

R

C

ACROSS: 1. BRAWL 4. KANGAROOS 9. DRYLAND 10. LITERAL 11. OASIS 12. KANJI 14. LIT 15. KEA 17. NETHERLANDS 20. CAT AND MOUSE 24. TIP 26. ATV 27. GECKO 30. ONSET 32. GENERIC 33. IRONAGE 34. SUMMARISE 35. YEAST

**DOWN:** 2. ABYSS 3. LIAISON 4. KODAK 5. NYLON 6. ANT HILL 7. OUR PLANET 8. SALUTES 13. ASH 16. ANTI VENOM 18. TOM 19. EMU 20. CHANGES 21. NIGERIA 22. OAK 23. ECOLOGY 25. PATIENT 28. CACTI 29. OLIVE 31. SHAKA

### WORD LADDER SOLUTION: WORD-WORE-GORE-GONE-GENE

### SUDOKU -

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sudokuoftheday.com

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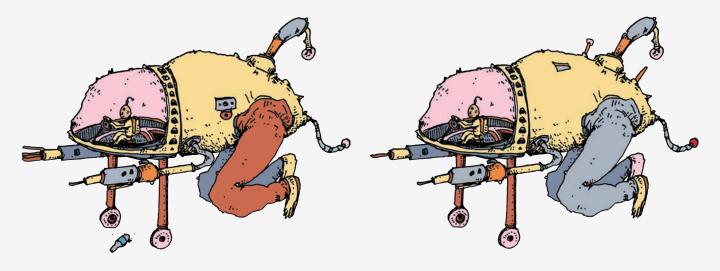
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### WORDFIND

**BIRKS LOAFERS BOOTS MOCCASINS BROGUES ROLLERSKATES CLOGS SLIPPERS CROCS SNEAKERS** DOCS **STILETTOS GUMBOOTS UGGS HEELIES WEDGES JANDALS** 

### SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

There are 10 differences between these images.



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# The 21st Annual CRIPREWIEW CRIPREWISITIONS OF CRIPPEWISITIONS OF CRIPP

We all know fish n' chips is the meal of champions, if those champions were hungover and on their last \$10. That sounds like you. So for all you champions, Critic is here with the annual Fish and Chip review to guide your next weekend feed. We reached out to the best and brightest minds for this, but they were all busy — so the Critic staff rubbed together the last two dimes and brain cells hiding around the office to bring you a greasy, salty, and sometimes-flaccid tour through seven Ounedin fish and chip shops.



# Flying Squid

### We're not masochists

The only real barrier to Squiddie's is that you have to pick between shoestring and crinkle cut fries. Of course the answer was shoestring, we're not masochists. But the agreed consensus was that shoestring fries are not true chips. Can't complain though. The fish (as pictured on the cover) tasted fresh enough, fresh oil at least, and a good batter-to-fish ratio. It's a very generic taste, but at least the batter didn't separate from the fish. It was alright. But hey, Squiddies has the best vibes. With homely posters on the wall and a diverse range of lolly bags, combined with an incredibly convenient location, this Dunedin institution will deliver you a somewhat-expensive feed that you'll be decently satisfied with.

Cost: \$8.50 Fish: 6.5/10 Chips: 7.1/10

Would they pick you up from the airport? Yeah, Squiddies will come and get you but the ride back is always awkward 'cause they refuse to let you play anything other than their CD collection, which has seen better days.

# Botanical Takeaways

### Texture like a corduroy jacket

There are people who have been through hard things in this world, struggles and strife. Soldiers have fought wars. Boxers have fought battles. But none have fought harder than those who defend Botantical's hot chips. A majority thought these chips were terrible, with "texture like a corduroy jacket". The chips were chunky, which definitely caused some derision, and ultimately these chips produced a very heated debate, hotter than the actual chips themselves. Botanical's fish sported thick batter, coating a piece that tasted fishy to the point of suspicion, but it's a decent bang for buck and doesn't pretend to be anything it's not.

**Cost:** \$6.50 **Fish:** 3.4/10 **Chips:** 6.5/10

Would they pick you up from the airport? Yes, but you wish they didn't because the ride back is so scary you'd prefer hitchhiking.



# Willowbank

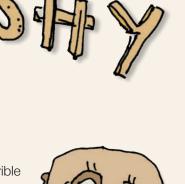
### A collective miasma of disappointment

Willowbank has grown complacent. This meal was eagerly pounced on, yet afterwards, there was a collective miasma of disappointment floating around the office. The chips were absolutely loaded with chicken salt, yet somehow still they were unevenly salted. To put it in very relatable terms, it felt like when you do a terrible job on your eyeshadow but you're just about to go out and you really don't have the time to fix it, so you just load up the mascara, and pray for some bad lighting to cover your sins. When it came to the fish, the batter looked mouth-watering, but it deteriorated incredibly quickly. 'Chunky' is not a word you want to hear when it comes to fish and chips at \$8.50. Step up your game Willowbank.

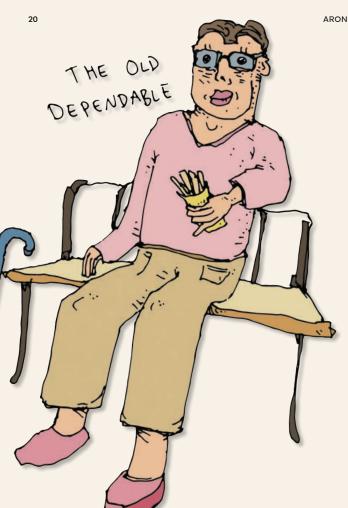
Cost: \$8.50 Fish: 3.5/10 Chips: 2/10

Would they pick you up from the airport? No, and they say "no" in a way that makes you feel guilty for asking because of course they're too busy with all those important appointments - but you then see them at the airport picking up their friend from the same flight. So.





ARONUI / FEATURES / 07 ARONUI / FEATURES / 07



# Mei Wah

Mei Wah is reliable, but that's about as far as we can go. No surprises, some disappointments. The fish and chips themselves tasted pretty similar, texture aside. Batter around the fish was hard, brutalist even. The chips could use more salt, but hey. It's no different than it's ever been. Mei Wah is like the child that'll visit you in the retirement home every week after Willowbank forgot about you four years ago. It's a good feed for a decent cost, and Mei Wah will be here long after graduation, serving up rougharound-the-edges but comfortably dependable hot chips to all those who wander through their doors.

**Cost:** \$5.80 **Fish:** 6.7/10 **Chips:** 5.1/10

Brutalist

Would they pick you up from the airport? Yes, 100%. They'll be there with a big hug and a beat-up car that you've ridden a million times, and you know they'll be

there next time, too.

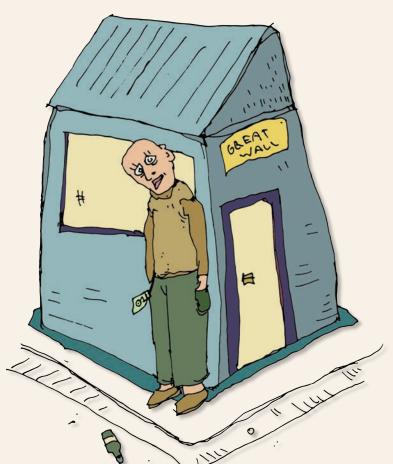
# Great Wall

### Mashed potatoes in the mouth

When the secret ingredient is love, the difference in quality is palpable. Great Wall did not make these chips with love. Instead, they made these chips with a mild fondness bordering on apathy. There was a lot of difference in texture, as if we got a cold batch of chips that was mixed in with a new batch and refried with the rest, and it all turned to mashed potatoes in the mouth. The fish was thin, but decently flakey with batter that was doughy but satisfying. Grease levels were also rather high at Great Wall, with spurts of grease periodically exploding onto fingers and laptop keys. Deviating from the trend, the fish at Great Wall was the star (marginally), rather than the chips.

