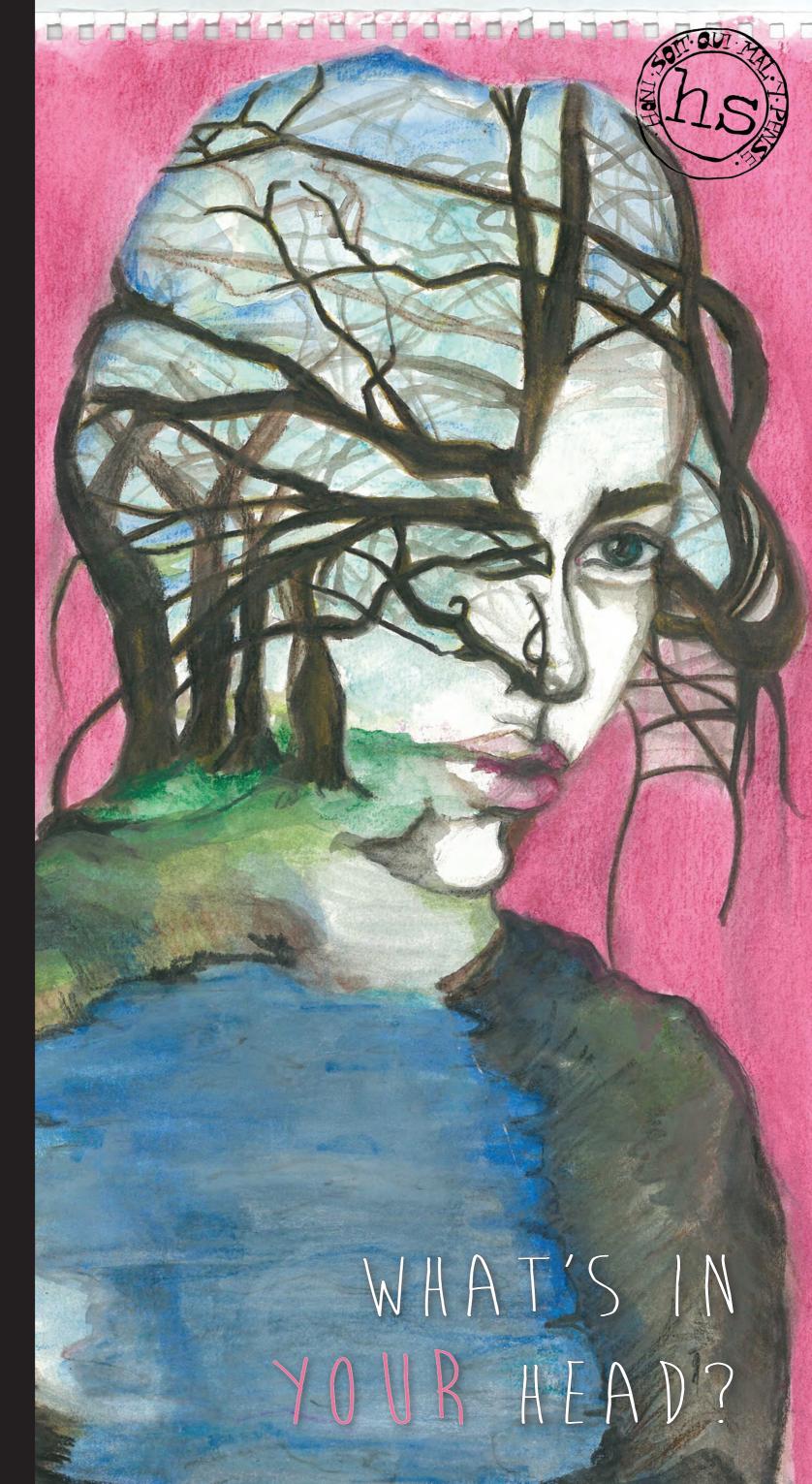
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A Conversation

Pierre Ryckmans, an internationally renowned scholar, essayist and literary critic, said in an interview with Radio National's Late Night Live that his ideal university was one where students are not sitting in class and staring at a blackboard, it is one where they are conversing. He discovered classical music through his uni friends that were music lovers and he would ascertain new books when his companions would read parts of captivating pieces of literature to each other. To Pierre Ryckmans, these exchanges were far more important than any of the time he spent listening to a lecture.

This outlook is one that I have been lucky enough to inhabit in my years at Sydney University. Whatever your opinions on the classroom, education standards and teachers, we should be in agreement in this idea that we are lucky to have the dispensation of being cultivated, cultured and schooled by our peers. Not only will this concept validate every time that you decide to ditch class and have a beer on the grass with your friends, but it is one of the reasons I enjoy being an editor of *Honi Soit* to the extent that I do.

Honi Soit is my education. Being an editor has forced me to find value in the writing of young people, and this has been one of the most beneficial influences this position has had on my dayto-day life. Instead of reading the run of the mill opinions of 40-something reporters in publications like the Sydney Morning Herald, I can be educated in an unexplored territory like the life of an adult with ADHD on page 10 of this paper. I can discover the links between street art and rap music through the words of Sam Jonscher, on page 12. Or I can read about the intricacies of linguistics by reading the article by Nina Ubaldi on page 8.

I want you to treat each of the articles in this paper like a good conversation with one of your friends. Like in a good conversation, you must be generous when approaching these articles. Generous in the sense that you will take on the ideas you find in these articles and take them into new territories. In a beautiful progression, you can then discuss them with your friends. You can even hate the opinions you find in this paper. Just make sure you talk about them.

When Pierre Ryckmans was asked

about teachers that were role models to him in university, he simply replied "no teacher left as much of an impression on me as my university mates." Hopefully, in 40 years from now, when you're a scholar, teacher, journalist, lawyer, doctor, astronaut or even unemployed, you will be able to say the same thing.

Avani Dias Editor-in-chief



Editor-in-chief: Avani Dias

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Cover Image: Anita Maritz (Sydney College of the Arts)

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WOULD YOU RATHER...

BE TAUGHT FRENCH BY A PRETENTIOUS, CROISSANT-WIELDING BURMESE KITTEN?

OR

BRUSH YOUR TEETH WITH A CACTUS?

Want to place an advertisement in *Honi Soit*? Contact Amanda LeMay & Jess Henderson publications.manager@src.usyd.edu.au

Honi Soit is published by the Students' Representative Council, University of Sydney, Level 1 Wentworth Building, City Road, University of Sydney, NSW, 2006. The SRC's operation costs, space and administrative support are financed by the University of Sydney. Honi Soit is printed under the auspices of the SRC's Directors of Student Publications: Clare Angel-Auld, Adam Chalmers, Bebe D'Souza, Brigitte Garozzo, James O'Doherty, Lane Sainty. All expressions are published on the basis that they are not to be regarded as the opinions of the SRC unless specifically stated. The Council accepts no responsibility for the accuracy of any of the opinions or information contained within this newspaper, nor does it endorse any of the advertisements and insertions. Printed by MPD, Unit E1 46-62 Maddox St. Alexandria NSW 2015.



@honi_soit



http://www.facebook.com/honisoitsydney

FAQ:

In what way is the kitten pretentious? Well, he's a cat. And he speaks French. Why is he wielding a pastry? He will wield it right into your abdomen, should you screw up your conjugation of être. (It is a sharpened and buttered crois-

sant, so it is pretty threatening.)





Raytheon and the USSC

Dear Honi,

I'd like to expand on Harry Stratton's exposure of weapons producer Raytheon's sponsorship of the USSC, specifically his point about links to the Israeli government's ongoing crimes against the Palestinian people.

Sydney University continues to support Israeli institutions complicit in international crimes, including the Hebrew University and the Technion. Both provide direct material and ideological support for the Israeli military, the ongoing illegal occupation of Palestinian land (UN Resolution 242, 1967) and violations of the Fourth Geneva Convention. As recently as 2010, the UN found prima facie evidence of war crimes committed during the Israeli military's Operation Cast Lead.

Those who are disturbed by the influence of a missile manufacturer on our studies should be similarly concerned by these links. Our university should not be supporting other universities, which are complicit in crimes against humanity.

At the next SRC meeting there will be a motion to support Sydney academic Jake Lynch's attempt to sever these links and take a stand against the Israeli government's crimes. I urge all those concerned about our links with Raytheon, the Hebrew University and the Technion to support Lynch and justice for the Palestinian people.

Cheers, Bjorn Wallin Arts IV (Hons)

Meta letter

Cheerful greeting, directed to the editors,

Assertion that Honi Soit is my favourite on-campus new outlet, with further elaboration on same. Reference to article/letter from previous edition. Summary of article/letter, in particular, "Quote." Assertion that the writer has missed the point. Expression of desire that the writer stick with the facts, with judgment that personal comment has no place in journalism. Personal comment on the topic at hand. Personal comment on the writer of article/letter, with judgments of a physical/political and borderline discriminatory nature. Assertion that the writer's opinion was spurred on by their association with campus political faction/Club or Society. Further assertion that all members of said faction/Club buy into groupthink and that anyone associated with said faction/ Club is untrustworthy and should not be taken at their word, especially the writer. Spurious claim that rival faction/ Club does not engage in groupthink and is always trustworthy. Assertion that all those who are 'really interested' in the topic at hand should get involved in rival faction/Club. One last jab at writer and their faction/Club.

Overly formal signoff, Sara Amorosi

Science/Arts VII

A-Niche letter on some Ka-Poor form

In response to the review of "Anish Kapoor at the MCA" and the opening line, "[I] can't recall the last time contemporary art was this fun" makes me laugh and wonder when you were last in an art gallery. However I simply wanted to rewrite a misprint, which is "that it's hard to believe that Kapoor dropped out of engineering school after six months for struggling with mathematics." The fact is, it isn't hard, not hard at all. For Kapoor does not make his art, he simply creates the concept and hands it over to skilled craftsmen who construct the math and skill of the artwork to its completion. Kapoor is simply the rich man that pays the builders and then stamps a bill quadruple its worth. His work is not "wondrous" or "expectation-de-fying," his work isn't even his.

- Laura Bradford
- Architecture III

Strike Disappointment

I for one was roundly disappointed with the strike. Absent from campus on Tuesday, my only preparation for the day was alarming stories of mass riot, acid-hurling liberal freaks, police brutality and widespread social unrest. I was thus excited and admittedly a little paranoid when I set out from Redfern station on Wednesday morning. Armed with little more than an umbrella and an ironic print-shirt for camouflage, I braced myself for a phalanx of picketers. Instead of being skewered on NTEU flags and placards, I was greeted by a friendly pensioner who politely invited me to make an alternative entry through the backstreets of Darlinghurst. At no point was a I threatened with chemical violence or a subscription to the Socialist Alternative, so I complied with her pointless request.

The rest of the day was fairly uneventful. A young police officer I spoke to at the trough grunted and said the day had been "fucking boring". I spoke to the Carslaw coffee-cart lady who was befuddled as to why there were a group of hippies banging trash cans outside her place of business. I informed her they were most likely trying to disrupt the students in the Computer Lab, and she suggested that they bang their drums less rhythmically or risk sounding like a percussion group.

Later that day I sought out the smelliest looking protestor I could find for some answers. Sadly, it turned out most of the circulating rumours were false. There was no acid-assault or siege of the chemistry building. There was no Grand Theft Auto of employees attempting to breach the City Road barricade. There weren't even any stompings from the cops – just a handful of arrests of "roving picketers", who in their righteous frenzy ignored police requests and were duly manhandled out of lecture theatres.

I'll admit I am completely oblivious to the politics behind the strike, but as someone who had to be on campus that day and was looking forward to a little social upheaval while everyone else pissed off to the beach, I second the words of that constable in the toilet. Power to the people, sure, but with a little more style than this in the future.

Joshua Watt

Medicine II

An apostrophe becomes a catastrophe, again

Lo, how excited I was at the prospect of a self-titled pretentious law student correcting some peasant's grammar in last week's issue. Unfortunately, Anonymous, you have made a few glaring mistakes of your own. For those of us here in the colonies, the following tips may prove useful.

First, when one quotes, one encloses the quote with quotation marks and relegates any punctuation to the outside, unless it forms part of the direct quotation itself. Hence: Sydney Law School is "taking over my life". (The surrounding quotation marks are excluded here for clarity.)

Second, your liberal use of the exclamation mark is an affront to common decency. When writing for a publication outside of "social media" — as you put it — an exclamation mark is to be used sparingly. In fact, one is often precisely one too many. Three in a row is just preposterous.

Yours in pretentiousness, Christopher J. Browne Never Leaving VIII

In opposition to Euthanasia Dear *Honi*,

Rafi Alam is a hypocrite. In his opening editorial for 2013, he railed against the global tragedy of suicide. Yet in last week's issue, we heard Rafi arguing not only for suicide and the killing of the suicidal to be enshrined in NSW state law, but clothed in the legitimacy of our medical community. Euthanasia is a barbarous regress and something which all students should oppose - if only for the sake of the tens of thousands of young people who struggle with despair every year. They need to be given support; not handed a plastic bag and a zip tie by the likes of Cate Faehrmann.

Yours faithfully Rowan Light BA (Hons) IV

Smelly and Impotent

Dear Honi Soit,

I recently opened the bag that came with my USU Access Card. Inside were a number of items which deeply mortified me, viz. not one but TWO types of deodorant, and a condom. I interpreted this to mean that the USU thinks that I smell awful and hence cannot get laid. For this affront to my sensibilities, I insist that the Union send a formal apology to Honi Soit to be published by the end of the second week of April. If this does not occur, I will publicly burn my Access Card in protest. Furthermore, I will ask Mahmoud Ahmadinejad to impose the strictest of economic sanctions on the USU. He will surely comply. I do not think PwC will look fondly upon the results.

