

Honi Soit.

WEEK 13, SEM 1 2022

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

Est. 1929



The Albanese supporters were known, as the 'Walker-ites', 'Bolsheviks', 'Ratbags', 'Doers', 'Industrial Left', 'Socialist Left' or 'Hard Left'.

society. The ALP has policies which will begin to alleviate the hardship of the depression for those in most need as opposed to the callous policies of the Liberal government.

SACK THE LIBS ON MARCH 5
Anthony Albanese,
Convenor, S.U. ALP Club

By bringing the fight for student interests back into the political system we will smash the increasingly goldfish-bowl environment of the SRC.

Thanking you,
Anthony Albanese

Thank goodness that while we struggle to pay for the little luxuries in life such as textbooks, rent and food we can console ourselves in the firm knowledge that "life wasn't meant to be easy"!

Anthony Albanese
Economics II

Anthony Albanese:

We don't give ourselves or our comrades who have struggled before us enough credit for the gains that have been made.

Being in government confronts the labor movement as a whole, not just the Labor Party, with questions which the Left failed to consider: how Labor puts its principles into action; how we deal with questions of the internationalisation of capital.

Australian federal election sees end to nine-year conservative government

Labor leader Anthony Albanese has become Australia's 31st Prime Minister, signalling a left-wing turning point in national politics after almost a decade of Liberal rule.

The Greens and Teal Independents have also secured an impressive number of

seats, bagging several wins against Labor and Liberal incumbents. This surge against the two major parties cements climate policy as one of the defining issues of the 2022 election, with the LNP and ALP taking considerably modest emissions reductions targets into this election.

Zara Zadro and Khanh Tran analyse Australia's watershed political moment - p. 6

Was ScoMo Australia's worst ever PM?

When it comes to Prime Ministers, Australia has had some real shockers. No one who came of age in the era of Tony Abbott's raw onion consumption can be under any illusion that dignity and sanity are inherent to Australia's highest political office.

Ellie Stephenson referees the race to the bottom - p. 7

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Do the Quad bells take requests? p.8

Susan Wakil most COVID-ridden spot on campus - p.11

Public housing policy: Social warfare over social welfare - p.13

A defence of the Ibis - p.19

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Honi Soit is published on the stolen land of the Gadigal People of the Eora Nation. Sovereignty was never ceded; the invasion of this land was, and still is, a process of immense violence, destruction, and theft.

The Editors of Honi acknowledge the suffering caused by ongoing colonial structures and commit to confronting the political, economic, legal and social systems which continue to oppress First Nations people.

As a collective, we acknowledge that

we are each living, writing, and working on stolen Gadigal, Dharawal and Darug land. Further, the university which we attend is an inherently colonial institution, one which upholds the systems of knowledge and power that have caused deep harm and pain on this continent.

As a student newspaper which operates and distributes within such an institution, we have a responsibility to remain conscious of, and actively combat, complicity in colonisation.

It is important to recognise that First Nations people have, since 1788, resisted and survived colonial violence. Our newspaper needs to platform the voices of this ongoing resistance, truly valuing and heeding Indigenous knowledge and perspectives.

Honi has stood on stolen land since its inception 93 years ago; embedded in the history of this paper is the tireless resistance to oppressive, colonial structures within society by First Nations

writers, contributors and editors — it is our duty to uphold their legacy, champion their voices, and continue to fight for First Nations justice.

We pay our deepest respect to Elders both past and present, and extend that respect to all First Nations students, staff, and readers of Honi Soit.

Always was, and always will be Aboriginal land.

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EDITORS

Carmeli Argana, Christian Holman, Amelia Koen, Roisin Murphy, Sam Randle, Fabian Robertson, Locksmith II, Thomas Sargeant, Ellie Stephenson, Khanh Tran, Zara Zadro.

WRITERS

Carmeli Argana, Josh Beutum, Katarina Butler, Luke Cass, Oscar Chaffey, Joshua Clay, Sam Garrett, Amelia Koen, Katarina Kuo, Christine Lai, Patrick McMahon, Luke Mesterovic, Eamonn Murphy, Roisin Murphy, Seamus Pragnell, Fabian

Robertson, Thomas Sargeant, Ellie Stephenson, Will Solomon, Khanh Tran, Zara Zadro.

ARTISTS & PHOTOGRAPHERS

Maxim Adams, Huw Bradshaw, Bipasha Chakraborty, Alexandra Dent, Katie Hunter, Jun Kwoun, Roisin Murphy, Aidan Elwig Pollock, Sam Randle, Ellie Stephenson.

COVER ARTIST

Thomas Sargeant

BACK COVER ARTIST

Ellie Stephenson.

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.

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EDITORIAL

Roisin Murphy

If you're a student reading this paper, chances are that you've grown up with Liberal-National governments. Politics, in our collective memory, is John Howard making our parents yell at the telly as little kids, Abbott showing us how men really feel about women, Turnbull shacking us to the shittiest internet in the world, and Morrison smirking while our Grandparents died of loneliness in aged care. The moments of hope in between were precious, and held onto tightly; a sense of hope we could almost taste in Kevin '07, and Gillard promising little girls watching Behind the News in school halls that our whole lives wouldn't be bound to male classmates' taunts.

Still, the last time a Liberal wasn't Prime Minister, we were shopping at Suprè and waiting for the next episode of Dance Academy.

We spent our teen years in dilapidated classrooms that desperately needed the Gonski funding they were starved of, sweating through summers that just kept getting hotter. We watched people being abused in offshore detention centres in our name, crying out to be heard but never listened to. As we grew up a little bit more, we had our identities debated on the public stage and voted on by people with no stake in them. Some of us didn't make it out the other side. When we got to uni, the prices of our degrees were doubled, and police bashed us around for being upset about it. Lots of us didn't get to or through uni, because heartless Governments have expected students to starve on a youth allowance that sits below the poverty line.

In last week's edition of this paper, we reminded our readers of what the editors of Honi Soit wrote in 1965: "We're so well protected we never get a chance to prove that we're grown up." But maybe the editors of '63 were wrong. Our power is in not being grown up, and we shouldn't try to prove otherwise. What a privilege, to possess a hopefulness which can only come part and parcel with youth.

A better world is always built by young people who are unashamedly idealistic. On every major social issue, students are always a decade ahead. We have a duty to hold great courage in the aspirationalism of our conviction. Last week's Honi cover showed an image of

Anthony Albanese in 1983, sitting atop the USyd Quadrangle with a megaphone in his hand, protesting for Political Economy to be its own academic discipline (paving the way for many a stupor hack's education). That photo is well known now, shown to naïve first years as proof of the day that activists made it to the top of the clock tower. The photo's idealistic passion leaves a little bit of the same feeling with everyone who sees it. Young peoples' duty to idealism is not just to serve their own society. It's a duty to the generations who will follow their lead — who will find inspiration in digging through the archives and seeing the shameless conviction of a Prime Minister with a megaphone in their hand.

On Saturday we proved our collective power at the ballot box by kicking out the dickheads who have treated people with not a shred of humanity for the last decade. We decided on a new future for the country we want to be. We must use this win to dream of even more.

Since its inception, the pages of Honi have been used to platform the better future that students imagine. In the '60s, that meant students writing of a world free of war. In the '70s, it was a future where gay people weren't criminals. In the '80s, it was a future where Malcolm "life wasn't meant to be easy" Fraser wasn't Prime Minister. In Honi's 7th edition of 1982, one letter to the editor finished with this:

Thank Goodness that while we struggle to pay for the little luxuries in life such as textbooks, rent and food we can console ourselves in the firm knowledge that "life wasn't meant to be easy!"

— Anthony Albanese, Economics II
In 30 years time, somebody will stumble across a copy of this paper and read about the future we are collectively imagining. We must show them that we're bursting at the seams with a hunger for something more.

Together we can build a world free from injustice and oppression, where people aren't expected to dig themselves out of difficulty — they're lifted out. A world where collectivism is valued and communities decide their own fates, not out-of-touch governments. Where we celebrate each other's wins and have each other's backs. Where life's a little easier.

What better time to start building it than now.

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The Michael Spence Column for Disagreeing Well*



Roisin Murphy: What ever happened to disagreeing well?

There was never a time in my life where I thought I'd agree with Michael Spence. But the bloke made a good point when he said that we must learn to disagree well.

Our university cohort has caught a disease called *badisagreementitis*. And it's contagious. The symptoms are:

1. You're unable to disagree with friends without making them enemies.
2. You deflect and put up walls when someone says they disagree with you.
3. You refuse to engage in discourse and never try to hunt for a middle ground between you and your opponent's views.
4. You can't find any peace in realising that sometimes we all have different methods, but still want the same outcome.

Good friendships are about shared values. Good friendships should be about challenging each other to be better. We are too inclined to waste friendships because of disagreement. I am not suggesting that we should keep fundamentally bad people in our lives. But there is an important difference between cutting someone off because you disagree with them on, say, Trump (reasonable), and cutting them off for questioning a line you take on a shared political position (unreasonable). It does not mean your friend hates you if they disagree with you on an issue of similar values: it means they care about you. Challenging someone to flesh out the

roads which led to their viewpoint, and challenging yourself to do the same in order to better understand your friend's opposing view, is the most caring thing you can do. If my views on an issue were underdeveloped, I would be upset if my friends *didn't* challenge me on them.

Perhaps the issue stems out of a broader problem: the conflation of kindness or care with being gentle and agreeable. I would argue that to constantly practice emotional dishonesty by pretending to agree with someone, or worse, letting your own convictions subside, for the sake of appearing kind, is actually just unkind and terrible friendship. In order to build a better world, we must first start with ourselves and those directly around us. And sometimes, that starts with good-faith disagreement.

So often in youth politics we waste friendships because of disagreement, forgetting that we have the same political end goal. Maybe it's because, as the saying goes, "the emotions are so high because the stakes are so low". But if we're trying to emulate the world we want to build, we cannot be so quick to disengage those around us.

There is some disagreement that is a bad waste of time which the Left should not engage in. We should not be encouraging anyone to keep people around whose discourse is truly hurtful. There is no point arguing with a Lib who will never agree with you, or trying to "put their politics aside" for the sake of friendship. The point of disagreeing well is that there's no such thing as putting someone's politics aside.

The Left is at its greatest and most victorious when we view disagreement on the nitty gritty of shared beliefs as an opportunity, not the point at which a friendship must end. There are too few of us and we lose too often to constantly be splintering away, cutting each other

off and swearing to never speak again because of disagreements in *method*. Holding the same end-goal is what unites us, but we're constantly prevented from actually getting there because of disagreements about the method.

At risk of sounding like a middle aged man yelling at the TV, I worry that we are creating memories we'll live to regret. The political discussions we're so deeply privileged to engage with should be had sitting at Hermann's, red faced and arguing about what a good Left political party should do - never quite agreeing, but in the end, loving each other a little more for it. Those disagreements make us all better. We don't want our time on campus to be characterised by ignoring each other on Eastern because of some blue in an SRC meeting about whether to use the word *protest* or *rally*.

USU election season was once categorised by hours-long arguments about whether or not we should even be engaging in it. It meant that those of us who did engage had a certain left-wing credibility to prove — it pushed us to challenge ourselves and run on things we felt were truly the most left policy points that we could. This year's election missed that external debate in the lead-up. It was also not as politically robust and didn't feature the same sort of radical discussions seen in elections past. And we're all worse off for it.

From disagreement comes better outcomes; the process forces us to wrestle with what we truly believe in, to prove to both ourselves and others why we think what we do, and triggers a more thorough search for the best and most optimum outcome than would otherwise occur. With this in mind, the method through which we'll achieve a collective political vision is certainly the most important thing to disagree on; but only if we disagree well.

Maybe all of this is unnecessarily serious, but life's just too short to fill it with enemies. Disagree well with friends. You'll be glad.

Special Considerations is still inhumane #3

Perhaps the most egregious part of USyd is the mistreatment of our most vulnerable students by the Special Considerations system. A 2021 subject head told their students to avoid Special Cons "at all costs: it's simply inhumane," they said.

Just over two weeks ago, USyd students received an email from our Vice Chancellor, Mark Scott, introducing students to Innowell. According to the email, Innowell is a "platform designed to give you 24/7 on-demand access to tools that assist in self-management of mental wellbeing and health."

Regardless of how effective Innowell is as a platform, the whole endeavour is largely trivial when Special Cons is consistently fucking over mentally ill students.

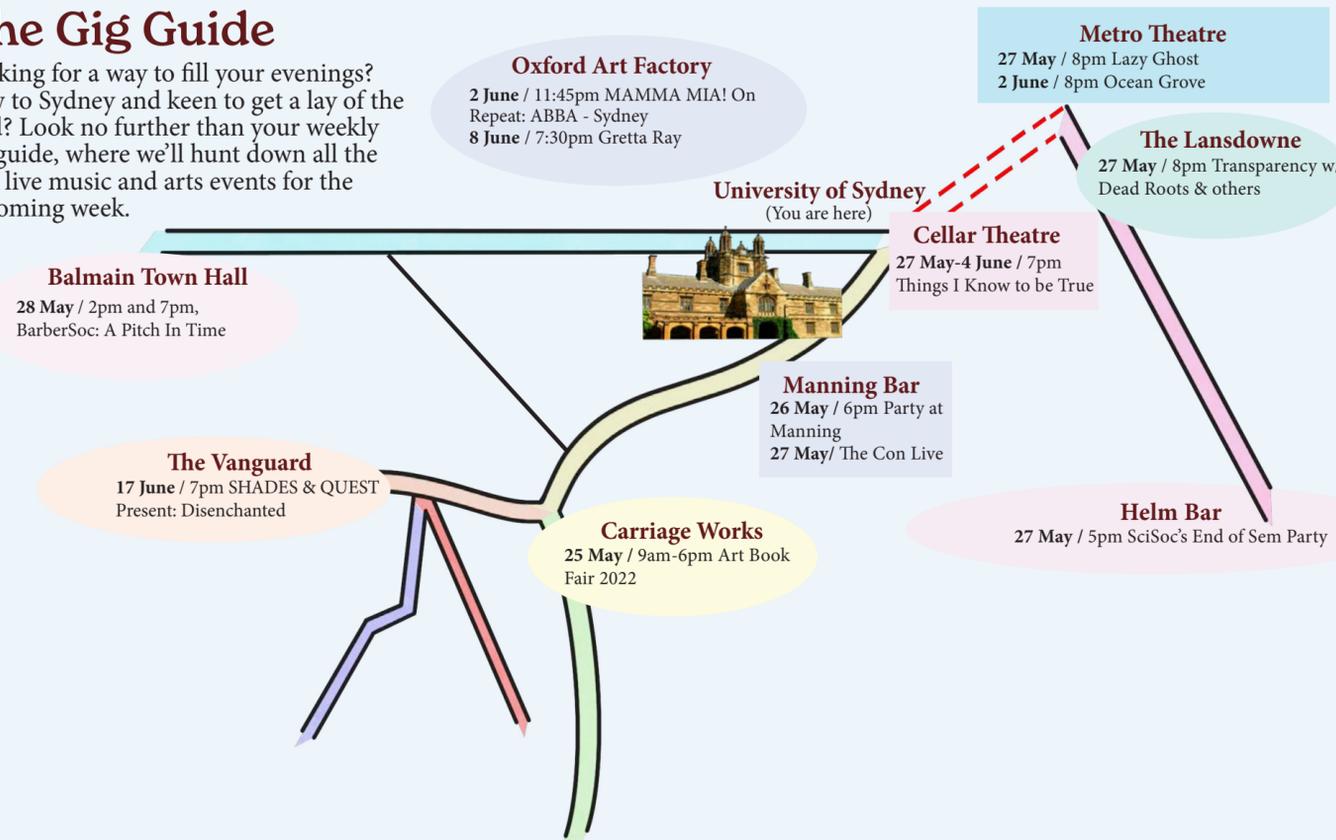
Adrian*, in 2019, passed their first year subject with a Distinction grade of 76, but was told their result was pending due to a lack of attendance. Despite providing extensive medical evidence of an ongoing mental illness, Special Cons rejected the application to excuse the attendance requirement because the mental affliction was too long term, and did not pertain to individual classes missed.

Adrian was left with an Absent Fail despite completing all assessments, and was required to retake the class at a price of \$950. Their interaction with Special Cons, who would not even discuss the decision, left Adrian with a permanent zero on their transcript that would effectively ruin the WAM of their entire degree.

Oh well, at least he has Innowell.

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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Sydney Law School to cut award-winning PASS program

Jeffrey Khoo and Ariana Haghighi report.

Sydney Law School will discontinue the popular Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS) program for Law from Semester 2 onwards. Details about its replacement are still being decided.

PASS facilitators announced the decision to their students this week.

A University spokesperson said the program was cut to align with the Law School’s “strategic objective” and to demonstrate “the School’s commitment to ensuring our Law students who need the most support are being assisted in the best possible way to meet their particular needs”.

The Law School has confirmed that it does not currently know what the program’s replacement will look like, but Simon Bronitt, Dean of Sydney Law School, described it being a “co-design project” between students and staff.

‘PASS helps students understand their law courses so much better’

PASS offers free weekly sessions for certain business and law units run by high-achieving student facilitators. The program is highly interactive, with students working together to answer exam-style problem questions, and is normally fully booked at the beginning of each semester.

