



Week 2, Semester 2, 2014

HONI SOIT QUI MAL Y PUGS

p.8 *Nude Snapchats*

p.15 *Farewell TXTBus*

ILLUSTRATION BY
MONICA RENN

The Evolution of Lony Abbott.



Young Libs exposed

*Justin Pen and Michael Rees
investigate the factions, feuds and
operatives of the Young Liberal Movement.*

In about eight months, the Australian Labor Party and the Liberal Party will war at the ballot box for the state of NSW. Corflutes will be mounted, flyers distributed, telephone numbers dialed, and meals interrupted. The foot soldiers of the operation will be the parliamentary parties' respective youth wings: Young Labor and the Young Liberal Movement.

Recently, the NSW State Conference showcased the best of the worst of the Labor Party: inter-factional squabbling, ideological gulfs, and abrasive and very public sledging. The factions, Centre Unity (Labor Right) and the Socialist Left (Labor Left), were noisy and visible.

On the other side of the fence, however, one hears little and sees less. The Liberal Party has an adroit capacity for suppressing public dissent about internal issues, particularly among its younger members. Former

President of the Sydney University Conservative Club Brigid Meney cited this "very strict media policy" when she declined to be interviewed for this feature investigation.

To the public, the pews of John Howard's broad church seem deathly quiet.

In early 2014, John Ruddick broke the silence. A Liberal party member of 20 years and prominent reform advocate, he decried the state of the Young Liberals in an email to 10,000 Liberal party members. "The YLs [Young Liberals] are often dismissed as an innocuous youth group... that is false. Under the current anti-democratic structure of the NSW Liberal Party the YLs [Young Liberals] are the epicenter [sic] of factional intrigue for the entire party."

A variety of sources close to the Young Liberal movement spoke

to us about the clandestine operations of the factions, the Sydney University Club (SULC), and the Young Liberal movement – albeit on the condition of partial anonymity. Corroborating evidence in leaked emails and excerpts from the club's constitution and meeting minutes flesh out the rest of the saga.

"The Young Liberals are the epicenter of factional intrigue for the entire party."

FACTIONAL FISTICUFFS?

On a campus level factional brawling has historically taken place behind closed doors in tensely stacked-out annual general meetings. Following the Centre Right's victory for the control of SULC in 2011, the battleground has moved to O-Week stalls and social events, where factions vie to recruit new members.

A scuffle at this year's O-Week between members of the Centre Right-aligned SULC and the Hard Right Conservative Club underlines the hostility between two battling factions. The clubs' stalls were initially placed side by side, but by Thursday were inexplicably separated. Despite mounting evidence that an altercation took place, the President of the Conservative Club and the President of SULC issued a joint statement denying any hostility between the parties.

"On Thursday, the USU decided that given the similar appearance of the stalls, they should be separated. This was welcomed by both clubs."

The true story was borne out in the minutes of a University of Sydney Union Clubs and Societies (C&S) Committee meeting held in May.

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ISSUE #15

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We acknowledge that *Honi Soit's* office is located on the traditional lands of the Gadigal people of the Eora nation. We would like to acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we work and pay our respects to the Elders past and present.

Editorial

Every year, the undergraduate USyd community begrudgingly goes to the polls for the SRC election. It's much like its local, state, and federal counterparts. There are political 'parties', campaign slogans, ridiculous policy promises, aggressive campaigners, scrutineers - the lot.

But exempt from this otherwise perfect duplication is the absence of serious media coverage and scrutiny. Honi Soit is barred by the SRC constitution from reporting on anything to do with the election after the election edition - three weeks in advance of the close of polling. This results in a media blackout on the campaign. There is no analysis of policies, no candidate interviews, and no coverage of misleading campaign tactics or violations of electoral regulations.

Student elections are regularly mocked for being a poor demonstrator of democracy (at times for good reason), but at least an adversarial media keeps the bastards honest. Honi's special election edition does 'cover' the candidates in the race and the policies they peddle, but it only publishes statements written by the candidates themselves - Honi isn't allowed to scrutinise anything.

This Wednesday, 6 August, a motion will be moved in the SRC to amend the constitution and remove this restriction. If the motion is passed, Honi would be able to report on the campaign trails. The relevant clause would be replaced by a requirement that the Electoral Officer would ensure its commentary is not defamatory and does not endorse any particular candidate.

The replacement clause aims to solve some of the issues that could arise from allowing Honi to report on the election. With a general monopoly on election coverage, Honi could

wield considerable influence. Herein lies the importance of the Electoral Officer, who is deemed an appropriate arbiter of other aspects of the election. Other checks on Honi's commentary would be the same as all other times of the year; lengthy debates about stupol issues on Facebook and letters which we duly publish. Ultimately, the more voices questioning election policies, the better.

One other oddity arises from the fact that the SRC election involves the very organisation Honi is funded (and ultimately run) by. This means that our motion would allow Honi to report on our successors and prospective co-workers. Earlier this year, preference deals between Honi tickets and SRC campaigns were outlawed. No longer are editorial teams indebted to any faction they might otherwise have run with. It can't be denied that the stupol world is small and the editors will be part of the hacksphere, but despite those failings, Honi has reported on USU Board elections for years. Ideally that coverage is appropriate and fair, but every year we see stupol enthusiasts engage with the editorial approach and criticise it when necessary. We are kept to account.

Above all, students on campus need to know more than slogans and campaign promises. Honi can inform the student body about how the campaign is progressing, the relevance of certain preference deals, and any controversies that arise. With only 14% of eligible voters casting a vote each year, comprehensive media coverage is needed to generate interest in what is an important democratic process and to keep the hacks to account.

Student elections aren't the be all and end all, but we can only take them seriously if we treat them seriously.

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Climbing the Laneway to heaven

Dear Honi,

We were shocked, simply shocked, by Peter Walsh's review of Laneway in last week's edition. Indeed, one of our number was hospitalised as a consequence of Walsh's scathing attack on our shining new venture (there is some suggestion that the hospitalisation was in fact caused by a bug from a recent trip to Peru, but we know the truth of the matter).

Through 800 words of platitude and hyperbole, Walsh clumsily plunged his ageing quill into our collective USU heart. And at about 750 words into his scathing judgement of the jewel of Wentworth he delivered a delicious irony- which was reinterpreted as a bland contradiction- with the words "I am reluctant to pass judgement."

All power to Walsh. We considered his opinion with interest. It was a somewhat refreshing reprieve from the near perpetual chorus of praise we have hitherto encountered. Indeed, most of us have yet to attend class because we have been consistently spending sixteen hours a day responding to our members' compliments. They are generally thrilled that they can purchase cafe quality food at a much lower price than similar offerings in Newtown or Glebe.

On reflection, we can only presume that Walsh was biting too often on his pen, such that the ink obscured his ability to taste. Therefore we wish to offer him a free meal at Laneway (mah serious). Consider it a peace offering, a fresh start. We'll even throw in some additional slithers of smoked salmon.

For everyone else, we know that some will like Laneway and others won't. That's why we offer such a diversity of food outlets on campus. Before passing judgement, though, we encourage you to drop by and give it a try. You might be pleasantly surprised.

The 2014-15 USU Board of Directors

The fantastic Mr Ferrell

Dear Honi Soit,

I write regarding your published article "Brisbane Legal". I would first serve to point out that Mr Ferrell [sic] attacked not just

Brisbane residents, but indeed all Australian law students, whom he described as the "herd of the most socially ungifted students Australia has to offer". At this point of reading it dawned on me that perhaps Mr Ferrell has no friends. The remainder of the article went to explicitly prove this point, by pointing out firstly, that Mr Ferrell came with the express intention of people watching, and secondly that the highlight of the conference for this gentleman was "eating an egg". I like eggs, but they are rarely a highlight.

But let's be honest, Mr Ferrell was obviously alone. Which is fine, but don't bitch to the competition about it. It is not the socials fault you didn't get laid.* If law students of Australia were not interesting enough for Mr Ferrell, the fault lays with him. We can't all be the obvious thrill seeker he undoubtedly must be. Although, if you can't figure out why the only place open for food at 3am in a city offers steak options, then you have never been drunk at 3am.**

I would suggest that Mr Farrell's woes are a result of both loneliness and resentment for his own failures. But I will offer this advice: If Mr Ferrell is worried about people not talking to him; or worried about Sydney Uni being seen as 'too good' for the rest of the country; or if he ever wants to maybe find a special friend one day so he doesn't have to ride the Brisbane Ferris wheels and eat eggs alone, stop being such a goddamn douchebag.

Kind Regards,

Joshua Taylor
Griffith University Graduate and
Brisbane Resident.

* *Ed's note: We have it on good authority this is incorrect.*

** *Ditto.*

Convocation nation

I applaud you for giving such ample coverage in your last edition to the possible University Senate convocation. It is of course, the most attention the University Senate has managed to rustle up since the last convocation around 60 years ago.

Although the Vice Chancellor has declared his support for a wide consultation on the issue of fee deregulation, a convocation could potentially take the discussion from between 22 Senate members, to over 283,000 graduates and staff. To put matters in to perspective, this is a far greater number than the entire population

of the Northern Territory.

I am at a loss as to how a "discussion/debate" is meant to be facilitated in any meaningful way among such an excessive number of people. This leads me to assume that a convocation is nothing more than an obstructionist ploy on the issue of fee deregulation, rather than any genuine desire to have the voices of graduates heard and valued.

The University of Sydney has treasured and deserted traditions at leisure over the course of its history, and a convocation is one we can do without.

Kind Regards,

Don Hewes
Arts III

Nuts and Bolts

Dear Honi,

Andrew Bolt said that universities are the last bastions of cultural Marxism - and I hope he is right. You see, the Left champion tolerance and diversity - they back themselves on pushing such an agenda. They protest with shirts that contain four letter expletives describing their Prime Minister. It seems nothing has changed from the flower children of the 1960s. But there's always been one massive flaw: the intolerance of the tolerant left. This is best described by example, so consider the Catholic Society stall at O-Day recently. I was minding my own business when a socialist scum, no doubt part of extreme left, approached our stall and licked our cardboard cut-out of Pope Francis and the rosaries on our stall desk. Next, consider the recent US Appeals Court Case dealing with a 'cross' at a 9/11 memorial - people on the left - secularists, took the public authority in charge to court over it (and thankfully lost). Sometimes the coercion is soft, taking the form of what John Stuart Mill called 'the tyranny of custom', where those who refuse to embrace gay marriage - the most speedily formed custom of modern times - will be branded phobic and hateful, if they choose to voice their moral opposition to same-sex marriage. What's the common thread here? Tolerance is the rallying cry of the modern left, but in reality, tolerance only extends so far as you dare not disagree. Bigotry toward those who disagree with the mob has become almost routine.

The fate suffered at our stall wasn't some abnormality - it was part of a pretty scary 'new normal', of a sweeping culture of intolerance that has been fostered by the left - evident in their

coercive agenda of pushing gay marriage (refuse to genuflect at the altar of gay marriage - and you're a bigot), secularising society (dare to practice your faith and risk being labelled a nutjob, or worse still, a victim of the diseased salvia of a harebrained trot).

I hope Bolt is right; for if he's not, a new age of authoritarianism is dawning.

Kind regards,

Alessandro Cowley
Arts/Law III
President, Catholic Society
Vice President, Conservative Club

Sisters are skating for themselves

Dear Honi,

I read with a mixture of exasperation and bewildered amusement Mariana Podesta-Diverio's article on the (apparently) extreme under-representation of women in skateboarding ("She was a sk8r... girl?", Week 1 Semester 2). In order to allay the fears of any past, current, or future lady shredders who may have been disheartened by Podesta-Diverio's assessment of skateboarding culture, I thought the following (and by no means exhaustive) list of female-centric skate media outlets and other organisations may provide some inspiration (and perhaps a less pessimistic view of where we're at with women's skate culture). Worth checking out are: Girls Skate Network (US - check their YouTube channel especially), Girls Skate Australia, Girl Skate UK, Mahfia TV (US), Hoopla Skateboards (US), Meow Skateboards (US), Original Betty Skateboard Co. (US), Skate Like A Girl (US), Curl Magazine (NZ - mainly surfing, but other board sports are covered too), Cooler Magazine (UK - all board sports), and the Longboard Girls Crew (a multi-national collective which has official 'crews' on five continents), to name only a few. I think it's time to put the 'girl skateboarders are so rare that people gawk at them as if they were some sort of mythical creature' trope to bed - it's getting tired. While you might not see lady skaters dominating primetime news bulletins, we are far from under-represented - it's simply a case of seek and ye shall find (and by 'seek' I mean 'do some very rudimentary Googling'). We're everywhere - so come skate!

Alexandra Pinkham, Arts II

Fisher Library up late

Justin Pen is up all night to get study.

Last week, Fisher Library opened its doors and announced it won't ever close them again. Or, at least, they won't so long as you've got a valid student card.

Fisher Library joins the Carslaw Learning Hubs in the provision of 24-hour study spaces to all-too-eager students in need of an uncomfortable chair and a too-small desk all night long.

The announcement vindicates student politicians who have for years promised such spaces.

Former SRC President Elly Howse, however, harbours some regrets.

"I think there's a growing culture where students feel as though it's expected that they'll study for eight hours at a time until two in the

morning, and that's something that really worries me," she said.

The new spaces come amid an ongoing dispute between the National Tertiary Education Union (NTEU) and the University.

A Draft Change Proposal issued earlier this year may see 130 staff members sacked, as libraries become "self-access" facilities.

The NTEU released a petition last Thursday, which has attracted the signatures of novelists David Malouf and Kristen Tranter, and Greens MP Jamie Parker. It calls upon the Vice Chancellor to release more information about the changes.

A rally will be held on Wednesday, August 13.



Sydney Labor Students: dead?

Alexi Polden reports on the latest split in Labor campus factions.

Young Labor's youngest faction, Sydney Labor Students (SLS), is in disarray after a large number of its members resigned on Saturday night.

The resignations were sparked by a dispute over the closing of the speaking list during debate about who to support for the upcoming elections for SRC President.

The faction was split over whether to support the coalition of fellow Labor factions, Centre Unity and National Labor Students (NLS), or Grassroots in the election. SLS was formed after a bitter split with NLS in early 2013.