Yours Truly, Pedram Mohseni Arts II





Hilarious Journal Article Titles: Pimple Mounds: A New Viewpoint



FREE Week Five Edition

An end to the strikes?

Max Chaimers reports on developments in the negotiations between USYD management and staff

University management and unions are grinding towards a deal which would bring the current round of industrial action to an end.

Though both sides are cautious in their public statements, it has become clear that negotiations relating to the University's proposed Enterprise Bargaining Agreement—the document that determines the conditions, rights, and wages of staff—are making progress.

Just days before the most recent 48 hour strike, Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor Stephen Garton sent an email to staff announcing the University's intention to keep several provisions it had controversially attempted to scrap. In an attached video Professor Ann Brewer, another Deputy Vice-Chancellor who is heading up the University's negotiations, announced that anti-discrimination clauses and commitments to limiting the number of casual employees would be kept in the new Agreement. The University has also agreed to set a target number for Indigenous employees.

Brewer declined the opportunity to respond to *Honi Soit's* questions about the specifics of the current negotiation process. "It is best that we do not conduct our negotiations via the *Honi Soit* [sic]," she said.

But both the National Tertiary Education Union (NTEU) and the Community and Public Service Union (CPSU) said negotiations had taken a positive turn since the 48 hour strike. They indicated that in the two meetings with the University since the strike, progress had been made.

Michael Thomson, NTEU Sydney Branch President said this included progress on key issues such as the 40:40:20 provision, a clause that dictates the ratios of research, teaching, and administrative work academics are expected to undertake. The University had been arguing for the removal of the clause.

Thomson's counterpart, CPSU Branch President Grant Wheeler echoed this assessment. "There have certainly been positive signs...[management] are showing signs that they're more willing to negotiate," he said. Wheeler believed the University bargaining team were now ready to compromise on a clause that the CPSU said would have allowed almost all new General Staff to be offered transient fixed term contracts instead of steady full time positions.

However, both unions were at pains to stress that if the University did not continue to negotiate in good faith, industrial action would again be taken.

"If they don't actually engage properly in the bargaining there will be further industrial action, that's for sure," Thomson said. The NTEU and the CPSU were confident strike action had played a major role in forcing concessions.

Thomson added that on key issues,





"It's just a jump to the left, then a step to the riiiiight"

Protesters stop traffic on City Road. Photo: Stella Ktenas

such as rates of casualisation, reverting to the standards in the former EBA would not be sufficient.

"All they've done is agreed to put the clause back in that's in the current Agreement. With 50% of teaching at the University done by casual academics with an increase of casual academics of 3% over the life of the last Agreement this isn't good enough," he said.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Stephen Garton disputed the NTEU's statistics, arguing that the percentage of casual academic staff has decreased from 24.7% in 2001, to 19.9% last year. He added that the casualisation of administrative and professional staff had also fallen across the same period, from 14.9% to

- 14.5%.

But even once these issues are settled, the University and the unions will still have to agree upon the rate of wage increases. The University has offered 2% per annum but the unions are asking for 7%. In light of these continuing disputes, the NTEU will meet on Wednesday to discuss the prospect of further action.

Though negotiations are moving with increased pace it will be some time before further strikes can be ruled out entirely.

For continued strike coverage follow @honi_soit

Katter the mad hatter

Georgia Behrens reports on a controversial speech by Bob Katter

Federal MP Bob Katter appeared to describe pre-colonial Australia as *terra nullius* in a keynote address on Thursday.

Speaking at the Australian Intervarsity Debating Championships at Griffith University, Katter began a potted history of Australia by belittling Indigenous no-one wanted for hundreds of years, and turned a barren country into a prosperous one."

Mr Katter's speech also contained an appeal to female students to have more children.

"[Australian magazine] Marie Claire

Katter strikes a pose with University of Sydney debater, Jessica Xiao

society in the country prior to 1788. "To start off with, there was no-one here," he said.

This statement was met with vocal outrage from the large audience. Katter attempted to confine his comments to pre-Aboriginal settlement, and raised the possibility of his own Indigenous heritage. However he then went on to say: "So, there was no-one really here, only a couple of sheep."

"Your forebears took a country that

says 85% of women want to have babies. They're not, so I want you to race out there and do it," he said. The tournament coordinator, Peter Coulson, says that he respects Mr Katter's right to his own opinion. "We support a plurality of views in debating, and thank Mr Katter for generously giving up his time to share his views with the contingent," he said. Mr Katter's office has yet to respond to requests for comment.

May the Force of the Operating System Be with You: Macintosh Devotion as Implicit Religion





SUPRA President resigns

The Sydney University Postgraduate Representative Association (SUPRA) has announced that its President, Angelus Morningstar, resigned on Thursday March 28 after a "long and sustained" discussion at the Council meeting. When pressed on the matter, Morningstar explained that he had breached financial regulations. However, as the discussion was 'in camera', that is, closed to non-members and without publicly available minutes, the Gate is unable to provide any further details. The SUPRA Executive said that they "cannot provide further comment at this time" as they are currently seeking legal advice. Morningstar has been replaced by former SUPRA Treasurer, Joanne Gad. Ah democracy.

New Pro-Chancellor not pro-USU

A controversial ex-University of Sydney Union (USU) Board Director has been appointed as the University's new Pro-Chancellor. Dr Barry Catchlove, who will now serve in the ceremonial Pro-Chancellor position, briefly acted as a Senate appointed member of the Board in 2011.

The *Gate* can reveal for the first time the controversial circumstances surrounding Catchlove's time on the Board. Long time readers of this paper will remember that 2011 was a traumatic year for the USU as the University attempted to prematurely end its Occupation License, which affords the USU control All the rumours, hearsay, and downright slander from the world of student politics and culture

over the Manning, Wentworth, and Holme buildings. Plainspeak? The Uni was trying to screw over a student organisation. A great struggle ensued and for some time the future of the USU appeared to be in great doubt.

As this played out, another unseen battle was taking place in the Board room. Catchlove had been arguing that the USU should allow the University to take over the venues. This sparked tensions as Catchlove appeared to be acting in the interest of the Senate (which was supporting the take over), despite the fact the rest of the Board and the broader student body were almost universally opposed to the University's venue grab. One long time USU observer described Catchlove simply as "Spence's lapdog."

As the other Board Directors became suspicious of his motives, Catchlove claims he became isolated from the Board, excluded from all-staff emails and not invited to meetings. A source inside the USU at the time told the *Gate* that Catchlove was accidentally not included in one email. Catchlove eventually resigned in bitter circumstances just a couple of months into his term, much to the relief of everybody.

While there had been conjecture that Catchlove's appointment to the position of Pro-Chancellor was a reward for his loyal service to Spence, the Dr himself pointed out that the ceremonial position is unpaid and mostly consists of attending hours of graduation

Where your money went: SSAF Cameron Caccamo explains changes to funding for student organisations

Student organisations can finally confirm their 2013 budgets after the Student Services Amenities Fee (SSAF) allocation recommendations were released on Friday, following a lengthy deliberation process. The SSAF is the \$273 that all students pay at the beginning of the year. It goes towards co-curricular activities, student services, and amenities.

The recommendations will be presented to the Senior Executive Group and the Student Consultative Committee. It is expected they will be passed.

The establishment of a 'Capital Sinking Fund' saw the University take \$2 million from the pooled funds for buildings and other amenities. Despite this, student organisations were able to split the remaining \$10 203 401 without the need for major changes from 2012 allocations. dent organisation to improve its position, though only by \$10 000.

Both the Students' Representative Council and the University of Sydney Union (USU) took small hits to their budgets, while the Cumberland Student Guild (CSG) has 17% less money to work with this year.

Sydney University Sports and Fitness (SUSF) again received the largest amount of any of the organisation with its allocation of \$3.76 million.

These changes to funding levels were expected by student organisations. USU President, Astha Rajvanshi, said the Union was "pleased to hear about the initial outcome on SSAF allocations and hopes to continue to foster a collaborative relationship with the University and other student organisations." It is yet to ceremonies. The *Gate* has to admit that, if anything, we would probably classify this as a punishment.

Josh Sprake Zarathustra

Josh Sprake has resigned as one of the three SRC Queer Officers – whose role is to co-convene the Queer Action Collective (QuAC). He resigned last week after news that fellow Queer Officer Fahad Ali (with whom Sprake originally ran with in the Collective's election last year) and Councillor Evan Van Zijl had put forward a motion to remove him, to be debated at the April 10 SRC meeting.

Ali and Van Zijl accused Sprake of "failure to show any interest in the Collective beyond a desire to attend meetings", failure to help with organising any Collective activities, "violating collective autonomy" and having a "controlling, dominating and authoritarian presence during meetings that stifles discussion, impairs consensus and creates an unsafe space".

In his resignation, announced to QuAC via Facebook, Sprake apologised for any behaviour that caused members to feel this way toward him, however refused to accept the allegations made against him, saying he resigned because he no longer feels "welcomed into QuAC," and believed that the claims were "unfair and unreasonable", particularly given he had only attended one meeting, because of work obligations.

State of the Union

The USU has suspended the sale of native American-style headdresses by a Union vendor following complaints published in the *Gate* last week. USU President, Astha Rajvanshi, said they were taking the matter "very seriously" and were seeking the advice of a lecturer specialising in American indigenous cultures. While most of the Board members agreed with the action taken, USU Secretary Zac Thompson said it was wrong to disrupt the vendor's "right to trade" prior to expert advice.

Board Director, Tom Raue, also raised concerns that the USU's resolution to support the strike through their marketing department had not been sufficiently acted upon. The USU published one blog post per day of strike activity. "I certainly didn't assume every time there was a strike we had to do something," said USU CEO, Andrew Woodward.

UNSW NLS splits

Following the disaffiliation of Sydney University NLS from the national group, UNSW has also dissolved ties. David Bailey-McKay, Convenor of the former NLS branch, has told the *Gate* that UNSW has faced the same problems Sydney University did, including a "lack of reform", and that part of the reason for the split was "solidarity with USYD."

Disaffiliation from NLS appears to have national groundswell, with James Cook University, Griffith, Deakin, and potentially RMIT having already broken ties with the National Caucus.

In response to the split, Kathleen Studdert, NLS caucus member, called the UNSW ex-NLS faction "spinless gimps."



VILLAGE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER UNIT 4/85-91 O'RIORDAN STREET,

In comparison to 2012 allocations, the be seen whether the current allocations sydney University Postgraduate Representative Association was the only stu-

Organisation	2012 Allocation* (\$)	2013 Allocation (\$)	organisa-
SRC	1 493 094	1 420 000	tions to
SUPRA	989 118	1 000 000	better plan
CSG	725 186	605 000	how they
SUSF	3 899 401	3 763 401	spend the
USU	3 183 939	3 110 000	funds into
Student Support Services	187 000	305 000	the future.
Total	10 477 738	10 203 401	-
* including project grants from the Sydney Life Fund			

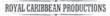
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SINGERS & DANCERS

Dancers: Sign in 9:15am, Audition 9:45am Singers: Sign in 1:15pm, Audition 1:45pm

> Visit RoyalCaribbeanProductions.com for additional information.









EPARTMENT DE CORRECTIONS

Jaimie Summerfield discovers there is no city of "Fark Ta" in Thailand, it was simply a typo

In remote northern Thailand lives a man, his wife and 4600 Scorpions. Suang Puangsri used to breed scorpions to be devoured by rich Thais and adventurous Contiki tourists. And then he changed his mind. Well...freed his mind. Suang become a Buddhist. Now he lives with 4600 of the stingy critters to atone for his sins. Move over Dwayne 'the Rock' Johnson there's a new Scorpion King in town. A town called Fark Ta.

If you've ever read an article with a similar--if less grammatically questionable--lead you've been lied to. Not about Suang. Not about his scorpions. Not even about hilarious but true spelling of Dwayne. You've been lied to about Fark Ta. There is no Fark Ta.

In September of 2009, Reuters journalist Noppawan Bunluesilp travelled to Northern Thailand, to write an article with a lead just like this one. From all accounts, her's was the first of our Scorpion overlord. She interviewed Suang, took some photographs, shot some video and filed her story. Scorpion King went viral.

For most Gen Y-ers finding an unexpected picture of your mug online isn't exactly unusual-even if you have a scorpion in your mouth. But Suang comes from a part of the world where shoelaces are considered high tech. Becoming an internet sensation was unfathomable.

Yet Bloggers took to Scorpion King like he was a very expressive gopher.

Bunluesilp's piece was republished and reappropriated everywhere. Reputable if pulply publishing sites like the Huffington Post did a simple copy and paste job, leaving Bunluesilp's byline intact.

But hundreds of dodgy bloggers with no sources other than Bunluesilp's piece wrote their own (quotes intended ironically) "original" pieces. Pieces which referenced Suang, his scorpions and his town. Always his farking town.

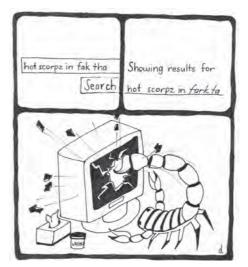
But there is no Fark Ta. Fark Ta, it seems, was a misspelling or a mistranslation of the district of Fak Tha; a much larger area of Northern Thailand that contains at least 11 separate villages. Now Fark Ta is a Google-able Thai getaway, know for its "lush forests" and whacky residents. Fark Ta is a fictional construction born from a lack of fact-checking. It is town built on a typo.

