

canta

Vol. 81 // No. 22 // 13 October 2010



THE FOUNDRY

thurs 21st october 8pm @ the foundry

MALIBU SUMMER SOIREE END OF TERM PARTY

**MALIBU SPOT PRIZE GIVEAWAYS,
MALIBU DRINK SPECIALS
MECHANICAL SURF BOARD COMPETITION
WITH BAR TABS TO BE WON!
AMPHI VOLLEYBALL**

*please note the foundry will be closing at 5pm thurs 14th october to get the place ready for the tea party.
be in between 3 & 5pm for the phone 49s draw!



Right from the start of the year, one thing I've been sorely tempted to do is a "write-your-own-editorial." It would essentially consist of a blank column for you to write in, with a space at the top to stick your picture. I figured this might be my last real chance for the year to do it... but I'm not going to let any Andy Kaufman-esque whims take over, lest anyone think I was merely being lazy, and trying to alleviate the last-minute deadline rush to complete the magazine.

Which is why, even though the end of the year is upon us (and would have been had that whole earthquake thing not come along – and really, aftershocks, it's not even funny anymore), there's not exactly an excess of time to use to reflect. But it has been cool over the past few weeks to see so much of this year's uni extra-curricular life celebrated, with the Blues Awards highlighting campus' numerous sporting successes, the Madcaps Performing Arts Awards shining the spotlight on the surplus of theatrical talent at UC, and now the Supreme Club Awards paying tribute to all the support and fun clubs provide, and the hard work and dedication invested in them by their execs and members. That final ceremony took place in great style last week at Rydges Hotel, and we've got the full rundown of the winners (but really, they're all winners, right? Just some moreso than others) on page 16.

On the feature front this week, Lizzie Tollemache and photographer Andy J. Tan explored a few of the rather numerous abandoned buildings around town, and investigated the concept of squatting. Given the way in which the earthquake has turned our focus to the ongoing development of Christchurch (and the stability of its buildings and infrastructure), it's a topic that will call for a lot more consideration in the near future. And there's just something I find really compelling about urban decay. It's sobering to see that places on which people once placed so much importance, places that they once lived their lives around, can be just abandoned to decay in such an unceremonious manner.

But on a slightly brighter note, as a few of you are no doubt aware, this Friday is the Tea Party. Usually an end-of-lectures thing, it's now sitting not-at-all-awkwardly before the final week of term due to the big shakey-shakey (see, that's three earthquake references in one editorial – anyone else tired of that yet?). So this time it's an excuse to skip lectures with even less justification than you'd have in other years, and a chance to develop a nice little hangover for those final-week-of-term assignments. Should be fun!

(* My trusty laptop crashed three times writing this. Will it make it to the weekend? Find out next issue!)

Credits

Communications Editor
Sebastian Boyle

Graphic Designer
Joel Hart

Advertising Sales
Nicki McDonald

Communications Coordinator
Luke Spittle

Cover Photo By
Andy J Tan

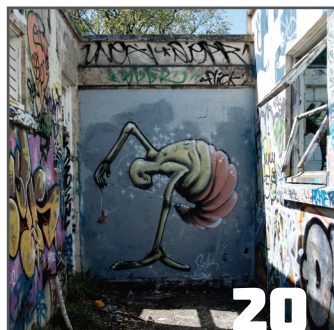
Featuring Work By

Lizzie Tollemache // Andy J. Tan // Tom Innes // Adam Cox // Chloe Sutherland // Ben Uffindell // Sharon McIver // Alex Parsons // Pot Belly Hayden // Nick McDonnell // Erin Okeroa // Takafly Brown



Canta is the official magazine of the University of Canterbury Students' Association. Opinions expressed may not be those of the UCSA, or anyone for that matter.

**To get in contact email: canta@ucsa.canterbury.ac.nz
Advertising Enquiries: ad-sales@ucsa.canterbury.ac.nz**



Consider Yourself At Home

An exploration of a few of the abandoned buildings around Christchurch, and options for squatting



Student Brewers: The Confessions

Home/craft brewing is becoming more and more popular amongst students. Find out about their drive for quality (and cheaper) brews



Gin Wigmore

Ahead of her four wins at the Vodafone New Zealand Music Awards last week, the kiwi songstress speaks to us about her career, and lemon meringues



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Inquisitive as ever...



The year winds down in some ways and cranks up in others. You'll be in the heat of finishing assignments and having final lectures churn to a halt, but your Christmas functions, work drinks, and yes, End of Lectures Tea Party are all on the very close horizon. Equally, the past few weeks have been filled with the showcasing of talent and vibrant student endeavours at UC. Obviously, the Blues Awards went extremely well and we again continued the tradition of celebrating student athletes, as we have since 1913. Next up was the MadCaps Awards, recognising and showcasing the performing arts on campus. These guys certainly know how to celebrate and would give any celebratory league team a run for their money. There is something quite unique and maybe pleasantly disturbing about watching a group of people, spontaneously yet in synchronized fashion gather together in the middle of a crowded dance floor and bust out random moves, in complete concert – well done Glee Club for harmony in chaos. We then moved onto a newly revamped and completely renovated Supreme Club Awards. Gone are the days of having clubs and societies battle for points for using on campus facilities. Online voting, a submission from the club and a final judging panel with ultimate discretion ensure that all things are taken into account. Congratulations to ENSOC – Supreme Club, MUSOC – Supreme Small Club and Ben "Bunny" Mossman – Most Valued Member, and to all the others who were nominated and won awards. We also have to thank again our Clubs and Societies Rep (and President-elect) Kohan McNab for all his work in overhauling the clubs system and our staff Luke Merryweather and Sarah Smith for the organization and work with clubs.

Now, as previously mentioned, Tea Party is on this Friday. Costumes are preferable if not absolutely necessary and you may want to consider your strategy for the day. For instance, if you are going to be dancing up a perfect storm (yeah, that just happened) you might want to reconsider going in a steel rubbish bin as a giant beer can. Footwear is always good, but make sure it's nothing precious. In fact I wouldn't be wearing or carrying anything on the day that your grandmother left you or that you need in order to leave the country. Sunscreen is always pretty key, but if this doesn't suit you, then one of those awesome legionnaire's hats they made you wear at primary school will protect the neck. Tea Party is an epic day and a chance for many of you to have a decent blow out before the real work of study for exams begins. What it is not is a blank cheque for groups or individual *munters* to cause havoc in the neighbourhood, piss off their neighbours, or get themselves arrested. So, if you're planning on having a "champagne breakfast" or a diehard after party, have a good chat with the folks next door, across the street, over the back fence, whatever. Let them know your plans and keep in touch. If you're really onto it, you'll give the fuzz a call and let them know too – not so you can wear a little hat and call yourself a snitch, but just so you cover yourself and your mates. And pace yourself during the day! Nobody wants to leave this epic day early through the naughty kid's exit; that means eat up, don't simply drink up.

We hope all the study is going well and the sprint to the finish is quick and painless. Remember that our services are here to help as if you're in need and we still have hardship resources and food bank stocks in the cupboard.

Good luck with the study and enjoy the Tea Party.

Cheers
Nick

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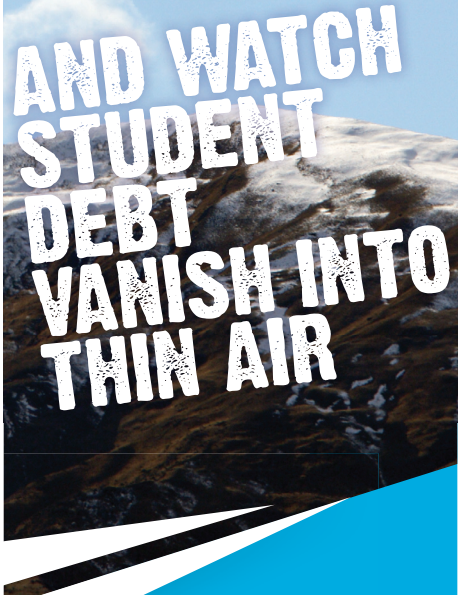
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



→ The student plight

Dear sir,

i remember a few years ago signing a petition to lower bus fares for students. Did anything ever come of this? I've been at uni a wee while now and im still just as poor as i first arrived, going week by week with less than 20 bucks to my name. The money i make over summer seems to last me until after orientation week. I spend what little money i have on topping up my cell phone, topping up my metrocard, topping up my stomach! how can i afford to get new shoes or a duvet to keep me warm at night. My

parents aren't helping me out but i dont qualify for student allowance anyway, and im not old enough yet either.

i guess what im trying to say is, im sick of being poor. its been five years. and i'm signed up for one more! i've voted in all our UCSA elections for the guys who get into power, i guess this means i have the mindset of everyone else around here. So surely someone else out their is feeling my pain. All i want is student discount on things i actually use/have the money to use... priority things like the bus or my phone or a bottle of scrumpy. Why do i need student discounts at the dentist or in a record store! i wish i had the money to get those things but i cant believe anyone else cashes in on them.

my dream UCSA exec would be out their getting me good deals that i actually use, and then emailing me the deals. this hard card is an ok thing but i never find out about the deals? im still alive, so its not that bad but i mean, i could always do with a break, atleast then i'd feel like someone cared about students, after all we are the only groups in society i know of who have to borrow to survive! also, i remember the stein and it ruled, none of this tea party shit. we changed back to the foundry, lets change it back to the stein!

regards

Simon

→ Still, "pop this Boyle" was pretty funny

Dear CUNTA editor,

Personally I think this year's Canta has been pretty solid: no more offensive-for-the-sake-of-being-offensive columns or religion debate lasting several months and some genuinely interesting articles. Only bummer is that the Hayden guy who wrote the political column has stopped writing (or left Uni). In the end, our student publication is just a reflection of our student population. If you can't beat em (and your Cunta publication certainly does not beat Canta), join em.

Yours Sincerely,
Go fuck yourself.

→ A singlet? Whatever would Prof Scragg think?

Dear stuck up law students

While flicking through last weeks edition of Canta I stumbled across an interesting piece titled Law Library: Code of Conduct. Are you serious?! Yes I understand the need for quiet but just because you study law does not make you any better than the rest of us. I find the sheer arrogance you portray in this article rather amusing.

Screw your stupid dress code, I have to restrain myself from bursting into laughter upon seeing a law student dressed in business attire, wearing enormous heels and walking like a chicken trying to stop themselves from falling over. I'm going wear my stobbies and jandals; hey I might even decide to rock a singlet while in you're precious Library.

Don't touch our books because you might get them dirty? I'll those stupid books all I want with my greasy little mits. I'll use you're photocopiers as much as I want because believe it or not my research is real research. And if you can get it

through those egotistical brains of yours writing an arts essay is a little more complicated than looking at Wikipedia and commerce students are dam good at essays as well.

I pay my university fees just like everyone else, so I should have access to all services the university provides. Yes, that does include the library in that hideous lump of rock you call a building. If you want us to respect OUR law library maybe you should show a little more respect to your fellow students.

Yours sincerely

The guy whose sick of whining law students

→ I'm sure there's a joke in law students, egos, and self-fucking...

Dear Law Students,

Would you kindly go fuck yourselves? You haven't got a clue what the effect of not having a library and the use of it's resources is like.

Regards,
An "Artie"

→ On the same page. (It's almost a library pun.)

To everyone who wrote about Law students and Law Library.

Fucking well Said! Exactly what I had in mind.

Cheers
Kasian

→ Or over the loudness of that shirt. Zing!

Dear Non Law students

I'm sorry we can't hear you over the sound of how

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Hugs and kisses

Law Student who doesn't actually care about the library, but is amused by the outrage

→ BALLBys Represent!

I am so sick of the bad mouthing of Arts and Law students, esp about each other, get over yourselves. I am doing a BA and a LLB and love the law library because it is so quiet, I didn't have to wait for some dipshit surfing FB to print off an assignment. To the haters of the law students get the fuck over yourselves, if you actually took the time to look around you'd see we're the ones who are presidents, and execs for the UCSA, we're the ones who are representing you! While yes, some of our clothing choices are more suited for whats left of Manchester St, at least we look like we've taken a shower this year. In 10 years when you get an unfair dismissal from McDonalds don't come crying to us.

