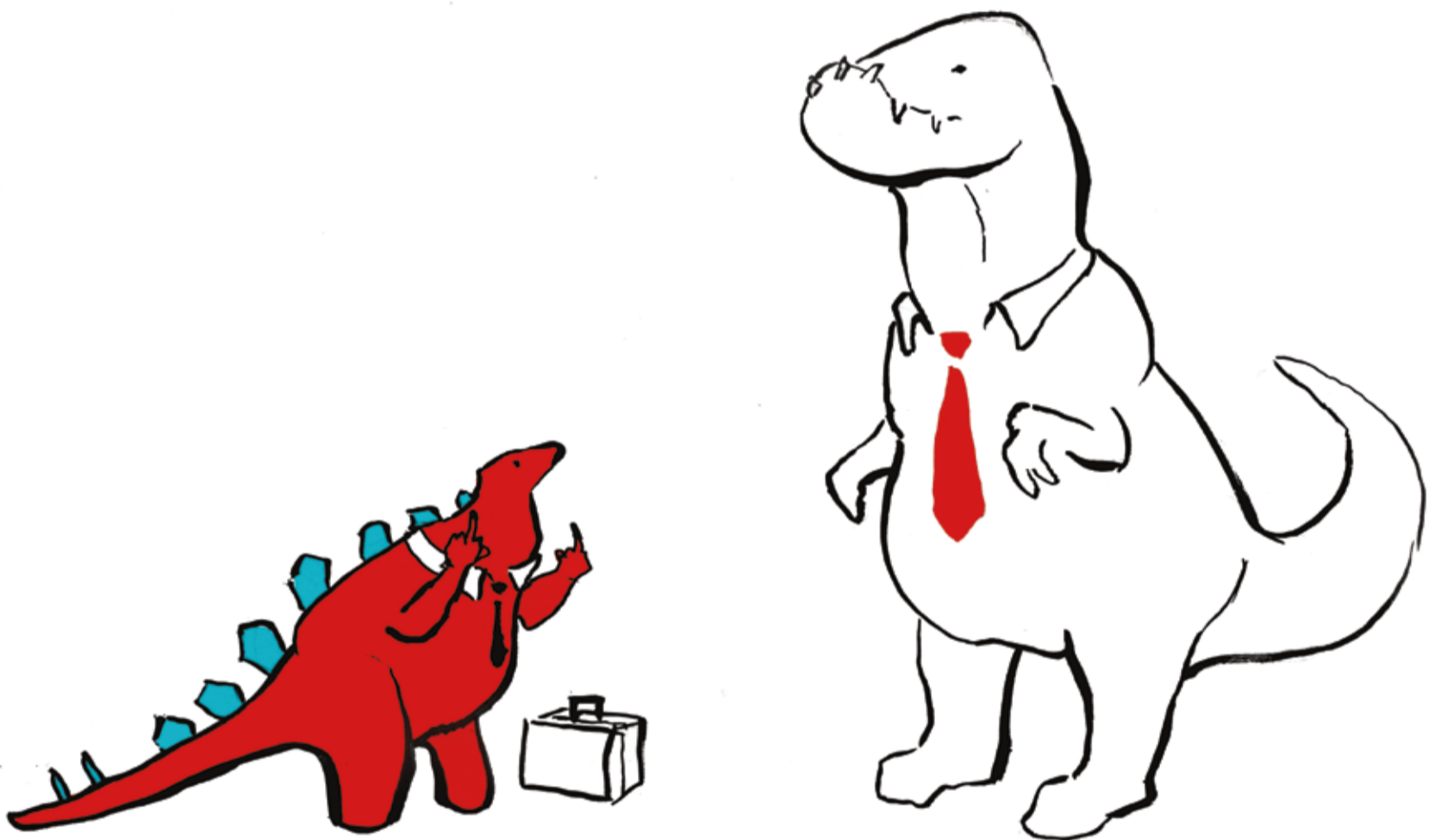


HONI SOIT

VOL 90 SEM 1 WEEK 3



“Stick it to the man”

4
**Far left
doxxing**

8
**Don't be an
askhole**

14
**Hermann's
killed comedy**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation. The University of Sydney—where we write, publish and distribute *Honi Soit*—is on the sovereign land of these people. As students and journalists, we recognise our complicity in the ongoing colonisation of Indigenous land. In recognition of our privilege, we vow to not only include, but to prioritise and centre the experiences of Indigenous people, and to be reflective when we fail to. We recognise our duty to be a counterpoint to the racism that plagues the mainstream media, and to adequately represent the perspectives of Indigenous students at our University. We also wholeheartedly thank our Indigenous reporters for the continuing contribution of their labour to our learning.

EDITORIAL

This week's edition is all about power. Power underlies a lot of the thinking we do at university: whether politics, social dynamics, gender relations or even urban planning, it's always worth asking who has power and how they're wielding it.

This edition examines institutions and analyses how power operates within them. For students, the University looms large, but it's not the only place where we have to confront the dynamics of control.

There's the broader question of how governments spend money, of the arms industry and social engineering. How fringe political groups vie for dominance in the dark corners of the internet. Even how social mores control what you wear or how you respond to advice.

As always, the man did his best to furstrate this edition. But it's on the stands thanks to the help of my nine wonderful co-editors, who have resigned themselves to a year without sleep; to a core group of reliable, talented reporters and artists; and two old hands (who will probably be offended that I am calling them 'old hands'), who stepped in and saved the day. **ZSH**

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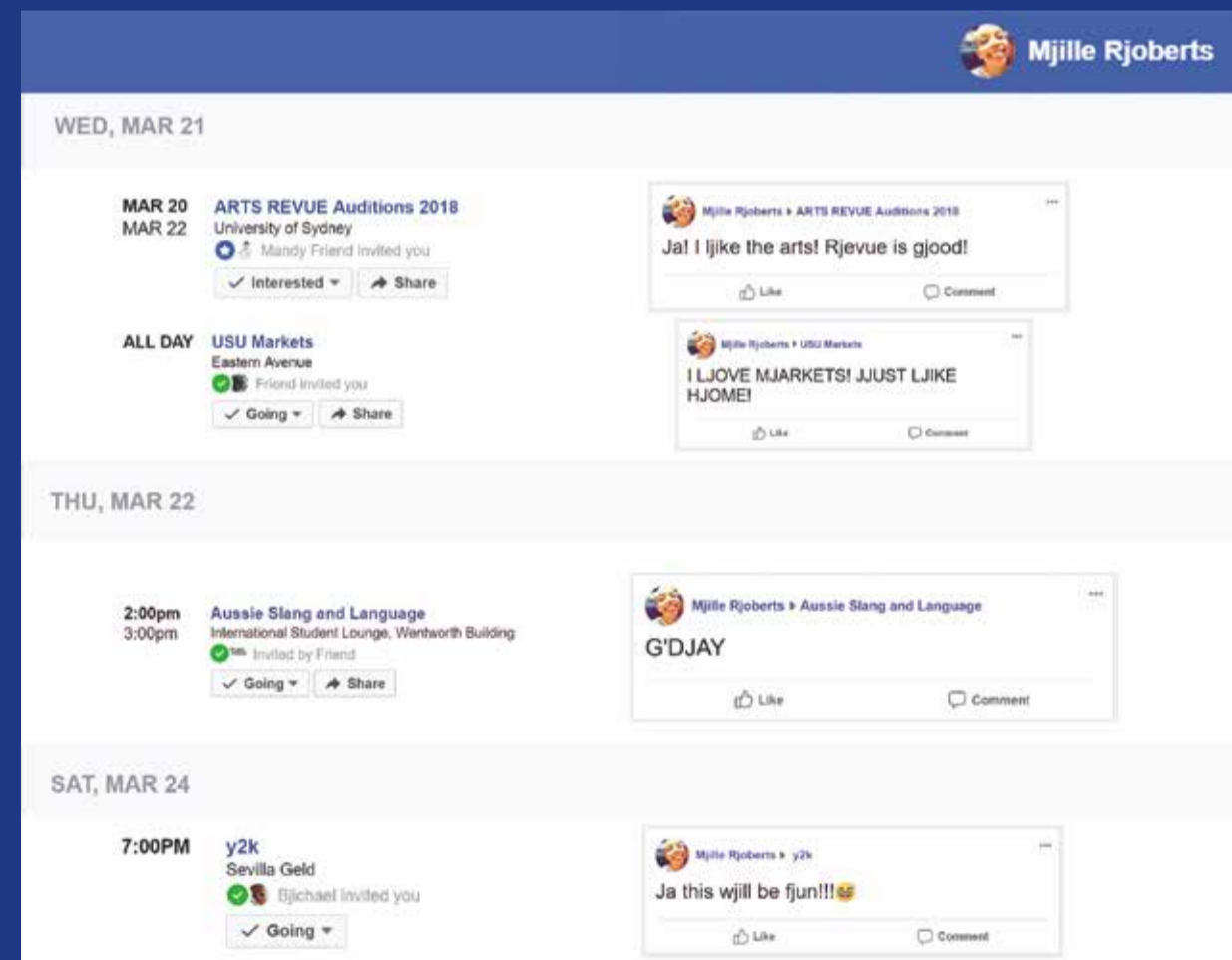
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The DMs

Hey Honi Soit, here's a tip to make a girl horny faster

Hi Honi Soit,
Laureana here :)
I'm a regular contributor in School of Squirt

I was doing a research for my next piece of content and I stumbled upon this article of yours:
<http://honisoit.com/2015/03/a-beginners-guide-to-escorts/>

I wrote on pretty much the same topic, and I'm very happy when I see so detailed posts like yours. I noticed that one of your points was the ways to SEDUCE A GIRL. That's a spot on. I think that it's the most important that will make any girl crazy over a guy. In fact, it can help the couples stay in love.

I am really passionate about this topic so I wrote a whole article about it.

Here I am teaching guys how to make their woman horny faster in easy tricks. I spent a lot of time writing this post, making sure it contains only the stuff that really works.

You can check it out, and I hope you can mention it in your post?

I'm really looking forward for your response

Have a great day ahead ;)

Hey Honi Soit, here are 4 tricks on how to pleasure your partner orally

Hi Honi Soit,

Laureana here :)
I'm a regular contributor in School of Squirt, where I write about sex health, mostly topics around female orgasms.

I was doing a research for my next piece of content and I stumbled upon this article of yours:
<http://honisoit.com/2014/09/learning-how-to-sex/>

Like I said, I wrote on pretty much the same topic, and I'm very happy when I see so detailed posts like yours. Although this doesn't happen that often :)

I noticed that one of your points was the female orgasm. That's a spot on. I think that is the most important that the guy can give their girl an orgasm and satisfaction. In fact, it can help the couples stay in love and stays with each other forever.

Actually, I am really passionate about this topic so I wrote a whole article about it.

Here I am teaching guys how to give their woman the wildest squirt ever. I spent a lot of time writing this post, making sure it con-

tains only the stuff that really works. You can check it out, and I hope you can mention it in your post?

I'd really appreciate this, and in return I will I'm really looking forward for your response.

Hey Handsome man, hope u are doing good!

Good Day, Mr Honi.

I'm Victoria and i recently located your email on one of the date seeking internet pages, you appear to be a really extremely cute person for me.

Did not know how to begin, and so i chose to tell you a little bit about myself at first.

I love having a laugh, touring, animals, rock, restaurants, going on adventures, and doing wild stuff, although i really feel like loneliness is swallowing me extremely , i love to swallow btw, if you understand what i mean, i can't find a male which will please me entirely though.

Hope you will like me. I wish to know u much better as well if you are interested, therefore tell me about your self, you can simply write me there directly, since im just about always there online.

I will tell you more about me and will put more of my photos too, to my profile. Waiting a letter from you promptly and wish you a very good day.

We can't get enough of these tips to get horny. We want MORE. Send us all your tips. ALL OF THEM. Squirt into our DMs and give us a schooling.

Hit us up: editors@honisoit.com

Hey I Gotta Ask You Something Quickly



1. Which Academy-award winning actress is pictured on the left?
2. What kind of triangle has two equal sides and one unequal side?
3. Site of infamous Sydney Train crash in 2003?
4. What is the capital of Bangladesh (bottom left)?
5. Complete this Nas lyric: "I never sleep ..."?
6. What is Pokemon #143?
7. Who won the first ever FIFA World Cup?
8. 'Scousers' refers to people from what city in England?
9. Don't claim to know rap if you don't know the rodent pictured right?
10. In Donkey Kong lore what is the name of the collection of bananas belonging to Donkey Kong that is stolen in multiple games?



1. Catherine Zeta-Jones
2. Isosceles
3. Waterfall
4. Dhalak
5. Cause sleep is the cousin of death
6. Snorlax
7. Uruguay
8. Liverpool
9. Biggie Cheese
10. Donkey Kong's Banana Hoard

Ban bombs not books

Jack Mansell is concerned about the government spending less on education and more on the military.

Late last year, the Turnbull government quietly announced a cap on commonwealth funded university places, effectively amounting to a \$2.2 billion cut from higher education.

As student activists have argued consistently, the money has always been there to ensure basic living standards for everyone, including a return to fully funded higher education.

Under the guise of “balancing the budget” and “living within our means”, social programs including health, education and welfare have been under severe and constant bipartisan attack since the 1970s. The reality is even more sinister.

The \$3.8 billion freebie is part of a wider escalation in military spending at the expense of education funding and vital social programs.

Not only does the money exist within the system, it is being funnelled into the biggest and most barbaric industry capitalism has to offer: war.

In the context of a burgeoning imperial rivalry between the United States and China, this is not surprising. In fact, it highlights the contradiction

Casual academics left without contracts

Andrew Rickert

Casual staff who commenced work this year at the University of Sydney are yet to receive their contracts, despite having already worked for two or more weeks this semester.

Honi has seen an email sent to staff from the National Tertiary Education Union (NTEU) Sydney University branch on Thursday, noting that the branch has had an influx of staff members contacting them regarding the delay.

The NTEU USyd Casuals' Network Survey, which is still open, recorded that more than half of current casual workers who had responded began their position this semester without a contract. Of those, 44% are still yet to receive contracts.

