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so you didn't have to / p. 9

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ple or the saviour of European
liberal centrism? / p. 10



S1W10 / FIRST PUBLISHED 1929

HONI SOIT

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation. The University of Sydney – where we write, publish and distribute *Honi Soit* – is on the sovereign land of these people. As students and journalists, we recognise our complicity in the ongoing colonisation of Indigenous land. In recognition of our privilege, we vow to not only include, but to prioritise and centre the experiences of Indigenous people, and to be reflective when we fail to. We recognise our duty to be a counterpoint to the racism that plagues the mainstream media, and to adequately represent the perspectives of Indigenous students at our University. We also wholeheartedly thank our Indigenous reporters for the continuing contribution of their labour to our learning.

Editorial

From the dizzyingly hedonistic Gold Rush that was the pre-Crash west to the liberal optimism of the Obama years, our generation has always been surrounded by the short-lived promise of a new and perfect world. Our orgiastic obsession with technology is just the latest such narrative of false hope.

To Elon Musk and his cabal of Silicon Valley snake-oil salesmen, the Internet, automation and artificial intelligence all have the potential to emancipate us from a life of stagnant wage slavery, and usher humanity into a future of boundless knowledge, freedom and creativity.

Our generation has enthusiastically swallowed this myth. With alarming passiveness, we've allowed technology to co-opt every facet of our day-to-day lives. We let Facebook tell us what to read and who to vote for. We barely raise a whimper as governments and corporations discover our deepest, basest desires. We watch while Fascists pollute our online spaces, taking advantage of the cacophonous confusion of the web age to gain a sense of political legitimacy. And as conventional politics falls apart, the economy uberizes, and we rush headlong into the fourth industrial revolution, the only thing left for us to cling on to are our lukewarm memes.

Ten years from now, when your unpaid internship has been given to a robot, don't say I didn't warn you. And don't go running to Silicon Valley for help, lest you get hit in the face by a Juicero. **KNR**

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Who made this edition happen?

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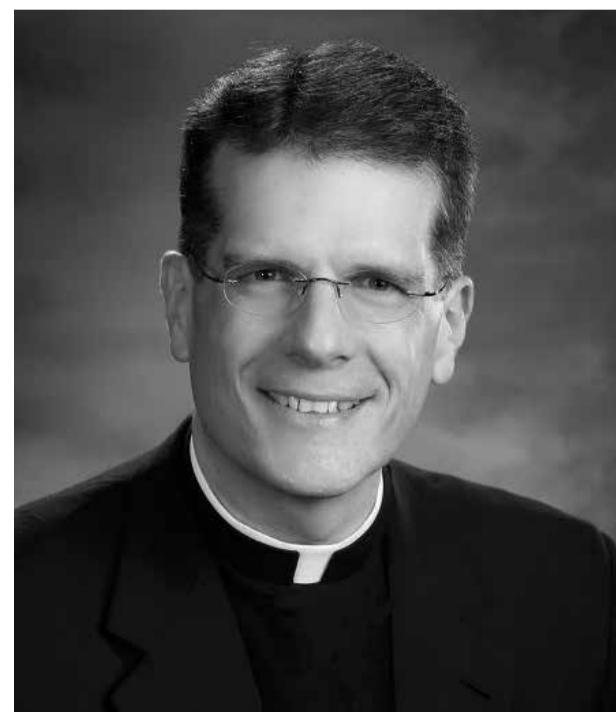
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Cover image by Michael Sun.
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What's on this week

According to your local pastor who really wants you to come to church



Fee increase protest

When: Wednesday, May 17, 12pm-2pm
 Where: Outside Fisher Library
 Price: Free (wish the same was true for education)

When Jesus stormed into the temple courts, interrupted the proceeding by overturning tables, yelling, and driving both people and animals out of the room using a whip, he was condemning the greed and corruption of hypocrites — because Jesus was a protester (John 2:13-25). Be like Jesus (and then tell me all about it when you come to the service on Sunday).

Hack Revue and election announcement

When: Wednesday, May 17, 8pm
 Where: Manning Bar
 Price: Dignity

As you would know from my teachings — well you would if you came more often, but I understand we lead busy lives — “God gives grace to the humble” (1 Peter 5:5). How then do we respond to such an explicitly self-referential, indulgent performance as one specifically by and for student politics die-hards? Well we must respond with mercy, my son. So, go to this revue and the announcement of your USU board directors and “Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful” (Luke 6:36).

Fan mail

Budget woes

Dear Editors,

Like many, I am concerned with the fee increases for students, and the funding cuts to universities, in the budget. I am also dismayed governments rhetoric of saying that the “cost of the cuts will be partially paid for by students”. In reality, students will pay more, universities will receive less, and the increased revenue from student fees is doing the “heavy lifting” elsewhere in the budget.

Andrew Mathas

The real issue

Why the fuck is a piece of banana bread \$4.40 at Carlslaw Kitchen?

Anon

Angry reacts only

We are nothing if not adaptive to will of the digital revolution (last week's cover aside). Since it seems our readers prefer to let out their anger via a convenient Facebook comment, over an outdated email letter, we are going to start publishing the weekly highlights.

Journalism is boring

“Bizarre scenes”, so classic Honi. What is bizarre about protesting a bunch of far-right women haters in MAGA hats and shirts saying “feminism is cancer”. Your ‘objective’ reporting is mind-numbingly boring.

Eleanor Morely

Hard pill to swallow

What's bizarre is that at this University we're educated to engage in informed, constructive discourse that can negotiate both aspects of a topic before we draw conclusions, yet consistently find advocates on either end of the spectrum descend into lewd screaming matches.

Bianka Farmakis

Wrong, we are desperate here

Don't expect your letter to be published unless its a business student snowflake complaining that SA are against free speech because we disagreed with them.

April Holcombe

[Eds - but seriously we are starved for letters and will publish anything, see above, and from anyone. Help us]

Lol no

Are there any candidates who aren't linked to career politician organisations or professional activism or trying to bribe students?

Oliver Marras

Je suis Zhixian

Shocking to hear that such ridiculous situation happen to Zhixian as I've been helping her for the past few days for this election and saw all the hard work and dedication she puts into this USU election. The reason given by USU board for excluding her ... Just because she sent a small

amount red pocket money in a group chat on Wechat, which to everyone with a basic concept of how group chats on wechat work would know it's the payment for posting an advertisement in a group chat. As for the chalking content, if a cultural joke is not even acceptable then I would have to say please go do some research about it before coming to such ridiculous decision!

Shirley Duan

#Progressive

There's nothing more progressive than hating wealthy white men, and can I just say, I hate Tom Waterhouse. If elected to the USU Board, I will ban Tom Waterhouse from campus. In fact, I will ban all scions of horse racing and gambling dynasties. That's progressive.

We're with Waleed. Waleed Aly for USU

Zyzz forever

Don't worry brahz [sic] MuzzSoc may not be USU official but were are official in the heart of Zyzz and we will always have the odd skitz [sic] time around campus <3 Also the idea that we should merge with MADSOC (proper dancers) when we are clearly flailing lunatics was just plain ludicrous m9s [sic].

USyd MuzzSoc

We have a podcast fan

> spending half an hour recording this > expecting people to care enough to listen to half an hour of talk about the union elections.

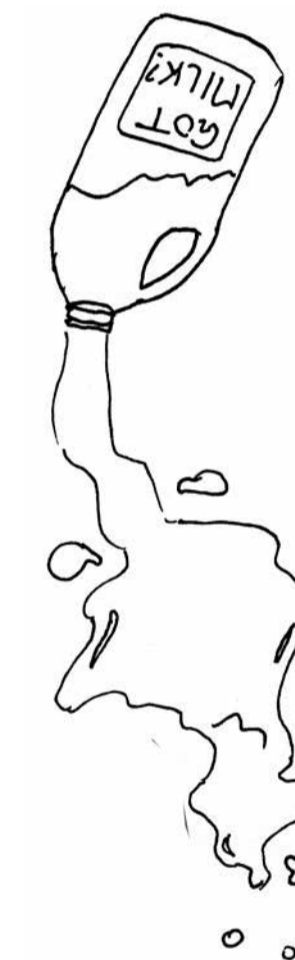
Kerrod Gream

Got mail?

