

Honi Soit.

WELCOME WEEK EDITION 2022

UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY - FREE STUDENT NEWSPAPER - NEWS, CULTURE & ANALYSIS

Est. 1929



It's time to reopen Fisher Library's rooftop courtyard

Roisin Murphy - p. 10

Fisher Library's mid-century design has embraced generations of students, serving as one of the few common grounds for an increasingly fragmented University experience. To our University, its construction was a symbol of modernity, innovative and highly intentional. Moving the library from its old home in Maclaurin Hall and into a purpose-built structure signalled a shift

away from the traditional sandstone University, which modelled itself off English institutions and centred around a singular quadrangle. Instead, the new Fisher Library would represent a modern Australian institution...

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Who's who? A Guide to Campus.

Ellie Stephenson and Zara Zadro - p. 6-7

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT USYD'S MOST AUDACIOUS OPERATORS, BEST PAID STUDENT POLITICIANS, MOST SALACIOUS SCANDALS, AND MORE...

ALSO IN THIS EDITION:

Is there joy after Sydney Student? - p. 8

USyd in data - p. 12

Multilingual - p.15

The future of space exploration is looking back - p. 18

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Honi Soit is published on the sovereign land of the Gadigal People of the Eora Nation, who were amongst the first to resist against and survive the violence of colonisation. This land was taken without consent and sovereignty was never ceded. We pay our respects to Elders past and present, and extend that respect to all Indigenous students and staff at the University.

As a team of settlers occupying the lands of the Gadigal, Dharug, Wangal, Bidjegal, Kuringgai and Wallumedegal people, we are the beneficiaries of

ongoing colonial dispossession. The settler-colonial project of 'Australia' and all its institutions, including the University, are built on the exclusion of First Nations peoples and the devaluation of Indigenous knowledge systems. Beneath the sandstone buildings of USyd lie thousands of years of Aboriginal history.

Colonialism is not a one-time event that occurred in the distant past; it is an ongoing structure. The genocide of First Nations people is perpetuated and enabled by the government, who

push ahead with the forced removals of Aboriginal children from their families, their Country, and their cultures. Aboriginal peoples are the most incarcerated on earth, and there have been over 500 documented Indigenous deaths in custody since the 1991 Royal Commission.

We pledge to actively stand in solidarity with First Nations movements towards decolonisation through our editorial decisions, and to be reflective when we fail to do so. We commit to being a counterpoint to mainstream media's

silencing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. We remain cognisant that *Honi's* writers and readership are predominantly made up of settlers, and aim to platform Indigenous voices in our paper.

There is no justice without Indigenous justice.

Always was and always will be Aboriginal land.

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GET IN TOUCH

Have you got a tip for a story? An angry letter to the editors? An article pitch?

Email us at editors@honisoit.com.

Scan the QR code to use our anonymous tip form.



Send mail to Honi Soit Editors at PO Box 974 Broadway NSW 2007.

EDITORIAL

HONI TEAM 2022

Honi Soit first hit University stands in 1929. Since then the paper has served as a mouthpiece and an archive for generations of students, as they find their voices in the face of defining events; be it the Great Depression, the Vietnam War, and now the pandemic.

The paper has changed significantly from the first edition. Yet looking back, its heart still beats largely the same; driven by an instinct to provoke, a scepticism of power, and a radicalism to hope for more.

As your editors for the country's last remaining weekly student newspaper, we take that role pretty seriously. We want you to hold us to account this year - write us letters, leave angry comments and pitch articles that rebut the ones we publish. We want you to help this rag stand up to the institutions that insist you be seen as nothing more than a head to fill, a wallet to empty, and a vessel for unchallenged knowledge.

More than anything, we want you to be a part of this experience, even if it's just by reading the paper.

At university, change is often fastpaced and inevitable. During this unique period in students' lives, trends fly in and out, relationships start and end, and degrees are transferred between each year. Some things, however, remained unchanged across generations.

First, Honi will always produce a weekly paper. Second, this first week before classes will always be filled with a particular optimism and exhilaration, a desire to be engulfed by the university life

you are about to embark on. We hope that Honi Soit plays a role in that for you.

When most of us stepped on campus for our first Welcome Week, the world was a very different place. With a world adjusting to the pandemic, a Federal election just months away, and University staff set to strike, both campus and the world will have shifted again by the time next year's Honi team pen their first editorial.

This year, Honi Soit wants to be the link between you and the university experience. We'll let you know where to go for gigs and events, illuminate the inner workings of university management, and keep you informed about all things student-related.

The pandemic has made feelings of isolation commonplace, and perhaps your existing student experience isn't exactly the one you signed up for. The pandemic has left us studying alone in our childhood bedrooms, Liberal Governments and corporate management have doubled the price of degrees while stripping our education bare, and, possibly worst of all, pubs were shut for months on end - some permanently.

This can be the year that turns things around. Pick up a copy of this paper every week - read it, write for it, engage with it. Being a student is the best opportunity you'll ever receive - don't let it pass you by.

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Letters



Please send us letters! We love contentions, critique, compliments, etc. You can send them through to editors@honisoit.com

Sex & the City Rd

Sex & the City Road aims to bring a similar energy to the University of Sydney as the original column did to the men of New York City - playful scrutiny of those with power. Note: *those in power* (BNOCs fear - 'whos' fear not). I'll be keeping a trained eye on the minor celebrities (not to inflate their egos) of campus: your student politicians.

Over the holidays, my sources have been avid watchers of the University of Sydney Union (USU).

Aside from Ben putting an open flame to the feet of the USU's WHS compliance officer, I've been hearing rumblings about this year's Board Election hopefuls.

A little bird tells me that campus Liberal Ben Jorgenson hopes to represent the modlibs (or will he claim to be a Libdependent!), while Switch's Onor Nottle seems tipped to run from the Left. No idea what I'm talking about? Head to page 6 for a full run down on campus cookers!

Lastly: a message for the SRC's GenSecs. While I am truly a master of perception and subtlety, leaving your Google accounts open on the Honi computers makes my job a little too easy...

If you want to send me tips, head to the Honi tip line - linked on page opposite.

Bye for now xx

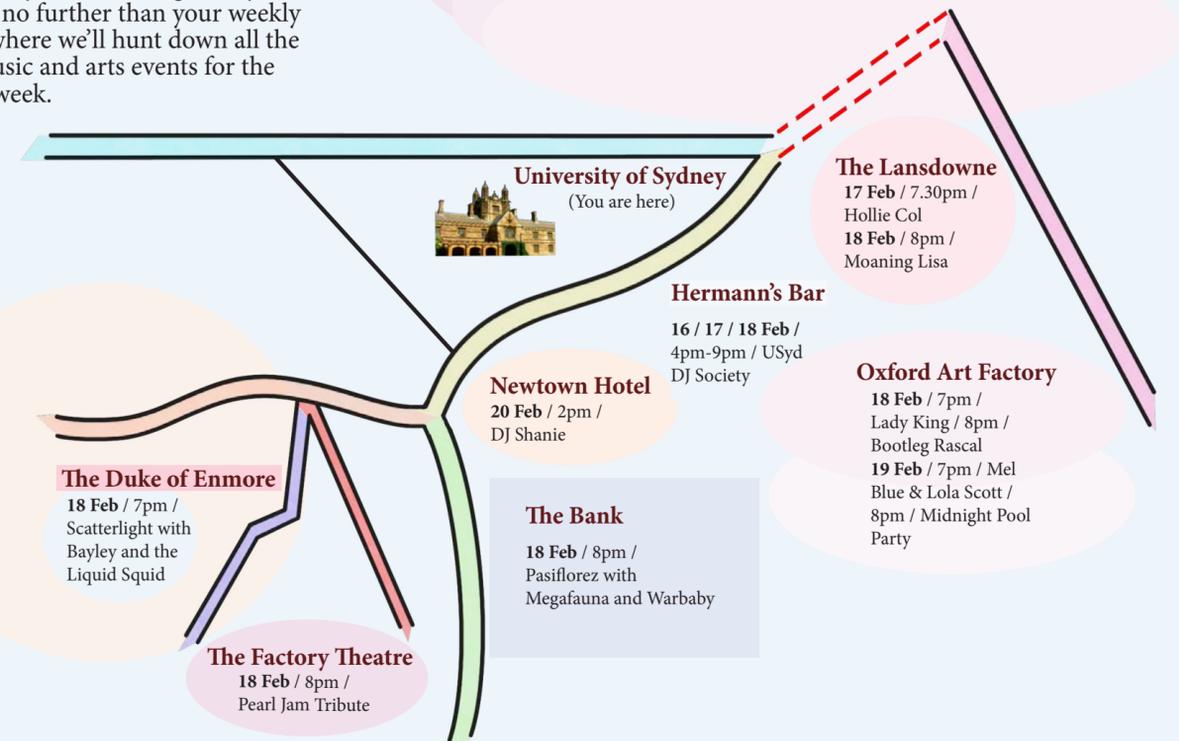
The Michael Spence Column for Disagreeing Well*



In the weekly column where we air an ill-thought out hot take, Ellie Stephenson lets loose!

The Gig Guide

Looking for a way to fill your evenings? New to Sydney and keen to get a lay of the land? Look no further than your weekly gig guide, where we'll hunt down all the best live music and arts events for the upcoming week.



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Protesters take to Taylor Square against government's Religious Discrimination Bill

Luke Cass reports.

The rally, organised by the Community Action for Rainbow Rights (CARR), was opened by April Holcombe, co-convenor of CARR. Holcombe decried the Bill as being “designed by the most disgusting bigots” and a threat that would set back queer rights decades. Unsatisfied with the Coalition’s claims that the contentious bill has been put on hold following the House of Representatives’ approval of multiple amendments, Holcombe claimed that the crowd was there to “make sure [the Bill] was killed and never comes back”.

Sumaya, a Year 10 student at Sydney Girls High School, offered her perspective as a queer Muslim student, someone who’s discrimination would be encouraged by the Bill. Citing statistics that LGBTQI youth were five times more likely to have attempted suicide compared with the general population, Sumaya acknowledged that queer children are already incredibly vulnerable without having to worry about discrimination by authority figures.

The bill is not “only opening the door to bigotry” and “giving it a secure place in our society” Sumaya told the crowd, adding that it would force queer students, teachers and workers to “at best hide, or at worst lose everything”.

“The only thing on Scott Morrison’s to-do list is win the election, our safety is only a roadblock to his path,” Sumaya said.

NSW Greens Member of the Legislative Council (MLC) David Shoebridge turned his attention to the bill’s justification, and stressed the need to continue the work of decades of queer rights activists. Shoebridge said that “freedom is no green light to bigotry” and decried parliament’s attempt to prioritise the rights and freedoms of one group over those of others. He emphasised that the type of politics which created this Bill

“can never be the politics of our country”.

Skip Blofield, a nurse at Westmead Hospital and branch secretary of the NSW Nurses & Midwives Association, said that the Bill’s rationale sets a precedent to threaten religious and other protections. Blofield was critical of the state government’s “let it rip” approach to the COVID pandemic, describing it as ignorant to the plight of nurses. They spoke in support of the state-wide nurses strike that is set to occur on Tuesday. Blofield described the suicides that Sumaya had earlier referred to as “murders by this system of heteronormative patriarchy”.

“The only thing on Scott Morrison’s to-do list is win the election, our safety is only a roadblock to his path,”

Moira, who like Sumaya did not use their surname, was the rally’s final speaker. A high school teacher and unionist, they referred to the events at Citipointe Christian College earlier this month as “the stalking horse, a trial to see if they could get away with it”. Moira appealed to the queer community’s mass support for a “clear principled stance against the bigots” and a “fight for real equality and freedom”.

A focus of the rally was the Bill’s needlessness. While much attention was aimed at the Coalition, Labor was

widely condemned by speakers. Moira labelled the party as a “wolf in sheep’s clothing” and expressed their distaste at the conclusion of Stephen Jones MP’s speech in parliament. Lofield’s description of Anthony Albanese’s political gymnastics was similarly dismissive. Although rain intermittently threatened to deter the crowd, numbers remained strong through the action.

Following the speeches, protestors marched down George Street and Pitt Street Mall’s busy thoroughfares before arriving at Queen’s Square. A multitude of trans and other pride flags decorated the march with placards, including crowd favourites “Homos Against Scomo” and “If God hates queers why are we so cute”.

Protests for queer and trans liberation will continue with a protest organised along Oxford Street for the day of Mardi Gras. With the Religious Discrimination Bill not yet dead, Mark Latham’s similarly destructive bill still before state parliament, and trans and gender diverse people still facing widespread and worsening disadvantage, these actions remain important.



USyd appoints new Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)

Khanh Tran reports.

The University of Sydney has announced Professor Emma Johnston as the incoming Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) starting July 2022.

Johnston will replace Professor Duncan Ivison following his ten-year tenure in the position. Ivison’s term attracted heavy criticism for his refusal to negotiate with student protesters in 2020 on Medical Science cuts.

Johnston is currently Dean of Science at UNSW specialising in marine science and conservation. She has also contributed extensively to The Conversation on a range of scientific and public policy topics, including praising the controversial Federal Minister for Home Affairs Karen Andrews in her previous capacity as Minister of Industry, Science and Technology.

Vice-Chancellor Mark Scott emphasised Johnston’s talent for “building and maintaining multiple community and industry partnerships and engaging in high-level advocacy on range of policy issues.”

“She is also a trusted advisor working across a range of government and industry bodies and our community will benefit from her strong commitment to collaborating and supporting quality research.”

Johnston’s appointment signals a pivot towards deepening the University’s public-private partnerships, particularly within STEM disciplines. The appointment also aligns with the Morrison Government’s call to commercialise research into “high-tech innovations”.

Whether she will follow her predecessor and the Australian Research Council’s criticism of Acting Minister for Education and Youth Stuart Roberts over his rejection of six peer-reviewed research projects as political interference remains to be seen. In an opinion piece published in The Conversation during the 2019 Federal Election, Johnston lamented the major parties for their low commitment to scientific research funding and called to invest 3 per cent of the federal budget to Research & Development.

This development follows a number of reshuffles by the Vice-Chancellor with the recent selection of Annamaria Jagose as Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Provost alongside the University of Queensland’s (UQ) Joanne Wright as Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education). In her years at UQ, Wright attracted notoriety for banning “political proselytising” during student elections and her defence of UQ’s Ramsay-backed Western Civilisation program, as reported by Semper Floreat.

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University of Wollongong staff asked to house students

Roisin Murphy reports.

An email sent on 28 January to staff at the University of Wollongong (UoW) requested they offer housing to students who are experiencing an undersupply of student accommodation. UoW is significantly populated by students from outside the city who move there for tertiary studies, many of whom seek out university-owned housing both on and near the campus.

The email distributed to staff said that “properties available for rent in both Sydney and the Illawarra are in short supply. UoW’s Housing Services team is putting a call out to any staff, as well

as family and friends, that might have a spare room or a granny flat to help us welcome back our students”.

The shortage comes amidst a housing crisis plaguing regional NSW, which has seen people from larger cities moving to smaller ones now that remote working is largely accessible, leaving lower income earners, such as students, priced out of the rental market.

This year, UoW plans to further consolidate their accommodation assets. Three properties – International House, Weerona College and Marketview – will have their sales finalised this year. The

properties were built to accommodate around 500 students collectively. In a media release, the sale was described as aligning with the university’s “strategic priorities”, stating that “reducing operational costs” and “tightening our expenditure controls” formed the imperatives for the sale.”

The consolidation of housing assets is a common cost-saving measure being used by universities, and mirrors the University of Sydney’s sale of 13 residential properties last year. Last year, UTS sold three of its four student residences to Scape Australia – a housing



conglomerate known for acquiring the Urbanest portfolio for a record \$2.2 billion.

Renewables surge in new Australian energy data despite political inertia

Zara Zadro reports.

Renewables provided five times more power to Australia’s largest energy grid than gas in 2021 and reached record high usage in all mainland states, according to new research from the Climate Council. Gas fell to its lowest usage level in the National Electricity Market (NEM) in more than 15 years despite almost no change in electricity demand, said the council on Thursday, providing just 1.5 percent of NSW’s power in the year.