The NTEU believes that the total backlog in the University's Human Resources centre may be in the hundreds. They noted this has occurred for at least the last three to four years, with the University seemingly unable to cope with the influx of new staff at the beginning of each academic year, amounting to

between the lives of everyday people and the thirst for accumulation at the heart of the system in the most acute way possible. Alongside the \$2.2 billion education cut, the government revealed an ambitious plan to catapult Australia's military industry into the world's top 10, by means of a \$3.8 billion handout to weapon manufacturers.

Rarely is the relationship between profit making and militarism so bluntly articulated as it was last week, when Donald Trump announced the United States' new trade agreement with Australia.

In exchange for exemptions from tariffs on steel and aluminium for Australian companies, Turnbull has committed Australia to a “reciprocal military and trade relationship”, as well as a “security agreement” that almost certainly foreshadows an increase to Australia's military presence in the Asia-Pacific in line with the United States' posturing against China.

The \$3.8 billion freebie is part of a wider escalation in military spending at the expense of education funding and vital social programs.

The 2016 Defence White Paper called for “the largest defence procurement program in Australia's history”, amounting to an increase of \$7 billion in funding per year by 2021, on top of the current \$35 billion figure.

Including the Defence Integrated Investment Program, military spending will increase by \$195

what is now a ‘systemic’ problem.

The NTEU is in discussion with the University, stating in the email that they will be “writing to the Chief Human Resources Officer about this situation, [...] seeking both urgent action to address the backlog, and medium-term action to ensure that this is the last semester [that this occurs].”

Additionally, the NTEU has planned the launch of a ‘best practice’ guide for contracting casual staff.

A University spokesperson told Honi that the NTEU has informed the University of sixteen staff members who have experienced contract delays.

They told Honi that “administration staff prepare contracts on advice from hiring managers,” and the delays are due to “a narrowing of the time between hiring manager notification and staff commencement, which has shortened the available administrative turn-around window”.

billion over the next decade, on its own enough to fund free education for 25 years.

As it stands, the Labor Party offers no alternative for fighting against the current escalation of militarism.

Much of the 2016 White Paper's content was originally proposed in the 2013 White Paper published under the Gillard government, and Labor has supported all of Australia's wars and interventions in recent history.

Part of Labor's 2015 budget reply criticised the Abbott government for spending too little on defence, and failing to provide a plan to increase defence spending to 2 per cent of GDP.

But it is not just future barbarism that education cuts are paying for. The Australian government has committed to ongoing and increased funding for the Tatmadaw, Myanmar's military. The Tatmadaw has been condemned globally for their violent treatment of Myanmar's Rohingya Muslim population, described by the United Nations as a “textbook case of ethnic cleansing”.

The funding covers English lessons, training courses, and participation in multilateral military exercises.

Rather than spending our enormous wealth on health, education or socially useful pursuits such as renewable energy, the Turnbull government's

decision is an unashamed expression of the twisted priorities of Australia.

What is clear for students now, is that we are expendable in the system of profit and war. To politicians and businesses, we are raw materials to

To politicians and businesses, students are raw materials to be fashioned into cogs at the lowest possible cost.

be fashioned into cogs at the lowest possible cost. There is no path forward in looking to a system that breeds such violence for sympathy or support. The long-recognised enemy of the student movement has emphatically declared itself the enemy of sanity, of peace, and of humanity.

For us to win our demands, the only option is to look to our own power to fight back. On Wednesday 21 March at 1pm, students will be marching to say “Fund Books Not Bombs”.

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The curious case of the compulsory elective

James Sherriff asks whether elective subjects are even worth it.

With high rents, rising uni fees and ridiculous transport expenses, students in Sydney have had to become thrifter than ever before. Whether it's ditching that extra latte or forgoing an avocado toast, frugality is a virtue in the tenth most expensive city in the world. Yet some of the most needless student expenses may be coming from our own degrees. It's with a sense of frugality only possessed by the disillusioned, screwed over millennial that I ask: are elective subjects worth the money?

Realistically, electives add little to a students' academic qualifications—they don't appear on students' testamur after graduation and usually only provide entry level knowledge of a topic unrelated to a student's chosen major. Yet in a standard Bachelor of Arts degree, USyd students take a minimum of ten elective units over three years, making around 40% of their degree superfluous as far as major requirements go.

The University argues there are positives to taking elective units. Director of Education Strategy, Associate Professor Peter McCallum

outlines the benefits electives have on maintaining high academic morale. Core units can be at times tedious, and studying a different topic can break up the monotony. In intensive degrees, it is often nice to enrol in a ‘WAM booster’—a less rigorous and thereby easier unit.

In spite of benefits, it's questionable whether electives should be compulsory. They can have serious downsides for students, who don't have the chance to assess whether the extra cost is worth it.

First of all, money. Domestic students can expect to pay between \$800 and \$1400 per unit of study.

This adds up. Arts students doing one major and one minor will take around ten extra elective units. In a Bachelor of Commerce, there's enough room for about six. Yet even doing six of the cheapest elective units will set you back \$4,761.75; ten will blow this cost to almost \$8000.

For international students, electives are far more expensive. As full-fee paying students, they pay a minimum of \$4,600 per unit of study. Doing six electives adds up to \$27,000.

Secondly, there's wasted time. Some people get stuck in the university vortex their whole lives. Many like to finish as soon as possible.

A change in degree structure for Ben, a third year Commerce student, means his final semester capstone project has been replaced by a full time load of elective units, and

Realistically, electives add little to a student's academic qualifications

nothing else. Ben would rather just get it over with: “I'd definitely prefer to finish uni over almost anything.”

So does the University benefit from students completing so many extra units? The more units students take, the more money the University has at its disposal. But Associate Professor McCallum argues the economic gain is not the intention: “The aim [of electives] is to prepare students to

make a significant contribution to society and to lead fulfilling lives.”

It's a sentiment students do not entirely disown. Despite Ben's desire to complete his degree, he notes his electives have been valuable, allowing him to gain a “broad understanding of lots of different business areas”, while also pursuing his “passion for music ... even when not studying a music degree.”

Importantly, the University does not set the number of units students are required to take. Credit point quotas are based on the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF), national policy enforced by the Department of Education and Training.

Ultimately, electives may provide academic escapism and valuable inter-disciplinary experience, but their cost is high—especially for students without Commonwealth support. The question remains: If all the other needs of your degree are met, why are these units still mandatory?

Give the people what they want

Sam Chu investigates how the University can improve consultation with its students and staff.

Earlier this year, the ABC held its first ever Annual Public Meeting (APM), heralded by management as a way to “increase transparency and accountability in the way public companies do at annual meetings”. The APM gave ordinary Australians — its ‘shareholders’—the opportunity to submit questions to the ABC Board.

Some complained that the APM was just a PR exercise, but it was broadly well-received: several media outlets celebrated the ABC managing to reduce its running costs from eight to four cents a day.

To keep USyd management transparent, annual Convocations could be a step in the right direction

Could the APM set an example for the University of Sydney? Could (and, more pertinently, should) USyd hold APMs to be held similarly accountable to its ‘shareholders’ of students, staff and alumni?

Where most entities have a constitution, USyd instead has a piece of NSW legislation as its governing document: the *University of Sydney Act 1989* (USyd Act).

Most constitutions demand annual meetings of their members, but the USyd Act contains no such provisions. Instead, section 14 prescribes for a body called ‘Convocation’, made

up of current and former University Senate members, USyd graduates, professors, full-time academic staff, and the heads of the University's residential colleges. However, Convocation does not include current students of the University.

The decisions that come out of Convocation, unlike the binding results of most entities' annual meetings, are actually just recommendations and are only implemented if they are also supported by the Senate. This is made clear in Rule 14.1 of the *University of Sydney (Amendment Act) Rule 1999* (USyd Rule).

Even though the most recent Convocation was held more than 60 years ago, there have been recent attempts to convoke again. In 2014, four Fellows of Senate requested a meeting of Convocation to discuss the Abbott Government's university fee deregulation proposals.

At the time, Vice-Chancellor Michael Spence described Convocation procedures as an unwieldy “anachronism” given that Convocation could be open to “literally hundreds of thousands of alumni”. This perspective is still held by the University today: a University spokesperson told Honi that with “more than 320,000 alumni worldwide, 3,000 staff and 50,000 students, there are significant logistical issues with Convocation”.

The four Fellows' Convocation request was nixed, but USyd management organised an informal ‘USyd town hall’ instead. This

meeting included students—giving them the opportunity to be involved they would have been excluded from had Convocation been called.

At the USyd town hall, the clear majority position as expressed by students, staff and alumni speakers, was opposition to fee deregulation. However, there was some concern as to whether the Town Hall was actually representative of the broader University community.

After the Town Hall, Honi wrote in an editorial that the event “was, unsurprisingly, dominated by USyd's most familiar faces”, noting that the originally-requested Convocation “had the potential to prise open an entirely new space” in the fee deregulation debate.

So what's the best approach for USyd? Convocations, informal ‘town halls’, or no APMs at all?

The University argues that “there are more effective ways to engage with our staff, alumni, students and local community” than through Convocation. Instead, the University prefers to hold “town hall meetings and focus groups, [confer] with advisory bodies and committees, and direct communications with staff, students and alumni”.

If these informal ‘town halls’ are used as an accountability mechanism, they could be dominated by the same voices that feature in campus debate, turning Town Halls into a PR stunt.

However, there are two major drawbacks to formal Convocations, the biggest being the exclusion of current students from the

Convocation process. If used as APMs, Convocations would preclude any meaningful discussions with all of the USyd community. Further, as noted, the powers of Convocation are also quite limited: Convocation can only provide the Senate with unenforceable proposals.

We must take the best from both worlds. Conducting informal town halls because of the logistical issues with Convocation is not the answer: some multi-billion dollar public companies have a shareholder base larger than the University community, yet can still hold formal annual general meetings, as was the case with the University's informal Town Halls, students should be included. This could be achieved by amending the USyd Act to change the membership of Convocation.

Similarly, amendments to the USyd Rule to strengthen the currently limited powers of Convocation should also be considered: Convocation should have the power to bind the USyd Senate to its resolutions, rather than just to present them. This would thus render it more effective than the non-binding, informal town-halls as an actual accountability mechanism.

USyd is ripe with issues for community consultation—its restructure of faculties and degrees is well underway, reform of campus culture is an urgent priority, and new infrastructure is continually being built. To keep USyd management transparent and accountable in this environment, annual Convocations could be a step in the right direction.

The doxxing ring

Liam Donohoe looks at the weird world of politically motivated doxxing.

Political discourse is more divisive than ever. Though battles over social attitudes have always been a feature of political discourse, and will continue to be so long as ruling classes have incentives to fan the flames of division, hostilities seemed to have intensified over the past half-decade or so. This is particularly the case in the underground, amid the physical and virtual clashes that make up frontline in the culture war. Both the far-left and far-right have embraced the internet as much as they have been radicalised by it, using it as a platform for a new kind of political violence.

'Doxxing' is typical of this trend. The process, which derives its name from the 'doxx' extension, involves disclosing as much damaging information about a political rival as possible, traditionally published in the form of a document. The internet makes this process possible, functioning as both research tool and a platform for anonymity.

While the phenomenon is more common in America, Australia has seen its own doxx-off play out to ferocious extremes in recent years in niche corners of the internet. On the far-left, blogs like SlackBastard and the now private Anti-Fascist Action Sydney catalogue far-right groups, identifying the complex history and overlapping membership of groups like the 'True Blue Society', the now defunct 'United Patriots Front', and their zombified spawn 'The Lads Society'. At the same time, right-wing sites like United Nationalists Australia have focused on exposing the identities of anti-fascist or 'antifa' activists, often under the pretence of self-defence. As a hotbed of Left activism, USyd has seen some of its students caught up in the fray. Ralph Cerminara's 'Left-Wing Bigots and Extremists Exposed' has divulged the identity of activists like Riki Scanlan, Omar Hassan, and Josh Lees, among many others, in a campaign that has resulted in his permanent ban from the USyd campus.

Whereas American doxxing is often a large decentralised research effort involving thousands of tech-savvy users of 4chan, a large imageboard posting website, Australian doxxers rarely have the same sort of support and resourcing. Blogs are often run by a single person, and their audience rarely extends beyond the people who would otherwise attend protests and counter-demonstrations. While some doxx methods seem obvious enough, like using social media or White Pages to stalk people, clandestine methods are also used. Anonymous tip-offs, leaks from spurned former allies, the meticulous cross-referencing of images from rivals protests complement social engineering methods that essentially amount to the political 'catfishing' of friends, old neighbours, and the victim themselves, with doxxers posing as someone they're not just to gain information.

Exactly what information is broadcast varies. Full names are a given, while places of employment, residence, and phone numbers are often included. Especially heinous doxxs may spill similar details about a rival's family and friends, exposing innocent actors in a move more vengeful than pragmatic. While the exposure of identity carries its own inherent harms, particularly to privacy, it's what that exposure makes possible that's really damaging: death threats, firings, family breakdown, relocation, and assault are all common ramifications.

These outcomes are intended. Doxxers are animated by a hatred of their rivals' ideology, and are persuaded that their desired end—undermining that ideology's perpetuation—justifies any means. Beyond deterring the expression of particular

opinions, the resulting violence may eliminate a dissenting voice. Because of this, for groups on the extreme ends of the political divide, for whom there is only one correct worldview, violence is a strategic necessity more than a focus of moral inquiry.

A glance at these blogs reveals just how violent some of these people are prepared to be. Some far-right supporters bring weapons, including guns, to their rallies, the occasional murder mean; these threats are serious. Though some of these events are covered in the mainstream media, these blogs thread them together with less known incidents to further justify the use of doxxing as a political tool.



Artwork by Brendan O'Shea

Pardoxically, there is something intimate about the relationship these political combatants forge through this process. Doxxing allows groups to have a detailed understanding of their opponent's lives, with many able to identify their enemies on sight, armed with comprehensive knowledge of their biography and ideology. In that sense, doxxing uniquely adds to one's understanding of the 'other', in contrast with political violence that depends on de-personalisation. This is not to suggest that doxxing deters aggression. If anything, the intrapersonal relationships that form between opponents only intensifies enmity, with perceived failures in the rival's moral character rigidifying the perception of them as malevolent.

