

# Honi Soit

SEMESTER 1 WEEK 10  
12 MAY, 2010



## Tuning In

**Sydney's Community Radio in Crisis**

**Arts Hole SPECIAL: Sydney Uni Musos**

**USU Elections: Twits on Twitter**

**Struttin' at Australian Fashion Week**

**Soundtrack to the Women's Issue**

WITH MORE QUOKKAS THAN EVER BEFORE.

THIS WEEK'S:

Smoke-free days: five. Swedish snack most likely to tear the editing team apart: Salt Sill Original Worst/best question asked by an editor this week: "Sibella, will your recreational libraries cater to the boom in 3D movies?" - Joe Smith-Davies, Manning Soapbox Most divisive pun: "Rob Chiarella learns that good art cums on small packages." Thing that's not as awesome as it sounds: turning off a computer with a hammer.

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THE HYPOTHETICAL: Would you rather

Every day be allergic to a different thing OR Have a magnetic head?

FAQ:

How strong is the magnetic pull? The heaviest thing you could pick up with your head is a half-full garbage can. When I wake up, will I know what I'm allergic to for that day? No, but you will certainly find out. How serious are the effects of the allergies? They will vary from day to day. The most serious will be severe dysentery or a very itchy rash. Considering I'm going to be dragged into a lot of fridges and the like, will my head be stronger than average to cope with these blows? Yes, it will be resilient enough to handle most (but certainly not all) objects that come into contact with your head. Fridges, yes. Oncoming trains, no.



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## Fully [sic]

Dear Ben,  
You are right. I never read your editorial. However I was intrigued by your opening line in last weeks [sic] edition, enticing me to prove you wrong and read the whole black box. I must say that I was a little disappointed at it's [sic] content. It may just be the Arts in me, but I could not help but wonder if your spell check was out of order that day? While reading your editorial I found myself *simulatniously* giving into the *temptation* that was *rentlently* bugging me to correct your awful spelling. You're right, I will definitely skip over your editorial from now on. Apart from that, yay for *Honi*, best newspaper on *camous*. Oh my Ben.

Regards,  
**Erin**  
Arts II

## An Open Letter to Viv Moxham-Hall

Despite your Values, something and enVironment (so very witty, kudos), I will not be voting for you until you get in on that environment act, yourself. The number of pamphlets left scattered in Wallace is doing nothing for your campaign, or that precious environment you want to protect. Ps. All candidates please rememer which lectures you're already lecture bashed. Twice is fine, thrice within 2 days, not so cool. PPS. a note to the wise - grab a campaign shirt, support something, and everyone else will leave you alone. It's sometimes worth sacrificing your dignity for that.

**Piper Gray**  
B Psych II

## A Waste of Ink?

*Honi*,  
I'm guessing that the reason why the Socialist Alternative prints off "tonnes of paper" per month is because they, quite rightly, believe that advertising some of their causes is more important than the few trees they have to chop down for advertisements. Consider the massacre of civilians in the 2009 Gaza war which the SA campaigned heavily on. It's sensible to suggest that campaigning for an immediate stop to this massacre was more important than the few pine trees that were chopped down for that cause. I use this as an example; the same can be said of many of their current causes.

If there was some other method of advertising they could realistically use,

and they insisted on continuing their use of paper, I'd agree with you. But there is no real alternative, and while I agree that maybe they use big posters a bit too often, I think they're far from the hypocrites you make them out to be.

While we're on the subject of the environment, I want to bring up *Honi Soit* and its liberal use of black and coloured inks. This isn't the internet - using white font on a black background actually uses more energy than the alternative AND there's no underlying cause to justify this crude overuse of ink. Plus it looks ugly. ACE IT UP *HONI*!

Sincerely,  
**Jim Cronshaw**  
Science/Arts V  
(not affiliated with Socialist Alternative)

PS My friend claimed that you stole a KenKen puzzle from wikipedia. Is this true!? FOR SHAME! PPS I enjoyed your article on the Garter University Union elections. It gave me many lulz.

## A Right to Life

Dear Editors [of *Women's Honi*],  
Those contributors who wrote on abortion almost failed to consider the argument against pro-choice, namely the right to life of a human foetus. In general terms, when we weigh the right to choice and the right to life, we would always chose the right to life. But when Rebecca Brown did so in relation to abortion, she suggested that the foetus had a 'higher status in society' than the mother. This is misguided. They each have equal status because they are both human.

If we are to allow the killing of foetuses, then we must be consistent. We ought to legalise euthanasia, capital punishment and homicide. But if we are to reject abortion then we must be consistent: no euthanasia, abolitionism and long gaol sentences for murder.

I also found your 'fact' that 'abortion is one of the safest medical procedures in Australia' highly ironic. Is it safe for the future human being being cut, scraped or vacuumed out of the uterus?

I don't think we should ban abortion: there ought to be less of it, and not be philosophically based on a right to choose, which then outweighs a right to life.

Yours faithfully,  
**Robbie Turnbull**  
BA/LLB III

## EDITORIAL

The year 1929 began on a Tuesday. It was also a Tuesday on 29 October 1929, when the price of stocks fell through the floor and threw millions of people into back-breaking poverty for a decade.

But the crumbling of the world's financial systems wasn't all that happened that year, which was jam-packed with watersheds for artists of all stripes. Hollywood distributed its first Academy Awards, and released *Hearts in Dixie*, the first film with an all-black cast, and *On with the Show*, the first all-colour talkie. New York City opened its Museum of Modern Art. Erich Maria Remarque's *All Quiet on the Western Front* hit – and subsequently flew off – the stands, as did the first editions of *The Adventures of Tintin* and *Popeye*.

It was also in 1929 that some bright sparks in the Sydney University Undergraduates Association first published a rag by the name of *Honi Soit*.

Eighty-one years later, *Honi* wishes to pay tribute to artists' continuing enrichment of our lives. In a special edition of the Arts Hole, we celebrate our own little corner of the creative world by shining the spotlight on up-and-coming (and in some cases, up-and-already-come) bands exclusively made up of USyd students. This week,

have a read. Next week, get to a gig.

This is also a week of democracy. If you missed the news, the UK couldn't find a government – coincidentally, the same outcome as in the 1929 British election, when the Liberal Democrats' predecessor, the Liberals, also held the balance of power. Read our "Faking It" to learn how to create the illusion of expertise.

In a closer-to-home race, the candidates in the USU Board election have tested their mettle at the Manning Soapbox (with some damn fine questioning from the panel). Twitter and Facebook have been sites of anonymous rumour-mongering and -smothering. Some candidates have been penalised for admitting to breaching the spending cap while allegations about other violations of the USU Regulations are flying about. Now it's crunch-time as thousands of students head to the polls this Wednesday. See our bumper "That's What She Said" for the last minute low-down.

We inherit a long and proud history at this university, and the stories that emerge from our community every week continue to build upon it. *Honi* attempts to capture a slice of these stories in every issue. And of course, by the time this edition rolls off the press, it's already Tuesday again.

**Naomi Hart**

## Women's Honi

Dear *Honi* editors,  
I know it's not your fault, but I'd just like to say how incredibly disappointed I was with last week's *Women's Honi*. Apart from being repetitive, having numerous grammatical errors, consistently misunderstanding and misusing the word 'irony', and being full of poorly-constructed sentences, it was just so unbelievably dull. The only articles remotely worth reading were Elly Howse's piece on college culture, Sibella Matthews' "The Shaggy Truth", and Nina Funnell's critique of feminine hygiene advertisements (which was funnier when I read it in the *Herald* last Thursday).

It was also tiresome to see the same old social debates reshaped - once again, we had to read about abortion and the use of the word 'slut' and the rise of raunch culture and Abbott's sexism as if we, as women, have no interests beyond these issues. Fair enough, it is a *Women's* issue, but that doesn't mean it has to be boring and preachy. You could have an edition written and edited entirely by women that still contains most of the entertainment we expect from a student newspaper.

So in response to the General Secretary's Report on page 15, I would have to say no, Donherra - I'm not convinced that a newspaper of last week's poor



standard should be a semester staple. I am however convinced that there is a need for a *Women's Honi* that is actually informative, less outrageously politically biased, and most of all, not quite so tedious. And next time you decide to release a publication that is so mind-numbingly boring, at least have the decency not to leave out the fucking Sudoku.

Regards,  
**Nicole Helen Doughty**  
Arts III

## Men's Honi?

Dear *Honi*

After reading *Women's Honi* I am once again surprised and saddened by many of the injustices that women still face and I would be the first to say this publication is integral in raising awareness of these facts in the campus community. But once again, pre-emptively, an argument for a *Men's Honi* has been rebuked. Why are men more likely to die from prostate cancer than women from breast cancer even though the incidence rate is lower? Why are women automatically given majority custody of children after a divorce? Why is if an older man pays attention to young child it is predatory but if a women does it is maternal? Why is justice system overwhelming full of male offenders? I do not blame women for these problems facing men but rather other men. I do not ask for a male *Honi* as a reply to a female *Honi* but rather as a way to raise awareness about uniquely male issues in the campus community that are not tackled anywhere else.

Hopefully this has been some food for thought.

**David Clarke**  
Science Adv III



### THE STALKER

Peekaboo, I see you. With a shirt as **red** as scarlet that somehow makes me want to keep the **Union strong**, you listen attentively to your lecturer on this crisp **Wednesday** morning as he recounts tales of **welfare** and woe in the US of A. Slyly, you look through your copy of *Women's Honi*, chatting away with a green-shirted man of whom I am eternally jealous. Your glasses hid your eyes, but there's no hiding my from my gaze.

*Think you were stalked? Send a photo of yourself to honi.soit@src.usyd.edu.au and you may win a prize!*

Love mail? Hate mail? Articles?

## SEND IT ALL TO

**honi.soit@src.usyd.edu.au**

NEXT WEEK'S BEST LETTER PRIZE:  
A free *Dianetics* Scientology DVD

THIS WEEK: Nicole Doughty wins a copy of *On Lawmanship*.



## Fair Trade Referendum

Zahra Anver, from the Oxfam USyd Society, on the USU's vote of conscience.

Coffee and chocolate are practically the staple foods of university students. When dragging your feet onto campus after only three hours' sleep, a hot coffee and some chocolatey goodness can often mean the difference between drooling on the tables of your lecture theatre and actually managing to learn something.

So it's safe to say that we owe at least a small part of our degrees on graduation day to the wonderful coffee and cocoa bean farmers in places like the Pacific Islands, Ghana, Brazil and Venezuela. And what better way to say thank you to them than voting YES at the Fair Trade referendum on 12 May?

The Fair Trade label ensures that the product you're buying was made under fair working conditions: no child labour, no slave labour and a wage that can create a sustainable livelihood. There's absolutely no difference to the taste, quality or ingredients of Fair Trade food, except that they're a lot easier to stomach!

There's never been a referendum like this at our university. If it succeeds, we'll be helping raise 65,000 people out of poverty by having the majority of our food outlets stock Fair Trade coffee and (hopefully) chocolate. The change wouldn't cost you a cent more; it certainly hasn't at the three other Australian universities who've already gone Fair Trade. My cheeks are burning with shame as I write this, but yes, La Trobe, RMIT and Macquarie Uni have something over our great university.



Hopefully they won't for much longer. We need a majority of votes for this referendum to pass. With our uni's strong humanitarian focus and our caring students, it should not be a problem!

Earning a year's supply of good karma has never before been so easy! Be a part of making history at USyd and vote YES at the Fair Trade referendum. All you have to do is rock up to one of the many USU polling booths on 12 May (they'll be made painfully obvious all across campus), present your Access Card and you'll be given ballot papers for both the USU board election and the referendum. Unfortunately, if you don't have an Access Card, you can't vote in the referendum, but you can still make a difference by voting for candidates who are running on a Fair Trade platform. So what are you waiting for? It's a win-win situation! Grab your Access Card, drag all your friends along and go vote YES in the Fair Trade referendum!

## Condoms as Canvases

Rob Chiarella looks for art in the most unlikely of places.

When I worked in a pharmacy, my favourite part of the job was selling condoms to embarrassed customers. Most of the lines we carried had fairly explicit and striking packaging: typically a black background with rich green, purple or orange curves. The cardigan-clad, moccasin-shod aged pensioner had no way to hide the fact he was purchasing the ones that came with a vibrating ring.

As funny as this was behind the counter, embarrassment about protection is a serious sexual health issue. Alischa Ross, CEO of Youth Empowerment Against HIV/AIDS, notes that "three in four sexually active young people never carry condoms". Accordingly, the National STI Prevention Program has launched a new campaign, with promotional teams to visit the places young people go to before a night out (hairdressers, shopping centres) and hand out condom tins (with condoms), lube and advice. The aim is to "help young people carry condoms, rather than being caught out when the need arises".

As part of the campaign, they are running a competition to design the covers of the next lot of condom tins. The 266 entries received so far range



They don't call her 'Mona' for nothing...

from the boastful (plain black with 'ERECT' in large font) to the modest (the back pattern of playing cards – surely flipping it over to reveal the Jack of Hearts would be a good idea, no?) to the inane ('don't be silly, wrap your willy').

The competition is at [www.stidesigncompetition.net.au](http://www.stidesigncompetition.net.au) and entries close 13 May. The site includes a free online design tool for noobs. Voting closes 27 May and this year's entries will be judged Sydney-based band Bluejuice. So get cracking – what possible condom-related activity could be more fun than designing the tin?

## Negative on Affirmative Action

Oliver Burton opines on the place of AA in the Union Elections.

Well, the USU Board election is upon us, bringing with it all the pomp and ceremony of a Vaucluse first birthday party. It's got me wondering about the state of our democracy and, more specifically, the fact that the candidates who receive the greatest number of votes will not necessarily be elected to board. And the reason is Affirmative Action.

This system, imposed in 2006, is completely antithetical to the most basic concepts of liberal democracy. This year, two women will be elected regardless of whether they are good or popular candidates and regardless of any creative accounting with the preferences.

I'm not denying the historical injustices that women have faced. I believe in the glass ceiling (that it exists rather than that I support it) and I can see the argument that the boys club that appoints new board members of major corporations may need a kick up the arse before it considers women fairly. But not in a representative democracy and not, for the love of sanity, at Sydney University. This place is filled with intelligent, educated and enlightened individuals. I refuse to believe that we, of all people, still languish in the prejudices of yesteryear. And if, as seems likely, at least two women are elected by the popular vote, then surely the policy has been proved as obsolete as a Kevin 07 t-shirt. Either way, the fact is that the four women running, all talented and worthy candidates as they are, are not running against the entire field, but merely against each other. No more than two women will fail to gain a place; at least four men will, simply as a function of their biology. It's not fair and, more importantly, it's not democratic.

And I can't for the life of me understand why. Women elected under this policy

will never know whether they have got there on their merits. Positions they advocate can never be claimed to be genuinely backed by the electorate. And those that quietly contend that women aren't as talented politicians as men, if those people exist, can never be rebutted.



Supporters of AA will argue that this is only a stop gap, that the quota system will be repealed when the spectre of gender inequality has been exorcised. But when will that be and how are we going to know when we get there? How can you in all good conscience claim to support the idea that women are as capable and entitled to serve as men and at the same time advocate a policy that denies them a mandate or a legitimate reading of their support?

Female candidates can succeed on the basis of their own talents and ideas and they will do so the moment we all stop treating them like an endangered species. They don't need to be 'encouraged to run' anymore and even if they did, expanding the mentorship program would be a far more legitimate response.

I really don't think I'm alone in this. It's a constitutional issue, so let's have a referendum. Let's prove to the PC wets that we believe women can stand on their own and that we want them to do so with all the legitimacy of their male counter-parts. I'm going to make a Facebook group – who's with me?

AA has been invoked only twice since its inception. A shortage of female candidates in 2006 led to the automatic election of both women running. The second time was last year, when Mel Brooks was elected over Michael Falk in spite of coming ninth, while Falk came fourth in the race.

Under a quota preferential voting system (used in USU elections), anyone who voted for Mel was essentially able to vote twice: once for Mel and then once for the next candidate listed on their ballots after Mel had been eliminated.

The Union has attempted to rectify this problem. It has modified the vote counting system so that during the rounds of counting, the lowest polling male candidate will be eliminated if the second highest woman is polling worst.

But let's be realistic: this won't change how people vote. Last year, after analysing the ballots, it was patently clear that less people voted for women in their lower preferences, biasing their preferences towards men (which is where their lower preferences had the most effect).

Ironically, it could have been the presence of weak female candidates which caused women, especially Mel, to poll so poorly. Three AA positions were up for grabs last year, and there was one clear strong female candidate (Giorgia Rossi), two 'medium strength' candidates (Mel Brooks and Lizzie Watt), and two weaker candidates (Amani Frijat and Jess Priebee). Because the bottom two candidates were so weak, there was less of an incentive to vote for the strongest three candidates, as they were nearly guaranteed to be elected. Thus a voter was more likely to vote for their favourite Man(n) instead.

We have no way of knowing if Mel would have been elected in her own right without AA, but we can speculate that she would have done better.

This year is different. All the girls have campaigned strongly, so AA is less likely to be invoked. But aren't these the kind of girls we want elected? AA makes women lose votes when there are insufficient strong female candidates; why should it be kept at all?

Tom Clement

## Fisher Library gets a face-lift

Carmen Culina stacks it.

With the construction of Fisher Library dating back to 1963 and the University's recent trend in updating student workspaces, it is little wonder Fisher is being forced to glam up and join her schmick Law and SciTech counterparts.

While information regarding the Fisher Library Redevelopment Project has long been publicly available on the Sydney University library website, Su Hanfling, Director of Library Services for Humanities, Arts, Sciences and Technology suggests there have been considerable developments since the last report was posted.

Funded by a combination of University resources and contributions from the Federal Government through the Better Universities Renewal Fund and the Teaching and Learning Capital Fund, the redevelopment will centre on the core of the Undergraduate Library from levels 1 through to 4.

Students fond of the outdated peeling laminate and the friendly rattle of the archaic Stacks air-conditioner may lament the proposals to revamp Fisher's outdated interior. Among the less exciting changes are the introduction of more lifts and toilets so the building meets the current standards of legislative requirements. Whilst this may require fairly significant structural

changes, the planners seem keen to preserve the existing character of the design, which won the prestigious Sir John Sulman Medal for architecture when it was first completed.