Send your irreverent takes and reverent rants to editors@honisoit.com by 12pm each Friday for publication. Keep it under 300 words and include your name, degree, year and if you were a kitchen utensil which one would you be and why.

Oops . . .

In publishing the Board Candidate quiz we said that Question 8, “As a not-for-profit organisation, what happens when the USU's annual revenue exceeds its costs and liabilities?” was excluded due to no candidate answering it correctly. It was in fact excluded as the answers were too broad and unable to be quantified fairly.



Science Cruise: The Hogwarts Express

When: Wednesday 10 March, 6pm
 Where: Customs House Library
 Price: Free

Despite the Pagan undertones and the whole Dumbledore batting for the other team thing, I like Harry Potter as much as the next pastor. Just as magic can be used to undermine the teachings of the Church, so too can science. So be free to go to this cruise, and drink merrily, but protect your heart from the vices, faithlessness, and temptation that science students may offer you. And don't have sex with anyone unless you marry them beforehand.

Queer Revue

When: May 18 - 20, 7.30pm
 Where: Seymour Centre
 Price: Access \$15 | Student \$18 | General \$20

Other pastors might avoid commenting on this one or comment in all the wrong ways but I am a new-age pastor and believe in a broad church open to all sexualities and beings (except fucking Protestants). So suffice to say, I'm happy to turn a blind eye to the whole “he who lies with a man” Leviticus thing and have the utmost confidence that this performance will be fabulous.

Interfaculty pub crawl

When: Friday, May 19, 4pm
 Where: Cadigal Lawns
 Price: Free

This looks like a jolly time! Bringing together all the different denominations of the Arts, Sciences, Business and more. Truly, this will be a magnanimous occasion. May you drink deeply of the blood of our Lord and use Saturday to recover so that you can come in bright and early on Sunday for mass – Don't tell anyone, but I hear this Sunday's service is going to be a ripper!

Coptic church under siege

MICHAEL YOUSSEF / Fighting the good fight to protect St. Mary's

St. Mary's Coptic Church in Sydenham has a long and storied history. Originally built in 1884, the site was acquired by Egyptian immigrants in 1968, making it the first Coptic Orthodox Church outside of Egypt.

However, the Church is now under severe threat. Citing 'safety concerns' and the high cost of refurbishment, the local council plans to demolish the building. Since last year's local council mergers, the unelected Inner West Council led by administrator Richard Pearson has showcased little intent to preserve the Church, despite multiple requests from the local community and non-government organisations.

For over 10 years now, Coptic Orthodox Christians have been fighting to protect their church from demolition. The community has raised \$2 million for a proposed refurbishment of the site, which would see a community centre, a chapel for visitors and an Egyptian Pharaonic and Coptic museum. Despite this offer, the council declined under the grounds that the development would cost \$5 million and thus exceed the amount donated. More recently, a successful court injunction halted the demolition

scheduled to proceed on 8th May.

Despite the National Trust's description of the church as being "rare and nationally significant" the council has demonstrated a profoundly stubborn inability to see any value in this historical building. By claiming that refurbishment costs are too high, the council has refused to take advice from two prominent building companies who said that the redevelopment would only amount to \$2 million. In an effort to ameliorate the community, Council has instead offered to create a memorial using the Church's bricks as pavement. Given the incredible significance of the Church to Sydney's Coptic community, this solution is both unacceptable and disrespectful.

On 2nd May, a suspicious fire ravaged parts of the Church. While it remains under investigation, many locals recall similar blazes before the council demolished two local heritage listed headmaster stations.

In response to the fire, Pearson claimed the building was now too dangerous and should be demolished immediately. A request for an independent building inspection by the Egyptian community from

the local and NSW government has been rejected. This unfortunate state of affairs is deeply troubling. It is a travesty that such a historical building is to be demolished for seemingly petty reasons.

The Coptic community's loss is a developer's dream. Changes to the regular flight path from Kingsford Smith Airport will see planes fly away from the church, subsequently increasing the value of the large piece of land. In response, Australian Coptic Heritage and Community Services (ACHCS) has commenced legal action against the council.

This controversy comes after the bombing of two churches that killed 50 people on Palm Sunday in Egypt, where Coptic Christians have been victim to longstanding terror. The repression faced by Christians across the Middle East makes the government's reluctance to protect their culture and heritage in Australia all the more tragic. But the 100 000 strong Coptic community is ready to fight. It is imperative that all political, cultural and religious leaders take a stand and do the right thing.

The faraway land between left and right

JACK JACOBS / The future of centrist politics

Reverent strings marched Emmanuel Macron to the lectern at the Louvre on Monday, 7 May. He had just claimed historic victory against the far-right populist Marine Le Pen. Ode to Joy, the unofficial rallying cry of the European Union, was the song to mark that ascendancy, suggesting that he was one to usher in a new age: a politician for our times, who claims to be from that faraway land beyond left and right.

This, at least, is the myth that Macron has been cultivating since the start of his campaign. He is seen as the harbinger of a new political class: independent, young at just 39, intellectual, and pragmatic. Macron has pitched himself as a different kind of centrist, and the media has agreed: empathetic to social issues with a faith in a free, globalised market. His task now is of equally mythic proportions: to prove that this myth can become a reality.

Centrism has been shaped by stability-seeking moderates around the globe, who are now placing a burden of hope and conviction on the shoulders of this lone Frenchman. Who can blame them? While Macron's task is a difficult one, the outcome of his Presidency, if successful, might just suggest that centrism is the right vehicle for the long road ahead.

And it is a long road, riddled with quagmires and bandits who threaten at every turn. It is too early to assert that Macron's win marks a shift in the global political narrative. What it instead proves is that a single political trend cannot accurately be drawn across international elections. Instead, we must look to divisions. What's emerging across the globe right now is a tension between two forces: the populist right and the 'sensible centre'. The battle between Marine Le Pen and Macron was the tension between these two forces made incarnate.

Where is the left? It seems that it's no longer holding up as a feasible alternative. Oddly, its working class base has shifted to the right, citing nationalism and a desire to be heard. While the last 12 months have seen the emergence of dark isolationism in Trump and Brexit, they also produced victories for European Union integration, with Alexander van der Bellen in Austria and liberal Mark Rutte in the Netherlands. Too often we forget that both forces are at play in an equal contest. It just so happens that the populist right has held sway in

larger countries like the US and UK, where there the emanating media is louder.



Art: Jocelin Chan

Macron has won out, marking a supposed victory for centrism. Except it's not quite a victory: a large part of Macron's win came down to the failures of others who sought the Presidency from estab-

lishment parties on the Right and Left, in François Fillon and Benoît Hamon. More importantly, protest votes against Le Pen were a significant factor and few French citizens actually voted for Macron's centrist policies. His 66.1% outcome is therefore not a mandate for centrism but rather a reaction against the populist right. There is no doubt that circumstance favoured Macron, but perhaps it did so for a reason.

In his victory speech, Macron did not shy away from the reality of his task. He is the leader of a newly created party, with no friends in the assembly yet. His ability to act with conviction will rely on the results of the June legislative election. The pivotal moment in his victory speech was his reaction to the crowd's booing of Le Pen and her supporters. Macron seized the opportunity to recast his election as a bridge-building moment. He calmed the crowds: "No, don't boo. They expressed anger today. Dismay. And sometimes conviction. I respect them."

This is what sets Macron apart. He acknowledges that the right must be heard, that its rising popularity with the working classes stems from alienation, not necessarily ignorance or fear. To bridge the divide, it is up to centrist leaders like Macron to exercise a politics of genuine dialogue: "I will do everything ... to make sure there is no reason at all to vote for extremes". This was a telling moment for what could possibly come out of leader-driven dialogue from the sensible centre. Macron's place as an independent at the head of En Marche! gives him a unique opportunity to recast the practice of politics; to forge bridges, rather than divisions, from his own policy platform. Such an advantage is what makes the task more achievable for him than it was for Turnbull at home in Australia, where a capable centrist has been bound by established party identities.