The rate and intensity of doxxing incidents is likely to increase as more people shift to the radical ends of politics. Both sides are deeply suspicious of the criminal justice system, and both instead prefer to respond to acts of provocation informally—often through further doxxing. It's not clear that this mutually-reinforcing cycle will have an end, and short of the total elimination of one political stance from public display.

Determining which side initiated or does more

to perpetuate this cycle is a chicken-egg-style problem. Despite that, the far-left's use of doxxing may seem more questionable on account of their general emphasise on the humane treatment of others. In other words, it's worth specifically considering the legitimacy of the far-left's use of doxxing precisely because the tactic seems so compatible with the far-right's outlook as to render useless any effort to discourage their use of it.

Holding the far-left to this sort of higher standard, however, not only assumes a moralistic conception of left-wing politics, but also ignores that the far-left has little other option but to doxx. For one, the far-right seems more prepared to resort to violence in order to solve its problems, meaning that alternate ways of trying to engage them (through, say, reason) or deter their use of doxxing probably will not work. While this might come as a surprise to some, especially given the way the mainstream media constantly play up the 'violent Lefty' stereotype, a number of the more high profile names mentioned in these blogs have committed serious and proven acts of violence. Though there certainly are real cases of Lefty violence, that there was more reporting of the 'violent' chucking of humus at Catholic Society members last November than there has been of the myriad of murders and assaults committed by the far-right tells the story. It's not just a difference in degree or even frequency, though, but a difference in kind—while plenty of their violence is politically motivated, it is common for violence committed by far-right figures to be entirely separate from their political agenda. Whereas the far-left supports violence insofar as it is necessary for producing social change, many in the far-right accept the legitimacy of violence because physical domination of the other is sanctioned by their view that society is divided between the uber and unter.

There are, however, political advantages to doxxing, beyond the mere infliction of violence. Doxxing often targets anonymous wielders of influence who operate in the dimmest, most cavernous echo chambers. By exposing their identities and locating their political pronouncements in the context of their personal interest and questionable moral practice, activists can undermine their credibility.

Moreover, doxxing even has the potential to generate political discussion. Many online figures are not contactable by virtue of their anonymity, even if reasonable discussion might be possible. In those instances, a doxx may be a necessary first step towards dialogue. And, of course, one might view that the content of the far-right's views are so deplorable as to justify any kind of response. In that case, the chilling effect doxxing can have and the more direct removal of dissent might both be seen as benefits.

Doxxing is nonetheless genuinely terrifying. There is nothing stopping innocent people from being targeted nor any regulation to ensure that the response is proportionate. The harms of the process cannot be understated, not least because each act of doxxing will beget many more. But guarded support for the strategy in general does not equate to support for every instance, and so insofar as they have any interest the doxxer should, naturally, be very careful and selective about how they go about it. Whatever the case, I'm sure I'll be even more reserved in my support once my own identity is exposed.

Students paying \$75 million for 'nothing'

Andrew Rickert investigates a startup that claims to have the answers.

"Every year, I reckon, maybe it's [...] \$50-100 million, the super industry is charging Australian young people that kind of money, for nothing."

I'm speaking with Andrew Maloney, the Managing Director of Student Services Australia. We're on the top floor of their office building in Chippendale, where his staff manage a textbook and notes exchange, a university tutor-matching site, and the 'Lost on Campus' app. He's just shown me the back-of-the-envelope maths that inspired the creation of Student Super, a super fund designed to solve one of the "big problems" facing students.

Here's the pitch:

Currently, employers must pay 9.5 per cent on top of employee's wage into a super fund. This will increase to 10 per cent in 2021, gradually increasing to 12 per cent in 2025.

Take working-age high school students, of which there are 800,000 in Australia. Combine that with a domestic university student population of 1,100,000, and you get a total workforce of around 2,000,000 students. Half of those are employed—37 per cent of the high school students, and 67 per cent of uni students.

Maloney is waiting for the hard data, but based on two years of student focus groups, he says that around 50 per cent of students have had their super balance set to zero by super fund fees.

That's 50 per cent of 2,000,000 working students, or in other words, a million students. And assuming \$100-\$200 in annual fees, students lose \$50-100 million dollars of super to fees every year. "For nothing."



Student Super's fees are designed to fix this problem. The fund will not charge members any fee for balances up to \$1,000, which will be held in a Westpac cash account. Any amount above \$1000 will be invested in custom mixes of Macquarie Index Funds, curated by Activus Investment Advisors, a high-profile Australian partnership. Customers with balances between \$1,000 and \$4,999 will receive a 50 per cent discount on the account fee. The account fee itself is set at \$78 per annum, plus 0.99 per cent of an account's total funds.

Student Super manages this reduction primarily by cutting fees that they consider 'unnecessary' for first time super holders. Chief among these are fees for insurance, often packaged with a super account, as a compulsory or 'opt out' add on.

Take the most common type of super account, the MySuper fund. Originally a Gillard government policy, MySuper-type accounts were introduced in 2014 as part of a range of super reforms. Employers have to use one of the default MySuper funds if they create accounts for their employees.

This happens most frequently with first time employees, who don't have a pre-existing account and tend to be student-aged. The ABC reported in 2017 that of the 28 million total superannuation accounts in Australia, 15 million, or 53 per cent are 'MySuper' funds.

MySuper is designed to offer "a simple, low cost default superannuation product". But, per government regulation, these funds are required to "offer life and total and permanent disability (TPD) cover on an opt-out basis". That is, they include insurance fees by default.

It's questionable whether students benefit much

from packaged insurance. ASIC reported in 2017 that 16% of TPD insurance claims were rejected, and the ABC has reported that casual employees, again overwhelmingly student-aged, face far more stringent tests to receive a payout than permanent workers performing the same task and claiming the same insurance.

Student Super won't be selling insurance. Maloney reflects on the packaging of insurance with super products: "On a national scale it's OK, because if you're painting with a broad brush, it is a good policy to have life insurance in super—it's generally a good idea. It's just a bad idea for really young people because you're not likely to die."

If that fee means that your balance goes to zero, therefore you have no life insurance."



Student Super talks big about having competitive fees. But whether it will deliver on this promise is another question, with Maloney predicting the industry average is due to decrease. Student Super is technically the "promoter" of the fund 'Student Super Professional Super'. The fund itself is a 'sub fund' of the Tidswell Master Superannuation Plan run by Tidswell Financial, a subsidiary of Trustee Partners.

According to the Australian Financial Review, Trustee Partners, which launched in 2016, is "a new tech-focused business that will provide compliance, administrative or supervisory services to superannuation funds". Simply put, it's a startup that handles the administrative and regulatory side of super funds for other startups wishing to enter the industry.

The SMH reported in 2017 that its most high-profile customer, Spaceship, "[wanted] to get out of a critical licensing arrangement" with Trustee Partners, with the SMH implying that fees were one of the deciding factors.

This raises a question: how can Student Super claim to charge low fees given its trustee's reputation for doing exactly the opposite? Maloney (a Spaceship member) responded by saying they had the benefit of negotiating with two different potential trustees when establishing the fund, allowing them to re-work the terms of the agreement.



If the low-fee approach bears fruit, students stand to reap the benefit. Early contributions to super are arguably the most important: they compound the most over an account's lifetime and are made at a time when fees make up a larger proportion of the total amount than they will later. This means that protecting early contributions from high fees, as Student Super promises to do, will allow for greater early growth.

Further, the Federal Government's introduction of the First Home Super Saver Scheme last year adds a new side to this question. Now, voluntary super contributions—above the percentage your employer must contribute—can be withdrawn up to \$30,000 to buy a new home. At the same time,

under the Low Income Superannuation Tax Offset the government will refund tax on voluntary super contributions by 15 per cent each year an account holder's annual income is under \$37,000. This means you could use your super account as if it is a savings account, with bonus contributions from the government, to save for a home. The potential to use a super account in this way is at its highest if fees are kept low and growth kept high, again as Student Super promises.

This may sound good, but whether students will in fact sign up to Student Super remains to be seen. Its advantage, whether they turn out to be the a good financial choice or not, will be the student-based marketing experience of Maloney and Student Services Australia.

For instance, while still a student himself, Maloney worked with Commonwealth Bank to open a \$3 million dollar credit line with Apple for students to buy computers. More recently, Maloney co-founded flatmates.com.au with business partner Thomas Clement. The service connects people looking for flatmates and was a runaway success. Maloney and Clement sold the business for \$25 million in 2016.

But Student Super faces its biggest competition from industry super funds which similarly bill themselves as looking out for their members' needs. Super funds are either industry or retail funds. Industry funds are general run as 'mutual' funds, where profits are redistributed amongst members. Retail funds are run by commercial organisations, where a portion of profits are expected to go to shareholders. Super ratings agency Chant West reported that industry funds outperformed retail funds by 0.8 percent per year on average over the past five years, and so Student Super, as a retail fund, will also have to work hard and prove their results against this.

Student Super doesn't have many direct competitors. In particular, it's hard to find similar student-targeted funds. Commonwealth Bank and First State Super market their super products heavily to students, but don't actually offer a student-specific service.

Ultimately, Student Super's success will come down to students' cost-benefit analysis. Will the low fee Student Super option provide greater returns than comparable low fee retail or industry funds? Do those comparable funds let them opt-out of insurance cover?

Honi asked university-oriented UniBank, a division of Teachers Mutual Bank that markets to university students, if they had considered similar products. Mike Lanzing, UniBank's General Manager, told Honi they "would encourage students in any financial decisions to shop around for options that are low-fee and in line with ethical values".

Maloney's pitch: "Just don't charge them a fee".



The information contained in this article is general in nature and does not take into account your personal situation. You should consider whether the information is appropriate to your needs, and where appropriate, seek professional advice from a financial adviser.



Don't be an asshole!

Alisha Brown wants to know why you ask for advice and don't take it.

Some would call me easily irritated. Many travesties grind my gears: slow walkers, Microsoft Auto-Update, and sushi restaurants that make you pay for soy sauce. But while I prefer to think of myself as 'passionate' and 'sensitive', I can no longer deny my simmering hostility towards one particular type of individual: the asshole.

Asshole (n.): Someone who asks for advice and either 1) refuses to take it, or 2) does the complete opposite of what you suggest.

Let's say you have a friend, Rachel. Rachel messages you with a conundrum. She just matched with someone really cute on Bumble who is keen to meet up but she has "literally, like, no free time" between juggling two jobs, a full-time study load, a sick dog, and an online shopping problem. You suggest that it might be best to postpone the date until next week, when she has a little more space in her clusterfuck of a life. "Yeah, you're probably right," she replies with the sulky-sad emoji. "Thanks babe xx." She sends you mirror selfies the next day from someone else's bedroom.

From meal choices to work decisions, haircuts and new cars, the asshole will inevitably rear their ugly head to smile and nod at your thoughtful suggestion before promptly ignoring it.

But why? Do I just give really shit advice, or is there something more complex going on?

I spoke to Iain Crossing, a business psychologist working on a PhD at USyd, to try and shed some light on this unfortunate social phenomenon. He says that advice-seeking behaviours are extremely important for learning how to approach positive experiences and avoid negative ones.

"Advice helps us calibrate our sense of how well we are making decisions," he says.

But while humans are hardwired to approach others, this doesn't always translate into acting on others' advice. Iain puts this down to two factors: the receiver's personal beliefs, and the advice-giver's tone.

"When advice is unsolicited or directive, it can be interpreted as criticism, which makes people defensive," he says. "If advice-givers can take a coaching approach rather than a 'telling what to do' approach, this can lessen defensiveness in the receiver."

Me? Critical? NEVER. Alas, this is a very valid point. Like their defiance towards car GPS systems, people simply don't want to be told what to do ("take me to Chatswood, goddamnit!"). They seize up, safeguard their egos, and brush away your advice in favour of their own inclinations.

So what can we do to avoid defensiveness?

"Take some time to listen to the person you're trying to help to really understand the issue," Iain suggests. "Saying, 'In situations like this, I've seen people do X, how would that work for you?' is much better than 'You should do X'."

But what if people still refuse to listen? What if you've sat them down in classic Dr Phil fashion, furrowed your brow, ummd and ahhd in all the right places, finally thrown in your two cents and then they tell you to cash them outside?

As much as this behaviour frustrates me, Iain points out that it's rarely harmful for people to make decisions independently.

"Most situations aren't life or death," he says.

"People do need to learn things for themselves and hearing someone tell you what to do is one narrow method of learning."

If someone does choose to approach you for some pearls of wisdom, you shouldn't be too offended if they inspect the pearls and place them back into your palm.

"The best thing an advice-giver can do if the person won't take it is to be supportive and helpful, regardless of whether they turn out to be right or wrong," says Iain.

This can be very difficult. Often the first thing we're inclined to do when we find out that we were right all along is to scream, "I told you so!" But a win-or-lose mindset privileges ends over means. It implies that life is a multiple-choice quiz where getting the answer right is more important than thinking about the questions. This consequentialism is out of touch with the reality that sometimes our advice is rejected because the so-called 'asshole' was never looking for a solution. Sometimes 'advice' means 'guidance', not 'answers', and you can't blame someone for turning down a different road when they only ever asked you to be a passenger—not a navigator.

So maybe it's ok if I—oh, I mean Rachel—doesn't take her friend's advice. Maybe it's OK to send mirror selfies from someone else's bedroom. Maybe it's OK for us to ask for suggestions and then ignore them completely. Maybe we're not all assholes—maybe we're just human.

Human, and bloody irritating.



Artwork by Brendan O'Shea

Leave us in peace

Bowen Yan and Suyu Liu speak to Chinese international students about their response to anti-China sentiments.

When Clive Hamilton's book *Silent Invasion* was recently published, claiming Chinese agents are undermining Australia's sovereignty, it did not raise the anticipated response of outrage from Chinese international students. This outcome should not be surprising: Chinese students, the antagonists in such narratives, have mostly remained calm when confronted with the anti-China sentiments voiced

in Australian society.