The renovations are set to begin later in the year and the projected finishing date is 2012. Those behind the proposals are intent on addressing student feedback. "In the last few years the Library has received an increasing number of requests for group study spaces and computers; the traditional quiet library study spaces are also in demand," says Hanfling. "The SciTech Library (built in 2008) was designed with group study in mind and the new 2009 Law Library provides a mix of group and individual study in different locations." Good news for students frustrated by the generally noisy state of study areas across campus. "Fisher will have a wide variety of zones and facilities including clearly designated quiet and group areas, and multimedia and presentation spaces, all supported by great technology", Hanfling adds.

Unfortunately the current budget doesn't extend to bringing back the rooftop terrace, but there are plans to re-introduce a café, a move which will no doubt go down better than that third pre-deadline double cap. Those perturbed by the current opening hours can also look forward to greater access to library services with the introduction of 24/7 facilities.



**Fish'n for compliments.**

require an extensive review of the current collection. Space limitations will mean low use material will be kept in storage and retrieved on request.

Although one might expect the renovations to cause serious disruptions, library services will run throughout the project, and Hanfling maintains that the project stages will be carefully planned to minimise impact on students and staff. The architects will be appointed by next month and wide consultation will be sought during planning and building.

You can contribute to the make-over that will shape the next chapter of this iconic building's life. The project's managers are keen for your feedback so send comments and suggestions regarding Fisher to the information and feedback site: <http://www.library.usyd.edu.au/about/fisher-dev/>. Who knows, we might get that rooftop café after all.

The renovations will be extending to the Book Stacks, which joined the Undergraduate section of the library in 1973. Students prone to boasting about their romantic escapades in the dimly lit, tightly packed stacks may have their days numbered. "The shelves will be reduced in height and re-spaced to comply with universal access and occupational health and safety requirements," Hanfling says. It seems like the days of having books thumping on our heads as we search through the dangerously narrow aisles are also limited.

While this sounds like a fairly routine procedure, re-organising the extensive collection of the largest of the 12 USyd libraries is no small task. Fisher is the centre of information services for Arts, Education, Social Work, Business and Economics, and the renovations will

## CHORAL EVENSONG



**St Paul's College Chapel**

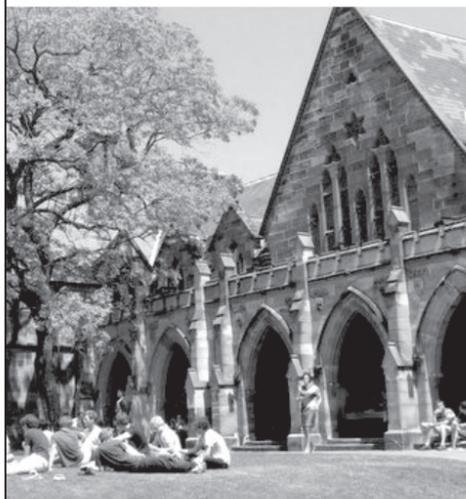
**Tuesdays in Semester  
5:45 pm**

The St Paul's College Chapel Choir  
David Drury Director of Music

## Open to All

**Ivan Head Warden**

Location: 9 City Road, Camperdown



## FACT!

If you took all the cups in the world and launched them into space, there would be no more cups in the world. Small bowls would be re-appropriated as cups. The resulting shortage of small bowls would create a regress until we had no more large vats.

STOPTHECUPSPACE-  
LAUNCHMISSIONNOW.COM

## POSITION VACANT



Parmalat is seeking an energetic and outgoing **Casual Grocery Sales Merchandiser** (12-18 hours per week) who is ready to make a positive impact to our business in the Sydney/CBD area.

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If you have the skills and experience for this exciting opportunity please send your CV to [kelly.philippe@parmalat.com.au](mailto:kelly.philippe@parmalat.com.au).

## STATE OF THE City



Get out of bed. Skull water quickly. Find the Berocca. Have that shower. Brush your teeth. How much you drank last night, how many Bruce Springsteen songs you insisted on singing, how many fellow bar patrons you informed you were just positive you could beat Bill Clinton at Scrabble – these facts are unimportant. Forget Friday night, your greasy hair, hellish breath and disagreeable and unexpected bed companion. This is Sydney and it's Saturday – the markets await!

### Glebe Markets

Nestled in the forecourt of Glebe Public School, these markets are a combination of established designers and labels, eclectic collections of vintage threads, cheap funky jewellery and what can be collectively called 'other, less expected things' (plants, Turkish pide, Buddhist books and goat-leather satchels). Best to put your glad-rags on and arrive early; come 11.00am the markets evolve into a hectic gathering of the young and impeccably dressed. The top right-hand corner in particular is a treasure trove of reasonably priced old-school glam: mesh handbags, '60s sundresses, thick '80s belts and big statement earrings abound. Delightful.

### Eveleigh Farmers Markets

From 9am – 1pm Carriageworks transforms into a voluptuous, colourful scene of fresh fruit and vegetables, flowers and gourmet treats of all descriptions. Clasp a Toby's Estate coffee in one hand and organic restaurant Bird Cow Fish's amazing \$5 bircher muesli in the other – there's no better place to breakfast and people watch on a Saturday morning. Moreover, most stalls have samples so it makes a fab destination for the impoverished student perennially searching for a free lunch.

### Kirribilli Markets

Their digs under the railway tracks near Milsons Point station allow you to hum "Under the Bridge" by the Chilli Peppers as you meander down – always a plus. Kirribilli has the same buzzing, thrown-together feel as Glebe, but is a little more on the expensive side. Or a lot more. That said, its North Shore locale makes it the perfect place to stumble upon discarded vintage designer threads or pairs of super-fly Italian loafers – a tantalising possibility that justifies the trek.

### Paddington Markets

Not the best. The stalls tend to be overpriced, uncreative and bent more to tourists and wedding registries than our student selves. Best to come back when we're the proud parents of two, with a terrace in Bronte, a Labrador and craving a sleek new set of Asian-inspired bowls.

**Chelsea Tabart**



# THAT'S WHAT SHE SAID

*The best hearsay, gossip and rumours on campus.*



## WOULD THE FAKE TIM SCRIVEN PLEASE STAND UP?

On Anzac Day, we were alerted to some fairly shocking tweets from a 'Tim Scriven' on Twitter, complete with a photo of the Union Board candidate. Over the next few days, the tweets became increasingly offensive: "Anzac day just glorifies war criminals. Anzacs should be gaoled!", "allah ackbar jihad allah!", "I can't wait to kick all of the muslims off campus!". One tweet made light of Scriven's Asperger's Syndrome, and included calling the son of another Twitter user a 'retard'.

The real Tim Scriven had absolutely nothing to do with this account. Speaking to him about the scandal, Scriven (who is also the SRC Disability Officer), told us that he felt sorry for the woman and her son whom the impersonator mocked, but that his focus was on the campaign and he didn't want to be distracted by this impersonator. Admirably, other USU candidates leapt to Scriven's defence and expressed their support for his campaign.

On a USU election thread on 'boredofstudies.org', on 28 April at 11:17pm (the website's clock says 'April 29, 12:17am', but is an hour fast), a user named 'Blastus' wrote that he "guessed the password" to the fake Scriven Twitter account. He went on, "This is fun. Don't tell him that I own it. This is great... Let's destroy this campaign from the inside." On 30 April, 'Blastus' wrote "that Masserani [sic] guy threatened me on facebook over scrivengate. 'YOU WON'T GO TO ANY UNIVERSITY'. hahahahah what's he going to do, call the Human Rights Brigade on me for hacking a dude's twitter account and then posting utterly innocuous shit."

On 1 May, Dan Nolan, a UNSW student, sent *Honi* an email, saying, "in the past week, I received [a] facebook message from Union Candidate Patrick Massarani that threatened me with expulsion from the university ("you won't be at anyone's University") and to "Go and fuck yourself" due to a miscommunication about my potentially having done something to Tim Scriven's facebook (A patently absurd and entirely baseless assertion)." The letter did not mention the fake Twitter account.

When we contacted Nolan and presented him with this evidence, he admitted that he was 'Blastus', but said he had never 'hacked' Tim's Facebook account, but was involved in the fake Twitter account. He says he did not start the fake account, but when he became aware of it, he guessed the password ('password'), changed it and

began issuing tweets – which he called "benign". These "benign" tweets included the words "Derp Derp" at several points. One of the derogatory uses of 'Derp Derp' is to refer to someone's limited mental capacity.

He also said that his comments on the Bored of Studies thread were supposed to be "in jest" and "anonymous." Scriven wasn't Nolan's only target. When someone accused another user of being 'anti-Sibella [Matthews]', Nolan responded with a highly explicit reference to Matthews.

No word yet on what fate awaits Nolan, although after we first spoke to him, he rang back to say he had contacted his solicitor regarding the possible content of this article.

An hour after we spoke to him, the 'Blastus' account could no longer be found on the website, and all his posts had disappeared ... but not before we were able to take screenshots.

## POLLY – WHAT A CRACKER

Cyberspace has been the site of more campaign antics. Some wily Facebook user has set up an account under the pseudonym 'Polly Board' in order to anonymously analyse the election.

In Facebook Notes, Polly said she sent out an online survey to 1,500 students and received 69 responses. It remains unclear how Polly got the email addresses of so many students. She has tagged a diverse range of students in the various Notes which has made it difficult to determine her actual 'friend base.' Polly's polls (and 'her' real identity) were the talk of the candidates last week, and she revealed some interesting, if mathematically dubious, insights into the profiles and levels of support of the various candidates.

Polly got a bit of egg on her face last Friday when she published a Note suggesting one candidate had breached the campaign-spending limit. Polly's tip came from an anonymous source, but her followers were unhappy that the pollster had turned gossip-trader, forcing Polly to publish an apology.

We think all this anonymity is cowardly and unaccountable. Polly Board hasn't revealed her real identity: she's not willing to put her real name next to her commentary, and nobody knows whether she has loyalties to anyone in the race. The Union prohibits candidates and campaigners from distributing any publication that in any way comments on the election unless it bears the name and SID/ACCESS number of the Union member who take responsibility

for its contents (Regulation 17.11.1(e)). Polly and the anonymous tipster are outside of this regulation.

The reason the Union has strict rules preventing the dissemination of patently false material about other candidates is that such information automatically damages those candidates, even if their names are subsequently cleared. For candidates or other students to hide such breaching of rules behind a veil of online anonymity is inexcusable.

## ACE BROWNLESS

The last online Board phenomenon has been the emergence of 'Ace Brownless', a fake candidate 'running' as a hybrid of USU candidate (and current Board Director) Scott Brownless and the Ace for *Honi* campaign that we ran last year. As flattered as we are, we can't help think we were chosen simply because somebody had a stack of Ace t-shirts lying around that the Salvation Army didn't want. Nonetheless, we'll be counting how many votes 'Ace Brownless' scores come Election Day.

## SHOW ME THE MONEY

Polly Board and her anonymous tipster aren't the only ones talking about the spending cap (\$700) this year. In fact, the USU's Returning Officer, Ivan Ah Sam, contacted all the candidates via email last week and requested they each submit lists of their expenses to him by 5pm on Saturday 8 May.

Ah Sam's email reminded students that the USU Regs require candidates to act honestly and that breaches of the spending cap may not necessarily result in automatic disqualification. He also exhorted candidates not to use online fora to speculate about breaches of the Regulations, highlighting the claims made by anonymous tipsters as being particularly unfair.

In submitting their receipts to Ivan, three candidates admitted they'd exceeded the spending limit: Alistair Stephenson, Sibella Matthews and Hiltin Guo. As a penalty, Stephenson and Matthews are forbidden from campaigning until 2pm Tuesday 11 May, and Guo is not allowed to campaign until 3pm Monday 10 May. All three are also required to hand some of their shirts over to Ah Sam, who made clear that other candidates would still be free to pursue action against them with the Electoral Arbiter, should they so desire. Furthermore Stephenson, Matthews and Guo will all display apologies on their Facebook groups.

Talking with *Honi*, Sibella said the punishment was "tough but fair" and

said she was honest about her breach because "students deserve honesty and transparency." She said she breached the cap by \$150.

Hiltin said she had gone over by \$85. She said there were so many international students who wanted to help her campaign that she needed more shirts.

Alistair exceeded the cap by \$160. Like Sibella, he explained that he wanted to be honest in reporting his expenditure, and that he respects Ah Sam's handling of the issue, saying that it's refreshing to see a Returning Officer making a real effort to enforce the Regulations. At last week's Soapbox, in response to a question from *Honi* ed Naomi Hart (who sat on the panel), he stated that adherence to the spending cap was important and that he hadn't breached the cap. After he was penalised for exceeding the cap, he assured us that at the time of the Soapbox, he had spent less than \$700. When we pushed him on this issue, he explained that at the time of the Soapbox, he had spent less than \$700, but his expenditure plus his debts (which he hadn't included in his calculation) exceeded the cap.

USU President Patrick Bateman and Honorary Secretary Giorgia Rossi both say that they believe the cap is meritorious but also problematic because it relies on candidates volunteering that they have breached it. They both speculate that there are candidates other than Stephenson, Matthews and Guo who have also spent too much but have not disclosed their full expenditure. They both say that raising the spending cap to, say, \$1000 would be a more realistic limit and thus invite greater compliance.

## WASHING THEIR MOUTHS OUT WITH SOAP

Hundreds of students flocked to Manning Bar last Wednesday lunch to see the USU candidates strut their stuff in the Candidates' Soapbox. Candidates delivered a two-minute spiel, then answered one question from the panel (comprising *Honi* ed Naomi Hart and *Bull* ed Daniel Swain), one from the audience, and one from Union President Patrick Bateman. Some candidates were questioned on their spending and on their affiliations with student political factions. Some other highlights were:

- Hart asked Pat Massarani whether he opposed VSU. His reply: "On the issue of VSU, I'm neutral. I just think that students should be able to decide for themselves." That is, Massarani is agnostic on the issue of whether Union membership should be voluntary, he just thinks it should be voluntary.
- Swain asked James Flynn whether his policy of increasing USU funding for religious clubs extended to clubs which propound a homophobic and misogynistic message. Flynn stated strongly that such views were antithetical to his own views, but clubs who support them must deal with those issues



‘internally’ and should not be cut out of the USU community.

- During his two-minute spiel, Peter Hong walked out from behind the lectern to exhort the crowd to support him and the Union he loves.
- Tim Scriven told the crowd that he simply could not explain his policies in two minutes. Upon further questioning, he reluctantly explained that he wished to bring back Queer Forum.
- Tom Robson thought the capital of Saudi Arabia was Dubai. He recovered from this embarrassment by jokingly conceding that he had probably lost the Saudi vote.
- Sibella Matthews revealed that if she’s elected, she’ll be voting for Giorgia Rossi for Union President because Rossi has helped on her campaign, is a close friend, and “is the best person for the job”.

**NO BULL FROM SWAIN**

Also at the candidates’ Soapbox, USU candidates Deb White and Vivienne Moxham-Hall were asked how they would resolve conflicts of interest between what they thought was best for students and how their caucuses (Unity – Labor Right, and NLS – Labor Left, respectively) instructed them to vote. Both assured the crowd that their caucuses do not interfere with their decision-making, and that they would always vote in students’ interests.

Elly Howse, SRC President and NLS member, missed the Soapbox but subsequently posted on Facebook, “And wtf is with everyone’s obsession with NLS? Get over it, people, we’re not that interesting. Please get lives outside of this university.” This seemed a tad ironic coming from *the SRC President*. In a subsequent post, she added that Viv should be judged according to her “policies, personality and passion” rather than her “campaign team”.

Daniel Swain, *Bull* editor and Soapbox panelist, replied that party membership is a characteristic that students care about when casting their ballots. His erudite reply to Elly was that the point of the Soapbox question wasn’t to demonise NLS, but to understand Viv’s relationship with it more fully. He wrote, “If we don’t understand you, enlighten us. Just don’t treat people contemptuously for asking the question. ... My point isn’t that x, y and z about NLS are objectively bad. Just that they are not beyond scrutiny in a public forum when people are running for leadership positions under an NLS banner.”

**POSTMAN PAT DELIVERS SOME MAIL**

Tim Scriven was leafleting Paul’s college last week when he stumbled across an interesting piece of paper which he handed over to us. Complete with Union candidate Pat Massarani’s ‘Postman Pat for USU’ logo at the top of the letter and addressed to ‘fResh’ (i.e. ‘fresher college kids’), it begins, “Do you want Jack Daniels and Beer at your door tomorrow afternoon, completely free-

of-charge? Then all you need to do is get 5 people to vote for Pat tomorrow at Manning. If you can get 5 people, you get a six-pack of beer. If you are in the top 5 vote-getters, a four-pack of Jack Daniels in addition to your beer.” Massarani has been running a fairly low-profile campaign and it certainly seems like he might be able to spend a portion of his budget on alcohol. He also says the ‘fResh’ are “require[d] to drop by [Massarani’s stall at Manning] and spend some time promoting for the college candidate”, with a “list” being taken.

In the past, candidates from college have used alcohol as an incentive for campaigners but this is the first time we can recall that ‘documented proof’ has evidenced this.

We invited Massarani to comment on this strategy. He stated, “The Returning Officer has made it clear to all candidates that my actions were perfectly acceptable.” This wasn’t quite the story we got from other candidates. Ah Sam (the Returning Officer) has sent all the candidates an email with an interpretation of the Union Regulation relating to bribery (17.11.1(l)): “that it only applies to payment or favour giving to other candidates, voters qua voters, and election officials.” Under this interpretation (which candidates may dispute before the Electoral Legal Arbiter), offering incentives to people bringing voters to the polls probably does not amount to bribery.

Ah Sam made it clear, however, that “any spending on incentive schemes will be included in the cap. This includes any incentives provided to campaigners, even

if not by the candidate personally. Such incentives will be considered gifts.” This means that Massarani will be required to provide receipts for every bottle of alcohol given to his campaigners. Jack Daniel’s is pretty pricey.

Word has it that Mel Brooks (Peter Hong’s campaign manager) and Tim Scriven are both interested in pursuing this further with the Electoral Legal Arbiter.

**HON SEC TO GO?**

Giorgia Rossi, current USU Honorary Secretary, has proposed that this position be removed from the USU Constitution. Giorgia acknowledges the historical significance of the role and that cutting the USU Executive down to only three members (President, Vice-President and Honorary Treasurer) would mean that there was little capacity for any members to slack off, creating difficulties if one of them has exams or is overseas. But she says that the role has become redundant. Historically, under the USU Constitution, the Hon Sec has been primarily responsible for overseeing publications and forums/convenors. Now that *The Bull* is monthly rather than weekly, and the *Union Recorder* is no longer published, the publications role has all but disappeared. Forums and convenors are now supervised under a separate program. The *ad hoc* roles which Rossi says she has taken up this year, such as overseeing the Verge Festival and appointing all the student editors, convenors and directors, could easily be performed by other Board Directors. At the moment, she says, the distinction between the Vice-President and Hon Sec roles is ambiguous, so

some work gets duplicated or, more problematically, overlooked. She also says that a three-person Executive will have to work harder to garner support and votes of other Board members in order to pass controversial motions.

