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## EDITORIAL: VOTE 'YES' TO SEXY GARFIELD

The OUSA referendum is coming up. Referendums are essentially one of the biggest ways students can influence the policies and stances of OUSA. Not that any of you noticed, but a couple weeks ago the OUSA exec were inviting students to submit questions that will be put to the student body on May 27th to vote on. Y'all really fumbled the bag on this one; you could have submitted literally anything – subject to OUSA's lawyers who have a bit of a reputation for being boring, mind you.

In 2019, the Critic editor Charlie saw the chance to submit "silly" questions. My personal favourites include whether OUSA should de-establish the medical students' society "because they're getting uppity", and that OUSA change their logo to a "big old dick". Inspired by my forefathers, I asked arguably the most important question on this year's referendum. (Not whether OUSA should provide cheap dinners or lobby for gender neutral bathrooms): "Should OUSA make free prints of Sexy Garfield available for all students?"

I've had Sexy Garfield on the brain for years. Taking advantage of my newfound exec meeting speaking rights, I bring her up every chance I get. Self-professed Sexy Garfield hater CEO Debbie loves it. For those who don't know her (because I forget that at the ripe age of 22 I'm Dunedin Old and content cycles faster than my washing machine on spin), here's a bit of lore behind the beautiful beast herself. The cat, not Debbie.

'Lasagnerie' is a portrait of cartoon cat Garfield wearing pink lingerie, stockings, and high heels. The sultry work of art by a former student Emily Davidson was originally a centrefold of Critic and a part of the OUSA Student Art Exhibition in 2017. It was bought by President Hugh Baird and framed (103cm x 78cm) for \$250 and hung in OUSA Secretary Donna Jones' office as a practical joke. "A fucking waste of

money," said 2018 President Caitlin Barlow-Groome. I beg to differ.

The magnificent portrait has had many homes since then, with her legend taking on a life of its own. A student flat in 2018 admitted to Critic that they snagged 140 copies of the issue with her as the centrefold, sending photos of them posing next to their beloved Sexy Garfield wall that they pranked their flatmate with while he was out for football. "We eventually had to take them down because he got night terrors," the flat told Critic.

The framed portrait of Sexy Garfield lived in Critic for a while. I was incredibly upset when she was moved. Debbie was also upset – she wanted to have nothing to do with the sultry feline who was then the subject of OUSA exec meeting debates. They couldn't decide where she should go. As an expensive piece of art, she needed to be somewhere where the public could admire her. Critic was apparently not the place for this. People are genuinely scared to come into the office (Lotto bites).

After much debate (and groans of frustration from Debbie) 'Lasagnerie' now proudly resides in the OUSA main reception where you collected your Ori and Hyde tickets (also where you can find lost property, if you didn't already know). She's not immediately obvious when you walk in – Debbie didn't want important guests to be confronted with her glory.

Anyway, if the OUSA lawyers don't fuck this one up for me, you'll get the chance to vote for free prints of Sexy Garfield to be made available for all students. For now, you'll have to make do with the page to the left. You're welcome!

**NINA BROWN**

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# LETTERS



UNIVERSITY  
**BOOK SHOP**  
For all booklovers, everywhere.

## LETTER OF THE WEEK

**Dear Critic,**

I commend you for your article on the removal of the Fishing Related Mortality Limit (FRML) for sea lions. As some (notably the surfers among us) may have observed, the sea lion population around Dunedin has been doing well. But the same cannot be said for the population down in the subantarctics.

If the FRML was removed in order to be immediately replaced with a more effective tool, that would be great. But the way MPI has staged its removal raises a red flag for their understanding of data, and the value they place on protecting our endangered species.

In the light of this affront to sea lions, the fact that the feature image of your article shows a FUR SEAL just adds insult to injury. How did that happen? The two species do indeed share many similarities, but one look at that pointy nose, long whiskers, and prominent double-coat of fur should be indication enough.

Anyway, we're very lucky to have sea lions gracing our local beaches. Learning the difference between them and our fur seals would probably be a good idea.

Doubly concerned,

Frequenter of local beaches

**Send letters to the editor to [critic@critic.co.nz](mailto:critic@critic.co.nz) to be in to win a \$25 UBS voucher.**

## Kia Ora Critic Team!

I was looking at the front cover of the critic issue this week and couldn't help but notice that a finger was missing around the Sheatha barbie doll. Please, please give us an explanation as to this occurrence. Is the finger purposefully missing? Or is it hiding somewhere? I can't stop staring at it.

Cheers

A confused tired student

**Editor's response:** *It's just shy.*

## Hi there!

I just wanted to write a letter of support for the student who sent out the psa last week about people being dicks in lectures and not having any respect for other students.

As a certified hater myself I loved this letter and just wanted to add my 50c, being a decent human being doesn't just start and end in the lecture theatre. It also continues into the library, especially areas where people are clearly studying

and trying to focus. PLEASE DONT MAKE A PHONE CALL IN THE FUCKING LIBRARY. I don't know how many times I've heard someone just happily make calls or answer calls in a super quiet area. I myself get up and walk to a more appropriate area to do this. I don't know if I'm just fucked off because I'm stressed about exams or because if I can get my lazy ass up and move away from people then you can too!

Also just wanted to reiterate that packing up before a lecturer is finished is a really cunty thing to do, these people are (usually) really on time and when they go over time by like 2 mins its because they probably have some important information for you.

So in conclusion, get off your ass to make a call, listen for 30 more seconds to a lecturer and be a decent cunt around campus

Lots of love, a certified hater

**Editor's response:** *I back y'all on this. In the meantime, the Radio Onecard should add a deal for noise cancelling headphones.*

# YOUR WEEKLY BULLSHIT ROUNDUP

**Graduation certificates now include your major and minor subjects**, not just your bachelor. "About fucking time" – everyone. Congrats again to all recent graduates!

**Canterbury Uni students reported to Newshub last week that halls of residence aren't serving enough food**, dipping into savings for takeaways and two-minute noodles after meal times.

**The Exec Times in a recent Instagram post called News Editor Hugh a 'Hugh-munguous Dumbass'**. Critic is outraged – and also a little jealous of Emily's headline skills

Critic census results are rolling in with over 700 responses as of print. Preliminary results are: a third of you are lying about not using ChatGPT, 60% think Castle St is dead, and joints are the most popular way to get blazed. Keep 'em coming, data has never looked so sexy

**Unipol are still running their May group fitness challenge! Grab a stamp card, go to classes, and be in to win prizes.** You may even spot some Critic staff there completing a challenge of their own

**The Hill City University Athletic club held a relay event between halls of residence recently.** Studolme took the W, followed by Salmond and St Margs

**It's NZ Music Month!** To celebrate, Radio One will be playing exclusively NZ music from May 20th to the 27th

**OUSA's referendum is in the works**, set to run from May 27th with the Exec asking the important questions – such as whether we turn all grass on campus into an intensive dairy farm

**The Muslim Students' Associations across NZ universities have planned a national rally for Palestine across their respective campuses this Thursday, May 23rd from 12-2pm.** MUSA call on students to join the Otago rally from the Union Lawn to the Clocktower

**Radio One's new Late Breakfast Show host starts this week!** Candice is out, Zac Hoffman is in

# CLUBS

**Otago Students for Justice in Palestine are holding their first meeting at the OUSA Clubs and Socs building in Room 1 at 6pm this Tuesday, May 21st.** Anyone is welcome to join for a panel discussion about what students can do to "hold the university accountable in the face of ongoing genocide against the Palestinian people."

**The Otago Debating Society won against Canterbury Uni at the annual novice Claytons tournament**

**The Otago Students Spearfishing and Hunting Club raised \$3200 for the Dunedin charity Rock Solid at their annual charity spearfishing competition and auction.** Ka pai!

**The Highlanders beat the Crusaders 32-29 at the recent home game that saw the most packed Zoo of the year.** Critic counted 10 streakers

# SPORTS



## Cosy Dell Creeper Lurks Over to Queen

This is getting a bit fucked

By Hugh Askerud  
News Editor // news@critic.co.nz

The Cosy Dell Creepers are reportedly extending their range, with multiple sources confirming that the figure has been snooping around flats on Queen St. The figure has been reportedly sighted in locations near Prospect Park, a pitch-black field located on the end of Queen St, allegedly prompting a local uptake in security camera sales.

Speaking to an incident with the figure, one student Katie\* told Critic Te Ārohi that they had received a text from a friend which had "live footage of him just snooping around their flat." Another of the flatmates, Chloe\* said, "We definitely panicked, we all migrated over to one room but then just started cracking jokes, calling him the CDC."

It was around this point that one of their flatmates trekked back from the library. "I was freaking out and had a such bad feeling and then as soon as I got inside I saw the message saying, 'Heads up, he's been hanging around,'" said Katie\*. Others not so much, with the girls reporting that one of their flatmates who was going out that night was calling out "creeper where are you?" before making the mish outdoors.

Police arrived on the scene at this point, reporting to residents that the figure had moved to the field above their house. "The police told us to call [them] and not Campus Watch because the police can actually do something [...] [Campus Watch] can't take physical action in a situation like that," said Katie\*.

Following the incident, Chloe\* reported, "We definitely don't go outside by ourselves at night." She suggested that the sentiment was felt similarly by neighbours in the cul-de-sac. Concerns were labelled chiefly at Prospect Park, a pitch-black field which they have to cross regularly to reach their cars. Beth\* told Critic Te Ārohi "When I'm going through the field I'll yell 'I've got a knife' just in case."

Action is being taken by both Police and residents. "Now it's gotten a bit more serious [...] people were taking the mick out of it a bit," said Beth\*. Security footage of suspicious individuals are now circulating widely amongst flats, bolstered by strong communication channels between residents. Speaking to this uptake in security, the girls reported how a flatmate had been to Bunnings to get a security camera whereupon she was allegedly told that "so many people" have been in to get cameras for their flats due to safety concerns.

Police have also taken a proactive approach, with one man having already been arrested "in relation to four burglaries." Though Police are unable to comment further on the details of the case, the individual will appear in court on the 30th of May. Police are also reportedly aware of the other individual's activities, with security footage of the figure being distributed to officers stationed on the case.

As Critic reported last week, both Police and the Proctor encourage any students to report suspicious activity around their flats. "Our message to students and the wider community is don't feel bad about calling us to report something or someone who looks out of the ordinary - you're not going to get in trouble if you're wrong, and it could prevent you or someone else from becoming the victim of crime," said Detective Mark Durant.

The Proctor encourages students to put the Campus Watch Control Room phone into their cell (0800 479 5000) and lock your windows and doors, and pull curtains at night. As well as Campus Watch, there are many other support services that students can turn to if they are feeling stressed or worried by these events. "The University reminds students that Student Health Services, Disability Information and Support, and Te Whare Tāwharau are just a few places students can seek support if they are feeling personally affected by these incidents."

\*Name changed.

## Knox Spree of Lightbulb Thievery

Cult energy still going strong

By Hugh Askerud  
News Editor // news@critic.co.nz

In Issue 11, Critic Te Ārohi received a heated letter to the editor from Knox students who were "pissed the fuck off" after a wave of lightbulb thieving had swept through the college. "If we keep running out of lightbulbs in our double a's, who will host pres?" Too right. Critic sniffed a story.

Critic spoke to Knox resident Emma\*, who reckoned that the twitchy fingers of light bulb kleptomania had spread through the castle to the point where there was no singular culprit. It's actually just everyone! While the thievery was largely isolated between students, there were some rumours floating of a sub warden becoming involved in the incident after their light bulb was stolen by a student. Allegedly, this incident led to the hall getting involved, with Emma telling Critic, "The headmistress is putting her foot down now!"

Like the rubbish bin merry-go-round of flatting in North D, Emma stated, "It kind of goes around, you steal one, you steal somebody's else's [...] I doubt I have my actual light bulbs." This answer, in tandem with Emma's sheepish grin, suggests the spate of robberies are a needs-must response to other robberies, as students pry desperately for some vestige of light.

Ethan, though, had a different answer. He suggested, "It's an occasional thing. I don't think it happens that often." Despite finding it "funny," Ethan stressed the turmoil the event had caused in the hall, telling Critic, "They grabbed one out of a subbie's room. The boys got in quite a lot of shit for it." Knox College did not reply to our queries in time for print.

Salmond students thought it was a bit of a laugh. Laura told Critic, "It's kinda funky not gonna lie." Quizzed whether she thought the bulb-kleptomaniacs of Knox students would wander down the hill once they'd run out of bulbs to pinch in the castle, she said, "Possibly." Laura added, though, that "there is a bit of friendliness this year in the Knox-Salmond relationship." Salmonder Ollie, on the other hand, said, "I'm not surprised that it was at Knox." He argued that "100% we don't like to associate with them [...] It's probably the same back."

Ollie summed up the issue when he simply commented: "That's pretty crack up."

\*Name changed.

## OUSA Referendum Incoming

Less cool than Critic Census, but good try

By Nina Brown  
Editor // critc@critic.co.nz

On May 27th, the OUSA Referendum will be up and running. Students will be sent the link to an online survey, giving you the ability to vote on matters close to home like accessibility, cost of living, academia, and recreation. It's a bit like the Critic Census, but with lawyers and tangible change involved (we ain't doing shit).

Administrative Vice President Emily invited students to submit answers to her a couple weeks ago. The questions were then put to the OUSA Exec, run past some lawyers, put to students in an online forum to fiddle over the wording, with the final list now available online.

Here's the list of questions that will be up for voting. We gotchu:

- Should the Otago University Students' Association (OUSA) Audited Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 be received and accepted?
- Should OUSA's Annual Report for 2023 be received and accepted?
- Should OUSA support an ATM being installed on campus somewhere near the Link?
- Should OUSA lobby for the University of Otago to create a course advice software where students can input their degree and papers and see if they meet all the degree requirements?
- Should OUSA make free prints of Sexy Garfield available for all students?
- Should OUSA have branded condoms and dental dams?
- Should OUSA pass a motion that the President be only referred to as "Mr/Madam President" on all occasions?
- Should OUSA provide a student bar?
- Should OUSA advocate for a new policy that will give students universal access to closed-captioned lecture recordings?
- Should OUSA provide or lobby the University to provide period products in all bathrooms on campus?

- Should OUSA provide more daytime events on campus?
- Should the OUSA executive do a weekly challenge and post it on Instagram (@ousaexec)?
- Should the OUSA executive provide an online bulletin of their actions (such as the one on 2nd May) on a weekly or biweekly basis?
- Should OUSA provide a cheap option for dinners for students, similar to \$4 lunch?
- Should OUSA lobby the University to turn all the grass on campus into an intensive dairy farm?
- Should OUSA convert the aquatic events centre into a cafe?
- Should OUSA lobby the University to work with the Otago Regional Council for cheaper fares for university students?
- Should OUSA lobby the University to create more all gender toilets on campus?
- Should OUSA ask Gus Webster to opt-out of being a member of OUSA?
- Should OUSA lobby the University to run a Postgraduate open day?
- Should OUSA lobby the University to expand the Graduate Research School's scope to include Honours students, course work Masters students and 2 years Masters students completing their coursework year?

The question of whether OUSA should advocate for major and minors to be included on graduation certificates was originally on the list, however since it was approved by the Exec at their emergency meeting both they and Critic Te Ārohi were made aware that this has, in fact, been done for this year's grads – much to the jealousy of all grads that came before them. Sigh.

OUSA Prez Keegan encourages all students to participate in the upcoming referendum: "If you've ever wanted to be part of something bigger than yourself or spread your wings to the highest of heights, you will participate in the referendum to create a more perfect student union." Yes, Madam President. The referendum opens May 27th, closing on the 30th at 4pm.



## Ex-Critic Food Columnist Releases Cookbook

From 'Fuck, I Can't Cook!' to "Fuck, I wrote a book!"

By **Harriette Boucher**  
Staff Writer // [news@critic.co.nz](mailto:news@critic.co.nz)

Fuck, Alice Taylor can cook. The former Otago Uni student and Critic Te Ārohi food columnist turned chef released a baking book 'Alice in Cakeland' last month. This has come after Alice took a whirlwind journey from University, to Masterchef stardom, to cooking in some of the country's most prestigious restaurants – all in the space of less than three years.