We thought that people on campus would be interested in international students' attitudes towards the anti-Chinese rhetoric directed at them. Does it place a burden on our daily lives? Do we feel forced to engage politically in our adopted country? Are we're resentful towards the limited, but damaging attitudes towards us?

Our intention is not to post any form of academic rebuttal or political refutation against the concept of a 'Chinese invasion' or the oft-implied opinion that 'Chinese students are spies'. Rather, we aim to lay bare the personal experiences of three Chinese international students currently at USyd. After reading their stories, you may have the answers to all your questions.

Peter*, 20

Great climate, intense academic atmosphere, and natural scenery: here are countless reasons for me to fall in love with this country. But I still want to emphasize that I have no interest in staying in Australia after graduation whatsoever.

I am just a hasty by-passer of this country

I'm not really going to spend much effort in understanding ... because the unfamiliar cultural environment and different ways of communication make it impossible for me to find any sense of belonging.

and completing my further studies is the only purpose for me to come here. I'm not really going to spend much effort in understanding or integrating into this country because the unfamiliar cultural environment and different ways of communication make it impossible for me to find any sense of belonging.

In addition to job opportunities brought about by China's development, the strong reliance on one's hometown may be an important reason that more Chinese students want to return to their country to continue their professional career after completing their degrees. If these students have always kept their thoughts to their hometown and they are also eagerly looking forward to returning to China as soon as possible, then the idea of Chinese students being spies will be meaningless.

James*, 19

I still remember, at Shanghai Pudong International Airport three years ago, I carried two big suitcases and hugged farewell to my parents. Before entering the security checkpoint, I patiently listened to their wishes and concerns that I had repetitively heard over the last few months, because it would be a year or more before I saw them again.

Honestly speaking, my heaviest burden at the time was not about going to a strange country or taking difficult courses, but the high cost of living and tuition fees. Unlike other Chinese students, my decision to go abroad was abrupt. After completing the college entrance examination, I decided to go to Australia to face new challenges. I didn't realise that this decision exhausted all my parents' savings. Obviously my parents wouldn't complain to me about that—they just hoped that I would successfully complete my degree.

The moment my plane landed in Sydney, I realised that my life would be completely filled up with studying for the next three years. The daily repetitive life of going to classrooms, eating at canteens and living at dormitories is boring, but the enormous economic commitment of my parents and their high expectations force me into repeating the same daily chores.

I'm telling you this experience because I want you to realise that there is zero probability that Chinese students are 'being sent on a mission as spies in Australia'. The pursuit of academic achievement is my first priority, and I think this is the same condition for all Chinese students living in Australia.

We don't have the time to commit ourselves to such 'nationalism'—as we have sometimes been accused of doing—simply because we do not want to waste the life-savings of our parents that have been dedicated to our study.

Ken*, 21

For Chinese students who would like to try their best to integrate into campus culture and even strive for their own interests during their studies, they may most likely be accused of being spies sent by the Chinese government in recent years.

To be honest, the prudent fear of the Australian society towards the Chinese students disappoints me, but I still believe that the country's fair reasoning will finally defeat this gossip. I have always seen Australia's multiculturalism as a treasure of this country. Many Chinese students like myself want to let more people on this land understand what the real China looks like and win respect and due rights for themselves.

When I see my fellow peers creating various high-quality student societies to give more Australian students the opportunity to know about China's culture, I feel extremely proud because I think that the existence of these organisations will certainly contribute to eliminating misunderstandings. The Chinese people's philosophy has always been that harmony is prized, we will not hold any aggression to Australia when we come to this land.

These accounts are the perspectives of three typical Chinese international students, but they delineate the life conditions of so many Chinese students. We clearly know what our original intention was when we set foot into Australia, what kind of academic expectations we have on our backs, and the goals and dreams we have developed since being here. We also believe that with further discussion, and using our voices, the misunderstandings of Chinese students by the Australian society can be eliminated in the near future.

*Names have been changed








Free shit at uni

Millie Roberts asks not what you can do for your university, but rather, what your university can do for you.

Each semester, most under- and postgrads are charged a Student Services and Amenities Fee. While the charges fluctuate, a three-year full time degree can leave you nearly \$900 out of pocket. Therefore, it's worth taking advantage of the small breadcrumbs the University throws at the masses. Be your own goddamn Robin Hood.









LEGEND

There's always a catch...






-  **ACCESS:** need username or password
-  **BLOCK:** a restriction on using the freebie
-  **TIME:** a time limitation on access
-  **ANNOYAL:** how considerate you'll have to be
-  **KNOWLEDGE:** prior information or understanding needed



Knowledge is power










- The online library site gives full access to a plethora of databases, including **Google Scholar** and **Factiva**.
 - *  If it's not under fraudulent circumstances and you've sought permission, using your mate's username and password will get you in after you've graduated.
- Free digital subscription to the **Australian**, if that's your kind of thing.
 - *  Only 50,000 individual users are eligible
 - *  Access expires on 25th August 2018, pending resubscription.
- Free Wi-Fi throughout campus to download your shows, submit assignments and do other internet-ly things. With five library spaces open 24/7 as well, browse in comfort.
 - *  Unikey and password needed to login to UniSydney network.
 - *  Guests have to request, and are only allowed on the network for 24 hours.
- Fisher Library has a lot of rentable **DVDs** (educational or otherwise) as well as access to **Kanopy**, a streaming service with over 30,000 docos, classic and indie films.
 - *  Student ID card is needed to borrow from USyd libraries and as always, Unikey and password needed for online resources
- The SRC Bookshop is closing down and handing out free secondhand **textbooks**.
 - *  Final closure is the end of Week 3.
 - *  The textbooks are undergraduate studies only.

Objective fun

- **3D printing** and carving equipment at Fisher if you've lost a discontinued part on an appliance but don't want to buy a whole new one.
 - *  You'll have to make and save your designs on a certain file type if your design doesn't already exist.
 - *  Unless you patent your brainchild, it's expected you share your creation with ThinkSpace.
- **Table tennis** is available around main campus with the introduction with outdoor tables (Molecular Bioscience building, Wentworth building, etc.).
 - *  Some are exclusive to certain faculties or facilities, such as SUSF.
- Some campuses, such as main and Cumbo, have free **phone charging stations**.
 - *  Stay nearby? Obviously?? People can steal your stuff???
- Free **condoms** at the SRC office.
 - *  The SRC building is only open weekdays 9am - 5pm.



Other

- **Free legal service** and caseworkers are on hand at the SRC.
 - *  Appointments are needed outside drop-in availability (Tuesdays and Thursdays 1-3pm).
- Emergency **temporary housing** for both domestic and international students at STUCCO Housing Co-operative, which is partially owned by USyd.
 - *  Only six spots available
 - *  Short term stays only
- USyd **financial assistance** will offer you a bursary (you get to keep it) or loan if you are in financial trouble.
 - *  Limitations on what given money can be used on.
- Most **faculty societies** are free to join and (often) let non-ACCESS members attend their events.
 - *  While they (often) let non-ACCESS members attend events, this is not a blanket rule and you could be turned away.
- Major corporations are begging you to use their services to get a throttlehold on the student market. Thanks for the free **Microsoft Office 365** and **15GB Dropbox cloud storage!**
 - *  Annual renewal
 - *  Unikey and password
- Keep your eyes peeled for USyd's own **council clear-out**. Every so often, you can spot disowned, yet usable office chairs, tables and TVs hanging out near bins, begging to be picked up.
 - *  You could be halted by campus security
- On Eastern Avenue, near City Road, there's a bike fixing station with tools and pumps to bring life back into your riding.
 - *  Need prior knowledge of fixing bikes

Discounted prices are available for USU ACCESS card holders—or just by being a current student both on and off campus. While nothing is as satisfying as a good old freebie, just remember that working with (or against) the system takes effort, consumes time and can involve legal ramifications.

"There used to be heaps more stuff," says Melissa de Silva, caseworker and policy officer at the SRC. "But even [the number of] sausage sizzles have been reduced." It's worth asking where the money saved by culling freebies on campus is redirected to. But in the meantime, utilise what's available—even if it's not designed for taking.



Looking back: Ann Curthoys on the Freedom Rides

Pranay Jha interviews a USyd legend.



A photo of Ann Curthoys from her student days fascinates me. She is standing next to a bus with her fellow students and comrades from 'Student Action for Aborigines' (SAFA). It is not a particularly eventful moment to capture, yet the innocuous nature of this snapshot is exactly what draws me in. This is the first glance I have of esteemed activists as 'normal' students. The photo is from 1965, but it is before the Freedom Rides gain traction and notoriety around the world. It dawns on me these renowned activists were students, and many of them were the age I am now. Interested in what has changed and what remains the same, I decide to speak with Ann.

Ann's upbringing was undeniably central to the activist spirit she brought to USyd's campus. Both her parents "were members of the Communist Party of Australia" and she recalls activists "often visiting [her] house". As a child, she attended Eureka Camps where she socialised with other communist offspring. She would later join the Eureka Youth League, a political organisation. Although she grew up in Newcastle, Ann was able to "maintain connections to Sydney" through these youth political groups. In 1963 she eventually decided to study at the University of Sydney. She chuckles as she recalls being motivated by a desire "not to attend a university where [her] father was an academic".

Surprisingly, Ann found campus culture conservative and apathetic: "[There were] posters that said S.A.G—'Student Apathy Group'. Students found that quite funny." Having heard of the golden age of activism in the 70s, I always imagined that the University of Sydney had a strong radical ethos through the '60s and '70s. However, as Ann explains, attitudes only shifted to the left in the later stages of her undergraduate studies. "'65/'66 is when it really starts to change in terms of a more radical politics and even a bit after that as well."

Although she never aspired to enter parliamentary politics, Ann took after her parents by becoming a member of the communist party in the early stages of her degree. However, after being in the party for less than two years, she decided to leave "over issues of democracy...influenced by the rise of the

new left." As she continued her degree, Ann became part of other interesting activist movements. In those days, activist meetings were "quite formal", with "presidents and secretaries". This is contrary to the proudly 'functional degenerate' branding of modern campus activists. She recalls the distinctive influence of the Vietnam War in "shifting students to the left" as they began engaging in "the burning of draft cards, anti-conscription demonstrations... and more expressive politics".

Ann's most remembered activism was probably the Freedom Rides of 1965, an event still discussed by students. The Freedom Riders formed as a result of rising student awareness of domestic indigenous issues, inspired in part by the civil rights movement in the United States. Whilst a lot of organising occurred when Ann went back home to Newcastle over the summer, she was an active participant in the rides, recording the events in diary accounts that would later form an important historical record of the students' activism. "It was quite a funny diary. There was no privacy in the Freedom Rides. We were usually sleeping in a bus or church halls, so I wrote it in a way where it wouldn't matter if someone found it."

Ann laughs as she says "looking back, I'm glad it was written that way... because others can read it without me feeling too embarrassed." For her, one of the major challenges was "going into the unknown. I didn't really understand the politics of country towns...what people really objected to was an aboriginal man being a leader with white students." Ann puts it well when she suggests that "our existence was an assault on their understanding" of the world. Additionally, she recalls "attacks on the women involved, sort of sexual innuendos...we learnt very quickly, the notion of equal treatment was very challenging to people."

There were also positive aspects to the rides. "It was a big learning experience, there was no doubt about that." She found "engagement with Aboriginal people in the different towns, particularly Moree and Walgait" to be rewarding, as the students were able to work with local indigenous leadership. "Charles Perkins being the leader was also really striking to people, we learnt a lot seeing that dynamic play out...what an effective speaker he was." When asked about overcoming their own doubts over whether they'd be able to



effect change, Ann tells me "we were convinced we would win in the long run. But it would be a long run, and it was quite a long run." There was also a sense that a general movement was being built, which made it easier for students to remain optimistic. Importantly, Ann qualifies that "in terms of combating racism, I don't know."

Curious about student life beyond activism, I ask Ann about the campus sub-cultures during her time. One notable feature was the commemoration day celebrations, which I have often found referenced in old editions of *Honi* but never quite understood. "It was quite a big thing," she says, "from the name I presume it was celebrating the beginning of the university...it did have a parade through town—when I think about it, that's quite extraordinary." I find there to be something quite charming about the image of student larrikins parading through town—a wholesome but quirky university tradition that reflects a sense of affinity between students. When Ann compares those days to her most recent visits to the university she suggests "there's been a huge change...the growth in the size of it has made it difficult to have a sense of it as a single institution." Whilst there were divisions on campus during her own time, she seems to feel as if the university's expansion has caused a greater disconnect between students. Of course, the other forthcoming difference was the changes in the diversity of campus. When reminiscing on her particularly meaningful friendships with fellow female students, Ann remembers the bonds formed over "shared experiences of going through the challenges of university life and developing careers".

I decide to conclude by asking Ann what her fondest memory of campus life is. "That's a tough one", she says as she reflects on her numerous recollections from university days. "I really find it hard to answer. In some ways it was enjoying the academic side of things. In some ways it's just making good friends...but it has to be the student engagement. It was important looking back." As our interview reaches its end, I start wondering what my reflections on campus will be like in 50 years time. I sincerely hope I can look back at my time at USyd as fondly as Ann seems to.

Practise until we get this number right!

James Newbold analyses the musical devices used by the campus' protesters.

Whether you're a full time Stupol hack or you're just trying to have some quiet study time in Fisher library, you may have heard Social Justice Warriors™ protesting on campus at some point. Despite the negative reputation of these Jobless Latte-Sipping Lefties®, they're also responsible for some musical compositions that would have made Mozart proud.

The fine art of the protest chant is criminally underrated, but is a truly beautiful rhythmic expression. That's why this music nerd is here to give some insight into the skills of chant composition and performance!

First thing's first: finding the beat! The big 2/4 at the start of the notation lets us know that this song has 2 (hence the 2) full beats (hence the 4—why 4? don't ask), which is a marching rhythm. Lots of protest chants use 2/4 because marching is the only exercise that Inner-West vegans get.

