

week twelve  
semester one  
2013

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# The life of *Honi* to come

At the end of March, I came back from Europe to edit a newspaper.

I'd been over there for half a year. I missed a flight in Dubai, from London, by five minutes, so I had to sleep in the food-court. Because there were no direct flights, I had to go through Perth. I got an apologetic drink voucher at Perth International, and a 5am flight home. It was hot in Sydney, and I was sick, and angry, and tired, and I'd been in the air for over twenty hours (waiting in airports for more than fifteen). I had no phone, a pocketful of foreign change, and a third of a bottle of peach ice tea. The whole ordeal seemed endless. I woke up for a 9am meeting the next day and proofread some articles in a sort of haze. Then twelve weeks passed without me noticing. Welcome to the final edition of *Honi Soit* for this semester.

We've all of us gone through a great deal these past few months. We dragged you through the Union Board elections which ended with a bang and some whimpers. We covered the strikes, the Sydney Comedy Festival, boycotts, divestments, and sanctions. The SSAF and the SUSE. Death on the Internet, female ejaculation, Frank Ocean, awkward

Nazis, the Dalai Lama, Courtney Love, missiles, homelessness, grief. The experience of adult ADHD, the politics of cross-dressing, the ethics of charity, the sad passivity of our generation. We've received, for our work, some valid criticism and some humbling praise.

I like to think that, as an editorial team, we strive to create something salient and valuable. We wanted to produce a newspaper that spoke to *you* – the student, tutor, academic – in a world where there is so much spin and rhetoric it numbs. That's what was on my mind when putting together this edition: what's important to students, and how some of the most interesting stories and people are closer than we think. So in the same paper where we interview Julian Assange, we also profile the owners of Uni Bros. Alongside a piece about the therapeutic benefits of yoga and antidepressant medication, there's an article on the university's Animal Ethics Committee, a story on the Carillon in the Quad, the censorship of *Woroni*, and, most encouragingly, a load of letters.

I'm not claiming that *Honi* is some model of relevance or reason or anything like that. I'm not saying it's exempt

from the static of mainstream media. But what *Honi* does, it does well. It gives students the voice that other publications can't or won't provide. It gives us a platform for trenchant discourse, storytelling, art, and sentiment. It's an opportunity for us to say what we like before we start waking up to severe jobs and baffling calendars. It's the chalk on Michael Spence's walls.

Take advantage of it. We like to remind you every week but it bears repeating here:

Anyone can write for *Honi Soit*.

**Bryant Apolonio**  
Editor-in-chief



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Wish you were here!

Dear *Honi*,

Though Sam Murray's letter may yearn for the kind of vacuous apathy and banal "independence" of the UPenn Assembly his article praised, the students of this university have elected a rather different kind of SRC. Last year, we overwhelmingly voted for left-wing groups which realized that student politics is neither an ideological island nor a political vacuum. Rather, part of our obligation as society's future educated class is to use our political and intellectual capital to fight against injustice wherever we can. That obligation includes expressing solidarity with striking academics and educating students to fight against the neoliberal consensus that Margaret Thatcher's was a golden era.

Nor are the motions that Sam criticises in any sense "irrelevant" to students. The Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) motion supports a decision by one of our own academics not to co-operate with the Israeli war machine. My own motion relating to missile manufacturer Raytheon questions how USSC students can critically examine US foreign policy when their inquiries are funded by an American arms dealer. Had Sam attended the meetings in question – or even read the agenda – he would know this.

Yet even more baffling was Sam's complaint about the failure of the SRC to make quorum requirements at its last meeting. Sam, the reason why that meeting failed to meet quorum was the catastrophic failure of the right-of-centre groups to show their faces. Perhaps it would be easier for the Council or Executive to meet quorum if you pushed your own comrades to rock up, or indeed resigned your council seat so that someone who wasn't on exchange on

another continent could more regularly attend. History is made by those who show up. Unfortunately, in every council meeting so far this year, Sam hasn't.

Harry Stratton  
Arts/Law II

**Will & Disgrace: season finale**

*Names and descriptions were removed due to possible defamation risks.*

Dear *Honi*,

Last week after having a Will & Grace campaigner snatch leaflets out of my hand, I canvassed other campaigners regarding similar experiences with team Will & Grace. The following alleged occurrences are described as specifically as possible to paint an accurate picture of those involved:

- Some campaigners mocking Bebe loudly on Eastern avenue as another female campaigner obnoxiously belly danced amongst them so as to draw attention to their vulgar comments.

- A group of four overheard as a police car drove by Manning, praising the police attack on Tom Raue and suggesting the police should be allowed to "break at least one of his ribs".

- A scarf wearing campaigner repeating degrading comments directed at Bebe during the Soapbox: "show us your clit" to a chorus of laughter from the other campaigners present.

- A tall male about 6'3" intimidating other campaigners, cutting them off as they courted voters heading to Manning, while a campaigner nearby stuffed leaflets in their faces.

- A campaigner behaving in an aggressive manner to opposing campaigners as they approached people he had escorted to the Bosch booth on election day (22 May).

- A campaigner shouting "Marxist scum" at three student protestors on strike day (14 May) near Fisher Library.

Thankfully team Will & Grace's abysmal electoral result reflected the atrocious conduct of their campaign. I would like to encourage anyone else who experienced or witnessed similar acts to share them as such shameful behaviour

should always be called out.

Rachel Louise Addy  
Arts (INGS) II

### Misrepresentation and misunderstanding in Women's *Honi*

Dear *Honi*,

Recently I picked up the women's edition of the *Honi Soit* and was disgusted to find a gross-misrepresentation of Femen as a group suffering from the "white saviour complex".

As a young feminist myself, beginning to form ideas about female oppression within cultures (including my own) I was disappointed to experience yet another individual confined in the constraints of political correctness. The article portrayed Femen as an ignorant Western feminist group that was refusing to be culturally sensitive to issues such as wearing the hijab or burqa, highlighting their recent "topless jihad" as proof of this. Yet the article completely ignored the reason behind the "topless jihad", presumably to show the same cultural sensitivity that O'Brian admires. The "jihad" was a response to Amina Tyler's persecution after she posted a topless photo of herself on Facebook in which phrases such as "my body is my own and not the source of anyone's honour" as well as "fuck your morals" were painted on her body. Amina faced serious backlash by preacher Almi Adel (who is an enforcer of Sharia law at the head of the Commission for the Promotion of Virtue and Prevention of Vice in Tunisia) who argued that she should be stoned to death, by her own family who placed her in a psychiatric hospital in order to justify her radical action as insanity and even by members of the Tunisian government who argued that they should fine her up to \$600 and place her in prison for two years. This omission of facts that do not fit O'Brian's culturally sensitive view of Islam continues as she completely misquotes Ayaan Hirsi Ali. According to O'Brian, Ayaan believes that Western feminism does not understand the complexities of different cultures and thus are looking for the "easy way out" by ignoring the issues faced by women of other cultures.

However, when I looked at the interview used by O'Brian, Ayaan was actually addressing the same white guilt that is so evident in O'Brian's essay whereby we "take a white man and hold him to the highest, most pristine moral standards, but take people of colour, and say, "well that's just how they do it." O'Brian attempts to turn attention away from cultural inequality for women in other countries and proceeds to discuss gender inequality in Australia which, whilst it is a serious issue, is of no relevance to the article and only reinforces Ayaan's belief in a Western white guilt. Rather Ayaan argues for a greater involvement of Western feminists in foreign societies and I have almost no doubt that she would endorse organisations such as Femen for supporting Amina rather than devaluing Amina's protest by ignoring it completely (as O'Brian's article does). Almi Adel argued that Amina's actions could cause "an epidemic.

It could be contagious and give ideas to other women" yet by continuing this lack of coverage about Amina's plight (Femen alerted the media to Amina's situation allowing wider spread coverage and perhaps less harsh repercussions) O'Brian only helps reinforce this "stripping people of their voice", something that she claims western feminism is doing. Thus O'Brian displays a highly "simplistic understanding of the real issues at play", as she so aptly puts it, and continues to submit to Western feminism's current biggest flaw: political correctness.

Lara Smal

### My society, my choice

Dear *Honi*,

LifeChoice recently distributed an information flyer titled What RU4? on campus. It can be accessed in full at [www.lifechoice.net.au/whatru4](http://www.lifechoice.net.au/whatru4). What RU4? outlines the physiological mechanism of the RU486 abortion drug and some of its documented medical risks and complications.

The flyer concludes with a call for a discus-

sion about the place of medical abortions in our society. The content is not emotive or judgemental. It makes no political statements, nor is it in any way graphic. The hostile and often vitriolic response by some elements of the student body, not least Harry Stratton's polemic in last week's *Honi*, has been disconcerting. Discussion around abortion is always controversial to some degree. This is the nature of complex ethical issues and of university life.

Accusations of intimidation and bullying is heavy criticism for our mild flyer, the strongest terms of which were that RU486 should be regarded as "contentious at the least" in Australian society.

This is not about the pro-life/pro-choice dichotomy, but a debate about medical health. What RU4? was written in that spirit and we stand by its data. The express purpose of the flyer was to provide the basic facts, along with our perspective as a student society, towards building an informed platform for discussion. Such a discussion falls very much within the ambit of our club. Women have a right to know about the ethical, social, and medical implications of RU486. Women deserve this discussion. Maybe some people want it to be a closed issue; we think otherwise.

Jade McLaughlin  
Education/Arts II

### Women's College: Last Night of the Propagated Stereotype

Dear *Honi*,

The Women's College Formal was held on Friday night, and it was themed "Moulin Rouge". For some reason, this meant that the organisers felt it would be appropriate to book burlesque exotic dancers for the event, so they could periodically straddle the male guests. I would like to point out that employing women to create atmosphere and contribute to a sense of place and time reduces them to little more than elements of the decor; objects to be enjoyed. Furthermore, it is fundamentally problematic that the female organisers of the evening effectively bought the dancers in order to give sexual pleasure to the men in attendance. In another theme faux pas, the organisers booked at least one mannequin that had been painted black and stuck behind some period instruments. This was obviously part of an attempt to evoke a time in which people of African descent were regarded as having little value, other than as entertainers, slaves or servants, stratified and excluded from white society.

So, ladies, I give you 10/10 for sticking to the theme as well as 10/10 for embarrassing yourselves, upholding and perpetuating the patriarchy, and offending a lot of people.

Georgia Kriz  
Arts/MECO II



College, you've done it again.

### The ARC is not the problem

Dear *Honi*,

The members of the Anti-Racism Collective (ARC) signed below would like to respond to the issues raised in the week 8 2013 edition of *Honi*. In the article 'Race-based activism leaves a lot to be desired' the author contends that the ARC is "largely run by white people" and that this represents a deficiency in anti-racist activism on campus. For example he says that anti-racist activism would be more accessible and therefore better if it were organised on an autonomous basis with membership based on being a "person of colour". In his own words the way to build more effective anti-racism on campus is "not for the privileged to speak for the oppressed, but to be allies in a movement that belongs to them."

As regards the first charge that the ARC is "largely run by white people", it is factually

inaccurate. The diverse backgrounds of our active membership are evident to anyone who attends meetings or engages with the ARC at stalls, forums and rallies. However, the more important point is about the author's criteria for measuring good anti-racist activism i.e. that having a group controlled by "people of colour" would make it a more effective instrument for combating racism.

We would like to disagree with this. Firstly it is our understanding that the source of racism is not all white people, but particular powerful and self-interested groups in society. The best example of this is politicians who peddle racism to scapegoat ethnic minorities and migrants for the social problems created by their own policies. John Howard whipped up racism against refugees, Aboriginal people and Asian immigration in order to push through policies that made all ordinary people's lives harder, like the GST and WorkChoices. The scapegoating of refugees under the Labor government has continued apace for the same reason. So, the ARC campaigns mainly around refugee rights, not at the expense of a better form of anti-racism, but because this is the best way to fight racism at its root.

Secondly, organising on the basis of "people of colour" controlling the activist group wrongly assumes that being a "person of colour" automatically means that you have an interest in fighting racism. For instance, through our involvement in the refugee campaign we have met with many Tamil refugees who have fled Sri Lanka, where Tamils are persecuted, tortured and killed by the repressive Sri Lankan government. We certainly would not want the President of Sri Lanka, Mahinda Rajapaksa, to join us even though he is a "person of colour". Not only does Rajapaksa foster anti-Tamil racism within Sri Lanka, he also works with the Australian government to prevent persecuted Tamils from leaving Sri Lanka. This is an extreme example, but the point stands generally. The Liberal Party boasts of fielding at least 21 candidates from diverse ethnic backgrounds for the upcoming election, but their venomous anti-refugee rhetoric is the same as it was when it helped incite the Cronulla riots in 2006.

Finally, we absolutely welcome any and all people passionate about fighting racism to get involved in the ARC. Because racism is used by politicians to get away with implementing policies that hurt all ordinary people and are an affront to human rights generally, white people have an interest in fighting racism too. Of course the ARC acknowledges that there are some real barriers against some students participating in political activism, such as language, culture, time as well as confidence. But for the reasons above, autonomous organizing can only ever reflect these barriers, not destroy the racism that creates them. To do this we need to build the strongest grassroots movement possible, and that means a united fight involving everyone.

If you would like to get more involved with the Anti-Racism Collective, come along to our weekly collective meetings on Tuesdays at 11am on the New Law Lawns. For more information call Marijke on 0452192659 or Tory on 0411128565. All welcome.

Signed,

Adam Adelpour, Marco Avena, Caitlin Doyle-Marwick, Kate Giunta, Marijke Hoving, Tory Karmakar

### That's so Indie

Dear *Honi*,

Let's pause for a moment and consider the word "independent". By definition, it means "free from outside control, not depending on another's authority." The concept implies non-binding, minimal organisation and...well, independent thought and decision making processes. Synonyms include free, self-sustained and self-sufficient.

For a while now, I have felt that students on campus have misunderstood what it means to be an Independent running for elected student positions. It does not necessarily mean that a group of people get together and make decisions as a collective that they all have to adhere

to. It means that a person has decided to run for an elected student position. That's it. There is nothing binding about being an independent. Even the concept of "ties to the Independent movement" makes little sense - all it means is that a group of individuals have decided to pool their resources so they can continue to make up their own minds about things. And that's the crux of it - they make up their own minds about things.

They might pool resources, they might occasionally have similar values, then again they might not. Within the 'Independent movement' on campus are card-carrying members of the Greens - and card-carrying members of the Liberals. Talking about the Independents as a collective is useless and misleading. They don't act with one voice. They act separately.

They act in a free, self-sustained and self-sufficient manner. They act Independently.

Mikaela Higgins  
Social Work II

### All cops are beautiful

Dear *Honi*,

Last week it was with more than a little curiosity and déjà vu, that I read a piece by Tom Raue ("My Wonderful Day") accusing police of brutality against him. Perhaps your readers would benefit from a bit of context. After all, this is not the first time - or even the second - that Mr Raue has made such a complaint. On April 4 last year, subsequent to his arrest at a violent rally, Mr Raue alleged in *Honi Soit* that police used "painful wristlocks, headlocks, and draggled] one protester by his neck". On March 26 this year, Mr Raue was quoted in the *Sydney Morning Herald*, as again accusing riot police of force, alleging that he was "punched in the face by a riot cop and my shirt was ripped". Then, on May 14 this year, Mr Raue declared to *Yaboo News*, that he was "grabbed by the neck" by police, and "felt like [he] was going to pass out".

For whatever reason, Mr Raue now retrospectively claims that he felt he could "even die" - a claim that his own brother has labelled "intentionally misleading"; noting that "he did not nearly die". The fact is that police brutality is unacceptable - if it occurred in this instance, then it should be redressed. But so too is the unfair disrespect that police face when trying to do their job. Police officers - not "pigs" or "fascists" as Mr Raue's friends constantly label them - do a difficult, dangerous and under-appreciated job. It's a job made more difficult by the acts of unashamed disrespect hurled towards them. When did a police officer defending themselves become "excessive force", but protestors pushing, screaming "pig" through a megaphone, goading them into violence, threatening, spitting or shoving just a "peaceful protest"? To believe Mr Raue's emotion-charged recount, we would have to believe that riot police have specifically targeted Mr Raue on at least three occasions in three subsequent "rallies" at Sydney University as the focus of excessive force. It could be that Mr Raue is a victim of police abuse, or it could be that or it could be that he is simply the boy who cried "pig".