Alice came to Otago University in 2018 where she completed a Bachelors of History and a Masters in Politics. Since then, she has competed in the finals of Masterchef and worked in the kitchen of many prestigious restaurants in Aotearoa. While the pipeline of political science student to food author is not the most orthodox, Alice says she has carried much of what she learnt at Otago over to her culinary career. "A Masters teaches you many things. It teaches you dedication, perseverance, it teaches you skills and researching, dissecting information, creating a plan, and executing that plan," Alice told Critic Te Ārohi.

"I love politics. I still see myself being very much involved in politics, but I don't believe that we need to fit into one box. I don't think that you need to be like, 'I'm going to be a politician or work as a public servant,' you know? Why can you not write cookbooks and be really actively aware of the politics of the hospitality industry or the politics of food and food cost, the cost of living crisis [...] why can those things not be together?"

Two days after wrapping up her thesis, Alice was in Queenstown for Masterchef, where she went on to compete in the finals. "I remember telling my supervisor, 'Oh, sorry, I got cast on

Masterchef, I need to finish early!' He was like, 'Okay. That's weird, but okay!'"

Shortly after that, she was offered a deal for her book, something that had been a childhood dream for the recent graduate. "I first started a manuscript when I was 15, so almost ten years ago. Some of those recipes have actually survived into this book," said Alice.

Her book aims to provide affordable and easy recipes, building from her days as the Critic Te Ārohi food columnist in 2021 when she was required to do exactly that. According to Alice, her book is "a complete consequence of Critic. The way that Critic taught me how to think about food and writing for the audience meant that I created a book that was very much centred around the climate that we live in."

"Every week for a lot of university students you have the dreaded, 'Oh shit, I've got to cook' flat meal [...] For me, it was trying to create dishes that were genuinely super simple, really low cost, and really quick." Alice says she has carried some of her recipes from her Critic Te Ārohi days into her book now.

Alice, who currently works at Auckland restaurant Paris Butter, is already underway with her second book and has plans to soon open her own business. "There's many things in the works, but most of them are kind of secret," she said. Okay girl, we won't tell.



## Uni Denies Accusations of Artificial Bird Noises on Campus

Weird thing to lie about but alg...

By **Hanna Varrs**  
Contributor // [news@critic.co.nz](mailto:news@critic.co.nz)

An Official Information Act request has revealed that the University does not, in fact, use artificial bird noises in its trees, putting an end to a long debate in the student community. Or has it.

For context if you're wondering what the fuck we're talking about, you only need to take a walk past the trees outside the Burns Building at around 5-6pm to understand. The ears of passersby are assaulted by the deafening sound of chirping, yet with nary a bird in sight.

Critic Te Ārohi was alerted to an OIA request asking the question on all of our minds: "I am writing to enquire about your use of digital artificial avian noises throughout the Dunedin Campus [...] There seems to be a constant repetitive cycle of avian noises that sound tinny, which leads me to believe that they may be originating from a speaker. Furthermore, they are consistent no matter the time of day or season, which does not coincide with my ecological knowledge of birdsong. In summary, I would like to know whether there is use of artificial avian noise emanating from speakers around campus, the reason for unbeknownst to me."

The Uni responded: "The University does not use digital artificial avian noises on campus. Consequently, we are unable to provide you with clarification of the reason(s) for using artificial avian

noises, and therefore decline providing any further information [...] as the information is not held by the University!" Oh snap.

Critic Te Ārohi reached out to both the Departments of Ecology and Zoology to understand why the birdsong sounded so strange. Oscar, a Masters student working with birds, thought that the birdsong was likely from a starling roost, a bird which "gets pretty loud in the evenings." Oscar then referred Critic Te Ārohi to a Youtube video of a starling roost which admittedly sounded literally exactly the same as an evening stroll past Burns. Hmm.

But what does the student body think? A real starling roost or an elaborate University cover-up for an unknown but definitely sinister reason? "It's a coverup," said third-year Henry. "The University has to do it for the woke bird agenda [...] The departments of Zoology and Ecology get their funding from the University, who in turn gets it from the government, so of course they have to lie." Just as we suspected, Henry.

Second-year Libby theorised that "maybe the reason the University has a budget hole is due to all the speakers." She also affirmed that "the birds work for the bourgeoisie." With students condemning the University's claims as "appalling," it appears that rumours of artificial bird noise will live on, despite an OIA response which legally obligates the University to tell the truth.

## 'Let's Get Accessible' Reports Tertiary Ableism

### 32% of disabled students finding it near impossible to ask for help

By Hugh Askerud  
News Editor // news@critic.co.nz

The 'Let's Get Accessible' project mapping disabled students' experiences has found that a whopping 60% had experienced exclusion or discrimination in the tertiary environment. The project was released in February before being updated this month to include new data from a survey last year.

'Let's Get Accessible' was run as a collaborative project between the National Students' Disabled Association (NDSA), NZQA, the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC), and the Ministry of Education. The report highlights that ableism (discrimination against the disabled) lies hidden subtly in tertiary institutions around the country.

The report, which looked at experiences in all sites of tertiary education, revealed that 32% of disabled students found it difficult or impossible to ask tertiary staff for help, while another 20% of those surveyed said their learning environment was difficult to access. Crucially, 23% of respondents said they felt that support was not sufficient to meet their needs, raising serious concerns for support staff around the country.

Critic Te Ārohi spoke to OUSA Welfare and Equity Rep Tara Shepherd on issues disabled tairā are currently facing. Tara was involved in the project as a representative of the National Students' Disabled Association. Tara told Critic that, in her experience, ableism is "very common, but it really depends on the department [...] there are departments in which [...] people in the community may be turned away from or may not want to engage

with certain lecturers due to past experiences."

Discrimination is usually based on "a lot of passive aggressiveness," said Tara. Recounting her own experiences, she said she was told to prioritise a paper over a medical condition "and that was very difficult." Though Tara commended the University's external disability support staff, she commented on the institution's inability to control everything, stating that "invisible disabilities" frequently flew under the radar. She reported that conditions such as chronic fatigue and other chronic illnesses with "fluctuant processes" were not always considered by staff when looking at student circumstances.

In terms of where responsibility lies for enforcing change, Tara emphasised knowledge of the 'Code of Pastoral Care', a document outlining basic rights which 78% of students reported not having any knowledge of. "It's more important than ever for students to understand the pastoral care code," said Tara. Additionally, Tara said that "OUSA Support is there to help people through these grievance policies."

Though Tara was psyched about the report she did admit that "with the report itself there are gaps [...] you're looking at people who have had the time to fill out surveys and go to focus groups." With the report "setting a precedent," according to Tara, there have been a few action plans constructed to deal with certain issues but these have yet to be adopted universally.



## Pint Night Cancelled to Student Uproar!

### Students yearn for their "gross and sticky" venue

By Gryffin Powell  
News Reporter // news@critic.co.nz

The fiercely loyal Pint Night community were in shock last week after U-Bar staff announced that Pint Night would be cancelled. The announcement comes after U-Bar was closed on Wednesday May 8th, for "maintenance work and improvements." U-Bar management have reported that they "know very little" about these works, with their priority being "trying to keep as many events going as possible upstairs."

This was the second week in a row of Pint Night disruptions. Two weeks ago, Pint Night was moved to Auahi Ora with staff finding out about the scheduled change that very day. The venue change was reported on U-Bar's official Instagram, and sound checks were conducted in the room that evening. Last Wednesday, U-Bar again announced a last-minute change - this time at 1:30pm, and a cancellation rather than change of venue as Auahi Ora was already booked.

Students have been encouraged to seek Pint Night alternatives in the form of U-Bar's entertainment on other evenings, advertising a Thursday event on their Instagram story with the phrase, "We know it's not a Wednesday but Pint Night 2.0 on a Thursday?"

Critic Te Ārohi reached out to U-Bar management for further comment but were told that the turbulence of the current circumstances were taking up their time. Keep fighting the good fight team.

To see what the (freakishly loyal) Pint Night community has thought about these turbulent times, Critic Te Ārohi yarned to Molly, a student who boasts attendance at every event this semester. Molly said, "I think that Pint Night is such a cool time

and that being in U-Bar is half the fun. I personally love how gross and sticky U-Bar is and Pint Night is obviously the best night of the week, so I was quite sad when I found out it was gonna be in Auahi Ora."

Molly added, "I am also so confused as to why they waited so long to say there was no Pint Night. My friends were hosting a huge pres for it because this is kind of the last week everyone is still going hard on the drink before wind down for the exam grind."

Emma, a member of Dizzy who performed at the Auahi Ora Pint Night, stated that she was "pretty shocked" when she was told that Pint Night was moved upstairs. "The main fellow that does the mixing for the bands was only told in the middle of the day on Wednesday, so we only heard it soon after that. Pretty bloody last minute." Despite the last-minute switch up, Emma said that she reckoned "it was pretty cool playing in a slightly different venue and low-key, the sound was much better as I could actually hear myself."

Speculating on the renovations, Emma said, "From what I've heard, the renovations that are happening currently are very much needed as there were some health and safety issues. Also, it would be awesome to get better sound quality out of one of the last decent band venues in Dunedin."

With Pint Night being one of the only hopes some students have to cling onto this close to exams, these turbulent times have been stressful for many. Fingers crossed that the dustiest part of our student body gets their hump-day ritual back to its sticky, sweaty home.

## HIGHLANDERS VS FIJIAN DRUA

SUNDAY • 26TH MAY • 2:05PM



LAST ZOO OF '24



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# Criminology Society Publish Petition Protesting Youth Bootcamps

Better be on your best behaviour

By Angus Rees  
News Reporter // news@critic.co.nz



The Criminological Society of Otago (CSOO) has published a petition to the House of Representatives against the impending reintroduction of youth offender boot camps. CSOO is asking the government not to implement them, and "instead address the issues of inequality and deprivation that create youth crime."

CSOO's petition is in response to the coalition Government's plans to run military-style boot camps for young offenders. Earlier this year, Children's Minister Karen Chhour told One News, "We're committed to creating more tools to respond to the most serious and persistent young offenders [...] It will have a military-style component as well as a rehabilitative and trauma-informed care approach to help these young people turn their lives around and reduce their risk of reoffending."

CSOO told Critic Te Ārohi, "We strongly believe that youth offender boot camps will be harmful to the youth of Aotearoa, who need more support, not punishment. They are an approach to youth offending that is ineffective and that will cause harm to the marginalised communities that will be disproportionately affected."

In the petition, CSOO outline the reasoning behind their stance further. "Aotearoa should be a place in which every child's needs are being met. A country where children are not punished for the systemic inequalities inflicted upon them. Our young people deserve equal opportunities. They deserve to grow up in a society where they are empowered to build good lives for themselves and given the essential support they need to thrive. This is why we are saddened to hear of the Government's plan to reestablish the youth offender boot camps."

They go on to point out that research has "shown the ineffectiveness of youth offender boot camps." In November of last year, Prime Minister Christopher Luxon defended the camps, saying they produced a 50-65% reduction in "violent offending, theft, and burglary." However, when they were trialled in 2008, reoffending rates were 85-87% within two years.

CSOO calls the solution a "band-aid approach" that "completely ignores the systemic roots of harm. We cannot continue to punish children for the failings of society." They say that this "hurts all of us, but it especially hurts Māori [...] Systemic racism means that young Māori are more likely to be arrested and convicted for the same crime as non-Māori."

Though one student Nick, hadn't heard of the Criminological Society's petition, he was largely in favour of its aims, stating, "I think bootcamps are fundamentally archaic, in the sense that they assume any issues young offenders have can be solved by isolation and forced labour, which is an attitude I thought would have died off decades ago."

Pointing to what he thought could be instituted as an alternative, Nick mused, "I'm heavily opposed to the concept, and believe in bridging the gap between the accessibility of mental health professionals and low socioeconomic areas where the majority of these offenders are found."

The National Party's Youth Offender Military Academies are scheduled to begin operating by the middle of 2024. At time of print, the Criminological Society's petition has 101 signatures opposing the policy.

# North D Speed Cam Catches 207 in 30 Minutes

"New World doesn't close for another 20 bro, chill"

By Gabrielle Scott  
Contributor // news@critic.co.nz



207 motorists were caught speeding in the span of 30 minutes in the North Dunedin area thanks to Transport Minister Simeon Brown's targeted speed restriction plan. It was reported that almost seven speedsters were caught every minute to the dismay of Senior Sergeant Karl Hemmingsen.

The 207 incidents come after a reversal of the previous Labour government's speed restrictions in favour of a more targeted approach by the National-led government. Variable speed limits around school pickup and drop-offs is Brown's approach "to boost economic growth and improve road safety, enabling Kiwis to get to where they want to go, quickly and safely" according to a statement from the Beehive.

In addition to this policy, Waka Kotahi will assume control of all the country's mobile cameras, as well as 150 fixed speed cameras from Police. Dunedin city currently has three static speed cameras, a number which could significantly increase in line with these changes.

"Later this year, we will also publish new objectives for road safety

which focus on safer roads, safer drivers, and safer vehicles. This will target the highest contributing factors in fatal road crashes, particularly alcohol and drugs," said Brown. In line with these changes, the government announced speed increases to 110kph on expressways, as well as variable speed limits where safe.

With Dunedin set to be significantly impacted by these policies, Critic Te Ārohi went out to ask students if they thought the changes would affect them. One student simply said, "Oh wow," not claiming any knowledge on why so many speeding incidents took place. She did suggest that "When they hide [speed cameras] in little spots like that, it would probably help, especially when they hide them in a school." Quizzed on whether the changes would impact students, she said, "Oh definitely, I am personally a bit of a speeder."

Another student, James, said he had "heard stories about people putting in speed cameras for the purpose of collecting money and treating it like tax [...] it's not like that all the time though." As for his opinion on the changes being made: "Everyone will get caught out, not just students." Looks like burnout season is over folks.

# Rip Scares Prompt Water Safety Advice

Same shit, different rip

By Sam Soppet  
Contributor // news@critic.co.nz



Dunedin is host to a swathe of beautiful swimming and surfing beaches. However, two recent stories of beach-going students' near misses with rips have prompted local surf clubs to warn students to stay safe when swimming in the ocean.

Cam, a second-year Physio student, told Critic of his near-miss with a recent rip after what he hoped would be a quick shred at St Clair. After he had been out for a while, Cam noticed a turn in the conditions and said that he began to head back in. But disaster struck in the form of an absolute bomb, snapping Cam's ankle strap as his board hit him in the head. Cam was knocked unconscious for several seconds. He estimates that he was at least 200m offshore at the time of the incident. Though Cam had taken precaution, he stated that the snapped ankle strap changed his day "quite drastically!"

It is not just surfers getting in trouble. Two students Tris\* and Harry\* told Critic that they found themselves in trouble during an early morning swim. Tris said that the 6am pre-lecture sunrise swim started off well enough. "[I] was having a lovely time with my friend. Then it was like the flick of a switch and it got really scary," she said. She estimated that they were in the water for about five minutes, and then 15-20 in "drowning mode." "My friend got behind the rip and swam sideways, got out, then passed out and was found on the beach by a girl who was out early. I was still in the water and fought my way to being able to touch the ground. But I was exhausted and waves kept knocking me back," said Tris. "My friend went to the hospital for inhaling lots of water and I drove myself home."

The situation left Tris pretty frightened. "Before this, I had thought of myself as a pretty strong swimmer and had done about 10 years worth of swimming lessons. However, when you are actually in that situation everything leaves your head. Education on water safety is so important and shouldn't be taken lightly. At least everyone should know what to do if they get caught in a rip."

To understand how students can better protect themselves in such instances, Critic Te Ārohi reached out to St Clair Surf Life Saving Club. The club told us, "A number of close calls on Dunedin's beaches have been recorded, leading authorities to warn students of the dangers that the ocean is home to. Whilst these incidents are occurring on patrolled beaches, the issue is that they are often happening outside of patrolled areas and times, introducing unnecessary risk to those involved."

If you do find yourself in a situation like these students, the club said, "The beach is constantly changing with swell coming and going, rips appearing and disappearing [...] The key thing for students to remember is that if you see someone in trouble, think, 'Am I going to be able to help or am I going to get in trouble' before you go in to help. Always ensure help is on the way before going in."