Cost: \$5.50 **Fish:** 5.6/10 **Chips:** 5.5/10

Would they pick you up from the airport? Probably. Who knows. Their car has seat warmers, which is great, but the controls don't work so you never know what you're gonna



# Mao Chi

### Weirdly long and not at all wide (that's what she said)

Texturally, Hao Chi's chips were more flaccid than a penis at a retirement home. But taste wise, to be transparent, there were conflicting opinions within the office. Some felt these flaccid little feckers tasted like depression, some felt it was a solid chip. The fish itself was passable, not quite fresh enough to fall apart in your mouth, but still obviously fresh enough to know that it didn't go into the fryer stale. Doughy mouthfuls of batter accompanied the fish, which was weirdly long and not at all wide (that's what she said). One thing's for certain, though: these fish and chips were solid in that dependable, yet underwhelming and forgettable way. Every city has a fish and chip shop like Hao Chi, just like every friend group has the person you forget to add to the group chat.

**Cost:** \$6 **Fish:** 5.9/10 **Chips:** 5.2/10

Would they pick you up from the airport? They say they'll pick you up but

they're also definitely going to forget that they said that.



Camp Store (Tahuna), last year's champion, rolled out the red carpet with those little plastic aioli and tomato sauce pottles, elevating the sauce packet experience. Tahuna comes with salt packets, rather than presalted, forcing you to do unpaid labour. Although it's nice for those who maybe have heart issues or something to have more control over their salt intake, if you've got those issues should you really be eating fish and chips anyway? It's a nice gesture, though, and shows that they trust you to make your own decisions. The fish itself was excellent, flaky and Recognisably Fish<sup>TM</sup>, and the chips were solidly finger-licking good. Although the shop is further away from the centre of North Dunedin than most, the fish is totally worth the journey. Tahuna is the younger sibling that always overshadows you, the student who barely studies but always aces exams. It's a journey to get out there, but just like any gifted child, they require investment. They'll perform incredibly well, but you've got to buy the tap shoes and really go out of your way to get that dance.

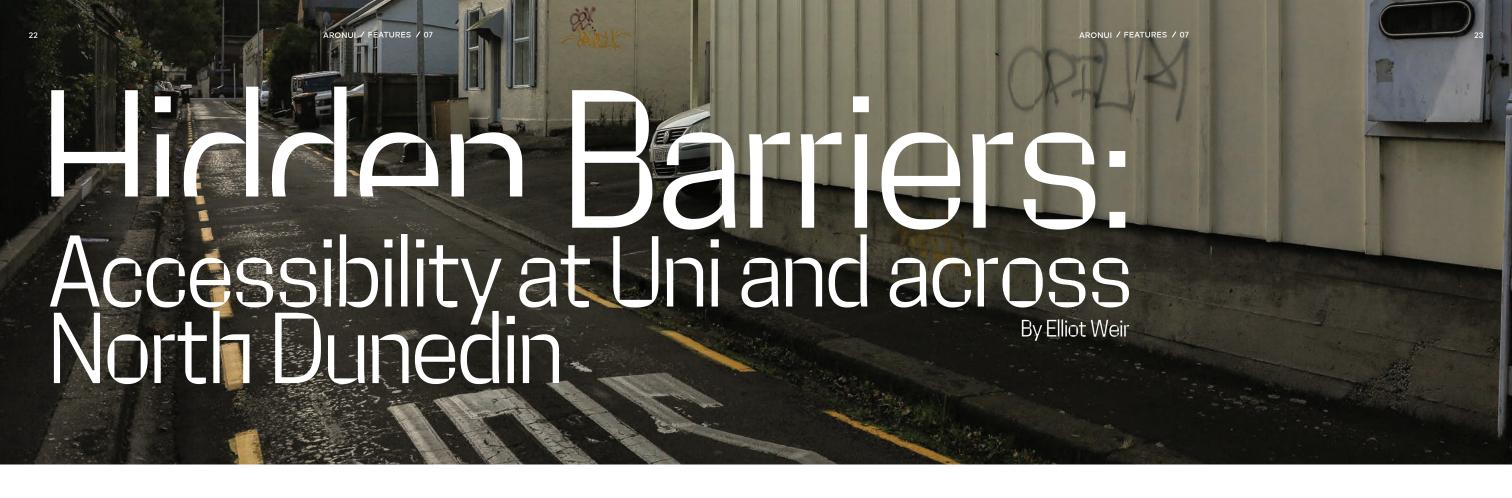
**Cost:** \$6.50 **Fish:** 9.3/10 **Chips:** 6/10

Would they pick you up from the airport? If they have literally anything else on, no. Their life is busy, and they've got greatness to chase. But if you catch them with some downtime, they'll be there, and they'll let you play whatever tunes you want on the ride back.

> Best Bang for Buck: Great Wall / Tahuna Camp Store **Best Fish: Tahuna Camp Store Best Chips: Squiddies**

Most likely to pick you up from the airport: Mei Wah

**OVERALL WINNER: TAHUNA CAMP STORE (AGAIN)** 



Guy Fieri once said, "we're riding the bus to Flavortown". Except in this case, Flavortown is North Dunedin, and the bus we're meant to be riding didn't even show up.

For many, barriers to accessibility make getting around Flav-, sorry, North Dunedin, more difficult than it needs to be. The structures of our lectures, our campus, and our city were all designed by different people, and those people paid varying degrees of attention to how their product would impact disabled students.

While Covid-19 was universally Bad with a capital B, there are a select few examples of the pandemic encouraging changes that communities have been asking for for decades, like pedestrianised streets from Auckland to Chicago, or the Wordle. Another example is online lectures. Disabled Students UK report that there is a perception among universities "that online provision is somehow inferior, leading them to resist the implementation of such practices for years when disabled students have asked for them". Now that we've been forced inside, online lectures have proved a boon for many other reasons.

Getting up out of bed and heading into campus every day is hard enough as an able-bodied student, but local students with disabilities tell us that for many of them, on some days, it is borderline impossible. Being able to watch their course at a desk in their room is far more accessible, and sometimes the only option. With the pandemic making online lectures the only practical option, students who can't always make it to lectures don't get treated any differently to the rest of their fellow students. A theatre student with fibromyalgia explained that before the pandemic if you missed a lecture you "kind of just had to suffer", but then everything shifted online and they said they were "actually able to attend most of my lectures".

Whether it's in person or online, students with chronic pain or other debilitating conditions aren't always in a position to be paying attention to a lecturer or lab dem. Even as more in-person teaching is reintroduced at Otago Uni, disabled students say in many cases the pandemic has meant the Uni has been far more understanding about students missing labs and tutorials for whatever reason.

However, as Otago Uni and others across the country try to return to normal, some disabled students worry that the "normal" we're trying to return to is a world that continues to exclude them. One student said that their department requires lectures to be recorded and put online, but as more lectures return to being in-person as well, lecturers sometimes forget to check, or are just unaware, if the software is running properly, and students who didn't watch the lecture in person are left with only the presentation slides to learn from.

The Otago Disabled Students Association (ODSA) told Critic that "to roll back on hybrid and online learning means disabled students fall through the cracks" but that "the Uni has shown that accessible learning is possible and has said in its recent communication that the Otago Disabled Student's Association will be consulted, so we will have to hope that takes the form of meaningful consultation to the end of cementing the gains made in inclusivity."

University of Otago's Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic, Professor Helen Nicholson, replied that the Uni is "beginning discussions about what teaching will look like moving forward and a hybrid model will be one of the options considered. For some forms of learning, online teaching is not suitable. From an educational point of view, the University is most interested in providing each student with the best learning opportunity."