This semester, PASS was available for five junior core law subjects (Torts, Contracts, Criminal Law, Public International Law and Torts and Contracts II).

USyd’s PASS program is “the most awarded program in the Australasian region”, including an international award from the University of Missouri’s International Centre for Supplemental Instruction.

Many law students across its 11-year history credit the program for greatly improving their marks and helping with their transition into university study.

A PASS facilitator in law, who wished to remain anonymous, described their experience attending PASS as a student and then being a facilitator as “enormously beneficial in providing a supportive group learning environment to students in a discipline which often feels over-competitive and stressful”.

“On so many occasions, students have told us how much they learned in PASS and how invaluable they found the structured opportunity to try new problem questions and revise content with their friends,” they said.

A second-year student who was “shocked and upset” to learn of the program’s cancellation told *Honi*: “PASS helps students understand their law courses so much better.

“You learn to understand how students take different perspectives on a problem, and understand there’s no one ‘right’ answer, but still provide evidence and reasoning from cases.”

Uncertainty about its replacement

When asked about the program’s

replacement, a University spokesperson said that the Law School wants to “invest in developing and expanding its own discipline-specific academic skills development program for Law students,” covering both course content and legal skills. This appears to reference the fact that the program is coordinated externally by the Business School.

According to Bronitt, PASS costs Sydney Law School \$45,000 per semester, part of which helps employ 10 student facilitators. The spokesperson said that “cost saving was not a consideration in the decision”.

Honi understands that during a staff-student consultative forum on Wednesday, Bronitt justified the decision by claiming that PASS is not reaping its intended benefits according to the data, although *Honi* has not seen the data supporting this claim. Associate Dean of Student Life Roger Magnusson also argued that PASS caters to a “middle class” of students who are achieving average or high marks, whereas its replacement would target struggling students.

Sydney University Law Society (SULS) Vice-President (Education) Irene Ma, said she was against mandatory classes for low-achieving students, preferring an opt-in approach similar to PASS. Some students have also privately expressed concerns that such a replacement program would “out” low-achieving students or generate discomfort.

Honi understands that the Law School has concerns about PASS’ pedagogical approach. Facilitators are discouraged

from providing answers directly to students, with Bronitt describing it as an “outdated model” better suited for Business units.

SULS President Ben Hines said that PASS has helped “assist students with the nuances of certain topics and provide new fact scenarios for problem-question based learning”.

“Having programs that assist with the learning of law students is critical, and ensuring these programs are best suited to the needs and experiences of students must be central,” he said. Hines also plans to advocate for students to be employed in the new program.

“SULS is staunchly committed to making sure these assurances we have received from the Law School are met, and that any such decision by faculty will be enacted and designed in a way that benefits, rather than detracts, students.

“We encourage any student who wishes to contribute to this co-design project to partake in an upcoming survey SULS will distribute via email, and we will advocate for these student perspectives.”

Ultimately, the PASS facilitator who spoke to *Honi* hopes that the replacement program has the same educational benefits as PASS.

“I think it’s just sad to know that students (many of whom I’ve seen come back semester after semester because they love PASS) might struggle more and find it harder to access the support they need because of this decision,” they said.

Queen Mary University of London may use Australian consultants to break staff marking boycott

Amelia Koen and Ellie Stephenson report.

Management at Queen Mary University of London (QMUL) has allegedly threatened to break a staff marking boycott by bringing in Melbourne-based education consultancy Curio Group (CG). The University and College Union (UCU) Queen Mary branch announced on Twitter that the group may be brought in to mark student essays to circumvent the Union’s marking boycott.

The marking boycott is in response to University management’s decision in March to suspend 100 per cent of pay for those who undertook lawful action short of strike during UCU strikes across 68 universities across the UK. The strikes have taken aim at lagging pay, pensions, and poor working conditions across the sector.

Despite academic assurances from the QMUL Principal Colin Bailey, the UCU suggested that the move would risk undermining academic standards and “devalue QMUL degrees”.

Questioning how the self-described “education advisory and services organisation” could be qualified to replace University Professors, the UCU Queen Mary branch wrote on Twitter: “Are these consultancy staff really going to be able to mark Modern Language exams, accredited degrees in Law, or final year dissertations?”

Protesters form picket lines to defend public housing

Christine Lai reports.

Activists demanded the right to public housing during a picket protest on the corner of Glebe Point Road and Broadway on Thursday. This protest follows the Government’s plans to evict more than 100 people from the Franklyn/Bay streets complex, demolish buildings and sell the land to private developers to build 14-storey high complexes in Glebe.

“Social housing is not public housing. It is an umbrella term for affordable community, Aboriginal housing and general public housing,” said Carolyn, a Wurundjeri woman.

The housing crisis in NSW has worsened since COVID-19, and has seen increasing house prices and private rental housing across the greater Sydney metropolitan area of, making accommodation unaffordable for low income households over the last decade. More than 50,000 people are currently on a wait-list to access public housing, but there are likely many more who could be eligible. A report by Community Housing Industry Association NSW (CHIA NSW) found that households on the wait-list could leave them waiting for up to 10 years.

The NSW Government is reported to have sold off \$3 billion worth of social housing during the last decade, amounting to 4,205 social housing properties across the state.

CEO of Shelter NSW John Engeler asserted the importance of language when discussing public housing: “If ever there was a time to talk about the Federal election, and what we think about is in our Commonwealth. It is our Commonwealth

to own public housing. It’s owned by all of us.”

“The NSW Government made \$10 billion in stamp duty last year, most of which came from residential housing,” Engeler said. “NSW has enough resources to defend existing public housing and extend it.”



Glebe public housing tenant Emily Valentine felt housing was a human right which should be safe, secure and sound and well maintained.

“Renters need secure long-term leases,” she said.

“2.5 years ago I got the ‘Dear Resident’ letter, telling me that housing was going to rehouse me and rebuild 14 storey buildings to replace it,” said Valentine. This Communities Plus project would privatise 70 per cent of the site, demolish homes and split up communities in Glebe.

The rally was organised by Hands off Glebe and Action for Public Housing.

protect all our students’ education and experience, and to uphold academic quality and standards. We will continue to use a range of measures to mitigate any impacts from the continuing 5-year national UCU industrial action and to protect our students’ education.”

No comment was made about the nature of the Curio Group, nor anything substantive regarding the Union’s concerns surrounding a loss of academic fairness created by potential use of the service.

The Curio Group recently provided the University with remote learning technologies training. This is not only indicative of a preexisting working relationship, but the training itself was also criticised by staff. The Group’s website claims that the project attempted “to meet academics where they were and develop a shared foundation what makes a great online learning experience [sic].”

Curio has also been used in an Australian context. Former NTEU USyd Branch President Kurt Iveson responded to the UCU’s Tweets saying that the group had done education design work “that should have been performed by University staff.”

NTEU NSW Secretary Damien Cahill told *Honi*: “We condemn the

use of strike breakers by Queen Mary management. Curio, the company accused of potential strike breaking at QMUL, has played a role in the outsourcing of work here in Australia.

“The NTEU took the University of Sydney to the Fair Work Commission a few years ago over outsourcing education and design work to Curio – work that should have been done by University of Sydney staff employed under the union-negotiated enterprise agreement. This highlights that the corporatised education industry is global, and the issues faced by university staff across many countries are similar, as are our struggles for better working conditions.”

Curio’s website indicates they were employed in a curriculum redesign project with the USyd School of Life and Environmental Sciences. Curio was also engaged to create a Canvas site for international students arriving at USyd.

The UCU ultimately characterised the move as “a sign of management in crisis.”

“Forget the lies about industrial action having minimal impact at QMUL. These plans show they are worried about the marking boycott. They are preparing to adopt extreme measures to try to get around it,” it said in a tweet.

Catholic school staff vote to strike

Ellie Stephenson reports.

Catholic school staff have voted overwhelmingly to support taking protected industrial action next Friday for better pay and conditions. More than 17,000 teachers in over 540 Catholic diocesan schools across NSW participated in the ballot.

The ballot comes after months of negotiations by the Independent Education Union (IEU) for a new enterprise agreement in Catholic

diocesan schools. The IEU has five demands: a 10-15% increase in teachers’ pay over two years, pay parity for support staff with their public sector colleagues, reducing paperwork, increasing planning time, and an end to staff shortages.

In a statement, the IEU NSW/ACT Branch Secretary Mark Northam said: “Teachers and support staff across both the government and non-government sectors are dedicated professionals pushed to breaking point. Schools have been running on good will, but it is

rapidly evaporating.”

Northam explained that the NSW Government’s cap on pay increases has been adopted in the Catholic sector, describing the limit as “a short-sighted approach that has resulted in the current staffing crisis”.

The IEU will hold a rally and march on Friday 27 May at Sydney Town Hall and around NSW. The IEU Executive endorsed a full-day work stoppage on the same day.

The IEU’s *Hear Our Voice* campaign

Dance ’til you’re dead: Lansdowne Saved

Thomas Sargeant reports.

Local institution The Lansdowne Hotel is set to continue its legacy under the stewardship of the Oxford Art Factory team – gig room intact. The OAF team has come to an agreement with the building’s landlords to save the space from becoming hostel rooms.

In February of this year, the building’s current tenants, Mary’s Group, announced that the venue was set to close by the end of April.

“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,” wrote the Mary’s Group team on an Instagram post.

“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.”

News of its continued operations comes in the wake of recent rumours regarding the venue’s closure status; despite gigs being set to end in April, they have continued into May unimpeded by demolition works. In recent days, the venue has also displayed a sign reading ‘NEW MANAGEMENT – LIVE MUSIC IS HERE TO STAY’.

OAF CEO and Founder Mark Gerber said in a statement: “Oxford Art Factory can confirm the rumours. We are pleased to announce that we have agreed with the owners to put aside any plans that

could see the demise of this iconic venue of Sydney and Australia’s live music and arts scene.

“Music and Art can never die. They make us stronger and live longer! Sydney doesn’t need to lose any more live music venues; it has suffered enough. The lockout laws and Covid-19 have severely impacted a once flourishing and vibrant nightlife, and I wasn’t going to let yet another music venue fall by the wayside, not on my watch!”

This is not the first time that the Lansdowne has been saved from near-demise. Mary’s Group took over management of the venue and reopened it in 2017 after it lay dormant for two years. Previously, *Honi* wrote that it’s

occurs in the context of a slew of strikes over the last year. Months of strikes by public sector workers, including by the NSW Teachers Federation and Rail, Tram & Bus Union, have taken aim at government pay caps and poor working conditions.

University staff at USyd, UTS and WSU have also taken steps to go on strike, targeting poor pay, rampant casualisation and pressure to overwork within the tertiary education sector.

been “a haven for musicians, students and other characters within the Chippendale area” since 1935.

Gerber’s statement also affirms the importance of continuing to support the Australian arts scene. “Lansdowne has played a hugely important role in the careers of many of our greatest music stars who have conquered the world. The Lansdowne is rejuvenated and continues to give voice to emerging and established artists and musicians.”

Cheers to live music in Sydney, and to a third life for the Lansdowne – *Honi* will see you there.

PHOTO BY CALVIN EMBLETON

The picket came two days before the Federal election. All the candidates standing in the electorate of the City of Sydney were invited to attend.

Socialist Alliance candidate for Sydney, Andrew Chuter, condemned both major parties for their neglect of public housing in favour of funding their profitable interests of private health, the fossil fuel industry and the West Connex. Chuter spoke of the Arkadia Building in Alexandria, a new publicly-owned apartment complex, housing 24 terraces and 128 apartments, built by Defence Housing Australia which cost “\$400 000

Australian federal election sees end to nine-year conservative government

Zara Zadro and Khanh Tran analyse Australia's watershed political moment.

Labor leader Anthony Albanese has become Australia's 31st Prime Minister, signalling a left-wing turning point in national politics after almost a decade of Liberal rule.

The Greens and Teal Independents have also secured an impressive number of seats, bagging several wins against Labor and Liberal incumbents. This surge against the two major parties cements climate policy as one of the defining issues of the 2022 election, with the LNP and ALP taking considerably modest emissions reductions targets into this election.

As of midday on 22 May, Labor is projected to command 72 seats in the House of Representatives – four shy of an absolute majority, and up from 68 seats in 2019. In contrast, the LNP have had a bloodletting, with veteran ABC psephologist Antony Green declaring that it was “mathematically impossible” for the Coalition to form a majority government by 11pm on 21 May

Albanese, a lifelong local of Sydney's inner-west, has held the seat of Grayndler since 1996. His victory marks a remarkable ascendancy for a man raised by a single mum who is a disability pensioner, in Camperdown public housing.

“His victory marks a remarkable ascendancy for a man raised by a single mum who is a disability pensioner, in Camperdown public housing.”

Labor wins marginal seats from Liberals

Labor is set to win a number of crucial marginal electorates this Federal Election, including the inner-west Sydney seat of Reid, and the Melbourne seats of Chisholm and Higgins. Chisholm's ALP candidate, Carina Garland, currently holds 57.6 per cent of the vote against former Liberal MP Gladys Liu. The presence of Labor state governments across the country may also have strengthened the ALP's hand, as Western Australia, Victoria, and Queensland all saw swings towards the party.

Mirroring Mark McGowan's triumph a year ago, WA delivered four extra seats for the ALP compared to the 2019 election: Swan, Tangney, Hasluck and Pearce. Some of these seats saw swings towards the party exceeding 10 per cent. In addition, Moore's LNP candidate Ian Goodenough is facing an intense contest with Labor for the seat formerly held by the Liberals with a margin of 11.6 per cent.



Photography credit: Sydney Morning Herald.

Despite these gains for the ALP, the Liberals have strengthened their grasp on Tasmania, with Bass, Braddon and Lyons all recording swings against the ALP. Lyons may yet witness another Labor scalp as the seat remains too close to call. Additionally, the formerly-safe Labor seat of Fowler was lost to independent Dai Le in a spectacular defeat for former NSW Premier Kristina Keneally, who attracted significant controversy over being parachuted into the seat over Vietnamese-Australian lawyer Tu Le during preselections. Le, a former Liberal candidate, will be one of the first Vietnamese-Australians to sit in Canberra.

Finally, electoral failure has once again befallen billionaire magnate Clive Palmer, who failed to secure a single seat despite pouring a staggering \$100 million into ubiquitous yellow advertising.

'Greenslide' and Teal Independents

The staggering progress of the Greens and Teal Independents in this year's federal election spotlights nationwide concern over the past decade of climate inaction in Australia under the Coalition government. The LNP's apathy towards renewable energy uptake, fulfilling its Paris Agreement commitments, and emergency responses to the recent bushfires and floods have undoubtedly prompted this shift away from the party in many 'safe' seats across the nation.

In what party leader Adam Bandt dubbed a 'Greenslide', the Greens secured three lower house seats, with another likely on the way. Considering the party won just a single seat in 2019, in Bandt's Melbourne home, this represents a massive victory. The Greens' primary vote has also increased nationally by 1.9 per cent to 12.3 per cent, with the party attracting 2 million primary votes in total.

“Greens and Teal Independent votes surged in Liberal strongholds and areas badly affected by recent climate disaster, particularly southern Queensland.”

Greens and Teal Independent votes surged in Liberal strongholds and areas badly affected by recent climate disaster, particularly southern Queensland. The Queensland Greens result contrasts sharply with 2019, where the state was the electoral centrepiece of the Federal LNP. The Liberals lost the seats of Ryan and Griffith, and Brisbane is currently on track to turn from Blue to Green. Notably, Ryan candidate Elizabeth Watson-Brown won with an impressive 11.2 per cent swing, ousting the LNP's Julian Simmonds and ending 21 years of Liberal control there.

Teal Independents also pushed Liberal moderates for climate action in this election, gaining a total of ten seats so far. Of these, six seats were won from the Liberals – Wentworth, North Sydney, Mackellar, Kooyong, Goldstein, and Curtin. Another three were retained from the last election.

Josh Frydenberg is projected to lose the blue-blooded Melbourne seat of Kooyong to Teal Independent Monique Ryan, a first since the seat's Menzies-era conception (though a win for Frydenberg is still mathematically possible, it is highly unlikely). Similarly, independent Zali Steggall retained the Sydney seat of Warringah with an even higher margin than her 2019 victory against Tony Abbott, defeating controversial Liberal challenger Katherine Deves, whose rabid transphobic views attracted criticism from within the Liberal Party itself.

Trent Zimmerman also lost the

Liberal stronghold of North Sydney to Kylea Jane Tink, with Labor's Catherine Renshaw also getting within striking distance of victory in the closely-fought race, while Allegra Spender defeated Liberal MP Dave Sharma in the East Sydney seat of Wentworth with 57 per cent of the vote after preferences. This makes Sharma the first Wentworth MP to lose his seat twice, having been beaten by Independent Kerryn Phelps in the 2018 Wentworth by-election.

What to expect from an Albanese Labor government?

In his victory speech, Albanese promised a wave of change for the country, explicitly mentioning the party's support of the Uluru Statement from the Heart in his Acknowledgement of Country.

“I pay my respects to their elders past, present and emerging. And on behalf of the Australian Labor Party, I commit to the Uluru Statement From the Heart in full,” he said.

Under an Albanese Labor government, Australia can expect to see a constitutional referendum to enshrine an Indigenous Voice in Parliament in accordance with the Uluru Statement this parliamentary term.