Final advice from the club is: "Swim between the flags, never swim alone, and know your limits. If in doubt, stay out. If you are planning on bringing a large group down the beach e.g. O-week, let the local lifeguards know you are coming. If you see anyone in trouble, and lifeguards are not on duty, call 111 and ask for police." Keep safe team.



Nature's light show shows the way forward

me pissing in dark alleys on the way to town

The sacred bond of shared meals

nothing says nutrition like the same shitty nachos every week

ADHD still not getting enough attention

ironically by neurodivergents forgetting their meds

Violent riots over voting

Critic sending students into frenzy over their celeb crush

Ready to receive oyster fans

follow me on OysterFans xx

Job prospects dominate mine hearing

yet my eyes only see rejection letters

A timely reminder of insignificance

as BA students get closer to grad, jobs in their field seem fewer and fewer

# PUZZLES PUZZLES PUZZLES

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36 MORAY PLACE, DUNEDIN

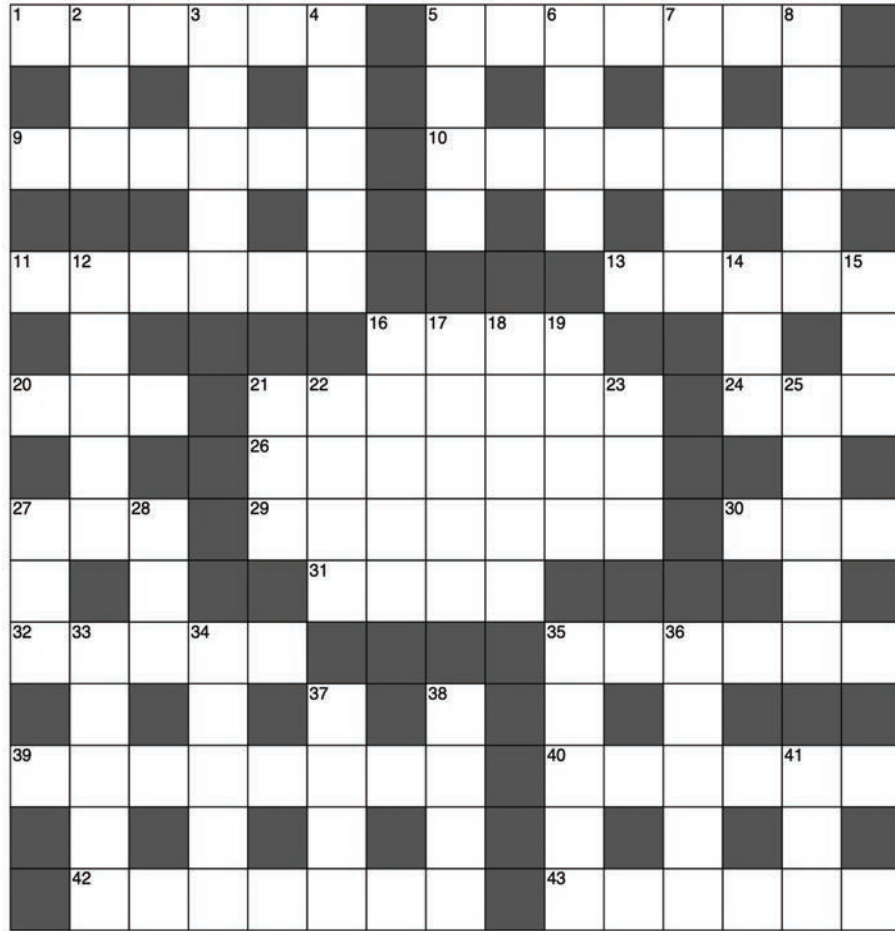
## CROSSWORD

### ACROSS

- 1 This magazine :)
- 5 This city (wow, ur literally so good at this)
- 9 Look up to
- 10 Disappeared, like leads or trails in detective shows (2)
- 11 Website with "Ask Me Anything" interviews
- 13 Not many, \_\_\_ (2)
- 16 Cry from a cubicle(abrv)
- 20 Baby bear
- 21 Crew chiefs
- 24 Not night
- 26 Low life?
- 27 Secret agent
- 29 Goal for the recently-single
- 30 Hot pool
- 31 Electrified sports equipment
- 32 Icky
- 35 Pipe at some Turkish restaurants
- 39 Fictional detective
- 40 Globe-shaped
- 42 Coffee mixer for vegans (2)
- 43 21st bday vessel

### DOWN

- 2 The only three-letter colour I can think of
- 3 Three of something
- 4 Break the rules
- 5 Not up
- 6 The number before ten <3
- 7 Coffee without the buzz
- 8 Director Christopher
- 12 Provide with gear
- 14 Sum up
- 15 "Yippeel!"
- 16 Flock of soldiers
- 17 Honkers
- 18 Riddle (with)
- 19 FDR concern of '33
- 21 Univ. staff
- 22 Socialist Greek grp. in the '60s
- 23 Maiden name incoming
- 25 Pack leader
- 27 Bright thing in the sky
- 28 Positive answer
- 33 Sneeze noise
- 34 Fortuneteller's card
- 35 Sled dog
- 36 "None of the above" choice
- 37 Indian flatbread (not naan x)
- 38 "Yeah, got it!" (twice)
- 41 Baseball stat



#### ISSUE 11 CROSSWORD ANSWERS

ACROSS: 1. BARACK OBAMA 8. NPD 10. ALBUS 12. VITAMIN C 13. GEONET 14. PEOPLE 16. PIZZA 17. OWIE 19. FRYING PAN 20. ATROCIOUS 22. TIME 23. VOGUE 24. PET SAT 26. EUREKA 29. ATLANTIC 31. SEWER 32. VHS 33. ADVENTUROUS

DOWN: 2. AGILE 3. AHA 4. KNIFE 5. BACK PAY 6. MAGAZINES 7. ALE 8. NUN 9. PSEUDONYM 11. BON APPETIT 15. PEER REVIEW 18. WHAT A RUSH 19. FACE GUARD 21. ONE PAGE 24. PILOT 25. ADIEU 27. RES 28. KEA 30. NOR

## SUDOKU

www.sudokuoftheday.com

### EASY

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

### MEDIUM

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	4		9					1
	2			3				5
	3		8		2	1		
		4						8

### HARD

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

## WORDFIND

WWRD VHZAP PLECRUMBLEOWRJKLBCZFD  
WRPWLWXQSGDBEKDPTAXYKKS BCKSHTK  
PFVYCHEDRGMFYSDPKNOXCOLLEGEFK  
RYCYGQPLIFEGUARDZNXIUGBMTQGFMM  
FGNADFAADYLHWJSLZJBAGLEDKQIGED  
QIW XKINRWISAVEMARTYYXTOELRVIRT  
QFMFLERSHRLGQPEDZFNREXDGEPPKVR  
PAZDLSLUCUHLLOAFTXUCJMWZWSJQOB  
HUAQQVFAFKTRDFVBCZAQHVVBZGRPXZ  
SXZYSTVFNNPMS SROBKZQNPURPLEXNF  
WMNYWOEJYDMIVWBS CSWRENGZXGYPC  
AONMZPNZWN AERCVTIPMDNWA XAEMADA  
YSTEUJTEMLERUNARIVUXKBBZVMUUC  
LEHTEJCUSFEDQUIRUKLDCAHXIKGAWG  
QXJHRMVMHGJEUOGLNIYPYXVPTSMHIU  
XUEAYPPZYSHUHQRIVNBGNDBITALIFC  
CAZMNWURGPTGMRVNEGERJDCYGGAOIN  
SLCPJXTIUQGIKCSGSAVMBVSTLESRFA  
GCFHWDSKYCGVQQZRJXGRSLHWJMAANS  
DGMEGLNJSNMSQUBOPNEGHNMIDIGFJJ  
MNCCTTOEIJTFMEEQODVABLQRLRNSID  
SFPAJIZUKHIHLESSLPLEYSYIQIERFB  
KWZMTMJHPBFYQNGTIHIMCEYGSRTSU  
M JLIWXNXJQTMJSWNQD HQUNQHRPILAJ  
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VURTS PAQIAIDDRWZXKWP NMTERITOWL

- KNOX COLLEGE
- QUEEN STREET
- BOOTCAMP
- LASAGNERIE
- AUAHI ORA
- STARLING ROOST
- CAKELAND
- LIFEGUARD
- SAVEMART
- SHY GUY
- FAUX-MOSEXUAL
- TEMPLE RUN
- WEDDING DRESS
- TWILIGHT
- METHAMPHETAMINE
- PURPLE
- CANNABIS
- APPLE CRUMBLE
- FUCK SPIKING
- YARDIE
- TE RITO
- GEMINI

## SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Illustrated by Ryan Dombroski

There are 10 differences between the two images





# faux-metrosexual

Types of guys who trigger your gaydar on a night out

By Jonathan McCabe & Gryffin Powell  
Illustrated by Jakira Brophy

It's slim pickings for a queer man in 2024. The line between straight and queer is increasingly blurred in a sea of tote bags, good fashion, and "bro time" - it's hard to discern between a potential connection, and a guy who's merely Metrosexual (but the 'Metro' in question is George Street and its creatures). Whether you're fighting for your life in the Subs line, or being deafened by DnB at a mediocre host, the single men of the Dunners dating scene are abundant. But as straight guys become more secure in exploring their masculinity (yas king), the good ol' gaydar needs a bit of recalibration - is he queer? Or just really comfortable around you? Is he being a dick in a catty, flirty way that girls are told in primary school is the height of romance? Or are you being bullied? Does he have a mullet in a gay way or a breatha way?

We've written about the ladies in last year's 'Everyone dresses gay now and it's fucking with my gaydar' (Issue 18, 2023). Now, as self-appointed experts in the intricacies of the gaydar, Critic Te Arohi presents a guide for homie-erotic men of Dunedin to see who may be in the market for your next situationship.



## Indie or indie-closet guy?

The Indie Guy is the type of guy who just bought a leather jacket from Static Age, and is now acting as though he invented a new genre of fashion - much like how Jojo Siwa "invented" gay pop. The Indie Guy is identifiable by his platform Docs, cotton tote bag, and charming smile that looks only slightly rehearsed. He'll tell you all about how his favourite Lana Del Rey Album is 'Norman Fucking Rockwell' - and totally not as an attempt to convince you that he's a feminist - when in reality, his Spotify wrapped is always as devoid of women as a Young Act byo. Just don't bring up Taylor Swift; he's made it a personality trait to hate 'The Tortured Poets Society'.

It is very difficult to tell what way the Indie Guy swings. Critic reckons one of the only differences between a nicely dressed bloke and a fruity queer are the amount of straps on their bag. If it's a backpack, you know he thinks a skirt is called a dress. If it's a single strapped satchel or a tote, then be sure that he'll be bumping bums later that night. Notice that he will ask you for a cigarette, but only smoke it for the aesthetic (sue him, it's hot). Keep your distance if a band plays Sticky Fingers at Pint Night - he'll be sure to whisper in your ear, "You probably don't know this band."

**Gaydar:** About as hit or miss as throwing your Spotify liked on shuffle

**Straightness:** 50/50

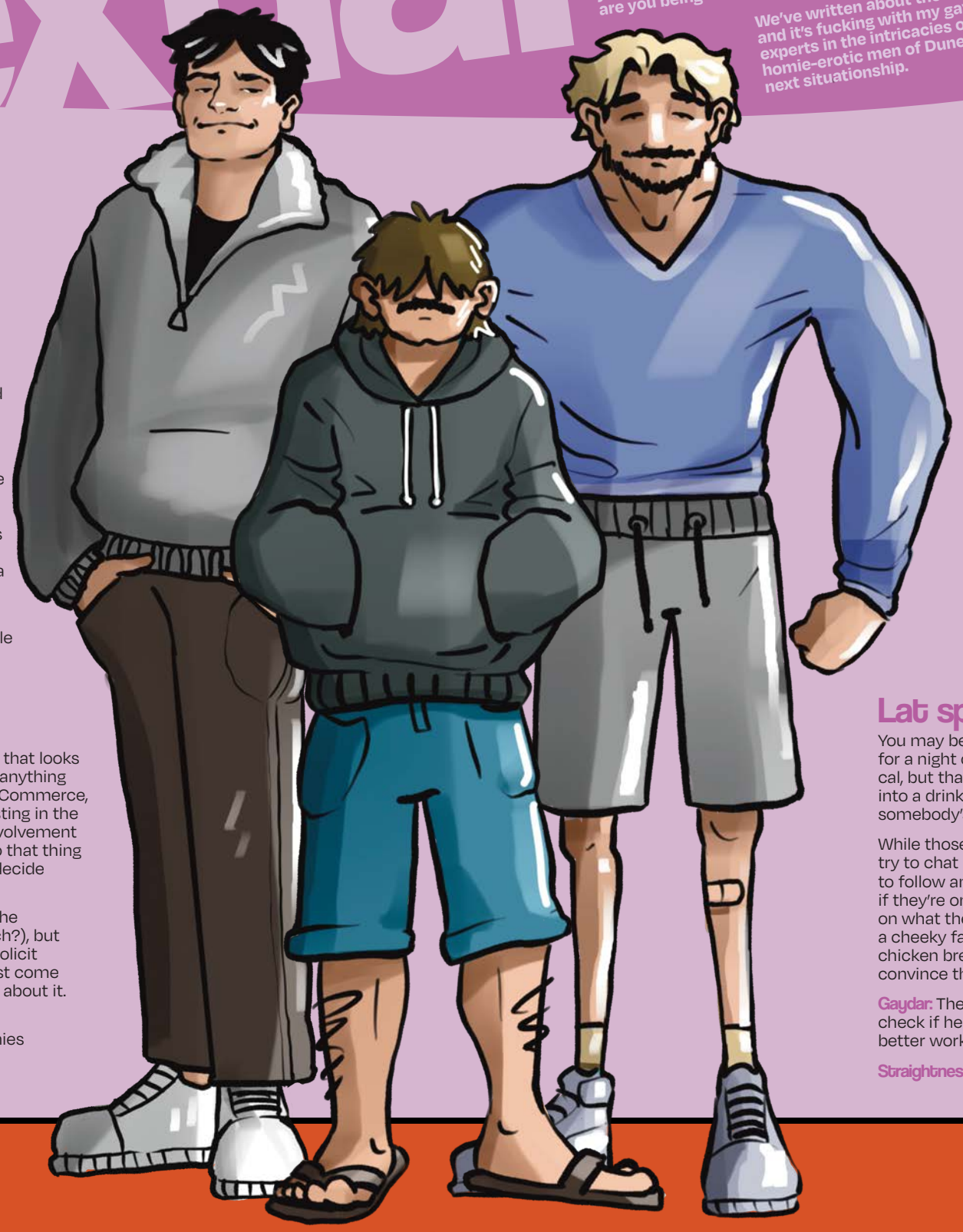
## The Law Lad

Law guys are easily identifiable by their quarter zip jumper and hair that looks way more low-maintenance than it is (which totally won't apply to anything else). Beware of the moral superiority because he studies Law and Commerce, despite a severe lack of ability in following the law himself, manifesting in the oddly extensive collection of road cones in his living room or his involvement in a worrying amount of crypto ponzi schemes. That, or he'll just do that thing where he repeats your joke, but louder, and gets all the credit. You decide which is a worse crime.

The Law Guy has an incredible skill of explaining in extreme detail the difference between a barrister and solicitor (is it like vers and switch?), but the question is: if you buy him a barista-made oat coffee, will you solicit yourselves to each other? You don't have to assume that he has just come from a wine and cheese night because he will be sure to tell you all about it. Maybe ask whether he likes his wine oaky or fruity?

**Gaydar:** Pretty straight, but tries a little too hard to impress the homies

**Straightness:** 8/10



## Beauty and the Breatha

After a big week of thinking about going to his BCom lectures, this guy has hit town armed with a sizeable amount of gear and an outfit that he stole from a lesbian's closet - signified by the carabiner-attached keys to his jorts. Hopefully this doesn't evolve into shuffling around town with a vape lanyard. Rain, shine or snow, you will most certainly find a pack of breathas proudly sporting Birks to complete the look - closed-toe shoes are for pussies. You've gotta respect them for their commitment to the bit.