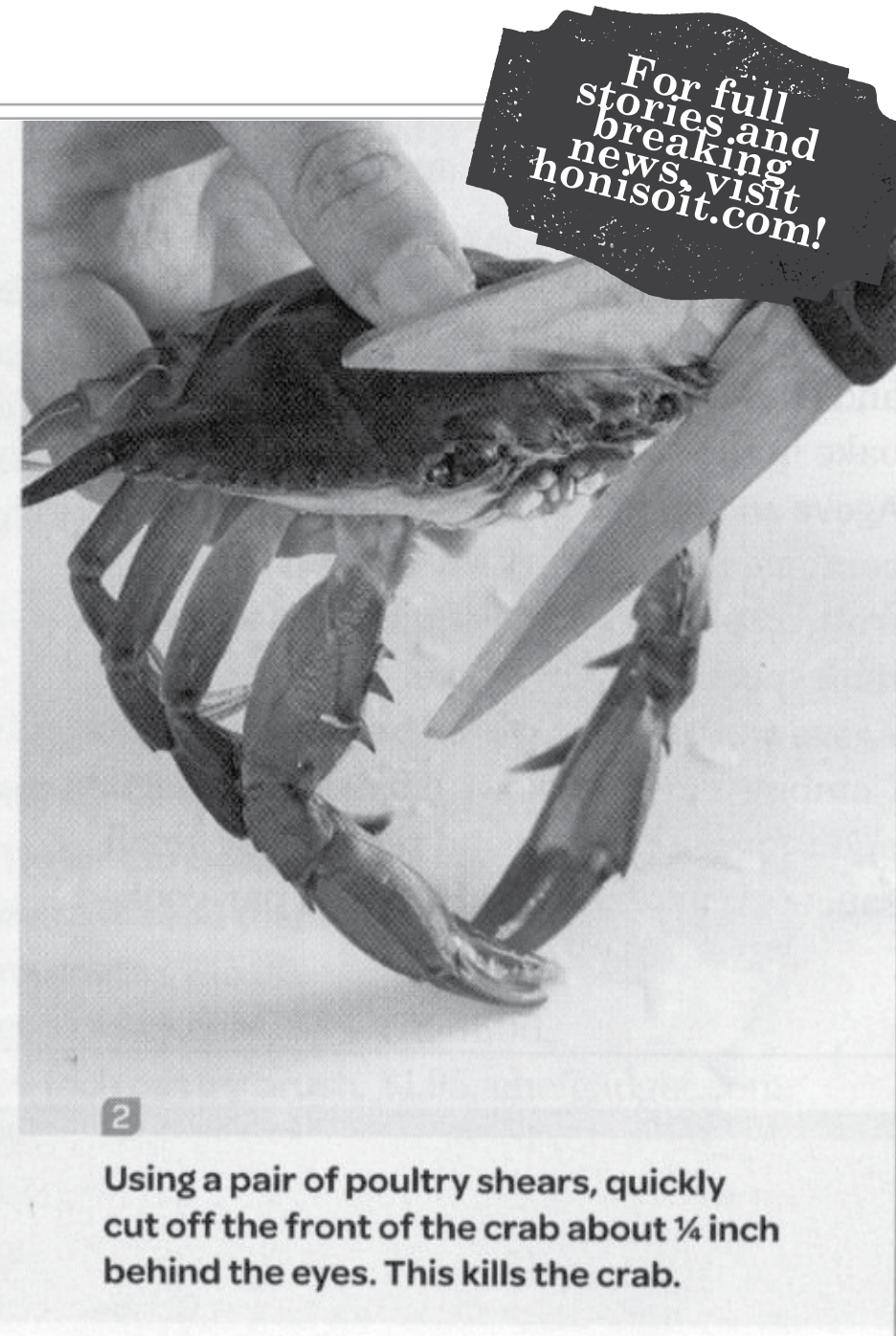
The resigning members include all of the faction's SRC office bearers,

bar Welfare Officer Oliver Plunkett, who remains in the faction.

It remains unclear what exactly is left of the faction. The resigning members told *Honi* that, except for Harry Stratton, all of SLS's SRC councillors have or are expected to resign.

A remaining member disputed that claim, insisting the majority of the faction's counsellors would remain.

Peter Landi, one of the resigning members told *Honi* that it was "end of the project to form an independent group in opposition to a Labor machine which sees student politicians rise through SRC positions, union jobs and into parliament."



2 Using a pair of poultry shears, quickly cut off the front of the crab about ¼ inch behind the eyes. This kills the crab.

News in Review

Mary Ward takes us through the week that was.

MEASLES OUTBREAK IN THE INNER WEST

Sydney's inner west is in the grip of a measles outbreak. People who visited Leichhardt Marketplace, Leichhardt Library or Norton Plaza between July 15 and 24 are being warned by NSW Health to look out for the highly contagious disease's symptoms, which initially include a cough, strained eyes and a fever, followed by a rash a few days later. EVERYBODY PANIC.

Alternatively, you could check that you've had two documented doses of the MMR vaccine. That's also a good plan.

QUICK, HIDE THE HASH

Jetstar has apologised after a crew member advised Splendour in the Grass attendees to flush "anything [they] shouldn't have" before arriving at Sydney airport. The crew member told festival-goers that sniffer dogs and quarantine officers were waiting for the Gold Coast services at Sydney.

The announcement reportedly caused a rush of passengers needing to use the bathroom. As it was a Jetstar flight, we can rule out the possibility of this rush being caused by the heinous Qantas burritos that plague the stomachs of their domestic passengers.

PIN DAY, PIN DAY, GOTTA GET DOWN ON PIN DAY

Last Friday was PIN Day, the day on which we all needed to stop using signatures on credit cards to avoid being eaten alive by EFTPOS machines and taken to the mint to be repurposed as twenty dollar notes. (That red colouring has to come from somewhere.)

So, if your grandma's still signing 'Beryl Whistlington' at the bottom of her receipts, let her know that perhaps the four digits of her favourite grandchild's birthday might be

a better option. Then remind her that she should base her favouritism solely on which of her grandchildren keeps her most informed about changes to consumer experience in the banking sector, and write your birthday on her card in permanent marker.

ANTI-GAY LAWS OVERTURNED IN UGANDA

Ugandan anti-homosexuality legislation has been overturned following a decision by the country's constitutional court on Friday. The legislation outlawed the promotion

of homosexuality, made homosexuality a crime punishable by a life sentence, and required Ugandan residents to denounce suspected gays to the police.

The legislation faced tough criticism when it was introduced earlier this year, with US Secretary of State John Kerry regressing into a high school debater and likening the laws to anti-Semitic legislation under Nazi Germany. Unfortunately, this ruling means that Uganda will go back to their old laws, under which homosexuality is still punishable by jail.



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Students' Representative Council, University of Sydney

Notice of 2014 Students' Representative Council Annual Election

Nominations for the Students' Representative Council Annual Elections for the year 2014 close at 4:30pm Wednesday 20th August 2014. Polling will be held on the 24th and 25th of September 2014. Pre-polling will also take place outside the SRC Offices (Level 1, Wentworth Building) on Tuesday 23rd of September 2014 from 10am - 3pm. All students who are duly enrolled for attendance at lectures are eligible to vote. Members of the student body who have paid their nomination fee to Council are eligible to nominate and be nominated, except National Union of Students national office bearers. Fulltime officebearers of the SRC may also nominate as NUS delegates.

Nominations are called for the following elections/positions and open 30th July 2014 at 4:30pm:

- The election of the Representatives to the 87th SRC (33 positions)
- The election of the President of the 87th SRC
- The election of the Editor(s) of *Honi* Soit for the 87th SRC
- The election of National Union of Students delegates for the 87th SRC (7 positions)

Nomination forms can be downloaded from the SRC website: www.src.usyd.edu.au, or picked up from SRC Front Office (Level 1, Wentworth Building) from 4:30pm July 30th 2014.

Nominations **must also** be lodged online along with your policy statement and Curriculum Vitae (optional), by close of nominations at: www.src.usyd.edu.au. For more information, call 9660 5222.

Signed nomination forms and a printed copy of your online nomination **must** be received no later than 4:30pm on Wednesday 20th August, either in the locked box at the SRC Front Office (Level 1, Wentworth Building), or at the following postal address: PO Box 794, Broadway NSW 2007.

Nominations which have not been delivered (printed, signed, hardcopy) either to the Electoral Officer at the SRC front office or to the post office box shown above **and** submitted online by the close of nominations **will not be accepted** regardless of when they were posted or received.

The Regulations of the SRC relating to elections are available online at www.src.usyd.edu.au or from the SRC Front Office, (Level 1, Wentworth Building).

Authorised by P. Graham, SRC Electoral Officer 2014.
Students' Representative Council, The University of Sydney
Phone: 02 9660 5222 | www.src.usyd.edu.au

Childcare on campus – one size doesn't fit all

Astha Rajvanshi investigates childcare at Sydney University.



In February 2013, Alison and her partner MJ received the news that they were pregnant. The day before semester started, Alison's long-awaited application for Honours was approved. After making the decision to study part-time with the baby, Alison worked for the rest of the year to save enough money to be able to afford childcare.

Newly born Evelyn arrived in November, and Alison and MJ soon adapted to walking around campus with their baby in tow, juggling study and parenting. "We kind of thought that we could handle it ... we'd swap to half days, and that's how we got to know a lot of parents in the Parents' Room who are also studying," Alison said.

As the semester progressed and their workload increased, however, the couple found that the balancing act became more difficult to handle – the imperative of finding childcare became more apparent, and so did the realities of actually finding childcare.

"Essentially you need to put your name on the list before your baby is born if you need childcare straight after, and often there's a really long wait period," the couple explained. "The list that we first signed up to was Boundary Lane, which then relocated, but we're still on that list with about 50 or 60 people ahead of us. Since then we've put our name on heaps and heaps of lists".

* * *

It is not possible to know what percent of the current student body requires support with childcare at Sydney University as it remains unclear whether National statistics on childrearing apply to students. The picture is further complicated due to the lack of information on what proportion of students with children have external sources of support for their childcare needs.

In 2008, a study by the Australian Council for Educational Research found that during the first year of study, 4% of university entrants experienced difficulties due to caring for children or other family members. If these statistics were to accurately reflect the student demographic at the University of Sydney, there would be approximately 2,000 students who currently face parenting troubles

while trying to study.

Currently, the University does not provide childcare on campus, though it is loosely affiliated with a number of childcare facilities that are independently run on both the Camperdown and Cumberland campuses. The few childcare centres located on, or near the university campuses are open to students and staff, along with the members of the general community. In Camperdown and Darlington, these include Boundary Lane Children's Centre, Union Child Care Centre and Carillon Ave Child Care Centre, whereas Laurel Tree House resides in Glebe. Priority is usually given to students on waiting lists at each of the centres, with discounts for those with Access Cards from the University of Sydney Union. Despite having priority, however, a wait for children under two years of age can usually last a few years, with the length of time depending on a range of factors including the age, days of care needed, and the date of application. Aside from the wait, prices can also vary between \$85-95 a day to \$105-110 a day.

* * *

Alison and MJ finally found openings for their baby at two different centres near Sydney University after a long wait. To save money on rent, they live in Earlwood and embark on a daily 45-minute bike ride to the childcare centre, with their baby in a carrier attached to the front of the bike.

Despite the laborious routine and travelling time, they are grateful for the burden that childcare providers take off their shoulders. "Childcare workers are just amazing for the job they do. Anyone who's had one screaming kid vying for their attention would know, and they've got four to a person," said MJ.

While childcare centres provide a caring, home-like atmosphere for children, the current state of childcare provision at tertiary education institutions is yet to fully accommodate the needs of women who bear children, often by virtue of institutionalised practices in teaching and learning. At universities, having a child is still, in some sense, seen as a privilege rather than a right.

It is broadly unclear who should

be responsible for providing childcare support for students on campus. Problems of accessibility and affordability are compounded by the lack of basic facilities and misunderstandings about the special circumstances of students who parent.

For example, University policy dictates that students are not allowed to bring their children to class; these rules can sometimes be waived depending on the lecturer or tutor. Similarly, looking after a child when trying to study in the library can be an arduous task, with disruptions from the baby often being the catalyst for annoyed glances from onlookers. The university also lacks enough private spaces for parents to be able to study with a child, or access to a Parents' Rooms to rest, change nappies, and breastfeed.

Breastfeeding 2-3 times a day is not possible for Alison, who relies on expressing milk six times a week. "It's pretty horrible to spend that time with the pump instead of the most intimate times, I think, between mum and child," she commented. Having a childcare centre run on campus seems unlikely in the near future, but even small changes like providing a cot or comfortable chairs in the Parents' Room at Fisher Library could make a huge difference for those who rely on these spaces.

* * *

The director of Student Support Services Jordi Austin said that the University currently holds a Childcare Advisory Committee that "pulls together staff and student representatives with the childcare providers to discuss current supply and demand, changes to legislation that may impact on childcare provision, raise emerging trends or issues for discussion". In the past, this committee has lobbied for priority access and the availability of parenting facilities.

Alongside the committee, a Child Care Information website, an Information Officer and a free Parents Network are in place to assist students and staff in navigating around local childcare options. Austin said that each year the site attracts more than 10, 000 unique visitors.

Moving forward, the committee will develop a childcare demand study which will be promoted in August to staff and students in order to "determine if the anecdotal need for increased childcare spaces applies to our staff and student body". Austin said that in particular, the Camperdown campus was situated within an inner west area of 'baby boom'.

From the data collected by the early stages of the study, it was found that international students often have the most difficulty in finding appropriate care close to the university. "Every year we will have a handful of newly arrived international students who have yet to find appropriate care for their children, and who need to start study. We are trying to see if this is a small proportion of a larger problem, or a confined issue which could be more properly addressed through small adjustments in allocation principles to better cater for this group," Austin said.

* * *

For most parents, there is never an ideal time to have a baby - the challenges of parenting don't get any easier after graduation or when one gets a job.

For Alison and MJ, "whatever challenges come, they never become all-consuming given the presence of [Evelyn]". While parenting and studying has been difficult, the couple recognise that they have started prioritising certain things and planning their days in advance in adjusting to the life of being parents.

At the end of the day, their relief comes from seeing their baby: "just knowing that, no matter what the day you have, you go and pick him up from childcare, and he's flapping his arms and carrying on," MJ said.

Recognising the different experiences of students, including those with parenting responsibilities, is yet to become a bigger priority on campus. When it comes to childcare, a broad brushstroke approach from the University's provision of support services to its students has not yet managed to fully tackle the needs of young mothers and fathers who don't believe in choosing between family life and pursuing higher education.

Peace in the Middle East-ern Avenue

An accord to last a thousand semesters has been brokered, writes Christina White.

A pair of titans clashed last Monday morning. Like Batman and the Joker, Kerry Packer and the ATO, and 50 Cent and Ja Rule, USyd's notorious rivals met in a crisis confrontation on camps.

Socialist Alternative (SALT) President Omar Hassan and Sydney University Drama Society (SUDS) member Yitzi Tuvel clashed whilst poster on Eastern Avenue. The crisis began when SALT placed their posters over SUDS' posters. SUDS members were "fuming", Tuvel told *Honi*.

"Tess (who plays the tragic decline of Ophelia with consummate pathos) had been up at midnight the night before, covering billboards in posters for Hamlet," said Tuvel.