Alex Dore  
President, SU Liberal Club

### Sic one, champ

Dear *Honi*,

So this is in response to a profile done on a guy named Jonathon Moylan in week 11's *Honi*. Do you even understand geography? Like honestly, do you know anything beside the area of Sydney in which you spawned from? I only just began reading this article and I read "Gunnedah region, near Newcastle" okay I live one hour south of Newcastle on the Central Coast and I'm pretty sure that Gunnedah is a good 7 hours away from Newcastle [4 hours], how do you define 'near'? Stupid mistakes like this undermine the validity of anything *Honi* publishes, which isn't much. But hey its free right? So who cares? Me.

Signed, Tiarne Shutt  
Arts/Law I

# HONI NEWS



FREE

Week Twelve Edition

"THERE ARE NO TEARS IN HEAVEN"

## Huge USU election ends in wet climax

Lane Sainly wraps up the Union Board election

Last Wednesday saw another USU Board election come and go, with the fifteen candidates reduced to six victors after a marathon twelve-hour day of campaigning. The six successful candidates, in order of election, were Tara Waniganayaka (Independents), Robby Magyar (Labor Right, Unity), Bebe D'Souza (Grassroots), Tim Matthews (Independents), Eve Radunz (Labor Left, NLS) and Kade Denton (Independents).

5537 students turned out to vote, an increase of 663 students from last year. The final booth closed at 7:30pm, accompanied with the traditional count-down, cheers and joyous abandoning of how-to-votes (except for the Grassroots campaigners, who, presumably, recycled). The campaign teams, wet and freezing from hours of chasing votes in the rain, headed to Hermann's for the election party and announcement of results.

Few people were surprised when Tara Waniganayaka was the only candidate to break quota and be elected to Board on the first count with a massive 907 votes. The next few counts saw a number of candidates excluded before Robby Magyar reached quota and became the second person elected to Board. Bebe D'Souza and Tim Matthews were

elected in the twelfth count, and Eve Radunz took out the fifth Board spot in the fourteenth count. The sixth and most unexpected victor of the night was undoubtedly Kade Denton, who pulled off a victory against strong Sydney Labor Students contender Jeremy Elphick to take the final place on Board.

Preference deals did not play a big role in this year's election, as the six elected candidates were the top six in primary votes as well. Bebe D'Souza was the beneficiary of a large number of preferences from Patrick Ward and Jeremy Elphick which took her from sixth place in primaries to the third elected candidate overall. As Waniganayaka, D'Souza and Radunz were all elected into the top six, the USU's affirmative action provisions were not invoked this year.

By far the most memorable aspect of this particular Board election was the sheer number of candidates. The number fell from 17 to 16 early in the election process when Josh Crawford dropped off the radar, and fell again on May 16, the first day of pre-polling, when Kanika Batra pulled out of the race due to ill health. On Election Day, Batra campaigned for William Dawes. "I thought that since I couldn't continue my own campaign it would be good to help out someone I like and would be

happy to see on board," she said. Batra confirmed that her \$500 grant was intact, other than the money spent on 25 campaign shirts, and that it would be returned to the USU.

The ongoing controversy about the joint 'Will & Grace' campaign was another constant theme in the 2013 Board election. As reported in *Honi Soit* last week, a complaint was made against their joint campaign strategy, which was rejected by the Returning Officer. It was then appealed and taken to the Electoral Arbiter, law lecturer Penelope Crossley. Crossley found that the complaints made against Will and Grace's campaign had no basis in the USU's Constitution, regulations, Candidate Handbook or Grant Recipient Agreement. She also found that the complaint pertaining to a potential breach of the spending cap lacked the evidence to back it up. Crossley emphasized her lack of discretion in these matters when she spoke to *Honi Soit*, saying that her role was to make a decision based on existing rules and regulations, and that in her view, none of them had been broken.

Considering that neither Will nor Grace was elected to Board, it's safe to say that at least this time around, the joint campaign was not a winning strategy. However, Crossley said that in her

post-election recommendations she has suggested that the USU's Electoral Committee discuss the issue of joint campaigns and how they ought to be dealt with in the future.

Now that the fresh intake of Board directors has been determined, the speculation about who is likely to become the next USU President has intensified, with Hannah Morris and John Harding-Easson the two major contenders for this position. For more information on the Presidential race, see *Unigate*.



Photo: Hannah Ryan

## Cops off campus rally descends on VC's office

Hannah Ryan reports on last week's rally against police violence

Cries of "shame" and "fuck the police" echoed throughout USYD's normally tranquil Quadrangle last Thursday, as anger over police presence on campus continued to boil.

Around eighty people gathered outside Fisher Library at 1pm for a "cops off campus" rally in response to the presence of riot police at the strike on May 14.

An impassioned Nick Riemer condemned University management for its role in the police activity at the picket



lines. Riemer, an NTEU Branch Committee Member and English lecturer, denounced management's "violence in its different forms – violence dressed up as rationality, dressed up as pragmatism, dressed up as idealism".

Wynand van der Woude, a USYD student whose leg was broken at the City Rd picket on May 14, had to speak from a seated position.

The rally then advanced to the Quadrangle, where Vice-Chancellor Michael Spence's offices are located. In a stark inversion of the story of Rapunzel, protesters gathered beneath Michael Spence's office and chanted: "When police enforce Spence's attack / students and staff stand up, fight back".

The final two speakers were Christian Darby, a Wollongong student, and Greens MP David Shoebridge, who condemned police violence and called



for greater oversight for police.

While attendance was undoubtedly diminished by a combination of gloomy weather and post-election hangovers, Freya Bunday, the chair of the rally, described it as a success. She said it would build support for the June 5

strike, raising awareness of "the need to have even stronger picket lines", and that it placed the burden of responsibility for police violence on University management.

The rally culminated with a more artistic expression of protesters' anger, as they wreaked chalky havoc on the sandstone walls of the quadrangle. Graffiti variously described Michael Spence as a "WANKER", declared that "all cops are bastards" and invited readers to "fuck" "Spence", "the cops" and "the police".

Not all were happy with this form of protest. "I'm not going to deface the quad!" muttered one attendee.

In any case, the chalk proved to be almost as fleeting as the speakers' words. Within an hour and a half, it had already been removed.

@hannahd15

Photos: Stella Kenas

# UNIGATE

All the rumours, hearsay, and downright slander from the world of student politics and culture



## It's not over yet

This year's USU Board election may have ended, but speculation about who will be the USU's next President remains rife. The contenders for the top job are John Harding-Easson (Labor Right), Hannah Morris (Independents) and, with an outside chance, Tom Raue (Grassroots Left). In most years, it transpires that the Presidential race is a separate contest within the overall Board election, with current Board Directors running a candidate to shore up a vote in the Presidential ballot. Last year, Rhys Pogonoski ran Hannah Morris in an unsuccessful attempt to secure the Presidency. This time around, Morris ran Tara Waniganayaka, Harding-Easson backed Robby Magyar, and Raue supported Pat Ward, who failed to get up.

Currently, the Presidential frontrunner appears to be Harding-Easson, whom the *Gate* believes will have the support of current Board Directors Tom Raue and Sophie Stanton, as well as newly elected Directors Robby Magyar, Bebe D'Souza and Eve Radunz – taking him to the six votes required to be elected President. Morris, on the other hand, will have the vote of Karen Chau, from the current Board, in addition to Tara Waniganayaka, Tim Matthews and Kade Denton, of those elected this year.

The *Gate* suspects that Eve Radunz's vote will prove to be the decisive one. Radunz's faction National Labor Students (Labor Left) controls the National Union of Students (NUS) in coalition with Mr Harding-Easson's faction, Student Unity (Labor Right). If history is anything to go by, Harding-Easson should be a shoo-in: NLS will not want to damage its relationship with Unity at NUS. But these are strange times, and the SLS/NLS split on campus this year, coupled with Radunz's bizarre preference deal with Indies Tim Matthews and Tara Waniganayaka may mean that Radunz breaks with tradition and votes for Hannah Morris.

Another factor in the Presidential race will be whether Senate-appointed Board Director Emma McDonald decides to cast a vote. This is without precedent in recent years, which is just as well, given the Senate-appointed representative is not elected by students. But Ms McDonald is constitutionally entitled to vote on Board, and the *Gate* understands that at least one Board Director has been attempting to petition her vote in recent months. The Presidential ballot will take place late next month.

## SRC already?

Perhaps the biggest surprise to come

out of the 2013 Board election was the failure of Sydney Labor Students (SLS), who broke from the national Labor Left faction NLS earlier this year, to get their candidate Jeremy Elphick elected. Elphick was beaten to sixth place by Indie and former SHADES President Kade Denton, who, as the *Gate* reported last week, was shunned as part of a three way preference deal by fellow Indies Tara Waniganayaka and Tim Matthews in favour of NLS candidate Eve Radunz. It has been speculated that a condition of the preference deal was that Radunz vote for Hannah Morris in the Presidential ballot, but it is also possible that the Indies and NLS plan to combine forces in next semester's SRC election. One of the founding mythologies of Matthews' 2011 'Voice' Indie block was to oppose NLS' dominance of the SRC. Were the Indies to team up with NLS this year, the *Gate* imagines that USYD student politics would implode in a vortex of hypocrisy, deceit and electoral opportunism.

As for SLS, Elphick's below par showing in the Board election – garnering just 421 primary votes – is a concern for the faction looking forward to SRC elections. It appears unlikely that SLS will be able to win the election without the assistance of Grassroots, whose two candidates Bebe D'Souza and Pat Ward collected a combined 820 primary votes, and possibly also Unity, whose candidate Robby Magyar polled second with 753 primaries. How the various factions will work together come September, particularly if NLS and the Indies col-

laborate, will be very interesting indeed.

## Post-saduates

A petition has been started by a group of unhappy postgraduate students in the Arts faculty. The group is claiming the University has not sufficiently consulted with them on a range of matters, especially in relation to the use of the postgraduate spaces put aside for Arts students in the Woolley, Wallace, and Old Teachers College Buildings. On a side note, holy shit, there are designated spaces for postgraduate Arts students Woolley, Wallace, and Old Teachers College Buildings! Georgiana Toma, who has been helping drive the petition, told the *Gate* that changes to these spaces would hurt the research abilities of postgrads and break the University's own commitment to provide them with appropriate facilities on campus, as outlined in the saucily titled "Essential Resources for Postgraduate Research Students Policy 2012". Particular criticism has been levelled at the decision to change over the computers in the Old Teachers College building in early June, evicting students during one of their busiest weeks of the year. Adding insult to new computers, once the computers are installed postgrads will no longer be given access to unlimited free printing. Though the first 1 000 pages per year will still be cost free, Toma told the *Gate* that this was a relatively small number given the massive amount of reading and printing postgrad Arts students need to undertake.

## *honi* advocates

**Ezreena Yahya** argues that international students are being unfairly prevented from full participation in our universities

International student enrolments in Australia are falling. Between 2011 and 2012 a drop of 5.5% was recorded. It's no wonder, given the strict visa requirements, high tuition fees and expensive transportation that greet them when they arrive.

Visa conditions means that international students are generally unable to study part-time or even to enrol in fewer than 24 credit points in a semester. Meanwhile, international students pay up to \$40 000 in tuition fees a year.

Ronny Chen, former International Students Officer of USYD's SRC, personally applied for an 18 credit point load and was rejected. "I'm in my fourth year of a combined Science/Law degree," he said. "Not being able to take fewer subjects really does take up all my energy and time. Even when I wanted to organise a casual BBQ, I found it difficult to pull everything together. Working part-time is also almost impossible."

Chen considers that inflexible visa requirements have also resulted in foreign students being less actively engaged in extra-curricular activities. "I've talked to many international students at various events and have asked them why

they have been discouraged to join clubs and societies, the general response has been that they don't have the time," he explained.

Patrick Ward, the outgoing President of Unimates, expressed a similar sentiment. "I think they do have a harder time, not because they don't want to [get involved], but the opportunities are more limited," he told *Honi*. "They have limited financial resources (given that they pay higher fees and living expenses, which tend to be higher in places like International House), to use on activities." He also pointed out that many international students are on scholarships from their home countries which are contingent on them succeeding in their studies.

Social isolation is not the only problem that international students face. Jay Ng, current SRC International Students Officer, commented on the absence of travel concessions for international students.

"It's so much more than about the money. The way [the government] sees us, it just reinforces the stereotype that all international students are rich. I often get remarks like 'well, since you can

afford the tuition fees...' But it's already hard for us to pay the fees, why is so little being done to reduce the burden?" Ng said.

Ng argues that this policy has a real impact on where international students choose to study. Chen supports this by describing the policy of concessions being only applied to domestic students and students on exchange as "discriminatory and disheartening".

The fight for travel concessions for international students in NSW and Victoria is still on-going, yet one popular sentiment by opposing voices is that since international students chose to be here, why complain?

More often than not, foreign students opt to study here due to political instability in their home countries, the better education system and better quality of life offered here in Australia. At least, that's why I chose to study here. When I moved from Malaysia about 15 months ago, I remember being quite overwhelmed at the idea of living in a foreign country - away from home, family, friends, a familiar and secured environment for such an extended period of time. Suddenly, at 19, I had to fend for

myself in a foreign country.

What is being repeatedly ignored is that international students are students too - which means just like everyone else who has to juggle work and study, we constantly worry about being able to pay rent, bills, and groceries. This situation is common to most students, regardless of nationality.

International education activity is a crucial source of revenue in Australia – it accounted for \$15 billion of export income last year and supports approximately 125 000 jobs across the country. Failing to understand the economic consequences of declining enrolments would have a substantial impact on the stability of the country's international education sector.

Much is still to be done to ensure student welfare and support services for overseas students meet international standards.

The treatment of international students shows an interest in the money we bring to Australia but no concern for our welfare and an ignorance of the realities of student life.

# Four legs death, two legs medicine

Georgia Behrens puts a human face on animal testing

For the majority of USYD students, the most significant moral calculation we will undertake in the course of our study is whether or not to lie about the word count on our mid-semester essay.

Rosemary Mulway, however, is regularly compelled to reflect on much more serious matters. This year, her Honours year, she has embarked on a research project that requires her to treat, monitor, and kill white mice.

These mice will be born, live, and die in a research facility in order to enable the completion of her Honours thesis – a thesis which will, she hopes, allow better understanding and prevention of medical phenomena such as transplant rejection.

Up until this year, Rosemary had never had to work with live animals. But before she was even allowed to touch the mice that would be the subject of her research, she had to learn how to kill them.

“It’s a horrible experience. One of the first things that everyone who’s more experienced asks you after you’ve done the training days is: ‘Have you cried yet?’ And everyone always does.”

Rosemary says that she and her Hon-

ours peers remain uneasy about their research to this day.

“One of the methods that we use to kill the mice is to gas them with carbon dioxide so they go straight to sleep before they die. And when you do that, when you put the tube in their enclosures, you feel like a Nazi or something.”

I ask her if she thinks humans have a

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Up until this year, Rosemary had never had to work with live animals. But before she was even allowed to touch the mice that would be the subject of her research, she had to learn how to kill them.

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right to use animals as a means to our own ends. Despite having studied ethics and philosophy as an undergraduate, she is still unsure.

“It’s a question I ask myself all the time. It really depends on what position you approach it from. On the one hand, you could say that animals have rights

that should never be violated, and if you think that I really don’t think you could justify what we’re doing,” she says.

“But I think most people think more along the lines of we should be trying not to make animals suffer or die unnecessarily, and that we should be doing everything we possibly can to protect their welfare while still being utilitarian about the good that can come of the research we’re doing.”

Rosemary is confident that that USYD has adequate processes in place to ensure all possible harm minimisation, with extensive administration and monitoring of animal welfare by the University’s Animal Ethics Committee.

She is able, moreover, to justify to herself that harm that she does cause by remembering the potential outcomes of the type of research that she’s doing.

“It’s a constant philosophical debate that we all have, but you just have to know exactly why you’re doing it and what you’re aiming for.”

And, with many of the cornerstones of contemporary medicine – techniques such as vaccination, general anaesthetic, antibiotics, and joint replacement – having been pioneered with the use of ani-

mal experimentation, it’s difficult not to be grateful to Rosemary and her peers. At least there are some of us out there willing to assume a far greater burden – and to confront a greater challenge – than that of getting an essay under the word-count before the 5pm deadline.