Be prepared, as common conversations revolve around how many brews they've gone through and how dusty they'll be tomorrow morning. But dig a little deeper and you might find a hidden interest for *Love Island* or baking banana bread. If you're tipsy enough to accept the invitation to his room, on his bedside table you'll spy a loose collection of condoms and dead dispos, while on his floor there'll be a suspiciously crusty sock from when he wasn't lucky enough to find someone to get KFC the next morning with. Don't look into his closet; you may find a Bart Simpson style wardrobe full of black Butter Hoodie's.

**Gaydar:** Oddly protective of his male friends. Maybe see if he'll hold you as tightly as his dying vape

**Straightness:** 7/10

## Lat spread lad or cheek spread cutie?

You may be shocked to see him in town, finally stepping away from Unipol for a night out. He'll let you know that he likes to keep the drinks low cal, but that won't stop him from dumping three scoops of preworkout into a drink to get the night started. He's been hitting chest all day and somebody's gotta see his gains.

While those muscles may seem attractive at first glance, be warned if you try to chat up a gym bro. Despite their toned thighs and eyes that seem to follow anyone in the club who's looking toned, it's a hard guess to go on if they're on the look out for a cute hookup, or a guy to give them advice on what their workout routine needs. Don't even think about suggesting a cheeky fast-food meal on the way home with the gym bro. Unseasoned chicken breast and rice is their religion, but you might just be able to convince them on a better source of protein.

**Gaydar:** There's nothing straighter than feeling up another guy's body to check if he's got a pump on. Every time a gym bro flexes, my gaydar gets a better workout than I do.

**Straightness:** 6/10

## Health Sci Shy Guy

This may be a more questionable entry on the list, because who actually sees him on a night out? If you squint hard enough, you may see him floating around in the Cats mosh after a Saturday progress test. If you manage to catch a sighting of him though, good luck, cos he's definitely trying to make up for months of drinking in one night. With Cruiser stains on his lips (not that he'd admit to you he's been drinking those), his confidence to chat up a crush will be up, and you might just be able to convince him to catch up on those missed cuddle sessions.

Sadly for him though, there's nothing to talk about. He doesn't know what to talk about, unless the word 'Med' is dropped in conversation: "Threes get MB ChBs, amiright?" You'll see his heart drop when he gets told someone is studying something outside of Health Sci. Bonus points if it's a BA. But who the fuck wants to talk about Uni on a night out? Just him, but get him talking about something other than his GPA and you might just be able to find out if he's a studious cutie or a Health Sci fruity. Try and go for a sleep in though because it's guaranteed he complains the next morning about how behind he's gotten.

**Gaydar:** Not much to go off here, maybe invite him over for a study sesh to see?

**Straightness:** 6/10

## "I'm in a band" Guy

If this guy seems familiar to you, he may have been spotted at a Pint Night once a couple months ago – one of the ones with a real short line, because neither Ivy or Hot Sauce Club were on the line up. But he doesn't want you to know that. He just needs to tell any girl he sees about his band – whose name is probably a Frankenstein-esque combination of two unrelated adjectives.

He's got long surfer hair to give him that indie vibe (he's never touched a surfboard in his life). Don't touch it, though; it's greasy because it's not time for its bi-weekly wash. If tales of his epic performances sweep you off your feet, you may be lucky enough to get taken back to his room. On the walk back he'll probably beg you to make a Spotify blend, only to be disappointed by his overabundance of Spacey Jane (don't tell him that all of their songs sound the same). Just when you think something saucy is about to happen, underneath his vinyl collection, chances are he'll whip out his guitar and serenade you. Run before it's too late.

**Gaydar:** The Gaydar is going off for his music taste, but anything else is as quiet as his sets

**Straightness:** 8/10

Rugby lads spend their Saturdays tightly pressed up against eight other guys, sweating and grunting the whole time, so there's not a lot to stop them spending their Saturday night tightly pressed against you.



## The Wannabe DJ

You may recognise this guy from over the summer: deep in a k-hole at RnV. He's been a bit bored since then, spending January sitting in his North Shore house all day because mum and dad's allowance means he doesn't need a job. So what does he do? Buys a deck to impress all his mates in his business papers.

Armed with mediocre beats, he brags on a night out that he'll pull heaps of chicks, offering any beezie within spitting distance for a shoulder ride. He'll regale you with stories of that one time during Flo/O he got to stand up on stage at the Deathstar host. If this man is your boyfriend, keep a close eye on him on a night out, because he's gonna tell anybody he meets he's the 'King of Castle Street'. He won't, however, tell you that he's taken and that he actually lives on Leith. Yikes.

**Gaydar:** He's never been cool enough to get invited to do gay shit with 'The Boys'

**Straightness:** 9/10

## Rugby dudes

Rugby lads spend their Saturdays tightly pressed up against eight other guys, sweating and grunting the whole time, so there's not a lot to stop them spending their Saturday night tightly pressed against you. But first, make sure to ask him about positions – whether he's a forward or back, of course. Backs are speedier with shaved legs – a little bit twinkie even, while forwards are honestly kinda just bears. In any conversation with The Rugby Dude, you'll be constantly reminded that they play in the first XV as you think to yourself, "I didn't realise we had one of those." Just don't expect much in the way of long sentences; all the headgear in the world and he's still got more concussions than drinks in him. Deep talk doesn't matter anyway, cos what is rugby if not talking with your body? Sounds sensual.

The typical Rugby Dude Saturday starts with meeting up with the boys in the locker room to compare penis size, taking "dick measuring contest" far too literally. You know his favourite part of the game is the scrum, giving the homies a supportive slap on the ass before sticking their heads in between those round apple bottoms. "What happens in the locker room stays in the locker room" is a popular quote, and when you have twenty three guys showering together it's bound to get a little weird. If you've figured out that said Rugby Dude goes for balls outside of the ruck too, make sure to ask one last thing: Does he want you to finish on his half back, or full back?

**Gaydar:** A community shower for two by the looks of it

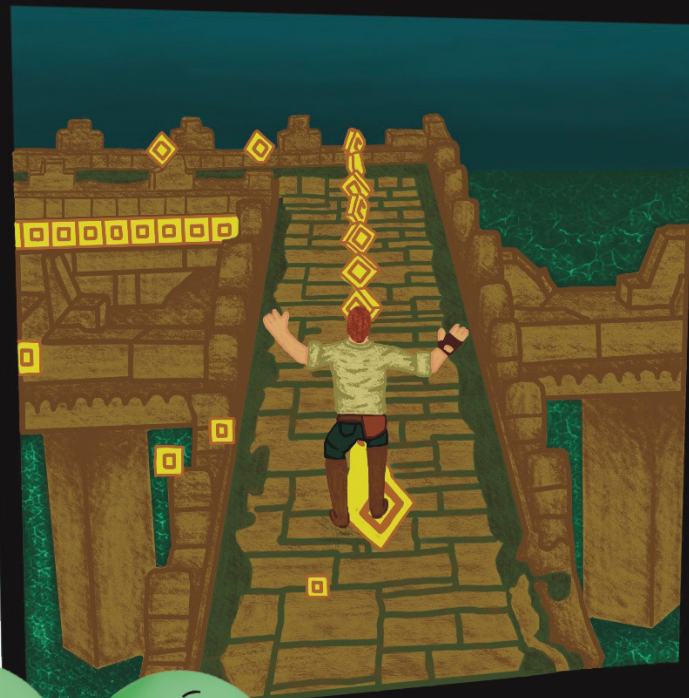
**Straightness:** 1.5/10

As a reformed TikTok addict (getting in as much as 12 hours a day), I know how difficult it can be to concentrate on lectures after years of having our attention spans fried. Sometimes putting lectures on 2x speed just doesn't cut it, and our malnourished Zoomer attention spans year for even more stimulation. Enter: the split screen. One video for lectures, Critic Te Ārohi has compiled a list of other recommended educational distractions to use while exam prepping. We understand the struggle, and we care about your studies so very much. Follow us on TikTok.

# ANTHROPOLOGY

## AND SO ON AND SO FORTH

- *[Handwritten scribble]*
- *[Handwritten scribble]*
- *[Handwritten scribble]*
- *[Handwritten scribble]*



BY MONTY O'RIELLY

ILLUSTRATED BY MIKEY CLAYTON

# SPLIT SCREEN CAREER GUIDE SHOW

DISTRACTION VIDEOS ACCORDING TO YOUR DEGREE



## MED: PIMPLE POPPING VIDEOS

While pimple-popping videos aren't for everyone, I think that's the real strength of their case here, cos it seems like future doctors could benefit from harsh exposure therapy. There's a millenia worth of pimple popping videos out there, ranging from pretty tame to all-out blood and gore. This way med students can work their way up, and finalise their degrees fully prepared for all the pus and blood that awaits them. Everyone loves pore strip videos, but have you ever looked at a med student and thought that they'd be more chill if they watched a massive horse flank abscess being drained? Me neither.

## ZOOLOGY: HOOF TRIMMING VIDEOS

Hoof trimming videos are maybe a bit more niche, but everyone who watches them swears by them. Horse opinion remains unknowable. Zoology majors are probably either fed up with (or weirdly super into) all the weird animal parts they have to dissect themselves, so it may be cathartic watching one giant horse toenail get its hoof-smegma dissected instead. Harmless and wholesome, but still eye-wateringly disgusting: what all Zoo majors crave. Still somehow less weird than watching human pedicure videos, guaranteed.

## LAW: GTA GAMEPLAY

As Critic established in 'Law V Students' (Issue 10, 2024) the best way to become a lawyer is to see crimes committed. Due to the extreme realism of GTA (I've never stolen a car, but I run over people in my head) I reckon a law student can learn a lot from seeing professional crooks at work. Y'know, before they see them at their workplace (we'll leave that comment up to the law students to deliberate on). GTA compilations would bring much needed excitement to strenuous readings. Maybe tell them it's short for Grand Theft Autocorrect?

## GENDER STUDIES: RAINBOW SLIME

Pretty self-explanatory. Hardly anyone taking Gender Studies is straight (except maybe Sam), so you'll probably enjoy watching queer-coloured slime glisten and get squished. Maybe you can analyse the gendered implication of mostly women making slime videos. Do women long for the comfort of something squishy and wet? Or, as an audience, do we enjoy the sight of women's hands more? Discuss. This was taken directly from a Gender Studies course outline.

## CHEMISTRY: MIXING PAINT COLOURS

Chemistry is more balancing equations about nondescript powders than it is about watching fizzing liquids change colours. While the latter is primarily just a great way to get kids interested in science without risking too many yawns, every chemistry student still has that itch: "Colours good, surprise colour change better!" So what better to watch than mystery paint mixing vids? If you get really bored during your lecture, you can try and guess the chemical compounds that make up the pigments and their combos. Write out an equation to explain how exactly blue does that. If your Arts friend asks you what the fuck you are doing, try and explain it to them. I promise to pay attention and not start thinking about what colours dogs see.

## BCOM: BREAKING BOTTLES

Keeping a BCom student's attention is hard – just think of that one UoO Meaningful Confession from a girl who struggled to keep her sneaky link's attention as he searched for his vape mid-root. You're so used to flashy, fast-paced grindset content that a lecture simply pales in comparison. Hopefully by including the loud noise of smashing bottles it's at least able to keep you awake. Like how zoos play rainforest sounds for the animals, maybe you should play atmospheric breaking bottle sounds when you leave Duffers for the break, just to remind you of home.

## SPEX: MINECRAFT PARKOUR

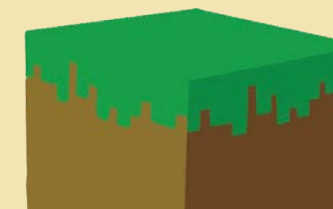
Minecraft Parkour is perfect for Phys Ed majors. I know it's hard for you to sit through a lecture when all you want to do is run around and make sound effects about it. Valid, but still. Split-screening your lecture about – I'm not going to pretend to know, macros? – with a silly little video of athletic prowess in delightful block-form may trick your mind into studying, at least for a little bit. I know how bad you wanna run over rocks hovering in midair, and I really wish that you could.

## ARCHAEOLOGY: TEMPLE RUN GAMEPLAY

Maybe a hot take, but I always preferred Temple Run to Subway Surfers, even if the monkey chasing you is TERRIFYING. One can only assume that Temple Run is a realistic depiction of future archaeologists' careers: being chased by demons, I guess. To be fair, the only knowledge I have of what archeologists do is from binge-watching Indiana Jones before the last one came out, so maybe it isn't all, "This belongs in a museum!" Live out the good ol' days of Temple Run, back when you thought Archaeology was "academia, adventures, and khaki!" and not "on the chopping block at Uni."

## TEACHING: BABY SENSORY VIDEOS

To preface, I'm not talking about CoComelon here. By baby sensory videos I mean those videos of bright colours appearing on screen or dancing fruit. I was tempted to prescribe dancing fruit for all the degrees (make my brain go brrrrr). Much like the med students, surely this will act as exposure for teaching students – we're not even the iPad generation, and we're already Like This. Just imagine a full work day of constantly having to plug a random video into the Chromecast to keep a group of brain-rotted kids entertained. On that note, I'm bored now.



# YOUR 2024 OUSA EXECUTIVE

 PRESIDENT Keegan Wells	 ADMINISTRATIVE VICE-PRESIDENT Emily Williams	 FINANCE & STRATEGY OFFICER Abby Clayton	 ACADEMIC REPRESENTATIVE Stella Lynch
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## Parakuihi TOGETHER

Free Breakfast at Clubs & Socs

Monday - Friday  
During Semesters 1 & 2  
8:30 - 9:30am

[ousa.org.nz/clubsandsocs](https://ousa.org.nz/clubsandsocs)

#comeplayousa

### NEW KERBSIDE BINS

From 1 July 2024, we're improving your tertiary area kerbside recycling and rubbish service.

BETWEEN MAY AND MID-JUNE YOU'LL RECEIVE:

a 23L green-lidded food scraps and garden waste bin; **and** a 140L red-lidded rubbish bin.

Keep using your existing recycling bins as usual.

Look inside your new bins for an information booklet and a benchtop food scraps bin. Remember - only put your new bins out for collection from 1 July 2024.

## THE CRITIC TE ĀROHI GUIDE TO

By Phoebe Lea  
Illustrated by Sarah Kreft

# SECOND HAND STORES

1. Fold in half horizontally
2. Fold in half again, lengthwise
3. Fold in half again
4. Unfold
5. Refold down the centre and cut along the dashed line
6. Unfolded, it should look like this
7. Fold in half and push together

Done!

Whether you're a fellow thrifter fresh to Dunedin or a third-year who never leaves North D, this is the guide for you. Critic sent our bona-fide fashionista Phoebe to scour the streets, sift through the racks, and explore every nook and cranny to bring you the inside scoop on the best op shops on offer. Grab your reusable tote bags, put on your comfiest shoes, and join us as we embark on a thrifting adventure through the heart of Dirty Danners. Who knows what treasures you'll uncover along the way?

# NORTH EAST VALLEY

**SPCA Op Shop** \$

**Vibe:** Likely your first stop on the great op-shop browsing journey from north to south. The immense weight of the masses of clothes on the rack will fight you from doing so, though.