USU President Patrick Bateman says that he’s not yet convinced about the merits of abolishing the Hon Sec position, and that it may be more appropriate to simply define the role more clearly so that there is less overlap with the Vice-President role.

The Board unanimously voted in favour of putting the question to the members at a Special General Meeting, to be held immediately after the Annual General Meeting, on Wednesday 19 May. Two-thirds of members at the SGM must vote in favour of the proposal for it to pass.

In the meantime, Giorgia is required to consult with former Hon Secs to get their input on the proposal.

**HERMES RESURRECTED**

Australia’s oldest literary journal is officially going ahead this year. The Union held a Working Party to discuss the publication last week, and have already received eight applications for editors.

Naomi Hart and David Mack

**FACT!**  
A single ant alone has the lifting capabilities of a thousand ants.

**COUNTDOWN BULLSHIT TACTICS FOR TRYING TO WIN ARGUMENTS** Ben Jenkins



**Invoke the Nazis** 5  
To be clear, no one is denying that the Nazis were very bad, so let’s take that as a given. What’s in dispute here is exactly how Hermann Göring relates to your argument about bulimia. It’s the easiest thing in the world to do, just lean back with a look of horror on your face and say “You know who you sound like, right?”, then if they don’t get it you can goose-step around the place until they do.



**Ride the Slippery Slope** 4  
Arguing against a reasonable proposition is annoying, tiring work. You need to grapple with subtleties and nuance, ultimately forming a well thought-out position. Alternatively, you can just take what the other person said to it’s most ridiculous extreme. This is called a Slippery Slope argument. Try this: “Sure, supporting gay marriage is all well and good, but where does it end?! What’s next? Someone could be allowed to marry his own cat! Is that what you support, cat fucker?”



**Shout a Whole Bunch** 3  
It’s no coincidence that the image chosen for this is that of a screaming, immature child (unless it’s not, in which case these things need to be sub-edited more thoroughly in order to avoid this kind of embarrassment). It is generally accepted that the quality of an argument is inversely proportional to how loudly it’s delivered. Shouting in an argument is the rhetorical equivalent of using a thick pen in an exam in an attempt to get your point across.



**Use Your iPhone** 2  
Yeah, we get it: you can prove that you’re right instantly because you have one of them fancy magic rectangles. And while we admit that this isn’t really a bullshit tactic, you have to agree that it sucks the fun right out of a lively debate. Gone are the days of arguing well into the night, full of mirth and friendly competition; welcome to the age of “Yep, it was Cuba. Says right there. See? Cuba.” Woot.



**Cry** 1  
This is an entirely unfair but utterly fail-safe tactic for winning arguments. However, let it be known that unless you are arguing about the relative effectiveness of two brands of mace, crying is never an option to be proud of.



## Australian Fashion Week

Anusha Rutnam got déjà vu at RAFW. It must be a glitch in the mainframe.

In 1998 the newly appointed editor of *Vogue Australia*, Marion Hume, gave Mercedes Australian Fashion Week the kind of kick in the pants rarely seen in rag trade journalism. At the top of her hit list was a group of local designers who in her view had taken the phrase 'imitation is the sincerest form of flattery' a little too seriously. Tearing these creative types a new button-hole, she even provided side-by-side photos of the originals and their Australian versions, in a rather confronting game of spot-the-difference.

One shudders to think of what barbs she would have unleashed on Camilla and Marc's offering at last year's Rosemount Australian Fashion Week (RAFW), which to many appeared to be a blatant re-hash of Parisian label Balmain's collection from the season before.

This is the 15th year of Australian Fashion Week and while it has come a long way, comparisons to international collections are still inevitable.

Echoes of Balenciaga's Fall 2007 tribal aesthetic were felt in several collections though it was at Kirrily Johnston that the similarities became a little overwhelming. In a similar vein, the fearful symmetry of Alexander McQueen's Spring 2010 patterns was clearly an inspiration at both Romance Was Born and Dion Lee, though it was the latter's delicate Rorschach-esque blots that really stood out as an original interpretation of a pre-existing idea.

Miu Miu's button-up shirt collar was everywhere, though interestingly enough, it was a TAFE designer, Elliot Ward-Fear, who presented one of the most innovative takes on the look (the points of his super-

sized collars reached the waists of the models). Unfortunately, Ward-Fear made the mistake of putting his models in the most gargantuan wedges of the week, and with (I shit you not) no fewer than five models taking a tumble, it was difficult to concentrate on the clothes themselves.

The most significant colour palette to emerge was one of autumnal browns, blush pinks and delicate, soft-touch pastels, used most successfully at Arnsdoff, Gary Bigeni and Jayson Brunson. Certainly the looks were reminiscent of the Chloé Fall 2010 collection, but the antipodean presentation of these colours was more crisp than the musky 1970s boudoir evoked in the Paris label's collection.

Read any coverage of this or older Australian Fashion Weeks and there often seems to be an undercurrent of doubt – what is Australian fashion? Is that very phrase an oxymoron, as one (mean) British critic once wrote? I don't think so.

Yes, things can get ugly fugly when a designer tries too hard to push a patriotic aesthetic and Australian turns into Australiana. One couldn't help but cringe at the sight of the (non-attributable, I'm sure) aboriginal-painting printed bikinis at Lisa Blue. Sadly as a fashion print, the look has been irreparably tainted by the tacky wares sold in tourist shops throughout Sydney's CBD. Conversely, Karla Spetic presented several garments with screen-printed images of recognisable Australian landscapes, for example a rabbit-proof fence, which were beautiful and even moving in their familiarity. This was the kind of design that made you believe 'there's no place like home'.

Australian Fashion Week was the first on the global circuit to have a sponsor's name feature in the title of the event. Such business partnerships are clearly a matter of necessity for our relatively small clothing industry, however gauche



Saint Augustine Academy.

some fashionistas might find it. Indeed, Sydney label Saint Augustine Academy took things a step further, with their entire collection acting as a promotion for the TV series *True Blood* (gift bags included a 'V' vampire blood key ring-awesome). Fortunately the relationship was mutually beneficial, with the label presenting a collection that began with garments imbued with a feeling of the Southern Gothic via 1970s Gunne Sax romanticism – these looks made the *True Blood* endorsement seem entirely fitting rather than hammy.

At times the attendees were the most exciting sight, with fashionable lovelies flocking to the harbour in hoards. Unsurprisingly there was more black than you could poke a stick at. Heels too were still ridiculously high though I'm impressed to say I didn't see any stumbles outside of the catwalk. Perhaps most disappointing was the dominance of foreign labels on the backs of front-row VIPs. Local designers' offerings at this year's Fashion Week have proven that, while sometimes a little derivative, our mob produce some very beautiful and interesting clothes. So wear them, you skinny bitches.

### KÖTTBULLAR + GRÄDDSÅS + SYLT LINGON

Meatballs, cream sauce and lingonberry jam; a self-assembled Swedish feast feeding five for \$14.95. Though I'm usually reluctant to try anything remotely resembling chutney with meat, the jam made this combo mighty fine. Although they are slightly firmer than their Italian counterparts, these meatballs are remarkably free of rubbishy additives and were quick and easy to prepare. Very tasty indeed.

### SALT SILL

Salty liquorice. Predictably vile. It was forcefully ejected out of my mouth and into my hand seconds after offending my taste buds, leaving me awkwardly clutching a slimy black globule in the shape of a fish. Offer this to someone you do not like in a polite setting.

### KOLSYRAD PÄRONDRYCK

A wonderfully refreshing fizzy pear drink similar in taste to other fruit and pear ciders ('perry' anyone?) minus the alcohol. A dozen of these and your trip to IKEA has been well worth its while.

## STUFF USYD STUDENTS LIKE #219 QUEUEING

According to Matthew Bishop's *Economics: An A-Z Guide*, queueing is a sign that a price is "set too low, so that demand exceeds supply". I beg to differ. Queueing is neither evidence of market failure nor an indictment of the so-called 'I want it now' mentality of Gen Y. Rather, it is a movement aimed at fostering community – a radical backlash against the individualism of a fractured, neo-liberalist post-modern society. What else explains the phenomenon of USyd students standing for hours outside the Co-Op bookshop in Week 1 of semester, instead of coming in the week before? Queueing is a grassroots way for USyd students to get to know their fellow man whilst standing in the pelting rain without an umbrella. In its purest form, queueing is a noble venture and not merely an inability to use the 'order, pre-pay and pick up' function on the copy centre website.

### #98 COMMUNAL TEXTBOOKS



You know that feeling when you open a library textbook (one of 20 on your 'essential reading list'), and stare at the pages and pages of size eight font, starting to panic about which paragraphs are really important and which you can skim over? The panacea is the Communal Textbook, which has all the book's essential teachings highlighted in texta by students of yore who were forced to write the same 'critical response' as you. The salvation of USyd students, and the scourge of USyd librarians, the Communal Textbook is about collectivism and about passing on shared wisdom and teachings for the good of mankind and your Weighted Average Mark. And what happens in the rare case that you read the entire chapter and find some new gem that will benefit later students? Just do the Hayley Joel Osment and pay it forward with a fluoro pink highlighter... although perhaps not in the rare book library. Maybe.

### #417 CONVERSATIONS WITH BIG WORDS ABOUT NOTHING

Conversations with Big Words About Nothing (CWBWANs) consist of big, important words like 'commercialisation', 'globalisation' and 'bourgeoisie', but don't actually discuss anything at all. For a CWBWAN virgin, you may feel overwhelmed during your first time, struggling to keep up with the cracking dialogue and terrified that if you do contribute, someone will ask you to explain what you actually mean. Don't worry, nobody will – they don't know what they're talking about either! After all, the point of a CWBWAN isn't intellectual debate or discussion: it's just a chance to assert your intellectual dominance and demonstrate that the crippling HECS-HELP debt is worth it. Just nod your head, agree when appropriate and answer big words with even longer words. In fact, if you're having a CWBWAN in a sociology, philosophy or a global politics class, you've just earned yourself the 20 per cent tutorial participation mark. Well done!

Kat de Jong

## ROAD TEST

### IKEA FOOD

Carmen Culina enters the world of \$1 Viking hotdogs.

For many, food is an integral part of the IKEA experience. While the restaurant brims with customers, for some reason the little grocery store past the check-outs doesn't get nearly as much love. Since nearly everything else in my kitchen comes from the Scandinavian megastore, it seemed only fitting to give the 'taste of Sweden' a try and let it line my pantry as well.

### KNÄCKEBRÖD RÅG

Rivalled only by sawdust in flavour and nutrition, these large wholegrain rye crispbread biscuits taste and look like something I would feed a parrot. Aptly described by a co-editor as the result of compacting the crumbs scraped off hundreds of slices of burnt toast, this 'biscuit' will leave your mouth feeling desiccated.

### GODIS GULA SNÖRDEN

These toffee-flavoured candy laces look like a type of bendable hollow spaghetti. Despite the artificial taste, the novelty of this stringy sweet will ensure someone will finish the packet in spite of themselves. Unsatisfactory and moreish at the same time.

### FLÄDERSAFT

Wild elderberry flower juice is less pleasant to drink than the name might suggest. It tasted like a mildly pretty version of alcohol-free white goon combined with an old man's aftershave.

### SYLT HJORTRON

Not only does cloudberry jam suggest a spreadable combination of two of my most favourite things, it is really sublime. These berries are considered to be a rare delicacy, and according to *The Oxford Companion to Food*, they have long incensed the otherwise peaceful Scandinavians into 'cloudberry wars' when it comes to harvest time. It is not hard to see why the Swedes loose their shit; these honey flavoured berries are exquisite. Especially yummy with butter on toast.

## STOP SAYING THAT YOU'RE EMBARRASSING YOURSELF

**What you say:** "You

know that song, 'In The Air Tonight', by Phil Collins? Yeah, that's about when Phil Collins saw this guy, who was not saving this other guy from drowning at a beach. And so Phil Collins wrote that song, and then invited that guy to the concert and then threw a spotlight on him, shaming him in front of everyone!"

**IN THE AIR TONIGHT**

**Why you say it:** You may have heard it in *Stan*, the popular rap song by Eminem. Even if you haven't, it's not difficult to see why this myth is so enduring. Aside from being about Phil Collins, it's also about Phil Collins being an awesome crime-fighter, making it one of the greatest party-facts available to anyone anywhere.

**Why it's wrong:** The only problem with the story is that it is almost entirely handcrafted out of pure, unadulterated bullshit.

In fairness, two things in the story are true. First, Phil Collins is a singer, and secondly, he wrote and sang a song called 'In The Air Tonight'. He also may have been to a beach before, although we don't know for certain. The biggest problem with the account is not so much that Collins has denied it on numerous occasions, which he has; it's that it just doesn't make sense.

If Collins saw someone not save someone else from drowning, assuming it was not through a telescope or from inside a cage, then it stands to reason that Collins himself also failed to save the drowning man. Using this logic, it's possible that

the other guy also went home and wrote a song about the selfish inaction of the famous pop star.

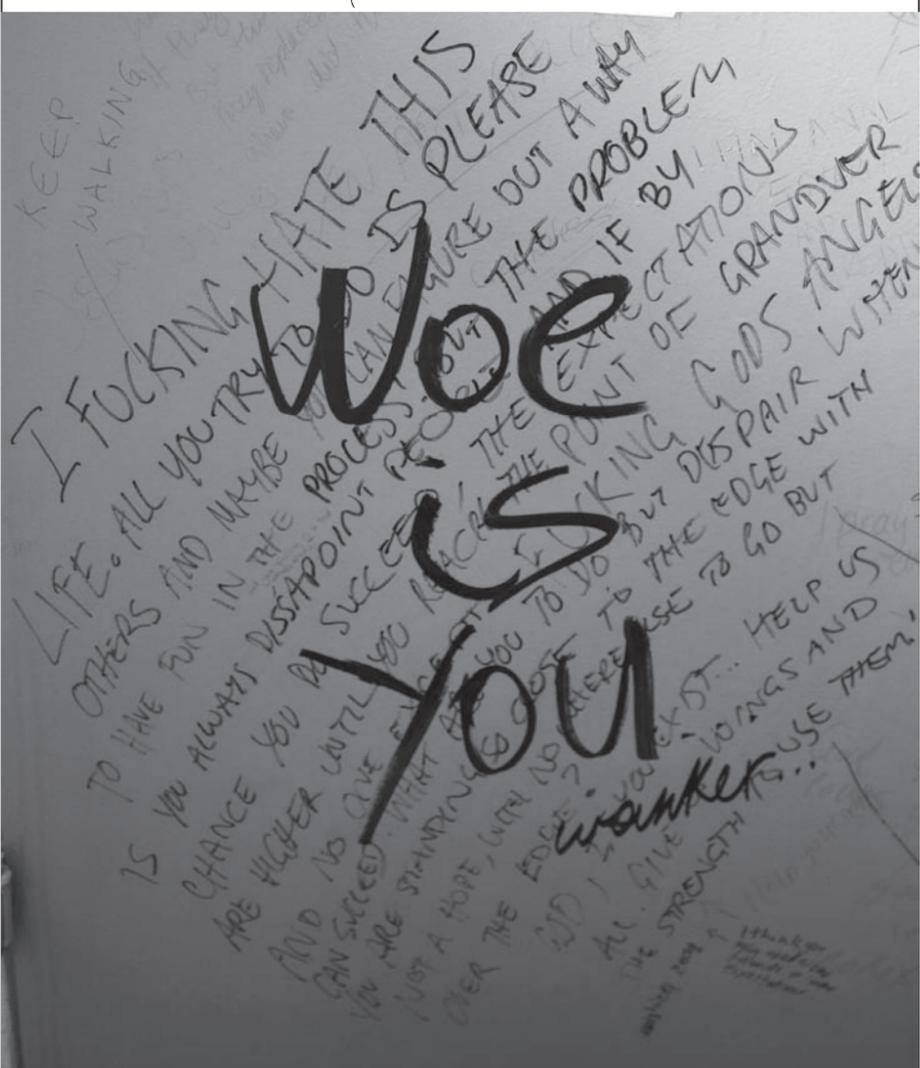
But let's assume that Collins was too far away to save the man, or tied to a tree, or maybe just not wearing the right kind of shoes. The question remains, how the hell did Collins find the man years later and invite him to a concert? Presumably, he somehow got the man's name, and given that Collins and he were the only two people on the beach that day, it seems that the only logical explanation is that Collins introduced himself to the man, and gained his trust in order to publicly shame him years later. But why did he not just confront him then? Does Collins only dish out social justice in song form? Probably.

But even this plan of public shaming in itself is hugely problematic. Have you ever listened to that song? How on earth was this man, who was just happy, if a little confused, to be at a Phil Collins concert supposed to understand the message of the song? It has to be conceded that it would be reasonably difficult to convey "Aha! Remember me? I met you on that beach several years ago and though you didn't know it at the time when we were swapping email addresses, I witnessed you letting a man drown and now I have come to shame you with this spotlight, which, to be clear, is a spotlight of shame, not a spotlight of glory, as all other spotlights are!" from the wantonly cryptic lyrics of "In The Air Tonight".

**Why you need to stop saying it:** To be honest, you don't really. It's just Phil Collins, knock yourself out.

Ben Jenkins

## Shit Talk



Gents, Lower Level Carslaw

## all up in my grill:

### LAPTOPS IN LECTURES

Pitter-patter, pitter-patter, pitter-patter, PITTER-PATTER, PITTER-PATTER... Apologies to all the hydrophobia-sufferers and rain-haters out there, because the onomatopoeic opening sentence of this article does not intend to evoke the potentially terrifying sound of droplet on roof. I wish instead to bring to mind a far more unnatural, annoying and insidious noise, impervious to the vagaries of meteorology and one which any self-respecting uni student struggles to escape: the sound of laptops in lecture theatres.

