

HONISOIT

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Week Twelve | May 30



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Planner

HONI'S GUIDE TO WHAT'S ON



SUDS Presents: The Lonesome West
7pm, The Cellar Theatre, \$5, \$4, \$3, \$2

This SUDS offering by Martin McDonagh is a black comedy that "combines both manic energy and physical violence in a way that is both hilarious and viscerally exciting." Head along to opening night, otherwise make sure you see the show before closing night on Saturday 9th June.

USU Election and After Party

7:30am-7:30pm, All over, FREE + Free lunch

After all the hype make sure you vote for your favourite candidate in the USU elections. Plus there is a complimentary lunch for all voters and an after party at Hermann's at 7:30pm, following the closing of the booths.



University of Sydney Union AGM
11am, Manning Bar, FREE

Come to Manning Bar for the USU's AGM. Grill the Directors and enjoy other fun things like the discussion of the Annual Accounts.

Theatresports: Old School vs New School
7:30pm, Manning, FREE

Featuring crowd favourites such as Carlo Ritchie, Steen Raskopoulos and Rebecca De Unamuno, hosted by Tom Walker.

I'm not Racist ... But
7:30pm, Seymour Centre, \$12.50

Five creative thinkers speak for 10 minutes.



An Erotic Guide to an emotional vampire: Aubrey 'Drake' Graham

6:30pm, Oxford St. Design Store, FREE

"A Guide To..." is regular talk series hosted by Oxford St Design Store, which introduces topics through the eyes of an obsessive.

Finders Keepers

6pm, CarriageWorks, FREE

The Finders Keepers Markets are a bi-annual FREE event that showcases the work of over 65 emerging designers and artists from both local designers to areas all around Australia. In addition to design & art we also showcase some local musicians at our Finders Keepers stage.



VIVID: CATC Design School Installation
All Day, Sydney CBD, FREE

CATC Design School students have transformed the window at 27 Nurses Walk where they have paid homage to the old hospital site as well as shining a light on the unforgettable history that once was part of The Rocks area.

GOODGOD DANCETERIA!

9:30pm, Sydney Opera House, \$30 + bf

Part of VIVID Live festival Goodgod is heading the Opera House of all places for a night of electric madness. Featuring Australian and acts from overseas, party with a view.



SUSO: Dvorak's Cello Concerto
2pm, Verbruggen Hall, \$15conc

The Sydney University Symphony Orchestra will be joined by Timo-Veikko Valve, Principal Cellist of the Australian Chamber Orchestra for an afternoon of afternoon of heroism and romance.

The Eveleigh Artisans' Market
10am, 243 Wilson St, Darlington, FREE

Held on the first Sunday of the month this boutique market features wares from indie designer, artists and makers. Located outside of CarriageWorks, a short walk from uni.



Toga Party!

Mon, 6pm, \$2/\$5/\$15

Come to the Gaius Gracchus end of semester Toga Party and trivia night, a fantastic opportunity to grab some free drinks and food, and show off some arcane ancient knowledge. Plus, there are prizes. Contact: Sam Murray on 0435 610 105

USU Feminist Society IGM

Mon, 12pm, Isabel Fidler Room, FREE

The Feminist Society is being created in response to the wide support and need for non-autonomous feminist outlets, collaborations and organisation on campus.

LETTERS

'British Raj' beyond bad taste

Mason McCann
Arts III

You probably already know that there's a friendly rivalry on campus between those who attend college and those who do not. Non-college students like to joke about how wealthy and out-of-touch college students are, while college students like to joke about how the best way to keep the butler from running away is to cut off his foot. Normally the whole feud is fairly unremarkable, but last week St Paul's college (of notoriety after a string of sexual assault allegations dating back to its founding) hosted an event that so perfectly encapsulates the divide between college student and "others" that it seems to warrant a quick party write-up: a British Raj themed white-tie ball.

If St Paul's students want to dress in old-timey clothes and eat Indian food, hey, more power to them. However according to my sources inside the event (a friend who was invited) they decided to go for full period-authenticity by hiring almost exclusively ethnic wait-staff, dressing them in "traditional" Indian garb and having them serve food in rooms hung with Union Jacks while 'God Save the Queen' blared from speakers.

The event organisers were careful not to appear racially insensitive by also hiring a handful of white staff, although they were dressed in white tie, not saris, and pouring champagne behind the bar. The Facebook event description claims that India was "granted independence" by the British crown and ends with "Dress: White Tie or Colonial Uniform". There was also allegedly a request made for the Pakistani chef to wear an Indian turban. He declined.

The whole thing plays out like the physical manifestation of a joke that a non-college student would make about St Paul's, or like an elaborate performance art piece designed to satirise white privilege. Coming two weeks after the end of Humanitarian Week it might also just be a gigantic middle finger intended to ward off any humanity that might have somehow found its way through their sandstone defences. Whatever the case, please consider this letter a much smaller middle finger to anyone who thought that this party was a good idea.

No doubt next week *Honi* will publish a letter written by a St Paul's student defending the event either by claiming that it was "a joke" or that it was only put together by "a few bad apples" (invariably missing the crucial second half of the saying: "spoil the whole bunch"). But here's the thing: St Paul's can either write letters complaining about how everyone else thinks they're an elite cabal of racist, sexist trust-fund kids ensconced in a sandstone fortress, or they can be an elite cabal of racist, sexist trust-fund kids ensconced in a sandstone fortress, not both.

And the spectacular melting pot of privileged stereotypes and utter lack of self-awareness embodied in this event seems like pretty firm evidence for the argument that maybe it isn't everyone else who's the problem here.

If you're a St Paul's student who finds celebrating a bloody, centuries-long imperialistic rule with a racially segregated cocktail party slightly objectionable, I encourage you to voice your opinion amongst your peers. If you're a St Paul's student who sees nothing wrong with the premise of this party, I encourage you to work at convincing your parents to invest in time-travel technology so that you can go back 80 years to when your opinions were socially acceptable.

A Blokes' World

Edward McMahon
BIGS/Law III

Dear Mr Jack Mason,

May I suggest that your prospective Sydney Uni Mens' Society stands only behind Spence's staff cuts as the most ill-conceived idea of 2012? If it proceeds, this Society would be a greater blight on our University than the Transient Building.

I note your feeble attempt at inclusiveness by extending an invitation to all 'male identifying persons'. Yet in the same breath you invite all 'blokes' to 'help out your gender and come on down'. My dear sir, not all 'male identifying persons' are 'blokes'. 'Bloke' is but one face of masculinity. Indeed, even the lack of a penis is not necessarily fatal to male identification.

So tell me, who is this 'boys club' designed for? Is it for those who identify with a specific brand of masculinity? Is it restricted to those whose anatomy features a penis? Moreover, what's with the 'help out your gender' bit of the advert? It sounds like a sort of 'call to arms'. Who are we fighting? Women, you say? Yeah! We're fighting women. Of course we are. They're getting a bigger slice of pie than us in the 'game of life'. "Fuck that" you say. "Women bake the fucking pie, WE eat it".

Frankly, it's high time to share the pie with the 'chicks', we've become too fat. Oh, and stop trying to steal the word 'Men' from those of us who do not identify as 'blokes'.

Cheers mate. You're a top bloke.

Education Action Group should foot the bill

Alex Dore
President, SU Liberal Club

Dear Honi,

Last week's offensive rant by the Education Action Group (EAG) has done little but cement it as a group for anti-establishment radicals.

I was appalled by one piece, written by an EAG member ("randomly chosen to be arrested"), labeling our police officers as violent "hounds" and "robots in blue pyjamas" –

not to mention the Vice-Chancellor, who he proceeds to call a "gangster mafia boss".

Another piece refers to a "hit-list", and seems to indicate that a letter by University management had somehow induced the writer to "vomit".

Is it any wonder that students are getting sick of a debate so comprehensively hijacked by this group?

The disruptive protests have forced management to exhaust an annual security budget in just three months, and if the EAG had any decency, it would save us some money and foot the bill itself.

Defending science

Felicity Nelson

Debates about religion so often lack parameters. In response to my article in the May 2 edition of *Honi Soit*, "Only the truth will set you free", William Haines managed to completely ignore my proposition and confuse my argument with another debate entirely. This is emblematic of a general problem that plagues the public discussion about religion.

My "thesis" was not "if religion were science it wouldn't be good science". I was not arguing that religion is weak because it is non-scientific or that we should put all our "confidence in a single mode of thought". I argued at great length that the humanities can be a source of healthy scepticism.

Science and humanities are superior to organised religion not because they are perfect but for precisely the opposite reason. While both pursue truth, neither ever claims to have reached it. When an idea begins to fall apart under scrutiny, it is discarded in favour of a better one. Truth is conceived as a work in progress; an ongoing conversation.

Religious institutions claim to hold the truth in their hands *a priori*; when cracks appear in their worldview they simply declare blind acceptance of contradictions to be an affirmation of faith.

Many people are convinced that organised religion is equal to the noble work of scientists and academics because it aids the exploration of individual spirituality. I would argue that organised religion corrupts and suppresses spirituality by dulling the mind and encouraging subservience to predetermined ideas.

If religion were more responsive to reasonable debate I would see no need to quarrel with it. However, religious individuals so often grant their religion a protectorate beyond the reach of reason. This does not present much of a problem when you narrowly confine this a-rational world to one individual and their personal "emotive-spiritual" experience. However, when you extend this irrationality into the social and political sphere, claim the right to special privileges and lend support to terrible injustices in society based on this faith, you cross a line. On this matter I think Mr Haines and I agree.



EDITORIAL

By the time you get your hands on this edition, the Union Board elections will either be in full swing, or recently completed. In the off chance that it's still Wednesday, Week 12 and you haven't voted yet, I strongly encourage you to do so.

As important as voting is though, it's vital to remember that it is not the only way to make a difference, nor necessarily the most effective. The cover for this week's edition is taken from student protests against education price hikes that took place just last week in Quebec, Canada. More than 500 people were arrested. The photo ties in with this week's feature, which looks at why students, time and time again, take action against injustice. While my first thought was to use an image from our own substantive (and very successful) protests against the staff cuts, I thought it useful to look abroad for a moment and see that student activism is happening the world over, sometimes on a scale that dwarfs our own.

As terrible as Spence's proposed cuts are, there is one potential upside in that they present us with an opportunity to become involved in a way that makes a difference. The anti staff cuts campaign has already saved the jobs of dozens of members of staff, but there is still more work to be done. Information on rallies, marches, and occupations is readily available on Facebook after a quick search of the term "staff cuts". If you are yet to be convinced, I urge you to turn to page 12 and read what student activists Tim Scriven and Morgan Gardiner have to say on the matter.

Paul Ellis

MY24

Have you had a life less ordinary?

MY24 is a documentary television series looking for bold and remarkable stories of change - told by young people, for young people.

We'd love to hear from you if: you're no older than 22; you vividly recall one particular day that changed your life forever; this turning point or twist might have catapulted you in an unexpected, unusual, unpredictable or surprising direction; you're passionate about telling your own story and your turning point happened when you were roughly between 10 and 16 years old.

Award winning television production company, Essential Media & Entertainment is currently developing a television series for an ABC 3 youth audience.

If you'd like to tell us your story, please contact Nicky Ruscoe by email or phone. If you don't mind, it would be helpful if you could initially email me a couple of paragraphs about yourself and the change you experienced.

Applications close June 8.

Email: MY24@essential-media.com
Ph: 02 8568 3151

WEEKLY NEWS

Students break it down at Battlefest

Fiona Hoang from SoulXPress is ghetto fabulous

It's a starless night as many of Sydney's dancers make their way through the eerily lit courtyard of Macquarie University. Inside, the fluorescent lighting overhead casts dark shadows from the brims of their caps over the dancers' faces. The bass is reverberating around the room as the piano notes snake their way through the dancers' bodies... and the battle begins.

'Battlefest' is a dance battle event hosted by Macquarie Dance Academy (MDA) at Macquarie University. It is an all styles two on two battle aimed at growing the dance scene and in particular, encouraging collaboration between the various university dance and hip hop societies. The event attracts dancers from all over Sydney, from inexperienced battlers to those that are well respected in the dance scene.

A member of SoulXPress, and one of this year's winners, Kris has been 'popping' for around three years. "I've been battling for a while, so I didn't feel nervous. I try to make people laugh with me, not at me," he said. "Battling isn't all about winning, it's about showing people what you can do, and representing your society."

For another member of the society, Mark, it was his first time winning a battle. "I felt very proud and it even pushed me and motivated me to work and train even harder!" he said.

According to the winning pair, a good battler demonstrates their musicality. "It doesn't matter how many spins or crazy footwork you can do, if it's not on beat,



it doesn't count," Kris said.

SoulXPress is the University of Sydney hip hop society. Although dance is a big part of what they do, the society also promotes other elements of hip hop through graffiti days, DJ workshops and MCing. They want to promote hip-hop culture throughout the University and beyond, and are closely affiliated with dance studios across Sydney.

Earlier this year members of SoulXPress performed at O-Week, Thrive festival flash mob, Crossover dance studio's showcase 'Up Staged', and Dancekool's 10th year anniversary showcase, as well as participating in MDA's Battlefest.

SoulXPress is always looking for enthusiastic people to join the society and share their love of hip-hop. Even if you've never danced before, it is a great place to make friends, learn some cool moves and have heaps of fun. There are classes every day, and styles include breaking, popping and hip-hop.

OPINION: USU

Election Inspection

Adam Chalmers prefers people over policy

By the time you pick up this week's *Honi*, it's already election day. If you haven't already voted, think about this before you fill in the ballot.

Don't vote for people based on policy. Don't judge a candidate by how much you want their policies to be fulfilled; vote for them based on the principles they stand for, and their vision for the University of Sydney Union. There are two main reasons you shouldn't judge a candidate by their policy.

Firstly: They don't yet know enough about the company they will be working for to have full faith in their policies. As outgoing Director James Flynn said, fledgling candidates just "don't understand the organisation they make promises for."

In 2010, many candidates ran on promises to replace the Vittoria coffee Union outlets serve with Fair Trade brand coffee, which sponsors coffee plantations in developing countries. This policy sounded great on paper, but upon becoming Board Directors, they realised that switching coffee suppliers involved paying millions of dollars in early termination fees to Vittoria. Ultimately it wasn't the Fair Trade policy that counted. It was the principle – making a more ethical Union.

Secondly: Don't vote for candidates on policy, because the Board doesn't handle policy – they hire expert staff to do that. Instead, the Board determine the Union's overall goals and vision. The Union hires professionals to run its catering and marketing for a reason.

"You've got to leave some details up to their expertise," said USU President Sibella Matthews.

Every year people campaign for better food or specific caterers (Thai La-Ong 3, McDonalds, etc). But the Board aren't in charge of choosing caterers. Instead they set out what students are looking for in caterers, like having a healthier food option (Raw) or more Kosher/Halal products. Then staff find tenants to suit those needs. Promises for specific Access partners or programs suffer from the same issue.

Director Nai Brooks stressed that being a Board Director is more about "high-level strategic vision." The Union is bigger than any one Board Director's promises, and trying to push your pet project can mean "stepping on someone else's toes."

At the end of the day, cast your vote based on principles. Vote for someone because when five caterers are fighting for one spot, or Michael Spence offers to buy out commercial operations – you think they'll make the right choice.

As Ms Matthews said, "[Being a good director] means sacrificing the pursuit of an election promise for bigger and more significant priorities."

I'm not voting for candidates who can keep their promises; I'm voting for candidates who know when not to keep them.

Adam Chalmers is on Twitter:

@Adam_Chal

Architecture faculty lights up Vivid Sydney

Kira Spucys-Tahar and David Gunther trip the light fantastic

Six works featured in this year's Vivid Sydney festival are by past and present staff and students from the University of Sydney's Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning.

Students from the Master of Design Science (Illumination Design) and Master of Interaction Design and Electronic Arts combined to create one of the centerpiece installations - the playful lighting system *Chromapollination*. The work is a showcase of digital LED dandelions. An interactive sculpture, the flowers changes colour and react to the movement of passing pedestrians.

Master of Design Science (Illumination Design) student Destiny Paris worked with structural, acoustic and visual engineers and designers to make her creative vision a reality. This year, she and her employer Aurecon collaborated to produce *Water Droplet* – a two-storey, giant fountain shaped as a water droplet. Visitors can sit inside the fountain

accompanied by a calming soundtrack. "The idea was to incorporate the water of the harbour into a lighting installation," Ms Paris said.

Fellow Master of Design Science (Illumination Design) students Michael Kellis and James Nagel will present *Light the Night*, a guerilla projection installation. The pair will move custom-made mobile projection carts around Circular Quay and the Opera House precinct, projecting stenciled graffiti images onto public spaces. "We're projecting graffiti onto buildings precisely because it's in your face and it's a creative use of light," Mr Nagel said.

Another Master of Design Science student, Ben Baxter, is entering his third installation in a Vivid Festival this year. In collaboration with Ruth McDermott, Mr Baxter has created *Cumulus*, a suspended metallic cloud that shimmers with reflected light from strategically placed LEDs. "We are using contrast –

or gloom and illumination – to make it look like the light is flowing out of the cloud," Mr Baxter said.

Also returning to Vivid is final year Master of Design Science student Kristy Philip. With her employer, Haron Robson lighting, Ms Philip produced *Infinity Squared*, a geometric sculpture heavily influenced by the mind-bending work of M.C. Escher.