**Peak spot for:** The kitchen utensils of your dreams

**Overall Rating:** 6/10

**Charity:** SPCA Otago

**Orphans Aid Op Shop** \$-\$\$\$

**Vibe:** Light and roomy, this makes for a joyous browsing experience. Prices are variable, lots of cheap stuff but their vintage is overpriced (they lure you in but an old petticoat will set you back \$60)

**Peak spot for:** Books

**Overall Rating:** 7/10

**Charity:** Orphans Aid International + Trade Aid

## Cat Rescue Dunedin Charity Shop \$

**Vibe:** Definitely a presence of cats and their ladies, but not nearly enough cat memorabilia (probably because they snatch their before they hit the floor)

**Peak spot for:** Cheap glassware

**Overall Rating:** 6/10

**Charity:** Cat Rescue Dunedin

## Salvation Army

**Vibe:** Hidden at the end of the road (metropolis of North East Valley), down the back of the Salvation Army building, you will find a range of average things at a range of above average prices

**Peak spot for:** Ending the NEV thrifting journey on a low

**Overall Rating:** 3/10

**Charity:** The Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal

# THE OP SHOP BINGO GUIDE

## SECOND HAND STORES

# OP SHOP BINGO

Hot Fuzz on dvd	Otago Girls uniform	A the rack	Brown arcoroc cup	Broken dvd player
So Shades of Grey book	Knock off Warehouse New Balances	Plastic Macdonalds toy	Random clothing pattern	Puzzle that's missing pieces
Jackie with something in the pocket	A white shirt with a brown stain	FREE SPACE	Free coat hanger box	Headless mannequin
Heley Western Pure CD	20 solid gold hits on vinyl	Scrap fabric pile	Rusted spoons	Photo frame with a picture still in it
Minicraft t-shirt	A container of phone cases	Over-priced vintage rack	Edmonds cookbook	Some kind of merch

# CLOSE TO CAMPUS

**Te Oraka** \$

**Vibe:** Located in the sustainability office a short Leith crossing from S Daves, you will find a student organised repair café, refilling station, and second hand store! Only open on Wed, Thurs, Sat, 11am-1pm

**Peak spot for:** Just about anything – clothes, shoes, computers, electrical equipment, and extreme sustainability

**Overall Rating:** 7/10

**Charity:** Sustainability Otago

**Vinnies North Dunedin** \$

**Vibe:** Your great gran's hoarded collection of assorted goods from over the decades. They have everything for \$2 sales, but the only things worth buying aren't \$2.

**Peak spot for:** Procrastinating on the way back from getting coffee and shopping for a \$2 costume

**Overall Rating:** 3/10 for thrifting (someone probably got to the best stuff before you) 10/10 for yarns

**Charity:** The Society of St Vincent de Paul

**Static Age** \$-\$\$\$

**Vibe:** Looking for something more alty than Recycle Boutique? Static Age is a vintage and pop-culture inclined consignment store that opened in August 2023.

**Peak spot for:** Vintage streetwear and retro clothes

**Overall rating:** 8/10

**Recycle Boutique** \$-\$\$\$

**Vibe:** It's a Recycle Boutique, there's only so much you can expect from thousands of university students' consigned clothes: Glasson's jeans, old high-end shoes, American vintage, South Island brands, and overpriced obscure designer accessories. My advice is to head straight to the staff picks or down the back for the shoes.

**Peak spot for:** Mens and basics

**Overall rating:** 6/10. If you're looking for some item of clothing in particular, you're likely to find it – but at what cost?

**Paper Bag Princess** \$\$

**Vibe:** If Recycle Boutique or Static Age aren't in your budget, head a little further into town and you will be greeted by racks of unique and vintage pieces.

**Peak spot for:** Vintage and designer (if you know where to look)

**Overall Rating:** 7/10 (2010s slay)

**Charity:** For-profit but they support Kidscan, Lifewise, Opportunity for Animals, and City Mission by donating clothing, sponsoring events or donating a portion of sales

## Infinite Clothing

**Vibe:** Infinite Clothing has infinite offerings, featuring a range of under \$20 70's vintage pieces to hand-made costumes

**Peak spot for:** Your next party outfit!

**Overall Rating:** 8/10

**Charity:** For-profit, but owner Rose Risk (veteran of the second-hand scene) aims to keep prices low so that families can afford to dress their children in good quality recycled clothes

## Inspire Upcycling

**Vibe:** Simply good. They boast a great range of mens and womens clothing, shoes, cute trinkets, and linen/home goods finds with \$4 clothes and well-priced shoes (most of the time)

**Peak spot for:** Having a great time and finding some good

**Overall Rating:** 9/10

**Charity:** Pregnancy Choice NZ

## Salvation Army Centre City

**Vibe:** One of the few places that prices their furniture appropriately is Sally's. If you come on a good day you can find beds, couches, and tables galore. While you won't have much luck in clothes, they do boast an extensive kitchenware and crockery section.

**Peak spot for:** Kitchenware and furniture

**Overall Rating:** 6/10

**Charity:** The Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal

## Red Cross Shop Dunedin

**Vibe:** 2010s Glasson crop tops (the same price as originally sold)

**Peak spot for:** Funky glassware

**Overall Rating:** 5/10. Don't worry Vogel St is just around the corner!

**Charity:** NZ Red Cross

## Vogel St Hospice Shop

**Vibe:** Finding anything your thrift-loving heart may desire. Don't forget to check downstairs in the bins - \$2 to fill a bag! The worst thing about Vogel St is that you will spend all of your money but, at the same time, you will also not spend all of your money (if you know what I mean).

**Peak spot for:** 70s gunne-sax dupe for \$15, a collectable teaspoon, wetsuits, a really cool lamp, and 50 cent crockery

**Overall Rating:** 10/10 great vintage section

**Charity:** Otago Community Hospice

## Support Opportunity Shop

**Vibe:** An amalgamation of the once-famous Op Shop on Carroll and Op Shop on St Andrews, the Support opportunity shop on Princes Street is the most bougie op shop Otago has to offer. As a vintage lover, just entering the store is a treat for the eyes. You will find masses of curated vintage, clothes, shoes, and nicknacks.

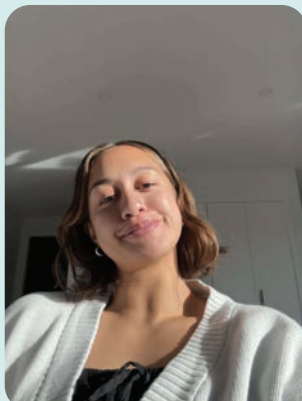
**Peak spot for:** Nice vintage and a wedding dress (flat wedding anyone?)

**Overall Rating:** 8/10, points removed for price

**Charity:** Presbyterian Support Otago

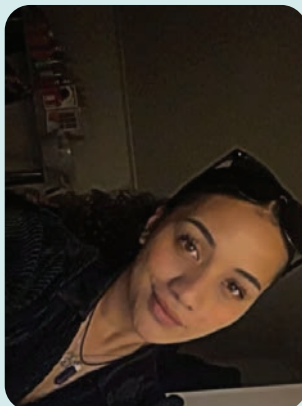
# Te Rōpū Māori: Te Rito 2024

Te Rōpū Māori is the Māori Student's Association at the Ōtākou Whakaihū Waka. TRM strive to represent the interests of taurira Māori at the University, with the ultimate aim of creating a kāinga rua: a home away from home on campus. They run many events across the year ranging from social sports, kapa haka, Te Hokai our annual Māori ball, te reo classes, Marae trips, study nights and numerous social activities. TRM is governed by the student executive Te Rito, who are elected by taurira every year. This year's co-Tumuaki (Presidents) of TRM are Gemella Reynolds-Hatem and Distance Takamori. The rest of your 2024 Te Rito are as follows.



## IZZY - KAIHĀPAI

Kia ora koutou, ko Izzy Rewiri-Wharerau tōku ingoa, he uri ahau nō Ngāpuhi me Ngāti Awa. My role within Te Rito 2024 is Kaihāpai, which is the financial liaison of our rōpu. I was raised in Tūrangi, a small town in the central North Island, but my whakapapa ties back to Russell, Waima, and Whanarua Bay. I am currently in my fifth and final year of a conjoint degree, in a Bachelor of Health Sciences majoring in Māori Health and a Bachelor of Commerce majoring in Finance. I'm looking forward to connecting with taurira and working alongside our other taurira associations. Mauri ora!



## ISOBEL - ĀPIHA HAUORA

Kia ora Danners! My name is Isobel Edwards-Jull (but everyone calls me Bibi) and I am the Apiha Hauora of Tē Rōpū Māori 2024!!! I hail from the East Coast in the Bay of Plenty, and am in my third-year of study. My role gives me much joy as sports has always been a pillar within my life, helping me socially branch and grow in an environment I understand. Stepping into my role, I kept in mind the hardships that could possibly come to light and remind myself regularly to keep my intentions positive and for the betterment of our Māori taurira within this university. My favourite event that I have facilitated for so far would be the 'Play for Palestine' charity event as the whakawhanaungatanga, support and knowledge that we gained at the event, gave me immense joy. Nō reira, tena koutou katoa me tū ake te whakatōhea!!! Lots of love, from your Apiha Hauora, Bibi :)



## DAVONTAE - KAIPĀPĀHO MATUA

Mauri ora e te iwi! Ko Davontae Bristowe tōku ingoa, he uri tenei nō Ngāpuhi me Te Arawa hoki, I tipu ake au ki Whāngarei, ko Kaipāpāho Matua ahau mo Te Rōpū Māori ki 2024! I am in my third year studying towards a BPA minoring in Māori Studies and I want to amplify the voices of our taurira Māori through our different streams of communication as the comms officer for this year.



## ANI - ĀPIHA MĀTAURANGA

Kia oraaa e te whānau, my name is Ani! Born and raised in Gizzy and I am the Āpiha Mātauranga for TRM this year. I'm in my third and final year studying Māori health! Also guys make sure to come along to our pre-weekend study sesh's because #academicweapons



## PANIA - KAIWHAKAHAERE KAUPAPA

Ko Pania-Aroha Te Kiri-Tuwairua ahau, ne uri tenei no Tuhoē! I am the kaiwhakahaere kaupapa for TRM. I'm here to plan and run all of our social events for this year. I want to see all of your beautiful faces in the whare and at our kaupapa, so don't be shy and come be my friend x



## KOWHAI - ĀPIHA AHUREA

Kia ora rā! Ko Kowhai Tepania-Morgan tōku ingoa. Ko Ngāruawāhia tōku tūrangawaewae. I am the Āpiha Ahurea (Cultural Officer) for Te Rōpū Māori this year. A few things that I cover in my role event-wise are the likes of Matariki celebrations, Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori, reo classes, any and all performances like Māori pre-graduation, ANZAC, and the Tuakiritaka ceremony just to name a few. Another event I run is Māori Hour which is held every Friday from 5:30pm to 7:30pm – venue confirmed weekly via our Instagram stories (@teropu.maori). This is open to everyone and anyone who wants to get their kapa haka, kēmu (game), or whanaungatanga (socialising) fix on. What better way to finish off your week? We highly encourage you all to come along to Māori Hour. If you have any questions please feel free to message any of us on the executive team! Ngā manaakitanga!



## ALIYAH - KAIWHAKAHAERE TARI

Kia Ora e te whānau, Ko Aliyah Tautuhi-Fraser toku ingoa! He uri tēnei nō Te Rarawa, Te Aupōuri me Ngāti Porou anō hoki! I am your Kaiwhakahaere Tari for this year and am currently studying a BA in indigenous development. The mahi that I do surrounds the admin kaupapa of Te Rito, doing our minutes, sorting out logistics, sorting out plans and making sure Te Rito are doing what they need to do in style. I want to be a part of the reason why people want to come to TRM, where they can be themselves without judgment, no matter where you are in your journey. We represent our whānau, hapu and iwi. We are the future of our people and us at the TRM whare got you!

# CAPPING SHOW: BEHIND THE SCENES

Photos by  
Sophia Niblock

THIS BEEZIE IS SO STUNNII



For its 130th anniversary, the Capping Show is stepping into Barbie's pink and plastic world. The College of Education Auditorium will be turned into Barbie's Dreamhouse, where you will experience student-based humour intertwined with a Barbie narrative that will leave you in stitches. Shows are running every night from May 16th - 24th. Tickets are available online, or at the door.



# An Invisible Crime

Illustrated by  
Aria Tomlinson

By Jodie Evans  
& Lotto Ramsay

## CRITIC INVESTIGATES DRINK SPIKING IN AOTEAROA

**TW:** Mentions of sexual assault and detailed depictions of drink spiking

At university, everyone seems to know someone who's been spiked. The phenomenon hangs in the air at flat parties and lingers about the bathrooms of student bars, yet remains grossly stigmatised. Following incidents of

spiking to Critic Te Ārohi staff members, we realised how alarmingly little is understood about spiking – it's barely treated as a crime. Note: it's a fucking crime.

Researching an issue we thought we were alone in, we grew increasingly shocked at the number and nature of others' personal stories; and even more shocked at the lack of New Zealand coverage on the issue and barriers victims face when trying to seek support. Drink spiking is an issue tied closely to alcohol, and students are a population known for their boozing. While this may increase risk, it increases victim-blaming, too. As most drink spiking crimes don't fit the stereotypes seen in popular culture, victims are prone to dismissing their trauma. Worse still, it's often dismissed by others – including authorities. This, coupled with the lack of national research and data, has made drink spiking an invisible crime.

**Critic Te Ārohi conducted a five-week-long survey with the title: "Do you know someone who's had their drink spiked?" There were 330 responses and of those, 80% answered yes. Worse still, 34% had their own drinks spiked – that's 113 victims from our small survey alone. Yet, New Zealand averages only two drink spiking-related convictions per year.**

No one seems to know how common drink spiking is in New Zealand. The NZ Drug Foundation claims it "seems more common than it is", while NZ Police state that "it happens a lot more than we have recorded." Well, in the Critic office of around 30 staff, there are two of us: Lotto and Jodie. Due to our trauma histories involving spiking, we've had queries about whether we're the right people to talk about this – and maybe we're not, because fuck knows it's been hard to write this feature. But someone has to. As one anonymous respondent to Critic's survey emphasised: "The more we talk about it, the more likely we are to see change and hopefully reduce instances of this occurring."

Critic Te Ārohi acted on the need to shed light on the invisible crime of drink spiking; speaking to healthcare professionals, authorities, and victims of spiking to understand how it goes unnoticed in NZ; to dispel myths of what it looks like, who it affects, its perpetrators as well as examine the cultural and systemic barriers to seeking help.

## DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE

Lotto (they/them) knew it wasn't normal to collapse and blackout several hours after having four drinks at a karaoke club. They also knew it wasn't normal to then wake up in their mate's bed in different clothes with a grapefruit-sized sprained ankle, a projectile-vomited on carpet, and no recollection of how any of that had happened. The natural assumption was that they'd just gotten too drunk, but they discovered that their friends had taken them home immediately after collapsing at the karaoke venue. They'd also only been drinking water. "So why the fuck did I wake up feeling high?" It took them all day to somewhat regain their mental faculties as they pieced together that they may have been spiked. After this realisation, a second one hit: Lotto didn't understand drink spiking at all – and it seemed like no one around them did, either.

The idea of it felt almost selfish. Lotto had spent most of their life thinking that drink spiking was virtually synonymous with drug-facilitated "date rape", and that because "date rape" drugs were too difficult to get in New Zealand, drink spiking didn't really happen. Most certainly not from water glasses in a quiet karaoke venue. Their friends had gotten them to safety before anything "bad" could happen, so Lotto felt guilty in thinking that something bad *had* happened. Yet they'd been drugged to the point where they had no recollection that their friend had undressed and showered them, and injured their ankle so badly that they'd later need a moon boot.

News articles on drink spiking always seemed to pair it with sexual assault, and listed sexual violence hotlines. Lotto knew that they hadn't been sexually assaulted. Maybe this made them "lucky"? It certainly didn't feel that way. While their was supposedly a "best case scenario", they were missing ten hours from their memory and one functioning ankle. By the time Lotto had come to terms with the fact that they were spiked, it was much too late for the drug to show up in any tests.

"Thinking about it was painful. I eventually got my parents to take me to an urgent clinic for my ankle – I still felt like saying I suspected drink spiking was somehow wrong, but as we filled in the ACC form and more came out about how I honestly could not describe where the stairs were or how I fell, [the nurse] seemed concerned. It was nice to have someone be concerned instead of thinking that I was just drunk." Lotto had no idea what they were meant to do. In Critic's survey, over half of spiking victims claimed that they "didn't know what to do" in the aftermath, either. As Critic would find out, about the same proportion of people only disclosed the incident to a close friend or relative in lieu of accessing other support.

When Lotto could somewhat form thoughts again, they began researching. Were they spiked? What could they have been spiked with? What are the symptoms? How common is spiking in NZ? Can you be spiked without being sexually assaulted? Where should you go and who do you tell? How do you find out if it's a crime you should report? There were next to no New Zealand resources to be found, outside of mentions in headlines. The Australian Alcohol and Drug Foundation defines drink spiking, which "occurs when a person deliberately adds alcohol or another drug to someone's drink without them knowing," and makes it clear that drink spiking is illegal in Australia.