@GeorgiaBehrens



“I want more life ... fucker.”

## Poking a stick at the ANZAC myth

OPINION

Tom Joyner is not un-Australian

Over beers last week, a few close friends and I found ourselves debating the way we talk about Australian soldiers killed in Afghanistan.

“That’s un-Australian,” was the blubbered consensus. “How could you not be grateful for their sacrifice?”

My usual reservations for a word like ‘un-Australian’ aside, I’m curious to know what I’m meant to be grateful for. Grateful is a difficult word here as it suggests some kind of debt. The Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel are (by way of the taxpayer) paid a modest salary, their university education is sponsored, their living expenses are subsidised, and in the event of ill health or even their untimely death, they receive generous benefits.

Don’t get me wrong when I say this, I certainly respect Australian troops in Afghanistan – after all, it takes genuine courage to partake in war, let alone one where you don’t belong. Soldiers aren’t accountable for the political blunders of the government that sent them there; they simply follow orders.

They shouldn’t be vilified simply for doing their job any more than they

should be exalted. Let me then make this clear: I don’t mean to say that simply paying respect to our war dead is in any way tantamount to glorifying the act of war itself.

But labeling them collectively as heroes is.

It’s true that the occupational hazards of a combat soldier outweigh most, but why should we meter their civil worth on this alone? Why are we so eager to adorn them with the h-word? Heroism in my books is limited to Marvel comic characters and Nelson Mandela – it is a status earned as much as it is distinctive, not one conferred by default. Especially when they are killed.

Australian soldiers don’t fight to defend my values, nor do they anyone else’s. This view is probably owed to the bewildering practice of historically conflating the outright militarism of the ‘Anzac spirit’ with our national identity. Far from being some kind of beloved public institution, the ADF of recent years has ostensibly served to protect the foreign political interests of the governments that have commanded it.

Maybe it’s our own pathological need

to justify taking part in someone else’s deteriorating campaign that makes us rally behind the thinned edifice of duty and the ‘ANZAC tradition.’ Either way, we’re kidding ourselves if we think a soldier is any more a saint than a school-teacher is, a bus driver, a nurse. Each serve a function in our society, and their worth should be judged on their individual capacity to productively fulfill it, rather than by virtue of their uniform.

Expectation of the unconditional support for our ‘diggers’ in public discourse (a term dangerously loaded with jingoistic implications), implicitly prevents direct criticism of the government who sent them to war in the first place – to question the latter is to undermine support for the former (and that’s just “un-Australian”).

It’s a clever and foolproof political ruse that’s hard to resist. As long as we still dogmatically bandy around the tired emblem of the ANZACs, it certainly won’t be the last time Australia is led blindly into the kind of conflict better left to countries who still don’t think the Vietnam War was a mistake.

The glassie had long ago cleared our

drinks but my friend hadn’t noticed.

“What about your national pride?” She paused. It’s an empty point, and she knew it.

We have plenty of things to be proud of in our society – our multiculturalism, a high standard of living, and our public health system among others.

But the war in Afghanistan has long been unpopular in Australia, and we’d do better to divorce our sentimentality from our political will to openly criticise this country’s participation in it. Branding Australian soldiers as heroes and glorifying the war they fight is simply unproductive.

If by recognising this I am “un-Australian,” then we seriously need to reconsider the definition of the word.



# NEWS IN REVUE

Blythe Worthy reviews this week's news, acrostically

**N**o feathers were too Russelled this week.

**E**lections at uni went well, so to speak. In national news:

**W**yatt Roy joined the growing list of progressive MPs.

**S**o rally on forth for gay matrimony.

**I**t's back to court for Craig Thompson again.

**N**ineteen new charges = one hundred and seventy three total. I don't even think there's a rhyme that does this man justice.

**R**allying support for your Board candidate on your blog: WOO! But...

**E**veryone's still reeling from Tumblr's \$1.1b sell to Yahoo.

**V**enting about cars in pubs is a form of assault, yet 2016 Fords are screeching to a halt?

**U**gh! Even though this all might make you want to get drunk and swoon.

**E**veryone knows we can live in peace knowing *Arrested Development* is back on soon.

## Beyond coal and gas

Amelie Vanderstock report on recent environmental victories

*"If you love this country, fight for it. This will be the biggest social movement this country has ever seen, and it will change this country forever."* – Drew Hutton, Lock the Gate Alliance President

From Urban ASEN students to rural Knitting Nanas, 270 community campaigners from across Australia joined experienced activists, doctors and academics in Kurri Kurri, NSW (18-20 May) to share stories from our growing fight for country and livelihoods so undermined by extractive industries.

Organised by the Sunrise Project, panel discussions featuring experts and community leaders were integrated with training, report-backs and networking in an open workshop model.

Climate expert and former chair of the Australian Coal Association, Ian Dunlop, revealed our recent emissions trajectory as alarmingly higher than the most conservative IPCC projections.

The imminent call for 'fossil-free' was supplemented by Dr Merryn Redenbach, Doctors for the Environment Australia, in her discussion of extensive public health impacts at every coal energy production stage.

Grounded in realistic economics and existing technology, the switch to renewables was detailed by Mark Diesendorf of UNSW. Groups including the

Community Power Agency and Beyond Zero Emissions further revealed how solutions are already amongst us.

David and Goliath successes were celebrated alongside ongoing campaigns. From the small town of Bulga, NSW's win in court against mining giant Rio Tinto, to the termination of the mega-port project on Balaclava island in the Great Barrier Reef and Woodside's LNG gas hub in the Kimberley, there was energy and hope in conference participants.

Surveys, blockades and innovative tactics such as Jonathan Moylan's ANZ-Whitehaven hoax were work-shopped.

The Sierra Club, US, shared this organising model which successfully closed 177 coal fired power plants across the continent. Lock the Gate, in a 'Call to Country', seeks to unite these ubiquitous demands to prioritise farmland, water catchments, nationally significant ecosystems and community concern.

As a participant, I was truly inspired by stories of struggle and success, shared by people who don't necessarily converge on politics or priorities for 'why'. The gathering revealed how our efforts contribute to a broader environmental justice movement, as what we do agree upon, is that we can and must take our land, our water and our future, into our own capable hands.

## Woroni in hot water after Islamic satire **UNI-VERSE**

A picture is worth a thousand words, and the threat of expulsion, discovered **Max Chalmers**

Days after the launch of their fifth edition, the editors of *Woroni*, ANU's fortnightly student newspaper, were facing the threat of serious disciplinary action and the defunding of their 65 year old paper.

The editors found themselves in trouble after publishing a cartoon satirising Islam. Under a column titled 'Before the law, equal to testimony of one man' the cartoon had an image of two women. The next title, with the heading 'While menstruating, be present in a place of business or worship' was above an image of no women. Another line read "The Prophet's third wife, Aisha, was nine when the marriage was consummated (a fifty three year old man fucked a nine year old girl)".

According to co-author Jamie Freestone, the point of the column was "to point out the nefarious aspects of different religions' official doctrines. In this case (Islam), the sexism and misogyny in The Koran."

The cartoon quickly drew a negative reaction from Muslim students and or-

ganisations.

One student, Fatemah Khalfan, wrote to *Woroni* with concerns the cartoon would propagate racist stereotypes already prevalent in Western media commentary. Khalfan concluded the cartoon replicated a tendency to "present Islam within a specific framework and that is, the framework of the savage".

Freestone said he and the co-authors realised it had not been subtle satire, but rejected accusations of perpetuating religious discrimination.

"There are very bigoted stereotypes out there regarding asylum seekers from the Middle East or the idea that all Muslims are terrorists, but we're not interested in that at all," he said.

But as Muslim students submitted thoughtful letters to the editors, ANU was panicking.

Twice, in a matter of days, the *Woroni* editorial team were called into the office of the Chancery.

The first time they were asked by the University's Pro Vice-Chancellor Richard Baker to write a formal apology for

the cartoon. When the PDF version of that week's edition went online, they were again called in and allegedly threatened with a university disciplinary hearing, where they would receive no legal representation, and could potentially face punishments as severe as expulsion.

The cartoon, they were told, was a threat to ANU's reputation and security, and had to be taken offline. On top of this, funding cuts were allegedly threatened.

"Professor Hughes-Warrington [Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic)] informed us that we were jeopardising our SSAF," *Woroni* Editor-in-Chief Cam Wilson told *Honi Soit*.

Unlike *Honi*, *Woroni* receives its allocation of Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF) funding directly from the University, meaning it can be punished for publishing material that upsets the University's management

It is also alleged that in these meetings the Pro Vice-Chancellor accused *Woroni* of breaking ANU's regulations in relation to racial or religious vilification.

But Content Editor Joshua Dabelstein rejected this accusation and instead accused the University of putting financial interests over press freedom. He said the University was afraid the cartoon would be received badly overseas, in countries from which ANU draws significant numbers of international students.

After the threats made by the University, the editors decided to comply and take the PDF offline, meaning the cartoon is no longer accessible to anyone who missed out on a hard copy of the paper.

But the incident leaves a swathe of unanswered questions: how provocative should student media be? Is there a dual standard on satire when sending up Islam as opposed to other religions?

And lastly, perhaps most importantly, are universities becoming too afraid to defend free speech when it jeopardises their commercial interests?

*The ANU Chancery could not be contacted for comment before deadline.*

@MaxChalmers90

# YOGA and

# DEPRESSION

Tamasin Young charts her journey from downward spiral to Downward Dog

I am peaceful. I release my thoughts. I repeat my mantra to myself. Everything dissipates into an inarticulated colour of subconsciousness. The active voice in my mind goes silent, leaving an empty space more nourishing than sleep. It is a relief to have final, infinite silence. I hang there. And then, pulling up through my chest comes a surge of feeling, an understanding: you've got to stop beating yourself up. You're too hard on yourself. Like brushing the dirt off a tombstone to read the words latent beneath, this first opportunity of silence brings my most deep-seated apprehension to focus.

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In the USU election campaigns, candidate Jeremy Elphick proposed a 'puppy room' to help sufferers of depression; both Eve Radunz and Sarah Marriott advocated for 'health and well-being' weeks on campus. Puppy-lovers or not, students are increasingly looking for supplements for treating depression. Yoga is a spiritual, moral and physical practice to improve 'self-awareness'. The bending, twisting and balancing of the body improves flexibility and strength. The controlled breathing helps to focus the mind, while meditation aims to calm it. The combination of all three together brings consciousness to how they interact.

And so no, I am not a member of a cult. I am in fact the pragmatic daughter of a General Practitioner. But I am also a newcomer to yoga. And a recent sufferer of depression. It was a foundation built on both habits from yoga and anti-depressants that pulled me out of it. I am not asking for sympathy, because I've found what works for me. But I do believe in the importance of sharing this, to help others manage their mental health, in case it works for them.

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That moment in savasana (the rest at the end of a yoga class) was the moment where I went from blindly living the pain inside my head to stepping outside, turning around and looking back at a girl who couldn't sleep or focus; who, when in company, wanted to be alone, and when alone, couldn't stand it. And until then, had absolutely no idea.

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Most people living in Sydney start yoga for non-competitive exercise. Few appreciate the extent of the philosophy underpinning the practice. But it's still a

perfect starting point.

Exercise has long been known to help manage depression, basically because endorphins are felt keenly in sufferers.

But there is more to it. "Depression is often a problem of being cornered and finding you don't feel like there is a pathway out to a position of light in your life," says Jack Marshall, an integrative medicine practitioner at the UCLinic in Surry Hills. Marshall believes any movement therapy is crucial for people with depression. "Where yoga works more specifically [than other exercise] is that it gives you a sense of peace, and it can find the energy centres... and resonate with them through particular movement

The moment in savasana... was the moment where I went from blindly living the pain inside my head to stepping outside, turning around and looking back at a girl who couldn't sleep or focus.

strategies, whereas general exercise is often strengthening muscles or gets you moving, but doesn't get to the depth of issue that you may be able to uncover through yoga," says Marshall.

"Yoga is particularly amazing because it adds a very important physical element [to mindfulness] and we tend to forget quickly how our bodies and well-being are tied together," says Dr Jill Gordon, a general practitioner with expertise in psychological medicine. "Something as simple as 30 minutes a day of exercise is highly beneficial. So formalising that into a technique like yoga, you add value on top of the mere physical exercise by itself."

Any doctor will tell you that the most important technique for managing depression is re-establishing healthy 'thinking' habits. I stumbled over this by accident. I had repeated a mantra to myself whilst doing yoga to shut out any unwelcome thoughts. Then, when diagnosed with depression and referred to a psychiatrist, found Cognitive Behaviour Therapy techniques similarly effective and useful in their goal.

CBT is a type of psychotherapy that helps to change unhelpful thinking patterns. It has a positive reputation due to the strong scientific support for its

effectiveness. In Australia, CBT is one form of therapy explicitly mentioned in the Federal Government's guidelines for the provision of psychological services under Medicare.

"There are some real similarities between CBT and mindfulness, because they are both cognitive in a particular way, both based on reflection, on being more aware," says Gordon. "In CBT, by challenging faulty thinking patterns, in mindfulness, by observing patterns and choosing to withdraw from the kind of anxiety or sadness that they might otherwise induce. It's a way of managing the self, if you like."

To me, both approaches were strategies. Empowering. I could re-teach myself how to self-talk – independently, which was important to me. "A counselor can get sick, go on holidays, they can retire," says Marshall. "And you can get a reliance on that person and then they are not there. With meditation, your reliance is on a practice you have taken into yourself."

However, I used this independent approach to supplement my consultations, rather than replace them. "It's more about what happens between consultations than what happens during them," says Gordon. "That the therapist and the client have a sense of agreement of what the issue is... but the individual person finds things that work for them."

I spoke to Ian Davidson, a teacher at Mantra Yoga studio, about the importance of savasana. The feeling is similar to the occasional moments of clarity when you have stopped thinking about anything and something profound arises. "Like managing to stand up on a surfboard, and catching a wave. And being absolutely nowhere else but in that very moment. Your body knows how to do it – it's a pretty similar kind of peace," says Davidson.

Savasana was where I first managed to silence my chattering inner monologue and see the bigger picture of how I interact with the world. A feeling that was peaceful, yet sharply aware. "The yogic idea of those thoughts is that it is actually a deeper subconscious that comes up with this stuff," says Davidson. "A little like how some dreams are light and frivolous and other dreams seem to come from something deeper and you wake up knowing something you didn't before."

Yoga can, and should be, taken outside the studio. The philosophy is a non-dogmatic code of ethics, which

can become extremely useful to someone who is feeling unsure about how to self-talk, or interact with others. For example, one of the fundamental concepts yoga is ahimsa, non-violence. Now if I catch myself thinking negatively, I remind myself: non-violence. Non-violence towards myself is just as important as towards others.

In this way, I find an intersection of CBT and yoga. "It's about questioning your own integrity," says Marshall. "How you act in the world – am I just responding? Or do you have a sense of yourself and how you want to act?"

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Now's the time to make something very, very clear. I am a full advocate for anti-depressants – don't think I've become a raging hippie. There are certain types of depression that really do need an anti-depressant medication. "Forms of psychotic depression can be quite dangerous without anti-depressant medication, where people actually get quite delusional thinking," says Gordon.

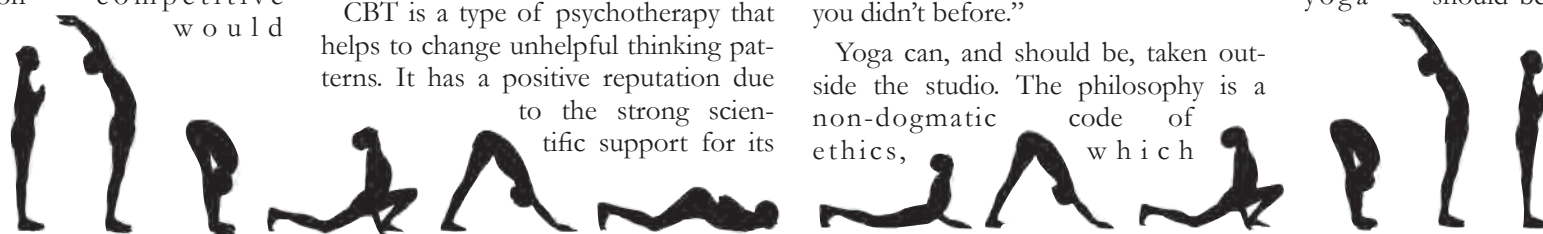
But it is essential to learn how to think healthily, or once you stop the medication, the good effect it had will have gone to waste. "Anti-depressants are useful to do the heavy lifting, you can actually get things moving first and then put other things in place. It saves you some of the struggle you might otherwise have," she says. "But a starting point should always be without medication, because it is only in that way you actually get the opportunity to learn from the experience, and it seems such a waste, to go through all that and not learn."