Before I continue, I wish to make it clear that I'm no technophobe. I was as quick to smash my brand new iPad in some oddly reverential act of rebellion as the next rich Californian teen, and I love 1080 p as much as any snowboarding-obsessed armchair enthusiast. However, my storage capacity for techno-love would breach the terabyte if only the boffins could invent something to eradicate the aural result of finger on key. I suppose in isolation it's not that bad. And for the majority of a lecture, the sound of 120 people sporadically typing is like watching the *Matty Johns Show* at your uncle's: not quite tolerable, but you have to do it anyway. It is when the lecturer deigns to say something important that things turn from *Matty Johns* to *Transformers 2* and the noise rises to a tuneless, mind-numbing crescendo as the masses furiously commit the sparkling drops of wisdom to virtual memory. At best it's unbearable. At

slightly worse it's a contributing factor to tinnitus.

More than mere noise pollution, the devilry of the laptop pit-pat shows the acoustics of education in regression. After enduring centuries of the physiologically repulsive grate of chalk on slate and the vociferous scratch of quill on manuscript, the endearing combination of biro and loose-leaf established a new watermark in terms of a student's aural experience. If only that more had been indelible, for now lecture theatres resemble Medieval dungeons, the netbook-wielding torture-masters inflicting terrible punishment on their ink-splattered prisoners.

What's more, the offending machines are expensive and almost entirely useless outside a lecture. At about 400 dollars a pop and with a processor too slow, screen too small, and functions too limited to do anything interesting, the netbook is the yappy Chihuahua of the computing world. Normal laptops aren't much better in my opinion. Once you get over the four-finger mouse gimmicks and the endless portability of your new MacBook Pro, you will realize that the mouse is at least fifteen times worse than the vaguely rodent shaped operation and you have to lug half-a-kilo of Jobs' finest everywhere.

Maybe I'm just jealous of people with laptops. While the rest of my Year 8 class were driving racecars and skydiving on Mavis Beacon Teaches Typing, my equally white friend and I were always engaged in fierce text-based rap-battles over MSN. So while I do have a small but loyal following in the online freestyling community, I'm only able to two-finger type and I wouldn't want to inflict that on anyone in a lecture. Anways, if the pen is mightier than the sword, it's certainly mightier than the Pentium.

Joe Smith-Davies

## BRITISH ELECTION

## FAKING IT

In case you've been living under a rock, an election happened in the UK. Who won? Unimportant (also, as of Sunday, when I'm writing, we don't really know). Why mess about with the big picture when you can up the ante with some obscure stories?

More compelling than the result is the forgotten story of election day. Nigel Farage, a member of the UK Independence Party, who famously abused the President of the European Union and the people of Belgium in the EU Parliament, was in a plane crash. The cause? The propeller of his light aircraft was fouled in a campaign banner flying from the plane. Keen observers noted that campaigning on election day is in fact illegal.

If you want to show off your knowledge of Northern Ireland, point to the surprise victory of Alliance Party candidate Naomi Long in Belfast East, a Protestant stronghold, over Ulster Unionist Party leader Peter Robinson. The victory of a candidate seeking to represent both Protestants and Catholics is an important

moment. Rather than representing a big shift in opinions, it's probably more to do with Robertson's wife's affair with a teenage boy.

And if you're on a roll in your newfound guise as an amateur psephologist, you could point out that although the Tories made big gains they didn't get their "Portillo moment". In Labour's 1997 landslide victory Michael Portillo, then a Cabinet minister in the Tory government, lost his seat: a symbol of the embarrassing scale of the defeat. The Tories expected the scalp of Ed Balls, the Schools Secretary, but he managed to hang on by 1,000 votes. The speculation over Ed Balls did give Portillo a brief moment of renewed fame. He observed in an article for *The Guardian* last week that 'my name is now synonymous with eating a bucketload of shit in public'.

Tim Mooney



# WE LOVE [OUR OWN] SOUNDS

## GETTING UNDER THE FRET BOARDS OF SYDNEY UNI'S MUSICAL TALENT

Hark! We hear some damn fine tunes coming from the grounds and it's time for a celebration of our own studious artists. We intended to stay on those musicians who are still battling their way through Arts degrees and Psych majors; that is, those who are hitting the books during the day and the stage at night. Current students and current performers. But Dappled Cities are graduates you say? Shush your critical faces, we made an exception. USyd has a pretty talented bunch of musos and though it's too bad Macquarie Uni will always have one up on us (they can claim The Wiggles), we've got plenty to be proud of.

### THE HONOUR ROLL:

The Vines, The Whitlams, Youth Group, Josh Pyke, Cloud Control, Dappled Cities, The Domestics, Kyü, We Say Bamboulée, super FLORENCE jam, Fuji Collective, sleepmakeswaves, Made In Japan, Megastick Fanfare, The Laurels, Emma Davis, Guineafowl, WIM, We Like Cats, The Jezabels, Seekae, The Politik, Front End Loader, redsunband, Frenzal Rhomb

## CLOUD CONTROL

Joe Payten has his head in the clouds.

Supporting Vampire Weekend, releasing their debut album this month, playing Splendour; it's been a meteoric rise for Cloud Control from their humble beginnings in the USU Band Comp.

"The band comp is entirely responsible for our formation," says Heidi Lenffer, keys and vocals for the Glenbrook band. "Uni is the time to throw yourself into crazy experiences. I saw the band comp and thought, 'Man, that would be fun,' so I entered without a band, then roped in my brother as drummer, who then got his best friend from school to play as well." Whilst they didn't win first time around, something about their sound "just clicked". And the rest is history.

Their first EP was released in 2007, but the band took time out in 2009 to produce their first full length record, *Bliss Release*, which Heidi says was a trying time. "We recorded it at a friend's house in Glenbrook, and like any joint creative

project, it was difficult, but we loved it. Spontaneity in collaboration is a beautiful thing."

The record captures the distinctive sound of the band, one that is informed by a wide range of music. "We all listen to different kinds of music, but we also have common interests. A strong melody, beautiful harmonies and layers that create experience are important to all of us." Whilst the influences on their music are easy to spot, they're also very disparate. The synthesis of these sounds with the band's strong pop sensibilities is what makes them unique, and the lead single from the album, "Gold Canary", is a Fleet Foxes-via-The Go-Betweens pop gem.

But a unique sound will only take you so far, and Heidi hasn't forgotten their days as a fledgling band and the importance of Sydney Uni's Band Comp in helping to get Cloud Control off the ground.

"The comp provides a no-risk scenario for bands, which is a key part of its importance. There's also no risk of having to pay back the bar if the gig goes badly – something up-and-coming bands dread."

Cloud Control has a lot to thank Sydney's music community for, with venues like Mum Bar providing a great entry level point for the band and other emerging acts to play new material in a low-risk environment. Taking that next step to launching an EP and headlining a show in Sydney, however, is not as easy as they've made it look. "It becomes quite hard in the middle ground [for a lot of bands]," says Heidi. "To fill a place like the Annandale requires a lot of work. The Houptoun had a great setup, it was the right size for a band to launch an EP, whereas the Annandale can look really empty. Melbourne probably has more venues that provide stages for emerging bands."

But despite this, the band are strong believers in Sydney's potential as a musical creative hub. "Sydney has a good strong social angle, and there are lots of people willing to go and see music." At least as long as bands like Cloud Control are playing.

The Domestics are a band that understand the plight of the impoverished uni student. "Being twenty, it ain't easy, and the bank, it takes my money," croons singer Wil Eastly. I sat down and talked music, uni and the importance of dance troupes with Wil and alto sax and keys player Max Dalton.

Formed in 2007 after a performance in their last year at Newtown High School of Performing Arts, the band began jamming and started writing original songs in 2008. "Our first gig was at the Newtown festival in 2007, on the kids' stage, which was rad. We followed this contemporary dance troupe which was on a sofa," Wil recalls.

"Which has happened again since, when we followed that contemporary Vietnamese dance studio at the Surry Hills festival," says Max.

"I think now it's sort of an element of our music, that we have to follow dance numbers," jokes Will.

Consisting of seven musicians with a comically diverse range of influences (we're talking jazz to marching band), anyone who listens to the band will immediately realise they are dealing with seriously skilled musicians. The

Domestics' experience ranges from upbeat big band tracks that are heavy on the brass, to moody pop/jazz numbers that make you want to be in an seedy, underground jazz club, swilling scotch and smoking cigars with the mafia. "Our sound is high energy, funky, rock, pop, ska," Max explains. "It really does just start with one person coming up with an idea, and that idea always leads towards something more slotted in a particular genre, but the end product is not really classifiable."

With indie rock and electro seriously dominating the iPod playlists of uni students, The Domestics are forging a niche of their own; so what is it like to be in a band that offers a truly alternative music experience? "I guess we don't fit in with the indie trend," muses Will, "we always play with indie bands and we don't have a problem with that kind of music, we just don't fit in really well with that genre". Max adds, "the reaction is always interesting to our live shows though. People are often like, 'Oh, hello, strange creature,' and don't quite know what to make of us."

Fighting the asymmetrical-hairstyle-sporting, skinny-jeans-wearing indie trend at university is always going to be a challenge, and as a result the band seems to advocate a more celebratory, accepting musical culture around campus. "Having

the opportunity to play at somewhere like Manning Bar, or just around uni but not being part of a competition, so there's not that pressure to compete with other bands, just a celebration of up-and-coming bands would be great," says Will. "I think that competitions can sometimes cause divisions, rather than celebrating different genres. I guess just more music around campus would be nice."

The band have enjoyed a steady upwards trajectory since 2007, gracing the stages of several festivals and live music venues around Sydney. With a shiny EP released in March and three of their tracks on the Triple J Unearthed Charts, it seems everything is coming up Milhouse for the lovely guys in this outfit. Where does one go from here? "We're going to start getting a new set together," Max explains. "We're getting a lot of gigs at the moment and we've kind of done our old set to death and recorded it, so it's time for something new. I guess generally speaking, what we're aiming for at the moment is more gigs, better gigs, find our place, find our sound, and start building up a more solid fan base."

And with a game plan like that, The Domestics will undoubtedly soon become a household name. (Get it? See what I did there?)

Jess Stirling

## CITIZEN: WE LIKE CATS, WIM, GUINEAFOWL

*It is the year 3010. Sydney's streets are in peril. The world is f\*%#ked! But one safe haven remains – a group of survivors hiding out in an abandoned nightclub... a last natural oasis.*

So reads the enigmatic Facebook invite to CITIZEN, a six-week long residency curated by Sydney based five-piece WIM. Last Thursday, I attended the opening on level four of the Kings Cross Hotel. Access is via a scummy alleyway in Brougham Lane. The long ascent up a fire escape and the scattering of plastic rats taped to railing and randomly placed police lights builds up anticipation for what lies ahead. The space lives up to the description of an 'oasis': walls and ceiling are carpeted in plastic foliage interspersed with fairy lights, velvet, vines and flowers, exuding a comfortably kooky ambience.

First up was We Like Cats, a Sydney prog-rock outfit. The four members wielded their considerable instrumental talents to create smooth spells of sound interspersed with innovative rhythmic moderations. Second act Guineafowl lightened the mood with their bright, poppy beats, channeling a Brit-pop inspired prep that got toes tapping and pulses rising in anticipation for the headliners.

Although We Like Cats and Guineafowl gave captivating performances charged with conviction, it was curators WIM who undeniably stole the show. Their folk-inspired sound is pure honey magic, concocted through perfect harmonies, contemporary pop lacings, and an echoing beat which rises through the layers of sound. The smoothness of their touch had the crowd alternately swooning and shaking, an energy encouraged by the interactive antics of lead singer, Martin. Each of the band members looked totally at home among the leaves and lights, adorned with glitter, glowsticks and feathers.

Indeed, WIM seemed intent on emphasising that they succeeded in creating an alternate world. At one point a random member of the crowd handed me plastic coins which could be traded for bubbles and glowsticks, accompanied by the words, 'we have our own currency here.' Engulfed in smatterings of coloured light, an interactive band and an exultant crowd, I almost couldn't help but believe them.

Claim your citizen status at the Kings Cross Hotel, every Thursday night for the next five weeks, 8:30pm.

Jacinta Mulders

## DAPPLED CITIES

Bridie Connellan chats with Tim Derricourt

With all this talk of student multitaskers juggling stage and studies, it's about time we got a word in from some alumni. Cheeky, jetsetting, catchy alumni. Five-piece indie darlings Dappled Cities have been around the tracks since they were Periwinkle at Sydney Grammar School in 1997 (bless!) and with the release of their third album offering, *Zounds*, they're showing no signs of slowing down. Runners-up in the 2001 USU Band Comp, these Sydney Uni kids have graduated in style with apparently the only song they still play from their days on campus being "Peach", their very first single. From the streets of London town, *Honi* managed to nab guitarist Tim Derricourt for a speedy cup of Earl Grey as the group scoots around the UK before their Australian tour in June. Bring us back a scone.

*Well hey, what's shakin' in the UK?*

Loads: pathetic games of football, wild nights out at transvestite bars and copious amounts of liquid in pint-sized glasses.

*Well since we're shouting out from Sydney Uni, was there a nice little campus tale to the beginnings of Dappled Cities?*

We met at high school. But we were in the

Sydney Uni Band Comp. I think we lost to that guy that wrote "free tha refugees" on his hand on Big Brother.

*Bummer, but I think you guys are a little better off. Having made music together since high school, have you noticed a change in the way you work as a group?*

Yeah. We used to be all uptight about making tunes but now we're older and more relaxed. We now generally write music on the various yacht parties we are attending around the world and email each one's parts to the others and finish it off when we all get together for our Swedish sauna week.

*Quite a life for once-struggling students! Well, back on our shores you're curating an art exhibition when you return in June. Would you mind explaining the ideas behind this, and why you think your music matches art?*

We commissioned 24 artists to create a work of art inspired by the tracks on *Zounds* and we held an exhibition for the media for the release of the album last August. We thought it was finally time people got to see the art works so our lovely management team has been busy setting up a sweet public showing ready for when we get home.



*Considering your roots, do you think Sydney has a particular vibe as a creative hub?*

It's pretty varied I guess. There is no scene like you have in Melbourne but more disparate small scenes that occasionally interact. That said, we are always inspired by new bands that pop up about the place.

*Besides your Winter Tour for 2010, what's next for Dappled Cities?*

We are launching an incredible live DVD which is a recording we made of us recreating our entire album *Zounds* in full, but stripped back, and a little experimental. Then we take off back to the UK for some summer touring action and head to LA to start work on our fourth record. And heaps of yacht parties.

Ah bless, enjoy.

## THE JEZABELS

Hailing from as far as Byron Bay and California, the Jezabels generate the kind of uplifting and ethereal, classically-based, drum-driven indie



pop that fuses the sonics of Arcade Fire and The Temper Trap with the vocals of Katy Steele or Sarah Blasko. Beautifully infectious, really. The four-piece are traversing around the country in support of Tegan & Sara's Australian tour, a coveted spot they also scored last time the Canadian duo hit our shores in 2009. "When you try and think about all the shows we've done, they just kind of merge into one weird pinky snake of happiness and disappointment," says drummer Nick Kaloper.

With two EPs and a large reception for their singles "Disco Biscuit Love", "Hurt Me", and "Easy To Love", the Jezabels have the wheels in motion, but with three years under their belt as a team, this foursome place more pressure on themselves than their fans do. "I think as a band we've progressed in the sense that we're comparatively more professional than before, and we're better at the whole routine now," Kaloper says. "I just seem to get not as excited, in a good way. That means you manage your expectations; you really just start to work at it in the name of music and not get too wrapped up in hype. You're just really happy to have a stable opportunity to make music and connect with people."

As runners-up in the 2007 Band Comp, scoring second behind psych-poppers The Laurels, this creative quartet certainly balanced the books and the band. "Our first gig was the Band Comp, so that's what sort of got us started," Kaloper says. "It was exciting, I guess people should take it more seriously than just practice on stage but it's an opportunity that's just so accessible." Studies and stages often do mix, and despite Kaloper having finished his Science degree majoring in Physics, both femmes of the group are still hitting up Fisher. "I don't know how they manage to do it but I'd probably have no hair left if I was them. I'm considering postgraduate study but there's no way I can reconcile that with the current set of affairs." While Guitarist Sam Lockwood was a main camper, pianist Heather Shannon is a Con buff majoring in Classical Piano and vocalist Hayley Mary gets her kicks from Arts and Gender Studies.

We're all aching for a lot more material from the band and hopefully they will be as prolific as Kaloper is verbose. "Well yes, I've never been one for brevity," he laughs. "I remember *Jmag* tried to get me to write a review of an album and I'd never written one before. It was 180 words or less and it actually took me about three days. I would have been able to belt it out in 600-700 words easy, but the mere fact that it was 180 words actually made it one of the most challenging endeavours."

Bridie Connellan

## WE SAY BAMBOULEE

We Say Bamboulée is made up of Doug Wright and brothers Peter and Russell Fitzgibbon. Together they have been creating a delightful selection of pop-inspired electro goodness from a home recording studio in Sydney's far west since 2007.

The band's sound is diverse and fresh, sparking controversy about 'labels' even within the band itself. "I reckon we're a pretty pigeonhole-able band. Like indie-electronica, I reckon it's pretty fair to pigeonhole us as that," argues singer and keys player Doug. Drummer Russell takes a more open ended view: "We all have that kind of pop background in our heads so we always end up with major chords. But also we all listen to such eclectic music that what we end up with doesn't really belong in any particular genre. It might have its grounding in pop music, but it's hopefully something a bit more."

The story begins with Doug's year-long trip to Switzerland: "I was at one of the music festivals over there, called

Paleo, there was this tradition that in the camping area, one person would yell out 'Bamboulée', and everyone who hears it, would have to yell it out as well, like a coo-ee, so when you're trying to get to sleep at like 3am, someone would yell it out and everyone in this enormous campsite would echo." You heard it here first, folks, an *Honi* exclusive.

The Sydney Uni environment has been kind to Bamboulée which placed third in last year's Band Comp, an experience which also helped its members form new friendships within the USyd music world. "Our first gig was at Band Comp, where we played with lots of bands that were great. Even the people who ran Band Comp were great, and that kind of set us up for the first little bit, and we met other people through them. It was really amazing and supportive," explains Peter.

While the chaps aren't diehard Manning regulars, preferring the triangle lawns outside the Law building or the sunken lawns, they have a solid understanding of the importance of the supportive creative network fostered at sticky-floored

Manning gigs. "A lot of people who come to our gigs are doing creative stuff in their own home and so everyone is interested in seeing what other people are doing."