To the Law students, grow a pair and harden the fuck up, I know we're not all self righteous douchebags, we've all just lived through one of the worse natural disasters to hit New Zealand, so stop your bitching, Central Library is openish now, computers and all the quiteness one could need for exams is coming right up!

Cheers

The BA LLB Girl

→ Not quite at the "let's all hug" stage yet

Dear ProlifeUC,

After reading your objectives even I must admit they seem valiant, even honourable. However they don't seem to correlate with your actions. This is somewhat troubling. I'm all for stimulating conversation and supporting people during difficult pregnancies, but what does this have to do with writing slanderous, vindictive signs? You flatter yourselves; you're not controversial, merely incapable of anything other than guerrilla tactics.

With love,

The girl who vandalised your sign

→ Repulsively slurred

Dear Douglas Wilding Jnr,

From all those of us who are pro-life, Catholic or Jewish, and who were so repulsively slurred by you last week, you evidently have scant value either for human life, or for women. There should be freedom of speech over the value of a human being, however one might define a human being, in spite of any controversy it might entail. Concern over an ethical issue should not be an excuse for verbal abuse.

- A Catholic

→ Mortal enemies

Dear Ben Uffindell,

That Lecturer of the Year Award was ours damn it! And by ours, I of course mean Andrew Bainbridge-Smiths. Do you know how many forms we filled out, both online and off? Obviously, as somehow you filled out MORE. We first heard of your intent when one of our number meet you on the bus to uni, filling out form after form of votes for one Jack Copeland. "What are we worried about?" we asked each other "There is one of him and three of us! We'll be fine". A foolish, foolish assumption. Nice move taking all the voting forms, by the way. That

seriously impeded our progress. We shall be much more ruthless next time...

Well, at least we got Bainbridge-Smith Top Lecturer of Engineering, and I quite like Jack, his lectures being the only ones I attended just for kicks.

**Kind Regards,
Cofounder of The Bainbridge-Smith
Appreciation Society**

→ Actually, could you CC me in on those photos, too...?

To the party goers at Foo San on Wednesday night,

OMFG YOU GUYS ARE SOOOOO COOL! I so hope that the next time its one of your birthdays you invite me!!! I wana wear tiny dresses, scream at the top of my voice, break wine glasses and yet still not pay over \$20. I admire your multi tasking, how you were able to be rude and inconsiderate to the owner and the other patrons at the same time. I also thought it was genius the way you disguised your bright pink spirits in clear wine bottles. can i please have a copy of the photos you took with chopsticks sticking out of numerous body parts.

**From A Jealous Observer
p.s next time do the world a favour and order take out.**

→ I'm not sure he's going to quite grasp some of this

Dear Odourly Offended,

I'm sorry that cosc students have caused you such unpleasant olfactory experiences. In answer to your question, I coded a program in assembly to compute an explanation that you might understand, but whenever it ran I encountered a segmentation fault. I'm going to update my Linux installation with the latest douche interface drivers and see if it resolves the issue. Failing that, I suggest you try not breathing, it might alleviate the smell.

**All the best,
Schramm.**

P.S. Feel free to redistribute my advice, it's open source under the BSD License.

→ Good news for arts students, law students, and vegetarians

Bachelor of fuck all

Really what is the deal with the quality of letters in Canta these days? This shit is dry. As for last week's influx of rubbish rants against Law students, I'm disgraced. You Arts and Fine Arts no hoping future dole bludging bottom tier of society assholes need to sort your shit out. As for 'Comrade Ellen', what the fuck was that shit, this isn't Cuba in the 1950's. Any girl who writes that shit must have a face like a bucket of smashed crabs, and friends that play with swords. I'm not saying I like Law students, I live with one and I've never met a more unattractive girl whose head is so far up her own arse she dribbles shit. Quite frankly I think their (they're) worse than Arts students, but hey, one day I'm going to get caught breaking the law and will need one, and I won't bite the hand that feeds me, or keeps me out of jail for that matter. Pretty much if you're going to have a rant, make it a fucking good one. As for vegetarians FUCK OFF, meat fucking rules you can all die in a house fire.

Doug Wilding Jnr

→ I somehow doubt this is the last we'll hear of this issue

To Lydia, of Pro-Life

Putting aside any actual discussion on the issue (as this is definitely not the forum for that kind of discussion), this letter is full of utter bullshit. You claim to offer help and advice to those in a pregnancy situation, however due to the nature of your organisation, any advice will just be biased and influenced by your moral beliefs (and ignoring the fact that abortion is generally discouraged anyways, if anything there should be a pro-abortion group to help young girls not ruin the rest of their lives with an unnecessary child/burden).

Furthermore, you suggest that chalking these offensive images all over campus is your way of expressing your right to freedom of speech; I would put to you that, in the same vein, others equally have the right to express their own "speech" by altering or otherwise defacing your signs, otherwise you are just being a straight hypocrite. If you are able to freely graffiti the ground, which is common space, then others equally have that right.

With words,

Aimless Anti-Advocate

PS An abortion free world will truly be a magnificent place, just look at what happened to India and China when anyone and everyone was free to reproduce as they saw fit. And I'm sure all the 10-14 year old girls in third world countries whose lives have been ruined due to lack of available abortion clinics are seeing the logic in your way of thinking.

→ What a nice sentiment

Dear Mr. McGregor,

I was heartened by your commentary in support of vegetarianism. I find it to be quite an endearing quality in a person, it shows a good degree of willpower and discipline, so congratulations, I like you.

Vegan

→ I'd believe him. He even says "not a joke"!

WANTED: Somebody to go back in time with me. This is not a joke. If interested please text 0220391831.

You will get paid after we get back. Must bring your own weapons. Safety not guaranteed.

I have only done this once before.

Time Traveler

LETTERS POLICY!

Letters are good. Send them in by 12pm on Friday and they might just appear in the next issue. Letters should be 200 words or less. Be awesome. You must provide a name (real or a pseudonym) to be printed with your letter. You must include full contact details as well, though these will not be printed. Letters may or may not be edited, depending on how the editor is feeling that day, but usually we'll go right ahead and let you look like the idiot or genius you are. We reserve the right to abridge or edit for any reason without notice. Letters may be emailed to canta@ucsa.canterbury.ac.nz, or delivered to the **Canta** office. Or you cen text! Start your message with **CANTA**, leave a space, type in your thoughts, then send it off to 4882. Texts cost 20c.

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CLUBS

INFO & EVENTS

Unisoc

NZ Unicycle Federation Championships

UC Unisoc meets on a Tuesday night, at 7pm outside the UCSA for a campus ride or 8pm in the ballroom for learners and team sport. The club also incorporates juggling and fire sport.

This year UC Unisoc is hosting the NZ Unicycle Federation Championships from 23rd -25th October. It's the first nationals since NZ hosted the 15th World Championships earlier this year and the first time the nationals have been held in the South Island. The support of our university community is invaluable when hosting such a prestigious event. If you can ride, ever wanted to ride, or even never wanted to ride but think a bunch of us trying to negotiate our way down the tracks at Victoria Park as fast as possible would be hilarious to watch (which it will be), then come along!

The NZ Unicycle Nationals are being held at various locations around Christchurch, including hockey/basketball in the Uni Rec Centre Sunday 24th 4pm-6.30pm. Watchers are welcome. For full programme and registration see www.unisoc.org.nz



UC Mixed Martial Arts

UC Mixed Martial Arts is a newly established club specialising in a wide variety of fighting techniques under the sport of "MMA".

Currently training is at the ballroom in the UCSA building at the following times:

- Mon: 2pm-3pm and 3pm-4pm
- Wed: 10am-11am and 11am-12pm
- Fri: 10am-11am and 11am-12pm

Feel free to come along to any of the trainings and give it a go, no experience is required. If enough people sign up we will offer more times and classes over the summer break as well. If you have any questions send us an email at njd58@uclive.ac.nz

Te Akatoki

2010 Annual General Meeting

This notice is formally to advise Maori students that in accordance with Article 8.1 of the Constitution of Te Akatoki O Te Whare Wananga O Waitaha, it is hereby announced that the 2010 Annual General Meeting will be held as follows:

- Date: Saturday 16th October 2010
- Time: 1:00pm to 4:00pm
- Venue: Te Whare Akonga O Te Akatoki

BandSOC

Open Mic Night

BandSOC is hosting Open Mic nights every Wednesday at THE FOUNDRY!

Yes that's right folks, regardless of whether or not you are beginner or advanced, in a band or a solo artist, casual or serious... we welcome everyone to come along and have a go!

We hope to make this night a UC institution, and your attendance is what will make "Open Mic Wednesdays" a success! So dig up those old cover songs, bring along your beat-up guitar, warm up those tonsils, and bring your mates along to see a true showcase of student music!

We appreciate your support, and we hope to see you there!

AN OPEN LETTER

For all those with the tenacity to never shut up



Dear America,

Before the tumultuous events of this year's September, there was another September; one that I remember very, very well. I was ten years old at the time and I'd been living in Christchurch for less than a year. I awoke one morning to what was a rather unusual scenario. My mother got me out of bed, sat me down with my brother, and told us that something significant had happened. Dad wasn't home. He was flying that day. We turned on the television and watched the footage of two passenger planes smashing into the World Trade Centre towers. I don't think anything will ever quite erase those images from my mind. I remember so vividly watching those initial explosions, the clouds of dust engulfing the streets of Manhattan, people jumping from the upper floors of the buildings. It was an extraordinary scene, and the perfect act of terrorism. It struck fear into *my* heart, America. I can't imagine what it awoke in yours.

A lot of people here in New Zealand don't really think of September 11 as being all that important, at least not to them. But if it weren't for that day, a day when the entire western world was faced with its worst nightmares, then I think my life would've played out a lot differently. I think *all* our lives would have played out at least slightly differently. On the morning of the attacks, I was scared, and I was shocked, but I didn't really understand exactly what was going on. I didn't really understand what it meant. I didn't have a political consciousness at the time. I probably didn't even know who our Prime Minister was, let alone the complex international relationships that led to those horrifying events. But it was that day that *gave* me a political consciousness. It forced me, an otherwise completely uncritical ten year old, to actually start evaluating the world that I lived in. September 11, 2001, didn't just effect me personally at the time, but it shaped the very world that I was about to grow up into. My thoughts, my values, my ideas are shaped – no, *born out of* – the post 9/11 era. Politically, intellectually, I am a child of that time period, and I'm hardly alone in that.

But it wasn't the day that so much shaped our world, America. It was rather your reaction to that day. For a brief moment in time – one that seems so alien now – the entire world stood with you. We felt your pain, and though we could not quite understand your suffering and your fear, we were with you in those darkest of times. But that didn't last long, America. It didn't last nearly as long as it should've, and it wasn't because we were just apathetic. Rather, it was because you pushed the boundaries of what we considered to be an acceptable response. President Bush declared a now infamous "war on terror", one that saw the invasion of Afghanistan, and less than two years later, Iraq. It was in the years following the bombing of Baghdad, and the toppling of Saddam, that those of us in New Zealand who had been mere bedazzled children at the time of the great catalyst, now began to form opinions on the world we were soon to inherit.

These wars and the domestic policies that came with them were pushed heavily by the American Right. The right wing in America came to be associated with Iraq, Afghanistan, torture, Guantanamo, and all the abuses that came with it. The world was outraged, and by the time children my age had reached high school, their opinions toward America, Bush and the wars were significantly less than favourable. Many in our country today – particularly at institutions such as, oh I don't know, universities – believe that this antagonism toward you, America, was a good thing; a sign of positive rebellion against a superpower gone rogue. But as someone who wasn't one of those children, as some who formed his opinions *differently* during this time, I have to disagree.