Ms Philip sees Vivid Festival as a chance to experiment with design and creativity. "It gets boring if you play it safe all the time," she said.

Fourth year Architecture student William Chan's installation *Palette of Urban Green* demonstrates how sustainable design can create engaging public spaces. William is currently undertaking his Honours year after winning two scholarships and the Convocation Medal for his impressive work in the field of design.

Palette of Urban Green uses repurposed wooden shipping pallets to create twisting towers filled with light. Mr Chan said the need to address sustainable urbanisation is as urgent as ever. "[The work] is a juxtaposition that encourages us to explore this relationship between the natural and the built environment," he said.

Vivid Sydney is the southern hemisphere's largest lighting festival. The event features works across Circular Quay from the Sydney Opera House to Walsh Bay.



Vivid runs 6pm each night until 11 June

WORDS WITH FRIENDS

If you were running for Union, what would your slogan be?



TEGAN
SCIENCE II

"Join Teegz league."



JOEL
POLITICAL, ECONOMIC,
SOCIAL SCIENCE I

"Roll with Joel."



MARIANA
ARTS III

"Have a Shiraz with Maz."



HUGH
POLITICAL, ECONOMIC,
SOCIAL SCIENCE I

"Phew! I voted for Hugh."



HONILEAKS

with Kira Spucys-Tahar

As *Honi* went to print, it was unclear which five candidates would be successful in becoming University of Sydney Union (USU) Board Directors.

Of interest were the deals made between candidates in relation to their how-to-vote cards. Preference deals were as follows: Harding-Easson/Raue, Coffman/Stanton, Chau/Morris/Sloane.

The biggest winner was Vale Sloane, who received both Ms Chau and Ms Morris' second preferences while splitting his second preferences between each candidate respectively. The deal appears to have been orchestrated by USU Presidential hopeful Rhys Pogonoski in an attempt to see all three candidates, should they get elected, vote for him at the Board executive elections.

A first-year 'Pow! for Raue' supporter has very publicly jumped ship to Hannah Morris' 'Get Hans On!' campaign after a dispute with the Raue campaign team in relation to the direction their preference deals. It is rumoured that her issues came to a head when her asthma puffer went missing at a 'Pow! for Raue' meeting due to a mix-up over similar looking puffers. It was later returned.

St Paul's JDD Scandal

Controversy has erupted over Friday evening's Jazz Dinner Dance (JDD) held at St Paul's College which was themed 'The Last Night of the British Raj'.

The event featured Indian dancers, a live snake, henna art, sisha pipes and traditional cuisine. The majority of waiters at the function were of subcontinental extraction and were dressed in traditional clothing while serving the college boys and their guests.

Sources told *Honi Soit* waitstaff at the function were the college's usual employees who in fact "requested" to wear traditional subcontinental "national attire" while working at the event. Another source said: "It was themed the last night of the British Raj, so it was like the end of the Raj, some might say."

Guests included USU Board Directors Shane Treeves and Jacqui Munro, and USU hopeful Nick Coffman.

Each year 'tickets' of second year students submit theme proposals to the Students Club of seven senior college residents, of which Nick Coffman is Treasurer, who then determine the winning application. Mr Coffman said: "I have no comment to make at this time. It doesn't relate to me or my Union campaign in any way."

A Facebook group called 'Demand St Pauls college apologise for its 'British Raj' party' insists that "Any student involved in the creation of the theme - even more so any college administrators who knew of the theme beforehand - be disciplined."

SRC Welfare Officer Rafi Alam said: "It's absurd that a college dominated by privileged, white men would think that holding a colonialist-themed party, considering the history of the college, would be a good idea. Events like this are enough to break the myth that colleges were even trying to include minority groups." Senior Student Hugo Rourke did not return *Honi's* calls.



SPOTLIGHT: CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

We need a voice: Men's Society founder

A new club seeks to defend the rights of man, reports **Michael Koziol**



Working Men's Society, London, circa 1868

The University of Sydney Union's Clubs and Societies office will be asked to approve the constitution of a new "Sydney University Men's Society" after it holds its inaugural General Meeting on June 8.

The club is being started by Jack Mason, a second year Advanced Science student and St John's College resident. Its official description on the USU's website implores: "Blokes, help out your gender and come on down. How can we have gender equality without representation for men?"

The notice of the club's IGM has drawn ire from a number of campus quarters, including the Women's Collective and Phoebe Drake, President of the Students' Representative Council, the publisher of *Honi Soit*.

When *Honi* spoke to Mr Mason, he said the club would mirror the Women's Collective and focus on men's rights issues. He nominated the media's perception of portrayal of men as a key concern.

"[There are] instances where men are ridiculed by women in the media, where it would not be accepted if it were the same thing being done by men," Mr Mason said.

In particular, he pointed the finger at the hosts of US talk show *The View*, which had joked about a man's penis being cut off by his wife after he requested a divorce.

"What if it were reversed? What if it were a man who had cut off a woman's clitoris and breasts?" Mr Mason said.

The pages of this newspaper were questioned as well. "Reading *Women's Honi*...that whole issue seemed like a massive men-bashing exercise," he said. "Why isn't there a men's *Honi*?"

Mr Mason nominated a number of issues in which he felt men were at a disadvantage: they are more likely to be conscripted into military service, more likely to be victims of violence, and more likely to lose their children in custody battles.

He said he was inspired to start the society out of his frustration at a gender studies course last year: "All they are teaching is blatant feminism and hatred of men."

Former Women's Debating Champion Rebecca Barrett told *Honi* she was suspicious of the club's motives.

"It sounds to me like this club is going to be a pretext for men making dick jokes and drinking beer," she said.

"Men have not historically been discriminated against. I have a big problem with something that discriminates on the basis of gender receiving USU funding."

Mr Mason said he wasn't seeking to create a misogynist society, but admitted it might attract a few men of that ilk.

"I think that there will be people arguing for men being better than women, but there are women arguing that women are better than men in the women's society," he said.

Women's welcomes hard knocks choir

A bittersweet symphony comes to college, writes **Erin Rooney**

Homelessness is a very real problem in Sydney. The causes vary widely, and many different organisations are working to address the various issues that lead to this difficult situation. One such organisation is The Sydney Street Choir, started by Jonathon Welch (of the *Choir of Hard Knocks*) in 2001, a group that aims to help homeless or disadvantaged people through the power of song.

The Sydney Street Choir is like any other choir: Rehearsals start with vocal warm-ups, they learn songs in part harmony and they want to improve their singing. They have recorded three CDs so far, that can be accessed on their website, and perform every couple of weeks. The choir also encourages members to share their personal experiences and achievements. Lunch is provided at their rehearsals every week in collaboration with Oz Harvest.

University of Sydney Women's College resident Kate Riley has been active in organising an upcoming Sydney Street Choir performance at the Women's College for the residents and general public. The event has been linked to her



community project as part of a program run by personal development company Landmark Education.

Her experience with the choir has inspired her to help change some of the negative implications that homelessness carries with it, and she is confident that the concert will achieve this. "It's just their quirkiness, and it's definitely that the identities of the people in the choir are really visible, even if they're really in a big group," Ms Riley said.

Current director of the Sydney Street Choir, James Paul, is a musical therapist. He uses music as a therapeutic and social tool, encouraging people to express themselves and participate in a musical community.

HONI TAB

ODDS OF NEXT
ST PAUL'S
COLLEGE PARTY
THEME :

ABU GHRAIB
\$1.16

MAD MEN:
A SCANDINAVIAN
MASSACRE
\$3.92

BUNGA BUNGA !!:
THIS TIME IT'S
CONSENSUAL
\$5.45

RESPECT YOUR ELDERS
\$23.14

KONY 2012! PISS
CUTTING LEGEND
\$40.88

HSU: CREDIT CARDS
AND HOOKERS
\$67.91

FUKUSHIMA 2.0
\$84.32

HEAD AND SHOULDERS:
PUT THE LOTION IN
THE BASKET
\$357.70

"There are special moments all the time," Mr Paul says. "Like when people are learning their first song, or make a personal break-through and share that with us, if they've gone through some hard times."

Mr Paul believes that being in the choir has had a great impact on many of the members' lives. He said that he has witnessed people moving from "very tough mental states" to "feelings of positivity" through their involvement with the choir and the wider community.

The concert will take place on Sunday June 3 at 2pm in the Menzies Common Room at The Women's College and is open to all members of the University community.



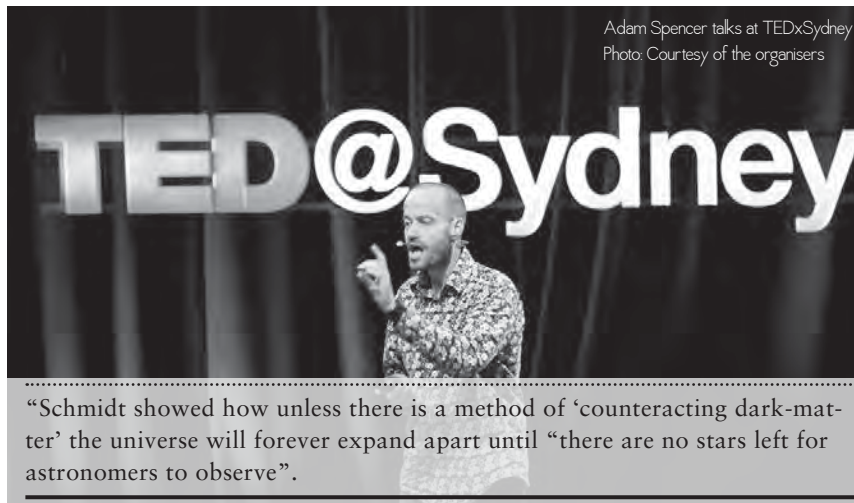
INNOVATION

New ideas shining bright

While some applied months before to get a seat for this year's coveted TEDxSydney, **Honi Soit's James Alexander** managed to secure a last-minute spot to see that, for once, big ideas can come out of Sydney

TED (Technology, Entertainment and Design) has become ubiquitous around the world for running outstanding short talks by some of the biggest thinkers of our generation. Under the guide of Chris Anderson, curator since 2001, TED has grown into a global phenomenon, with the purpose of "truth, curiosity, diversity... just the pursuit of interest, wherever it lies, across all the disciplines", Anderson explains.

TEDx are independently organised TED events, with the premier Asia-Pacific event held in Sydney over the weekend. With a huge list of sponsors to greet participants at the entrance, University of Sydney included, it was an event of quality with near perfect execution. The trendy venue of CarriageWorks, the live stream of the talks broadcasted to the public foyer and on YouTube, and the artists who transformed the live talks into whiteboard sketches, created an amazing atmosphere of ideas. Public installations of some of the latest research from Sydney University were also on display including a cabinet of locusts and advance sensory robots from Engineering. "There are many TEDx talks happening everyday... although, perhaps not as good as this one," Chris Anderson noted in his talk at the end of



TEDxSydney promoting the future of "mass-education" with TED's latest venture EduTED.

TED's mantra of "ideas worth spreading" was in full force yesterday with a program of 20 speakers, hand-picked from around Australia. Some of the highlights included why imaginary friends are good for children, why can't we accept 130th generation weeds as native plants, and why quantum computing will lead to super-miniature computing.

Jeremy Heimans, GetUp! co-founder and the Aussie who moved to New York to start Purpose.com, kicked up the first controversial idea of abandoning the

'Green movement'. Saying that Green is now used and abused by nearly every business Heimans argues, "we need to build a movement that organises people [around] their shared values..." Heimans believes the "intersection of mass participation" is key to promoting "progressive consumerism." And one only has to look at GetUp! movements as proof.

Brian Schmidt, leading astronomer at ANU, broadened the audience participant's minds as to where the Universe came from and where it will end; the basis for his recent Nobel Prize. It was a fantastic talk explaining some of the most advance topics in physics through

simple diagrams. Schmidt showed how unless there is a method of 'counteracting dark-matter' the universe will forever expand apart until "there are no stars left for astronomers to observe".

Geoffrey Garret, Dean of Sydney University's Business School and one of *The Australian's* '50 Most Influential People in Education' talked about Australia's role with China in the future. Leading the audience through a great talk on Sino-America relations he summed up the point nicely; America and China depend on each other economically, unlike Russia during the Cold War and that Australia is poised to benefit from being in the middle.

Hugh Durrant, previous head of one of the global leading field robotics lab, ACFR at Sydney University, later took to the stage to explain why Australia is one of the best locations for leading robotics research and use. Durrant showed off the first fully-automated port in Brisbane, autonomous aircraft for crop spraying and the first nearl fully automised mining plant in WA.

Check out all the great TEDxSydney 2012 Talks on YouTube.

James Alexander is an Honi Soit editor, and is on Twitter: @shortino29

ROYAL JUBLIEE

A diamond celebration

Ben Brooks takes his tea high, and his leaders regal

It is still news to some that *Honi Soit* is named after – or in spite of – royalty. As Edward III's cousin fumbled to pull up her sweaty stockings during a courtly dance seven centuries ago, the king indignantly snapped "*boni soit qui mal y pense*" to quell the sniggers. ('Shame be upon him who thinks evil of it'.) Just over six decades ago, that monarchy reigned over a colossal empire, bringing tea, *Debrett's*, and the word "ghastly" to a quarter of the planet.

One Diamond Jubilee later, Britain possesses a smattering of windswept Atlantic islands, some Caribbean pirate bases, a macaque-infested slice of Spain and a 30m-wide granite outcrop imaginatively christened Rockall. It periodically disappears at high tide so, sallying forth one last time, the Royal Navy had to dispatch a helicopter to plant the flag. It is not without a touch of nostalgia, then, that our postcolonial Queen will partake in festivities this weekend to mark the 60th anniversary of her accession to the throne.

She will proceed in a thousand-boat flotilla down the River Thames, rocking to the tune of Handel. Australia has made a small contribution, sending a squad of Surf Life Savers to show the anaemic Motherland a real tan – and to rescue Prince Philip, who by then will no doubt be plied with brandy.

The palaces of London will echo with the clicking of boots and punctuation of 21-gun salutes. And a million Britons will line the streets to sing the

evocative, if musically bland, national anthem.

Australia, by contrast, has a tepid relationship with royalty. The United Kingdom brings its capital to a standstill for the jubilee; our Governor-General barely musters a congratulatory paragraph.

We entertain some interest during royal weddings and tours, but treat the Queen as a historical curio rather than our Head of State. More often, Australia is apathetic to the idea of royalty, verging on outright hostility. Fifty years of latent republicanism has hardwired us to view Anglo-Australian relations with apprehension, incomprehension, and resentment. We suffer that perennial compulsion to "prove ourselves" as a nation.

One problem is that monarchism here has been relatively disorganised, meeting waves of intense republicanism sporadically and without focus. Yet with each new wave, the legitimacy and value of the status quo has been progressively eroded. No one buys the cultural appeal anymore, and Australian monarchism rides instead on tenuous, desperate arguments about political instability.

Where monarchist movements do coalesce into grandiose "leagues", they make the fatal mistake of conflating monarchism with partisan social conservatism. The Australians for Constitutional Monarchy website is peppered

with op-eds railing against the prosecution of Australian soldiers for war crimes and the mining tax. The executive director, Jai Martinkovits, happens to run the Community Action Network; it protects "traditional values" from the depredations of gay marriage, asylum rights, poker reform, and racial vilification laws.

The problem with this conservatism is the dilution of the monarchist message and that it alienates half the political spectrum. It also alienates the majority of Australians who still, quite reasonably, conceive of monarchists as pasty-white etiquette-pedants with starched collars. Parochial and irrelevant, these lobbies have long outlived their usefulness.

In any case, the debate has now passed the event horizon: it is easy to persuade people to support a republic, but nigh impossible to convince them the other way.

All we can do is caution against expecting too much from what Stephen Fry famously likened to a 'constitutional nose job'. A republic will not reinvent the nation. Revolution by referendum is not really revolution, nor is it a cathartic and inspiring addition to our national narrative. The president would be neither powerful nor mobilising in the French-American fashion. Instead, our Head of State would resemble, say, Italy - a retired public servant appointed behind closed senate doors, to drift into historical obscurity at their term's end.



We actually seem amused.

Which brings us back to the Jubilee. Our Head of State is irrefutably awesome, whatever your political persuasion. We need not compile a hagiography here of her qualities and commitment, but they certainly surpass that of any minister or president. Beyond the sheer thrill of her pageantry and pomp, she anchors us to a timeless, international tradition: of culture, history and politics.

We should embrace the story of Britishness as part of the fabric of Australia, rather than rejecting, forgetting, or effacing it. But for this insecure, adolescent preconception of nationhood-by-repudiation, there is no reason that we cannot develop distinctively, confidently and with different aspirations under the reign of an overseas monarch and her endearingly dysfunctional family.

And this weekend, whatever your race, creed, gender, or taxable income, we are all a little British.

Ben Brooks is a known monarchist.



The Nationals have a proud history of supporting strong women, writes **Em Sharp**

What's it like to be a woman in the Nats? That's a bit like asking what it's like being a woman at university. Yes, there was a time when we were under-represented, and we do still have to look out for each other, but the reality is that the Nationals have a long history of promoting strong, capable, intelligent women within our party.