The future for Bamboulée is about as bright as futures come (read: dazzling!), with the band hoping to release their debut EP in the next few months. As Peter explains, "I guess we've just been fiddling around and building up songs and stuff for the past year. We're looking forward to being able to say 'that was our last EP' and sort of move on from that."

Whether Bamboulée will survive beyond the wonder years of USyd is unknown, but the bond between the band members seems set to outlast us all. "I like to think we're friends first and band second," says Doug. "We go on bushwalks together!" adds Peter. And considering that old saying that the band that bushwalks together, stays together, I think We Say Bamboulée will be taking us on fantastical journey through their music for quite some time. Or maybe just a nice camping trip.

Jess Stirling

## SUPER FLORENCE JAM

With a scintillating act honed in a variety of Sydney venues, you wouldn't have much trouble in arguing that Super Florence Jam are one of the tightest bands playing in our city today. Recently described as a 'musical travelogue of madness', the band features our uni's own Laurence Rosier Staines as well as Adam Krawczyk, Alex Tulett and Mike Solo. Over the years, they have attracted a devoted following for delivering a thundering and dominant live performance.

Combining the instrumental sensitivity and proficiency of prog-rock (two guitarists, keys, and a double-necked bass!) with a

injection of Saints-style garage venom, they create tightly-crafted melodies onstage that even the most intentionally morose of punters find it hard to resist getting down to. It may have something to do with the famed aural assault of the bands' gigs. You can sense a connection to Bob Dylan's famous maxim: "play it fuckin' loud".

Part of their lasting appeal on the live circuit is their inability to be pigeonholed into a single genre. With a nod to a variety of influences, new recordings like the fast garage rocker "Anastasia Won't You Sleep With Me" sit alongside the upbeat pop of "Simmer Down". The frenetic Little Richard-style keyboard boogie, "Walkin' On The Rocks By The Ocean" is a sub-two



minute injection of energy which Super Florence Jam dishes up across the board with a certain wry panache.

The band is heading into the studio later this month to record new tracks. Catch them on 26 May at the Gaelic as the main support for Star Assassin.

Will Atkinson



# TURN ON, TUNE IN, DROP OUT

## SYDNEY COMMUNITY RADIO UNPLUGGED

While they may not grab the headlines that Kyle Sandilands does, Sydney's community radio stations boast thousands of dedicated listeners. So why are they struggling to stay afloat?

**Daniel Zwi** found the right frequency and tuned in.

Remember the global financial crisis? That old thing? It wasn't my cup of tea. Economic instability just isn't that much fun, even if we did enjoy our \$900 gift from Kevin. But amidst the retrenchments and bankruptcies, you may have noticed a proliferation of affordable, intimate gigs with some of Sydney's best bands. They assembled, pro-bono, in dark corners across the city, donating any revenue to a much-loved community radio station in the hope that it might survive the recession. It was awesome. It worked. It saved FBi.

The 'Save FBi' campaign last June raised enough money to keep the music-focused community radio station FBi 94.5FM on air, and then some. Almost one year later, remnants of the promotion prove the station's efforts galvanised Sydney's music community – both artists and listeners – into support of the Redfern-based institution that saw its business sponsorship halved during the GFC. With such sponsorship accounting for 50 per cent of FBi's \$1,000,000 yearly running costs, the station that describes itself as "delivering the best in new music and emerging culture" veered dangerously close to turning off the mic. 'Twas a glorious victory for the little guy over 'the Man'. However, the episode highlighted the vulnerability of community radio stations whose survival depends largely on our financial support.

Every month an audience of 9.5 million Australians (57 per cent of the population) tunes in to community radio, with 20 per cent audience growth between 2004 and 2008. But in light of events like last June's fundraisers, what is it about FBi [aka Free Broadcast inc.] and its contemporaries that has inspired such altruism? And if we love them so much, why are they so cash-strapped?

Dan Zilber, FBi's musical director, is a pretty good figure to ask about this dilemma. "It's about people's perceptions of community radio," he says. "Although it's a free medium and Sydney deserves these stations, the reality is that to keep

them here, listeners need to become supporters." Indeed, out of the 255,000 people that tune in to FBi each week, only around 6000 are registered subscribers. Zilber tells me that if this number were to reach 10,000, the station would be in a position of relative financial stability. "We certainly wouldn't have to do a save FBi campaign again."

The Community Broadcasting Association of Australia (CBAA) has recently submitted their 'Vision 2015' to Minister Stephen Conroy in a bid to increase funding for content development, infrastructure investment, volunteer co-ordination and training. One may be moderately optimistic about a future such as this but across town at fellow community broadcaster 2ser 107.3FM, musical director, Andrew Khedoori, is more candid: "Sydney is a tough city, perhaps a bit fickle," he says. "People might not grasp the importance of donation, despite the fact that they enjoy listening to us." Indeed, even though the youth-based station has been around for 30 years and is considered something of a stalwart of Sydney's subculture, it struggles for want of listener subscriptions. When asked about the nature of government support, Khedoori's response was curt: "There's no funding from the government. That's a popular misconception." Suffice to say these stations need our help. But what is it exactly that we're being asked to pay for? Sydney is expensive and I don't got much spare cash, so what services do community stations actually provide?

The short answer is blunt: community radio serves up anything that commercial or government stations don't. When groups apply for a broadcasting licence, they must specify to the Australia Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) which community interest they intend to serve. Licences are awarded based on the perceived need for such coverage; applicants must show that mainstream radio overlooks their particular niche: FBi has a youth licence; 2ser's is educational; Koori Radio 2LND has an indigenous mandate, and there are over 25 others in Sydney. Put simply, they supplement our (esoteric) passions.

When I asked Zilber how FBi contributes to Sydney music, rather than giving his station a marketing plug, he displayed the frustrating modesty typical of really nice guys. "I think that's for our listeners to judge and history to decide," he says. "I guess more than anything, we provide access for the music community. We try and show people that there's amazing music in this city, and that it's easy to get off the couch and engage with it." This is a gross understatement. FBi has had a full-time licence for seven years now, during which time the Sydney independent music scene has flourished. Their strictly enforced and much celebrated quota – one half Australian music, half of that from Sydney – affords airplay to local bands that may be neglected by larger stations due to lack of mainstream appeal or simply not enough of a following.

Zilber says it's all about listening to both your audience and your artists. "It's important to be honest about reflecting the community that we are trying to serve," says Zilber. "Artists don't need support from *NME* or *Triple J* to get played on FBi. We will listen to a song in a vacuum and then decide how best to use it." I suggest to him that FBi is in a privileged position because even if they 'get the music wrong', they manage to endear themselves to their listeners. Really, which other respectable station gives such amateur recordings the time of day? Zilber agrees: "A lot of people listen to us because we play recording qualities that are a bit unpolished – even in a scratchy demo, there may be an element that we really like. You won't hear that on most other stations."

Exposure, originality, accessibility – perhaps these are the elements of this kind of community radio that Sydney deemed worth saving during our economic hiccup last year. I wonder if, more than merely reflecting the city's experimental music scene, FBi has to a large extent created it. After all, it seems to dabble in all aspects of the music industry besides recording itself: the station promotes the records on air, organises gigs in which these songs can be performed live and coordinates musical Open Days where bands are

invited into the studio itself to drop off their demos and speak to professionals about how best to navigate the industry.

But more than this, it seems Sydney's community stations create a communal atmosphere by drawing all their presenters and administrative volunteers from the community itself. There is no distinction between a station and its demographic; the producers and consumers of FBi's content are inextricably linked. It's hard not to love the awkward silences that permeate the shows of FBi, and the incongruous banter that reminds me that they're just a couple of schlumps like myself, probably studying at USyd, and not Kyle Sandilands.

Of course, 'schlumps' infers a lack of salary, and thus volunteering is a defining feature of community radio. At 2ser, whose licence is held by UTS and Macquarie University, philanthropy works both ways: students work at the station whilst those in more permanent positions help out at the universities. "Our newsroom is especially dependent on UTS journalism students; they get their work experience by volunteering and we often become tutors for their courses in media and communications," says Khedoori. It's a match made in reciprocal heaven.

Aside from the obvious benefit of free labour, volunteers help keep content relevant to a station's target demographic. Both FBi and 2ser rely on rookies to introduce new music to the station and critique what is currently being played; their preferences are seen to be a good representation of the stations' respective listeners. At 2ser, where nothing is playlisted (there are no songs 'on rotation'), music is at the sole discretion of the program presenter. It's particularly important, then, that their taste sits well with that of the wider community.

David Goldschmidt, a volunteer at FBi, has a particularly fond attitude towards the role of unpaid assistants and hardly sees his role as slave labour. "The volunteers form the station's backbone," he says. "Everything that happens, whether it's designing posters, organising gigs, delivering records or painting the walls of the office – it's all volunteers."





Unlike 2ser, FBI's shows are half-playlisted before 6pm. But as Zilber compiles these core playlists, how does he know he's choosing the right stuff? You guessed it. "We encourage volunteers to let us know when they're digging something. Whenever we do a callout for new presenters, we ask what their favourite record is right now. What's something we're not playing on FBI that they wish we were?"

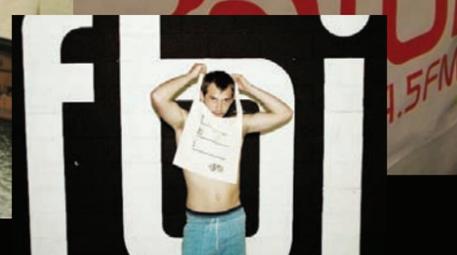
These stations aren't in the business of letting somebody's skills go unutilised. Goldschmidt has worked at FBI for two months and he's already jumped from receptionist (aka frontliner) to events & marketing intern (and receptionist). "I'm helping organise a festival in September," he says. "Everyone here respects that you're volunteering and they reward you with opportunities and responsibilities." And why volunteer in the first place? "If you're passionate about Sydney music then you're passionate about FBI. The station has an egalitarian approach to music; songs are played because they're good and not because of any outside influences. People know this, and want to contribute towards it."

I'm sensing a pattern emerging here – a quid pro quo cycle that sustains music-focused community radio. These guys are established by us, to respond to our interests. They not only reflect these interests by playing stuff we like, but help create musical communities by drawing together people with similar preferences. As listeners, we enjoy the benefit of an improved music scene, and help them by volunteering our time and making sure the music stays true to the demographic.

What's missing here is a rate of donation proportional to those that listen to the stations. It's an important step because it allows for the execution of all the others. It's obvious why Sydney wanted to save FBI – why we need community radio in our city. But rather than hopping on the idealistic bandwagon we also need to realise what it takes to run these stations.

I asked Zilber if there were any initiatives that he would like to implement but can't due to lack of funds. There's no hesitation before his answer: "That list is endless."

Tune in Conroy, stat.



"I guess more than anything, we provide access for the music community. We try and show people that there's amazing music in this city, and that it's easy to get off the couch and engage with it."  
-Dan Zilber, Music Director, FBI Radio

## A 'SURG' IN STUDENT RADIO?

A quick sidenote in order to answer a question that's been itching you since the 2ser licence was mentioned: how is it that two ugly and severely sandstone-deprived universities have themselves a burgeoning community radio station, and we don't? Well it's not for lack of trying. Sydney University Radio Group (SURG) broadcast for two weeks each year during O-Week and the Verge Arts Festival. SURG President, Michael Koziol is optimistic about their plans to make it more permanent, but recognises the difficulty in making this happen. "In the past, [a permanent station] hasn't been possible because there wasn't a studio," he says. "However the Arts faculty have just completed a new setup in the Holme Building, for the use of Media and Communications students. We're trying to reach a memorandum of understanding regarding mutual usage of that facility."

Sounds good. But wait. "The problem is that negotiations have fallen apart because of restructuring in the faculty. The guy who was in charge is no longer around," says Koziol. "It will happen eventually – it's just a matter of how long it takes. Our goal is to have at least a narrow casting licence that would cover the uni campus, and be on air 24/7, even if we're not always live."

Here's hoping. I guess it's like Regina Spektor says. "On the radio uh-oh, on the radio uh-oh, on the radio uh-oh, on the radio oh-oooooooooooo, duh-dum-dum, duh-dum-dum, lah-lah-lah-lah". Oh Regina, you are just so right.





# COLLEGE

**Ted Talas** watched some glorious basterds perform.

fResher / *adjective*. Silly

Revue / *noun*. A form of theatrical entertainment in which recent events, popular fads, etc. are parodied.

The annual fResher revue provides an opportunity for college kids to participate in a university revue without having to leave the stately grounds of their residential fortresses. The revue is just like any other university revue: poor acting, tenuously drawn-out storylines and jokes which have little appeal beyond their target audience (which often consists of three people).

Nothing changed in 2010. This year, the revue was ambitiously titled 'Pulp fReshman' and made reference to a variety of Tarantino films. While hardly doing justice to its namesake's innovative use of non-linear narratology and self-reflexivity, the Tarantino references could not help but provoke a wry smile from the majority of the college crowd.

But, just as with all revues, the audience weren't there to see what could be tentatively described as a 'plot'. Put on by Women's and Paul's, the revue was largely successful in its attempts to

ridicule, satirize and generally lampoon all things college. No college, or indeed SMH reporter, was safe from the barbs of the cast, even if these barbs sometimes felt more like a soft tickle rather than the sting of potent satire. Highlights included a towel-dancing rendition of Madonna's "Like a Virgin" as well as the finale: an entire cast singlaong of the appropriately re-jigged Monty Python number "Always Look On the Right Side of Press". Such song and dance spectaculars were complemented by the obligatory jibes directed towards all manner of college authority figures.

Beyond what was happening on stage, 'Pulp fReshman' ticked all the boxes offstage. Banter flowed from the audience throughout the production, ranging from the witty to the downright abusive. The revue also featured the expected, although often unscripted, cast nudity. This was all finished off by a supposedly banging after party for the cast and crew.

All in all, the 2010 fResher Revue made for an enjoyable night out. This success definitely bodes well for the Intercol Revue proposed under the new USU-Intercol agreement for later in the year.

## HONI'S SOUNDTRACK TO ...

### READING THE WOMEN'S EDITION

Joe Payten likes Girl Talk.

#### 1. Man I Feel Like A Woman – Shania Twain

"Girls, it's time to rebel against the Victorian-era standards that are holding us back! Let's have a few margaritas, colour our hair, and go out dancing!"

#### 2. Stupid Girls - Pink

Because we all know that if you aren't a fitness-loving, football-playing feminist, then you're a blonde-haired, car-washing bimbo. There is nothing else on the spectrum of feminism.

#### 3. What's The Ugliest Part of Your Body? – Frank Zappa

Trick question! Every part of you is beautiful (although Frank Zappa thinks it's your mind).

#### 4. Can't Hold Us Down – Christina Aguilera feat. Lil' Kim

Christina shows us what feminism is all about these days – having sexy and liberating water fights.

#### 5. Promiscuous Girl – Nelly Furtado feat. Timbaland

Nelly is the ultimate modern woman as she pouts, shakes her booty and generally demands respect in a sexy yet empowering fashion.

#### 6. Sisters Are Doing It For Themselves – Eurythmics and Aretha Franklin

Because every good straw man argument needs a culturally outdated feminist backing track.

#### 7. Independent Woman – Destiny's Child

If only all feminists could be this damn sassy. Maybe if they prefaced all their arguments with "Question: tell me what you think about this..."

#### 8. Lola – The Kinks

Ray Davies said it best: "Girls will be boys and boys will be girls, it's a muddled up, mixed up, shook up world."

#### 9. What the Fuck – Machine Gun Fellatio

The instant response most men have to being called a rapist because they are anything less than an armed vigilante ridding our city of rapists.

#### 10. What About Me? – Moving Pictures

Men's Issue anyone?

## A SPORTING CHANCE

**Joe Smith-Davies** gets it in the hole.

If you've got pay-tv, chances are you've watched a bit of snooker before. It's usually shown mid-week, mid-afternoon, just after 45 minutes of Sid Waddell's paroxysms of gravelly, heavily-accented excitement every time Phil "The Power" Taylor gets "ONNE-UNNEDREED –AND-AAAAATEY" in the 2010 Darts Champions League, held at Bog-Upon-Stick Retirement Hall, Middle England. But although these sports exist in the same broadcasting space, and probably the same room in the aforementioned old-people's home, in terms of action, appeal, and audience, snooker is aged cheddar to darts' lager-flavoured chalk.

To put another spin on it, in the world of cue sports, snooker is the full 42.195 km marathon to pool's 100 metre dash. A game requiring immense skill and surgical concentration, snooker is very, very difficult and, at a professional level, often very, very long. It took *Home and Away* subplot character actor lookalike Neil Robertson more than 12 hours, spread over two days and four sessions of play, to overcome Scotsman Graeme Dott 18-13 in a best of 35 frames match to win the 2010 World Snooker Championship.

However, Robertson's remarkable achievement may not be enough to save snooker in NSW. The hallowed felt in two of Sydney's oldest snooker halls, Smithfield and Campbelltown, will be

removed by the end of the month to make way for pokies, and the number of full-size tables in Sydney is said to number less than 200.

This state of affairs is tragic not only because snooker is a great sport but also because snooker players are the most interesting sports stars in the world. Take "Rocket" Ronnie O'Sullivan, a name even those completely ignorant of the game may recognise. "Rocket Ronnie" is a brilliant enigma of a man, yet to meet his Turing or play at his Bletchley Park. O'Sullivan has threatened to quit the sport that he has done so much for almost as many times as he has made the maximum 147 break, which is a record-breaking nine. When you watch this guy play, the angel on one shoulder and devil on the other

are so obvious I'm surprised they don't get endorsements from Ladbrokes.

Then there's the only other Antipodean snooker world champion, Horace Lindrum. Lindrum won his title in controversial circumstances, as most professional players boycotted the tournament and instead played the more lucrative World Matchplay. However, all debate surrounding the validity of his title becomes moot in light of a startling recent revelation from Lindrum's daughter: Lindrum was declared legally blind by a Harley Street eye doctor two years before he won the championship in an epic two-week play-off. From that evidence, it appears you don't even need to see to appreciate snooker. And you certainly don't have to listen to Sid.

## Wanderlust

**Toby Meagher** got to go to Coachella. And you didn't.

The moshtix website slowly went into meltdown last Thursday morning with thousands of desperate fans swarming the site to get their hands on a golden ticket to this year's Splendour in the Grass festival. Tears were shed and friendships torn apart as anyone who had even glimpsed this year's line-up knew that this was the best festival since... well... Coachella.