I have started a course of anti-depressants of the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SSRI) class. It turns out that my low levels of serotonin have also contributed to my life-long inclination towards migraines. So case in point, these SSRI tablets are doing some heavy lifting for me. But the yoga exercises I learnt to specially manage the muscles in my neck that were carrying the stress and pain of migraines were a supplement that helped me feel in control.

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Depression will differ from person to person; it will require an inherently personalised treatment. To say 'this is the answer for all' is limiting and therefore will be regressive. I am advocating that yoga should be in our arsenal of

approaches more so than it currently is.





# the CURIOUS CASE Of

Tamam Shud

INTRIGUE

Rafi Alam unveils Australia's greatest unsolved mystery

Somerton Beach, Adelaide: November 30, 1948. A man was seen lying on the sand, with his back against a wall, facing the sea. Witnesses assumed he was drunk and passed out, a common sight on the beach, and one claimed he saw the man raising his right-arm at 7pm, and dropping it limp. Mosquitoes besieged the body; the man did not react.

When police found the body, the Somerton Man was dead. The coroner later estimated the man to have died at 2am. There were no signs of struggle, no marks on the body, nothing to suggest he was dead except his cold still body. It was poison, the coroner noted, but whether it was suicide or murder was unknown, and the type of poison used was not recognised by toxicology experts.

On him was a used bus ticket to St. Leonards, Glenelg, a kilometre north of the body; an unused train ticket to Henley Beach; and an Army Club cigarette packet with Kensitas cigarettes. He had no identification on him.

His dental records matched none in Australia, much like his fingerprints, and a photograph of him gained no positive results. No one in Somerton Beach recognised him. Every possible identification later turned out to be false.

## T. Keane

The mystery developed when a suitcase was found at Adelaide Railway Station, checked in moments before the bus trip to Glenelg. In the suitcase were various garments, a screwdriver, a knife, scissors, and stencilling brush. All the garments had identification cut out of them, except those that would be damaged; on the tie, it said "T. Keane". No T. Keane was reported missing in the English-speaking world.

One interesting aspect was that a coat

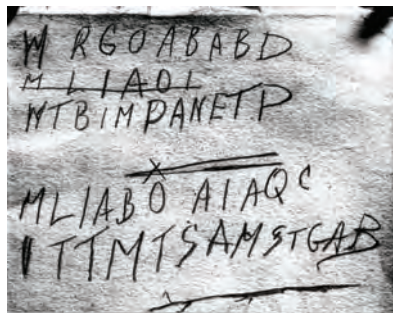
in the suitcase could only have been made in the United States, much like the Army Club cigarette packet found on his body.

## The Rubaiyat

When the body was being examined, a piece of paper was found in a sewn pocket, torn from the page of a book: "Tamam Shud", later misreported as "Taman Shud". "Tamam Shud" is the last line of Omar Khayyam's *The Rubaiyat*; it comes after a poem on living a life of no regrets. In Persian it means "the end".

Tests on the piece of paper found that the edition of the book was rare. A photograph of the paper was released, and a man came forward saying he found the book in the backseat of his unlocked car, with the torn page, two weeks before the body was found.

Significantly, there were four lines of code on the back of the book, with one line crossed out. The code is still unsolved.



Next to the code was an unlisted phone number.

## The woman

The phone number led police to a woman, now known to be Teresa Johnson née Powell, but referred to as 'Jestyn', a former nurse who worked at the Royal North Shore Hospital during the war. She told police that gave a copy of *The Rubaiyat* to a soldier she had an

affair with in 1945 named Alfred Boxall.

In 1948, Boxall contacted her, but she replied that she was married. A man also asked her neighbour about her, but it is unknown if this was Boxall. When she saw the body, she was taken aback, but claimed she did not recognise him.

This is despite Jestyn living in Glenelg at the time the body was found, only 400m from the place of death.

Despite consistently claiming she was married, and telling police she did not want her husband embarrassed as a way of keeping herself anonymous, it turned out she was only wed in 1950.

It appeared as though the mystery was solved; however, Boxall was later tracked down, with his copy of *The Rubaiyat* in possession, "Tamam Shud" intact.

## To be continued...

Interesting events followed the investigation. Flowers appeared at his grave, but a woman leaving the cemetery claimed she knew nothing of him. A receptionist said an unknown man left a nearby hotel just before the death, leaving behind a medical case including a hypodermic needle.



In 1945, a Joseph Marshall, brother of future Singaporean Chief Minister David Marshall, was found dead in Mosman. A copy of *The Rubaiyat* was found open on his chest. Another copy of the same edition was never found. Jestyn

worked next to the place the body was found, and gave Boxall a copy of the book two months after the death. A woman who testified at the inquest was found dead 13 days afterwards with slit – face down in her bath.

In 1949, a two year old was found dead in a sack near Somerton Beach, next to his unconscious father; the mother later claimed a masked man harassed them, possibly in connection to the father's investigation of the Somerton Man.

In 2009, the case was reinvestigated by researchers in Adelaide University, focusing on his unique ear shape that belongs to only 1-2% of Caucasians. A proposal to exhume the body was rejected by the SA Attorney General.

In 2011, the identification card of H. C. Reynolds, a former member of the U.S. Navy, was found. A mole was in the same place in the photo and of the deceased. The case is still open on this.

Rumours suggest that the man was a spy, either for the Americans or the Soviets. The place of death was close to Woomera, an intelligence gathering area. The suggestions of espionage, intertwined with love and lost loves, and the unbroken code, still arouse interest from the public. The case of the Somerton Man remains Australia's greatest mystery, and yet it appears we are all condemned to remain in suspense.



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# The Brothers Kebabazov

Lucinda Bradshaw sat down for a meet, greet, and a meat box, with Nuri and Henry from Uni Bros

It's a touch before nine o'clock on a Friday morning and there's already a queue forming at Uni Brothers, the endlessly popular kebab shop in the Wentworth Food Court. A guy beside me is chowing into a breakfast of beef-decked rice smothered in barbecue sauce. Behind the Uni Brothers counter, there are four men swiftly pulling pide out of the oven, piling up fresh

tabbouleh, and tending to the rotating skewers of glistening meat. A group of women order kebabs. Did I mention it's not even 9am?

The two eponymous "Brothers" are sitting down with coffees and the paper, enjoying a moment of relative calm before the real rush begins. Nuri and Henry are in fact business partners, brothers-from-other-mothers

with twenty years of friendship behind them. Pide-master Henry prepares the bread, while charismatic Nuri fronts the register, managing the ever-extending queue. "I've got a good memory for faces," Nuri explains, "and I love chatting with the students, getting to know the regulars."

Though they've chalked up a fair few regulars over eight years of business here, this isn't their first venture. Their original shop, Brothers Kebabs on the Princes Highway in Banksia, has been

see everyone's put their quality up and I think that's in part because we're here."

The downside, Nuri admits, is that "we work on a very low profit margin. We have a four month break during the year, and now we've got the strikes on. It really affects us. But I think people appreciate the food and the price and that makes us all happy." Their business model seems to be working, however. Seven years ago, they opened a third branch at UTS, and last year turned down the opportunity to expand to UNSW. The Brothers now boast a team of about 30, largely composed of old friends.

It's a labour of love, with staff often working 12-hour days. "I was here at six this morning," says Nuri, "And normally we close around six thirty/seven. We don't say no to anyone. It's a very long day, but we try to make everyone happy, we always put a smile on your face."

At heart, however, it's all about the food. "We love it, we just love it," says Nuri, who fondly describes his most popular creation, the greasy-but-glorious combination of chips, rice and meat known as the Meat Box. "I was actually going to call it the heart-attack box. But I think we've got a really healthy food line," he maintains, citing their newly introduced meat-and-salad box, fresh dips and gluten-free chicken. "We've gone beyond a kebab shop."

Nuri's pride in his product is obvious. "Look at this guy," he says, nodding at the man nearby with the beef plate. "I was watching him eat. He just loves it, you can tell he's really enjoying it. I saw him lick his plate. That really makes me happy."

Nuri's pride in his product is obvious. "Look at this guy," he says, nodding at the man nearby with the beef plate. "I was watching him eat. He just loves it, you can tell he's really enjoying it. I saw him lick his plate."

open far longer. Paul McJannett, former CEO of the USU, caught a whiff of their potential and made them an offer. "He'd been checking our shop out and knew we had a really good reputation," Nuri explains.

At the time, students were unenthused about the Union's dining options. "People weren't happy with the food they had," Nuri explains, "and we came in here and gave them a little kick up the backside." The Uni Brothers difference, Nuri proudly maintains, is quality. "You can't get any better than what we use." They source and prepare the meat themselves, and make all the products fresh daily. He gestures to recently revamped noodle house Little Asia and the salad bar, Raw. "You can



Just a coupla bros. Sort of. Photo: Lucinda Bradshaw

## Ridiculous USU candidate promises

Top 5...

This shit actually happened, writes Mariana Podesta-Diverio

- 5 (2013) **Hermann's beer garden** Shit, did they move it? Is this a policy to get it back? Hang on, I'll check. Yes, the beer garden still there. Long live the existent beer garden. Long live.
- 4 (2009) **Karaoke at Hermann's** The only thing worse than dealing with drunken peers singing karaoke is having to do so when seeking on-campus refuge from unintelligible atonal screeches and educational things other than lectures. The difference between off-campus karaoke and on-campus karaoke is a decidedly higher rate of pretentious enunciation potentially emerging from Hermann's student punters bellowing best-forgotten hits from years past. This could also lead to an exacerbation of uni pub patronage by 'you don't even go here'-ites.
- 3 (2009) **College-specific ACCESS cards with special benefits** Underprivileged college students could always use a helping hand to enable a more comfortable ride through university life, so what better way to provide discounts on food and drink, enable club and society membership, and subsidise participation in campus social activities than to provide more discounts, enable more club membership and subsidise more social activities for the select few unfortunate enough to reside on campus, have every meal catered and live a stone's thrown from a range of inexpensive meal options?
- 2 (Every year, ever) **Moonlight Cinema** Clearly it's not enough that we're in comfortable walking distance of a Dendy and a Hoyts. Clearly it's not enough that various clubs and societies regularly have movie nights in ISL and Holme, both conveniently on campus. Clearly it's not enough that some of these clubs utilise a projector at Hermann's, an indoor and sensible venue, shielded from the elements and boasting nearby food and drink vendors. Clearly. Why do people keep running with this on their platform? Nights are cold and there are bugs outside.
- 1 (2009) **Rickshaws on campus** That's right, rickshaws to take you from point A to B on campus. For the unaware, this iconic mode of urban transport first popularised in Asian cities in the mid-1800s involves a cart with wheels and a seat that is pulled along by a person on foot. This impractical and absurd policy reeks of ignorant populism. Remarkably, it remains a diamond in the rough of similarly ridiculous USU board candidate policies.

# Julian Assange

Imprisoned in the Ecuadorian embassy in London, the awkward activist gave Avani Dias a call

In Mexico City, students of the Yo Soy 132 movement – Spanish for “I am 132,” a pronouncement of solidarity – marched the streets in opposition to an undemocratic election. Later that year, the Cambridge University student newspaper, *The Tab*, broke a story about their institution’s email accounts being invaded by hacktivist group Nullcrew. Closer to home, Sydney University students and teachers formed picket lines at the entrances to their campus in opposition to reductions of staff by the University’s administration.

Directly or indirectly, Julian Assange influenced these protests. He is the controversial founder of the WikiLeaks organisation and has been instrumental in changing the way the world thinks about privacy and institutional opposition. “I think that it’s important, that even when you know you aren’t going to win the battle, to show some kind of resistance...you’re not only setting a specific deterrent in relation to that issue, you’re also creating a general signal.” Assange spoke to me through a muffled phone line with a disconcerting echo. He told me it was because of a lot of poor quality phone interception. It was midnight in London and, although he is often described as one of the most revolutionary individuals of our generation, he sounded tired and croaky. The interview started off awkwardly. For some reason, he started by asking for an introduction: “First of all, can you tell me a little bit about yourself? How did you come to this position and why are you in it?” He asked me if I thought the word “journalist” had been used a bit loosely in the past few years. Julian Assange was showing interest in me and my life in true politician style.

“I don’t believe in becoming a martyr. The most effective activist is one who can work...”

Our conversation was on the eve of one of the USyd strikes. A number of protests of this kind had been organised in the semester and they were reminiscent of rallies from the sixties and seventies. As a public figure giving the term ‘direct action’ a completely new meaning, I was interested to know if Assange thought the tactics used by USyd students were archaic and old fashioned. “I think that’s because the institutional memory of protest is largely embedded in left-wing groups, like the various socialist parties, and they haven’t changed much in the last thirty years – put it that way,” he says.

In the United States and the United Kingdom, universities are being held accountable through more modern means. Besides Nullcrew’s attack of



Cambridge, hackers accessed the details of more than 43 000 Yale faculty, staff and students. They did so through, what seems like, a very basic method – ‘Google dorking’, where Google search functions are used to access data on the internet. Australia has seen very early examples of student hacktivism at the UWS and the UNSW but it hasn’t amounted to a ‘movement’. Assange stated that the hackersphere was a new platform without enough attention or understanding by the general public to divert resources and legislative power towards it at this present time. He also stated that in a university context, the measures taken against computer hacking are usually disproportionate to the harm that it produces. In most cases, the damage is a reduction of prestige to a higher educational institution. But Assange made sure to mention that, “if you do it, make sure you don’t get caught.”

Julian Assange’s university life was very different to most. His first involvement with university was via hacking – “in my early twenties, I was inside universities all around the world.” But the more traditional university experience he had was studying a Bachelor of Science degree in physics and pure mathematics at the University of Melbourne. It’s reassuring to know that even Julian Assange received pass grades in most of his subjects, but he dropped out of his degree after discovering a very perturbing connection between the Melbourne University Mathematics Department and the United States Defence System. “There was an oversupply of intellectual research... and a lack of political will to take the fruits of our intellectual labors and apply them,” Assange told me. This experience paved the way to starting WikiLeaks.

This connection struck a similar chord to USYD’s connections to unsettling organisations like coal seam gas and missile companies, and the Chinese government. Assange spoke

of universities with a pitiful attitude – not only did he come across as though he was above them, but he even said that going to university was a shock. “It felt like going into a nursery school because of its gentleness,” he said. But Assange was surprisingly realistic about these connections and argued that “all institutions are economically... and politically engaged with the rest of the world.” When asked whether he thought that a university could function without external connections to sometimes unethical organisations, he said, “I don’t believe that any human institution or scale is able to disconnect itself economically or politically from the rest of the world... [These connections] discipline them from doing really great things which are against the wills of the political and economic agendas, but they also discipline them from truly appalling things and going completely astray.”

Assange spoke to me with the self-importance of a General in a war. In every answer, he made casual references to defence systems and national security sectors around the world that were overstepping their marks, and how he had illegally seen inside the majority of them and knew exactly how corruptly they functioned. Assange painted his enemy to me in an extreme way, using sensational words like ‘draconian’ on a regular basis. Articles that have been printed recently in publications like *The Monthly* and *The Conversation* call Assange egocentric, irrelevant and insular, but there was no denying that he had a very captivating trait – he continually tried to make me feel included in his plight, and encourage me to join his side, just because I knew how to use the Internet. Not only did he give an interview to *Honi Soit* – a humble, student newspaper with the independence to criticise the mass media – but he told me that he felt more comfortable speaking to people in the under thirty age group. “People’s perceptions of the world are becoming increasingly differ-

ent, and that’s because of the differing degrees of Internet mediated political education,” he said. “For me, personally, I have more in common with people who are about thirty or under... because those people were educated by the Internet in a similar way to what I was.”