As far back as 1977, 40 per cent of delegates at our annual conference were women. We were the first political party in Australia to appoint women to the roles of federal Chair and Chief Executive, and can still brag that a large portion of our executive positions are held by women. We are strongly represented by some fantastic women in both the State and Federal Parliaments including Katrina Hodgkinson, who is the first woman to be the Minister for Primary Industries and Small Business in NSW; federal senator Fiona Nash, who was a key proponent behind the 2005 bill to remove Tony Abbott's veto of the abortion drug RU486; and also Sarah Mitchell, the youngest ever woman elected to the NSW Legislative Council.

At Young Nat state conference we were overwhelmed with the turnout of young people (many of whom were women) who were keen to come along and get involved in the Party. This included policy development, debating, networking with MPs, and most importantly sharing a few (or more) drinks in the surprisingly happening Wagga Wagga. It is notable that we elected the very smart, driven, and progressive Felicity Walker as the Chairman of the NSW Young Nationals. Furthermore, five of the last 10 people to hold this position have been women, as are the majority of the current and past executive team – all very talented individuals with a big future in front of them.

This year will also see the inaugural meeting of our Women's Council, the first political body to bring together women from regional NSW on a regular basis to discuss policy and provide support to those seeking political careers.

The Nationals recognise that for our nation to achieve its full economic, social, and political potential, women must have equal opportunity to participate in the democratic process. I can honestly say that the Nationals are dedicated to making our democracy as inclusive as possible for all members of society.

Em Sharp is a Young National.

The National Party is a misunderstood force, writes **Anthony Sarks**

You have probably seen debates between the Labor club and the Liberal club. You have probably been handed flyers by the Greens or the Socialist Alternative. Most people will be able to tell you many things about Julia Gillard, Tony Abbott, or Christine Milne.

But there is a distinct lack of understanding about the National Party, what we stand for, and our fearless leader, Warren Truss. Young people tend to form an interest in politics based on high profile moral and social issues such as marriage equality, asylum seekers, or climate change, but not much attention is given to, say, ambulance response times in regional areas. The Nationals are overlooked, and it is hard to assert that we are more moderate than people think.

When I joined the Young Nats, people thought I had joined a crazy right-wing group who go to the country, burn crosses, and worship Barnaby Joyce. Some even think we are Nationalists. But in truth, we are simply the party that represents regional Australia. In NSW, for example, we operate anywhere outside the Newcastle-Sydney-Wollongong area. You may be surprised to note that when the Party was founded in 1919 it was called the Progressive Party, and was formed to represent the interests of graziers and farmers. It was later called the Country Party, and from 1982 has been known as the National Party of Australia or The Nationals for short.

We have been called the party without an ideology, and we have been less affectionately known as the Agrarian Socialists within the Liberal Party. We are not right wing in the sense that we never really argue for the free market or aim to fight the unions at every step. Put simply, the Nationals represent what is good for the regions, regardless of what ideological path it may follow. You may ask why the Nationals are in coalition with the Liberals if they're so independent of ideology. To put it simply, you will find that country people are more socially conservative, and our MPs represent conservative electorates. We are in

coalition with the Liberals because their ideology resonates more with country electorates, and their policies are more likely to benefit regional areas.

I can tell you from having been a member of both the Young Libs and the Young Nats that the latter are quite a moderate, progressive bunch. On the whole they are considerate, open minded, and very diverse on social issues such as marriage equality, climate change, asylum seekers, and even the mining tax. Many think we are ultra-conservative, but truly we are not. In fact, the NSW Young Nats passed a motion at this year's conference calling for our federal leaders to be allowed a conscience vote on amendments to the Marriage Act. Granted, you won't see us taking to the megaphone over marriage equality or asylum seekers, but that is because it is really not our fight. There are plenty of movements in politics that debate the social agenda, but we work on issues that affect regional Australia.

In relation to the carbon tax, many of us believe that something should be done about climate change, but cannot in good conscience support a tax that treasury found would cost 28,000 jobs in regional Australia. Regional Australians account for around 30 per cent of the population, but are estimated to bear more than 80 per cent of the job losses. It is this rationale that leads us to oppose the carbon tax, not because we are some sort of ultra-conservative climate-deniers. When you see Barnaby Joyce frothing at the mouth arguing against the science of climate change, always remember there is a reason journalists introduce him as "outspoken Nationals Senator Barnaby Joyce".

In reality we are more moderate than people think. Presently for the NSW Nationals, the fight is in the Murray-Darling Basin. The proposed irrigation cuts were nothing short of savage and would drive farmers off the land and turn our great basin hubs into ghost towns. The Greens would have you believe that the Nationals oppose action to save the

ecosystems of the Murray-Darling Basin at all costs, and do not give a monkey's nut about the environment. This is untrue. Our position is that we agree that something has to be done to save the natural resource, but the Murray-Darling Basin Authority must give equal weight to socio-economic factors as they do environmental factors. A policy position doesn't get more moderate than that.

Our MPs rarely make the media: reporting on Sarah Hansen-Young arguing for more compassionate immigration policy or Penny Wong's marriage equality stance seems to sell more papers than Nationals Senator Fiona Nash's fight for rural students and Youth Allowance. But rest assured our MPs are out there, and they are working just as hard as the others, albeit on less sensational issues. And when Alby Schultz calls on Tony Abbott to bring Nationals MPs into line, he doesn't know what he is talking about. The Nationals don't answer to Tony Abbott, they answer to Warren Truss, and they don't skip to the Liberals' tune if there is an issue central to our values.

Many Sydney University students are from the country, and know how wonderful it is to grow up there. Many of you will, at some point, have envisioned moving out of the cities when it's time to settle down. I think it's comforting to know there is a political party making sure country towns have jobs to be filled, homes to be bought, quality healthcare, education, and infrastructure just in case you opt for a sea (or tree) change.

Lastly, I would like to point out that the Nationals aren't going anywhere. For 20 years people have said we are dying out. We're still here. We have 25 members across both houses of NSW Parliament and 17 members in the House of Reps and Senate. We are free of factional in-fighting. We have a growing Young Nat membership who are progressive, open-minded, and passionate. Needless to say, the future is bright; we have to wear cowboy hats.

Anthony Sarks is a Young National.

The Young Nationals state conference was held on May 19/20 in Wagga Wagga, attended by 50 delegates from around NSW

Motions passed:

- Support for a conscience vote in federal parliament on amendments to the Marriage Act
- All emergency departments in rural and regional hospitals to be equipped for emergency births
- Increased funding for travel and accommodation for rural hospital patients
- Establishment of an Australian Food Security Commission



The Young Nationals federal chairman, Cameron O'Neil, addresses the NSW state conference

Photo: Douglas Martin

The Third Drawer

You know what I mean, ladies?

Election analysis with social and political commentator **Kathy Lette**



Well, here we are at the end of another Union Board election campaign. It's been a long three weeks and I know what you're thinking – more like Union Bored, am I right?

But this is a very important issue because these students will be governing the Board for the next two years. And if you don't think that's a long time, try getting married. Jeezaloo! Spending two years in the company of any man ain't easy. Am I right, ladies?

It's good to see some real girl-power getting involved this year! I like this K'Chau girl. Though - most men probably think that's some sort of washing powder. And you've got Get Hans On!

as well. Let me tell you, honey, you don't need to be putting out the invitation! They'll be lining up if you let 'em!

People often ask me for advice. They say: Kathy, what should I do when I get on Union Board? Well, sista, the first thing you gotta do is find the USU office. And you know how you're gonna do it? Ask for directions! No man would ever do that, you know what I mean?! They want to give the directions, not ask for them. Men!

It's one thing to be a strong woman, but you've got to have policies too. It's great to see so many candidates supporting Fair Trade coffee. I really love fair trade, with all my heart. I just wish my husband would engage in a little fair trade with the orgasms, you know what I mean, ladies?! I'll come first Wednesdays and Fridays, you take the rest of the week, alright?

Now, a few people have said to me: Kathy, there will always be strong female representation on the Union Board, because of affirmative action. Though you know – most people think affirmative action is the name of the new Bruce Willis movie. He's a bit of a hunk, isn't he? I call him Bruce Willies because I think about them every time I see him! Woof!

But there is a very serious point to make, and that's about the finances of this Union. Because for the last two

years, the Vice-Chancellor has been trying to take as much money away from the student union as he can. Most people probably think a Chancellor is some sort of poker machine – but you know, this guy will take even more money off you than one of those!

One question some candidates have asked me is: should I support universal Access? You know, before I knew much about this Union Board thingamybob one of my kids asked me: what's universal Access? And I said, "Honey, that's just another term for 'skank'!" But now I know it's actually about bisexuality.

There is one candidate who does terrify me: "The Coff". Most people probably think the Coff is some new epidemic disease! I sure don't want no rash from the Coff, am I right, ladies? Ha!

Here's the thing though – if you want to get yourself a strong woman on Board, you've got to put one in her box. Come to think of it, that's actually the same line I used to pick up Geoffrey in a London bar! Zing!

And it's really important that you show up to vote, because this is going to be a tight election. Most people think a tight election is what happens when you crack a fat in skinny jeans, but no – it actually means hardly anyone is going to vote.

But what was the question again? Oh yes, politics. Look, I've got nothing

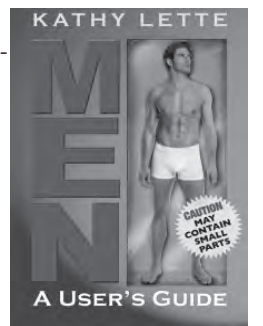
against factions. They're just another way of expressing percentages.

I've often thought about joining a political party though, but there just isn't one out there for a strong, independent woman like me. When someone invents the "Women Whose Husbands Are Shit at Cleaning and Shit in Bed and It's Ruining My Life Party", make sure to let me know! Am I right, ladies?!

Just last week we had a lot of strong women stay over at our house in London. We had Hilary Clinton, Aung San Suu Kyi, Oprah, Dame Edna, Rosa Parks, and Joan of Arc. I didn't understand most of what they were saying but, hey, most people think Joan of Arc is a Sydney drag queen.

So vote hard, vote early, and vote often, ladies. And as you enter the voting booth, ask yourself: don't you just hate men?

[Dear editors, please find my column above. I've tried to tone down the men/women thing, and stick to the politics, as requested. Kathy]



Ammirite?

WHERE AREN'T THEY NOW?

Brad Mariano follows Nelly's paper trail and doesn't find Ashanti

Perhaps no song is emblematic of the great early 2000s hip hop that used to rule *Video Hits* and *rage* than Nelly's "Ride Wit Me". The highlight of both many a year 5/6 disco as well as the crowning track of *So Fresh: The Hits of Spring 2001*, it's probably the most remembered track from Nelly's debut album *Country Grammar*. However, there was a vital contribution to the song by someone other than just the man who Billboard named the third biggest artist of last decade and made us all permanently pronounce "every" as "err" (or was that just me?), and so we turn to the track's other artist: City Spud (real name Lavell Webb).



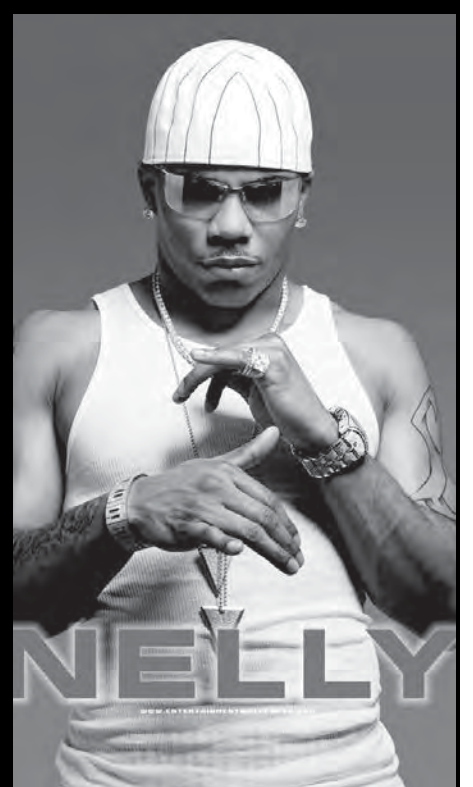
People wanna know! Who we areee! Where we come from!

He delivers the third (and some would argue pivotal) rap verse, with a style similar to that of Nelly – a mix of urban sound with a country twang (brilliantly evoked by his moniker, juxtaposing the urban 'city' with the agrarian 'spud' potato). The relation between the two is explored in the song with the line "City talk, Nelly listen, Nelly talk, City listen", which suggests a symbiotic relationship between the two. In reality, it appears more parasitic. City Spud was one of the members of Nelly's rap group, St Lunatics, which had written and performed together since 1993. All other members were buoyed into marginal relevance on the fringe of popular culture with the mega success of the group's front man, (*Country Grammar* was the 10th highest selling album of the decade), and have been riding on his coat-tails ever since – only Murphy Lee ever achieved any solo success. They released the group's first album the next year in 2001, and the Lunatics continued to appear in Nelly's videos for years afterwards.

So surely a key part in Nelly's biggest song and the brief Lunatics hysteria would have led to big things for Mr Spud? Well, here's where it gets all M. Night Shyamalan on us: City Spud was in jail the whole time – he was

sentenced in 1999 to nine years prison for first degree assault. The name of the aforementioned group album? Free City. But wait, what? He raps in the video! In 2001! Well, if you go onto *Video Hits*' bastard grandson, VEVO, and look up the video clip (a ingenious modern retelling of *Dukes of Hazzard* and *Smokey and the Bandit*) you'll see his verse is merely lip-synced by other members of the group, including Nelly himself. The other twist is that he is Nelly's half brother and remember the annoying bandaid Nelly wore on his cheek for years? It was out of devotion and respect to an incarcerated Spud. So as to the answer of what City Spud has been doing for most of the time since? Well, sleeping, waiting and holding onto that soap like it's the ring and he's Gollum. He was released in 2008, and while St Lunatics doesn't quite hold the cultural currency it once did, City and the gang have been on mixtapes, and their second album (which provided some sense of symmetry and catharsis with its title *City Free*) is forthcoming.

As an aside, there was a sad but funny story where City Spud briefly gained some infamy while incarcerated, as an imposter and serial thief roamed the streets of Atlanta parading as City Spud (he even had a "St



Nelly or 50c? The ultimate TV Hits reverse-poster question.

Lunatics" tattoo), seducing hood rats by teasing that he was the jailed rapper, paroled early, and robbed them for mobile phones and loose change. Which begs the question for this low-life, why would you live that way? Ay, must be the money.

ROAD TEST: TASTE BAGUETTE

Brad Mariano and James Ellis battle it out over the Uni's favourite non-union food outlet

BRAD:

The first thing to note is that the baguette bread available in three kinds is so fresh and delicious that even a literal turd sandwich would have potential here, so most options are worth checking out. But let's first look at the two most popular choices, the Chicken Schnitzel and Portugese Chicken, which are the Taste Baguette's line-up equivalent of Harry and Zayn, in that they are the clear standouts of the group, and one has just a hint of exoticism. The Schnitzel is generous and cooked to perfection, the mayo delicious and the surrounding ingredients sufficient filler – it's the tastiest and most filling of all the options, and my pick for the one to go back to. Portugese Chicken isn't as spicy as some would hope, but it's fresh, the chicken succulent, the peri-peri sauce delicious, and altogether a deserved runner-up. The other selections are a decidedly mixed trendy maroon bag. The Provencale Vegetables baguette is a good mixture of organic surprises– among them eggplant, bocconcini and a welcome dash of pesto – the vegetables weren't warmed as promised, but definitely one of the stronger vegetarian lunch options on campus. The Ham and Cheese is nothing to write home (or to *Honi*) about. Classic Vietnamese is a solid pork offering that is the cheapest option on the menu, although the pate has a very strong taste that is likely to polarise and if you're after a Vietnamese roll, there's no reason to not go down and try the superior offering at Azzurri's, unless you're a LLB student and feel uncomfortable outside the vicinity of the Law Annex.

JAMES:

The Chicken Schnitzel took my Taste virginity, and I wouldn't have it any other way. The battle of queuing and shouting orders was a disconcerting foreplay, but was worth it in the long run. The gold standard for food on campus, a sensual marriage of crispy yet moist schnitzel, crunchy fresh baguette and all the trimmings. My first bite of the Grilled Portuguese Chicken delivered only bread and disappointment. The promise of piri-piri spices and chilli sauce encouraged me to continue, but I was met with something about as spicy as my Granny's famous 'Sweet Curry'. 'Roast Leg of Ham and Gruyere Cheese Baguette' is a strange name for a ham and cheese roll. Luckily I went the rye bread, a key tactical decision in bringing this humble classic if not to the next level, at least to a checkpoint along the way. Two words are responsible for more drooling than both pavlovas and Pavlov combined. Roast Pork was always going to deliver the goods for me, but it probably isn't a great light lunch. A generous amount of salmon, good caper ratio and a subtle but tasty lemon mayonnaise combine to create the triumph that is the Smoked Salmon baguette. A great option for those semi-vegetarians who eat fish because it isn't a cute animal.



Soundtrack to: Sydney weather

Lane Sainty's iPod got soaked and now it doesn't work

'Why Does It Always Rain On Me?' — Travis

It's actually raining for the 8th day in a row. My roof is leaking and I'm pretty sure my neighbour is building an ark. This is so dire.

'I Can See Clearly Now' — Johnny Nash

In an exciting turn of events, the sun is now shining! Time to leave for uni, but it's still a bit chilly, so I should probably wear warm clothes.