The findings come despite the approval of a widely-criticised gas-fired power station in the Upper Hunter by the Federal government just this week, which will cost \$600 million for taxpayers. While gas releases half the emissions of coal when burned, its production processes produce fugitive emissions that contribute vast amounts of methane to the atmosphere, which warms it around 80 times more than carbon dioxide. Climate Council Senior Researcher Tim Baxter says the Coalition’s ‘gas-

fired recovery’ makes ‘zero commercial sense’ when solar, wind and batteries are making electricity prices cheaper than they have been in almost a decade.

“Gas is expensive, polluting, and diminishing in importance and relevance as the rest of the world moves towards net zero, and our own states and territories rapidly roll-out large-scale renewable energy and storage,” said Climate Councilor and energy expert Greg Bourne.

Labor also backed the Kurri Kurri plan earlier this week, under the condition it be powered by 30% hydrogen by the time it is operational. According to USyd Enviro Officer Tiger Perkins, this is driven by the fact the largest political donors to both the ALP and Coalition each year are fossil fuel companies, totalling around \$1.3 million in 2020’s financial year.

Experts from Victoria University have highlighted that a plant running on 30%

hydrogen would not only be a wasteful use of hydrogen, but require the expensive reconstruction of the plant itself, whose turbines are designed to accommodate a maximum 15% of hydrogen.

“The Labor party, in an attempt to catch moderate-liberal and centre-right votes, has the apparent strategy of doing everything the liberal party does but just 1-5% more left-wing so as not to lose swing voters positioned between the two major parties,” says Perkins. “The result, however, is that Labor appears unwilling to take a strong stance on any issue, be it social or economic.”

Energy giant AGL also announced it will bring forward the closure of two of its biggest coal plants by at least three years this week, responding to market shifts towards renewable sources of electricity. In an earnings statement to the ASX on Thursday, the company, recently named Australia’s biggest polluter, revealed a 41% reduction in underlying-profit-

“Gas is expensive, polluting, and diminishing in importance and relevance as the rest of the world moves towards net zero.”

after-tax on the same time last year, totalling \$194 million.

AGL says it will shut the Loy Yang A coal-fired power station in Victoria’s East and the Bayswater station in NSW’s Hunter Valley at least three years ahead of schedule, between 2030 and 2035. But environmental groups have been quick to slam the closures as not coming soon enough, as renewables drive electricity prices down.

Building plans for Kurri Kurri will be delayed until after the federal election this year.

‘Extremely aggressive’: SUPRA Council criticised for lack of transparency and toxic culture

Khanh Tran reports.

Allegations of systemic opacity, a toxic culture and corrosive conduct have arisen at SUPRA’s (Sydney University Postgraduate Representative Association) Council over behaviour from a former President.

During a Council meeting in November last year, SUPRA Councilor Aragh Araghi submitted a motion calling for better transparency standards. For Aragh, transparency reform was needed as he felt the Office Bearers’ reports were both inadequate and overly reliant on announcements from university management.

Subsequently, the proposal was met with significant hesitation. In response, SUPRA Disabilities Officer Eva Midtgaard asked for alternative ways to address concerns surrounding transparency. Upon this, Wendt* alleged that a former SUPRA President resorted to “shouting” at the Disabilities Officer.

“He just lashed out. He was very verbally aggressive towards Eva who was trying to calm him down but he just lost it,” said Wendt*.

Aragh’s motion was voted down by every Councilor bar himself and Midtgaard.

According to Wendt*, the alleged behaviour is indicative of a toxic culture that has been simmering inside the council. Attempts at instituting more rigorous reporting standards for Office Bearers and enhanced transparency were either voted down or never discussed.

In an email seen by Honi, twice-elected former SUPRA President Weihong Liang voiced his strong opposition to a motion moved by Aragh to instigate an investigation into the organisation’s internal culture following “concerns of inappropriate conduct and culture within Council.”

Liang opposed the motions put to council, stating that they “...are not a suggestion or comment”.

Exasperated, the former President continued to say that the accusations of a toxic culture within Council made him “feel [like] I am a little boy and need others to help me.”

“From July to now, I have never heard

“Attempts at instituting more rigorous reporting standards for Office Bearers and enhanced transparency were either voted down or never discussed.”

from our students and other friends that SUPRA has a bad culture and needs to change.” Liang argued, denying the accusations further. This is despite a report in December 2021 from Education Officer Yinfeng (Benny) Shen noting a considerable decline of 20 per cent in student’s perception of the organisation’s importance.

Liang also contended that motions regarding the Council’s internal culture were “empty issues” that detract from the body’s mission to assist international students in a time of change. He was part of Infinity – a former Panda-aligned electoral group that purports to represent Chinese international students.

It is understood that Liang is nominating for the presidency once again

tonight which, should he succeed, would mark his third term in the role. Liang’s previous tenures have been described as “ineffective” owing to his sudden resignation mid-term in 2019 for a job in China after presiding over noticeably less activist SUPRA Councils.

In response to controversy surrounding the motions, Benny Shen told Honi that he could not “recall the specific details” and assert that the motions were “amended”. However, minutes obtained by Honi do not record any amended forms of the respective motions and indicate that motion 6.4, which called for an investigation into the Council’s culture, was never brought to a vote.

SUPRA will be conducting internal elections tonight for a new Co-President following Shiyu Ma’s abrupt resignation from the organisation at 6:30 PM.

* denotes a pseudonym used for an anonymous source.

Murder on the dancefloor: Lansdowne to close

Thomas Sargeant reports.

In disappointing news that comes as no surprise in the wake of Sydney’s decimated nightlife, the Lansdowne is set to close by the end of April this year.

In an Instagram post this afternoon, Mary’s Group announced the end of their tenancy with the Lansdowne.

“We are heartbroken to announce that our time with the beloved Lansdowne Hotel is coming to an end,” the statement read.

“Our lease is due to expire in the coming months, and the Landlords have chosen to close the Gig Room to build more Hostel accommodation. This was not a part of our vision for the Lansdowne, and as such, we have decided to call time on our custodianship of this iconic live music venue.”

The statement affirms their commitment to live music and the devastation caused by this decision. “2022 was shaping up to be one of the busiest at the Lansdowne, due to the growing community of artists and

punters who are passionate supporters of music, art and culture. It is deeply upsetting to call time on an icon, at the height of her powers.”

“Despite this tough announcement today, we promise to continue to build stages and create spaces for the voices of our glorious city to emerge.

This is not the first time that the Lansdowne has faced crisis; in 2017, the venue reopened after lying dormant for two years. At the time, Honi reported that upon reopening, it was ‘without a doubt one of the best pubs in Sydney right now.’

Written in 2017, in the middle of Sydney’s infamous lockdown laws, the article advised students to visit the venue ‘before Mike Baird returns to finish what he started.’ Sadly, this prophecy has come to pass.

The Lansdowne has been home to many iconic gigs, post-election parties, and late night kick-ons as a result of their late-night trading licence. It is yet another painful loss for Sydney’s ever-

shrinking nightlife scene. The venue has been host to local and international acts including Billie Eilish, Bleeding Knees Club, and Violent Soho.

Since posting the announcement on the Mary’s Live instagram, ‘The Lansdowne’ Facebook page has been renamed to ‘Mary’s Live’, and their official account @thelansdowne on Instagram has been deactivated.

The communities and brands of Mary’s Group and the Lansdowne are explicitly tied to live music – an activity that has been increasingly difficult to participate in across the course of the pandemic. After being legal for just two months, dancing and singing are again banned in NSW until at least the end of February.

Mary’s Group have not yet responded to requests for comment, and it is unclear what the fate of the downstairs bar area will be. They have committed to facilitating the remaining gigs in the space until the end of April.

WHO IS WHO

Ellie Stephenson and Zara Zadro on everything to know about USyd.

HONI SOIT
Welcome to the basement— who let you in? Honi Soit is the rag you're reading right now. The oldest weekly student newspaper in Australia, it's produced by ten editors elected by the student body in Semester 2, concurrent with the SRC and NUS elections. As a traditionally counter-cultural, left-wing platform, it's embroiled in Australia's radical history, reporting on the anti-Vietnam and anti-nuclear campaigns of the '60s, and documenting the early feminist and queer movements. Honi is funded by SSAF* and overseen by the SRC.

UNIVERSITY MANAGEMENT
You've entered management's dungeons— where the real killers lie. USyd's organisational superstructure is, put simply, a mindfuck. It's overseen by the Senate, whose fellows are both elected and appointed by the Minister for Education. The Senate appoints the 29 members of the University Executive (UE), spearheaded by the Chancellor, Vice Chancellor and Deputy Vice Chancellor/Principal. (There is no student representation on the UE, but there is on some of its committees). The Senate also supervises the Academic Board, the highest academic decision-making body at the university. The board's membership is predominantly elected, and in charge of course approvals, academic and coursework policy, and other programs. Overall, management's black-box-esque nature means power reshuffles, staff casualisation, course cuts, and shady financial donors abound within it.

SPORT AND FITNESS (SUSF)
SUSF is in charge of managing and administering sport at USyd. Incorporated as a company limited by guarantee as of January 2020, SUSF's current governance system is complicated. A maximum of 10 board directors, including two student directors, oversee its activities, including various lower management positions and committees. Notably, SUSF received more SSAF funding than any other USyd student organisation (i.e. the SRC, USU, etc) in 2020.

SYDNEY UNIVERSITY POSTGRADUATE REPRESENTATIVE ASSOCIATION (SUPRA)
SUPRA is the (somewhat mysterious) independent association representing postgraduate students at the university. Mostly, its responsibilities are organising social events, providing career opportunities, and advocating for post-grad academic/ welfare concerns. SUPRA is governed by a 27-strong council of post-graduate students elected by the post-grad student body and professional staff. In 2021's SUPRA elections, international student factions dominated all tickets, which, unlike the SRC, tend to be apolitical. Despite receiving almost \$2 million in SSAF funding in 2020, more than the SRC, SUPRA has historically seen very low engagement from students, with voter turnout reaching only 4% in 2019.

THE FACTIONS
If you've managed to dodge the hawk-eyed student politicians prowling Eastern Ave during Welcome Week, congrats. USyd hosts many factions across the political spectrum that tussle for power in the annual SRC and NUS elections. To the far left resides **Socialist Alternative (Salt)**, a Trotskyite socialist group known for pressing passers-by for petition signatures on campus walkways, and ideologically-tangential **Solidarity (Soli)**. **Grassroots and Switch (Switchroots)** are the allied, non-hierarchical factions with the greatest left-wing influence on campus, holding the SRC president seat since 2020. They typically collaborate and share similar views with **National Labor Students (NLS)** — the left-wing powerhouse on campus until around 2012 — and wrangle with labor-right foes **Student Unity**.
In general, Unity agrees with the politics of the federal Australian Labor Party and is socially conservative. It's also known for colluding with the **Liberals** to fulfil various election needs. Finally, **Penta**, formerly Panda, is the largest international student faction on campus and is generally apolitical though amenable to the left's priorities, while **Phoenix** is the more right-wing international faction on campus.

THE SRC
The SRC is an unincorporated student organisation of 39 councillors. Supreme decision-making authority is vested in the council for everything, including budgets, reports, and regulatory changes. The President is responsible for coordinating the organisation with the Executive. It's essentially a full-time job, which is why they're paid a stipend of around \$40 000, equivalent to a full-time minimum wage salary. The President and councillors, as well as Honi Soit editors and NUS delegates, are elected in four separate, concurrent elections by the undergraduate student body in September each year. This year, Switchroots snatched up the most seats on council (10), followed by Penta (left-wing international students' faction) and Unity tied (5). After SRC elections comes Representatives Elect or 'RepsElect'. This is where the council votes to elect Office Bearer positions, some of which are paid.

THE COLLECTIVES
Operating under the SRC's jurisdiction, the collectives campaign and provide a space for student communities and causes. All students can join them, (indeed it's encouraged!) except for autonomous collectives that are identity based. They're led by up to 2-4 convenors elected annually by their members prior to SRC elections. The collectives are allocated a smaller departmental portion of SSAF funds and share their headquarters with the SRC Executive and Honi Soit. As stands, they are the Education Action Group (EAG), Environment, Women's, Queer, Anti-Racism (ACAR), Indigenous, and Disabilities and Carers Collectives.

UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY UNION (USU)
If you've set foot on campus during Welcome Week, you'll recognise the glaring yellow USU logo emblazoned on banners, notice boards and tote bags in the vicinity. The USU is a non-profit, student-led organisation that runs the uni's clubs and societies, events, facilities, bars, and eateries on campus. It is responsible for Welcome Fest and Pulp— formerly an online news site, now rebooted as a monthly 'creative' magazine. The USU is piloted by a board of 11 student directors including one President, and two Senate appointed directors. The student board is elected every year in May by the undergrad and postgrad student body, after a fortnight-long barrage of candidate campaigning. The USU has a massive budget; in addition to external revenue streams, it receives a significantly larger portion of SSAF than the SRC, amounting to around a \$4.5 million difference in 2020. Sadly, it's notorious for green-washing (see: 'edible' plates and a ban on stickers during Welcome Fests) and offering free food and drinks to bribe students to its events.

NATIONAL TERTIARY EDUCATION UNION (NTEU)
The NTEU is the only trade union exclusive to the Australian university sector, representing all higher education and university employees. It is generally left-wing, and it's USyd branch has been extensively engaged in campaigning and organising industrial action to support staff jobs amid recent cuts and casualisation by management. Some staff on campus are also represented by the Community and Public Sector Union, rather than the NTEU.

NATIONAL UNION OF STUDENTS (NUS)
The National Union of Students (NUS) is the peak representative body for tertiary students nation-wide. Functioning in both an activist and lobbyist capacity, affiliation of student unions with the NUS is optional, with 20 Australian universities currently affiliated. Every year, USyd's undergraduates elect 7 NUS delegates at the same time as the SRC to send to the infamously-rowdy National Conference in December ('NatCon'). Here, the National Executive— comprising the President, General Secretary, and 9 officer bearers— is selected, and inter-factional tensions are meted out with soapboxing and thunderous jeering. Bloodshed, however, is not a usual part of the affair. (though what goes on behind NatCon's closed doors is beyond a simple Honi editor's knowledge).

CHARACTERS

Lauren Lancaster
The SRC President
Powerful. Passionate. Radical?
This socialist socialite is a force to be reckoned with! Surrounded by a close-knit cabal of left-wing student movers-and-shakers, Miss Lancaster was last seen underground in the USyd SRC plotting for more stupid wheeling-and-dealing.

Prudence Wilkins-Wheat
The USU President
Popular. Diplomatic. Rule-bound?
Miss Wilkins-Wheat was catapulted into the limelight with a landslide USU Board election the very top, but has come under fire from some fellow lefties for sitting on the board.

Belinda Hutchinson
The Chancellor
Wealthy. Mysterious. Heartless?
Ms. Hutchinson has long been a fixture of corporate boards and exclusive society. Hutchinson was last seen chairing French weapons company Thales. Known to associate with Liberal party donors and right-wing thinktanks.

Gabi Stricker-Phelps & Lachlan Finlay
The Senate Fellows
United. Ambitious. Unaccountable?
This diabolical duo ran together for Undergraduate and Postgraduate Senate Follows in 2020. They seem to be enjoying their time at the very top of the ivory tower... but will they report to SRC meetings or let students know what's going on? (no)

Mark Scott
The Vice-Chancellor
High-powered. Calculating. Ruthless?
To many, Mr Scott is simply an well-known businessman. Yet others know him as a man with a trail of budget cuts in his past. He's recently taken on Vice-Chancellorship at USyd... but as a non academic, has he bitten off more than he can chew?

Annamarie Jagose
The Provost
Sharp. Well-read. Slippery?
Welcome to the world of austerity measures, job cuts, Ms Jagose unleashes her weapon for choice: interpellative moments. A self-proclaimed girlboss, even her pet dog needs Prozac to be around her (Jagose, 2019).

Fire Alarm
RepsElect not going as planned? Never fear! The fire alarm - USyd's ultimate weapon of chaos - is here. In 2018, RepsElect was disrupted to when a fire alarm just happened to be set off. That year went on to have two more failed RepsElects before the SRC's OBs were finally elected in early 2019. RepsElects have long been involving fuse box tampering and even a Young Lib falsely claiming to be a woman.

Knife
Managing a university is hard! What with maintaining your harbour front mansion and helping yourself to the champagne in the F23 building... it's a lot of work. You can release your stress by sharpening the knife of austerity. Staff, courses, whole departments - the sky is the limit. Just make sure to cover your tracks by overestimating the need for financial savings or pretending you're simply improving efficiency!