Perhaps Macron realises that his leadership will only succeed if he remains on the ground. Not above the stars, but with the people on the dusty road. For that is the advantage of centrism, and for once, even if by accident, centrism has a mandate. Macron must engage the two forces in dialogue. Easier said than done, but for just a few seconds, why not cue the Ode to Joy?

Don't be silly, wrap your willy ... seriously

NINA DILLON-BRITTON / With sexual health information more accessible than ever, why is condom use declining?

In 2015, Australian GPs reported a troubling spike in rates of sexually transmitted infections (STIs). Diagnoses of HIV, chlamydia and even syphilis saw an unprecedented increase.

Over the past few decades, contraception use increased slowly. It seemed the effects of HIV awareness campaigns, Healthy Harold and more open conversations about sex were finally paying off.

What healthcare professionals hadn't bet on then — with increasing awareness of STIs and increasing awareness around contraceptive options — was that condoms would suddenly become uncool. Yet in 2014, the annual Kirby Surveillance Reports, which monitor Australian sexual health trends, found that declining condom use was leading to the increases in STI rates.

Historically, physical or 'barrier' protection has primarily been for the purpose of contraception. Jamie* says she uses condoms largely because she "can't take hormonal contraceptives because of contraindications". Conversely, Rithika says that she consistently uses physical protection because she feels "uncomfortable thinking about more invasive forms of contraceptive," and she "can't be fucked taking the pill".

Perhaps, then, the drop can be attributed to the fact that more comprehensive awareness of sexual and reproductive health has also led to awareness of alternative forms of contraceptives. Though the pill isn't new, its use is often at least partially accompanied by physical protection given the tendency of users to forget to take it. Awareness of alternative and more effective forms of contraception that only need to be taken every few years — like injections, Implanon and IUDs — has meant more people have been able to use hormonal contraceptives without worry, or the need to supplement with condoms.

Harry*, for example, says that his condom use changed quickly when his girlfriend began to use the contraceptive implant rather than the pill. "I guess I really wouldn't know first hand, but I know

she was often unsure if she had taken the pill for that day and when it was effective," he says. "It meant that we still had to use condoms pretty often."

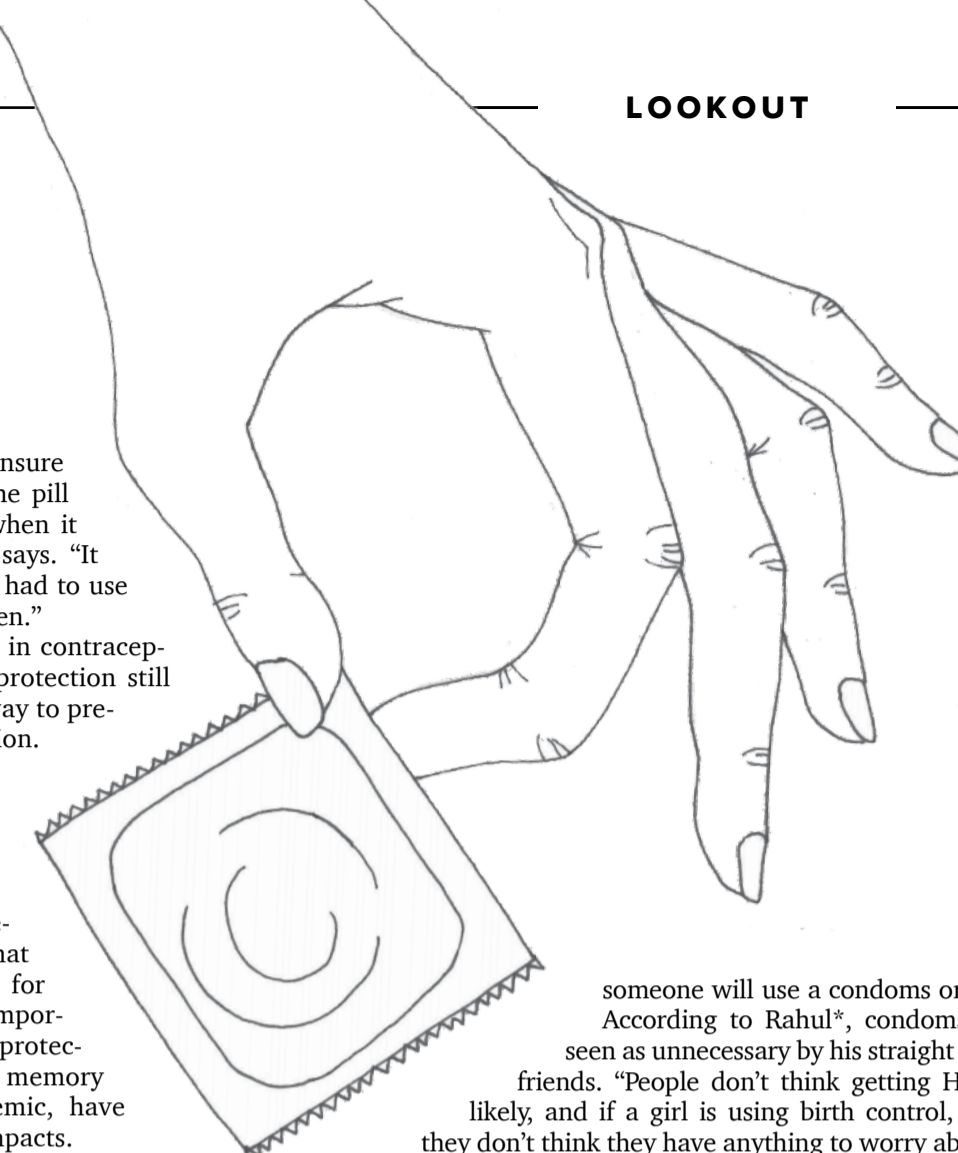
Despite changes in contraceptive use, physical protection still remains the only way to prevent STI transmission.

What has stood out is that condom use in the queer community is much more common than elsewhere. It seems that historic pushes for awareness of the importance of physical protection, as well as the memory of the AIDS epidemic, have had long lasting impacts.

Adrian says that his use of condoms is largely influenced by high school sex education, but also because of the spectre of AIDS.

"I think using protection feels a lot more relevant to me because I'm gay and the AIDS epidemic has such a horrible impact of the queer community — particularly men who have sex with men," says Adrian. In not using protection, "I'm kind of letting down the activists who worked so hard to make treatment available during the height of the AIDS epidemic when the government didn't care about people with AIDS". Importantly, HIV transmission is still a real possibility. When asked why he always uses condoms, Sam* who also identifies as gay tells me, "because AIDS looks pretty bad".

It seems, though, that a person's culture is among the most important factors determining whether



someone will use a condom or not.

According to Rahul*, condoms are seen as unnecessary by his straight male friends. "People don't think getting HIV is likely, and if a girl is using birth control, then they don't think they have anything to worry about," he says. A number of heterosexual people *Honi* talked to agreed that condoms "just seem uncool".

In the queer community, condom use also cannot be taken for granted. The advent of PrEP — a new drug that greatly reduces the risk of contracting HIV — has led to some health experts worrying that it may lead to a decrease in rates of condom use.

The work of sexual education campaigns and activists has led to robust awareness of STIs and the importance of protection. The worry, then, is that cultures that dismiss the importance of sexual protection threaten the relatively low rates of STI transmission at the moment. If condoms don't make a come back, syphilis will.

*NAMES HAVE BEEN CHANGED.
ART BY RISAKO KATSUMATA.

Earth day starts with us

JENNIFER HORTON / Government inaction means the ball is back in our court

"Hey Environment. It's not you, it's us."

The message on the home page of the Sydney Environmental Institute is meant to sound like a cliché break up text. Are things really this bad, USyd? Are we in the middle of a messy break up with the environment, after all the time and effort that's been put in? As in any break up, you ask yourself the question — am I going to regret the decision I've made?