'Hot In Here' — Nelly

It was cold this morning, I swear— but now I'm dying/sweating profusely in my jeans and long-sleeved shirt. Oh, the humidity! SEND HELP.

'Hurricane' — Bob Dylan

(Okay, so this is an exaggeration.)

'Raindrops Keep Falling On My Head' — B.J. Thomas

It's raining AGAIN, and I'm trapped in Fisher Library. I can see people sprinting down Eastern Avenue and getting drenched in the torrential rain. I may have to sleep here tonight.

'Fuck You' — Cee Lo Green

Seriously, Sydney weather. Fuck you.

CHALLENGE ACCEPTED.



Sean O'Grady gets publicly indecent. In Fisher.

The ongoing refurbishment of Fisher Library has seen the installation of Plasma Screens on level 2. They basically function as really fucking big computers - that everyone can see. It seems as though they were put there to be used irresponsibly.

I started out slowly with a bit of Facebook. A couple of people looked at the screen as they walked past. I probably looked pretty stupid as I went through the photographic collection of a Miranda Kerr fan page (I highly recommend it) and checked out the Quidditchsoc page. Tumblr's seemed like the obvious step forward; a few people looked up from their books and laughed quietly when I pulled up textfromdog, and one girl exclaimed "awesome" at a *Game of Thrones* meme with the heads of the Starks transplanted onto the bodies of Derek Zoolander and co. But that was about the extent of it, unsurprisingly, no one really seemed to care.

A documentary on Youtube about Objectophilia turned a few heads. The sound either wasn't working or (more likely) was permanently disabled, but the sight of someone dry humping the Eiffel Tower was enough to make a girl on my table look pretty awkward (she got up and left when I searched for advice on anal sex).

I tried to up the ante by checking out the *Anarchists Cookbook*. A Myspace page I saw in about year 8 had given pretty detailed information on how to make explosives, so I figured this stuff must still be accessible pretty easily on the internet. Five pages of Google later and with good reason, I found that this wasn't the case. The Westboro Baptist Church website earned me some judging looks, but no one actually said anything.

I didn't try as hard to incite a riot as I could have, no matter how awesome screening youjizz.com seems in your head, its another matter to actually do it. That being said, I looked at some pretty weird stuff and no-one really seemed to care. They might have judged me from afar, but no one was willing to call me on how inappropriate my searches were. I was surprised at first, but looking back, who really wants to talk to a creep?



I actually became 'that guy'

DRUGS

Money for drugs

Hardcore reporter **Ludwig Schmidt** was reimbursed \$40 for his tale

The *NSW Trends in Ecstasy and Related Drug Markets* report is part of the Australian Drugs Trend Series put out by the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre at the University of New South Wales. The EDRS monitors the price, purity and availability of ecstasy, (MDMA is included in this category), and other related drugs such as methamphetamine, cocaine, gamma-hydroxybutyrate (GHB) and ketamine. It also examines trends in the use and harm of these drugs. It utilises data from three sources: a) surveys with regular ecstasy users (REU); b) surveys with key experts who have contact with REU through the nature of their work; and c) the analysis of existing data sources that contain

information on ecstasy and other drugs. Regular ecstasy users are recruited as they are considered a sentinel group to detect illicit drug trends.

I am a regular ecstasy user who did an interview with the NDARC with a view to writing this article. The \$40 with which the survey is incentivised was also welcomed. I became aware of the survey via an advertisement on the ecstasy information website "Pill Report". According to my interviewer, Laura Scott, who is also one of the two publishers of the report, this was unusual. Most people who end up doing the survey were made aware of it via advertisements placed in the music-based street presses *Brag* and *Drum*,

which is also where NDARC spend most of their advertising budget.

The interview went for just under an hour. I was asked about my ecstasy consumption patterns, as well as my experience with other drugs. As the executive summary indicates, the NDARC are not particular interested in ecstasy con-

sumption. Rather, they are interested in compiling information about all illicit drug consumption patterns and markets.

Ecstasy consumption is viewed as the "glue" of illicit drug use. I was asked a number of questions pertaining to my use of ecstasy, as well as my experience with, and consumption of, a number of other illicit substances. I was also asked many questions not directly linked to illicit drug use, such as how often I drove under the influence of alcohol, my views on current and hypothetical drug policies and my mental health history. It was in many ways a deeply personal interview, but I never once felt like I was being interrogated, though this may change from person to person.

It is clear from talking to Laura that very little is currently known about illicit drug consumption. Before true drug reform can be made, a body of knowledge surrounding drug use and its effects must be acquired. This is the goal of the NDARC and the Ecstasy and Related Drug Reporting System. If you think you might fit the category of regular ecstasy user and believe that the laws on illicit drugs need to change I strongly encourage you to respond to the advertisement below and take part in the survey. If nothing else, you'll get \$40 and affirmation that Sydney University has a far prettier campus than the University of New South Wales.



Source: United States Drug Enforcement Association

Consumption pattern results

- Ecstasy continues to decline at a significant rate in relation to preference as a drug of choice (37% in 2010 to 27% in 2011). All other drugs including the top three: cannabis (20%), cocaine (14%) and alcohol (11%) continue to be reported at stable levels of preference.
- Significant increases were reported in those that reported excess stimulant use in a 'binge session'.
- Poly drug use is reported by this sample in a fortnightly to monthly frequency.
- Almost half of the sample commented on changes in the drug market over the preceding six months to interview, the main themes included: The low quality or purity of ecstasy pills and the increase in use of MDMA capsules, newdrugs on the market such as: mephedrone, DMT and BZP, and an increase in prevalence of acid and decrease in drug use generally.

Researchers at the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre would like to invite people who use ecstasy to participate in a one-hour confidential and anonymous interview for the Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System. Participants are reimbursed \$40 for their time and expenses.

If interested contact Laura on:
email: nswedrs@unsw.edu.au
phone: 0404 786 677

RECONCILIATION

Reconciliation Week: Uniting society

Cultural awareness is the key, writes **Rochelle Diver**

With Reconciliation Week in sight, which coincides with the end of my studies, I feel the need to take a step back and reflect on what Reconciliation Week symbolises and means for Indigenous Rights here in Australia. As a Native American woman I come in with a slightly different frame of reference. In the United States, Native American people have land, sovereignty and the right to self-determination. Here in Australia, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have been deprived of these rights along with the freedom to maintain their languages, culture and connection to the land.

However, Indigenous Australians were finally given the respect of an apology, which is well overdue in the US. And along with that came the concept of reconciliation and unity. This framework is absent in American society. It is very much the idea of 'us' and 'them'. Although an apology is an inadequate attempt at providing real change in the area of self-determination and Aboriginal Affairs, it is still a significant step toward promoting cultural awareness and recognising and taking responsibility for the atrocities of the past.

I came to Australia to study human rights with an Indigenous focus and work with an organisation that works

towards Indigenous rights and positive change. I was fortunate to find an internship with the New South Wales Reconciliation Council (NSWRC) who are dedicated to raising cultural awareness from a grassroots level by providing channels for Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians to engage with reconciliation efforts in the community. They accomplish this by putting together cultural events, workshops, youth art exhibitions and musical events which provide a platform for individuals to create dialogue and personally engage with the idea of reconciliation, Indigenous rights, social justice, and equality. I have had the chance to contribute to their work toward positive change, closing the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians and working toward constitutional recognition for one of the oldest Indigenous peoples in the world.

My position at NSWRC also provided another avenue for me to gain more understanding of international Indigenous human rights. I joined 30 other Indigenous participants at the Diplomacy Training Program: Indigenous Peoples, Human Rights & Advocacy in Sabah, Malaysia last month.

The training helped to put human rights and Indigenous rights into a

global perspective. This program had an Asia-Pacific focus and drew participants from countries all across the region. We worked together to engage with and understand the obstacles that different Indigenous groups face within their individual countries and throughout the world. We also engaged with groups from local Indigenous communities who shared with us their personal struggles in fighting for their rights. They are currently facing displacement of their lands due to palm oil plantations and the building of hydro-electric dams. We approached human rights and Indigenous rights advocacy work with the goal of creating a global Indigenous community where we can strengthen our rights by working together and supporting one another.

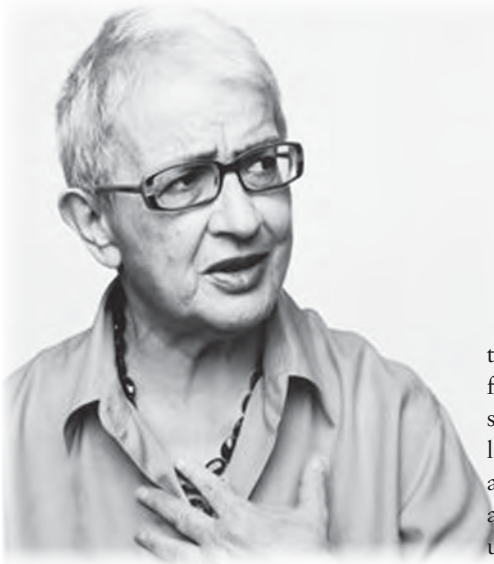
Reconciliation Week is upon us and now is the time to engage with the concept of reconciliation and what it means for each and every one of us. It's time to take reconciliation efforts one step beyond an apology and give Aboriginal Australians the respect they deserve and have been deprived of for so many years. As I head back to the U.S. I plan to take my knowledge gained here and put it into action. I hope to use my experiences and knowledge gained throughout this year to bring



the concept of reconciliation and a unified country to American soil. Until we move away from 'us' and 'them', we will always have a wall between us which allows for racism and bigotry. I hope to break down this wall and create a new era of Indigenous and non-Indigenous unity that looks toward the future with solidarity.

"DON'T BE TOO POLITE SHOW A LITTLE FIGHT, GIRLS"

Feminist, sociologist and social justice campaigner Eva Cox remains a force to be reckoned with, writes **Connie Ye**



I should have remembered that Eva Cox worked on this paper when I called her with a request for an interview back in March. Expecting a personal assistant on the other end, Eva herself answered, cutting through my flustered pitch about *Honi* with a succinct "I know."

After almost four decades of being a prominent feminist, social commentator, spokesperson for equality and self-described "community change agent", Eva Cox definitely knows. Despite being awarded an Order of Australia in 1995 and her likeness borrowed for a postage stamp, she refers to growing up as a refugee child as one of the most powerful experiences in shaping her outlook, and of course, her work in the public sphere.

Born Eva Maria Hauser into a Jewish family in Vienna on the eve of World War Two, she spent her formative years in England with her mother before being reunited with her father in Italy. Arriving in Sydney aged ten, Eva brought with her a perspective practically inaccessible to her local counterparts.

"I was already aware at that stage that I was an outsider and that countries and governments could do awful things to people. So I was politically aware from a fairly early age," she says. Eva also cites her father whom she describes as "a bit of a world-saver" and in some subconscious form, her Jewish background as informing her views on "mending the world".

I open our chat with a gimmicky game of word associations, to which Eva admits that she doesn't like playing games because she "always wants to change the rules." Game-changer indeed. In the fifties Eva remembers when she and her fellow activists at this very university were speaking on the topic of sending envoys to China which at that point was a geopolitical 'black hole'.

"[It was] one of the first times I ever spoke in public and I ended up getting booed because I actually said – it was about visiting China in the days that we didn't visit China – and I said "If, when they come back," and people started shouting "if, if, if, if," she recalls.

Her activism roots prepared her for her incipient involvement with the libertarian Sydney Push whose prominent members also included Robert Hughes and Germaine Greer. I bring up the latter's comments on the Prime Minister's dress sense but Eva dismisses it as media frenzy.

"Germaine is a performer, she says things she knows are outrageous. The fact there was such a hoo-hah around it suggests that we've actually got a problem. Just because one woman makes a somewhat tactless remark about another woman, feminism is suddenly undermined? And all Germaine's years of being a good feminist have been totally undermined by one nasty crack at Julia Gillard?"

She comments on why relatively few women are stirrers. "When things go wrong, women tend to blame themselves, and men blame the tools. Women agonise about getting things wrong. But if you are reasonably sensible, and you have a reasonable grasp of what's going on then you usually don't get things very wrong. I remember once I was being advertised as Australia's expert on women's superannuation at a time when I didn't know very much about it at all, and then I worked out most of the blokes didn't know very much about it either."

“..... We had a female PM in Maggie Thatcher. People used to say that Maggie Thatcher was to the women's movement what Idi Amin was to the black movement.”

"That's the thing, men apply for jobs when they're underqualified, and women apply for them when they're overqualified but do we ever talk about this? No. I think it's time young women actually got together and started talking about how we can change the world and take over leadership positions, because at the moment the blokes are making an awful stuff up of it. Would you like to have as a leader somebody who's not very good at spelling? If you're going to talk about stereotypes, men are not very good at spelling at all."

"And they go to jail more often," she adds. All this talk of women in leadership leads me onto the endlessly debatable topic of affirmative action and workplace quotas for women, especially in business and government. To contextualise I mention the fact that in previous years' USU Elections female candidates have been left off the ballot entirely where they have been guaranteed a position under Affirmative Action policies. Eva remains unconvinced by my proposal that symbolic victories may well end up just as important.

"I am not for a quota system where you shovel women automatically into jobs. But I might support an idea of a quota for the ASX200 because quite frankly I think most businesses are being so badly run that they could do with some new blood."

I play devil's advocate with how affirmative action would work within a meritocracy. As with so many other topics we've broached, she points out the nuanced difficulty of moving away from seeing merit in traditionally masculine

terms of (among others) assertiveness and the mobility to work longer hours.

"Meritocracy can be defined in so many ways – you want to the best people to do the job but then you have to work out what makes the best person, it's very hard to define what the merit is. You would assume that 50 per cent of [the best people] are likely to be female because the spectrum of skills is equally distributed between men and women."

Overall though, in typical fashion Eva is keen to extrapolate ideas to apply to broader society. "So we use one unfair system to beat up another unfair system. But the object of the exercise is to bust what is an ingroup of control by pushing outgroups [in] and making sure you follow it up. It's not enough to just push the women in, because they get co-opted and they start behaving like blokes. If you're into change then you've got to have a good reason for change."

So what does she make of women succeeding in the workplace on male terms?

"Fine."

However she continues: "But don't expect me to be pleased. Most of them won't change anything. What I'm interested in is women who are prepared to change the system, and one of the mistakes we made was to fail to understand things like equal opportunities. We pushed (them) not because we wanted more women in top positions but because we thought more women in top positions would change the world. The trouble is, Julia [Gillard] is not going to change anything for the status of women. She's really uncomfortable when you start about female issues, she plays according to male rules. We had a female PM in Maggie Thatcher. People used to say that Maggie Thatcher was to the women's movement what Idi Amin was to the black movement."

We revisit the seventies and why second wave feminism, which had seemingly so much potential, ran out of steam so quickly.

"We wanted a big society, it was a time when all the out-groups discovered they could use the state as a vehicle for change. So we pushed for legal and social change," Eva says. "I made a wry comment that as soon as we started getting onto the gravy train called the state, business got off and said 'Excuse me, we don't want the state anymore.' So you start getting by the beginning of the eighties a real anti-government

push. The idea that the welfare state had been expanding right through the 20th century started coming to a stop, the free market appeared, Reagan and Thatcher economics appeared and the market took over."

"So you had this reasonably new women's movement, still fairly vulnerable at that stage, and instead of mass movements collectively based about big change, they were funnelled into an individuated thing. This whole push [now] is to become part of the dominant group, which was male white Anglo and Western. So women started being judged, from the eighties onwards, on whether they succeeded on male terms, and we still haven't reversed that."

What about this generation then? Eva remarks on the social and economic conservatism of this decade, and attributes the consequent 'deep anxiety' to people to "thinking we're in an economy rather than a society".

As for the young women of today, she agrees that radical thinking is needed to effect change. "The real problem is that your generation is not sitting down and saying 'Why haven't we got there after 40 years? Why are we still stuck and what do we do about it?' They're still running very much on some of the slogans we invented in the seventies and they're still blaming patriarchy and men rather than looking at how women have been partly implicit in the process."

"We are still talking about feminism in the confines of the neo-liberal world where women need to succeed on male terms," she says. "And I think somewhere along the lines, and I think it'll happen in the next 20 or 30 years, there'll be another wave of women saying, that wasn't what we wanted."

We finish on talking about how we would have redistributed the federal budget – "it didn't do anything for the unemployed or the poorest people in the community" – but all throughout it is patently impossible for her to refrain from revisiting a core belief in social justice, one which she undeniably inherited from events in her own life.

"It is important we have a sense of obligation to others and I think that was drilled into me as a child. The idea of every man for himself is a very narrow inappropriate view - we are social beings, we always have been. What's important is our connection with other people. If you don't recognise that, then you don't understand human nature."

Connie Ye is an **Honi Soit** Editor.

Word Associations with Eva Cox

- Drugs – "Legalise."
- Abortion – "Legalise."
- Prostitution – "Legalise."
- Childcare – "More. Or, community."
- Julia Gillard – "Pain (in the arse)."
- Tony Abbott – "Worse (pain in the arse)."



Student Activism: Paris '68 to Sydney '12

The wind is back in the sails of the protest movement, write **Tim Scriven** and **Morgan Gardiner**

“There’s a time when the operation of the machine becomes so odious, makes you so sick at heart, that you can’t take part, you can’t even passively take part, and you’ve got to put your bodies on the gears and upon the wheels, upon the levers, upon all the apparatus, and you’ve got to make it stop!”