He alleged that SALT had poster over them at six o'clock in the morning, describing the weather at the time as a "fair and sunny day of winter".

The location of the posters was particularly important to the rapid

escalation of the conflict. "For societies attempting to catch the coveted student eye, the prime patch of real estate is the billboard facing the City Rd footbridge," Tuvel explained. However, Hassan believes that student revolutionaries are the "rightful heirs to the bollard space." He explained the hardships they face: "Activists who endeavour to change public opinion and organise mass demonstrations ... are constantly oppressed by the better funded forces of the Christian Sects and Band Nights."

Hassan remains determined, despite the strength of other campus poster bodies. "We valiantly resist, using all means at our disposal."

The rivals differ, too, on the role played by USyd senior management in the ongoing poster wars. According to Hassan, the conflict was triggered by Vice-Chancellor Michael Spence. "Since the imperialist Vice-Chancellor took away half of the bollards, a conflict has emerged between the various student clubs."

ARTS FACULTY FAIL

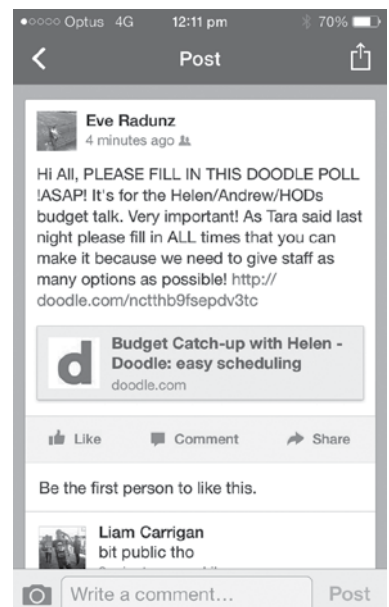
We were saddened, but not surprised, to hear that the Arts Faculty lost approximately \$1500 worth of merchandise and equipment belonging to the Sydney Arts Students' Society (SASS) over the summer break. During their move from the Brennan McCallum building to the (much less aesthetically pleasing) Transient Building, SASS entrusted the Arts Faculty with their society shirts, several copies of the 2013 SASS literary journal and other items.

However, when SASS returned to collect the items, they were told they weren't there. Since then, the Faculty has not been able to offer any explanation other than "We literally have no idea what happened to them." Classic 'lost item' tactics such as "Try to remember the last place you saw them" and "Retrace your footsteps" all failed, and the Faculty have offered to pay for the lost items.

On the upside, this blunder spells goodbye to the notoriously grammatically incorrect SASS shirts of yesteryear, which read "Not (just) arts". As all USyd pedants will know, parentheses should only contain text that

serves as a clarification or addition to the main point, and the sentence should still make sense without the parentheses. However, if you remove the parentheses from "not (just) arts", the slogan of the Arts Students' Society becomes "not arts", which is clearly less than ideal. We wish SASS all the best with their redesign and would like to offer the services of our sub editors, should they want them.

UNION BOARD TAKES TRANSPARENCY TO UNEXPECTED LEVEL



"Posters belonging to the drama society and the Socialist Alternative club had happily co-existed for thousands of hours prior to the VC's unwanted intervention," he added.

Tuvel disagreed. "I want to go on record as saying that I do not blame Michael Spence for the lack of poster space," he said.

"Michael Spence has been taken to task, over the past few years, for a great many things ... but I think it both dishonourable and unhelpful to ascribe to one's enemies additional sins which they did not commit," said Tuvel.

In an unlikely resolution to their clashing desires, the rivals reached an admirable compromise.

Tuvel and Hassan agreed to share the board with each group's posters visible on one half of the space. Neither party would comment on how the vertical dividing line was decided on.

"It's an agreement which demonstrates respect for the integrity and humanity of both sides," swooned Tuvel.

It appears peace became possible when SUDS informed SALT that they were not profiting from the production. Tuvel explained that "[Hassan] had taken us to be a

corporate troupe of players" as SUDS' name had been cut off the posters in a printing error. Tuvel felt that Hassan had "treated [them] with the especially disdainful eye he reserves for successful capitalists" until the clarification, at which point he called Hassan "magnanimous".

Whilst Tuvel remains unwaveringly positive about the solution, Hassan called it a "temporary truce". "From our perspective the status quo is stacked against us activists," he said.

However, Hassan was eager to offer an ambitious long-term vision. "We passionately believe that the solution to this eminently modern conflict is not to have the SUDS and SALT existing as separate entities, but to have a democratic, secular theatre company producing (and distributing) socialist literature."

Tuvel told *Honi* that "one of [Salt's] posters was very well-designed" but the other "didn't impress [him] as much". Both Hassan and Tuvel assured us that aesthetics of poster design played no determinative role in the final outcome.

The adjacent garbage bin declined to comment.



Opaque Senate

Having done my time in coloured nylon on Eastern Avenue, I consider myself reasonably informed when it comes to the mélange of institutions that dictate student life. I know the make up of the USU's Board of Directors, understand the factions that control the SRC, and can name the editors of our student publications. But I'm woefully ignorant when it comes to the University Senate. It's hard not to be.

Senate is the University's governing body. It's 22 fellows, only two of whom are elected students, are charged with a multitude of duties including overseeing the Vice-Chancellor's performance, approving the strategic direction of the University and determining the university budget.

But for such an important institution, Senate is rarely subjected to much scrutiny. Few questions are asked, and the few answers they yield must be hard-won. To find anything of use, one must sift through a website riddled with misinformation. (In case any

site admins are reading - student fellows serve for two years, not one.)

Hidden amongst the mistakes are the unfulfilled promises of real information. A handy FAQ explains Senate's commitment to publishing the minutes for each of its meetings. Sadly, the last available minutes are dated February. Likewise, if you were hoping to glance at the agenda for this month's meeting, you'll have to make do with talking points from March. The site's disingenuously titled 'news' page consists of six dot points that dribbled onto the net in April.

Even when information actually is provided, it is mostly useless. The outdated minutes are filled with nondescript references to unnamed recommendations. The greatest clarity is usually reserved for the apologies of absent Senate Fellows.

But if that weren't inadequate enough, all of this (non)information only covers the non-confidential, open sessions of Senate. Senate meetings run for hours; the non-confidential parts last about ten

Tim Asimakis questions why we know so little about the Senate.

minutes. Everything else is hidden in camera: the public can't attend and no records are made available

When asked about the most important decisions affecting students that Senate has made during his term, Undergraduate Senate Fellow Patrick Massarani wasn't allowed to name them.

It is clear that Senate matters. It is clearer still that we have very little idea how it is governing our University. The harder question is what to do about it.

With Senate procedures regulated by The University of Sydney Act and only two students inside the institution's structure, making its operations more transparent appears challenging to say the least.

But as students receiving the education that Senate controls, we have a voice with which to demand that Senate at the very least fulfills its existing transparency aims. It is shameful that Senate can get away with its laughable attempts at open communication simply because no

one calls them out.

This semester we elect new student Fellows. In comparison to other student elections, candidates for Senate are often somewhat anonymous. That is not a standard we should accept. Rather, we should subject our prospective representatives to the same level of scrutiny we reserve for other student leaders. We should elect a candidate committed to transparency. We should elect a candidate willing to intelligibly summarise Senate decisions, with an emphasis on what they mean for students, in open, accessible reports. We should elect a candidate who, where necessary, can actually explain the need for secrecy, or one who may even be willing to provide information that is relevant to the student interest, irrespective of its confidential status.

What we cannot do is allow inertia to drive us along our depressing trajectory towards a collective apathy where we ignore our Senate more and more and it returns the favour.

Why does the ADF even exist?

What's the point of all these guns, asks Adam Murphy.

Australia is in the middle of a budget emergency. We know this because Joe Hockey told us so. The Age of Entitlement is over; people need to tighten their belts; those looking for free healthcare and cheap degrees should probably just move to Scandinavia. But wait, that can't possibly be right. After all, the Government has *also* just purchased an additional 58 F-35 combat aircraft for \$12.4 billion! Is this really a necessary purchase at a time when our economy is supposed to be in bad shape? But also, should Australia spend money on defence at all?

First up, some comparisons. To our immediate neighbours in Oceania and South-East Asia, Australia is a military superpower. It has essentially unmatched air combat and naval capabilities. In the wider Asia-Pacific region, Australia remains competitive with countries such as Japan or Singapore. The ADF's primary deficiency is its lack of troops, which is relatively unimportant for an island nation.

Australia's defence posture also contrasts dramatically against that of our best-friend neighbour, New Zealand, whose military is a fraction of our size. Their air force consists mostly of transport and maritime patrol aircraft; fighters such as the F-35 haven't featured since 1999.

Their navy has two ships that are actually capable of combat. Their army is smaller than the population of Kings Cross. They are truly, as once suggested on the Gruen Transfer, "100% ours for the taking". But while Aussies may appreciate the ability to skip immigration on their way to the State of New Zealand, nobody else gives a fuck. New Zealand is too far away and too insignificant, and Kiwi policy-makers know it.

It is arguable that Australia enjoys many of these same advantages. We are also relatively geographically isolated. We have few sea-based natural resources that other countries want. The South China Sea, seemingly a powder keg in Asia at the moment, is thousands of kilometres away. And although the Malacca Strait is an important and proximate shipping route, it is so important that countries far more powerful than Australia also have an interest in keeping it open. So basically, Australia's powerful military is about as necessary as an ashtray on a motorbike.

Since that is true, there are only two potential reasons why Australia should maintain its current defence policy. The first is to ensure it remains a 'senior partner' in any multinational military effort in the Asia-Pacific region.

But there's no inherent reason why this is valuable to Australia or its residents. Australia is isolated and economically strong enough to be capable of 'splendid isolation'.

The better reason might be that Australia is currently positioned as a leader of humanitarian and peacekeeping missions in our nearby area. As in cases such as INTERFET in East Timor or RAMSI in the Solomon Islands, Australia is generally expected to lead when a local country or an international organisation petitions for assistance. In this way, Australia can act as a stabilising force for surrounding countries when internal conditions warrant peacekeeping or the

imposition of order, something that arguably benefits all parties. This is not something that can be done with a minimal military force – New Zealand contributed to INTERFET, but in a supporting role only.

Australia is essentially unique in its ability to keep peace in our immediate region. Granted, it's hard to argue that Operation Sovereign Borders or Tony Abbott giving the thumbs-up signal from the cockpit of an F-35 or even the ongoing problems with ADF culture represent this kind of moral leadership. Perhaps it is ironic, in the current political climate, that our nation's primary coercive force might be our best opportunity to be a force for good.

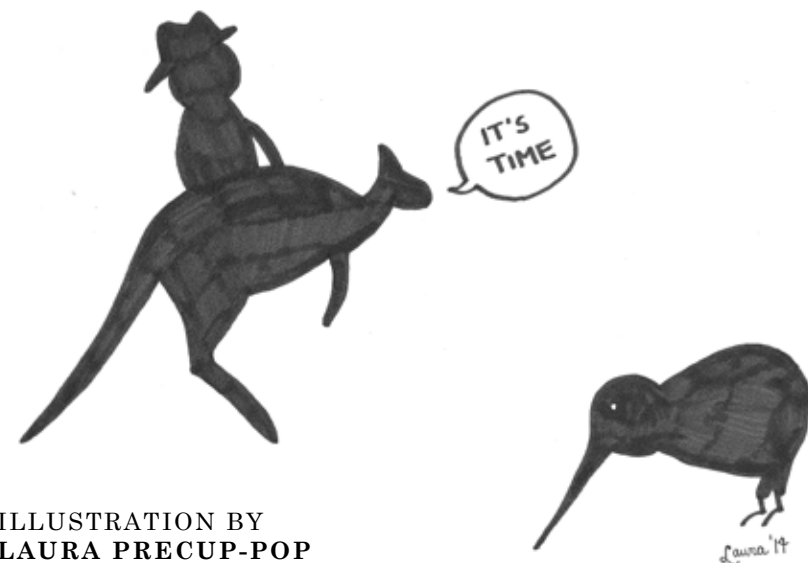


ILLUSTRATION BY LAURA PRECUP-POP

Quest for the Holy Bail

Our illustrious state government has butchered and re-butchered the Bail Act, writes Sam Murray.

If there was ever an incident that demonstrated the total incapability of state governments to manage criminal law reform, it can't be more tragically hilarious or comically farcical as the recent changes to NSW bail laws.

How the *Bail Act 1978* (NSW) previously worked earned it the title of The Most Poorly Drafted Piece of Legislation in the Country. When someone is charged with a crime, they can be kept in custody until their trial if it's believed that there is a risk of them absconding, interfering with evidence and witnesses, or committing more crimes. However, if the police do decide to keep them in custody, the charged individual can apply for bail. The previous act began with the well-intentioned presumption in favour of bail for all applicants. However, years of self-interested politicians and over 80 amendments eroded this presumption for all sorts of media-sensitive crimes; inserting

counter-presumptions, exceptions to presumptions, reversal of presumptions and so on. The *Bail Act 1978* had been consistently attacked for being a confusing, patchwork legislation in dire need of reform.

So the NSW Liberal government – not content with qualifying the right to silence, strengthening the illiberal anti-consorting laws and creating totally arbitrary mandatory minimums for one-punch assaults – decided to replace the Act. They removed all the presumptions and counter-presumptions and replaced it with a single two-step test: bail can only be denied if someone is both an 'unacceptable risk' (of absconding, committing more crimes, evidence tampering and so on) under section 17, and if that risk cannot be mitigated by measures such as confiscation of passport, daily reporting requirements, sureties for good behaviour and so on (section 20).

Simple, right? Well, the only problem was that 'unacceptable risk' was never defined in the legislation and has never been used as a legal test for anything ever. So when the legislation was passed a year ago, nobody had any idea whether it would result in everybody getting bail, nobody getting bail, or anything in between.

As it turned out, in the decisions that have occurred since the new *Bail Act* came into effect, many people are being classed as 'unacceptable risks', but almost everyone is getting bail anyway after being saddled with massive section 20 restrictions that satisfactorily mitigate the risk. So now, despite the Russian Roulette-esque way it was created, the legislation has substantially reduced the state's remand population whilst ensuring that there are enough restrictions to mitigate the risks of giving bail.

Of course, that's not good enough for the tabloid press, who criticised a few high-profile criminals getting bail under the new system, such as bikie Mahmoud Hawi and alleged wife-killer Steven Frank Fesus. And, of course, because people have a tendency to misunderstand the legal system, they don't know that withholding bail is not about punishment or judgment but rather just about ensuring compliance with arrest orders.