Should such a referendum pass, a constitutionally entrenched advisory body will take charge of advising parliament on policies affecting Indigenous communities, as well as constitutional recognition of Indigenous co-sovereignty of Australia. Albanese acknowledged the ALP's Linda Burney as the new Indigenous Affairs Minister in his victory speech.

“... on behalf of the Australian Labor Party, I commit to the Uluru Statement From the Heart in full, he [Albanese] said.”

Albanese also promises that his government will end “the climate wars” – a pointed reference to the LNP and Murdoch media's destructive politicisation of the climate crisis in the past decade.

This election, the Greens promised to reduce carbon emissions by 75 per cent below 2005 levels by 2030, and reach net zero by 2035, while Teal Independents proposed similar targets, such as Zali Steggall's proposed 60 per cent reduction.

Labor's commitment of a 43 per cent reduction in emissions by 2030 is moderate by comparison. Though the ALP's policy outperforms the LNP's 26-28 per cent reduction target, a number

of major environmentalist groups including Greenpeace, the Climate Council, the Australian Conservation Foundation, and GetUp have said that Labor's target is too weak to prevent catastrophic climate change. Environmentalists will likely argue that the moderacy of the ALP's climate policy compared to the 2019 Federal Election may have contributed to the Greens and Teal Independents surge.

The nation will keenly await whether Labor can fulfil its ambition to “take advantage of the opportunity for Australia to be a renewable energy superpower”, or remain trapped in the purgatory of meagre climate action. Notably, Federal Labor received a significant amount of funding from fossil fuel groups in the 2020/21 financial

“[We can expect] reforms such as nutrition stands and increasing the number of nurses to address the disturbing findings of the Royal Commission into aged care.”

year – at least \$392,354. Squaring these competing interests will be an uphill challenge in the coming years for a party whose Left and Right factions are still divided by a large ideological chasm, and that must contend with the interests of workers in the resources sector.

Labor's campaign largely centred on social welfare issues. Albanese's slogan “Child Care. Medicare. Aged Care. Because Labor cares” would suggest we'll see major governmental reforms to the day to day support people will receive from Government in their lifetime. The NDIS will see a review into its operation, with Labor promising to get it “back on track”. Under the plan for cheaper child care, we can expect, in a few generations, for it to be the norm for any individual to have attended early childhood education, something which has previously been an early class divider, only available to those who can afford the soaring fees. The anxiety which exists around aged care is also expected to lift, with reforms such as nutrition standards and increasing the number of nurses to address the disturbing findings of the Royal Commission into aged care.

In a few days, Albanese will meet with the other leaders in the

Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad), which consists of Australia, India, Japan and the US, for the first time. It is easy to forget, amid electoral euphoria, that Ukraine remains locked in war with Russia, tensions between Australia and China are at an all-time high following Morrison's hawkish strategies, and Australia is in the midst of a severe housing-affordability crisis, all while the COVID-19 pandemic continues to claim lives.

Regardless, 2022's Federal Election



Photography credit: James Ross AAP

heralds a new era for Australian political history after almost a decade of Liberal dominance. The euphoria that erupted across the nation on Saturday signals this renewed political optimism, pushed by a new generation of young voters.

“Tonight, Australians voted for change,” observed Albanese in his victory speech; while this promise is yet to be upheld, Albanese may indeed cement a powerful legacy of change for himself and this country. Change is certainly well overdue.

Was ScoMo Australia's worst ever PM?

Ellie Stephenson referees the race to the bottom.

When it comes to Prime Ministers, Australia has had some real shockers. No one who came of age in the era of Tony Abbott's raw onion consumption can be under any illusion that dignity and sanity are inherent to Australia's highest political office. But having very recently escaped the black-comedic procession of errors and egregiousness that characterised the years of Scott Morrison's Prime Ministership, it feels as though the ScoMo years were a uniquely terrible period. So, were they?

In judging which Prime Minister should be buried deepest in the bin-juice of the dustbin of history, we have to establish some criteria for what makes a bad PM.

The metric that occurred to me first is that PMs, by and large, ought to prevent the citizens they lead from dying – and, for that matter, citizens of other countries too. There are many ways in which poor leadership can lead to early deaths, and a look through Australian history provides some prime examples.

The 8,000 deaths from COVID-19 since the start of the pandemic cannot be wholly attributed to Scott Morrison, but government mismanagement played a part. The Morrison Government's sluggishness and passivity in securing appropriate vaccine supplies saw Australia's vaccination rates languish and gave anti-vax sentiment time to foment. Scott Morrison's Liberal predecessor Malcolm Turnbull said at the time: “I can't think of a bigger black and white failure of public administration than this.” Darning.

Morrison's cavalier attitude towards the spread of Omicron in aged care homes was roundly condemned by everyone from the CEO of BaptistCare to the Queensland Nurses and Midwives Union. His recalcitrance in playing politics with locked-down states desperate for vaccines

and financial aid only worsens matters. Overall, a poor performance.

Morrison is certainly not the only PM who has played fast and loose with human life. Many of the most sordid attacks on human dignity arise not out of once-in-a-century pandemics but from the everyday march of austerity. Over 2000 people died after receiving unlawful Robodebt debt recovery notices between 2016 and 2018. While the Human Services Minister at the time, Michael Keenan, rejected a causal link, the families of young people who died by suicide after receiving the notices argue that Robodebt contributed to their deaths.

The Howard Government had a penchant for ruthless attacks on workers (see: WorkChoices), and the establishment of their anti-union construction watchdog, the Australian Building and Construction Commission, saw fatalities per 100,000 workers in the construction sector spike. Construction deaths lessened after the body was abolished by the Gillard Labor Government.

Howard's thirst for blood wasn't confined to Australian shores – the decision to send Australian troops into Iraq based on spurious allegations of Iraqi weapons of mass destruction contributed to the wholesale murder of Iraqi civilians (most estimates conclude that well over 100,000 violent civilian deaths have occurred since 2003) and subsequent destabilisation of the region. It would be unwise to excuse malice as incompetence here: despite his protestations to the contrary, contemporaneous questions about the flimsy intelligence on WMDs were well and truly available. Following the US into war on the basis of a lie makes the Howard Government irrevocably complicit in the destruction the invasion caused.

It goes without saying that Howard's cynical exploitation of asylum seekers and

the Tampa affair created two decades and counting of Australia's horrific treatment of refugees. In 2021, this twisted political charade saw 195 instances of self-harm in immigration detention centres.

Morrison and Howard seem to be the front-runners in the modern Prime Ministerial race to the bottom on this metric. But there are other obligations of a PM that we ought to account for.

A major obligation of any national leader is to represent their nation in the international community. Becoming an international laughing stock is a fairly reliable way to sabotage your legacy.

Undoubtedly, Tony Abbott was a persistent menace on the world stage – consistently snubbed by his fellow leaders, and looking hapless on the perimeter of international photo ops, the man's drive to be the world's best-known idiotocrat was irrepensible. Abbott's pettish 2014 speech to the G-20 summit eschewed statesmanship, instead complaining about the rejection of his Medicare co-payment and boasting of Australia's status as a laggard state on climate action. The moment was described variously as “parochial”, “point-scoring”, “cringe”, and “weird and graceless”. Those adjectives double as descriptors of the pugilist's uninged – but ultimately empty – promise to ‘shirt-front’ Vladimir Putin.

On this metric, however, ScoMo still pulls ahead. Like Abbott, Morrison had a knack for getting photographed looking lost and rejected at international summits, and it's no wonder. Morrison's bumbling duplicity on Australia's submarine deal with the French, “insulting” and “dismissive” treatment of Pacific Islands nations, and brazen absence from international climate talks depict a man with deeply undiplomatic instincts.

Given the Liberals' economy-centric electioneering, perhaps the metric



ScoMo would prefer to be judged on is economic performance. Economic success is determined by a complex mix of outcomes, but what is evident is that Liberals' claims to be better economic managers are not borne out by data: there is no consistent trend of Liberal governments having better figures on interest rates and unemployment, or even lower taxes.

Perhaps the most telling depiction of ScoMo's tenure comes from the reports of those within his own ranks. Liberal Senator Concetta Fierravanti-Wells described the PM as an “autocrat and bully who has no moral compass”, while leaked texts among senior Liberals described him as “a horrible, horrible man”, “a bully”, and “a fraud”. Pretty grim character references, all up.

Choosing Australia's worst-ever PM is a hard job, requiring an assessment of a buffoonish set of macho-men and machiavels: Howard's war-mongering, Abbott's sheer ludricracy, Turnbull's spinelessness. But perhaps what distinguishes ScoMo as a uniquely shit leader is his particular combination of crude incompetence and casual cruelty. Morrison's legacy is a morass of directionless responses to real crises and suffering, accompanied by base, mean-minded culture-warring. Morrison banked on voters' worst impulses – selfishness, insularity, an appetite for spin – and, thank fuck, he failed.

Do the Quad bells take requests?

Khanh Tran climbs USyd's Clocktower and tells the story of the Carillon through the eyes of its carer.



Photography by Roisin Murphy.

Located behind an otherwise unassuming wooden door, the Quadrangle's Clavier Room holds one of the University's greatest treasures: the War Memorial Carillon. Pass through one of two Tudor entrances that flank USyd's Clocktower, climb up two flights of stairs that wind through the ancient interior (those with a keen eye might even catch the cosy Philosophy Common Room tucked inside), and the airy room reveals itself. It was here that I met with the University Carillonist, Amy Johansen.

The anatomy of a 94-year-old carillon

This is where the magic happens.

Adorning the walls are black and white photographs commemorating the carillon's beginnings in 1928, past figures, and the carillonist team currently presiding over the instrument. A dormant grand fireplace sits idly in another corner, waiting for a spark to light a flame in its heart. Showing me to the demo bells and the main instrument, Johansen plays a few sounds by lightly punching down the wooden batons that protrude from the device.

"Sometimes it's in the feet, sometimes it's in the hands, and it makes the sound very beautiful."

"You see, the batons, they're like broomsticks. You play them with your fists and that's the treble that you would have on a piano. Then, with your feet, you play the bass parts," says Johansen, softly lowering one of the batons to create a low, reverberating sound.

As a carillonist plays the batons below, like a ventriloquist, strings prompt the clappers attached to hit the John & Taylor Co. bronze bells above. When these elements are coordinated, they are capable of replicating a vast

array of music.

"When you really want it to be beautiful and soft, you have to hit a very, very soft note. Sometimes it's in the feet, sometimes it's in the hands, and it makes the sound very beautiful. How do you hit it more loudly? You put a bit of a wrist into it to give it a bit more 'oomph'."

Imbued in the room is a palpable sense of tradition and excitement, each drawer holding copious amounts of song sheets stacked over the years. This, after all, is a 94-year-old instrument, predating *Honi Soit* by one year, played on countless numbers of graduations, conjuring classical hits, the *Game of Thrones* soundtrack, and even *The Little Mermaid's* 'Part of Your World'.

One artefact that encapsulates the vicissitudes of time that the carillon has witnessed is a copy of Martin Shaw, Henry Coleman, and T. M. Cartledge's *National Anthems of the World* (1975). Inscribed within these pages are the old anthems of former Czechoslovakia and South Vietnam; there is no doubt that carillonists of bygone years would have wrestled with the political questions of their respective eras.

Johansen on being the Carillonist

Johansen is, in many ways, an embodiment of the carillon's sense of tradition and innovation. Born into a family of musicians, she found a knack for the piano and then the organ. In 1972, she began work as an amateur organist in the Lutheran church at age 12. Following this, she cut her teeth at the University of Florida and Cincinnati's renowned College-Conservatory of Music.

Despite her wealth of experience, Johansen is quick to pay homage to those who came before her. She modestly shares that she has been the University Carillonist since 2010,

replacing Dr Jill Forrest AM who served for 27 years before Johansen took on the helm. This comes despite the fact that Johansen has been playing since at least 2003. Speaking fondly of her predecessor, she says: "We chatted a bit and she showed me the carillon. And then the next thing she said was: 'See you on Tuesday for your first lesson!'"

From that encounter onwards, Forrest became a key mentor to Johansen's journey in her years at the Clavier Room, responsible for teaching the tight-knit family of Honorary Carillonists who take turns playing the instrument.

"She taught many of us who are still here and she has retired but we all thank her for her help with us all. We still see her from time to time."

Each carillonist brings with them an individual flair to the room. Having performed on many carillons across the globe, Johansen reserves a special place in her heart for Sydney's carillon, vastly preferring the serene Quadrangle to its counterparts at Yale and Princeton.

When asked about whether she supports the alternative proposal for the carillon — a freestanding 70-metre campanile bell tower standing where Fisher Library's coffee cart is today — Johansen is adamantly against the idea, citing practicalities and the Quadrangle's aesthetic appeal as reasons behind her opposition.

"We've got 77 steps to get up here," she says, pointing to the stairs leading to the room.

Had the plan succeeded, the campanile would have easily dwarfed Australia's only other

carillons in Bathurst and Canberra. "When I think of it [the Campanile], I think of European cathedrals. So no, I wouldn't have liked to climb up 200 steps or maybe more."

Put in context, London's Westminster Abbey, a comparable 70-metre structure, consists of a sweat-inducing 251 steps. No wonder Johansen prefers Sydney's approach.

Treating us to a song of our request, Johansen demonstrates "A New England" by Billy Bragg — an artist famed for his rendition of "The Internationale", a radical leftwing song still sung today, most recently at the strikes on campus.

"I like to play music that people request," she explains. "So we've got this request that I tell people about, and then people like you take them on!"

ART BY KATIE HUNTER



Although COVID-19 grinded the weekly recitals and Clocktower tour, that used to happen every Sunday, to a halt, Johansen is determined to bring these features back in the near future. Prior to the pandemic, students and curious visitors alike were able to request songs and climb up the tower. Ascending one of the tower's four turrets via a narrow spiral staircase, and passing a pair of crocodile and kangaroo gargoyles, visitors were treated to the sight of the bells at work and spectacular views of the Camperdown campus.

"The carillon for that matter is a suitable metaphor for our complex society. When it plays, dozens of bells of diverse weights interact, and their many partial notes and eternal decay cause them to collide."

It was also here, perched in the Clocktower, that a young would-be Prime Minister, Anthony Albanese, made his stand way back in a 1983 protest with fellow activists from the Department of Political Economy.

Thus, despite the countless generations who have enjoyed this treasure, an opportunity to showcase one of its greatest assets has been well and truly missed by the University.

For whom does the bell toll?

This question, asked by Sean O'Grady nearly a decade ago in a nod to Hemingway, remains ever-relevant. Generations of students and carillonists have come and gone through the doors of the Clavier Room. And it is the student

community that has motivated Johansen throughout the past two decades.

"Watching people have fun when I let them come and play," says Johansen, beaming from ear to ear. When the tours ran, students and visitors would leave their impressions behind in a timeworn guestbook.

"When it comes to those days they have for welcoming new students [Orientation], that's always the best thing, when they write their thoughts about what they liked about their time here,"

Nowhere is this sense of community more evident than carefully preserved notes from students, staff, and well-wishers under the glass covering of a table at the Clavier Room.

"For the world's most wonderful carillonists - some tiny treats to say thank you for all the music," one note says, "From all the listeners, with much appreciation and admiration."

Another remarks: "Best New Year wishes, Carillonists, with lots of wonderful music!"

It is hard to ignore a cut-out extract from Belgian carillonist Luc Rombouts' *Singing Bronze: A History of Carillon Music*, that carefully frames the right-hand corner of the carillon,

Why are the desks so low in Fisher Library?

Anyone who has spent more than 15 seconds sitting at any desk in Fisher or the Law Library should have noticed how obscenely low they are.

Studying at these libraries necessitates agony-inducing stooping to the subterranean level of your laptop screen, forcing students to arch their spines in a hunched contortion over unreasonably tiny desks. At this point, Fisher should be serving up complimentary painkillers upon arrival to pre-empt the inevitable soreness that will develop from simply existing there.

Worryingly, *Honi* has received reports of longer-than-average students having to stack three to four thick books under their laptops to elevate their screens to a reasonable height. Students not prepared to go to such lengths have reported opting to instead study at UTS' library, where the fear of being ejected by grumpy secies is outweighed by the fear of developing chronic back problems.

In all seriousness, the dimensions of one's workspace are incredibly important for performance and health — so much so that an entire scientific field known as 'ergonomics' has developed in an attempt to understand how work environments influence productivity, efficiency, and comfort.

A 2019 study of office workers in Japan during COVID-19 measured the correlation between increased working from home and musculoskeletal disorders. Researchers found a

significantly higher risk of back pain and stiff shoulders due to poor posture in unergonomic work environments.

Low desks encourage slumping and a 'forward head posture', which stresses the muscles and disks in your neck and back. Such 'non-neutral' positions place unneeded strain on your body and are linked to long-term musculoskeletal issues.

But poor posture can also be damaging to immediate short term mental health and performance. A 2012 study at the San Francisco State University found that sitting in a slumped position prompted negative thoughts and the resurfacing of unpleasant memories. Slumping also impairs the respiratory system and reduces lung capacity, which can exacerbate fatigue when sitting for long periods of time.

How do Fisher's desks stack up?

Ideally, your eyes should be in line with the top third of the screen you are working at, with your elbows bent at a 90 degree angle. Unfortunately, the vast majority of students work at laptops, which makes this perfect balance impossible without an external keyboard or monitor to increase the distance between one's hands and eyeline.