Blindfold
[redacted]
Are you a student organisation that HATES scrutiny? You have a host of methods of obfuscation and intrigue available! Prior to recent improvements, the USU has been very willing to move their meetings in camera, away from the prying eyes of student media. They also controversially resisted transparency measures in late 2020. Wouldn't want students seeing how you used your meal card!

Cyber warfare
Where would a modern day student politician be without the internet? You can dig through your opponents' posts for something cancellable; you can post denunciations of your fellow Trotskyites (hello SAH!); you can elected (get ready first years); you can submit vexatious complaints to the Electoral Officer. The options are limitless.

Surveillance
Not only is it hard being a manager, it's even worse when activists protest against your hard work. That's what the NSW Police are here for. Call them on your students, send them security footage of your law professors. Annoying professors dealt with, without leaving F23. You'll just have to hope no one files a GIPA request and uncovers your crimes...

Envy & Betrayal
Student politics is politics after all... Between hotly contested factional preselections and mid-election campaign flip-flop-Libs' sinking electoral ship in 2019), the best stupid weapon is being willing to leave your loyalty at the door. You've gotta be willing to filibuster, to override collective preselections in your path to power, to make promises you can't necessarily keep...

WEAPONS

*Student Services and Amenities Fees (SSAF) is a varied annual amount paid by students to fund a range of student facilities and organisations within the university. The maximum fee is \$308.00 per year for full time students, paid in two lots across semesters. SSAF allocation is decided by the University Executive, including the portion that funds the SRC, SUPRA, SUSF, the USU and the Careers Centre.

Is there joy after Sydney Student?

Grace Lagan has had enough of USyd's hellish administration system.

One of the funnier memes in circulation imagines people befriending long dead peasants in hell, a thought experiment revealing the temporal and cultural differences that limit one's ability to form forever-friends in the afterlife. Thankfully, USyd students will be at no shortage of small talk with centuries-old serfs, with your average Byzantine peasant well versed in the sort of abysmally designed, void-like bureaucracy common to both medieval governments and the Sydney Student website. Indeed, they might be left wondering what the discovery of electricity, an industrial revolution, several leaps forward in global telecommunication, and the advent of the internet was all for if administration and enrolment is still so horrific hundreds of years on.

My story with Sydney Student begins at the end of last semester, when I confirmed with both the outgoing and incoming honours coordinator my eligibility to continue in the School of Economics Honours stream. I had to submit enrolment exception requests via Sydney Student to enrol in pre-honours units. Fine. The advertised ten business days it takes for these requests to be processed came and went, at which point I learned these turnaround times don't apply in "busy periods". To me, that seems akin to buying a lifejacket that floats, just not in water.

In the weeks-long wait for my enrolment to be finalised, University administration managed frequent updates on all the important deadlines I was missing by not re-enrolling, but remained radio silent as to my actual enrolment.

In defence of uselessness

Leon Yin muses on the humanities in the 'usefulness' economy of capitalism.

In today's highly corporatised university landscape, knowledge has succumbed to capitalism's utilitarian logic. The 'usefulness' of a subject is no longer judged by its potential to contribute to the common good but by its value in the job market.

Poetry, art, culture, education, and even science—everything that should not be commodified has been by this logic. 'Useful' knowledge is determined solely by the anticipated economic benefits that it may bring to capital or industry. Employability, return-on-investment rankings, career readiness and even the egregious Job-Ready Graduates package in 2020 are all aimed at subjecting education under this fetish for efficiency.

As long as capitalism is the dominant way of our lives, the humanities will continue to be regarded as 'useless'. Yet they remind us that human beings are not merely means to an end; instead, the best of the humanities radicalises and agitates against the status quo. Although the humanities may contribute to less 'practical' knowledge, they nurture the seeds of social change by interrogating our assumptions time and time again.

Medicine, biology and engineering may be deemed more useful with life-changing implications, from modern prosthetics to John Snow's defence of

Three weeks later, my enrolment exception requests were finally accepted, a victory abruptly halted by Sydney Student's direction to complete "departmental permission" applications for these same units. Why I couldn't have completed these seemingly identical forms at the same time as my enrolment exception requests is a mystery, only explained by Sydney Student's apparent affinity for useless correspondence.

"Disabled and disadvantaged students are more likely to access these services in the first place, compounding the issues with this system. For students who lack the institutional knowledge and support to navigate this bureaucracy, the task can become unbearably difficult."

While this sounds like a massive whinge on my part, substantial delays in enrolment can have serious consequences. As one student who completed an internal degree transfer (which they note should have been straightforward) explained, resolving these issues can take up the "entirety of the summer". Moreover, delays mess with your timetable: because I couldn't properly enrol for six weeks, I'll be on campus every single day. For anyone with even a whisper of a commute, this is a timesuck that can make work, study, and any semblance of a life outside uni difficult to plan. The impact is particularly brutal for students who must work to live and study in Sydney, where inconvenient timetabling can mean forgoing shifts.

In addition to the myriad issues with Sydney Student, separate problems stemming from the centralising of requests to discontinue a unit can uniquely impact disabled and

disadvantaged students. A discontinue (DC) grade can be recorded on Sydney Student in place of an absent fail (AF) or incomplete result (IC) when a student discontinues a unit after the census date. Having DC grades recorded in a timely fashion is essential for many students to re-enrolling and meeting WAM requirements. While students could previously go through their relevant faculty to discontinue a unit,

changes made late in 2021 now require discontinue requests to be submitted through the Student Services portal.

This involves far less human contact in a system that is already difficult to navigate, a change that SRC Welfare Officer and inaugural SALS Disabilities Officer Grace Wallman describes as making re-enrolment "massively difficult". As Wallman also notes, disabled and disadvantaged students are more likely to access these services in the first place, compounding the issues with this system. For students who lack the institutional knowledge and support to navigate this bureaucracy, the task can become unbearably difficult.

Unsurprisingly, the discontinuation process is also plagued by massive wait times. Honi spoke to one student who has waited 26 days and counting for their discontinuation request to be processed. In lieu of any clear chain of command in the centralised discontinuation process,

let alone clearly advertised turnaround times for requests, students are being left to languish in uncertainty while waiting for DC grades.

In all of my conversations for this story, one recurring issue was that attempts to streamline and centralise enrolment created more problems than they fixed. Opaque enrolment interfaces dissolved any sort of chain of command in these systems, making it difficult to figure out who to contact when issues arose. Automated complaint and query lodging forms, like those offered by the Student Centre website, lead to delayed, non-specific responses to even simple questions (methods you might try for more success: prayers, manifestation, Mark Scott's Twitter DMs, public toilet cubicle graffiti).

As 2021 SRC President Swapnik Sanagavarapu notes, these systems are often disconnected, leaving a "hodgepodge of centralisation and decentralisation" that makes it difficult for any one person/interface to resolve problems.

The bottom line is this: enrolment is already confusing enough, but the second you demand anything more than the bare minimum from the system—an honours application, a request to discontinue a subject—the entire thing buckles under the pressure. This is not a system designed for disabled people, working people, people who are the first in their family to go to uni, or the time-poor. This means it is not a system designed for students. Hopefully it makes a good story in hell.

REFLECTING ON MANNING: A DEAD BAR WALKING

Kicking and screaming but refusing to die. Nelson Crossley reminds us why Manning still rocks.

The past few years have been devastating for the live music industry. Many of us are still waiting to see gigs we had booked for the start of 2020. Despite coronavirus restrictions easing in New South Wales, live music will remain affected by singing and dancing bans until late February.

The impending closure of the Lansdowne Hotel was a further reminder of the sorry state of the industry. While we will all miss feeling the floorboards thump upstairs at the Lansdowne, it is important to remember that nestled within campus exists the fantastic music venue of Manning Bar.

Manning once held the beating heart of campus life. It was open for daytime trading and acted as a space for students' post-class mingles and a way to get to know their classmates. Recall the legendary moment when Leonardo DiCaprio was spotted enjoying a cold beer on the balcony in 2011, while in Sydney for the filming of *The Great Gatsby*. Devastatingly, in late 2019 the University of Sydney Union (USU) Board unanimously voted to stop daytime trading at the venue.

In 2017, students fought desperately to save Manning when management was being handed over to entertainment group Century Venues. The organisation has been an industry leader for over 30 years and is currently in charge of other Sydney favourites such as Enmore, Factory and the Metro Theatre. Manning was once a mecca for students and by students, emerging from the quirks and culture of its patrons. In exchange for Century's professional clout, its distinctive quirk was disrupted.

Manning is no longer a space where students seized control of the environment but a sterilised husk where organisation is meticulously designed and controlled, losing the intricacies and imperfections that gave Manning its soul.

While stripped of its role as student bar, it still hosts some of the most impressive Australian and international live music acts. Endowed with a rich musical history, Manning continues to

provide fans a chance to see some of their favourite artists up close and personal in an intimate environment where the thrills of live music truly captivate.

Manning has been a crucial venue for the Australian music scene, hosting then up-and-coming acts like Paul Kelly in 1979 and INXS in 1980. This trend has continued with Australian favourites such as *Lime Cordiale*, *Ball Park Music*, *Violent Soho* and *Slowly Slowly* having held shows at Manning in the past few years. This list is by no means exhaustive, Manning has been a key entry point for many Australian artists who held smaller shows at the venue before sky rocketing to success, *Tame Impala* and *The Cat Empire* performing in 2009 come to mind.

As well as this, Manning has been the leading venue for a number of music festivals including both the Sydney Guitar Festival in 2018 as well as being a pioneering venue for the Hardcore festival started in 2004. What strikes me about Manning is the way that it acts as a hub for outsider music and bands with cult followings.

The venue gave a platform to bands whose music is not played on the radio or seen in the charts but still widely appreciated in niche online circles and crowd-sourced reviewing sites such as Rate Your Music. Some of these groups include no wave group *Swans*, midwest emo outfit *Tiny Moving Parts*, shoegaze-black metal band *Deafheaven* and hyperpop artist *Dorian Electra*.

Manning's ability to attract bands with a devoted cult following may be due to its scale. Spacious enough to hold a decent amount of concertgoers making international tours viable, yet small enough to foster intimate performances.

Although the venue attracts a diversity of genres such as hip hop (*The Beastie Boys*, *Stormzy*, *Suicideboy\$* and *Freddie Gibbs*), shoegaze (*Swervedriver* and *Alcest*) and pop rock (*Foo Fighters* and *The Black Keys*).

However, punk, hardcore and metal seem to be most at home at Manning

Bar. The venue has been a staple on tours of Australian punk icons *Frenzal Rhomb* and *Radio Birdman* as well as attracting acclaimed international punk acts such as *Misfits*, *Dead Kennedys*, *NOFX*, *Bad Brains* and *Propogandi*. The venue also hosts some of the world's most interesting and avant-garde metal outfits such as: *Sum O)))*, *Sleep*, *Animals as Leaders* and noise rock duo *Lightning Bolt*.

I was lucky enough to attend one of the few shows held at Manning Bar in 2021, seeing 90s Australian skate punk outfit *Frenzal Rhomb*. After attending a Manning punk gig I completely understand the appeal.

For those who haven't been to a show here, let me paint a picture. Ascending upstairs you will see musty red carpet (crucial for any live music venue) and at the bottom of a few stairs a lowered pit of lightly coloured floorboards. Taking raving seriously, the mosh pit is a literal pit. This makes Manning a more accessible venue as it is easy to see the performers even from the back of the crowd due to the sunken pit. However, if you are inside the pit, as soon as one beer is spilled on the wooden floors it becomes closer to an ice skating rink than a musical venue. While to some this may seem terrifying, to 40 year old punk dads with piercings, mohawks, and Doc Martens fighting to keep the punk dream alive, this represents an unmissable moshing experience.

When I was in this mosh being pummeled from side to side I could not help but think of the irony that come Monday morning I would be sitting calmly in my philosophy tutorial - located a mere fifty metres away.

Manning's continued dedication to exceptional music, domestic and

international, popular or with a cult following, speaks to its promise as a venue. To get a taste of Manning's musical history make sure to look out for upcoming gigs. However, if we want Manning to avoid the same fate as the Lansdowne, we must reclaim it for ourselves.



ART BY ZARA ZADRO

a life defined by freedom and personal fulfilment.

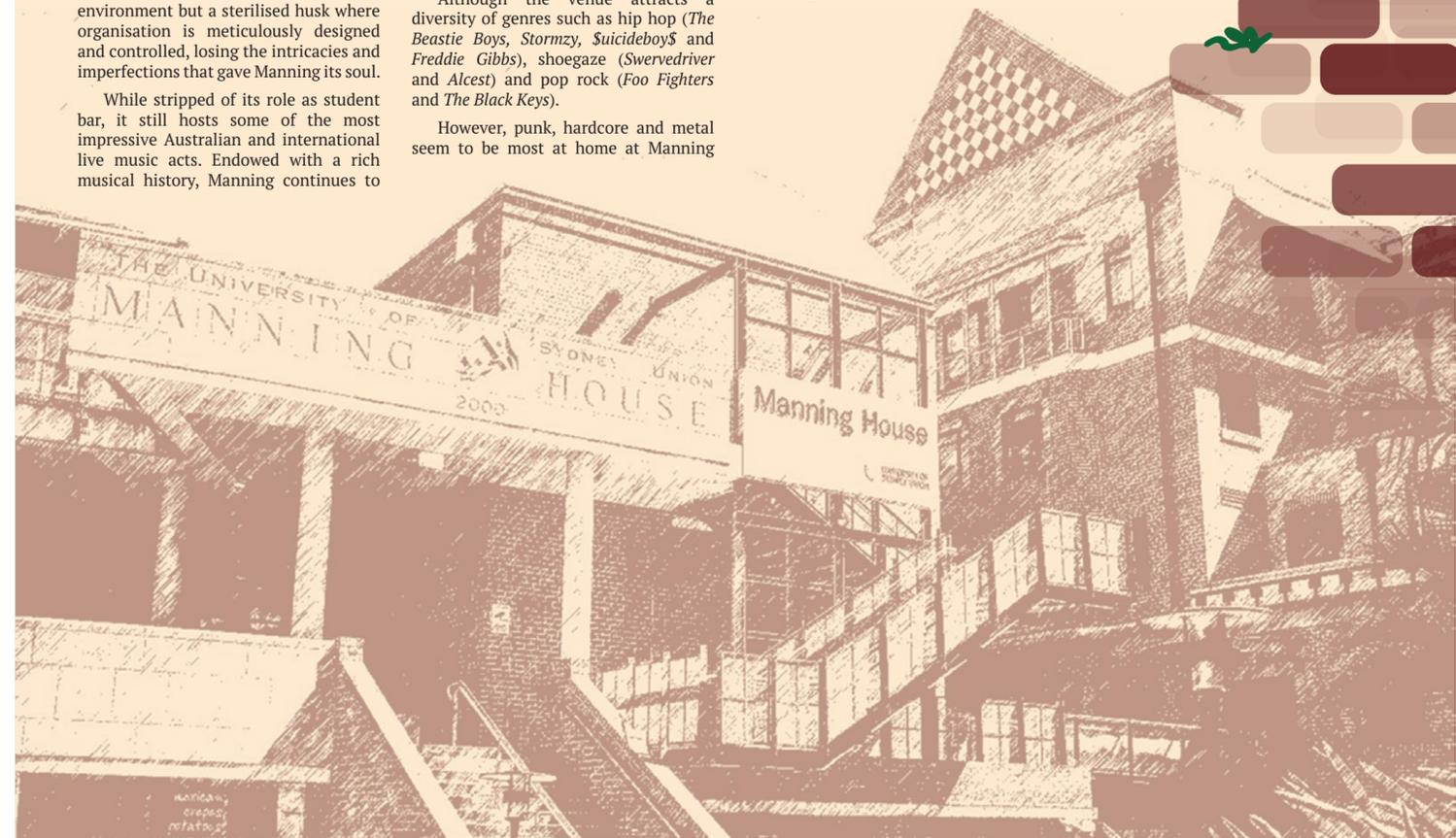
Under the status quo, an alternative vision will likely be dismissed as naive yearning for utopia and scorned as unrealistic. Deprived of the 'useless', we have long since lost the ability to imagine, understand - let alone explore - the vast possibilities offered by the humanities to live a more genuine, freer life.