Yet his critics do have a valid argument. While Assange has been stuck in the Ecuadorian embassy, he has been doing a number of talks to universities via videolink. Events of this nature at Cambridge and Oxford attracted protests against the controversial WikiLeaks founder. They protested for similar reasons – because an alleged sex offender that was hiding from justice was not welcome on their campuses. Simone Webb, the organiser of the demonstration at Oxford told *The Guardian* in January this year, “It is particularly ironic that he’s been asked to speak at an awards event which supposedly celebrates integrity and the search for truth, when he is himself blocking the search for truth.” When I asked Assange what he made of his detractors, he defended himself by saying that there were less than twenty people involved in these demonstrations and that if “you look at this politically, in Australia, students are extremely supportive of WikiLeaks – the organisation and the party – and me personally.” He spoke about the Yo Soy 132 movement that was influenced by him and very defensively argued that “it’s just the UK, some parts of the US, and Sweden that we see [responses like the ones at Cambridge and Oxford].”

Nevertheless, the headlines and the front page articles about Julian Assange are nowhere to be found as he approaches ten months locked up in the Ecuadorian embassy in London. When I asked him why he was so afraid of being extradited, especially when he knew that the majority of the world would be on his side, he answered very simply. “I don’t believe in becoming a martyr. The most effective activist is one who can work... I don’t want to downplay the difficulties [of living in the embassy], but the US and its allies who are using the rule of law in order to crack down on WikiLeaks have placed me into a situation where I have nothing else to do but work. I think the maneuver has backfired a little.” Assange was so optimistic that he came across as delusional. The war that he has so nobly started is definitely not as strong as it was a year ago, but that’s not to say that this is the end. Protest movements around the world continue to be influenced by the actions of Assange and WikiLeaks. Whether or not all of the “work” that he is doing stuck inside a lifeless embassy will amount to landmark changes is as unpredictable as his next move.

# ARTS & CULTURE



## Coming out as an atheist

Nathan Oliveri confessed his sins to his family

A few weeks ago, at a family dinner, I passed a grenade along with the salad. After careful deliberation, I decided this to be the opportune moment to reveal to my devoutly Catholic family that I was an atheist.

This, a family that have no real association with anyone other than Catholics, certainly no association with atheists, and, in fact, no contact with anyone that wouldn't cook pasta in the same way. And to tell them that I was shunning the religion of my youth and, more importantly, *la famiglia*?

It did not pan out pleasantly.

The remains of that grenade burned long into the night. Few topics will see your parents erupt so impassionedly, and when you tread on one, a number of delightfully backhanded barbs await you. For the closet atheists, here are a few of the gems to be directed your way. Best to come prepared.

**"It's just so sad that you can't believe."**

The go-to play of any theist, this is the great leveller to bring you off your apparent high horse. Your viewpoint is summarily dismissed as a limitation of character, designed to imply there is some capacity for appreciation you lack. Ignore the notion: it is motivated more or less by insecurity. The irony is the statement could just as easily be re-directed.

**"I failed as a parent."**

This one hurts – a great deal – but is grossly unfair. The implication here that children are mere graded reflections of their parents is dangerous territory, for children have no responsibility to follow their parent's religious beliefs, particularly when the inculcation begins before they can adequately judge it for themselves. As the atheist catchcry reads, in my case, there is no such thing as a Cath-

olic child, but only a child of Catholic parents. Retort with the fact they should be proud they raised someone who can form thoughts of their own, and not just accept what they're told.

**"You're just going through a phase."**

A standard parental coping mechanism, this is perhaps the most condescending response you'll receive. It downplays your position, trivialises your opinions, but at this point, parents aren't trying to intentionally belittle you. No, they're scavenging for a glimmer of hope amidst the rubble, for any possible loophole of redemption, and it's in your best interest not to give one to them. If you do, you've rendered all the progress you've made null and void, and have Conversation Revisited awaiting you somewhere down the way.

**"Why did you have to bring this up? I don't want to hear it."**

This is the most subtly insidious idea of them all, for it perpetuates a covenant of secrecy. It allows religion to remain a sacrosanct topic, a taboo point of non-discussion. Silence only bestows religion with a greater untouchable power and leaves it immune to critique. The choice to speak is not easy, though. I know for a fact a large portion of *la famiglia* wouldn't talk to me again if they found out. I also know that only a few degrees of separation lie between this article and my extended family. All signs point to silence.

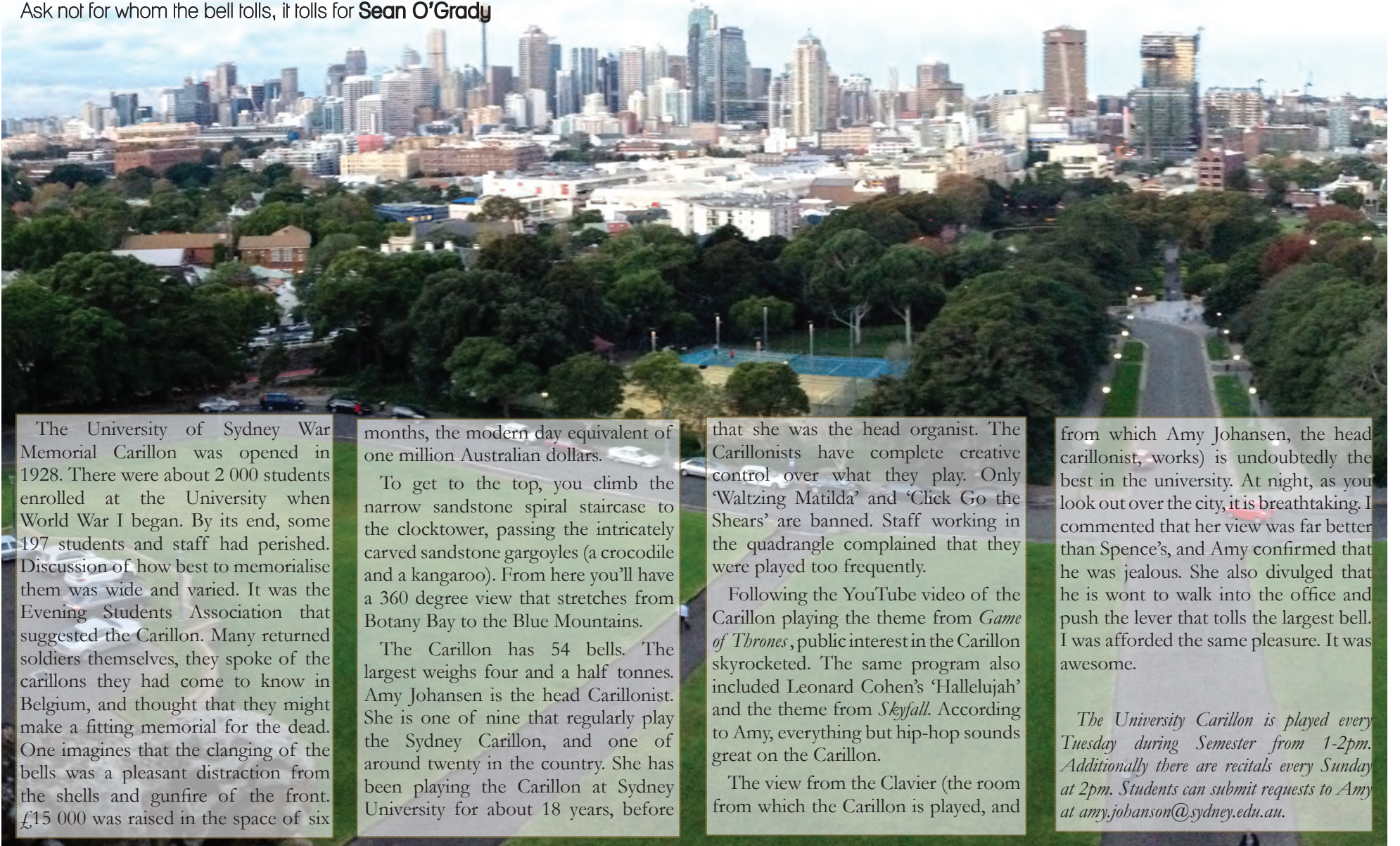
However, silence shouldn't simply be enacted to keep the peace, and closet atheists shouldn't refuse to speak for fear of reprisal. Religion should be rendered as open and transparent a conversational topic as possible, particularly in spheres where such terrain is risky. To all those hesitant, it's important to not give religion the privilege of being unanswerable. Start the conversation. Toss the grenade.



Cartoon: Bryant Apolonio

# The view from up top

Ask not for whom the bell tolls, it tolls for **Sean O'Grady**



The University of Sydney War Memorial Carillon was opened in 1928. There were about 2 000 students enrolled at the University when World War I began. By its end, some 197 students and staff had perished. Discussion of how best to memorialise them was wide and varied. It was the Evening Students Association that suggested the Carillon. Many returned soldiers themselves, they spoke of the carillons they had come to know in Belgium, and thought that they might make a fitting memorial for the dead. One imagines that the clanging of the bells was a pleasant distraction from the shells and gunfire of the front. £15 000 was raised in the space of six

months, the modern day equivalent of one million Australian dollars.

To get to the top, you climb the narrow sandstone spiral staircase to the clocktower, passing the intricately carved sandstone gargoyles (a crocodile and a kangaroo). From here you'll have a 360 degree view that stretches from Botany Bay to the Blue Mountains.

The Carillon has 54 bells. The largest weighs four and a half tonnes. Amy Johansen is the head Carillonist. She is one of nine that regularly play the Sydney Carillon, and one of around twenty in the country. She has been playing the Carillon at Sydney University for about 18 years, before

that she was the head organist. The Carillonists have complete creative control over what they play. Only 'Waltzing Matilda' and 'Click Go the Shears' are banned. Staff working in the quadrangle complained that they were played too frequently.

Following the YouTube video of the Carillon playing the theme from *Game of Thrones*, public interest in the Carillon skyrocketed. The same program also included Leonard Cohen's 'Hallelujah' and the theme from *Skyfall*. According to Amy, everything but hip-hop sounds great on the Carillon.

The view from the Clavier (the room from which the Carillon is played, and

from which Amy Johansen, the head carillonist, works) is undoubtedly the best in the university. At night, as you look out over the city, it is breathtaking. I commented that her view was far better than Spence's, and Amy confirmed that he was jealous. She also divulged that he is wont to walk into the office and push the lever that tolls the largest bell. I was afforded the same pleasure. It was awesome.

*The University Carillon is played every Tuesday during Semester from 1-2pm. Additionally there are recitals every Sunday at 2pm. Students can submit requests to Amy at amy.johanson@sydney.edu.au.*

# DOES GAME OF THRONES CONDONE RAPE CULTURE?

CRITIQUE

**Lucia Osborne-Crowley** questions our fascination with sexual violence in popular television

Recently, with great reluctance and after much resistance, I watched the first episode of *Game of Thrones*. Considering I generally find myself bored by medieval

tales, I will admit that I was very intrigued by the characters and their relationships, the mounting tensions and the mystery. Unfortunately, I

could not enjoy or even pay much attention to any of these things, so consumed was I with the overwhelming, deeply affecting misogyny that the show engages in.

The first episode has two particularly confronting scenes. The first shows Khaleesi being stripped bare and groped by her brother, acts which clearly cause her great discomfort and distress. The second shows the same girl, meek and distressed, being unclothed and forced onto her hands and knees by a brutish husband her brother has arranged for her. These scenes are gratuitous; they do not advance the plot in any way and serve no purpose in terms of either narrative or character development. The scenes are also largely inconsequential. So much so, in fact, that Khaleesi goes on to fall madly in love with her rapist and lead a seemingly pleasant existence free of any of the very real, very long-term symp-

toms of this kind of physical trauma.

Rape is inserted into the script merely to add shock value. Clearly, the authors have no intention of saying anything real or pertinent about rape or rape culture, or even to simply tell a sad story about unfortunate events; rather, they are attempting to gratify the shock-and-sex-hungry viewers.

But, you might argue, rape is a reality, why not include it in popular culture? Let's not allow confusion to excuse this blatantly misogynistic behaviour. *Game of Thrones* is not a work of historical fiction. It is a work of pure fantasy. Instead of allowing ourselves the comfort of indulging what *Game of Thrones* may reveal about medieval times, let's instead think long and hard about what it reveals about the world we find ourselves in today. A world, it seems, where gratuitous rape is not only permissible, but attracts a crowd so large and so involved

that it is capable of breaking worldwide illegal download records.

So yes, rape is a real-world problem. And yes, rape was rife in medieval times. It still is. Rape happens. It happens every day. But, if you have a chance to construct a new world, surely it is possible to imagine a world where it doesn't.

*Game of Thrones* is a fantasy. A genre within which writers can dream up any world they please. Why not fashion one in which women are not routinely subjected to this kind of trauma? Because, for some grim reason, their audiences seem to be fine with it.

To the writers of *Game of Thrones*, I say, by all means, give me a world of dragons and heroes and pretty girls and deception, but is it really too much to ask to make it one where the rape and misogyny are left out?

Use your imagination.

## The Chaser still providing the LOLs **REVIEW**

Justin Pen checked out *The Checkout*

It began with a newspaper – an eponymous, satirical newspaper called *The Chaser* – and their goal, first and foremost, was to entertain. In an essay for *The Citizen*, Charles Firth, a founding member of the group, recalls jamming “all the embarrassingly earnest opinion pieces up the back of the rag.”

The tradition continued during the comedy coalition’s *War on Everything*; extravagant stunts like the APEC prank overshadowed their indefatigable prosecution of current affairs journalism (‘What Have We Learned from Current Affairs this week’). Though, it was the latter that seeded the group’s next project: *The Hamster Wheel*, a more focused production with its eye squarely set on the gaffes, foibles and hypocrisy of the mainstream media.

The team’s most recent offering, *The Checkout* is their most earnest outing yet.

*The Checkout* occupies a weird niche in modern television. It’s that much reviled blend of entertainment and information, ‘infotainment’, but some-



how it manages to do both justice.

The half-hour program takes the subversive wit and transgressive punchlines that brought *Chaser* heavyweights Julian Morrow and Craig Reucassel fame and infamy and applies them to a weekly campaign against the everyday unconscionable conduct of our corporate overlords and the sycophantic agencies that try (and fail) to regulate them.

New faces Kate Browne, a consumer affairs journalist for *CHOICE Magazine*, and Kirsten Drysdale, a writer and former host of *Hungry Beast*, join Morrow and Reucassel each week. The four are invariably flanked by industry experts and relevant academics – who proffer their straightforward but dry advice, often to the contrived annoyance of the presenters.

And there lays the show’s appeal. Familiar with the much-maligned genre of consumer affairs programs *The Checkout* satirises marketing tropes to reveal the emotional manipulation lurking beneath. The recurring segment “As a guilty mum” involves Browne dissecting, with saccharine earnestness, the invented obsolescence of baby wipes, vitamin supplements and safety equipment.

Over nine episodes, the team has probed the mystery of milk perme-



ate; the efficacy of electric cars; the deceptions perpetrated by alternative-medicine balrogs and the ineptitude of their regulators; new, tech trends like peer to peer financing and collaborative consumption; and the proliferation of predatory smartphone apps.

As a fledging newspaper, the team subsisted on \$6 500 in their first year of printing; Firth remembers being approached by a dot-com investor who offered them \$350 000 for a valuation of \$1m. The Chasers passed “with the smug knowledge that [they] were worth far more” – and we should all thank our gods for their egos.

The *Chaser* has always been a disruptive, comedic force. They’ve become increasingly didactic, without sacrificing their humour or edge. The show’s entire first season is available to watch on ABC iView; so really, there’s no reason not check out *The Checkout*.

@justipen

## SUDS attempt to set a world record



By performing in a 100 hour improvised play, says **Felicity Nelson**

Next week the Cellar Theatre will be occupied by a group of ambitious, presumably mad thespians aiming to set a world record with the longest improvised play to date. They will be working night and day on 7-hour rotation to tell an entirely original and spontaneous story that begins in a post-apocalyptic bunker and ends God-knows-where.

The director, Sam Jenkins, describes his cast as “super-fucking-talented”. He and some of the more insane cast members, intend to sleep, eat and shower in the theatre for the full 100 hours.

Rules stipulate that there must be a minimum of two people on stage at one time and that all food must be used as a prop at some point during the production. Audience contributions will inspire each hour of performance and guest comedians including James Colley, Michael Hing and Carlo Ritchie will take the stage each evening.