I've seen ways too many fake baby carrying eagles to so easily believe everything online. I approached the existence of a non-pro wrestling Scorpion King with trepidation. "Does he really have 4000 deadly Scorpions?" "Why the fark would he put them in his mouth?" "Surely his wife is not cool with this!" But I never questioned the boring stuff.

I trust Wikipedia articles on dead presidents and skin conditions because I figure, what's the fun in faking it? But boring things can get farked up too; Not to mess with the zombified brains of internet news consumers but because

our brains are zombified. Because we consume and consume mindlessly and unintelligently. Because all bloggers think they're journalists. When in truth, most are just typists with a good handle on the hot keys for copy and paste.

There is no Fark Ta. But it's such a farking boring fact that no one thought to check it. Towns can be created by the click of a mouse. Villagers without shoelaces can become internet sensations. Pro wrestlers can be cast in Disney movies. I just don't know what to believe anymore.



Cartoon: Darren Lesaguis

ANU victim to embezzlement

Nick Rowbotham reports on an embezzlement scandal at the Australian National University Student Association

In June last year, the Canberra Times reported that an office-bearer of the Australian National University Student Association (ANUSA) had embezzled up to \$60 000 from ANUSA, the ANU Interhall Sports Organisation (ISO), and ANU Student Media (ANUSM) - which publishes the student newspaper Woroni.

Since then, it has emerged that the three organisations were defrauded to the tune of over \$125 000, after an audit of their finances was conducted by accounting firm KPMG. The fraud is alleged to have occurred over a period of two and a half years. ANUSA is said to have lost \$74 000, ANUSM \$34 000, and the ISO \$18 000. The Canberra Times published another piece in December 2012, exposing the full extent of the fraud. The piece claimed that a statement on Woroni's website-later censored by ANUSA and the university for legal reasonsas prompted by the Times notifying

ANUSM that it intended to publish a story detailing the scale of the theft of student funds.

Alternative news website VEXNEWS went further in a piece published shortly after the initial Canberra Times article. It named erstwhile Treasurer of ANUSA, Victor White, as the perpetrator of the fraud. It alleged that White embezzled the funds by simply transferring the money to his own bank account, an assertion that was repeated by the Times in



(supposedly) ongoing police investigation, ANUSA will not inevitably be damaged by the theft, as its finances were insured. But the scandal has raised significant questions surrounding financial security and accountability in student organisations.

A further opinion piece published in the Canberra Times last year by an undergraduate student of ANU implored that for an organisation with a budget of over \$1 million, ANUSA ought to have higher standards of financial management and accountability. ANUSA later contended that it had "implemented more stringent financial controls since the start of [2012]".

NEWS IN REVUE

Henry Innis doesn't dance to the beat of the EAG's drum

Do you hear the people sing? Singing a song of 'activist' men? Was it music of the students? Who will not be beat again!

And could the picket line chant, Echo the beating of the drums, The real strike will start, When the EAG finally comes!

Will you join in their crusade? Or will you be like me in Hermann's? Manning the beer 'barricade', And is there a lecturer you long to see? (That really, really hot one.)

Make up your decision, Having said that, your lectures aren't free.

Will you give all you can? Or will you give them shouts of 'get out!'

The campus, divided to a man, Will you stand with Scriven and shout, The sunburnt activists, Will charge the pews of lecturers out!

Mariana Podesta-Diverio is stuck in a gore-tex vortex

In bucketloads groomed dogs and cats Cascaded on our cataracts (a summer of cheap sunglasses our pupils sorely scorched!)

A call to arms by Weatherzone suggests umbrellas rather than guns Which months defy all Bondi reason? This wretched saturation season!

City of Sydney's "wishful thinking" Isn't in tune with Bazza's taste Chased away were elaborate dreams of giant, bustling footpath streams

Thus timeless George is to remain A classic of vehicular terrain 'Smart' design shan't walk us through Pedestrian strips with smog-free views

its article last December.

Honi Soit spoke to sources at ANUSM, who claim that they have contacted police on four separate occasions and are still yet to receive any indication that White is being pursued or that charges will be laid.

Honi has also been told that White, a former student at Knox Grammar School, has moved back to Sydney and is currently living with his parents. Regardless of the outcome of the

But ANUSM sources indicated they were baffled that theft on such a large scale had gone undetected for so long.

@nickrowbotham

And as kids go, they need protection Inflections in speech from screeching charities make calls for higher standards echo across children's organisations

The gestation of this group's call is still in early stages Pages of history turn to dust on rusty government library shelves (change is always slowest when we scrutinise ourselves)



Teach Your Grandmother to Suck Eggs

US student paper has sex edition censored

Lucy Watson investigates the shutdown of a New Mexico student newspaper following the publication of controversial content

In a week that saw Tharunka, UNSW's newspaper, publish an image of the female reproductive system being 'fucked' by a Christian cross, the very thought of censoring a student newspaper based on its sexual content seems unbelievable. In Sydney, maybe, but some 13 000km away, a student newspaper in New Mexico, experienced just that.

The newspaper of the Central New Mexico Community College, the *CNM Chronicle*, published their annual special edition at the end of March.

The current editorial team, headed by editor-in-chief Jyllian Roach, decided this year that the focus of their special edition would be sex, in an attempt to discuss, as Roach said, "the more intricate parts of sex and the more fringe stuff" that is often left out of mainstream discussions.

The 12-page edition, published on Tuesday, March 26, featured stories on sexuality, sex toys, abstinence, and BDSM. The day that it was published, the College's administration swooped in, removed all the copies from the stands, and reportedly even took editions out of student's hands. The administration then reported that the newspaper would be shut down for at least three months. The reasons it gave were vague, and multiple.

The first reason, Roach was told, was that "the issue was raunchy," and the second, released in a statement, was that because the college did not have a journalism program, none of the students involved in the paper were sufficiently trained to "operate a newspaper that is distributed to a student body of nearly 30 000." Roach responded to this by stating that "we recently won third place in an international competition...so somebody thinks we're doing it right."

Americans love their God-given First Amendment right. Freedom of speech is kind of a big deal—one protestor on the Chronicle's Facebook page pointed out that "lives, blood, sweat and tears have been shed" for this right—and so this example of unholy censorship was met with a backlash on a gargantuan scale.

"The 12-page edition...featured stories on sexuality, sex toys, abstinence, and BDSM."

Several First Amendment lobby groups reacted, and the nearby University of New Mexico's student paper, *The Daily Lobo*, suspended its print publication in solidarity. Their Wednesday edition contained only its protest statement, advertisements, and giant crosses where



content should have been.

In a statement, the editor-in-chief, Elizabeth Cleary, said that the CNM administration had "stripped students of some basic constitutional rights" and that "The Daily Lobo will not publish printed issues of the newspaper until the CNM administration agrees to reinstate Chronicle staff members to their former positions at the paper and allow the newspaper to remain free of faculty, staff, or administration oversight." From there the news quickly became national, and word began to spread.

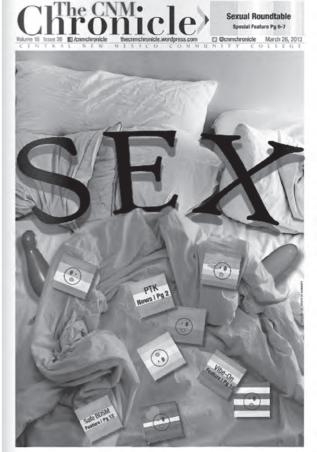
Cut to Wednesday lunchtime, 22 hours after the edition was yanked from students' hands. The College's president, Kathie Winograd,

emailed the publication board, "authorising the *CNM Chronicle* to continue operations immediately." In the administration's third statement to the editorial team, she said: "the reason that we pulled this issue from newsracks around campus was that a High School student was included in this issue and we needed to check on the legal ramifications of information on a minor in a publication of the college."

In the US, there are no laws against contacting minors for comment, and the *Chronicle* had received the minor's parent's permission to publish her comment, as a courtesy.



news



The Chronicle's controversial edition

Roach sees through the bullshit: "my feeling on it is that...someone made this decision in a very emotional state, and after they got a good night's sleep, they really reconsidered and went 'well, maybe that wasn't what we should have done'."

It seems the moral of the story here is: get a good night's sleep, lest you violate your students' rights and make an idiot of yourself in the national media.

@lucytheriveter

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The right reason to hate college

Georgia Kriz loved her time at college but wants the inequality to end

It's an unspoken rule around these parts: if you're not a resident at a college, you hate colleges. In some ways, this is fair enough, there is a lot to hate about them. Incessant binge drinking, a pervasive rape culture, and institutionalised sexism combine to create an archaic set of social norms that anyone would find repulsive.

opinion

But in this way, colleges are essentially a microcosm of contemporary Austra-

lia, and I can't hate them for that. It's not just college students who binge drink—the issue is writ large across the country and indeed throughout much of the Western world. Rape culture isn't confined to colleges—every day I see new examples of victim blaming, slut shaming, and rape being trivialised and naturalised via jokes, the media, and popular culture. And don't even get me started on institutionalised sexism—see the gender wage gap, the underrepresentation of women in management and on company boards, and national investment in childcare, if you're not already aware of the epidemic nature of this malady. To hate the colleges for mirroring everything around them is not particularly productive.

What I can hate, what I do hate, and what I think people everywhere should be hating about colleges is something completely different, and something that doesn't get enough attention.

I went to a college. I had a great time. I made fantastic friends and memories. But at my college there were people whose parents lived in Mosman who had their university fees paid upfront. These students lived side by side with others who worked 60 hours a week over the summer so that they could move from their small country town and become the first person in their family to attend university. In fact, from what I saw, wealthy Sydneysiders outnumber less privileged students from rural, regional, or interstate areas by at least 2 to 1. That is what I hate, and that is worth hating.

A number of factors contribute to this terrible inequity. Firstly, the selection criterion for colleges is biased towards the wealthy and privileged. Applicants are asked to list their co-curricular activities and educational background, as well as provide school reports and eventually ATARs. This is all well and good for north shore private school graduates who have had access to incredible sporting facilities, rich cultural experiences, and top notch educators, but what about the kids from a rural state high school? What happens if they can't list rowing, cultural exchange, and flute ensemble on their applications because their school

didn't offer those opportunities?

Then there's the legacy bias. If a relative of yours attended a USyd college, you are almost guaranteed a place at that college. And hey, if that relative happened to donate a bunch of money to the institution, then you might find yourself on the receiving end of a nice little Alumni Scholarship. Bad luck for those students whose parents left school after Year 10.

And of course, most importantly, most outrageously, there are the fees. A year (actually around 30 weeks) at a college will set you back between \$16 000 and \$19 000, a needlessly prohibitive price tag. Students at St Andrew's College have their rooms cleaned for them on a weekly basis; St Paul's College had a ferris wheel at their formal last year; Women's College have different wines selected each week to complement their formal dinners. USyd college residents live a life of excess and extravagance, and it is this extravagance that inflates the cost of college until it is well out of the realm of the affordable.

I left college because I didn't believe in it. I didn't believe in the inequity and the inaccessibility, and I hated that I was part of it. I want to see a college system based on need, not wealth and lineage. I want to see fewer ferris wheels and more scholarships. I want to see a more multicultural mix of residents. Above all, I don't want any more kids to have to work 60-hour weeks in order to get a tertiary education while others just sit back and watch Mum and Dad sign the cheque.

@georgiakriz

No laughing matter

Nina Ubaldi reports on the research that is proving sexist jokes make sexist people

"What's the difference between a bitch and a whore? A whore will screw anyone. A bitch will screw anyone but you."

According to recent psychological research, it is possible that after reading this joke you are more likely to accept violence against women.

It seems intuitive that finding sexist

proclivity tests, which described a rape scenario (without using the term 'rape') and asked the subjects how likely they would be to act as the assailant did in the scenario.

In both studies, men exposed to sexist jokes were more likely to sympathise with the actions of the rapist. The *Current Research* article also revealed that this tendency extended to other areas; groups exposed to sexist jokes were more likely to blame the victim, to consider rape a less serious offence, and to recommend shorter jail sentences. received in the context of 'entertainment'. In these studies, sexist jokes were thought to reinforce the kinds of norms that make it easier for people to act in a hostile manner towards women. Other studies have similarly shown that men are more likely to tolerate scenarios of workplace harassment after reading sexist jokes. For anyone who has objected

Both studies, however, found this disturbing effect could be moderated by altering certain key factors. No amount of sexist jokes could make stranger rape scenarios seem palatable, unlike the scenarios that described date rape. In other words, the effects of sexist jokes only appeared to operate in rape scenarios that are still, unfortunately, confusing to

Research Report





jokes funny indicates something about your attitude to women; indeed it's a theory that dates back to Freud. But can sexist jokes actively promote discrimination, rather than just reflecting societal attitudes?

To answer this question, studies published in *Current Research* in *Social Psychol*ogy and the Journal of Interpersonal Violence exposed male university students to either sexist jokes, or non-sexist jokes. The two groups were then given rape The psychologists explained this effect through 'prejudiced norm theory', which emphasises the role of humour in normalising discriminatory attitudes. According to the theory, prejudicial views implied by jokes are less likely to be critically examined because they are to dodgy examples of 'humour' only

In both studies, men exposed to sexist jokes were more likely to sympathise with the actions of the rapist

to be told, "it's only a joke", this Trojan horse-like description of jokes is likely to ring true. some people—think Todd Akin and his concept of "legitimate rape".