Writing fictions in ENGL2666 might not immediately pay your bills nor appreciating Wong Kai-Wei's *Fallen Angels* (1995) in FILM1000 would help

you stand out in business interviews; however, literature and films expand the boundaries of our personal experience, reminding us that the complexities of being human could never be reduced to a mere factor in economic calculation.

They allow us to experience the world, to feel the human condition, to struggle, to compromise, to rejoice, to grieve. They revive our kindness, imagination and innocence that have been long alienated.

It is precisely these 'useless things' that keep telling us that we are a being more than 'useful': they keep us *alive*.



An exploration of USyd libraries

It's time to reopen Fisher Library's rooftop courtyard

There is a rooftop courtyard above Fisher Library, and the University won't let you hang out there. **Roisin Murphy** demands answers.

Fisher Library's mid-century design has embraced generations of students, serving as one of the few common grounds for an increasingly fragmented University experience. To our University, its construction was a symbol of modernity, innovative and highly intentional. Moving the library from its old home in Maclaurin Hall and into a purpose-built structure signalled a shift away from the traditional sandstone University, which modelled itself off English institutions and centred around a singular quadrangle. Instead, the new Fisher Library would represent a modern Australian institution - one with a sprawling campus and an identity of its own. This library would have modern features to match: photocopying services, a book stack, and a rooftop courtyard.



The Fisher rooftop courtyard, 1960s. Source, University Archives Mediabank.

On a rainy afternoon in March last year, while sitting in level 8 of the stack, I looked out through the narrow windows over a quiet campus clouded by rain. In this extended window-staring procrastination, I noticed what looked to be benches on the rooftop of the main library building. At further glance, it seemed there was a small balcony-edge around the rooftop. Spurred by childlike curiosity, my friend Thomas and I sprinted down the stairs to level 5, where all assumptions were proven correct. Crowning Fisher Library is a perfect rooftop balcony, with magnificent views of campus, Glebe and the city. But it is locked.

In the year or so since, I haven't gone a week without thinking about Fisher Library's hidden rooftop courtyard and the potential it holds. Constantly on my mind are the memories students have previously - and still could - form up there. The archival photos that do exist

are tribute to this idealistic vision of a generation forming their own intellectual identity. There is a certain symbol in the unique youthfulness of smoking, reading, and conversing atop a place brimming with millions of stories as they create their own. These are the things we are missing out on. Be it a bar, a study space, or just a few benches, the rooftop's placement above the singular campus building which is uniquely frequented by those from all over, means it could be the common gathering place our student body so desperately lacks.

I've also found that I'm not the only student to have dropped all study at the sight of those benches.

there were a few near-death experiences), but the loss of never-returned items was financially damaging for the Library. This problem presenting as insurmountable makes sense in 1963, when books were borrowed under a pen and paper system and students could hide them under their jackets. However, the University's first electronic book detection system was installed in 1972. The overdue and obvious fix is to simply place a book scanner at the door to the rooftop.

Others say the rooftop was closed because balcony safety standards changed, and heritage regulations prevented the rooftop from being renovated to meet them. At first this seemed to be the most likely theory, but upon further investigation it's insubstantial. Not only was the gold cladding of the stack installed a near decade after Fisher's opening, significantly impacting the exterior, but the library has since undergone notable structural changes. What's more, the Library isn't even on the state heritage register.

This theory also doesn't explain how my Dad was able to access the rooftop when he worked at Fisher in the early 1980s. He told me that he remembers it was always closed to students, however staff could get out there - he and his co-workers would use the rooftop to smoke cigarettes and organise secret union meetings to plan wildcat strikes without bosses hearing. It seems incongruent that the roof would be locked due to safety standards, yet remained accessible to staff for some years. Nonetheless, they seemingly can't access it anymore -- perhaps Dad ruined it for them all.

For a university supposedly campaigning around the on-campus student experience, not modernising the Fisher rooftop is a wasted opportunity. Its safety risks, removed from the heritage myth, may be true to some extent - I was informed by a University spokesperson that it is currently closed because there are "concerns the space does not comply with Building Code of Australia requirements". (No surprise considering it's been void of maintenance for a number of decades).

However, it seems at best amiss of the University to completely brush off any thought of a renovation. From its perspective, the cost of raising the height of the balcony railing and laying fresh tiles on the ground is simply an asset loss. But this lens of a transaction is what's destroying these student experiences: why must it matter that reopening the rooftop might not raise our employability if it enriches our time on campus?

In all the pub-table discussions I've had about the infamous rooftop, there is a nagging sentiment that it will never be reopened - simply because it's fun. Fisher Library was the first of its kind. Designed

by Government architects, the library was intended to serve as a breakthrough, ushering in a new era of the student experience. Embedded in its purpose was an ability for students to recreate, due to a new understanding that with recreation came leisurely intellect and a more engaged cohort.

“...an incredibly important symbol of leisurely intellect, accessible to all.”

It's why for the first 30 years of the library's history, it included a highly popular music-listening area, where students could pick from thousands of vinyl LPs and use headphones to listen to them on communal turntables. In a history of the Fisher Library published by the University, the area was described as having "pioneered the provision of recreational facilities in a university library". This is also why a rooftop courtyard was purpose-built, where students could converse, read, smoke - all the things the University now seems to want us to not have time for.

Another person I interviewed brought the rooftop up with her parents, who went to uni just before my Dad worked at the library. Her Mum recalled how the watchful eyes of the stack's windows, which overlooked it, made "shenanigans" more challenging. Her Mum was also a highly successful scholar, having enjoyed a learning experience only enhanced by said shenanigans.

It's clear the University doesn't value libraries in the way they did when Fisher was designed: as an incredibly important symbol of leisurely intellect, accessible to all. Why shouldn't students be able to read on a sunny balcony, with no particular agenda? I say it's time to mobilise. We deserve the Fisher Library rooftop that too many generations have missed out on.



The music listening area at Fisher. Published in 2009 in The Fisher Library Centenary.

We have libraries?

Amelia Koen takes you on the need-to-know tour of campus libraries.

Is it your first time on campus? Have you found yourself as a third-year who's never borrowed a book? Or do you just want to know more about where to read, relax and research on campus? Well, you're in luck. Welcome to the somewhat-comprehensive guide to libraries on campus, rating them using the metrics that matter: seat availability, proximity to cafes, noise-levels, and overall studious vibes.

Fisher Library and The Stack

LOCATION: Northern end of Eastern Avenue (F03)
HOURS: 24hrs 7days (with a student card)

Despite being the best known of all the libraries, few use Fisher to its full potential. As an extremely large library, it comes with versatile spaces and pockets of greatness to those in the know. For the uninitiated, 'The Stack' refers to the monolithic dark-grey side of the library, a book-stack home to nine glorious levels which keep the overwhelming majority of Fisher's books. This is where you go to do some serious crunch-time studying. It's quiet, private, and has single-tables with a view (for when things get existential).

The smaller left hand-side of Fisher is the more frequented and, often, busier section. It's equipped with computers and a section of seating you can pre-book in three hour blocks - during exam weeks, I highly recommend this, unless you get in before 9am. Additionally, it is home to the Rare Books and Special Collections section on level 1, which, by appointment only, holds some of the rarest and specialist books USyd has to offer.

Unfortunately, it's often a little noisier, with several non-silent sections and sees significantly more foot-traffic.

Pros: Bathrooms on every level, kitchenette, fantastic range of books.

Cons: Questionable cleanliness at times, can get very busy, you will run into someone you know.

Overall seat availability: 4 / 5
Proximity to cafes: 5 / 5
Quiet: 3 / 5
Studious vibes: 4 / 5

Herbert Smith Freehills Law Library

LOCATION: Law School Building, Eastern Ave (F10)
HOURS: 9am - midnight.

Ah the Law Library - think airport lounge meets Apple store meets GP waiting room. Squatting directly below the New Law lawns, and connected to natural light only by its 'cone of silence', this chronically 'under maintenance' atrium has become a physical ode to the alumni battle between Malcolm Turnbull and Tony Abbott.

The library has convenient exits to Victoria Park and the University's unofficial smoking alley, Barff Road. It contains more rarely-used and thinly-papered law books than anyone should have to look at, much less actually read. The countless computers, study rooms, silent sections, bookable tables, and research collections, make this underground multi-level library resourced and ready to serve any and all of your Elle Woods needs.

Pros: Feeling superior, front row seats to see the University's aspiring human rights lawyer to war-criminal pipeline in real time, the hustle-grind atmosphere is infectious.

Cons: Studying near students who think they're superior, way too bright.

Note: Law students hate anyone studying there who does not 'do law,' despite all of our SSAF fees paying to keep those over-powered lights on. Ignore the glares, turn up your headphones and use this as your one opportunity to stick it to the man.

Overall seat availability: 3 / 5
Proximity to cafes: 3 / 5
Quiet: 5 / 5
Studious vibes: 5 / 5

SciTech Library

LOCATION: Level 1, Jane Foss Russell Building (G02)
HOURS: Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm. Sat-Sun, 10am-2pm

Supporting the Faculty of Science, SciTech Library boasts the majority of USyd's STEM-related books and literature. If you study Medicine, Veterinary Science, Agriculture, Architecture, Engineering, or any Science-adjacent subjects, this is your place. With much individual seating and several computers, SciTech is a great place to get work done with like-minded science students. Situated in one of the best locations out of all the libraries, Subway and the USyd Store reside directly upstairs for all your study-supply needs, and the Wentworth food court is just around the corner.

Honi's honest issue with SciTech is that, compared to other libraries, it's just a bit ugly. We surveyed frequent campus library users, and the feedback was not strong. We are told that it smells, and one of our respondents said the two times they've been there were for a breakup and an SRC deal - not a good start.

Pros: Kitchenette, external book-returns shoot, isn't PNR.

Cons: Only one bookable room, ugly carpet, harsh lighting, smells.

Overall seat availability: 4 / 5
Proximity to cafes: 5 / 5
Quiet: 4 / 5
Studious vibes: 5 / 5

Schaeffer Fine Arts Library

LOCATION: Level 2, RC Mills Building (A26)
HOURS: Mon-Fri, 8:30am-6pm

Schaeffer Fine Arts Library contains over 140,000 books, documents, and exhibition catalogues - making it one of the largest art reference libraries in the country. Somewhat of a hidden gem, it is easy to overlook Schaeffer simply because you don't know it even exists, hidden away in the RC Mills Building amongst tutorial rooms and academic offices.

Connected to the Department of Art History and Film Studies, the library is designed to be a "synthesis of modernist and humanist ideals." Supported by high ceilings and skylights, the ambiance is breathtaking. Despite this, it is a relatively small space and seats fill up fast, so get in early and impress your Art History teachers!

Pros: There isn't an art book they don't have, completely silent study, nice staff, gives dark academia vibes.

Cons: Can't borrow books, no food or drinks inside, the wooden stairs squeak loudly.

Overall seat availability: 2 / 5
Proximity to cafes: 2 / 5
Quiet: 5 / 5 (SILENT)
Studious vibes: 5 / 5

Wingara Mura Research Library

LOCATION: John Woolley Building (A20)
HOURS: Mon-Fri, 9:30am-4:30pm

Housed in the John Woolley Building, the Wingara Mura Research Library is home to an extensive collection of literature, print materials and resources relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander affairs and culture. Established in 1992 for students of the Koori Centre, the library has grown significantly to include rare

collections and newspapers from local Indigenous communities. Similar to the Schaeffer Arts Library, the Wingara Mura Research Library is independent from the University of Sydney Libraries, however, its materials and collections can still be accessed through the library search function.

Pros: Only for Indigenous students.

Susan Wakil Health Building Library

LOCATION: Level 2, Susan Wakil Health Building (D18)
HOURS: Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm

With a focus on Health Sciences, Nursing and Midwifery, the Susan Wakil Health Building Library is located near the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital on the Western side of campus. The Library has eight bookable study rooms all with large Zoom-connected TV screens for collaborative work and group presentations. Level three has several individual study-cubes for focused study when you need to stop procrastinating, or just want to be left alone.

CreateSpace on level four is fitted out with a podcast room, a 3D printer and scanner, and VR technology (for doing ... things?). Each of the six levels has a different purpose and a good range of facilities - although it fills up fast, so get in quick!

Pros: Has a quiet reading room with floor to ceiling windows, extensive technology, close to showers.

Cons: Feels like very clinical, you will get kicked out of booked rooms, very busy.

Overall seat availability: 2 / 5
Proximity to cafes: 3 / 5
Quiet: 4 / 5
Studious vibes: 4 / 5

USyd: In Numbers

CHRISTIAN HOLMAN & ELLIE STEPHENSON

The University of Sydney loves its statistics - some statistics, anyway. To be a USyd student is to receive monthly email updates about the latest university rankings and whatever other arcane metric highlights their elite performance. But what can the data tell us about the stories USyd doesn't necessarily want to tell?

The data USyd wants you to see:

On prestige:

1st in Australia for graduate employability

On financial success:

Achieved a **\$106.6 million** operating surplus in 2020

On a world-class education:

47% of the USyd population consists of international students

On research:

100% of research marked as at world standard or above by the Australian Government's Excellence in Research for Australia report

On gender equality:

59% female student body
57% female staff

The data USyd doesn't advertise:

On elitism:

38th lowest share of low-SES students out of 41 Australian universities

On exploitation:

\$12.75 million wage theft affecting **12,894** staff 2014-2020

On failing international students:

46% of international students were forced to regularly skip meals during the pandemic

On failing academics:

99% of FASS casuals have employment concerns, with over three quarters concerned about losing their jobs

On sexual violence:

88% of all sexual assaults at USyd occurred on college grounds, with 12% occurring during Orientation Week

Data credits (left to right, top to bottom): QS rankings, The Australian Economic Review, 'Australian Mobility Report Cards: Which Universities Admit the Most Disadvantaged Students?', USyd's 2020 Annual Report, USYD: Employee Payments Review., Times Higher Ed Rankings., SBS News, Universities Australia, USyd Casuals 'Over-Worked and Worked Over' Report, Australian Government 2019 and University of Sydney, Broderick Report 2017.

Cuts in the time of COVID-19

PATRICK MCKENZIE

Since 2020, USyd management has made hundreds of staff redundant, cut subjects, proposed to dissolve entire schools, and practiced widespread wage theft. This systematic erosion of our education has occurred under the guise of COVID-related financial constraints.

"There's no recognition given to the expertise that staff have, and decisions get taken in an autocratic manner by senior managers who are in a bubble that really shields them from genuine accountability... that impacts on staff but it also really impacts on students," says

incoming National Tertiary Education Union (NTEU) Branch President Nick Riemer. The timeline of the past two years paint a grim picture of austerity measures, but there is hope in staff and student campaigns.