The only mention of drink spiking from the New Zealand Drug Foundation, however, is in a booklet aimed at bar owners. The booklet has a single page dedicated to what to do when a customer says their drink was spiked: "Drink spiking seems more common than it is. It can be claimed by someone who consumed more alcohol than they recall, missed a meal before they started drinking, forgot a medicine they took, or who made decisions they regret." Still, the resource instructs training staff: "Take complaints of drink spiking seriously." Yet the more Lotto researched, the less they took themselves seriously.

## WHAT IS SPIKING?

So, what is spiking? In Critic's survey, we included two different 'definitions' to gauge not only how common it is, but also what people count as spiking – or more potentially, what they don't. We first asked, "Have you ever had your own drink spiked?" to which a third of respondents answered "yes". Further down, we asked: "Has someone ever added more alcohol or drugs to something you consumed, without your knowledge/consent?" The percentage of people saying "yes" rose to 43.9%.

Though this article focuses on drink spiking, it's important to consider the variety of forms that spiking can take as revealed by our survey. Spiking is the administration of substances (e.g. drugs or alcohol) to another person without their knowledge or consent, and "not merely the addition of another drug to a drink," as Max Phillips of Know Your Stuff told Critic Te Ārohi. Max pointed out that spiking also includes the act of "misrepresenting a pill, powder or other drug as something else for the purposes of inebriating someone", needle spiking involving covert injection, or even "vape spiking" when one is offered a vape assumed to be nicotine that actually contains a more malicious substance. Drink spiking is just one kind of spiking – all of which are dangerous. However, from this point on, when Critic Te Ārohi uses the term "spiking", we use it to refer to "drink spiking".

According to Student Health Director Margaret Perley, drink spiking is "deliberately adding alcohol or another drug to someone's drink, without their knowledge or consent." Last year, Police told Newshub that alcohol is the most commonly used spiking drug in New Zealand: "Having extra alcohol added to your drink, or being poured a stronger drink than requested is drink spiking." Perley reiterated this, telling Critic, "Alcohol is legal, cheap, readily available, and often not easily detected when added to a person's drink, or in their system after the event. Other substances can be used but they often have a noticeable [sic] flavour, are expensive, illegal and more difficult to obtain."

As far as spiking with drugs, Otago Uni Professor of Neuropharmacology Paul Smith told Critic that the three most reported drugs in NZ appear to be GHB/GBL, flunitrazepam/rohypnol (where "roofie" derives its name) and ketamine. Other sources also report on the usage of other benzodiazepines, MDMA, cannabis, methamphetamine, and commonly used medications, such as antidepressants or antihistamines. It might be true that some of these substances are difficult to get a hold of, but others not so much – Critic reported on wastewater testing data from Police that revealed a 71.6% increase in MDMA during Flo Week, for example. As for information in the literature, however, "I just wish I could give you more precise information about the specifics," Prof Smith told Critic, "but I have looked and there's very little."



Prof Smith also emphasised to Critic that “alcohol is the biggest culprit, [though] the New Zealand Drug Foundation and the Police seem to say that irrespective of any really good study that shows it.” However, Paul makes the point that “the bottom line is, any drug that can be used that will impair people’s attention, and particularly their memory, make them drowsy and lose self control, could be exploited for [drink spiking].”

Drink spiking has become synonymous with “roofie-ing” or “date-rape drugs”, though this is far from what most cases of drink spiking look like. While we might expect that drink spiking is always linked to sexual assault, this can be a harmful misconception. Less than a third of spiking cases lead to sexual assault — which is still far, far too many — while spiking without sexual assault makes up the majority of cases, and motivations are still poorly understood. Ignoring these aspects of spiking has a two-fold consequence: standalone spiking victims are left in the dust, while victims of additional sexual assault don’t receive support that meets all their needs.

Drink spiking is also not just about the serious risk between alcohol and drugs used for spiking, which serves to exacerbate symptoms. Paul Smith also communicated the risk of “major interactions” between alcohol, illicit drugs and potential medication the victim may be on. “If someone spikes somebody else’s drink, they may not know what medications that person might be on [...] it’s potentially a very dangerous situation.” In severe scenarios, this can lead to “loss of consciousness, and potentially a coma if doses are high enough.” Again, the act of drink spiking itself is assault.

## HOW COMMON IS SPIKING?

Comments left on Critic’s drink spiking survey ranged from being “warned that drink spiking was a huge thing in O Week”, to others who had “assumed shit like that didn’t really happen in Dunedin for whatever reason” before witnessing a spiking event.

Critic’s survey didn’t aim to gauge the prevalence of spiking in the general NZ population. Our results are only representative of those who chose to answer a survey on drink spiking — but it was the best means of gathering local data that we had. However, of our respondents, a third reported being victims of drink spiking — not an insignificant number.

Critic’s survey got backlash because of its participation bias; people with experiences of drink spiking would be more likely to take part. However, in the Global Drug Survey of 2022 which looked at 22 countries, New Zealanders made up almost half of respondents (for reasons unknown). For a survey about drugs in general, 21% of NZ respondents reported having an experience with drink spiking. This is also not an insignificant number.

In the Global Drug Survey (the biggest drug survey in the world), researchers discuss how the study “sheds light on the current understanding of drink spiking as it is being experienced by people at the beginning of the 2020s. Our findings challenge gender-based stereotypes and the belief that drink spiking occurs most commonly in association with drug facilitated sexual assault. It also questions the presumed dominant role of alcohol as the most frequently used substance in spiking incidents. However, our study cannot exclude the possibility that unexpected experiences were the result of intentionally consumed other psychoactive substances.”

On the other hand, there is no New Zealand specific data on the prevalence of drink spiking, or even on reporting of drink spiking. After previous headlines reported that Police have “no data” on drink spiking prevalence, Critic queried their media team, receiving the following response: “Unfortunately drink spiking is not specifically identifiable in the data that Police record. Police do record offences such as disabling or poisoning with intent [drink spiking], or sexual assault where drink spiking may have occurred. These offences are not limited to scenarios just where a drink is spiked so providing statistics from these data will not accurately answer the questions. But to identify reference to drink spiking

behaviours would involve manually going through every file to identify how often drink spiking is an element of these offences.”

The New Zealand Police’s page on Alcohol Safety does mention drink spiking, in that it “is rare, but it can happen.” However, sentiments have changed, as 2003 saw a lengthy Police campaign to raise awareness on drink spiking, involving TV ads, posters, and especially ads in university magazines — including Critic. Though, internationally, drink spiking doesn’t seem to have decreased since 2003 (and drugs are now even more accessible in NZ), Police confirmed to Critic that “there are no current campaigns specifically for drink spiking.”

While campaigns may not solve the issue, they have the benefit of raising awareness — which can aid in prevention but more pertinently, show victims where and how to reach out. For example, coverage of the Mama Hooch case (a case involving bar owners spiking patrons’ drinks last year) recently led to a reported increase in referrals to sexual assault services. Speaking out is easier when others join the chorus. When authorities can’t make informed claims about how common drink spiking is, let alone broadcast information on the issue, how are victims meant to know how to report in the first place?

## HIDDEN BARRIERS

Like Lotto, multiple responses to Critic’s survey detailed a feeling of hopelessness in seeking help after instances of spiking. Only 15% of our respondents went to a health professional after being spiked, and less than half of that amount made reports to the police. Not only do most victims not know what to do after a spiking event, but those that do know run into further obstacles with testing or reporting. As one respondent disclosed to us, “Police cannot assist unless you get a blood test within 24 hours, but ED treated me like another drunk student and did not do this test.”

Police investigations into cases of spiking are dependent on toxicology results — that is, a positive test (usually from the hospital) confirming spiking drugs in your system. For those who have their drink spiked with additional alcohol, toxicology is even trickier. However, Paul Smith noted that, with the exception of cannabis, most other drugs that can be used for spiking are rapidly eliminated from the body — some within several hours — which is often what makes these preferential for the perpetrator. For the victim, however, this can create a race against the clock in an already stressful scenario.

Firstly, the victim must have the knowledge and faculties to discern that they were spiked (while still likely experiencing effects). Secondly, they must be able to get themselves being to ER and wait to receive a test (hopefully within the time limits). Thirdly, the victim’s results rely on the test having the sensitivity to detect the specific drug(s).

The Community Alcohol and Drug Services page on drink spiking — one of the few NZ resources — informs readers, “The drugs don’t stay in your system for long, even if you feel you cannot speak to anyone initially, at least get a sample of your urine and store it in a clean sealable container in the fridge until you decide what you want to do.”

One survey respondent told Critic, “[There’s] incredibly poor support from both the medical and police side: both myself and my friend’s experience [was] being told that they can’t test what you’ve been given and basically shit all can be done,” — a heartbreaking outcome for someone in the midst of a traumatic event. How are you meant to seek help when it seems no one knows how to help you? Trauma victims too often have their experience scrutinised, and when drink spiking is a poorly understood, poorly treated issue here, this only brings more opportunities for scrutiny.

While spiking victims face blame and doubt from those around them, they can also face dismissal from those in places of authority. “People thought I was ‘so intoxicated’ even when I had

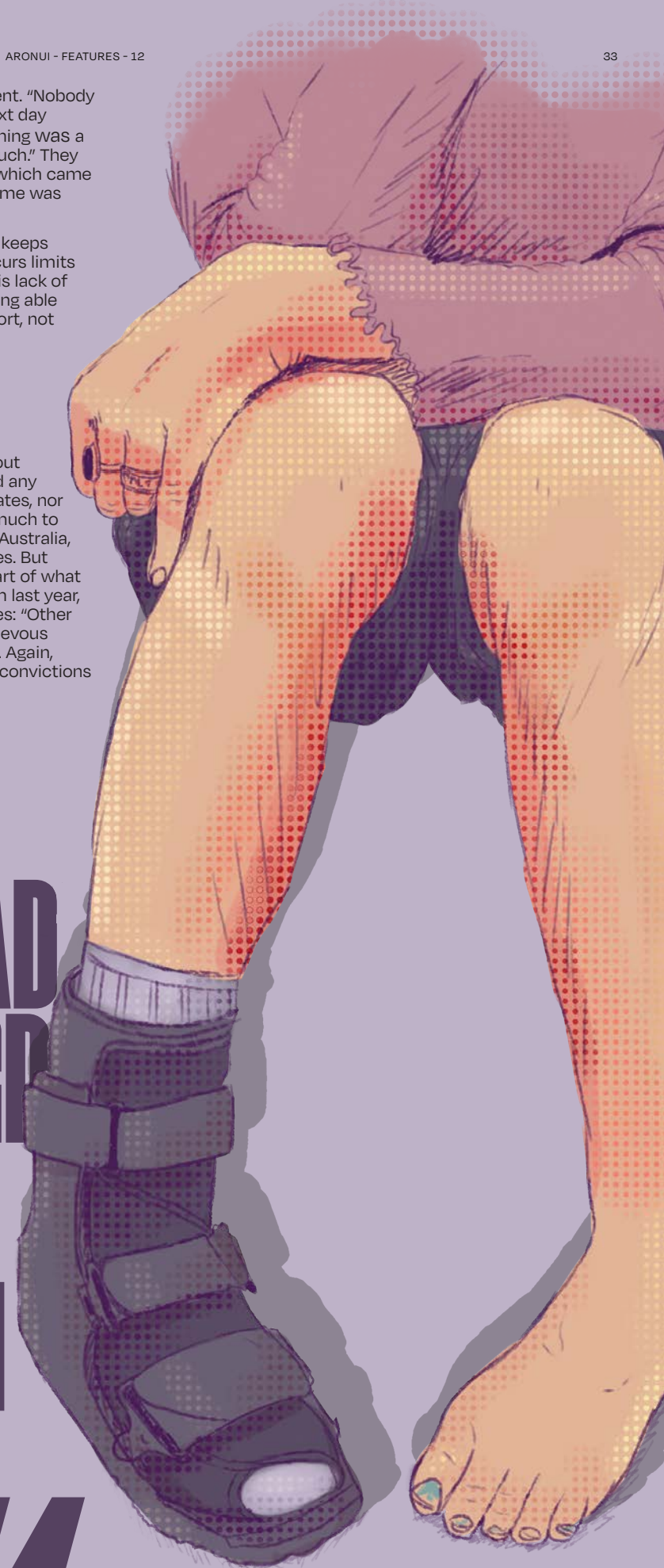
told them I had two standard drinks,” said one respondent. “Nobody knew what was happening until I went to the GP the next day complaining about how ill I felt [...] the whole night/morning was a giant blur. Even then the GP said that I had drunk too much!” They were able to convince their GP to organise a drug test, which came back positive. “The fact I had to talk my GP into testing me was such a let down.”

There’s a sort of Catch-22 in our systemic barriers that keeps drink spiking invisible: a lack of data proving spiking occurs limits the amount of resources dedicated towards it, while this lack of resources is exactly what gets in the way of victims being able to report said data in the first place. Victims need support, not scrutiny.

## A NORMALISED CRIME

It took far too much digging for Critic Te Ārohi to work out whether drink spiking is even a crime. We could not find any resources explicitly mentioning which laws spiking violates, nor what the consequences of such an offence would be, much to our confusion. Drink spiking is explicitly criminalised in Australia, and is even a felony offence in parts of the United States. But New Zealand has no specific ‘drink spiking’ offence — part of what makes data difficult to record. According to an OIA from last year, drink spiking can fall under three different offence codes: “Other Disabling/Stupefying”, “Poisons with Intent to Cause Grievous Bodily Harm,” or “Poisons with Intent to Inconvenience”. Again, between these, NZ still only averages two drink spiking convictions per year.

“  
THE FACT I HAD  
TO TALK MY GP  
INTO TESTING  
ME WAS SUCH  
A LET DOWN  
”



Readers are told to contact the police “if you suspect an alcohol or drug-assisted sexual assault”, but there is no advice regarding spiking in the absence of sexual assault available on the page. Reaching out to the Police Media team, Critic Te Ārohi was advised that, “Anyone that believes they have had their drink spiked is encouraged to make a report to Police [...] This offending will be taken seriously, and victims can trust that Police will respond to their complaint with sensitivity and compassion.” Police advised calling 111 in the case of emergency or suspected sexual assault, and also stated, “After the fact, you can report a drink spiking incident to police by calling 105 or making an online report.”

Unfortunately, this information does not seem to be publicly available. Despite seeing multiple health practitioners after being spiked, as well as working on this article for months, Lotto was still unaware that they could report spiking in this manner.

***There may not be sufficient data on how prevalent drink spiking is in New Zealand, but data isn't the full picture. There are stories. A lot of them.***

## “MAYBE I’M JUST LOOKING FOR ATTENTION”

Getting spiked cost one student Sam\* her entire friend group. A girl's trip had turned sour when a group of young men showed up at their party, armed with booze, drugs, and cruel intentions. After sharing drinks and a cigarette, Sam found herself losing complete control of her body. As Sam's sense of reality slipped away, her friends got out their phones – not to dial 111, but to take pictures. A photo shown to Critic Te Ārohi on Sam's phone shows her lying unconscious in a field. Her clothes are muddy, her body covered in scratches and bruises, and each one of her acrylic nails snapped off to the stub. When she tried to explain her hurt and confusion, her friends accused her of attention-seeking. Amid rumours swirling about Sam, she was cast out of the group.

Sam's experience sadly isn't unique. Critic spoke to Dr Jess Ison, a senior lecturer at La Trobe University in Melbourne, who specialises in sexual violence prevention. Her paper ‘Paralysed and Powerless’ explores the stories society tells about drink spiking. Namely, how drink spiking is represented in the media, how this shapes our understanding of it, and how this influences how we treat survivors like Sam.

The normalisation of drink spiking is embedded within our broader culture of alcohol and societal violence towards women. You may have heard the term rape culture, describing the naturalisation of rape and sexual violence as a result of misogynistic attitudes toward gender and sexuality. Though spiking can, and does, affect people of any gender, it is still deeply embedded in rape culture and systemic disregard for women's bodies, autonomy, and consent.

What comes to mind when you hear the term “spiked”? Is it a man slipping a pill into a young woman's drink in a bar at an ‘inappropriate hour’? Do you imagine her outfit to be ‘provocative’? Do you see her engaging in ‘risky behaviour’? Jess explains these popular understandings “function to make women or other marginalised people believe their experience is not valid and to not speak up. They ultimately function to oppress survivors.”