These words are from Mario Savio, in a speech given during the Berkeley Free speech struggle. It’s part of a speech which is widely considered to be the best ever given in student politics; a field known for its orators of varying quality.

Sydney Uni ‘12 may not quite be Paris ‘68 but for the first time in quite some time, student protest amounts to more than a stall on Eastern Avenue. It’s not just happening here and it’s not just happening in Australia. Student protest, often vigorous, is popping up over the world like a thousand spot fires. Why do students protest, and why are they protesting now?

The first university in the world, the University of Bologna, was formed by student activism. Fed up with their treatment by the city of Bologna, students formed the university as an assertion of collective power against the city,

They have been variously secularised, desecularised, publicised, privatised, exposed to Cultural Revolution, corporatized, been given over to practitioners or plebs, formed into bureaucracy or governed by mass student meeting. Clearly universities vary in time and in place. Despite this variability universities of all sorts are, at least occasionally, centres of activism. Why is this so?

For the revolutionary (or the reformer) the student is the perfect specimen. Students are young. They expect to be well-off one day, but are not at present, so they are ambitious. Many are upwardly mobile with working class origins and an expectation of a more comfortable life than their parents. It is no coincidence that the peak of student activism was in the sixties. For the first time ambitious students from working class backgrounds were coming in great numbers.

It is also attractive because it is effective. Student action around the world has done everything from win a set of traffic lights on Parramatta Road

prevented military coups. It helped stop the Vietnam War and supported the civil rights movement through the Freedom Rides. Few people feel less in control of their lives than a typical young adult. The prospect of being able to dictate conditions at your place of study is enticing to say the least.

The University of Sydney has a rich history of activism, and it’s certainly left its mark. Two departments at Sydney University, Gender Studies and Political Economy, owe their existence to activism, and Political Economy still needs to be regularly defended against attacks. At one point the department of Philosophy was split in two, with the department of “General Philosophy” being controlled by students and staff.

Ultimately though, the sense of history is a somewhat illusory veil. A student remains involved for, at most, only a few years and there is often very little handover. Each generation constructs a new legacy of action, often nearly from the ground up, and continuing institutions, particularly in the wake of voluntary student unionism, have grown alarmingly thin. However far it may stumble though, Sydney, like most other universities around the world, always seems to return to action in the end.

Student activism is not always from the left. Theocratic movements in the Islamic world are often centred at universities. There have been various fascist groups at the University of Sydney throughout its history including the Australian National Alliance. European nationalist separatist movements (not all right-wing) had bases in universities. Even when it is right-wing, it is rarely conservative in the proper sense, it almost always demands change.



to freezing fee hikes for decades, sacking the UTS Vice-Chancellor and even temporarily granting students complete power over the administration of their university. It overthrew the military junta which ran Greece in the seventies, and has

“..... Student action overthrew the military junta which ran Greece in the seventies, and has prevented military coups. It helped stop the Vietnam War and supported the civil rights movement through the Freedom Rides...”

which punished groups of foreigners collectively for the crimes and debts of each other. Bologna was, like many earlier universities, controlled by its students. It was seen as a natural thing that universities would be controlled either by staff or by students.

Since then, universities have had many operations performed against them.

Student activism comes in many guises, but despite the stereotype of the student leafleting for Palestine or Gay Marriage, the reality is that most student activism is centred on issues of education, and has been for most of its history. Perhaps this is not surprising, all students have a pecuniary interest in education and many also have an intellectual interest.

Nonetheless some of the most interesting activist work within the university has concerned itself with what is outside the university. Those who criticise student organisations and activists involving themselves with matters outside educational policy would do well to remember the excellent track record of these campaigns. An office bearer's report from Tony Abbott, back when he was President of the SRC, is particularly instructive here. Abbott criticised various collectives and action groups of the SRC involving themselves in what he claimed were marginal and irrelevant causes like ending Apartheid in South Africa and "other Marxist hobby horses" like "homosexual liberation". Who now would begrudge the assistance the SRC and its activists gave to these causes?

To the extent that there is a common or unifying philosophy behind activism it is one of autonomy, understood as self control. The routine of student activism is almost formulaic. First, management makes some decision which is widely considered odious. Then students respond by resisting the decision itself. There are strategic and ideological differences over how far resistance should go and sometimes these differences cause traumatic splits, or at least recriminations.

As the movement develops the students involved gradually begin to question not the decision itself, but the very fact that no one asked them. They begin to demand a greater say in how the university is run. We can see this pattern playing out at Sydney University; the anti-staff cuts campaign was organised against one particular decision. Now students are calling for a change of Vice-Chancellor and greater representation on Senate, among other demands.

Which methods of disobedience are acceptable and prudent are subject to continuous debate and reassessment. Should we obey the law when we protest? On the one hand, by staying "above board" protest might draw in more participants. On the other, purely

symbolic action, with no disruption of the administration of the university can be, and often is, ignored. It is not uncommon for movements to split, between those who support disruptive "direct action" and those who prefer the sternly-worded letter and the stage-managed rally.

Activism doesn't merely come from poor conditions or shoddy treatment, it comes from a combination of expectations and a world which does not match them. The greater the mismatch the



“.....
 Activism doesn't merely come from poor conditions or shoddy treatment, it comes from a combination of expectations and a world which does not match them...
 ”

greater the response. The most common way a mismatch is created is when standards drop suddenly. Students who had expected to live their lives peacefully were shocked to discover they might be drafted to go to Vietnam. From London to Quebec to Chile, the most common reason for activism is education fees. Perhaps this should hardly be surprising. As theorists as diverse as Marx and Alinsky have pointed out, while activism may be seen as noble, and perhaps it is, nothing motivates it quite like a personal stake.

But why is student activism hitting off everywhere right now? To understand this we have to understand the relation between self-interest and the user-pays model of education. Neoliberalism, or the view that market structures are fundamentally efficient and good, and should be introduced as widely as possible, has been biting the university since its formulation. In the aftermath of the global financial crisis it is fair to say that it has taken on a special bite.

Naomi Klein talks of the "Shock Doctrine"; the idea that unpopular measures of privatisation, austerity and corporate subsidies are best forced through during a real or perceived crisis.

The two faces of the coin are increases in the price and decreases in the quality of education. In most of the world the struggle of student activists has been centred around fees. However, reductions in quality do come a close second.

The whole of the public sector around the world is tending towards a corporatisation of decision making structures and, in the wave of austerity

post GFC, an enormous number of universities across the world put the squeeze on, using an assortment of real and fabricated crises. Now the campus is out of control once more.

Student activism's tie to external conditions perhaps explains the stereotype of the university student as useless. The idea of the impotent student group, railing against the whole world and trying to convince themselves desperately that they are relevant is well ingrained in our culture.

In Paris 1968, students led a revolution which very nearly toppled the De Gaulle government and implemented socialism in France. Events like this, the Berkley Free Speech movement and the student protests of the sixties against the Vietnam War, hover like a ghost over the student radical. The university may be a spark, but without a powder keg, the ability of a student front to change things, however large and passionate, is sorely limited. The student movement needs broader movements to interact with; institutions like radical churches, militant unions and community associations. In the absence of these things it becomes a slightly grandiose flame, moving this way and that, searching for tinder.

Yet for all these limitations student activism has, and continues to, change the world. To leave the role of neutral explicator, it is important to get involved and make change. Like a frog on a slow boil we've lost sight of how much our education has been losing over time. We've been increasingly isolated from control of our student experience by ever creeping bureaucracies; both university administration and sometimes the very student bureaucracies that claim to represent us. But, as is so often the case, the only thing which has made us impotent is our belief that we are impotent. Go along to a meeting, or perhaps set one up yourself. If nothing else, you'll learn a hell of a lot about how the world works that you could never get from a classroom.

Tim Scriven is on Twitter: @Tim_Scriven



POP CULTURE

The buzz about Banks

Matt Clarke is ready to dance when the vamp up

Azealia Banks has what every young artist dreams of: buzz. Late last year, the 20 year old rapper released her debut single '212,' which rocket-launched the Harlem singer from total unknown, to industry up and comer. Although her debut album isn't expected out until September, she's already managed to top NME's 2011 'Cool List' and ended up third in the BBC's 'Sound of 2012,' one spot ahead of dubstep king, Skrillex.

Since her ascendancy, critics have been quick to draw comparisons between Banks and other female rappers, which in current terms, means Nicki Minaj. The connection is there, and at times Banks definitely seems to channel Minaj's patented rap-shout vocals. Yet she also harks back to some of the early female rappers of the past decade, women like Missy Elliot who not only produced infectious hip hop hooks, but could spit a rhyme better than any male artist in the industry. '212' is a great example of her style. The song went huge here in Australia after it was featured as the soundtrack to this year's Splendour promo video, but it just as likely would have erupted on its own. It's an incredibly gutsy track that mixes million mile an hour rap with a thumping electro beat courtesy of Lazy Jay. The song is absolutely filthy (no seriously, it's disgusting.) But the smut-factor isn't even what makes the track interesting. It's the way Banks works her way around a single rhyme, skipping in and out of the beat, delivering each line with an unmistakable badass NYC attitude. Even more impressive is that she does it

in pigtails and a Mickey Mouse jumper. The exciting thing however is that Banks isn't committed to one sound. Where '212' is an unashamed club track, her most recent release, 'Jumanji,' opens with the flourishing of a harp, leading into a gritty rap recorded over a background of calypso drums. In other words, the girl's not afraid to mix things up.

She's no lightweight in the vocals department either. As a teenager Banks attended the famous LaGuardia High School of Performing Arts (or, 'the Fame school') which consistently churns out a crazy list of high profile alumni along the lines of Kelis, Al Pacino and, coincidentally, Nicki Minaj. One of her early releases, a stripped-back cover of Interpol's 'Slow Hands' gives her a chance to show off what are some impressive vocal chops, reminiscent of an early Lauryn Hill or Mary J Blige.

Most recently Banks has received attention for her various beefs with the rest of the hip hop world. The list of people she's directly or indirectly offended includes T.I, Lil' Kim and Aus's own Iggy Azalea. This seems to be a rookie move for someone who should really be courting her industry elders if she wants to get ahead. But Banks couldn't seem to care less. She's out for herself and as far as she's concerned, the rest of the industry can either get in line or fall behind. Whether this is a good move remains to be seen, but one thing is for sure – either way, Banks probably doesn't give a damn.



"I'm the new shit, boo, young Rapunzel"

VIVID SYDNEY



Sydney Gets Vivid

Drew Rooke went to the opening of Sydney's most colourful fortnight

Sydney may look a little interesting at night for the next two weeks, as Vivid Festival switches on its lights for another year.

The city is transformed each night into a cartoon world where spectacular light installations are projected onto famous buildings and landmarks and light sculptures decorate the Harbour foreshore.

Multi-award winning German design collective, URBANSCREEN, has used light projection and motion graphics to create their sophisticated and beautiful work which is projected onto the Sydney Opera House. But the real visual standout can be found at Customs House.

The heritage building at Circular Quay is the canvas for the animated and extremely colourful work 'City Life' created by Australian light projection company, The Electric Canvas – a miniature three-dimensional city is literally created in front of you.

Yet, this festival is not just about

wonderful light projections, with some very notable musicians also playing as part of Vivid.

The opening night saw the Ceremonial Orchestra play alongside Florence and the Machine for an intimate and engaging performance, and this Saturday, the Opera House's concert hall will be taken over by world renowned electronic music producer, Amon Tobin, and his spectacular audio-visual show, ISAM.

Last year, *the Guardian* newspaper ranked the festival in the top ten global ideas festivals, and this year, Vivid is even more impressive. This festival really is putting Sydney on the global stage as a leader in creativity.

Get down to Vivid Festival before it closes on the 11th June. Simply take a stroll around the harbour, attend one of the many creative ideas sessions or dance away at the Future Classic Party this Friday or at Goodgod Dancetaria on Saturday.

Photos from Drew Rooke.

More can be found on his Flickr.

VIVID continues until Monday June 11



REVIEWS: FILM

Dark Shadows

The kooks are out to play again, writes **Virat Nehru**

Tim Burton is an acquired taste. He doesn't play by conventions, but his vision has an absurd lucidity that one cannot help but marvel at. Burton's vision resembles discordant notes that have been set free in the universe; sometimes one of these notes strike a chord and it creates harmony, sometimes it's just an incoherent mess. That's always the risk with Burton.

Dark Shadows marks the eighth collaboration between Johnny Depp and Burton. They are just made for each other. Burton allows Depp to explore his quirky, oddball characters, from back in days when Depp was considered box office poison.

The film takes its title from a late 1960s soap opera of the same name which has now gathered cult status. Two of the fan boys were of course, Burton and Depp. What comes out is an exceedingly quirky and engrossing rendition for the most part and side effects of a bad acid trip for the minor part. 'Sense' is not a word that exists in Burton's dictionary. He has let the Pandora's Box loose upon the viewer and we have to make 'sense' of it all.

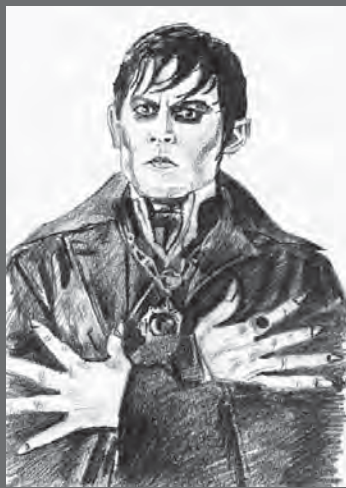
Barnabas Collins (Depp) is the heir apparent of the Collins family, who have come to America to expand their fishing trade in the 1700s. They do so and in the process build a town in their name – 'Collinsport'. Barnabas breaks the heart of a servant girl Angelique (Eva Green) who turns out to be a witch and kills his parents, his true love Josette (Bella Heathcote) and turns him into a vampire, locking him up in a coffin so he can suffer for eternity. Two hundred years later, in 1972, Barnabas returns to find his town and his family name in

ruins. The family that remains consists of a rebellious teenage daughter, a ... boy, a governess who see ghosts and a doctor with a whacky orange wig. Plus, Angelique is still around, now having taken over the fishing business. Time for Barnabas to set things right.

Depp gives a stellar performance as a gentlemanly, yet bloodthirsty vampire. He may be playing an oddball character again but he does it so well, so why complain? Matching him step by step is Eva Green, the menacingly possessive witch. Michelle Pfeiffer gives a restrained performance as the female matriarch.

The film is genuinely funny with doses of camp and dark humour mixed with bleakness. It's a tragi-comedy to a large extent. The trailers make it seem like a "man out of time" film but it's hardly that. It has a savagely dark undertone throughout. Visually aesthetic and anarchically Burtonesque, Dark Shadows is Burton's return to form, despite its flaws.

See it for a distinctively quirky feel and a reminder of Burton/Depp's initial collaborations.



MUSIC NEWS

Let the record play

The phonograph never died, writes **Avani Dias**

I own a record player, I own records and I am not an eighty-year-old with grandchildren. As Dennis Duffy once said in an episode of 30 Rock, "technology is cyclical" and with vinyl sales around the world at their highest in 20 years, he has never been more correct. One would assume that the present day quintessential vinyl enthusiast would be a Kevin-Spacey-in-American-Beauty-esque man holding onto the fading memories of his teenage days: coming home with a brand new record under his arm, placing the needle on the groove and lighting up a joint to sink into the delightful rhythm of his youth. Despite these assumptions, records now cater to an audience far beyond your everyday, mid-life crisis man. Our generation has jumped on the vinyl-wagon so fast that the majority of artists putting out music these days do so either as a digital release or on vinyl. But the success of the LP comes at the expense of its technological cousin, CDs, which are effectively becoming redundant. This all applies to the Sydney music scene more than ever with a recently formed independent record label, The Finer Things, that relies on the premise of putting out as much of their artists' music on vinyl as possible.

Four of the guys within the project met at their part time call centre jobs and along with some hefty credit card bills, this is their primary source of funding. They thank their bosses for "indirectly funding more than 50% of Sydney's independent music industry" - a figure that is actually very close to the truth. The label can pride itself on a brilliant bill, ranging from acts with an abundance of local airplay such as Guerre, Rainbow Chan and Nakagin, to up and coming artists such as Vacation or True North who just released his digital EP over the weekend. The label relies on an artisan approach which is transferred from a cottage industry concept – as one of the label founders, Akil Ahamat, describes it, "a traditional form of making things before mass production, where everything is created by particular people in a small community".

The reason that people enjoy buying records is the physical appeal – you hold a brand new record and have that validation and impermeable proof that you love said band. Putting the needle on a fresh record is a very pleasant feeling. So is watching the uneven, spiral troughs scratch the indicator allowing you to marvelously observe and experience the music you are listening to.

The motives for the vinyl comeback are endless, but there are many that simply see it as yet another medium where hipster douches can bask in their pretentious glory. I mean, those exasperating Bondi Hipsters even made a video about it. One could also argue that there is a contradiction at hand when so-called "independent" artists are signed to a "record label" simply because they release vinyl. But for The Finer Things, there is, as another founding member Timothy Neumann puts it, no "exclusivity clause". It's not an album deal, there is no signing of a piece of paper and it's not an industry push to make people famous. Instead, the artists use the label to put out an original physical release – which is an inaugural event for most of those on the bill. For Sydney siders Guerre, True North and Nakagin, it's about the organic process of record making and contributing to a local music scene that is so wonderfully expanding.