- 1** **Campus closes and classes shift online**
On March 13 2020, the University announces plans for a potential campus closure. In the face of an expected \$200 million shortfall in student fees due to the travel ban, this also brings a freeze on new staff appointments and renewals of casual and fixed-term contracts. The NTEU describes these actions as "austerity measures," and a "slap in the face" for the many casual staff working overtime to shift teaching online.
- 2** **Universities deemed ineligible for JobKeeper**
In April, Federal Minister for Education Dan Tehan announces the Higher Education Relief Package, which reaffirms a pre-budgeted \$18 billion "for domestic students," and keeps government-funded university places at their pre-existing levels. The Government amends the JobKeeper eligibility criteria for universities exclusively, specifically changing the turnover test period to prevent staff from accessing the payment. The University now expects a \$470 million loss.
- 3** **Arts subjects under threat as fees rise**
The Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS) proposes cutting 30% of its subjects. Staff and students stage a Day of Action to fight back, and the Faculty concedes to cutting a maximum of 8% of courses. University casuals speak out against layoffs and target the tertiary education sector's prioritisation of profits over quality of education. The Government announces the Job-ready Graduates Package, which more than doubles the price of Arts degrees. The package eventually passes parliament in October.
- 4** **University staff are underpaid and hundreds are made redundant**
The University admits to underpaying staff, mostly casuals, almost \$9 million. A survey conducted by the USyd Casuals Network finds that casuals reported working an average of 50 unpaid hours during Semester One. 60% had been underpaid prior to the pandemic, 82% during. Then-Vice-Chancellor Michael Spence – the highest-paid VC in Australia – announces that the University executive will take a 20% pay cut and that a voluntary redundancy program will be launched. At the end of the year, 252 redundancies are proposed due to projected revenue shortfall. The NTEU describes the restructuring as "pandemic opportunism." Students occupy the F23 building and demand that the University commit to no cuts to staff or courses; they leave after nearly six hours amid a heavy police presence.
- 5** **Mark Scott is appointed Vice Chancellor**
In March 2021, the University Senate appoints Mark Scott, former ABC Managing Director and NSW Education Department Secretary, as Vice-Chancellor for five years. Unusually, Scott enters the role never having worked as an academic. The NTEU questions the motivations behind Scott's appointment, and expresses fears that he would continue cuts and restructures and "further corporatise the university."
- 6** **Finances recover, restructures threatened again**
The University confirms in April that it experienced a net loss of only \$2.2 million in 2020, far less than earlier estimates of hundreds of millions. Staff and students react with outrage, saying that the outcome makes austerity measures even less justified. Meanwhile, University management proposes the dissolution of the School of Literature, Art and Media, and the closure of the departments of Studies in Religion and Theatre and Performance Studies. Hundreds protest on campus.
- 7** **NTEU submits log of claims**
In July, the NTEU submits an extensive log of claims in the lead up to Enterprise Bargaining Agreement (EBA) negotiations; the period once every four years where pay and working conditions are negotiated. Prominent concerns include systemic underpayment and wage theft and increased casualisation.
- 8** **Casualisation continues, students hold General Meeting**
4104 casual staff members are denied conversion to full-time work, continuing insecurity and, potentially, further wage theft. A draft change proposal (DCP) is released for FASS, presenting discipline mergers and changes and cuts to units with 'low' enrolment figures. Hundreds of students convene to hold a Student General Meeting to oppose restructuring and cuts across FASS and the Business and Dentistry schools, and support conversion of staff to permanency.
- 9** **Discipline-focused change**
At the end of January 2022, University management announce that FASS will shift from a departmental to a "disciplinary structure," and there are no new redundancies for the moment. Management justifies the change as a means to simplify degree pathways and administrative double-up, however Riemer argues that the change contributes to further generalisation of the student experience, and facilitates previously proposed cuts and restructures.

What's Next?
With staff and students returning to campus and the EBA soon to be finalised, staff are on the cusp of industrial action following two years of sustained austerity measures and mistreatment from University management. As in 2013 and 2017, sustained activism and advocacy is the onerous – yet necessary – work that staff and students must often do to effect real change.

Pictured: students protest against cuts in 2020

Pictured: students occupy F23, displaying a banner from the top floor

Pictured: NTEU members strike in a previous industrial action

Actually, that’s not my name

Iqra Saeed is tired of answering to names that don’t belong to her.

I’ve always found it odd when I introduce myself to new people and they ask if I have a nickname, or an ‘easier’ name. I immediately know that this question translates to: “You’ve just told me your name and I don’t really want to learn how to say it. Can I call you something else?”

Growing up in a diverse community, I’ve always appreciated the way my name would flow out of the mouths of my Pakistani Aunties and Arabic teachers. A soft ‘q’ with a slightly rolled ‘r’ – it was natural for them to say, never an inconvenience.

For being a simple four-letter, two-syllable word, my name has been grossly mispronounced for my entire life. It has been read backwards, jumbled, and made into anagrams by many people. Oftentimes, by people with Anglo names, from Anglo backgrounds. Many of whom I’ve encountered at this very university.

In her article ‘Experiences of Name-based Microaggressions within the South Asian American Population’,

Ranjana Srinivasan states that there is a “tendency for White European names (and Whiteness itself) to be perceived as normative, whereas racial minorities with names of religious and ethnic origins may be seen as an inconvenience, which can result in experiences of discrimination and ostracism.”

For many people of colour, the feeling of being the ‘other’ is all too familiar, and allowing others to mispronounce or change our names is a way of ensuring that we are not accentuating our cultural differences. We keep our mouths shut and let others redefine our primary marker of identity so that people from Anglo backgrounds don’t feel uncomfortable. These ongoing behaviours undermine our identity, as well as our cultural or religious background, for the sole purpose of better assimilating into ‘whiter’ environments.

Experiences like these are not uncommon for people with ‘foreign’ names. The unwillingness for others to learn new names can manifest into acts of racial microaggressions, a term that

Srinivasan explains as “the more subtle and aversive racial experiences that people of colour face on a day-to-day basis.”

“We keep our mouths shut and let others redefine our primary marker of identity so that people from Anglo backgrounds don’t feel uncomfortable.”

Last semester, I was called ‘Iraq’ by a tutor despite countless corrections and explaining that that was not my name. At one point, I was called three different names before they decided that I was no longer worth the effort. “Whatever it is,” they said. One throwaway comment that relegated this simple, beautiful name of mine into careless obscurity, into an

unutterable object, into an ‘it’.

Welcome Week is a time for introductions and conversations with new people. It is also the time that many of us will close up and stay silent when our names are mispronounced for the first time. And then a second time. And then a third.

Names are the initial access point to an individual’s identity and heritage. They are carried throughout generations of ancestors before us, pay homage to iconic figures, honour spiritual entities, and can represent significant aspects of culture and religion.

If your name has been deemed ‘unusual’ or ‘foreign’ upon meeting new people, do not settle for mispronunciations or unsolicited nicknames, because having your name pronounced right or merely used is not a burden.

Why should we have to constantly compromise our own identity?

Honi Soit: Crash Course to Welcome Week

Isabel Formby imparts sage advice for embarking upon Orientation.

So you’ve recently arrived in Sydney – here’s how to survive Welcome Week.

Let me set the scene: you’ve recently arrived in Sydney for the foreseeable future. Perhaps you’re an international student, from interstate, or even regional New South Wales. To make matters more complicated, let’s say you’re also a dreaded ‘twelve’, someone who started Year 7 as a mere 11 year old, always a year behind most of your cohort. Assuming you’re a precocious twelve who never took a gap year, chances are you’re either recently or soon to be 18 years old. That’s big, and let me be the first to say congratulations.

Either way, you’re about to be introduced to two daunting environments: the University of Sydney, and the adult world at large. While I can’t give too much advice on how to navigate the latter, I’m well enough equipped to at least share my advice on how to survive Welcome Week.

Tip 1: Don’t go in blind.

Chances are, if you’re reading this, you have more understanding of USyd than I did at this time in 2019. To be honest, I was quite ignorant of Honi Soit for longer than I care to admit. Even worse, I hadn’t even taken a tour of the campus before I applied.

If I remember correctly, the University sent many emails prior to Welcome Week full of lists of activities that were taking place, including tours with Arts mentor groups, croissants and advice sessions. Lectures on essay-writing and planning your time were difficult to find and ultimately forgettable. Mentor groups also have to be booked in advance, so I found myself aimlessly walking around campus alone. Not a great start to say the least. If you are more unfamiliar with campus than you want to be, book a tour or find a friend to look around with! Make sure you know which activities you want to attend, and make sure you know how to attend them.

Tip 2: Don’t sign any petitions.

While I was on my lonely tour I stood in the middle of the Quad, taking it all in, when I was approached by someone holding a clip-board. They asked me to sign a petition, then asked me some questions about socialism. I mentioned something about George Orwell, my friends from high school, and caring about the environment, then went on my way. I felt very good about myself, first day on campus and I was already making a difference!

Later that day I was already getting calls, asking if I was interested in attending events about environmental degradation. “We heard you were passionate about environmental issues...”. Luckily, I was occupied at the time and couldn’t stay on the phone for too long. Either way, be mindful of who you give your details to.

Tip 3: Bring multiple disguises.

It’s a story as old as time: promotional freebies. Grab as many of these as you can. Razors, kombucha, gum; who knows what will be in store this year! Either way, to save face and pretend you’re only taking your fair share, make sure you blend in with the crowd. If not, bring a hat or two, sunglasses, a fake moustache even. With enough skill and ingenuity, you could have fresh breath, amazing gut health, and silky smooth legs for at least half a year!

Tip 4: Be open-minded.

The University of Sydney is a big place with a lot of students. Everyone has something interesting to offer, which means there are a number of societies and collectives that may interest you. Look around at everything and get involved! Meeting people in your classes is a great way to make friends at uni, but joining societies and collectives introduces you to many more diverse students, and is a great way to find new interests, or engage with old ones.

4a: Join the USU.

You can’t join societies unless you have a USU number. The good news is it’s free to join! There is an option to purchase ‘Access’, which gives you discounts and promotions at a number of eateries on campus. This is well-worth, and pays for itself if you are around campus enough. However, if you’re feeling particularly cheap, stick with a plain membership, and make sure you only join societies with little to no membership fee.

Tip 5: Socialise at your own pace.

Welcome Week can be overwhelming. You meet a lot of new people, you’re in a new place. Make sure you are comfortable in the environments you are inhabiting. Trust your gut and stick with people who keep you at ease. If you are new to drinking and haven’t been out many times, a party at Manning Bar may not be the best place for you to go.

I was a recent 18 year old at the Welcome to Sydney Party in 2019, and amidst the flashing lights and MADsoc demonstrations, I was groped. In fact, at a few drinking events on campus in my first year I was sexually harassed. I do not mean to discourage any new first-years from socialising; in fact at that same party I met people who completely changed the trajectory of my university career by introducing me to Political Economy, which became my second major. These environments can place a lot of pressure on a young person; I can’t imagine how I would cope in them after two years of online school. Just know that nothing is all good or bad, and stay aware of your surroundings.

A guide to Welcome Week would be incomplete without a sober word of warning about rape culture and misogyny at USyd. While the culture must change to eradicate sexual assault on campus, in the meantime there are a range of services that the University offers to support you if you have been mistreated by someone. Remember there is no shame in reaching out for help, to professionals and friends.

Tip 6: Look around.

If you’re too young to legally enter a bar, you may find your social opportunities limited. So, for the next few months, discover the real hidden gems of Sydney: parks, cafes, and libraries. The green space in the city is truly beautiful, and there’s no better way to spend a day than reading a book and drinking a coffee in a public park. The Botanic Gardens near Circular Quay are expansive and beautiful, and serendipitously placed right near the Conservatorium of Music, where many of USyd’s fiction collection lives. Victoria Park gives you access to Glebe Point Road and Fisher Library, making it a convenient recreational spot for those on the main campus.

Exploring parks and libraries is a great way to become familiar with your new home in spaces that feel safe and welcoming. Websites like Broadstreet and Urban List also provide helpful advice on local food and attractions. Go a little crazy and see what’s around; you’ll love what you find.

Tip 7: Learn to let go.

University exists alongside and often facilitates a period of drastic change for many young adults. Leaving high school and moving out of home are both difficult and courageous, but they are just the beginning of what’s to come. Welcome Week is a great introduction to campus life: giving you the opportunity to explore your new environment, meet new people, and discover how your interests can expand and guide you through this next phase of your life. The friendships you make in your first semester may not last forever, and that’s okay too. Accept that things will not be the same as they were, and embrace this new chapter of your life with grace.

Wishing all the best for the future students of USyd. Do your readings and respect your tutors.

2022 Welcome Week 已确定返回校园线下举行

Celine Zhao reports on the return to campus for Welcome Week.

2022年欢迎周活动将在线下进行，同时新南威尔士州正努力应对 Omicron 变种的传播。

直到此时，我才发现，在德国半个月所学 悉尼大学宣布，在 COVID-19 的传播不断升级造成数周的混乱之后，校园的欢迎周线下活动将如期恢复。

“我很高兴地确认，欢迎周活动将按计划进行，包括(有)线上和线下同时进行的活动。” 副校长Mark Scott在全校范围的电子邮件中说。

与此同时，学生是否可以在开学后返回校园上课在2月7日之前仍处于未知状态。有报道称悉尼大学的工作人员已被指示在家工作。去年，USyd 宣布将远程进行 120 多名学生的大型讲座。

Scott认为，这一决定是对“与 COVID 共存”的“新常态”的认可。昨天，新南威尔士州记录了 13,206 例 COVID-19 阳性病例，其中 27 人死亡和 2,779 人住院。与此同时，在这轮疫情的高峰期，1 月中旬的一天内，见证了超过 60,000 个阳性结果。

强制性 COVIDSafe 措施将应用于所有欢迎周活动，学生预计将需要证明其完全接种疫苗的状态、

前三天内的 PCR 阴性结果或同一天的快速抗原检测 (RAT) 阴性结果。其他要求包括 COVIDSafe 指挥官、所有室内环境中的强制口罩令和场地登记。

直到 2 月 28 日，该州目前实施的其他限制措施包括禁止“唱歌和跳舞”，以及在夜总会等接待场所的人数限制和室内口罩强制令。这些规则预计将在欢迎周期间影响俱乐部和社团的 COVIDSafe 协议。

“经过两年的在线学习，这感觉像是一个非常特别的时刻。” USU 校长 Prudence Wilkins-Wheat 说。

“我们的员工将戴上口罩，我们将进行接触者追踪、任命 COVID 指挥官、分发洗手液 [并] 鼓励保持社交距离。我们所有的主要活动也在户外进行，这些都大大降低了感染 COVID-19 的机会。”

USU 的工作人员和志愿者必须接受疫苗接种，而学生本人即使没有接种疫苗，也可以在检测呈阴性的情况下进入校园。

欢迎周将于 2 月 14 日开始，大部分活动将在 2 月 14日至 2 月 18 日期间举行，包括悉尼大学的 Welcome Festival。

Great Fortune in the Year of the Tiger

Jocelin Chan wishes you all the best this Chinese New Year.



Honi Soit - Tiểu sử của một tờ báo

Khanh Tran kể về lịch sử thăng trầm của tờ báo của trường mình.

Trải qua gần một thế kỷ đầy thay đổi và biến chứng, Honi Soit đã trải qua nhiều bước ngoặt để trở thành giọng nói của thầy và trò không chỉ ở trường đại học Sydney mà cả khắp đất nước.

Gần 93 năm về trước, trước cuộc đại Khủng Hoảng kinh tế, sinh viên ở trường đại học Sydney (USyd) đã phải đụng đầu với giới báo chí ở Sydney vào ngày Tưởng Niệm Thế Chiến I khi các giới nhà giàu và phe bảo thủ chỉ trích đả đội khi học từ Sydney quậy phá ngày này.

Từ đó, một nhóm học sinh tụm lại để hình thành tờ báo của riêng mình - Honi Soit - để đối lập với sự bảo thủ của giới chính trị Úc.

Trong thập niên 60 đến 70, ban biên tập của Honi đã xông vào một trong những cuộc cách mạng thanh niên lớn nhất ở Úc khi Honi giúp thay đổi định kiến về cuộc chiến dịch chống đối thực dân Mỹ ở trong khi sinh viên, giảng viên và người dân hợp tác để đòi chính phủ Úc rời khỏi Việt Nam. Trong những năm này, Honi cùng với các truyền thông sinh viên khác khắp đất nước như Sally Percival kể lại trong *Dissent: The Student Press in 1960s Australia* đã giúp làm rung động chính trị khắp nơi.

“Từ đó, một nhóm học sinh tụm lại để bình thành tờ báo của riêng mình - Honi Soit - để đối lập với sự bảo thủ của giới chính trị Úc.”

Tạt qua đường hầm tranh tường (Graffiti Tunnel), nhiều người không biết rằng đây là cái nổi cuộc biểu tình lớn nhất trong lịch sử sinh viên khi những phụ lão trường để học sinh không phải lau đài sa thạch trong chiến dịch phản đối nhà nước để chống giặc Mỹ.

Chúng ta nên nhớ đến cái chủ nghĩa tiến bộ của các thế hệ trước vì chính

Từ tờ báo nhỏ bé đó, Honi đã trở thành một trong những lò đào tạo biên tập viên nổi tiếng nhất nước Úc với cựu sinh viên, họa sinh và biên tập thường xuyên trở thành những nhà văn, phóng viên và chính trị gia lừng danh nhất trong nước. Nghi đến Charles Firth, Clive James hay Avani Dias.

Hiện nay, ban biên tập thường niên của Honi bao gồm mười sinh viên từ khắp nơi trên thế giới và chủng tộc. Mỗi năm vào tháng 9, học sinh tranh đua nhau để được bầu cử thành ban biên tập cho năm sau. Chính vì cái bản chất dân chủ này mà Honi có thể phản ánh các tầng lớp, giới tính và chính trị của cộng đồng sinh viên ở USyd.