A few weeks ago, on April 22nd, I walked into a meeting to find a friend holding a plant. "It's Earth Day", he informed me. I've written three papers on environmentalism this semester but Earth Day, a worldwide event created to promote environmental protection, almost managed to slip past me unnoticed.

Rachel Carson's 1962 book, *Silent Spring*, is typically credited as precipitating the scientific environmental movement. When Earth Day launched in the United States on 22 April 1970, the movement had most certainly reached the mainstream — 20 million people flooded the grounds of two thousand American universities to rally for reform. Republicans and Democrats united to pass legislation creating the Environmental Protection Agency.

Two years later, the movement arrived in Australia with anti-litter campaigns and protests against damming projects. Included in the protests was the United Tasmania Group, which is now recognised

as the world's first green party. Numerous strikes by building unions in the name of the environment, so-called 'Green bans', brought the word 'green' into the social lexicon.

By the 1980s, the environmental movement in Australia had reached a peak. High air pollution levels and major land erosion fuelled activism in the name of a clean future. The counterculture that had nurtured the movement was diminishing, but public support of conservation became more and more popular, as initiatives like mass tree-planting and Clean Up Australia Day took hold. In 1983, the Hawke government blocked the contentious plan to dam the Franklin River in Tasmania in a display that showed the power of green campaigning. Environmentally friendly messages became stylish in pop culture, embraced by bands like Midnight Oil and U2.

In 1990, Australia celebrated its first Earth Day, along with 140 other countries and 200 million people. Bob Hawke declared the 1990s Australia's 'Decade of Landcare', and the steady restoration of the ozone layer after the ban on CFCs brought new optimism about the power of international environmental cooperation.

Keating's leadership slowed that momentum. As treasurer, Keating had criticised the idea of Aus-

tralia undertaking carbon reduction policies with adverse economic affects, unless similar actions were taken by the vast majority of other greenhouse gas producing countries.

The responsibility to act seems to have returned to where it began — with individuals and communities.

USyd students have numerous avenues to engage with climate research: the Science Faculty offers a major in Environmental Studies, the Department of Government and International Relations provide several units in environmental politics, and multiple university clubs promote environmental issues alongside the Students' Representative Council Environmental Collective. Last year, USyd hosted the third annual National Environment Meeting, an event for activists across Australia to gather and discuss key issues of the environmental movement. This year, the March for Science on Earth Day saw 10,000 people demonstrate across Australia.

The average university student is more concerned with finishing late assignments. Unfortunately, the penalties for late action on the environment are far worse. Our governments are shirking responsibility and whether we choose to do something about it is up to us.

let me google that for you

POETRY BY KURT DILWEG
ART BY GRACE FRANKI



cloud is everything

Poetry by Kurt Dilweg

About 173,000,000 results (0.52 seconds)

when I was talking to people inside Google
one of the things is like cloud cloud cloud
cloud is everything, it's our future
everything we're going to be buying will be cloud-related
is that Google's next new business?
they've been trying lots of things
look – Fibre, they've had some stumbles
Nest is clearly a stumble
the cars: we'll see everything at Google X
who the fuck knows essentially
you're just not going to make it
with your Loon balloons, your wacky moonshots
it's not going to be the thing that pays
but it is very entertaining



we just want to help you

Poetry by Kurt Dilweg

About 173,000,000 results (0.52 seconds)

how many people are comfortable with Google's brains?
scouring their workforces – people are nervous
I was talking to someone at Google
and one of them was like
I don't know what else to say
it was an astonishing display of honesty
and I was like - you're right!
people don't like Google snooping around their home
I don't mind Jeff Bezos spying on me
(he just wants to sell me toilet paper)
but I really mind Google spying on me
because they're better at spying
we just want to help you
that's what they said at the end of Space Odyssey
I'm here to help you
that's a Twilight Zone reference
... ..
(they want to eat you)



THE LIVING LABORATORY

WORDS / NATASSIA CHRYSANTHOS
ART / ROBIN EAMES



The idea of a “living laboratory” conjures images of lab rats and test tubes; an ethically compromised zoo, perhaps, or a dystopian Dexter-esque scientific experiment. But a university campus?
Yet this was precisely the term used by Ian Callahan, the Chief Operating Officer of Curtin University, to describe his campus’ transition to new technology earlier this month. “We are effectively creating a living laboratory that is an open invitation to our own researchers and scientists from other universities to use our campus to discover and innovate with data-driven research,” he said. That this data is de-

derived from students and staff — making us, in many senses, the lab rats — was not mentioned.
Callahan’s statement reflects the way Australian universities are increasingly using surveillance technologies like sensors, wi-fi, CCTV, face-matching platforms and learning analytics to become “smart campuses”. As facilities increasingly move online, technology rapidly evolves, and the availability of data escalates, personal information and markers of student behaviour are all ripe for the taking.
Privacy is the obvious concern, and the extent to which students have meaningfully consented to

what’s happening is dubious. Common justifications like “safety and security” and “enhancing the student experience” reflect the genuine goals behind many programs. But on the other hand, they operate as rhetorical cover to mask the real danger of collecting, for example, incredibly sensitive biometric data that can be used to track you.
Also embedded within these technologies are more insidious implications for how power is exercised. Humans moderate their behaviour and conform to expectations when they know they’re being watched, and the university campus is no exception.

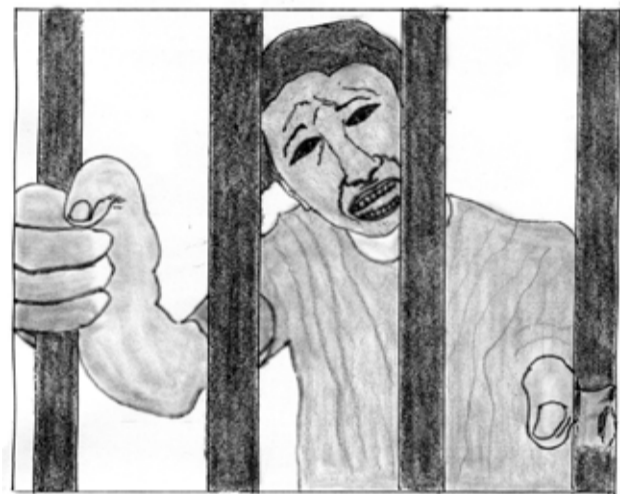
Refugee Art Project

ALUMNI AND CURRENT POST- Grad USYD students initiate and volunteer in refugee outreach project

SAAFDER AHMED - PHD Islamic Studies, interviewed by Eila Vinwnn

Refugee Art Project is a not-for-profit community art organisation that holds art workshops for asylum seekers and refugees, both within the Villawood detention centre and in our studio in north Parramatta. The aim of our org is to amplify the voices of refugees, through their art, and show their work to the wider community in order to educate the public and challenge the misconceptions that surround the refugee issue in this country.

I started the organisation with some friends, Bilquis Ghani and Omid Tofghian, in late 2010. I had just finished my PhD at Usyd in Islamic Studies and was looking for something active to do. After four and half years of pretty intense PhD-ing, I was itching to get out into the real world.



Despair - by Mohammed

The project began very informally. I was visiting the Villawood detention centre for the first time but wondered if I might be able to contribute something. Given that I've also studied art, I asked if anyone wanted to draw with us. We brought lots of sketch books and pencils, and soon established an art group within the centre. We sought to create a safe space where people felt free to express themselves to their own comfort. The work that flowed from that was very powerful.

Our art workshops in the community are held every Saturday afternoon, in our studio at 9 Albert St North Parramatta. Our organisation is run solely by volunteers and supported by one-off donations, our own fundraising efforts, and donated art materials. Anyone of a refugee background is welcome to come along and join in if they are keen. Our exhibitions and publications are made in close collaboration with all of our participants. Basically it's about centring the diverse voices and perspectives of the asylum seekers and refugees who come to this country - activating art in the struggle for human dignity.

SCA Post-Grad student, Susie Egg, volunteers at the programme each Saturday and helped with a recent Picnic Day to welcome members of the local community into the centre to see what is happening there. Many amazing food stalls were available as well as other wares by people who have undergone the gauntlet of detention.