It's not that I approve of the things you've done. On the contrary, I think that you've made some truly terrible mistakes. I just don't think that many of my peers have taken the right *lessons* from those mistakes. I think that, during the Bush years, peaceful messages and reasoned opposition turned into blind rage, poisonous rhetoric, alarmism and even bigotry. And while the mood has calmed in recent years, I still, far too often, encounter those who live inside a self-reinforcing bubble, who think that Bush is Hitler, Americans are stupid, that terrorists deserve some measure of sympathy, or that anyone who would dare defend you, America, is by necessity intolerant, and thus not worth tolerating.

Now, I'm not going to lie. I've got a personal stake in this. By the time I reached my third year of high school, I hadn't developed the same kind of opinions on these matters that most of my peers had. Far from opposing the wars and condemning the right wing, I somewhat embraced them. "Somewhat?" Okay, who am I kidding? I *completely* embraced them. Instead of questioning critically, I absorbed the rhetoric, bought into it, and allowed the views of the American Right to become my own. I wasn't thinking for *myself*. I was buying into a convenient narrative because it was *simple*. So my views at the time were obnoxious, and they were stupid, and at times, they were even inflammatory. I'm not even going to *begin* to deny that. But there was a small contingent of people who decided that I deserved to suffer for what I thought. Rather than actually engaging with me, they turned on me, took me out of context, attacked me, excluded me, and turned a significant portion of my year group into a "We hate Ben Uffindell because he's a dick and wants racial minorities, women and children to die in a fire" club. I once told someone that she couldn't exclude me and be cruel to me just because I held differing political opinions to her, and she said to me "Yes I can, because I think that those opinions show a lot about who you are as a person".

Now, I don't know about you, but that strikes me as really wrong. I know that they didn't see it that way, and I understand why they didn't. For them, these are incredibly emotionally charged issues and they really *believed* what they said about me. They weren't saying it to be mean. They were saying it because they really thought that my staunch support of the Bush administration made me a dick. But I think we should know better than that, and it saddens me to see this kind of stuff still going on today, at *university* of all places. It doesn't happen to me, because my opinions have changed. But it shouldn't matter that my opinions have changed, because we can't be judging people based on the surface content of what they think. *We hurt* people that way. Supporting the war on terror does *not* make someone racist, and thinking that modern feminism is over the top does *not* make someone sexist. Those kinds of accusations *hurt and alienate* people. I know that first hand. I used to be incredibly confident, and while those who read this column may get the impression that I still am, it's hard for me to tell you just how far from the truth that is. I'm the walking *embodiment* of self-consciousness. I can't get through a conversation with almost *anyone* without fearing that they might not like me, or worse, that they might hate me. And sometimes – just sometimes – that's not a very happy place to be in.

**Yours Sincerely,
Ben Uffindell**



POLYNESIAN PANTHER

Former Polynesian Panther Leader Will Ilolahia speaks to Pacific Students at UC

By Erina Okeroa and Takafly Brown

→ UC PACIFIC STUDENTS HAD THE OPPORTUNITY LAST MONTH TO MEET AND SOCIALISE WITH WILL ILOLAHIA AS PART OF THE UC PACIFICA LEADERSHIP SEMINAR SERIES. Ilolahia, the current Chief Executive for the Waiata Trust for Artists and chairman for the Pacific Island Board for Auckland City, was on the first part of his South Island university tour speaking on Pacific Leadership and to promote the upcoming Polynesian Panthers movie.

Will had a very appreciative and captivated audience as he explained the trials and tribulations of being a leader that has consumed 38 years of his life. The Pacific students were especially interested in his involvement as chairman of the Polynesian Panthers Party, which formed in 1971 in Auckland, and who were influenced by African American revolutionary group The Black Panthers. The Polynesian Panthers, who consisted of Polynesian and Maori students and teenage youth, challenged ongoing discriminatory practices against Maori and Pacific Islanders in areas such as poor working and housing conditions, and police harassment of Maori and Pacific youth during the 1970s.

Ilolahia also spoke of the Panthers' involvement as members of the Patu Squad during the Springbok Tour in 1981. The Patu Squad clashed with and confronted police about the tour and Ilolahia was among those charged for inciting riots. Bishop Desmond Tutu was a defence witness, and they were eventually found not guilty. Fa'amanu Telea, UC Pacific Mentoring Advisor, was impressed with how young Pacific Island men and women made a stand against incredible odds and achieved success. "I'm surprised at how far reaching the Polynesian Panthers were; to have people like Bishop Desmond Tutu supporting your cause is incredible".

Pacific student Riki Welsh was surprised at how the Panthers were politically minded. "I always thought of the Panthers as being a street gang - after listening to Will, I realise they were organised not only politically, but also

played a large role in supporting the Pacific community." One example noted by Ilolahia was where the Panthers worked with a brilliant young lawyer of the day - David Lange - to make a legal aid booklet which was distributed out to the community for those who were having legal problems and not sure how to approach them. Lange went on to become the Panthers' legal advisor from 1971 - 1976.

Surprise guests for the student's were John and Carole Luafutu, parents of award winning hip hop artist Scribe, which further inspired the audience as John spoke up about his friend Will and how he went on to become a university graduate and leader of the Polynesian Panthers. "I'm so glad Will is doing these lectures as it's needed to teach our young ones what it was like," John said. Notably many of those involved in the Polynesian Panthers back in the day have gone on to become leaders within the Pacifica community, as have some of their children, particularly within the New Zealand music scene. Alongside contemporary hip hop artist Scribe is Lady 6 and Che Fu whose parents, Vic and Losa Tamati (Lady 6) and Tigi Ness and Ama Rauhihi Ness (Che Fu) held central roles within the movement.

Polynesian Panther t-shirts were available to purchase at the seminar to promote the upcoming movie as well as copies of the Polynesian Panthers

book edited by Dr. Melani Anae. The contact person for purchasing Polynesian Panthers tees or books is Erina Okeroa - okeroa.e@gmail.com please email for any further enquires.

Thankfully for those who missed this seminar, Ilolahia is planning to come back to UC in June 2011 as part of the Polynesian Panthers 40th Anniversary Tour, which will also see him speaking at Victoria, Otago, and Auckland universities alongside well known and respected musician, Tigi Ness. The tour is an opportunity to promote the upcoming Polynesian Panthers movie as well as offer workshops in music production and Pacific leadership.





SWEENEY TODD

→ *Sweeney Todd*, THE MUSICAL TALE OF AN UNJUSTLY EXILED BARBER OUT FOR BLOODY REVENGE IN VICTORIAN LONDON THROUGH THE CREATIVE USE OF CUSTOMERS AS PASTRY FILLINGS, **is coming to Christchurch this week. Ahead of its opening night tomorrow**, we spoke to director Sara Brodie and musical director (and former UC student, UCSA exec member, and writer for this little ol' magazine) Luke Di Somma.

Tell us a little bit about the story of *Sweeney Todd*.

Luke: Well in a nutshell, it's about a former barber, Sweeney Todd, who returns to London fifteen years after he was transported on a 'trumped up charge' to find that less than nice things were done to his wife and daughter, and how he seeks revenge on those who did those less than nice things.

How did your involvement in the show come about?

Sara: By Showbiz contacting me and asking me to direct it. I work as a freelance director, so that's what I do for a living. But *Sweeney* is my all-time favourite musical, so I'm very pleased to be doing it.

Luke: I had worked for Showbiz before, and when I heard they were doing *Sweeney*, it was a project I was very eager to work on. The timing was perfect, and I am pleased they wanted me back!

Is it comparable in scale to other shows you've worked on?

Sara: I also work as an opera director, and actually, *Sweeney* is quite operatic at times – there's a lot of music in it. It's not sung all the way through, there's lots of beautifully written little dramatic scenes, but they're quite short. It's got music for most of the time. And it's musically quite complex as well, complex for the singers, but very clever as well.

Given that general audiences might have a greater familiarity with *Sweeney Todd* after its recent film adaptation, is it more of a challenge to stamp your own mark on it?

Sara: I've seen *sweeney* three times in its musical form, three very different productions over the years. That was my formative introduction to it, rather than the movie, so I've always known it first and foremost in its theatrical sense, and had ideas about it for a long time because I've loved it so much. [So] that hasn't been very difficult at all.

And things change when you work with a design team as well, because it's not just about my vision, it's about liaising with my designers and their ideas, and so it's about that wonderful collaboration that you get with a creative team. And also Luke's ideas about the music. It's many heads that go into what's on the stage, although as director you're driving through a vision and a concept very strongly.

Luke: Yes and no. The great thing about the film is that it certainly raised the profile of the musical. Johnny Depp certainly had a role to play in that, and many especially younger people will come because they liked the film, which is great.

The tricky thing is that the film works a film, but the stage show is very different and, by virtue of its medium, less filmic and more theatrical. So people can obviously expect the same characters and story and general feel, but this is very much our own version. After all, a film adaptation of something is only one person's idea of how that material should be dealt with.

There is also a lot more music in the stage show. I think of the music in a show as a lead character, and as such it has a "bigger role" in the musical than it did in the film.

What do you find compelling about *Sweeney Todd*?

Luke: A lot! The story is compelling; it's just a thumping great tale. It's a classic revenge story; and the characters are pretty terrific. But the music is the real hook for me. It is immensely powerful and sophisticated, yet beautiful, haunting and scary all at the same time. I get to conduct a 23 piece orchestra, which is

very rare for musicals these days and very exciting.

Sara: It's luciously dark tragedy! But it's also very, very funny, and laced with black humour and ironic humour. There are some wonderful moments in it where Sweeney's just sworn he'll have vengeance on the judge, and Mrs. Lovett's just totally "well, that's all very well, but let's get down to basics." Musically, that's a very glorious moment – Sweeney's epiphany – and she just knocks him down to size very quickly. And there's lots of fun gags to do with pies, and popping pussies into pies, and various humans. And it's glorious music, Stephen Sondheim's music is absolutely amazing.

Did the earthquake have much of an impact on the production?

Sara: We've had to change one cast member, and we're very sad to lose Julia, and there was other jiggling we've had to do. Our final night we have someone new coming in – but everything's possible, and we've been very lucky in that there's a huge desire from the cast and all those involved having got as far as we did that we were going to put it on the stage. For example, just after the quake, everyone came into the theatre on the Tuesday night. Monday night we had some terrible aftershocks, and we have quite a high set. I said to people they don't have to get up there if they don't want to, but everyone did. You could just see everyone was exhausted and shattered, but they threw all of that out the window and just got on with what they had to for the night.

Luke: Yes – we had to postpone a month, which obviously gave us more time, but it was very weird moving into the theatre, and then having to go back to the rehearsal rooms. We have also had to replace some cast and orchestra members which is sad, but we are lucky to have had such amazing people be able to step in.

Luke, did your involvement in performing arts at UC help prepare you for this sort of role?

Luke: Oh totally. Like, I know you want me to say this because it's *Canta*, but I wouldn't be doing this if not for my BMus, but more importantly if not for my involvement with Musoc. Musoc had a great era a few years back, and we did some pretty awesome shows. It was a great practice opportunity, and really prepared me for the type of work I am doing now. You only learn by doing, and Musoc gave me that chance.

What makes *Sweeney Todd* a worthwhile viewing experience for your typical uni student?

Sara: It's loads of irreverent fun, fantastic music, and a really interesting story. Some musical theatre is all about the glitz and the high kicks, and the storyline is very thin, but *Sweeney* is a very old script – it was first written in 1846 – and it's been a real popular hit of the masses as a 'penny dreadful' story, really, and I think we're all attracted to a really good piece of dramatic writing that tears at our hearts and shocks us and excites us. Add into that a little bit of romance as well, and you've got something that will really move an audience.

Luke: It's hugely entertaining, it looks and sounds great, and it's a pretty epic theatrical experience. It is rare to see this work produced, and I hope that Uni students who come find it as powerful to watch as I have to work on.

***Sweeney Todd* opens tomorrow night (Thursday 14th) at the Isaac Theatre Royal and runs until October 23rd. Tickets from Ticketek, including \$30 student tickets for October 14th, 15th, and 16th performances. ←**

GIN WIGMORE

Total E

She doesn't even know how many tattoos she has. Ten, she thinks...?