Protest chants are deceptively simple, but the best ones have a healthy dose of what us musos call "syncopation": that is, rhythms which regularly fall on off-beats in between the "1, 2, 1, 2".

Our key example of a protest chant is the classic "Stand Up! Fight Back!" which has a long history originating in the labour movement and diversifying into other issues. It goes as follows:

"When worker's rights are under attack
Whadda we do?! STAND UP FIGHT BACK!"

One of the great things about it is that it can be applied to any good cause! So, what about student's rights? "STAND UP FIGHT BACK!" And if Cate Blanchett is under attack, what do we do?

"STAND UP FIGHT BACK!" Video Ezy? "STAND UP FIGHT BACK!" Shannon Noll? "STAND UP FIGHT BACK!"

Rhythmically, there is more to this chant than meets the eye.

Some of the accented beats (work, rights, are, at-tack) fall on suspiciously similar beats to known SJW George Michael's "Faith". More importantly though, it pulls a lot of classic protest chant moves that make it a good exemplar for how important the rhythm is to the delivery of a chant.

Firstly, this chant is a call-and-response, where the leader (megaphone-holder/loud person) says part of the chant and the rally responds with the chant title. The only thing unusual about this chant is that most of it is spoken by the leader, but that makes it an even more accessible learning tool. Sometimes there's tension between rival lead chanters, who quickly change the 'call' portion from solo to polyphonic tutti.

The call-and-response allows both the leader and the rally time to breathe in between their share of yelling, which helps maintain stamina whilst also deflecting conservative commentators' arguments that protesters are "a waste of air".

On that note, chant leaders should take note not to begin chants too fast and also resist the urge to get faster and faster until the rally gets so incoherent that the cops (Get those animals / Off those horses!) take over chant leadership out of pure frustration.

Another classic student protest chant move is what musical puritans call an anacrusis, or less

pretentiously, a lead-in. What this means is that the first word of the chant, "when", falls before the first beat rather than on it. This allows the first beat to accentuate the more crucial syllable of "work" which helps drive home the message.

Importantly, it also plays a practical function in chant delivery by allowing the chant leader greater control over the tempo (pace). "But that's anti-socialist/anarchist/democratic/fun!", the protesters can be heard saying. Megaphone collectivisation and skill-sharing is recommended to mitigate this necessary evil. Chant leaders should take note not to begin chants too fast or to get faster and faster until the rally gets so incoherent that the mounted police (Get those animals / Off those horses!) start leading the chant out of pure frustration.

Finally, how do chants end? The answer is often a bit like free jazz: improvisational and comedic. Listen out for your fellow musicians, especially the one person who goes in for another round of the chant but ends up in an awkward solo, giving up after "when workers..." Like this article, chants will fizzle out unspectacularly, but the key is to have another one ready to go!

Hopefully the beautiful person reading this has learnt something about either music or student activism. But everyone knows that protest chants are better live than on the album. Consider hearing them in the flesh at the National Day of Action on the 21st of March here at USYD, or the #Time2Choose rally on the 24th.

General release: the gentrification of TNs

Jamie Weiss is pumped up about these kicks.

"They've just got a bit of danger to them," Moses* tells me about his new sneakers. They're certainly aggressively styled: ensconced in ripples of thermoplastic with a bulging sci-fi midsole, his fresh pair of Nike Air Max Pluses — or as they're commonly known, "TNs" — are a unique statement.

TNs made their debut in 1998, and were unlike any other shoe on the market. Lavish, technical and expensive, TNs struck a particular chord in Australian street culture. They became part of the unofficial uniform for lads. They didn't come cheap, but their hefty price tag and unmistakable look were part of their appeal: Mahmood Fazal's VICE article "Nike TNs: Australia's Most Fuck You Shoe" argues that "[TNs] were an emblem of thuggish anarchy, a subtle air-raid to your peers that you were 'doing well' off the street." Even today, wearing a pair carries a cultural cachet not unlike Doc Martens for skinheads or R.M. Williams for stupol hacks. TNs are a counter-cultural icon, niche but instantly recognisable, equally admired and derided by our generation.

Or at least, they used to be. Now, Foot Locker and Rebel Sports stores in suburbs across the country sell TNs alongside adidas Stan Smiths and New York Yankees caps. TNs of myriad colours and varieties grace the feet of everyone from finance majors to Lush employees. It might seem hyperbolic to say the shoe has been "gentrified", but there's a truth to it—why, in 2018, has the TN has entered mainstream culture?

It's hard to shake the impression that many young Australians are choosing to rock TNs

because they want to look tough and, like Moses, are co-opting fashion from a culture they perceive as "dangerous." It's undeniable that popular fashion values an aesthetic that originates from disadvantage: tracksuits and TNs were Western Sydney form, not North Shore form, and it's always unsettling when middle-class Australians ape Westies' fashion for kudos.

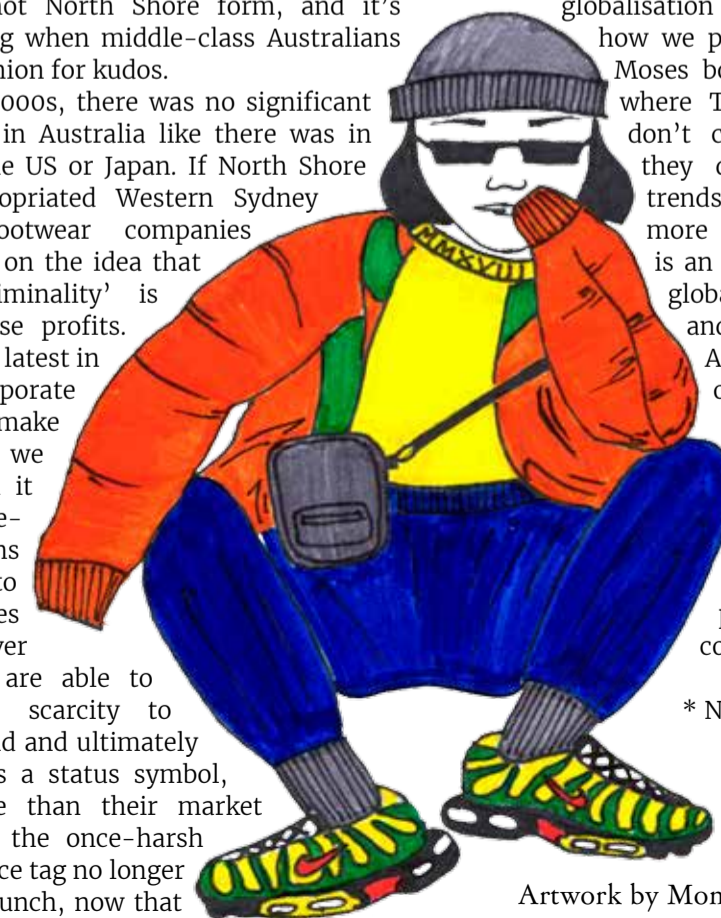
In the early 2000s, there was no significant 'sneaker scene' in Australia like there was in countries like the US or Japan. If North Shore kids have appropriated Western Sydney style, then footwear companies have capitalised on the idea that performing 'criminality' is cool to maximise profits.

TNs could be the latest in a long list of corporate manoeuvres to make us buy things we don't need, and it seems like middle-class Australians have bought into it. Once companies have control over the idea, they are able to create artificial scarcity to stimulate demand and ultimately establish TNs as a status symbol, worth far more than their market price. However, the once-harsh aesthetic and price tag no longer pack the same punch, now that

the eminence and calibre of Nike's TN's profile has been challenged by the new: Adidas' Yeezy line and haute couture brands like Gucci and Balenciaga's forays into streetwear.

Moses justifies his footwear by telling me that globalisation plays an important role in how we perceive modes of fashion. Moses bought his TNs in the UK, where TNs are also popular but don't conjure the same stigma they do in Australia. Fashion trends are becoming steadily more internationalised. Sydney is an increasingly multicultural, globally connected hub of ideas and values, as is the rest of Australia. Maybe it's the fate of TNs for their Australian meaning to be lost in the face of a different, more global conception — or maybe it's worth securing their place in history, along with the people who made them cool in the first place.

* Name has been changed



Artwork by Momoko Metham

HERMANN'S RUINED COMEDY

Victoria Zerbst and Mary Ward have the last laugh.

In 2009, Susie Youssef was performing at Hermann's Bar at the USU's weekly comedy room, Project 52.

Awarded Best Comedy Room by Time Out Sydney in 2011, Project 52 (known as 'P52') went on to launch the careers of some of Sydney's top stand-up comedians.

Nine years and multiple solo shows later, Youssef was back at the same venue and had to start her set with five minutes of trying to get students up the back to stop talking.

Youssef was the headliner for this year's OWeek comedy night, put on by USU-funded comedy collective, Small Trumpet. The show was the collective's first big-name night after Hermann's Bar received a refurbishment funded by Chinese beer brand Tsingtao last year.

At Sydney University, we have a habit of assuming campus institutions are very old. Comedy at Hermann's is not. In fact, Hermann's, as a venue, is not either.

Originally named Wentworth Bar, the space we now know as Hermann's first opened at the end of 1988, when the USU extended the Wentworth Building towards Butlin Avenue.

It was a venue largely disliked by students. While Manning Bar had the stage set up to host gigs, band comps and theatresports, Hermann's was really just a place on the wrong side of campus selling beer to engineers and commerce students.

In *Honi's* 2005 OWeek guide, Wentworth Bar was described as Manning's "perpetual second-fiddle, and it knows it".

In 2006, the USU turned Wentworth Bar into

Hermann's Bar, the state it existed in until last year.

"Wentworth Bar was very tired and sad so we spent about \$25,000 turning it into a cocktail lounge with a small stage," Alistair Cowie, the USU's director of sales, marketing and infrastructure, tells *Honi*.

He adds that the venue was named for colourful former University chancellor Sir Hermann Black "just because". A picture of Black, who died in 1990, hung in the bar until the Tsingtao-funded refurbishment.

For current campus comedians, P52 is remembered as a golden age of Sydney University comedy.

In its early days, Hermann's was woefully unpopular. In 2007, a "Manning vs Hermann's" face off was published in the 28 March edition of *Honi*. Its only defence of Hermann's was as a source of free finger food, a status it earned because its lack of popularity among students had made it a common place for the USU to hold corporate events.

It wasn't until 2009 that comedy came to the venue with P52, the result of a deal struck between the USU and campus comedy group The Delusionists, who had been using USU funding to perform at the Melbourne Comedy Festival for the previous two years.

The group—*The Checkout's* Alex Lee, *Dragon Friends'* Simon Grenier, Youssef, and *Free to a Good Home* podcast hosts Ben Jenkins and Michael Hing—would continue to receive their funding if they started a comedy room at Hermann's and organised 52 shows a year. The weekly shows peddled through three different billings: Hermann's Heroes (stand-up), Make Way for Ducklings (sketch), and Story Club (a storytelling show which is still performed today at Giant Dwarf). Improv was added later.

According to Hing, Hermann's at the time was host to a variety of eccentric happenings.

"JazzSoc would play there from 5-7pm. Engineering students did medieval reenactments on the lawns outside. There would be drum and bass gigs 'til the early morning. There were rubber ball fetish parties and queer parties."

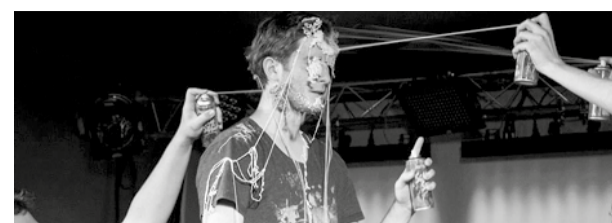
One time, Hing recalls needing to clean a wall because he found the words "fuck off and die, breeders" written in what he believes was human blood.

For current campus comedians, P52 is remembered as a golden age of Sydney University comedy. However, Jenkins tells *Honi* their room "has been mythologised in a way, and [its] shortcomings sort of overlooked".

"The room has always been terrible for comedy," Hing adds. "It only became a vibe because everyone was there for the show."

The P52 organisers used to arrive 90 minutes before their shows to rearrange speakers and set up chairs. Hing describes their first year as "really rough". Audience numbers were not dissimilar to those seen at Hermann's comedy nights today.

"Thirty [people] was really good," Jenkins says. (For the nerds out there, in 2009, the University



P52 comedians in Extreme Theatresports, 2013

enrolment was slightly smaller, at 47,000 students compared to 53,000 in 2016.)

P52's comedy was experimental, and often messy: performers threw buckets of squid at the audience during a *Game of Thrones* sketch, Hing pelted eggs at Tom Walker (who won Best Newcomer at the 2016 Melbourne Comedy Festival) for 12 minutes during a sketch aptly titled "Tom Walker Human Egg Beater Sketch", and one time the troupe fitted their fists with raw chickens for "chicken boxing".

"It was a scummy venue no one cared about," Hing says. "That's probably why we could get away with what we did."

The joke was that, thanks to the deal they had cut with the USU, P52 were contractually obligated to be there. Over their four years, they only cancelled two shows. Because, while the performance was silly, P52 did operate as a serious comedy room: the group charged entry, and locked the doors so punters wouldn't wander in.

Stand-up comic Cassie Workman was a frequent performer at P52 and looked back on the room with great fondness. "I loved performing [there]. It was dark, people came and paid money," she says.

Alongside Youssef, Workman returned to Hermann's for this year's OWeek event. When we asked her about the new space, she told us she had to work a bit harder because "it was still light and people were very spaced out" (the gig was from 5-7pm).

Mentioning the room's echo and how its concrete floors makes the noise bleed, Workman describes the new space as a "canteen in a factory, utilitarian and sanitised".

"It's not a great place for expression unless you are expressing postmodern existential dread."

Of course, a number of factors contributed to the atmosphere of this year's OWeek gig: the 5pm start-time, or the lack of entry fee, which meant no one felt they lost anything when they walked out.

But you can't ignore the impact of the refurbishment: once a large rectangular platform in the centre of the back wall, fitted with curtains and facing couches and stools, the stage is now a meagre semi-circle in the corner of a sparsely decorated concrete room.