Music, art and food showed the richness that others bring.

therefugeartproject.com



The Phone Call - by - name withheld



THE OCEAN IS MY PASSPORT

The Ocean is my Passport by Mona Moradveisi

Students head to Canberra to protest fee hikes

EILA VINWYNN - SUPRA



Students Protest outside Parliament House on Tuesday with ANU students and union members.

Photo: Liam Kestevan

Student groups nation-wide registered their opposition to the government's proposals to increase student fees and lower the HECS threshold at an action in Canberra on Budget day.

The \$2.8 billion in cuts would see fees increase by a maximum of \$3600 for a four-year course with students paying for 46% of the cost of their degree on average - up from 42%. The cuts propose a lowering fo the HECS threshold - down from \$55, 874 to \$42,000.

The action, on Tuesday May 9, at 130 pm was initiated by Sydney University Postgraduate Representative Association (SUPRA) Education Action Group, and endorsed by SUPRA, the National Union of Students and the University of Sydney Student Representative Council (SRC). Rachel Evans, SUPRA Education Officer said "The

government wants to further impoverish young people and shift the cost of education onto working people. When over 600 filthy rich companies pay no tax, and the government just reduced the parity company tax rate, they're insulting our intelligence. We will fight this all the way".

Lil Matchett, co-President of SUPRA notes "These fee hikes will lock more people out of accessible tertiary education. We defeated fee deregulation in 2014, lets defeat this latest round of attacks on students and win free education! We need to also protest the fact New Zealanders and permanent residents will now have to pay up-front!"

Students joined in with various unions including the Maritime Union of Australia, the Construction Forestry Mining Energy Union and the National Tertiary Education Union who were holding their

own protests outside Parliament. The unions all supported the students in their fight, citing the attacks as classist, retrograde and repressive and vowing to stand behind students in the fight. Vanamali Hermans from the Australian National University, said 'the National Union of Students would be holding talks and protests at 730pm this evening in response the budget announcements. Under the proposed changes, permanent residents as well as all New Zealanders will have to pay their fees up front.

The Sydney contingent of the widely organised "National Day of Action" is organised for Wednesday May 17th outside Fisher Library from 12noon. Join Us in the Fight for free education.

Tent Embassy message

"I can treaty with you, and you and you. But not with the Government. If I treaty with you, you have responsibilites to care for this land". These were the words of elder Chris Tomlins from Alice Springs, staying at the Aboriginal Tent Emassy in Canberra to make a stand against inclusion in the Australian Constition. "Being incorporated into the Constitution would signal an end to us as Tribal People" he said. "You are citizens" he said "because you came on ships - you have Citizen-ship" he joked. But he was deadly serious about getting the word out about the NO vote, and is in parley with ministers to have a moratorium of one year before the vote, so that voters can be informed of what is truly at stake. He also asked "If you fella's can vote us IN to your constitution, can you vote yourselves OUT?". I valid point, I thought.

CHRIS SAYS - VOTE NO TO THE ABSORPTION OF ABORIGINALS INTO AN ILLEGAL CONSTITUTION.



Photo: Liam Kestevan

President's Report

ISABELLA BROOK

!! PROTEST !! 12PM !! 17 MAY !! FISHER LIBRARY !!

Last week the government announced the 2017 federal budget and it's pretty grim for young people. Instead of investing in our future the government has decided to wage a war on young people and students. Some of the discourse around the budget can get a bit convoluted, so here's a quick low down on what the budget means for you.

Housing Affordability: The government has refused to acknowledge the fact that many young Australian's

will be locked out of the housing market. But there's good news. You can now use your superannuation to put a deposit on a house!!! That's right, instead of addressing unaffordable housing prices and reforming negative gearing the liberals are now letting you use your retirement savings to buy a house.

Penalty Rates: The Government is still committed to cutting the weekend rates for some of Australia's lowest paid workers and young people, instead of keeping money in the pockets of those who need it most.

The Environment: The Government is doing absolutely nothing to address climate change or prioritise renewable energy. The 2017 Budget didn't mention climate change once.

Centrelink: People receiving Centrelink will now have to under go drug and alcohol testing. There will also be several changes to how students access Youth Allowance. Keep in mind that Youth Allowance rates still don't match current living costs and have not risen since the 90's.

Tax: Instead of targeting over 300 companies who didn't pay a single

cent in tax the government will be giving multination corporations a \$50bn tax cut.

University: Higher Education will now be less accessible with your university fees set to increase and funding to universities being cut. You'll also have to repay your HECS debt sooner.

It's clear from this budget that this government does not care about young people. It's time to get mad, it's time to have your voice heard and it's time to fight for your future. Come join us outside Fisher Library at 12pm on the 17th of May to fight back against the budget.

Social Justice Officer's Report

KIM MURPHY

I have had a busy semester one as social justice officer. There have been many campaigns that I have been part of helping to organise or helping to build.

I have made sure the social justice office has been supporting NUS' Make Education Free Again campaign, and I've been doing a lot of work to promote this campaign, as it is obviously the priority campaign for any activist in the SRC. The MEFA campaign cuts to the heart of the key issues for university students, and the protest on Wed May 17 against Birmingham's cuts to education funding and increase

in uni fees will be an important step in the fight for student rights. So I built and attended the March 22nd action, and have been building for and will be speaking at the May 17th protest at Usyd outside Fisher.

Another campaign I have been heavily involved in is the new Fascist Free Usyd campaign, which I personally helped to initiate. This has involved a counter-propaganda campaign, to counter the alt right posters and stickers on campus. I also organised and chaired a protest on May 11th to counter a far right film screening, 'the red

pill', a pro-men's rights documentary. The protest was a success, we were able to make a left wing, anti-sexist message heard to oppose the hideous reactionary cavalcade of men's rights activists and young Liberal bigots.

Also in my capacity as social justice officer I have been building the Al-Nakba rally to support Palestine, the Pride march in June for LGBTI rights, I promoted and attended a pro-abortion rights rally against the far right, I promoted and attended the Palm Sunday rally for refugees, and earlier in the year I built for and attended

the marches against Trump, which included the women's march in Sydney. I also recently went to May Day to stand up for the rights of the working class and against the Liberal government's attacks on workers, students and the poor.

I encourage people to like the Make Education Free Again and Fascist Free Usyd Facebook pages if they haven't already, and of course to like the Sydney Uni Social Justice Department Facebook page.

Wom*n's Officers' Report

IMOGEN GRANT and KATIE THORBURN did not submit a report this week

General Secretary's Report

DANIEL ERGAS and ISABELLA PYTKA did not submit a report this week

Disabilities & Carers' Report

HANNAH MAKRAGELIDIS and NOA ZULMAN did not submit a report this week

Vice Presidents' Report

JAMES GIBSON and IMAN FARRAR did not submit a report this week

Note: This page is given over to the office bearers of the Students' Representative Council. The reports below are not edited by the editors of *Honi Soit*.

The SRC is responsible for the content of this page.

Renting: What if something is broken?



You might need to have repairs done to your home when you are renting as a student. Sometimes this is because we have broken something, or because something breaks or goes wrong with the apartment or house. If you are a tenant, there are rules in NSW on what is your responsibility fix, and what your landlord is obligated to fix.

If your home is covered by a lease agreement your landlord must provide you with a home that is reasonably clean, fit for you to live in, and in reasonable repair. You should be given a Condition Report when you start your lease showing what damage already exists. It is a good idea to take photos of any damage

to the property when you move in. Email these photos to the landlord, so that you cannot be blamed for them when you move out. Similarly just before you move out take photos of things like the walls, the floors, cupboards, oven, etc, and email them to the landlord. This will also ensure that a fair Condition Report will be given when you move out. These photos will save you money by protecting your bond.