Ngày nay, học sinh quốc tế thường xuyên viết cho Honi Soit với không ít người thẳng cứ để bước vào ban biên tập và viết, về trong cái “hang” ở Wentworth. Nhưng tờ báo này tồn tại không chỉ để tuyên truyền lý tưởng phát triển mà còn là nơi từng hợp tác viên, nhà văn và họa sĩ tìm tài năng của riêng mình.

Review: SUDS' Accidental Death of an Anarchist

Maxim Shanahan and Marlow Hurst review.

After a half a year of hibernation, SUDS awoke from its slumber last night with Dario Fo's Accidental Death of an Anarchist – a politically-charged romp through police repression, anarcho-communist theory, and prosthetic-limb gags. Although this might sound odd, it's in this very contradiction that the message of Fo's play shines through.

Inspired by the defenestration of an innocent anarchist from the fourth floor of Milan's police headquarters at the height of Italy's violent Years of Lead, Fo's play – adapted for SUDS by Sam Hill-Wade and Tilda Wilkinson-Finch – takes a slapstick handle to institutional corruption and state violence.

SUDS' performance succeeds, for the most part, in balancing the slapstick and the serious, taking the viewer on a highly entertaining and impressively polished lark, with strong performances from all cast members keeping the sold-out crowd amused and interested for the entirety of its two hour run time.

Set in a cramped police headquarters, set designers Bella Wellstead and Tom Hennessey (along with assistant Rachel Hui) should be congratulated for constructing a space that not only immersed the audience in its Italianate environs, but provided ample opportunity for interaction. There was always something to see in the periphery, whether it be Jim Bradshaw (Superintendent) grinding a cabanossi stick through a pasta press as the farce proceeded in the foreground, or Danial Yazdani (Constable) cowering constantly behind coat racks, curtains, and filing cabinets.

The desk took centre stage, defining the seat of power, giving all three maniacs (a significant innovation by Hill-Wade and Wilkinson-Finch) a chance to assert their dominance over the scene: lounging in the high backed chair, or doing callisthenics on the bureau. The

mechanical rolling background (used to signify shifts between floors of the police HQ) was a clever innovation.

Costumes from Zara Zadro and Kimmi Tonkin elevated the farce to new heights. Dressing the police officers in disco pirate chic only added to their pompous buffoonery, laying bare the incompetence behind the aesthetic facade of uniform. For example, Inspector Pissani's (Pat Fuccilli) floral blouse, gleaming tight

“Inspired by the defenestration of an innocent anarchist from the fourth floor of Milan's police headquarters at the height of Italy's violent Years of Lead, Fo's play – adapted for SUDS by Sam Hill-Wade and Tilda Wilkinson-Finch – takes a slapstick handle to institutional corruption and state violence.”

white pants and rosary bead carabiner exposed him as a lecherous liar, setting up the character well.

Hill-Wade and Wilkinson-Finch made a number of departures from Fo's original script, some being more successful than others. The decision to cast three Maniacs instead of the traditional one was a clever and considered innovation, allowing the trio's transmogrifying deception to come to the fore. The interchange between Maniacs #1, #2 and #3 was smooth, and allowed each performer to give a unique bent to the character.

Kimmi Tonkin's Maniac #1 started and stole the show, electrifying the audience with a rollicking and raving display, which more than lived up to the 'Maniac' job description. Treating the stage as her playground, Tonkin's street urchin shtick set up the show for success: the laughs rolled in (the foot-as-phone gag was an unusual highlight), but it was the confident commanding of stage movement which most impressed.

Indeed, it was the opening scene and Tonkin's interactions with Adele Beaumont's (Bertozzo) harangued and paranoid straight-man foil which was the high-point of the show.

Rose Fitz's Maniac #2 offered a delightful counterpart to Tonkin's energetic act. Impersonating a high court judge, Fitz's performance was reminiscent of Claire Foy's pinched delivery in The Crown. Fitz's maniac used her time on

stage to unravel the Matryoshka dolls of official and unofficial police timelines. Delivering inquisitive charm, Fitz's maniac was the rational rapier of activist inquiry, piercing the police's deception and incompetence with vim and vigour.

Fitz's introduction came alongside that of the cast of three bumbling cops, whose sheer incompetence deliberately obscured their violence and murderousness. Pat Fuccilli (Inspector Pissani) was shiveringly snivelling when the script called for cowardice, and equally ruthless when it didn't. With a scheming hunch, Fuccilli's deliberate performance added a necessary layer of slime and sleaze to the fascist inspector. Jim Bradshaw (Superintendent) provided bover-boy humour, and impressed with his talents as an accordionist, while Danial Yazdani (Constable) lurked in the background. Too quiet in the first half, Yazdani shone when given space to work.

Tom Hetherington-Welsh (Maniac #3) and Danny Cabubas (the journalist

Felletti) played their parts well, though were often obscured by a crowded stage. Unfortunately for such a political play, the theoretical musings of Maniac #3 were drowned out by the farcical chase scene proceeding in the background. This confusing set-up may have been deliberate – Fo railed against scandal's ability to obscure the truth – but such a choice was not clear to the audience.

If there was a failing in Death of an Anarchist, it was the tendency to innovate on Fo's script without making decisive choices. Swapping in references to Watergate and Pinochet from beyond the play's original context added little, and necessitated clunky meta asides: Pissani's "this is an unheard of distortion of the author's meaning" was unfortunately apt in the moment. However, where the changes were major – such as the decision to cast three maniacs – they succeeded entirely.

Further, while the farcical element shone strongly in the first half, some of the slapstick humour came to feel a little forced as the play progressed. One particular gag involving a prosthetic hand was a little...wooden.

One recommendation would be to do a little background reading into the accidental death of an anarchist on which the play is based. Some knowledge of the context of the play is helpful in illuminating its political arguments, and makes some references clear, especially with regards to the journalist – and increases its relevance to students.

Despite these minor criticisms, Death of an Anarchist was a highly enjoyable, well-performed and well-developed production. These reviewers chuckled and chortled through two full hours of anarcho-communist student theatre – it's safe to say there was nothing accidental about this show's success.

When will the suffering end?

Nicola Brayn examines the role of trauma in fiction and Yanagihara's 2015 novel A Little Life.

Content warning: discussions of trauma, self-harm, suicide, sexual assault, spoilers.

Full disclosure: I have only read A Little Life once, a few years ago. I should have re-read it for the purposes of this article, but I couldn't bring myself to. The novel's 700 pages (a daunting enough quantity on their own) are populated with some of the most beautiful prose I have ever read, yet simultaneously some of the most relentless suffering I have ever encountered in a work of fiction. I devoured the first 600 pages in one week, and it took me months to work up the energy to read the last 100. Once I had, I was left with a question, which, truth be told, I still don't know how to answer: is this a good book?

The edition that I own does not have a blurb on its back cover. Instead, it has a collection of glowing reviews, including "compelling" and "unforgettable." These reviews, although flattering, seem placed there for convenience; summarising this novel is incredibly difficult. At its start, the novel follows the shenanigans of four friends sharing an apartment in their early twenties. It is at this point that Yanagihara's prose captures you, investing you in the lives of these four men, delighting you in their successes and making your heart ache during their lows. The focus gradually shifts to one of the four: Jude. Jude is a law student who becomes a lawyer, walks with a limp, and has spinal damage he refuses to talk about.

The initial shift to focusing on Jude is not unpleasant. His reluctance to discuss his past whets a reader's curiosity, and, after focusing so acutely on the joy of the group's shared friendship, there is almost an expectation that the skeletons in Jude's closet will be no match for the love of the group. This does not happen. Jude's story is not a redemption arc or proof of the healing power of friendship. It is, in a word, suffering. Jude self harms, attempts suicide, experiences flashbacks to the ongoing sexual abuse he suffered as a child, faces new abuse by a romantic partner, relapses over and over into self-destructive behaviour, finds genuine love and loses it to a traffic accident, and, ultimately, kills himself. The novel's initial tale of friendship is torn apart by addiction and petty conflict. The reader's heart breaks over and over. Despite it all, the book continues.

This is not to say that stories of trauma cannot be well written. In many instances, fiction can be a powerful vessel for catharsis, reclaiming the hurt you feel by putting it into your own words. Toni Morrison's novel Beloved is a beautiful example of this. She explores the generational trauma that she and her ancestors share as black women in America. Despite containing vivid descriptions of true depravity and suffering, the novel regards its characters with relentless compassion. Their trauma is not being put on display for entertainment but, rather, for closure. Their suffering is profound, and it does not end within the pages of the book, but the readers get the distinct impression that the author wants it to.

This same compassion does not exist in A Little Life. Rather, Yanagihara falls into the category of authors who treat the suffering of their characters as art in itself. In a 2015 interview with The Guardian, Yanagihara reveals that her focus on Jude's trauma was not born of catharsis but, rather, fascination. His story was not inspired by her own

Happy endings don't exist in real life - why should I crave them in the books that I read? Yanagihara's work is unforgettable and compelling, just as the reviews on its back cover claimed, but not for the right reasons. It weaponises the shame the readers feel while witnessing Jude's suffering by claiming to make a profound comment

“How privileged was I to be able to put down the book, take a deep breath, and go on with my day? How dare I look away?”

experiences but rather an exploration into how she thinks trauma affects men in adulthood. In this same interview, she explains her refusal to cut out the most brutal descriptions of Jude's suffering: "I wanted everything turned up a little too high." Trauma, undoubtedly, is uncomfortable. But Yanagihara's unflinching and relentless subjugation of her characters to trauma lacks the hesitation of an author who regrets that their characters must suffer. Instead, A Little Life feels like an experiment in sadism, creating characters with humanity woven into them and then mocking the reader for wincing as they suffer, again and again.

While reading this book, I found myself feeling guilty for not wanting to finish it. The traumas Jude undergoes are real. How privileged was I to be able to put down the book, take a deep breath, and go on with my day? How dare I look away?

about life, while in reality, its central thesis is, simply, this: the suffering does not end. It offers no comfort, no catharsis, no compassion.

Happy endings may not be realistic, but there is a reason that the fiction we consume as children, more often than not, ends with characters living happily ever after. By design, fiction is escapism. It transports us to a world that we are merely an observer of, one which asks us to care about the characters we encounter. These characters need not meet a happy ending, but just as Morrison lets us cry into her shoulder at the suffering of her characters, readers crave that the characters they meet are treated with humanity.

ART BY NICOLA BRAYN



A Conversation at the End of a Trip Away

Will Solomon writes.

There you are, my glimmering mirage,
Framed in ferns and branches,
The colours of psychedelic trances.
You've rolled a towel on the grass
And laid down, your arse toward the sun.
I find you hiding in a book,
A glass of wine half done.

You look above the horizon
Of your sunglasses. Your glance,
Straining against the glare, a familiar stare.
"Do I dare to eat a peach?" I joke.
"Is this Eliot or Call Me By Your Name?"
"It depends, each has its kind of shame."
I stop and sit and poke your hip,
"I know, I know, a silly game."

I take the wine to my lips and sip,
Then lean in near your ear.
"Hey, I'm glad we planned this trip."
"I'll say. Nothing like being the world away."
"I wish we'd stay."
You smile at me as your music plays -
Tomorrow Comes Today.



ART BY ELLIE STEPHENSON

The future of space exploration is looking back

Katarina Butler illuminates the next generation of space exploration.

Launched on the 25th of December, 2021 and costing around USD 10 billion, the James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) is considered the next generation of space exploration. Equipped with state-of-the-art technology, this telescope sits 1.5 million kilometres from Earth in a gravitationally stable location called a Lagrange point. Its mission is to collect data that will help astronomers answer questions about the early universe.

The telescope consists of an enormous sunshield that unfurled over one day, a primary mirror composed of 18 individual mirrors, and a secondary mirror. It is predicted to take nearly three months for the 18 mirrors to align, after which the telescope will begin providing invaluable data to astronomers.

Unlike its predecessor - the Hubble Space Telescope - the JWST will orbit the Sun instead of the Earth. From here, its fine-tuned instruments will detect infrared wavelengths. This enables it to observe a completely different set of variables from Hubble, which detected optical and ultraviolet wavelengths.

Infrared radiation detected from far away cosmic entities will provide insight into the universe's origins and the behaviour of early stars and galaxies due to a phenomenon called redshift. As the universe expands, the wavelengths of light emitted by distant objects stretch, shifting from optical wavelengths to infrared wavelengths towards the red end of the electromagnetic spectrum. This phenomenon is similar to how a car coming at you has a high pitch but

sounds low once it passes.

Spearheaded by the National Aeronautical and Space Agency (NASA), the JWST seeks to eclipse all previous telescopes in its technical prowess. Combining the efforts of the European Space Agency and Canadian Space Agency, NASA launched the telescope to advance cosmological research.

While an exceptional scientific achievement, the advancement of space research is tightly bound to these agencies. For better or worse, their histories and political mandates cannot be divorced from their scientific purposes.

NASA, for example, was the cornerstone of America's efforts in the Space Race. With roots in the Cold War Period, NASA was a powerful proxy to prove America's military prowess over the Soviet Union. Created in 1958 amid panic over the Soviet Sputnik satellite, NASA implicitly supported America's imperialist agenda from the outset.

NASA was also formed out of a desire for military control of space. During his time as a US Senator, Lyndon Johnson supported establishing the agency for the sole purpose of expanding American military power. However, he compromised with President Eisenhower to create a civilian agency instead.

At its inception, NASA brought together scientists from the Army, Air Force, and Navy, especially ballistics and rocketry experts. Nazi scientists were also involved. Their experience with the V-2 Rocket made them highly sought

after post-World War II.

Amid the recent formation of the United States Space Force and such capitalist projects as the joyrides taken by Musk and Bezos last year, the launch of the James Webb Space Telescope is special. The military-industrial complex looms large over American science and engineering, drawing graduates from across the world with the promise of funds, but this telescope is different.

While the roots of NASA lie in imperialism and American exceptionalism, the JWST represents some of the purer scientific intentions of space exploration. The telescope hopes to answer key questions in modern astronomy instead of establishing military dominance.

With the power to investigate celestial bodies distant in both space and time, the JWST hopes to pinpoint when light first appeared in the universe - in other words, when the first star was formed. Astronomers hope to track the formation of galaxies and see the changing organisation of matter on a cosmic scale. Scientists will then be able to apply this knowledge at any scale - from the organisation of geologic structures to subatomic structures crucial to life.

By examining the atmospheres of exoplanets - planets in solar systems outside our own - astronomers may locate other habitable planets. As a general observatory, teams of scientists from across the globe will be able to submit proposals to study the data

gathered by the telescope.

Astronomers, aeronautical engineers and simple science lovers should rejoice at the chance to be in a new era of cosmology. Even the astronomically apathetic can celebrate the pursuit of knowledge, not war.



ART BY SHANIA O'BRIEN

Climate change, COVID-19, and the DNA of crises

Holly Hughes discusses the future of crises.

The COVID-19 pandemic has been, first and foremost, a tragedy. Few other labels can so aptly describe 5.7 million worldwide deaths. However, the spread of coronavirus is far from humanity's only calamity, with climate change, racial injustice, poverty, and gender inequality being just a few of the other crises on our societal to-do list. The dynamics of climate change between political and personal contexts are critical junctures of conversation, despite the string of equally tumultuous distractions the last few years have seen.

The significant (albeit warranted) shift in political and scientific attention onto COVID-19 has distracted from other global crises. The narrative surrounding the recovery has largely centred on the economic rebound. For example, the 2021-22 Federal budget allocated \$1-2 billion (approximately 0.1% of GDP) to each of the digital economy, tourism, and childcare. This sounds positive on paper. However, nearly 40% of families cannot afford childcare. Likewise, due to pandemic business closures and ongoing uncertainty surrounding travel restrictions, the tourism industry is struggling. Without consideration for these parallel concerns, the 'get back to work' incentives feel hollow and short-sighted.

The strain on the health system has resulted in the disruption of care delivery. For example, the postponing of elective surgeries and closing breast cancer screening clinics could result in increased morbidity and mortality in the future. One UK study estimates that up to 50,000 British patients may have missed out on a cancer diagnosis during the pandemic, creating what can be viewed as a 'health time bomb'.