The digital world of music is an anarchically snowballing out of control, offering more and more to its listeners. In fact, the amount of artists we now have access to is basically overwhelming but vinyl allows us to slow down the tempo of the technological world. We can really appreciate the music we love, instead of just expanding our iTunes library at 400 clicks per minute. Although this project is still in its early days, seeing it slowly blossom has reinvigorated my excitement in the Sydney music scene. As they themselves artfully describe it, The Finer Things in life include good food, good wine, nice cheese, hand crafted leather goods and now, thanks to this label, the Artisans of Electronic Music.

FASHISM

An Ode to Millinery

Lucy Bradshaw is all for headwear

So, I went to a wedding the other day, and decided to wear a fascinator. I'm not sure what it was – excessive procrastination on the Kate Middleton fashion blog *What Kate Wore*, desire to outdo the mother of the bride – but the millinery bug bit me hard, and so there I was, with a wad of straw and feathers on the side of my head, feeling rather adult and tasteful. And throughout the hymns and endless waving of the incense-ball, I scanned the few scalp-clothed dames in the congregation and fond myself wondering: what happened to headgear?

Over the past few years we have witnessed the resurgence of a select few styles, which trended briefly in the celebsphere before landing dully on the shelves of Sportsgirl. In her style-setting heyday Sienna Miller successfully revived the trilby, which appeared on the heads of people we don't talk about any more such as Pete Doherty and Agness Deyn

but now seems rather humdrum and c. 2008, much like following Kevin Rudd on Twitter and watching *Masterchef*.

The fedora made a similar reappearance on the tail of *Mad Men*, despite Britney's pained attempt to master it. More recently we have seen wide-brimmed sun hats, their floppy felt winter siblings, and for a brief moment of High Street enthusiasm for all things faux-vintage, the turban. But while some of these styles may work if you're lissome, bohemian, and Kiera Knightley, I can't help but feel that we need more diversity in our headwear.

Ever since Kate Middleton started swanning about the Commonwealth in a never-ending display of bespoke hatinators, chapeaux and cocktail hats, I've secretly found them rather fabulous. I'm skeptical of her coat dresses and nude stockings, but her hats seem so fresh

– not just an afterthought to a racing outfit or posh country wedding, but a focal point of myriad, everyday outfits. Just look at that subtle yet striking red maple-leaf fascinator, or the brown felt pillbox-esque number she sported on St Patrick's Day.

Of course, we're not usually meeting foreign dignitaries or christening a boat, but why let that get in the way? I'm told Yoko Ono often wears a fascinator out on the town; Isabella Blow wore them everywhere. And while we may not have the thousands of pounds that poor Princess Beatrice's craftsman Philip Treacy commands, I see no reason why a trip to Spotlight for a sinamay base, assorted frippery, and a glue gun wouldn't do just as well.

But why stop there? In this age of constant recycling, let's revive Sherlock's deerstalker, the tam o'shanter, the mod

little pillbox. I myself am quite partial to the ushanka come winter, and just recently sported a (makeshift and wonky) fez. If they go out of style, don't worry; you can always have a Mad Hatter's Tea Party and all will be well.



Bringing back the fascinator

USU Elections Infographic

476

Total number of respondents over the two weeks of campaigning for the statsoc survey
35% of respondents were in first year and 23% were from third year, of which top 3 total respondents were from:

268 208

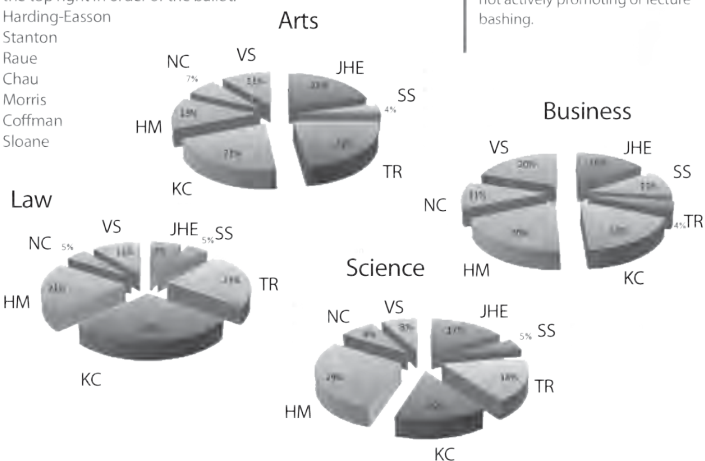
208 Arts & Social Sciences

138 Science

58 Law

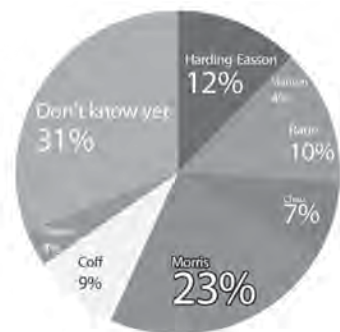
How students from different faculties are voting

Candidates are listed clockwise from the top right in order of the ballot: Harding-Easson, Stanton, Raue, Chau, Morris, Coffman, Sloane.

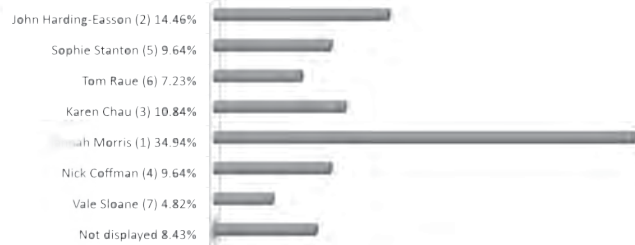


First Preferences

How non-campaigners think they will vote so far
'Non-campaigners' are students not actively promoting or lecture bashing.



Campaigns with the most exposure as a percentage

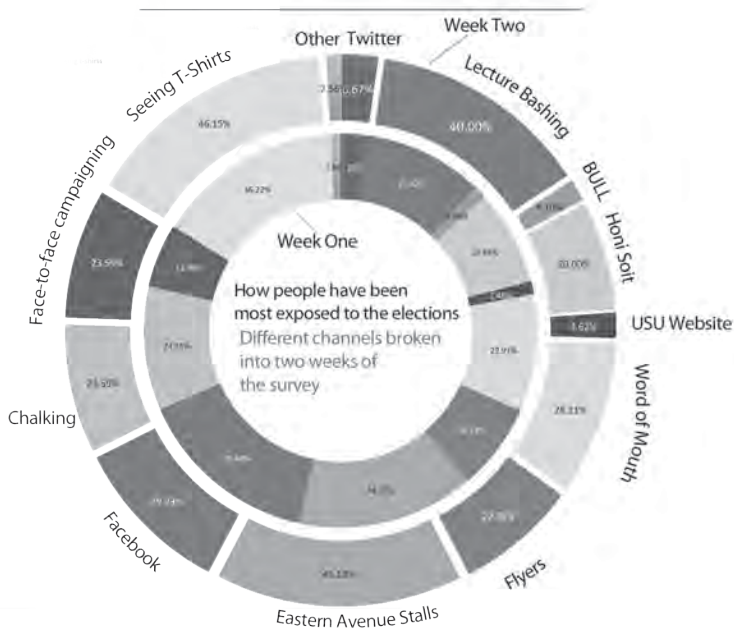
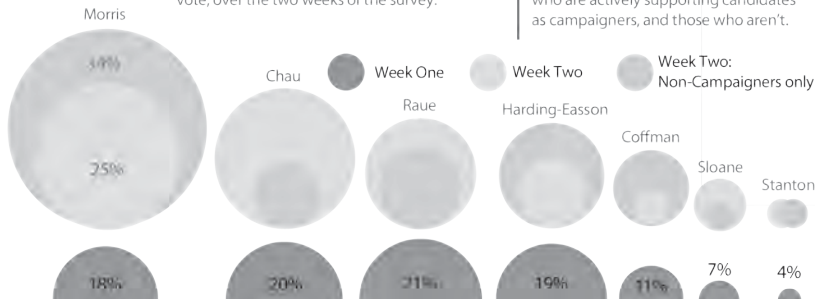


The campaigns the respondents have been most exposed to. These figures excludes respondents who answered as campaigners.

Week One and Two Candidate results

The appeal of each candidate as a first-preference vote, over the two weeks of the survey.

The week two results are split into those who are actively supporting candidates as campaigners, and those who aren't.



DEVELOPER INTERVIEW

MateWire

Honi Soit's James Alexander spoke with developer Marius Kramier about his recent app launch and being an international student developer in Sydney



While many students may think about leaving Australia to start their businesses, Marius Kramier's trajectory was different. He moved to Sydney from Germany to create his first startup, MateWire, after studying an entrepreneurship course and Business at the University of Sydney. MateWire is a new app that shows you all the cool activities and events happening around you; Mr Kramier plans to dominate the Android market and help students, especially international students, find activities that interest them.

HOW DID YOU COME UP WITH THE IDEA OF MATEWIRE?

When I came to Australia from Germany one and a half years ago, I was entirely clueless about startups. Being new in Sydney at the time, I always wanted to go surfing, but didn't know anybody to go with and I thought there must be a better way to find new mates who want to do the same thing.

My own problem basically planted the seed that became Matewire.

HOW DID YOU END UP IN SYDNEY, AND DID YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT STARTING YOUR OWN COMPANY?

I've lived in Germany for 23 years, but the longer I lived there, the more I was drawn to distant places. So, I left family and friends behind to go to the other side of the world and I totally went for it. I didn't know anything about startups one and a half years ago, but I think it was always inside of me, because I always wanted to optimise things and create value.

Accidentally, I studied Business & IT (at Sydney University) and I couldn't be more thankful that I studied it. I think it is the course that gives you the possibilities to have the biggest impact in this world, because (today) with a good idea you can change the world by simply spending two months creating a website or an app.

WHAT HAS THE REACTION BEEN OF YOUR FRIENDS IN GERMANY?

Back in Germany, I had four friends that I hung out with all the time and over last year, they all followed my down under. Two of them came here for a month and on their way back home, they had the idea for their app, Stocard, which now has over 150,000 downloads in Germany.

I almost founded MateWire with a another friend a few months ago, when

he was here over last summer to write his Masters thesis, but he decided to become CTO for a business analytics startup for which they have received over half a million of funding! So it's probably true when they say, that you are 'the average' of the five people you hang out with most. We always stay in touch and exchange ideas and help each other out. It is very interesting to exchange cross-country startup experiences and I learn a lot through it.

HOW DID YOU LEARN ABOUT THE SYDNEY STARTUP SCENE?

Everything started when I enrolled in Matt Barrie's Technology Entrepreneurship-class at Sydney University. Through the course, I became more and more involved in the Sydney startup community and I realised that with my programming skills and the strong support from the community, I could actually build the idea as an app myself. There was not one particular experience I think. Simply being surrounded by insane people who think they can change the world is just the best thing that could happen to me. This is especially awesome, because some of them actually change it.

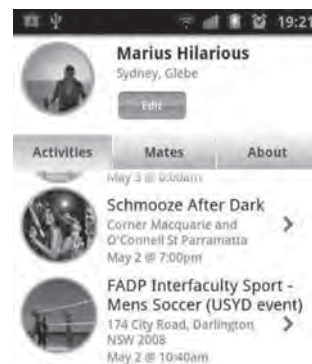
BEST ACHIEVEMENT SO FAR?

Two of us banged out two apps within six weeks, where many startups with millions of dollars of funding need half a year and more to bring their second platform out. But the greatest thing is when we hear the success stories of the

people actually meeting other people in the real world through our app.

We quickly sparked interest in university students with their Android app and then we went ahead and released the iPhone version. The response to our app was overwhelming, because young adults especially love the idea of finding people when they spontaneously feel like doing something cool in their area.

ADVICE TO ANY HONI READERS THINKING OF STARTING THEIR OWN COMPANY?



Just get started. Going to Silicon Beach (Startup Meetup) is the best start. I did the same nine months ago and everything started from there. Also there is a lot happening at the unis themselves, entrepreneurial societies and so on.

Scan the QR Code to find out more





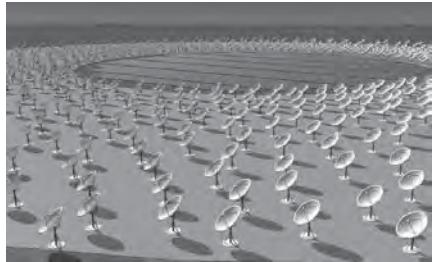
SCIENCE

News in Brief

Felicity Nelson has a look at the major happenings in science the world over

SKA comes to Australia

The decision to locate the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) in both South Africa and Australia was announced in Amsterdam last week after a vote by the eight nations involved. Three thousand individual telescopes, costing a total of US\$1.9 billion, will be dotted around remote regions.



SKA will be used by scientists to investigate astronomical phenomena that cannot be seen through optical telescopes and to discover more about the beginning of the universe.

World's tiniest artificial heart

In Italy a baby boy's life was saved through the implantation of the world's smallest artificial heart weighing just eleven grams. The titanium heart pump was in place for just under two weeks while the patient, suffering from heart muscle disease, waited for a transplant.

Ease up on the snacks

Trials on mice at the Salk Institute in California have found that eating at the correct times is more important than eating healthily. One set of mice were fed a high-fat diet but only fed every eight hours, another was fed the same number of calories but ate whenever they wanted. Two control groups were fed a healthy diet; one group ate at their leisure and the other ate at specific meal times. The study found that mice that eat constantly put on more weight, have

higher blood sugar levels and sustain liver damage, whereas mice that eat at regular eight-hour intervals show none of these symptoms even when on a high fat diet. Human testing is under-way to see if this is a universal trend.

How to stop asteroids with pebble-sized missiles

According to Dr Massimiliano Vasile at the University of Strathclyde in the U.K an asteroid bound for Earth could be hit off course by a 500 kilogram flotilla of postage-stamp sized spacecraft carried in a single rocket. These robotic pebbles would not be heavy enough to break up a 250 metre wide asteroid into dangerous and unpredictable pieces. They would just sort of nudge it a couple of thousand kilometres to the left, ensuring it missed Earth.

FREAKS OF NATURE

Pangolins



Sorcha McGee sniffs out a small but mischievous mammal

The Pangolin looks like a larger, walking version of the acorns you used to throw at your brother at the bus stop because he kept calling you pork-chop. They have an itty-bitsy head, a very large tail and scales that make them look not unlike a reptile. They are, however, mammals. Badass mammals.

Their scales are made of keratin, the same protein that makes our nails. When they're threatened they roll up into a protective ball. If the cutting action of their armoured plated scales isn't enough to convince other animals that they are messing with the wrong mother f*ckers, however, they have another defence. Chemical warfare if you will. Scent glands near their rear ends emit secretions more foul smelling than Justin Bieber's 'Someday' perfume.



Pangolin tongues extend all the way into their abdominal cavity and are coated with a gummy mucus that makes ants and other insects stick. They sleep during the day and swagger around solitarily at night. The James Deans of the animal kingdom.

Pangolins have so much charm, in fact, that they are considered in some parts of the globe to be purveyors of charms and magic. If their scales are mixed with bark from certain trees, they are thought to neutralise witchcraft. If buried near a man's house, a lady with a romantic inclination will gain an intoxicating power over her chosen suitor. Their scales are also burnt to keep wild animals away; Judy Garland could have used them to keep away the lions and tigers and bears. Oh my, that was a terrible reference.

The powers they purportedly possess, along with the fact they are hunted for meat in Africa and considered a delicacy in China, means bad news for these little troopers though. Numbers of pangolins are dwindling dramatically.

In 2010 pangolins made the Zoological Society of London's list of endangered and genetically distinct animals. And that, ladies and gentlemen, genetically di-stinks.



SPORT

Chess and Boxing: A match made in heaven?

Lane Sainty can't box or play chess



Upon hearing the phrase 'chessboxing', a small number of people may be reminded of 'Da Mystery of Chessboxin', a 1992 song by the Wu Tang Clan. A much larger number of people would simply be confused. However, there are a select few who would immediately associate 'chessboxing' with an exciting, fast-moving sport; a dark underworld where brain meets brawn and worlds collide— or kind of, anyway.

Chessboxing is exactly what it sounds like: a hybrid sport that combines chess and boxing in a bizarre battle of not just physical strength, but also strength of mind. Games consist of six rounds of chess and five rounds of boxing, held alternately until a winner is declared. It can be won either in the ring or on the chessboard (which, confusingly, is also in the ring).

The rules state that contestants must not only be decent boxers, but also at least Class A chess players. This level is well below chess masters like Garry Kasparov or Bobby Fischer, but much higher than the average amateur, requiring extensive training to achieve.

Like a lot of things, chessboxing is big in Europe. It has gained a cult following from avid fans of boxing and chess alike. However, for those

who aren't fans of either sport, the novelty can wear off quickly, with the violence of boxing and tedium of chess becoming all too apparent.

Whether you're a believer or not, there's no doubt that those behind the chessboxing movement are committed to their cause. For instance, the FAQ section of the *World Chess Boxing Organisation* website claims that women find chessboxing 'sexy'.

This is as inexplicable as it is inaccurate, considering that most women don't 'find' chessboxing at all, due to its obscure nature. However, when considering the nerdy status of chess in the sporting world, coupled with the low profile of chessboxing thus far, it seems rebranding this wacky sport as 'sexy' may indeed be the best way forward.