You have a responsibility to keep the home clean and in good repair. That means that if something breaks you need to tell the landlord. For example, if the hot water system breaks the landlord will need to have it fixed. If you break a window you

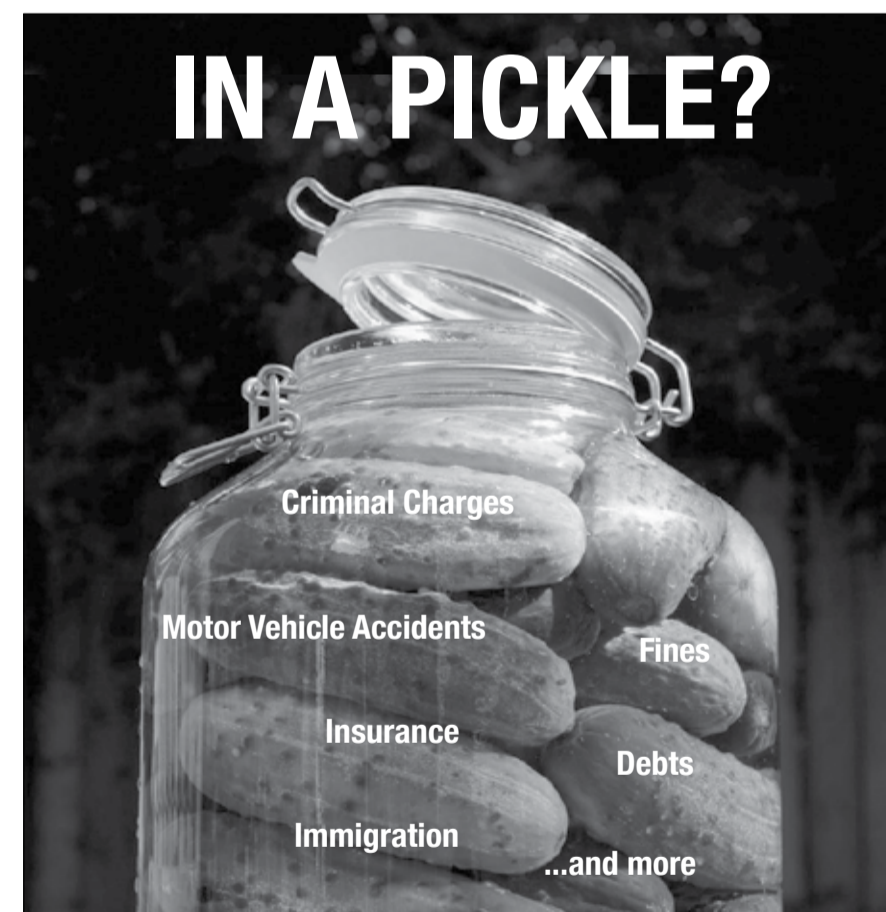
will need to pay to have it fixed. Generally speaking you will need to use an appropriately qualified person to make the repair. If you "fix it" yourself and you consequently damage the property in some way, you will be liable for that cost.

Some repairs are considered urgent. This includes gas electricity and water supply; hot water, cooking and heating; anything that makes the home unsafe (locks, fire hazards, etc); and any damage from a natural disaster (e.g. storm damage).

When asking your landlord to make repairs it is a good idea to do so in writing. An email will timestamp your requests. This is handy if the

landlord disputes the repair. If a landlord refuses to make an urgent repair you can organise to have that done yourself provided you spend less than \$1,000. Of course you'll need to keep receipts. Bear in mind that you might need to chase the landlord for that money through the NSW Consumer and Administrative Tribunal (NCAT).

In some situations you can ask for a reduction in rent due to a repair. To discuss your specific situation talked to an SRC caseworker. Email your situation to help@src.usyd.edu.au or phone 9660 5222 to make an appointment.



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SRC

Ask Abe

SRC caseworker HELP Q&A



The Ask Abe column allows you to ask whatever question you might have that affects you as a student, gaining the best advice that a very worldly mutt* can give.

Dear Abe,

I'm having problems with my housemates and I think my landlord is going to make us pay for a few things that got broken. We're all on the lease but it wasn't my fault. What should I do?

Need Space

Dear Need Space,

In a rented share house, your legal status depends on a number of possibilities. If you are named on the residential tenancy agreement (your lease) along with one or more others, then you are a co-tenant. Your rights are equal and several, so you could be held liable for the actions of your housemates. However, you are also covered under the Residential Tenancies Act, which means you have basic occupancy rights and can access affordable, independent dispute resolution.

Try to resolve your problems informally first. Sometimes if some things issues caused by specific people, you and your housemates can come to an agreement of how things should be paid for. Remember that you are not required to pay for urgent repairs like hot water or anything that makes the house unsafe. You also shouldn't have to pay for 'reasonable wear and tear' to the property. However, things like walls, floors, cupboards, etc. are your responsibility to keep clean and in good repair.

If your disagreement can't be worked out informally, or you need advice about how to handle your dispute, speak to your local Tenants Advice and Advocacy Service or an SRC Caseworker to find out what to do.

Abe

The Camperdown Public Chatterbox

They framed me!

A-frames have become an unlikely source of controversy in the USU elections for the second year in a row. If you don't know what an a-frame is go read a better section of this paper, they're the flimsy, painted signs that are put out by campaigners each election season for the purpose of falling over at the slightest whiff of a breeze and being trodden on.

However, despite their tendency for self-sabotage, it's considered high treason* to deliberately fell someone's A-frame. Yet a video on Jacob Masina's campaign page (set to Chumbawamba's song 'Tubthumping', aka 'I get knocked down') shows a number of students doing exactly that to his.

Last year, *Honi* reported similar damage being inflicted on then-candidates Grace Franki's and Esther Shim's A-frames. Shim also penned an open letter to the culprits in *Honi*, saying "stop damaging my property; it's disrespectful and a waste of both of my time and resources...I'm running out of cable ties."

However, it seems this brave act of political defiance has lived to see another election.

Also on the A-frame front, *Honi* can reveal that a ruling by the Returning Officer (RO) stipulating A-frames "must be supervised by a responsible person at all times" (lest they, you know, shit in the pool) has been readily enforced. A number of campaigns have had their A-frames confiscated because they have not been providing adequate supervision, and have had to retrieve them from the RO.

Honi reported last year that this new requirement was introduced following the vandalism

of Franki's and Shim's A-frames — it seems to be working swimmingly...

*Actually just a bit rude tbh.

How many people are running again?

On Tuesday last week, independent candidate Zhixian Wang was excluded from the election (you can read all about this on page 5). But on Monday at 12am, she was allowed to begin campaigning again, following a decision by the Electoral Arbiter overruling her exclusion.

Wang's brief exclusion likely made a few other candidates a bit more relaxed. It reduced the number of people vying for six spots from 10 to nine, and the number of women from six to five — three of whom are guaranteed to be elected due to affirmative action. Her re-entering the race at such a late stage of the game — particularly with preference deals likely finalised and how-to-votes printed — will definitely throw off a few fellow candidates. However, she's also missed three and a half days of campaigning — which is quite a significant proportion of the eight-day race.

See more about how this all pans out in our live blog (as if you weren't reading already).

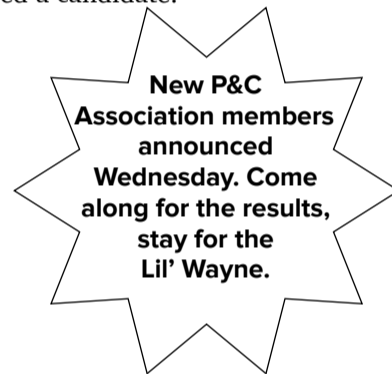
A revue by any other name

Over recent years, the USU's revue schedule has expanded quickly to fill out a full identity revues season. This week, a brand new revue for a woefully underrepresented group will debut: Hack Revue. Some fresh young faces like Cameron Caccamo, Michael Rees, Mary Ward, and Victoria Zerbst are involved. To everyone's surprise, it is an Actual Real Thing going down on Wednesday night

at 8 at Manning shortly before the Board election results are announced. Much like the Engo Revue that was pulled together by a few revue personalities two years ago, it also has the potential to be Actual Real Funny. It's free, too.