Clearly, COVID-19 is far from our only mortality concern. The World Health Organisation (WHO) reported at the end of 2020 that noncommunicable diseases, such as ischaemic heart disease and stroke, still accounted for 74% of global deaths.

As the pandemic has sidetracked these aspects of our physical health, our mental health has also taken a battering. An Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) survey from 2021 revealed one in five Australians were experiencing "very high levels of psychological distress" linked to COVID-19; young people are considered one of the most affected groups. The devotion of resources toward immediate action has resulted in a deficit of preventative and long-term health measures.

The destructive short-term mindset both individuals and governments have adopted failed us during the pandemic and will fail us again if continually applied to the other crises we face. Susceptibility to pandemics and their consequences for modern society have been well understood for decades. Sadly, one could easily replace the word "pandemic" with "climate change" and be just as correct.

This cruel reminder delivered by the pandemic has put us at a crossroads. Do governments and firms continue to wear blinkers, or do they adopt the long-term thinking necessary to combat the climate crisis and avoid planting more time bombs? With any luck, the moment of pause we collectively experienced over the last two years may provide the impetus to rise to the challenge.

Movements such as Australian Engineers Declare (AED), for example, look to disrupt the engineering profession's

modus operandi. Young employees of multibillion-dollar revenue firms like Arup are pressing their employers to "evaluate all new projects against the environmental necessity to mitigate climate change". The most compelling factor of the AED has been the influence of employees, whose expertise is an asset the companies cannot afford to lose in a potential revolt.

The pandemic has also been an extraordinary time for science, with global responses rooted in unprecedented levels of scientific collaboration. Public money bankrolled extensive epidemiological and vaccine research at universities. Meanwhile, R&D heads of big pharma companies temporarily cast their enmity aside and collaborated throughout the pandemic. Third-party contract research organisations (to whom pharmaceutical and biotechnological development is often outsourced) also experienced record growth. These efforts (in tandem with other factors such as rapidly developing mRNA technologies) delivered us several vaccines in a record two years, rather than the standard 10-15.

Going forward, individuals and organisations can change their behaviour to better reflect our post-COVID values, capitalising on a bubbling impetus for change. Most notably, governments have an opportunity to move away from a model of jumping from one crisis to another. Instead, they should act preventatively and spotlight long-term interests. Now is not the time to anxiously ruminate on our past mistakes. Going forward, we must learn from them and focus on the path ahead.

Field Notes

Ellie Stephenson takes you on a walk.

Having a sense of place is an important part of offuelling and energising environmentalism. It is a connection to the environment which motivates people to defend wilderness and which sustains people through climate anxiety. Field Notes is a weekly column which explores an image or an experience connected to the environment - we hope it helps you appreciate the fragments and glimpses of nature around you.



ART BY AMELIA KOEN

One of my favourite trees is the *angophora costata*, or Sydney red gum. Smooth and elegant, with a distinctive salmon or ochre colouring, the angophora rises into the canopy along Sydney's coastline.

If you park somewhere in Castle crag, a precipitous waterfront suburb in Sydney's north, you have several coves at your disposal. You can walk down alongside Sailor's Bay Creek in fragrant remnant rainforest. Take note of the impressive sandstone boulders dripping with moss. Then, climb up back towards the rather pompously named streets (The Rampart, The Redoubt, The Bastion) - interestingly, planned in the 1920s by Marion Mahoney and Walter Burley Griffin, of Canberra fame.

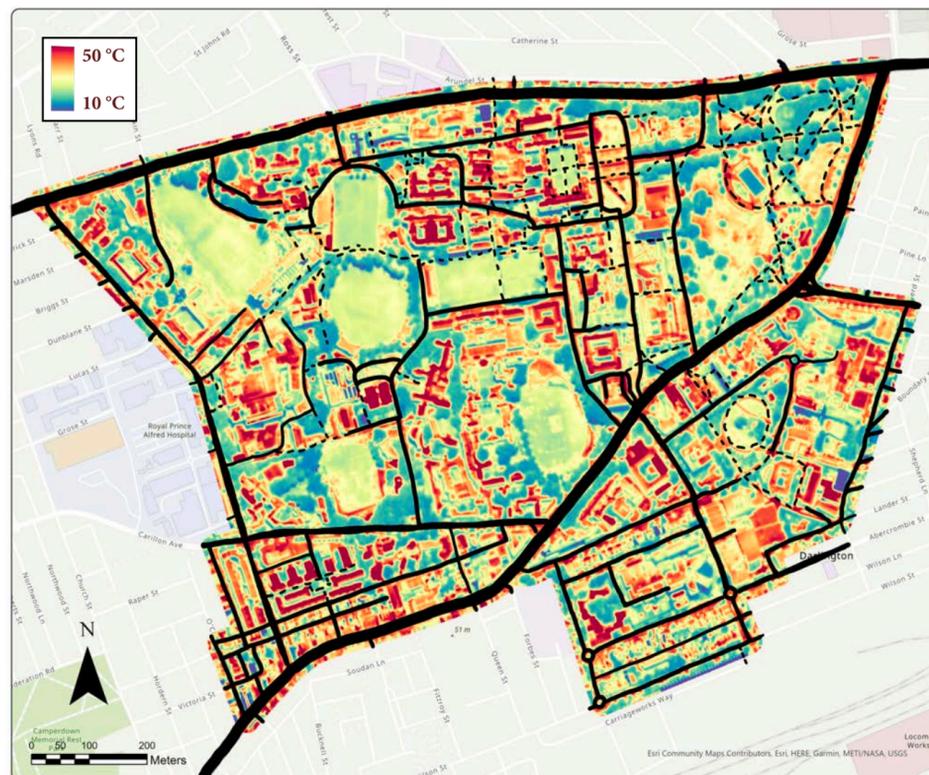
Head to Mowbray Point for sparkling views of Sailor's Bay. The angophoras frame the view, light dapples through the canopy. One suburb over, in Middle Cove, you'll find Harold Reid Reserve, a parkland with various walking tracks from which you can see Fig Tree Cove and Castle Cove's eponymous sandstone castle, which was built around 1905. I particularly liked the grass trees (*Xanthorrhoeas*); they're massive, ancient-looking and idiosyncratic.

At sea level, you can find mangrove laden mud flats, complete with crabs. You might see sea birds too. Around the creek, dragonflies hang sleepily in the air, emitting their soporific hum.

Sitting, clifftop, on a hunk of sandstone, looking over Sydney, you feel very glad the wealthy suburbs surrounding you have been kept at bay in some small way, that you can luxuriate in a coastal reserve and listen to the breeze in the angophoras. You can get little glimpses of what the whole shoreline might once have been like: a bountiful, glossy green, biodiverse meeting of sea and land.

Where to stay cool on campus: A thermal map

Ellie Stephenson and Sam Randle check the weather.



Whenever you look up into the night sky and see a shooting star, it's most likely a satellite. Several of these satellites are dedicated to observing the Earth's surface. Remote sensing is the process of monitoring the wavelengths reflected off the surface and atmosphere at a distance. For more precise measurements, manned and unmanned aircraft can take images closer to the surface. We can use these data for all sorts of useful analysis!

To the left is a simple example of how you can gain insights into the real world via remote sensing. When researching this topic last year we were shocked at the power of this method. One can monitor for illegal fishing via the light emitted by unregistered vessels, calculate a nation's output for a given crop, or observe coastal erosion.

Our project was less ambitious but no less novel. We used data provided by ArborCarbon from 2018 to display temperatures across the Camperdown/Darlington campus.

Unsurprisingly, trees and grass are your friends; buildings and roads are not. If you want a cool place to sit outside then make sure to use this map to locate the perfect spot!*

* The keen eyed among you may have realised that surface temperature does not translate to air temperature. Sitting in the grass without shade will still be hot even if sitting on asphalt is hotter. Nonetheless, we hope you found this map (and the concept of remote sensing) entertaining.

5 things to do before your first Lab

Amelia Koen gives you some tips for surviving first-year labs.

- 1 Read your unit outline. Subjects with laboratory components provide you with extensive information about when they start, personal protective equipment (PPE) and clothing requirements, pre-work, and other necessary materials.
- 2 Buy your lab coat and other PPE at the USyd Store. There's one under the Student Centre and another in the Holme Building. Some subjects also require a lab manual. You can buy these at the University Copy Centre near the Sports and Aquatic Centre.
- 3 Locate your laboratory timetable on Canvas. Many subjects alternate their experiments week-to-week. You'll want to prepare for the right one!
- 4 Read over your Lab Booklet and instructions before class. Familiarising yourself with the lab experiment and procedure enables you to come ready with questions to ask your Lab Demonstrator.
- 5 On the day, make sure you have enclosed shoes and long comfortable clothing - you'll be standing for a few hours!

Bonus!

Remember to get your calculator USyd approved for in-person quizzes and exams at the Student Centre, located next to the Wentworth Building. Bring your calculator for inspection and they'll put a sticker of approval on the back.



ART BY AMELIA KOEN

President

Lauren Lancaster.

Welcome (or welcome back) to 2022 at the University of Sydney, Australia's most shameless corporatised tertiary education provider. I'm Lauren Lancaster, and I'm your President of the 94th Student Representative Council (SRC). I'm an Arts / Law student majoring in art history, after stints in politics, political economy and English. And I'm a proudly left-wing President, keen to work with and for you in the coming year.

The summer break was a wild one - the start of my term coincided with the highest case numbers NSW has seen during the pandemic, and a heap of uncertainty about the future of course delivery in 2022. While we are back on campus in some form, it's important to remember those who still can't join

us - namely international, disabled and vulnerable students - and understand that accessibility, educational equity and justice must guide a nuanced approach to our political fights in the coming months. But we can also celebrate the wins - a safe return to in-person learning is critical to build student community, lay the groundwork for solidarity with academic staff in industrial disputes with the university, and just make us feel whole again. The SRC has and will continue to be instrumental in these processes.

You will hear from me each week, but I'll offer some advice here. Uni can be tough, and this year will come with challenges unforeseen and mammoth. Enrolment, course changes and cuts, assessments and proctoring are processes

made significantly more difficult by the bureaucratic failings of the corporate university. If you are struggling in any way, reach out to our SRC Caseworkers or Legal Service - we will assist with free, confidential advice and advocacy. Add to this situation that your tutors are overworked and underpaid while upper management rake in cushy salaries and you can begin to see why we, as your student union, must act. This isn't 'just the way things are'. And it definitely isn't the way things should be.

That is what I want to stress to you, as new and returning students this year: get involved. We have had a trying two years, but in that time I've had the pleasure of working alongside extraordinary grassroots student organisers, and many

other USYD undergrads to fight for a better university, climate action, feminist and anti-racist justice. I've seen how we care about our future, our classes and our friends. Student movements are built by people showing up, because if you feel anxious or angry, you can use that energy for good. The SRC is only as strong as its membership - and that is every single one of you. I look forward to continuing my work on university committees and as a liaison to management, but more importantly as a small part of grassroots organising on campus, to make sure no student is left behind and that we fight for a better, radical vision of what education can be. I'll see you on campus, or the streets.

Education Officers

Lia Perkins and Deaglan Godwin.

Hello! We are Lia and Deaglan, your Education Officers for this year. We run the Education Action Group (EAG), an activist group that meets weekly to organise protests around education and other important social justice issues. We have a protest organised in week 1 to fight for education and for no USyd Cuts - Fisher Library 24 February 1pm!

Over the break, ourselves and members of the EAG wrote, designed and edited Countercourse, a publication full of political articles distributed freely at Welcome Week. We have articles about strikes, the anti-war movement and much

more. Thank you so much to everyone who chipped in!

Invasion day was an amazing show of First Nations resistance, and we stand in complete solidarity with the struggle for land rights and justice. We organised a student contingent and saw dozens of students attend the march in solidarity.

A group of philosophy students brought it to our attention that at the start of January there was a week until beloved former philosophy lecturer Sebastian Sequoiah-Grayson's contract would be terminated. We ran a social media campaign to get attention and

outcry directed towards the university. We reached almost 1000 signatures on the open letter. Despite this, USyd has lost a brilliant academic to UNSW. As the prospect of industrial action begins to heat up, we will be there to fight for every job loss.

The EAG has an exciting return to emester planned! We have called a rally for Week 1 against uni cuts and to build solidarity with staff amongst students. This semester will be an exciting one for education activism on the campus; it is very likely that staff will strike, and they will need our support. Strikes are the

most powerful tool for university workers to win better and more fair working conditions. We strongly encourage all students interested in activism to get involved with education activism now - help build the Week 1 rally, come along to it, and join EAG organising meetings.

We will be stalling every day during welcome week and week 1 to get the message out about our rally in week 1 and about the EAG. We have t-shirts, pins, stickers and more. Come along to learn how you can get involved, find out about our exciting plans, and grab some activist merch! Hope to see you there!

Environment Officers

Ishbel Dunmore, Tiger Perkins and Angus Dermody.

The Enviro Collective are expecting a huge month ahead, with the climate strike on March 25th. The climate movement needs to build back stronger than ever out of these repeated lockdowns - climate action is more important now than ever. The Morrison Government has continued to support the fossil fuel industry even in the midst of the climate crisis, which is becoming a more real threat every single day. We've witnessed horrific fires around

the world, famine in Madagascar, and rising sea levels in the Pacific. All sides of the political system have failed; only a strong climate movement can win now.

The sort of movement that we need to build will be demonstrated on March 25. We need to organise our own campus and draw masses of students behind strong climate politics. We need to engage with unions whose rank and file will be at the frontlines of the fight against the fossil

fuel industry. We need to be standing in solidarity with First Nations peoples, particularly with the Gomeroi people who continue their staunch resistance against Santos's attempts to dispossess them for the Narrabri Gas Project. We need to force the Morrison Government and their cronies to offer meaningful climate action, which looks like an urgent just transition to 100% publicly owned renewable energy.

This movement won't just come about. It will take the tireless work of students from all across this campus. This is work that we are proud to take up, and are keen to get more students involved in. Come join us at our weekly meetings, help us stall on Eastern Avenue, and get your class to go out on strike!

Women's Officers

Madeleine Clark and Monica McNaught-Lee.

The Women's Collective (WoCo) has had a busy holiday break. It's been very encouraging to see so many people turn up even during this period. In our first meeting we discussed our perspective going into this year. We particularly focused on the COVID situation and wrote a statement condemning the government's handling of the pandemic. It is an outrage that the government has let COVID cases get away from us and spread in the community. Lives have

been lost and permanently impacted because of the choices of our politicians.

We also discussed the campaigns we want to focus on going into this year. We want to organise around the "Burn the Colleges" demands and immediate release of the NSSF results but we also want to organise in other areas too. The Nurses and Midwives Union community protest and the GMAR rally are two campaigns that we want to give solidarity

and support to.

Welcome Week is the most important week for getting new students involved in activism. This year we really want to grow the Women's Collective. For the stalls we have organised a roster and are printing merchandise. On the stalls we will also be handing out leaflets that explain the Colleges, a zine that was organised last year, tote bags and stickers (as well as Growing Strong copies).

Residential Colleges Officers

Charlotte Ainsworth, Alexis Bundy, Nancy Qiao and Jiawen Ku did not submit a report.

Welcome to Uni!



Photo by Andrew Wang on Unsplash

It's so great to see that you've made it here. The last couple of years have been really challenging and I hope that this year is a little easier on us all.

Uni at the best of times is pretty daunting; most people feel this way. The increase in workload for students straight from high school, and who haven't studied in a while can be quite overwhelming. Ask for help whenever you need it, whether it is from one of your academics, your Faculty's Associate Dean (Student Life), or a caseworker at the SRC. With the added stress of COVID, it is a good time to check in with yourself to see if you need to talk to a counsellor, even if it is just to keep yourself feeling well. The Uni has a Counselling Service and there are some online forums too, e.g., eHeadspace.

It is your responsibility to know how to negotiate the administrative side of your degree. You must check your uni email at least once a week, even during non-semester time. We know this is hard to do with the sheer volume that the Uni will send you. Unfortunately, there is no way around this - they assume you know about everything that they send you.

When you get your subject outlines, take a moment to read them thoroughly. Each outline should explain how to apply for special consideration, in case you are too sick to complete an assessment. The most important things to note here are to apply within the 3-day deadline, and to get supporting evidence (e.g., a medical certificate) on or before the day of the assessment.