Furthermore, people that found sexist jokes actively unfunny or 'aversive' appeared to be immune to the effects of sexist jokes. If they thought critically about the joke, the unconscious biases carried by it did not affect their judgement of the rape scenarios.

"Q: How many feminists does it take to change a lightbulb?

A: THAT'S NOT FUNNY."



OPINION

A Parliament of jellybeans

Ben Brooks watched Question Time from the front row

Quite by chance, I found myself in the working corridors of Parliament on the Thursday of the audacious coup de Crean. Admittedly, my attention was on a plate of taxpayer-funded jellybeans when the news broke. Only that evening would we learn a handful of ministers had resigned from their posts—part of the latest wave of casualties in Labor's war on cohesion.

Rewind a couple of days, the Prime Minister breathed a sigh of relief as she emerged from an uneventful caucus. At least until the May budget, the Gillard government was secure. Even so, the halls of power were abuzz with nervous energy.

Cloaked in black, a combative Gillard faced an indecently gleeful Abbott in Question Time on Wednesday. The frontbenchers sparred over boat people and the National Broadband Network, and impersonated pirates when Adam Bandt asked the Attorney-General about Sea Shepherd. In the crossbenches, a bored Peter Slipper sat alone, while Craig Thomson cracked jokes with Rob Oakeshott and Tony Windsor, as if to prove he still has friends.

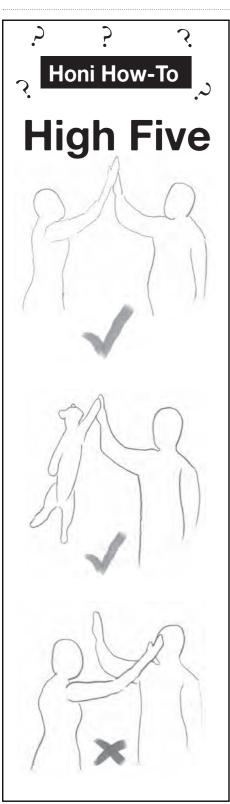
Two figures stood out: both former leaders knifed in their prime. Whilst his colleagues derisively hooted at the government, Turnbull was relatively subdued, and sat apart from the cheer squad formed around Julie Bishop. A quiet Rudd likewise spent much of his time in the backbenches browsing through an iPad.

Part of a Global Voices delegation funded by the USyd Arts Faculty, I was fortunate enough to meet with Rudd that day. I spent the time marvelling at the size of his head. It is literally enormous, and the man projects an aura of immense intellect. He tends to talk at people rather than with people—which likely exacerbated his reputation as a difficult Cabinet leader—but his charisma is irresistible. Nevertheless, no one has ever looked so tired and forlorn as Rudd did in that meeting. Simon Crean's abortive challenge, less than a day later, thus came as a surprise.

The public claims ownership of party leaders even if, strictly speaking, we do not vote for them. When they are deposed by the party, and not by election, we intuitively feel it is illegitimate.

It should not be so. In a Westminster democracy, parties should feel that policy-making is consensual enough, and impersonal enough, that their brand can survive the departure of a leader. Reality is very different: careerist Cabinet ministers orbit heliocentrically around potential allies; the media sells a narrative of presidentialism which ignores all but Gillard and Abbott; and voters, scarcely remembering the name of their local member, go to the polls like it is a presidential primary. The unhappy result? A Parliament fixated with vitriolic recriminations about personal trust and personal leadership.

If this is the reality, Crean's incipient spill was devastatingly ill-advised. Cycling through leaders is no longer viable, if it ever was. An incontinent Cabinet is falling apart at the seams and, come September, Parliament will resemble my plate of jellybeans: lots of tasteless blue, with a small portion of deformed reds.



When spell-check strikes DA FUQ? back: the Cupertino effect

Stella Ktenas looks at some of the best slip-ups in publishing history

Before there was Damn You Auto Correct, there was the Cupertino effect. The effect derives its name from the spellcheck dictionary on Microsoft Word 97, which only contained the hyphenated spelling of 'co-operation'. This meant the British form 'cooperation' would be automatically corrected to 'Cupertino'

(in a bizarre coincidence, Cupertino turns out to be a small town in California which is home to the worldwide headquarters of Apple).

At the height of its devastating powers, the Cupertino effect ravaged many an important document, and it wasn't just naïve student editors who fell victim. Two of the more renowned examples;

"Within the GEIT BG the Cupertino with our Italian comrades proved to be very fruitful." (NATO Stabilisation Force, *Atlas raises the world*) Yes, Word 97 almost single handedly ushered in a great new age of international peace and Cupertino.

At least NATO and the European Parliament managed to avoid accidentally thanking anyone for shoring-up sex acts, as the Southern African Development Community did.



"The Heads of State and Government congratulated SATCC for the crucial role it plays in strengthening copulation."

But not every editor can hide behind the Cupertino effect. The following was featured in an *Associated Press* report regarding the resignation of former _____ CIA Director David Petraeus.

"Florida socialist Jill Kelley, who initiated the investigation that ultimately unveiled Petraeus' extramarital affair, and her sister had two "courtesy" meals at the White House..."

Unfortunately, Jill Kelley is not a 'socialist'; she is a 'socialite'. *The Associated Press* evidently has a very good sense of irony or a very bad subeditor. The muddled copy went on to be re-posted all over the net and even found its way into an online story on *The Australian*'s website.

In spite of these examples, the over enthusiasm of spell-check can still be better than the total absence of it. The 2012 editors of the *Toronto Sun* are probably wishing their spell-checker had been a little more interventionist after they tried to issue a correction which went wrong in the worst possible way—they managed to misspell the word 'correction'. When it comes to ironic editing fuck-ups, humanity really is the winning team sometimes.

Cartoon: Stella Ktenas

"A consistent and efficient tax reform approach also will facilitate the shoring up broader EU and G-7 support for similar reform strategies—this in turn would make international Cupertino easier." (European Parliament, *Towards a Re-Orientation of National Energy Policies in the EU?* - Germany as a Case Study) Why are you telling me this over a text? Call me

Oh this damn phone. I wrote accepted and the phone changed it. He got accepted to Yale!

DAMNYOUAUTOCORRECT.COM

Classic 'Mom'

Vampires, Breast-Feeding, and Anxiety

@honi soit

Out of

Caitlin Still explores the re

I have a confession to make. I've spent five years on my L-plates, and I still can't drive to save myself. My learner logbook lies gathering dust somewhere at my parents' house, forever at 90 hours. My last attempt at parking was an ordeal that involved my terrified mother squawking, "That's an Audi on your right! Don't hit the Audi!"

feature

Flustered and distracted, my head was full of irritated thought-noise. I had meant to brake, but instead, my foot hit the accelerator, shunting the car forward. The near-crash resulted in a screaming match between me and my mother that went down in history, if only for the fact that it ended as quickly as it had begun, in hysterical laughter, when I got out of the car and glanced once more at the so-called Audi.

"Mum," I seethed. "That's a *fucking* Kia."

Having Attention Deficit-Hyperactivity disorder, also known by the older term Attention Deficit Disorder, can itself be likened to driving an unreliable car. Great to drive, perhaps, once you get on the road. If you can get it to start, that is. All too often, the ADHD brain will just leave you turning the key in the ignition to no avail, stalled in the middle of the road. While ADHD is best known as a neurobehavioural disorder affecting school-aged children, it is estimated that between two and five percent of adults worldwide are affected. It is, however, a little-understood disorder, leaving many adults suffering undiagnosed and untreated from chronic impairments in attention, impulse control, and short-term memory, just to name a few. It is a disorder associated with significantly lower levels of educational attainment and success in work and relationships, as well as higher levels of substance abuse. criminality and accompanying psychiatric disorder. Despite the pervasive effect that ADHD can have on a sufferer's life - especially when undiagnosed the effects of the disorder on sufferers are frequently trivialised by the media and general public alike. That is, if its existence is acknowledged at all.

Focus, in the context of ADHD, is a complex thing. In the words of Thomas Brown, psychologist and leading expert on the disorder, focus consists of "a complex, dynamic process of selecting and engaging what is important to notice, to do, to remember, moment to moment." It appears then that focus, under this definition, is essential to numerous every day tasks-safe driving among them. Little wonder, then, that being behind the wheel gives me the feeling of being in a moving steel death trap. Despite my best efforts to stay in my lane beneath the onslaught of road signs, changing speed limits and angry horn-beeping, I could not conceive of how it seemed so effortless for everyone else. After all, the sick brahs doofing around the Cross on a Friday night seemed to have no trouble, even as they poked their heads out the windows to wolf-whistle at shortskirted women. Perhaps, I wondered, I was even dumber than they were.

For many, a diagnosis of adult ADHD comes as a relief. I was no different. Like many diagnosed in adulthood, I received a diagnosis after moving out of home last year. The significant increase in responsibilities, on top of a larger study load, saw the day-to-day of my life progressively unravel. For as long as I could remember, I had been used to being chaotic, messy and disorganised. I was not, however, used to the feeling of narrowly dodging death or serious injury as I rode my bike to uni, as my mind took protracted excursions into nowhereland. More than once I found myself jolted out of an involuntary reverie by a large four-wheel drive hurtling towards me, angrily beeping its horn. More than my academic slackness and my sink full of dirty dishes, these numerous, unnervingly close calls made me suspect that something was afoot. Within the month, I was diagnosed with

ADD, or Attention Deficit-Hyperactivity Disorder, predominantly inattentive. Far from being a surprise, many aspects of my life up to that point began to fall into place.

While we all suffer at times from inattention and impulsivity, from difficulty completing essays and blurting out statements we immediately regret, these symptoms must have a pervasive and chronic impact on day-to-day functioning to warrant a diagnosis of adult ADHD. Many adults who receive a diagnosis later in life report a sense of having been different to their peers from the beginning. Many experience feelings of anger or grief in the months to follow, having had their ADHD tendencies dismissed as character flaws by unhelpful teachers, peers, parents and carers, especially in childhood, when obedience and attentiveness are frequently moralised. Many adults with ADHD therefore carry feelings of inadequacy well into adulthood, having internalised accusations that they are lazy, stupid or just plain bad. A long history of depression or anxiety is therefore common in those diagnosed with ADHD in adulthood. The low self-esteem and mood swings characteristic of the disorder are even known to lead to misdiagnoses of other conditions such as bipolar disorder, and perhaps more damningly, borderline personality disorder, resulting in further roadblocks to appropriate treatment.

Among the most serious consequences of ADHD is persistent underachievement, especially in education. It is a common misconception that anyone with adequate intelligence should be able to overcome issues of inattention and impulsivity, despite ADHD being present in people at all levels of intellectual ability. According to a study at Yale of ADHD sufferers with an IQ range in the top 1-9% of the US population, 42% had dropped out of post-secondary education at least once. In fact, it is now thought that even Albert Ein-



focus

e reality of adult ADHD

stein demonstrated significant ADHD characteristics, before the disorder was so-named. The fact that ADHD affects people of all levels of intelligence and educational attainment makes the issue of adult ADHD all the more relevant to us as university students, with studies showing that greater academic inclination correlates strongly with delayed diagnosis. It appears, therefore, that high intelligence and a passion for learning do not necessarily safeguard against chronic difficulties in applying oneself to study.

For many, a diagnosis of adult ADHD comes as a relief. I was no different... The significant increase in responsibilities, on top of a larger study load, saw the day-to-day of my life progressively unravel.

The use of stimulant medications such as dexamphetamine and Ritalin for ADHD remains a controversial issue. Sensationalist media on ADHD deals overwhelmingly with the supposed overdiagnosis and overmedication of hyperactive children, as well as the well-known potential for abuse that these drugs carry. Stories of children being turned into "zombies" by Ritalin or adults on dexamphetamine being pegged as "drug-seekers" only worsen the stigma attached to taking medication for a genuine disorder. For those who choose to take them, medications can make an enormous difference to the lives of sufferers, allowing for far greater functioning in work and study. Even so, the use of psycho-stimulants still attracts unhelpful commentary from those uninformed about the disorder. Some support their judgements with complete denial of ADHD as a real disorder, unwittingly siding with others who have accused sufferers of sheer incompetence. Others may simply tell a sufferer that they don't "need" their medication. Given that ADHD is a neurobiological disorder, this equates to telling a short-sighted person that they don't "need" their glasses, despite only having seen the world in 20/20 vision. For someone with no lived experience of ADHD to make such judgements is simply uncalled for.

Despite the challenges my ADD has presented over the years, I don't resent having it. It has made me who I am, and I know that it has even served me in many ways. ADHD is associated with imagination, originality and a love of fun. Difficulties with following simple instructions also mean that few with ADHD are in the habit of toeing the line as a matter of course. Although treatment can make a significant difference to an ADHD sufferer's quality of life, as it has my own, there is no real fix for the disorder. Despite my best intentions, the writing of this very article has been fraught with lengthy periods of procrastination, unsavoury quantities of caffeine and counterproductive power naps. I even lost my laptop charger in Fisher Library. If, however, I can improve someone's understanding of adult ADHD as a real disorder, or even encourage someone blundering through life as I have with undiagnosed ADD to get some help, these last few days of chaos will all have been worthwhile.

As for learning to drive, I'm no longer in a hurry to get my licence. I know now that stupidity and distractibility are far from being one and the same. Despite his messianic genius for physics, Einstein never learnt to drive either. For the man who brought us the theory of relativity, operating a motor vehicle would remain "too complicated." As the unreliable car of my ADD brain continues to remind me, everything in its own time.