So a month after its implementation, the NSW Government announced a review of the *Bail Act*. To clarify: after a year-long review of the old bail laws, ten months of drafting, a full year of the bail laws having been passed but not implemented, and only five weeks of implementation, the NSW Government is reviewing the laws because of a few anecdotal failings picked up by *The Daily Telegraph*. God knows what they'll do next when the review comes back to them.



Modern day harassment

Dick pics ain't great, writes Isabelle Comber.

The year was 2006 and I was heading home from school. Sitting at Newtown station clutching my charity Freddo Frog box – ski trip \$wag dreams, baby – I patiently waited for the 3:50pm train heading west. Sneakily slipping my hand into the box to retrieve one of those fine strawberry-filled treats, I hardly noticed a dude sit down beside me, pull out his old mate, and indulge in a bit of an afternoon delight himself.

Fast forward eight years and I'm walking out of Shortlist Café and I run into an old pal. After he suggests we grab a beer sometime, we swap numbers and I carry on to Fisher for some nerdy times. A few hours later he adds me on SnapChat, then I receive a snap. Spotted in the

middle of 2 hour loans: a stark, unavoidable, unimpressive and most importantly, unwanted... hairy penis (I tried to think of a more subtle term, but none came to mind).

For me, the two situations are not dissimilar. Unsolicited pics sent by smartphone or any other technological device is flashing for the 21st century. What started as a couple of nipples and petty games of 'Cock or Ball?' on a Nokia has developed into a massive exchange of – mostly unwanted – premeditated harassment for the tech-savvy predator.

Perhaps it was round after round of literal wankers on Chatroulette that acclimatised us to this never ending barrage

of n00dz, but I can't help but wonder if the casualisation of genitalia on our gadgets has got us forgetting exactly what constitutes harassment. When one sends an unwanted naked photo to anyone – be they friend, family, colleague or stranger – they are forcing sexual intimidation upon the receiver. What's worse is the fact that, similarly to all other cyber bullying, the receiver is often isolated with the image, unable to respond and possibly affected in personal 'safe' spaces.

As your average 21-year-old I've seen my fair share of cock n' balls (trust me on this one), but when the photo of that fleshy phallus hit my iPhone 4S I felt as uncomfortable as my 14-year-old self waiting for the train to

Strathfield. What I didn't feel was excited, turned on, or like I would be boning the photo-sender anytime soon. Like the flasher at the station, the photo-sender hadn't physically hurt me, hadn't touched me, hadn't even made eye contact with me, but he had violated me none the less.

It's time we stopped laughing at this practice and started calling it what it really is: cowardly, embarrassing and pretty darn pathetic. If it happens to you, call your sender out, publicise, or better yet, contact your local police station. It's time we started admitting that people who force the viewing of their junk via devices are little better than your street corner creep in a trench coat.

Baring all

Sophie Gallagher got nekkid.

When meeting a group of people for the first time, image is paramount. You dress up, put on make-up and ensure you are portraying your best self. But is it real? You conceal and alter what is conceptually you to provide what you understand as a better, more enhanced version of you. When I prepared to go to Japan with 18 people I had just met, I too altered myself to make a good impression. When boarding the plane, it never occurred to me that I would have to sacrifice this creation. But only two days later I was sitting with them, completely naked, in a steaming bamboo and stone tub.

Wandering into the hot springs of Hokkaido, there is nothing to hide.

Japan, as a volcanically active country, is scattered with an array of natural baths, traditionally known as Onsen. The Onsen have occupied an important place in Japanese culture since the Nara era - approximately 1300 years ago - when they were first used as Buddhist free rest houses.

With different minerals infusing the waters of the springs, each is said to have healing powers to solve illness. For the Japanese people, however, the true importance of the Onsen lies in the opportunity they provide to rest from the hectic nature of working life, and to melt down the hierarchical nature of society through its sheer intimacy. Naked in the springs, everyone is equal.

* * *

As we travelled to our Hokkaido hotel, the tour guides on the bus excitedly told us that it doubled as an Onsen resort. Though keen to experience the traditional Japanese baths, we became apprehensive when we learned that you had to bathe in them entirely naked.

Walking into the outdoor baths soon after, what immediately surprised me was the normalcy of the situation. Having only just met the people I was bathing with, I had expected to be inhibited by awkwardness, and be protective of myself for the sake of others. Instead, I settled in and began to relax. Around me were women of different shapes, types, and nationalities, all free and open about their bodies. Sitting together, hot and tired from the steam, what the world outside the stone walls perceived as beautiful didn't seem to matter.

Hannah, lying in a bamboo tub, soon turned to us and remarked, "Is there anything more beautiful than seeing so many different body types so free?" What came out in torrents of relief and realisation were our thoughts surrounding body image, relationships and double standards. We spoke of how Western, patriarchal ideas of femininity had affected our actions, and how we perceived ourselves. Why did we groom ourselves, remove hair, wear

lingerie? Was it for men, or for ourselves? This question was met with silence and denials: "No, I mean... of course we do it for ourselves." What shocked me was how it didn't seem like most believed it.

Reflecting on our responses, I assumed that contemporary Japanese understandings of body image would differ from our own, as being nude is such an open tradition there. Studies of Japanese perceptions of physical attractiveness state otherwise, though, with historian Rotem Koyner concluding in *The Journal of Psychology* that "the Western notion of physical attractiveness was one of the foremost imports that has been willingly embraced by Japan." Consequently, it has been reported that Japanese women who range from very thin to normal weight overestimate their size and want to be thinner. It appears that traditional Japanese culture has lost out, and rampant Western modernisation has unfortunately succeeded.

This is perhaps reflected in the Onsen's disappearance in rapid and modernised areas of Japan. Staying with a host family a few days later in the city of Sapporo, I was surprised to learn that our host mother, Shoko, had never experienced the hot springs despite living in Japan her whole life. She seemed embarrassed by the prospect, where her mother

thought they were a natural and normal experience. These differences in generational thought align closely with ideas surrounding body image in Japan, which have become increasingly Western as time goes by.

Sitting in Shoko's dining room later that day, I noticed that she ate Western style health food whilst we went with traditional Japanese. She later asked me what make up I wore, and we compared our products. Most of hers were Australian, with only a couple of bottles labeled with Japanese text. It seemed that image, for her, was based more on Western ideals than on Japanese, and it occurred to me then that when I sat in the Onsen, most of the Japanese women there were aged 40 or above, where Shoko was much younger. For all the traditional cultural skills she shared with us which were passed to her generationally, from calligraphy to cooking, she appeared to forsake cultural image and aim for Western-style perfection.

The Onsen is not only a place of relaxation, but also a place of equality- a place where everyone is accepted for whoever they are. It's unfortunate that intruding Western ideals seem to be undermining its role in Japanese society.

Meeting Montaigne

Victoria Zerbst met a rising star.

A face stood out from the Triple J Hit List.

"Montaigne is the stage name of 2012 Unearthed High finalist Jessica Cerro."

Even with the cosmos spread across her head and her lavish pop vocals, she seemed familiar. Labeled one of the '10 best Unearthed discoveries this year', she is also a first year University of Sydney student.

Jessica Cerro is living a double life – one half student, and one half budding pop star. The foundation for Cerro's double life came early. "I started writing music when I was ten years old but it was really amateur super basic stuff," she says.

Cerro continued to write music throughout high school, but her real aspirations lay elsewhere - hoping that playing soccer at an elite level would take her to an Ivy League University. It was only when her parents suggested adding

one of the songs she'd written to one of her player highlights reels that she even considered recording her music.

Hoping to make her submission stand out from the crowd, she worked on her song with an amateur producer and, instead of a soccer video, produced a stand-out song. On the back of this success, her mother became her manager, secured her a publicist, and soon found a producer. Her double life as Montaigne had begun.

Cerro is professional and thoughtful when speaking about her music career. She spent two years working and securing an environment in which she could create the sound she wanted. With all the paperwork taken care of, she now focuses on writing and performing.

In a music industry based on self-promotion, social media, and endless live performances, this pure musical focus is refreshing. And, even without any live gigs

under her belt, Cerro is building a wide following. Radio stations as far flung as the USA and Argentina are already starting to play her music. As a USyd French major, she hopes to eventually re-write her EP in French to appeal to an even broader audience.

According to Cerro, everything she reads, hears, and sees influences her creative process. Her stage name is borrowed from the French Renaissance philosopher Michel de Montaigne. The National and Lisa Mitchell inspire her introspective, vulnerable song lyrics, and the production of her EP channels aspects of Regina Spektor, Fiona Apple, and Bjork.

The result is a sound with strong pop melodies, layers of diverse textures, and innovative uses of instrumentation. Cerro's powerful raw vocals soar over a detailed and embellished harmony.

Her songs, she says, are the result of stream of consciousness creation meeting intensive and meticulous

production. "I've always just come up with melodies and written lyrics to go with them," Cerro explains. The songs receive an injection of informed textual flair in the studio, giving them their "ethereal, surreal, and worldly feel".

Cerro still works at a newsagency on Broadway to help fund her career. But financial strain doesn't constrain her creativity.

"Money would be the hardest thing otherwise it would all be smooth sailing. Being an artist you have to know there is not much in it."

Cerro is about to engage in a series of firsts - she's currently awaiting the release of her debut EP called *Life of Montaigne*, the release of her first video clip, and her first step into live performance. For an average USyd student, this sounds intimidating, but when we say goodbye and Cerro walks confidently away in a long black skirt and combat boots, she looks ready for whatever her future holds.

Blackwashing

Evelyn Corr explores the weird world of historical revisionism.

If you haven't come across Egmond Codfried in your internet adventures, you should probably reassess your life choices. Otherwise known as the 'Dutch Mega Troll,' this majestic bard has been banned from just about every message board, blog community or website he's ever blessed with his gifts of ineffable wisdom. His scholarship has been shunned, jeered and outright deleted by amateur and academic historians alike. To summarise his work: picture every notable historical figure you came across in the high school history textbook you only opened twice each year. Now, picture them all as black.

Jane Austen? Black. George Washington? Black. Anne Boleyn. Beethoven. Elizabeth I. Shakespeare. Immanuel Kant. The entire nation of Iceland. All black. In fact, according to Codfried, Europe was ruled by black nobility until 1789, before being overtaken by the white serfs. His theory, *Blue*

Blood is Black Blood, provides a major counter narrative to the myth of a monoracial European origin. According to Codfried, white supremacy is the conspiracy written into history books and painted over portraits so well that we cannot fathom a time when it wasn't there. Meanwhile, contemporary racism is a manifestation of the fear that black people will once more rise up to make shoes out of white people. (To Codfried's credit, this isn't a far stretch from the fear mongering, conservative bigotry you might have read in Rupert Murdoch's papers.)

In spite of the considerable effort poured into his research, Codfried is yet to receive his Nobel Prize. I've only found two blogs that haven't shot him down as a provocative gnome, and one of them was mine. Surely there are historians and Fox News eccentrics out there who would celebrate Codfried's theory for exonerating the atrocities we know to have

been committed in the name of white supremacy? Surely white identity cannot be so caught up in the horrors of war, slavery and imperialism, so as to be threatened by that erasure? Someone had to buy *The Fabrication of Aboriginal History*, after all.

Despite the hilarity of his research, and although I will always embrace anything that challenges the myth of Europe's pale origins, no matter how ridiculously. I am painfully aware of the trauma erased by his counter narrative. Too many atrocities have been committed before and after 1789 to be denied for the sake of a joke. To say that the Trayvon Martins of our world died because white people are afraid of being turned into shoes is to give far too great a service to their murderers. But, perhaps this is the crack in the dark mirror Codfried wants us to see. Perhaps it is his intent to question the origin of the fear that breeds racism; to ask what panic can inspire genocide, slavery, and

institutionalised inequality?

In the context of historical debate, Codfried's work would be firmly situated in the category of satire, whether he knows it or not. It is entirely possible that this is some social experiment, testing the response his research receives in order to arrive at a grand conclusion about the marginalising elitism of academic culture, or the treatment of any scholarship attempting to undermine white supremacy. Perhaps by pinning the fear that inspires racism down to such an unrealistic origin, Codfried is exposing the ridiculousness of its contemporary manifestations. If he's a troll, he's the best of trolls, satirising racial superiority at the expense of a privileged majority, so long as we remember the horror lurking beneath our feet. If nothing else, we should not too harshly criticise the work of a man so determined to cry out "We were here," even from beneath his troll bridge.



HARD RIGHT

The Hard Right is known for their social conservatism and economic liberalism. The group is widely held to have strong links with ethnic communities and religious groups. They were invariably referred to as the Ugliers, the Right, and the Taliban Right.

Their leaders in the State parliamentary party include David Clarke, who holds ties with the Catholic prelature Opus Dei, and current Minister for Finance and Services Dominic Perrotte. Federally, the Hard Right claim Employment Minister Eric Abetz and Finance Minister Mathias Cormann.

Clarke led the Hard Right to power in State Parliament in the early 2000s. The faction's power waned following a "split" in 2009, when MPs Alex Hawke and Nick Campbell (now aligned with the Centre Right) broke away from the Hard Right to form an alliance with the Moderates.

The Hard Right holds 3 positions on the NSW Liberals State Executive and no positions on the NSW Young Liberals Executive.

MODERATES

The Moderates – sledged by both the Hard and Centre Right as "The Left" – take progressive stances on issues like abortion and same-sex marriage. They were also called the Group. Respondents reported the Moderates took on a variety of economic positions, with some claiming alleging they endorsed Keynesian economics, while others suggested they embraced orthodox free market principles. One respondent described the faction as, "to the left of Labor Right on a lot of social issues".

The most famous scion of the Moderates in the federal Liberal Party is Communications Minister Malcolm Turnbull. At the State level, its chieftains include Transport Minister Gladys Berejikian and former premier Barry O'Farrel. Michael Photos was widely cited as the faction's spiritual leader.

The Moderates are currently the largest faction at the Young Liberal level. One respondent estimated the group constituted over 40 per cent of the YL movement. The current president of the NSW Young Liberals is aligned with the Moderates. The Moderates, together with the Centre Right, hold all positions on the NSW Liberals State Executive.

CENTRE RIGHT

The Centre Right was also referred to as the Soft Right, the Hawke Faction and the Ambition Faction. On the group's politics, a majority of respondents suggested the faction lacked hard, underlying beliefs.

Separate respondents asserted the group held a "radical libertarian flavour" and a "hardline libertarian bent." One respondent argued the Soft Right fulfilled "a niche between right wing economic values" and "moderate to slightly conservative social values". They claimed the "the Soft Right disagrees with the Hard Right very, very much on social conservatism. And that is their big schism point."

Key State Parliamentarians aligned to the Centre Right include Alex Hawke, Natasha McLaren-Jones and NSW Legislative Council Whip Peter Phelps.