At Fisher and the Lawbry, widespread laptop use results in a particularly egregious mismatch between eyeline and screen height.

reminding its player of the humane values the instrument represents.

"The carillon for that matter is a suitable metaphor for our complex society. When it plays, dozens of bells of diverse weights interact, and their many partial notes and eternal decay cause them to collide," Rombouts said, reflecting on the similarity between the Carillon's multiple parts and the mutual interdependence that our existence relies upon.

"However, thanks to the carillonist [sic], they are able to transcend their individuality and evolve from chaos into harmony and beauty."

It is clear that the carillon has long transcended its original purpose, serving as a modern emblem of USyd's raucous student life beyond the shadow of its sombre origins. It no longer just embodies the toll of war, but celebrates academic life in all its colours.

In other words, the carillon is firmly embedded in the social fabric of the University community, preserving, in its own way, a form of institutional knowledge.

This institutional knowledge is bound up in the carillon's music, representing restless student debates, learning, and unyielding activism — knowledge that the Tower's ornate perpendicular tracery can never replicate. As Ronald Barnett argued in *The Idea of Higher Education* (1986), the university is not a collection of vain sandstone edifices, but a collective of students colliding together, at times haphazardly so, towards the common good.

And so, during graduation season when the tunes of Gaudeamus Igitur rise from the tower, remember that

the bells toll not for the grandeur of the building, but for the social bond created by the community that funded the bells all those years ago:

*"Down with sadness, down with gloom,
Down with all who hate us;
Down with those who criticise,
Look with envy in their eyes,
Scoff, mock and berate us."*

Know then that the bell chimes for academia, for the cheeky grins and purposeful delinquency of student life, and, most of all, the humanity that constitutes the university community.

Let's hope we may yet see the magnificent recitals and tours return, so that we too can bask in the view from above.

Students can submit song requests to Amy Johansen at amy.johansen@sydney.edu.au



Photography by Roisin Murphy.

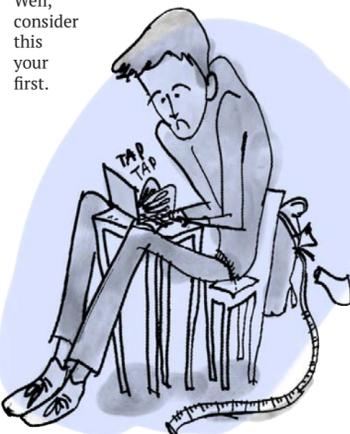
Fabian Robertson's neck hurts.

six and height. Pathetically, these are the only desks of appropriate height to sit at in the entirety of Fisher Library.

The current state of Fisher's desks is unacceptable. If the University is serious at all about creating a comfortable study space for student productivity, it must fork out the requisite cash to refurbish our ill-equipped libraries. With \$3.41 billion in USyd's investment portfolio, a few hundred thousand for appropriate study facilities seems more than reasonable.

In their communications, the University spokesperson was quick to point out that they were "not aware of any complaints about desk and chair height in Fisher or the Law Library."

Well, consider this your first.



ART BY JUN KWOUN

Fear and Loathing on the pickets

Luke Mesterovic conjures up the atmosphere of the picket.

Disclaimer: this article makes no claims of objectivity.

GENESIS

When we arrived, the sun was still peeking its head over the Sydney skyline, and the streets glistened with rain from the night before. The air, thick with humidity, made our shirts stick to our skin as we staggered down Parramatta Road, bright-eyed but half-asleep.

I'd never been on a picket. Nobody in our group had either, so we didn't know what to expect, but it certainly wasn't what lay before us at Ross Street. Everyone from every walk of life, from every corner of the Left, seemed to be there; iron-willed anarchists sang union songs with Laborites as the rival Trotskyist factions put their blood feud aside to stand hand in hand. With banners and flags raised, staff and students cheered as passing cars honked their horns in solidarity, the kaleidoscopic carnival of activity spilling into campus and onto the street.

We handed out flyers to passers-by and would-be scabs, explaining what a strike was, and how they could help. If we failed, we had a brigade of puppies owned by various picketers who would mercilessly stare down those who crossed the picket line with their Bambi eyes.

We turned away BMW after BMW and recruited students to our cause. We were fighting the good fight – and it felt good. This, I told myself, was real power. We weren't just students; we were democracy manifest, triumphant over the forces of fear and loathing. Why hadn't we been using collective action to solve all our problems?

THE FLOOD

We were dashing down a deserted Eastern Avenue when the sky began spitting rain. The roaming picket committee – a hastily strung together group chat – informed us of a scab class on the fourth floor of Carslaw. We darted through its halls like Bolsheviks storming the Winter Palace, except Tsar Scott wasn't our target. We were after dissidents, people who either didn't know what the strike was, or simply didn't care. There were ten of us in total, with more on the way. We reached the door of the class and clung to the wall, armed with flyers and NTEU issued infographics. The time had come to enter the pit of pain.

The tutor welcomed us as we entered, turning off the projector and instructing the class to listen to what we had to say. We spoke to the power of collective action, the importance of supporting staff, and the solidarity we experienced on the picket line. Students started to nod their heads and smile; the tutor took off his glasses and wept, inspired by the eloquence of our arguments. The two of us embraced and he kissed me on the forehead – like a son – and joined the NTEU on the spot. The students stood up and carried us on their shoulders, as we celebrated

our common humanity by singing 'Solidarity Forever.'

Well, if only that had happened. Rather, the tutor saw it fit to verbally abuse us, badmouth staff who were "too lazy" to do their work and called security. The class simply sat there in bored silence, a Tommy Hilfiger-clad Ken doll in the front row instructing us to channel our anger toward the federal government instead. Ah yes, of course. Why hadn't we thought of that?

The roaming picket chat fired back up. The others can't get in. What do they mean, they can't get in? The conversation unfolded through notifications on my lock screen. *Go up the stairs; how do we get there?; isn't it open?; nope, i guess security locked it after u.*

One of our comrades – the closest thing we had to a leader – tried to help the others up. Her texts dribbled through, becoming increasingly twisted as the seconds passed by. *Let me see if i can come; yep no fuck; they've locked down the building; I'm stuck in a stairwell; I can't get out; help.*

We began to stagger out, motioning for the others to follow. It was fight or flight, and we had chosen the latter. We eventually did find a way out, but they needed us back at Ross Street; something was happening.

We sprinted through the campus streets, the rain lashing against our faces. We reached the picket and there was a roar of an engine followed by a scream, before a great white ute burst through the crowd, spraying water everywhere. Nobody was hurt, but the air was tense. A wild-eyed Trot called out my name and motioned me towards the picket. We braced together, arm in arm, Macedonians in a phalanx, awaiting the entrance of our Alexander the Great – oh wait, there he was!

Sweeping through on a bicycle – his steel Bucephalus – Nick Riemer, the NTEU Branch President had

arrived. But the euphoria didn't last long. Soon, a pack of beefy, no-necked gym bros waddled in from around the corner. One of them was more meat than man, a hulking beast with beady eyes and leathery skin. Behind them was a squadron of police officers, the stormtroopers of the status quo.

"Can't you just arrest them?" the beast snarled toward the police. The stormtroopers joined in to help the scabs cross the picket line, so the tempo ratcheted up again, and we linked arms as the full force of the crowd crashed into us, sending us staggering backwards. The hydra-headed herd lashed at us from every direction, piling on top of each other, growing more ravenous and enraged. We remained linked together, sweating and sliding and skidding in the rain, locked in a Manichean struggle between good and evil.

A steaming cup of coffee was hurled and a shriek pierced the crowd as the scabs burst through into the campus. The picket had broken, but the speed of things only accelerated, as student strikers started arguing with each other. "I don't feel safe here anymore, I want to go, I just want to go," the coffee-stained girl cried.

"Oh, grow a spine, it's a fucking picket line," another striker snapped. So much for solidarity forever. The coffee-stained student stared at the striker in stunned stupor, before she picked up her bag, grabbed her umbrella and trudged off into the distance, only to be swallowed up by the wind and the rain, the fear and the loathing.

REVELATION

Things had gotten too tense. I wanted to leave. I felt guilty – I didn't have the stomach for confrontation. I had become a professional coward. That was until Nick Riemer stood up before

us. "Universities," he began, "shouldn't be about profits. They should be about creating and democratising knowledge!"

We began to huddle in. He motioned to a lanky professor by the gate, who, with a smile, unpacked a glistening French horn. I turned to the striker next to me, who handed down a stapled sheet of music. On the top in fancy serif letters it read: "The Internationale: The Anthem of the Global Socialist Movement."

Smiles flickered throughout the crowd. Voices lowered, tension dissipated, and suddenly we were standing shoulder to shoulder. The rich melody of the French horn floated through the air as more people joined our circle – staff, students, puppies, even the coffee girl, who had come back.

When we did sing, we were off-pitch and out of time, but it didn't matter. We had battled against the forces of fear and loathing, and for now, we had won. The rain beat on, but so did we – basking in the love of that single spectacular moment we shared.

“This, I told myself, was real power. We weren't just students; we were democracy manifest, triumphant over the forces of fear and loathing.”

ART BY HUW BRADSHAW



Susan Wakil Health Building is the most COVID-ridden place on campus

Sam Garrett crunches the numbers.

In an achievement that belies its name, the Susan Wakil Health Building received over 170 COVID-19 case alerts this semester, by far the most of any campus building.

There were almost 2,000 COVID-19 location alerts issued on campus this semester, peaking in late March with almost 300 case locations reported in Week 4. This broadly reflects wider trends in case numbers across the state.

Just 10 buildings accounted for half of all case alerts issued. After Susan Wakil, the next most blighted buildings were Carslaw, the Abercrombie Building, and the New Law complex.

The vast majority of buildings received less than 50 case alerts, with only 13 receiving 50 or more, and just five receiving over 100.

The three rooms that received the most alerts were Lecture Theatre 104 in

the New Law Building Annex, Teaching Studio 316 in the Wilkinson Building, and Room 202 in the Susan Wakil Health Building. The Students' Representative Council in the Wentworth Building basement received over 25 alerts.

Case alerts in the Susan Wakil Building were 40 per cent higher than in Carslaw, the second-most affected building. The high relative caseload is unsurprising given the in-person nature of most health sciences classes and the involvement of students in clinical placements, which require notification of positive results. Alerts in other buildings are likely to be significantly undercounted.

Case locations for the last seven days are displayed on the University's website by the COVID-19 Taskforce, based on self-reports of staff and students who test positive.

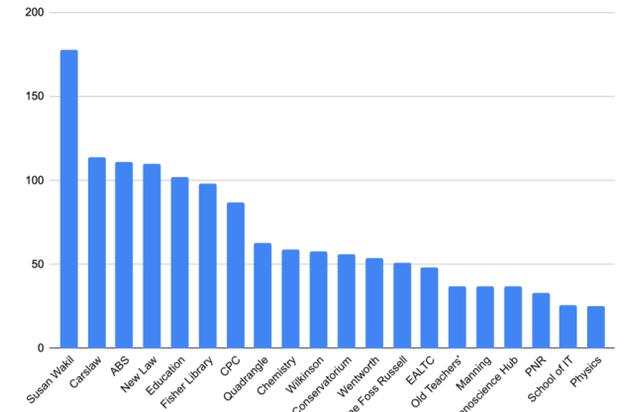


Figure: Top 20 campus buildings by COVID-19 case alerts, Semester 1 2022.

How universities have commodified friendship

Luke Cass contributes to the marketplace of ideas.

It is really fucking hard to make friends at university: housing is unaffordable, casual socialising is discouraged and education is being delivered in an increasingly impersonal manner – online or in massive tutes. Instead of sympathy for, or recognition of, such structural challenges, our atomised society suggests that a failure to make friendships is a personal fault, one able to be remedied by extra effort or a unique and charming personality. Such logic is deeply damaging to students who by chance or structural forces have failed to meet their expectations of university friendship. Worse, it has been amped up by universities who have attempted to commodify friendship, reducing it to something students are expected to consume, invest in and compete over.

Universities profit from friendship, or at least the veneer of it. Prospective students, both domestically and internationally, naturally base part of their choice of university on the student life they offer. To be competitive, uni don't just have to put out quality research and have good facilities, they have to sell friendship. This is clear on USyd's website. There are pages for how to make friends, where to hang out on campus, and why you should join clubs and societies. Perhaps these are theoretically helpful to some students, but the advice they offer often conflicts with reality. The 'places to hang out' list cites Manning Bar as a great place to take a break, notwithstanding the fact that Manning

“Students should be free to make friends unencumbered by the neoliberal rationalisation of friendship being thrust upon us.”

has been closed for daytime trading for years. It also recommends living in accommodation near campus, despite the unaffordability of this for most students.

Student unions, clubs and societies also have a profit incentive in students making friends. For clubs, extra members mean more funding. For student unions, belief in the ease of making friends at outlets means increased patronage and thereby revenue. A search of the USU website offers 577 results for web pages including the word 'friends'. While this isn't necessarily a bad thing – it's great that the USU offers a variety of ways to get involved – it can result in students questioning why they struggle to participate and make friends in clubs despite so many options being available.

Making friends isn't just a commercial process – it's a competitive one. The university makes increasing promises about the amount of friends students can make and the quality of those friends. Of the 577 results on the USU website, many used terms such as "lifelong", "for life" or "long lasting" to advertise a particular club or activity. Such hyperbole devalues the actual rarity and difficulty involved in making a friend of such description – most people could count their "lifelong" friends on one hand.

The obvious counterargument to all this would be to say that the perceived ease of university friendship is cultural, not the fault of specific institutions. Yet, there are ways friendship is commodified within our broader culture too. I would say that the way we recount our social lives at university is imbued with neoliberal attitudes to friendship. When degrees are framed as investments, sometimes dubious ones, a quality social life can be used to justify to ourselves and others that higher education is worth it. These narratives are also

reproduced writ large in movies and tv shows through vibrant party scenes saturated with nostalgia.

The consequence of all this is that students feel isolated and discouraged from pursuing viable avenues of connection. Students cease joining new clubs, refrain from investing in budding friendships and feel a general sense of hopelessness. This is particularly true of economically disadvantaged people, people of colour, and students who attended public schools. Such a response is worsened by the fact that neoliberalism tells us that our personalities are saleable goods. When we aren't making friends, it is because nobody is 'buying' us. Or, equally perniciously, difficulty making friends can be rationalised through the neoliberal logic of meritocracy. That we don't have friends because we haven't earned them. 'How to make friends' guides reinforce this. The supposed existence of a method of making friends suggests that those without lots of friends didn't follow the rules, as they should have, and therefore failed because of a personal fault.

Even where this doesn't happen, the relationships students make and attempt to make at university are influenced by neoliberal attitudes about how we value our relationships and our time. In the university context, time spent with friends is time that could be spent on studying or working or a litany of other 'productive' purposes that neoliberalism encourages. Accordingly, friendship is imbued with a transactional quality, wanting to make time spent socialising worthwhile.

The best example of this is the abundance of 'networking' events offered by clubs and societies. Networking obviously serves a valuable purpose in some instances. However, the sheer amount of networking events offered to students who don't

need immediate industry connections suggests that their popularity is driven by the perceived need to make our time socialising count. Networking is preferable to going to the pub because it may help us get a job. Because students only have so much time to socialise, networking comes at the cost of other social activities or society events. As a result, students attend events which purport to enable the growth of friendship but actually do the opposite. Genuine interactions are displaced by ones in which other students are not potential friends, but actual competitors who could get in the way of a good career.

“The supposed existence of a method of making friends suggests that those without lots of friends didn't follow the rules, as they should have, and therefore failed because of a personal fault.”

I spent much of Year 11 and 12 preoccupied with the idea of making good friends at university. Most students go to uni with the same intention. Instead of having our expectations of making friends managed and raised by the institutions we attend, students should be free to make friends unencumbered by the neoliberal rationalisation of friendship being thrust upon us.

What are the details of the NSW Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill?

Ellie Stephenson explores the new voluntary assisted dying laws.

NSW has become the last state to legalise voluntary assisted dying (VAD) after a landmark bill passed the lower house on Friday morning. The bill will allow people with a terminal diagnosis to access voluntary assisted dying, subject to a set of legislated safeguards.

The passage of the bill saw a slew of amendments proposed by its opponents in the upper house. The filibuster attempt included a failed amendment to allow aged care facilities to ban residents from accessing voluntary assisted dying.

The bill was introduced to parliament by independent MP Alex Greenwich and co-sponsored by 28 MPs and MLCs, including independents and representatives from all parties. Both major parties allowed a conscience vote, with both party leaders, Dominic Perrottet and Chris Minns, having indicated their opposition to the legislation in 2021.

Labor MLC Adam Searle moved the second reading of the Bill in the Legislative Council, describing the bill as a “collective endeavour” that enjoyed broad, cross-party support.

Searle told the upper house that: “Whereas on earlier occasions New South Wales would have been a national leader, today every other State has already enacted voluntary assisted dying laws. In Western Australia and Victoria those laws are safely in operation today. New South Wales is a laggard in providing this compassionate choice for its residents and citizens.”

Who will the laws apply to?

The legislation contains a set of restrictions on who is eligible to access VAD.

VAD is only available to people who have been diagnosed with at least one condition that is advanced, progressive, and will cause death, either within six months, or twelve months if the condition is neurodegenerative. The condition must also be impossible to sufficiently relieve such that the patient can tolerate it.