ODSA also pointed out that disabled people aren't a monolith. "Some neurodivergent learners and sensory disabled students have struggled with online learning and are eager to return in person. For the immunocompromised, this presents a risk that doesn't give the freedom of such choice." They advocated for the availability of both in-person and online teaching options across the board. "With hybridisation, the Uni can ensure that a decision doesn't have to be made between accessibility and safety while ensuring nobody is left behind."

As campus does begin to return to the bustling hub of student activity that it once was, disabled students point out that many buildings remain inaccessible to students with mobility issues. ODSA says that the Uni has worked extra hard to ensure new buildings are accessible to all, but there remain issues with older buildings that "don't really have the scope for revamping."

Elsewhere on campus, wheelchair lifts are intended to be an easy alternative to stairs for people with mobility issues, but one student pointed out that in many cases you have to ask to use them, which can be a hassle, and some students are scared to ask if they aren't in a wheelchair, despite there being plenty of disabled students who struggle with stairs that aren't in a wheelchair.

Grace, an exec member of ODSA, said that "it's kind of like as long as their 'stereotypical disabled person' can theoretically use their facilities/space then it's good enough, regardless of how accessible it is to disabled people in practice. I also find that comfort and ease of access is rarely considered in spaces that are made more accessible." And sometimes, if you do have a mobility device there can be no space to use it. Chris Ford, a disability advocate and ODSA alum, said that he had issues with the turning space in the library toilets with his power chair, even in the accessible cubicles.



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Inaccessible urban designs outside of campus are also creating unnecessary barriers for disabled students. Features of our city that may be simple inconveniences for people without disabilities are often a complete hindrance to anyone who does have a disability. Most, if not all, of the bars and clubs in town that have stairs do not have lifts. For most students, stairs mean drunkenly stumbling in and out of Suburbia, Catacombs, Eleven Bar, and XYZ, but for someone with mobility issues it often means you simply can't get in at all. While getting on the piss may not be an essential service, there's no reason disabled students should miss out on the fun.

Unreliable public transport was an issue repeated by many disabled students Critic Te Arohi spoke to. "Most of the time buses will be either significantly late or early, or they won't even show up. If a bus doesn't show up I have to take an Uber or taxi to work, and I can't afford that, but I have to go to work," one student said.

Otago Regional Council Transport Manager Doug Rodgers told Critic that "we absolutely support public transport being accessible for all and facilitating that access and we are disappointed to hear of some poor experiences." Rodgers said that "traffic congestion, roadworks and diversions, passenger boardings during peak hours and a multitude of other reasons" mean buses can be late or early, and advised passengers to show up 5 minutes early. He also advised passengers "to check the ORC's notifications and alerts" page for bus cancellations, and explained that "due to drivers isolating or being ill due to COVID, a national driver shortage, and the recent increase in capacity provided for school services, we are unable to provide extra services."

ODSA highlighted the attitude of some bus drivers regarding ramps as another barrier. As another student put it, "most of the time even when I have my walking stick, the buses won't kneel because I'm young and don't look disabled. At this point I know which drivers kneel and which ones don't". Transport Manager Rodgers responded that all ORC buses have the ability to kneel, and they "are in the early stages of developing a campaign to raise awareness for passengers as to how to ask for a bus to kneel. Also, the bus operators have been working with ORC and stakeholders with running accessibility training for bus drivers."

Footpaths around North Dunedin also present a number of barriers to accessibility. Streets without curb ramps, like the corner of Cumberland St and MacKenzie St pictured here, make it difficult for people with mobility issues to get through, and ODSA member Hannah pointed out that many local footpaths aren't wide enough for mobility assistance or are uneven to a hazardous degree. Fellow disabled

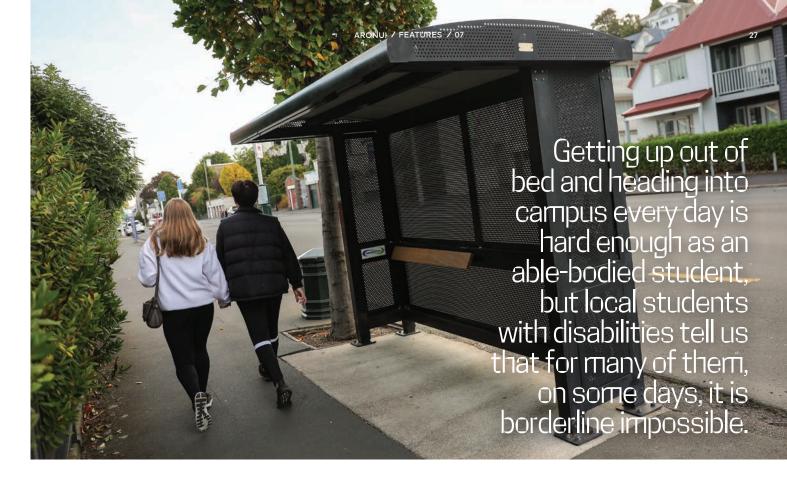
student Mason agreed, saying that footpaths with tree roots were unsafe in general, and "if I'm having a bad pain day I literally can't lift my feet up over them. Neither can people in wheelchairs, or even prams."

Cars parked illegally and other hazards can block the footpath on a good day, but on bin day the accessibility of many streets in North Dunedin is especially garbage. And while it can be easy to think that this is only one or two days of the week, disabled students asked able-bodied students to imagine having a day every single week where you just might not be able to go down your street. People kicking bins over makes things even worse, and ODSA also pointed out that broken glass can also be a big hazard for those with mobility impairments.

One of the biggest examples of inaccessible urban design around North Dunedin was bus stop benches, or the unjustified lack thereof. "Most bus stops do not have seating which becomes exclusionary for the disabled community managing fatigue, particularly as bus stops are, for members of the disabled community, the only option for transport due to financial hardship" said ODSA exec member Renn. Being disabled doesn't just mean being in a wheelchair, and being able to sit down to wait for a bus can be essential for students with any number of mobility or chronic pain impairments. For Grace, "fatigue is way worse at the end of the day which is when many people take the bus. The lean-only option is a step up from the stops that have nothing, but really doesn't do much to aid a lot of people who have mobility and/or stability difficulties."

Lean-only benches, like the one pictured here on George St, are often designed with anti-homeless intentions, to prevent rough sleepers from using a bus stop as shelter. Critic Te Arohi reached out to a local homeless organisation to ask how hostile architecture like this affects the city's homeless community, but did not receive a response. Internationally, however, there is little evidence that measures like this deter homelessness in any significant way. They do, however, create accessibility barriers for many disabled students in Dunedin, and those students want something done about it.

In correspondence with Critic, Mayor Aaron Hawkins said the benches "weren't chosen specifically to exclude those kinds of uses" but that it was "an unintended consequence of the design". He explained that "the shelters are a standard off-the-shelf design from the Otago Regional Council. For the past 5 years or so all shelters have a bench seat too, and seats have been retrofitted from time to time responding to demand. I'm also aware of some park benches that fit the hostile description, and have already followed up on those."



Hawkins said that the council didn't always get things right, but were committed to improving accessibility. "One of the more sobering reports we commissioned for the George St upgrade was the accessibility audit. It was a pretty blunt assessment of how far we had to go to make it a safe and inclusive space, and addressing that is a big part of the current design work. A similar approach will be taken when we're planning upgrades to the streets in and around the campus, whether that's work in the short term around Albany St or in the wider tertiary streets programme."

"As much as we can we try and take these perspectives into account at the beginning of projects, through the Disability Issues Advisory Group and others, but sometimes we will get things wrong and need to be open to fixing them," Hawkins said.

Advocates like Disabled Students UK argue that universities, cities, and governments need to apply an "anticipatory approach" to planning, actively considering disabled people and other vulnerable communities at every stage. Those in charge of decisions are asked to simply listen to disabled people and their needs when designing stuff, rather than needing to adapt stuff after the fact. ODSA expressed concern that accessibility was "not being considered for construction" around the city, citing the narrow and uneven alternative access provided for construction works on Filleul Street.