Compared to high school or TAFE, there is less individual direction and larger class sizes. The onus is on you to stay focused, complete all of the compulsory and non-compulsory work, and ask for help when you need it. You are the only person responsible for your success or failure. Get to know the resources available through

the uni (e.g., Learning Hub; Peer Learning Advisors), and through your faculty. Now is a good time to look at the time management information available on the Learning Hub website to help you create a daily timetable and a semester assessment planner. With the possibility of some classes being even partially online, you should also take some time to figure out how this study works best for you. If you have a chronic illness or disability, register with the Disability Support Services Unit. They can give you an academic adjustment plan that will help you to complete all of your subjects successfully.

Most importantly please know that you can always ask for help. The SRC has caseworkers you can access for free, who can give professional, independent and confidential advice. We also have a free legal service, who can advise or refer you, on a range of legal matters.

The SRC has a year planner available at the libraries on Camperdown and Darlington campus, or you can have one posted to you (while stocks last). This has all of the Uni dates so you can make sure you don't miss anything, like the census date, or release of the exam timetable.

Most importantly please know that you can always ask for help. The SRC has caseworkers you can access for free, who can give professional, independent and confidential advice. We also have a free legal service, who can advise or refer you, on a range of legal matters.

We hope you enjoy your time at Uni, and we wish you all the best with your studies.

Ask Abe

SRC caseworker help Q&A



Introducing Abe's Weekly Q&A column!

Dear Abe,

I'm new at uni and I don't know anyone. None of my school friends got in here, and the people from my school that did get in, are not people I would ever want to talk to. I feel a bit scared and don't know how to make new friends. What ideas do you have?

Newbie.

with people you are able to work with. Join a club or society; the USU have hundreds of different groups each with very different interests and affiliations, where some events are in person, while others are online. Play a sport; you don't have to be good to participate. Join an SRC collective; you can work in a campaign towards an issue you feel is important, while making new friends. There are also online forums specifically for students to talk about their experiences; start with eHeadspace. All of these will help you to practice making friends, and hopefully increase your confidence. Take your time and be yourself. And if you feel lonely or sad talk to an SRC Caseworker about some options about who you can talk to.

Abe

Dear Newbie,

Welcome. Uni is a very big place, and even the people that already have friends are a little bit daunted. There are lots of ways to make new friends. Start by saying hello to people in your tutorials; you will probably be allocated into groups for an assignment within the first couple of weeks, so it will be a good idea, if possible, to make friends

2022 STUDENT YEAR PLANNER

Get organised for the year!

You can get your FREE A1 Student Year Planner from the SRC Welcome Week stall at Usyd libraries, or from out the front of the SRC offices.

Alternatively, if you are studying from home we have a limited amount available to post. Fill out the online form at: srcusyd.net.au/src-help/src-annual-wall-planner/



Students' Representative Council, University of Sydney
help@src.usyd.edu.au | www.srcusyd.net.au



Puzzles by Cloud Runner, Ms Eel Kink, Some Hack, and Tournesol.

Quiz

- Which city will host the Olympics this decade for the first time in one hundred years?
- Name three celebrities who featured in Gal Gadot's infamous 'Imagine' video?
- What 2020 hit includes the line, 'I want you to touch that little dangly thing that swing in the back of my throat'?
- Which of these was not won by Italians in 2021: the European Football Championships, the Nobel Peace Prize, the Olympic 100 metre sprint, or the Eurovision Song Contest?
- Which social media application was banned in India as it is owned by the Chinese Communist Party?
- Which Pacific region is expected to become the world's next independent nation this decade?

Cryptic Crossword

Across

- Old newspaper dickhead (4)
- Genitals lie under your nose (4)
- Gay lover starts doing his wife (5)
- Abraham Lincoln loses a bill, challenges speaker (9)
- Remarkably reverses heart/lung congestion (5)
- Invoice with extra charge costs thousands (7)
- Funny animated Toy Story 2 antagonist dubbed 'The Chicken Man' (7)
- Consider positive Covid test with ecstasy (4)
- Almost glimpse udon in a window (6)
- When milk is bad, it's not on! (3)
- Every second my wank brings forth cream (3)
- P U Z Z L E** (6)
- Intent to shatter knee (4)
- Letter Fever! (7)
- Man imprisoned in slam and elates his nation (7)
- Serious search engine (5)
- Roast tuna salad - it's out of this world! (9)

- Stir crazy about eye-opening ceremonies (5)
- Conceal skin (4)
- NATO say protocol breached, rollback supplies (4)

Down

- Made racier by a trendy fruit (4,5)
- Former celibate spread sheets? (5)
- Serial penetrator hit by spears (9)
- Too nice, endlessly healing (5)
- Loudly blew Mo on a special occasion (4,4)
- Heart found in cathartic hokey-pokey (9)
- Failure to win twice leads to prolonged speech (5)
- Gag order lacking motive (5)
- Fondle a breast, Reverend Doo-doo (4,1,4)
- Gathered around Danny with no end in sight (9)
- Grandpop gets STI with Conservative leader (9)
- She eats birds (8)
- Dog loses tail to become Dogg? (5)
- La Beouf sounds less confident (5)
- Give instructions to each without love (5)
- Send a lime cocktail (5)

Quick Crossword

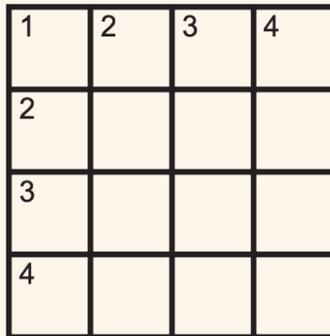
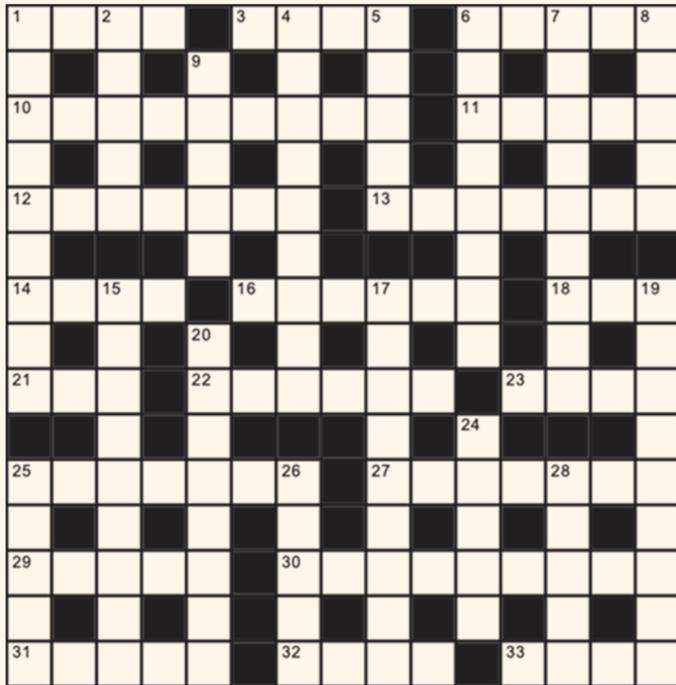
Across

- Makeshift boat (4)
- Exchange one thing for another (4)
- Male elephants (5)
- Confidence trickster, quack (9)
- Dance originating in Cuba (5)
- Peaceful (7)
- Whodunnit (7)
- Mitchell and Webb sitcom: ... Show (4)
- 2013 song by Pitbull ft. Ke\$ha (6)
- Digital effects (3)
- Mythical Middle Eastern bird (3)
- Instrument ideal for rooftop playing (6)
- Largest continent (4)
- Dried grape (7)
- Negrini ingredient (7)
- Elected (5)
- Paradise (7-2)
- Alluring female (5)
- Chanteuse Edith ... (4)

- One deadly sin (4)

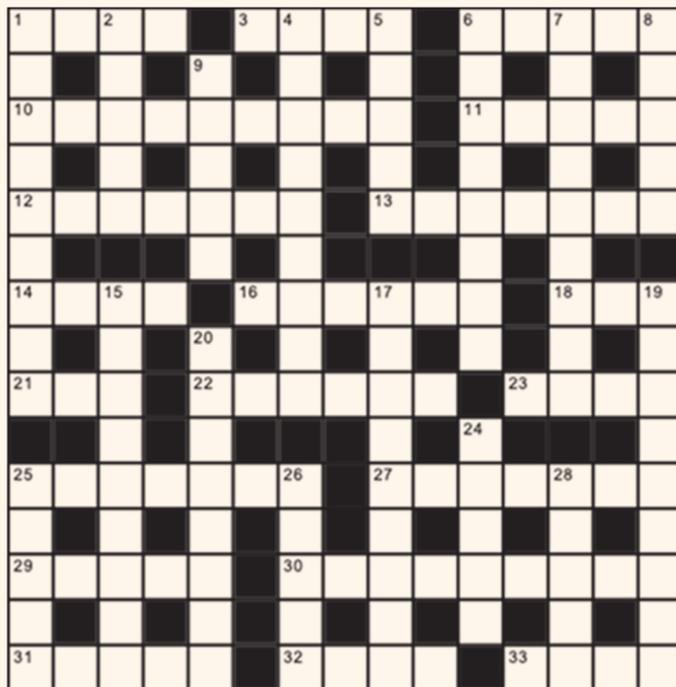
Down

- Vietnamese snack: rolls (4,5)
- Old French currency (5)
- Pregnant (4,5)
- Wild alarm (5)
- Thiefs (8)
- Five-line rhyming poems (9)
- Angle (5)
- Split in two (5)
- Moving staircase (9)
- Headwear of 6-Down (9)
- Fictional, made-up (9)
- Tech solution: turn it (3,3,2)
- Spanish friend (5)
- Rescues (5)
- Teller of fables (5)
- Sci-fi film starring Sigourney Weaver (5)



This Way and That

- It smells
- Something you can tap
- Wild Oats has one
- Jazz singer Fitzgerald



Answers

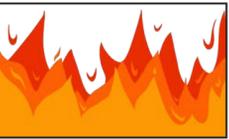


Puzzle answers available online at honisoit.com/puzzle-answers

INSIDE: Carlaw glory hole users EXPOSED - Exclusive interviews and pictures!

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The End Times



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MEET THE FIRST YEAR WHO JOINED (ALMOST) EVERY CAMPUS FACTION



Pierre Le Feu, a first year student at the University of Sydney, has found himself signed up to almost every faction on campus. The teenager, who graduated in 2021 from Arden Anglican College, had no preexisting political slant but says he was enticed by the prospect of free drinks, food and campaign t-shirts.

The 18-year-old opened up his straining wallet to proudly display his

factional memberships: the Liberal Party, the Labor Party, Socialist Alternative, and the Effective Altruists.

When asked what attracted him to such a wide variety of political movements, Le Feu told us, "I'm a centrist really. I believe in a dictatorship of the proletariat and I want that dictatorship to do religious discrimination AND Gonski."

When asked why he had not joined

Left factions Switch and Grassroots, Le Feu told The End Times that, while he could tolerate almost any political belief, "I cannot stand green and yellow! They wash me out!"

We asked the youngster whether he plans on running for a position as, say, a USU Board Director some day. "I don't believe in running for Board," he declared, "I'm not a corporate shill. But I am a lover of \$6 garlic pizzas at Courtyard and renovating PNR!"

Le Feu, who has enrolled in a Bachelor of Design in Architecture, told us he was looking forward to more architectural representation in student politics. "There's a distressing lack of representation," he complained. "Student unions simply lack the vision an architect can bring. I learned from Le Corbusier that not every house needs an indoor bathroom, but every student union needs a budding architect. Also, it might help with renovating PNR!"

Unfortunately, The End Times could not complete our interview as Le Feu had to rush off to a Solidarity reading group. The future is bright.

| Doomed | Destined |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Faculty societies | Beers |
| Natural wines | Academia |
| 'Ps get degrees' | Lectures |
| Brunch | Questacon |
| Aux cords | Aux cords |
| Icebreakers | Gurning |
| Dairy | Torrenting |
| Comedy | Fingerless gloves |

IN THIS ISSUE:

A secret history of mantelpieces - Camelia Rose

Why it's actually OK to be evil - William Wyatt II

Why socialism is the only way to solve hangovers - Greg Dogwin

Why the USU should appoint a town crier - Harrietta Azzini

Sydney Grammar School graduate extremely proud of his mullet - Lyon Tomkin

Present this paper at Hermann's for a free beer!

FIRST YEAR LEAVES LECTURE, ONLY TO REALISE HE WILL NEVER ATTEND ONE AGAIN

They're not getting moved back online, he just realised he could be at the pub.

STUDENT MOVES TO SYDNEY, LOOKS FORWARD TO ENJOYABLE NIGHTS OUT IN KINGS CROSS AND OXFORD STREET

The End Times recently caught up with a first year student, Guy Neuw, who excitedly gave us a tour of his shared bedroom on City Road while asking us if we'd ever heard of "the Cross" (where?).

"My Mum told me all about the great times she had there. I can't wait for the brilliant memories I'll make engaging in arts and culture late at night!", Mr New told us. "World Bar is my first stop!"

STUDENT RETURNS FROM SUMMER BACK HOME WITH MUM AND DAD, HAD A REALLY GREAT TIME NO ARGUMENTS THANKS FOR ASKING

Third year student Ann Gree returned to Sydney from Wolpoola, saying he had a lovely Christmas. It was a great time. No, yeah, hanging out with Mum was great. Her self esteem is better than ever actually. Dad didn't wake her up at 7 every day. No, everyone loves that she swapped Economics for Gender Studies. Only 60 sleeps till she goes home for Easter. Yep. Counting the days.

STUDENT WHO JUST MOVED TO SYDNEY CONFUSED ABOUT ALL THE YELLING

Why is everyone so angry? And what's that smell?

FIRST YEAR DEFECATES WHILE WAITING FOR THEIR TURN IN ICE BREAKER

First year student Pel Ett has reportedly shat himself in a (non-air conditioned) quadrangle seminar room. Mr Ett was allegedly asked to participate in a class-wide game of "two truths and one lie". In a fit of nervousness, he answered with three lies - I did a summer intensive at Oxford, I fucked the lecturer, I once shat myself in class. Unfortunately, seven years of Catholic schooling instilled great discomfort around lying, meaning he urgently had to turn one of them into a truth.

Mr Ett declined to comment, although we hear reports that seven students have since unenrolled from the unit, and have been prescribed Gastrostop due to a trauma response occurring each time they catch a whiff (even their own). More to come.

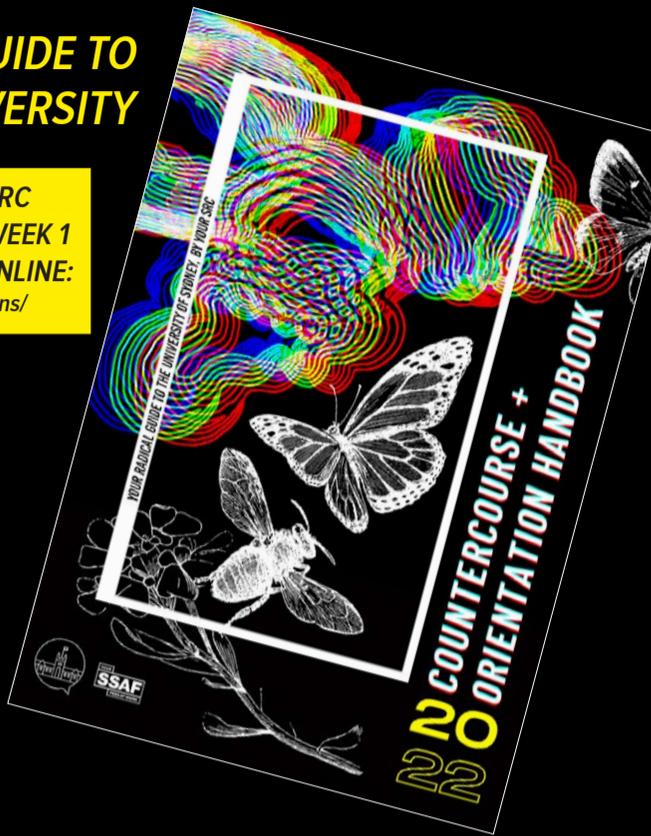


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