It is believed the next President of the NSW Young Liberals Executive will be the Centre Right-aligned, former President of SULC Alex Dore. Several respondents suggested this selection was the result of a power-sharing deal brokered by the Moderates and the Centre Right over the next 4 years, which will see the pair take turns in holding the Presidency 'till 2018.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF LIBS ON CAMPUS

it doesn't have a really clearly defined ideology," said Adam*, a current member of SULC. "The focus is on power and ambition rather than developing political ideas."

Claire*, a former member of SULC and the Young Liberal Movement, described the Centre Right as "the Ambition Faction, because they'll work with either to get what they want." This epithet was repeated, without prompt, by separate parties – albeit from rival factions.

Defenders of the Centre Right assert the faction fills a niche between the Hard Right and Moderates. A former member of SULC, aligned with the Centre Right, said "the Soft Right has the broadest ideological base for people who find either of the two other factions uncomfortable".

"100 FORMS A YEAR"

"SULC is very much the base of the Soft Right at the moment," said Arthur*, a former executive member of SULC. "It brings in around 100 forms per year." SULC holds significant power in the Young Liberal movement; its status as the premier Liberal Club of Sydney University makes it a powerful base for recruitment into the movement and the Centre Right. Estimates by a variety of sources suggest that student organisations represent 30 per cent of total party sign-ups.

O-Week in particular is a significant recruitment period for the club. "There's several hundred members they [SULC] get during O-Week," Adam says. "The Liberal Party is a very recognisable brand, so a lot of first-years will join up, especially [from] Eastern Suburbs feeder schools."

It's worth noting that recruiting students to youth branches is not unique to SULC. Claire alleged the practice is "commonplace from what I've seen for the political clubs to sign people up to their respective youth branches". Several sources contended recruitment is an inevitable consequence of hosting political clubs on campus.

One respondent analogised the situation to a cupcake business. "It's like if you had a cupcake society and you had a senior cupcake organisation," they said. "Why don't you join this? You obviously have mutual interests."

"[University Liberal] clubs have a strategic importance to the Party," Margaret said.

"WE NEED TO KEEP MONITORING THE GROUP [MODERATES] AND TALI [SIC] ON CAMPUS."

"Senior party figures have to come from somewhere ... and one of the areas that they often come from – as the majority come from – is University bases."

University clubs like SULC are particularly significant for the party's upstart Centre Right faction. Arthur explains the Moderates' sizeable amount of MPs in parliament gives them access to high schools, a significant

2011 LIBERAL AGM

Then President of SULC Adrian Pryke defects to Hard Right; Sidler and Pryke challenge Centre Right dominance of SULC, then Vice President Alex Dore assembles members of INGSoc, Independents and members of Left who temporarily unite to oppose Sidler

2009 SULC AGM

Centre Right wrestle control of SULC from Hard Right, insert 'anti-stacking' amendments to constitution to effectively protect sitting executive

2014 USU ELECTIONS

Conservative Club throws support behind Alisha Aitken-Radburn over Liberal Party member and SULC-backed Callum Forbes

2012 SMALL GOVERNMENT SOCIETY

Moderates on campus, then led by Joel Schubert and Jacque Munro, try to establish Small Government Society; Centre Right and Hard Right join forces to frustrate the club's IGM; it's rumoured orders from above prevent the Moderates from trying to form the club again

2014 C&S COMMITTEE MEETING

Alex Dore lodges complaint against Conservative Club calling for the society to be deregistered, or otherwise barred from displaying Liberal Party paraphernalia

2009 SRC CAMPAIGN

Hard Right-aligned Chad Sidler runs for SRC President, comes second and becomes General Secretary

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

MICHAEL REES AND JUSTIN PEN ARE RELOCATING TO COLUMBIA.

THE AMBITION FACTION, THE LEFT, AND THE UGLIES

"[Conservative Club President Chaneg] Torres says the Liberal Club were acting aggressively towards them during O-Week. He says they have photographic evidence and O-Week Directors had to tell them several times to stop," the minutes of the meeting read.

Then-SULC President Alex Dore lodged a complaint against the Conservative Club. According to the minutes of the meeting, he requested the club "be deregistered

“ MANY PEOPLE DO NOT FEEL THEY HAVE A HOME IN THE LIBERAL CLUB ... BECAUSE THEY ARE SIMPLY BARRED FROM MEMBERSHIP. ”

or that the C&S committee require the Conservative Club to place a clause in their constitution saying they cannot use Liberal Club paraphernalia in their promotional materials."

Emails sent by Dore, obtained by *Honi Soit*, also indicate the Centre Right's general wariness of rival Liberal factions on campus. "We need to keep monitoring the Group [Moderates] and Tali [sic] on campus. I'll chat with [REDACTED] about [REDACTED] – the more we can ostracise him in college, the better," Dore wrote in May 2012. The "Tali" referred to

in the email is short-hand for the Taliban Right, a nickname for the Hard Right.

Another missive sent later that year in September reveals an attempt by Dore to frustrate the Inaugural General Meeting (IGM) of the Small Government Society, an initiative spearheaded by the Moderates on campus. Allegedly in order to draw bodies to the room, Dore set up a bar tab at Manning an hour before the meeting. "We will primarily be

experience how damaging stacking is," he wrote. "We have zero tolerance of such activities, and I will revoke the membership of any person found to be complicit in such an act."

A lot of people would quote this classic Liberal axiom: "There are no factions in the Liberal Party," said Margaret*, a current member

OUR FACTIONS, OURSELVES

of the Young Liberal movement. "They're more so political alliances."

Though Margaret may distinguish the alliances of the Liberal Party from the "institutions" of Labor Right and Labor Left, the divisions in the Liberal Party and its youth wing, the Young Liberal movement, are certainly real and allegedly vicious.

The consensus among the those interviewed is that three "factions" exist within the Liberal Party: the Hard Right, the Centre Right and the Moderates. Every person interviewed confirmed the existence of these factions. Some

however, like Margaret, denied their rigidity. Characterisations of the Hard Right and Moderates' ideologies were largely consistent and undisputed by everyone we interviewed. The Centre Right, on the other hand – the dominant force within SULC – is the youngest of the bunch and emerged the least well-defined.

Since its inception, SULC has remained one of the most powerful student Liberal Clubs in Australia. For the past 50 years the frontbench of the Federal Liberal Party has contained at least one former SULC member. Though the Centre Right lacks force at the State level, their ability to wedge the Hard Right and the Moderates in the Young Liberal Movement has rewarded its fledgling lieutenants.

Former NSW Young Liberal President Simon Fontana, former SULC President Alex Dore, and former NSW Young Liberals Metropolitan Vice President Tobias Lehmann (who shared his position with Dore) are all members of the Centre Right. Dore is tipped to be the next State President of NSW.

The Centre Right's use of wedge tactics has drawn fire from the established factions of the Liberal Party. "SULC is in the middle,

Despite reports of the heated nature of the committee meeting, a spokesperson for the Conservative Club denied allegations of disunity between the two clubs. “The Sydney University Conservative Club looks forward to continuing their amicable relationship with the Sydney University Liberal Club to oppose the radical left on campus, and in Australian culture generally.” When asked about the clubs’ relationship, SULC President Will Dawes referred us to the statement provided by the Conservative Club.

SNAKES AND BRANCHES

To be elected national President of the Young Liberals is to join the ranks of Liberal Party elite. With the position comes authority and access; the President holds a vote in Federal and State pre-selection and routinely rubs shoulders with senior party players and operators.

Despite these perks, Jasmine said the presidency is “not a hardy coded position of power, it’s more a representation of power”.

Along with the prestige, the presidency brings with it functional, factional value. “The President of the Young Liberals has access to the referral system,” Arthur said. Allegedly, this allows the sitting king to direct new members to specific, faction-aligned branches. “You could game that system a lot more effectively, if you were in control of it,” he said.

There are over 50 branches in which Young Liberal factions do battle. These branches play a pivotal role in the election of the State and National Young Liberal Executive, including the Presidents. A branch is given a delegate for every ten members it has. A typical branch hosts 30 to 40 members. The number of delegates is capped at six per branch.

Given the electoral power of individual members through this branch structure, every sign-up matters. Branches vote for branch delegates, who, in turn, directly elect the State Executive.

Several respondents alleged SULC actively recruited members to the Young Liberal movement and referred them to Centre Right-aligned branches to boost the

“ THERE IS NO DOUBT THE FACTIONAL INTRIGUE AND KNIFE-FIGHT POLITICS OF SULC EXTENDS BEYOND CAMPUS. ”

number of allied delegates they held. New recruits to the Young Liberal movement can be directed to branches by request, or through an online referral system. A majority of prospective members do not typically know the names of branches, let alone the factions that operate them, Margaret claims.

She alleges that sign-ups from SULC “probably get some advice” on Young Liberal Party branches. “And of course... you’re going to want them to join your own branch.”

Adam explained that the conversation usually goes like this: “If you’re interested in becoming an active part of the party, it’s just \$35, give us your credit card numbers. Don’t worry about the Branch or anything like that we’ll select the right Branch.”

“It’s really quite beautifully subtle,” he added.

When asked if this process occurred, Arthur replied in the affirmative: “100 per cent and I was actively involved in that.”

This claim has been challenged, however, by an anonymous former member of SULC. “When someone leaves their choice of branch blank, the form goes to the Young Liberal executive (different from the SULC executive) and can be influenced from there,” the member said. “Are branches recommended? Sure, because some branches are more active and have more people from the club in them, so they’ll know more people. But if someone wants to join a branch, SULC has no influence whatsoever.”

ANTI-STACKING MEASURES: IT’S THE VIBE

A set of peculiar ‘anti-stacking’ measures introduced into the SULC Constitution in 2009 have enabled the Centre Right to retain power over the club’s Executive and successfully bat away a number of factional challenges.

According to Dawes, these constitutional mechanisms

were “recommended by the C&S Office” to “deter stacking”. Their aggregate effect, however, has been to not only to deter cynical factional rivals, but to preclude legitimate challenges to Centre Right control.

The Constitution is nearly impossible to obtain through official channels. Repeated requests from *Honi* to Dawes, SULC Secretary Joshua Crawford, Immediate Past President Alex Dore, and the C&S office were ignored.

One of the more controversial ‘anti-stacking’ measures in the Constitution is the ‘two signature’ rule. Section 4.2 of the SULC Constitution states that every new member of SULC must have their official membership form counter-signed by both the SULC President and Secretary. To *Honi*’s knowledge this measure does not exist in the constitution of any other society.

Claire alleges that in 2012 she witnessed members of the SULC executive cross-checking member signup forms with the Facebook profiles of new members. If such prospective members were friends with well-known Moderate-aligned students, she explains, their applications for ordinary membership of SULC would not be countersigned.

Similar suggestions about the Club’s selective membership were made by a member of the Conservative Club at the C&S meeting in May. Despite having a receipt for paying his ordinary membership fee in O-Week, Conservative Club Vice-President Alessandro Cowley alleged his membership still hadn’t been accepted by SULC, according to the meeting’s minutes. Conservative Club President Chaneg Torres made similar comments to the C&S Committee. He alleged that “many people do not feel they have a home in the Liberal Club ... because they are simply barred from membership.”

Dawes denied the allegations in a statement to *Honi*. He said the assertion that “particular students have been refused membership based on affiliations or exclusivity” was “totally incorrect”. Additionally, a former member of SULC said the allegations were “simply not true”.

The provisions were “designed to prevent individual members of the SULC executive from arbitrarily adding people to the membership register”, they said.

CONCLUSION

There is no doubt the factional intrigue and knife-fight politics of SULC extends beyond campus. An email sent by Dore in September 2012 implicates his involvement in the affiliation of a “Centre-Right UNSW Liberal Club”. Earlier this year Dore, Dawes, Crawford and Dean Shachar (current SULC Vice-President) attended the IGM of the UNSW Conservative Club. *Tharunka* reported their presence was part of a larger movement to “prevent the Conservative Club from forming on campus due to [its] perceived connection with the hard right, religious faction of the Liberal Party”.

Young Liberal lieutenants are frequently employed as staffers for MPs. Members from all factions accused each other group of allocating staffing jobs based on factional nepotism. *Honi* has been unable to verify these accusations.

The Liberal Party’s broad church knows to keep a tight lock on the feuding within its house. Young Liberal Elliot Donazzan was threatened with a five-year expulsion from the party for advocating internal reform and starting a website, entitled “Young Liberals for Democracy”. One respondent informed us “the party” was cracking down and would be unable to answer simple follow-up questions. Another requested we destroy our recordings and transcripts upon the article’s completion.

It is often assumed that students progress from university politics to party politics. In reality, they’re one and the same.

*Names have been changed to protect anonymity.

SULC President Will Dawes declined to be interviewed for this piece. He declined to comment on the allegations raised, beyond a general statement.

Former SULC President Alex Dore also declined to comment.

Metal as anything

Socially, metal music is a pretty broad church. Whether that church is on fire or not is another matter. Your stereotypical metalhead varies from the bro in three-quarter length shorts at a Parkway Drive concert to the vampiric teen with suspiciously well-conditioned hair clinging to the walls at a black metal gig, with plenty of 40-year-olds in filthy band t-shirts and “normal people” in between.

However, there is one sub-genre of metal that never fails to surprise: troll metal. So niche that it doesn’t warrant a Wikipedia article, troll metal is a slowly-growing genre that came together in the early-to-mid nineties. Stylistically, it’s derived from the blending of folk and black metal music with progressive metal influences tossed into the mix to make sure you know the band can play their instruments properly.

Bands like Finntroll, who arguably conceived of the troll metal style, commit entirely to the “troll” part of the genre. Every single sung, growled or screamed lyric tells the story of a folkloric band of Finnish trolls that fight against Christians who enter into their land, often describing the manners in which these “invaders” are attacked or mutilated as punishment.

Each member of the seven-person outfit walks on stage with a set of floppy, prosthetic troll ears glued to their heads. Decked out in warpaint, the band oddly enough wears leather vests, big old top hats or stylish and tight-fitting winter coats. It’s an interesting image, to say the least, and the band sometimes plays it for laughs. When the synth kicks in with a particularly kitsch sting, many of the band’s members begin to bob ironically along, ears flapping as the smoke machine

goes into overdrive.

There’s a definite tongue-in-cheek attitude that dominates the genre. Troll metal bands know that singing about trolls is kind of ridiculous, and laughter from the crowd isn’t in any way a bad thing. Troll metal is effectively a big old postmodern joke, which just so happens to tell that joke through the medium of really solid, interesting fusion metal.

As a result of this laughable element of the genre, the subculture that exists around troll metal is very self-aware and hipstery, at least in Sydney. Most of the people who turn up to a Finntroll gig know that it’s completely ridiculous, but gladly lose themselves to the death pit at some point. However, this is with the exception of those few who spend weeks preparing for a troll metal gig. At the most recent

Lachlan Cameron on the bands and fans of troll metal.