The power behind the throne

One of the quirks of the USU Board is that the executive (president, honorary secretary, etc.) is elected by the incoming board — that is, with five or six new members — rather than the full outgoing board. As a result, people who have worked with the candidates for a year have no say in what roles they will go on to occupy. The system encourages current Board members to run likeminded candidates, so as to increase their own chances of ascending to the executive. This year, Grace Franki is backing Liliiana Tai; Esther Shim is back to her Liberal roots, supporting Jacob Masina; James Gibson is on the hustings for Caitlin McMenamin; and Vanessa Song is shilling for Claudia Gulbransen-Diaz. Of the first year directors, only Yifan Kong and Courtney Thompson have not formally endorsed a candidate.



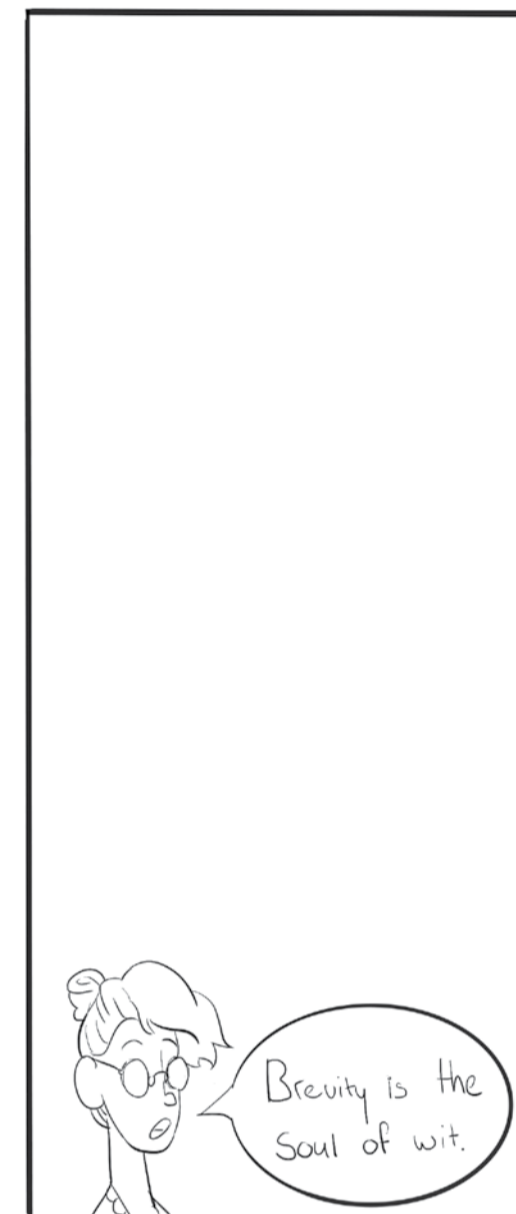
REALLY LONG MANY WORDS

Oliver Moore is writing their PhD on contemporary American queer political poetry.

People without political power write short nice word book. American people who love other people the same respond to violence and bad thing about that and write short nice word. Since the bad bank thing, people realise that the government not care about them. This means that people lose hope in politics to protect them from bad thing, including not have money and be treat bad. Many writers write short nice word book about this as a way to do political work without power or political will.

Some writers write short nice word book in response to violence like big gun shoot. One big gun shoot kill many people who love other people the same and is bad. Many people blue about loss. Other people blue about small violence less clear. Small violence against people who love other people the same not on television, can only find on line if you know where to look.

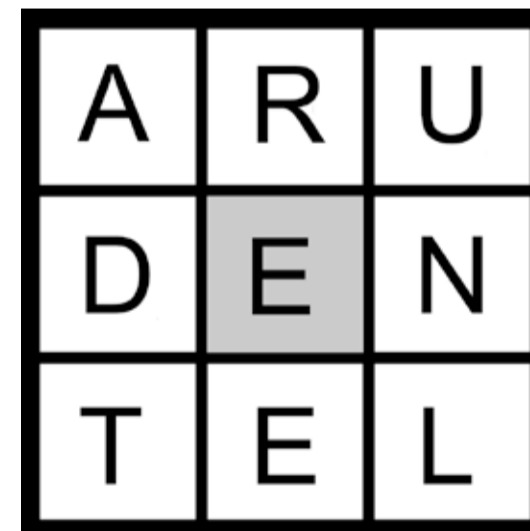
Because people who love other people the same hard to find sometimes, they find each other on line where you can be not know and be safe. On line is where the short nice word book is. Thus, political power through short nice word for people who love each other the same can be find on line.



What to sing when you have lost the Board election.

1. I'm a loser
The Beatles
2. Torn
Natalie Imbruglia
3. My Way
Frank Sinatra
4. Hurt
Johnny Cash
5. Hurt
Nine Inch Nails
6. I don't care
Fall Out Boy
7. In the end
Linkin Park
8. Don't dream it's over
Crowded House

Target



Target Rules:

Minimum 6 letters per word. 5 words: ok, 10 words: good, 15, very good, 20 words: excellent. Solution in next week's *Honi*.

Crossword

Across:

1. Tire filler
4. Smoking device
8. Egg on
12. Chem., e.g.
13. Operator
14. Mall event
15. Pull apart
17. She, in Valencia
18. Char
19. More wan
20. Telegraph symbols (2 wds.)
24. Printing measures
25. Vicinity
26. Off the moon
28. Go to bed
31. Tempt
34. Orally
36. Responsibilities
37. Pres. Coolidge
39. Square dance figure
42. Rocker _____ Cooper
44. Beget
45. Ark skipper
46. Rose Bowl city
50. Poker opener
51. Eons
52. Pound sign
53. Ogle
54. "Wish you _____ here"
55. Traitor

Down Con't:

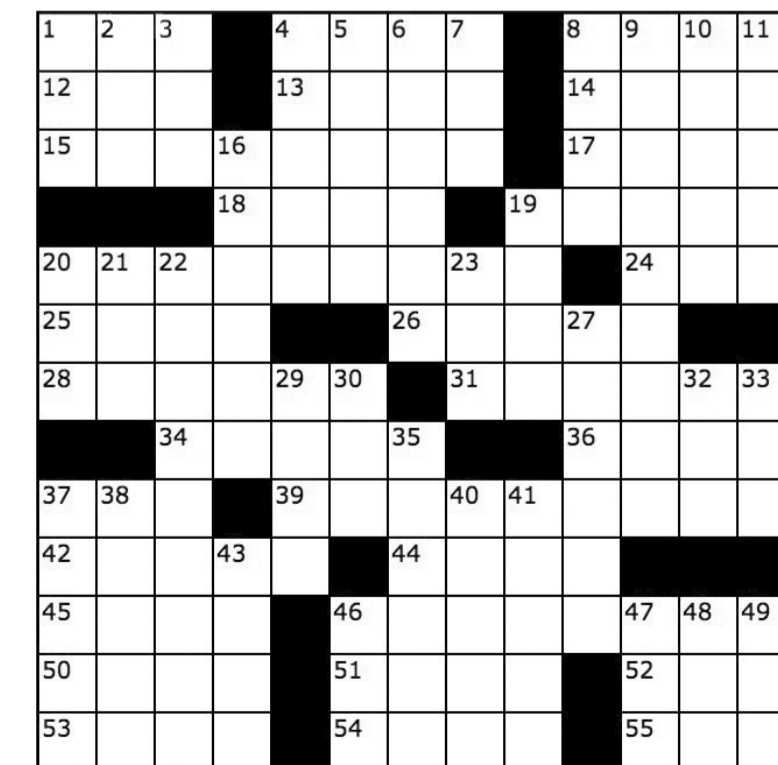
4. Thick soup
5. Singer _____ Hayes
6. Gasoline, in England
7. Burns "before"
8. On the ocean
9. Classical dancer
10. Actress _____ Barkin
11. Pulls apart
16. Assault

19. Sean _____

20. Spoil
21. Lode load
22. Strike back
23. Expected
27. Made Amends
29. Lasso
30. Belgium's cont
32. Cow chow
33. Compass pt.