In a response to Critic, a spokesperson said the Dunedin City Council "actively engages with our city's disability community on a range of projects. including transport-related improvements, to bring disability and accessibility expertise into our design and procurement processes. We are consulting with the disability community on some of the city's largest projects, such as the George Street Retail Quarter upgrade and new Mosgiel Pool, as well as our recent procurement of new public toilets, to ensure our facilities and infrastructure is accessible. We also have a regular programme of footpath improvements running across the city, which prioritises those areas in need of improved levels of service including smoother surfaces and new accessible ramps. We also continue to encourage people to recycle their glass responsibly, and to place bins on streets appropriately."

According to ODSA, many people's attitudes towards disabled people were a "cross-cutting issue". Some individual behaviour is obvious; you shouldn't really need another reason to not smash bottles or tip over bins. There are other everyday things that able-bodied students could do better though, from complaining about subtitles (which can be helpful for people with auditory processing issues) to making space on footpaths to simply treating disabled people (whether visibly disabled or not) with the same respect you would anyone else.





Ah, golf. It's got quite the reputation. Maybe you think of it as that thing that your mates do maybe once a week to feel like they're putting their business degrees to use. Or maybe it was your parents' substitute for child care after they picked you up from Christ's College in their new BMW. Golf has all sorts of stereotypes surrounding it, but most suggest that it's a very environmentally-demanding way for rich white people to make business deals.

But when you think about it, this is a bit bizarre. At its core, golf ought to be a very egalitarian sport: all you need is some sort of club, some sort of ball, and an outdoor area. All you have to do is whack a ball into a hole. In its essence, it really ought to be open to anyone, and in the sport's infancy, that was certainly the case. So how has it ended up as a hallmark of the privileged, landowning elite?

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It's that last part that does the trick: "landowning". Golf requires a large amount of space to play, space that could otherwise be used to support the masses. So, in areas where space is in high demand, the ability to reserve huge tracts of land for the use of the few is restricted to the folks who can pay to make sure that that happens. Whenever you have a minority of people controlling a disproportionate amount of space, privilege begins to show.

But in Dunedin, a city that is not really emblematic of richness, whiteness, or even business, these stereotypes are not so true. Dunedin's course isn't exactly reserved for a minority of people. Many students use it, and these students aren't limited to the children of the ultrarich, like they might be in other parts of the world. The golf courses here are a bit of an anomaly because this large space, instead of being reserved for and by the elite, is actually being used by the public at large, much in the same way that any other sort of large park can be used. And it costs money, sure, but nothing even close to the tens of thousands of dollars demanded by overseas courses.

Aiman, a Dunedin resident and avid golfer, said that golf in New Zealand (and especially Dunedin) is more accessible to people than anywhere else he's played. "Having so many golf courses here in New Zealand, people just like it. It goes back to people around here feeling like it's a social game." Coming from Malaysia, Aiman grew up playing golf in a very etiquette-strict and expensive area. When he was a kid, his golf course fees were close to your Uni course fees. He described golf marshals whose purpose was to "go around the golf course and monitor people to tell them to speed up or tuck in their shirts". When he got to Dunedin, he was shocked to find out that he could stroll down to the course, pay a few bucks, not worry about his clothes, and just enjoy the game the way it was meant to be enjoyed. Aiman frequently golfs in a sweatshirt that reads "power to the people".

Politics Professor Brian Roper, in an interview with RNZ, said that golf is "heavily concentrated within the world's wealthiest countries, and it's extraordinarily expensive, it's absolutely a sport of the wealthy". Brian, well known for his political economy and Marxism papers, is also an avid golfer. This contradiction points to an interesting and fundamental facet of golf, purely as a game: that it has the potential to be one of the most inclusive sports, fullstop. "People of all ages can play it. You can be tall, short, small, big and you can still play the game very well," said Brian. And while golf, in other parts of the world, remains a dog whistle for privilege, in Dunedin, it's just a game.

It's not all peachy, though. Dunedin's Balmacewen course recently landed in some hot water when they decided to raise the membership rates for young people by over 50%, at a meeting held before the start of the University year. Only members who attended the meeting in person could vote. Student members, when interviewed by the ODT, said that this was emblematic of a general distaste for young people at the club, and hinted that they were being priced out. The club denied this, but did openly question the clothing choices of their young members.

Golf clothing is perhaps the most obviously-privileged part of the whole ideal. Having a dress code that requires expensive purchases is a great way to screen out any members who can't afford those luxuries, whether that's the intention or not. Aiman sees the sport of golf being "hard to change, but doesn't mean we can't change it. The easiest way you can see it changing is the streetwear brands." He said that "professional golfers are sprinkling acts of rebellion around golf courses such as wearing hoodies during a professional tournament or spicing it up with their fashion." Recently, there has been a surge of streetbrand style clothing collaborating with big golf brands. Eastside Golf x Air Jordan IV released a shoe collab, and Nike and Drake's collaborative project, Nocta, just released a golf line.

A shift from expensive collared shirts to casual clothing no doubt brought down the price to play, and Dunedin has much more chill rules surrounding course attire. One student described it as "very relaxed", and James, another student golfer, reckoned that people "should be able to wear whatever they want, it needs to be more inclusive". James continued to emphasise the importance of a more chill dress code, saying it would "make people feel more welcome at the club". In Dunedin, you can see the oldies in their tartan and posh pants alongside the youngsters in their hoodies and (gasp!) jandals, both putting away on the same manicured green grass.

But let's talk about that grass. There is no skirting around the fact that golf is notoriously bad for the environment. Outdoor court-based sports like basketball and badminton are limited in their footprint, but golf is not the only outdoor sport with a large impact. Skiing, for example, also has a huge environmental price tag. It's no coincidence that skiing is right up there with golf in terms of its privileged stereotype, though; often the sports with the largest drain on the environment are the ones with the bougiest reputation. Land, after all, is at the heart of this whole issue.

Brian Roper, the politics prof from earlier, hopes for organic golf courses in the future. "The way golf courses are maintained globally is environmentally unsustainable. Clearly if you were projecting into the future, the way courses are managed would be very different. Less manicured, less use of herbicides, less chemicals". In the United states, pesticides are applied to golf courses at higher concentrations per acre than most other types of land, including farmland. The run off of these pesticides is for the most part contained, especially if the slopes are not too steep. However, even some runoff of pesticides can contaminate waterways and damage biodiversity. Further out in Cromwell, the expansion of a golf course from 9 to 18 holes wiped out one of the last populations of the rare Cromwell chafer beetle. The beetle is now restricted to an area of 81 hectares and is critically endangered.

On average, golf courses use around 1.5 millions litres of water per day. In drier places like California, this can lead to detrimental effects. Dunedin, once again, is an exception to this rule, as it rarely faces droughts. But Dunedin's golf courses are not without their environmental consequences. The unique challenge faced by Dunedin golf courses, especially the ones at St. Clair and St. Kilda, are the sea lions.

Jim Fyfe, a Department of Conservation Biodiversity Officer, has been working closely with Chisholm Links golf club (St. Kilda) to help the sea lions. "Chisholm has been really supportive, and intrigued by, the use of the course by sea lion female Hiriwa to birth her pups the last two years." Jim reckons the open coastal space of the course "presents a green space of significant potential for Dunedin sea lions. It is great that the area has not been developed into residential housing and is therefore still available going forward". These coastal golf courses have done an excellent job dealing with Hiriwa and her pups which should give you some faith in golfers to care about something other than their two metre put. Jim, in the most heartfelt comparison yet, reckoned that "golf and sea lion recovery are both a long game requiring strategic use of space."