Nadal's French fortress

Virat Nehru assesses Nadal's chances in this year's French Open



The French Open is just around the corner (starting May 27) and as always, the question is not whether or not Rafael Nadal will win at Roland Garros, but rather, can he bring himself to lose it? In his entire career, Nadal has only lost 18 matches on clay.

As Nadal bids for an unprecedented seventh French Open title this year, the floodgates will once again open with debate regarding the greatest clay court player of all time. Nadal and Borg

are currently tied at six French Opens apiece. If Nadal wins his seventh, he will take his grand slam tally to 11, the same as Borg. Their styles are similar as well – Borg was the first amongst his contemporaries to use heavy topspin in all his ground strokes rather than as a variation. Nadal, as we know, generates the most topspin compared to others on the tour as well. Right down to the long, flowing locks and the matching bandana, a lot of comparisons can be drawn between Borg and Nadal. But does Nadal really need a seventh FO title to make his claim as the greatest clay courter of all time?

Perhaps not for the record books, but this title is more important for Nadal's confidence. After losing seven finals to Novak Djokovic, this French Open is Nadal's chance to regain it. He has already made an ominous start by beating Djokovic in Monte Carlo and Rome in straight sets. Djokovic, who seems

most comfortable handling Nadal's high topspin balls on the backhand wing, found it difficult to time his backhand down the line that allows him to open up the court. His inside-out forehand deep into Nadal's forehand wing that typically draws short returns also appears off colour. Of course, this might be due to the clay court, where Nadal's shots bounce higher and with more topspin, making returns difficult to control. Nadal has also added some extra weight to the head of his racquet, adding a little more sting to his already punishing ground strokes.

Nadal has only lost once at the French Open - to Robin Soderling in the fourth round in 2009. Soderling, however, isn't participating this year. However, Nadal might find his Ilie Nastase in the form of Djokovic. As far as the "greatest ever" debate goes, too much has been made of tennis players being the greatest thing since sliced bread. Just enjoy the tennis.



President's Report

president@src.usyd.edu.au

Phoebe Drake will make a great study-buddy at exam time



What makes a study space?

One does not simply walk into Carslaw, yet, this year, there has been somewhat of a noticeable difference. I ventured into Carslaw once in my first year, on a particularly rainy day to meet a friend and was overwhelmed by what I saw; students, packed in like sardines all furiously tapping away at their computers. The ambience, to say the least, was underwhelming.

That same year the SRC sat in on the E-Learning group, which it continues to do now, and the then President contributed much to the idea of what a study space could actually achieve.

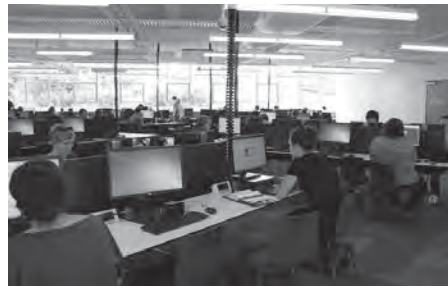
These days, the discussions at my E-Learning meetings, consist of ideas around apps, lecture theatres and recreating study spaces like Carslaw around the University.

Moreover, these days, the Carslaw study spaces are remarkably different. With powerpoints now everywhere, the need to compete for laptop battery is lessened, a view of Victoria Park opens the room up and specific spaces for group work mean that, no matter the assignment, Carslaw is a pretty good place to get it done.

But what precisely is it that makes for a good learning or study space? Over the next month, the SRC will be writing a submission to the University on this very issue as part of the University's bid to include student and faculty ideas. This is part of a broader project within the University to clarify standards for our tutorials, lectures and study spaces.

If you get excited about lecture theatres this means you probably have thought about how technology should work, and their size and shape and seating capacity. You see, the real debate that emerges here, however, is as to whether a larger lecture theatre (say one that seats 1000 people) is useful in teaching students. While to an extent, it is preferable to relaying a lecture via video screen (see PSYCH1001 for an example of how this doesn't work), the question remains as to whether it promotes an effective learning experience. I'm sceptical.

I am of the slightly old fashioned belief that instead of simply building larger lecture theatres the University should look to run more lectures, more frequently so students can engage with their course material. Yet we all know that in the current climate of budget cuts within the University and chronic underfunding of higher education at a



Carslaw: before and after

federal level, this is but a dream.

Consequently it seems we are in a situation where we must discuss the next best practice for education and this is far harder to solve. Should we have larger classes with more group work? Employers are crying out for graduates who can work as part of a team, yet many students despise group work for a number of legitimate reasons. Should we simply have seminars? Or will the large tutorial, large lecture theatre combination work?

To an extent, this differs between faculties and this must be acknowledged and will, presumably, be reflected in the faculty submissions.

In an age of improving technologies, innovative ways of teaching and yet, somehow, a poorly funded sector, these are the conversations that universities around Australia are having. To be cost effective, yet to somehow, provide a worthwhile learning experience for students who pay extraordinary tuition fees. As our HECS is hiked, it seems so too are our class sizes. And while I am all for expanding participation at university, an increase in support services and staff, must also occur for all students to receive a high-quality education.



The solution will remain to be seen, and it is important that the student body is represented in these discussions.

Other areas of the submission will include tutorial rooms and learning hubs (to name a few). This obviously includes, size, shape, furniture etc. So if there is something you particularly like/dislike, send me an email and let me know!

More broadly, if you have ideas/thoughts/opinions that you would like to see included in our submission, please email them to president@src.usyd.edu.au

NUS Quality Survey

And if you haven't already filled in the NUS Quality Survey, please do so! It is the only student run quality survey in Australia. Gauging your thoughts on your education, NUS will be able to determine both campus specific and general issues impacting students at university. The closing date is 30th May

You can head online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NUSQualitySurvey> to have your say!

Phoebe Drake is the SRC President
Twitter: @srcpresident

General Secretary's Report

general.secretary@src.usyd.edu.au

Tim Matthews needs a dollar



This is going to be a report about the SRC's budget. No bells and whistles and easy on the humour. However, it is a small group of people who are privy to the budgetary process – and in the interest of transparency I wanted to use this report to crack out the Excel spreadsheet and my thick-rimmed glasses and give you an overview.

Income

The size of the SRC's budget for this year is \$1,737,094. 85% of the SRC's budget comes from a funding agreement signed with the University. Other sources of income include sales from its secondhand book store and advertising from *Honi Soit*.

Following the introduction of the Student Services and Amenities Fee, and the ongoing negotiations that I have written about previously, the SRC's 2012 budget has been increased by around \$280,000. For 2012, the University will contribute \$1,493,094 to the SRC's budget. Much of this money has been allocated to expanding existing services (primarily casework and legal services) and introducing new projects like our forthcoming Breakfast Bar.

Expenditure

The largest portion of the SRC's budget is spent on Welfare Services (last year, \$395,978) – casework and research staff. These services benefit well over one thousand students each year with University issues, Centrelink,

tenancy services among others. The newest addition to these services, the Legal Service, receives a flat allocation of \$100,000 each year.

Other parts of the SRC's core business receive comparable allocations. For instance, the SRC spent \$285,757 on 'Representation,' including campaigns on campus and affiliations to the National Union of Students.

To assuage a common fear about the SRC's budget: last year, the SRC paid \$52,225 in stipends to student office bearers, less than 5% of its total University allocation. The President, equivalent of a full time position, earns an average of \$26 per hour.

Two weeks ago, the SRC Council approved its 2012 budget. This budget is significant for a number of reasons. For instance, it is one of the first budgets since severe budget cuts in 2009 to budget for a modest surplus (\$1,728). This is beneficial because for the last couple of years the SRC has relied on its financial reserves to avoid contracting core services due to budgetary pressures. This budget allows the organisation to remain secure in providing services to students into the future.

If CPI calculations, the '=SUM' function and audited accounts are your thing, shoot me an email and I would be more than happy to provide you with a copy. Or come along to the SRC's meeting next Wednesday, 6th June at 6pm in New Law School SR 030!



A LOOK at the BUDGET

Tim Matthews is the SRC General Secretary
Twitter: @Tim_Matthews

For more information about the SRC, visit: www.src.usyd.edu.au

Welfare Officers' Report

welfare.officers@src.usyd.edu.au

Somebody ring the alarm, writes **Rafi Alam** and he's throwin' elbows

Unpaid internships: or, 'glorified slavery'

Certain areas of study (read: Government, Media & Communications, other Arts subjects) require you to undertake an internship if you want to get a decent job after you graduate. Some degrees even have internships as a part of the study. The worst part? Most of these will be unpaid.



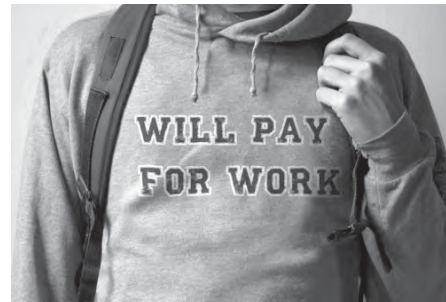
People often conflate volunteer work with internships, and so it 'makes sense' they'll be unpaid. This is usually because a lot of these unpaid internships are done at NGOs who otherwise do good work. The difference is of course that volunteer work is usually more flexible and actually involves doing things you may enjoy or find fulfilling, like gardening, helping out with disadvantaged people, or whatever; internships on the other hand usually get you to do menial tasks like getting coffee! or filling out paperwork! or stapling shit.

Every once in a while you may get to do something actually related to your area of interest, but usually because it's

better to have functioning exploited unpaid workers than ones that have total breakdowns.

The Fair Work Ombudsman has recently started an investigation into whether or not unpaid internships are legal. While they've been pretty lax with the issue in the past, unpaid internships are becoming more common and far more distressing. Some people have been in unpaid positions for years. This is unacceptable.

This endeavour by government agencies (and the media!) to investigate the legality and effects of unpaid internships is a positive step, and was obviously done to preempt this report. My idea for a campaign on unpaid internships began while I was in England. Now NUS is pretty dodgy in the UK, but nowhere near as bad as the ridiculous mess we have here in Australia. For one, their Welfare Department (at least, their equivalent to it) actually does some things sometimes.



This includes a (admittedly aesthetically poor) campaign on unpaid internships, calling it out on its illegality.

While this is a national issue, I want to start something here. I'm going to soon get a survey and potentially a website going to kick off a campaign against unpaid internships. This issue affects students here: it's not easy to compete with people who have interning experience, especially when you can't afford to do unpaid internships because you're supporting yourself.

Obviously it wouldn't be fair for certain companies to be blacklisted for having unpaid internships: it's an endemic problem, that is seen by many students as a necessary step up for experience. The government needs to do something about this.

This is practically avoiding minimum wage and other workplace laws by not paying them at all.

Why should you have to work for free? Why should anyone have to work for free? That'd be like me not getting paid to write these reports! Wait.

SUSF: Get fit, get poor

What the fuck, SUSF? Almost a third of our money is going to SUSF, or Sydney University Sports & Fitness. This money is assumedly going to fund elite athletes in their endeavours. Good luck with that, but I'm not paying a bunch of money just for someone else's benefit. At least offer students free basic membership at the gym so we can get fit (I know I sure as hell need to).

If the university is willing to build a \$385 million Centre for Obesity and Diabetes, they should at least provide free gym-ing to students.

What do you think? Any companies particularly bad with internships? SUSF not all its cracked up to be? Want to help out with a campaign? Send us an email at welfare.officers@src.usyd.edu.au and let us know.

Don't forget: FREE BREAKFAST WEDNESDAY 8.30AM-10AM GADIGAL LAWNS (other side of Wentworth on Darlington Campus)



Environmental Officers' Report

It's actually really easy being green, writes **Steph Clark**

Heya Sydney Uni! We have been super busy at Student Enviro Action Collective (SEAC) organising heck loads of exciting things!

We are halfway through our discussion series for the semester. We have had two super great discussions so far this semester. The first was on market mechanisms and whether they are effective in helping beat Climate Change. The second was on the importance of Biodiversity and discussing environmental philosophy. Finally, on the 3rd of July we are holding a discussion on Indigenous solidarity in New Law Rm 440 which should hopefully be very informative.

We are currently workshoping ideas to start up a community garden on campus. We are open to ideas and helping hands. We plan for it to be our big project for next semester. If you are keen to help you can find us at 'USYD Community/Guerrilla Garden' on facebook. There may even be some group outings to local Community Gardens to get inspiration!

We are also currently organising for the Students of Sustainability Conference over the Mid-Semester break which will be amazing!

Have you ever wanted to camp on a uni oval for five days with 400 of your fellow environmentally-community-social justicey -creatively-engaged students and community members, eating communally, being educated and skilled through the day in everything from climate science to dumpster diving, and hanging out all night listening to bands, watching movies and sharing yarns by a fire? If you answered yes, then SoS is the place you need to be this July break! (And if you answered no, well, your loss really!)

SoS is Students of Sustainability, an annual five day conference that brings together a diverse group of students, and a cross-section of the community working on different aspects of sustainability, to discuss, learn, activate, network, chill out, get energised and ultimately encourage all involved to create a more ecologically and socially sustainable world. This year will be the 21st year that SoS has run. It rotates through the states and the universities each year. This year Victoria has the privilege to host it and it's being held on Dja Dja Wurrung Country, in Bendigo, at La Trobe University. Running from Wednesday 4 to Sunday 8 July, the days will be full of workshops,

discussions and forums on a range of topics that demonstrate how theory and practice can be used to make positive social and environmental change. The nights will have films, bands, chai, fire and plenty of space to make friends, explore the town or engage in some bike polo. Your choice of course.

Now this may be an invite, but you don't need one. The best thing that you can do is gather some crew, register/seek some sponsorship to cover rego cost if you need it, then plan your training, flying or hitching adventure that will bring you to Central Victoria and the voyage of discovery that awaits. It's totally run by volunteers (fellow students punching through the last gasps of semester 1 none the less!), and this year we've managed to keep the cost down for early-bird registration (pre-June 1) to only \$130! Now that's all ya food plus the conference as well. Pretty bloody cheap! If that's a struggle, there's many ways of lowering that cost, especially through a bit of fundraising, or asking the right people in the USyd SRC.

For more info check out this handy link: <http://studentsofsustainability.org/> or facebook Students of Sustainability

Hope to see you at collective meetings 12pm Manning Sunken Lawns, at our discussion group New Law Rm 440 3rd of July, at SOS over the winter break and on the interwebz getting your green thumb ready!

Much love from the Student Enviro Action Collective!

Steph Clark
stephdebclark@hotmail.com



PLAGIARISM: How to avoid it and what to do if you receive a plagiarism allegation.

You may find that academics in the University get very fierce about plagiarism problems. If the person marking your work finds words from a source that you have not told them about then they will think you are cheating.

The university acknowledges two types of plagiarism.

Negligent plagiarism is not giving correct acknowledgement to copied work, due to accidentally forgetting to follow the correct referencing practices. This can arise from a student's fear of paraphrasing or writing in their own words, and/or ignorance of this policy and procedure.

Dishonest plagiarism means knowingly presenting another person's work as one's own work without acknowledgement of the source. It is also considered plagiarism if you copy a previous assignment of your own. Alleged plagiarism will be deemed to be alleged *dishonest plagiarism* where:

a. Substantial proportions of the work have been copied from the work of another person, in a manner that clearly exceeds the boundaries of legitimate cooperation;

b. The work contains a substantial body of copied material (including from the internet) without acknowledgement of the source, and in a manner that cannot be explained as *negligent plagiarism*;

c. In the case of a student preparing work for assessment, there is evidence that the student engaged another person to produce or conduct research for the work, including for payment or other consideration; or

d. the student has previously received a written warning.

What are the penalties for plagiarism

Penalties for negligent plagiarism range from having to resubmit the piece of work to a fail mark in the assessment for negligent plagiarism. For dishonest plagiarism you may be referred to the registrar for a formal investigation. In extreme or repeat cases this can lead to

suspension from university.

Most faculties will go to the trouble to show you how to reference properly. Even if they do not it is still your responsibility to use the correct practice.

Using the excuse of being rushed, or having too many things to do, or just forgetting because of the way you write your essays are simply not good enough. Make the effort to keep your quotes linked to their sources while you are drafting your essay.

What to do if you receive a plagiarism allegation?

1. Understand why the allegation has been made.
2. Learn from your mistakes. Seek help from someone in the faculty who can help you identify ways your referencing and paraphrasing can improve. You can also talk to the people at the Learning Centre – they even have workshops on this.

(www.usyd.edu.au/lc)

3. Bring an SRC caseworker to your meeting with the faculty. In these meetings it is best to be as honest as you can.

4. Decide if you want to appeal the finding and/or the penalty. You have 15 working days to appeal. Bear in mind that you could end up with a more severe penalty.

5. Come to SRC HELP with a draft appeal letter if you wish to appeal, and we can give you advice.

6. If you have been referred to the registrar for an investigation – either because it was considered so serious or because it was the second time – come to SRC HELP for advice and representation.

help@src.usyd.edu.au
Phone: 9660 5222

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Ask Abe

Q & A with a dog who has all the answers
send your questions to: help@src.usyd.edu.au



Dear Abe,

I am right in the thick of exams and feel completely disorganized. I am physically a mess with books literally strewn across the floor of my bedroom and piles and piles of paper on my desk. My brain is in overdrive and I can't seem to sit still for a moment to be able to even reread my study notes. I am starting to feel sick from a lack of sleep and my inability to eat. Is it too late?