Sydney Finntroll show, held at Manning Bar, there were two audience members with full-on horns glued to their foreheads. It was like *Hellboy*, if Ron Pearlman had been a weedy 20-something. People like these two completely ruin any easy characterisation of an ironic troll metal audience. They act as proof that there are people who do completely identify with the often absurd images expressed onstage.

To those who prefer their music sung rather than screamed, and their artists beautiful rather than bizarre, troll metal may seem like music that attracts a really noxious community of weirdos and the socially awkward. However, it’s really more a case of “don’t judge a book by its cover”; or more specifically, “don’t judge a genre by the two dudes in the corner with horns mounted to their heads”.

Farewell, TXTBUS – you always messaged back

Newfangled transport apps will never replace TXTBUS, writes Lucy Watson.

It’s a strange hallmark of our digital times that *Honi* is able to preemptively report on the death of a loved one, due to pass on September 17: TXTBUS.

Known to some as the Sydney Buses real-time schedule service, and to others as the only contact in their phone that would always reply, TXTBUS was launched in early 2011. The service was described as a “real leap forward” by then Transport Minister John Robertson and went on to inform passengers across the city exactly how many minutes there were before their bus arrived.

But in recent months, the ill health of TXTBUS became apparent. Like a lover gone cold, her responses to my frequent communications became scarce and delayed, sometimes a two-day period passing between my frantic calls for help and her calm – albeit then redundant – response. Her downward spiral continued when last month she refused to answer more than six of my texts per day, and it became clear my beloved SMS companion was

on her deathbed.

Despite her occasional erratic behaviour, I loved TXTBUS and will miss her dearly. Although I am in possession of a smartphone, the apps that are no doubt

different buses that take me to the same location via different routes, the simplicity of asking TXTBUS which one was due to arrive first meant I was rarely caught out. Just two easy texts and (usually, mostly) within seconds I knew

destinations, calculating times, turning my GPS on... TXTBUS knew what I wanted, and how to give it to me. Our love was simple – no strings attached.

While TXTBUS was not universally appreciated (“I’ve never heard of it,” says one *Honi* editor. “Just use TripGo,” says a close friend. “Just wait at the bus stop,” says no one ever, except maybe Gladys.), she was a good and loyal companion, one of my most regular and prompt correspondents, and was never offended when I got angry. “FUCK YOU GLADYS,” I would type angrily, pressing send in a hazy moment of hurt. “Unknown transit stop number” TXTBUS would reply, unfazed.

“This service ends on 17/09/14,” now reads the addendum to her correspondence. The words bring a tear to my eye, and a layer of frost to my already-chilled heart – soon to be frostier still from waiting for hours at the wrong bus stop in winter. So long, friend. Rest in peace.



responsible for the untimely demise of TXTBUS pale in comparison. As a commuter who lives between two bus stops for two

which stop to sprint to. None of this dilly-dallying around downloading apps, inputting

Lefty righty

No one ever told Sam Farrell not to snoop in other people's diaries.

A morning in the life of a left-wing nutjob...

5.00AM: Am awoken by pig demanding I vacate my gutter. I explain to pig that I dwell wherever the fuck I want, currency is filth and housing is a lie. It insists that even so, I am still blocking traffic and should move. I yell 'Chris Pyne Liberal Swine' at it, and even though it thinks that isn't relevant, I once did a class on intersectionality at uni and that means I can say whatever I want, wherever I want, to whoever I want because all the festering tentacles of the state drink from the same goblet of capital muntery. Pig does not take well to my explaining this. Claims muntery is not a word.

5.03AM: I briefly renounce my fuckoff perfect set of state-smashing values in acknowledgement of the fact that I actually just super love McNuggets. I demolished a six-pack of those bad boys like I will demolish the monarchy.

5.05AM: Commence daily repentance wank in honour of comrade Lenin. Ejac on the statue of Governor Macquarie in Martin Place. Am not sure why, but I'm very political.

5.30AM: Board ecological disaster masquerading as bus. Driver (wantonly cis-white male still

clearly connected to the matrix and festering in his patriarchal sty of power) has the gall to demand scummy coinage from me. 'Fuck you, petrol-guzzler', I calmly explain. I shit where I stand. Driver, wearing anklet socks made in Bangladesh (I pulled up his trousers) asks me why. I explain to him as patronisingly as possible that I simply won't shit in a toilet until Tibet Is Free. Also I am trialling a new method of non-violent direct-action that we all twinkled on in our last bi-daily caucus.

5.31AM: Am unreasonably thrown off bus. Am totally having Rosa Parks moment. Briefly happy-cry into my organic trade canvas alliance rainforest bag, unintentionally dampening my hunk of recycled-kale Fuck The System protest pamphlets. Begin writing Facebook post about Sexism In Corporate Azerbaijan.

10.30AM: Finish writing Facebook post. I celebrate this small victory for the working class by beginning a small occupy movement in the lobby of Campus IT. Just me for now, but I steel myself against humiliation by asking myself, as I always do, that without micro-actions in Croatia, would Pussy Riot be free today?

Cops off campus.

A morning in the life of a right-wing nutjob...

11AM: Idiot of a mother wakes me too early, again. I was up late last night typing Halo III cheat codes into the stock portfolio that Daddy bought me on my eight-and-a-half Birthday. I hate it when my mother wakes me instead of our man-maid Juan, because Daddy said I'm allowed to slap him with my gold-plated man-maid slapping paddle that he bought me for my eight-and-three-quarter Birthday.

11.30AM: I instruct Juan to summon my father. Father is working from home today, as his jet is being serviced and he understandably refused to use poor-person transport from Mosman to the city, like his chauffeured limousine, or the Comm Car Clive Palmer gifted him. Daddy is complaining about the overcast weather in the Congo today, where he runs a private military contracting business, but don't worry because he also moonlights as CEO of the Commonwealth Bank to keep us out of The Other 99.9%.

11.35AM: Mother asks me which cow I would like Juan to shoot for my dinner. I click for Juan to hoist me out of bed and onto my Segway that Daddy brought me

back from Bombay. I point at Sebastian and Humphrey. I only want a Sebastian eye-fillet, but yesterday I saw Humphrey sharing his food, bastardising The Market. And, as Friedman always said, 'Shoot the weaker cow, and the shepherd will appoint you Vice-President (Internal Operations) at one of the Big Four.' You must always be vigilant in these matters, or the poor will inherit the earth.

12.00PM: Juan knows that 12 o'clock is Alan Jones o'clock. And when those dulcet tones do not serenade me as I take my sparkling mineral water bath, I know something is wrong. Juan timidly informs me that St. Jones was sick this morning. Something primal stirs in me. I rip the ivory-tusk taps off the shower wall and pelt them at the ghastly Monet that pollutes my house-sized bathroom. They ricochet into a Ming vase but it's okay because we have like ten of those ugly fuckers that Daddy got given by his business associate in Zaire.

Lest we forget.



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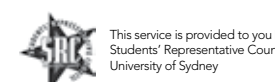
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Libraries, Libraries all around.



You really shouldn't rely solely on Wikipedia to research your assignments. (Or possibly at all.) Every Faculty has a library that specialises in information relevant to your course. These libraries vary in size and are generally located near your lectures. There is a Faculty Liaison Librarian who is able to help you navigate the resources available to you. You can ask questions at the help desk or you can email them.

The libraries are also where you'll find some computers and photocopy machines. They also tend to have some of the loveliest sun shiny spots. If you manage to avoid snoring, you should be able to have a little kip there to rejuvenate yourself in time for your next set of study tasks.

Please BE AWARE: thieves also find libraries great places to hang out and pick up your stuff. Make sure you are careful with phones, computers, wallets, etc.



Ask Abe

Hello Abe,
 My girlfriend is pregnant and I just don't know what to do. If she wants to keep the baby I guess I'll support her but I've only got 2 years to go in my course and I'd rather finish my studies then think about starting a family. I don't even know if I love her or not. What would you suggest my options are?
 Not Ready to Be a Daddy

Dear NRBD,
 I'm sorry to hear that you're in this situation. I would encourage anyone who is having sex to use a condom, as that is the only way to stop the spread of sexually transmitted infections. If you are in a monogamous relationship then you could consider some of the other contraceptives available. Now that your girlfriend is pregnant it would be a good idea for her to talk to a counsellor. The university has a free counselling service that keeps your issues confidential. You can talk to a doctor who is also bound to keep your situation confidential. Beware of counsellors and doctors who give advice based on their personal beliefs rather than your welfare.

If you do decide to keep the baby then both you and her will need to negotiate your situation. You need to work out what you're willing to commit to, and what else you will need. If you decide to terminate the pregnancy then you can talk about your choices with the doctor. Be aware also that this kind of stress will often impact upon a student's ability to study effectively. If you find that you are too stressed to focus on your study talk to a caseworker at the SRC to get special consideration with your subjects.

Abe

President's Report

Jen Light



Where are we at with the Liberal's Higher Education budget?

It has been 3 months since the Liberals announced their budget that would see the greatest attacks not just

The reports on these pages are wholly the work of the SRC Office Bearers. They are not altered, edited or changed in any way by the Honi editors.

on funding for higher education, but a complete targeting attack on students.

To recap the budget proposed:

- The deregulation of University fees, meaning that Universities have the ability to charge whatever fees they like. This will lead to a two-tiered US style system, and Universities could charge \$100,000 or more for a Law degree. Students will be dealing with life long debt.

- A reduction of at least 20% of commonwealth funding per student. Another cut to higher education.

- The introduction of commonwealth scholarships. This is a scholarship

that will supposedly ease the burden of fee deregulation and allow more students from low socio-economic backgrounds to attend university. However in reality the Government will not be putting any money towards the scholarship. Universities are stipulated to put 20 cents per dollar received from fees towards this fund. However Universities do not have to put this money away until they break even on the 20% funding cut.

- The implementation of an interest rate of up to 6% on HECS repayments, while lowering the income threshold required for beginning repayments. Currently HECS has no real interest rate attached to it, only that of CPI. The implementation of a HECS interest rate would mean that you

would be disadvantaged if you chose to study Law and then work for a NGO, you would be disadvantaged if you were a woman because on average you will earn less, you will be even more disadvantaged if you are a woman and chose to have children.

In short Australia's next will not be able to see a higher education as a right, but will have to make a strategically life long decision of debt at the age of 18.

We are currently waiting for the senate to return in late August and the Liberal Government to put forward the higher education bill to really understand what we will be dealing with.

General Secretary's Report *Mariana Podesta-Diverio*



DO NOT EVER WRITE IN LIBRARY BOOKS. EVER. NOT IN PENCIL, NOT IN BLOOD. DO NOT DO IT. Okay.

A timely reminder, fellow students: the SRC has a second-hand bookshop in the Wentworth Building, near the Food Co-Op and the International Students' Lounge. There's a range

of used textbooks for different courses, so before you rush into purchasing an \$80 political economy tome, check whether there's an edition at the bookshop for a quarter of the price. I have saved a significant amount of money doing this. Fellow students, shop around to get a good deal on your study materials. Remember, you might not always need a textbook for a subject so ask around – classmates or Facebook friends may have done the course before, and they may be able to tell you whether it's worth purchasing that copy of Revolutionizing the Sciences: European Knowledge and Its Ambitions for your modern science philosophy course (it's not, I gave my unopened copy to a friend enrolled this semester).

James and I repeat this so frequently we should invest in frequent-repeater cards so that we get every eighth repetition free. BUT: THE SRC HAS A FREE LEGAL SERVICE. AND CASEWORK SERVICE. FREE. Academic advice, housing help, you

name it – our talented and dedicated caseworkers and lawyers can help you.

Now I want you to take a deep breath – promise me you will do this – and imagine a tiny white piece of cork on the middle of a giant pin board. Think about it for a moment, and forget the ridiculousness of the first part of this report (god, I am so sorry, but I can't change), because it's taking a serious turn. Okay, now forget the pin board because it was never relevant to begin with. Physical wellbeing is an integral part of balancing life and studies while you're at university. Sleep is a huge part of this. Eating well and exercising are also lauded as the pillars of good health, but they're parroted so much by glossy brochures and daytime television shows that it's hard to continue to give a fuck – the words and concepts become somewhat meaningless. But there are little things you can do that take little effort and make a difference.

How many of you out there are

insomniacs? You? Good, this is for you: I have two tasks for you. Your homework for this week, if you please, is to stretch out as many of your muscles as possible before going to bed. This can be done with a background of soft music, an audiobook, or a bewildered partner. Also, I challenge every person who reads this to refrain from using any screens – laptop, TV, iPad – within two hours of going to bed. The science behind this isn't as interesting as the results for those of you who have a hard time dozing off. I'll allow (lolz, "allow", who even am I?) very brief phone checks (text messages, setting alarms) within the hour before bed. But the rules are clear. No screens.

A note for regular readers of my report: smash capitalism, the patriarchy, racism, and the state. Free education and health care for all. Oh, don't pretend like you didn't read my report for your fortnightly dose of alienating far-leftism. You're not fooling anyone.

Education Officers' Report *Ridah Hassan and Eleanor Morley*



The Abbott government is planning to launch an attack on welfare that will be detrimental for many students. Many students already live far below the poverty line, and are forced to work long hours, eating into their

study time. What we need is more, not less, welfare provisions, an idea that has been clearly rejected with the Liberals class war budget.

Abbott's work for the dole legislation proposes under 30s will have to do 25 hours a week of community service if they are to receive unemployment benefits. In addition to this they will have to apply for 40 jobs a month. This policy is clearly serving a political rather than economic service, as economist across the country claim there is no evidence of such program's reducing unemployment. This is part of the Liberal governments ideological attack on welfare.

Mining billionaire Twiggy Forrest has provided the government with his recommendations for an overhaul of the welfare system (I guess now

they're not even pretending in whose interests this budget lies). The most worrying recommendation is for the expansion of welfare quarantining. Under this system recipients of welfare are presented with a basics card, rather than a money transfer, which can only be spent at certain shops and prevents the purchase of certain items including alcohol and cigarettes, and does not allow for a cash withdrawal.

The most dangerous change to welfare in Australia is the "earn or learn" policy. Under 30s will have to wait 6 months after they apply for welfare to begin receiving payments, and will be monitored under certain regulations during this period. This will force thousands of young people across the country into abject poverty and homelessness, as they have no way of feeding or housing themselves.