Her hometown is Devonport, Auckland. She now lives in Sydney.

Distinctive voice. Her sister is the lady who played good ol' Justine Jones in Shorty Street.

She chatted to me like I was someone she knew.

Her songs you will almost definitely know are "Oh My God" and "Under My Skin" (yes, from the

Air New Zealand ad). She was recently nominated for six categories at this year's Vodafone New Zealand Music Awards. She drops the f-bomb every second sentence. She was simply lovely to interview. And please don't ever call her while she's trying to cook lemon meringues. She hates it when they burn.

Hey Gin, how are ya?

Good, I'm just cleaning my house, it's a mess! I've got another week to go and then I'm back in New Zealand. It's going to be cool to come back and play some shows aye! I've had a month off and I'm so bored with myself - I've even taken to crocheting! It's of a house, with a little garden out front, and a dog, what a loser! Haha.

You recently toured America, how'd that go?

It was awesome, really cool aye! Starting in March we did a big two month tour and I totally just got character-built I reckon! I think everything had been pretty peachy in my music career until I went to America and then it was like a smack in the face. Heaps went wrong: lost management, got shafted by heaps of people, had to find a band, gang wars in LA, had no money. It was just full on. I was thinking "you've got to pick yourself up from this or you don't go on in music". It taught me to be a little bitter. I can see how musicians can get quite bitter about things; it's already begun, haha. But it was cool aye, I love that place now that I've slightly figured out what the beast is. I tamed it just a little bit, just a touch, and I've still got a shit load to go.

Is that experience going to influence material in your next album?

Yeah, I reckon there'll be a few more songs about the industry and about whether I'm strong enough to have this career and to do this job. I think there'll be a few more soul-searching songs about me in the next record. Hopefully I don't get too selfish on it, but there will be a couple in there.

Are you writing at the moment?

Yeah, I'm working on my new album at the moment, but I'm just procrastinating! I just walk around the house and clean! But I do love writing; it's the best bit, but also the hardest. I'm such a perfectionist, I'm always thinking "oh, I don't know if that bit's right", or "is that bit really good or not?" And I'm also really happy at the moment! It's really hard to write when you're happy, haha! I have a really nice boyfriend at the moment and I'm really happy so I think I need him to be a real dick or something. I've asked him to be a dick, and he's like "what? You're a weirdo, haha".

You won a prestigious international song-writing competition at 16 with a song you wrote for your Dad called "Hallelujah". What was it like winning out of 11,000 entries?

I don't think I actually realized how big and awesome it was until a few years ago. My sister sent my entry off, but I'm so pessimistic. I was like "nah, nothing's going to happen". Then I was contacted like "Hey you've won, here's all this stuff!"

I remember the situation vividly. I was living with my boyfriend in Taranaki and making lemon meringues because his parents were coming over. I got the phone call just as I put the first meringue in the oven and it burnt! The lady on the phone was talking about this prestigious award and I was just trying to cook meringues and thinking "fuck this is so inconvenient!" I was really quite pissed that I'd taken this call, she was elaborating on what I'd won and I was just thinking "ohhh my god, my meringues!" But I ended up letting them burn and listening to what she had to offer and it was sweet. I was off to America and had a whole lot of cash coming my way, it was awesome! I spent it in five minutes backpacking around Europe!

Since then you've come a long way, recording in Hollywood's famous Capitol Studios with The Cardinals, how was that?

Really cool aye, awesome! Well I did the EP in such a low-key way, in what felt like this tiny little studio everyday. And next thing you know I was flying to Hollywood and recording in Capitol Studios with The Cardinals and this big hot-shot producer. It was like "Woah, how the fuck did I get here?" It was full on, but it was cool. I'm glad that I didn't get overwhelmed by it all, and I think that's because of my upbringing and kiwi essence, knowing that you just carry on with what you have to do. We just got on and just made a really cool record. It was cool to hang out with The Cardinals, we've become really good friends! It's cool to have those people in your life and to teach you things.

Who would your ultimate dream collaboration be with?

Ohhh I've got so many ultimates! I'm not sure if you've heard of them; it's slightly left of field. It's a guy called William Elliot Whitmore. Oh, and a guy called Mark Lanegan. And Doctor John. Those would be my three top ultimates. It's going to be hard, but they would be so cool.

And you collaborated with Smashproof in the #1 single "Brother"? What was that like? And were you aware of the connotations to the controversial court case?

Well they came to Universal Music looking for a woman artist to sing the hook. I needed to pay rent somehow that week, so I got sent the track in Sydney, liked it, and went into the studio and recorded a little something. I didn't even meet the guys until six months after it went #1, it was quite weird. We even shot the video clip separately, crazy aye! I didn't know about the relevance to the court case either until I heard on the news. I kind of went in blind with that one aye!

And I hear you play a few instruments?

Yeah, but pretty averagely; I wouldn't say I'm Mozart on the piano or anything! I dabble enough to get a song out, but would never play piano live. I play ukulele and guitar live. The ukulele is funny, you just can't be serious. It makes me giggle.

You've been nominated for a whopping six Vodafone New Zealand Music Awards, and you're performing live!

Yeah I'm performing, just one song I think which is ideal as I'll probably be drunk haha! I hope I win something; that would be cool man! There's two that I want, I'm being greedy! I want the People's Choice Award, and the Best Album. Yeah, I'm gunning for those two. (Gin went on to win Vodafone Album of the Year, Pacific Blue Breakthrough Artist of the Year, Best Pop Album, and Highest Selling New Zealand Album.)

What are you going to wear on the red carpet?

I'll be getting all glammed-up, and I've got Trelise Cooper designing something amazing for the red carpet, and the performance too. Hopefully I get to keep them - yeah, I'm going to keep them!

Sweeeet, thanks for your time! Any last words, plugs?

Check out my website www.ginwigmore.com! And Emily Stevens, I hope you came to my Christchurch show! ←

→ **WIN STUFF** - We've got two double passes to give away to Gin's show this Saturday at the Town Hall. Just text "SWAG" to 4882 to go in the draw!



Character.

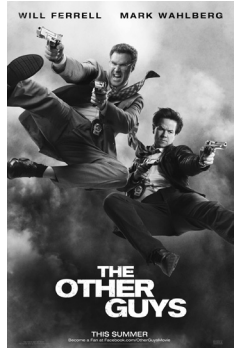
Interviewed by Lexie Brown



THE OTHER GUYS

Directed by Adam McKay

Written by Chris Henchy and Adam



The Other Guys marks the fourth collaboration between director Adam McKay and comedy master Will Ferrell, having worked together on *Anchorman*, *Talladega Nights* and *Step Brothers*. Those of us familiar with these films will recognise the unusual comedy and superb writing in this new film which delivers laughs, but not much else to squee about, unless you're weak in the nether regions for Marky Mark Wahlberg, who takes a jab at hilarity this time around. Oh, and of course, the always sexy Eva Mendes. Good grief.

Anyway, enough hyperventilating. To put it simply, this is not an action movie. Although it is of the buddy cop genre, it is actually a satire – one that is

packed with cringe-worthy stunts and an average plot, ultimately 'taking the piss' of big action clusterfucks. But the film knows not to take itself seriously; this is a comedy to the upmost degree. With countless one-liners, you'll be shaking your head furiously in disgust at one moment, and then clutching your chubby sides at the next. Oh come on, you're at the movies, you know you're fat.

Will Ferrell plays Detective Gamble, a forensic accountant for the police who loves to hum away at his desk and write reports. Gamble's partner is Detective Hoitz, played superbly by Mark Wahlberg. Who knew Wahlberg had such talent in the realm of comedy? Oh yeah, he did do that film with M. Night Shamalamadingdong, didn't he? I think it was called *The Plants Are Evil Bastards* or something.

In typical Hollywood cliché, the two detectives play complete opposites, who hate each other to begin with, and then somewhere in the middle act have a falling out. Ultimately they get back together and save the day: you know this and I know this. Nevertheless, McKay has proven to be great at directing comedies, and this is one of the better buddy cop films released this year. Yes I'm looking at you, *Cop Out*. Bruce Willis, what were you *thinking*?

Adam Cox

THE WORM IN THE TEQUILA

Geoff Cochrane

When I started reading this, I couldn't work out if the title were some justification by the author for the quality/coherence of poems inside, or maybe just a serving suggestion.

Both, it turns out.

Don't be fooled, this poetry is not for those with weak hearts. Reading *The Worm in the Tequila* almost turns into a thriller at times, with the reader sitting on the edge of their seat, willing the poetry not to turn back to crap again.

If you do read it, skip most of the first 20 pages. They're full of half-digested brain farts that don't have a place in any poetry book. At page 30 things start to go uphill, starting with a list of all the places he has been drunk.

Cochrane is a diabetic and an ex-alcoholic, which he writes about in some of his poems. These poems result in rapport with the author that I've rarely felt before. His reflections on his life with alcoholism, particularly, ring true. There are even some moments of beauty in his poems, when his metaphors deign to make sense.

[The first 20 pages are full of half-digested brain farts that don't have a place in any poetry book ...]

The fact remains that the poetry is, for the most part, more confusing than a friend's drunken 3 am ramblings. "Ham the Space Chimp has blue eyes" does not belong in a poem, not when the poem is entitled "Clouds".

I always feel bad rubbishing a fellow New Zealand poet, mostly because the community as so small that I'm worried I'll run into him one day. There may be some truth in Cochrane's ramblings; I'm pretty sure I'm going to take another attempt at this book. But this time I'm definitely going to equip myself with a couple of shots of tequila to make it all go down better.

Chloe Sutherland

JOHN R TEMPLIN SCHOLARSHIP TRUST

The John Templin Trust was established to provide Scholarships for students in Engineering & Horticulture.

Scholarship applications are invited by the Templin Scholarship Trust. Graduates of the University of Canterbury or Lincoln University are eligible according to the criteria set out below. The number of scholarships awarded annually is unspecified.

The award is tenable for research, higher studies or practical experience in engineering or horticulture at Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, or at any other institution in the U.S.A. or Canada approved by the Trustee and Selection Committee. Tenure is normally for one year but may be extended for a second year. The scholar must return to New Zealand on expiry of the scholarship and engage in engineering or horticulture.

Applications are invited from:

- **University of Canterbury**
- **Engineering Scholarships**

To persons who have graduated at the University of Canterbury with a Degree in Engineering in any one of its branches or who have qualified by examination for the award of such a degree.

- **Lincoln University**
- **Horticulture Scholarships**

To persons who have graduated at the Lincoln University with a Degree majoring in Horticulture or horticultural related subjects.

Scholarships cover tuition costs and reasonable costs of travel, accommodation and related living expenses for the duration of the study period.

Any application must include conditional acceptance from the applicant's preferred choice of University or Institute together with a full budget in support of the amount applied for.

To qualify applicants must be under the age of thirty (30) years.

For further details and application forms, contact: www.jrtemplintrust.co.nz

Closing date is 31 October 2010

Gary Anderson
NZ Guardian Trust
P O Box 9, Christchurch
Ph: 03 379 0645
Email: gary_anderson@nzgt.co.nz

PIRATE RADIO CHRISTCHURCH
KILL YOUR TALE
RDU
RDU 88.5 FM



→ HEY! LONG TIME, HOPE YOU'VE BEEN BUSY HONING YOUR DJ SKILLS OR DOING SOME BAND PRACTICE? Don't forget the South Island's premier band and DJ competition will be starting real soon; more details available on the RDU website or facebook page. Get involved!

Firstly, let's talk about the Tea Party. The Naked and Famous are coming to play, Kids of 88 are coming to play, Optimus Gryme is coming to play, Maya and Vanya are coming to play, Motocade, Paul Williams, RDU's very own Ghost and that's not even the final line up! Holy crap, it's probably sold out by the time you read this, so if you're coming, we'll see you somewhere in the mosh pit like last year! Should be a great one – be careful though, if it's as hot as it's been recently, make sure you have plenty of water with you at all times, and remember, ENJOY!