Jess and her colleagues studied 14,000 Reddit posts of drink-spiking accounts. They found that survivors tended to be quick to dismiss the impact it had on them: “One of the things that really struck us, people who had their drinks spiked who weren't sexually assaulted were very quick to say, ‘It didn't impact me that much, I'm fine.’ Then they'd say, ‘I never go out anymore’ or ‘I'd never go to a bar again.’”

Rape myths would have us believe that spiking happens when an individual takes risks such as binge drinking, leaving their drink unattended or not remaining in sight of their friends. The focus on victims' choices shifts the blame for this crime onto them rather than the perpetrator. The result is survivors feeling an overwhelming shame for “letting it happen to them” and discouraged from speaking up or reporting it out of fear of judgement. Rape myths also have us believing that when the incident doesn't result in alcohol or drug-facilitated sexual violence, it is not spiking. Critic Te Ārohi received a number of responses where survivors felt what happened to them was “not bad enough” to talk about. Often because they were not physically hurt, or because they made it home safely. “Safely”, however, is subjective.

Spiking and assault can look very different, and can have a variety of impacts on the individual or individuals involved. This doesn't need to look like the ‘textbook’ spiking from movies or TV to be valid and worthy of reporting and getting support for. One anonymous submission to Critic heart-breakingly ended the story of how they were spiked with: “Maybe I'm just looking for attention.”

Sam doesn't blame her friends for what happened. They were young. They didn't know what they were doing. And after all, they didn't spike her. But because Sam's experience didn't look like what her friends had seen in movies, they didn't think it warranted her distress.

## THE ‘MYSTERY MAN’

It was Lauren's\* female classmate who spiked her. They'd sat beside each other in a tutorial and instantly clicked. So when Lauren's classmate invited her to a flat party – boasting free drinks, no less – she went. Lauren found herself in a room of unfamiliar faces, quickly realising that none of her other classmates had shown up. After accepting an open Corona from her classmate and taking a few sips, Lauren's world began to spin. She locked herself in a bathroom, listening to the party guests talk about her through the door as her entire reality began to distort. Anxiety overcame her body as she began to lose control of it. Luckily, Lauren managed to escape the flat and get home.

In many cases (like Lauren's), the perpetrator is someone you know: a classmate, date, partner or a friend. Dr Jess Ison tells Critic Te Ārohi that rape myths uphold the idea of the ‘mystery man’ to obscure and protect actual perpetrators already known to the victims.

Dr Ison describes what she suspects the majority of drink spiking looks like: A group of young people are out drinking. One party-goer realises that if they buy an individual more drinks or give them drugs, they might be more willing to have sex. At some point, this becomes a deliberate effort. The perpetrator may think they are fundamentally different to an abuser – they're not the “mystery man” after all. But this is still alcohol-assisted sexual assault. By imagining perpetrators as always being overtly hostile strangers, it normalises the spiking that happens around us, in familiar settings, with familiar people. Critic's survey responses to “Where was your drink spiked?” included the answers “my own birthday party”, “kick-ons” and “my best friend's house”.

Getting someone drunk to take them home is horrifyingly normalised in popular culture. Remember that one scene in Superbad where Jonah Hill's character excitedly lays out his plans to bring booze to the party of a girl he likes? “She's going to be at the party and she's going to be drunk and she likes me at least a little enough to get with me.” It may seem innocent, until you realise what he's planning is sexual coercion. This, Jess explains, is part of the reality of drink spiking. Believing what they are doing is inherently different from spiking relieves the perpetrator of guilt and brings them moral comfort in spite of their predatory actions. This normalisation, along with the focus

on their responsibility, leaves survivors doubting the ‘severity’ of their experience and the worthiness of reporting it.

Lauren told Critic that she still sees the classmate who spiked her around campus. She catches her eye in the library and sits behind her in tutorials. She says the best she can do right now is try to distance herself and pretend it never happened.

## WE WANT SYSTEMIC CHANGE, NOT GHB-DETECTING NAIL POLISH

When Jodie left for university, her dad bought her a rape-alarm. He'd told Jodie he looked for plastic drink covers, but couldn't find any. This was “the next best thing,” he promised her. It was clunky and to activate it you needed to yank off the keyring part with a fair amount of force. When Jodie was spiked four years later, it sat at the bottom of her bag. She'd managed to get home without getting hurt (beyond the paralysis) and the next day, she attached it to her keyring.

Critic's survey responders warned “don't drink the communal water”, “always cover your drink” and “don't get drunk around people you don't know.” You've probably seen TikTok ads marketing “ingenious inventions” to keep women safe on nights out: hair scrunchies that unfold into cup covers, coasters that detect drops of ketamine or a nail polish that turns red when you dip your finger into a GHB-laced drink.

Myths around drink spiking work to harm victims and their likelihood of seeking help for experiences that fall outside the stereotypical “norm”. Of course, just as women can be perpetrators of drink spiking, men can be victims too. Critic Te Ārohi heard of several stories of male students being spiked by their flatmates or friends on nights out as a “prank”. However, drink spiking is often a deeply gendered issue and, as explained earlier, is connected to wider societal violence and disregard for women's bodies, autonomy and consent.

When young women go out and drink, they are given tips and gadgets to keep themselves safe. There's no doubt these can make a difference and bring a lot of comfort to some. However, they do little to ease the frustration many girls feel when they have to alter their behaviour considerably (during what is supposed to be a fun night out), in order to not get spiked or sexually assaulted.

Jess and her colleagues explain that the narratives surrounding these tips and inventions run the danger of perpetuating victim-blaming: “The onus is on women to stay safe and further than that, they are expected to do labour to remain safe.” They obscure the actions of the perpetrator and normalise spiking as the responsibility of the survivor. One anonymous response to Critic admitted, “I used to think these sorts of experiences are a given being a young woman in town.”

Three years later, Jodie still doesn't drink as much as she used to. She remains constantly on edge at bars and finds it difficult to trust people outside of her close friends.

## WHAT CAN THE UNIVERSITY DO?

Drink spiking is clearly an issue affecting students to a significant degree, so Critic Te Ārohi reached out to the University of Otago for their input. Student Health Director Margaret Perley, in response to our questions over whether it's an issue of concern for them, said, “Yes, drink spiking is of concern to our service and carries significant risks. Student Health Services does have contact with students who report that they or someone they know has had their drink spiked. We do not capture specific statistics relating to the number of

presentations of drink spiking.”

Perley said that, in instances where Student Health receives reports of students who've been spiked, a typical situation is “the student was in town or at a party and does not fully recall events due to ‘black out’. They often report they do not believe that they consumed excessive amounts of alcohol.” She said that there are a range of support options available for students reporting drink spiking. Depending on the case, they'll be referred to a service most appropriate. These include OUSA Student Support, Te Whare Tāwharau, the Proctor's Office, Māori Centre, Pacific Centre, Chaplaincy, and residential college teams.

In terms of mitigating drink spiking affecting students, Perley said, “People may spike drinks for various reasons; Student Health has no control over this. We can work with students who describe unhealthy drinking patterns to manage, and hopefully reduce, their risk of drink spiking happening to them, by addressing their alcohol use. Anyone who is significantly intoxicated is more at risk of experiencing an adverse event, including drink spiking, as their judgement, perception, and sense of risk will be impaired. Therefore, helping students to understand the risks of their alcohol use, and to manage use to reduce risk, is what we aim for.”



Critic also reached out to Thursdays in Black Otago, a student-led organisation campaigning against sexual violence which “stands with anyone impacted by drink spiking. We believe you. We care,” they told Critic. “Thursdays in Black believes that the student community would benefit from having University staff specifically trained in support for drink spiking survivors and supporters of survivors; with training that allows them to support students adequately. The use of a third-party support organisation that university students have easy access to could also be an opportunity for helpful change [...] Losing your autonomy on a night out is a scary thought, young people shouldn’t have to worry about even the possibility of drink spiking.”

Proctor Dave Scott told Critic that they “do not keep statistics” on drink spiking. “I have not been made aware of any specific issue or increase around drink spiking at the University compared to society at large. However, we remain vigilant and have measures in place to ensure the safety of our students.” He said that where they can, they always provide safety advice tips to students including: don’t leave your drink unattended; avoid drinks offered by strangers; have a plan to get home; stick with your friends; and watch your drink being made by bar staff.

While good advice in the current circumstances, students who Critic spoke to and who responded to our survey are tired of the onus being on the victim, wanting systematic change. One anonymous respondent says, “[There’s] huge victim blaming stigma for not watching your own drink rather than questioning the person literally bringing drugs to a venue with the intention of spiking somebody (and likely worse intentions).”

Drink spiking is a pervasive issue that remains overlooked and poorly understood in New Zealand. Systems that are meant to support victims often serve to silence them instead. The trickle down effects of this are immense. We thought we’d struggle to find personal accounts from students and peers, but Critic’s survey received a devastating amount – too many for this problem to be so invisible. Thank you to each and every one of you who responded and shared your story. It shows that none of us are alone, and when given the opportunity to speak, many of us will.

It’s true that university can be an amazing environment for exploring alcohol, drugs and your sexual identity in early adulthood. We all deserve the freedom to do this safely. However, researching and writing this piece has brought to Critic’s attention the systemic misogyny and rape culture that brings significant harm to our student community. This culture, combined with (and influenced by) lack of education on sex, pleasure, consent and positive engagement surrounding alcohol use impacts so many students, so deeply. Knowing all this is against victims of spiking, it’s hard to know where to start. The first step is empathy.

Dr Jess Ison stressed the importance of dispelling rape myths, believing survivors and looking out for your friends and university whānau. Understanding the realities of sexual assault is the first step: “It’s about presenting the facts and empowering young people to make informed decisions.” Know that drink spiking and sexual violence can look very different and all survivors’ experiences are worthy and valid, no matter who they do or don’t tell. Believe victims, support them – help them to get help. To survivors: it’s not your fault. All responsibility lies with the person who did this to you.

*\*Names and identifying details changed*

**If you suspect your drink has been spiked, you can get help from one of the following:**

**Police: Call 111 for emergencies and/or sexual assault, otherwise call 105 or mak an online 105 report**

**Student Health: 03 479 8212**

**Te Whare Tāwharau Sexual Violence Support: 0800 479 379, tewharetawharau@otago.ac.nz (drop-in sessions available)**

**Believe victims. And fuck drink spiking.**



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# ousa *student* support

**OUSA Student Support Hub - 5 Ethel Benjamin Place**

help@ousa.org.nz • ousasupporthub.org.nz

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Phone: 0800 12 10 23

# RAD TIMES

# GIG GUIDE

**TUESDAY  
21 MAY**

**OPEN MIC NIGHT W/  
ROSA BLACK**  
INCH BAR  
7pm.

**THURSDAY  
23 MAY**

**POWDER CHUTES**  
THE CROWN HOTEL  
w/ IVY and Mads Harrop. Tickets  
from undertheradar.co.nz. 8pm.

**HOLLY MUIRHEAD**  
INCH BAR  
7.30pm. Koha entry.

**FRIDAY  
24 MAY**

**OMMU**  
THE DUCK  
6pm. \$10.

**RED HEARING**  
INCH BAR  
8pm. Koha entry.

**SATURDAY  
25 MAY**

**MATT JOE GOW AND  
KERRY N FIELDS**  
MOONS  
Tickets from undertheradar.  
co.nz. 8pm.

**MOONROCKS**  
BLUESKIN GALLERY  
w/ Reid + Wolken. 7pm.  
Koha entry.

**VIOLET HIRST AND KANE  
STRANG**  
MAGGIES  
Tickets from undertheradar.co.nz.  
7.30pm.

**DUNEDIN YOUTH ORCHESTRA  
- PANORAMA**  
CASTLE STREET LECTURE THEATRE  
Tickets from dyo.org.nz. 7.30pm. \$20  
adults / \$10 students / kids free. All ages.

**SUNDAY  
26 MAY**

**BIG JAZZ APPLE**  
INCH BAR  
4.30pm. Koha entry.

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Clubs  
& Socs  
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15TH MAY  
1  
91 FM

TOP 11

**1 Ani Saafa (Dn) - Waste It**  
No. 2 last week | 4 weeks in chart

**2 Becca Caffyn (Dn) - Hallways**  
No. 5 last week | 5 weeks in chart

**3 Emma Dilemma (NZ) - Ready or Not**  
No. 11 last week | 2 weeks in chart

**4 Death And The Maiden (Dn) - Leanest Cut**  
No. 3 last week | 2 weeks in chart

**5 beet-wix (Dn) - slug level standards**  
No. 1 last week | 4 weeks in chart

**6 Dbldbl (NZ) - Fakey ft. Randa**  
No. 7 last week | 4 weeks in chart

**7 Sure Boy (NZ) - Post Party Pepsi**  
No. 6 last week | 6 weeks in chart

**8 Dateline (NZ) - Choose Me**  
No. 9 last week | 11 weeks in chart

**9 Ha the Unclear (NZ) - Alchemy**  
1 week in chart

**10 Liam Finn (NZ) - I Just Want You To Be So Happy**  
No. 4 last week | 3 weeks in chart

**11 Career Girls (NZ) - MONDAYS**  
No. 8 last week | 10 weeks in chart

### MAZAGRAN HIT PICKS

Embedded Figures (NZ) - The Hustle  
Terrible Sons (NZ) - Thank You

Look Blue, Go Purple (or simply LBGP) is the iconic all-female five piece from Ōtepoti that took over the music scene between 1985-1998 with their shoegaze sound. LBGP is Kath Webster (guitar, vocals), Denise Roughan (guitar, keyboard, vocals), Lesley Paris (drums), Norma O'Malley (keyboard, flute, guitar, vocals) and Francisca Griffin (bass, guitar, vocals). Critic Te Arohi had a phone call with Francisca for a very special LBGP LP.

LBGP often focused their songwriting on the world around them. Famously, 'Cactus Cat' was written about the cat that lived at their flat. "I've never written a song outside of Dunedin," says Francisca. "I was never inspired by anywhere really, mainly the scenery in my head. I'll have some words and then images, then little flashes of colour." For Francisca, all elements of songwriting come at once. "I have a large pile of sheets of music, lines and words. I also have a small amount of music in my head because I can't write music. I'll be playing something on the guitar and usually the words just fit."

The Dunedin Sound can be a compliment for some and a pigeonhole for others. "It's a sentence that just got carried away with. There was a sound that came from Dunedin in the '80s but harnessing [LBGP] with that really pisses some people off." David Kilgour of The Clean was the one who uttered the words "Dunedin Sound" in 1981 and thereafter a lot of bands got the "Dunedin Sound" title forced upon them. Francesca says, "[The Dunedin Sound was] The Clean, The Verlaines, The Chills, The Stones, and Sneaky Feelings. After that it was free for all." Francesca even compared

it to the Seattle Sound and grunge when really "those people inside those scenes don't give a shit what they're labelled as."

In terms of LBGP being an all women band, Francesca says, "We didn't have an intent to stand out from anybody. The fact we were all women was just a fact. We wanted to be in a band that was all women, that was it." The reception of being all women was not even really thought about until the band toured elsewhere. When asked what the response was to being asked, "What's it like being in all girl band" - Oh fuck off. Nobody ever said to Straitjacket Fits "What's it like being in an all boy band?"

A few weeks ago, LBGP won the Taite IMNZ Classic Record Award for their 1991 compilation of EPs. The record got rereleased as 'Bewitched' in 2016 with some extra live tracks. Francesca says she is "still buzzing" after winning the award. "There weren't even many music awards when we were making music back then." Remarking on why they won, Francesca says, "They were good songs. People came up to us saying we are the reason they're making music regardless of gender which was overwhelming but beautiful to hear."

To read more about Look Blue, Go Purple visit [audioculture.co.nz](http://audioculture.co.nz). You can find their music on all streaming platforms, as well as their record 'Bewitched' on Flying Nun Records.

# look blue go purple



By Jordan Irvine

For New Zealand Music Month and for the 40th anniversary of Radio One, Local Produce will cover four iconic Dunedin bands by way of interviewing a member of each selected band and asking them about their legacy.