Patients must have the requisite decision-making capacity, which means that they must be able to comprehend the implications of a voluntary assisted dying decision. As a result, patients must not be under duress and must have an ‘enduring’ request for VAD. A disability, dementia or other mental health impairment does not inherently disqualify patients from accessing VAD.

Additionally, patients must be adults who are either Australian citizens, permanent residents, or residents in Australia for at least three continuous years. They must have lived in NSW for at least a year.

What is the process for accessing VAD?

Patients can only access VAD if they have first made a ‘clear and unambiguous’ request for it, at which

point they must be assessed as eligible by two medical practitioners.

If the coordinating or consulting practitioner is unsure whether the patient can consent, they must refer the patient to a psychiatrist or other qualified health practitioner.

The patient must then make a written declaration of their request which says that they are making the decision voluntarily and understand their choice. The declaration must be signed in the presence of two witnesses.

After a designated period of five days, a final request can be made by the patient, at which point a final review by the coordinating practitioner is conducted.

At no point are patients obliged to continue with the process if they change their minds.

Patients can choose between self-administering a VAD substance or having it administered by a practitioner. If the patient chooses to self-administer, a contact person is appointed to prepare and supply the VAD substance. A prescription system is used to manage the supply of VAD substances.

The bill provides for the establishment of the Voluntary Assisted Dying Board, which will be tasked with monitoring VAD in NSW, maintaining a list of health practitioners who will assist with VAD, and making decisions about applications for VAD, among other functions. The Board will consist of five members appointed by the Health Minister and Attorney General, two of whom must be medical practitioners.

Notably, the law includes provisions to allow conscientious objectors to refuse to participate in the VAD process.

Also, health care workers are not allowed to initiate discussions with a patient about voluntary assisted dying, or to suggest it, unless it is in the context of a broader discussion of a patient’s treatment and palliative care options and their likely outcomes.

“New South Wales is a laggard in providing this compassionate choice for its residents and citizens.”

Who supported the bill?

The bill’s passage through parliament, while fraught, was assisted by a broad, cross-party coalition of supporters. The parliamentary working group that investigated assisted dying was led by former Nationals MLC Trevor Khan, who has gone against the grain in his party on other progressive issues such as safe access zones for abortion clinics, with an assortment of MPs supporting and cosponsoring the bill.

The broad support for the bill

reflects generally high support for euthanasia among the community, with a *Sydney Morning Herald* survey in late 2021 finding that almost two-thirds of NSW voters support VAD and only 11 per cent oppose it.

The right to access VAD has been endorsed by organisations like the Dying with Dignity NSW, Go Gentle Australia, the NSW Nurses & Midwives’ Association, the NSW Council on the Aging, ACON and the NSW Council for Civil Liberties.

The campaign for euthanasia has, for decades, centred around questions of bodily autonomy and the ability for terminally ill patients to exercise agency over the circumstances of their death.

Who opposed it?

Opposition to voluntary assisted dying, including within parliament, has often been tied to religious faith, with many religious individuals and organisations viewing euthanasia as undermining the dignity of human life.

Premier Dominic Perrottet and Opposition Leader Chris Minns both voted against the bill in the lower house last year; both politicians are Catholics, along with Labor’s Greg Donnelly, who has been outspoken in his opposition to VAD. Catholic Archbishop of Sydney Anthony Fisher described the legislation as “disturbing” to the media, while the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Australia called for MPs to oppose euthanasia.

Several religious organisations placed heavy emphasis on the demand for religious aged care homes to receive an exemption from having to provide voluntary assisted dying to patients. Catholic Health Australia, Anglicare and HammondCare, all major religious healthcare providers, wrote an open letter arguing against compelling religious organisations to participate in VAD on ethical grounds.

Opposition to religious exemptions pointed to the risk that access to VAD could be restricted geographically if providers could opt out of offering it. However, religious organisations expressed concern that religious providers might move out of the sector altogether if they were forced to provide euthanasia against their beliefs.

Religious communities are not the only opponents to euthanasia, with many disability activists also expressing concern about the ethical implications of legalisation. In particular, many disability activists have characterised euthanasia as failing to grapple with the ongoing poor quality of healthcare and social services for disabled people.

Narratives about ‘dying with dignity’ may also contain problematic narratives about disability and quality of life. In an article in *Disabled Honi* last year, Robin Eames wrote: “The ‘undignified’ factors that many ‘dying with dignity’ supporters emphasise are more about disability than they are about terminal illness.”

The late disability activist Stella Young wrote of these narratives: “Disability is often framed, in medical terms, as the ultimate disaster and certainly as a deficit.”

How does it compare to voluntary assisted dying laws in other states?

VAD has now been legalised in all Australian states.

Eligibility for VAD is broadly similar across Australia: patients must be adults with advanced fatal medical conditions. In all states except Tasmania, legislation requires that patients are experiencing deterioration and in Tasmania, the legislation requires that the condition is irreversible.

“Many disability activists have characterised euthanasia as failing to grapple with the ongoing poor quality of healthcare and social services for disabled people.”

The process of accessing VAD is also common, with all states requiring multiple stages of requests for VADs and the approval of two medical practitioners.

Differences exist in whether practitioners can raise VAD with patients: in Victoria and South Australia, practitioners can only raise it if asked by a patient, while in other states it can be discussed in the context of other care options.

Conscientious objection for providers exists in the legislation of all states, however there are varying requirements about refusing providing information about VAD to patients. In Victoria, SA and Queensland a provider can altogether refuse to provide information about VAD.

While NSW provides for a 5-day cooling off period after the approval of a VAD request, that period varies between states. Victoria adopted a 10-day period, while in SA, there must be at least nine days between the initial and final VAD requests.

Currently, VAD laws have only come into operation in Victoria and WA.

According to the Victorian Voluntary Assisted Dying Review Board, as of June 2021, 597 VAD permits have been issued since the commencement of legalisation in 2019, and 331 people have died through VAD. Of those, the average age was 72 and 83 per cent of patients had a malignant diagnosis.

In WA, where VAD laws came into effect in 2021, 33 people had died as of September 2021.

What Makes *the* Perfect Pub?

Pat McMahon sizes up the platonic ideal pub.

They’d arrived at the pub, which for Don Fernando was the same as arriving in heaven, where all the wretchedness of the earth comes to an end.

– Miguel Cervantes, *Don Quixote*

A symphony of crescendoing and adescendoing laughter fills my ears with joy. The backdrop of colourful murals, withering tables, new friendships being kindled and old friendships being rekindled engulfs me. The sun beats down on me and my mates, invigorating us into our best basketball-playing selves. The six-dollar pints seemingly fly themselves to us as if they were golden swallows migrating from the dark, cold keg beneath the counter into the warm embrace of our hands, our mouths and our hearts. Much like Proust’s recollection of childhood madeleines, when someone mentions Vic on the Park, these are the memories that are instantaneously evoked within me.

Contrast this to a pub so bleak that I will not mention its name. There is no sun at all, only bright lights and sterile artworks glaring at my mates and I. Atmospheric? No. Kitsch? Yes. Littering its walls are yuppies – corporate desk jockeys who are unmistakable for their identical haircuts, colognes and perfumes and bitter absence of dreams. Its happy hour could not redeem it, offering an abysmal ‘ten-dollar schooners’ deal. It is hard to find anything ‘happy’ about that price (other than the fact that it was not \$11).

How is it that one pub can evoke such pleasure, and the other, such

despair? Ever since that desolate day, I have made it my *raison d’être* to answer this question. It is difficult to pin down an answer, as there are many components of pub perfection. As such, we must look at the question differently: what aspects constitute the perfect pub?

It was only after reading *Anna Karenina* that I could see this question in a new light. Tolstoy starts ‘his first true novel’ with the line: “All happy families are alike; each unhappy family is unhappy in its own way”. By this, he means that every family is built upon and around certain aspects such as political beliefs, religious views, sexual interests, monetary issues and ideas on how to bring their children up; and if any of these aspects are in trouble, then so is the family. James Diamond coined this the ‘*Anna Karenina* principle’ in his magnum opus, *Guns, Germs and Steel*; and if he could use it to explain the global domestication of animals, I can certainly use it to understand the complexities of pub perfection.

I have defined six criteria with which to determine to perfect pub: first is its location; second is its price; third is its people; fourth is its chic; fifth is its facilities; and sixth is its security.

As with all of the aspects on this list, *location* is relative. A *good* location has either one, some, or all of the following: a grand view (whether it be of a harbour, the bush, a mountain range, the cityscape or an architectural marvel), catches the sunlight, is close to your house and is situated nearby other pubs.

Price refers to the cost of the drinks

Social warfare over social welfare

Joshua Clay constructs a case for public housing, and the communities within it.

In the summer of 1992, Prime Minister Paul Keating addressed a murmuring crowd in Redfern Park. On a small stage, surrounded by the extensive public housing complexes of the Whitlam era, he delivered the famous ‘Redfern Address.’ Here, Keating eloquently condemned the idea “that to reach back for the poor and dispossessed is to risk being dragged down”, a concept far too relevant to families in Australia’s public housing system.

Thirty years later, the demolition of affordable homes in Redfern and the neighbouring suburb of Waterloo is significantly underway, with no complex too populous to outweigh the potential price tag of a luxury condo atop it. With so many communities in the crosshairs of gentrification, it is necessary to explore the demolition of public housing, and what the future holds for these two suburbs.

Across the road from Redfern Park, where Keating delivered his speech, 600 Elizabeth Street sits as a vacant lot. The fenced-off property, which has been empty since 2013, used to be home to hundreds of people in public housing. Now, it is proposed to become private apartments for Sydney’s wealthy.

The development proposal attempts to comfort readers by evoking the regularly used 70:30 rule, indicating that 30% of new residences must

be ‘community housing.’ Without prior reading, most will miss that community housing is not managed by the state government, unlike its public counterpart. Instead, management is bestowed upon not-for-profit organisations, worryingly dissolving government mechanisms of accountability for overseeing the properties.

A shift to community housing allows the state government to stealthily shift fiscal responsibility to ordinary people with a propensity to donate, evoking the classic neoliberal tenant of passing the moral obligation to the citizens. Because the federal government, not the state government, covers rent assistance programs for community housing, the latter slashes spending and relinquishes all responsibility for housing the state’s most vulnerable.

When not behind closed doors, politicians parrot that mixing different income brackets across these new complexes will somehow reduce crime. This unfounded claim of classist superiority revolves around the belief that the disadvantaged will learn from the ‘good influence’ of the wealthy. Unsurprisingly, there is strong evidence to the contrary. Regardless, the 30-percenters are segregated from the luxury apartments anyway.

The most malicious reason for

and food that the pub has on offer. If a pub has a cheap happy hour but is otherwise expensive, it is still sound so long as it is near pubs with cheaper drinks. For example, if you go to Vic on the Park on a Tuesday, after the happy hour finishes you can walk to Webster’s in Newtown and continue into the night with six-dollar schooners. If a pub has no happy hour but cheap beers regardless, then it again gets a tick of approval. If a pub has an expensive happy hour and more expensive options after the happy hour ends, I advise you to leave to a pub more aligned with the first three examples in this definition.

“How is it that one pub can evoke such pleasure, and the other, such despair?”

People is a multifaceted criterion. It refers to the individuals within the pub (and whether you know them or not), but it also refers to the ‘vibe’ of the patrons as well. If randomly catching up with people you have not seen since school is your jam, then a pub where you can do this will work for you; if it is not, then an acquaintance-filled pub is not for you. Moreover, the ‘vibe’ of the people also matters. If it is a cool vibe but you keep seeing people you do not want to, then you calculate yourself as to whether it is sound or unsound in this aspect.

Chic refers to the ‘vibe’ of the pub’s interiors and exteriors. Chic is certainly

subjective; and as such, I cannot comment on what makes it sound or unsound for you. For me though, if the pub is even vaguely Italianate in style, it is sound.

Facilities typically refers to the bathrooms, pokies room and smoking area, but can also include other ‘facilities’ such as pool tables, dart boards and even basketball courts. If a pub has any of the three latter examples, it passes muster for me. If it does not, so long as it has clean toilets (the more graffiti sprayed onto the walls though, the better), pokie machines that payout and a smokers’ area that encourages different groups of people to converse with one another, then it is sound.

Security refers to the people managing the safety of the pub. If they are the type to kick you out for smoking a stig (disposable vape) in the non-smoking area, security gets a fail. If they deny you for being intoxicated when you are not, this aspect is unsound. If they are empathetic and humane, then all is well.

If any of these aspects are unsound, the pub is doomed to imperfection. If all of these aspects are sound, then the pub is, by this principle’s logic, perfect. From writing this essay though, I have had to consider how other people would treat these several aspects – from the quietest introverts to the loudest extroverts. As such, I have changed my question a third time. Instead of asking ‘what makes the perfect pub?’ or ‘what *aspects* constitute the perfect pub?’, we should instead ask ourselves: what makes *my* perfect pub?

been ‘temporarily relocated’ in a more permanent fashion.

This is the fate of just one small, 1.1-hectare lot near Redfern Park. A proposal for the redevelopment of almost all of Waterloo’s public housing is underway. Spanning a 12.32-hectare lot and 749 homes, it constitutes 65% of the entire suburb. The proposal is vague about the fate of the existing high-rise complexes and their residents, some of whom have already received unclear eviction notices. *Honi* emailed the resident helpline but received no response.

Thirty years after Keating declared Australia the “land of fair go the and the better chance”, his words have not only rung hollow, but gone sour. Past Australian governments once cared for the disadvantaged, building vast complexes of public housing, including the at-risk Waterloo estate.

Now, our politicians evict vulnerable people, gentrify the land, shift responsibility, and get rich. With 30,000 households – not people, households – on the waiting list for Sydney’s public housing alone, we need more homes, not demolitions. Redfern and Waterloo are profound examples of how our politicians are tackling the housing crisis: with animosity and greed.

Look Back in Anger

Oscar Chaffey and Katarina Kuo gives the case for expressing our frustration rather than pent up our grievances.

When the two of us became friends over the last winter break, there was one salient aspect of our lives that connected us. Like millions of others, we were locked down in our respective homes, privately frustrated by the newfound time to ruminate on our own lives and the constantly shifting world that we were inhabiting. Our friendship evolved through a tragicomedy (in far too many parts) of hours-long video calls detailing our grievances with the world. In short, we were both very angry.

Our experience is hardly novel. While not all anger has the exact same sources, the last few years have given many people good reasons to be angry. As Sydney and Melbourne were emerging from their respective lockdowns last year, Brigid Delaney described how our collective emotional experience is tending towards anger. Pointing to the way in which we sublimate our frustrations with often delayed and contradictory government responses to the pandemic into more mundane parts of our lives, she argues that our anger at the political state of the world has begun to bleed into many other facets of our lived experience.

“Despite the centrality of anger and our experiences, it is regulated and discouraged more than any other emotion.”

However, this explanation of our present experience of anger is incomplete. For many young adults today, anger is an inexorable component of coming of age. When we arrive at university, we begin to grow apart from the familiar environments of our childhood and we are given, often for the first time, genuine personal autonomy. This freedom is weighty and is often turned inward, causing us to reflect on our impotence to protect ourselves from unjust and traumatic events in the past, often events we did not allow ourselves to feel adequately angry about. Even where this is not the case, independence can be disorienting rather than empowering while we are discovering our authentic values and preferences. The weight of increasing political consciousness in a world where young voices are structurally disempowered only sets these kindlings of anger ablaze. Jonathan Green expresses this state neatly when he writes, “the hallmark of our moment is a building sense of frustrated exasperation, a state that applies as equally to the broad sweep of the public sphere as it does to the more granular intricacies of personal relations.”

Despite the centrality of anger to our experiences, it is regulated and discouraged more than any other emotion. Our conception of anger carries a sense of indulgent immorality that we do not associate with any other feeling. We are scared that people will

be angry with us, and we are ashamed to let them know when we ourselves are angry. We shy away from confrontation, discredit those we perceive to be angry as childish, and keep our own anger private. In large part, this is because we fail to distinguish between the emotional experience of anger, and the (often destructive) consequences we associate with it. Lucia Osbourne-Crowley explains that we have uniquely flattened our conception of anger - “we are able to recognise, for example, that there are many forms of love, of sadness, of grief. But with anger, we see it as one thing, and we associate it with inflicting pain on others.”



ART BY BIPASHA CHAKRABORTY

While the stigma against anger is universal, it is not felt equally. Anger is a big emotion, and we are selective about who we see as deserving of expressing it. Race, gender and class impact how you will be socialized to feel your anger and how much of your anger will be tolerated. Black anger is framed as violent or dangerous through self-serving narratives of white victimhood. Angry women are dismissed for ‘losing control of themselves’ and then smeared if they have the gall to publicly feel aggrieved. For those outside the ruling class, anger is discrediting, supposedly revealing a lack of intelligence and disqualifying you from meaningfully contributing to discourse. Powerful white men are the most likely to feel deserving of

anger, but even they are not immune to narratives of civility that push anger outside of the public sphere.