Did the Romans Keep their Underwear on in Bed

ARTS & OULTURE its like a jungle sometime

THE WRITING ON THE WALL

porccini

Samantha Jonscher schools you on the fourth pillar of hip-hop

2P

After he schooled New Yorkers on etiquette via cheeky but official-looking signs posted on the New York Subway, artist Jay Shells is counterfeiting city signs once again. Armed with a camera, nails and a map, Shells took to the streets of NYC to honour the places of rap legend in his newest project, 'Rap Quotes.' Shells created semi-official red parking signs that quote site-specific rap lyrics and then installed them in the places the lyrics mentioned, making an unofficial walking tour of New York rap folklore. Accompanied by culture mag Animal, Shells hit the streets with his

new, and very illegal, signage. They honour the likes of Mos Def, Jay-Z, Kanye, earth and making them tangible.

Legend was key for Shells when he

though, he's telling people that they are on sacred ground, reminding outsiders of the intertwined identities of New York City and hip-hop culture, and how the two have shaped each other. Hiphop is a prominent character in New York just as New York is a prominent character in hip-hop. Shells wanted to create elegies for rap history and put these places of rap myth on the map. How long the signs will stay, nobody knows. Shells admitted to *Animal*, "I don't care if people take them, I would take them, I hope people take them ... But fuck it, it's my gift to you, take 'em."

RA the Rugged Man, Jeru the Damaja, CL Smooth, and GZA, and breach the length of New York's hip-hop history. When asked what inspired him, Shells told *Animal*, "I love hip-hop and it's cool to know that you are somewhere that was called out in a song." Hip-hop is a genre born from folklore and place is a big part of that. Hip-hop is territorial. "A lot of rappers [have their] block" Shells says. He's bringing that to life by pairing the real world with the places of legend. Rappers are bigger than life and so are their lyrics. He's pulling them to came up with the idea. The artist told New York Daily News that these spots are "really specific locations, a place where you could put a brass plaque in the ground and say, "This happened here.'... That's the reason I did the project. For that feeling for someone that might be walking by, and that person didn't know that where they're standing – that particular point – is mentioned in a song." To a passing rap nerd, the signs are an awesome tribute to a culture they love and are a part of, an ode to heroes present and past. To your average passerby,

Photo: Jennifer Yiu

CRITIQUE

Dead live music

Sydney's live music scene isn't exactly thriving. In the last year, the Annandale Hotel has gone into receivership, the Sandringham closed down, and most venues in the city have been faced with increased regulation on the side. At the same time, other venues are almost eclipsing their fallen contemporaries. GoodGod, a small CBD-based club, has managed to surpass the city's regulations, hosting packed out sets from Radiohead's Thom Yorke, and Major Lazer, rising to a lauded position within the community in the process. The one word completely disconnected from Sydney's live music scene is stability with new venues popping up every month as older ones fade away at the same time.

The recently closed-down Midian, a venue forced to operate illegally due to live music restrictions in Marrickville, offered a setting where bands played intensely involved sets while the sound quality in the venue frequently outshone most of its contemporaries. On the other side of the city, the Oxford Art Factory (OAF) operates day in and

Bureaucracy killed the radio star, writes Jeremy Elphick

day out, frequently hosting concerts that easily sell out. Despite this, the sound quality is inferior, the venue poorly set out and objectively one of the worst of its size in the city. OAF's only redeeming feature was the Gallery Bar which often served as the venue for smaller Sydneybased bands in an intimate setting, however, even this has shifted in a new direction. Yet Midian has been closed down and Oxford Art Gallery is flourishing.

I spoke to Marcus Whale, one half of Sydney-based group Collarbones, and no stranger to the city's live music scene. After supporting PVT at the Oxford Art Gallery several weeks ago, and having played gigs at GoodGod, the Standard and more, Whale was able to drop some insights on the workings within this scene stating that "on one hand, the issue is mostly a shortage of smaller venues that are less expensive to book in particular, but larger venues too, which means they're often booked three months in advance." Whilst Whale acknowledged the issues of "regulatory constraints" he brought attention to the presence of a myriad of other issues which contribute

to the uncertainty that plagues the live scene in Sydney. When asked what his favourite venue in Sydney was, Whale named the now-closed Tone, "which filled an important niche for live electronic music." The venue "closed simply because the landlord felt they got a better offer," with regulations and location barely playing into the equation.

On the whole, alongside the lack of smaller venues, these issues remain at the forefront of the live music debate in Sydney. For instance, GoodGod Small Club operates under a license where the bar is able to remain open until 5am on Friday and Saturday nights, yet despite booking artists on a similar scale of fame to those the Annandale books, the club has thrived while the latter has faced regulation after regulation. The Annandale dilemma poses a straightforward question: is it still possible to have a successful live venue in a residential area?

Led by Mayor Darcy Byrne, who played an influential role in establishing the Labor Loves Live Music campaign, Leichardt Council has started a surprisingly targeted and precise response to the flailing Sydney music scene. In light of the Annandale hotel falling into receivership, the council passed Byrne's live music reform in an effort to "make Parramatta Rd the official live music district of Sydney" citing the influence of New Orleans. Essentially, the live music district would, in definition, have a sense of stability and legitimacy that Sydney's music scene has never truly experienced.

culture

Whether Leichardt Council's reform will herald in a new age of Australian music in a similar vein to the lauded golden era, where one could see Midnight Oil, The Saints, Hunters and Collectors, Nick Cave, and the Dirty Three at local bars, is yet to be seen. The collective consciousness of the musical side of Sydney has, however, reached an agreement: things need to change.

Photo: Darren Lesaguis

Looking back on the Film Festival

Brad Mariano explores the link between the University of Sydney and the Sydney Film Festival

The Sydney Film Festival (SFF) celebrates its 60th birthday this year. New efforts to celebrate and document the history of one of Sydney's most important cultural institutions reveal that a significant part of its history is inextricably linked with that of our own university. In a city with extremely limited opportunities for revival screenings of classics and few distribution companies or screens committed to showing many of the cutting edge foreign and independent films, the SFF has become the bastion of preserving film culture in Sydney. All of this from humble and sandstone-clad beginnings.

Inspired by previous models around the world (particularly Edinburgh) and looking to fill the void that was the dearth of quality film screenings in Sydney, a committee was set up to form an inaugural festival. The University of Sydney was known for having made efforts towards the same end for many years. The Sydney University Film Group (now Film Society or 'Film-Soc') of which the first SFF director, David Donaldson, was a member, was founded in 1947. There was also a USYD Film Society dedicated to the more technical side of film projec-

tion, which had been around far longer, showing 'talkies' from as far back as 1929. So a location near the CBD, with appropriate facilities and a mutual interest in promoting the art form made Sydney University a natural choice, and the first SFF in 1954 was a 4 day affair, with screenings held in the Wallace Lecture Theatre, Holme Building, Old Teachers College and in subsequent years, the Quad's Great Hall. It stayed there until moving to bigger venues in 1967. David Stratton, who was festival director for the better part of two decades has a good anecdote: in a rather pathetic attempt to

steal USYD's thunder, in 1964 UNSW attempted starting a rival film festival – the inaugural UNSW affiliated film festival was also the last. Looking back at the first SSF the film choices are strikingly relevant; at a stage in the history of cinema where critical attention was placed onto classics of the medium, the first SFF showed retrospective screenings of two great silent films – Carl Theodor Dreyer's The Passion of Joan of Arc (1928) and Buster Keaton's The General (1927), along with more contemporary films. Notably included were some of the biggest names in world cinema at the time, like Roberto Rossellini's

> Germany, Year Zero and curious gambles that history has since vindicated

> > - the unknown Jour de Fete, the first film of Jacques Tati. These great selections would go on to define the Film

Festival. Many of these are now considered classics – as important and varied as Kurosawa's Seven Samurai, Kubrick's Dr Strangelove and Haneke's Funny Games are just a few of the untold numbers of films by major artists that were shown at the time of their release, not to mention recent efforts like Malick's Tree of Life, Anderson's Moonrise Kingdom, Zeitlin's Beasts of the Southern Wild, and Haneke's Amour, which all had their Australian debut last year at SFF.

Of the countless great films sure to grace our screens this year, not much is known as yet – the only ones confirmed at this stage are Stoker, the gothic horror which marks the English language debut for Koren Chan-wook Park (of Oldboy fame/infamy), the curious The Act of Killing about those complicit in the killings of alleged communists by Indonesia's military regime in the 60s who act out their past in the style of their favourite films, the documentary Miss Nikki and the Tiger Girls, about Burma's first girl pop group and German hit Oh Boy about a down and out slacker whose life changes by a series of random encounters. Stay posted for more announcements

at www.sff.org.au

Case of Artificial Anus in the Loin'

ш

@honi_soit

Ballet, Russia and acid attacks

Luca Moretti looks at the dark side of the Bolshoi

Sergei Filin was a principal dancer for Moscow's famous Bolshoi Ballet; he is now its artistic director. At 11pm on January 17, Filin was attacked as he walked from his Mercedes to his apartment building in Moscow. The attacker's face was covered as he threw a vial of sulphuric acid at Filin's face. Losing his sight, Filin shouted as he staggered and rubbed snow onto his face. Doctors now believe the snow, and the fact that it was -23°C that night may have saved some of Filin's sight.

culture

On March 5, police arrested Pavel Dmitrichenko and two accomplices. Dmitrichenko is a dancer at the Bolshoi and the alleged 'mastermind' of the attack, if such a word is appropriate for such a brutal and simplistic crime. He stares out from his mug shots like Macaulay Culkin staring out from one of his mug shots.

The next day Dmitrichenko confessed to paying an ex-convict 50 000 rubles (about \$1600) to attack Filin, but not to use acid. Dmitrichenko's disagreements with Filin over finances, rehearsals and



Sergei Filin before the attack.

roles are well-recorded. Dmitrichenko is described by colleagues as having a "fiery temper" and is in a relationship with ballerina Anzhelina Vorontsova, whom Filin refused to cast in a number of glamorous roles including Odette/ Odile in *Swan Lake*, the role Natalie Portman's character grapples with in *Black Swan*.

Perhaps more interesting is the context of the Bolshoi's grubby internal operations. Gennady Yanin was expected to be appointed artistic director when Filin was given the job. That is, until explicit pictures of him having gay sex were included in an anonymous mass email. Homosexuality is accepted among Russian dancers but is not tolerated in a Russian public figure, and Yanin quickly resigned. There were further rumours of ballerinas being pressured to act as escorts to rich donors, who have bankrolled a recent 1 billion dollar restoration of the theatre.

In Russia, ballet is popular among a much wider section of the population. Details of the Bolshoi operations were discussed widely in the Russian press well before the acid attack in January. The Bolshoi has always been representative of Russia, whether Tsarist, Stalinist or Putinist. And this story of violence, vendetta and vice is a morality tale for contemporary Russia.

In all art there is a separation of product and process, and often a darkness to the process without which the product would not glow. We do not see the hours Michelangelo spent watching dissections, but the results are there on the Sistine Chapel's ceiling.

In no other discipline is this divorce



of reality and performance as obvious as in ballet. The grace and elegance on stage only come from painful rehearsals, injuries, years en pointe and often anorexia. In the past, dancers suffered lost childhoods as the result of the tyranny of the state. In recent years this has probably been replaced by the tyranny of domineering fathers.

Dmitrichenko is known for his portrayal of passionate, strong roles, most recently Ivan the Terrible. Were those performances only possible because of some madness of his own? Can we separate the dancer from the dance?

Some of Dmitrichenko's colleagues have questioned his confession. They say that he may be unstable but he is incapable of the crime he is accused of. Many believe his words were forced, and in Russia's justice system that sort of practice are not hard to imagine, although near impossible to confirm.

Ballet is creativity with an unadulterated display of human motion. It is sport without scores, statistics and loyalties getting in the way, and now it has another twist in its backstory that is every bit as extraordinary as the art itself.



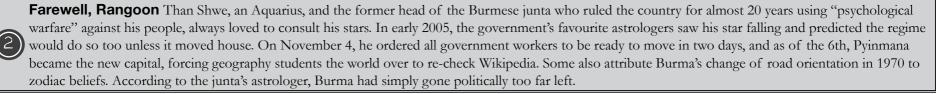
TOP 5 Top 5 things inspired by astrology

For more predictions, call Edwin Montoya Zorilla

Ronald Reagan's day-to-day schedule Nancy Reagan, a Cancer (nup, I don't like the connotations either), then first lady, was a big believer in astrology, and had a personal astrological advisor called Joan Quigley. After the assassination attempt on her husband in 1981, she became very influential in organising her husband's schedule, perhaps more influential even than any Presidential secretary before her. Perhaps the worst to come from that was a false sense of security that may have interfered with the practical steps the secret service could take in protecting Reagan.

Wall Street omnishambles According to US reports, over 300 Wall Street traders are paying around \$237 a year to subscribe to financial astrologer Karen Starich's newsletter. While the decisions of traders and economists may seem to be guided by factors as arbitrary as the stars, at least a semblance of rationality is important to maintain stability in the markets. Financial markets rely on confidence, and the causal cycle this creates means predictions can become self-fulfilling prophecies. Apparently the most important hint from the newsletter is not to trade when Mercury is in retrograde, which is three times a year because communications tend to breakdown at that time and you get many accidental sales. I wonder how those times match up with the timeline of the financial meltdown.