So anyone watch the New Zealand music awards last week? Bless Stan Walker, go Gin! Where was her dress though? We were pleased for a few of the artists last night; we've long been supporting David Dallas who won the Hip Hop award, and The Phoenix Foundation who won a couple and were nominated for quite a few. We've been supporting Bulletproof for aaaaages! It's pleasing to say RDU has supported a lot of these artists in their formative years, and we're proud they've gone on to become such a success. And it wasn't even just the winners, a lot of those nominated have featured on RDU way before commercial success.

We have no problems accepting that we play a lot of music a long time before it gets picked up by the major labels. That's what RDU does best, we find the gems before they get known, locally or internationally, and back them, and then give ourselves a pat on the back when they succeed.

What else is new in the land of RDU, I hear you scream! Well, one of our two finest were unlucky to miss out on major national coverage with the Pick Me MTV competition and the Rhythm and Vines Protégé. Unlucky to Barney and Crocker from Friday and Thursday Drive respectively, but next time fellas!

Talking of Rhythm and Vines and all things festival, some pretty impressive line ups at RNV and Big Day Out this year. We expect to feature a number of artists performing on the radio; we have pretty close contact with the people at Big Day Out and Rhythm and Vines. A lot of the acts are very RDU-friendly so we'll get as many on air to talk as possible. We should have a couple of media correspondents up in Auckland to cover the BDO and hopefully RNV as well for you. Backstage interviews, exclusives and whatever else we can squeeze out of the artists.

Okay that's us party people, live long and prosper - yeah we said it!

YE OLDE PUB

With Pot Belly Hayden



→ HEY GUYS, IT'S THE END OF THE YEAR, AND WITH THE END OF THE YEAR COMES EXAMS, **and after exams is drinking time!** That's right very soon we'll get our summer jobs, but before then many of us will spend a couple of weeks relaxing in the sun drinking and spinning bullshit. I've been harking on about doing some home brewing this summer and I won't go on much more other than to say that the brew club ABC will still be up and running over the summer if you want some brewing advice, just spin me an email. In addition to that, if you like good food and even better beer might I suggest that you make it along to the ABC fundraising dinner at Pomeroy's on November the 20th. The tickets are \$100 each so I know a few of you are already out but for that money you get a three course meal with each meal matched with a beer. We have 3 Boys, Dux de Lux and Yeastie Boys coming along, so not only will the beer be good but so will the expert company. If you are interested flick me an email or talk to Eva at Pomeroy's.

For my final article of the year I had to decide if I would ramble on for the entire article or if I'd actually do a proper beer review for once. I came to the conclusion that my reviews may as well be the ramblings of a drunken Irishman so why not give you another Beervana review! On top of this I have since managed to buy the beer I reviewed up in Wellington. It's Mike's Whisky Porter, and trust me, it's worth the \$17 I paid for it.

Mike's Whisky Porter

Size: 750ml

Alc: 10.5%

Price: \$17

Purchased from: Fresh Choice Parklands

Pours a rich dark blackish brown, with a tan head that turns into a nice lacing that hugs the rim. The nose is a combination of whisky and dark rich malts of roasted coffee and some nice dark Ghana-style chocolate. Intertwined with this are dark fruits like cherry and plum. My god is the taste bold, with the molasses heavy malts stomping all over the tongue, the coffee really stands out with the bitter sweet chocolate bring up the rear. On top of all the rich porter flavours are the whisky overtones that bite at the side of the tongue and gives an interesting aftertaste. It's a bit like a porter but with the sharpness of a whisky and is a very pleasant combination indeed!

Now that was my review up in Wellington, and trust me, it still stands true even when sober. I was talking to the brewer and he said that they make a porter that's around 7% then they mature it in whisky barrels that they have re-hydrated with scotch whisky. This bumps the alcohol content up to 10.5% and increases the flavour content by at least 300%. This was the most expensive bottle of beer that I've ever brought but in saying this it is also one of the nicest. If you can get your hands on a bottle buy it if you can and you won't regret it!

Well that's it for another year, I hope to be back next year to do my masters but either way expect to see my column in next years *Canta*. Stay safe, drink responsibly but above all have fun!

Love Beer? Then start Brewing!

Hit me up sometime, I'll shout you a beer: smyden01@hotmail.com



SUPREME CLUBS AWARDS

→ LAST WEDNESDAY EVENING SAW THE NEW-AND-IMPROVED UCSA SUPREME CLUB AWARDS TAKE PLACE AT RYDGES HOTEL. **The surroundings, a three-course meal, and entertainment from the Court Jesters** ensured it was a night to remember (or not remember, in some cases), and befitting of the enormous contribution clubs and societies make to the student community at UC. Well done to all the winners, and thanks to the countless people who have participated in clubs' culture this year. Your work is much appreciated.

Best Marketing

ENSOC

ENSOC uses a wide range of marketing tools. Their database is the envy of many would-be marketers. Engineering manuals, a first class faculty magazine, the fire engine, and its Facebook page positions ENSOC as one of the best marketers on campus.

MUSOC

MUSOC takes a different approach to marketing events around campus. Guerrilla tactics and flash mobbing have made MUSOC the topic of discussion even before the first show poster is pasted. Their public relations is second to none with shows and the Glee Club receiving positive media coverage.

AIESEC

AIESEC cranked up its marketing campaign in 2010. It dominated notice boards with postering. They wangled their way into lectures which resulted in the highest sign up rate in the clubs history.

Winner: MUSOC

Commended: ENSOC

Best New Initiative

Post Graduate Students Association (PGSA)

The PGSA developed their club to grow to over 500 members, offering social, professional, and academic events. Their goal to create interdisciplinary connections among postgraduates has been significantly achieved.

MUSOC

MUSOC created the Glee Club which, without auditions, made the group open up to everyone.

It received much media attention and serves as a training ground for members to maintain their singing skills for major performances.

AIESEC

AIESEC produced Activate, a professional development programme designed for students to identify a need in their community or market and address it. Supporting initiative and creativity it serves as both a competition and as a practical experience.

Winner: PGSA

Best Community Contribution

ENSOC

ENSOC offers both social events and a sports division allowing teamwork and leadership skills to be gained. They have made contributions to many charity and community organisations through events such as Mo-May.

Engineers Without Borders

As a club, EWB link student skills with real community needs, internationally and locally. Contributions include the solar-powered energy system in Tonga, and educational & awareness programmes.

Golden Key

Golden Key promotes charities and contributing to the community. Projects have included Habitat for Humanity and fundraising for the New Zealand Cancer society.

Winner: Engineers Without Borders

Green Club Award

A Brew Club

ABC, as it's known around campus, is an unlikely entrance into this category. They consider themselves to use sustainable production methods, which include reusing glass bottles and the use of kegs to condition the beer. Because the brew is made in their backyards, it is also kindly free from carbon miles.

Winner: A Brew Club

Best Event

LAWSOC

LAWSOC's Law Ball sold out in two hours with 250 in attendance. Securing the Christchurch Art Gallery as a venue means this event will be remembered for being the "real ball" of 2010.

Ucom

Ucom took over 350 eager students to a mystery location for an elegant cocktail night. The Issac Theatre Royal was well impressed with the standard that Ucom conveyed, and the continuous surprises throughout the night made this event stand out.

CUBA

CUBA incorporated new features at this year's "Jib the Foundry", a highly anticipated night, reaching capacity. Anyone could turn up and have a go, and with five tonnes of snow, this is one event the weather didn't dampen.

Winner: CUBA

Outstanding Contribution to Clubs

Benjamin "Bunny" Mossman



Bunny has been a member of Motosoc for five years, and when he became the president he set upon reshaping Motosoc. Many of the concepts of the events you see today were Bunny's ideas. With his hard work, Motosoc has become the fourth biggest club, and one that should be proud of the work this young man has done.

Laura Campbell

Laura was the president of MUSOC and set out on a goal of rebuilding the club. Not long after, musicals were back on stage, the Glee Club was formed, and past members were recognised. The UC Performing Arts division was developed, and student and club rights were advocated. Laura worked on everything, from big ideas to the nitty gritty.

Bree Loverich

Bree is the president of the Post Graduate Students' Association, and along with completing her PhD, she has grown membership of the PGSA from 0 to 500+. She has brought people together forming a community from wide range of backgrounds. Dedication, initiative, and leadership are the words best used to describe Bree and her passion for this club.

Winner: Benjamin "Bunny" Mossman

Best Academic Club

ENSOC

ENSOC isn't just about the Undie. Their members receive support through the first pro handbook, tutorials, career fairs and development sessions.

Golden Key

Golden Key celebrates and encourages academic excellence as well as promoting community service. The club opens up access to overseas conferences, scholarships, and development opportunities.

Women in Engineering

Women in Engineering offer their members free speaker evenings and an industry connection event provided for networking opportunities. These ladies also offer many social events for, of course, networking.

Winner: ENSOC

Best Religious Club

University of Canterbury Muslim Students Association (UCMUSA)

The association offered a weeklong event to increase awareness of the Islamic faith, including exhibitions, an open day at a mosque, and talks. This event opened up the association to students and let them see what they were all about.

University of Canterbury Christian Union

UC Christian Union meets every Wednesday and hold evening bible studies throughout the year. They fundraise for World Vision and have a key line that their club is "not just for people 'into' religion".

Student Life

Student Life offers "Pulse" which encompasses weekly discussions and many events which foster student development personally, socially, and spiritually.

Winner: UC Muslim Students' Association

Commended: Student Life

Best International Club

Canterbury Malaysian Students' Association

The association holds a number of events through the year and have organised a visit from the Malaysian Minister of Foreign Affairs for their members.

University of Canterbury Chinese Students & Scholars Society (UCCSSS)

UCCSSS hold various events throughout the year and offer unique members discounts. They also offer services such as a free lawyer for their members.

University of Canterbury Indian Students Association (UCISA)

The UCISA held the *East Meets West* production which was their biggest event of the year. It was highly successful in developing their club and illustrating the Indian culture.

Winner: UCCSSS

Best Social Club

ENSOC

ENSOC has a proud history of creating social opportunities for its members. This year has included over ten events including sporting events, quizzes, and of course the well-known BBQs.

Ucom

Ucom reached capacity on their graffiti party this year and created an inside BBQ – The Puffer Party. With many of their events selling out, social opportunities were successful and their professionalism is commended.

Motosoc

With over 17 events listed including the Hokitika Wild Ride and Drum and Bass in Your Face, not to mention the Track Days, Motosoc have created a well-rounded social setting and have facilitated the mixing and mingling of their club members well.

Winner: Motosoc

Supreme Small Club

MUSOC

Musoc has had a fantastic year. *Reefer Madness* and *The Sinnerman* wowed students and the wider community.

AIIESEC

The society's commitment to its members has been second to none. Its activate programme has helped provide experience relevant to the students who have participated.

UC Rowing

The rowing club has had a fantastic year. Its membership has swelled. The number of regional and national representatives has increased. They brought home the Heberley Shield, beating Otago University.

Winner: MUSOC

Musoc has been at the forefront of the University's performing arts resurgence. *The Sinnerman* and *Reefer Madness* showcased student talent internally and externally to the local community. The Glee Club has provided another outlet for those interested in the performing arts, but unable to commit to large scale shows. Musoc continue to capture our imagination, captivate our thoughts, and create memorable moments for everyone involved.

Supreme Club

ENSOC

ENSOC continue to dominate, but their formula for success is being copied by other clubs. How long can they continue to be the biggest club on campus?

Ucom

Ucom have had a fantastic year. Its membership has increased, its events have been awesome. There is nothing but positives for this club.

Motosoc

Motosoc continue to lead socially. Motosoc is not simply a club, it's a way of life for many of its members.

PGSA

The Society has grown from 0 to roughly 500 members in one year. They have provided a series of events that support and entertain its members.

Winner: ENSOC

Without doubt, ENSOC are the benchmark club. They are the biggest, and in many things the best at what they do. The ENSOC machine continues to dominate academically, in the community, and of course socially. ←

U2 are

“Seeking intimacy on a grand scale...”