Dunedin's golf culture is like most other cultures in our city: it's weird. Golf here is still a big drain on the environment, and it's still mostly controlled by a group of older, richer people. But unlike in Malaysia or the US, where course fees can be in the tens of thousands, golf in Dunedin remains firmly within reach for pretty much anyone. The dress code, instead of demanding shirts worth as much as your phone, pretty much just demands that you aren't naked. And the students who keep this city running are just as much a feature of the clubs as the people you'd expect to see.

Golf has its issues. But while young and old golfers work to address these convoluted problems, the institution of golf, the thing that most people snub their nose at, is still going strong. Aiman described his internal conflict with "Big Golf", one that he said he shared with many people that also play. "The institution itself needs to change. I don't think people hate the sport, but I do feel people hate the idea of golf, the institution of golf, and I understand that."

"The institution itself needs to change. I don't think people hate the sport, but I do feel people hate the idea of golf, the institution of golf, and I understand that."

Dunedin's golf courses are representative of this change in a way that many other places aren't. The culture here isn't perfect, but the people in charge of it, and the people who attend it, seem to be aware of a muchneeded shift back to golf's roots: back to a game free of social stratification. An excuse to have a few beers before noon, a way for anyone and everyone to enjoy the outdoors, hang out with their mates, and compete in a casual way. Aiman has faith that the sport will eventually change for the better, especially with the new generation of people coming into it. And he's not alone. For the sake of the environment and for the sake of the social structure surrounding it, pretty much everyone we talked to hoped it would change as well. If it doesn't, the game that they love, a game that ought to be open to anyone, will be lost. The "golf" we have today is not sustainable, and if we can't return to the golf of the past, we'll lose the ability to play the game entirely.

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By Fox Meyer

Dog was hit by a car today. We had to put her down. LOL.

This was a text my friend received when we were about 14, from his mum, and ironically, it was one of the only times that "lol" has actually resulted in a genuine peal of laughter. The mum in question had not meant to send "lol" as we'd use it today. Instead, she thought it stood for "Lots of Love", which, at one point in time, it definitely might've.

Back in ye olden days of the internet, when you had to type out words letter by letter on a keyboard, text language was a critical part of fast communication, so abbreviations like "lol" quickly became ubiquitous. But while other phrases like TTYL have somewhat faded away, "lol" has made sure it's here to stay. Part of the reason for this success is that it has evolved from a literal acronym to a word in its own right. And the way we use "lol" has changed, as well. We don't actually intend to say that we're laughing out loud, of course. Instead, it's used almost as a punctuation mark, a way to lighten up a sentence, a way to say "but this is casual".

Critic reached out to Dr. Anne Feryok in the Linguistics Department for her take on the situation. Anne said that "lol" serves a few purposes, but has certainly evolved from its original use. "It once was 'laugh out loud', and it kind of still is, but it's actually functioning most of the time in another way now, and you're more likely to be misunderstood if you use it the original way... but we misunderstand each other all the time, that's part of the human condition."

"There's this kind of mutuality of understanding when you stick it at the end of a text message," explained Anne. The person who tacks "lol" on the end, "they know the other person is going to understand what they mean, they know the other person doesn't think it's actually 'laugh out loud', [instead] it's showing 'we understand each other'. Showing that we're on the same page with each other." This is called a "phatic function".

Anne likened it to rhetorical questions, like "oh, isn't that so cute?". When we ask that question, said Anne, "we're not actually expecting someone to say 'yeah that really is cute'. I mean, we do kind of expect somebody to respond that way, but we're not actually asking a question." The use of a question mark there, or its verbal equivalent, is not meant to be taken literally. "If I think it's cute, that's good enough," said Anne. "When I say 'isn't it', I'm not actually seeking agreement with other people. I'm just drawing you into the conversation to share a moment. I think 'lol' has become something like that."

But it serves another purpose too, as a "softener". According to Anne, a softening "lol" can mean "don't take this too seriously, WE are not taking this too seriously." Like "so I've said this, but let's not get too into it, let's ratchet everything down," something you may recognise in the form "You up? Lol". Anne described this use as a sort of "dial it down utterance". Kendal, a student we ambushed, agreed with this. She said she uses "lol" when she is "conveying sarcasm in response to something, like it's satirical, like to say that this isn't actually funny, but it's not serious, unless?". Kendal reckoned that the original "lol" was the precursor to the laughing emoji, and that she only ever used it to mean "laugh out loud" in the mid 2010's, but now it "means something else".

Yo, you up? lol

### Pls stop texting me at 3am lol

And we can see that all the time, in the way we use "lol". It's very rarely used in its literal form, unless you're in that select group of boomers who were around to see its birth but aren't internet-savvy enough to recognize what it's grown up to be. These days, when we use it, it's usually as a reply to a meme, a way of saying "yep, I saw that, and I agree that it was funny", or as something you tack onto the end of something potentially edgy to say "but don't take me too seriously here". Maddy, another student, agreed. Her use of "lol" was "sorta as punctuation, or if I feel like something is a bit too serious-feeling or hard to convey. But sometimes it's also to express irony, or it could be almost self-derogatory, like 'I'm such a piece of shit, lol'. It makes everything feel much less existential and weird. If I'm actually laughing at something I'll use 'hahaha' or 'Imfao'. Lol is more punctuation for me." In this response, we saw her use "lol" in three different ways: to express sarcasm, as a phatic function, and as a softener. We checked her messages, and Maddy's last use of "lol" was as a phatic function, a response to a compliment, to which she said "lol thanks bro".

This versatility has earned "lol" a very adaptable spot in modern discourse. Since it can be used almost anywhere, it's become common to the point where we don't even spell out the entire acronym. "Lol", itself, is now a word. Recently on an episode of The Chase, a question asked about common text abbreviations. The answers were "FYI", "TTYL", and "LOL", and the announcer, who we might expect to be in that boomer-era bracket that doesn't really "get it", read FY.I and T.T.Y.L as acronyms, but pronounced "lol" as a singular word. How hip and cool of him. It appears that "lol" has fully entered the mainstream, and has jumped from acronym (technically an initialism) to a bona fide word, joining the ranks of "scuba" and "radar".

The way we speak is way different than the way we write. We don't need to punctuate our out-loud discourse, since we can use intonation and pauses instead. But on the page, where those nuances are absent, we use a range of punctuation to fill in the context. Texting is somewhere in between. It's not formal, like writing, but nor is it casual to the point of not needing any punctuation at all, like with speaking. In this grey area, we've adapted "lol" to be anything we need it to be: a softener, a marker of mutual understanding, or as a punchline. And it's proven to be so useful that some people have plucked it from the world of text-speak and brought it into the spoken world. 'Laugh Out Loud' may have not survived the mutation of "lol", but in a sweet sort of coincidence, the 'out loud' part seems to have come full circle. Lol.

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# YOUR SEXTRA 925. Don't Spend it All at Once!

By Sean Gourley

No one likes being broke, but here we are. Brokeness is unfortunately a situation that arises all too often for students. caused by the many temptations of Dunedin, and the little income we get to spend on them. Retirees get \$80 extra in the winter for heating costs and 15% off groceries with their gold cards. Students get an alcohol blanket (if they can afford it) and 10% off vape juice or sandwiches with their Radio 1 Card, which seems almost fair. It's up to student loans to help pay out the rest, which is made worse by the fact that it's the only government benefit the recipients actually have to pay back.

But this paycheck has just been given a bit of a bump. Thanks to supermarket collusion, a captive rental market and bigtime inflation, even Dunedin, perhaps the second-cheapest Uni rental market after Canterbury, has become un-livable on \$242 a week. As of 1 April (joke's on us!), the government has decided to extend the future skilled professionals and high-wage earners of New Zealand an enormous amount of credit, by loaning us a whopping \$25 extra per week. Combined with annual adjustment, this should bring the total claimable living costs to \$272. Many in the student population may be stunned by the vast wealth which they will now find at their weekly disposal, and while our news piece last week highlighted alcohol and spinach as two of the things students were most excited to shell out for, here are a few other options that you can take advantage of, at least until everyone's rents simultaneously, and definitely un-suspiciously, increase by \$25.