For those lucky enough to have been in California in late April, Coachella lived up to and far surpassed the high expectations put on one of the world's big-name festivals. The site, nestled in the Coachella Valley, sits deep in the heart of the central Californian desert on a ridiculous collection of golf

courses, polo fields and meticulously maintained gated communities, all intensely watered by a natural groundwater spring. Quite literally an oasis in the desert.

Ringed by palm trees, giant wind turbines, snow-capped desert peaks and huge skies, every night of the three day festival saw ridiculous sunsets and big-name acts to match. Day one played host to top sets by Grizzly Bear, Passion Pit and the Whitest Boy Alive with New York dance-punk collective LCD Soundsystem delivering a pounding and fist-pumpingly good show to warm up the Main Stage for Jay-Z. Not that Young Hova needed any help. Covering 'Wonderwall', 'Sunday Bloody Sunday' and 'Forever Young' and with a surprise performance from Beyonce to close out the show, Jay-Z stamped his presence all over the weekend.

As any self-respecting American knows, catering at any event is crucial and Coachella did not disappoint. Unlike its Australian counterparts, this festival prided itself on providing some of the worlds best ever drunk feeds. Of note were such delicacies as the meatball sub over near the dance tent and the New York pizza under the Ferris wheel. Sadly, the bars, whilst being well serviced, failed to deliver on choice. Highlighted by the fact that the cocktail bar served only two styles of 'cocktail'; whisky and cola or bourbon and cola, an obviously ill-conceived selection.

The huge dance tents were the second day's destination. Hot Chip and The xx were the pick of the daytime choices and Kaskade, David Guetta, Z-Trip and 2ManyDJs worked the steaming tents into a frenzy late into the night. Muse was avoided purely on the reasoning that most people who like Muse are

douchebags.

The final day called on some real stamina on the part of all involved. Three days of mid-thirties degree heat and constant dancing are a recipe for both disaster and cramping. But the line-up delivered. Florence and the Machine set the tone for the day with a stunning collaboration with The Cold War kids and Phoenix stepped it up again. Jonsi, Miike Snow, Julian Casablancas, Matt & Kim and Spoon filled in the gaps and Thom Yorke's new supergroup featuring Flea from the Chilli Peppers blew the minds of all who missed Pavement to see them.

If the similar line-ups are anything to go by, then Splendour should live up to the massive hype surrounding its tenth instalment. Lets hope Woodfordia can deliver (that's if anyone can find the place).

# FACT!

Facts are all around us: in the trees, in the ocean, hiding behind a bin. As university students it is our aim, nay sacred duty, to find these facts, capture them and parade them around in chains from town to town until they escape their bonds and climb the Empire State Building. The editors of *Honi Soit* humbly submit these little morsels of truth to sate the hunger of your mind-stomachs.

The horse that played Mr Ed was actually a zebra. You can't see the stripes because it's in black and white.

Over 60 per cent of the world's basil is used in making mojitos.

The highest grossing movie of all time is *Pocahontas II*.

There are more bats in Hyde Park than people in Sydney.

The collective noun for pandas is a 'fuckton'.

The average person consumes 0.1 quokkas in their sleep in their lifetime.



Until 1970, the UTS Tower was the tallest building outside of the United States.

The highest total score you can roll with three standard dice is 15.

Lara Bingle has only two real friends.

Gorillas masticate up to 18 times a day.

Up until 1934, Mexican women were banned from eating papaya.

Sloths can be medically dead for up to 8 hours and still survive.

Due to an oversight during federation, South Australia is technically not part of Australia, but rather a large province of Greece.

In Tennessee, it is illegal to take an alligator to the movies and commit genocide.

Shakespeare invented over 200 words including 'Shakespeare', 'Invented', 'Over', '200' and 'Words'.

No two numbers add up to 63.

Coffee is more addictive than heroin but less addictive than a lot of heroin.

Abraham Lincoln had a crippling phobia of a civil war hat would tear his nation apart.

Flames are the most flammable element on earth.

The total sum of all the properties in Monopoly is \$5,350, but the entire boardgame itself only costs \$49rrp!

Google currently takes up 400 square kilometers of internet.

No one knows how planes work.

There is no Spanish word for tequila.

Due to a clerical error, a quokka was installed as Prime Minister for two months after Harold Holt's disappearance.

The universe is big, but not nearly as big as people think.

The honey badger is so named because its urine actually tastes like honey.

There are more tuktuks than people in Thailand.

The technical term for 'tummy' is 'mind-stomach'.

The only natural predators of quokkas are ghosts.

Jeff Goldblum's last name is pronounced 'Bridges'.

There are under four bones in the average adult human body.

This is the last thing that 70 per cent of people see before they die:



## SRC Help...

# Top Tips for Surviving Uni (that work)!

## The Learning Centre

Make the friendly people at the Learning Centre your new best friends. They offer bunches of workshops from academic writing and proper referencing to presentation skills and time management. We bet a bar of chocolate that they offer a workshop that is good for you, and encourage you to race online and book yourself in. [www.usyd.edu.au/lc](http://www.usyd.edu.au/lc)

## 2. Your Academic Consultation Hours

Your lecturer does not need to be your best friend, however, you should know when she/he is available for consultation you can use this opportunity to ask those niggling questions you might have. Academics are paid to teach and they like students to see them during their consultation hours. Many students don't use this opportunity for help. So why don't you keep them company or just make them work harder! Whatever way you want to look at it.

## 3. Suite of Student Services

Uni is probably the only place where you have so many services available to support

you for free – with most found on Level 5 of the Jane Foss Russell Building. If you are feeling down or stressed there is the Counselling Service for domestic students or ISSU for international students. The Financial Assistance Office offers free interest loans and bursaries, and the Scholarships Office offering the obvious. The Disability Service supports students who register their disability – this can be a physical disability – including a temporary one, a learning disability, dyslexia, anxiety etc – contact the Disability Services to find out how they may be able to help you. Then there is the Accommodation Service that has a database to help you find new digs.

## 4. Special consideration and arrangements

Special consideration is what you apply for if special circumstances (eg an illness or misfortune that affects you or someone close to you) disadvantages your study. You must apply for Special Consideration within 7 days of the exam or deadline. Special arrangements can be made if your exam falls on a religious holiday or jury duty for example. If you have more questions come to SRC HELP.

## 5. Discontinuing from subjects

You will receive a Discontinue Fail if you withdraw now, unless you can demonstrate special circumstances (such as illness) that have occurred since 23 April were unpredictable, out of your control and have significantly disadvantaged your studies. If you can make this case successfully to the Faculty – you will need supporting documentation – you may receive a Discontinue Not Fail (DNF). SRC HELP can assist you with an application.

## 6. Applying for fails to be converted to Discontinue not Fail

If you have fails on record from previous semesters that are a result of special circumstances disadvantaging you in the second half of semester and you think you can prove it, you can write to the Dean and ask for them to consider whether these grades could change to DNFs. You will need supporting documentation. SRC HELP can assist you with an application.

## 7. Applying for your fees back

If you are a domestic student and were unable to successfully complete study in a unit/s because of disadvantageous special circumstances that occurred or got worse after the census date (31 March and 31 August for semesters 1 and 2) you can apply for your fees back. You will need supporting documentation. Things are a bit different for international students. Ask SRC HELP for more advice.

## To make an appointment to see a caseworker:

p: 9660 5222

e: [help@src.usyd.edu.au](mailto:help@src.usyd.edu.au)

Or come and see us at:  
Level 1 (Basement) Wentworth Bldg - City Road Entry

For more information:  
[www.src.usyd.edu.au](http://www.src.usyd.edu.au)



# President's Report

Report of the SRC President, Elly Howse // [president@src.usyd.edu.au](mailto:president@src.usyd.edu.au)

This week has been another busy one for the SRC, and for the whole university judging by the amount of chalking, painting, leafleting and events that have been happening.

I thought I would write about a particular campaign that the SRC will be running this year through one of its Environment collectives. I always harp on about educational opportunities so I thought a change would be nice.

With the backdown by the Prime Minister over the Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS), it seems that climate change and long-term widespread environmental degradation is at the back of politicians' minds. But according to students, academics, staff and general members of the community, we still care and want something done to ensure the planet survives for future generations and beyond.

As the SRC stated in our response to the Green Paper, we believe the University needs to develop and implement a 'Green Vision' that is core to the University's identity and vision. However a Green Vision involves more than just making promises about climate change. It also involves creating degrees, curricula and spaces on the campus that adhere to this Green Vision.

The SRC made the following recommendations, most of which are being specifically campaigned on by the Student Environment Action Collective (SEAC):

**1. That the University encourages a transition to 100% renewable energy by 2020, to be negotiated with the University community.**

**2. That the University creates a policy to cut its carbon emissions by 50% by 2020.**

**3. That the reductions in emissions be achieved through environmentally and socially responsible mechanisms. For example, that carbon reductions are not achieved through the creation of monoculture plantations that destroy native habitat but instead through the creation of wind and solar energy.**

**4. That the University investigates embedding environmental and climate change knowledge within all areas of curricula and academic units.**

**5. That improvements in sustainable practices and infrastructure are encouraged across the University, particularly in regards to new building projects, waste management, water and electricity usage, and so on.**

An immediate step that the University can take while it develops (or considers) this 'Green Vision' is to become a better recycler. A number of students have – in groups and as individuals – approached the SRC with their concerns about recycling. Students often wish to recycle but find there is no recycling option available for them. The USU is the only place on the Camperdown / Darlington campuses that you can recycle bottles, cardboard, and plastic. This is pretty pathetic, especially since the University has one of the biggest student populations but generally has a poor past of failing to create progressive environmental practices. The USU has done a great job in recognising the importance of these kind of practices, but it shouldn't be up to a student organisation to pick up the slack of the University.

One of the committees or groups I sit on as SRC President is the Emissions Reduction Working Group (ERWG). It's chaired by the Chief Financial Officer

of the University, and is one of the Vice-Chancellor's 'Work slate' projects. It's an important group and has lots of influential people sitting on it who can recommend some pretty cool stuff, but it's still in its initial stages in terms of creating sustainability and climate change goals for 2010 for the university.

The main things that have been discussed so far relate to power and energy usage. Essentially the university has a huge increase in energy usage in March – when everyone returns to the campus and there can be some hot, humid days. The university wants to spread that usage out more, with some sort of energy limit for those types of peak usage periods. It would mean, for example, that when people leave rooms they have to turn lights, computers and the air-conditioning off. Not really a big ask, is it?

One of the huge users of energy at this university is air-conditioning. A lot of fancy new buildings have been built as part of the Campus 2010 planning vision, but guess what? These buildings aren't environmentally friendly or sustainable. They are heavily reliant on air-conditioning, lots of lights and are generally places that the show Carbon Cops would freak out visiting. Not really the kinds of buildings we want to last into the future and that don't contribute to a huge drain on energy resources.

Another area in which the University can afford to reduce its energy consumption is computing equipment, especially desktop computers. I know that seems hypocritical, considering I'm typing my report up now on a computer (which I always turn off when I leave!). But as was discovered in the recent Teaching and Learning survey that the SRC and SUPRA organised with ITL (Institute of Teaching & Learning), desktop computers are becoming increasingly irrelevant to the younger generations of students. Why? Laptops have decreased



in price substantially over the past 5-10 years, which means many students have laptops that they bring in so they can work on assignments and projects in any space in the uni. Of course, it would be easier if we had better wireless coverage, but I'm working on that...

So next time you're wandering around campus, ask why there aren't any recycling bins, or why every single room in the uni is air-conditioned – even throughout the colder months! I would also encourage you to email me with your suggestions about how the University can become more environmentally-sustainable through practices such as renewable energy usage, less energy usage, better wireless coverage and access to laptops, and so on.

Also make sure you come along on Thursday 13th May for the launch of the 'Green Campus Now!' campaign run by the SRC and the Environment Department. There will be a free lunch on the New Law lawns from 12.30pm, followed by a discussion and guest speakers in New Law Seminar Room 105. It's a totally free event, so bring your friends and let's engage in a dialogue about preserving the environment and stopping climate change!

## Get involved! Come along to a collective.

**Education Action Group:** 1pm Tuesdays, Quadrangle S441

**Women's Collective:** 1pm Thursdays, Holme Women's Room.

**Queer Collective:** 2pm Mondays, Queer Space Holme Building

### Environment Collectives:

**Student Enviro Action Collective (SEAC):** 1pm Mondays, Botany Lawns

**Climate Action Collective:** 1pm Mondays, Chancellors Lawns

**International Students:** Check your email for updates

## Green Campus NOW! Campaign Launch Thursday 13th May

There will be a free lunch on the New Law lawns from 12.30pm, followed by a discussion and guest speakers in New Law Seminar Room 105. It's a totally free event, so bring your friends and let's engage in a dialogue about preserving the environment and stopping climate change!

## SRC Council Meetings...

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month (June 1st, 3rd August, 7th September, 5th October) @ 6pm in Eastern Avenue Seminar Room 405  
For agenda contact: [c.mcclure@src.usyd.edu.au](mailto:c.mcclure@src.usyd.edu.au)

# General Secretary's Report

Report of the General Secretary, Donherra Walmsley // gen.sec@src.usyd.edu.au

During O-Week, universities across Australia got students to fill out surveys about their housing situation – whether they live at home or not, how much rent they pay, etc. – and the National Union of Students (NUS) has just released the results. It found that 53% of students live out of home, and of that, 66% were in rental stress. Rental stress is when your rent takes up more than 30% of your income. Anglicare jumped on the bandwagon and did surveys of accommodation available in the capital cities, and found that there is no affordable housing (i.e. – housing that doesn't put you in rental stress) for people on welfare payments – i.e. – students.

This week the Federal Government will be announcing its budget. The

National Union of Students has been campaigning for reforms to Rent Assistance, and for the Government to create a pool of funding for universities to use to set up housing initiatives on their own campuses. If the Federal Government really wants to increase the percentage of Australians who have a tertiary qualification, it needs to get serious about funding the education sector. Students need low-cost housing and accessible income support, and universities need more funding to ensure they keep providing quality teaching and learning.

If you feel you're not getting the education you deserve, or you're dissatisfied with the facilities and resources that are being provided in your courses, why not take 5 minutes to



complete the NUS Quality Survey at [www.unistudent.com.au](http://www.unistudent.com.au) – procrastinate productively, help us identify what's bothering USyd students, and provide us with the data to take to the University and the Government.

# Education Report

Report of the Education Officer, Gabriel Dain // education.officers@src.usyd.edu.au  
co-written with Vivienne Moxham-Hall

We recently sat down to dinner with the founding president of the Teacher's Union and lamented the loss of passion found within higher education. He spoke to us about splits and merges in academic departments, driven solely but intellectual vision rather than financial incentive. Back then, the environment was such that there was a now infamous split in the Philosophy department; Foucault drove a rift between Marxist ideologies, and resulted in a decade-long division in the discipline.

Around the same time a similar debacle was occurring in the department

of political economy. This type of ideological debate epitomised the way in which university evolved – growing organically, through an individual passion for education. As times have passed, this approach has been replaced with a drive for standardised structures and processes that stifle controversy. It is this type of controversy that enables students of future to think outside the institutional structures that surround them. This further industrialization of universities leads to a restriction of learning, thought and challenging the established ideals of contemporary society.

When Foucault caused a split in the Philosophy department one could see university as a workshop of ideals. Since the Dawkins reforms in the 80s university has become a degree factory where learning outcomes are measured not in their intellectual adventurousness. Instead, the university places importance in graduate skills, broadening international appeal and centralising accountability measures. The contemporary approach to education is one that restricts student thought to inside the sandstone box.

# Women's Report

Report of the Women's Officer, Rosie Ryan // womens.officers@src.usyd.edu.au

On Monday we held a launch for the Women's Edition of Honi Soit, and heard from fantastic speakers and performances from women students. Nina Funnell spoke about the importance of having space for feminist voices in journalism, and Gabe Kavanagh spoke about the Pay Up! Pay equity campaign currently being run by the Australian Services Union. Thanks to all who came along and helped celebrate!

NOWSA (Network of Women Students Australia) is an annual feminist conference put on by the National Union of Students. This year it is taking place at Newcastle University from 14th to the 18th of July. Over the four days you will meet students from women's collectives across Australia, hear from some amazing speakers, and participate

in student-run workshops. You will also learn how to strategise a nationwide campaign, and from there set the direction of the National Union of Students Women's Department campaign for Semester Two. If this sounds like something you would be interested in and you want more information shoot me an email.

Also coming up, this time on our very own campus on the 16th of May, is a forum organised by Asian Women at Work called Raising the Voice of Migrant Women in Precarious Employment. Asian Women at Work, is a Sydney based group using a community organising approach to work with Asian migrant women in low paid and precarious employment. The issues dealt with will extend across personal, family, migrant, settlement, parenting and

industrial issues. Asian Women at Work tackles these issues through providing English classes, support groups, hobby groups, seminars and leadership training.

It would be especially worthwhile for international students to attend this forum as there will be a workshop relating specifically to those challenges faced by international students. Visa restrictions combined with enormous up-front study fees mean that international students are more at risk of being in precarious employment, dodgy housing and less able to speak up about their rights at work.

Once again, if you think you might be interested in attending send me an email – registration is free of charge and it is being held on the 16th of May at Eastern Avenue.

# Ask Abe

Q & A with students who need help and a dog who has all the answers...



Send your letters to: [help@src.usyd.edu.au](mailto:help@src.usyd.edu.au)

Hello Abe,

Even though we just had a week off I still feel that I'm heaps behind. I've got more assignments due than I know how to deal with. I can't cut back on work because I need the money. I'm starting to feel really stressed. Can you give me some ideas that will help me?

Busy

Dear Busy,

This is the time of the semester when many students start to feel the pressure of assignments being due. If you need an extension on a deadline make sure you talk to your tutor as soon as possible. Most of them understand your situation and will be willing to help you as much as they can. Unfortunately some students in your situation feel that this is an excuse to plagiarise either off another student or from the internet. This is a bad idea. Apart from robbing yourself of the opportunity to learn something, you will probably get caught and face serious penalties including the possible exclusion from university.

The Learning Centre runs courses for free on time management. This can help you get your uni work under control while still having a social life. Check out their website at [http://www.usyd.edu.au/stuserv/learning\\_centre](http://www.usyd.edu.au/stuserv/learning_centre).

If stress really starts to get the better of you, go to the University's Health Service or Counselling Unit as soon as you can. Both services are free (bulk billed) and will help you without judging you.

If you've done all of these things and still can't cope with your workload you might like to talk to an SRC caseworker about the possibility of withdrawing from a subject. This may attract an academic penalty, but you can at least check out what your options are.