Jon Lo, one of the group who organises the Small Trumpet comedy nights, cites the corner stage as the biggest challenge for performing comedy in the new space.

"From a feng shui perspective... the symbolism of the space is less directed towards performing arts," he half-jokes.

Cassie Workman stresses the importance of a dark, intimate space. "A good venue has no natural light, controlled lighting with audiences sitting in close proximity in rowed or tiered seating," she says. Currently there is a glass wall behind the stage and large glass windows in the front of the venue, so it is obvious when it is daytime.

Small Trumpet told *Honi* they had met to discuss how to navigate the new space, with some members even suggesting a relocation to SUDS' Cellar Theatre or an off-campus venue.

But there is still a strong connection to the history of the space, and student organisers are trying to make it work.

Reuben Ward, another member of the Small Trumpet group, has reached out to the USU about the sound issues and is sympathetic to their responses.

"They are committed to doing things and making things better. And to their credit they did put in a lighting rig after I spoke to them about that."

Honi contacted the USU for comment on whether any improvement to the venue's sound facilities was planned for the final phase of the refurbishment, due to be completed this year. The USU replied that the project was intended to focus only on redeveloping the beer garden but, after hearing the feedback explored in this article, they promised to "make sure it's captured" and, in the meantime, ask the licensee to "look into the sound".

Once a large rectangular platform in the centre of the back wall, fitted with curtains and facing couches and stools, the stage is now a meagre semi-circle in the corner of a sparsely decorated concrete room.

Because this is the thing: you cannot say that the USU is not a supporter of campus comedy.

Small Trumpet—not to mention the revue season and Theatresports—are well-funded programs. Small Trumpet have reign over the same USU-owned Darlington terrace workspace (dubbed Comedy House) that P52 were given a decade ago.

This year's OWeek comedy event had roughly half the turnout of last year's (at the old Hermann's) for a comparably good lineup. At an event largely marketed to first years, it seems unlikely the low numbers were due to the bad space, which many of the attendees had no prior experience of.

Ward agrees. "It's easy to be upset about the space but we as organisers have a lot of problems too."

On a broader level, campus culture is harder to sustain now than when P52 was Sydney's best



Sir Hermann Black, former University chancellor

comedy room. A 2016 *Honi* investigation tracked declining attendance at faculty revues over the same period.

Jenkins and Hing—who ran P52 while living in a sharehouse opposite Victoria Park paying meagre rent that will make you cry—suggested the Sydney housing market could be to blame. When P52 ran, students were able to afford to live near campus, and fewer needed to leave after class for a long commute home.

Of course, the Hermann's refurbishment has its flaws. Lo describes it as a "commercialised parody of itself".

When announcing the refurbishments last year, the USU described their vision for Hermann's as "a place for students not rockstars".

It seems the USU may have forgotten that student comedians, although they're not rockstars, also need a performance venue.

Why can't you hear comedy at Hermann's?

The new Hermann's design according to an architect, a bartender, and a student comedian.

"The problem is the speakers, they're angled. So, if you're in the front row, the sound goes over you."

Anonymous Hermann's bartender

"It's just shit."

Jon Lo, Small Trumpet Organiser

"If the remaining surfaces, after removal of carpet and curtains, are mainly hard, then the room's reverberation time may increase considerably. The effects of a longer reverberation time can be that speech becomes smeared in time (speech intelligibility is reduced) and the room becomes louder (because the sound does not get absorbed as quickly). Loudness of people talking is exacerbated by the 'Lombard effect' – as people speak more loudly to compete with other people's voices. The spatial decay rate of speech is likely to be reduced in a room with significantly less sound absorption, which means that people's voices carry further."

Associate Professor Densil Cabrera, Sydney School of Architecture, Design and Planning



Shubha Sivasubramanian in comic piece, 2015

Raise your voice to save Sydney nightlife

Andrew Rickert explores how you can make a difference for the future of this city.

In 2007, Kevin Rudd was elected Prime Minister, and Morris Iemma was Premier of New South Wales. It was the year Britney Spears shaved her head and Paris Hilton went to jail. First year students beginning university in 2018 would have been just six years old. That was the year the current map of Sydney's nightlife was drawn.

How do you redraw a ten-year-old map to suit the needs of 200,000 residents and over 600,000 daily visitors?

This is the question facing the City of Sydney Council.

The *City of Sydney Late Night Trading Premises Development Control Plan 2007* is a 32 page document that details how and why applications for businesses to trade late at night will be assessed by the council. It sets out "a hierarchy of three late night trading areas": Late-Night Management Areas, City Living Areas, and Local Centre Areas.

A new plan is now being prepared, and it is 'Open For Consultation'. The City is looking to democratically represent the current and future needs of its constituents and visitors—because the new map potentially has to last another ten years.

The key word is democratic. The City understands that people who are inclined to an early night are more likely to be writing to the Council applauding strict regulations, while a significant number of young people don't understand what the Council does, or even that it exists. The squeaky wheel gets the grease.

The new plan has one main objective: to serve as the 'playbook' for venues in Sydney, ensuring the same rules apply to everyone, and that this regulatory framework protects both Sydney's nightlife as well as its residential amenity.

It's a critically important plan—not only for maintaining some semblance of 'culture' in the city, but also to its economy, with the entire night-time business economy generating more than \$15.1 billion in revenue in 2009, representing 28.4 per cent of all jobs.

Since its creation 11 years ago, the largest change to the shape of the map has been lockout laws. The 2012 death of Thomas Kelly and 2013 death of Daniel Christie, both in the same location in Kings Cross, spurred the NSW government to enact change. As part of a raft of measures, a 1:30am lockout and 3am 'last drinks' rule was introduced to venues

within the 'CBD entertainment precinct'.

There has been direct political action against these laws. Keep Sydney Open, which advocates for expanded, more diverse, and safer nightlife, has drawn tens of thousands to rallies and is preparing for a NSW upper house campaign in the 2019 state election.

The City of Sydney Council responded to this public momentum with their *OPEN Sydney: Future Directions for Sydney at Night*. Strategy and Action Plan 2013-2030. It's a five-part plan "for the development of Sydney's night-time economy over the next 20 years".

The crux of the *Development Control Plan* is the map. The map dictates which areas of Sydney will allow restaurants to open until midnight, late-night cafes available for a hot cocoa catch up, or pubs with a 3am last call. It will reflect the changes Sydney's areas have gone through—some of which are busier, some of which have changed in character, and others which are home to new venues and residents.

If writing a formal letter to the local government strikes you as boring, you are the reason Sydney's nightlife will remain in its current state. But it doesn't have to be that way. The council has recognised that young people are more likely to engage with what is in front of them, and has responded by using a website and app to collect responses.



Artwork by Jess Zlotnick

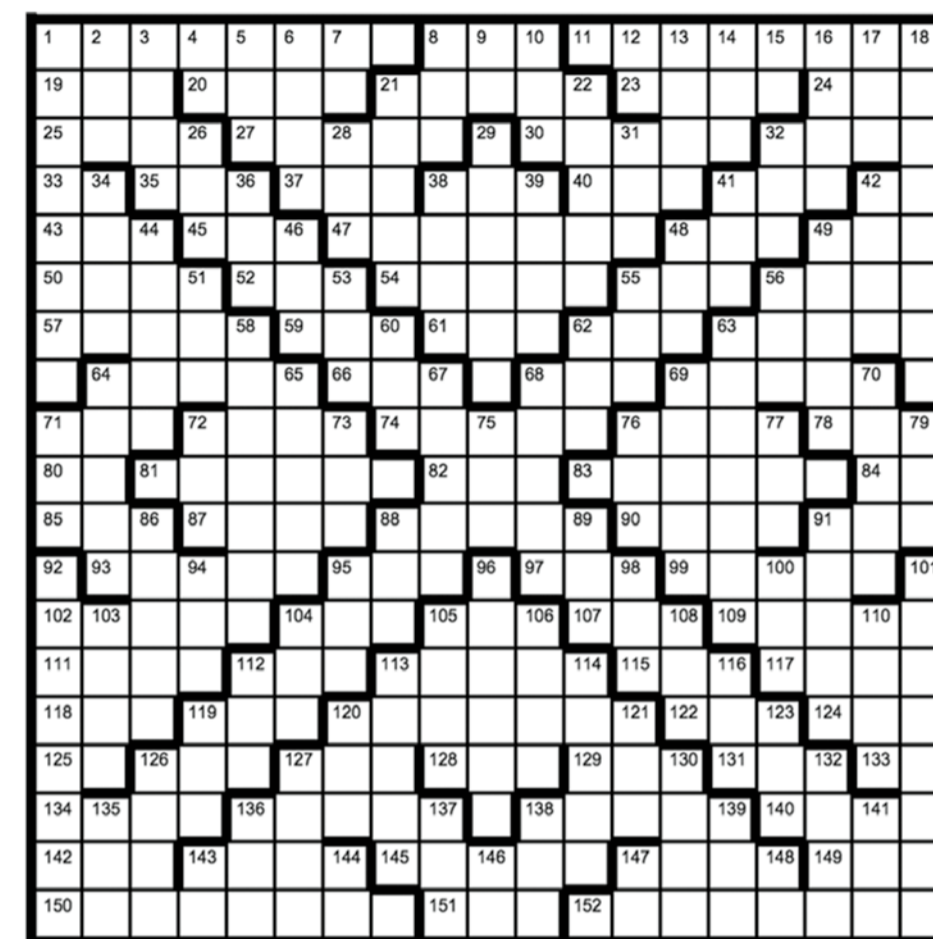
All of the information is available on the council's sydneyyoursay.com.au website, but the gist is that they need as many young people who understand Sydney's nightlife to come into their metaphorical office and help redraw the map. The consultation period to stand up for Sydney's nightlife ends on 30 March. There's an online survey, there are group discussion guides, and the app has potential prizes for people who submit responses. Hell, even go into their real office and help them redraw it.

Artwork by Andrew Rickert



BARRED CROSSWORD

Puzzle by Cloud Runner



Across

- 1 Border beyond which lies wilderness
- 8 Enemy
- 11 Alternative personality
- 19 Yours and mine
- 20 Expression of pain
- 21 Lisa Wilkinson used to work for this show
- 23 Wheel protector
- 24 Pepsi variant
- 25 Small units of time
- 27 Facial paralyser
- 30 Train station between Sydenham and Wolli Creek
- 32 Flat out
- 33 Thanks
- 35 Also known as
- 37 Type of logic gate
- 38 Take a seat
- 40 First Chairman of China
- 41 It is contracted
- 42 Type of modulation used for 70 Down
- 43 You've heard of this on the shelf
- 45 A wonderful public broadcasting institution
- 47 Clank's partner
- 48 This lives in your hair
- 49 Host of the 2016 Olympics
- 50 Precipitation
- 52 Chandelier singer
- 54 Father of the Russian Revolution
- 55 Supporter
- 56 Five hundred twenty-five thousand, six hundred minutes
- 57 Piece of writing
- 59 Vice City and San Andreas are installments of this game
- 61 Sharp metal implement
- 62 Water container
- 63 A section of a poem
- 64 Side of the face
- 66 The tenth month
- 68 Pitch
- 69 Forger
- 71 Plaything
- 72 Dathomirian Sith Lord
- 74 A long hum
- 76 Short demonstration
- 78 Is in the past
- 80 French word for gold
- 81 Boundary
- 82 Parramatta footballer
- 83 Fervent, glowing
- 84 Hairstyle
- 85 John Lennon's middle name
- 87 Sturdy footwear
- 88 Slightly intoxicated
- 90 Winter holiday
- 91 Adultery, murder, etc
- 93 These are found below the knees
- 95 Golfing average
- 97 Most organisations hold one of these every year
- 99 Jonas Salk cured this disease
- 102 Stroll, saunter
- 104 Rash-producing virus
- 105 What you say when you get married
- 107 Adult male persons
- 109 Athlete's foot
- 111 Hip, fly, groovy
- 112 Dog alternative
- 113 Pleasant scent
- 115 Sports car suffix
- 117 Technology, for short
- 118 Weep
- 119 Mother pig
- 120 Vanessa in the Bee Movie has this profession
- 122 Prefix used for ships in the British navy
- 124 Which person?
- 125 United Arab Emirates domain

- 126 name
- 127 Uncooked
- 128 Anger
- 128 Used to catch fish or butterflies
- 129 Macquarie Park is an example of this
- 131 Writer of The Tell-Tale Heart
- 133 Original gangster
- 134 Can be a homophone of reed or red
- 136 Love dearly
- 138 Discourage
- 140 Motto of Liverpool FC (acronym)
- 142 Part of a circumference
- 143 Not new
- 145 Small Spanish dishes
- 147 Stalk
- 149 Lions live in this
- 150 Intrude
- 151 Stream of light
- 152 Misrepresentation

Down

- 1 Nurtured
- 2 Regret
- 3 Another term for killer whale
- 4 What no means
- 5 Water container
- 6 Symbol
- 7 Word used at the end of a question
- 8 Protagonist of Lylat Wars
- 9 Overdose
- 10 Consume
- 12 Lieutenant
- 13 Eror
- 14 Before
- 15 With reference to
- 16 Big birds native to Australia
- 17 Hot liquid becomes this
- 18 Business ethics
- 21 Sum
- 22 Arab country currently in a civil war
- 26 Precursor to reggae
- 28 Hill
- 29 Outdoor lunch
- 31 Often sat on during a 29 Down
- 32 Small piece
- 34 Exclamation of pity
- 36 Usyd building opened in 2016
- 38 Put one leg in front of the other
- 39 Narrow
- 41 Metal food receptacle
- 42 Italy's largest car manufacturer
- 44 Suspicious
- 46 Durry
- 48 Harass
- 49 Revitalise
- 51 Two of these come after a 'Whip'
- 53 Office that collects 88 Down
- 55 Unethical clothing material
- 56 Ox found in Tibet
- 58 Excellent 2009 film starring Jack Black and Michael Cera
- 60 Canberra is located here
- 62 Spread popular on a sandwich or toast
- 63 Merlin and Morgana live here
- 64 Painful calluses on the feet
- 65 Greek term for praise
- 67 Belonging to them
- 68 City in Oklahoma
- 69 Disgruntled
- 70 Electronic device used to listen to broadcasts
- 71 In addition, also
- 72 Disorderly crowd
- 73 Allow
- 75 Representative
- 76 Not wet
- 77 The loneliest number
- 79 Male offspring
- 86 I read the news today...
- 88 Duty
- 89 You get me?
- 91 Material in a tendon
- 92 James Bond's favourite card game
- 94 Sick
- 95 Marijuana
- 96 Loved dearly
- 98 Underrated character in Family Guy
- 100 Mildly intoxicated
- 101 Tropical tree known for its nice wood
- 103 Oliver Twist wanted this
- 104 A 112 Across has this for a foot
- 105 Press
- 106 Exclude
- 108 An unspecified member of a series
- 110 Reverberation
- 112 Where beef comes from
- 113 Vigilant
- 114 Cricket series played between England and Australia
- 116 Small evil spirit or devil
- 119 Forlorn
- 120 Opposite of to
- 121 Young Egyptian king
- 123 Tofu ingredient
- 126 Ethnicity
- 127 Thought
- 130 Second Greek letter
- 132 Edges
- 135 Make a mistake
- 136 Cleopatra's killer
- 137 Listener
- 138 24 hour period
- 139 Engage the accelerator
- 141 Not dry
- 143 You and me
- 144 Nice portable console made by Nintendo
- 146 Father
- 147 Suriname domain name
- 148 It's not you, it's

ANSWERS



Somewhere only we know: Bankstown

Community, stigma, and cohesion over division: **Alexandra Kovacs** reminisces on Bankstown.