So, if you can’t get enough comedy or simply want to watch a cast of twenty loose their minds this show might be for you.

Single entry (SUDS/Access/General): \$2/3/5 Unlimited entry: \$5/8/9

## Open access publishing: the way of the future?

Mischa Vickas questions a free for all publishing model

To paraphrase Francis Bacon, “UniKey is Power”. With the mere whisper of “mvic6571” and “\*\*\*\*\*” into the library server, I can gain access to the extensive realm of human knowledge outside of Google. But what happens when I graduate? And what of the millions who do not hold the power that is the UniKey?

Enter Open Access (OA). One of the principles of OA, as our very own library states, is that “knowledge



derived from public funding should be freely accessible online, for public use”. Fair enough. If my taxes contribute to a government-funded research project, should I not be able to access its findings? Logically, yes, but the path to OA will be challenging.

In traditional publishing models, journals generate revenue by keeping articles behind a paywall, requiring readers and authors to obtain subscriptions. As students, these costs are covered by the University, through our fees, but at a large discount to us. Non-students, including our ideally research-informed policy makers, can expect to pay about \$30 for a single article, even one that is the product of public funding.

Realising this injustice of knowledge, the Australian Research Council (ARC) this year implemented a policy requiring any publications that come out of its funded research to be made available in an open access (free) institutional repository (such as USYD’s eScholarship Repository) within 12 months of publication in a subscription journal. The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) made a similar move in July 2012. With a combined annual budget of about \$2

billion, these organisations represent a large portion of Australian research.

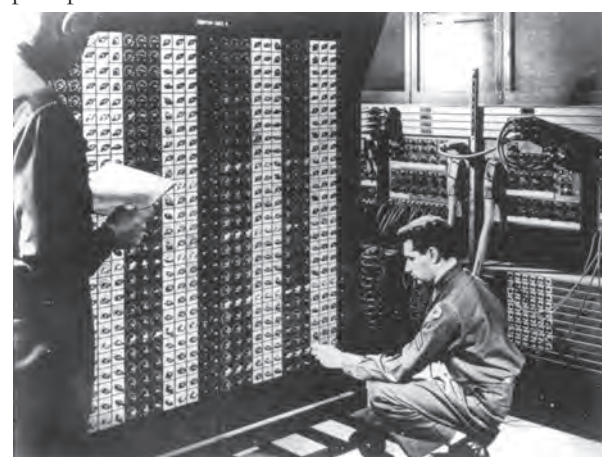
This requirement for authors to self-archive, known as the ‘green’ model of OA, will only be as successful as publishers are generous. 60% of journals allow authors to self-archive, but some may also impose copyright restrictions. For example, while a member of the public may be able to freely read an article, the reproduction of charts or diagrams may not be permitted for non-academic research, even with acknowledgement.

Further, the success of green OA depends on the public’s awareness of these repositories. There is currently no direct link to the eScholarship Repository on our University or library home pages. While it can be accessed through Google Scholar, embedding the repository into the main online access points to our university would foster a public value of our institution when accessing research.

Finally, compliance with these policies will be largely up to individual universi-

ties as opposed to the funding bodies. In an academic environment of ‘publish or perish’, the quantity of articles produced by researchers means that it is beyond the capabilities of funding bodies to ensure that authors are always following the rules. A way to ensure they do is to encourage an academic environment that values free access to research, and this can only be achieved if we, as members of the public, seek out this research.

So while graduation may see you stripped of your UniKey, the power that goes with it can remain so long as we push for open access.



## Tip of the hat, wag of the finger

Riordan Lee explores racism in the Australian Football League

On Friday night, a thirteen-year old girl at the MCG called one of the AFL's greatest ever Indigenous players, Adam Goodes, "an ape". That's as harrowing a sentence to write as it is to read. The response from the AFL community and even the young girl has been genuinely moving and shows just how far as a code, and as a society, we've progressed. Still however, there remains an unsettling feature of how the conversation about racism is framed in Australia. It's often dismissed as a function of 'ignorance', with bigots simply needing more 'education' – but even a cursory peek into a Republican cabinet meeting or a Paul's annual dinner makes it painfully evident education and privilege is no cure.

When Andrew Johns called Greg Inglis a "black cunt" in 2010 he apologized, stating he "looked forward to sitting down...and learning from him what is

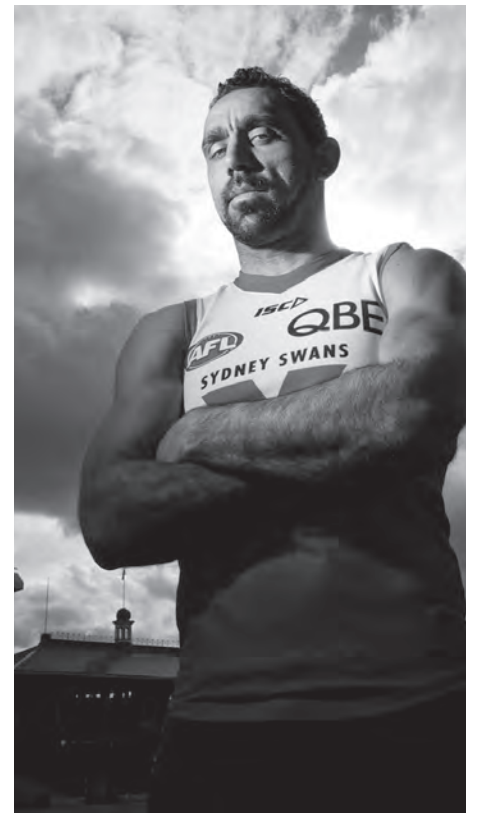
acceptable." You know, because how could he have possibly known "black cunt" would be offensive without the requisite historical background knowledge? What's too often neglected is the recognition that racial vilification comes not just from a place of ignorance, but deliberate and intentioned malice. Whilst perhaps we can make exceptions for this teenager, the excuse of ignorance dismisses racism as little more than a knowledge-gap, rather than a deplorable and deliberate attempt to vilify. Its purpose is to demean, shame and isolate. This is why Goodes left the field instead of celebrating a season-defining victory, this is why racial taunts are so pernicious and destructive.

I play AFL for the University, one of a handful of Asian players in what still remains an overwhelmingly Anglo sport.

Sure, the lingering awareness you're

kind of different is always there, but this isn't necessarily negative and frankly, race has largely been a non-issue. There have been three times in five years where I've been racially abused by an opposition, and I know it's three because to this day, I can vividly recall each incident. They inspired a unique type of pain – one deeply belittling, unspeakably infuriating and utterly humiliating.

Behind the fierce competition and hypermacho posturing in sports, lies a deep-seated sense of camaraderie and community – but vilification, of any kind, destroys the very fabric of the code, isolating and debasing those within it. This is why Goodes' actions on the boundary line of the MCG were so important – his composed defiance showed even in the most degrading of moments, one can find dignity and pride.



### REVIEWS

## I'm not racist but...

Andrew Bell gets racy

Last Saturday night I attended the NSW Reconciliation Council's event 'I'm not racist but...', a speaker session on the racial and racist dynamics at play in Australia.

I watched this show feeling very complicit. Before the show started I was discussing Sydney Boys High School's revision of its selective entry tests to gain a more 'local' character. The Herald had quoted a 2002 Old Boys' publication: "The demographic [sic] of the school are fast evolving and Year 7 is currently 90% Asian, which has the flow-on effect on the school's traditional sports of rowing, cricket and rugby." I joked that, "those old boys are just so sick of the Asians pulling up their HSC marks." I think I said this with all the might of the moral high ground, insulting a racist power structure with an obviously flattering statement about intelligence. These words were ringing in my ears when one of the speakers, Joel Ma, said that as a mixed-race Chinese man he was consistently classified as either a drug dealer or a maths genius.

The tone of the evening was not sombre. The audience (myself included) laughed at the various stories of racism that seemed to belong in some extreme parody. Whether it was a tourist telling a Aboriginal woman of mixed descent to "watch out for those half-castes", or witty responses to vitriol on public transport, or Joel Ma's fist fights that didn't give him the opportunity to explain the nuanced mistake in the slur that had started it in the first place.

One of the speakers, Tasnim Saeid, a



solicitor and activist, said that she felt humour was an excellent way to combat racism. I can see the merits of the approach: it is humanising, non-confrontational and doesn't make racism painful to discuss. But it is fine line between this and the 'hipster racism' which comes consistently from sheltered white people who joke about the supposed existence of racism because they're so comfortable with people of other races.

Geoff Lemon argued that people will always use racial narratives as a tool to quickly formulate expectations when meeting people. I feel this is true. But the difference between pride in one's race and contempt for another's is often minute, and that is a divide that everyone must struggle to navigate.

## The review of a ridiculous man

Hal Conyngham watched a rehearsal of the stage production of *Dream of a Ridiculous Man*

*Dream of a Ridiculous Man* is the first work by the self-described "talented and impoverished theatre-makers", of Scarecrow and Ox House. Originally a short work of fiction by Fyodor Dostoevsky, and adapted for the stage by USYD graduates Travis Ash and Jonathan Dunk, *Dream of a Ridiculous Man* is a show with all of the realised potential of independent theatre.

Watching a rehearsal in process is a curiously intimate thing. *Dream of a Ridiculous Man* in its nature fits well with any kind of sparse setting, not least for the performance of the actor, the Ridiculous Man, Travis Ash. The show starts as he walks on stage, lithe and mercurial, with an electric energy that pervades to his fingertips. From the moment he enters to the moment he falls, Ash is physically and mentally vibrating; to his fingertips and the far edges of his mind. Dunk's direction is also outstanding, particularly the visceral staging and creation of space, which balances out the contained energy in Ash and gives the audience room for their own reactions.

The run ends with a laconic "Nice work, man," and cigarettes replacing applause. I don't fully come out of it for a good ten

minutes, by which time Ash and Dunk are discussing notes and improvements. The rehearsal room, they say, is "quite informal and non-defined," one of the best side-effects of mutual respect and mutual goals. The other, of course, is an incredibly strong and affecting show that I imagine will only be better in performance, a view shared by the two. "You create something in rehearsal but you can only experience something in performance," Ash states, while Dunk compares the change between the two as "the equivalent of losing your adolescent speculations of romance in your first real love; you substitute an idea for a relationship."

*Dream of a Ridiculous Man* is playing at the TAP Gallery from May 29 to June 1.





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- MUSC2679: Music and Spirituality

For more information, head to

[sydney.edu.au/music/artsmusic](https://sydney.edu.au/music/artsmusic)



# Exams: stress-less!

With exams coming up you might want some advice and tips from the University experts on dealing with exams and stress – see below.

## USYD Learning Centre

(Information courtesy of [http://sydney.edu.au/stuserv/learning\\_centre/help/exams/exams.shtml](http://sydney.edu.au/stuserv/learning_centre/help/exams/exams.shtml))

### I want some help managing my time to study for exams.

It usually helps to make a detailed plan for the time between now and your exam.

- Make your plan as accurate as possible. Remember to include the time you need for transport, eating, family, work, sleep, etc.
- Update your plan each day.
- Find out as soon as possible what topics you need to study, and work out how much time you have for each topic before the exam.
- At the end of each time you study, look at your plan and consider what you have achieved. Before you leave your desk, make a list for what you will need to cover the next time you sit down to study.

### Here are some tips for using your time efficiently:

- If you can, choose the best time to study when you are naturally alert and focussed. For example, if you are a 'morning person', don't try to study late at night.
- Before each task, remind yourself of its specific purpose. For example, do you really need to read the whole chapter, or do you just need to check the paragraph about one

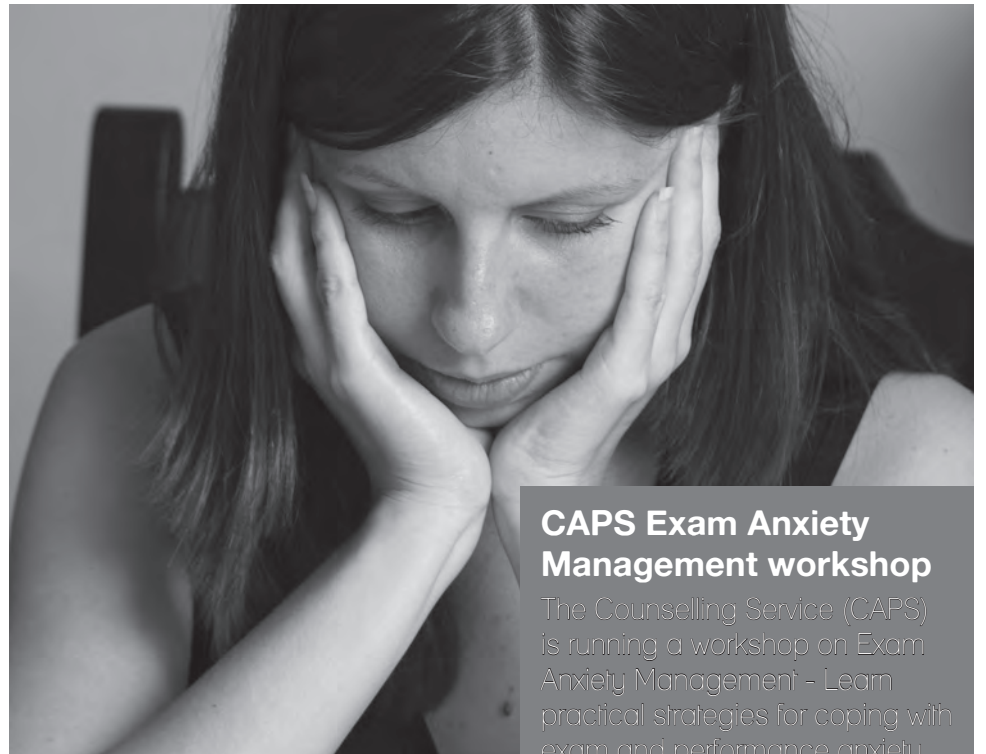
particular topic?

- If you lose concentration while you are reading or studying, stop. Think about how this paragraph fits into the big picture. Is it important?
- Skim-read every article or book chapter before you read it in full. That is, first read the title, abstract, introduction, headings/topic sentences and conclusion. What is the main topic and purpose of this article, book, chapter or section? How does this fit into the big picture of what you are learning?
- If you find that you are procrastinating (e.g. spending your time on things which are a low priority), stop and deal with it immediately.

### I want some help managing stress, anxiety or nervousness about exams.

The first way to reduce any stress, anxiety or nervousness about exams is to be prepared.

- Find out as early as possible what topics will be included in the exam.
- Also find out as early as possible what the type and conditions of the exam are (e.g. How long? Where? Open book? Essay questions, short answers or multiple choice?)
- Make a plan for revision of the important topics, early in the semester.
- Look at some exam papers from previous years and practise writing answers. You can look for past exam papers in the library. You can also ask your lecturer and the office of your faculty, school and/or department.



### CAPS Exam Anxiety Management workshop

The Counselling Service (CAPS) is running a workshop on Exam Anxiety Management – Learn practical strategies for coping with exam and performance anxiety on Tuesday 28 May, 1 – 2pm.

If you would like to attend the workshop please arrive at the CAPS reception (Level 5, Jane Foss Russell Building) 10 minutes prior to the start of the workshop.

([http://sydney.edu.au/current\\_students/counseling/workshops/list-of-workshops.shtml](http://sydney.edu.au/current_students/counseling/workshops/list-of-workshops.shtml))

### There are also a number of strategies you can use to boost your confidence and calm.

- Discuss the exam with other students beforehand, including any worries, but also the topics that you feel confident about.
- Lower the stress hormones in your body through physical exercise.
- Familiarise yourself with the environment of the exam.
- Remind yourself of the positive points: e.g. You have successfully completed other exams before, and you have prepared for this, so this exam will probably be OK too.
- On the day of the exam, wear something you feel good in, and take along helpful things, such as a water bottle and your favourite pen.

Remember though if you have any have any problems before, in or after the exams feel free to consult with a SRC Caseworker – call 9660 5222 for an appointment.