Progressive social movements have begun to recognise that the reclamation of anger at social injustice is an important political project. Most commonly, these movements point to the ability of righteous anger to galvanize people into taking political action, or to make activist messaging more emotionally persuasive. Especially in instances of longstanding injustice, activists argue that anger is the most logical response and that dispassionate arguments

“In fact, it is pushing away this natural response that often leads to anger to be harmful when we refuse to admit that we are angry, we deal with conflict immaturely, we handle our own feelings dishonestly, and we sublimate our anger into self-destruction.”

But, allowing yourself to experience anger, even or especially when it is not politically productive, is revelatory. A crucial part of the message that we should conceal our anger is the underlying idea that we don’t deserve it - that we are overreacting, or that it is childish or selfish to feel the way we do. To see yourself as worthy of anger, and the things in your life as worthy of being angry about, is a claim to self worth, an entitlement to feel something indulgent and personal. Vulnerable people especially should not feel obliged to connect their anger to a wider structural context. Indeed it may be more valuable simply to feel something we have always told ourselves we are not entitled to. Viewing the importance of anger as contingent on its political utility necessarily omits these instances of personal anger which quietly and habitually amount to catharsis.

It is also worth noting that anger is not necessarily opposed to happiness or gratitude, as it is commonly portrayed. It is possible to be angry at people because you love them, or angry about things because you care about them. In fact, it is pushing away this natural response that often leads anger to be harmful - when we refuse to admit that we are angry, we deal with conflict immaturely, we handle our own feelings dishonestly, and we sublimate our anger into self-destruction.

“Angry women are dismissed for ‘losing control of themselves’ and then smeared if they have the gall to publicly feel aggrieved.”

Our anger, in a large part, gave us our friendship. It also gives us the motivation to care sincerely about the things and people we love, and the confidence to fight for them. We wish only that those around us would embrace it more.

The eye that wounds

Eamonn Murphy reflects on the symbolism of *chashm zakhm* - the evil eye.

And carefully they dabbed a dark blue dye

Upon his cheeks, to thwart the evil eye.

(Nezami Ganjavi, 1198)

I am threading beads onto a strand of blue twine. The beads are blue too, one little vial in turquoise, the other navy. I alternate between colours — turquoise, navy — and after exactly twenty-six of them hang before me, I add an evil eye bead and tie a knot. I repeat the process several times — I am restless without really knowing why, and I find that this settles me. The rings are quite pretty. I give them to those I love.

When I tell my grandmother about my evil eye rings, she does not understand. *Chashme baddoor*, she replies: may the evil eye be far, and certainly farther than your fingertips. I realise that I have mislabelled my handiwork. Mamani points out that the charm on my ring — lapis encircling white, lighter blue, and then black — is instead a nazar, protecting us from the *chashm zakhm*: the evil eye that wounds.

In my culture, the evil eye represents all misfortune that may befall us. The eye is solely to blame for what goes wrong: any crisis is a result of its curse. In some form of demonic reappraisal, we redefine our stressors as acts of the devil, and thereby externalise our afflictions. Our suffering, then, becomes less real; it is the mystical evil eye that wounds us. Spirituality is at the heart of Persian identity, and by attributing pain to the *chashm zakhm*, we cope.

The week before my twelfth birthday, I arrived at the children’s hospital and

stayed for quite some time. I remember this because I did not get to visit Canberra for my Year Six Camp, and I did not get to try the slide at Questacon. I remember this because there is no signed shirt hanging in my wardrobe. I remember this because I lay pale and still in a wire-framed bed as my body wore away. One morning, mamani visited, and while we walked the art-lined corridors, she noted that the evil eye had wounded me — may it be far, my boy, *chashme baddoor*.

“I thread my beads into a strand of blue twine, and I think of the evil eye.”

As I write, I think of *Layli and Majnun*, and how perfectly the poem fits me. Ganjavi muses:

The evil eye has marred your charm, some curse

Has battered you and made your sickness worse,

Soaking your flesh with blood like this, and tearing

With prickly spines and thorns the clothes you’re wearing.

This encapsulates the way that my family views harm. The evil eye is what batters us — it is as simple as that.

Walk through my front door. You will find a *nazar*, the cold blue eye perched above the threshold. Walk down the

Language during times of Crisis

Amir Hashemi Pour analyses the use crisis language throughout the last few turbulent years.

Essential workers”, “according to the health advice”, “please know”. These are phrases that you have no doubt heard over and over throughout this pandemic. Effective communication during a crisis is particularly important, heightened by the nature of the population experiencing higher stress and anxiety than usual. How leaders choose to communicate new information and decisions significantly impacts compliance, perception of crisis control and trust in institutions. With this in mind, let’s take a look at Scott Morrison’s messaging in relation to the pandemic over the course of the last two years.

At the beginning of 2020, while COVID-19 was still emerging and information about transmission of the virus was still scarce, Morrison framed our understanding of the threat as “rapidly evolving”, reassuring the public that his government was monitoring the situation “extremely closely”. At this stage, no one could have asked for more and his dialogue was confident enough to assuage any worry.

In February, once a domestic case of community transmission had been identified, the Prime Minister assured the public of Australia’s favourable position relative to the rest of the world, that “we’ve gotten ahead, we intend to stay ahead”. In hindsight, that may have translated into providing the public a false sense of security as Australians didn’t take early precautions to protect themselves and their communities in case

of an outbreak. In other countries like Singapore, infection control measures and general hygiene practices were ramped up in anticipation of COVID-19’s inevitable arrival, thus allowing the population to be ready.

Having said this, however, by March, Morrison’s messaging had adjusted to reflect an ongoing and continual struggle with the virus, calling for Australians to “bounce back stronger” on their road to recovery from the economical and social disruptions associated with the pandemic. This was designed to build resilience at a time where uncertainty was rampant. Despite only being around for a few weeks, COVID-19 had been shown to be extremely contagious and its symptoms and health consequences were still relatively unknown. Portrayal of horrific scenes from overseas, including mass graves, had terrified the public. Thus, it was imperative for the Prime Minister to unite people nationally and claim their fears through repeated inclusive language such as “we are all in this together”. This rhetorical tool has been influential in many instances in history, with famous presidents unifying the public in various social issues like the American civil rights movement. However, given panic buying had already started, such messaging didn’t do enough to neutralise the fears of the public.

A common rhetorical tool throughout the pandemic for many leaders was analogies to war. Morrison’s claim in March 2020 that “[W]e are in a war

corridors, and spot the eyes. There is a little trinket box with a sapphire *nazar* set into the lid. A vase of tulips sits at my mother’s desk, and someone has painted an eye onto the glass in quick brushstrokes. I keep my rings in a chipped espresso cup that waits on the kitchen bench.

Not only do we construct the evil eye, but we relentlessly protect ourselves from it. I think of Emily Dickinson’s “impregnable fortress”, and how she defends the architecture of her soul — the “Corridors” of her “lonesome Place” are concealed, bolted away from pain. My home is so adorned with blue eyes that evil cannot possibly enter. The little amulets are a form of apotropaic magic that deflects harm; just as the Egyptian scarab keeps evil spirits at bay, and just as a porcelain maneki-neko shelters a Japanese family from misfortune, the *nazar* allows us to retain our integrity.

In a way, though, the evil eye leads to silence. When suffering does arise, we do not speak of it; because we are protected, the presumption is that we are alright.

I know that my family left Iran in war and bloodshed, but I do not know how this felt. I do not know what they lost, and I do not know how it hurt. I know that our past was traumatic, but in what ways? I wonder why high school history has taught me more about our cultural heritage than my family has, and I lament our secrecy.

When we shield ourselves from harm through those little blue charms, and when we do not even define the harm itself, our wounds do not heal. No matter how

pragmatic and resilient we may become, we need to acknowledge how pain can affect us — we need to speak about it. In migrant families that have been battered by hardship, the silence is too loud. It is not just the evil eye that wounds us: it is a complex system of structural oppression, systemic racism, and an enormous weight of personal loss that tears at our souls.

I thread my beads onto a strand of blue twine, and I think of the evil eye. I hope that we can learn to speak of pain. I hope that we can take off our armour and grow.

ART BY ALEXANDRA DENT



the government, as popular support was needed to contain the virus and prevent getting sick. However, as the pandemic went on, these stated priorities shifted. By May, the PM emphasised that “we must focus on jobs” in response to the unemployment rate rising. This might have been due to the economic disruptions of lockdowns and quarantine had affected more people than the coronavirus itself, thus demanding immediate action from the government. However, he did receive criticism for shifting his priorities towards saving the economy, with some speculating that he had the intentions of compensating for his initial slow response in public health policy. Despite this, pandemics are not solely a health problem and economic and social devastations need to be carefully considered and communicated.

The pandemic has taught us many lessons over the past two years. Communication, when effective and transparent, can unite people and influence their emotions and actions. However, high modality dialogue with misplaced confidence, can stir up wrong expectations of the challenge ahead. There is an intricate balance between delivering phrases that cultivate confidence and unity with realistic admission of mistakes and uncertainty. It has been interesting to learn from the phrases used by Scott Morrison, given the unprecedented task that he faced, as the leader of Australia during one of the most challenging periods in its history.

In conversation with Third Space: on experimental music and strobing lights

Seamas Pragnell follows the beat of the drum.

As you step into the arena, a wooden structure greets you by descending stairs wrapping around the stage. This is Phoenix Central Park, a performance space in Chippendale where I saw the eclectic Melbourne/Naarm-based experimental-electronic artist Matt, better known as Third Space. Third Space has notably played Pitch Music Festival in Victoria multiple times, along with other noted Melbourne venues like the Abbotsford Convent, The Oratory and Magnet Studios. He also released his EP 'Pattern of Spring' in 2021 on Sydney-based label Pure Space. Matt was also FBI Radio's independent artist of the week in June 2021 and reflects the wider continuum of Australian ambient and noise music, including Oren Ambarchi, Lawrence English and Justice Yeldham to name a few.

The complementary earplugs were much appreciated as I sat down and waited for the performance to begin. Third Space's performance was an exceptionally unique audio-visual experience, with spinning, pulsating, and shifting coloured lights perfectly accentuating the wide array of sonic spaces travelled through. The experience ranged from airy ambient sounds to dancier drums and moments of dark fearful noise. However, as much as I may attempt to describe and explain the

performance, the in-person experience, and the moments of bliss and wonder felt, it is difficult to fully grasp through written word alone. This is the case for almost all ambient, noise and other experimental music performances I have seen, difficult to understand until experienced by oneself, but something I implore all to see.

Following the culmination of strobing lights, explorative sonic landscapes and sensory wonder, I was lucky enough to interview Matt.

SP: What was it like performing in Phoenix Central Park compared to other spaces you have performed in, and how do different spaces impact how you perform?

TS: From an audio perspective it was one of the loudest spaces I have performed in, which was great. The scale and governance of it all was also amazing, for an artist as small as me to be playing 2 sold-out solo shows in a space as big and impressive as Phoenix is such a unique and special experience. More generally though, the main things that impact my performances are the time of the day, venue, and speakers, as the vibe of the room influences how I'll play.

SP: What are the difficulties of the music you perform when compared to more conventional performances?

TS: I can't really comment on performing more conventional performances but one of the biggest differences in the space is having a patient audience who is willing to just sit there and listen, as you don't need to compete for an audiences' attention as you do in a pub or other venues.

SP: I know you also have another project called Knotting, how does working with a vocalist impact your music?

TS: It's amazing, Georgia, who I perform with, is extremely talented and understands the intricacies of melodies and harmonies, which I can't really do myself as I have a percussion background. This opens a whole new space for experimentation in compositions, as we can focus on chordal and modal shifts, unlike in Third Space where sound design and percussion are the main avenues of experimentation. Also, in our work there's a crossover between the human voice and technology by using computer software to stretch a voice to do something it can't do organically. Georgia also stretches what she can sing physically, which really adds to the sound. Also using a vocalist creates a bit more familiarity with the audience, as synthesizers are more of an abstract area to experiment with than a voice, which allows me to exploit new compositions

and atmospheres.

SP: How do you feel about the current state of experimental music in Australia? Is there anything you feel is missing?

TS: We have incredible venues and perfect patrons in Australia, who are respectful, patient and down to try new things. Obviously COVID has impacted a lot of things, but our domestic scene is so vibrant, and people are still excited to try new things and have fun on a night out. Honestly, the main thing that I wish we had would be better speaker systems, as they improve the experience for performances no matter what you are seeing. However, obviously it's extremely expensive for venues to do so and there's just not enough money in the industry to afford that. Beyond that I'd just say more support for artists you like! Buying records, merch and supporting artists directly on Bandcamp are great ways to show your support and help artists grow.

SP: Any final comments?

TS: Buy music, go to shows, support things you're interested in, there's a scene for everything. Experience music live, it's the best way to see music and can't be replicated in any other way.

You can find Third Space on Bandcamp, Facebook and Instagram.

Heartstopper, and hope for a new generation of Queer teens

Josh Beutum's heart skips a beat.

TW: mention of rape, abuse, and homophobia.

Like many, I have spent the last few weeks captivated by Netflix's *Heartstopper* and its representation of an innocent queer romance — something almost completely unseen in the media.

Compared to how shows like *Young Royals* (2021—) and *Euphoria* (2019—) handle LGBTQ+ narratives, *Heartstopper* is unique in its light-hearted image of queerness.

Released on 22 April, *Heartstopper* focuses on Nick and Charlie; two high schoolers navigating queerness and the beginnings of a relationship, alongside an ensemble of diverse characters experiencing similar struggles. Based on the best-selling graphic novel series by Alice Oseman, it is an embrace of pastel colours and indie-rock music that centres romance, not sex or heartbreak, within the queer teen experience.

While *Young Royals* and *Euphoria* both engage with the concerns of LGBTQ+ teens, they do so in a way that is overly adult, dramatised, and often tragic. In *Euphoria*, Jules, a trans girl, arranges casual sex with predatory men on Grindr and, in *Young Royals*, Wilhelm's role in the Swedish royal family makes his gay romance one of 'forbidden' and 'scandalous' love. These portrayals, although more sympathetic than many that precede them, echo the prominent 'kill your gays' trope and propagate an image of queer teenagers as ashamed, fearful, and ripe for sexual exploitation. Older works like *Mysterious Skin* (2004)

further relate the queer teen experience to danger and trauma, specifically childhood abuse, rape, and AIDS.

Heartstopper actively resists the opportunity to sexualise its queer characters; there is no mention of first times, older sexual mentors, or even heated make-out sessions. These characters actually *feel* like teenagers — maybe because the average age of their actors is 18 (Kit Connor and Joe Locke, who play Nick and Charlie, famously completed their A-level exams when the show was released).

A scene where Nick tries to hold Charlie's hand is particularly reflective of this innocence. Emulating the comic book's graphic style, animated sparks and a soft yellow glow appear between their hands, demonstrating his exhilaration at his first move on a schoolyard crush. Charlie's disbelief when learning that Nick likes him back is equally authentic to the doubts that define early relationships — particularly queer ones. These moments communicate a love story that is quintessentially teenage, expressing the innocence and awkwardness that come with inexperience — a narrative often absent in queer media.

Heartstopper was also the first time I saw a character like Elle — a trans girl of colour — facing 'normal' challenges like making friends at a new school, or having a crush on a friend. She does not dramatically take off her makeup and cry, or face bullying, though these struggles are alluded to. She is a queer character whose hardships are not cause for shame or social isolation. The same can be said

for lesbian characters like Tara and Darcy, whose experiences with homophobia are secondary to the security provided by their relationship. The seriousness of shows like *Euphoria* or *Mysterious Skin* is replaced with a childlike optimism; the message that queer youth, like their straight counterparts, are allowed to be children.

For this reason, watching *Heartstopper* left me with mixed feelings. When Michael Chakraverty of the Great British Bake Off tweeted "obviously I adored heartstopper but I've been completely consumed by this strange melancholy about it ever since," I related. Perhaps selfishly, I am mourning the loss of a childhood I never had.

Like many queer people, my teenage years were marked by shame and adulthood. Instead of schoolyard crushes, I had blurry escapades clouded by drugs and alcohol. When my straight friends discussed their celebrity crushes, I did not. I remember policing my behaviour for years in an environment where my sexuality was sidelined as deviant. I am far from alone in these experiences. In her doctoral thesis, Stacey Hemmings reveals how her interviewees felt pressure to "kill" elements of their queerness. Sex was "hidden", anonymous, and held little prospect for future intimacy. Likewise, gay teens are, more than any other demographic, found by Parkes and her colleagues to have had unwanted sexual experiences during adolescence. These facts are not surprising considering LGBTQ+ youth in Australia are over three times as likely to report high levels of psychological distress than straight teens.

I guess I'm sad because *Heartstopper* showed me what my life could have been.

At the same time, I am not advocating for the erasure of cultural works that explore the darker elements of queer childhoods. My younger self felt oddly represented by *Mysterious Skin*, and I genuinely believe that *Euphoria* and *Young Royals* are paving the way for today's teens to explore themselves. Their portrayal of queer suffering is still reflective of the experiences of many, especially those facing intersectional burdens like racial or economic marginalisation. They also represent what was, for most of history, a life defined by pain and rejection.

However, it is not surprising that by linking queerness to bullying, sex, and HIV, these shows make us think that there is no alternative to these tragedies. What I am suggesting, then, is that LGBTQ+ representation expands to include the innocence often denied to queer teens.

For me, *Heartstopper* is this representation.