### 5 value-range pizzas

Perhaps the only basket of goods in NZ that remains impervious to inflation, the Domino's Value Pizza Range™ provides a last refuge of caloric value for those that are either too intoxicated or too hungover to prepare a meal. With your new fortune. you can sustain yourself nearly indefinitely on value pizzas. Buying two a day will do untold damage to your body, but it will, without a doubt, be cheaper than going to the supermarket.

### 0.00038 Bitcoin

If you're looking to get into cryptocurrency, now is the perfect opportunity to kickstart your portfolio. Although you may have concerns about making investments in a totally unregulated market, disregard them.

Fortune favours the bold and the University even has a crypto club which you can join to avoid losing all of your money within 2 hours of investing. If you invest \$25 a week, it will only take you 50 years to own one entire bitcoin all by yourself.

### 10 litres of petrol

With the average mileage of a 2014 VW Golf at 6.9 L/100k, this gives you an additional range of 72 km (return trip). You can now take extravagant weekend getaways without a second thought, as your new fuel money enables you to take trips to the South Island tourist hotspots featured in your wildest dreams, like scenic Mosgiel!

Accessible destinations also include Milton, Palmerston and Moeraki. If you're really pushing your range, even Balclutha and Herbert, famed for their agrarian beauty, are on the cards.

### A box of alcohol

Okay, sure. We said that this list would be full of options besides piss, but let's be honest, who doesn't think, upon hearing of a \$25 surplus, that the figure sounds suspiciously similar to the average price of a box of alcohol? If you run the numbers, StudyLink has almost perfectly averaged between the lower \$22-23 value of a box of beer and the higher \$26-27 value of a pricier box of RTDs.

Perhaps the new change comes not from government concern for students but, rather, lobbying from large alcohol companies (let us not name names but there are only three of them in the whole world), that students have not been consuming enough alcohol in recent years.

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The Dunedin Fringe Festival, as the website states, aims to "bring experimental contemporary art to a wider audience and to support the work of emerging artists". The line-up saw big names in comedy like 7 Day's Ben Hurley and Billy T nominee Jack Ansett come to entertain the masses of Dunedin. I didn't see either of those acts, but I did go on a Fringe-binge for a good five days and rated what I saw based on how many fringes and fringe-related content I could find – as well as a drink to pair it with. I figured it was unfair to rank art exhibits based on personal taste, so this completely arbitrary metric will have to do. If you didn't get the chance to see any acts or exhibits this year, don't worry, Fringe is annual and you'll have a chance to enjoy it this time next year.

### **5 LESBIANS EATING A QUICHE**

5 Lesbians Eating a Quiche tells the story of the Susan B. Anthony Society for the Ladies of Gertrude Stein. The setting was their annual quiche breakfast, over which the ladies discussed the urgent issues plaguing 1956, such as oncoming fear of nuclear war breaking out. History really is a circle, isn't it? The Ladies of Gertrude Stein are as obsessed with eggs as a grandchild-craving mum, and the play circled around these women and their relationships (both interpersonal and with society), and the roles they are expected to play as 'widows', which is definitely the reason these ladies are unmarried.

It was a hilarious story of repression, discoveries, and, of course, sexual innuendos till the cows come home. Fitting with the Fringe festival, the main cast was sporting a good number of '50s style fringes, and the audience pulled through as well, with it being harder to find someone lacking a fringe than it was to find someone rocking one.

Speaking of the audience, there was a bit of audience interaction. If the thought of public performance sends you into anaphylactic shock, back row seats are recommended. After the applause, the director revealed 5 Lesbians Eating a Quiche will return later on in the year at a currently unknown location, so if you missed out on the Fringe edition, fear not! You'll have another chance to see these lesbians eat their eggs.

8/10 fringes present

Best drink to pair: An egg white cocktail of your choice

### **VANILLA ROPE BONDAGE**

This is one you might have seen in the window of Thistle Café and Bar by @dunedinrope over the week. Aiming to dispel the image of kink as taboo or inherently scary, the accompanying poster to this climbing gear, rock, and kink art piece explains the inspiration garnered from Japanese artist Hajime Kinoko, aiming to change the conversation around BDSM using this exhibit as a starting point. It felt appropriate to bring an entourage to get a range of opinions on this festival exhibit. @dunedinrope will surely be pleased to hear from Ariana that "the bondage definitely made me wonder about endless possibilities with rope." Maraea, on the other hand, did not have the imagination needed to appreciate the aesthetic of this particular exhibit. She dispassionately noted that "it looked like tangled rocks." Although actual fringes weren't really to be found here, the rope itself is really just weaved fringe strands. We did spot an inordinate number of horny geologists, which is cool.

3/10 fringes present

Best drink to pair: The basic but reliable gin and tonic

ĀHUA NOHO / CULTURE / 07



### RENEGADE CABARET

If your worst nightmare is audience interaction, then this isn't the show for you. But baby, if you're a loud, slutty, debauched alcoholic, then this is your calling. And you know what? If you're bringing old, white, golfer energy then this show would probably apall, shock, and stun you into a stroke regardless. As the host of the evening, Feather Unsure, explained, Renegades are the end to a traditional circus festival. They are often a time of heckling and debauchery, a place for performers to try out new material. Feather Unsure took over hosting for the Wednesday show, and not only provided hilarious jokes, but also brought one heck of a fringe. A majority of the performers also carried on fringe content, with only about three not having some form of fringe. A shit-ton of homegrown talent alongside performers all the way down from Welly were onstage to display some of the best quads, burlesque, and circus tricks you'll see this side of the Octagon.

9/10 fringes present

Best drink to pair: Absinthe for the brave, a \$5 shooter for the cowards

### **AGE GAP**

A comedy duo playing off the "comedic chasm that separates Gen Z and Millennials", the stage presence of Age Gap was notably fringeless. The audience was rather spartan on fringe hairstyles as well, yet incredibly rich in buzzed rugby-boy hair. Not a fringe to be seen. Despite the lack of fringes available to gawk at, the show itself was worth the \$7 I dug out of my couch cushion. It consisted mainly of jokes about the differences between making it through puberty in the 2000s vs the '90s, the differences between Canada and New Zealand, and several riffs about the failing marriage of one of the comedian's parents – all while said parents were seated directly behind us in the audience. This definitely added a certain je ne sais quoi to the show, and felt a bit like pissing on the third rail. I'm so sorry about your husband not liking your painting, ma'am, that would have driven me to the brink as well.

1/10 fringes present

Best drink to pair: Anything to make you forget about your relationship, I guess

### PINK!

The Otago Art Society, tucked away in the Railway Station, was the last stop on this five-day Fringe bonanza. But what a heavy hitter it was. Truly a hidden gem. With several very Instagram-able pink walls, the exhibit being emptier than an optional lecture on a Friday morning, and the multiple crafting activities available, the Art Society should be proud of this Pink! experience. The exhibit itself featured curated art, some of which was for sale, but all of which was centred around the colour pink. A personal favourite was the second-place pink piece, a mixed media yarn project titled "A Warm Heart."

Although there were one or two pieces that had a fringe texture, on the whole fringes were lacking. However, the crown jewel was the pink crafts table that facilitated regression back to youthful innocence, allowing for a couple of peaceful hours making random art projects and forgetting about anything outside of this blissful pink bubble. "A Requiem for a Wine" was the mixed materials art project we walked out with, inspired by wine corks and a desire to drink.