Also be aware that the SRC can loan you a calculator if you forget or just don't have one for your exam – come down to the SRC at level 1 of the wentworth Building



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For undergraduate  
Sydney Uni Students

FREE

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#### Drop-in sessions

(no appointment needed)

Tuesdays & Thursdays 1pm-3pm

#### Location

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



Students' Representative Council, University of Sydney  
Level 1 Wentworth Building, Uni of Sydney  
02 9660 5222 | [www.src.usyd.edu.au](http://www.src.usyd.edu.au) | ACN 146 653 143

# President's Report

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

David Pink talks federal politics

We're halfway through the year now, so I thought it was time to make myself accountable to you and detail some of the things you can look out for the SRC next semester.

We will be organising a bigger and better SRC stall at Re-O-Week, so that you can have a chance to sign up to the SRC and grab a free SRC bag. We'll also be going hard on defending staff conditions, and help put pressure on the University administration to give staff decent conditions.

I will also be following up with the police Ombudsman the allegations of police violence against students at last week's strike. On a less exciting note, the revamped and user-friendly SRC

website is now up and running – soon we'll be adding to it regularly updated SRC reports from the office bearers, minutes and agendas for council and executive meetings.

The SRC Breakfast Bar will also be up and running. Free breakfast for students who often can't afford to eat is something that we really prioritise. I'll also be working with LPAB diploma students to see if there is a way to improve the quality of their teaching, which is really not very good.

I will also be working closely with the University to try and guarantee that there is affordable and quality student housing available. I will be organising to meet with office bearers to make sure

that they have campaigns to run next semester.

One of the SRC's biggest problems, year after year, is that the flurry of activity of first semester subsides into the hugely draining SRC elections. Hence, I am going to work with office bearers this year to make sure that second semester is a time of activity and vibrancy for your student union.

The biggest surprise of the year so far was Gillard's Higher Education cuts of \$2.8 billion. As a member of the Labor Party, this has put me in the awkward position of organising demonstrations with the National Union of Students against the policy of a government I have been spending my evenings and



weekends tirelessly campaigning for. But I hope you would all agree that I have done my job well, and haven't let you down because of my political affiliations.

# General Secretary's Report

[general.secretary@src.usyd.edu.au](mailto:general.secretary@src.usyd.edu.au)

Dylan Parker stresses the importance of the upcoming federal election

Now the elections are over I can firmly say that nothing focuses the mind on the long term health of student associations more than having to stand up in front of people and justify why we exist and they should vote.

While I am both happy with the result and even happier the damn thing is over I have this uneasy feeling that we as students reps are tip-toeing around the elephant in the room. Student associations don't operate in a vacuum divorced from society or greater politics.

As I've mentioned in the past student democracy is vital to healthy organisations, however the choice that matters

most for the quality of your support and services may not be one decided by USYD students at all but by everyone else on September 14.

Along with David, as General Secretary it is my role to look after the long-term financial health of this organisation and to make sure that we keep providing amazing services. However, in order to survive we are financially dependent on the University funding us with money levied from the SSAF. The long-term financial reality for the SRC is that if elected Abbott will devastate our income. We know that repealing the SSAF is in the Liberal DNA from Howard taking a pole-axe to student asso-

ciations with VSU. We survived VSU only because of the beneficence of the University continuing to fund us at historical levels. However, having already seen their cash drive through staff cuts and the EBA negotiations I am not so optimistic about that happening a second time around.

Students appreciate our SRC and the services it provides. However, nothing in life comes for free.

The reality is that deep down the Liberals do not believe in funding student associations. If you care about the long-term health of your SRC then what happens on September 14th should matter to you.



# Education Officers' Report

[education.officers@src.usyd.edu.au](mailto:education.officers@src.usyd.edu.au)

Are the staff really striking AGAIN? asks Casey Thompson

Yes. The National Tertiary Education Union (NTEU) and the Community and Public Sector Union (CPSU) are taking further industrial action on June 5 2013. As before, it will be a twenty-four hour strike, and pickets will be at every main entrance from 7am. Many students have expressed that they're annoyed and angry at the continued industrial action, but to let you in on a secret - so are the unions. Staff, whether academic or general, don't want to have to continually take industrial action for their basic rights. Every day a staff member strikes they don't get paid. Therefore, you can imagine that this is amounting to a lot of lost pay, and a lot of rent, grocery and medicine money foregone.

Sydney University staff are in the tertiary education profession because they love researching and helping students

learn. Every day they strike is a day they don't get to do this. No one particularly enjoys industrial action, and in an ideal world it wouldn't be necessary.

However, it is unfortunately continually necessary at Sydney University as Michael Spence refuses to grant staff the basic conditions and pay levels that they require to successfully carry out their professions. Spence can afford to deliver an Enterprise Bargaining Agreement (EBA) that does both of these things. Sydney University has a \$93 million surplus. Therefore, even with the federal government funding cut of \$45 million to Sydney University, Spence is still left with \$48 million in savings to improve staff conditions and the quality of education that our institution delivers.

Please don't go to class on the 5th of June, and even consider joining your

staff and fellow students on the picket lines. The more successful this strike is (i.e. the less students that go onto campus and thus the more it brings the functioning of the university to a halt for the day) the more seriously Spence will take the unions' EBA demands and the unions themselves as key stakeholders at the bargaining table in the future.

Therefore, the more successful the strike the quicker Spence will be at meeting the unions' demands and industrial action will not be required in the future.

The primary purpose of this industrial action is not permanent disruption to the university, or to your education, it is temporary disruption that will help create a better quality education for all



students in the long term.

Please consider sacrificing one day of your education to save your whole degree.

Bad working conditions for your staff mean bad conditions for your education. Please help us demand the quality education we deserve.

## Enviro Collective Report

environment.officers@src.usyd.edu.au

The **Student Environment Action Collective** updates us on enviro activism

Welcome to the Student Environment Action Collective (SEAC)!

There is plenty of excitement this week in the Environment Department because we have found a space for our community garden! After sneakily building a guerrilla garden on Eastern Avenue and after a long time negotiating with Uni admin we're ecstatic to see this finally happening! We're excited to be working with the Centre for English Teaching and the USU Food Coop to bring together domestic and international students by building and maintaining a community garden. This will strengthen our campus community through sustainability education. There are huge opportunities for sustainability education to show people how to work outside of corporate food production. Gardening is also great for mental

health. We hope that the space can be used for all sorts of groups to run workshops and hang out.

Examples of student community gardens abound. ANU, Monash, Wollongong and CSU Wagga Wagga all have vibrant garden spaces run by students and for students.

If you're keen to help out planning and building the community garden then you should totally get in touch! <https://www.facebook.com/groups/usydcommunitygarden/> or come to a SEAC meeting every Wednesday at 12pm on the Sunken Lawns next to Manning. And find us on Facebook or at [www.sydneynienviro.org](http://www.sydneynienviro.org).

SEAC is also planning an awesome trip to Tasmania in the July holidays. This year Students of Sustainability (SOS) will run from the 5th to 9th of July at

the University of Tasmania, Launceston Campus. Come hang out with three hundred students fighting for environmental justice! Sounds like a great way to warm up the winter holidays.

The program is looking awesome! Focusing on campaign success stories, practical skills and workshoping current campaigns. Workshop submissions are welcome and due by Friday 17th May. We are also planning to go on a mass roadtrip to the Tarkine forest afterwards with local forest campaigners and the Australian Student Environment Network (ASEN) to help stop the clear-fell destruction of old growth forest in order to mine the area for fossil fuels. We'll also visit the Florentine and other key sites for the endangered Tasmanian Devil.

Don't miss out, register now and get

your transport sorted. Subsidies are available from both the conference organizer and from the SRC, so don't miss it because of money issues. The SOS crew is also offering financial help to first-time SOS-goers.

Find out everything you need to know on the website: [www.studentsofsustainability.org](http://www.studentsofsustainability.org). It's organised by the Tasmania Uni student enviro collective and the Australian Student Environment Network, so it is by students and for students.

### Coming Up:

You are invited to our discussion night on Thursday 30th May at 5pm in New Law 115. Pop it in your diary: How to be a Good Ally: Indigenous Solidarity in the Environment Movement.

## Women Officers' Report

usydwomenscollective@gmail.com

Hannah Smith gives us the Pro-Choice rundown

### RU4 CHOICE?

There is a group on campus attacking women's reproductive rights. Don't let them misinform you about YOUR choices. Misleading health information has no place on campus. Women deserve to understand the risks and benefits involved in all decisions they make about their health.

Recently, a pamphlet was distributed by a club on campus that purported to explore the ethical, social and medical challenges of the RU486 drug (commonly known as the 'abortion pill'). The distribution of information about women's reproductive health by a group with

a pointed ideological agenda completely undermines the right of women to feel safe and included on this campus.

The Women's Collective has decided to take action. We don't want to see discourses of women's health being dominated by those who seek to marginalise our autonomy. We have decided that the best way to rectify this is through pursuing a more transparent and honest discourse on women's reproductive and sexual health. We have recently distributed a flyer with accurate information about RU486 and are looking to host forums on women's health.

### Support reproductive choice at Sydney University

The availability of RU486 in Australia has only one major implication: expanding the number of options available to women experiencing unplanned pregnancy. If you support women's reproductive CHOICE, spread the word and like our page on Facebook: 'Pro-choice students of Sydney University' for more information on how you can be involved.

### If you are pregnant

If you are pregnant when you had not planned to be, it can be a very uncertain

and emotional time. There are several options available to women facing an unplanned pregnancy. For some women the decision will be clear, while for others it may be a difficult choice to make. You may find it helpful to discuss your feelings and your options with people close to you. These resources can help to support you and provide information about your choices:

- <http://www.childrenbychoice.org.au/>
- Family Planning NSW: <http://www.fpnsw.org.au/>
- Pregnancy support helpline 1800 422 213; Health line 1300 658 886

## Queer Officers' Report

queer.officers@src.usyd.edu.au

Fahad Ali writes about police violence and queerphobia

You may have noticed the full-page colour ad for the Marriage Equality rally in the previous edition of *Honi*. A few weeks ago, I pushed for it to be included, but just before the deadline, in an abrupt volte-face, I fought to have it removed. Unfortunately, it was too late for such a drastic change.

You may be asking why. I am a staunch supporter of marriage equality. I've been involved in planning the rally, and I've organized the USYD contingent. Why would I attempt to do something in direct opposition to the movement?

I believe there are more pressing challenges facing the queer community than marriage equality. For instance, homophobia is still rife in schools, queer youth suicide rates are absurd, and the prevalence of anxiety disorders is dis-

proportionate; highest in trans\* people at 50%, and lowest in gay men at only 25%, compared to 14% in the general population. This is something even queer politicians are reluctant to tackle. For instance, the self-proclaimed gay messiah, Alex Greenwich, fails to recognize the troubles faced by the queer community beyond marriage equality. In fact, when I spoke at the Mardi Gras community forum earlier this year, his very abrasive reply was to inform me that the police brutality at Mardi Gras was not targeted homophobia.

In my first report, I wrote, "...the countless cases of targeted police violence and unwarranted strip searches throughout and after the Mardi Gras is a clear indication that there is a systematic queerphobia ingrained within the police force." I stand by my position.

Queerphobia, racism, and sexism have deep roots in the police force. If we are to eliminate this culture, we need to hold police to account. A multi-pronged approach involving direct action, demanding for an independent investigatory body for police, and calling out not just queerphobic but all police violence, is the best way for our community to proceed.

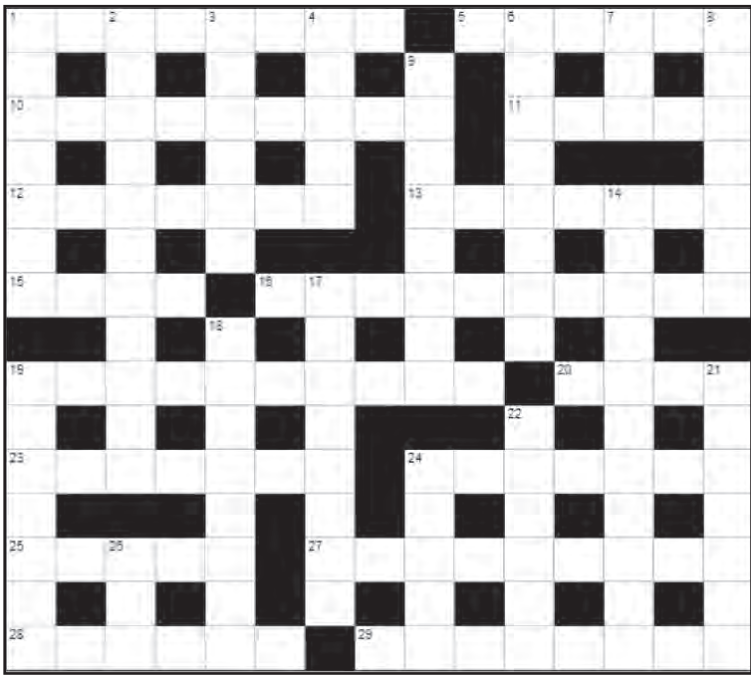
What happened at the last staff strike is abhorrent. Riot police brutalized students and staff for resisting management decisions in a peaceful, lawful, protected industrial action. I will not go into specifics: *Honi* has already published a number of articles by students who were the victims of police brutality. But I will point out that resisting this violence is extremely relevant to the queer community. If the police can't get away with attacking one community,

they will find it difficult to get away with attacking us.

The reason I tried to have the ad removed was to give the publication more space for material on police violence at the picket lines. It's important that student voices are heard. The student body needs to come together to condemn police brutality on campus. I don't believe this is an issue of politics; one can disagree with the claims of the NTEU and CPSU and still call for the Vice-Chancellor to rescind his invitation to the police. This is a matter of human compassion and decency. We will not have students and staff attacked on their own campus by violent thugs.

To the staff and students on the picket lines: the queer community is right behind you.

## QUICK CROSSWORD



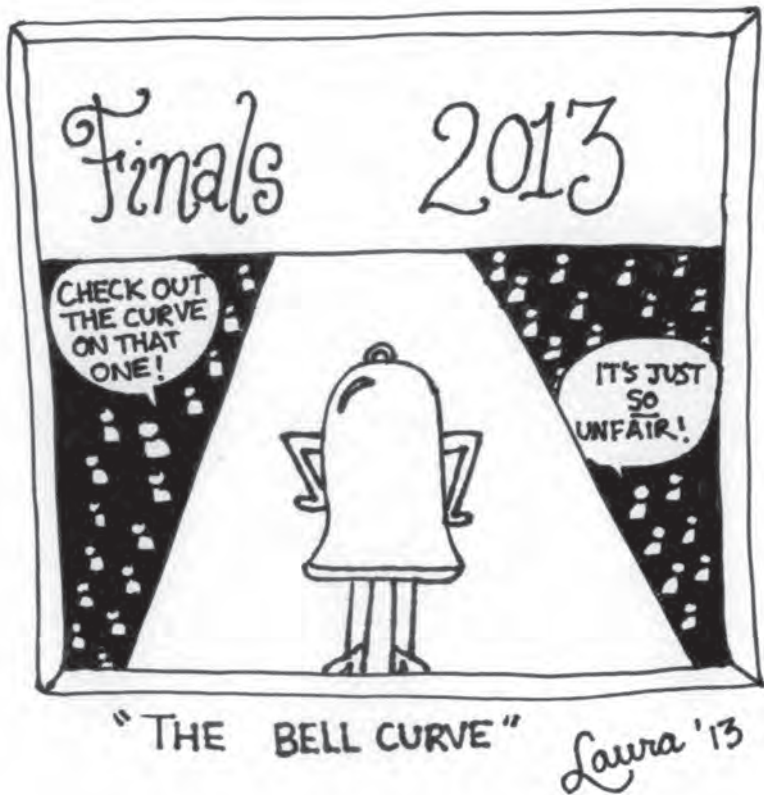
Janice

### ACROSS

- 1,22-dn. Humorous series of events, or Shakespeare play (6,2,6)
- 5. Excessive pride (6)
- 10, 26-dn. Da Vinci sketch (9,3)
- 11. Urgency (5)
- 12. People of Valletta (7)
- 13. Captivates (7)
- 15. Practical understanding or intelligence (4)
- 16. Small espresso cups (10)
- 19. Bilingualism (10)
- 20. Dim (4)
- 23. See 3-dn
- 24. Sunshade (7)
- 25. Paces (5)
- 27. Composer of Romeo and Juliet (9)
- 28. Pertaining to sound (6)
- 29. Sends by public carrier (8)

### DOWN

- 1. Troglodyte (7)
- 2. Related to science of metalwork (11)
- 3, 23-ac. Plot device of abrupt resolution (4,2,7)
- 4. Express a belief (5)
- 6. A violent disturbance (8)
- 7. See 9-dn
- 8. Philosophy of doubt (7)
- 9, 7-dn. Plot device of mid-narrative entry (2,6,3)
- 14. Falling into disuse (11)
- 17. Thermodynamic measure (8)
- 18. Roman emperor from 81AD (8)
- 19. Reduces in rank (7)
- 21. Experiences again (7)
- 22. See 1-ac
- 24. Prefix indicating first (5)
- 26. See 10-ac



Cartoon: Laura Precup-Pop

WHAM, BAM,  
ANAGRAM!