35. Medicinal amount

37. Suez or Erie
38. Unaccompanied
40. Penny pincher
41. Obliterate
43. Moonstruck actress
46. Fido's foot
47. Corn piece
48. Shooter's group
49. Fore's opposite



Down:

1. Mule's father
2. Frozen Water
3. Tear

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Fidget spinners ineffective

New toy keeps kids focused, but can't distract me from the inevitability of death P9»



Esports event turns violent

Hooligans turn convention center to bloody hellscape after Cloud9 loses to TSM P4»



Crazy: this innovator has plans for a car that will completely disrupt the automotive market



Aidan Molins
Technology reporter

Wow. While the huge auto giants in Detroit churn out the same old boring car designs year after year, this young innovator is planning the release of a wildly innovative automotive innovation that will make you rethink the way you conceive of personal transport.

It's a model Jamie Devins calls: 'the Vroom Vroom'. At the core of its design is its power generating mechanism. For about a century, automakers have only offered cars powered by one fuel: petroleum. But now, Devins' new engine plans to disrupt their market: his engine runs on carrots.

"You put in the carrot in this hole, this one," Devins explains, "and that goes into the car and it goes 'woah!' and then that makes the car go vroom vroom."

It's a simple yet elegant design that really shows how backwards and stagnant the Detroit car industry has been in recent years.

Another way the car blows its stone age competitors out of the water is with its software system. Most cars today have a primitive operating system which runs programs like maps and music. However, the Vroom Vroom is a huge step forward from this. Its operating system is more than a technological flourish: it not only fully autonomously regulates the entire car's functioning, it also provides the user with rich, seamless conversation.

"Yeah, yeah, I made him a friendly car."

His name is Larry and he tells you jokes whenever you're in the car."

Devins, only 7 years of age, first started on the project after his teacher asked his class what kind of vehicle they'd like to use in the future, and he hasn't stopped working on it project since. As a magnanimous face of the company, Devins heralds himself as the visionary behind the design, even putting himself in the driver's seat of the Vroom Vroom's concept design.

Other groundbreaking features of the car include a fully functional roof mounted laser beam, an ice-block holder, a puppy, and a helicopter on the top, "so the car can go 'brrrshhh' and fly away if it wants".

With all these innovative features, it's strange the Vroom Vroom only has only reached \$300 million in its first round of venture capital funding.

Critics of the industry revolutionising car have argued that it is just a concept — that it only currently exists as an idea that has no feasible means of being produced, and that it's a poor investment strategy to heavily invest in products that have no viable path to mass production.

In a statement to the press, Devins declines that the Vroom Vroom has hit back at his critics.

"Nuh-uh. I'm gonna get lots and lots and lots of money and I'm gonna build a big big factory and there's gonna be a million-bajillion cars."

Student achieves tantric orgasm while closing internet tabs after completing assignment

Jayce Carrano
Education Editor



USyd student Jonathan Fryer simultaneously climaxed and reached enlightenment last night after finishing his 2000-word essay for Government and International Relations which was due at midnight.

"I feel like the thirteen hours I spent on that assignment yesterday were this feverish, frantic, Redbull-fueled foreplay, leading to a final release" Fryer said.

As Fryer began to close the 52 internet tabs he had opened, he also began to experience the strongest orgasm of his life.

"It just kept going and going, every tab of E-Readings I closed felt even better than the last," Fryer said. When he started closing the randomly selected Google Scholar articles he had used to fluff up his bibliography, the "rolling hills of pleasure" only became more frequent.

"I can still feel it. I'm shaking," Fryer was adamant his trembling had nothing to do with the nine No-Doz he took within six hours.

"I think I probably orgasmed for longer than it will take my tutor to give me a low pass but, honestly, after that experience, I don't even care anymore."

According to Fryer, the experience was almost spiritual in nature.

"I climaxed so hard I transcended our physical realm," he added, "I had an inner journey and reached a lot of deep truths. I'm not going to procrastinate so much on these assessments anymore."

When asked whether his newfound wisdom would motivate him to get an early start on his next essay, due in five days, Fryer's response was upfront.

"Geez, I said I had a spiritual awakening, not that I could perform miracles."

Quiz: How pro-Assad are you?

Ann Ding
Political Editor



How many 'sounds x but okay' Facebook groups are you part of?

- a. How many what?
- b. Just the 'sounds fake but okay' one
- c. Three or four
- d. My entire news feed is stuff from those groups (that and political compass memes)

If you could change one thing about yourself, what would it be?

- a. My prohibitively large dick
- b. I am pretty comfortable with myself
- c. I am also pretty comfortable with myself
- d. My embarrassingly small dick

A real socialist:

- a. goes to the National Day of Action on May 17
- b. campaigns for universal basic income
- c. punches Nazis
- d. supports dictators

How often do you find yourself inexplicably jacking off to snuff porn?

- a. This has never happened to me
- b. Just once, but it was years ago
- c. Around once a month
- d. Twice in the last 24 hours

How much 'theory' have you read?

- a. What kind of theory do you mean?
- b. I don't have much time to read theory
- c. I read Wiki pages and a ton of tweets
- d. When I shut my eyes all I see is theory

How good was Stalin?

- a. Are you kidding me?
- b. Pretty sure he was not good
- c. So good
- d. SO GOOD

How good was Mao?

- a. That's actually not funny
- b. Did some good things but is ultimately bad
- c. So good
- d. SO GOOD

Would you pull the lever in the trolley problem?

- a. The what, sorry?
- b. Of course I would!
- c. Not if my mum was on the other track
- d. Of course I wouldn't!

Mostly 'a': Not pro-Assad at all. Nice one! You're a broadly left-leaning person and you know a bad regime when you see one.
Mostly 'b': Probably not pro-Assad. Nice one! You've avoided the all-too-common trap of being an active supporter of a dictatorship.
Mostly 'c': Still not an Assadist. Nice one! Stick to the Jacobin articles and the ironic endorsement of Maoism and you'll be sweet.
Mostly 'd': Sounds like you're an Assadist. Boo! Bad job! You chose the wrong side!

Review: BBC Cribs welcomes us

Hal Fowkes
Entertainment Reporter

BBC Cribs, the long-anticipated collaboration between MTV Cribs and BBC's Grand Designs, premiered on BBC2 last Saturday to mixed reviews. Host Kevin McCloud (or McCloud Nine, as he is now known) aims to bring together both overly intellectual parents and their too-cool-for-school teens in the beautiful family bonding experience that is afternoon television.

The show, much like Grand Designs, follows the building of a multimillion-dollar house for a yuppie couple whose dream is to live in a house somewhat resembling the Teletubbies residence — but with a few MTV tweaks.

Instead of his signature droned narration, McCloud delivers a steady stream of slangy catchphrases. It's hard to tell what audience McCloud is targeting with interjections like "Bro, these thatched roofs are bitchin'!" or "You'd be a straight up fool to not stan hard for this modernist design, fam." While his narration communicates enough architect-

tural knowledge to be somewhat relevant to the house being built, McCloud's attempts to insert witty, trendy dialogue creates confusion as to whether he is talking about a house or a one night stand.

The show also seems to take some further creative inspiration from another MTV staple, Pimp My Ride. In attempts to make a state-of-the-art house in the middle of nowhere even more useless, McCloud and the "BBC Boyz" install a ridiculous number of luxury items, including a SodaStream pool, gold-plated windows and a doorbell that plays DMX's "X Gon Give It To Ya".

It's hard to tell whether BBC Cribs will continue into further seasons. McCloud has expressed his enthusiasm, saying it was a great way to connect to his children (who are presumably mad that he spends his life with families looking to upgrade their residence). Whilst he has the know how to maintain some integrity, younger viewers will undoubtedly be wondering, "Who the fuck is this British dude and why is he dry humping that fountain?"



Kevin McCloud AKA McCloud Nine in the first episode of BBC Cribs.

Astrophysicists share unedited pictures of the cosmos to combat unrealistic beauty standards



Scientists have been signal boosting images of the universe which haven't been edited (right) to combat the trend of cosmic images which have been heavily colorised and photoshopped (left). Full story: P8»

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