Although I'm a little jealous, I'm grateful today's queer teens feel that they may live like Nick, Charlie, Elle, Darcy, and Tara. I hope this media allows them to see in themselves the potential to be happy. I hope they can feel the childhood innocence earlier generations did not have.

I don't think I realised how important this representation was until I watched *Heartstopper*. Either way, it shows us that we deserve more than the tragedies we were taught to expect on screen — and in our own lives.

A love letter to love letters 'You have broken down my defences'

"Look here Vita - throw over your man and we'll go to Hampton Court and dine on the river together and walk in the garden in the moonlight and come home late and have a bottle of wine and get tipsy, and I'll tell you all the things I have in my head, millions, myriads. They won't stir by day, only by dark on the river. Think of that. Throw over your man, I say, and come."

A deeply earnest letter, penned by Virginia Woolf to her lover Vita Sackville-West in 1927, is just one exchange in the almost 20 years of correspondence between the two women which were rich with want, devotion, and love. The art of letter writing, in their heartfelt pleas and overwhelming grand gestures, has come to a halt in the last century. Abstractions of romance entangled in lengthy writings only seem to enter the modern dialogue by returning to old texts, watching classic films, or reading classic romance novels à la Jane Austen's *Persuasion*. Such entanglements strike me plainly as a paper trail which I must simply follow.

The letters between Virginia Woolf and Vita Sackville-West are so hopelessly devoted and painstakingly raw that I feel as if reading their words is an intrusion — that being privy to their innermost thoughts is a power which I'm not sure I deserve.

Despite both being married, the two women engaged in a long affair which had almost no bearing on their husbands. Vita's husband had several affairs outside of their marriage, often with members of the same-sex, while Virginia's husband Leonard didn't object and was described as seeing Vita and Virginia's relationship as "rather a bore...but not enough to worry him", as detailed by Virginia herself, in a diary entry from 1925.

I am reminded of a conversation I had with a friend of mine a year ago about the depth of language and the nature of speaking, of attaching names to faces and hosting them in the back of your mind until the time comes for you to cross their

path again. We spoke of exchanges between Vita and Virginia and held them close to our chest, combing through the delicacy of language and its ability to seamlessly expand upon the orchestra of emotions one feels on a daily basis. From the most miniscule twangs to the intense (and ineffable) pull one feels when on the precipice of falling in love — it is supercharged and complex and death-defying.

Letters and language enrich life in such a lavish manner. "Sometimes I have to take a second to imagine how bland and sterile life would be without it all," my friend says.

Inscribing meaning to the presence of love letters like these may seem inconsequential to some, but the content of these exchanges is



vital to unpacking one of the greatest literary love affairs. It is proof that queer love was not dissuaded in times of dampening religious moralism, repressive laws and confined gender roles.

In a letter to Philip Morrell, a British Liberal politician and good friend of Woolf's, she colourfully wrote of the dissonance in wanting affection against the fear of being vulnerable:

"I admit I often tear up letters myself: one can't, even at my age, believe that other people want affection or admiration; yet one knows that there's nothing in the whole world so important."

Love letters, like poetry, are a suitcase full of works from a writer's

soul. In this instance, notes are struck with observations that are acute, nostalgic, endearing and unyielding.

Oh, to be a gardener in the 1920s (Vita), falling for an author (Virginia) who takes to penning tender words that evolve through all stages of love. Between a quiet, desperate craving for human interaction, and their eventual more settled friendship, Woolf and Sackville-West keep each other on tenterhooks throughout the duration of their relationship, and have affected me through their letters. Playful as much as they are poignant, these two women show us the embrace of queer love during the rife 1930s, sexual fluidity and an openness to romantic relationships with a lean to non-monogamy.

yet I believe you'll be sensible of a little gap. But you'd clothe it in so exquisite a phrase that it would lose a little of its reality. Whereas with me it is quite stark: I miss you even more than I could have believed; and I was prepared to miss you a good deal. So this letter is just really a squeal of pain. It is incredible how essential to me you have become."

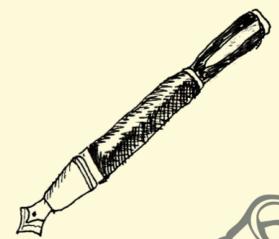
"I suppose you are accustomed to people saying these things. Damn you, spoilt creature; I shan't make you love me any the more by giving myself away like this—But oh my dear, I can't be clever and stand-offish with you: I love you too much for that. Too truly. You have no idea how stand-offish I can be with people I don't love. I have brought it to a fine art. But you have broken down my defences. And I don't really resent it ..."

In the lines of Lord Huron's, 'The Night We Met,' "I had all and then most of you / Some and now none of you", Virginia Woolf and Vita Sackville-West endeavoured upon a relationship that went far beyond the sexual. The language used in their letters is akin to lovers speaking, yet neither of them had the intention to leave their husbands whom they too love. These letters, so full of longing, and immediacy, leaves us readers at a pace, dreaming of having a love affair in the 1920s.

On this chilly Autumn evening, I return to these journal inscriptions. Bearing witness to and being courted by the love poems of these two women is a unique pleasure. The urge to write passionate love letters by candlelight to nobody in the style of a 1900s script, only to set them aflame immediately after, is high.

- Christine Lai looks through
handwritten histories.

ART BY ELLIE STEPHENSON



Survival

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The Bin Hover

Will Solomon speaks out against the "bin chicken" (but for the ibis).

I saw this awning's boring minion, king-
dom of dumpster's dauphin, debris-dirt-drawn chicken, in his perching
On the roofing level, underneath him ready bins, and searching
Slime tins, how he tastes upon the trash of a fleeting fling
In his ecstasy! then scoff, scoff onion ring,
As a fruit's peel sweet slips down a beak-bend: the hurl and lurching
Released the big wind. My nose in hiding
Stirred for a bird, - the mischief of, the great greed of the thing!

Crude cruelty and vanity and slack, no fair, snide, fume, swear,
Heckle! STAND the liar that berates thee then, so stricken.
Thine soul lovelier, more marvellous, though, why your smelly air?

No wonder of it: we're sods, make foul our own villain!
Shine, and bathe bright feathers, how we dare
Call, appal ourselves. Ibis! not bin chicken.



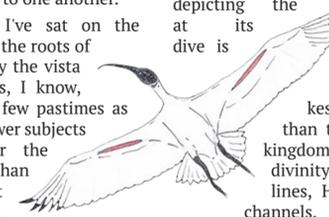
Like many students at the University of Sydney, I have a great fondness for Victoria Park and, in particular, Lake Northam - the small body of water on the corner of Broadway and City Road that plays host to congregating birds. Glancing over the lake on a sunny day, one is reliably greeted by a cross-section of the city's avian population: in the water, ducks and swamphens swim; on the banks, seagulls and pigeons prowl; and, in the trees, lorikeets, kookaburras, and cockatoos call out to one another.

Countless times, I've sat on the shoreline in a nook in the roots of a banyan tree to enjoy the vista and write poetry (yes, I know, very cool). There are few pastimes as ancient as this, and fewer subjects more prone to stir the poetic imagination than birds. Their elegant forms, majesty in flight, beautiful songs, and wandering souls all populate the imagery of countless poets from across time and place: Coleridge, Dickinson, Keats, Yeats, Neruda, Noonuccal - they all doted on our feathered friends.

Few poems so eloquently capture the bird's poetic capacity like Gerard Manley Hopkins' famed sonnet, 'The Windhover'.

The poem is a treatment of the experience of beholding a kestrel's unique gift for hovering, motionless on an updraft, to scout for prey before diving toward a kill. The bird takes on the mantle of a prince, riding and commanding the air as a knight rides a horse and as royalty commands a kingdom.

The poem's volta - the thematic and structural shift of a sonnet marked by its 'volt' from first stanza to second - responds to the kestrel's sudden dive, depicting the persona's shock at its revelation - the kestrel, none other than the prince of God's kingdom, and his dive, divinity. Across fourteen lines, Hopkins masterfully channels, through a single symbolic bird, a prince, a revelation, the reception of the holy spirit, and the promise of new life. All the while, the poem's sprung rhythm seamlessly rolls through the repeated verb-ing suffix of "ing" and rhyming nouns in "king", "wing", and "thing", such that these interconnected noun and verb forms reflect the being and doing of the bird that is simultaneously resolute in its



place in the sky and in constant action to maintain that state. My irreligion aside, the poem is a tour de force but I won't go on.

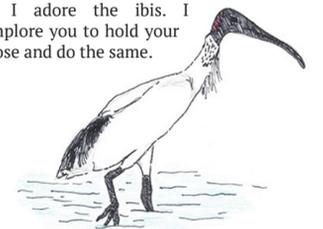
Among the birds of the University is another species that, though relatively new to Sydney's skies and waterways, is difficult to ignore: the white ibis. Reading this, you may be of the view that ibises need no disambiguation; their long beaks and white, odorous feathers, stained brown by nefarious behaviour, have one ubiquitous association: bin diving. Though their slender legs and pronounced beaks evolved for wading in water and digging in soft river beds, they've taken to wading in waste and digging through debris, earning the moniker of 'bin chicken'. I can't stand the term.

Parodying Hopkins' sonnet in 'The Bin Hover', I mount a defence of this most misunderstood of Sydney's birds. My poem supplants the kestrel of the original with an ibis, the wind with rooftops and the rims of bins, and the dive for prey with the dive into trash. In doing so, I treat the ibis with an ironic grandeur, while pointing to the fact that both Hopkins and I are, ultimately, presenting a treatment of the same thing: a bird's instinctual search for food.

Where Hopkins' volta sees the persona revel in the divinity of creation and salvation, my persona's revelation is that of his own hypocrisy, and of the ibis' innate beauty, masked by its stench. The ibis swimming in Lake Northam, with its feathers shining clean and bright, is a beautiful creature. The 'bin chicken', this villain borne out of our wastefulness, only behaves as it does given the environment we have constructed for it. I won't go on about minute word choices but if you enjoy reading the poem then I encourage you to look up Hopkins' original and to consider them beside one another. I've done my best to retain the original's sense of rhyme and assonance as well as its alliterative couplets.

I despise the 'bin chicken'.

I adore the ibis. I implore you to hold your nose and do the same.



ART BY AIDAN ELWIG POLLOCK. PHOTOGRAPH BY WILL SOLOMON.

Field Notes: Daytripping to the Bush Capital

Honi Soit gets fungi.

Canberra is a magical place. It is populated by such mythical creatures as 'students' and 'public servants', and its urban areas have a distinct charm somewhere between rural Australia and an Eastern European capital. I'm of the firm belief that every Australian needs to visit Canberra at least twice: firstly as a child, for an education in science, art and democracy from some of Australia's best museums, then as an adult, for a deeper education from nature itself.

The magic of Canberra can be found in its bars, clubs, and universities, but where it truly propagates is in its parks - among damp leaf litter. It's true: you cannot take a short walk in the bush capital without tripping on magic mushrooms. I specifically refer to the liberty cap, which is a fungi of the Psilocybe genus and is known most famously for the psychoactive compounds that it produces.

Psilocybin mushrooms are categorised as a Schedule 9 drug in Australia, making them illegal to possess, sell or cultivate. It's a nice irony that in the seat of government, they grow unfettered across the whole territory - urban and bushland parks alike. Did we forget to tell the mushrooms that they're illegal?

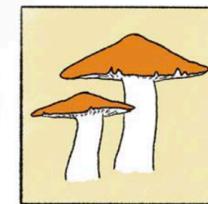
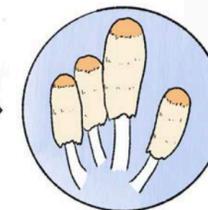
This season has been particularly fruitful, as damp and wet weather has

provided fertile ground for mushrooms to pop up in vast numbers. But before any budding mycologists start booking their coaches to the capital, be warned: liberty caps are not the only mushroom that grows wildly in Canberra.

In a cruel twist of fate, the same conditions that bring rise to liberty caps are also the perfect conditions for death cap mushrooms to grow. It would be amiss of me to offer identification

advice, as the art and science of mushroom identification is no joke. Death cap mushrooms grow all around Canberra, and there have been multiple fatalities in the past decade as a result of their consumption.

That being said, the abundant parks of the ACT are well worth visiting regardless of any mushroom foraging that may or may not take place. More than half of the territory's area is protected nature reserves, and its distance from Sydney makes it the perfect spot for a day trip.



ART BY MAXIM ADAMS

President

Lauren Lancaster.

This week was pretty good. When this is published we will be on the pickets in solidarity with striking NTEU staff again (Tuesday May 24th). Be there, or at least do not go to class. This industrial campaign is much bigger than us, and we need to keep up the energy.

On Saturday, the Federal Election (and Honi party) dominated my, and likely your, agenda! While there are significant and gaping holes in the policies of the incoming Labor government, a change was the principally right thing for Australia and I cannot say I am not relieved. Most if not all of us as undergraduates have lived much of our teens and early adult life under exclusively Coalition rule. It was not pretty. Young people are in the some of the most precarious economic and welfare positions we've ever seen, the climate crisis is unfolding all around us and federal politics have been bogged down by extraordinary bigotry, incompetence, corruption and stasis.

We do not rest our laurels with Labor,

Vice-Presidents

Mikaela Pappou and Emily Storey.

WE FUCKING DID IT! Australia has elected Anthony Albanese, former USyd political economy student, as our 31st Prime Minister. We've told the Libs to get fucked, we've called for a compassionate government, a government that WILL take action on climate change, a government that WILL put people at the centre of politics, a government that

General Secretaries

Alana Ramshaw and Grace Lagan.

The past two weeks have renewed both our love and unwavering belief in the power of collective action. We both started uni in 2020. Many of the people we commenced with will graduate this year, with an education hollowed out by COVID and the cuts brought in under its guise. Social interaction is reduced to zoom reacts, and pedagogy to recorded lectures on 2x speed. The pickets stood in stark contrast to that: picketers breaking out in song in the pouring rain, scores of students running through halls together to shut down the next scab class, and gushing to a tutor about how much you loved their class as you hold a banner together.

While our legs haven't fully recovered, the experience of linking arms with the

Ethnocultural

Misbah Ansari, Ashrika Paruthi and Anya Doan.

Hooraay! ACAR is celebrating the demise of the right! Lib love laugh is officially over, luvs x

In other news, ACAR is organising a contingent for the upcoming staff strike on Tuesday 24th May. Given the

Queer

Yasmin Andrews and Ella Pash.

The Queer Action Collective (QuAC) has ramped up its efforts towards the end of the first semester of 2022. We have a number of new initiatives in the works and will be driving for more engagement in the new semester.

We have begun planning a rework of the Queer space, starting with restocking the sexual health supplies that used to be available before covid. We plan to fix a number of broken items, including one of the windows and the fridge as well as donate the racks of unused clothes. The

Student Housing

Henri Collyer, Ricky Rangra, Shiyun Cheng and Silei Wen did not submit a report.

but continue to organise the student movement to fight for an end to student debt, a rejection of neoliberal austerity in all its forms, the humane and ethical treatment of refugees, better welfare and Centrelink for young people, and for a climate we can thrive in past 2030.

What the election cycle made me realise was the extent to which the pilfering of our tertiary education institutions is predicated upon and made possible by continuing austerity and funding cuts at a legislative level. I hope that some of the structural attacks on universities in this country are reversed as a critical priority. Notwithstanding federal politics, the union and grassroots movements must continue to lead the way on community and radical organising. It is ultimately on the streets and through industrial action that true progressive gains are achieved.

A little closer to home, elections similarly abounded with the USU Elections wrapping up last week.

WILL be on your side. We've called for a better future, and now we call on the Australian Labor Party to legislate and govern us into that better future. The ALP may not be perfect, even a card carrying member like myself can admit such faults, but I know, and Australia knows, that a safe, inclusive, prosperous future is in sight. It is the stated purpose of the

students and staff who have breathed life into my education isn't one we're likely to forget in a hurry. The fight, however, isn't over, and we have both been building towards the Tuesday week 13 strike. We hope to see you again on the picket.

While the election result was a happy affair for us both, we come to it from different experiences in politics. For me, (Grace), it's the culmination of five years in the Labor party. No matter how much the Liberal Party magnified Morrison in a last-ditch attempt to win the election, there was a pervasive smallness to the whole campaign. Commentators will marvel this week at how the Liberals took so many of their constituencies for granted: it's the inevitable result of individualism, in my view. It's also not

working conditions that our staff are subjected to, it is more than important for us to support our staff strike against the university. We have been perpetually encouraging members of ACAR to show up.

room will also be cleaned and all old materials will be replaced over the break. Any request for the queer room can be sent to our email, seen below, or to our socials.

Funding has been requested for our Binder and Gaff initiative. In this initiative we plan to provide at least 15 binders/gaffs to trans students for free as well as providing tape for tucking and binding in the queer space. Once funding has been approved a request form will be posted on our socials to collect the sizing

I congratulate all the new incoming Board Directors and hope to see the progressive platforms on which many of them ran truly translate into patent, radical and effective policy and action over their term.

We had a productive meeting with Food Bank NSW representatives and the USU in which we took major steps towards starting a subsidised food pantry for students in Semester 2. This will replace the Food Hub arrangement during COVID lockdowns, as those hampers have been discontinued by Food Bank. The new format will be more demand-driven and flexible to what individual students need to eat. Further, Regulations changes are nearly done and will be circulated for Council to consider in the next month. More news to come shortly.