Jung's theory of synchronicity In formulating his influential psychological theories of archetypes, Carl Jung, a Cancer, also delved into various forms of mystical beliefs to better understand the symbols that pervaded the cultural unconscious. He came upon the Zodiac and at some point decided that he observed a correlation between his patient's symbolic depictions and the Zodiac. This is where I empathise most with believers in the Zodiac- everybody at some point needs some kind of beliefs in personality types to organize their lives and relationships. The Myers-Briggs Type Indicator, for example, very popular on social media, although based on purportedly objective psychometric data, stemmed from this tradition.



The quest for baby Jesus According to many religious historians, the Three Wise Men had a strong belief in astrology, which at the time was considered a science, and the birth of Jesus coincided with an astrological phenomenon, denoted in the Bible by "the Star in the East". This phenomenon could have been one of many, depending on astrological accounts, such as the appearance of Jupiter and Saturn in the same place in the sky at the same time, the alignment of Sirius with the three bright stars on Orion's belt, or the end of the Roman Winter Solstice. Many Christian astrologers still believe that we are living in the Age of Pisces and that the dawning of the Age of Aquarius will signal the second coming of Jesus Christ.

An Outbreak of Foodborne Botulism Associated with Contaminated Hazelnut Yoghurt

PROFILE



Cameron Smith hunted down a guy that has worked with Jimmy Carr, on QI, and has recorded with Paul McCartney. Let's find out just what the hell is in this man's coffee

Born in Hong Kong to a British mother and an Australian father, Dan Schreiber was just one of many who left the state upon its handover to China. Migrating to Sydney's north shore, it was here that he developed a love of comedy, stumbling on a collection of old comedy novels in a local bookstore.

Chasing this passion, Dan decided to give the HSC a miss at 17, instead developing a stand-up routine as his graduating project. "I knew I wanted to do comedy," he says. "The one thing I'd never been interested in was stand-up and I don't know why but I thought I'd try that. I wrote a one hour show. Having never seen a stand-up show, I figured that's what you do! It all went well enough."

At 18, looking to the UK as a possible springboard into a comedy career, Dan lucked a flight to England when visiting his grandparents. But it was while staying with a relative outside Oxford that his stars truly aligned, as Dan crossed paths with one of the biggest names in comedy.

"It was the most amazing thing!" he recollects. "My Aunty came home from work one day and mentioned she'd met one of the producers of *Blackadder*. I said 'Oh, there was only one producer, John Lloyd,' and she said 'That was it! I told him you want to get into comedy, and he gave me his number for you.' Then she went white, and said 'Oh no! It was on that piece of paper I threw in the bin!""

Fortunately for Dan, the cleaners were incompetent and he was able to recover Lloyd's number. The two met ing for *QI*, watching the show transform into one of the most successful programs on British television. After the fifth season he decided to try something new. Bouncing around jobs, from



up for a drink, and quickly discovered they shared a lot in common. At just 19, Dan was offered a job by Lloyd as a book collector for his new project, *QI*.

It was a natural fit for Dan, and his keen interest in his work soon landed him a research role on the show. "As a result of buying these books I'd get really interested and start reading them," he says. "I was invited to one of the meetings and I just started spouting out some of the stuff I'd read. John just went, 'Fine, be a researcher then'."

Dan spent the next four years work-

working on a book with Jimmy Carr to developing show ideas for the BBC, Dan eventually found himself at Warner heading up an online start-up called ComedyBox. Describing the venture, Dan explains, "The whole idea of ComedyBox was to fund people who wouldn't be given money by TV stations, to make comedy sketches."

During his tenure, Dan produced a series of sketches with comedian Rhys Darby, better known as Murray from *Flight of the Conchords*. Dan recalls, "I'd heard the radio series of *Conchords* and I could just tell he's the best comic. I got onto the phone to him, but he told me 'Mate, I've got no time!', he was flying out of Britain in two days to do Yas Man with Jim Carrey. I was desperate, so I said 'Just give me a day, we'll go to a house, bring some ideas. We'll film some,' and he agreed!"

culture

While heading up ComedyBox, Dan also began devising a new radio program alongside John Lloyd and Richard Turner, called *The Museum of Curiosity*, a show themed around bringing to light everyday interesting people. Dan says the idea struck him as a result of his work on *QI*. "During the research I started going to a bunch of lectures, just to take notes. At one of the lectures, I saw Alastair Fothergill, the director of *Planet Earth*, and he was hilarious. I had the thought, maybe you could do a panel show where these academics are as funny as the comedians?"

The idea was put to the BBC, who accepted it with some trepidation. "It was such a weird format to pitch. Effectively it's a comedy panel show, and they'd say 'Great! What comedians have you got?' We'd say, 'Oh just interesting people.' They'd say, 'Oh just interesting people.' They'd say, 'Okay, but you've got teams right?' 'No teams.' 'Points?' 'No points.' Any kind of format they understood, we didn't have it."

Despite its unconventional format, the program has been widely successful. With hosts such as Bill Bailey and Sean Lock, and guests including Terry Pratchett and Buzz Aldrin, the most recent season has been drawing around two million listeners per episode. Despite its list of big name guests, it's the small and unheard-of experts Dan believes are the real drawcard.

"The consistent thing people say is they're not interested in the celebrities, they're interested in tuning in and going, 'I'm about to be introduced to someone I've never heard of, but whose books I'm going to buy now,' and that's what I love about it."

You can see The Museum of Curiosity on the iTunes store.



How was the band formed?

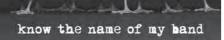
Like Lars and James from Metallica, we met through a musicians' classifieds. We shared similar tastes in music and there was a basic understanding that we would not attempt murder on each other.

Comp last year help you?

We travelled to Adelaide for the national final and met some nice winery owners which is great because my old man only drinks wines from the McLaren Vale, so I stocked up on plenty of presents.

We met a guy in Sydney who tells

condensed to a slow vibration – that we are all one consciousness experiencing itself subjectively. There's no such thing as death, life is only a dream, and we're the imagination of ourselves. We'd presumably do a song with John Farnham for the soundtrack.



MILKK

Who are you?

Milkk is Luke Bozzetto who plays electric guitar and is a freelance teacher, Paul Jaffe who plays electric guitar and is a barista, and me Cameron Whipp. I play drums and study Education at USYD. What's your approach to live shows? We play songs! Depending on the positions of the astral bodies our set will vary, but repetition will form a constant.

What inspires you artistically?

Rich experiences with nature, familiarity with others and good art. A good rock autobiography will always inspire a new riff will spill out.

How did wining the USYD Band

us he is 'involved' in the industry and might be able to 'get us some spots' but I'm fairly certain he is a beer rep who doesn't drink. He actually got us a gig somewhere in town recently where someone got naked. Can you put a price on those sorts of opportunities?

If you could score an imaginary film, what would the film be about? Probably a film about a man who realised that all matter is merely energy milkk.bandcamp.com / facebook.com/milkk





Brechtian Hip-Hop: Didactics and Self-Production in Post-Gangsta Political Mixtapes

culture

Sweet charity: the rise of crowd funding

Chelsea Reed raises some funds

Musicians are doing it for themselves. Gone are the days of hoping to be discovered at a gig by a suited A&R man, cigar in hand.

A revolution is brewing in the underbelly of the music scene. And it all comes down to two things: the artist and the people who like them.

A lot of us have heard of Amanda Palmer's highly successful crowd funding campaign. For Palmer and other big name artists such as Ben Folds, Björk and even Eskimo Joe, crowd funding is more of a statement than a challenge.

These artists are revolting against their labels, breaking down the wall between the artist and fan and making the recording process interactive – something the fans can feel a part of.

But for the not-quite-as-big (yet) artists amongst us, the idea is daunting. After all, they are relying only on people who like them to help fund their project, and if this idea doesn't call up any insecurities or doubts, then we have one egotistical muso on our hands.

Sydney based singer/songwriter Brendan Maclean decided to take on the challenge, in the form of a campaign through the crowd funding website Pozible earlier this year.

Maclean has been a mainstay of the inner city scene for several years and recording an album seemed like the next logical career move.

Brendan is likeable, funny, and talented, something his loyal twitter follow-



Crowd funding: because money doesn't grow on trees (.... or does it?).

ers will attest to. But his humble nature meant he was a "hardcore sceptic" of crowd funding.

"I think we've all found ourselves frustrated by the endless Facebook posts about funding someone's poetry zine or a conceptual banjo album but a lot of that cynicism comes from envy and fear. To be honest, I almost pulled my campaign because I was terrified I wouldn't make a cent. But you discover after a while that it's not the overall idea of crowd funding that is good or bad, it's how individuals use it."

Like Amanda Palmer, Maclean believes that connecting with your fans is the only way to run a successful campaign. Simple, right? Apparently not.

"You can see it in the success rates ... heart-felt campaigns will rake in big bucks for an established artist ... A pretty bland campaign by Björk failed to get anywhere near its target ... Eskimo Joe ran a pretty sad campaign. I mean really, you need money to record an album in the studio you already own? Give me a break."

For the rest of the sceptics out there, there may still be some unanswered questions. And that's understandable. There's lots of money being exchanged, as well as trust.

It's a big move for an artist to put themselves into the hands of their fans. But hopefully it will be the groundswell the industry needs, the hurricane that will leave record labels and their suited A&R reps behind in the dust.

"I hope it strikes a bolt of fear into the heart of an industry that has spent way too long forgetting the artist is actually the more important part of any deal."

And for the less sceptical, it can only be a good thing. The rise of crowd funding means less over-hyped publicity by labels and flash-in-the-pan indie bands who disappear as quickly as the next one takes their musical chair.

Independent artists can now remain just that – independent and in control. Just as long as people like them.

facebook.com/brendanmacleanmusic

GAME REVIEW Star wars in *Hazard Rush*

Justin Pen raises some funds

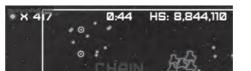
Surreal Street's *Hazard Rush* is the sweaty yet slick love child of arcade folk heroes *Snake and Asteroids*.

Set over a background ripped straight from your cool friend's galaxy print tights, the player controls a tiny, white triangle navigating through hordes of 'hazards' to the tune of a thumping synth, bass and drums soundtrack. A labour of late-night love, Hazard Rush is the inaugural release by third year Arts/first year IT student Andrew Passarello. A dabbler and contributor to several open-source game projects, Passarello embarked on his first solo endeavour in late 2011. The game's most generic mode, 'Endless' also demonstrates, ironically, its greatest creative flourish. Charged exclusively with achieving the highest

score possible, the player must lure enemy hazards near blue orbs and trigger explosions – in turn, converting hazards into high scores and point multipliers.

"... do you play conservatively and pick off a few antagonists at a time, a white-hot apocalypse?

Other game types include 'Pacifism',



While not all games lay as many golden eggs as Angry Birds, Rovio's ubiquitous, runaway success, Passarello remains hopeful. Quite modestly, he explains that game development is "more of a hobby than future career path."

Technology, however, is certainly paving its own landscape for content-cre-

or do you accrue a hornet's nest of hazards and then run them straight into a white-hot apocalypse?"

And in this simplicity lies the deskflipping catch: do you play conservatively and pick off a few antagonists at a time, or do you accrue a hornet's nest of hazards and then run them straight into in which you navigate your way through an increasingly precarious asteroid belt, and 'Rush', the only mode available in the free-to-play release, which sees the player blow up as many hazards as can be blown up in a two minute time limit.

ators and entrepreneurs.

For Passarello, though, video games are worth more than the dollars and cents they generate. "Though, Hazard Rush isn't necessarily one," he says modestly, "There are countless games that easily qualify as high-quality art."

Hazard Rush is available now on iOS, Android, Windows, and Mac.



The Finger in the Urine

SRC Help

Special Consideration

What if I am sick for an assessment or examination? Is there any way not to get a fail?

You can apply for a Special Consideration. Go to the website for your faculty and download the application form. See your doctor (or if yours is

not available, any doctor) and get your Professional Practitioner's Certificate (PPC) completed. This needs to be on the same day that you are sick and should not be backdated. Unfortunately this does mean that if you are very sick you cannot just stay at home and wait until the next day to go to the doctor. Your doctor should also give a brief description of the things that you are unable to do, eg, attend university, leave bed, sit up for longer than 10 minutes, etc.

If you have a valid PPC, and the doctor has assessed that you are severely affected or worse you should almost certainly be granted special consideration. Be aware that you do not have to provide more details about you condition if you would prefer to keep that confidential.

Remember that Special Consideration is for a temporary illness, misadventure or exacerbation of a long term illness. It is not for long term illnesses per se. That should be dealt with through the Disabilities Unit.

What if I am sick for the supplementary examination or every assessment in a subject? Is there any way not to get a fail? YOU SHOULD NOT GET A FAIL assuming you have documented why you

could not attend/complete each assessment and successfully applied for Special Consideration, as outlined in the policy.

What is the policy?

If they reschedule your exam and assessments, but you are too sick (for example) to attend any again, and you apply for special consideration each time and your applications are approved each time, you should not receive a "fail". Instead you should be awarded a DNF grade.

A DNF is a Discontinued, Not Fail. Compared to a Fail (or Absent Fail or Discontinued Fail), a DNF is good for your transcript and good for your Annual Average Mark and good for your Weighted Average Mark (WAM).

SO if you can't do any of the assessments in a subject this semester, or in the future, and you have successfully applied for special consideration EACH TIME, then check that your mark is recorded as a DNF. You should also apply to have a refund or recrediting of your fees. Ask at the faculty office or the SRC for the appropriate forms.