2/10 fringes present

Best drink to pair: Pink lemonade, non-alcoholic, just like you used to crave



When internationally touring (Aussie) bands make it to Ōtepoti, there's always a grisly battle (respectful recognition) amongst our local talent vying for the spot of opener. Mads Harrop is one of these successful contenders, her biggest break yet opening for the notorious The Chats last year. Critic caught up with singersongwriter Mads to talk about continuing her rock reign.

Mads is a fourth year music student, focusing on composition and studio production. Growing up in a musical family with a recording studio, Mads was destined to turn to songwriting, which she started at fifteen, just one year after she picked up guitar. Folk, psychedelic and punk are all styles Mads has explored, her musical inspirations ranging from T-Rex to The Chills to The Beths.

Mads is also neurodivergent. She has Tourette's, autism, ADD and anxiety. She has written songs on each of her disorders. "I think having disabilities has played a huge role in my songwriting on such a positive note. I'm autistic but I'm proud to be autistic. I think it's just interesting being neurodiverse." Sometimes Mads' music stems from experiences and feelings arising from her disorders. Her song 'Lost For Words' was written following a bus ride during which she experienced guilt over exhibiting coprolalia, the swearing tic. Other times, she writes advocating for important issues in the neurodiverse community, using music as the bridge for her unique experiences to resonate with more people.

Mads's latest track 'Hiding In Colour' is one she wrote three years ago. The rock song glides between tenser, darker verses and expansive, dazzling choruses and is about Mads coming to terms with her Tourette's diagnosis. "I wrote it just after I got diagnosed

with Tourette's. It's about the struggles I have with Tourette's and trying to just hope for positivity when I'm really struggling."

Mads was in her first year of uni when she was diagnosed with Tourette's. She had just returned to her family home when she started experiencing involuntary movements and convulsions. "I was literally screaming at the top of my voice, it was actually really painful. And I still find it a little bit painful." Initially, the diagnosis came as a shock to Mads. Now, though, it is integral to her, part of her journey to this point reflected in her music. "Every time I reach a milestone...I feel proud of myself because I've come so far since I got it."

Mads cites the Tourette's Association of New Zealand (TANZ) as a major source of support, one that has even connected her to other Aotearoa musicians with Tourette's. It's an organisation she urges others to check out, for its resources and the advocacy it provides to those with Tourette's. As an important aside, Tourette's is not currently recognised as a disability in Aotearoa, meaning a lack of funding and support. TANZ are putting in the mahi to change this.

Mads is on track to winning cone-ripping students over with her next single, titled 'I Want Chemicals'. Like many of us, Mads was keen for the green to be legalised. It's a protest song about the difficulty of obtaining CBD oil for health conditions. "It's really hard to get in New Zealand and it's very expensive."

Make sure you don't miss this release by following Mads on socials and streaming sites, notably Bandcamp. The next time you can catch Mads Harrop live is at The Crown on April 23.



More than a Museum.

The best Insta-backgrounds in Dunedin.

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# **■ MR. WORLDWIDE**

This week, we have an image supplied by Elliot. We got last week's submission correct, though it nearly killed us: Shimla, India, from the parking lot of Christ Church.



First thoughts: Definitely looks Japanese. I wonder if this is Himeji Castle. We'll see.

Not Himeji Castle, so let's move on. Gonna start by googling "red pagoda Japan". Nope, heaps of those. Okay, let's refine it a bit and look for red "walkways" maybe? Kiyomizu Dera Temple keeps coming up, but those pillars aren't red all the way down. Maybe we need to chuck "temple" or "buddhism" or "shinto" into the search. Hrm, Byodoin Phoenix Hall looks kinda similar. Let's explore that.

It looks really similar, especially the bridge. I just can't figure it out. Yeah, nah, Byodin doesn't have bannisters like this one does. Onwards! In the background we've got a black bridge with red railings, guite elevated. I should be able to find that. Surely there's a Wikipedia page or a blog with like, every single bridge at a Japanese temple? Surely, Let's find that. Aha, 36 bridges on Japantravel.com... but none of them are ours. No way it's the heritage gardens in Oamaru, right? No. Phew.

Shutterstock usually has a great "related images" section but there are just so many red bridges in Japan... jeez. This is gonna be tricky. Doable, though. The Wikipedia page for Japanese bridges has me looking for Itsukushima Shrine. Let's check that out on google maps.



I reckon we could be looking at the right place, this bridge has the same sort of black staining that we see in the original. I reckon that's pretty solid proof. Tricky, though, because the original photo conveniently obscures the posts on the bridge, so I was searching for ones with flat railings. I actually skipped over this bridge early on in the search because I didn't think this photo had the arched wooden beams like we can see in the original (apparently making it a "Moon Bridge"?) but it does, I just didn't look closely enough. Anyway, here's a look at the Itsukushima Shrine, and I reckon the original photo was taken from the walkway in the background of this photo from Google Maps street view. Thank goodness for those stains. I wonder if they're intentional.



Final answer: Itsukushima Shrine, Hiroshima, Japan. Took about an hour.

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



ISSUE 05 1. BRIAN CORRECT 2. AIMAN **ANSWERS** 3. REMI FROM TOP TO 4. SPRINKLES BOTTOM: 5. AANDREW

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.

	Do you have a favourite pen?	How did you choose your outfit today?	Have you ever had a paranormal experience?	When was the last time you flossed?	Do you ever think you'll own a house?
HAILEY	l've lost mine. It said 'just vibing' on it. It was a Christmas gift.	Warmth. And that it's laundry day.	My parents told me I had a ghost experience. Apparently at our old house I would see an old lady in the hallway. I don't remember it though.	A few days ago, at least.	Gonna be optimistic and say yes.
HANNAH	Not anymore :( It's my favourite because I've lost it.	First thing I found in my closet.	No.	A few hours ago.	I would like to hope so, fingers crossed.
LIZZY	I have a pen from my hall last year that I keep as sentimental value now	It was the first thing I found getting out of bed after sleeping in. But I did try to colour match my shoes and my shirt, which didn't work out too great.	I feel like I would say yes but I can't remember, it was when I was younger. Unexplainable and weird but I can't put my tongue to it.	God damn. I don't even remember, a long time ago.	I'm working towards it so hopefully, yes.
JOSH	The Bic pen. *Pulls out pen from under hoodie to reveal* a Bic Clic™.	We have this uniform for dent school and chucked a random hoodie on top.	Seen some weird shit but I don't think I would say 'damn, that's a ghost'.	Last time I was at the dentist. It's a lot of money to buy floss when you can just brush your teeth.	Hopefully before I'm 28, that's the goal.
ETHAN	Bic ballpoint 1 with the blue and orange and the thin line on the top.	I have a new skirt and wanted to be comfy since I don't have to do any in-person stuff.	No, they're fake.	Like two weeks ago, but just after my dentist told me I really needed to floss.	Yeah, I'm going to be so rich so it'll be fine.

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# 

BY ROSIE JOYCE @SKUXXFOOD

# ITALIAN (OR GREEK, OR NYC) STYLE MEATBALLS:



Here's how to make some really awesome yet simple meatballs. You can add them to any meal you like. I recommend a tomato-based pasta or, as pictured here, a Greek-style couscous salad. If you're proper ceebs, chuck them in a bread roll and call it a NYC meatball sub. With these bad boys, the world is your oyster. Or vour meatball, or whatever.