Students receive 2-for-1 entry into the Tūhura Tropical Forest



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Otago Museum



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2ND AUGUST

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### AUAHI ORA:

Have you ever been to a bar and wished that you were in a sub-tropical climate dripping wet with sweat? Well, U-Bar has you covered. North Dunedin has been gaslit into thinking that U-Bar is more than what it is.

We've been starved of a student bar, and are severely lacking in terms of prospective live music venues, and throughout this period U-Bar has remained a constant. It's perhaps for this reason that we're prepared to look past its shortcomings as a venue. But when faced with another option, it might be time to stop putting up with these faults.

Auahi Ora is newer and therefore, it goes without saying, nicer. You won't have to peel your feet from the floor or be drenched in sweat by the end of the night. Its above ground location also means Pint Night goes can look out at the breathas stuck in the line and feel good about having made it inside. Who doesn't love a bit of gloating?

Also, if you're looking for your friends, you can now see where they are in the line without having to constantly try call them in the nonexistent quiet corner of the underground nuclear bunker. At the end of the day, while Auahi Ora might not be as iconic as U-Bar, is there really any harm in trying something new? Traditions change all the time – and this is a place of many firsts, after all.

### U-BAR:

It might be scummy and it might be crowded, but isn't that really why we love U-Bar? Recently, there've been conversations about changing Pint Night's location after it's been temporarily relocated to Auahi Ora. And sure, Auahi Ora is admittedly a better venue if you use metrics like accessibility and cleanliness. But should we prize those attributes over what U-Bar offers? I don't think so.

U-Bar's immediate appeal is the longstanding tradition attached to it. Nothing helps a fresher acclimatise to their Otago Uni experience more than being forced to wait an hour in the cold on a Wednesday night. There is something distinctively Dunedin about U-Bar, whether it's the floor coated in a decade's worth of spilt drink (and who knows what else) or the pool table that tilts slightly to one side. U-Bar bridges the gap between freshers and other Uni students and introduces them to one of the last remnants of Dunedin's live music culture.

Looking past this sense of tradition, U-Bar is arguably just a good venue for music; it fits more people than Auahi Ora and the acoustics are better. There's something vaguely soulless about the newness and cleanliness of Auahi Ora. Is it really a live music venue if your feet don't stick to the ground? The pints might not be full pints, but U-Bar offers a cultural service to students that fills your cup in other ways, and would be lost if it was to be moved above ground.

## WHAT'S THE BEST PINT NIGHT VENUE?

Debatable is a column written by the Otago University Debating Society. The Debating Society welcomes new members and meets at the Business School every Tuesday at 6pm.





**MI GORENG GRADUATE**  
By Ruby Hudson

Serves: 6  
Time: 1 hr  
Price: \$\$\$  
Difficulty: 2/5

With impending exam doom, we're all in need of a sweet little treat! Apples are cheap as chips at the moment, making apple crumble the perfect candidate for the job. This recipe may seem a little unorthodox with the two different crumbles and the water over the top, but just trust me on this. This is hands down the best crumble recipe ever. The topping is super crunchy and delicious (no soggy crumble here, thank you) and pairs perfectly with the sweet apple filling.

### INSTRUCTIONS:

**Step 1.** Preheat oven to 180 degrees

**Step 2.** Add your apples, cinnamon, lemon zest, sugar and water to a large pot on a medium/low heat. Cook the apples for approx. 25 mins, stirring occasionally. You should have apples that are soft and falling apart after this time. Try to keep some bits slightly chunky and others more saucy for the perfect texture.

**Step 3.** While your apples are cooking, mix together the ingredients for your crumble topping and the crust topping. Keep these two separate.

**Step 4.** Once the apples are cooked, layer them into the bottom of a large ovenproof dish.

**Step 5.** On top of the apples add your oatly crumble mixture.

**Step 6.** On top of the crumble mixture add the brown sugar and corn flour crust.

**Step 7.** Once assembled, carefully spoon over a thin layer of boiling water so that the crust/crumble is wet. Be careful not to water log your crumble here (I recommend pouring the onto a spoon first and then onto the crumble, straight from the jug is a risky game).

**Step 8.** Place into the preheated oven and cook for 30 mins, until the topping is golden brown and crunchy.

### INGREDIENTS:

#### Filling

- 7 Apples (peeled and diced)
- ½ tsp ground cinnamon
- 1 tsp lemon zest
- 2 Tbsp white sugar
- 3 Tbsp water

*I recommend using Royal Gala or Granny Smith*

#### Crumble

- ¾ cup flour
- ¾ cup rolled oats
- ¾ cup white sugar
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 100 g melted butter

#### Crust

- ¾ cup brown sugar
- 1 Tbsp cornflour



*Enjoy with custard, cream, or ice cream!*

# BOOZE REVIEWS

BY CHUNNY BILL SWILLIAMS

# THE YARDIE

21st season has officially arrived, and with it comes the means for celebration. You can't really do anything new when you turn 21 but you're officially an adult now. For third-years, this means that you no longer have to compete to be the biggest wounder on Castle Street; you can now drive to the outskirts of town to some overpriced venue and watch your mate do it for you. It's a sacred New Zealand tradition. It means taking marginal photos on a disposable camera, buying those shitty gold balloons from Look Sharp, your mates sharing your most embarrassing stories to your grandma, and, most importantly, sinking a shit tonne of piss to demonstrate this newfound maturity.

For breathas, of course, this means the coming-of-age tradition of the yardie. It's a beautiful thing, sinking 2.5 litres of beer in front of Aunt Sharon – even better if it's caught on video and posted on Facebook to really demonstrate to your future employers how much of a hard cunt you are. Having a sub-minute-thirty yardie will really contribute to the workplace culture of prospective employers, especially if you're wanting to be a chartered accountant – then it's practically in the job-description.

Sinking a yardie is no easy feat. You need to carefully consider what beer to get. So find the shittiest and cheapest possible 4% beer. There's no chance that this is staying down. It's moments like these that you wish Danger's Lager still existed to really commit to the bit but if you're going down that road, Double Browns or Export Gold will do the trick. The garden's going to be tasting this more than you anyway.

Once you've got your shit-beer, you've now gotta make it worse. You want it bland and luke-warm, like a painful conversation with someone you haven't seen since high school. Pouring your yardie is like preparing to pull a sickie at work: you've got to put in the ground work the night before, just to make it go down easier the next day. The longer it sits to get it to room-temperature the better (warm = good). You want a gentle pour down your throat, not a brain freeze-inducing tingly sensation. Bonus points for having to use the free-hour of power because your flat's room-temperature makes the beer colder.

You're typically meant to eat before you drink (it lines your stomach or something) but fuck that. No-one wants to witness that spag-bol come up. Make some room, you're going to need it. If anything, use that extra-space for a few cheeky warm-up beers – may as well prep your oesophagus for what's coming. On the note of preparation: like any good relationship, communication is key. Find a good friend to pour it for you. While wet t-shirt competitions are great and all, now isn't the time – you're meant to drink the entire thing and for a yardie spitting is most definitely quitting. And please, finish it quickly. TikTok has rotted my brain and watching anything over three minutes pushes my attention span to its absolute limits.

**PAIRS WELL WITH:** Your parents' disappointment

**X FACTOR:** Do as I say and not as I do

**CHUGABILITY:** 10/10

**TASTE RATING:** 2.54/10 (Shit effort)

Barista made organic & fair trade

# Coffee

SUBWAY

# \$4<sup>00</sup>

# All sizes

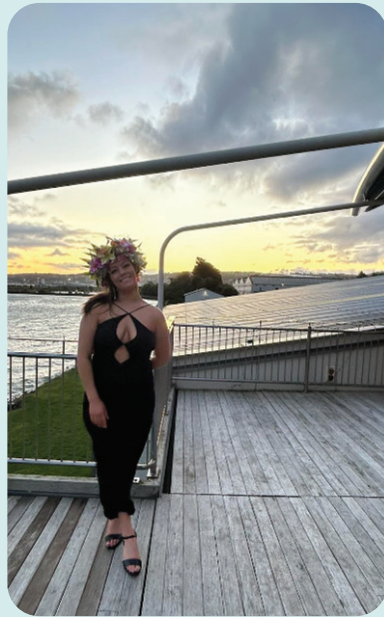
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REG

LGE



# THE WHARE DOOR IS OPEN



Mauri ora e te iwi,

He uri whakaheke nō Taranaki Maunga, Ngai Tahu me Hāmoa anō hoki.

I tipu ake au nō Waihōpai

Ko tumuaki takirua o Te Rōpū Māori i tenei tau!!

Kia ora everybody, my name is Distance Takamori and I am one of two co-presidents of Te Rōpū Māori alongside Gemella Reynolds-Hatem for this year.

TRM is a space that is open to all taurira māori with a range of kaupapa from weekly sports, catered study seshes and Māori hour every friday. We have some massive kaupapa coming up next semester such as Re-O week events, Te Hōkai, Te Huinga Taurira

(National Māori student conference) in Tamaki Makaurau and so much more. Make sure you follow our socials to keep up to date with all our kaupapa because there is definitely something for everyone!

As our other tumuaki said last week, no matter where you are in Māoritanga journey, nau mai haere mai ki TRM whare. Our door is always open for whatever you need, a kai, a cuppa tea or even a rant. We all gotchu down at 523 Castle ♥

E mihi ana,

Distance

**AQUARIUS**  
Uranus is drawing you to social activism and meaningful connections this week. Check out what cool Facebook events are on and get involved – you never know who you'll meet. Actually go to the weird raves and slam poetry sessions you click 'interested in' to seem cool and edgy.  
**Rivalry to research:** Drake vs Kendrick

**ARIES**  
Aries, this week an expensive item will be calling your name and popping up on Instagram ads. Don't give into the temptation, you've worked so hard on those savings. It's not worth putting yourself in the red for a new pair of shoes or an iPad you know you won't write notes on.  
**Rivalry to research:** JoJo Siwa vs The internet

**GEMINI**  
Setting achievable goals for yourself will help with the winter blues. Even if you put 'brush teeth' on your to-do list just to have something to check off, it will motivate you to do the big things like catch up on the 12 lectures you've been putting off.  
**Rivalry to research:** Olivia Wilde vs. The entire *Don't Worry Darling* cast

**LEO**  
The sun is bringing around a wave of creativity for you, Leo. You'll be filled with motivation and a zest for life you haven't had since Dunedin's toy mornings began. Take advantage and fit as much fun as you can into this week – who knows when it will be warm enough to do anything other than complain about the cold again?  
**Rivalry to research:** The Rock vs Vin Diesel

**LIBRA**  
This week will bring a lot of conflict. Make sure you don't get riled up: be the bigger person and apologise even if it means you need to call your mum after and complain about the other person. While being petty is fun, it often leads to people shit-talking you.  
**Rivalry to research:** Perez Hilton vs Everyone

**SAGITTARIUS**  
Make sure that you go out this week. You're never going to have as much fun as you're having at uni ever again, so stop staying in and embrace the student lifestyle. Everyone else is also poor, tired and has work in the morning.  
**Rivalry to research:** Doja Cat vs Noah Schnapp

**PISCES**  
Your dreams will come true. Not in a sappy believe-in-yourself way, but in a weird and fucked up way. Like if you have dreamt about a steamy night with the person of your dreams you may end up locked in the OUSA sauna with them.  
**Rivalry to research:** Jake Paul vs Logan Paul

**TAURUS**  
Life is feeling a little tough this week but just push through. It's the busy season for Uni and all your assignments are due within a few days of each other. Pack a bag and move into the library for the week and you should be fine.  
**Rivalry to research:** Courtney Love vs Olivia Rodrigo

**CANCER**  
Cancer, the little voice inside your head has been telling you you've been a shit cunt lately, and it's right. Your friends don't deserve to be followed around by a storm cloud of a person. So change your tune and people will like you a lot more.  
**Rivalry to research:** Elton John vs. Madonna

**VIRGO**  
Nothing seems to be going for you right now, so why not pick up a new skill? Try learning how to cite essays rather than relying on a website to do it for you, learn to cook a new meal, or start a Duolingo streak.  
**Rivalry to research:** David Bain vs New Zealand government

**SCORPIO**  
Love is in the air. As a Scorpio, you are a very sensual person, and finding someone to meet all your needs (physical AND emotional) is near impossible. But this week, you'll find someone who is talented enough to take you to meet the big O and can also handle your outbursts.  
**Rivalry to research:** Ye vs Taylor Swift

**CAPRICORN**  
This year you have been making group projects your bitch, but the power has gone to your head. Just take it slow and let other people do the talking for a change. You can always edit the slide show the morning of the presentation just to show everyone who's boss.  
**Rivalry to research:** Kim DotCom vs The FBI

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- Not on any regular medication?
- In general good health?

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# SNAP OF THE WEEK



SEND A SNAP TO US AT @CRITICMAG BEST SNAP EACH WEEKS WINS AN OUSA CLUBS & SOCS SAUNA VOUCHER

## SNAP OF THE WEEK

CONTACT CRITIC ON INSTAGRAM TO CLAIM YOUR PRIZE



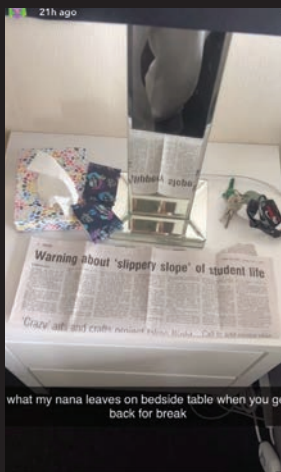
who the fuck does a pregnancy test at health sci library



Hoping this toilet cleaner will cure my SAD



the fuck



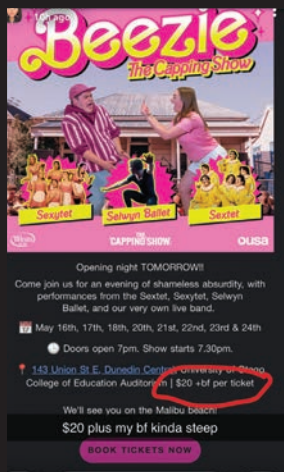
what my nana leaves on bedside table when you get back for break



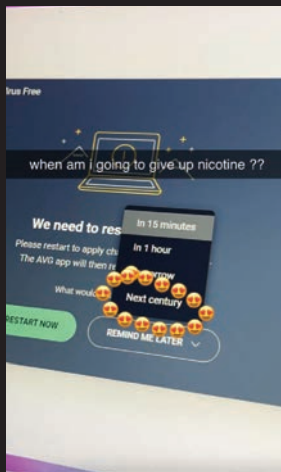
Dear Otago Uni: Ik budget cuts are bad but can we please have toilet paper that isn't literally see-through



heating bill too high



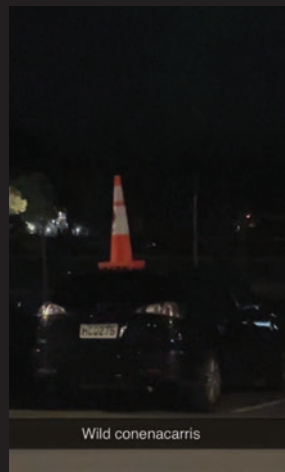
Opening night TOMORROW!  
Come join us for an evening of shameless absurdity, with performances from the Sexist, SexyJet, Selwyn Ballet, and our very own live band.  
May 16th, 17th, 18th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd & 24th  
Doors open 7pm. Show starts 7.30pm.  
143 Union St E, Dunedin Central University and Otago College of Education Auditorium | \$20 +bf per ticket  
We'll see you on the Malibu beach!  
\$20 plus my bf kinda sleep  
BOOK TICKETS NOW



when am i going to give up nicotine ??



2024 in & outs



Wild conenacarris



CAN YOU LAST LONGER?



Every year Critic Te Ārohi surveys students about study, sex, drugs, flating, money, politics, relationships, and more to find out about the lives and thoughts of Otago's student body. Scan the QR code to complete this year's census!  
And dont worry — it's 100% anonymous. Procrastinate some more. You know you want to.





2024 EDITION

# Beezie

## The Capping Show

May 16-18th  
& 20th-24th

Show starts at 7:30 pm

University of Otago  
College of Education  
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your tickets now!



Sexytet



Selwyn Ballet



Sextet