Ask Abe

Hello Abe,

Even though it's still really early in the semester I still feel that I'm heaps behind. I've got more assignments due than I know how to deal with. I'm starting to feel really stressed and finding my studies are

suffering even more - it's a vicious cycle. Can you give me some ideas that will help me?

Busy

Dear Busy,

This is the time of the semester when many students start to feel the pressure of assignments being due. Deal with each of those aspects one step at a time. Talk to your tutor now to see if you can arrange an extension. Talk to someone in the University's Health Service (Level 3, Wentworth Building) or Counselling and Psychological Services (Level 5, Jane Foss Russell Building).

The Learning Centre runs free courses for time management. This can help you get your uni work under control while still having a social life. Check out their website at http://www.usyd.edu. au/stuserv/learning_centre. They also have online resources for you to work through in your own time. It's all really commonsense stuff but makes a real difference when you follow it.

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

A final word of caution, when students feel pressured they can sometimes be less vigilant about referencing and proper paraphrasing when they write essays. If you know that you are cutting corners it is best to get help before handing your essays in. Talk to a lecturer, the Learning Centre, counsellor or SRC caseworker and ask for help. This is better than putting in an essay you know is not up to your usual standard and then being found guilty of plagiarism

Abe

Abe is the SRC's welfare dog. This column offers students the opportunity to ask questions on anything. This can be as personal as a question on a Centrelink payment or as general as a question on the state of the world. Send your questions to help@src.usyd.edu.au. Abe gathers his answers from experts in a number of areas. Coupled with his own expertise on dealing with people, living on a low income and being a doa, Abe's answers can provide you excellent insight.



For undergraduate Sydney Uni Students



FREE legal advice, representation in court and a referral service to undergraduate students at The University of Sydney.

- Immigration Advice
- Tenancy law

- Credit and debt
- Administration (gov) law

We have a solicitor who speaks Cantonese, Mandarin & Japanese

法律諮詢 法律アドバイス

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- Traffic offences
- Criminal law
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- Victims compensation
- Consumer complaints
- Domestric violence
- Insurance law
- University complaints • And more ... please ask us



Students' Representative Council, University of Sydney Level 1 Wentworth Building, Uni of Sydney 02 9660 5222 | www.src.usyd.edu.au | ACN 146 653 143 **NEED a Justice of the Peace?**

Our solicitor will certify documents & witness statutory declarations

Appointments Phone 02 9660 5222

Drop-in sessions (no appointment needed) Tuesdays & Thursdays 1pm-3pm

Location

Level 1 (basement) Wentworth Building, City Road, Darlington



President's Report

David Pink talks about student activism

SRC

Wow, what a whirlwind week of activism it's been. We've pulled off a successful two day strike with the NTEU and CPSU. We had a National Day of Action that saw hundreds of students mobilize at UTS and march to Sydney Uni to help build the pickets. We sat down on City Rd and shut down traffic. It was amazing.

Across the country Sydney had the most successful and well-attended National Day of Action. In my opinion this was because it wasn't constrained by hierarchical organising and was instead fueled by a genuine grassroots movement. CCEAN, the primary body that organized for the National Day of Action in NSW, agrees. It passed the following motion for consideration by education activists around the country:

"The CCEAN calls for the formation of autonomous rank and file networks in states and regions across Australia. We call on these networks to fight back effectively and without bureaucracy against the brutal attacks of all major parties on education. Where currently

there exists a culture of anti-democratic, inaccessible and inept student organising, we call for a broad student movement from outside the cadres of aspiring parliamentarians and union bureaucrats. The CCEAN will provide support to students in their efforts to organise autonomously with advice, solidarity, and within our means material assistance. We will also support such efforts to organise on a national and global scale." In Hope,

The Cross Campus Education Action Network

We need to organise now. Our education has been under attack for decades by successive neoliberal governments, and the attacks by the coming Abbott government will probably be more severe than any that preceded it. The point of the CCEAN motion is that we need to start organising ourselves rather than waiting for others to do so, and on our own terms. The era of student politics being run by self-interested hacks fighting for a career, rather than by students fighting for a future, must end.

president@src.usyd.edu.au



Our tutorials are packed. Our courses are being cut. Housing costs a limb. Many of us cannot afford proper nutrition. We have to choose between having enough money and enough time to study. We're stuffed with titanic debt that takes years to repay and that many of us never will. We're resentful, stressed, we're bubbling, seething. It's time to bring together our anger and begin to build mass organisation. Everything we had, like free education, had to be fought for. We can win it back, and more.

Students' Representative Council, University of Sydney

Notice of SRC COUNCIL MEETING of the 85th Students' Representative Council

DATE: Wednesday 10th April TIME: 5pm

LOCATION: The Professional Boardroom Quadrangle Building

DIRECTIONS: Entrance through Nicholson Vestibule (near the Nicholson Museum). Up the stone stairway turn left enter the door at the end of the passage



general.secretary@src.usyd.edu.au

General Secretary's Report

Dylan Parker let's us in to the SSAF allocations

Hey,

So I've been holding off on any SSAF and budget related reports until we received more of an indication from the University in regards to our 2013 funding. On Friday, we finally received the SRC's funding outlook from the University for 2013, so from now on I can get a little nerdy.

In total, USyd student organisations will be allocated \$10,203,401 in SSAF funds, with the breakdown between organisations being:

SRC: \$1,420,000

SUPRA: \$1,000,000

CSG: \$605,000

SUSF: \$3,763,401

USU: \$3,110,000

Student Support Services: \$305,000 TOTAL: \$10,203,401

So for 2013 this means that the SRC will receive \$1,420,000 in SSAF funds, a reduction the \$1,493,093.64 in 2012. From a budgeting perspective this

means I can begin to finalise the budget for the 85th Council.

Look, I've said it before USyd's SSAF process isn't perfect. In fact, its not even great. The University has the power over your money and student organisations are forced to play along. Last year we had to negotiate between ourselves over a fixed figure and the University substituted historical funding with SSAF student money. A large new injection should have been possible.

Frankly, the situation is by no means ideal because with new funds being raised the SRC deserves to be better funded. We provide vital services to students and should be expanding them. However, the good news is that this reduction won't result in any significant changes to our overall operations. Our caseworkers, legal service, publications, and second-hand bookstore are going to keep on being awesome for another year.

vice.president@src.usyd.edu.au

Vice-President's Report

Amelie Vanderstock writes an open letter to the student protesters

Dear Students on the picket fence,

We are all at university to learn. We are able to do so because we are fortunate and intelligent enough to be to here, to expand our minds and think about the ways of the future. We hence understand that academic freedom, antdiscrimination laws and job security are fundamental to an equitable, quality teaching and learning environment. We can't possibly disagree with these endeavors. But, we still allow 'political neutrality' or fear of short term academic disadvantage to stand in the way of our value for a worthy and fair education institution?

vote to stop University operations.

The choice comes when our classes are running. Perhaps, like me, you are of a faculty such as science, where university corporatization is less threatening because it is more 'economically profitable'. As such, these staff may feel less personally endangered, so choose to continue teaching. But although these subjects are vital, they need not run at the expense of future working condicourse administration wishes to isolate students and staff when they are the very body placing the educators, and quality of our education at risk.

But even the Vice Chancellor's debasing email cannot mask our right as students to support the strike:

"No student will be penalized if their class does not take place or if they are unable to attend their class"



Striking is a polarizing choice. There is no politically neutral 'grey zone' when it comes to crossing a picket line.

It is easy not to go to class when our classes are cancelled. That choice is made for us by our lecturer who is striking in solidarity with a majority union

tions of all staff on campus.

Still, as students who value our education, concerns with missing valuable classes cannot be overlooked. Unrecorded lectures, compulsory tutorials, assessable laboratories...we feel by skipping these we'll miss out on core content, or be unfairly disadvantaged.

The Vice Chancellor capitalized on these concerns when sending every student an email painting the strikes as an "inconvenience" to our studies. Of

Striking is a legitimate reason for being unable to attended class. We cannot be penalized.

The SRC is here to support you make the choice not to cross the picket line. If you feel you are being unjustly disadvantaged, the SRC Case Workers can help you. Email help@src.usyd.edu.au or come see us in the SRC office (Basement of Wentworth building).

The SRC values your education as you do, and hence asks all students to choose to stay home, or join the picket

on an NTEU strike day. If the University continues to refuse negotiation with the NTEU on fair teaching conditions, there will be another.

To cross or not to cross a picket line is an active, polarizing choice, and we ask you to choose to act in solidarity with your teachers.



Gap year spent in Australia = 10. Gap year spent overseas = 20. Gap year spent with super awesome Contiki friends = 50

SRC

Education Report

Education Activists tell us about industrial action in USYD and beyond.

No apologies. No regrets.

The actions of the last few weeks shocked some people. They went beyond the polite pattern of protest in the university. Many people wanted an argument coherent to their liberal sensibilities of freedom of choice promoted in the neo-liberal orthodoxy. We are expected to maintain a polite relativism but there is nothing polite about the impositions of management and the effects they have on the lives of people that work with us everyday.

If we are as critical and intelligent as we suppose ourselves to be, why do students and staff gain their ideas about what is happening in the university out of the bullshit, misrepresentations and glib summaries from the privileged, selfinterested and those completely removed from what they're talking about? Yes, this includes Honi, the emails from USYD management, student commentators and any other organization or individual that claims to understand or represent the whole or 'true' situation. We are not some homogenous mass – we aren't only students, staff, socialists, anarchists or 'fly-ins'. And even if we do identify with these labels, we are more than them. We are diverse and complex and we disagree amongst ourselves.

If we don't have the time to think or talk about this shit, without all these mediators, classifications and generalisations, how are we going to change things?

I am not at university to make an 'investment' in my 'me first' future prospect, to make an economic transaction.

I am here to learn some theory, yes, but also to create social relations upon which I can realize my existence to the fullest of my ability and to conceive with others a future beyond the pressing limitations of contemporary society.

I don't care if you're completing your PhD, if you study medicine, or if you get upset and write an angry article for the next edition, you are not above other students and staff that care and take part in the conflicts of the university. Nor can you choose to be neutral in the debate and 'just want to learn'. Your actions have power and you either undermine workers by crossing pickets or you don't and if you do, you are a scab. People sacrificed their wages and time; they put their career and their freedom in jeopardy to guard the hardwon conditions fought for by others in the past; rights you enjoy today and will probably not complain about in the future. And if you did not know, you know now.

Wide participation in this debate is needed but it can't be wrapped in some sexy-hipster-'feel-good' packaging for people to consume; it cannot be commodified with wristbands. It cannot be another product in the aisle of convictions, campaigns and causes if it is to be an honest process that sets the basis for a community that creates and liberates knowledge instead of being a space for the spectators and consumers of its marketisation.

Education is a process not a commodity.

Women Officers' Report Emily Rayers talks about colleges and the NUS 'Talk About It' survey

CLEO magazine may not be the most traditional source of reliable or feminist journalism but this month's Undercover at O-Week feature certainly hit the nail on the head for me. While news coverage of college culture always involves an element of sensationalism and relies on a weird fascination with young adults as opposed to genuine concern for their wellbeing, I have no doubt that the information presented by the media is true and comes from honest sources.

I attended two of the Sydney colleges, starting at a mixed college fresh out of high school and returning 18 months later to a single sex college. I look back on my college experiences with mixed emotions, feeling grateful for the opportunity to make lifelong friends, nostalgic for the excitement of the first few Wednesday nights at the Sals (the bar at St Paul's) and discomfort with many aspects of the behaviour of the student body.

Processing and articulating my discomfort with various things that occurred during my college experience was very difficult at the time due to the pressure from the Student's Club and from admin to keep all complaints insular and never to speak to media. In a less official manner the separation of college students from 'Muggles' creates a social situation where your good friends are other college students and doesn't foster discussion with external viewpoints. It is also really difficult as someone new to party culture and to university and college to separate the fun, excitement and adventure from the aspects of it that frighten or worry you.

In order to allow students in university accommodation to speak up we need a system that holds colleges accountable and forces them to be transparent. We need external systems for handling complaints and opportunities for students to lodge anonymous or general grievances without naming perpetrators or identifying themselves. Speaking up in college means ostracizing yourself from your peers, and the majority of 18 year olds – myself included – value fitting in above speaking out.

I urge all women students, whether living at university accommodation or not, to participate in the 'Talk About It' survey developed by the National Union of Students. This is the second time the survey has been open for submissions and it is vital that we have a significant number of responses to work with. All questions need to be answered in order to submit but feel free to answer with 'I do not wish to answer' or 'I have no response for this question' if you are



uncomfortable with any of them.

Find the survey at https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/talkaboutit2012 and help us to make this campus a safer and more respectful place for all students.

If you are interested in being more involved in Women's Collective or would like to contribute ideas or information for our campaigns email usydwomenscollective@gmail.com, tweet @SRCwomens or join our Facebook group 'USyd Women's Collective'.

Ethnic Affairs Officers' Report

Marijke Hoving let's us know about the refugee rights campaign

This is a particularly crucial year for the refugee rights campaign. With the return to the dark days of Howard's Pacific Solution and the looming federal election, we need all the support we can get to fight for humane refugee policies "distressed and confused about their situation. They are closed in detention without a process in sight. They feel they have been forgotten." Refugee policy has become a race to the right, with both sides of politics disgracefully

from across the country will converge on the Northam detention centre to draw attention to the injustice of Australia's refugee policy. The prospect of an Abbott government implementing even harsher policies makes this even more important. The Northam detention centre, two hours outside of Perth, Western Australia, opened in June last year. Close to 600 asylum seekers have been detained there since. Northam is part of a group of detention centres isolated from the big population centres, meaning asylum seekers are kept 'out of sight, out of mind'. This is an invaluable opportunity for students to collaborate and discuss pressing issues of refugee rights with other activists, and bring

ethnic.affairs@src.usyd.edu.au

newly acquired information back onto campus.