**INGREDIENTS** Makes 20-30 normal-sized meatballs or one absolute unit of a meatball

800 grams of beef mince

1 onion, finely diced

4 cloves of garlic, minced

A bunch of fresh parsley, finely chopped

1 tablespoon of dried oregano

1 tablespoon of tuscan seasoning blend

1 teaspoon of ground cumin

Salt and pepper to taste

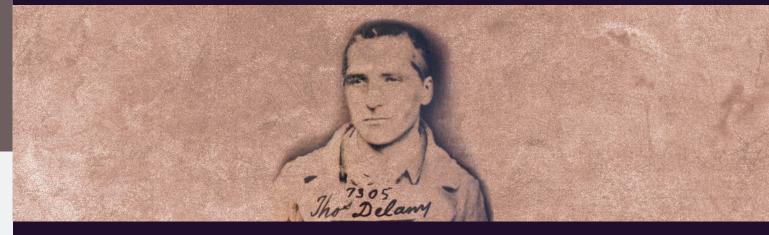
1/3 cup course breadcrumbs

### **METHOD**

- Preheat the oven to 180°C, fan bake option and line baking trays with baking paper.
- Add all the ingredients apart from the breadcrumbs to a bowl. Using your hands (I'm sorry but there really is no other way), combine thoroughly.
- Once well combined, add the breadcrumbs and use your hands again to combine.
- Using a tablespoon, spoon out portions of the mixture and roll into balls. Place on the baking
- Drizzle a tiny bit of olive oil over the top of each meatball and bake for 20-25 minutes, flipping halfway through.
- 6. Add to any desired meal.

BOOZE REVIEW:

# 19 Crimes. PINOT NOIR



### BY THOMAS DELANEY

From the brand that brought you the Snoop Dogg merlot, 19 Crimes is back with a penal-themed pinot noir that is more sinkable than the ships that carried their criminal crew to Australia. Coming in at about \$20, 19 Crimes hits a solid ratio of about a dollar per crime. Not too shabby, and for a red wine, it's actually drinkable to the point where you may end up committing 19-or-so crimes before you know what hit

It's a pre-Covid wine, an early 2020, and you could clearly taste that. It also has a scannable label that can "come to life" on your smartphone, which means that these guys had a mandated scanning app before it was cool. The fella on the label was apparently arrested in 1866 in Dublin and shipped down to Australia, and he looks about as bored as we were when we realised the bottle had emptied. We were surprised to discover that, despite coming from Australia, we couldn't taste even a hint of the misogyny we expected (looking at you, mining industry).

The bottle was split three ways, and each drinker agreed that they wanted more, more, more, until it was all gone. The drop lacked any of the peppery or spicy notes that can make a red wine unsinkable, which is good, because we don't know how to appraise nice wine anyway. It would make a fantastic mulled wine base, and paired dangerously well with Fireball, so do with that information what you will.

19 Crimes is a great conversation starter, an easy segway into geopolitics or criminal law, which everyone will hate you for. That being said, because of the drinkability and opportunity for heated discussion, 19 Crimes could easily replace your personality with something more palatable.

Tasting notes: an unpaid mortgage, grape juice, red wine without the bite

Froth level: a heated debate about colonisation Pairs well with: your parents, your parents' exes, whiskey

**Taste rating:** 17/19 crimes



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# \*\*\* HOROSCOPES \*





AQUARIUS Jan 20 - Feb 18

This is for everybody going through tough times, believe me, been there done that, but everyday above ground is a great day, remember that.

Task to do: wash your sheets.



**LEO** Jul 23 – Aug 22

But for now, forget about that. Blow the whistle, baby you the ref.

Task to do: get ahead on midterms.



PISCES Feb 19 - Mar 20

The bigger they are, the harder they fall. This biggity boy is a diggity dog

Task to do: drink wine and cry.



VIRGO Aug 23 – Sep 22

Baby, if you're ready for things to get heavy, I get on the floor and act a fool if you let me, dalé. Don't believe me, just bet

Task to do: stop buying red wine.



**ARIES** Mar 21 – Apr 19

Now if you know you're with somebody that you're gonna take the hotel room tonight, make some noise!

Task to do: clear out your Tinder matches.



**LIBRA** Sep 23 - Oct 22

Everythang and anythang, and they love to get it in, get it on, all night long.

Task to do: upgrade your winter wardrobe.



TAURUS Apr 20 - May 20

Took my life from negative to positive, I just want y'all to know that. And tonight, lets enjoy life.

Task to do: find the best coffee in town.



SCORPIO Oct 23 - Nov 21

Self-paid, self-made millionaire. I used to play around the world, now I'm around the world, getting paid.

Task to do: confront your flat issues.



**GEMINI** May 21 – Jun 20

My life is a movie and you just TiVo, ha, Mami got me twisted like a dreadlock, she don't wrestle, but I got her in a headlock.

Task to do: plan a getaway.



SAGITTARIUS Nov 22 - Dec 21

This is insane: the way the name growin, money keep flowin', hustlers move in silence, so, I'm tiptoein', to keep flowin'.

Task to do: admit your feelings to others.



CANCER Jun 21 – Jul 22

Reporting live from the tallest building in Tokyo, long ways from them hard ways, o's and oh-yays, Dade County always, 305

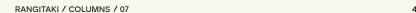
Task to do: journaling and self-reflection.



CAPRICORN Dec 22 - Jan 19

I'm a genius, I mean brilliant.

Task to do: grocery shop, please it's been



# MOANINGFUL CONFESSIONS

**BROUGHT TO YOU BY** 



**ADULTTOYMEGASTORE** 

### Started from the bottom, now we still

It was a beautiful Saturday evening in an unspecified location outside of Dunedin. I have been sinking a few too many drinks when all of a sudden I have to get up to yak. Here's the thing about me... every time I yak I piss myself. So, here I am, yak successful but now I have stained my beautiful white jeans. I attempt to wash it out. But in mu drunken state I'm very successful, as I thought I should just use the fresh cold tap water.

Moving on, it's time to hit the town. A few drinks and a few denied entries into some clubs later, I find myself with my tongue down a 40-year-old's throat. All of a sudden we are rushing to the bathroom. I show him my skills and give him the best gobby he has ever experienced. Do I remember it? No. Do I know it was good? Hell yes.

The night has only just begun when we sadly part ways. A few random hookups later, and sadly still with no free drinks, I find myself a new knight in shining armour. Next thing I know we're in bed, and I'm riding reverse cowgirl. This is when it hits me: I've got a heavy flow and a tampon in. I leave in a rush, forget my g string and still don't know the location of my blood-soaked tampon.

As I part ways from my man, I find his unsuspecting flatmate outside. In his wisdom he decides to walk me home. Little does he know I have found my next victim. We make it to our accommodation and I decide I don't want this man to leave mu side. Mu flatmate comes out to find me having full on domestics with this man. I apparently really didn't want him to leave.

He got extremely frustrated with me (from what I've been told) and so threw me over his shoulder. He marched me up the driveway and plonked me on the ground. And then he ran. This man ran for his life trying to get away from me. Disappointed, I went to sleep on the couch for some reason (none of my flatmates would let me cuddle next to them.) I woke up the next morning severely hungover and with a few regrets. But as I always say, thanks to the power of the mind: if I don't remember it, it didn't happen.

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





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BEST SNAP EACH WEEK WINS A 24 PACK OF Red Bull

### SNAP OF THE WEEK

CONTACT CRITIC ON FACEBOOK TO CLAIM YOUR REDBULL

























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

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

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

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

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

### **ONLY URS BEAUTY PARLOUR**

Student specials: eyelash lift/perm special for \$42 & eyebrow shaping wax/thread only \$12.

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### **OTAGO MUSEUM**

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

10% off for all students at Otago Museum shop.

### **RA HAIR**

\$20 spray tan.

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

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

\*Surcharges may apply.

### STIRLING SPORTS

10% student discount on all full-priced items.

### SURWAY

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

# DEAL OF THE WEEK+

### **ADJØ**

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

### **COMES FIRST DINER**

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

### **GELATO JUNKIE**

\$1 off double scoop gelato.

### **GO RENTALS**

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

### LA PORCHETTA

10% discount on all items and beverages.

### LARNACH CASTLE & GARDENS

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

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

### **NU YOGA DUNEDIN**

Two week introductory pass for \$32 (\$40/\$35 w/ concession) with promo code: nuROne. T&C apply. Limited to one person per pass.

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