Pursuant to a motion passed at May Council prohibiting my attendance to meetings with upper University management, I gave apologies to the Academic Quality Committee and the

student movement to spearhead the fight against all injustices, and that will not end under a Labor government. We have much more to achieve, we have cracked open the door, but now we must remove it, hinges and all. We must not rest on our laurels, we wake up and we organise, we fight, and we will win. But for now, and tonight, I will revel in this moment,

what our campaign looked like as it drew to an emotional close on Saturday night, tearfully exchanging hugs with close friends and strangers alike as we watched the results come in at Blacktown RSL. And as happy as I was, I couldn't help but miss all of the people I wasn't with: my other dear friends, scattered across similar events from Reid to Bennelong to North Sydney, and my mum, whose unwavering commitment to left-wing politics inspired my own. But I think that's the beauty of collective action: the single most powerful motivation to action is love.

I (Alana) spent Saturday night in the stuffy top room of the Royal at Honi Soit's election party, screaming, cheering, and at times chanting with everyone else,

ACAR is also working on merch in preparation for semester 2 and its welcome week!! A big shoutout to our artist friends for constantly volunteering to help us with merch and our ACAR Honi edition.

of any interested students.

Submissions for the queer issue of Honi Soit will open soon, with it due to realise during semester two sometime before mid-semester break.

Our regular meetings will continue, once a week, on Tuesdays at 12:15. They will be held in the queer space. We will also be doing an after exam party, at birdcage, on the 29th of June to celebrate finishing exams and the semester. The event can be found on our facebook page.

Assessment Advisory Committee this week. This is to show solidarity with the NTEU in their ongoing industrial negotiations. Staff strike again this week due to the university's persistent immovability on EBA demands. I wish to express my contempt for the way in which management at the University have misrepresented and continually undermined NTEU actions and politics in uni-wide emails encouraging students and staff to scab. It is not lost on us that if they had made concessions to staff and committed to a fair, justice and democratic workplace in the EBA negotiations, we may not be in this position this week.

Join us on the pickets and good luck with your end of semester exams. As always, the SRC is here to help with any and all academic appeal, spec cons, disability provision or other question you may have. We know it is a stressful time of semester so our doors are open. See you on campus.

I will immerse myself in the joy of a Labor victory. I am not deluded that we have finished our work, our work will never be finished, but I rest easier knowing that a party built on the workers movement will form the government we all need. To that end I remind you all, maintain your rage and enthusiasm. - Mikaela

watching the left win seat after seat. The victory leaves me hopeful about the future of student unionism after almost a decade of corrosive Liberal government hell-bent on gutting tertiary education and activist student unions who stood against everything they stood for. While a Labor government still leaves a lot of work to be done in terms of meaningful climate action and the just treatment of asylum seekers amongst a long list of other things, it was nice to take a break from the cynicism I'm usually overwhelmed with whenever I think about the state of Australian politics, even if just for a short moment. - Alana

Be good, see you next sem.

Stay tuned for more projects and protests on our Facebook Page — USYD Queer Action Collective, our Instagram @usydqueer, and our Twitter @usydqueer. Any question, comments, or concerns can be directed to queer.officers@src.usyd.edu.au

All the best,

Yasmin A. And Ella P., 94th SRC Queer Officers

Appealing an Academic Decision or Grade

Start with an informal appeal.

You have 15 working days to start an academic appeal. Late appeals are not usually considered, without a very compelling explanation for why you are late.

Attend the exam review session or email the subject coordinator to ask for the breakdown of your final mark, or clarify why you received that mark. They may be able to provide you with a marking rubric. You will need to understand why you received your mark if you are going to explain why the mark is incorrect. Your informal appeal may be through a portal or emailed to the subject coordinator. Check for your Faculty's procedures (sydney.edu.au/students/academic-appeals). You will need to be clear about exactly where your mark was not correct, e.g., in section 2 the questions asked for 3 theories, and was worth 9 marks, but you wrote about 2 theories, so you should get 6 marks. Focus on the facts of your case rather than the emotional impact for you.

Explain why your mark was not correct.

It is not good enough to say that you thought you should have received more marks because you worked really hard, or that you should pass because it will be bad for you if you don't. Similarly having a "bad" teacher is unlikely to be considered a reasonable basis for a change of marks. You should use the complaints process for this situation, or you could also contact the Subject Coordinator, or the Head of School/ Department.

Explain what you want.

Have a realistic idea of what outcome you want, e.g., a second academic opinion, a remark, an extra assessment, a different type of assessment or a change of weighting towards a particular piece of work. Not all of these options are available for every situation, but it is helpful if you know what you want. Keep in mind that the Faculty do not need to give you what you want, but it might be helpful to see if it is possible.

Consider their reasoning.

They should respond to you explaining why you received that mark. Consider if their explanation is reasonable. If so, it is a good idea to focus on your future studies, rather than chasing an academic appeal that you will not win.

Make a formal appeal.

If you are able to refute their explanation, you can make a formal

appeal to the faculty. You have 20 working days from receiving the informal appeal result, to submit your formal appeal. Use the procedure outlined in the link above. Again, don't miss the deadline. If you are not successful you should receive an explanation of why. Again, you should consider their reasoning.

Appeal to the Student Appeals Body (SAB).

If you were not successful with your formal appeal and you think that the Faculty have not correctly considered your appeal, or that the Faculty have breached policy, you may be able to appeal to the Student Appeals Body (SAB). The deadline is 15 working days from the Faculty response and you will need to clearly identify areas of procedural unfairness or breach of policy with the Faculty's decision. This may include faults in the formal appeal outcome, or that the Faculty did not fully consider all of the information provided to them. If the appeal is to be considered you will meet with the SAB, together with a representative from the Faculty, who will ask you any questions that they need answered to make a decision. They will not consider new information from you, only what you have included in your letter, so make sure your letter has everything you want to say.

Be realistic.

The appeal process can be a long one, so be sure that you have that time and emotional energy. Appeals are not often successful, and must be very clear in outlining where you have received the incorrect mark.

The University was wrong.

If you have exhausted the appeals procedures within the University and feel that the University has still not followed its policies or there is procedural unfairness you can lodge a complaint with the NSW Ombudsman. Note: this is not just another level of appeal that you can use if you are unhappy with the decision. You will need to show that the University has not followed its policy or has been procedurally unfair. The Ombudsman will not change a decision but can make recommendations to the University on actions they should take to resolve the matter. This step almost never leads to a change in mark.

More information see our online Academic Appeals Guide (link below) or talk to an SRC caseworker: help@src.usyd.edu.au

Ask Abe

SRC caseworker help Q&A

Managing Stress



Dear Abe,

I am stressed out of my brain with 3 exams and a major assignment (take home essay) due in the next week. I don't think I'm going to make it.

Stressed

Dear Stressed,

I'm not sure what you mean by being unable to make it. It does sound like you are under a lot of pressure, and you need to remember that your health and wellbeing is the most important priority. If being stressed out is affecting your ability to complete

assessments (includes exams), talk to your doctor or counselor about getting a PPC that will support your application for Special Consideration. This might allow you to do an exam or two in a few weeks time. Consider completing the Learning Hub's Time Management module. It should only take about half an hour and will help you to maximise the limited time that you have. Make sure you stay in contact with your subject coordinators so that they know what you're experiencing and offer whatever help is available.

Abe

For more information, short videos & links see: srcusyd.net.au/src-help/academic-issues/special-consideration/



Do you need to apply for **Special Consideration** for illness, misadventure or disability?

SRC caseworkers can provide advice on applying for Special Consideration & appealing rejected applications.



help@src.usyd.edu.au | 02 9660 5222 | srcusyd.net.au



For more information, short videos & links see: srcusyd.net.au/src-help/academic-issues/academic-appeals/

Quizzes

Quizzes by Some Hack, Tournesol, and The Jeckiboy Experience. Puzzle by CloudRunner

1980s

1. Which sensational sport did John Naismith invent in 1891 using a soccer ball and two peach baskets?
2. Which fraternal Frenchmen are accredited with the popularisation of the cinematograph?
3. Which wistful writer published the serial novel Tess of the D'Urbervilles in the British illustrated newspaper The Graphic in 1891?
4. Which exercise extravaganza first took place in 1896, in its modern form?
5. Which debonair dramaturge was imprisoned in 1895 for "sodomy and gross indecency"?
6. Which continental country did the U.S. declare war on after the U.S.S. Maine mysteriously exploded in Havana?

In the Beginning...

1. What are the first words spoken by God in The Book of Genesis (and possibly ever)?
2. Early leaders of which religious tradition held that the Garden of Eden was located in Jackson County, Missouri?
3. Rounded to the nearest hundred years, what was the lifespan of Methuselah, son of Enoch, the oldest person whose age is mentioned in the Bible?
4. How many giraffes were on Noah's Ark? A) 14 B) 4 C) 2 D) None.
5. Punished for looking back while fleeing the sinful city of Sodom, Lot's wife was transformed into a pillar of what?
6. Which son of Jacob is known for his Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat?

Decades

- In which decade did each of the following events take place?
1. Anne Frank is born
 2. Netflix is founded
 3. South Sudan becomes a country
 4. Sputnik becomes the first artificial satellite in space
 5. William the Conqueror invades Britain
 6. Orwell's Nineteen Eighty-Four is first published
 7. Anthony Albanese becomes Prime Minister of Australia
 8. Brisbane hosts the Summer Olympics for the first time
 9. New Zealand becomes the first country to give women the vote
 10. Godzilla destroys Tokyo for the first time

A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away

1. What unfortunate name is given to the genre of music played by the Mos Eisley Cantina band (hint: it's only one letter away from the music style it's pastiching)?
2. And, what is the name of said cantina band?
A) Figrin D'an and the Modal Nodes B) Rodney Loose and the Onion Heads C) Lu-e and the Stronger Arms D) Jaxxon Rabbit and the Busting' Bums
3. What is Emperor Palpatine's first name?
A) Steve B) Sneed C) Swede D) Sheev
4. What, according to Qui Gon Jinn, will there will always be a bigger one of?
5. What is the name of the drug dealer whom Obi Wan tells to go home and rethink his life?
A) Drowsy E LSD B) Elan Sleazebaggano C) Druggo Dealerino, D) Lowa-lyff Scoom
6. What does Obi Wan quite hypocritically tell Anakin that "only a Sith deals in"?

Middle Ages

1. The ultimate goal of the Fourth Crusade to retake Jerusalem failed spectacularly when the crusaders infamously sacked which of their own Christian cities instead?
2. Which character has the most lines across all of Shakespeare's plays?
3. In a famous quote, what three qualities did Voltaire dryly remark that the Holy Roman Empire lacked?
4. Which of these is the oldest? A) Oxford University B) the Aztec Empire C) what some consider to be first ever known novel: The Tale of Genji D) The first permanent European settlement in the Americas: St Augustine, Florida
5. Which of these was not invented in China during the Middle Ages? A) Gunpowder B) Compass C) Clock D) Pasta
6. Although now disproven, the famous ditty *Greensleeves* was believed to be written for their second wife by which English Monarch?

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

Sudoku

Answers



Answers available at honisoit.com/puzzle-answers

NEPOTISM BABIES ALERT: Were you conceived in Wentworth? Please reach out!

*Incoherent.
Always.*

The End Times



Wed May 25 Vol. 420 + 13 Cheaper and more available than toilet paper! The only newspaper. Proudly Murdoch. Pro-News. Anti-Truth. People's Republic of USyd. \$4.20

ANTHONY ALBANESE'S DOG IS A BITCH

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese was spotted walking his miniature Shit Zoo, Scott Pooisson, around Victoria Park in Marrickville this morning.

Albanese told *The End Times* that he doesn't get out much anymore, citing the dog's laziness for the increasingly infrequent walks: "It's as if he's on holiday... he has been chopping off bits of the hose"

Getting him out does require some encouragement and Lil' Scotty - as he's affectionately known - does enjoy the odd ball sport here and there. Once upon a time, getting him out was as easy as promising a trip to the pitch. But following a recent incident, Albanese has had to shift strategies.

"I took him for a walk when the little league soccer was on and the little fucker just charged the ball, knocking some kid over," Albanese said. The child did not survive the incident. So sad!

The End Times has exclusive information that Libby Rawls, the child knocked over, has had a monument erected in his honour. Scotty has been spotted late at night pissing on the structure on multiple occasions.

"I've started feeding him chicken to entice him out the door in the daylight

now," Albanese said, "it's easy to prepare too - he just eats it raw."

At home, Lil' Scotty usually keeps to himself, spending hours chasing his own tail. "It's a bit concerning but I'd take this over what we used to get," Albanese said, "as a puppy, he couldn't help but destroy things - he used to say to me 'I hate climate Daddy! Me bulldoze!' Funny kid."

"We may share a House but he's bloody hard to love."

"It's no wonder he was at the RSPCA so long! The poor bastard can hardly go a minute without making a fool of himself."

The End Times approached local vet, Tealita N. Dependent, about the condition: "I don't want to be dramatic but it's hard to teach an old dog new tricks. Albanese should probably put him down. In fact, here's a syringe in case you run into them."



Doomed	Destined
LNP	Anthony Albanese
Transphobia	Teal
Kristina Keneally	Ramen
Locks	Lockpicking
Pig Latin	The Royal
Perfect posture	Scoliosis
Toto the dog	Harold Holt
Cynicism	Beds

IN THIS ISSUE:

The biggest red flag you should look out for this winter
- Greg Dogwin

If you get Charli then we get Prince
- Farrel Taste

Why I voted Fusion
- Benjie Nier

Does having sex at Marrickville Metro make me metrosexual?
- Sol Searchin

Business council cuts ties with Albanese following nationwide hangover
- R. S. Ay

PRESENT THIS COUPON TO HILLSONG HEADQUARTERS FOR ANOTHER FREE MIRACLE

USU BUILDS RESIDENTIAL COLLEGE

By Luke Cass and Katarina Butler.

In the wake of recent board elections, the USU has announced its plan to build its own residential college, Union College.

USU President John-Paul McAndrews told *The End Times* that plans to create the college came about because the board believed dismantling the colleges was "too hard". They also

cited that their many friends who attend college would be forced to move back home to the east in the event of abolition which would be "totally unfair".

Instead of focussing on abolition, McAndrews said that Union College was created to enable dialogue about the systemic culture of sexual assault and harassment at the institutions.

"The colleges won't listen

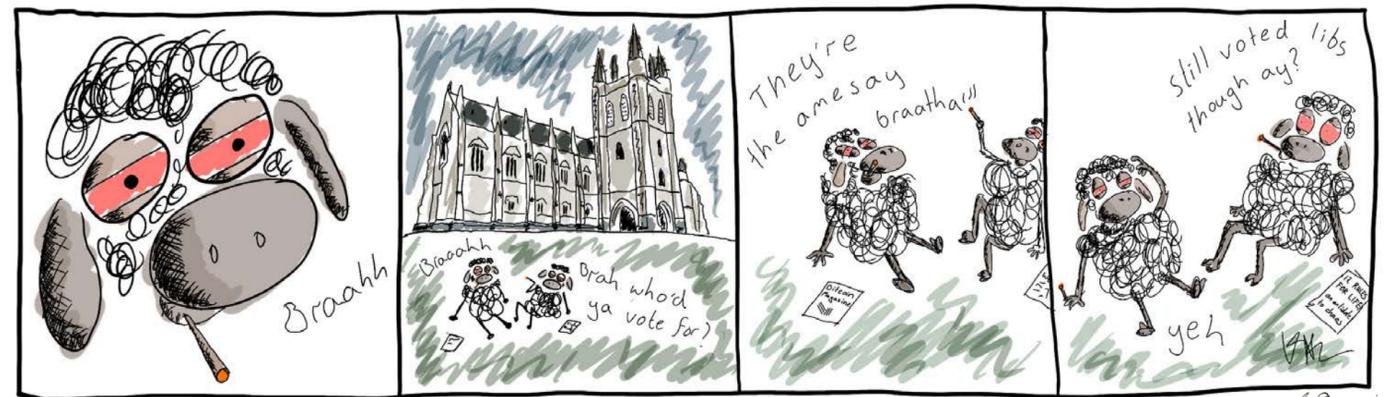
unless they are spoken to as equals" McAndrews said.

"Starting our own college is the best way we can enable that."

McAndrews offered further benefits which a USU owned and operated college would offer, including acting as a trial space for pill (and powder) testing and leadership training modules.

"The college will allow USU members to finally participate in intercollegiate sport," they added. This is particularly exciting as more students will gain access to typically exclusive SUSF facilities.

"We've been telling them to attend it for a while, but that's fucking useless without rugby jumpers to wear and a team to support".



J. Brown

Gone Soit

SCOMO IS GONE

SCOTT LOST - LIBERALS OUT - -5.8% SWING

Est. 1929



Local buffoon seeking new job: Ignominious Morrison era ends at last

BREAKING:
Morrison
tears up in
front of
congregation
after election
routing

Things he didn't tear up about: 8097 COVID-19 deaths (and counting), 1418 COVID-19 deaths in aged care homes in 2022 so far, 3800 houses deemed unlivable after North Coast floods, 3 million native animals killed or displaced by fires, deaths in immigration detention, sexual violence in Parliament, corruption with impunity, First Nations children still being stolen, trans children caught in culture war crosshairs, refugee child critically ill, far-right emboldened, disabled students locked out of higher education...