The next big opportunity we have to fight these cuts is the National Day of Action on August 20. All across the country students will be marching to defend their education and oppose the myriad of other attacks facing students in the budget. Last semester hosted the biggest student demo in Sydney in almost 10 years, now we have to step it up! If you would like to get involved in the campaign, join the Education Action Group which meets every Tuesday at 2pm on the New Lawns. The EAG will be hosting a number of events in the lead up to the NDA, so there is plenty to get involved with!

education.officers@src.usyd.edu.au

Wom*n of Colour Autonomous Collective Conveners' Report

Shareeka Helaluddin and Tabitha Prado-Richardson



A few weeks ago my [white] friend asked me about this collective and what we did. "So... is it, like, a political group?" "I don't really get it... what's the point?" Admittedly, my first reaction was internal screaming at the thought of having to justify what I do and pretty much validate my identity as a wom*n of colour - a tiresome and, surprisingly, an all too common task. Instead, I decided to take the time to explain why the existence of this collective is important not just to me and the other wom*n of this group; but also for the progression of truly progressive and conscientious activism and politics.

Our collective may not come across as politically inclined, at least in the conservative sense. Rather, our politics manifest themselves in varied creative and visceral ways that is as much introspective as it is externally communicated. The creation of a safe and empathetic space for wom*n of colour allows us to nurture an uncompromised sense of self that informs intersectional activism. So far on campus, it has proved to be the only space that is a haven from daily oppression whilst being understanding of broader structures that affect how I navigate the world, straddle tradition(s), and defy assimilation.

This group has taught me that a wom*n of colour's self-love and validated sense of self can be fuel for activism and used as a tool of resistance. A woman of colour's self-love is political and radical: it unsettles the status quo because by choosing bravely to dismantle the narratives of racist aesthetics against us.

This group has taught me the

importance of acknowledging and appreciating different forms of activism and how I can act on political inclinations and defy racism, sexism and other oppressive 'isms,' in ways that are safe and of solidarity. It is something that translates to facets of my life - political or otherwise. It has given me the strength to call out the fallible nature of other groups that I have been a part of, in the hope and idealism of establishing truly inclusive, empathetic and conscientious spaces on and off campus; that takes into account the experiences and oppression of numerous identities.

The Wom*n of Colour Autonomous collective is a safe space for wom*n who identify as of colour, from an ethnocultural background, Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, or otherwise marginalised by white supremacy. If your identity falls in line, you are welcome to join our Facebook group. We hope to be holding a little autonomous event soon, it would be lovely to see you there!

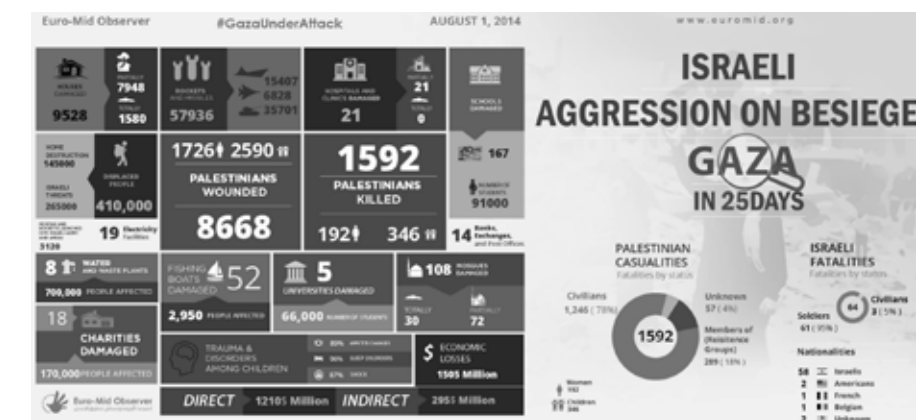
Mini VP Report

Laura Webster

I have stolen these few lines to publically sing the praises of my co-Vice President, Max, for essentially chastising Vice Chancellor Michael Spence in the middle of a 4 hour meeting with 20 University executive members. In a glorious blaze of glory, Max informed Spence that as long as he refuses to stand up to the Government and Group of Eight Universities, we will continue to question his every move, chant outside his office until he really begins to fight for the accessible and affordable tertiary education that is our right.

Eds: Our apologies to Laura for mistakenly not including this in last week's edition.

Mature Age Officers' Report *Omar Hassan*



The Australian Union of Jewish Students is launching its bizarre and offensive defence of Israel's atrocities in Gaza this week. AUJS claims to represent all Jewish people, and yet the vast bulk of its activities are dedicated to promoting Israel and

Zionism on campuses. One of its campaign materials shows poorly photoshopped images of Australian universities with rockets falling on them, with the tagline: "What would you do?"

Well, if our universities were stolen from us, if we were forced to live on half-rations in the Carlslaw toilets, if running water, electricity, and access to the outside world was periodically cut off, we would probably do what the heroic Palestinian Resistance fighters do.

Meanwhile, in the real world, Gaza University has been bombed as part of Israel's 4 week long campaign against the population of the Gaza Strip, a campaign which has targeted hospitals, disability centres, schools, UN buildings, mosques and more.

Israel claims self defense, and yet the death toll is 1300 civilians lost on the Palestinian side, and just three on the Israeli. It has now occupied 40% of the tiny Gaza Strip, and there are Op-ed

in mainstream Israeli publications calling for genocide (seriously, google it).

All three mature age officers are proud to stand with the people of Palestine in this difficult moment. Long live the resistance!

On another note, the national day of protest against the Abbott government (Aug 20) is fast approaching. It is shaping up to be an important date for the future of higher education. The Senate is sitting the following week, and if the changes to fees ate passed it will be an historic defeat for students. Don't let that happen! Bring a contingent from your class, paint your own banner or placard, and let's show the government that we are going to fight them all the way!

Queer Officers' Report



Pride means a lot to the queer community: it's a deadly sin that only some of us are lucky enough to reclaim. If you're queer, pride is not a birthright; instead it must be fought for. It's hard to take pride in yourself in a society that understands

the way we are as an aberration, harmful to our families, ourselves, and our prospects for the future. Many of us will never be able to take pride in queerness. But for those who can, celebrating difference and diversity against the rigid confines

David Shakes, Elsa Kohane, Edward McMahon and Holly Parrington talk about pride.

of social conservatism is a tool of empowerment and subversion.

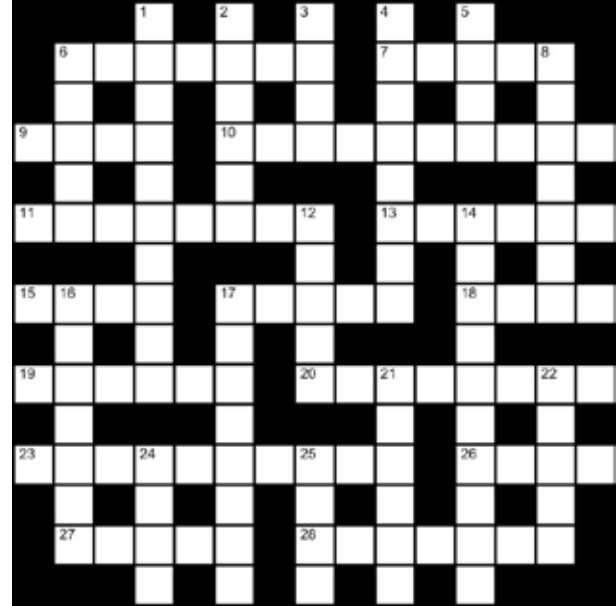
This week is the USU's Pride Festival, and from the 5th-7th of August, queer organisations around campus (QuAC, Queerkats, SHADES and Queer Revue) are collaborating in conjunction with the USU Queer Coordinators to put together a series of events to celebrate pride. The event can be found on Facebook, and the full itinerary is on the USU website. Look out for a variety of workshops, performances, and social events. The SRC Queer Officers are incredibly proud of all the hard work queers on campus have put into running such a vibrant festival. Many of the events will be autonomous, but sometimes we're down to party with cis hetero people too, and we'd encourage everyone to (where possible) come out

and celebrate the pride of the queer community at the University of Sydney.

As we enter the second half of the year, we remind all people who are queer or questioning that you are always welcome in the Queerspace, especially for Queer Action Collective meetings which will take place at 1pm each Monday in the Queerspace (Holme building). Queerkats, the autonomous group of queer non-cis men, will continue to meet at 1pm on Thursday. As renovations in the Holme building are soon to be completed, we look forward to a new and improved space. Greater accessibility, greater anonymity, and the inclusion of gender neutral bathrooms will all hopefully make for a safer space for queer people on campus.



Quick Draw McGraw

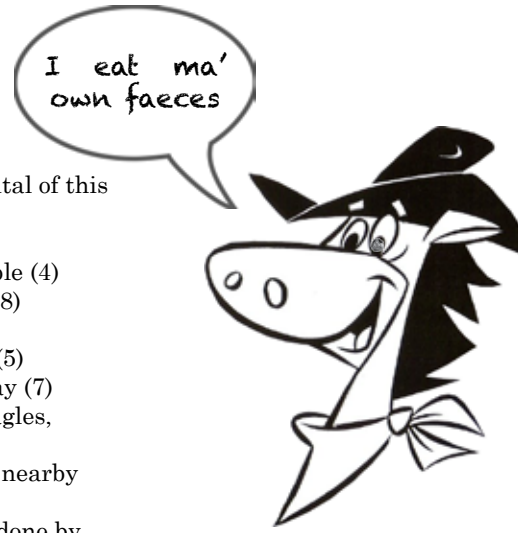


Across

- 6/7/17 Company responsible for Magic: The Gathering (7,2,3,5)
- 9 Main villain of The Dark Knight Returns (4)
- 10 Ruled against (10)
- 11 Channel to a new target (8)
- 13 Fling (6)
- 15 Modify (4)
- 17 See 6
- 18 Worthless pieces of cloth (4)
- 19 List of things to do (6)
- 20 Concise (8)
- 23 Silver screen (10)
- 26 Scam (4)
- 27 Instrument for measuring, typically seen on maps (5)
- 28 Not wearing a shirt (7)

Down

- 1 Tashkent is the capital of this republic (10)
- 2 Beat (6)
- 3 Bermuda, for example (4)
- 4 Picture of a person (8)
- 5 Celebrity (4)
- 6 Giant sea mammal (5)
- 8 Latter part of the day (7)
- 12 Sharks and Sea Eagles, for example (5)
- 14 Unable to focus on nearby things (10)
- 16 Lose clarity, often done by lecturers (7)
- 17 Single-reed instrument (8)
- 21 Appetizer (6)
- 22 Extremely confusing state (5)
- 24 Test (4)
- 25 9th Greek letter (4)



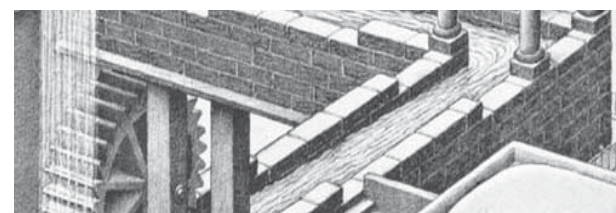
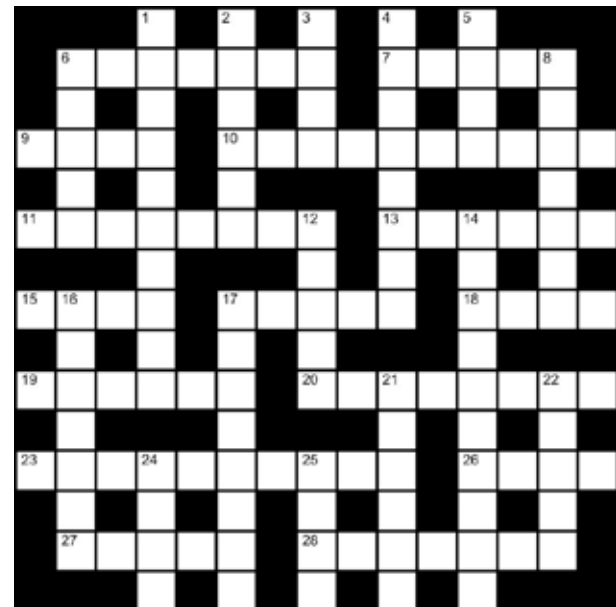
Cryptic

Across

- 6 Vulgar window section returned for 'being concealed' (7)
- 7 A last call to arm!? (5)
- 9 Turn to war quietly (4)
- 10 The object's path changed or, a jet's cry followed the first, not second? (10)
- 11 Helpless use cells in disarray (8)
- 13 Charm a stubborn beast to remove the ass? (6)
- 15 Available without cost (4)
- 17 Orchestrate in a disco remix (5)
- 18 Five hundred first-class quietly leave cash (4)
- 19 Ill wills stir piss about the lack of high heaven? (6)
- 20 I would go back to exact area (8)
- 23 Recently arrived settler arranged for a bulletin (10)
- 26 War-making's part allied by nature (4)
- 27 Corporate department removes echo from new leases (5)
- 28 Sausages begin building ires (7)

Down

- 1 Full amount strangely compels men to drop - so? (10)
- 2 Lose athletic core to a rook? (6)
- 3 Wager a kind of test (4)
- 4 Tear fabric by a magnitude (8)
- 5 Odd parts of dead fete were stupid (4)
- 6 Part of a necklace's attention goes into preserving lucrative starts (5)
- 8 Killings resulted from unkempt under arms without a nurtured start (7)
- 12 Angrily censure directors at the end without emotion (5)
- 14 Mortician is one who accepts challenges (10)
- 16 Regarding the media: Conceal and/or hide (7)
- 17 A state of mental uncertainty as Sydney University spends without initially deciding on education first (8)
- 21 Shy psychiatrist (6)
- 22 Crisp second breaks off (5)
- 24 Revolutionary organisation is found in shakers (4)
- 25 Big brass instrument in thug beat's odd? (4)



Prove that you've still got it

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| 1. In which Sydney suburb was the first Australian McDonald's situated? | 3. Which brand of champagne is Jay-Z currently boycotting? | 6. In which nation is the official Panama hat produced? | 9. How did the inventor of the Segway die? |
| 2. Which UK comedian told Fox News anchor Sean Hannity to abandon 'vengeance and hatred' in his coverage of Gaza? | 4. In which city is Leonardo Da Vinci's <i>The Last Supper</i> housed? | 7. Which animal has the largest brain by mass? | 10. How many decades, on average, does a komodo dragon live for? |
| | 5. Which is Australia's oldest bank? | 8. Who was Australia's first Prime Minister? | |

1. Yagoona 2. Russell Brand 3. Cristal 4. Milan 5. Westpac 6. Ecuador 7. Sperm Whale 8. Edmund Barton 9. Seg-ed his way off a cliff 10. 3.