Abe



## International Student Program – So What?

The Deputy Vice Chancellor's International Student Program is a "mainstreaming" scheme for international students at the University of Sydney. Its aim is to solve many of the problems faced by international students, by being more inclusive, and engaging international students more.

Much like last year, most of both domestic and international students will not really do much about it. Is it a waste of democratic rights? Unfortunately, yes! These were such big issues last year, surely somebody must take it up? But it's not just one person, or the deficiency of the design of education system, or the management, that we need to hold accountable! It's the responsibility of all of us, as a student community!

### What? How could it be our responsibility???

If you look at the number of people who showed up at meetings and events organized for international students' issues last year and compare it to the whole student population, it is clear that only a very small percentage of students are taking this issue seriously. The issues are so serious, but the ratio is still tiny. Students, both international and local, have not done enough around students' rights. Based on the facts, it's obvious that the government and universities have not been doing a good job when it comes to international students' rights. The one consultation roundtable they did hold didn't even include representatives from student organisations. But what more can we expect when we aren't making sustained, representative demands.

I also have to admit that I did a lousy job on this issue, because I haven't always done enough in voicing our difficulties at every opportunity – although I was able to speak up in last Senior Executive Group Education (SEGED) meeting, where ISP was confirmed! The barriers as a first year international student cannot be used as an excuse.

### So who exactly is responsible?

Firstly, it's most of our fellow international students. Many of us do not step up and fight for our own rights, because lots of us are from conservative political environments; and because most of us, including me as SUPRA's International Student Officer,

often do not even know we are entitled to get feedback on our assessments, to get services, to voice our concerns in front of Deputy Vice Chancellors through SRC and SUPRA, to speak out during non-violent demonstrations, etc! How basic the rights are! How depressing it is to simply know we are not enjoying these wonderful entitlements! A big part of this is that we haven't put the time and energy in to learning what our rights are.

Secondly, it's our fellow domestic students. If you paid close attention to what happened around international students' issues since last year, it has almost all been about condemning government's inaction - which is easier than organizing long term social events to help mainstream international

The point is, from an international student officer's perspective, we need to speak out, to raise discussions and debates on these issues. I know this takes time, but it's my, and your, responsibility as university students! Because if we don't do it, who will?

### The situation for International Students

Let's look at overwhelming difficulties. Some fellow domestic students might say it is just university. You will get used to it after a while. It's not a big deal; or you choose to come here, you should be able to perform well, otherwise you are not smart enough. Let us go through the issues, even though I don't really think I can explain it well enough here. But let's make a start!

And what if you were under a lot of pressure from your family to top your classes? And on top of that you felt like there was no one to help you - partly because you don't know about the resources that do exist, and partly because, even if you do know about them, you have to wait all the time because there are only 5 counsellors for thousands of international students?

But then you think, you can't just pack it in and go back home either, because with the exchange rate being so poor, and the exorbitant tuition and rent you have already paid, you've invested too much money in this educational experience, and so feel like you can't back out now.

How do you feel about the 4 units of study policy now?

This is just one example of issues international students face. There are similar serious issues for international students regarding accommodation, social inclusion and mental health.

I do not expect the readers to change their minds just by reading this article about how depressing it can be to be an international student in Sydney. But please start thinking about it.

(Please note that SUPRA is an independent student organization. It was established to present an independent voice, based on students' autonomy, to the student community and the management of the university. SUPRA is happy for students to come along and talk about their demands. So please do not worry that you will get in trouble with the management, or your faculty, if you come and tell us what your issues are. ISSU really cares about us as well, and will help you draft and lodge a formal complaint if you have any bad experience within or outside USYD - on top of their usual functions!)

(Please email your critiques, which are seriously important!)

**Chihong Choi**  
International Student Officer



students. Rallies were planned in just a couple of short meetings – without enough consideration for what was really needed for international students. More people came along to the meetings when rallies promised to attract good media attention for their groups or political parties, which is really only about 10% of the whole process of making a successful campaign. We REALLY appreciate that fellow students care and take action for us. But I always wonder whether this is enough. Whether we want to prioritise easy politics for getting attention for political parties' benefits, and therefore for money and power; or the more difficult politics of compassion and equity for the disadvantaged?

Let's look at the overwhelmingly unfair study-load issue first.

How would you feel if you were a student from another state within Australia, and in order to be recognized as a full-time student you MUST take 4 units each semester, while students from NSW only had to take 3 units? You would probably think that it's unfair.

How would you feel if you were an international student in, let's say China, and had to take 4 units of study (if you couldn't provide evidence of need to reduce your study load), while most Chinese students could take three or less subjects, even if you had been learning Chinese for years? You would probably feel like punching someone.

# POSTGRAD PAGES

## Academic Appeals 101

### What is an academic appeal?

Academic appeals occur when you disagree with an academic decision and make a complaint about that decision. An academic decision is defined by resolutions of the University's Academic Board as "a decision of a member of the academic staff that affects the academic assessment or progress of a student". Academic decisions that can be appealed include marks in assessments, or the overall mark in a unit, or a decision not to approve an application for Special Consideration. The teacher or unit of study coordinator needs to deal with the issue promptly and give a full explanation for the academic decision. If not resolved they need to explain the next appeal step and give you the appeal policy or advise how to access it online.

### Who should follow the academic appeals process described below?

All coursework students EXCEPT those appealing against exclusion can follow the process described below. Coursework students appealing against exclusion should follow advice provided in the Show Cause and Exclusion Survival Kit, provided by SUPRA on our website. Research students should seek advice from a SUPRA Student Advice and Advocacy Officer (SAAO).

### Step 1: Resolution with Teacher

What students need to do...

If you are concerned about an academic decision discuss the issue with the teacher or unit of study coordinator. Do this within 15 days of advice of the academic decision or, if the decision relates a unit of study outcome, within 15 days posting the result.

What the University needs to do...

The teacher or unit of study coordinator needs to deal with the issue promptly and give a full explanation for the academic decision. If not resolved they need to explain the next appeal step and give you the appeal resolutions or advise how to access them online.

### Step 2: Approach the Faculty

What students need to do...

If concerns are not resolved or you believe there was failure to follow procedure you should approach your Faculty. Concerns should be put in writing to a nominated staff member within 15 working days of the outcome of step 1. If the Dean was the decision maker you should address the appeal to the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Education)

What the University needs to do...

A written receipt should be given within three days. The Faculty (or Deputy Vice Chancellor) needs to determine who will review your appeal. They must try to resolve your complaint within ten working days and advise you in writing of the decision including reasons and your right of appeal to the Student Appeals Body.

### Step 3: Appeal to the Student Appeals Body (SAB)

What students need to do...

If still not satisfied your concerns are addressed you can lodge a written SAB appeal to the Registrar within 20 working days. You should show the appeal was considered by your Faculty and explain why you believe they have not observed due academic process. Note you will not get a hearing if you do not fulfill these requirements. You should include copies of all written evidence and submissions.

What the University needs to do...

The Registrar must confirm the basis of the appeal has been considered by the Faculty, and you explained your reasons for believing due academic process was not followed. The Registrar will give at least 10 working days notice of an appeal hearing date.

Copies of the faculty response will be provided at least 5 working days before the hearing.

The above process applies University wide and is outlined in full within Academic Board Resolutions on Student Appeals Against Academic Decisions and the University of Sydney (Student Appeals Against Academic Decisions) Rule 2006. Some Faculties publish their own procedures however they must be compliant with University wide policies. These policies along with lots of useful information are available at the University's Secretariat web site <http://www.usyd.edu.au/secretariat/students/>

### External Complaints - NSW Ombudsman

If you are not satisfied with the result or conduct of an internal grievance or appeal one external option is to approach the NSW Ombudsman. Recommendations of the NSW Ombudsman are non-binding in local student cases. For International students and because of additional legal obligations the University must inform you of the right to make a NSW Ombudsman complaint and implement any decision and/or corrective action. See <http://www.ombo.nsw.gov.au/> or call 02 9286 1000

You can contact a SUPRA Student Advice and Advocacy Officer (SAAO) on 9351 3715 or [help@supra.usyd.edu.au](mailto:help@supra.usyd.edu.au) at any step of the process. The information provided above is also available as a downloadable brochure on our website.

**Adrian Cardinali**  
Advice and Advocacy Coordinator

### Conference Support

SUPRA may be able to provide support for postgrad students wishing to attend specific student conferences, such NOWSA, QC, International Students Conference, and Pathways 10.

To apply, email [secretary@supra.usyd.edu.au](mailto:secretary@supra.usyd.edu.au) for more information.

Applications for support are due by 15th May.

### Council Vacancies

Did you think about applying for SUPRA Council but miss out on our official nomination period? The election for casual vacancies on Council is on now! There are 7 positions to be filled for General Councillors, and we want you to be a part of this vibrant and active team.

Contact the SUPRA office for a form, or email the secretary on [secretary@supra.usyd.edu.au](mailto:secretary@supra.usyd.edu.au).

## YOUR Postgraduate Representative Association

Becoming a member of your postgraduate representative association gives you the following benefits:

- Access to our confidential student advice and advocacy service and legal service
- Participate in SUPRA events and activities
- Receive regular email updates and electronic publications (eGrad)
- Use the SUPRA Resource and Meeting Rooms
- Vote or run in the SUPRA Council elections
- Actively participate in your representative student association.

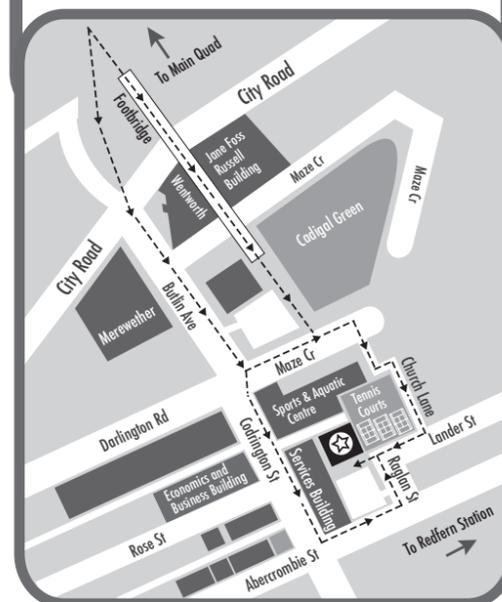
Complete your subscription online at [www.supra.usyd.edu.au/subscribe](http://www.supra.usyd.edu.au/subscribe) then follow the links if you would like to become a SUPRA Supporter. Alternatively you can complete a form at our stalls or drop into the SUPRA office.

## WHERE IS SUPRA?

Address: Raglan St Building G10  
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The University of Sydney NSW 2006

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Toll-free: 1800 249 950  
Fax: (02) 9351 6400

E: [admin@supra.usyd.edu.au](mailto:admin@supra.usyd.edu.au)  
Web: [www.supra.usyd.edu.au](http://www.supra.usyd.edu.au)





# THE HONI SOIT CROSSWORD

CRYPTIC  
Across

- 1. Refuse like a massage (7)
- 5. She formerly owned the cleaning rags (7)
- 9. The harbour is just fabulous! (7)
- 10. The spire disturbed sleep around the ends (7)
- 11. Double-barelled microphones (8)
- 12. Expand and explode (4, 2)
- 13. Marx brother riding a spear (7)
- 16. Acid-burnt rustic (6)
- 19. Assess the comment again (6)
- 20. Keep this TV show rollin'... (7)
- 22. No cash? Make Mexican! (6)
- 23. Family histories made of Emma's tat (8)
- 27. I'm on either side of a laser blast from a countryman (7)
- 28. Even grooms assign his Italian composer! (7)
- 29. Drug like a drug? (7)
- 30. Hungry like Gregory (7)

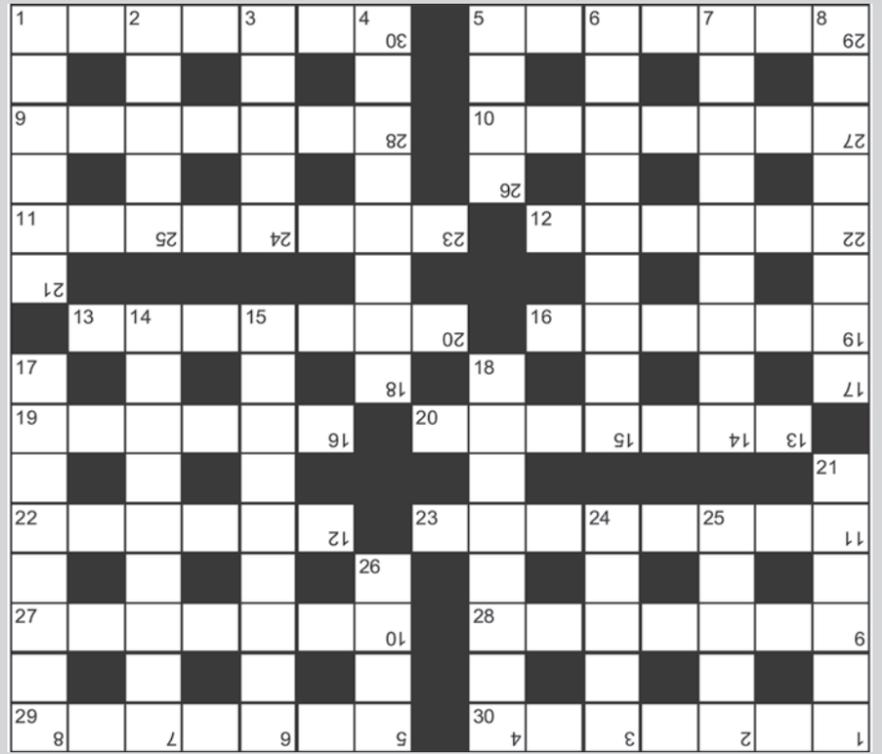
Down

- 1. Vegetable that's, like, awesome (6)
- 2. An unfinished dig revealed a donkey (5)
- 3. Sugar coating Robbie Williams' job description (5)
- 4. Say hello to lunchtime! (4, 4)
- 5. Desire like George Bush Jr. (4)
- 6. Crab, for example, that's like a mantle (9)

- 7. Mow deeper and become entitled (9)
- 8. Shy like an animal (8)
- 14. Soldiers allegedly at the heart of the military? (4, 5)
- 15. Eli gropes ornate Baroque composer (9)
- 17. Wield like a label (8)
- 18. Get ready to hit and deep fry! (6, 2)
- 21. Gaudy like a loo? (6)
- 24. Is cum pleasant to the ears? (5)
- 25. Cover story for Muhammed going both ways? (5)
- 26. Aquatic being like a bad mark (4)



- 1. Root vegetable (6)
- 2. Little donkey (5)
- 3. Sugar coating (5)
- 4. Middy to a gunslinger (4, 4)
- 5. Aspiration (4)
- 6. Molluscs, crustaceans and echinoderms (9)
- 7. Given confidence (9)
- 8. Coy (8)
- 14. Military faction (4, 5)
- 15. Italian Baroque composer (9)
- 17. Wave around (8)
- 18. Baseball phrase (6, 2)
- 21. Extravagant (6)
- 24. A collection of sounds and silences (5)
- 25. Excuse (5)
- 26. Marine life (4)
- 30. Slightly hungry (7)



BENNY "ROBERT 1-DOWNY JR" DAVIS

- 1. Garbage (7)
- 5. Cleaners (7)
- 9. Term of endearment (7)
- 10. Turret (7)
- 11. 12-gauge and pump action are examples (8)
- 12. Lose one's temper (colloq.) (4, 2)
- 13. Whaling weapon (7)
- 16. Fruit acid (6)
- 19. Observe (6)
- 20. American 60's TV show starring Clint Eastwood (7)
- 22. Mexican corn chip dish (6)
- 23. Family trees, and the only word that would fit (8)
- 27. Citizen of Tel Aviv (accurate at time of publication) (7)
- 28. Composer of Il Barbiere di Siviglia (7)
- 29. Compressed cannabis (7)

# THE TAKE HOME \*Questions themed around this week's issue.

- 1. Who hosts the breakfast show on Triple M?
- 2. What is Quentin Tarantino's third feature film chronologically?
- 3. What is *semi-masse*?
  - (a) the kerb weight of an articulated lorry
  - (b) the French term for medium-rare
  - (c) a snooker shot using side spin
- 4. When was the first portable computer made commercially available: 1965, 1975 or 1985?
- 5. True or false: The founder of IKEA, Ingvar Kamprad, is the richest man in the world.
- 6. What is the stage name of Stephanie Joanne Angelina Germanotta?
- 7. Who won the 2010 British election?
- 8. What is the name of Postman Pat's black and white cat?
- 9. The founder of Australian Fashion Week did not attend the proceedings for the first time this year. Who is he?
- 10. Which movie features the line 'Show me the money'?
- 11. Which US president coined the term 'affirmative action'?
- 12. Is the pregnancy rate from intercourse with a condom 2-10% or 10-18%?
- 13. In which European city was the first World's Fair held?
- 14. What does 'affogato' mean?
- 15. What is the capital of Tuscany?
- 16. True or False: This year was the first time Britain held televised electoral debates.
- 17. What were Dappled Cities called before they changed their name in order to conquer America?
- 18. What is the technical name for pauses or hesitations in speech like 'um' and 'ah'?
- 19. What are the fishermen trying to catch on World's Deadliest Catch?
- 20. True or False: Ray Davies' brother's name is David Davies.

# SUDOKU

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

RATED: Hard. For an Arts student, that is! Oh, the lols keep coming.

# WORDSWORDSWORDS

With Mark Sutton

Each of the words or two-word phrases below have something specific in common with each other. What is it?

- Mean | Bolt | Left | Wear | Dust | Seed | Flog | Fast | Strike | Table | Out Of | Put Out | Sanction | Anabasis | Transparent



# The Garter Press



SHIT, THAT ALMOST READS LIKE 'GUTTER'

CHAPTER: 4 VERSE: 17

EST 2010 BC

Price: That's right. Alllllll the tea.



**WHAT EXACTLY IS A NICK CLEGG?**  
*'Cos it's not a PM.*



**FINANCE REPORT**  
*A bunch of depressing graphs and shit.*



**FREE SPLENDOUR TICKETS**  
*Please send us some.*

# BIEBER CHAOS

## Thousands left dead as riots enter third week

**Cherrith Cuestory**  
Music and Civil Unrest Correspondent

Havoc continues to be wrought worldwide as the now infamous 'Bieber Riots' enter a third week, marked by thousands of deaths and untold costs to the global financial markets.