By Sharon McIver

→ FOR THE PAST TWO YEARS, THE GLOBAL ROCK AND ROLL CIRCUS THAT IS U2 HAVE BEEN ENTERING THE WORLD'S BIGGEST STADIUMS AND ERECTING GIANT CLAWS – the name given to the 30m stage that they are bringing to Auckland in November. And thanks to the claw's design, which not only gives the band a 360° view of the crowd, but allows for extra ticketing, prices for the 360° show at Mt. Smart Stadium start at only \$99. Assuming that these seats will be placed in the pit of the claw, the tickets will presumably include a great view of Bono's leather pants.

Whilst this will hardly be news to U2 followers – the tour, I mean, not the pants – I haven't bothered much with the Dubliners since the Zoo TV tour in 1993, when I and tens of thousand others stood in Lancaster Park and watched the biggest television show we'd ever seen. Looking back, I remember that Bono phoned someone important and harangued them about something important, and that for most of the show his face was fragmented into a thousand tellies – which I can now identify as being très postmodern. The only song I can remember however is “One”, and I'm pretty sure that's when Bono got a girl up to dance. Of course, he did the same thing at the previous Lancaster Park concert. Then they had B. B. King supporting, who also played a blistering blues set with U2. That time the music was so good that I can't remember whether they even had screens.

Although I never would have admitted it at the time, I think the Zoo TV show kind of wrecked U2 for me. I still totally rate Achtung Baby as one of the 100 best albums ever, and will remain grateful to October for getting me through a sad teenage year, but there's a point where a band just gets too puffed up to bother with.

Which is why I knew nothing about U2 and the 360° Tour until the NZ leg of the claw was announced, and I saw the monstrosity on telly. It is certainly well named. Protruding high into the sky, the talons dominate the aerial views, whilst suspended between them is a giant metal cylindrical screen (that looks a bit like our own 'Chalice'), so that Bono's face can now be projected 30 metres above the ground. “Bloody hell, that thing's gotta be dumping a lot of carbon,” I thought, and turned up the sound.

'U2, 360, carbon neutral'

Of course, I'm not the only one to whom this thought has occurred, and once I found the right combination of words for the Google machine – “U2, 360, carbon neutral” – I discovered that the claws had been out about U2's hypocritical status for some time.

The Belfast Telegraph reported that Carbonfootprint.com's environment consultant Helen Roberts had done the math: “The carbon footprint generated by U2's 44 concerts this year (2009) is equal to carbon created by the four band members travelling the 34.125 million miles from Earth to Mars in a passenger plane.”

And that's without taking into account the carbon emissions for the same number of concerts in 2010. Of course, it doesn't help that Bono has been telling people that his “prayer is that we become better in looking after our planet.”

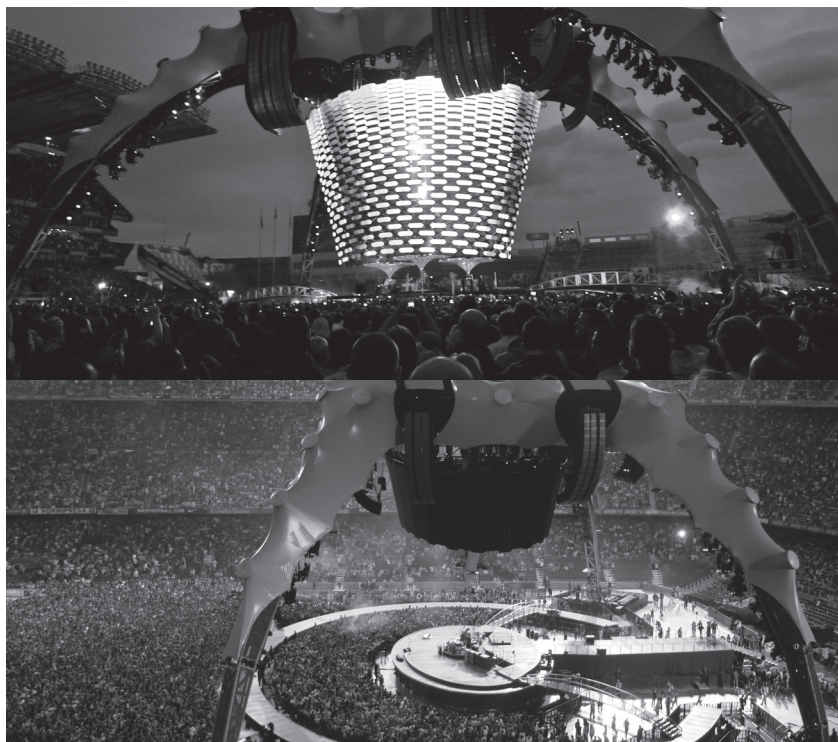
But before we go getting all environmental on Bono's generous arse, U2 have promised that at the end of the tour they will buy enough carbon offsets to make 360° carbon neutral. They are also offering fans the ability to buy their own offsets, and in doing so, are highlighting the “whole idea of carbon offsets with a totally new audience, literally and figuratively.”

In addition, Live Nation, the producers of the U2 360° Tour have called on environmental consultancy company MusicMatters as official advisors. Their aim is to reduce the environmental impact of the tour without “compromising the quality of the fan experience.” Initiatives include setting up recycling programs and encouraging crew and fans to use hydration stations at tour venues in an effort to reduce plastic bottled water waste.

Mmmmm... no mention of the fact that the tour comes with its own 50m pylon and a much celebrated “carpet” of electrical cables then.

Whilst I applaud U2's efforts towards making the tour carbon neutral, these schemes are the recycling bins of the ozone layer. Yes, planting more trees will help, but not creating it unnecessarily in the first place is still by far the smartest thing to do. And when did touring stop being about the music?

So as U2 attempt to claw their way back to the top, it is with regret that I must declare my relationship with them to be kaput. I'll no doubt drag out Achtung Baby occasionally and reminisce about the summer we spent on a tour bus in Western Europe, but in the words of a once-fine song-smith, “Well it's too late, tonight, to drag the past out into the light.”



Eco Survival Week – Thinking beyond carbon credits

There are hundreds of ways to reduce your carbon footprint without having to pay someone to do it for you, and during this week's **Eco Survival Week** at the UC, we're looking at some simple, practical changes you can make towards greater future-proofing, with gardening and vegetarian cooking workshops taking place on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

And, whether you're a hardcore eco-warrior, or someone who just likes free clothes, the **Clothes Swap** happening in the foyer of the Ballroom, on Wednesday 13 October from 4-6pm, will be a great way to clean out your wardrobe and update it with some hot new spring looks. All are welcome, and afterwards, we'll be celebrating our sartorial successes next door at the Foundry. ←

For more on Eco Survival week

please see: www.sustain.canterbury.ac.nz/events/ecoweek.shtml

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CONSIDER YOURSELF AT HOME

By Lizzie Tollemache
Photography by Andy J. Tan



"Squatting consists of occupying an abandoned or unoccupied space or building, usually residential, that the squatter does not own, rent or otherwise have permission to use..."

- Wikipedia



→ IT'S 3PM AND I'M SITTING IN THE LIVING ROOM OF AN EX-CON WHO CALLS HIMSELF DODGER. **Outside is a gloriously sunny day, but I'm straining to see the scars that illustrate his story because the room we're in is dark ("so the pigs can't see in") and smoky ("if we open the door my rat will get out").** It's surprisingly convivial, but this is not normal, and I do find myself wondering when it was that I moved from journalistically-curious to obsessive. Was it when I lied my way through an off limits construction site to drag the photographer up three flights of stairs to the abandoned top floor? Or maybe when the same hapless camera-monkey had to give me a leg up the wall of a derelict hotel bar so I could poke the camera through a hole in it?

This whole palaver started, like everything else in the last five weeks, with The Earthquake. I've always had romantic notions about squatting, and I got excited. People had lost homes. Lots of people had places that were bugged. Maybe it would spawn a squatting revival like they're experiencing in the Northern Hemisphere! Artists would take over long-abandoned houses in the centre of town and hold exhibitions. It would be lovely, with rainbows and sharing and...

I started noticing abandoned buildings. Then more abandoned buildings. They were just sitting there, being empty. Why? People who normally live in the city have nowhere to go. These buildings are undamaged, and have no one in them. Is it unreasonable to suggest that these two problems could be solved in one beautiful baby-step of logic? So I started to snoop.



One sunny morning, armed with only a photographer, I found myself at the Occidental Hotel, balanced precariously on a window ledge in an alleyway, squeezing a camera lens through a hole in a corrugated iron window blockade (which I may or may not have enlarged). Why was it not the photographer doing the balancing act, I hear you ask? Hrrmmph. Ask Andy.

So, perched on the ledge, tantalised by the mattress in the viewfinder but unable to discover more, who should stumble across our path (literally) but Dodger – a bona fide squatter of some years' experience. Cigarettes were exchanged, an interview arranged for the next day. Dodger had to go, he had important business. It was secret (we asked). He left us with some handy advice involving the cover of darkness and a crowbar. He suggested scaling a certain wall and coming in through a certain unblockaded upstairs window. Our quest continued.

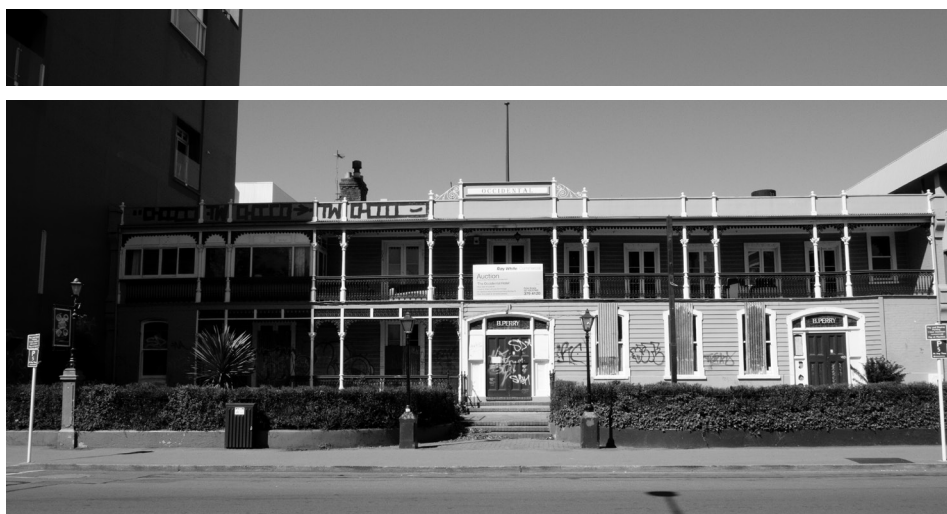
Marian McCurdy, Theatre and Film Studies PhD student (don't laugh you bastards; a doctor of theatre is a real thing), had talked to us already about the frustration of the Old Queen's Theatre. The ownership of the building in a seemingly perpetual state of flux, with no one willing to foot the bill for the extensive restoration it needs, has left TAFS (who lease two out of four floors) in a bit of a pickle. Old Queens is a huge and adaptable space, right in the centre of town, for which Marian day-dreams of a decent future.

"It has the potential to bring life into the city as a performance and exhibition space, live music venue, functional workshop and area that young people can actually use to create," she says. But no one has had access to the elusive top floor for a long time now, and lack of any decent storage means props and pieces of set litter the floor. Before TAFS came in, the Old Queen's had a period of being officially unoccupied, when it became a popular hangout and place to sleep for some of the younger, more nimble squatters and street kids at the time. A former TAFS student, who wishes to remain anonymous, remembers the first few years there and coming in to find that the kids had been playing with the set, props, and makeup overnight, experimenting with them carefully as there was never any damage or theft. Evidence of the theatre's "unoccupancy" period comes instead in the form of building-wide tagging, which for now is preserving that part of the building's history.