SALUCE



LYIIC



CUBONE



KYVSIV



Use the shaded letters to answer the riddle

Q: What's round and dangerous?

A: A



### ACROSS

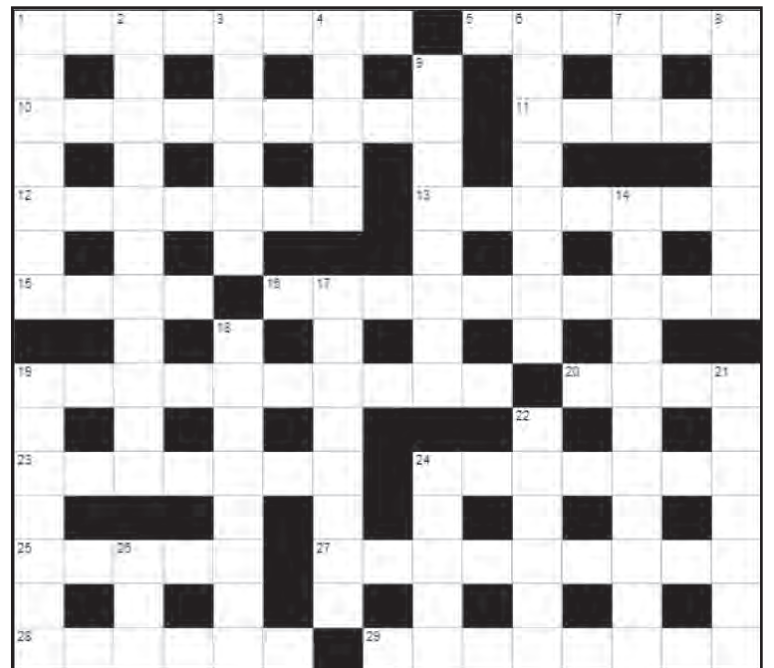
- 1. Cup brawl: likely outcome of this event! (3,5)
- 5. Part of Othello, we moan primarily (6)
- 10. Paquin with shoe shine, mostly, at naval academy (9)
- 11. Calls Bob Jane? (5)
- 12. Fond of Martian bar eaten in this country (7)
- 13. Per servant sprout cook (7)
- 15. Genghis trashed Egyptian symbol (4)
- 16. Asian delicacy cry: tune out chicken's forebear/descendant (7,3)
- 19. French girl outside the European Union hits century for serial story (10)
- 20. With Kingsley or Martin, something sounds wrong (4)
- 23. Jack 7-down for KD quote? (7)
- 24. Pirates tramp about! (7)
- 25. Two economists lose constant (5)
- 27. Try as elks mishandle young grains (3,6)
- 28. Heads of the giant snake king swallow current bond in Baltic port city (6)
- 29. R&B star errs without right helpers to his seats (8)

### DOWN

- 1. AA interrupted drifter (7)
- 2. Bank up on up - designer singe (11)
- 3. It's a trap! Torturer hides bird of prey (6)
- 4. Faulkner, tell Prince! (5)
- 6. Containing Ashes ton, added to uncool roster (8)
- 7. Swap card belief system (3)
- 8. Wild horse Sally? (7)
- 9. Tea sounds duet - drink voice with aloe regularly (8)
- 14. The mixed mortar halved thickness - play around a pill
- 17. Forever? Never! Behead Sir Tom (8)
- 18. Omission... (8)
- 19. Coming down low, grade capturing none back and following what comes between miso (7)
- 21. "Muscles Rising" - nun cut doubt doctrine (7)
- 22. Mark back after spinning lease feud (6)
- 24. Uncertain whether smug 19-down are quiet by themselves (5)
- 26. Waterview, I heard? (3)

As eight solutions are all 22-downs, they lack a definition. All other clues are normal.

## CRYPTIC CROSSWORD



Janice

# THE SOIN



**INSIDE: WHY DOES EVA LONGORIA HAVE A CENSOR BAR INSTEAD OF A VAGINA?**



# EUROVISION: FUCKING SPECTACULAR

*The Soin* was on the ground at Eurovision 2013, exclusively covering the world's largest and most extravagant annual singing competition.

Eurovision is renowned for its glitter, glamour and gaudiness, and 2013's show was no different to its predecessors.

Highlights included Russia's dramatic and experimental opening act, in which singers and dancers alike participated in a mass orgy swimming in a see-through vat of Malibu and pineapple juice.

Lithuania shocked and amused the crowd when its lead singer emitted multi-coloured fireworks from his arse, pinwheeling across the stage and hitting the roof in a spectacular pyrotechnic triumph.

Legions of hippopotamuses holding maracas and tambourines lent musical support to France's otherwise lacklustre act, while heavily tattooed eunuchs wrestled in a mixture of jelly, rose petals and bicarbonate of soda while simultaneously belting out Finland's toe-tapping number.

In a bold production decision, Ireland's entry turned its performers into human profiteroles, pumping them full of clotted vanilla cream before coating them in Viennese chocolate and flash-freezing them live on stage.

But the highlight of the night was Azerbaijan's performance, in which bedazzled pugs sung the song's chorus while tightrope walking and showering the crowd with individually gift-wrapped raspberry macarons.

Drama briefly marred the evening when Canberra's Skywhale drunkenly assaulted several or-

ganisers, claiming that she had been excluded from the event for being "too conservative".

"Fucking ten tits!" she slurred.

"I have fucking ten wobbly titties and you bastards ignore me! I'm majestic! Watch me soar!" she cried, before being forcibly escorted from the arena by security blimps.

Next year's competition is set to be held in Denmark, with officials already promising that it will be more extravagant than this year's.



## PRESS RELEASE: SAVE PETITIONS

To: Twitter followers

From: GetUp!, NUS, Change.org

Subject: [Name], we need your help with this important thing

Hello [Name],

You may have heard that we are facing some difficult times. Despite numerous petitions, photo petitions, Facebook petitions, and memes for people to like and share, we have become increasingly irrelevant in Australian political discourse.

With an incoming Abbott Government, which has threatened to cut the public service, impose socially conservative laws, and expand tough law-and-order policies, it is vital that every Aussie continues to like posts and write their name and address in our petitions.

In particular, there has been a steady decline in the amount of reshares and retweets of our photo petitions – the greatest thing to happen to activism since the advent of NGO lobbyists – and this has damaged our ability to change society.

Speaking of change, Change.org has been hit especially hard by con-

tinued disinterest in petitions. This is surprising, considering the popularity of petitions such as "Change.org: Stop claiming that all change is a result of a petition on your website."

[Name], the undersigned are in desperate need of help. Please forward this email to as many people as you can, like our Facebook page(s), and maybe do something on Foursquare and Tumblr too.

The future of Australia is in your hands.

Yours sincerely,

Change.org, the National Union of Students, and GetUp!



## THE AWKWARD MOMENT WHEN WE AREN'T ACTUALLY ALL ABOUT TO DIE FROM IRREVERSIBLE CLIMATE CHANGE

Despite not having given any thought to the dangers of global warming since at least 2004, the public of the world was elated this week to hear the news that their combined apathy has resulted in a slight slowdown in the overall rise of global temperatures over the last ten years. Scientists have put down the cause of the unexpected dip to a faltering global economy, the increased uptake of green technology, and the reduction in national hairdryer usage since Kevin Rudd's fall from power.

Statistician Dr Blatent Faikname says it is unsurprising that scientists had skewed their predictions. "People who insist their p-values are accurate while running the wrong model are not going to give us a right answer!" he laughed. "Just because they do a Bayesian analysis over and over

seen world over burning tyres in celebration, turning their air-conditioners on for no apparent reason and tearing down windmills as a sign of solidarity for the coal fire powerstations who have for too long been denied the liberty to fill the air with their black clouds of freedom. "I'm just so overjoyed" said one ecstatic reveler burning an effigy of Al Gore in the street. "I no longer have to feel guilty for using my SUV to take out the garbage, what a load off my mind!"

But not all people were happy to hear this news, with the green powered island of Tokelau taking the news particularly hard. "Obviously we feel pretty stupid now," says Foreign Minister Foua Toloa, "given we've invested all this money in renewable and free energy sources that are just going to go to waste. We'll probably just have the solar farms scrapped, and use the money we get from that to import more coal from overseas. We can always rebuild them after the next global oil crisis kicks off, which shouldn't be for at least eight years."



doesn't mean they're results are going to differ. Idiots!" Learning from past mistakes, scientists have refused to respond to these claims until they can fully comprehend what it was that Dr Faikname actually just said.

Federal Environment Minister Tony Burke says the government has mixed feelings about the reports. "The good news is we're not all going to die in a fiery sauna now until at least 2080, so we can all go back to using our cars exhaust pipes as hairdryers. The bad news is that we've accidentally made Lord Monckton look credible, which frankly I think is a much greater loss for humanity than the health of our future generations."

Jubilant crowds rejoicing the end of global warming have been

These reports have come in the wake of a string of scientific turnarounds in recent times, including last months shock announcement that smoking doesn't actually instantly cause cancer, but rather contributes to a slow process of genetic degradation. Cigarettes are due to be released back into school canteens by the end of next week, in line with the new national development programme of emptying sprays into the air just for kicks.

Asked if he thinks the public have learned anything from this experience, professional media whore Waleed Aly mused "Yes, I think they have. They've learned to not trust scientists scaremongering about a overly dramatic end of days full of famine, heat and suffering. Thats what religion is for."



IF YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION ON THE WHEREABOUTS OF MISSING UNION BOARD CANDIDATE JOSH CRAWFORD, PLEASE CONTACT THE SOIN OR CRIMESTOPPERS



# POLICE CRITICISED FOR PASSIVE AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOUR



Protesters at Sydney University have again clashed with police during the latest bout of industrial action, culminating in accusations against the Force for excessive passive-aggression.

Police reportedly belittled the perceived scarcity of the picket. "They kept asking when the strike was going to start" an aghast student and activist, Pru Tessa, exclaims "even after it had finished!"

Police Officer and insufferable Crocodile Dundee enthusiast, Constable Becon, was spotted strolling from picket to picket accosting protesters with a raised hand, "You call that a strike? THIS is a strike" motioning a slap before snorting hysterically.

Meanwhile, tensions reached their heights when officers decided to reappropriate classic left wing ballads with their own renditions. 'Solid Armoury Forever' was rumoured to be a particular crowd displeaser.

Several officers were allegedly seen putting their right foot in (the picket), then their right foot out, right back in, before shaking said foot all about. When *The Soin* asked about the seemingly bizarre antics, they replied that they were "doing the Hokey Pokey" and "taking the job as seriously as university staff take theirs".

This comes despite reassurances that the police were completely neutral agents in the industrial

action. "Unlike those commie firees" a source unwilling to be identified tells *The Soin* "and if that's not off the record, you can bet something will be on yours, son!"

Nevertheless, Police Chief Swyne claims to be sympathetic to community concerns and recommends that anyone with a complaint should make a submission to responsible authorities, along with their name and address, so they'll "know where to send the tiny violin to".

Passive-aggression as a crowd-management tactic is the latest in a series of energy-efficient Green initiatives from NSW police. "We're here to serve and protect. That includes the planet", Police Implement Green Strategies (PIGS) Spokesman, Michael Thugg, tells the *Soin* "Knowing you can completely demoralise someone without using a single watt of electricity? It feels good, you can sleep well".

All new cadets are accordingly being equipped with fundamental passive aggressive training, including synchronised eye rolling, deep, extended sighs and fiercely indifferent expressions. Training sessions can last up to a total of thirty minutes, making it the most intensive police training imposed to date.

When queried about further Green Initiatives, Officer Thugg suggested a cut back on superfluous student newspapers.

# BDSM MOTION AT SRC

In what will hopefully be an exciting, if challenging event, the next SRC meeting will commence promptly at 7pm.

A number of different opinions are set to be expressed on the use of the Boycott, Divestments, and Sanctions Motion (BDSM) to address the Israel and Palestine conflict. A motion is being put forward to oppose the use that reads: "I have no problem with BDSM in theory, but the issue is when people go too far and cross the boundaries. Therefore, I strongly oppose the use of BDSM in this instance."

Following the intense discussions at the last meeting, this discussion is set to be quite heated, and many members have their hands tied. "I can't change my position," said SLS councillor Sandy Dwyer, "my caucus is binding, and despite being fairly versatile on the issue, I'm locked into one side." Independent councillor Jessica Li is strongly in favour of the motion, and is expected to come out guns blazing: "Well firstly, Sydney University has no place involving itself in Israel and Palestine. But regardless, it's about freedom of speech, and BDSM silences the right of one party to use anything other than safe words. I will fight strongly to have the motion from the previous meeting rescinded. Freedom of speech shall not be gagged and bound and locked away."

Some members are suggesting that current events have simply gone too far to be resolved by Israel and Palestine alone. "Bringing a third party into it is the only way the solution will satisfy both," said Unity councillor Magnus Frickington. However, Unity has so far been unable to agree on whether the third person should be a stranger or someone they already know. While Frickington has passionately argued that "Jordan has always been very open about this kind of thing," Samantha Van Hoff was convinced that the US would be a novel addition.

Some believe the meeting, as is often the case, is expected to go nowhere. Cynical councillor Henrietta Ignorini predicts it will be "one big fucking Gaza Strip tease". She expects that after hours of meaningless discussion (with very little foreplay), the meeting will far exceed its allocated time and gag orders will be issued, leaving many councillors unsatisfied and thoroughly underwhelmed. *The Soin* sincerely hopes this is not the case.



**A VISUAL GAG**





# Students' Representative Council The University of Sydney

# OUR

# FUTURE

# OUR

# FIGHT

## SYDNEY UNI SRC - PROTECTING OUR RIGHTS AT UNI

### UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

#### Support & Advocacy

- Centrelink
- Academic Appeals
- Discontinuing/Withdrawing
- Show Cause
- Exclusion
- Tenancy
- Fee Refunds
- Harassment & Discrimination
- International Students
- Plagiarism & misconduct

#### Free Legal Advice

- Referrals
- Discrimination & Equal Opportunity
- Employment law
- Minor criminal matters/traffic offences/ fines
- Victims of violence
- Debts

### SRC Books - Buy your textbooks cheap!

- Buy & sell your textbooks
- Search for books online via the SRC website - [www.src.usyd.edu.au](http://www.src.usyd.edu.au)

Wentworth Level 4 (next to the International Lounge)

### Emergency Loans

\$50 emergency loans for students in need

### Student Publications

- *Honi Soit* weekly newspaper  
[www.honisoit.com](http://www.honisoit.com)
- International Students Handbook
- Orientation Handbook
- Counter Course Handbook
- Growing Strong - Women's Handbook

### Student Rights & Representation

SRC Representatives are directly elected by students each year to stand up for students' rights on campus and in the wider community.

#### Find the SRC at...

Level 1 Wentworth Building  
(under City Rd footbridge)

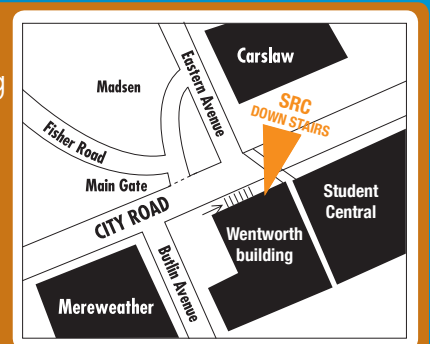
Ph: 02 9660 5222

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

If you are at another

campus, email:

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



The SRC's operational costs, space and administrative support are financed by the University of Sydney.

# [www.src.usyd.edu.au](http://www.src.usyd.edu.au)