To coincide with the convergence there will also be a protest at the Villawood Detention Centre on Sunday the 28th of April and ARC will be organizing a student contingent to the protest. By joining the protest students can show their opposition to this racist refugee policy and their support for the vulnerable people currently locked up in Villawood.

usydwomenscollective@gmail.com

education.officers@src.usyd.edu.au

that welcome boats, rather than deter them.

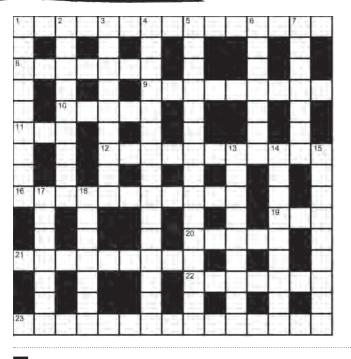
The reintroduction of offshore processing last year has had nothing but detrimental effects on asylum seekers. The detention centres on Manus Island and Nauru are already in crisis, with reports of hunger strikes, lip stitching and suicide attempts, not to mention disease and mental illness. Richard Towle from the UNHCR has recently reported that the asylum seekers on Manus Island are competing over who can be harsher on refugees. But we can fight this, by building a broad political campaign outside of parliament.

An important event for the Anti-Racism Collective (ARC) and the wider refugee campaign each year is the national convergence, which this year will be held at Northam detention centre over the ANZAC weekend (Thursday 25 April to the Sunday 28 April). Students from ARC, along with refugee rights activists

If you're interested in joining the pro-refugee movement, or want any more information, ARC holds meetings every Tuesday at 11am on the New Law Lawns.

Android = 10. iPhone = 20. Rotary-dial handset kept in briefcase = you just fucking win, alright

puzzles



QUICK CROSSWORD

@honi

ACROSS

- 1. Breed of dog seen in Monopoly (8,7)
- **8.** Narrow margin (7)
- **9.** Enlarge beyond bounds (9)
- **10.** First name of great Argentine soccer player (5)
- **11.** A counter where you can get food/drink (3)
- **12.** The lowest atmospheric layer (11)
- **16.** A show or display (11)
- **19.** A mixture of gases required for breathing (3)
- 20. Writer of Confessions Part II (5)21. A non-spatial whole extending in space without
- interruption of substance (9)
- **22.** Vessels used for urination (7)
- **23.** Bill Gates and Oprah, for example (15)

Zplig

- DOWN
- 1. Traffic calming feature of the road (5,4)
- 2. Work too hard (9)
- **3.** Boiler used to make tea (9)
- 4. A system of beliefs accepted as authoritative (6,2,7)
- **5.** Sequence of digits that is exchanged (9,6)
- 6. Feeling great sexual desire (vulgar) (7)
- 7. More devoid (7)
- **13.** Come to terms (7,2)
- **14.** Cause to feel self-conscious (9)
- **15.** Strong black coffees (9)
- **17.** Alter to make a more desirable appearance (7)
- **18.** Like some relationships (7)

Which nations cover territory that spans across continental boundaries? Contiguous territory only (i.e. doesn't count if the nation owns or occupies an island or country in another continent). Hint: there are only six of these countries.

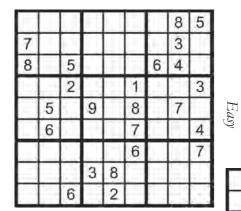
What band did **Bob Katter** pelt with eggs in the 1960s due to an intellectual disagreement with their cultural status? How long is the longest longline fishing line (what a mouthful)! Hint: a longline fishing line is one where multiple hooks dangle from the main fishing line.



What is the highest record distance for a skydive? As of 2010, what is the percentage of Australians opposed to early abortion in any circumstance?

fin

ANSWERS NEXT WEEK!

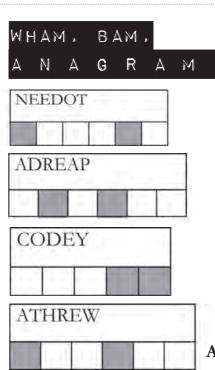


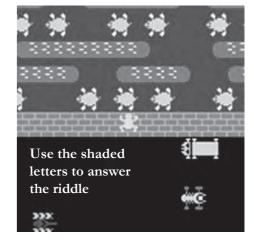
Easy











Q: What happens to illegally parked frogs?



ACROSS

A

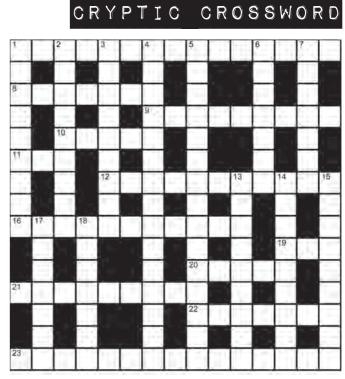
1. High ranking nuns start maintaining recently past saints' hollow wood, say, for each individual born without limbs (7,8)

H a r d

- **8.** Surre, and Alabama is like a dream! (7)
- **9.** German play about lieutenant Browser may be the most defective (9)
- **10.** An unnerving tenor is an observant one (5)
- 11. To expose private information is unfashionable(3)
- **12.** That renders foolish, that is in-fertile. You

DOWN

- 1. Misattributes mosque with its revolutionary (9)
- **2.** Filmmaker's art is celebrated by a reformed nation (9)
- **3.** Chosen to overturn Sir Charlie's indoor and, apparently, dead vehicles (9)
- 4. 4 down is an example of this? (4-11)
- **5.** Unsupported peacekeepers fill in an encrypted data set holding initials of Northern Terrorist investigators (15)
- 6. Impressive Unity worker is beaming (7)



overheard that half? I need good beginnings... (11) 16. Fabrics used for securing small amounts of money (11)

19. Logical constant lacks a model to distress (3)20. Enraged Irish terrorists first took-overEngland's Western front (5)

21. Killer captures the core-less Rochester musical organisation (9)

22. Theism is nice when without a single mess, like that seen during perilous circumstances (4,3)23. Mocked angel went crazy for recognition (15)

7. To extend beyond the length of baseball failures with short camera techniques (7)13. Soothing charm all around is returned after a slow start (9)

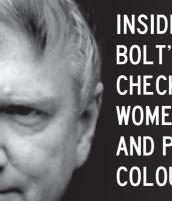
14. Devil rec centre of demoiselles is quite off (9)15. Accost gambling devices inside to become most eager for wealth (9)

17. Having an Israeli style of Rabbi get confused amidst the beginnings of the Holy English Church and expelling a bishop (7)18. Restrain characters from the freshmen chainsmokers (7)







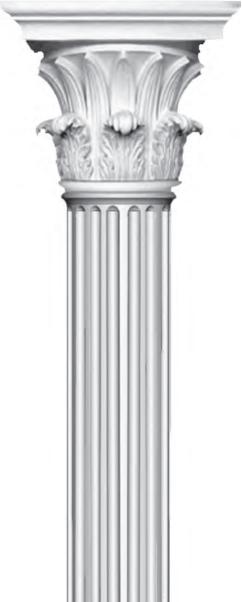


INSIDE: ANDREW BOLT'S PRIVILEGE CHECKLIST FOR WOMEN, QUEERS, AND PEOPLE OF COLOUR!

SOIN EXCLUSIVE BOB KATTER: WORLD UNOCCUPIED UNTIL ADVENT OF AUSSIES

FOURTH COLUMN BECOMES GREEK COLUMN

FREE!



Former independent MP and current leader of Katter's Australia Party in the House of Representatives Bob Katter, has declared that the world was unoccupied until the advent of Australian society.

While promoting his sequel to An Incredible Race of People, the recently published A Fucking Incredible Fucking Race of Fucking Top People, at a university debating championship, Katter made the statement to a mix of outrage and confusion. how Australian society developed language, and is therefore responsible for the development of the Indo-European, Sino-Tibetan, Afro-Asiatic, and every other language family.

"And that's fair dinkum!"

While visibly staggering on the stage, holding a half-empty bottle of VB, Katter attempted to explain how larrikinism, diggers, and the Southern Cross tattoo were integral in the War of the Roses, the Industrial Revolution, the Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen, and the Mahabharata. flying their Aussie flag proudly on the bonnet of their car."

"And don't get me started on currency ... if it wasn't for those Aussie sheep shearers, we'd probably be trading on the arbitrary value of livestock and vegetables."

The Soin was unable to contact the MP on whether or not he meant before Indigenous society or white settlement, and whether he believed in ethnic variations through historical, geographical, and biological evolution.

"This world was nothing before Australia ... literally, no one was here before Aussies were."

"The wheel? Holden. Mead? Fosters. Irrigation? Bugger, just come to North Queensland."

Katter also proceeded to explain

"Mate," Katter addressed blankly to the back of the room, "we wouldn't have the Westphalian system of government or the Hindu-Arabic numeral system if it wasn't for those brave battlers However, in the *Good Weekend* magazine, he announced that there is a good chance he is the product of "Negroid, Mongoloid, and Caucasoid miscegenation."

"But I'm goddamn Aussie first."



REVEALED: EASTERN AVENUE ACTUALLY ON THE EAST-NORTH-EAST SIDE OF CAMPUS [@THE_SOIN] 2DAY FM PRERECORDS, NOT '2DAY' [@THE_SOIN]



Pro-Liberal before the ALP was EXCLUSIVE UPDATE ON IRON THRONE ELECTIONS

With Iron Throne elections fast arriving, citizens have declared their disinterest with the voting process, stating their indifference to the continuous self-entitlement and arrogance of candidates.

Responses to our poll, "Do you care who becomes the King of the Andals and First Men, Lord of the Seven Kingdoms, Protector of the Realm?", indicated an extensive antipathy towards the empty policies of past candidates.



One anonymous respondent said, "I don't need more fucking bars or parties", while another presented a scathing critique of the process, stating: "this fraudulent election hides the true motivations of these candidates: to expand their resumes and centralise power within the kingdoms."

Centralisation was a broad concern among citizens, with Northerners expressing disgust at the Iron Throne's breach of the Northern autonomous space.

"They just don't have the lived experience of living in the fucking

cold next to a giant wall," one antagonised Northerner said.

Rumours indicate potential secessionist movements in the North and the Iron Islands, where growing distrust towards the authoritarian nature of the Iron Throne is leading to mass anger. Balon Greyjoy, King of the autonomous Iron Islands, has also stated he is prepared to invade the North as a matter of 'intersectionality'.

Despite these problems, officials from the Iron Throne are optimistic about the elections.

"This is a great opportunity for citizens to get involved in their civic experience," King Joffrey Baratheon said. Joffrey is understood to be seeking re-election, despite mob attacks and popular revolt earlier in the year.

"Citizens should understand that their vote matters ... we listen, which is why we've implemented bigger parties!"



Rumours that Joffrey is born of incest and is actually part of the Lannister faction continue to dog his campaign, although his

.....

campaign manager and mother and aunt refuses this accusation.

The favourite for the election, however, is Stannis Baratheon. Running under "Stannis the Mannis!", Stannis has a considerable college and conservative base. However, his religious fervour for the Lord of Light will most likely alienate progressive voters.

Other candidates include Daenerys Targaryen, the Mother of Dragons. Pundits have noted that Daenerys has a strong chance of bringing back the Targaryen faction's control of the USU, alongside its current control



of the SRC, due to Affirmative Action regulations and her two fire-breathing dragons.

A former favourite of the Throne,





SNOW

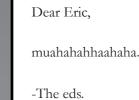
Finally, in an exclusive scoop, *The Soin* has been informed of attempts of the Grassroots-Wildlings faction to organise a coup of the Iron Throne. Their demands include direct democracy, non-hierarchical collective ownership, and literally eating the rich.

In other news, the Sydney University Liberal Party has denied a connection to the White Walker movement, a group encouraging resistance against reverse racism, despite a crossover in executive members.



I've never heard of that movie I'm supposed to be in. Is it about me? Because if so, my name is Bana, not banner. It's a common mistake.

Love, Eric *Bana*.





'TRICKLE DOWN' ECONOMICS POLICY A FALLACY: IT'S JUST URINE, RUNNING DOWN A WHITE MAN'S LEG [@THE_SOIN]

This week The Soin ruthlessly abused the brains of Rafi Alam, Stella Ktenas, Mariana Podesta-Diverio, Cameron Smith, and Lucy Watson and the body of Eric Bana. Thanks Eric

SHOW OFF YOUR HETEROSEXUALITY WITH THIS MAGAZINE CHOCK FULL OF RIPPED SWEATY SHIRTLESS MEN

How Steroids can help you look more like the Statue of David: From chiselled pecks to tiny cocks!

> **10 TRICKS FOR PERFECT BICEPS!** 1. LIFT. 2. LIFT. 3. LIFT.

10. REPEAT.

Five new exercises to make your **penis** really stand out!

What she means when she says no!



Sure-fire ways to make her

scream in bed:

Break into her house while she's sound asleep!



A great way for people with a personality like yours to get a girl!

> INCREASE YOUR DEFINITION OUR GUIDE TO PURCHASING HD TV'S.

(Hint: she means no)



HOMOPHOBE CONFUSES HOMOPHONES, ACCIDENTALLY OFFENDS SMOKERS BY CALLING THEM FAG-SUCKERS [@THE_SOIN]