To many Sydney locals, Bankstown is either a punchline or a nightmare. The very mention of the notorious south-western Sydney suburb raises brows and causes smiles to twist in disgust as though a rat-tailed lad in TNs and a faux Gucci bum-bag has appeared out of thin air.

Bankstown conjures mental images of dark tunnels where glass shards and graffiti are the only signs of life. You might think of a place where Centrelink and the police station share the same line; where rough words are exchanged like currency. Maybe you imagine that instead of alarms, the people of Bankstown wake to wailing ambulances and the lingering smell of gunpowder. Or maybe you have simply dismissed it as that place where 'Moey Dw' lives. For some of these stereotypes, you wouldn't be entirely wrong.

But when I think of Bankstown, I think of the warm, knowing smile of the post-office cashier at Bankstown Centro and my second kitchen, Bankstown Sports Club. When I see the 2200 postcode, faces, names, and places flash into my mind like developing polaroids.

Everyone seems to have an opinion about the suburb that gave Sydney cheap HSPs and popularised the word 'eshayz'. As someone who has actually lived in Bankstown, I could tell you about cops being shot three doors down and disgruntled boyfriends pacing the street with machetes. And how that's just another night in Bankstown.

At USyd, where less than 20 per cent of the student body is from Western Sydney, I've always felt uncertain about broaching the topic of where I lived with new friends. While we have all seen a mate or a juicy meme mock USyd as NSW's most pretentious tertiary institution, the reality is that there has long been, and continues to be, a divide between 'Sydney' and 'Western Sydney'. After all, young adults from Sydney have two favourite questions: "Where do you live?" and "What school did you go to?"

So would you believe me if I said that West



is best? A mecca where authentic yum cha and cheap kebabs meet on one corner—the humble and resilient character of Bankstown locals shines through in the small businesses which bring bustle to the suburb. Before you loved us Westies for El Jannah, Jasmin 1 was a hive of neon lights and sequined belly dancers, the steady yet erratic beat of the *tubel* drum, and the inviting smells of Lebanese food.

Bankstown Sports Club also stands out in my memories of culture and family as a world-within-a-world that guaranteed a fast feast. Cobblestone floors and earthy terracotta arches form *La Piazza*, Bankstown Sports' award-winning Italian dining precinct. Under Peroni umbrellas and gas lamp lights, a theatre of jumping flour and hand-spun woodfired pizzas play out from noon to night. With vines and makeshift laundry lines swaying from terrace balconies, surrounded by the best pizzas in

the south-west, I feel closer to the back streets of Verona than the social deviance that plays out in news headlines about Bankstown.

Following regular face-lifts over the last decade, Bankstown Sports Club thrives now more than ever. With its own craft beer microbrewery and marble cocktail bar, some may say that Bankstown has developed a taste for class. Bankstown Sports Club prevails as a mid-week hub of activity for locals, where live bands and ballroom dancing stretch into the evening and Thursday trivia packs out the main lounge.

I always feel somewhat uneasy about returning to Bankstown, a bit like visiting an old friend who hasn't changed in years when you have. Yet I always leave with a full belly, memories relived and, as the newspapers say, another machete wound.

Deep Tea Diving

Artwork by
Jess Zlotnick



A rose by any other name

The biggest news of 2018 dropped on Friday, when the *Daily Mail* published an exclusive, revealing Alisha Aitken-Radburn as one of the contestants on *The Bachelor*. The former USU Board President is preparing to 'Unleash Alisha' on television and laptop screens across the country come July, with filming starting last week. The former Bill Shorten staffer and campus BNOC is competing for the heart of rugby player, Nick 'The Honey Badger' Cummins. After graduating from her Media and Communications degree in 2016, the Unity (Labor Right) member worked as an 'advancer' in the Opposition Leader's office in Canberra. She began her career as an intern at *Mamamia* and reporter for *Honi Soit*, before zigzagging between media roles and political positions.

Readers may remember the 'blackface' scandal of 2015, when Alisha donned a charcoal face mask and posed for a Facebook photo. She told the commenters on the post to "settle the fuck down", and the incident was written about in a letter to *Honi*.

The incident, along with extensive pictures of Lish and her ex-boyfriend Dean Shachar (Vice-President of the Young Liberals), is now available for Australians far and wide to read about in the esteemed pages of the *Daily Mail*.

Despite Michaelia Cash almost leaking The Bachelor contestant news at a Senate Estimates Committee hearing, we at *Honi* are beyond excited for another year of Alisha-watch. She's come a long way from her days of singing "I wanna give you UV / I wanna give you foamie" in her election video.

Are you board of this yet?

USU Board nominations open next Monday, and this little mermaid is hearing whispers about prospective candidates. After speculation, Viran Weerasekera, a third year debater, confirmed to *Honi* he won't be running—at least not "this semester". Other names thrown around include Maya Eswaran, a Switch tickethead and current General Executive member of the SRC.

With its membership sitting at just five, SLS

is said to be considering avoiding the USU race altogether. That said, insiders have told this mermaid that, if the Labor Left faction fields a candidate, it'll be Cian Galea. Galea is the Socials Director of Craft Beer Appreciation Society and was one of the driving forces behind the recent petition calling on the USU to delay its new alcohol policy.

Lachlan Finch seems to be firming up as a Liberal-aligned candidate, and Connor Wherrett as Unity's candidate. Nothing has been said about NLS' plans, except that it will be running a woman. Mysterious.

Leni Riefenstahl comeback tour

The broad campus left made a showing at Sunday's abortion rights protest. SRC President Imogen Grant was involved, as were SRC Wom*n's Officers Maddy Ward and Jessica Syed. Another familiar face showed up as well: Sukith Fernando, a Vanguard candidate in last year's SRC elections who was revealed to be a neo-Nazi apologist, Holocaust denier and alt-right Facebook page operator. Fernando filmed protesters as they demonstrated outside St Mary's Cathedral in solidarity with women without access to legal abortions. Fernando, on the other hand, was probably there to stand in solidarity with the police, who arrested two protesters.



Artwork by
Millie Roberts

I love shorts

Elijah Abraham loves shorts.

I own a thin, cotton, beige pair of what some people would call 'dad shorts'.

They sport six pockets—two at the front, two at the back and two at the bottom enclosed by Velcro straps; a needlessly long drawstring that I carelessly tuck inside but which often falls down my leg and peeks at the outside world from underneath the rim; and a waistband so flexible it would put an Olympic gymnast to shame.

I love them. They are my son. In fact, I love all my shorts and all of them are like children to me. Even the denim pair which has a habit of irritatingly sliding up my ass is the prodigal son I can't help but forgive and embrace.

For me, shorts aren't just a piece of clothing. I'd like to bypass the cliché that they're a lifestyle (they absolutely are though) and go one step further. I want to put forward the notion that shorts represent a brazen rejection of the oppressive mores of the ruling class.

The long and the short of it is that shorts are a fabric that transcends singular reductive definitions; they symbolise freedom, comfort and defiance.

Wearing shorts is a political act: it allows all people to experience the expansive liberty and unrivalled luxury commonplace for those in the bourgeoisie, while simultaneously rebelling against this brand of elitism. After all, what are shorts if not irreverent, unrestricted and very slightly erotic—the antithesis of everything polite society holds sacred.

If we look to media and the public sphere we see attack after attack decrying shorts, in varied terms, as "awful" and an eyesore. Not only is this a misuse of the fourth estate, turning it into a vehicle for propaganda, it's a grossly transparent attempt to discredit shorts as a legitimate choice of fashion.

This is also visible in the fact that shorts are all but barred from the corporate sphere—that all

important functional command centre of the ruling class. Indeed, corporate attire is one of the ways the masses are literally placated.

Buttoned up shirts, neatly trimmed pants, even crumpled jeans demarcate those values of conformity and rigidity thrust upon the masses in order to suppress revolt. Perhaps the most glaring caveat of this is that these clothes obstruct your ability to literally run. They're a fabric cage complete with polyester chains.

Shorts refuse to be restrictive in such a way. They give you the freedom to run and to climb and to crawl and to do things much greater than others would care to tell you is possible. There's no shortage of options when you wear them. When you sit on a field in a pair of shorts and the grass caresses your leg, it's a connection to nature and to an earth which you belong to, just as much as anybody else. Standing atop a hill, the cool breeze which dances its way into your thighs and tickles your legs are the winds of revolution.

Young Spence

Not a boy, not yet a man.

An serial novella chronicling the young life of Michael Spence.

The time is the 80s. The setting, the University of Sydney. The man: a young one, by the name of Michael J Spence. What did the J stand for? That doesn't matter for our story.

Young Spence is 23 and confused, as many 23-year-olds are. He is trying to 'find himself' but, unfortunately for him, he is bad at both introspection and geography. Spence likes Pac-Man, Rubik's cubes, synth pop, cocaine, and other fun things people liked in the 80s.

But underneath Spence's boyish exterior is a man. This man wants to be something more than a Pac-Man playing, Rubik's cube solving, synth pop singing, cocaine snorting boy. More than anything, this man wants to spin discs at the club! He wants to be the jockiest of all disk jockeys!

One day, Spence is showering in the Old Teacher's College, dreaming about becoming a disk jockey, when God appears to him in a sudden flash.

"Hi Michael, just wanted to say, I cannot wait for you to fulfil your destiny of becoming the glorious ruler of USyd," God says.

Hot water trickles over Spence's manhood, as he stares up at God in awe. "That's right, you guessed it, you're the chosen one!"

God disappears in a poof a shower steam. Spence breaks out of his reverie and moves to cover his manhood.

Exactly two and a half minutes later, Spence leaves the shower, lighter in mass but heavier in soul.

He walks down Eastern Avenue in a daze, brooding, knowing that he has a decision to make:

What should Young Spence do next? Should he fulfil his destiny and become the supreme leader of USyd? Or should Young Spence become Yung Spence, the DJ? Send the next 250 words of this story and a crappy line drawing to editors@honisoit.com, and we might include it in our next edition!

(Note: This exercise is best done drunk, high or incredibly sleep-deprived).



Image: Young Spence is a dreamer

IN A PICKLE?



If You Have a Legal Problem,
We Can Help for FREE!



Level 1, Wentworth Bldg, University of Sydney
p: 02 9660 5222 | w: src.usyd.edu.au
e: solicitor@src.usyd.edu.au
ACN 146 653 143 | MARIN 1276171

法律諮詢
法律アドバイス

法律諮詢
法律アドバイス

We have a solicitor
who speaks Cantonese,
Mandarin & Japanese

Lawyer
Solicitor
Lawyer
Solicitor

This service is provided
to you by the Student
Representative Council,
University of Sydney

President

Imogen Grant

The semester has begun with a rocky start for casual staff at the university. The NTEU USyd Casuals Network Survey recorded that more than half of the current casual workers began their position this semester without a contract despite already teaching students. Of those, 44 percent are still yet to receive contracts and be paid for their work.

These staff members would be completely in their right to not teach for the first two weeks of semester, however, they are worried that doing so would impact negatively on the students' experience as these first tutorials are vital in establishing relationships and a positive work dynamic.

Kurt Iveson, President of the USyd NTEU Branch, has contacted all NTEU members and USyd HR about the issue. "In failing to fix structural issues of casual employment, management failures are

being displaced onto our most vulnerable and precarious staff" says Kurt. "It beggars belief that we would allow this to continue for a massive cohort of staff who are often the main point of contact for thousands of our students."

This situation is unacceptable. If you are a casual staff member and are working without a contract (like many students at the University), please contact the NTEU at sydney@nteu.org.au about your situation. Students must stand alongside staff in their fight for better working conditions, so stay tuned for details of a public action that the NTEU will be holding THIS Thursday in support of casual staff!

On another note, within the Casework Department we have seen a spike in students experiencing issues around academic advice. We are feeling the impacts of the university restructure (which saw over 100 undergraduate degrees slashed) and the centralisation of faculty services (which saw mass firing of faculty administration).

There is often no correct identification of persons to receive advice, with different and sometimes incorrect responses being received. This is

particularly the case with more complex decisions such as enrollment, transfers to new degrees, mid-year entry, and suspensions (particularly for international students) – with many of these issues interacting together.

This is all compounded by a loss of institutional knowledge from faculty offices. Advice and decisions require significant skill so, despite centralisation, decision making is often deferred back to faculties who have the power to make discretionary decisions. Without correct identification of where students or Faculty Services staff can access academic advice, we are seeing students fall through the cracks and the serious impacts it has on progression through their degree. This problem is not unmanageable, but it will require some institutional will and resources, and your SRC will be fighting alongside you to fix the sordid situation.