Dodger, conversely, paints a very different picture of his years in the squatting world. Though there was a real community of squatters and homeless in the early-to-mid nineties, theatres and makeup were about the farthest things from their minds. With much less support from programmes designed to get people into their own homes, and more street gang clashes, it was a dangerous time. Housewrecking parties, violence, solvents, arson, jailtime and alcoholism were regular features of that world, and Dodger has metal plates in his head from some of the fights. He points out to me the tattoos in memory of those whose funerals he missed. There are a lot of tattoos.

Dodger's left me a bit shell shocked, and after an hour in his council flat I'm disillusioned enough. However, lest I give up on squatting, or the empty building magic completely, he stops me as I leave to go. "Hey, I walked past that boarded-up hotel again this morning" I turn and look at him, blood-shot eyes twinkling in the sun. "Yeah, y'know someone musta taken the frame off that top storey window and climbed in. Reckon it looks pretty comfy in there."

I hear him giggling as he shuts the door after me and pulls the curtain shut.





TOP 3 EMPTY CHCH SPACES*

Upstairs at the Old Queen's Theatre

Christchurch's oldest theatre still stands, on 120 Hereford Street, though the bottom floor (and only street entrance) is currently being turned into a fast food chain. The middle two floors leased by the University for the Theatre and Film department are being used, at least, but the wide open, stunning upper floor is off-limits without substantial renovation work. The entire building is in a state of disrepair and faded glory, which at least makes it easier for the street kids who may or may not still come in over the rooftops to sleep here.

The Occidental Hotel

The oldest surviving hotel in Christchurch, and 1940s workplace of Janet Frame, The Occidental looks onto Latimer Square. It was a devastatingly pretty colonial building; since its closure in 2006, it's just plain devastating. The stained glass windows are boarded up post-quake, but if you're sprightly you can see inside by climbing a ledge. Mattresses, playing cards, and coffee cups strongly suggest that someone was sleeping here until quite recently.

206 Barbadoes Street/Glory Hole/Kreation

What's in a name? Apparently quite a lot, as this confusing live music venue/flat/collective has undergone at least three changes in the last year, abandoned after a recent fire and squatted at various points over the last five. Technically empty, though there are still ample personal effects inside, 206 has some seriously impressive mural work and graffiti art round the back and sides. Weird outdoor loos, tested in the name of journalism, and found to work. Just.

*We call them 'spaces' because we're a little bit arty and funky. Go on, try it.



LAYLA'S TAKE ON YES

With Layla, The Other Yes Guru

→ 'SUP BITCHES, LAYLA HERE. Dani has handed over the reigns to me so I can tell the tale of a time between our falling out and my nearly wetting myself on the Ghost Walk. Now I'm not one to point fingers, but clearly Dani was in the wrong when it came to my man. But now that blame has been placed, I have forgiven her 'cos I didn't really like him that much in the first place.

So after we fell out, I went off to my favourite club, formerly known as our favourite club, where I may have spread some lily white lies about Dani, playing with ideas that she was involved in Scientology and was now a vegan devoting her time to making sure every child owns crayons. Not sure if they believed me, but I like to think so.

Unlike Dani, I never gave up on Yes. Instead I dabbled in some new stuff like You-Tubing songs backwards to hear their hidden messages. I also took part in Speed-Renting, which is just like Speed Dating, but instead of finding a date, you're finding a flatmate. Not that I needed a new flatmate, but I knew it was only a matter of time before Dani crumbled and moved out. But Speed-Renting is how I met my new BFF, Molly. She was pretty decent. Short. But let's just say that she was no Dani when it came to Yes and pretty much everything else.

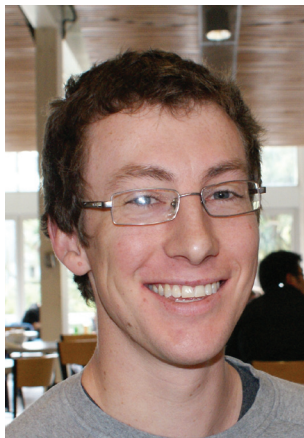
Molly and I hit the town just about every night we could to tell each other our tales of the day and make new attempts at Yes. Sadly for Molly, she never really did catch onto the whole "Yes" concept. Her grasp on Yes went about as far as agreeing to pay for the first couple of rounds. So when I finally was able to tell her of how I accidentally kidnapped someone, she was more concerned that amused. Though I finally got the reaction I deserved when I was speaking to Dani once more. It was an accident, honestly, but I don't think the guy realised that.

You see, I was stopped at a traffic light one night out in town, when a couple of guys I recognised as Ben and Colin from one of my classes knocked on my window. I didn't actually know these guys too well, but when they asked me for a ride to another bar, I agreed. So they hopped awkwardly into my two-door car and I took them to their destination. Colin got out of the front seat, but as Ben was navigating the chair, I realised my wallet had gone. So I did what any normal person who thought they'd been robbed would do: I drove round and round the city centre until he gave it back. So there was Ben, freaking out, calling Colin on his mobile to demand it back, offering me all manner of items from his wallet and clawing at the window like a bumble bee stuck inside. But it was only until I looked down at my feet and saw my little pink purse sitting calmly on the floor. So I drove the poor guy back to his friend and told him to laugh it off. It was pretty humorous really; I found it funny, Dani found it funny. Molly however, did not. No, Molly just looked at me horrified and asked if Colin was okay. The nerve of the girl; I was the one with the issues and all she could think of was the suspect. But anyway, that was probably the beginning of her not responding to my messages, or phone calls, or handwritten letters on homemade paper.

I was feeling pretty lonely again, so it was pretty fortunate that the guy that has a thing for Dani text me when he did, because I was fully prepared to find myself a new and exciting buddy. Honestly though, how weird is it getting a message from a number you don't know saying that if I went to the Arts Centre on Friday just before 8, I'd be able to see Dani so scared she would probably cry and wet herself all at the same time. Now, that was something I didn't get to see. Partially because I was so terrified myself and partially because it *probably* didn't happen. She asked me not to put anything about the walk in, but if you get the chance, do it. Dani didn't leave my side once that night and it made me realise just what kind of friend I had in her. I am so freakin' sappy sometimes. So that's some of my tale from the time we had apart: Dani finally found out how I accidentally kidnapped someone, and I found out how she joined a cult. Sounds like good times all round. Now that she and I are away laughing on a fast camel, I shall leave the rest of the Yes stories up to Dani. Peace out. ←

the inquisition

- 1. Are you a Paul Henry fan?
- 2. Who do you think would make a good Governor-General?
- 3. Do you think Christchurch made the right call re-electing Bob Parker?
- 4. What's the strangest place you've ever slept?
- 5. What's the best study-time stress relief?



NAME: MICHAEL
2nd YEAR – Pro Engineering

1. I love Paul Henry. A little bit of TV died when he left.
2. The guy at the moment is fine. After that, Paul Henry.
3. Yes. I hear he's going to put in a massive railway system, so that means he should definitely get back in.
4. Probably under a bridge.
5. Sports.



NAME: DAVE
3rd YEAR – Arts

1. Bit of a dickhead, but fine if you don't buy in to what he says.
2. Jason Gunn
3. No, but Jim Anderton would have been a wrong choice as well.
4. In someone else's bed. It doesn't happen often, so it's quite strange.
5. Sleeping in someone else's bed.

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STUDENT BREWERS: THE CONFESSIONS

By Revd. Tom Innes

→ CHANCES ARE THAT AT A FLAT NEAR YOU, **students are brewing up a storm.** Yes, the questionable art of home brewing still thrives among a small but obsessed group of university students in our city. Are these the students our parents warned us about, or is something more benign afoot? I dug myself in at Café 101 for a couple of weeks and interviewed UC students who home brew to bring you this showpiece of investigative journalism.

In my quest for brewers to interview I went to Fraser Kennedy, president of the university's imaginatively named brew club, ABC (A Brew Club). From a club membership of 250 Fraser supplied me with a shortlist of names from the roughly fifty members of the club who are actively brewing. We then got down to the serious business of drinking coffee and talking about brewing.

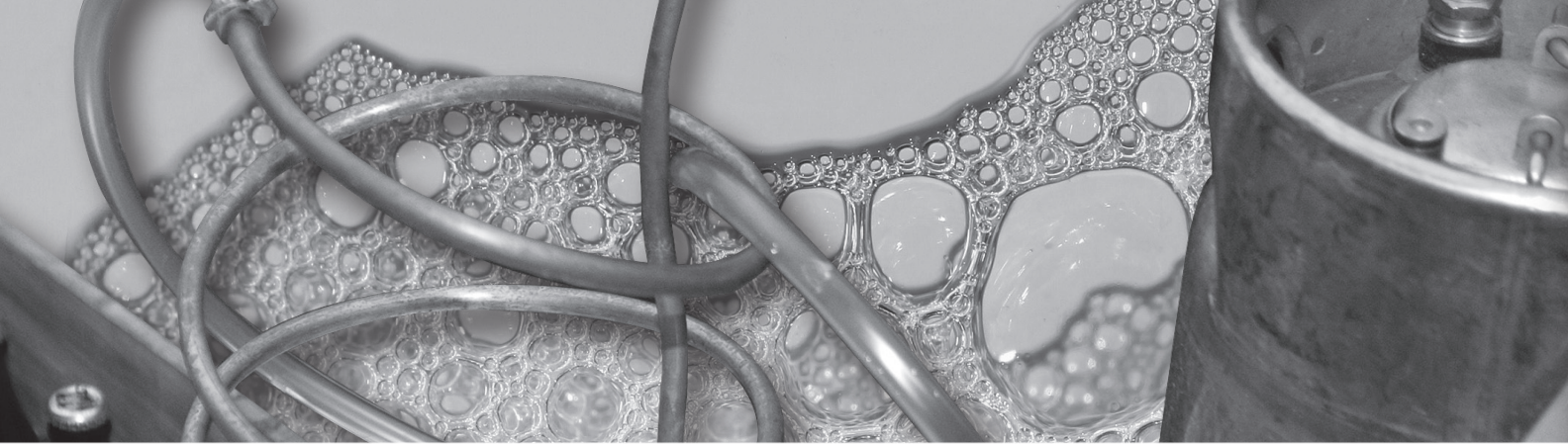
"If it's got alcohol in it, we make it"

So who are these people and what are they brewing? These students are typically in their early twenties and have been at their studies for at least a couple of years. Of the ones I spoke to, most have started brewing within the last two years. (The exception here is Fraser himself, who started at fifteen.) Most are focused on beer. Typically they have each brewed somewhere between ten and twenty batches. Some are brewing basic kit brews, others are experimenting with semi- and all-grain brewing, and a few are doing some very amazing outside the square brewing. As Fraser explained "if it's got alcohol in it, we make it: beer and spirits, mead and wine, as well as some of the more unusual styles of beers. For example, 'pre-historic' styles and brews employing spontaneous fermentation". There is definitely some alchemy happening here.

Why Do They Brew?

But it's the "why?" questions that are always the most interesting. Why do students brew? According to Fraser, the desire for cheap alcohol is where many start. Others get a taste for craft beers but find them expensive, so they decide to have a go themselves. The students who continue to brew do so for a number of reasons. They become passionate about beer and the brewing process or they get into competitive brewing. Then there are the political reasons. There is the satisfaction of doing for yourself what you used to rely on a big corporate to do for you. Another angle is that this is a hobby that is interesting to other people. There is definitely a cool factor to home brewing as nearly everyone is interested in brewing as most people drink alcohol of some form or another. Fraser puts it pretty simply: "Everyone who enjoys drinking beer should have a go at brewing their own."

Fraser's flatmate Ryan is equally enthusiastic. As a chemical process engineer, part of the attraction for him is having control over the brewing process and the satisfaction of developing something. Ryan is one of several ABC members to mention enjoying the competitive side of brewing. ABC runs its own competitions and Ryan does well in these. All of this and then "at the end you have something you can sit down



and enjoy." As I read on the internet: it sure beats stamp collecting!

The attraction of the process itself is a common thread running through the interviews. Alan is a third-year forestry student. He talks about the curiosity invoked by the process and "the allure of a big stainless steel vat". Being able to tweak and tinker is definitely part of the fun. "Throwing in random stuff" and being able to change things means that no two brews are ever the same.