STUDENT RALLY AGAINST THE BUDGET

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 20th

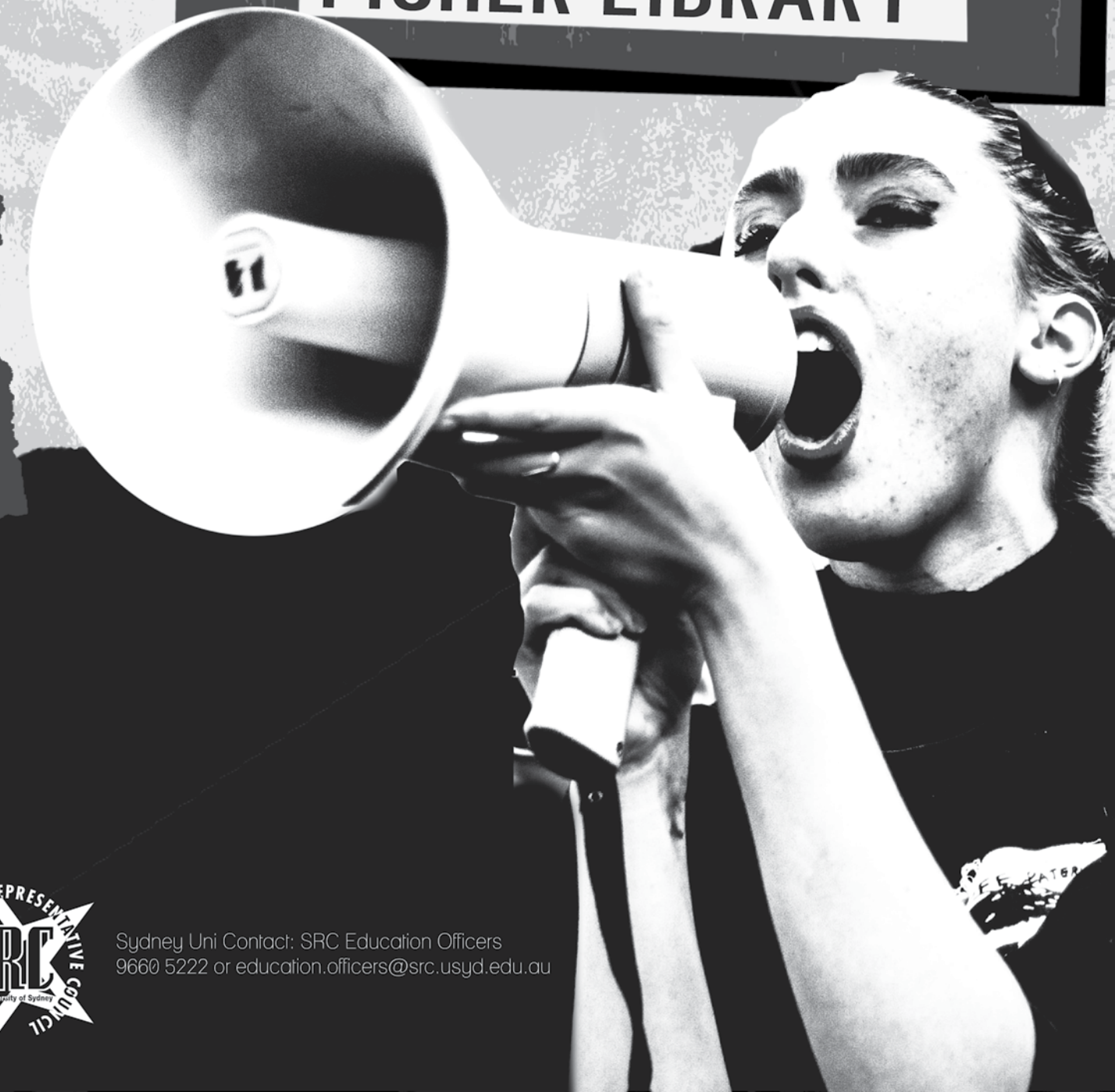
1.30PM

FISHER LIBRARY

NO US-STYLE
EDUCATION MODEL

SAY NO TO
FEE HIKES

SAVE
NEWSTART
& YOUTH
ALLOWANCE

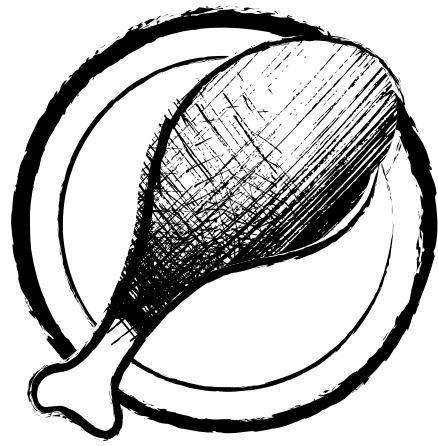


authorised by deanna taylor



Sydney Uni Contact: SRC Education Officers
9690 5222 or education.officers@src.usyd.edu.au

Honey Soy



Australia Excels At The Not-Olympic Games

Mary Ward is a not-Fairfax journalist.

Australian athletes have gone from strength to strength at the Glasgow not-Olympic Games.

The Aussies have battled against not-Olympic heavyweight nations such as the Isle of Man and Mauritius to stay on the top of the not-Olympic medal tally.

The young star of Australia's not-Olympic squad, 18-year-old swimmer Caitlin Hallett, was thrilled to have won not-Olympic gold in the 175m empirestroke.

"Winning a not-Olympic medal has always been a dream of mine," she said.

"But to do it at my first not-Olympic Games,

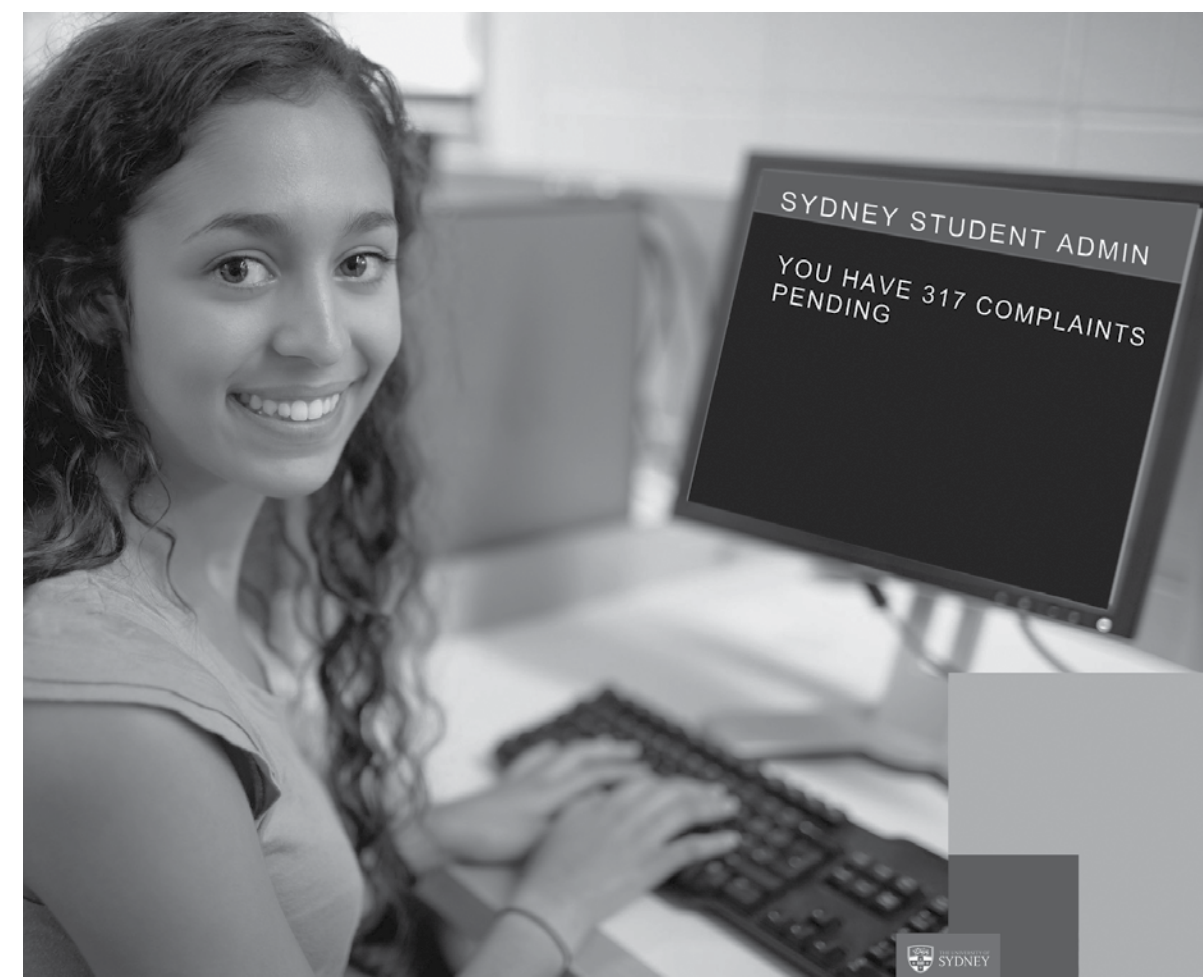
and to break the not-Olympic record, is something that I'm really proud of."

Hallett celebrated her not-Olympic victory by getting a tattoo of the not-Olympic rings: a netball ring, the One Ring and Ringo Starr.

"The not-Olympic rings mean so much to me. They are symbols of what is good about all of the nations that compete at the not-Olympics, and I am so glad to take them with me wherever I go," she said.

The results from the games will have absolutely no bearing on how the athletes fare up against the US, Russia and China at the Olympic Games in 2016.

New Sydney Student Online System Literally Just Second Year Art History Student



Sex Advice FROM Michael Spence

AS TOLD TO PETER WALSH

He's laissez faire about love. A deregulator of deviance. If you're looking to spice up your sex life, look no further than the Seducer of Sydney.

Hey there, sorry I'm late. Just drying my hands. Love the baguettes they sell here, you want one? No? Well, I'd like to begin by saying it's an honour to be asked and *look* I've always been an educator, so I'm happy to talk about it so long as it stays between you and me.

Right?

Well look, when you're having your way with anyone, you've got to start *slowly*. Begin by eroding time-honoured agreements, keep out of long term commitments - if you'll let me be figurative - '*casualise your labour*' or so to speak. Once the foreplay's finished, gently insert your neo-conservative rhetoric into the conversation; persuade them to accept short-term pain in exchange for future pleasures. It's all a transaction, no need for love, finish what you're doing and pay for it while you're there—

Mm. Sorry. I got a little carried away. Though don't think I'm dogmatic. I'm open to trying new things. Convocation's an orgy, right?

IN OTHER NEWS

Local Mate Conflates A Balloon, Becomes Infused

CSIRO Confirm That Blue Really Is The Warmest Colour

Abbas, Netanyahu Come Together To Mock Tony Abbott

"Ebola No Real Threat" Announces CDC Official Mournfully Embarking Space Shuttle

Couple Expresses Love By Interlocking Holes Where Vomit Also Comes Out Of

Thomas Murphy is a true romantic.

Today lovers Charlie Forsythe and Alex Farriday, as an ultimate expression of affection and tender emotion for each other, formed a tightly sealed flesh tunnel within which an unexpected torrent of vomit, containing gastric acid and semi-digested mush, could come spewing forth from at any second.

While swapping mucus and enzymes that normally begin breakdown of foodstuffs in the digestion process, the couple were seemingly unaware that they were creating a skin-

covered airlock, that could explode by the force of projectile puking caused by pyloric stenosis, cerebral hemorrhaging, uremia, or any other number of life-threatening diseases.

This practice of expressing highest form of esteem for another individual, as well as sexual desire or a promise of a life-long connection in love and dependence, is still enjoyed by human beings all round the world, despite the orifice's further roles as an exit point for a mixture of bile, gastric acid and faeces if intestinal obstruction occurs.



Post-Europe Depression Clinic Mandated

Elliott Brennan has #posteuropedepression.

Contiki tours offering 'the full Europe Experience' will now be required under federal legislation to include access to one of the thousands of Post-Europe Depression clinics being opened in the coming months in their packages.

The revelation comes following a recent study by the Bureau of Statistics that showed ten out of ten Australians are severely affected by feelings of deep longing, loss, and trauma directly following their return from Europe.

The issue reached parliament when some old minister was alarmed to see #posteuropedepression and #takemeback trending on all social media platforms and immediately took the issue to the Health Minister Peter Dutton.

"Australia is facing a mental health epidemic and these companies need to start taking responsibility for the very real adverse effects they are having on the well-being of their customers. Gone are the archaic Labor days where we deny due care and support to people with legitimate health problems," MP Dutton said.

To attain federal contiki certification, the clinic provided by the company must take measures to ease Australians back in to their peasant lives.

Ample cameras need to be provided and posters of famous landmarks will surround the patients while they are force-fed gradually less copious amounts of alcohol and drugs over a period of at least 3 weeks.

Israel-Palestine Conflict Moves To Sydney University Poster Boards

Bennett Sheldon is going into hiding now.

Sydney University has become the newest battleground in the Israel-Palestine territorial dispute.

Previously contained to the Middle East, the conflict has expanded to Sydney campus as both sides vie for control of key strategic poster boards.

"I went into my lecture and the Eastern Bank was plastered with Palestinian flyers," one easily influenced student commented. "When I left in an hour all trace of them had been extinguished. The Taste Strip had been bombarded with more crudely drawn Stars than the doodle page of my Year 10 Maths book."

"The conflict has caused irreparable environmental damage," quoted a maintenance employee. "The entire landscape has been desecrated, entire poster boards are destroyed by the constant barrage of staples. The very boards they're fighting for..." he mullied.

"It's not like they're only hurting other professional posterers either. It's the bystanders who suffer. Can you really quantify innocent casualties— like SUDS Hamlet, or that first year student who wanted a roommate?"

With both sides being supported by Officeworks there is no end in sight.

IS THIS THE REAL LIFE? (yes)



What would you do? Imagine: UNSW terrorists fired thousands of rockets at USyd.

aujs
Australian Union of Jewish Students

Hamas has fired thousands of rockets from Gaza to Israel. Israel in context. www.aujs.com.au/facts

HONI SOIT
PRESENTS

OPINION COMPETITION

ARE YOU SICK AND TIRED OF
SOMETHING? ARE YOU ANGRY, OR
JUST DISAPPOINTED? DO YOU HAVE
STRONG FEELINGS? WHAT MAKES
YOUR BLOOD BOIL?

WE'RE AFTER YOUR OPINION
PIECES FOR HONI'S 5TH ANNUAL
OPINION COMPETITION. THIS
YEAR'S THEME IS DEATH.

PRIZES:

1st place: \$800

2nd place: \$500

3rd place: \$300

Highly Commended: \$150

Submissions due before midnight, Wednesday October 8.

Send them in to opinion@src.usyd.edu.au. They must be 800 words or less. The competition is open to all undergraduate students at USYD, so include your name, student number and degree in your email, but NOT in the attached document.

THEME:

DEATH