Millions of 'tween girls' worldwide reacted angrily to the pop star's cancelled appearance on *Sunrise*, prompting a civil uprising not seen before in human history.

"The devastation is unimaginable," said Michael Bloomberg, Mayor of New York City. "There have been countless deaths from girls scratching the eyes out of innocent bystanders and our police are powerless against that much Britney Spears 'Curious' perfume."

Looting has been a problem across several continents, with Diva, Sportsgirl and Forever New stores reporting millions of dollars worth of damage.

At a special meeting of the United Nations Security Council, world leaders expressed their outrage and dismay at the riots, but admitted they were confused as to what



The Police are really just Zac Efron fans.



One 'Belieber' expressed her outrage outside Channel 7's Martin Place studio by lighting herself on fire.

action to take to quell the violence.

"Our main problem is that most of us aren't exactly certain who this 'Justin Bieber' kid is," said UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. "We're still trying to wrap our heads around the Team Jacob and Team Edward thing."

Back in Australia, teen girls continue to set themselves alight outside Channel 7's Martin Place studios, as well as burning effigies of *Sunrise* hosts David Koch and Melissa Doyle.

Federal Police would not confirm, but Koch and Doyle are believed to have been placed in hiding.

Also in hiding are several 20-something lesbians who reportedly fear for their lives seeing as they share the same haircut as the young star.

In an embarrassing turn for the government, Prime Minister Kevin Rudd was forced to apologise for the government's delayed response to the riots, saying he was not "down with kids of today".

Jessica 'Sparkle Princess' Mobbs, 14, is believed to be the riot's ringleader in Australia, and told *The Garter Press* that she would not negotiate with authorities.

"If he doesn't perform for us, like, I swear to God, like, all this, like, madness will go on, like, indefinitely," Mobbs said.

"By the way, if you're reading this Justin, I LOVE YOU SOOOOOOOO MUCH!! We're meant to be together!" Mobbs added, whilst cutting her forearms.

## Teen idol calls for peace, eyes back

**EXCLUSIVE**  
**Jonathan Holmes-and-Gardens**  
Teen Hysteria and Organ Theft Correspondent

The young Canadian teen idol at the centre of the worldwide riots has called on his fans to cease the violence, and to return his eyes.

Speaking exclusively to *The Garter Press*, Justin Bieber said it was time for his fans to lay down their weapons and end the looting and pillaging which has so devastated the major cities of the world.

"When I see all the violence on TV, I'm just like, 'Baby, baby, baby,'" Bieber said.

"I had no idea that my cancelling the concert on *Sunrise* would lead to this."

"It's time for all my fans to stop rioting and put an end to the public executions," he said.

"Baby," he added.

When told that riots had just toppled

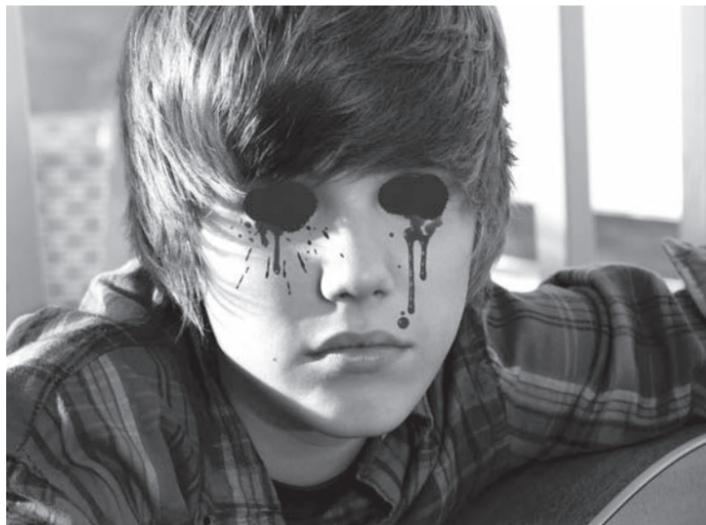
the Parliament in Germany, Bieber looked puzzled, saying, "Germany"? We don't have that word in America."

"I like playing basketball if that's what you're asking."

Bieber also used the interview to call on those fans who had stolen the young star's eyes at a New Zealand airport to return them.

His eyes were ripped from his face after he was bombarded by young fans.

"It's totally not cool what they did," he said.



"It's practically stealing."

The two girls who stole Bieber's eyes say they're willing to return them to the young pop star – but only in exchange for a date, a kiss, or his scalp.

Police were reportedly indifferent.

### INSIDE

**BINDI IRWIN TWEETS BACK**  
*"I'ma feed that bitch to a fucking crocodile."*  
- pg 4

**TEACHERS AGREE TO NAPLAN TESTS**  
*Students not so sure.*  
- pg 5

**ERNIE DINGO'S NUDE PHOTO SCANDAL**  
*We didn't actually make this headline up. It's a real story.*  
- pg 8

**CARL WILLIAM'S ASSAILANTS REVEALED**  
*Desperate producers of prospective Underbelly 4 series arrested.*



## News (cont.)

### SCIENTIST DISCOVERS OTHER SCIENTIST

In a report released yesterday, area scientist John Walters announced that he has discovered another man working with him in the laboratory.

"It was truly remarkable," said Walters. "I looked up from my microscope and there he was, working at the next table."

The newly discovered scientist is believed to have been working in the area for 13 years despite going undetected for the past five.

"We suspected he was extinct," said Walters. "We hope to institute a breeding program soon to replenish numbers."

Bill Harlem, the discovered scientist, believes that Walters was just too devoted to his work to notice he was there.

"I guess our relationship just deteriorated," said Harlem. "First we stopped greeting each other in the morning. Next our post-discovery hugs disappeared, and soon he just stopped noticing me all together."

"I didn't want to say anything though. I was worried maybe I had offended him with my last report. I left it on his desk one day, and the next he had just stopped talking to me."

"Report? I didn't even notice a report," said Walters. "It must have just gotten lost amongst the paperwork on my desk. I've been so busy lately. It's just a shame we lost all that time."

The discovery itself was quite a shock to Harlem.

"John looked up from the

microscope and turned to me, and said hello. Then he asked me about my daughter. She's nine now."

"It seems there were dramatic changes that until now just went undetected," said John. "I had seen no reports about Karen. I heard rumours of an attempted expedition to document her first day at school a few years ago – but I don't believe the results were ever published."

Nevertheless, Walters is said to be excited about the re-emer-

gence of his partner.

"The applications of this discovery are virtually limitless," said Walters. "Not only are we able to confer on scientific matters, we can also go on that fishing trip we'd always talked about."

Harlem didn't wish to comment on the ramifications of the discovery, but did say he looked forward to rekindling his friendship with Walters.

"I've missed him."

### Those Kids From The Old El Paso Kids Solve Climate Change

For many days now, Carlos-Rodriguez, Juan-Miguel and Maria-Guadalupe, or the kids from Old El Paso, as they are better known, have been concerned that hurricanes, earthquakes and volcano eruptions have been getting in the way of people around the world enjoying the delicious taste of tortillas and burritos.

Last night, however, in an amazing breakthrough these pint-sized prodigies displayed true genius – Mexican style – and solved the international crisis of climate change. As Maria-Guadalupe explains, "Those loco scientists don't know nothing gringo. The answer was simple. All we had to was replace light bulbs with tacos."

Experts are stunned that the answer was in front of them all this time. The kids have already been awarded a Nobel Prize, and been made heads of Mensa, though they say their biggest reward is knowing that everyone may now enjoy home-style Mexican cookery.

### LETTERS

To *The Garter*,

Your paper goes under my bum and then collects my poo. Keep up the good work.

A cat.

*Garter*,

When is this newspaper going to be dragged into the 21st century? The editor would do well to realise that print is a dead medium and if the *Garter* is to stay relevant, it should adapt to the times. My wife and I refuse to read anything that is not a hologram, in 3D and directed by James Cameron. Please rectify this immediately.

Barry St Carpark.

Hey

How are you? We haven't caught each other around the house for the last few days, I guess we've both been pretty busy with work! I know I have! I just thought I'd drop you a

note about how we're using the fridge these days. I kinda thought that I was going to use the middle shelves, and that the bottom ones were yours, and I just noticed that a lot of my cottage cheese has been going missing (which I keep on my shelf in the fridge). I mean, it's not a big deal, if you want cottage cheese that bad then I'm happy for you to borrow some (although it isn't actually that expensive, you can get it down the road, and then we wouldn't need to share). It's totally fine, just something we should probably clear up, 'cos we wouldn't want it to become a big problem or anything, like we wouldn't want me to have to put strychnine in your cat's food or anything. But whatever, I'm totally cool with the situation. See you soon!

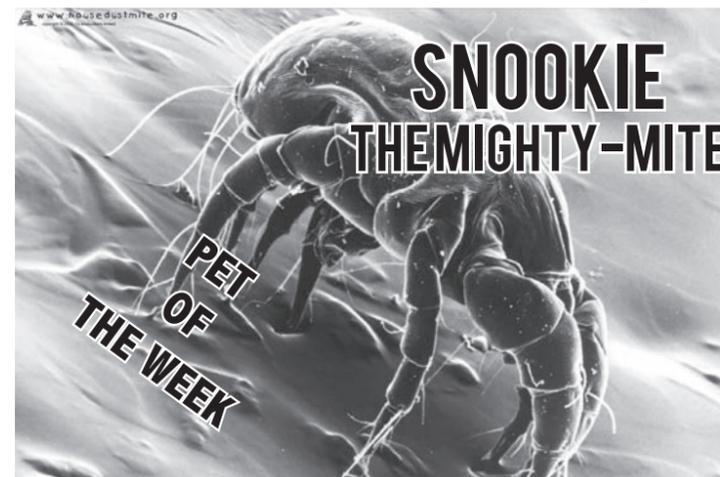
Tim

Dear *Garter*,

Let's play a little game, shall we?

Squash? 2:30pm? Let me know!

Franklin D. Cornswallow



Name: Snookie (The Mighty-Mite)

Breed: German Longfang.

Favourite Toy: Nintendo Wii.

Favourite Food: Chocolate, watermelon and your face-skin.

Training Tips: Responds well to words of encouragement and offerings of your face-skin.

Naughtiest Habit: Eating all of your chocolate and all of your face-skin.

Nicest Habit: Loves nothing better than keeping you warm (and itchy) on a Sunday sleep-in.

Best trick: can lie dormant in a semi-dead crystallised state for hours at a time, until awakened by the movement of you going to bed.

Proudest Moment: eventually finding its way back home after its pillow was drenched in anti-mite solution, put through three spin-cycles and placed in landfill. What a relief for the owners!

## Stubbed Your Toe? Shouting at Someone? Missed that Goal?

Have You Considered...

### SWEARING?!

Just try one of these great swears!

- Bitch!
- Balls!
- Bitchballs!
- Zounds!
- Forsooth!
- Whorecunt!
- Fuckcabinet!
- Egg-sucking-gutter-trash!
- Cake!

Swearing is the number one way of saying "Fuck"!



Professor P.T. Fucksworthy



## Lifestyle

### CLASSIFIEDS

**Rich** man seeks lowly minion to pick out cashews from mixed nuts and feed them to his albino winged elephant. Contact Chesterton Fancyspoons.

**Missing:** 99 luftballoons. Call Nena

**Toaster.** Defunct, rusty, complete with delicious crumbs. Best offer.

**Seeking** punchline: joke not working.

**Lost.** Invisibility cloak on countrylink line. Incredibly difficult to find. Looks like a chair, or a desk or whatever it happens to be draped over. Not, crucially, to be confused with regular chairs and desks. Call Harry.

**Asbestos** plus free terminal illness.

**Publisher** sought for autobiography. Titled 'Badgers and Windmills'. As baffling and inaccessible as it sounds!

**Spinning** bow-tie. Turns into

Tae Bo. Look dapper while you exercise with this incredibly excellent pun.

**Lost.** Missed last week's show, can someone fill me in? Are they still on the island?

**Ability** to fly. Call the bearded wizard of Highbury Glen.

**Spare** eye, child's size. Cash payments only. Contact Fagin.

**Lost.** Very ordinary hammer – if found please contact Thor as he needs to build some shelves, not because it is the source of all his power.

**How** to Host an Awkward Dinner Party kit. Comes with inappropriate conversation cards, receipts for things you shouldn't have bought, a knife to cut the tension with and a naked, fat man to burst out of the cake halfway through dessert and wave his penis at the guests till they leave.

**For Sale.** Pizzas. From my shop. It's a pizza shop, a real one. Probably not the best form of advertising, I know. \$10 o.n.o (but really just \$10, I don't know

what o.n.o means, I just saw it here once.)

### PERSONALS

**You're** like a drug, I can't get enough of you. I want to take you an inject you into my veins. You are like heroin. You are literally heroin. Give me some heroin. Now!

**Last** night I dreamt I was a turtle with wings. What does this mean?

**To** the person who stole the time portal on Weir Street, please return it. I am stuck in 1973.

### COURSES AND PRIVATE TUITION

**Courses** in novelty birthday cake messages, sky-writing and tombstone inscriptions. No challenge is to tall! No order too hard! Call Maisy S.

**Learn** to fly for reals! "But I don't have wings!" Not a problem!

Using our three-easy-steps ladder you can fly for literally tens of microseconds!

**Reincarnation** tuition - learning by example is the best way to learn - one course only - come to Transylvania on May 7 2010. Candidates already predestined. Telepath Ivan your RSVP.

### DEATHS

**Ivan D. Mulchbeast**

April 23 2010

Widely feared on the football field and battle field alike. Is survived by innumerable spawn. Wished to have his final words heard: "I am become Death, and shall be Risen in two score weeks, all fill with Unholy Dread, the Final Stage is imminent."

### REBIRTHS

**Ivan D. Mulchbeast** is proud to announce his respawning, which occurred in the skies over Transylvania on May 7 2010 at approximately 3am.

## COLUMN∞

**Spotted in Killara by Judy Brown, her cheating husband George! Judy asks "What are you doing at Marjorie's house, you ungrateful old bastard?" What indeed Judy! What indeed!**

More on land-mines from Frank of Kellyville. He's willing to tell us that there's one hidden in the post-office and one underneath the entrance to the church. Fancy that!

**It seems that the proof is in the pudding, quite literally! Cathy Bellows of Liverpool has found Fermat's Last Theorem inside a big slice of Sticky Date Pudding. Fancy that, Cathy! And bon appetit!**

Janet, of North Ryde, has weighed in on the 'which is more intuitive: cat or dust-mite' debate (12/7/42 - present). "My cat is intuitive, but also dust-mites are intuitive also." Great input, Janet.

**Fran from Gordon thinks her neighbour's hammock hangs too close to the ground for comfort - maybe you should swing by and let her know, Fran!**

Flora and Fauna enthusiast Elaine from Bankstown has sent in a photo of her gerbels in her gerbras. Really, it's too much, you're killing us.

Send your submissions to Column∞: [yoursearchformediocrityas-toundsme@garter.com](mailto:yoursearchformediocrityas-toundsme@garter.com)

The Garter would like to contact the following persons:

James Colley, Monica Connors, Mark Sutton, Carmen Culina, Henry Hawthorne, Ben Jenkins, Dave Mack and Joe Payten

Your children are waiting at the check-out.



Dear Chesterton,

I am about to attend a performance of Handel's 'Messiah' and have heard it is customary to stand at a specific moment. Please tell me when it is as to avoid embarrassment! Cynthia.

Dearest Cynthia,

You are indeed correct that it is of custom to stand during the Hallelujah chorus. This practice dates back to

## A Matter of Style

With Chesterton Fancyspoons

the very first performance where King George II was so moved by the power of Handel's oratorio that he rose to his feet. The audiences of the time of course followed suit and the tradition has been passed on to the present day.

In accordance with the actions of the King during the first performance, audiences are encouraged to excuse themselves loudly around the *Prophecy of the Virgin Birth* to buy a choc-top, then return to your seat, having been drinking in the foyer from *The Appear-*

*ance of the Angles to the Shepherds to The Ascension* and hit on the ushers until the *Victory over Death and Sin*.

Dear Chesterton,

I am hosting a dinner party and need to know the correct placement of the cutlery. I am serving soup as an entree but also as part of the main, where should the two spoons be placed in relation to the bread-plates?

Francis

Francis, it seems you contacted me just in time! You were about to commit one of the most heinous faux pas imaginable for a host. Two soup spoons for two soups!? You might as well greet your guests by urinating on pictures of their dead loved ones then forcing them to eat the soiled photographs before boxing their ears and ejecting them into the cold!

When serving soup in a main course, the soup is never, ever consumed with a spoon! The proper method is via a long straw, which should extend from the kitchen to the mouth of the guest.

Of course, to save your guests from the indiscretion of being inundated by

a deluge of steaming hot liquid, you should provide them with adequate protective clothing. I believe that a range of colourful plastic ponchos, gloves and shower caps may now be purchased at a reasonable price from any corner store worth its salt, and should serve to keep the guests from feeling in any way physically uncomfortable or psychologically humiliated.

Dear Mr Fancyspoons,

Thank you kindly for your sound words of reason regarding the long-standing confusion over from which side of a dinner guest one is supposed to serve their entrée (*A Matter of Style*, 10/3/10). My guests were surprised and delighted upon finding that I had avoided the conundrum by following your advice and serving from above them, suspended, bat-like, as proscribed, from a purpose-built serving platform, and letting forth a torrential sluice of vol-au-vent.

Chuck Yellowshaugh

I am glad to hear that my advice is of continued practical use to the modern diner.

CF



Dolores - whilst I'm aware of your artistic ambitions, this is not the appropriate place to display them - pls, the ad MUST go in this week (!!!).



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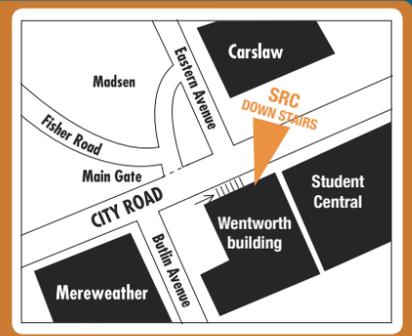
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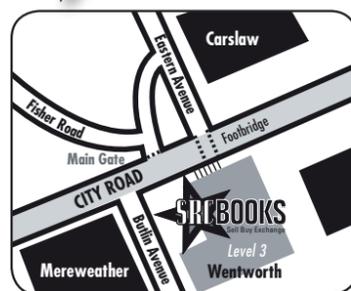
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