Feel free to email me at president@src.usyd.edu.au if you have any concerns or wish to get involved with the SRC. If you are experiencing any academic, personal or legal issues and wish to seek the advice of an SRC caseworker or solicitor, contact us at 9660 5222 or help@src.usyd.edu.au.

Disabilities & Carers Officers

Robin Eames, Mollie Galvin and Ren Rennie

In 2018 the Disabilities & Carers Collective is splitting into the Disabilities Collective and the Caregivers Network.

The Disabilities Collective is an autonomous collective for undergraduate students who have a disability, defined by the UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities as "long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder

their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others". This includes people with mental, chronic, or terminal illnesses; people who are neurodivergent; and people who are D/deaf or hard of hearing, even if they do not personally identify as disabled or as having a disability.

The Caregivers Network is an initiative for students who provide substantial informal caregiving support to friends or family members who are disabled.

We are hoping that this change will mean that disabled students and students with primary caregiving responsibilities are able to access supportive communities without conflating or neglecting the needs of either group.

We're very excited for the upcoming year and we had a strong start at OWeek. We had shirts for

sale for the first time ever (we still have a number of shirts for sale, so get in touch at [disabilities.officers@src.usyd.edu.au](mailto:officers@src.usyd.edu.au) if you'd like to buy one!) as well as Auslan alphabet stickers and flyers. Currently we're collaborating with the Disability Action Plan 2019-2024 working group, and looking to support the NSW Disability Advocacy Alliance's "Stand By Me" campaign against cuts to disability advocacy funding. We will be hosting regular collective meetings throughout the year. We're also hoping to host a non-autonomous screening of Defiant Lives sometime soon, so keep an eye on our Facebook page if you're interested in attending!

Love & solidarity,
The 2018 Disabilities Collective Officebearers

Education Officers

The Education Officers did not submit a report.

ACAR Officers

The ACAR Officers did not submit a report.

Queer Officers

The Queer Officers did not submit a report.

Intercampus Officers

The Intercampus Officers did not submit a report.

Tips for Successful Time Management

Time management allows you to achieve the most within the limited time you have available. At University that might mean balancing all of your readings and assessments, with work, a social life and home responsibilities. It's like a budget for your time.

There are many resources you can access to help you manage your time effectively. Both the University's Counselling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Unit and Learning Centre have online resources, workshops, and one-on-one consultations that will teach you the skills to manage your time. They will help you to create a weekly timetable that charts all of your class times, your study times, work times, and then show when you have free time for yourself. This will allow you to quickly see if you have allocated enough time for study, and if you have enough time for sleep, and fun. Try this for a few weeks, and make whatever adjustments you

need to ensure that it is a helpful document. A semester planner sets out all of the assessments you have in all of your subjects. This will help you to anticipate when your busy times are, giving you the chance to start assessments early when necessary. It also prevents assessments from being unexpected. Nobody needs that stress.

Sometimes poor time management can be caused by other factors, such as perfectionism and procrastination. CAPS have some leaflets on how to deal with both of these. If this is not helpful, consider talking to a counselor to get some strategies.

Sometimes you cannot get things done, because there are too many demands on you. If you need to work, or have other responsibilities, consider taking an appropriate study load. If you are on a Centrelink payment, or a student visa, you will need to talk to an SRC Caseworker



Both the University's Counselling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Unit and Learning Centre have online resources, workshops, and one-on-one consultations that will teach you the skills to manage your time.

before dropping any subjects. Some students think that having a smaller study load will mean they will graduate later, but the reality is that you will progress more quickly, and it is more financially advantageous if you do three subjects and pass all of them, than if you attempt four subjects and fail one or two.

No matter how busy you are it is not worth plagiarising. Be careful about how your reference your work, and don't risk an academic misconduct charge by using a false medical certificate or copying someone else's work.

Ask Abe

SRC caseworker HELP Q&A

Tips to living on little money



Dear Abe,

I am new to Sydney and finding it very difficult to be able to afford anything. Do you have any hints on how I can make my life easier.

Broke

Dear Broke,

Living in Sydney is ridiculously expensive. The SRC has a leaflet available on their website (SRC Help section) called Living with Little Money that goes through a range of topics including getting a Centrelink payment; applying for a bursary, loan of scholarship from the Uni; reducing

your debts; your rights as a worker; submitting your tax return; food; accommodation; paying bills; looking after your health; getting affordable transport; and having fun.

There are many different ideas and resources included in that leaflet that includes, applying for interest free loans, getting free food, reducing the shock of large bills, and having safe, healthy, fun.

Of course if you have any specific questions or if you have a specific question, please contact SRC caseworkers at help@src.usyd.edu.au.

Abe



The SRC's guide to living on little money is available here:

srcusyd.net.au/src-help/money

THE 2018 SRC YEAR PLANNER Available for FREE!

- Important University dates & deadlines
- Clear layout of teaching weeks, non-teaching weeks and exam periods
- List of services and activities offered by your SRC
- Calming aquarium background!

Planners are available from the SRC offices:
Level 1, Wentworth Building, City Rd.

The Ask Abe column runs in every edition of Honi Soit. It allows you to ask whatever question you might have that affects you as a student, gaining the best advice that a very worldly mutt can give.

Shit! I Forgot Their Name and Also Which Version of Myself I Showed Them When We First Met

Nick Harriott Forgetful Ninny



God dammit! I'm usually so good at remembering people's names, and also which aspects of my personality I emphasised in an attempt to connect with them.

I know we met at Mike's 21st last year but what is her name? Like, Amy? Alison? Or Katie, maybe—and what parts of my identity did I modify to try and have an easier conversation with her?

I know as a baseline I definitely played down any and all political leanings, but why do I feel like I also tried to appear more masculine? Fuck, that's right, she asked if I played basketball because I'm so tall and I said yes like a fucking idiot. I reckon I used up all my peripheral knowledge of basketball last time as well. Maybe I'll tell her I don't play

socially anymore or something and that'll put a bullet in that one. What else though?

Obviously I didn't tell her how depressed I am so I'll lie again and say things are good. Busy, but good. People love that.

There can't be much more than that, right? I barely spoke to her. OK, I'll just go for some traditional laissez-faire Arts student nonchalance mixed with a few palatable centrist opinions—even though I'm actually deferring uni, am very politically engaged and care so incredibly deeply about how people perceive me that I'm constantly adjusting my behaviour to appeal to relative strangers.

Perfect. Sorted. Now what the fuck is this woman's name?

My White Boyfriend Will Go To Machu Picchu But Refuses To Come To Parramatta >> pg. 9



Wow: 'The Simpsons' Was Good For 8 Years and Bad for the Past 21, Just Like My Parents' Marriage

Nick Harriott Emotionally Stunted

It's so crazy to look back on early episodes of *The Simpsons* and see how strong those first eight years were compared to the most recent 21 years of drudgery we've become accustomed to. It's even crazier when you realise that timeline coincides exactly with the slow death of my parents' marriage. I say death, but that suggests some sort of ending—which it seems neither *The Simpsons* nor my parents' marriage is destined to enjoy.

Just like how *The Simpsons* is constantly renewed despite dwindling viewership and calls for its cancellation from long-time fans, my parents continue to stay together despite every indication that they should have divorced many years ago. I'd go so far as to say they should have ended their relationship on 22 November, 1998. Not only was that the day that 'Lisa Gets an A' aired (a season ten episode which many believe is the last great entry into *The Simpsons* canon) but it was also the day Dad crashed the Tarago into the school gate when he arrived drunk for my sister's dance recital.

It isn't easy keeping a show fresh and interesting after 29 years, nor is it easy to maintain a marriage for that long. It might be unsettling to see what both have become, but that doesn't diminish my early memories of either of them. The season four episode 'Last Exit to Springfield' will always be groundbreaking comedy and cannot be sullied in my mind, no matter how many times you make me watch season 23's 'The Food Wife' where Homer Simpson attempts to smoke crystal meth.

Similarly, my childhood memories of interstate road trips and Christmas mornings will always bring me joy, no matter how many times I see my parents exit from different bedrooms in the morning when I come home for a visit.

Ultimately, *The Simpsons* and my parents' marriage once brought a lot of love and laughter to my life—but it's time for both to end.

I guess the difference is Dan Castellaneta and Julie Kavner get paid \$400,000 to pretend Homer and Marge are happy.

Mum, Dad, how much are you getting paid?

Checkmate Meat-Eaters: This Cursed Tree Produces Bloody Flesh Fruit That Tastes IDENTICAL to Meat!

Ann Ding Hungry for Flesh

I will be the first to admit that, in a standard vegetarian diet, very few things come close to the satisfaction you get from a tenderloin steak, seared to perfection, topped with a medallion of herbed butter or perhaps a drizzle of red wine jus.

But a fascinating new plant-based meat alternative might just be the substitute we've been waiting for.

I'm talking about hell fruit—the entirely new fruit Dr Patricia Lyons recently discovered growing on a cursed, gnarled tree that stands at the intersection of two long, deserted roads which appear to stretch on unendingly in all directions.

Says Lyons, "This new fruit looks and smells like a pink grapefruit from the outside—but when you cut it open, the inside is a mass of bleeding flesh!"

When Lyons and her team took a few samples back to their lab, they found its makeup was somewhere between human meat and goat meat. They tried cooking with it and found that, while there was a distinct aroma of burning hair and brimstone when it first hits the pan, the end result was juicy, delicious and identical to real meat.

"This is such a great discovery. For decades the food science industry and the farming industry have been trying to find new, sustainable ways to produce meat for general consumption. This might just be the answer."

Hell fruit are naturally seedless, so Lyons and her team needed to graft a branch from the original tree to a lemon tree to propagate this exciting new fruit.

"It does work, technically," she explains. "We found that

the graft took really well; the only issue was that the lemons being produced by the stock tree were full of blood and not lemon juice."

So far, it seems there's only one catch: eating the hell fruit causes the unmistakable insignia of Baphomet to appear on the eater's forehead. Lyons pushes aside her fringe to give us a better look.

"Not everyone gets it, though," she laughs. "Marty, one of my research students, got the sign of Moloch instead!"



That's a 'Fairly Mild' Meatball According To My Palate

Jamie Weiss Ball Boy

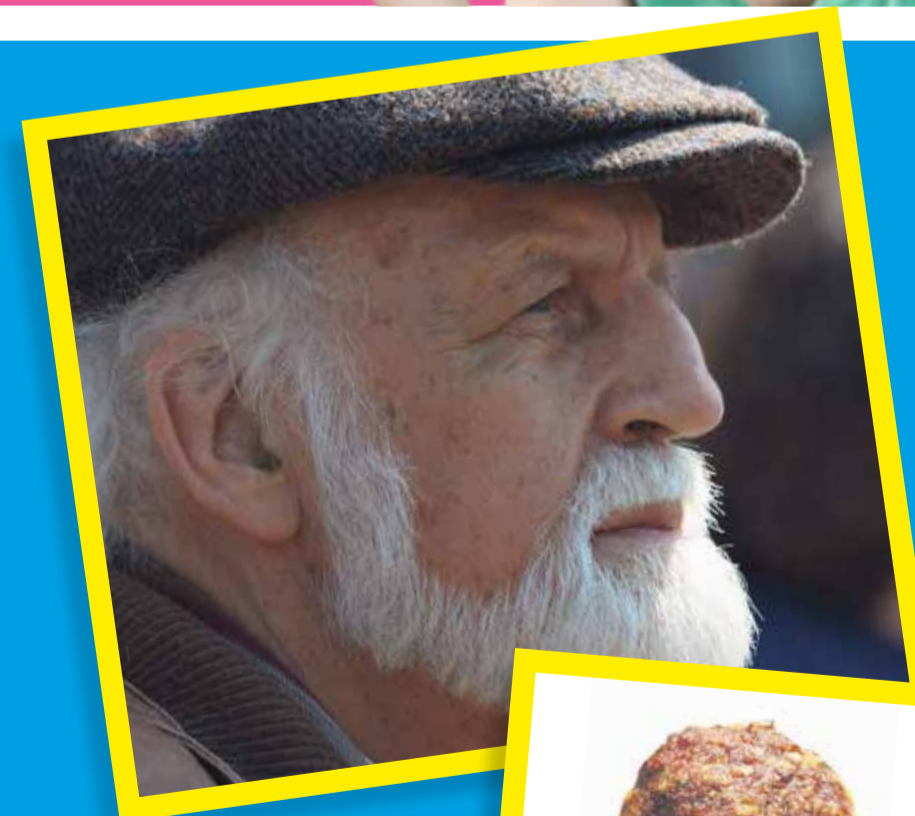
I've been in the spaghetti game for years and I've tasted every meatball in this city. You don't tread the sidewalks of Brooklyn for as long as I have without trying a few of Nonna's secret recipes. That's right, I know meatballs like the back of my hand—which after years of rich eating is starting to resemble a meatball too!

Tell you what, nobody does them better than they do here in New York. We've finessed it. It's the interplay between sweet and savoury, the slight saltiness of the pasta playing with the juiciness of the ball. Hints of oregano and cayenne. Shavings

of parmesan. Perfection!

So listen to me: this here meatball is boloney—and I'm not saying it's like a tasty bit'ta Bologna sausage, I'm saying this is some fugazi ballwork. I see you kids eating at this restaurant, sweat running down your brow, chugging on your Schlitz. You think this is spicy? Forget about it! This meatball lacks depth! The basil's overpowering and it's loose like chow.

I've seen a lot of people like you come and go in my time and I've got just one piece of advice: you ain't gonna cut it in this business if you think this is a spicy meatball.



I'm Sorry! I Don't Know Why I'm Such a Sweaty Boy >> pg. 13



STUDENT PROTEST



OPPOSE \$3.8M INCREASE TO MILITARY
OPPOSE \$2.2M CUTS TO HIGHER ED
MAKE EDUCATION FREE AGAIN

WED 21 MARCH
IPM NEW LAW LAWNS