Exam stress

Dear exam stress,

I am so sorry to hear that you are feeling so unwell. I'm not sure exactly what you mean when you ask if it is too late. Overall the answer is probably not. The first thing to do is to go to see a counselor. Ask them for help in techniques to stay calm and to manage your stress levels. You should also talk to the Learning Centre and ask them how to prioritise your time. Next you should talk to an SRC caseworker to see if you should go ahead with the exams you have. You may be able to get Special Consideration and do a supplementary exam for some or all of your subjects instead. Alternatively it may work out better for you to withdraw from these subjects, with penalty, rather than fail them.

Abe

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

? THE QUIZ

1. The Ural mountain range is located in which two countries?
2. What was the inaugural year of Sydney's VIVID festival?
3. After 12 rounds of the 2012 NRL (National Rugby League) season, who is currently placed first on the ladder?
4. 'K' is the official abbreviation for which element?
5. In what year did the Korean War begin?
6. "The knife came down, missing him by inches, and he took off" is the final line from which famous novel?
7. 'Ciccione' is the real name of which female popstar?
8. Hobophobia is the fear of what?
9. What is Japan's second-largest city?
10. 'The Opals' is the nickname for which Australian sporting team?
11. What is the name of the latest Tim Burton film starring Johnny Depp and Helena Bonham Carter?
12. The Holocaust concentration camp Auschwitz was located in what modern day country?
13. Which two boy bands performed in partnership in Sydney over the weekend?
14. Who composed the scores for all six *Star Wars* films?
15. Sunday May 27 commemorated the 20th anniversary of which landmark decision in a High Court case in Australia?
16. Who is the author of the novel *Pickwick Papers*?
17. On what day of the month of March did Brutus and fellow conspirators murder Caesar?
18. Released in July this year, who will play Batman's nemesis 'Bane' in *The Dark Knight Rises*?
19. Which pop star last week cancelled a concert in Jakarta due to 'security reasons' after allegedly receiving terrorist threats?
20. What is the square root of the number 625?

Answers below

SUDOKU

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

1,2,3
Dracula

TEASER

TARGET

E	R	T
S	P	O
E	R	R

Make as many words out of the letters above, always including the letter in the centre.

21 = You might aswell listen to the lecture.

33 = I'm so proud of you.

54 = Adding 's' to a word is fine by me.

KENKEN

2+		6x				10+	18+	
3-		2-					7	
18+	3÷		5		14+		17+	
		17+			3			24x
			19+		160x	1	1-	
3÷	200x					56x		
				168x			7-	8x
5	3-							

- KenKen tips: 1. Numbers can not repeat in any row or column.
2. The puzzle is split into boxes called "cages".
3. In the upper left-hand corner of each cage is a target number and a mathematical sign indicating how the numerals within a particular cage interact to produce the target number.

CROSSWORD

	1	2		3		4		5		6		7		
8														9
10					11									
12							13							
14		15				16				17				
					18									
19										20				
								21						
22				23				24				25		
26										27				
	28													

Paps

ACROSS

1. Distortion of form or fact for artistic purpose (6, 7)
10. Stupid; viscous (5)
11. Vampire (9)
12. Aggressive insect (4,3)
13. Relating to a municipality (7)
14. Sociable (6)
16. Dumb down (8)
19. Meeting place; station between Wynyard and Central (4,4)
20. First name of AMC's Breaking Bad, _____ White (6)
22. Tie the knot again (7)
24. Similar to (5,2)
26. Elastic cord (4,5)
27. Ethnic group of Central Africa (5)
28. A process of problem solving (5,3,5)

DOWN

2. Intoxicating substance derived from the poppy plant (5)
3. Wash one's self (4,1,4)
4. Eleventh century Danish king (6)
5. Inability to sleep (8)
6. Each (5)
7. Mechanical form of transport designed to make ski trips swifter (5,4)
8. One of convention, morality, etc. (8,5)
9. This chap has a lake named after him in Canberra (6, 7)
15. One whose actions make the headlines of press reports (9)
17. Joker (9)
18. Site of slides, swings, etc. (4,4)
21. Ran off and got hitched (6)
23. Dreadlocked, religious smoker of the herb (5)
25. Brief and heated conflict (3-2)

Answers The Quiz: 1. Russia and Kazakhstan 2. 2009 3. Melbourne Storm 4. Potassium 5. 1950 6. *Carb-22* 7. Madonna 8. The fear of bums or beggars 9. Yokohama 10. Australian National

Women's Basketball team 11. *Dark Shadows* 12. Poland 13. Backstreet Boys and New Kids on the Block 14. John Williams 15. The 'Mabo' decision 16. Charles Dickens 17. 14th March 18. Tom Hardy 19. Lady Gaga 20. 25 *Brain Teaser*: Count Dracula

College Cultcha with Damo 'Donger' Thomson



G'Day fuckos! I'm sure by now youse all know that for some bullshit reason ol' Donger here was kicked out of the race for that Union Board thing. Me old man tried to pull some strings with the officials or something but apparently they told him his ranking as a College Old Boy didn't mean much to them. But hey, fuck that. After the dickheads at *Honi Soit* told me the Union isn't made to give the colleges money for piss, I reckoned the whole thing was pretty much a waste of me time, eh!

Anyways, I'm usually too busy cutting piss and being awesome anyway to worry about any of that career shit! Ripper reckons I should've spent more time campaigning and less time being a general legend, but Donger here is pretty opposed to anything that doesn't involve Toohey's, VBs or rumbos, so fuck that! Besides, there was a fucking sick party on over the weekend anyway so Dong-Dong has been pretty busy!

It was one of those things where you had to dress all nice and fancy. We're classy at college, hey! All the ladies were in white dresses and shit and us fellas had to wear our formal dinner gear. Not as comfortable as me footy shorts and thongs but the girls loved it! Ripper smashed half a slab before we went over to the party and then he knocked over a table, all before dinner! He sent a glass of red wine flying and it spilled all over the fResher rep's white dress (good thing it wasn't me, hey!).

She was pretty pissed about that, she had to go and clean herself up. Ripper said it didn't matter, she'd have taken the dress off and ended up wet at the end of the night anyway. Good chat from Ripper! What a top bloke.

You should have seen the decorations and shit! There were British flags and shit everywhere and that song the Brits sing at the Ashes was playing. Someone said it was a 'British Colonialist' theme, whatever the fuck that means. All Donger here knows is that the ladies looked nice, us lads were all handsome fuckers and the waiters were all Indian and dressed in saris or some shit. Pretty sick, hey! A history teacher once told me India was part of the British Empire, so I guess the Indian waiters just wanted to fit in – you know, by dressing up and shit. It was a pretty awesome in any case. I felt like I'd gone back in time!



The good old days. Wassail

Then Dong Dong here got lucky with this chick in the bathrooms while Ripper looked on! What a sick cunt, am I right? All the girls were totally up for it! What a good night.

Cheers cunts!

Thank God It's All Over! I can finally catch up on my readings!



Hello children, it's Tracy here. I suppose by now you've all heard about the election. After all the hard work myself, Q and the Greens on Campus spent 'getting my name out there' the whole thing was declared invalid.

Apparently so many candidates breached the electoral regulations that it was considered inappropriate for any of us to hold positions of power on campus. We're not even allowed to hold positions on Clubs and Societies executives. That means I've had to resign from my position on the Greens on Campus executive. Q is devastated. He says now they have to hold another General Meeting just to fill the position.

While most of the other candidates were disqualified for spending cap breaches, the reason I was kicked out was because my husband, Rodney, showed up on election day (unrequested, I should note) and berated one of the other candidates called Artemis for "intentionally manipulating her/his gender as a means of procuring votes". Q said this constituted "hate-crime" and whilst he was disappointed I was disqualified, said it was a fair ruling. In the place of

the actual candidates, someone called "Let it Joe" was instated as Director (Q says he'll probably be the next Union President), despite the fact he was not actually registered as a candidate. Aside from "Let it Joe", four of the birds that eat rubbish on the law lawns were appointed.

I'm going to be honest though and say that being invalidated has come as something of a relief. The campaign made it intolerably difficult to keep up with my weekly readings and assignments. Obviously I still completed everything, but I don't think I slept for more than an hour a night for the whole two weeks I was campaigning! From what I was told, the work wouldn't stop once I was on Board.

The only upside to being on Board as far as I can tell is that it would have put some space between me and the other Media & Comm. mature-age student, Roger, who has decided (since he saw my name on all the posters around campus) that he is in love with me! I caught him staring at the back of my neck in class last week!



My Rodney has always had very firm views on the role of women.



THE ANTI-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Heresy! Sacrilege! Heterodoxy! This is what I have to say to accusations that I breached the Union Board election spending cap (approx. five times over - *Eds.*). Anything you might have read in this publication that testifies to the contrary has been made up by my enemies in order to prevent me gaining my rightful place on Union Board.

Since the Board's announcement I have received a number of emails from extremely disgruntled students. Some of the other candidates (if you could even call them that – it must have been the least qualified field I've ever seen) have been blaming me for the election being annulled. They say that had it not been for my blatant disregard of the rules their own, substantial I might add, digressions would not have been noticed. It seems everyone but the goddamn Ibis, who somehow still got

her spot on Board, is out to get me.

Even my own club, the Young Liberals, have abandoned me! They released a statement saying that they had no idea I intended to breach the cap and as soon as the allegations were proven to be true I was promptly expelled from Party membership. Beyond all else it is this that hurts most. To be betrayed by the people I had served so selflessly since the day I enrolled is one of the greatest insults a man can receive.

It is with this in mind that I will be forming Leigh's Sydney University Party. I will not allow other like-privileged men to fool themselves into thinking the Liberal Party of Australia had their best intentions at heart. In the spirit of the great Bob Katter, who I have recently discovered to actually be a very reasonable man, I will start this campus party in the spirit of true rebellion. Men and men only will be allowed in its ranks.



I shall learn from him and then usurp him.

I have already sourced the perfect base; the newly formed and extremely admirable 'Men's Society' (see page 5 – *Eds.*). I am confident that the society's founder and future president, college boy Jack Mason, will be open to the idea of working together.

Unlike so many of those other pansy candidates, we are both patrons of the proper manly arts, like pitching tents, shooting game, and boiling billies. Hopefully this common background will propel Leigh's Sydney University Party into the mainstream of campus politics.



Worthington v RO

I. Unlawful Merchandising

Worthington submits that it is a breach of the Returning Officers fiduciary duties to annul her nomination on the grounds of all fifty of her campaigners wearing pink Burberry skirts and carrying pink Longchamp bags. Worthington acknowledges that the approximate market value of these items is \$14,500, but disagrees that this constitutes a breach of the spending cap. It is submitted that the test for whether an item can be considered a breach of the spending cap is the “commonly owned items test”[1]. Under this test the above items cannot be considered in breach of the spending cap. These items are common, pedestrian even. We refer you to *French Vogue* (April 2012) under the ‘hottest buys of Spring 2012’ and *NetAPorter Editors Picks* (April 2012) to leave you beyond any reasonable doubt that Worthington acted lawfully.

II. Breach of the Peace and Substantial Misconduct

Worthington submits that music accompanying her flash mob did not constitute a breach of the peace. Playing ‘Don’t Cha’ at 200 decibels while fifty “neat and well dressed” Law students gyrate on passersby can hardly be considered at odds with the general enjoyment of Sydney University students. This could easily be considered within the realm of “everyday touching”[2] as would happen bumping into someone accidentally at a party. Further to this Worthington submits that greater, unpunished levels of gyrating occur frequently at such SALS events as Law Camp 2012 and Mid-Semester Drinks at Madame Fling Flong. Worthington submits loudly “this is the test”. While Worthington thinks it is “regrettable” that a further thirty complaints were made Science students raising issues of “sore ears” and “false promises”(as evoked by the steamy dancing), Worthington further submits that it is the nature of “Don’t Cha” that people are “left longing for what they don’t have”. It is submitted that singing “don’t cha wish your girlfriend was going to be on board like me” while rubbing up against the complainants was in no way “leading them on” and therefore cannot be taken as substantial misconduct.

III. Unlawful Employment of the Law

It is submitted that the above submission has been compiled in good faith under the Pro-Bono charter of Allens Arthur. This case was taken on for no personal allegiances to the candidate in question but as greater appeal to what the Firm considers “the greater humanity”. It is submitted that it would be a tragedy for this fine lady of exceptional pedigree, to be unfairly and brazenly expelled from the race.

[1]Union Constitution Regulations; Chau v RO (2012); Coffman v RO (2012); Harding-Easson v RO (2012); Morris v RO (2012); Raue v RO (2012); Sloane v RO (2012); Stanton v RO (2012);

[2] Rixon v Star City



WE ARE THE 99%!

with Artemis ‘The Revolution’s On Its Way!’ Dreamcatcher

Hail captive pawns of Murdoch!

By now you will know, despite the best efforts of the evil oligarchy that is all mass media, that the Union Board election has been declared invalid by the authoritarian fascist overlords of this University.

This is the most treacherous abrogation of democracy since the great Soviet Union was dissolved by the tyrant Ronald Reagan and heretic Mikhail Gorbachev. No longer can students of this place say they have a voice. That voice has been taken from them and trampled on like the patriarchy tramples on its daughters.

I stand accused of conducting massive fraud by embezzling funds from our “STOP THE CUTS!” campaign coffers

to pay for my own electoral material. This is impossible, as I do not believe in money, transactions, or campaign finance. A true campaign lives on solidarity, goodwill, and above all an unending and nauseating righteousness. We at the Extremist Leftist Socialist Activist Collectivist Collective decry such use of ‘money’ as sacrilege and the production of paper materials as environmental heresy!

The university must realise they cannot ignore the will of the people! That’s why we call for an immediate OCCUPATION of every polling place on campus UNTIL YOUR VOTES ARE COUNTED!!! Comrades, I beg of you: take these sandstone walls as your ballot paper. Write your vote in blood on Spence’s floor. Scream

your candidate’s name until you pass out. Together with unity in solidarity grouped as one without divide and together, we will take DIRECT ACTION against this shameful decision to stifle your voice!

Repeat after me:

Our vote! Today! The revolution’s on its way! Our vote! Today! The revolution’s on its way!

But in doing this, comrades, we must remember not to lose sight of our other goals. I fear that for all our success in STOPPING THE CUTS we have forgotten the raft of other cuts being faced by our fellow Earthian Citizens of the Global Community.

In Greece, good people are fighting for their right to exorbitant welfare payments without paying tax.

The ECB European Capitalist Bastards and SS Angela Merkel are forcing cuts on the Greek people which we must not allow!

Despite what some neo-conservative Board candidates may have tried to tell you, this is an issue the Union Board MUST act upon! Did you know that 0.0000000001% of Sydney University students know someone who may have a family member who could be marginally affected by Herr Merkel’s dictatorial austerity measures?

The Extreme Communist Left Collection Society of Direct Action Collective will not let this stand! AUSTERITY IS HOMICIDE! STOP THE CUTS! STOP THE MEN! STOP THE BOATS! VIVA LA REVOLUCION!

The Lord Lives On Campus! Fear his wrath!

And when the Returning Officer had cried out again in a loud voice, I gave up my spirit. And lo, the unholy knew to fear the wrath of God.

– Jeremiah 12: 30-5

To all the faithful, a great sin has been perpetrated this day. As I was preparing for my triumphant Sermon at Holme I was rung by none other than the latter-day Pontius Pilate, Penelope Crossley (USU Returning Officer – Eds.), and had my political ambitions promptly crucified for supposedly “violating electoral regulations”. In my defence, ‘Christians on Campus’ had blatantly endorsed my campaign, however, after consulting God (the USU Presidential hopeful campaign-managing Jeremiah – Eds.) I was assured that such a deliberate indiscretion would go unnoticed.

The very idea of a Christian candidate running for Board without the tacit support of the EU, Christians on Campus, and the Church itself is as unbelievable as a man walking on water! Obviously, outside of the rank-and-file apostles of Christians on Campus, my primary vote was going to be abysmally low so I had to rely on the funds of the Church to bolster my inherent un-electability. This is a time-honoured tradition on campus! Our clandestine system has been handed down, generation to generation, since the glory days of our Lord. This can mean only one thing: a Judas kiss. Someone from within our holy

organisation has betrayed me, just like the big J-dog before me. But worry not my faithful flock, this Judas shall be found and when he is, he shall know the fear of God.

There’s a lot of criticism of the Old Testament for being too fire and brimstone, so let it be known that I fully intend to get Biblical on this scumbag. As it says in Corinthians 25: 17-19: “Upon the wicked I will rain free sausages and chalk-dust!”



The comparison’s don’t end there!



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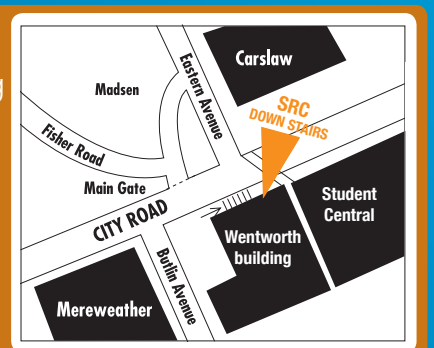
Level 1 Wentworth Building
(under City Rd footbridge)

Ph: 02 9660 5222

www.src.usyd.edu.au

If you are at another campus, email:

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