Gary (a history honours student here from the States for two years) talks about the joy of creating something and caring for it from grain through to opening a bottle. Being able to say "I made this – I made the decisions" is intensely satisfying. The freedom and satisfaction of self-reliance is another consistent theme here. Gary says "We are getting sick of what is being put down our throats. We want to branch out and do what others [craft brewers] are doing ... The days of Tui and Budweiser are coming to an end. Home brewers are sick of mainstream beers. Being exposed to good beer now is the thing."

The twist with Gary is that at high school he was anti-alcohol: "I saw it as a deviation from nature and looking at my friends drinking confirmed that". But Gary had a conversion experience. Working on the theory that if you can spend \$10 for lots of something horrible, you should be able to spend \$10 and get a bit less of something nice, he began trying craft beers. One day he came across Sierra Nevada Pale Ale. It was his moment of enlightenment. Beer is now something to be appreciated and savoured, rather than a means to getting totalled. Gary still rates Sierra Nevada Pale Ale among his favourites, and IPA is the only style he has brewed more than once. So far.

Speaking of IPA, Tui was the standout antihero of the student brewers. Peter (another engineer) said it was the cost and quality of Tui drove him to brewing – especially when he discovered that he can make a whole barrel for the price of a crate. The downside of home brewing for him is convenience. You have to get organised and get around to it if you want to have beer on hand. But, "brewing is like going for a run. Once you start, it's great!" The final blow for Tui was when the price went up.

Women Brewers

But where are the women? It is undeniable that most of the brewers are male. Of the three female brewers for whom I had contact details, I was only able to get in touch with Pip. Pip was kind enough to respond to my email from overseas, where she has been since finishing a chemical process engineering degree. Her boyfriend is on the ABC Committee, so she has spent a fair bit of time around guys doing the brewing thing, though she admits having always been interested in brewing herself. "In reality I've got into it recently because I like to drink beer and can't really afford to buy it, so we thought we'd make our own - so far with

reasonable success." Pip couldn't tell me why more women are not brewing, but she sees that as a challenge for the club and something she would be willing to put some energy into when she gets back.

"Less bogan than an ENSOC BBQ"

In an attempt to frame the question of alcohol responsibility in a way that would illicit some discussion, I put the following question to the brewers: If every student flat brewed their own would less or more alcohol be consumed? No one said less would be consumed. (Yes, I was surprised too.) But the brewers were pretty uniform in what they did say. Most suggested that alcohol consumption would be about the same or would rise slightly, but that the overall effect would be more regular drinking with less binge drinking.

The reasoning runs as follows. The deeper into brewing one gets, the more time, care, and love goes into the product. No one wants to guzzle a batch in a session or two. After all, "it's your baby" (Gary) and "if it's a nice beer, a crate is a month's work" (Alan). One brewer went so far as to say that if he wants to binge with his mates he goes and buys a crate of mainstream beer, adding "my home brew is not for that purpose". The student brewers talk about the pleasure of having a pint of their own beer with a meal and being able to stop there. Another commented that as he was doing high gravity beers, one of his bottles was worth three bottles of standard beer.

Maturity is also widely recognised as an important factor. Most agree that younger students will probably over-indulge if they are set up to brew their own. However, as Pete observes, brewing requires organisation and care, and those same students are unlikely to organise themselves with a regular supply of alcohol. Gary suggests that younger students binge because they can, but that most will grow out of that - given a year or three. The bottom line is *why* people are drinking. Alan expresses this well: "brewing leads to an appreciation of flavours. When you go out you can pick out the nice stuff and savour it, right down to noticing how the flavour changes as the beer warms in the glass as you get down to the bottom of it".

Another take on this question is what happens within ABC. Fraser is clear that the club is about quality rather than quantity. The club does not promote binge drinking and will work with others on this problem however they can. Fraser sees the club as a vehicle for the promotion of responsible drinking. This is done through education and the promotion of brewing as an art. He admits little has been done within the club specifically on this topic, but claims that this is because it has not been a problem within the club. The other club members I spoke to backed this up, but seemed a little more willing to admit they enjoyed having a few. Commenting on ABC BBQs

one brewer said "there is a bit of an Oktoberfest mentality. It's not small amounts. People have a good time and have plenty, but it's less bogan than an Ensoc BBQ. It maintains the notion of a craft, and we are sampling". This squares with my own observations. The ABC BBQ I attended earlier in the year was a very jolly time. People were all enjoying themselves but they were taking careful note of what they were drinking and most of the discussion that evening was around brewing, including the announcing of the winners of the club's mid-year brewing competition.

A hobby, then a passion, then an obsession

Student brewers are an interesting lot. Their brewing abilities vary widely, but the ones to whom I spoke are all keen to brew more and to learn more. Cheap alcohol is not a permanent motivator for these people. It is very obvious that they are all passionate about the craft of brewing. All are aware of the political aspects of what they are doing. They value the independence and sense of personal empowerment that comes with brewing. The historical aspects of brewing are also appreciated. There is a real affinity with the stories and places and people who have created and nurtured the different classic beer styles and the processes they have developed. At the same time there is huge respect for the leaders of the current craft beer revival and the way some of these people are going completely new places with their brewing. Fraser, for example, talks in reverent tones about Sam Calagione from Dogfish Head brewery in the States, as well as local kiwi brewing legends like Paul Cooper of Wigram Breweries, John Harrington of Harringtons, and Luke Nicholas from Epic.

Another thing that strikes me is that some of these brewers don't know how much they know. Ryan, for example, has only done eight to ten brews but his depth of knowledge and out-there brewing are inspirations. Fraser admits to being obsessed with brewing, and it shows. His dream is to study brewing at the Sieble Institute in the States and return to New Zealand and start his own brew pub. "Brewing started as a hobby, became a passion, and has now become an obsession." The fiery glint in this man's eye tells me this not just hyperbole.

Do not fear the student brewer. They are here to make the world better, one glass-full at a time. Meanwhile, watch out for Fraser Kennedy's Ultimate Ale, coming one day to a pub near you.

Tom Innes is Senior Ecumenical Chaplain here at UC and a member of ABC

**You can contact him on tom.innes@canterbury.ac.nz
For more on ABC contact the-flyingscotsman@hotmail.com**

THE STABLES



// PHOTOGRAPHY BY ANDY J TAN

The street's all students, Asians, or druggies.

The flat is warmer than last year's. Last year it was a shack of a house with No More Gaps around the doors, holding them in, fibreglass around the sliding door. This one has two showers, two toilets. It was nice when we moved in. We've been through the floor a couple of times. It's just bora, so it's real porous, so when people run around it just goes straight through. And there's a lake under the house where the drain got blocked up by the fat we washed down it.

There's a guy who lives over the back fence, we're not too sure what he does. But he sells something. He's got cameras set up. We've got Asians on one side, then skinheads right next door. There was a dawn raid a couple of months back on the skinheads place at about 5 o'clock in the morning, dogs everywhere. There's a guy across the street who comes over every now and then and chats, and he just forgets after about a minute what he was saying and will repeat it.

We've had one red card, a lock-in, locked in the garage with about 40 litres of punch. Someone ended up with alcohol poisoning. We had one bucket for water, one bucket for punch, and one bucket for vomit. We had one song we chose each, and that was on loop, and it was only allowed to be moved on to the next song on the playlist when someone ate a chilli.

We do some craft brewing. There's quite a bit of it around, and some ethanol. It's pretty casual, no exploding stills or anything.

There's two cooking groups. After starting out with one, we broke into Team Edward and Team Jacob. Team Edward started calling themselves that, then called the others Team Jacob because they thought it was funny. Free meat caused the split. Some of us go hunting up north and don't want to share it. But now after venison every night they're over it.

We've lost a double-ended dildo one of the guys bought as a joke. We'd had it for a couple of years. It's probably someone in the flat who's lost it, though it could be part of our interflat war. Last year we stole a whiteboard from them, then they stole all our blankets, then this year we were over there drinking and casually loaded up our car with all their pillows and left. Then they retaliated by leaving tea bags and condoms all over our room. We're still to retaliate. The war is ongoing.



YOUR GUIDE TO... 2010



TEA PARTY



THIS FRIDAY SEES THE BIGGEST SOCIAL EVENT OF THE UNI YEAR (yes, even bigger than all those other ones that are claimed to be the biggest, and this time you can totally believe it), the Ste – er, Tea Party. First of all, I'm sorry to say that there won't actually be much tea to be drunk. Yes, this revelation has been disappointing to many a student since this whole thing began, but what might make it all seem a little brighter is that it's a chance for you to blow off some end-of-year steam with 3000 of your closest mates to an all-day line-up of music including The Naked and Famous, Kids of 88, North Shore Pony Club, and... Paul Williams. Not only that, there's free food galore (and a lot of it), and prizes for best dressed. Don't have a ticket? Unfortunately you're right out of luck, they're all sold out. Do have one? Congratulations! You're obviously an intelligent and attractive person with wonderful taste and a pleasing disposition. Here's a few of the key details you'll need to keep in mind:

★ YOU'VE GOT TO BE A UCSA MEMBER TO GET IN

If you're enrolled at UC, you're a UCSA member, unless you've let them know otherwise. Make sure you've got your Canterbury Card on you at the gate – otherwise you won't be getting any further.

★ YOU'VE GOT TO BE 18 OR OVER TO ATTEND

Since folks like to enjoy a few quiet drinks here and there at the Tea Party, we can't let in anyone under the age of 18. But don't worry, kid, you'll get there one day! If you are over 18, have some a valid proof-of-age ID on you: you will be checked.

★ DON'T SMUGGLE IN HEROIN

... or cocaine, or marijuana, or ecstasy, or speed, or crack, or – okay, so, cut a long story short: no drugs. Or party pills. No alcohol, either; though you needn't worry, it'll be on offer once you're inside the gates. And leave the weapons at home, too – that means no bringing a real sword to go with your Conan the Barbarian costume. No bazookas, either, though we'll be pretty damn impressed if you manage to source one.

★ YOUR STUFF MIGHT GET CHECKED

As much as we'd like to take you all on your word that you'll follow the above directive, the conditions of your ticket mean you consent to a reasonable search of your person and any items you have with you.

★ THERE'LL BE FREE FOOD – EAT IT

There'll be an array of fine delicacies put on for you in The Mix, so make sure you try a little. We're not trying to fatten you up for some kind of nefarious plan to harvest student-refined fat as a form of alternative biofuel to run the secret UCSA reactor – I mean, that'd be crazy – but having some eats in your stomach will keep you pumping through the day. Plus, c'mon, free food. You're a student, passing that up would be heresy.

★ THERE'LL BE FREE WATER – DRINK IT

Keeping hydrated is what all the cool kids are doing these days. Also "crumping," but I'm not quite sure what that is, and I think it scares me a little.

★ NO PASS OUTS

This one was a little confusing, but turns out it doesn't refer to fainting. Though you probably shouldn't do that, either. No, it means that once you leave the event, you can't get back in.

★ GET INTO IT, NOT OUT OF IT

Have fun, be safe, enjoy yourself. The Tea Party is an event to be remembered, so make sure you can remember at least a part of it.

★ DON'T BE A DICK

Seriously, dude. We're all tired of that shit. It's not going to be a repeat of your mate Gazza's flatwarming.

FLAT OUT

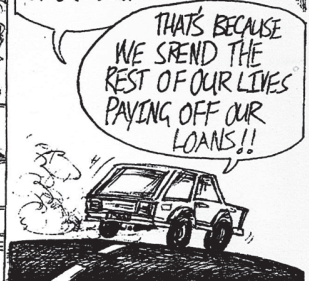
SO I APPLIED FOR THE FULL STUDENT LIVING COSTS... RENT'S REALLY GETTING AHEAD OF ME.



I DECIDED I'D RATHER PAY FOR IT LATER WHEN I HAVE A FULLTIME JOB THAN STRESS ABOUT IT NOW.



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